

ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE - DECEMBER 2021

AYNHO-CROUGHTON-EVENLEY-FARTHINGHOE-HINTON-in-the-HEDGES-STEANE

December 5th Advent 2	AYNHO	11.00am	Holy Communion Sidespersons: Annabel Bellamy, Jane Wade
			Farthinghoe - 9.30am Said HC; Hinton – 11.00am Morning Worship
December 12 th Advent 3	FARTHINGHOE	10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion
			Hinton – 4.00pm Lessons & Carols
December 19th Advent 4	AYNHO	5.00pm	Lessons & Carols with Christingles Sidespersons: All Sidespersons
			Croughton – 3.00pm Lessons & Carols Evenley – 5.00pm Lessons & Carols Farthinghoe – 6.00pm Lessons & Carols Hinton – 11.00am Holy Communion
December 24th Christmas Eve (Friday)	CROUGHTON	11.00pm	Christmas Eve Mass
			Farthinghoe – 4.00pm Crib Service
December 25th Christmas Day (Saturday)	AYNHO	10.00am	Family Service – Lay Lead Sidespersons:
			Evenley - 10.00am Family Service Farthinghoe – 10.00am Family Service Hinton - 10.00am Holy Communion
December 26th St Stephen's Day	AYNHO	9.00am	Benefice Service – Said HC Sidespersons: Gill Reynolds, Jane Wade
CHURCH (CLEANING at St.Mic	haels on Thur	**************************************
or Ch A Pew News is r	Sue Cooper – revsue.c urch Wardens: Andre Kathy now printed – Request or	w Bellamy Tel: White Tel: 0 I line or hard co	com Tel: 01869 – 810903 01869 - 810847 1869 – 810418 py. Spare copies in Church Porch
Items for JAN Sybil at No and	NUARY 2022 - prefer 0.32 Roundtown Tel: d any comments re No	ably before or 810692; Ema ewsletter to Ro	by December 17 th please to: il: syban@btinternet.com
This Net		"ST.MICH	AEL'S CHURCH and

(Vol.668)

Pastoral Letter December 2021. Revd Sue Cooper writes:

Dear Friends,

It's that time of year again, when the Christmas frenzy descends on us and we feel ourselves beginning to rush around. There is always something to do and we find ourselves on what seems like a treadmill of festive fun and activity

I love this time of year, and I can get as carried away as the next person with all the excitement of Carols and Christmas cards and gifts, and the sheer joy of the decorations and coloured lights which brighten our streets and homes and, for a brief time, dispel the gloom of the news stories.

We have entered the season of Advent in our Church calendar, and traditionally this is a time of watching and waiting. Christians are waiting to celebrate Christmas when we celebrate the birth of Jesus just over 2000yrs ago. Jesus came at a very bleak time in Jewish history, when the Jewish people were under Roman occupation. They had been promised a saviour, someone who would come and deliver them from their depressing and oppressing situation. They had been watching and waiting for a very long time, and finally Jesus, their saviour was born.

We have all been watching a waiting a lot over the past 20 months. Initially watching the daily Covid updates by the Prime Minister and Health Secretary; waiting for the 1st lockdown to lift; watching and waiting at loved ones bedsides, or just waiting for news from the hospital; waiting for a vaccine to be made; waiting to have the vaccine, waiting to see loved ones again, waiting for life to begin again!!!!!

Waiting is not something we like to do, even before Covid reared its ugly head. It stirs up visions of standing in the post office queue or at a bus stop. Waiting feels like a waste of time in our fast paced, fast lived lives, especially as we have missed so much of life in recent months. Waiting is boring. But in our hurry to now begin to live life again to the full, we can be guilty of cramming activity into every last second of our lives and our children's lives, and something is lost.

The season of Advent in Church is supposed to slow us down, and it takes real effort to enter into it. Christians are not only remembering the joy of the Saviours arrival 2000yrs ago, after a very long wait in terms of history, but we are also watching and waiting for Jesus to return. The bible tells us in *Revelation Chapter 22* that one day Jesus will be returning to this earth. This may sound like an outrageous claim, but Christians believe this to be true, and so we watch and wait in expectancy for that great day. Anything worth having is worth waiting for isn't it? Think of a pregnancy and the long 9 months of waiting and then the joy of new life. Think back to when you were a child, and waited for Christmas morning, we all remember how great it was to wake up and feel a rustling at the foot of our beds, and think about how happy we all were when the lockdown finally lifted and the long wait was over, and we were finally able to see our loved ones face to face and hug them again. Waiting is not all bad is it? And as we celebrate the babe of Bethlehem who was sent into our dark and gloomy world to be our saviour, let's pause for a moment and think again; he will be returning to us one day,...,but until then,...,we watch and we wait.

I do wish you all a very merry Christmas, and every blessing for the New Year. God bless you all,

With love Revd Sue.

Revelation 22:12-13 (NIV) "Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

THANK-YOU

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Peter Phillips would like to convey a very special thank-you to all those who
attended the Memorial Service for Marlene on November 1st and to all those who
have supported him during this difficult time.

