



AYNHÖ,  
THE APRICOT VILLAGE

# MARCH NEWSLETTER

**MOTHER's  
DAY  
10th MARCH**

**St MICHAEL's  
RE-OPENING**

# CHURCH CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2024

## ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE

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

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<b>March 3<sup>rd</sup></b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>EVENLEY</b>	Benefice Holy Communion
<b>March 10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Mothering Sunday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>AYNHO</b>	Holy Communion (Sidespersons: J.Wade J.Pusey)
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>EVENLEY and FARTHINGHOE</b>	Morning Worship
<b>March 17<sup>th</sup></b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>AYNHO</b>	Benefice Holy Communion (Sidespersons: G.Reynolds T.Sutton)
<b>March 24<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>CROUGHTON</b>	Benefice Holy Communion
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>AYNHO</b>	Compline
<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>CROUGHTON</b>	Compline
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>FARTHINGHOE</b>	Compline
<b>Maundy Thursday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>EVENLEY</b>	Benefice Holy Communion
<b>Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>EVENLEY</b>	Family Service
	<b>2pm</b>	<b>HINTON</b>	Benefice Holy Communion
<b>Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>AYNHO</b>	Holy Communion (Sidespersons: A.Bellamy J.Pusey J.Wade)
	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>FARTHINGHOE</b>	Benefice Holy Communion
	<b>11am</b>	<b>HINTON</b>	Morning Worship

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**Aynho Church Cleaning** – all hands welcome at end of heating project during the 4 days  
(5-8<sup>th</sup> March) 9.45am-11am daily - getting ready for Mothering Sunday.

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Items for April Newsletter preferably before or by March 22nd to Sybil please at:  
32, Roundtown, Aynho. Tel: 01869-810692 or email [syban@btinternet.com](mailto:syban@btinternet.com)

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**This Newsletter is issued by St Michael's Church and includes all Village news and is locally printed in Aynho by "Ciceroni Travel"** **(Vol:694)**

## CHURCHWARDENS' RAMBLINGS

It is difficult to believe that we are already into the third month of 2024 but entering into March brings such wonderful sights and sounds. Springtime is now upon us with colourful daffodils and crocus bursting into life, the birdsong getting livelier and louder and the miracle of lambs being born and so swiftly running around in the fields.

As we write this update, our heating project is nearing completion and we look forward with great excitement to re-opening the doors of St Michael's on 10th March. Not only do we celebrate the changes made to the Church, we have an opportunity for everyone to join in a celebration of ALL Mothers and thank them for doing what they do and for being there for us. We hope that many families will come with Mothers and Grandmothers for this celebration but everyone else is invited as well because we all have or have had a Mum. You will see from our service schedule that we have a good number of services throughout the rest of the month, culminating in celebration for Easter Sunday.

Again, we hope to see the Church full of people of all ages for this special service which will be followed by an Easter Egg hunt for the children. We will not be offering refreshments that day as we know you will all have plenty of chocolate to go home to.

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). Alternatively, you can use the Rectory telephone (810903) or email to [office@astwickvalebenefice.org](mailto:office@astwickvalebenefice.org).

**Kathy and Andrew**

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## Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

The date has been set for the APCM and this will be held at 2pm on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April in the Church. The Church's Electoral Roll will also be revised during the last two weeks of March. If you are already included there is nothing you need to do. If you wish to be added, forms will be available at the back of the Church or can be obtained from Kathy White.

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## The Cartwright Hotel

**Website: [www.cartwright-hotel.co.uk](http://www.cartwright-hotel.co.uk)**

Back by popular demand our 'Market Menu'. Many of you will remember our Market Menu – this is a slightly different menu which we offer at lunchtime and early evening. It includes popular dishes which offer exceptional value at 2 courses for £17 or 3 courses for £23.

