

THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE



Village news, notices and events....

USEFUL CONTACTS

West Northants Councillor

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Ruth Brittain
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01295 710491

Primary School Head Teacher

Ms Sharon Turner
01295 710406

Community Police Officers

101

Doctors

Brackley Medical Centre
01280 702436 ·
Springfield Surgery
01280 703431

Hospitals

The Horton
01295 275500

Vets

Croft
01280 703451
Mansion Hill
01295 712110
Taylor Vets
01280474796

The Fox Inn

01295 713965

Limes Farm

01295 711229

Rector

Office@astwickvalebenefice.org
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WNC Planning Department

WNC Planning Department
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Welcome to November

**“If I should die, think only this of me,
that there’s some corner of a foreign field,
that is forever England.”**

The Soldier : Rupert Brooke. 1915.

November is a poignant month; a time for reflection and remembrance, when we remember with respect, gratitude and sadness all of those who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War 1, World War 2 and all the conflicts that followed.

Lest we forget.

In Normandy we would attend the commemorations held in our village on 11th November paying our respects to the fallen French and to all of the Allies. After singing The Marseillaise and joining our neighbours and the Maire (The Mayor) in the Mairie (Town Hall) for a glass of wine we would drive to Bayeux to the British Cemetery to lay our Poppy Wreath, observe the two minutes silence and shed a tear. Here in the UK it is heartening to see that many people still attend remembrance ceremonies and church services. As a Military family such occasions are important and essential to us, and we are always thankful that countless people appear to feel the same.

In France November 1st is a national holiday. It is deemed The Day of The Dead and families visit the graves of their loved ones and place pots of Chrysanthemums around the resting places. They go on to lay a place at the midday table for any departed relatives

During our first year in Normandy I made an embarrassing faux pas. Spotting pots of brightly coloured Chrysanthemums outside the local Florist I thought how pretty a couple would look by our front door, and on arriving home placed them in situ. A little later a knock on the door revealed Isabel our Factrice (Post Lady). “ Oh Lynne no”, she said “ those flowers are only for the dead, never for home decoration”. OOPS ! I apologised and whizzed round to the cemetery where I placed the pots by our Maire’s family tomb. I knew he wouldn’t mind a few more flowers.

Of course in the UK we also celebrate Guy Fawkes night. Try explaining that to a French person. “What? You burn an effigy of a man who was put to death for trying to blow up the Houses of Parliament centuries ago? Then you set off fireworks and cook potatoes in the fire and eat those weird apple things covered in toffee? Heula! (blimey!) Les Anglais sont fou! (the English are mad!)

Please, if you are intending to have a bonfire party do check the wood pile for hedgehogs before lighting it. And of course ensure that all pets are safely indoors. Our Hedgehogs could do with a little help before hibernating; so if you can spare a few dry cat biscuits (not fish flavour) and a shallow bowl of water it would aid them tremendously. If by chance you see a Hedgehog out in daylight, there is something wrong; so please contact Brackley Hogwatch., who are always ready to help.

Other than that, stay warm and cosy and enjoy November

Lynn



Letter sent to Anna Earnshaw-Chief Executive West Northants Council

15 October 2024

Dear Anna,

We are in receipt of the West Northants Local Transport Plan (Draft), dated August, 2024, and note that our response(s) is required by the closing date, 17th October, 2024.

It is unrealistic to expect Farthinghoe Parish Council and residents of the Village to engage in responding to the Public Consultation until the long overdue Weight Restriction report is received. How can we be expected to comment when we are not in receipt of all the facts and information relating to the Local Area. We consider the attempt by your Officers to coerce our response, without full information, to be disrespectful, inappropriate and distinctly undemocratic.

We are writing to seek your support to defer the closing date of the Public Consultation until such time as we are in receipt of the report, promised by your Officers in September 2023, concerning utilising the B4525 as an alternative route for HGV's thus permitting a Weight Restriction to be put in place on the A422 through Farthinghoe.

As you are aware, we have been campaigning for over 30 years for intervention on traffic flows through Farthinghoe. In August 2023, a Strategic Outline Case for a Farthinghoe bypass was produced by WNC, which highlighted that "When the transport problems and issues are considered collectively a clear need for intervention is established".

A number of interventions have been proposed, including a Bypass, Weight Restriction and a Traffic Light/One Way system throughout the Village. The Strategic Outline Case for a bypass contained elements, which in a number of cases were strongly disputed by Farthinghoe Parish Council and as a result of the deadlock, your Officers offered to investigate the possibility of using the B4525 as an alternative route for HGV's and thereby providing a Weight Restriction through Farthinghoe.

We were promised this report would be available Spring 2024. This date was then amended to end May 2024, and subsequently a further delay until end September 2024. At the time of writing, we have still not been presented with details on the outcome of the investigations by WNC.