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OUR VILLAGE ENTERTAINMENTS ETC

<u>GARDENING CLUB</u> (2nd Wednesday)

It was good to be able to hold our AGM in November and well done for taking part in the Quiz – we like to keep you on your toes! Thank you for the wonderful contributions to the buffet table; it makes for a very delicious selection of things to enjoy after the evening's activities.

The first event of 2022 will be held on **Wednesday 12th January** - second Wednesday of the month as always - when Tom Duncan will be talking about the garden at House of Pitmuies, Angus, Scotland. Your annual membership subscriptions for 2022 will be due (\pounds 12) so the Village Hall will be open from 7.00pm. The talk will start at 7.30pm.

In the meantime **the Committee wish all the Members of the Aynho Gardening Club a Very Happy Christmas.** With best wishes Annabel Bellamy

<u>AYNHO WI</u> (3rd Wednesday) Contacts: Fiona Hodges 369122 & Jill Wightman 81120

Our talk in November on Macular Degeneration was quite an eye-opener as many of us were not really aware of how serious and common a complaint it is. Apart from giving us a good insight into the problem, Anne Lee was anxious to tell us to seriously think about having our eyes checked by an optician, "just to make sure", as the sooner it is diagnosed the better for the patient. So our sincere thanks to Anne for her talk and particularly for this advice.

Our December event is, of course, our Christmas lunch at The Cartwright Hotel on Friday 3rd December (12.30pm for 1.00pm please). And so another year has gone by bringing us into 2022 and a new calendar of events. The first will be on January 19th and is a talk from Captain Kamran Irani on a wonderful service intriguingly entitled "Bikes, Blood and Babies". They deliver blood urgently by bike, but do they deliver babies as well!? We'll have to wait and see. Also, as our coffee mornings have proved so successful there will be two more in January on the 5th and 12th. The new Events Calendar will be available in January but WI membership renewal, normally January, will now always be in April. Meanwhile our very best wishes and thoughts go to you all for a wonderful and peaceful Christmas. Hopefully we will be able to enjoy it with family and friends once again. So take care, keep safe and keep happy.

<u>AYNHO WRITERS GROUP</u>

Contact: Keith McClellan 810346.

Meeting 10.30 - 12.30 in the Village hall Saturday December 11th. Our November meeting had some moving pieces on remembrance before we crossed for a wonderful anniversary lunch at the Cartwright Hotel, celebrating 25 years since the group started. For December we will write stories including one of the creatures from the Days of Christmas, or an Angel in the title.

<u>HAPPI PILATES</u>

Offering weekly Pilates classes in **Aynho village hall**. Classes suitable for all levels of ability. This Physio led Pilates provides strength and conditioning for the whole body.

Contact Sarah Redfern at Sarah@happipilates.com to find out more or

visit www.happipilates.com

<u>AYNHO HEALTH WALKS</u>

Details from Kathy White 01869.810418 or kathywhiteaynho@gmail.com There is still plenty of space for anyone else to join us and experience the beautiful winter countryside around our village. The long walk, the strollers and the track are all available and start at 10.00 am every Thursday morning and you can also enjoy refreshments and a chat at the end. Hand sanitisers are in place.

ADDERBURY, DEDDINGTON & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Our next speaker will be Carole Henson giving us tips about photographing live events and festivals on Wednesday 1st December at 7.30pm at The Adderbury Institute. See our website for further details if you would like to join us. Wishing everyone a very peaceful and happy Christmas with best wishes for the New Year from Adderbury, Deddington & District Photographic Society.

Anne Hunsleywww.addphoto.co.uk

Contact Annabel Bellamy 810847

WINTER LUNCH CLUB

DATES FOR DECEMBER:

Thursdays: 9th and 16th 12.15pm-1.30pm back room of Village Hall

There will be NO Winter Lunch Club on Thursday 2nd December due to the refit of the village hall kitchen. On 16th December the menu will include some Christmas goodies. WLC aims to provide a simple homecooked meal to any villager in a warm friendly atmosphere at very reasonable cost. Sadly Covid means that to continue using the back room of the village hall and to keep everyone as safe as possible it will be necessary to keep numbers to a maximum of 22 each week. **To book please telephone Amanda on 01869 810341 no later than the Wednesday evening of that week** (leave a message on the answerphone + your telephone number if I am not there). If you have booked a place but can no longer come please let me know as soon as possible. Payment will be cash only.

For everyone's safety there will be hand sanitiser at all doors as you enter the village hall which I would encourage everyone coming to WLC to please use (and on each table). If you should feel unwell then please do not attend. For future dates please check the monthly village Newsletter.

Amanda Limb

POPPY APPEAL IN AYNHO - THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all who donated to the Poppy Appeal last month during the Remembrance period. In Aynho alone we raised just over £800 to send off to the Royal British Legion which was just £7 less than our best ever total in 2018. A great effort in the village - thank you to all the local house to house collectors and to all the residents for your generosity.