The Market Menu is available Monday to Saturday 12 noon to 2pm for lunch and 6pm to 8.30pm for dinner. Please see posters or visit our website for details. \*Restaurant Club Discounts are not available on this offer. Booking advised. Bookings now being taken for:

**Mother's Day Lunch** 12 noon – 2pm on Sunday 10th March (special menu)

**Easter Sunday Lunch** 12 noon – 2pm on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Details of main menus and curry menu are also available on our website.

**Telephone: 01869 811885 or email: [cartwright@oxfordshire-hotels.co.uk](mailto:cartwright@oxfordshire-hotels.co.uk)**

## **VILLAGE "OUTSIDE" ACTIVITIES**

**AYNHO APRICOTS CYCLING CLUB** - We meet on Saturday or Sunday mornings once or twice a month, for group rides with a stop for coffee/breakfast. We organize long and short rides, and we welcome cyclist of all ages and abilities, whether on road bikes, mountain bikes, hybrids or e-bikes. Please get in touch if you would like to come along.

**AYNHO RUNNING CLUB** - We usually meet on Sunday mornings at 9.0am on Portway for local runs. Routes and distances vary, but we tend to run around 5-10km on roads and sometimes trails at a pace which is comfortable for all. There is something for everyone, from experienced runners to those returning after a break, to those who are just starting out. Please get in touch if you would like to come along.

**SOCIAL DOG WALKING** -We usually meet on weekdays around lunchtime (but occasionally at other times and on weekends) for dog walks with fellow villagers. We arrange a time and place to meet on the morning of the walk itself via WhatsApp with no pressure or regular commitment – just join us if and when convenient. Please get in touch if you would like to join us. For all 3 of above please get in touch with:  
**Faraz Shibli 07742 906780 Email: [faraz.shibli@oxon.org](mailto:faraz.shibli@oxon.org).**

### **WELL-BEING WALKS from The Pavilion Thursdays 10am**

**Contact: Dawn on 0792932294 or email [dawn.willis@aynho.org](mailto:dawn.willis@aynho.org)**

A huge thank you to Kathy who has organized and led the health walks for many years. Kathy has stepped down from this role for a well-earned rest but the walks continue. There are two walks led by qualified walk leaders. One walk is a leisurely stroll for approximately 2 or 3 miles and lasts just over the hour or longer if needed. We walk at the pace that is comfortable for all. The second walk is more challenging covering an average of 6 miles and lasting up to 2 hours. There is no need to pre book. We are a friendly bunch and welcome all new walkers. However, the walks are not suitable for pushchairs as we often go across fields. We meet at the Sports Field Pavilion and set off at 10am every Thursday morning, rain or shine. On returning to the Pavilion there is tea, coffee and a tempting selection of cakes for sale. There is no fee for the Health Walks but we do ask for a voluntary 50p to cover the running costs of the Pavilion. All you need is some sturdy footwear. Hope to see you there.

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### **ALSO AT YOUR PLAYING FIELD & PAVILION**

#### **MONTHLY MINDFULNESS WORKSHOP:**

**Contact: Kate Angell 07478 276891 or email: [kate@calmerminds.co.uk](mailto:kate@calmerminds.co.uk) to book a place**

#### **IN YOUR VILLAGE HALL:**

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

#### **AYNHO QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.**

Any contributions towards the raffle for the Annual Aynho Quiz & Curry Night on 23rd March would be very much appreciated - all proceeds go towards sports and recreational facilities in the village. Also, a reminder that you don't have to attend the quiz to buy tickets! Raffle prizes currently include: - A course of beauty treatments with a local beauty nurse (total value £170). Vouchers for the Cartwright Arms, Great Western Arms, Brew Box, RH Hospitality, and a Gin Tasting Experience at a local distillery. Numerous prizes of wine, spirits and confectionery. If you wish to buy tickets, or contribute a raffle prize, please get in touch with Michael Johnson at

**27 Blacksmiths Hill or email: [mjohnson.deepdale@gmail.com](mailto:mjohnson.deepdale@gmail.com)**

**AYNHO WRITERS GROUP** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday

**March 9<sup>th</sup> 10am – 12.30pm**

**Contact: Keith McClellan email: keithcarolmac@gmail.com**

In February we had our 100 word Valentine stories before the local writer Kevin O'Regan gave us an interesting talk about his writing life including 3 successful novels. He then entertained us with his guitar and singing. In March we shall write about either "Diversions" "Road Ahead Closed" or "The Power of Music"

