

THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE



Village news, notices and events....

USEFUL CONTACTS

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101

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Hospitals

The Horton
01295 275500

Vets

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01295 712110
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The Fox Inn

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Welcome to October

“ Autumn is a second Spring when every leaf is a flower” Albert Camus

Hello everyone.

October and Autumn are with us – my favourite season. Nature is slowing and preparing for Winter; but Autumn is a time of abundance and unrivalled beauty. I love to walk the fields and woodlands – to gaze upon the glorious colours as the trees change from green to gold and amber - and I love to sense the soft whisper of the leaves as they fall around me. Later as it becomes colder; there is nothing nicer than to walk on a cold crisp day when the hedgerows are coated with a shimmering hoar frost, feeling the leaves crunch beneath one's feet. Coming home to cosy up in front of a log fire adds to the pleasure.

It's a busy time too. Lots of gathering of fruits and berries to conserve or add to delicious pies and crumbles. Not a time to worry about your weight! In Churches Harvest Festivals take place, there are produce shows in villages and towns - and many of us are occupied with the gradual 'closing down' of our gardens as we cut back blooms; plant bulbs for the following Spring and replace summer flowers in our tubs and baskets with Winter Pansies and Cyclamen.

As ever I look back to our years in Normandy, where the apples would be picked and laid down in fields and gardens to ferment in readiness for the Cider making. The fragrance was arresting and later when the old Cider Presses went into action the air would be filled with an even more mouth-watering aroma. Selling the golden nectar is illegal in Normandy, unless the vendor is a registered merchant. However, the Normans are a law unto themselves and mostly ignored such regulations, as did the Local Authorities. Everyone knew where to go to get some good Cider!

Our home in the Marais (Marshland) was ideal to witness the Autumnal Starling Murmurations. These extraordinary aerial ballets performed as the birds returned to their roosts at sunset were spectacular to observe. It is thought that flying in flocks is a defence against predators; but whatever the reason these incredible little birds delivered their enchanting display every year.

Autumn brings a renewed sense of purpose following long, lazy Summer holidays. Enjoy this mellow month and celebrate the joy of the season, however you spend your time.

Lynne



Our newly elected MP, Sarah Bool, was invited to a meeting in Farthinghoe on Friday 27 September for initial discussions concerning the A422 road problems in the village. The meeting was also attended by two local WNC Councillors.

Sarah had recently visited Farthinghoe at her own volition to see for herself and commented how the A422 divided the village and had been very difficult to cross.

It had been intended that the purpose of this meeting was to go into the background of the various attempts over the years to obtain a village bypass and then to prepare a future plan. However, in light of the contents of the recently announced Public Consultation for the new WNC Local Transport Plan we felt it more beneficial to concentrate this meeting on the aspects of this multi-page document which we find most disturbing. In a nutshell a short summing up can be found on Page 103 of the Local Transport Plan in which no mention is made of a Bypass and there is only very brief mention of a Mitigation Plan containing no important details.

Sarah requested that we prepare our own version of how we feel this summing up should read and she will discuss this with WNC Councillors in depth, This we have done as follows:

“Proposed alternative to Page 103 in Local Transport Plan

Farthinghoe is located on the A422 Strategic Freight Network NCC 2013, DfT Major Road Network (MRN)2019. Farthinghoe suffers from a severe bottleneck. The A422 was nominated by National Highways as the official M40 diversion route in case of Motorway closures between J10 & J11, but in practice the J9 - J10 stretch is also included.

In August 2023, a Strategic Outline Case was issued by WNC which highlighted that when the transport problems and issues are considered collectively a clear need for intervention is established.

Currently, a number of intervention options are being considered, including a Bypass, Weight Restriction or Traffic Light/One-Way System, within the Village. The Farthinghoe bypass will remain a live item on the West Northants Council Local Transport Plan until such time that an Intervention Plan, acceptable to all parties, can be agreed and implemented.”

For quite a while now Farthinghoe Parish Council has been pushing very hard for a costed scheme to consider the introduction of a Weight restriction on the A422, a scheme which we feel might offer 80% of the benefits of a Bypass. WNC Highways promised to prepare such a report and to deliver it to us by Spring 2024—we are still waiting!!

