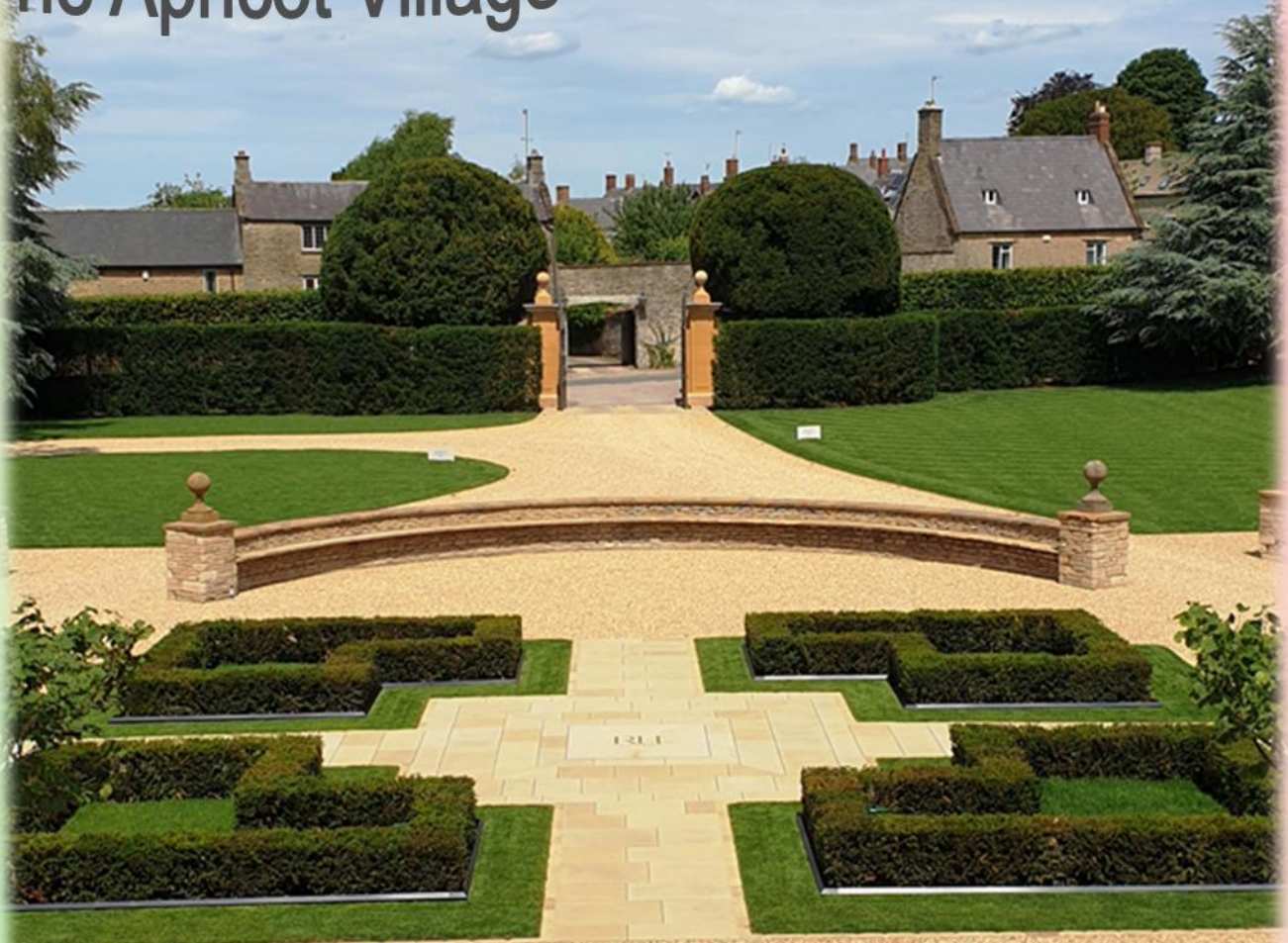




Aynho  
The Apricot Village

# NEWSLETTER

## JULY 2023



**Aynho Park**  
**OPENS ITS GATES ....**



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

## CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JULY 2023

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**July 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Ordinary Time