On this basis, we would urge you to consider our request favourably and instruct that a delay should be imposed until such time as the investigations are completed by WNC, Highways, and we are able to read and digest the contents of the report.

Whilst writing, we would also like to point out that we consider the explanation given on Page 103 of the Local Transport Plan (Draft) as the reasons given for intervention could be construed as a deliberate ploy to understate the traffic conditions that we actually experience in Farthinghoe on a regular basis.

In order to be constructive, we have attached an alternative wording suggestion for inclusion on Page 103 of the Local Transport Plan (Draft). We believe this proposed alternative provides a more realistic assessment of the traffic situation in Farthinghoe. We would be grateful if you would ensure that the LTP (Draft) is amended to reflect the true circumstances through Farthinghoe.

Thanking you in advance for your much appreciated reply

Yours faithfully

Cllr Mick Morris

Following is the attachment sent with the above letter :

“Farthinghoe is located on the A422 and suffers from a severe bottleneck. The A422 was made part of a Strategic Freight Network NCC 2013, DFT Major Road Network (MRN)2019. The A422 nominated by National Highways as 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, a Weight Restriction and a 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.”

Following on from that the Parish Council are now preparing a signed Petition which will be delivered to a West Northants Council Cabinet Meeting along with three short verbal presentations each being for a very specific aspect about Traffic Interventions.

We may then have a similar opportunity to make the same type of presentation to a Full council meeting.

Once the Petition is prepared Parish Councillors will be coming around the village to obtain signatures. Below is an advanced copy of the Petition Statement.

Petition to West Northants Council

Farthinghoe Traffic Conditions.

“Farthinghoe Parish Council is seeking your support and permission to address West Northants Councillors and present the case for Intervention in the traffic conditions being experienced through Farthinghoe.

West Northants Council Highways have implemented a Strategic Outline Case that suggests a Bypass is not financially viable and rather than accept this as a fait accompli we are progressing the proposal to pursue as an alternative, an **Interim** Weight Restriction through Farthinghoe.

This being to categorise the B4525 as a major road, resulting in the A422 becoming de-trunked and HGV's restricted coming through the village.

We believe this Initial intervention will resolve 80% of our traffic flow problems, and if successful, could become the final solution that will benefit the whole of Farthinghoe Village.

Please sign this petition and support your Parish Council to secure a safe & noise/pollution free environment for the whole of our village.

SARAH BOOL MP**HOUSE OF COMMONS**
LONDON SW1A 0AA

23 September 2024

Important Changes to Winter Fuel Allowances

Dear Resident,

As you will be aware, the Government has made changes to Winter Fuel Payments, meaning that the majority of pensioners will now lose access to this allowance. Whilst I voted to oppose these changes, given its passage through the House of Commons, it is crucial to me that those who remain eligible for assistance are fully informed and able to access the support.

To receive a Winter Fuel Payment, you will now need to qualify via means testing. That means testing will be based on whether you are eligible for Pension Credit or not during the week of 16 – 22 September 2024. You only need to be eligible for one day during this qualifying week to benefit from a Winter Fuel Payment this winter.

You have until 21 December 2024 to apply for Pension Credit, which is the last possible date to make a successful backdated claim in order to receive a Winter Fuel Payment. It is really important that you check whether you, or a loved one, might be eligible for Pension Credit.

You can do this online at: apply-for-pension-credit.service.gov.uk/start You can also call the claim line on 0800 99 1234. You'll need the following details to hand:

- Your National Insurance number.
- Your bank account details.
- Information about your income, savings and investments.
- Information about your pension (if you have one).
- Details of any housing costs (such as service charges or ground rent) and your partner's details (if relevant).

You can call Age UK Northamptonshire to get more help on this via their advice line on 01604 611200, or go online to their website at www.ageuk.org.uk. Citizens Advice hold drop-in sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays 0930-1230 in the Northampton Guildhall.

Please do get in touch via email at sarah.bool.mp@parliament.uk or via phone on 01327 353124 if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Bool MP
Member of Parliament for South Northamptonshire**Telephone: 01327 353124**
Email: sarah.bool.mp@parliament.uk

VILLAGE NOTICES

TONY DEELEY

After a period of ill health Tony passed away peacefully in hospital on Monday, 28th October and will be greatly missed by Jill and all his family.

CHURCH NOTICES

Coffee Morning

Friday, November 8th, Coffee, Cake & Chat from 10 – 11am in the Church Vestry. There will be a Raffle! Hope to see you there!

Cleaning

Will be on Tuesday, November 12th from 8.30am

Many thanks to the people who have trimmed the trees at the front of the Church. Your help is much appreciated!

ALLOTMENTS 2024

Several vacant plots are available, including one where chickens are allowed to be kept, and 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.