**AYNHO GARDENING CLUB** –13<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm. **Contact: Annabel Bellamy 810847**

Due to circumstances beyond our control we have a change to the advertised talk listed in the 2024 Membership Card. We will be having a talk about **sweet peas** given by **Katharine Hersee**, who goes by the name of **The Tea Break Gardener** (look it up on-line). Katharine, who is a new speaker to our Gardening Club, will be giving us tips for growing great straight-stemmed sweet peas to cut and enjoy in the home. She is a talented photographer and will be showing wonderful photos of her favourite varieties. The talk will start promptly at **7.30pm**. If you would like to bring a guest to a talk, please do, the cost is £3 for the evening.

**A Reminder:** The spring flowers at **Evenley Wood Gardens** will be bursting into life. It is a lovely place to wander around at this time of the year.

**HISTORY SOCIETY** 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

**Contact: Helen Mackenzie 07866 044985**

**THE WONDERS OF WOODSTOCK by Pippa Gwilliam 27<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm**

Due to unforeseen circumstances Pippa was unable to give her talk last November so we are delighted to welcome her as our first speaker of 2024. Many of you will remember Pippa from her entertaining talk in 2022 and this evening should prove to be just as interesting, amusing and informative. Pippa is a longstanding, avid and extremely knowledgeable member of the Visitor Guides at Blenheim Palace, Woodstock; and it is Woodstock which provides the history for this talk. Pippa promises to guide us through many of the events and happenings which have occurred there since Ethelred the Unready held his Grand Witan through to the Churchills and beyond. Everyone is welcome. The **entry fee is £3**. You do not need to be a member simply pay on the door.

**AYNHO LADIES GROUP- Open Meeting** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – **March 20<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm**

**Contact: Jill Wightman. Tel 811206 Email: jayrw10@gmail.com**

**'Life as a Musician at the Royal Academy of Music' a talk by Dr Jonathan Clinch**

Thank you to Kate for her informative introduction to T'ai Chi and Qigong last month. We all very much enjoyed learning about its origins and trying out some of the movements. On the 20<sup>th</sup> March we are looking forward to a talk from another Aynho local, Dr Jonathan Clinch, who will be discussing his teaching position with the Royal Academy of Music. In Jonathan's own words 'it's like a giant treasure hunt' searching for long forgotten composers and their music, discovering stories of those who turned out to be spies, tracking down mistresses and the enduring question of why there aren't more female composers. Happily we can also look forward to some of the stories being accompanied by his piano playing. This promises to be a fascinating meeting and is **OPEN to everyone who would like to attend. The Entrance fee for visitors will be £3**. Don't forget we are back to our usual evening time of 7.30pm now that the evenings are lighter and hopefully a hint of spring is with us. Our usual coffee mornings at The Cartwright, which seem to be getting more and more popular, will be on **6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March**. So until we meet again keep smiling and remember that Spring is definitely not too far away.

**SHORT MAT BOWLS: Tuesdays 2.30pm – 4.30pm New Members welcome.**

The cost is £2.50 per session. Woods for bowling are available if you don't own your own.

**Contact: Carol or Keith McClellan 07512 437291 or email: [keithcarolmac@gmail.com](mailto:keithcarolmac@gmail.com)**

**TOP DANCE SCHOOL: Latin & Ballroom Beginners Classes Thursdays 7-8pm.**

For Adults IDTA Registered and Enhance DBS cleared. For more information or book a place contact: **Tizzy Jones on 0798687119 or email - [tizianajones@btinternet.com](mailto:tizianajones@btinternet.com)**

**WINTER LUNCH CLUB      **March Dates: Thursdays 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 28<sup>th</sup>****