Sarah has promised to investigate this delay in order to speed up a reply and then respond to us with the outcome of her findings. Such schemes have been muted many times over the last 30 years and have been rebuffed with no explanation. We believe that part of this rebuttal has been caused by reasons or authorities outside the control of WNC and NCC.

We hope to learn more

Regards

Farthinghoe Parish Council

VILLAGE NOTICES

Thank you from Pauline Mason

I would like to thank all of you in the village who made my brief but very special visit to Farthinghoe so overwhelming. I feel truly humbled to think so many of you were genuinely pleased to see me. To those who were away on holiday or for other reasons were unable to be in the village to welcome me but sent their good wishes - thank you! I've always said the village was a wonderful place to live, we may have had our differences, but at the end of the day you are a caring and friendly community. Embrace the diversity, and recognise the pleasure living in a small community offers. I wish I could transport that friendship back with me to Australia! So thank you, if I never make it back again, I'll be like Queen Mary - it won't be Calais that is written on my heart but Farthinghoe.

Again many thanks to everyone who made it all so special. If you are ever in Western Australia bring me a little bit of Farthinghoe!!

Pauline

Church Cleaning

Will be on Tuesday, October 8th, from 8.30am. Many hands make light work!

Church Coffee Morning

Coffee, Cake & Chat In the Church Vestry, on Friday, October 11th from 10 -11am
There will be a Raffle. Coffee & Cake is £1 – Chat is free!

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Many thanks to everyone who made this event so successful! To my helpers (I couldn't manage without you) and to all who came and supported this worthy cause, or who gave donations, making a grand final total of £477.

ALLOTMENTS 2024

Rentals for the Church Piece allotments become due on the first Monday in September, i.e. Monday September 2nd.

Rentals remain at £12 per plot, which is extremely good value for something which provides year-round physical and mental well-being, and will be collected in person by the trustees, Henry Bankes-Jones and Ruth Brittain, at 7pm in the Church. If plot holders would like to pay online, the bank details are as follows:

Account name: FARTHINGHOE RECTOR CHURCHWARDENS TST CHURCH PIECE

Sort code: 40-09-02

Account Number: 41727885

Reference: Plot holder's name

There are several vacant plots available, including one on which chickens are allowed to be kept. New plot holders will be very welcome. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Ruth or Henry. Contact details can be found on the inside cover of the Farthinghoe Chronicle.

Dog Fouling

A resident has highlighted the fact that there appears to be an increase in dog fouling again around the village and, whilst most dog walkers in the village are fastidious about picking up after their dog has messed, it appears that not everyone is doing so as dog waste has been found in various locations.

It is unpleasant and known to be a health hazard; so we would respectfully ask that anyone who exercises their dog in the village takes a 'poo bag' along with them and makes use of it when necessary. It is also against the law not to remove mess from a public place and if reported to the Environment Enforcement Officer could incur a fine.

Many Thanks

Village Show

The Village Show was very well attended, bearing in mind the poor weather conditions, and Joel & Lucy did an outstanding job on the BBQ. However, we do have a 15 packs of 4 surplus Burgers left over (uncooked), which are currently being stored in Joel's freezer so if anyone would like to purchase some at £2.25 per pack please get in touch with me.

We did have a few entries for the Produce Competition and the winners were as follows:

Best vegetable display	-	Martin Deeley
Best Flower Arrangement	-	Vanessa Mills
Best Fruit Cake	-	Christine Hunt
Best Victoria Sandwich	-	Diane Jones
Best Scones	-	Diane Jones
Best Preserves	-	Henry Bankes-Jones

Marjorie

marjoriemorris@hotmail.co.uk

VILLAGE HALL

Annual General Meeting - 18th September 2024

Apologies for Absence - Sharon Turner & Lisa Wenman

Approval of Previous Minutes - The Minutes were approved and signed.

Chairman's Report for Year ending 30th June 2024

The Village Show held last September was a successful day, although the weather was not very good it didn't affect the number of attendees. Two Fashions Shows were held in December and March. Both well attended and thoroughly enjoyed and I would like to thank the volunteer models who did a very entertaining job. We also had two social evenings in March and June, with a light buffet, disco and bar which were enjoyed by around 50 attendees on each evening. It was good to see a mixture of ages from teenagers to 80+, with Joan and Hazel still dancing the night away after 11. Brackley String Quartet returned for concert in May, which as always was a very entertaining evening.

