

THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE



Village news, notices and events....

USEFUL CONTACTS

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101

Doctors

Brackley Medical Centre
01280 702436 ·
Springfield Surgery
01280 703431

Hospitals

The Horton
01295 275500

Vets

Croft
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Mansion Hill
01295 712110
Taylor Vets
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The Fox Inn

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Chronicle Editor

Lynne Lee
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Hello everyone,

Allow me to introduce myself as the new Editor of The Farthinghoe Chronicle. I was surprised and pleased when asked to take on the position which had become vacant due to Nick Hunt's decision to stand down as Editor.

Of course my first task must be to say on behalf of us all; a huge thank you to Nick for his sterling work on our village magazine. A village magazine is an asset to any community and Nick has put in great efforts during the last few years to keep it going. Thank you Nick, you'll be a hard act to follow and I hope that I can do you justice.

The Farthinghoe Chronicle has long been a vehicle to provide information and interest for the village and I shall endeavour to ensure that this will continue, and will do my best to see that it is delivered at the beginning of each month. If you would like to submit an article, notice of an event or indeed anything that you think will inform, interest or amuse us all, please do drop me an email. I'd love to hear from you.

Enjoy the July sunshine (we hope!)

Yours, until August

Lynne Lee - Editor

NB. If anyone has any family news they would like to share with the village, and would like included in the Chronicle - again please send me an email.

lynne.elizabethlee4647@gmail.com



On Tuesday, 4 June 2024 the Banbury Guardian Newspaper sent the following individual request to all of the South Northamptonshire General Election Candidates It read :

“I am writing to you as a candidate for the South Northants constituency to ask what your thoughts are, and policy/actions would be, about the need for a bypass for the village of Farthinghoe. For over 30 years, this has been a big issue for the village, on the main trunk road connecting Brackley with the M40 and Banbury. It is a Major Road Network (MRN) route that connects the motorways and strategic road network roads. It is used by HGVs and all other traffic and the corners in the village are legendary.

Plans for a bypass were welcomed by the constituency's outgoing MP and they remain on the West Northamptonshire Council website as a Major Highways Project but the council has said that it can only go forward if WNC and the Government can agree a funding scheme. The Department for Transport has said it is a WNC issue to finance.

The DfT in the guise of National Highways wants the road to continue to be used as an automatic diversionary route for the M40 if the motorway is closed.

I would be grateful if you could tell me what your views are on this much-needed bypass and whether it is something you would fight for if elected.

Thank you for your help.”

We are now one week away from the Election and doubtless some postal votes have already been cast. On 28 June 2024 our Farthinghoe Chronicle monthly newsletter will be going to print and as of this date the following replies have been received :

Ian McCord - Independent Candidate :-

“The Farthinghoe Bypass is required now. I have supported the need for this for a number of years and backed my words with action. When Leader of South Northants Council I ensured that £250k was made available for design work and secured a further £1.4m from NCC. This is what funded the public consultation on the routes a few years back. I have frequent contact with Mick Morris and the Farthinghoe PC. No other candidate has done as much to make this road a reality than me. I doubt the other candidates are aware of where Farthinghoe is, or how good the cake is at Limes Farm coffee shop!

The position of West Northants Council is shameful. They have in effect built the Farthinghoe Bypass in the North West of Northampton at Sandy Lane. They needed to borrow £20m as NCC messed up the costings. The Northampton centric focus of WNC is such that the rural areas suffer as they concentrate on the town. The same is true of the Towcester Relief Road, where WNC refuse to take any action to force the developers to abide by the planning conditions to have the road open from A5 to A43 by the occupation of the 1016th house. That milestone was exceeded in January 24.

