



# AYNHO, THE APRICOT VILLAGE

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023

WISHING ALL OUR  
READERS A HAPPY  
AND PEACEFUL  
CHRISTMAS



# CHURCH CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2023

## ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE

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

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<b>December 3rd</b> 1st Sunday in Advent	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>HINTON</b>	Benefice Holy Communion
<b>December 10th</b> 2nd Sunday in Advent	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>AYNHO</b>	Morning Worship (Sidespersons: Annabel Bellamy, Jane Wade) Evenley - 9.30am – Holy Communion Farthinghoe - 9.30am - Holy Communion Croughton - 11am – Holy Communion
<b>December 17th</b> 3rd Sunday in Advent	<b>05:00pm</b>	<b>AYNHO</b>	<b>Carol Service</b> (Sidespersons: Jane Wade, Gill Reynolds and Jenny Pusey)
<b>December 24th</b> 4th Sunday in Advent	<b>05:00pm</b> <b>11:00pm</b>	<b>FARTHINGHOE</b> <b>EVENLEY</b>	Benefice Crib Service Christmas Midnight Service
<b>December 25th</b> Christmas Day	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>AYNHO</b>	Benefice Holy Communion (Sidespersons: Jane Wade and Ted Sutton) <b>Hinton</b> - 10.30am Morning Worship
<b>December 31st</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>CROUGHTON</b>	Benefice Holy Communion

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Bell Ringing – Alternate Tuesdays 7.30pm at Aynho

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Information about the life of our church or baptisms or wedding enquiries to:  
**Church Wardens:** Andrew Bellamy Tel: 01869-810847 Kathy White Tel:01869-810418

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Items for January Newsletter preferably before or by 23rd December  
To: Sybil at 32 Roundtown, Aynho Tel: 01869 810692 or email syban@btinternet.com

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This Newsletter is published by St. Michael's Church on behalf of the Village and locally printed in Aynho by "Ciceroni Travel".

(Vol:692)

## **‘CHURCHWARDEN’S RAMBLINGS’**

The time for parties for all ages, class nativity plays, and the longed-for end of term fast approaches whilst the excitement of Christmas is seemingly not far away, however hard the shops have pushed these last few months to be ready for it.

The putting up of the Christmas Tree outside the Cartwright on 2nd December gets the village prepared, then the Children’s Christmas party on Saturday 16th December in the Village Hall (see the back page) should be a wonderful, fun event.

In St Michael’s Church we will have the community Carol Service on Sunday 17th December at 5pm and everyone is welcome to come and join in. The carols and readings will be familiar and the singing is always uplifting. The young children will be able to dress up for roles in the ad hoc nativity scene and some of the older children will be the narrators!

Christmas Day service this year will be a short Holy Communion at 10am so please join us. We do hope that many of you, with any visitors being especially welcome, will come along for this short but important service.

Just after Christmas, on the 28th December, we will be closing the Church to prepare it for the heating system to be replaced in the New Year. The church will be closed for about 10 weeks in all. Access to the churchyard will be open for all those visiting family graves over the period. We will publicise the church services in other villages in January and February’s newsletters. We hope that anyone travelling to the other services will offer lifts to their neighbours and friends who are unable to get there under their own steam.

Lastly, **our thanks to Mrs Deborah Gibbs** for her tireless work in editing and publishing this Newsletter with all the information provided by readers and others through Sybil. She has dedicated her time for years in the last 10 days of each month in this role – and as we have found it seems she is irreplaceable as a volunteer. We are very grateful, Deborah, thank you!

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## **HELLO AYNHO PEOPLE – ALAN REASON**

Just a little note to say that my father, Mr Alan Reason, from The Glebe has now moved into Brackley Fields Country House Retirement Home, after living in his home for 67 years with Mum, Margaret, until she died 10 years ago.

Dad was very active in the Village for many years being on The Parish Council, Village Hall Committee, and enjoyed running Whist drives in the Village Hall. He was also part of the team who ran the very successful Aynho Park Rangers Football club.

Following his retirement as a plasterer he became known as the Village handy man willing to undertake any small jobs for friends and neighbours. In recent times he may have been seen walking around the Village with his stroller, but the time has come for Alan to have residential care. The great news is he has settled well in his new home and is enjoy being part of the community in Brackley Fields. As a family we have many happy memories of living in Aynho and would like to thank everyone for their friendship and wish all the Apricot Villagers the very best for the future.

**Kind Regards, Pauline**

## **VILLAGE “OUTSIDE” ACTIVITIES**

### **Aynho Apricots Cycling Club**

Contact: Faraz Shibli 07742 906780  
faraz.shibli@oxon.org

We meet on Saturday or Sunday mornings once or twice 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.