Also, I am pleased to say that the number of attendees at our Books & Bakes afternoons are growing by the month, with an average of 25 people coming along to each session thanks to the efforts of Lynne and Joan, who make delicious cakes each month but also post reminders around the village.

We have retained our group of regular hirers with the addition this year of a twice weekly art class on Tuesdays and Fridays. Party bookings were down last year with only six booked, but this has now picked up again. We have a Reception booked in October and a wedding booked for next year, with deposit paid, and two more enquiries not yet confirmed.

Some routine maintenance has been carried out during the year, including the 5-year electrical inspection and PAT testing of all portable appliances, and I am pleased to report that no problems were highlighted. The stage curtains had to be repaired again when they became detached from the rail.

Going Forward

We are in the process of replacing the two sheds by the side of the hall with a storage container. Preliminary work has been carried out to enable the sheds to be removed to free up the space in readiness. There is still some painting work needed in the hall and hopefully we will be able to get this done before Christmas.

Preparations for the Village Show this year are now all in place and our thanks go to the people who have helped make this happen. Following on from that we have booked The Panto Company in Middleton Cheney to put on a show on Sunday, December 22nd and further information on this will be in next month's Chronicle.

Finally, we thank everyone involved with the general running of the hall, especially Rachael for keeping it clean, Keith for cutting the lawns and hedges regularly and Jenny for looking after the garden.

Treasurers Report

No report submitted other than that we have had to look at other funding for the Solar Panels due to HS2 changing their funding process. We have had a £5,000 net zero grant agreed from West Northants., but no further update from the other grant applications submitted. The accounts for the year ended 30th June 024 were approved and signed.

Committee

The present committee resigned and were re-elected as follows :

Marjorie Morris - Chairman
Lisa Wenmouth - Treasurer
Lynne Lee
Ryan Jones
Sowjana Valore
Sharon Turner - Head of Farthinghoe School

BOOKS & BAKES - FRIDAY 25th OCTOBER - 3.00 - 4.30

This regular monthly event is gaining in popularity with more people coming to each session. So do come and join in the chatter along with tea and cake, or coffee if you prefer, and make use of the library.

REGULAR SESSIONS :

Art - Tuesday 10.00am - 12.00 & Friday 10.45am - 1.15pm
Ballet - Monday 5.00pm - 7.00pm & Saturday 9.00am - 1.00pm
Martial Arts - Sunday 11.30am - 1.30pm
Minimayhem - Wednesday 9.30am - 11.00am
Pilates - Tuesday 6.30pm - 7.30pm & Friday 9.30am - 10.30am
U3A - Spanish 1st & 3rd Thursdays 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Yoga - Sunday 10.00am - 11.00am

150 CLUB - SEPTEMBER WINNERS

1st Prize - £25 - No.103 - Shirley Downing
2nd Prize - £15 - No.98 - Lisa Wenmouth
3rd Prize - £10 - No.59 - Ruth Brittain

Rector's Ramblings

With Michaelmas gone it is the traditional end of the harvest, which means the start of our Harvest Festivals (our Farthinghoe Harvest Festival was on the 29th September, but if you missed it we have four others around the Benefice in October!). I have always loved Harvest Festivals. Growing up they were one of three times in the year our family went to church (everyone goes at Christmas, and Remembrance).

Harvest was when we went to give thanks for everything we had. Growing up on the farm I had a fairly hands-on appreciation of nature. I have since discovered that comparatively it was not always a very sugar-coated view of the natural world. There was mud and muck and various other things that I learnt not to mention in polite society from an early age (anyone who knows what I mean about jackets for cade lambs will understand). I know more than a few people who have been upset or distressed when the image of nature they cherish, All things Bright and Beautiful, is marred by the less Disneyesque reality.

There are always challenges and difficulties, from blight, to bad weather (including incessant rain or endless drought), to the messiness seemingly inherent in life and death. It can seem that the world is a very fallen place; hard and heartless where nature is dog-eat-dog. However, I have never found that the difficulties and realities take away from the wonder in the world around us.

It is easy to become used to something, or become disillusioned by the challenges of life, but we must not forget how remarkable creation is. Amidst a universe of rather staid and lifeless rocks our planet teems with an abundance of life that runs, swims, flies, burrows and grows; all warmed and lit by a fire 93 million miles away that we dance around in an elliptical celestial waltz. Somehow it is easy to forget how wonderful it is that we live in a world where seeds grow into trees, where life reproduces itself, where bees dance, whales sing, and flowers regularly turn into fruit. The fact that miracles occur daily and with regularity do not make them any more miraculous.