## FARTHINGHOE

11.00am

## Benefice Holy Communion

**July 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Ordinary Time

**AYNHO**

**10.00am**

## Morning Worship

**Sidespersons:** Annabel Bellamy, Jane Wade

Evenley – 9.30am Morning Worship  
Croughton – 11.00am Morning Worship  
Hinton – 11.00am Morning Worship

**July 16<sup>th</sup>**  
Ordinary Time

AYNH0

**10.30am**

## Benefice Holy Communion

Sidespersons: Gillian Reynolds, Ted Sutton

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
Ordinary Time

# AYNHO

**NO SERVICE**

Farthinghoe – 9.30am Morning Worship  
Croughton – 11.00am Holy Communion  
Steane- 6.00pm Songs of Praise

**July 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Ordinary Time

**AYNH0**

# NO SERVICE

## Evenley – 11.00am Holy Communion

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CHURCH CLEANING at St Michael's Aynho – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> from 9.30am  
BELL RINGING – Alternate Tuesdays - 7.30pm at Aynho

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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 August 2023 Newsletter preferably before or by **July 21<sup>st</sup>** please to:  
 Sybil 32, Roundtown, Aynho Tel: **01869 810692** E-mail: **syban@btinternet.com**

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

(Vol: 687)

# CHURCHWARDEN'S RAMBLINGS

Happy holidays to the children as they break up over the weeks of July – enjoy yourselves for the rest of the summer!

Less of a Ramble and more a matter of fact this month. St Michael's Church began to be rebuilt in the summer 1723 and was completed in the spring of 1725. The 14<sup>th</sup> Century tower was all that remained once the demolition of the Chancel and Nave were completed and the rebuilding of the Church by Aynho's skilful stonemasons and carpenters began and resulted in the fine building we see today. It is thus our Tercentenary period and we will be using it to celebrate in the coming months and years – particularly if we manage to attract a new Rector back into the Parish after Reverend Sue's departure last summer.

The advertisement for a new Rector has been published again and we look forward to hearing some news by the middle of August. Please keep our situation in your prayers and also all those people trying to maintain the life of the Church during this difficult time.

As ever, we remain 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).

Contact for other matters remains via the Rectory telephone in the first instance **(810903)** or by email to [office@astwickvalebenefice.org](mailto:office@astwickvalebenefice.org).

**Kathy and Andrew**

## **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CALL TO PRAYER**

St Michael's is offering something different next month, as we are hosting the above on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August from 10.00 am until 12.00 noon.

"The Prayer Call of 1784" led to monthly gatherings for prayer starting in churches all over Northamptonshire and has evolved over the years until 1996 when a group of church and mission leaders began to meet on the first Tuesday of each month to pray particularly for the work of God within our county of Northamptonshire and beyond.

There are usually 12 or more people who travel around the county and after a short time of welcome and refreshments Robert Chirgwin, of Nations, will lead the meeting. The prayers will be focused on the whole community and everyone is welcome to join us.

To help with numbers, can you let me know if you are likely to attend?

Many thanks. Kathy

As many of you will know **John Stokes of Aynho Court** passed away peacefully on the 24th May aged 89 years. John's funeral service has been arranged to take place at

**Aynho Church on 6th July at 2.00pm**  
and afterwards at the Cartwright Hotel.

Michael, Catherine and Oliver warmly invite you to attend and want to thank you for all your kind messages of condolence and the friendship you have shown to John since his arrival in the village in 2019.



## **VILLAGE ACTIVITIES**

### **ROAD CYCLING**

**Contact: Faraz Shibli 07742906780 or [faraz.shibli@oxon.org](mailto:faraz.shibli@oxon.org)**

We welcome cyclists of all ages and abilities, and all bikes are welcome, including road bikes, mountain bikes, hybrids and e-bikes. We meet on Saturday or Sunday mornings once a month for short and long group rides with a stop for coffee/breakfast. If you'd like to come along, please get in touch as above.

### **BRIDGE CIRCLE**

**Contact: Kevin D'Silva email: [kevinds@salusinvest.com](mailto:kevinds@salusinvest.com)**

We meet one Monday evening a month at 7 for 7.15pm at the Cartwright. An optional sandwich supper is available by request. If you'd like to come along, please get in touch as above.

### **SOCIAL DOG WALKING**

**Contact: Faraz Shibli 07742906780 or [faraz.shibli@oxon.org](mailto:faraz.shibli@oxon.org)**

Discover new dog walks and give your dogs (and yourself!) some all-important social interaction. We organise ad hoc, casual walks for dogs young and old via WhatsApp, usually on weekdays around lunchtime but occasionally at other times and on weekends. There's no pressure to join - just come along if and when convenient. Do get in touch if interested.

