



Aynho

The Apricot Village

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY

2022

Wednesday

2nd February

CANDLEMAS

*If Candlemas Day be fair
and bright*

*Winter will have another
fight.*

*If Candlemas Day brings
cloud and rain,*

Winter won't come again.'



St Valentine's Day

*'You are my valentine; you
bring me pleasure.*

*With all my love you could
not measure,*

*So on this day I shall
always treasure.*

*Happy Valentine's for ever
and ever.'*

Monday
14th February



By: Mr G Hughes

ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE – FEBRUARY 2022

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

February 6th 2 nd Sunday of Christmas Epiphany	AYNHO	11.00am	Holy Communion Sidespersons: Annabel Bellamy, Farthinghoe - 9.30am Said HC; Hinton – 11.00am Morning Worship
February 13th Epiphany 1 Baptism of Christ	AYNHO	10.00am	Morning Worship Sidespersons: Jenny Pusey, Ted Sutton Croughton - 9.30am Holy Communion Farthinghoe – 9.30am Morning Worship Evenley – 11.00am Holy Communion
February 20th Epiphany 2	FARTHINGHOE	1030am	Benefice Service – Holy Communion
February 27th Epiphany 3	AYNHO	9.30am	Holy Communion Sidespersons: Gill Reynolds Evenley – 9.30am Morning Worship Croughton – 11.00am Morning Worship Hinton – 11.00am Holy Communion Farthinghoe – 4.00pm Evening Prayer

CHURCH CLEANING at St.Michaels on Thursday 24th 9.45am onwards.

BELL RINGING AT AYNHO: Tuesdays 8th and 22nd 7.30pm

Information about the life of Aynho church -

Enquiries from: **Rev.Sue Cooper** – revsue.cooper@gmail.com Tel: 01869 – 810903
or Church Wardens: Andrew Bellamy Tel: 01869 - 810847
Kathy White Tel: 01869 – 810418

A Pew News is now printed – Request on line or hard copy. Spare copies in Church Porch

**Items for MARCH 2022 - preferably before or by February 18th please to:
Sybil at No.32 Roundtown Tel:810692 Email: syban@btinternet.com
and any comments re Newsletter to Rector or Sybil.**

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

A revision of the Electoral Roll will take place shortly. Anyone wanting more information should contact Kathy White on **01869 810418**.

This Newsletter is issued by “ST.MICHAEL’S CHURCH and
locally printed in Aynho by “CICERONI TRAVEL”

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Pastoral Letter February 2022. Revd Sue Cooper writes:

Dear Friends,

I hope you all are keeping well and looking forward to the first signs of Spring; the Snowdrops are out already, hooray!! I cannot write in February without mentioning Valentine's Day, which is a day for the celebration of love, but this all started out from a Saints Feast day in the Church. The Feast of Saint Valentine was established to be celebrated on February 14th in honour of Saint Valentine of Rome, who died on that date in AD 269. Saint Valentine is the patron saint of love.

It is often said that actions speak louder than words, and love is a category where this really rings true. It doesn't matter how much we say we love someone if our actions don't match up to our words. February 14th is wonderful for folk who are all loved up and in the thrill of romantic love, but it is only one day, and love isn't something that can be confined to a date because love takes many forms. When we are young, grand gestures sweep us off our feet. But as we age, other ways that love is shown become just as meaningful as grand gestures, maybe more so.

I can remember a few years back while my parents were still alive, I often used to drive down to London on a Thursday evening to sleep over and spend my day off with them. In the evening my Mum would fall asleep in front of the telly and Dad would make a hot water bottle and place it in their bed (on her side), he even took to putting one in my bed too. Early in the morning Dad would go out to collect the newspaper and Mum would put a small pan of milk on a low heat so that it would be ready when he came in for his breakfast. They had been married over 60yrs and although they were not particularly romantic, or overly affectionate, they loved each other and their actions showed it more than their words. But this love had been built year by year, with little thoughtful acts that added up to a lifetime of love.

But love isn't confined to couples. Think about the times when someone has gone over and above the call of duty, and has been there for you in some way when you needed a friend or some help. These are acts of love and kindness that mean so much more than words on a card.

We might think that we invented love but the truth is God created us to love and be loved. I know some people have a very negative image of God, which probably comes from thinking God is disapproving and judgemental, but this couldn't be further from the truth. In fact the Bible tells us that ***"God so loved the world that he sent his only Son"***, (John 3: 16). Jesus is the most precious thing God has, and he sent him to us to prove how much he loves us, and so that we could learn what real love is like. So to receive hearts and roses on 14th Feb is wonderful, but real lasting love is about so much more than these.

I had to have my little Dog Pepsi put to sleep at Christmas, and now he's gone I realise just how much I loved him, but more importantly I have come to realise how much he loved us. Animals are just as capable of great love too, if we care to notice.

The thing is, love is all around us if we open our hearts and minds as well as our eyes and ears. It is in the kindness of others, and in the everyday little things we do to make life easier or better for someone else. Actions really do speak louder than words. Even so, it's still important to tell the people in your life that you love them; Life is too short to take for granted that someone knows you love them, so make sure you tell them.

Happy St Valentine's Day. God bless you all,

With much love

Revd Sue x

WHEATSHEAF CONSORT

We would like to say a BIG Thank You to the Wheatsheaf Consort for their Evening of Advent Music and Readings on Thursday 25th November. The programme was a wonderful mix of pieces, some familiar and some not so well known. The format was just right and included some participation from the audience. The singing was amazing and we have only received very positive comments from those who attended. The donations in aid of the Benefice Churches fund totalled £233.

Thank you to all who supported this event but our biggest thanks go to Russell for suggesting it and Christopher for making it happen. If you ever want to come back again, you can be assured of a very warm welcome.