What is lacking is the political will to make this happen. WNC could find the funds and borrow the shortfall for Northampton when it suited them. There needs to be a change in how these sort of projects are evaluated. In rural areas there will be no air quality issue. But if this narrowing of the road is not the definition of a pinch-point then I don't know what is. The position of DfT is contradictory. If they want this road to be an alternative to the M40 when the motorway has a problem, the diversion must be fit for purpose. If two trucks meet and cannot pass, then this road is not fit for purpose. They should either remove it as the diversion route, or make the route to the necessary standard. My election literature features the Farthinghoe Bypass prominently. This will be distributed by Royal Mail in due course. If you need anything else do get in touch. Ian"

Rufia Ashraf Labour Candidate :-

"Some of the South Northants team were out in Farthinghoe last week to meet with Parish Councillors to discuss the urgent need for a Farthinghoe Bypass. If elected Rufia Ashraf will raise this with all the relevant people at the highest level. We totally understand why this village is so worried for the safety of residents both from a road safety point of view, and also air quality, and share their concerns.

Labour's manifesto includes commitments to rebuilding Britain and modernising our transport infrastructure. It says "Our road network is plagued by long-promised projects that are never delivered" and "will maintain and renew our road network". Rufia will push for Highways England and West Northants Council to prioritise the Farthinghoe Bypass as a matter of urgency. Rufia added that "It is clear that Labour's plans to revamp planning processes will provide the changes needed to build the roads that communities like Farthinghoe deserve". Rufia is committed to uncovering why this project has been stalled for so long and to campaigning for the required funding to make the bypass happen."

Paul Hogan-Reform Candidate :-

"Thank you for your email regarding the proposed Farthinghoe bypass, I am in favour of this scheme and understand the benefits of building bypasses. I was involved with the earthmoving on Towcester and Silverstone bypasses and sections of the M40. If I am elected I would like you to keep me informed on the needs for your village and I will help where I can regarding the bypass, I will take a special interest as that has been my field of employment for a long time"

Emmie Williamson-Green Party Candidate :-

Thank you for getting in touch about this. I have great sympathy with Farthinghoe residents, having lived in a village on a trunk road and near a motorway, so that when there were problems on the motorway the traffic went from bad to nightmarish. Such problems, particularly for villages on trunk roads, have increased due to the ever-increasing traffic on our roads. In the longer term, Green Party policy has been (the manifesto will be released 12th June and I've yet to see it myself), to have a suite of transport measures to reverse the upward, unsustainable trend in traffic.

Firstly it sounds infuriating that there has been this funding tennis match between the Government and WNC. We all know how strapped councils are for funds after years of cuts and rising social care demands. So, the government should take some responsibility for improving infrastructure and road management in MRN situations like this surely, especially if they want the road to be a diversion when there are motorway problems (and I imagine problems also happen when the M1 is closed).

From looking at the summary on the WNC site, it seems there have been analyses of impacts of the traffic problem, but if I was MP I would work actively to strengthen the case for funding and intervention of some sort, by ensuring there has been specialist, thorough analysis of current impacts such as air pollution, safety issues, psychological well being, functioning of the village, etc. I would seek to talk to people myself rather than just write letters, put out (yet another) consultation form or expect people to come to me. I note there have been concerns about environmental impacts of a bypass so I would need to learn more about these to reach a balanced judgement about what intervention I would support, particularly with the Green Party's longer term vision in mind. But there is no doubt there needs to be more of a strategy for Farthinghoe than the stalled project on the website, particularly regarding HGVs. I would be interested to know if there has been any consideration of a permanent diversion to the B4525 of traffic travelling between motorways, which could be improved as necessary. As I regrettably have little time for research in this pressured time before the election, could you let me know if you have any knowledge or thoughts on this? It would not be as complete a solution to traffic as a bypass, but could be a quick win in terms of improvement, and further analysis and traffic management interventions as needed would be part of the plan.

Stewart Tolley - Liberal Democrat Candidate :-

"I am sorry for only just getting back to you. I have a full-time job which takes me all over the country so I am now getting back to my emails.

