



FEBRUARY

DID YOU KNOW...



AMETHYST

*February's
Birthstone
Signifies Strength
and Clarity.*



VIOLETS

*February's
Birth Flower
Implies Loyalty
Watchfulness and
Faithfulness.*



FEBRUARY

*At one time
had only
23 days.*



FEBRUARY

*Is one of the most
Misspelled words
in the
English language.*

FEBRUARY
*In Old English was once
called SOLMONATH
(Mud Month)
or
KALE-MONATH
(Cabbage Month)*



ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE
AYNHO-CROUGHTON-EVENLEY-FARTHINGHOE-HINTON-in-the-HEDGES with STEANE
CHURCH CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2023

February 5th Proper 1	FARTHINGHOE	10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion
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February 12th 2 nd Sunday before Lent	AYNHO	10.00am	Morning Worship Sidepersons: Annabel Bellamy, Jane Ward
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Evenley – 9.30am Morning Worship
Farthinghoe – 9.30am Morning Worship
Croughton – 11.00am Morning Worship
Hinton – 11.00am Morning Worship

February 19th 1 st Sunday before Lent	HINTON	10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion
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22nd February ASH WEDNESDAY	EVENLEY	7.00pm	Benefice Holy Communion
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February 26th 1 st Sunday of Lent	AYNHO	11.00am	Holy Communion Sidepersons: Gillian Reynolds, Ted Sutton
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Croughton – 11.00am Morning Worship
Farthinghoe – 11.00am Holy Communion

CHURCH CLEANING at St Michael's Aynho – Thursday 23rd from 9.30am
BELL RINGING – Alternate Tuesdays - 7.30pm at Aynho

Information about the life of our church or baptisms or wedding enquires from:

Church Wardens: Andrew Bellamy Tel: **01869-810847**
Kathy White Tel: **01869-810418**

Items for March 2023 Newsletter preferably before or by February 21st please to:
Sybil 32, Roundtown, Aynho Tel: **01869 810692** E-mail: syban@btinternet.com

This Newsletter is issued by ST.MICHAEL'S CHURCH and locally printed in Aynho by
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(Vol: 682)

CHURCHWARDEN'S RAMBLINGS

Christmas behind us – Easter eggs already in the shops, we are already in February, snowdrops out, daffodils and tulips beginning to show and time is flying by once again.

With Easter being at the beginning of April, this month takes us into the period of Lent in the Church, a time when Christians reflect and prepare for the celebrations of Easter. You will notice this year that our Lent period starts with the “Ashing Service” at Evenley on 22nd February at 7.00 pm in the evening. If anyone is likely to attend and can offer a lift, or if anyone would like to go and needs a lift, please contact us, your Churchwardens.

Don't forget that Tuesday 21st, however is Shrove Tuesday, perhaps better known as Pancake Day. We do hope that you all enjoy yours with your families. It is, and always was in the tradition of the church, a feast to enjoy and use up ingredients that would not have been used again until Easter, the next feast! Nowadays the bit in between, Lent, recalling Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness and then his triumphant ride into Jerusalem before his crucifixion, is less observed in our communities. It is covered in our planned services at the churches in our Benefice.

Contact remains via the Rectory telephone in the first instance (**810903**) or by email to **office@astwickvalebenefice.org**.

Otherwise, we are your first point of contact in the village if there is anything you need - general or specific information, enquiries about weddings, funerals and burials - contact Kathy White in Portway Gardens (810418) and Andrew Bellamy in The Square (810847).

Kathy and Andrew

PETER COLES

You probably are aware that Peter died 10 days ago and may already have this information -

His daughter Janet, wanted to share the funeral details with anyone who knew him and might want to pay their respects? I give below the details for anyone else who might be interested. If you know of anyone who does not have internet access but may want to know, please pass on the details to them.

BANBURY CREMATORIUM

FRIDAY 3rd FEBRUARY

3.00pm

KATHERINE HOUSE HOSPICE - Heading into 2023

Moonlight, camera, action!

The Moonlight Walk is back and this time we're going to the movies! Our annual flagship fundraising walk is taking place on Saturday 20 May 2023 at Easington Sports Football Club – so get the date in your diaries now and don't forget to tell friends and family! www.khh.org.uk/moonlight

Challenge accepted

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!