AYNHO PARK CLUB DRAW

Dear players, we're so sorry for the delay in the Park Club Draw this year. It turns out that changing signatories on an account with a certain high street bank can take over 8 months! Because of this, none of our 2021 winners so far have received any cheques. However, that is all about to change! We thought it would be useful to list all of our winners to date here and assure all of them that a cheque is coming their way very shortly.

<u>Date</u>	Winner	
March	Liz Belcher	
April	Lynette Pull	
May	Doug Ward	
June	Jane Wills	
July	Roger Wertheimer	
August	DF & PJ Moroney	
Sept	Lynette Pull (officially Aynho's luckiest resident!)	
Oct	Vanessa Tustain	
November's winner will be drawn at the December meeting of the Parish Council. If you have any questions regarding the Park Club Draw, please don't hesitate to email		

rachel.moroney@aynho.org

KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE

What's coming up later this winter?

As we approach the end of the year, we're sharing some updates, ideas, and events for the festive season. We couldn't continue to support our wonderful community without the help of people like you. Thank you!

The gift that keeps on giving

If you're after a great idea for Christmas pressies, then we think our A4 Charity Calendar for 2022 makes a great gift. The calendar features 12 stunning local scenes – taken by talented members of Banbury Camera Club – and helps to raise vital funds for our hospice.

You can pick up your calendars as well as our fantastic range of Christmas cards in one of our shops or find them in the Christmas Shop on our website.

<u> RC Baker Christmas Tractor Run – 18 December</u>

Once again, RC Baker will be bringing the X factor to tractors this Christmas. The hugely popular Tractor Run is making a welcome return, bringing all the glitz and glam of the festive season. On Saturday 18 December, a fleet of fairy-lit tractors will be taking a tour around local villages to spread some Christmas cheer and raise money for Katharine House Hospice. To help plan your evening, you can find all the details as well as the route and timings on our website.

(The Tractor run will proceed through Aynho from Adderbury and leave via Station Road [Deddington Road]. Our own James Belcher will be taking part.)

Could you be a Village Champion for Katharine House?

We're looking for volunteers to help put up posters three or four times a year in their local village to help us spread the word about our upcoming events. We already have some brilliant Village Champions, but we're looking to recruit more. If you think you could help, then we'd love to hear from you. Send an email to **GetInvolved@khh.org.uk** or find out more on our website.

Bereavement support

Coping with the loss of someone special is difficult and can be painful. We offer support and counselling to the family and friends of those cared for by Katharine House Hospice. But we're also here to help anyone in the wider community who is adjusting to a bereavement. If you think that talking to someone would help, or you just want to find out how we can help support you, please get in touch with Mel Mobley, Bereavement and Counselling Lead, on **01295 811866** or email <u>khhbereavement@ouh.nhs.uk</u>.

Digital monthly newsletter – keep up to date with your hospice

Sign up to receive our Katharine House digital monthly newsletter, which is designed to keep you in touch with all our latest news and fundraising events at the hospice.

Find out more

Head to our website to find out more about all these events, news, and more: www.khh.org.uk.

Kings Sutton Duplicate Bridge Club

An invitation to join us on a Wednesday morning to supervised Bridge Sessions – beginners welcome. We also play on Thursday evenings in the well-ventilated Memorial Hall. For further information phone Ken Langdon **07850 616069**

THE SYNERGY PRACTICE - Physiotherapy, Chiropractic & Sports Therapy / Massage - Sherry,

Nadine and Luke

"Our team at the synergy practice has expanded and we are keen to share with our local villages, and communities, that we are here to help if they are in need of our healthcare services." Call **01865 803066** or book online at <u>www.thesynergypractice.com</u> or email <u>info@thesynergypractice.com</u>

YOUR LOCAL TRADE PAGE

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CAROL SERVICE - 19TH DECEMBER AT 5.00PM



The annual Carol Service with Christingles will be held in St Michael's Church on Sunday 19th December at 5.00pm - everyone is very welcome. We need your voices to sing the carols again as usual and we would love to see as many children as possible dressing up for the Nativity scene - we have lots of clothes on the rail but do come in your own costumes/tea towels if you have them. (See below for a Saturday morning activity). Donations at the Carol Service will go to support 'Katharine House Hospice' and 'Crisis' which supports the homeless.



CHILDREN - 18TH DECEMBER AT 10.00AM

Little Ones.....please come to the Church on Saturday to get a Christingle to celebrate Jesus as the "Light of the World" to take home with you and to see the Christingles which the bigger ones will use in the Carol Service. We will also put the lights on the large Christmas tree for the first time and see the large crib at the front of the church before you choose what clothes to wear for the Carol Service the next day.



To keep your young ones warm during the winter months ...



Sybil Stevens, 32 Rountown, has a selection of hand knitted garments, in various sizes, for sale.

Call in or telephone 01869 810692

PROCEEDS TO ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