WLC is an opportunity for any villager to come along to the Dame Mary Cartwright Room in the Village Hall, 12.15pm – 1.30pm, enjoy a simple meal from a choice of soup, baked potato with filling, pudding and tea/coffee at a very reasonable cost. There is no club membership – whether a regular or a new face you will be given a warm welcome. I run the WLC for the community, any profit made this coming winter – after hall hire 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 810341 before 12 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 buy sufficient ingredients. If you book a place but find you are no longer able to come please let me know. A huge thank you to Shirie, Glenwys and Ailsa for their help over the past winter with front of house. WLC would not happen without their support.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March will be the final lunch for the 23/24 Winter. Amanda 810341**

**AT THE 'CARTWRIGHT HOTEL'**

**MEN'S COFFEE CLUB – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 10-30am – 12 noon**

**LADIES' COFFEE MORNINGS – Wednesdays 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March 10.30am – 12 noon**

You are very welcome to join any of these coffee mornings. You don't have to be a member just give me a ring: **Jill Wightman 811206 Email: [jayrw10@gmail.com](mailto:jayrw10@gmail.com)**

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

We have now passed our first anniversary of the formation of the Bridge Circle and it is a success! During January we had a post-Christmas dinner and we must have accommodated over 25 members and their partners in the hotel dining room and the conversation and wine flowed very freely. The hotel did us proud with an excellent three course meal. We meet one Monday evening each month at 7 for 7.15pm in the Apricot Room for 2 to 3 hours of enjoyable, social bridge. We usually play 3 or 4 tables, each of four players, and most players are from Aynho although we do have regular attendance from some members of the Evenley Bridge Club.

A sandwich supper and drinks can be purchased from the Hotel. We welcome players of all abilities including complete beginners for whom casual coaching is available.

## **PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE**

There are some changes on the Parish Council with 4 vacancies available. If you would be interested in joining us and get more involved in village matters, please feel free to contact me if you would like more details.

We are pleased to announce Mindful Gardening, aka David Icke has taken on the role of the gardening maintenance work around the village. Great to have you on board David.

Hill Trees bank has been cleared of dead wood. However, there is still a lot of debris to clear. If anyone can recommend someone that would be willing to help us clear away the debris please get in touch. Parish Council have funded materials for the wooden bridge on the Playpark. Thank you to Councillor Ray Willis for giving up your limited free time to carry out the repairs. It looks great.

We are hoping to bring together a large group of volunteers this spring to help with the spring tidy up. We would like to tackle the never-ending problem of litter and tidy the Pavilion area. A date will be advertised once confirmed.

**Our next Parish Council meeting is on 4<sup>th</sup> March Everyone is welcome.**

**Contact email: [dawn.willis@aynho.org](mailto:dawn.willis@aynho.org)**

## **ABILITY BUS SERVICE**

**Contact No: 01327 604123 Mon-Fri 9am - 2pm**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>TRIP</b>	<b>INFORMATION – ZONE</b>
Friday 1st March	BURFORD VILLAGE/ GARDEN CENTRE	FREE	STYLISH GARDEN CENTRE WITH RUSTIC CHIC HOME INTERIORS AND A GIFT SHOP, PLUS A CAFE AND ART GALLERY
Tuesday 5th March	THAME MARKET TOWN	FREE	A QUIANT MARKET DAY IN THIS OXFORDSHIRE TOWN. THE SPREAD EAGLE PUB IN THE CENTRE OFFER A REDUCED RATE LUNCH FOR £10
Wednesday 6th March	BRACKLEY TO BANBURY	FREE	OUR USUAL FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH TRIP TO BANBURY CENTRE/GATEWAY FOR BRACKLEY RESIDENTS
Tuesday 12th March	YARNTON GARDEN CENTRE	FREE	A POPULAR LOCATION INCLUDING LARGE GARDEN CENTRE, SHOPPING AND RESTAURANT
Monday 18th March	BANBURY CENTRE /GATEWAY	FREE	A TRIP TO BANBURY CENTRE/GATEWAY * Please advise which location you require
Wednesday 27th March	EVENLEY WOODS AND CAFÉ	FREE TRAVEL <b>£8.50 ENTRY</b>	ENJOY THE START OF SPRING IN THIS 60 ACRE WOODLAND GARDEN INCLUDING UNUSUAL TREES, SHRUBS AND PLANTS. ADMISSION PAYABLE AT THE GATE, PLEASE DO NOT SEND MONEY TO US. SMALL ONSITE CAFÉ AND TOILETS <a href="http://www.evenleywoodgarden.co.uk">www.evenleywoodgarden.co.uk</a>
Thursday 28TH March (day change due to Easter)	BICESTER TOWN/GC/ VILLAGE	FREE	THE LAST FRIDAY (BUT CHANGED TO THURSDAY THIS TIME!) OF THE MONTH TRIP TO BICESTER * Please advise which location you require