Rentals are £12 per plot, which is extremely good value for something which provides year-round physical and mental well-being, and can be collected in person by the trustees, Henry Bankes-Jones and Ruth Brittain, or if plot holders prefer 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

VILLAGE HALL

VILLAGE SHOW

Despite the very windy weather conditions, the show was very well attended and I would like to thank everybody who helped to make it a success both with the preparations and on the day. There were a disappointing number of entries for the produce competition, but I understand that most harvest's had come early and were safely stashed away in freezers this year.

Delicious burgers and sausages were provided on the BBQ and the cream teas and cakes were also very popular. There was a very good selection of stall holders with a variety of goods for sale, with the very welcome addition of some stalls from the School this year. Aunt Sally, as always, attracted a lot of interest, with people finding it not as easy as it looks.

The main outcome was that a large number of people said that they had thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and we raised £770 - 50% of which will be given to a local charity to be decided at our next meeting, and the other 50% will go to improvements at the hall.

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.

PANTO - SATURDAY 21st DECEMBER

TPB Productions from Middleton Cheney are performing **Jack and the Beanstalk** at the Village Hall on the above date. Tickets will be £5 each and are available in advance from bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org or tel. 07900 590808. See poster later in this issue of the Chronicle.

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

Spanish for beginners 1st & 3rd Fridays 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Yoga - Sunday 10.00am - 11.00am

150 CLUB - SEPTEMBER WINNERS

1st Prize - £25 - No.81 - Vic Tolchard

2nd Prize - £15 - No.91 - Becky Wright

3rd Prize - £10 - No.42 - Andrew Harrison

Rector's Ramblings

Winter is coming. For those of you who did not notice it whilst it was here, British Summertime has now ended. If October is the month where the Church gives thanks for Harvest and Creation, then November is the month for remembering. The 2nd November is All Souls Day. For centuries the Church has marked this day with a simple service at the point in the year where the seasons turn, the work slows, and nights draw in. In each of our churches sheets have been put out for people to add the names of their dead. At the All Souls service those on the parish lists will be prayed for by name, along with any who have been buried in our villages in the last three years, candles will be lit, and all who wish to remember have a chance to come together in the quiet of an evening.

Then, a week later, we have our Remembrance service, where we remember those who have died in war amidst lowered flags and sobbing bugles. It is a more conspicuous, less contemplative service. One where we come together as a village to mark the cost of war and the value of what has been bought for us by those who risk their lives, before the communities they came from dedicate themselves for another year to work for peace.

Why do we take the trouble of remembering? It may seem rather trite, but I believe it is because the cost of forgetting is too high. Christianity teaches that, whilst death is not a punishment, life is a gift. Every life has an inherent value, not greater nor less than any other. Every life is a gift from God, every person made in God's image and redeemed by Christ.

We are all of us influenced by others and bound up in the stories of those around us as they are bound up in our own. We remember others because of the way they have affected us, through love, through loss, even those we have never known whose lives have none the less shaped the way we ourselves may live. At these services, named or unnamed, we pray for ALL who have died, it's a long list, longer than anyone can know. We remember and reaffirm the value of every life and the way it is lived.

I think I can say it no better than a former Dean of St. Pauls: 'No man is an island, entire of itself. Each is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less. As well as if a promontory were. As well as if a manor of thine own or of thine friend's were. Each man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. Therefore, send not to know for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee.'

This month, as the year eases but before winter bites, we come together in the gloaming to light a spark. To remember love, loss, the promise of God, and the people whose lives have impacted on our own. We are each called to remember in some way because we cannot forget. Remembrance goes beyond grief, or shutting away, or coping. Remembrance acknowledges pain, reinforces the strength of love and memory, and allows us to continue in and construct the future without being lost in the past.

Whomever you remember this November, whomever has been a part of your life, and whomever's lives you are shaping, I pray that God will be with you, carry you, guide you, and bless you as you bless others.

I said that the cost of forgetting is too high, this is because if we forget that our lives are not just our own construction, or forget what happens when life is not valued or sold cheap, if we forget that we are not alone, or do not see the examples of lives we would emulate, or that go down paths we would not walk ourselves, we lose so much.

George Frost

Walking in the Countryside, you know it makes sense.

Yes, I know autumn is nearly over and winter will soon be here, but if you enjoyed a particular summer walk then why not retrace your steps in another season, and why not put a pair of secateurs in your pocket so that if you find a bramble in the way at a stile it can be cut off to ease your access.

The vistas change with each season and in fact some can be even better in winter than summer. An easier option for winter walking is to pick routes with little or no ploughed fields, and if you fancy some Nordic style walking with a pair of poles, its like changing to 4-wheel drive!