### **Aynho Running Group**

Contact: Liz Hadley 07788379829  
liz.hadley@live.co.uk

We usually meet on Sunday mornings 9am at Portway. Routes and distances vary.  
We tend to run around 5-10km on roads – sometimes trails - at a pace comfortable for all. Something for everyone – experienced runners – those returning after a break – or those just starting out.

### **Social Dog Walking**

Contact: Faraz Shibli 07742 906780  
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.

### **Well-being WALKS**

Contact: Kathy White 810418

Unfortunately, due to personal reasons and health issues, I am no longer able to lead or take part in the health walks. I hope that at some time in the future I may be able to restart. I would like to thank all those walkers and fellow leaders who have made it possible to maintain this regular exercise. We are always looking for more walkers and potential Leaders to join in this wonderful activity, so if you are interested, please do come along or contact Dawn on 07929 322949.

or dawn.willis@aynho.org Happy walking everyone!" Many thanks, KATHY

## **IN YOUR VILLAGE HALL**

**(Bookings Secretary: Shirie Beaumont    Contact: 07878 430705)**

### **History Society**

Contact: Helen Mackenzie 078660449

Our next meeting will be in March 2024 and then every month excepting July and August recommencing in September through to November. To ensure we have sufficient funds to cover cost of Speakers and Hall hire we are considering setting up a subscription fee for members and would welcome your thoughts and an indication of support numbers for this proposal. Please do let either myself, Keith McClellan or Jill Wightman know whether you are in favour and if we can count on you for continuing attendance and support. Finally, if you have a keen interest or burning desire to learn more about a specific local historical fact or just general interest do let us know and we will try to book someone who fits the bill. Looking forward to seeing you all again in March 2024.

For those who came, it was good to see you at the AGM and well done for taking part in the excellent Quiz. Thank you very much for your contributions to the buffet table – always a delicious mix. The first event of 2024 will be held on **Wednesday 10th January** - second Wednesday of the month as always, when Tom Duncan will be speaking. The talk will start at 7.30pm but we will be ready to re-new your Annual Membership (£12) prior to the talk. Guests £3. In the meantime, **the Committee wish all the Members of the Aynho Gardening Club a Very Happy Christmas.**

**Aynho Writers' Group**

Contact: Keith McClellan keithcarol@gmail.com

**Saturday 16th December 10am-12.30pm (one week later than usual)**

After our wonderful anniversary lunch last month, we will have our traditional pre-Christmas meeting with an anonymous "Guess the Writer" session.

**Aynho Ladies Group**Contact: Jill Wightman 811206  
jayrw10@gmail.com**Christmas Lunch - 1pm on Friday 1st December at the Cartwright Hotel**

Our next get-together will be our wonderfully prepared Cartwright Christmas Lunch on Friday 1st December at 1pm. So, we can go back to our year running from January to December we will combine our AGM with this event – it will be very brief! You will receive, either by email or through your door, the Report for 2023 from your Committee as well as a copy of the financial report. If you have any issues you wish to raise, please let Jill know.

Our usual 2 coffee mornings will be replaced by one event on the 6th December when we will be joined by the MCC and guests of both groups for Mulled Wine and Mince Pies (alternatives will be available) at the usual time of 10.30 and as it is Christmas this will also include a festive raffle. So, we look forward to seeing you there and sincerely wish all our members, their families and all readers of this newsletter a Happy and Peaceful Christmas.

**Wednesday 6th December 10.30am – 12 Noon****MULLED WINE AND MINCE PIES: JOINT GET TOGETHER with Men's Coffee Club****Winter Lunch Club (WLC) Contact: Amanda 810341****(December dates: Thursdays 7th and 14th only)****Mary Cartwright Room in the Village Hall 12.15pm – 1.30pm.**

On December 14th there will be some Christmas goodies on the menu.

WLC 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. I run WLC for the community, any profit made this coming winter (after hire of hall and ingredients expenses) will go to supporting our Village Hall. **Payment is by CASH only. To book your place (max numbers are 22) please telephone Amanda before noon on the Monday of the relevant week,** (leave a message if I am out), or you can sign up for the following week when at a lunch. I need to know numbers by Monday midday so that I can go and buy sufficient ingredients! If you book a place but find that you are no longer able to come, please let me know.

**Short Mat Bowls**

Contact Carol McClellan keithcarol@gmail.com

Tuesdays 2pm - A warm welcome is given to new members. £2.50 to play

**Top Dance School – Latin and Ballroom**

Contact: Tizzy Jones 07986837119

tizianajones@btinternet.com

Beginners classes in the VH Thursdays – Children aged 4 to 12 years – 5pm-6pm and Adults 7.0pm-8.0pm.

IDTA Registered and Enhanced DBS cleared. For more information and to book please contact Tizzy.