As someone who is a local resident I am very much in favour of the proposed bypass. A bypass in Roade has helped significantly reduce the amount of traffic. The link road in Towcester has been delayed but should be finally open in the Autumn and again will reduce the amount of polluting HGV's going through the town. As your MP I will obviously put the constituency first. There is only so much an MP can do with local council decisions but you won't find a stronger advocate for your cause. Let me know if there is anything else I can help you with. I very much look forward to hearing from you,"

As yet there has been no reply from Sarah Bool the Conservative Party Candidate. We are disappointed that we have not heard from the Conservative Party Candidate because the outgoing Conservative MP in her November 2019 pre-election video described the Farthinghoe Bypass as "absolutely top of my priority list to get this done. Mention is made earlier in the above text of funding and intervention of some sort. We believe that this phrase may well have emanated from the recently introduced Draft West Northants Council Local Transport Plan where no further details were mentioned but we have good reason to believe that it may include a permanent Traffic Light Control Installation at the pinch point which will enable traffic to operate in alternative directions. Imagine the queues, the pollution, the noise and the dangers for the children when they are arriving or leaving school. It is our belief that this Draft Local Transport Plan will be issued as a Public Consultation Document in July. We should all be ready to read in detail and respond and we will keep you posted as events unfurl.

We should also make you aware that in September 2023 WNC promised us the results of a Weight Restriction Study by Spring 2024, in April 2024 we were told to expect it at the End of May. We are still waiting but the wait seems to go on and on, the only thing which is consistent is that we still wait and wait. We do not even get the courtesy of a reply to our mails requesting updates of its progress

Chairman Farthinghoe Parish Council

News From Farthinghoe Parish Council

We are progressing with our new website and on the 8th July we are flying a drone over Farthinghoe and Steane to collect photographs for the Homepage. We are hoping this will really sell our village.

Potholes

After an appalling winter of rain and lack of maintenance of the roads in the village from West Northants Council, the PC decided to carry out an inspection of all the roads in the village and report potholes and dangerous verges to Street Doctor. Each Councillor volunteered to complete a different section.

I duly reported all the potholes and dangerous verges (there are a lot) on New Road and Clark's Lane as far as Ruth Dashwood's - outside here by the farm gate it's particularly bad - however, would you believe, the contractors have inspected it and decided the area is not dangerous! (Clearly, they don't use bicycles) They have also rejected another of my reports, but apparently repaired the area on New Road where it joins the A422. I still have the rest of Clark's Lane to complete. So we will see how much success the other Councillors have with their reports.

Daventry drew flower petals around their potholes which prompted repairs after they hit the local news - perhaps that's a good idea for us.

Incidentally, Street Doctor or Fix My Street is a good and easy website to use. Potholes do not get repaired unless reported. Just request 'fix my street', or 'street doctor' on your phone, and select West Northants. Stand next to the pothole and give permission for Fix My Street to use your location, the application marks the exact location of the pothole on their map. You are asked for a photo of the pothole, just point your phone and click. (the photo will not be stored on your device) followed by a description and a request for your email address and Voila! You submit your complaint via your email. You will then receive updates about what they will do about your report. Although judging by the quality of some of their repairs, I'm very glad they're not my doctor!

Don't get run over by mad bikers while you are inspecting potholes. Andy, to name but one, finished his charity bike ride from Land's End to John O'Groats in aid of Parkinsons and collected over £2000. Dave Clayton bravely limped around the Camino in Spain, for Dogs For Good, having damaged his meniscus in his knee. He has received incredible donations too.

What an amazing village we are!

Wendy Hancock
on behalf of the Parish Council

VILLAGE HALL

SOCIAL EVENING

Another successful Social Evening was held at the Village Hall on Saturday June 22nd which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. A big thank you to everyone who helped with selling tickets, setting up during the afternoon and clearing away afterwards. It was very much appreciated. Our thanks also go to Richard who once again provided a very entertaining selection of music for the energetic to dance to.

BOOKS & BAKES - FRIDAY 26th July

Come and join us for tea and cake, and make use of the library.