At Harvest, once the work is done, we take stock of all that we have; and remember that -with our own work- everything that sustains us comes from creation, the world around us. In some places the Altar is piled high at Harvest with wheat and marrows (always marrows, I think they are grown just for Harvest Festivals). In others places preserved goods are gathered to be given to people who need them, to share the food the world provides and which we all equally need. Some areas do not pile up food, but bring iron or coal to the Church as these things are the harvest of those communities, the things that sustain them. Whether it is for the food we eat, or our water, minerals and materials, or the wind and light now beginning to power our homes; we come together to give thanks for whatever it is we have, to remember the wonder of creation, and to thank God.

Whatever sustains you through this year, I pray that you will find it in joy and abundance. God bless you all.

George Frost

LOCAL EVENTS TO ENJOY IN OCTOBER

Banbury Canal Festival - Saturday October 5th & Sunday October 6th

Floating markets, Exhibitions, Food and Drink, Boat Trips, live entertainment and childrens' activities.

Brackley Methodist Church - Monday October 7th & Monday October 14th

Free Taster Session with Brackley Rock Choir 7.30pm

book online. www.rockchoir.com/join/brackley

Canons Ashby -Wednesday October 9th

Autumn Head Gardener's Tour with Apple and Pear tasting.

Brackley Egerton Hall - Saturday October 12th

Film night. 'Steel Magnolias'. 7.30pm Tickets £13 /£10 concessions

book online www.etctheatre.co.uk

Sulgrave Manor -. Sunday October 27th

Autumn Fest. 11am - 3pm

Celebration of all things Autumnal for all of the family.

NEW YEARS EVE

Why sit at home watching TV on New Years Eve? No need to spend a fortune in Brackley or Banbury. See in 2025 with family and friends, come and enjoy yourself at our village New Years Eve party at The Fox.

A black poster for a New Year's Eve party at The Fox. The background is black with several golden fireworks exploding in the sky and four golden four-pointed stars. The text is in white and golden colors.

**New Year's Eve Party
at The Fox**

Join us for a Villagers' family and
friends party to see in 2025 at your local

Music and buffet
Midnight toast
Fireworks
7.30 pm to 1.00am

Admission by ticket only
£20 Adults
£10 under 15's
For tickets contact
Andy 07769 880668
Barry 07881 917212
John 07957 862192

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE YOUR TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT JOHN, BARRY OR ANDY. WE WOULD NOT NEED PAYMENT UNTIL THE END OF NOVEMBER, THIS WILL GIVE US AN IDEA OF NUMBERS AND ALLOW US TO COMMIT TO ORDERING THE FOOD, MUSIC AND FIREWORKS ETC. MANY THANKS.

Astwick Vale Benefice October 2024

Sunday Service Planner for the Astwick Vale Benefice October-November 2024								
	6 th October 19th after Trinity	13 th October 20th after Trinity	20 th October 21st after Trinity	27 th October 22nd after Trinity	3 rd November <i>All Saints Sunday</i>	10 th November <i>Remembrance</i>	17 th November 2nd before Advent	24 th November <i>Christ the King</i>
Aynho	11am Communion <i>Harvest Festival</i>	10am Morning Worship	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at Croughton	9.15am Communion	11am Communion	10.15am Act of Remembrance	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at Evenley	9.15am Communion
Croughton		11am Communion <i>Harvest Festival</i>		11am Morning Prayer		10.45am Act of Remembrance		11am Morning Prayer
Evenley	10am Morning Prayer	9.15am Communion		5.30pm Evensong <i>Harvest Festival</i>	10am Morning Prayer	10.50am On the Green Act of Remembrance		5.30pm Evensong
Farthinghoe	9.15am Communion	5.30pm Evening Prayer		9.15am Morning Prayer	9.15am Communion	6pm Act of Remembrance		9.15am Morning Prayer
Hinton-in-the- Hedges with Steane	6pm Evensong <i>Harvest Festival</i>	11am Morning Prayer		11am Communion	6pm Evensong	10.50am Act of Remembrance		11am Communion