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| ➤ Ride London – 28 May | ➤ Abseil – 17 June |
| ➤ Bike Oxford – 25 June | ➤ Skydive – 9 September |
| ➤ Thames Path Walk – 9 September | ➤ Oxford Half – 15 October |
| ➤ Halloween Walk – 28 October | ➤ Find out more here: www.khh.org.uk/events |

How does your garden grow?

Our ever-popular Open Gardens will be making a welcome return in 2023 and we'd love to be able to branch out and grow the scheme. Last year, our Open Gardens helped raise nearly £7,000 for our hospice. If you'd like to get involved and help support us by opening your own garden, then we'd love to hear from you. Our Fundraising team are on hand to offer support and guidance to help make sure your event is blooming marvellous. www.khh.org.uk/gardens

OUR VILLAGE ENTERTAINMENTS/ACTIVITIES

SHORT MAT BOWLS - Village Hall Tuesdays 2.30-4.30pm Contact: Carol McClellan 810346

We would love to welcome new members. This is Short Mat Bowls and we help each other to learn to play. Tea/Coffee and Biscuits are provided in the interval at about 3.15pm for 20 minutes. The cost is £2.50 a week per person.

GARDENING CLUB - Village Hall 2nd Wednesday Contact: Annabel Bellamy 810847

On Wednesday 8th February Chris Day from Buckingham Nurseries will be tackling winter houseplant care in his talk 'Taming the Indoor Jungle'. There will be plenty of hints and tips on caring for flowering, foliage and unusual houseplants. We all know the importance of indoor plants to our wellbeing so come along and learn how to get the most from them. The talk will start at 7.30pm. Meryl Rimmer is kindly doing the 'seed swap' again this year – so do bring some cash for that.

It was very good to see so many of you, along with some new Members, at our January meeting when Tom Duncan gave a brilliant talk about the garden at Mount Stewart. Enormous thanks to him. 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 - Linda and Johanna will add you to the Membership List and you will receive your membership card with the 2023 programme. (A reminder: The production of your card will entitle you to a 5% discount on plants at the Preston Bissett Nurseries).

AYNHO WI 3rd Wednesday Contact: Jill Wightman 811206 Email: jayrw10@gmail.com

We had a very well attended January meeting, which included 4 visitors. It was an interesting and enlightening talk by Kate Angell an Aynho resident, on Mindfulness. Kate brought this to life and guided us through its meaning making us aware of the fact that it can help so many different people. Initially we all wondered why we were asked to bring a piece of fruit with us – now we know why! Our next meeting on the 14th February will be a talk, again by another Aynho local, Liz Hadley, who works for Oxford University at the Nuffield Department of Primary Care. She will be giving us a brief overview of the Covid clinical trials and how they work plus information on the current trial she herself manages. Covid isn't going to go away so it will be interesting to learn how it is now being dealt with.

This will be an open meeting which means anyone can attend. The entry fee for visitors is £3.

WI Coffee Mornings: 1st & 8th of February at The Cartwright Hotel 10.30am – noon

HISTORY SOCIETY 4th Wednesday Contact: Helen MacKenzie 07866 044985 **22nd February - "The Ghost Detective by Adrian Perkins" Entry £3**

Our talk this month is by Ghost Detective, Adrian Perkins, who has investigated and written books on new haunted locations for over thirty years. His many books contain startling eyewitness accounts from people who believe they have seen a ghost or experienced spirit activity first hand. Investigations include new tales of ghostly goings-on. A resident of Northamptonshire his findings are wide and varied and reveal spirits and poltergeists in some of the most unlikely places. This promises to be an interesting evening as Adrian invites us into the world of ghostly activities and explains how he became involved in this search. Want to know more? You do not need to be a member of the History Society just come along and pay on the door.

MCC (Men's Coffee Club) Contact: Jill Wightman 811206 **Coffee Morning 15th February 10.30am – 12 noon at the Cartwright Hotel**

"WELL BEING WALKS" Contact Kathy White 810418 Every Thursday walks start at the Sports Field 10.0am. Short & Long Walks. Please be sure to wrap up warm and wear some really good footwear, we may still get snow, rain certainly and slippery leaves. Refreshments are offered at the finish!

AYNHO WRITERS GROUP 10.00am -12.00noon Saturday, 11th February 2023 **Contact: Keith McClellan 810346**

Our January meeting heard some interesting contributions on "Interviews" "People's computers or their printers". "Fascinating memories of printers etc in the old days". This month we will hear about "Sibling rivalry" or "A story including at least three double-barrelled items". New members welcome.