## YOUR LOCAL TRADE PAGE (Cost of Advert £3 per month)

**KATE HUME AESTHETICS** – ‘The Natural Beauty Nurse’ medical facial aesthetics & prescription skincare – advanced nurse practitioner and independent prescriber with nearly 2 decades of experience.

**[www.katehumeaesthetics.com](http://www.katehumeaesthetics.com)** – WhatsApp 07837 503421

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**NDM ELECTRICAL** – N D Mobley, Brackley Tel:01280 700905 Mobile: 07922 005629  
Domestic & Commercial Installation & Maintenance

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**SANDY BILLY** (BSc.(Hons) (MChs) Private Podiatry/Chiroprody Service  
Deddington Health Centre. Tel: Mobile 07792 212988 Email: [sandynbilly@yahoo.com](mailto:sandynbilly@yahoo.com)  
HP Registered. Clinic/Home Visiting Nail & Diabetic Foot Care & Footwear advice. Insoles/Orthotics, Corns & Callus (hard skin)

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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 07768 398661 Email: [adam1stcallhandyman@hotmail.com](mailto:adam1stcallhandyman@hotmail.com)  
Based in Aynho and covering surrounding areas – call for free no obligation quotation

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

### 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 [www.carolinefoothealth.co.uk](http://www.carolinefoothealth.co.uk)

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**BULLS HEAD GARAGE** (Souldern) Ltd. Tel: 01869 345281  
Car & Light Commercial Vehicles – Repairs – Services – MOT

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**COMPUTERPRO** - IT Support & Computer Repairs for homes and small businesses. Repairs & Upgrades. Phones & Tablets. Wi-Fi issues & installation. Online Security, New & Refurb machines  
Tel: 01869 352002 Email: [hello@computerpro.co.uk](mailto:hello@computerpro.co.uk)

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**C.F.ACCOUNTANTS Ltd.** Friendly personal service. Sensible fixed fees for small businesses and taxpayers, with no hidden charges. For free initial, no obligation meeting  
Contact Jason on 01869 345329 or 07975 589459 or Email: [jason@cockburnfranklin.co.uk](mailto:jason@cockburnfranklin.co.uk)

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**THE SYNERGY PRACTICE** Our team at the synergy practice has expanded to include medical aesthetics (e.g. Botox and fillers) and Swedish massage. We are here to help if you are in need of physio, sports therapy, massage or aesthetic services. Call 01865 803066 or book online [www.thesynergypractice.com](http://www.thesynergypractice.com)

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**TUSTAIN CARRIERS** – with village connections our local mover/carrier with Luton vans.  
Call: Jason on 07964 626325 or Email: [tustaincarriers@gmail.com](mailto:tustaincarriers@gmail.com) to discuss requirements or get a quote.

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**KATE ANGELL MINDFULNESS MEDITATION TEACHER**, Accredited T'ai Chih Chih Teacher and Shibashi Qigong. Session Leader. 07478 276891, email: [kate@calmerminds.co.uk](mailto:kate@calmerminds.co.uk). Weekly classes, one to one coaching, small group talks/ workshops. Licensed, insured and Full DBS. Please call/email for more info/book one of the weekly classes.