OUR VILLAGE..... ENTERTAINMENTS ETC

OUR VILLAGE ENTERTAINMENT ETC

GARDENING CLUB (2nd Wednesday)

Contact Annabel Bellamy 810847

It was extremely good to see so many of you, along with some new Members, at our January meeting, when Tom Duncan got our 2022 Programme going with a swing. It is always wonderful to have an informative and enjoyable talk by Tom. Thank you to him.

Most of you now have your Aynho Gardening Club 2022 Membership Card for the year - the production of this will entitle you to a 5% discount on plants at the Preston Bissett Nurseries. (Admittedly not a huge saving but better than nothing). The Nursery is worth a visit as they have some lovely plants And so on to February – **WEDNESDAY 9th FEBRUARY**. Adrian James will be talking about ‘**Gardens of Paradise**’. He is a freelance photographer of gardens and takes the most wonderful pictures, as well as a great traveller, so we are in for a treat. The talk will start at 7.30pm.

For those of you who were unable to make the January meeting but would like to join the AGC, please come along with your £12 subscription and Linda and Johanna will add you to the Membership List and give you a 2022 programme.

As mentioned, we are still hoping for some volunteers to take on the coffee/tea rota.

AYNHO WI (3rd Wednesday)

Contacts: Jill Wightman 811206

Our talk in January was by Captain Kamran Irani on the wonderful charity work of the bikers who not only deliver blood from the relevant centres to hospitals but also provide other medical services needed in emergencies such as transporting milk for premature babies and more recently Covid test kits and vaccines. It was a very interesting and informative evening.

Our next talk on the 16th February will be by Andy Gill whose idea it was to form local groups to care for those affected by dementia, a disease that, in our society today, we are sadly becoming increasingly aware of. Take care and we look forward to seeing you then. The coffee mornings this month are on the 2nd and 9th February.

AYNHO WRITERS GROUP

Contact: Keith McClellan 810346

Aynho Writers had their recent meeting by email. A fascinating range of stories and memories were sent in batches on Saturday 8th Jan. Our next meeting is on Feb 12th and it is undecided whether we will meet or email again.. Topics will be Valentine's Day or something overheard.

HISTORY SOCIETY (Last Wednesday)

Any queries: Keith McClellan 01869 810346

THE HOME GUARD

Wednesday 23rd February

Entry £2

The Home Guard, originally called the Local Defence Volunteers, was set up in May 1940 when many feared Britain was in danger of being invaded. Who were the Home Guard? What did they do? Were there any Home Guard units locally? What equipment did they have? These are just a few of the questions Chris Bazeley will be answering in his talk this month. You do not need to be a member of the History Society just come along.

AYNHO HEALTH WALKS

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 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.

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WINTER LUNCH CLUB

**DATES FOR FEBRUARY 2022 - Thursdays: 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th
12.15pm-1.30pm back room of Village Hall**

Winter Lunch Club aims to provide a simple homecooked meal to any villager in a warm friendly atmosphere at very reasonable cost. Profit after costs is donated back to village amenities and a charity of my choice, one which has supported a villager. Even with further lifting of Covid rules if you would like to attend you should **book your place (numbers are limited), please telephone Amanda on 01869 810341 no later than Wednesday midday of the week in question** (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). As before, if you should feel unwell then we would all be grateful if you stay at home until you feel better. Thank you. Amanda Limb

KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE

What's coming up in 2022

As well as some old favourites, we're excited to be offering some incredible new challenge events throughout the year! So why not try something new in 2022 and help us to raise much-needed funds for our hospice? As always, your support and generosity means that we can continue to care for local people and families when they need it most.

Walk this way...

Our annual flagship fundraising event is back and this time it's by moonlight...

The rebranded Moonlight Walk is taking place on 9 July 2022 at Banbury Rugby Club.

We're going back to the eighties – so expect lots of leg warmers, bright colours, big hair and glow sticks galore. Get your tickets today and don't forget to tell family and friends!

Charity challenges

Help us raise money with an adrenaline rush! We have the following challenge events available to sign up to now – the sky is literally the limit!

- Extreme Abseil: Take on the 418 feet National Lift Tower, Nottingham on 1 April (no joke!)
- Blemheim Fun Run: Run, jog or walk around the stunning grounds on 15 May
- Wingwalking: Take to the skies on the top wing of a Boeing Stearman bi-plane on 26 May
- RideLondon-Essex 100: Be part of Team KHH and cycle 100 miles on 29 May
- Oxford Half Marathon: Secure your spot for the 13.1 miles around Oxford on 16 October

For more details on all these challenge events, plus even more – visit www.khh.org.uk/challenge

How does your garden grow?

Our ever-popular Open Gardens will be making a welcome return in 2022 and we'd love to be able to offer even more events this year. If you'd like to get involved and welcome visitors to your garden, then get in touch. We're here to offer support and guidance to help make sure your Open Garden event is blooming marvellous.

Tree-mendous success

Thanks to our brilliant team of volunteers, our first-ever Tree-cycle scheme was a huge success and we were able to collect and chip 107 trees – helping to raise around £1,600 for our hospice!

Next year, we plan to go even bigger and better with more postcodes, more collections and hopefully even more money raised! If you're interested in recycling your tree with us next year, then get in touch and put your postcode forward.

International Women's Day

To mark this year's International Women's Day, which will be celebrated across the world on 8 March, a festival of arts, community and business events will take place throughout the month at The Mill Arts Centre and Lock29. This year, all money raised is being donated to our hospice in memory of 41-year-old Becky Moyce from Hempton who died at Katharine House in July 2021. For more information, visit

iwdbanbury.com or follow them on **Instagram @iwd.banbury**

Find out more

Head to our website for more details, events and news: www.khh.org.uk.

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