## **IN YOUR VILLAGE HALL ..... & Cartwright Hotel**

### **SHORT MAT BOWLS** - Tuesdays 2.30-4.30pm

**Contact: Carol McClellan 810346**

We give a warm welcome to new members. We help each other to learn to play and Tea/Coffee and Biscuits are provided in the interval. The cost is £2.50 a week per person.

### **GARDENING CLUB** - (2nd Wednesday of the month)

**Contact: Annabel Bellamy 810847**

On **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July** the talk given by Rosalie Chapman is "Why Wild Bees Matter" at **7.30pm** in the Village Hall. A fascinating subject that is very topical, so come along and learn more about our wild bees. The **AYNHO GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW** will be held in the Village Hall on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August**. Do please think about the classes that you can enter. More about this in next month's newsletter, along with the programme for the show, listing all the classes. Looking ahead, our **Gardening Club Day Trip** will take place on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September**. We will be visiting **Bourton House**, Bourton-on-the-Hill and on our return journey we will be stopping off at the Batsford Arboretum Plant Nursery/Café on the return journey. The coach is booked and Helen Mackenzie, our Visits Organiser, will begin to take names and money for the trip. The cost is **£25** per person.

### **AYNHO LADIES GROUP** (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in the Month)

**Contact: Jill Wightman 811206 or [jayrw10@gmail.com](mailto:jayrw10@gmail.com)**

It is hoped that you have all been enjoying our recent rather warm June weather though maybe some preferred the lower temperatures; whatever we definitely all enjoyed our usual coffee mornings at The Cartwright. There is no report this time on our June Garden Meeting as the date was too late for this month's report. Our next meeting on the **19<sup>th</sup> July** will be about reptiles. This has proved to be a popular talk with other groups, and depending on whether they are shedding their skins or not Rachael from the Towcester Reptile Centre, will be bringing a bearded dragon, a gecko, a chameleon, a tortoise and a snake. If there was an intake of breath on reading this, please don't worry all are harmless and will be well under control. We will be meeting in the main hall so there will be room for those who are not so keen on reptiles to sit further away. Our monthly coffee mornings continue in July so until then and our next gathering on the 19th take care and continue to enjoy this lovely weather.

**Aynho Ladies Coffee Mornings are on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am at the Cartwright Hotel.**

### **HISTORY SOCIETY** - (Last Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>)

**Contact: Helen MacKenzie 07866044985**

There are no meetings in July and August so the next History Society will be on the 27<sup>th</sup> September when we hope to have Wendy Morrison talking about the Iron Age findings at Steane. Enjoy the summer break.

### **TOP DANCE SCHOOL – LATIN & BALLROOM**

**Contact: Tizzy Jones on 07986837119 or [tizianajones@btinternet.com](mailto:tizianajones@btinternet.com)**

Beginners classes in AVH Thursdays – Children aged 4 to 12 years – 5.00pm-6.00pm and Adults 7.00pm-8.00pm. IDTA Registered and Enhanced DBS cleared. For more information and to book a place please call or email Tizzy as above.

**AYNHO WRITERS GROUP**      Contact: [keithcarolmac@gmail.com](mailto:keithcarolmac@gmail.com) or Keith McClellan 810346

*Next meeting: 10.00am -12.30 Saturday, 8 July 10.00 - 12.30*

June's meeting saw all Writers choosing 'A View from a Window' and produced a range of diverse stories and readings.

July topics are 'Living on Another Planet' or 'A walk on the Beach', and no doubt again there will be a myriad of tales told. Do join us if you want to try your hand at writing. You would be most welcome.

**SUMMER LUNCH CLUB** – (Every Thursday 12 noon)

Contact: Jill Wightman 811206 or the Cartwright Hotel 811885

Dates for July's Summer Lunch Club are the 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to come along simply contact either Jill or the Cartwright Hotel direct. Booking is essential.

Please note there is NO lunch club on the 6<sup>th</sup> July.

**MCC (Men's Coffee Club)** - (Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup> 10.30am)

Contact: Jill Wightman 811206 or Email: [jayrw10@gmail.com](mailto:jayrw10@gmail.com)

This month's men's coffee morning is on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am at the Cartwright Hotel. You are welcome to come and join us – just contact Jill.