Just remember, there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad equipment. I remember one winter trip up to the Peak District, a walk I had done many times in all seasons and knew it very well. As we drove up the motorway it started snowing and on reaching the start found a good 6" of snow with a blue sky, the views were completely different and although hard walking it was an extremely memorable day.

A final thought - a brisk winter's walk is far more enjoyable than a session in the gym.

Farthinghoe Parish Footpath Warden

LOCAL EVENTS TO ENJOY IN NOVEMBER

Banbury - Sunday 10th November
Remembrance Parade
Town Centre/St Mary's Church /People's Park
10.00am - 2pm

Brackley - Sunday 10th November
Remembrance Parade/Ceremony
3pm

Stowe Gardens 18th October until 11th November
Life in the 1940s Exhibition
10.00am - 5pm

Stowe Gardens 18th October until 11th November#
For your Tomorrow - The Peoples' Tribute
10..00am - 5pm

Evenley Woods Garden Saturday November 16th/Sunday November 17th
Christmas Market
10.00am - 4pm

Evenley Woods Garden Saturday November 23rd until December 24th
Lost Magic of Christmas
9-30am until dusk
Tickets £19.95



We may be coming to the end of another year, but the most popular and much-loved Katharine House events are yet to come! Like most hospices, Katharine House is feeling the pinch as we experience rising costs and lower donation levels. Taking part in our fundraising initiative helps to ensure we can be there for our community.

Lights of Love – date amend

Please note we will be holding our annual Lights of Love event on Thursday 5 December at St Mary's Church, Banbury (a change to the date previously published). We'd love for you to join us for the special gathering where we come together to remember and celebrate the lives of those we have loved and lost. Find out more www.khh.org.uk/lights.

Branching out

Our brilliant tree-cycle scheme is back, giving people the opportunity to get rid of their Christmas tree in a hassle-free, environmentally friendly way once all the festivities are over. You make a donation 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

Make a run for it

Get festive, have fun and support our community this Christmas by signing up for our Santa Fun Run on Sunday 1 December. Join hundreds of stylish Santas taking part in our 1.5km or 5km fun run at Spiceball Park, Banbury. We ho ho hope you can join us! Tickets are available to buy on our website now! www.khh.org.uk/santa

Tractor Run returns

On Saturday 14 December, a festive fleet of fairy-lit tractors will be taking a tour around local villages to spread some Christmas cheer and raise money for Katharine House Hospice. The super-popular Tractor Run sees will depart from Spring Hill Farm, Barford St Michael at around 5pm and travel through the local villages, chugging along into Banbury, as well as driving by Katharine House Hospice to wave hello! If you're in the area, it's a sight to behold! Find out more here www.khh.org.uk/tractor

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

Karen Walsh
Head of Marketing



**Farthinghoe
Village Hall**

JACK & THE BEANSTALK



**Saturday
21st
DECEMBER**

**Farthinghoe Village Hall
Jack & The Beanstalk**

**Saturday
21st
DECEMBER**

Doors open 6.30pm - Start 7pm

Tickets - £5 - under 2's Free

To book tickets: bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org

Call - 07900 590808

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 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
NOVEMBER 2024

Farthinghoe Service Details

3 rd November White/Gold All Saints Sunday	9.15am Communion	Rev. George Frost Lead/Preach	Wisdom 3:1-9 Revelation 21:1-6a Or <i>(Isaiah 25:6-9 Revelation 21:1-6a)</i>	John 11:32-44
10 th November Red/Green Remembrance	6pm Act of Remembrance	Rev. George Frost Lead/Preach	Isaiah 2:1-5 Or <i>(Jonah 3:1-5,10 Hebrews 9:24-28)</i>	Mark 13:3-8 Or <i>(Mark 1:14-20)</i>
17 th November Green/Red 2 nd before Advent	Invited to Join with Evenley			
24 th November Red/White Christ the King	9.15am Morning Prayer	May Leng Lead/Preach	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Revelation 1:4b-8	John 18:33-37

Hinton-in-the-Hedges with Steane Service Details

3 rd November White/Gold All Saints Sunday	6pm Evensong	Carrie Oregan Lead/Preach	Wisdom 3:1-9 Revelation 21:1-6a Or (Isaiah 25:6-9 Revelation 21:1-6a)	John 11:32-44
10 th November Red/Green Remembrance	10.50am Act of Remembrance	May Leng Lead/Preach	Isaiah 2:1-5 Or (Jonah 3:1-5,10 Hebrews 9:24-28)	Mark 13:3-8 Or (Mark 1:14-20)
17 th November Green/Red 2 nd before Advent	Invited to Join with Evenley			
24 th November Red/White Christ the King	11am Communion	Rev. George Frost Lead/Preach	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Revelation 1:4b-8	John 18:33-37