**IN “THE CARTWRIGHT HOTEL”****Men’s Coffee Club & Aynho Ladies Group**

Contact: Jill Wightman 811206

jayrw10@gmail.com

Instead of our usual coffee mornings, there will be one joint get-together on Wednesday 6th December from 10.30 until Noon with Mulled Wine and Mince Pies for those who do not like these, the usual tea/coffee and biscuits. The cost will be £5 and there will also be a raffle. Booking is essential – so do please let me know if you would like to come.

Finally, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year – Jill (see also AYNHO LADIES GROUP)

**Bridge Circle**

Contact: kevinds@salusinvest.com

We meet one Monday evening a month at 7 for 7.15pm. We welcome players of all abilities including complete beginners. A sandwich supper is also available upon request. Please get in touch with Kevin D’Silva.

**AT YOUR PLAYING FIELD & PAVILION**

(Bookings Contact: Liz Hadley 07788379829 liz.hadley@live.co.uk)

**Monthly Mindfulness Workshop in the Pavilion**

Contact: Kate Angell 07478 276891 to book a place or Email: kate@calmerminds.co.uk  
www.calmerminds.co.

**Aynho Club Park**

DRAW WINNER for – November – I.Caufield (No.29)

**Supporting: Katharine House Hospice**

Lights, Tractor, Action! ... The much-loved RC Baker Tractor Run is back and once again the festive fleet will be making their merry way around Banbury and local villages on Saturday 16 December. Since 2016, the Christmas Tractor Run has already raised more than £97,000 – with £27,000 of that raised last year alone! Could you help to make it even more? Find the route map, timings and details of how you can donate to this event here: [www.khh.org.uk/tractor](http://www.khh.org.uk/tractor).

O Christmas Tree...Our Tree-cycle scheme is back – and available in even more areas! So instead of worrying about how to environmentally dispose of your tree after all the festivities are over, you can donate to Katharine House Hospice, and, in return, we will send one of our elves to collect and recycle your tree. Head to our website to find out more and check if your postcode is included in the scheme [www.khh.org.uk/christmastree](http://www.khh.org.uk/christmastree).

## YOUR LOCAL TRADE PAGE

**N.D.M.ELECTRICAL – N.D.Mobley Brackley. Tel:01280-700905 Mobile: 07922005629**

Domestic & Commercial Installation & Maintenance

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**SANDY BILLY (BSc.(Hons) (MChs) Private Podiatry/Chiropraxy Service**

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**ADAM 1ST CALL HANDYMAN** “When you don’t have the time or energy to tick off all those annoying jobs”

call **Adam on 07768398661** email: adam1stcallhandyman@hotmail.com

Based in Aynho and covering surrounding areas – call for free no obligation quotation.

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**SMITHS NEWSAGENTS** just ring **Tel: 01295-268499. Early delivery to your door every day**

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**A.E.HAWKINS Decorating Ltd. Est: 1983**

**For free estimate call:07790226838**

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**CIH DOMESTIC SERVICES:** Commercial & Domestic window cleaning. Inside and out.

Plus gutter cleaning. Contact: **Chris Henson 07402 449969.**

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**CAROLINE FOOT HEALTH Caroline Tindale DipCFHP MPSPract.** 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**

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**BULLS HEAD GARAGE (Souldern) Ltd.**

**Tel: 01869 345281**

Car & Light Commercial Vehicles – Repairs – Services – M.O.T

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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@synergypractice.com**

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**Kate Angell Mindfulness Meditation Teacher, 07478 276891 email kate@calmerminds.co.uk**

Licensed, Insured, Full DBS. One to one sessions, small groups, talks, work place training. Learn scientifically proven techniques shown to: reduce stress, improve concentration, reduce pain plus many other benefits.

Call/email me if you would like more information.

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**MINDFUL GARDENING** – General Garden Maintenance – hedge trimming – lawn mowing  
planting – weed control – pruning- garden waste removal .

**Contact: David Icke. Email daveicke6578@gmail.com or Mobile:07714402900**

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**Computer Pro I T Support & Computer Repairs for homes and small businesses.**

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Contact **Jason on 01869 345329 or 07975589459** or email **Jason@cockburnfranklin.co.uk**

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**TUSTAIN CARRIERS** – with village connections our local mover/carrier with Luton vans.

**Call: Jason on 07964626325** or email **tustaincarriers@gmail.com** to discuss requirements or get a quote.





## WINTER FAIR

(in aid of Community Fund)

Saturday 9th December 1-4pm in your Village Hall  
with Christmas Stalls

Soup & Sausages – Tea & Cakes – Raffle  
(new stall holders contact: 07795 087874)

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## DECORATE THE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

Saturday 2nd December 3-5pm

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On the Green outside the Cartwright Hotel

All Hands welcome

(Kindly donated by Perry Tree Farm, Milton Road,  
Adderbury OX17 3HN)