## **PLAYING FIELD & PAVILION NEWS**

**"WELL BEING WALKS"** (Thursday 10.00am)

Contact: Kathy White 810418

Our weekly walks are always available, starting from the Sports Pavilion at 10.00 am each Thursday. As we are coming into the Summer, numbers will vary with people being on holiday and looking after grandchildren during school holiday periods but you will always find someone to walk with. A cuppa and a cake will be waiting when you return.

With the long periods of dry weather, we have to be careful of ridges and dips in the solid fields so please keep to your sturdy shoes. It is advisable to bring a bottle of water and carry antihistamine if you think you may be allergic to grasses or insect bites. The Blandford Fly is still making its mark in this area.

**THE AYNHO CRICKET CLUB (ACC)** was established earlier this year after a long absence of over 12 years of cricket being played on the Aynho Playing Field.

The ACC is a member of the ECB, the governing body of cricket in England & Wales, and the club's constitution follows the rules and guidelines of this governing body.

**The ACC has two main objectives:**

1. Is to facilitate an ECB All Stars programme to introduce cricket to children between the ages of 5-8. This has become an outstanding success this year with many girls and boys enjoying 45 plus minutes of coaching each Saturday morning - an 8 week programme that commenced in mid-May.
2. Is to recommence senior (ages 15 upwards) cricket being played at Aynho. The club wishes to play competitive but friendly local cricket and does not wish to participate in any cricket leagues. This year we aim to play 4 or 5 matches and two have already been played during June against Fritwell and Souldern and we would expect to extend that to matches against Tusmore and Charlton.

The matches are friendly and competitive with cricket teas served between the 25 over innings with a BBQ afterwards. We have been very pleased to see so many villagers sitting down to watch play in the sunshine and then relax and enjoy a drink and a chat at the BBQ.

Every successful cricket club needs dedicated grounds staff and we could not have established this club without the coordinated help of fellow club members. Certain members of our club arrange to cut and prepare the wicket, the immediate square and the outfield all with great dedication and all of us help with wicket preparation using the heavy roller and the use of some sub contracted outfield maintenance.

We have sufficient playing members to field a cricket XI but we suspect there are many more villagers who love the game and who would like to watch it, support it or play it again even if they have not played for a while.

We would like to encourage both women and men to join the ACC by first coming to watch some of the matches and the All Star coaching events that start respectively at 2pm and at 10.00am on a Saturday. You can join as a playing or as a non-playing member and we also encourage company membership if there is a link to Aynho.

For further information please contact Club Secretary Henry Carless on [henrycarless@live.com](mailto:henrycarless@live.com) or Kevin D'Silva on [kevinds@salusinvest.com](mailto:kevinds@salusinvest.com)

# **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

## **To Aynho Residents from your Parish Council**

Hello Villagers,

We thought you would like to know what your councillors have been doing on your behalf and where your money is being spent.

The Parish Council receives a precept of money to manage the village. A proportion of this comes from council tax. It roughly equates to less than £50 per household per year from council tax contributions. We also receive a little over £600 per year from West Northants County to manage our own grass cutting. We have the option to waiver this amount and they would cut the grass twice a year only.

With this amount of money, we provide grass cutting, weedkiller spray around the village, vital tree work in conservation areas, hedge trimming in designated conservation areas and all village maintenance. This year we have also replaced the Play Park fencing.

In order to budget money efficiently, some areas are cut more frequently than others. This saved money and helped the bio diversity with wildlife. We are aware this hasn't been well received by all and we are looking into the possibility of increasing the number of cuts per year.

### **No Mow May**

Rather than leave the whole village uncut for 5 weeks, we reduced the number of cuts and left some smaller areas uncut. This hasn't been a popular decision and we have listened to your concerns and will not be complying with *No Mow May* next year. Mr Flint and his team are due to return again on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

### **Village Maintenance**

At present, we do not have a contractor to carry out maintenance work around the village. Currently, this has been undertaken by husband and me free of charge. This includes maintenance on the Village Hall and Pavilion as well as numerous maintenance tasks around the village including cutting back the bushes at the bottom of Blacksmith Hill to improve visibility at the road junction. This area is not the responsibility of the Parish Council, but we felt for safety reasons, it was indeed necessary. We are currently looking into employing someone to help with many of these tasks in the near future.