VILLAGE SHOW

We are planning to hold the Village Show on Sunday September 29th to coincide with Harvest Festival in the Church as usual. If you would like to be involved and can offer help with the Show in any way, e.g. initial organisation, running a stall, or helping with setting up on the day, please come along to a meeting on **Monday July 8th at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall to help us make it a special day. All help and suggestions will be very much appreciated.

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 (Adult) - Sunday 11.30am - 1.30pm

Martial Arts (Children) - Friday - 5.30 - 7.30

Minimayhem - Wednesday 9.30am - 11.00am

Pilates - Tuesday 6.30pm - 7.30pm & Friday 9.30am - 10.30am

Table Tennis - Monday 7.30pm - 8.30pm

U3A - Spanish 1st & 3rd Thursdays 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Victorian Literature 2nd Thursday 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Yoga - Sunday 10.00am - 11.00am

If you are interested in any of the above and want further information please contact me.

Marjorie Morris

Email - bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org

Tel. - 07900 590808

Farthinghoe Village Hall 150 Club

Roll up, roll up!

It's that time of the year when your £12 subs are due for the monthly draw. For £12 a year you go into a draw each month for £25, £15 or £10 prize money. And that's each month!

The year starts from 1st July. A number of you pay by standing order (thank you very much!) and if anyone else wants to pay that way then that is great.

Ideally payment to the village hall bank account is the best way for the committee but if not, shout out and we can call on you, or you can drop round a cheque, coins or notes -anything as long as it is legal tender.

If you want to know your numbers and how much is due, then just email Lisa below.

There are spare numbers which we would love to be filled so if you used to have a number (or two), or if you have never been in the draw, then now is the time to change that!

You only have to win a third prize once a year to get (most) of your money back and you are supporting the village hall at the same time. What's not to love?

The bank details are:

Account No - 00205971

Sort Code - 30-11-08

In the name of: Farthinghoe Parish Council Village Hall

Thank you, the Village Hall Committee. If you need information then email Lisa at treasurer@farthinghoevillagehall.org

JUNE WINNERS!

1st Prize - £25 - Joan Mildren

2nd Prize - £15 - Maureen Bunce

3rd Prize - £10 - Pippa Parnell

New Rector – Reverend George Frost

We welcome the Reverend George Frost, our new Rector, who arrives in the Rectory at Aynho in early July to prepare for his new job as Rector of the 5 parishes which he will look after in the coming years – Aynho, Croughton, Evenley, Farthinghoe and Hinton in the Hedges with Steane.

He begins his job with us all on Tuesday 23rd July the day following his Installation Service in Aynho which is at 7pm on Monday 22nd July. He will be instituted by the new Bishop of Peterborough and inducted by the Archdeacon of Northampton. It will be a very special occasion and anyone is welcome to attend the Service. Some refreshments will be served afterwards in Aynho Village Hall. On his first day of work he will lead the Leavers' Service for the Primary School in Croughton – and then he will begin getting round to introduce himself to us all.

Reverend George can be contacted on rev@gfrost.name or at the Rectory on the main road through Aynho. His office telephone number after 22nd July is 01869 810903. Administrative contact with the Benefice remains office@astwickvalebenefice.org.

He has shared a biography of his life to date explaining where he has come from and how he has been trained for this new role - see below.

Henry Bankes-Jones

"I have been asked to write a few words about myself as a way of introduction as the new Rector.

I am pleased to say that I am Northamptonshire born and bred, having grown up on the family farm (sheep, some cattle) in Hollowell and Guilsborough (home of the Hollowell Steam Rally), just the other side of Northampton. It was the usual village childhood, exploring the countryside with friends, riding, and a lot of animals. The family are still on the farm, and I (like anyone with farming relatives it seems) still help when needed with baling and the other big events of the year. I am pleased to say, however, that the days of taking the night shift at lambing, followed by school in the morning, are now long past.