AYNHO ROAD CYCLING

Contact: Faraz Shibli 07742 906 780 faraz.shibli@oxon.org

If you are interested in joining our growing road cycling club, please contact Faraz. We aim to meet once a month on a Saturday or Sunday for a social ride with a cafe stop. Our next group ride will take place on the morning of **Sunday 19th February**. All abilities welcome.

BRIDGE CIRCLE

Contact: kevinds@salusinvest.com or Faraz Shibli faraz.shibli@oxon.org

In January, we held our second meet up. It was very kindly hosted by the Cartwright, where we enjoyed use of the Apricot Room, finger food and a glass or two of wine. We now have enough members to hold a monthly bridge circle, and new joiners would be very welcome indeed. We have a wide range of ages and abilities, from complete beginners to experienced players, so please do get in touch. Kevin D'Silva

TOP DANCE SCHOOL – LATIN & BALLROOM

Contact: Tizzy Jones on 07986837119 or email tizianajones@btinternet.com

Beginners classes in A.V.H. Thursdays – Children aged 4 to 12 years – 5.0pm-6.0pm and Adults 7.0pm-8.0pm. IDTA Registered and Enhanced DBS cleared. For more information and to book a place, please call: **Tizzy Jones** as above.

ADDERBURY, DEDDINGTON & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The next evening with guest speaker, Scarlet Page, accomplished portrait photographer, will be on Wednesday 1st of March at 7.30pm. Before then we will have Mick Brittain talking about Photoshop and how that influences his photography on **Wednesday 1st of February** at 7.30pm at The Adderbury Institute. Do look on our **website for further details**.

WINTER LUNCH CLUB (Oct.2022-end of March 2023)

February dates 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd

Contact: Amanda 01869 810341

Winter Lunch Club takes place most Thursdays from October 2022 to end of March 2023. It is an opportunity for any villager to come along to the village hall and hopefully enjoy a simple homecooked meal from a choice of soup, baked potato with filling, pudding, tea/coffee, at very reasonable cost during the winter months. Whether a regular returning or a new face you will be given a warm welcome. To book your place (max numbers are 22) please telephone Amanda on 810341 before 12 noon on Mondays at the start of the relevant week (leave a message on the answerphone if I am out) or you can sign up when at lunch. If you book a place but can no longer come please let me know. Payment is by cash only

SOCIAL DOG WALKING

Contact: Faraz 07742 906 780 or faraz.shibli@oxon.org

We organise ad hoc, casual dog walks every week via WhatsApp. There's no pressure to join - just come along if and when convenient. We recently enjoyed a dog walk with champagne on Christmas Day - it's not just social for the dogs! If you are interested, please see above contact for further details.

Dear fellow Aynho residents,

I have a lovely **3yr old ginger Labradoodle called Betty** - she's quite small, well behaved and loves nothing more than playing ball and human cuddles. I am looking for someone who would have her two days a week whilst I am out at my office which, since the pandemic, no longer welcomes dogs.

You're maybe someone who would like a dog but doesn't want the full-time commitment - maybe you're retired or working from home and want some company. I will pay, of course - I just need someone responsible who, ideally, has a bit of outside space or a garden. It wouldn't have to be every single week - she sometimes goes on holiday to my mum's house.

If you might be interested or know someone, please text or call me on **077 404 600 24**.

Thank you and best wishes **Helen Rainford**

BANBURY CHRISTMAS TRACTOR RUN

2022's Tractor Run raised £27,462.65

for Katharine House Hospice

THANK YOU

YOUR LOCAL TRADE PAGE

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THE SYNERGY PRACTICE - Our team at the synergy practice has expanded and we are keen to share with our local villages. We are here to help if you are in need of our healthcare services." Call 01865 803066 or book online at www.thesynergypractice.com or email info@thesynergypractice.com

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Professional foot care service including nail trimming, removal of corns and callus, ingrowing toenails, fungal nail treatment. Please call for an appointment. Home visits available. Tel: 07899 017927

USE IT OR LOSE IT!



AYNHO POST OFFICE – Village Hall, Tuesdays 13.30 – 15.30

- Everyday Personal & Business Banking
- Mails – Inland, International, Tracked & Signed, Drop & Go
- Bill Payments – Council Tax, Water, Electricity & Gas, Telephone, Rent
- Driving – Vehicle Tax