Street cleaning, road and pathway repairs are not our responsibility but we are happy to report any issues on Street Doctor on your behalf, or you can report any concerns to West Northants Council.

### **Restoration Hardware UK**

The other big topic of conversation around the Village is RH. Restoration Hardware UK opened to the public on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June. [www.rh.com](http://www.rh.com)

If you have not paid them a visit yet, we recommend you do. It is a stunning building with some beautiful features and obviously glorious grounds you can wander through.

The House and Gallery are open to all. It is open Monday to Saturday 11.00 to 6.00pm and Sundays 11.00 to 5.00pm, the restaurant's last booking is 8.00pm, Monday to Saturday and 5.00pm on a Sunday.

There are several places you can stop by to have a drink, a tea lounge, a juice bar, a wine bar, an outdoor pizza restaurant and a fine dining restaurant. The food options need to be booked in advance.

Councillor Grant is in regular contact with RH. Although we are anticipating an increased volume initially, we are assured by the Management of RH they are taking the traffic issue and parking very seriously.

All visitors cars will be Valet parked in their own car park.

We are looking into purchasing residents' parking stickers for all villagers to display in their cars so we can identify resident's cars and manage nonresident's cars accordingly.

The launch party, which was a one off, as we all know, caused a traffic issue and was dangerous at times. RH has accepted all of your feedback and is very apologetic about how the events team they hired dealt with this. This will not happen again.

## **Speed Watch**

We are also aware of the increased number of Speeding traffic coming through our village and we are trying to manage the situation best we can. We have purchased VAR cameras to encourage those speeding to slow down.

Councillor Dean arranged for the Community Speed Watch camera to be in the village from 27<sup>th</sup> May until 24<sup>th</sup> June. Vehicles caught speeding over 34mph were reported to Police. (See below for report and numbers.) We would like to thank those that have come forward and help make our village safer.

Our next Parish Council meeting is on **July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall.

All are welcome to attend.

Dawn Willis

**[Dawn.willis@aynho.org](mailto:Dawn.willis@aynho.org)**

**Mobile number 07929 322949**

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## **COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH**

Community Speed Watch is now over. We had a fair number of sessions and about 50 vehicles reported. We are hoping to run another session later in the year, and need more volunteers please.

**Contact me at: [csw@aynho.org](mailto:csw@aynho.org) .**

I would like to thank all those who gave their time to help.

**David Dean CSW Coordinator**

## **RH**

We are working with RH to control Staff and Contractors parking. If you have issues please report them politely with photos if possible to [rh@aynho.org](mailto:rh@aynho.org) this email is monitored by members of the Parish Council and forwarded to senior staff at RH.

We understand the situation is very challenging at times, and would ask that we accept this is not going to be an overnight fix, and we want to work with them, not be at odds with them.

**David Dean Aynho Parish Council.**

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## **CLUB PARK DRAW - JUNE 2023**

The winning number was 5 won by Alex Ryan-Pont.

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## **KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE**

We wouldn't exist without the incredible support of our community, whether it's taking part in an event, playing our lottery, volunteering or even spreading the word about Katharine House – it all makes a difference. We're sharing just a few of the ways you can help our hospice this summer. Thank you!

### **Take on our Accumulator Challenge**

Do you have what it takes to compete with local businesses, schools, colleges and community groups in our Accumulator Challenge? Four months, a £50 stake and a competitive team challenge to raise as much as possible for Katharine House... all while having lots of fun, of course! Inject a little fun into the workplace, classroom or local community space and sign up to take part in our Accumulator Challenge now. **[www.khh.org.uk/accumulator](http://www.khh.org.uk/accumulator)**

### **Gardens galore**

Our Open Garden events are already under way and off to a great start. We have some fabulous villages taking part, as well as some private tours and events with limited availability. You can find the full list of our Open Gardens on our website. **[www.khh.org.uk/gardens](http://www.khh.org.uk/gardens)**

### **Digital monthly newsletter – keep up to date with your local hospice**

Sign up to receive our Katharine House digital monthly newsletter and keep in touch with all our latest news and fundraising events at the hospice. **[www.khh.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.khh.org.uk/newsletter)**

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## **YOUR LOCAL TRADE PAGE**

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