In 2013 I went to the University of Aberdeen to study Divinity. I had thought I was going to become a farmer, but in Sixth Form I received an unexpected call to the Ministry. A call to become a priest, to teach, administer the rites of the Church, and to help people and communities bring their whole lives, in joy, sorrow, and day to day, before God. Quite naturally this was different to my own plans, and I did my very best to ignore it as long as I could, but I found out that it is hard to say no to God.

I enjoyed University - I think everyone enjoys their undergraduacy. After Graduating in 2017 I became an Intern to the Diocese of Sodor and Man (on the Isle of Man, home of the TT) as part of the Church of England Ministry Experience Scheme. I must admit, I loved it. It wasn't always particularly easy, but having done it I wouldn't want to do anything else; and still don't. I remain grateful to the people of that Island who took me in and allowed me to Minister there and am glad of the time I spent with them".

Following the stringent Discernment Process of the Church of England I went to Train at Cranmer Hall in Durham, where I gained a Masters in Theology and Ministry. Training allowed me to work in new places, such as the prison service, and Estate Ministry in Stockton-on-Tees. Training was interrupted a little by the Covid Lockdown. I was fortunate in that I was able to spend Lockdown in rural Northamptonshire. Some friends of mine were trapped in flats in cities, and I don't know how they managed. I was glad to be able to go out, cycle round, and use the pub and post office.

I was Ordained in 2021 in Peterborough Cathedral and have been serving my Curacy in the Whittlewood Benefice, made up of the villages of Silverstone, Slapton, Abthorpe, Whittlebury, and Paulerspury (home to the Silverstone Grand Prix). It has been good to be back in the Northamptonshire countryside again after Aberdeen and Durham. I have enjoyed being a part of life in the parishes and starting up the Open the Book team to help tell bible stories with the pupils in our schools.

I am looking forward to being Installed as Rector of the Astwick Vale Benefice in Aynho at 7pm on the 22nd July, and to finally experiencing parish ministry in a Benefice that does not have an annual transport themed international event held in it. I am anticipating getting to know the churches, villages, and people of the Astwick Vale Benefice. I will hope to meet with you all in the future. My e-mail address is: rev@gfrost.name, and I am always interested to hear from you. Please pray for me, as I will pray for you all, in the coming weeks.



VILLAGE NOTICES

Church Cleaning

Will be on Tuesday, July 9th from 8.30am. Please come along if you would like to help!

Coffee, Cake & Chat

On Friday, July 12th from 10 – 11am in the Church Vestry. There will be a raffle. Everyone is welcome!

ZUMBATHON

A Zumbathon is being held at Greatworth Sports & Social Club
to raise funds for an outdoor classroom for

Greatworth Primary School

Saturday July 13th. 2-4pm

Admission £5

Come along and enjoy the music and fun and help the children
get their outdoor classroom.



‘IN THE MOOD’

Saturday 13th July 2024 @ 7.30pm

St Peter’s Church Brackley, NN13 7BB

Get ‘IN THE MOOD’ and join Brackley Jubilee Choir for a concert of light music, including ‘Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo’ by Joseph Horovitz and Michael Flanders, together with classic songs from the Great American Songbook and other concert show-stoppers - which will appeal to all the family.

Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo has been described as a real charmer of a piece, which was written and composed towards the end of 1970 by Joseph Horovitz and Michael Flanders.

Joseph Horovitz’s delightful score is a light-hearted adaption, written in a lively text by Michael Flanders, which tells the story of Noah and his Ark in a composition full of wit and charm - which was originally written for children.

The concert also includes a varied selection of up-beat and well-known toe-tapping songs from ‘The Great American Songbook’ – an enduring collection of some of the most important and influential American popular songs and jazz standards inspired by legendary composers and lyricists, singers and musicians for Broadway theatre, musical theatre, and Hollywood musicals - which began in the early 20th century, and continue to be written today.

We are thrilled to perform a concert programme with songs selected from a vast selection of timeless hits. In fact, Tony Bennett once called the Great American Songbook, ‘America’s classical music’. This concert will appeal to all members of the family – young and old, with a collection of nostalgic songs and melodies which for some music lovers will evoke memories and emotions from days gone by.

Bring your jazz hands and join us for ‘IN THE MOOD’!!!.

Diary note: Saturday 13TH JULY 2024 @ 7.30pm, Summer Concert at St Peter’s Church, Church Road, Brackley. NN13 7BB. Tickets: £15.00. Children Under 16 £5.00. (Available in advance via a Choir member or at the door.



Drop in and catch up

We're delighted to announce that Living Well's Family and Carer group, which had to pause during the refurb, has returned to the hospice. The relaxed drop-in sessions help people to share, socialise and reflect with others in a similar situation, while our team of specialists provide emotional, practical and financial advice. Sessions are open to anyone caring for someone with a life-limiting illness, and will run from 10am to 12 noon on the first Tuesday of every month. If you'd like to find out more, please email: pallcarelivingwell@ouh.nhs.uk.

Thanking our Friends

In 2023, our loyal regular donors helped our hospice by giving a total of £46,723. We couldn't achieve everything we do without them! To acknowledge this special commitment, we're changing our terminology and recognising our regular givers as **Friends of Katharine House**. A monthly gift – no matter how small – provides security and enables us to go on caring for local people living with a life-limiting illness, not just now but for many years to come. Could you become a Friend of Katharine House and support the work of the hospice with a regular gift?

Find out more at www.khh.org.uk/friend.

Digging our Open Gardens

If you love spending time in the great outdoors, then don't miss out on our Open Garden events throughout the spring and summer months. We have some fabulous individual events as well as villages taking part and this year, we've also added some extra elements to make the events even more enjoyable! We have a super scavenger hunt sheet for little ones to keep them entertained while you wander. PLUS, a new Open Gardens raffle, exclusive to the events, with some incredible prizes.

Find full details for all our current events at www.khh.org.uk/open-gardens.

The Accumulator Challenge returns

Do you have what it takes to compete with local businesses, schools, colleges and community groups to become the Ultimate Accumulator? From an initial £50 investment, how much can you raise between October 2024 and February 2025. Hurry – sign up before 21 July to boost your start-up fund by £25! www.khh.org.uk/accumulator

Play our lottery!

Playing the Katharine House weekly lottery couldn't be simpler! For just £1 a week, you can be in with a chance of winning one of our 20 weekly cash prizes. When you join the Katharine House Hospice lottery, you'll be supporting local people living with an incurable illness, as well as their families and loved ones. Players must be 18 and over. Find out more and sign up here: www.khh.org.uk/lottery.

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

Astwick Vale Benefice**July 2024**

7th July Green Ordinary Time	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion	Croughton (DB)	2 Samuel 5.1-5,9-10 2 Corinthians 12.2-10 Mark 6.1-13 Psalm 48
14th July Green Ordinary Time	9.30 Morning Worship 9.30 Holy Communion 10am Morning Worship 11am Holy Communion	Evenley (LL) Farthinghoe (SL) Aynho (LL) Hinton (ML by Ext)	2 Samuel 6.1-5,12b-19 Ephesians 1.3-14 Mark 6.14-29 Psalm 24
21st July Green Ordinary Time	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion 6pm Evensong	Evenley (JD) Steane (CP)	2 Samuel 7.1-14a Ephesians 2.11-22 Mark 6.30-34,53-56 Psalm 89.20-37
Monday 22nd July	7pm Collation and Induction of Reverend George Frost	Aynho Bishop/Archdeacon Rural Dean	Within Diocesan Service Sheet
28th July Green Ordinary Time	9.30 Morning Worship 1030am Holy Communion	Farthinghoe (CO) Croughton (GF)	2 Samuel 11.1-15 Ephesians 3.14-21 John 6.1-21 Psalm 14

