

# THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE

*Village news, notices and events....*



**Wassailing time is here...**

## USEFUL CONTACTS

### County Councillor

Rebecca Breese  
01280 709976

### District Councillor

Rebecca Breese  
01280 709976

### Clerk to the Parish Council

Dave Weston  
Tel: 07920 888250  
[clerk@farthinghoeparishcouncil.org](mailto:clerk@farthinghoeparishcouncil.org)

### Chair to the Parish Council

Mick Morris  
[chairman@farthinghoeparishcouncil.org](mailto:chairman@farthinghoeparishcouncil.org)

### Website

[www.farthinghoeparishcouncil.org](http://www.farthinghoeparishcouncil.org)

### Village Hall booking secretary

Marjorie Morris  
07900 590808  
[Bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org](mailto:Bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org)

### Allotments

Ruth Brittain  
07951 755171  
Henry Bankes-Jones  
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

### The Fox Inn

01295 713965

### Limes Farm

01295 711229

### Rector

[Office@astwickvalebenefice.org](mailto:Office@astwickvalebenefice.org)  
Phone - 01869 810903

### SNC Planning Department

01327 322237  
[www.southnorthants.gov.uk/  
planningapplications](http://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/planningapplications)

### Chronicle Editor

Nick Hunt  
[nicoshunt@aol.com](mailto:nicoshunt@aol.com)

## CHURCH UPDATE

It was great to see all those who attended the Christmas services especially the Crib Service on Christmas Eve where the crib was 'assembled'.

The Rector position is being advertised again this month. As a deanery we now have a new Rural Dean - Revd Matthew Robinson who will help support us during this interregnum.

Our service pattern continues, with a 9.30am service on the 2nd Sunday and on the 4th Sunday of each month with the Benefice Services around the five churches. Dates of all the services are on the church notice board.

Thank you to everyone who keeps the church looking so lovely, those who provide flowers and those who decorated the church so beautifully for Christmas - and our Ministry team who are working extra hard during this time without a Rector.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***Did you know?***

- January includes a number of Saints' Days including St Kentigern/Mungo (13<sup>th</sup>), St Wulfstan (19<sup>th</sup>) and St. Agnes (21<sup>st</sup>).
- Closest to home was St. Wulfstan who was born in Long Itchington, Warwickshire, in about 1008.
- He went on to become Bishop of Worcester and gained the dubious distinction of being the longest surviving pre-conquest Bishop when he died in Worcester in 1095.
- During his tenure as Bishop he founded Great Malvern Priory and initiated large scale ecclesiastical building works including at Worcester and Hereford Cathedrals.
- Wulfstan was canonised in 1203 by Pope Innocent III.
- Perhaps appropriately for this time of year, he is the Patron Saint of dieters and vegetarians.



## **To All Farthinghoe and Steane Residents**

*Following on from the Bypass news posted in the December edition of the Farthinghoe Chronicle...*

We have now received news of a routine traffic data census which was carried out throughout October on the A422 adjacent to the turning into Middleton Cheney.

This survey was carried out on a 24/7 basis.

It will produce a daily average of vehicles based on 5 days per week (Monday to Friday) and a 7 days per week average (Monday to Sunday).

The figures will be based on total vehicle throughput and will also have a separate analysis based on a number of vehicle types.

This survey was conducted before the announcement of work beginning again to prepare a new Farthinghoe bypass business plan.

These figures will be confirmed and made available to us early in January.

In the week ending 9/12/2022 we noticed that new Highway Data Analysis tube equipment has been installed at the following locations:

- On the Farthinghoe bound carriageway of the A422 at the Brackley West roundabout
- On the A422 adjacent to the entrance to the Recycling Centre
- On the Cockley Road outside of the village
- On the Charlton Road at the entry to the wood

Six CCTV traffic analysis cameras were also installed for 3 days in the week ending 9/12/2022 as follows:

- Three at the School Traffic Light Crossing
- One in the entry road to Steane Park
- Two on the A422 between New Road and the Recycling Centre

We will keep you informed as and when we learn more

Rgds

**Mick Morris**

## STAGECOACH BUS SERVICES

**The Parish Council have received the following from STAGECOACH:**

*From Sunday 1st January 2023, the cost of a single bus journey will be **capped at £2\*** on most Stagecoach routes in England.*

*The Bus Fare Cap scheme is a Government initiative which **will run from 1st January until 31st March 2023**. During this time, most single fares on eligible Stagecoach routes will cost £2 or less.*

*Tickets can be bought on board or on the **Stagecoach Bus App**.  
\*T&Cs apply, including exclusions on certain routes.*

Further details may be found by visiting the Stagecoach website (**[stagecoachbus.com](https://stagecoachbus.com)**).

## VILLAGE NOTICES

### **Coffee, Cake and Chat**

On Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 11am in the Church Vestry.  
There will be a Raffle and Bring and Buy. Everyone welcome!

## **Church Cleaning**

Will be on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> from 8.30am. Helpers always welcome!  
Thank you!

Thank you for help with services and decorating the Church for Christmas!

Also many thanks for the generous donations for Brackley food bank. It was much appreciated!

Wishing you a peaceful and healthy New Year.

## **VILLAGE HALL UPDATE**

The Panto on December 18<sup>th</sup> was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all ages and our thanks go to Scott at The Fox for arranging it.

Our regular sessions are as follows :

**Table Tennis** - Monday 7.30pm - 8.30pm

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

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

Victorian Literature 2nd Thursday 2.00pm - 4.00pm

**Yoga** - New class starting 8th January 10.00am - 11.00am

## **BOOKS & BAKES - Friday 27th January - 3.00 - 4.30**

Come along and enjoy some chat, along with tea and cake.

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

Marjorie Morris

Email - [bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org](mailto:bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org)

Tel. - 07900 590808

## **WINNERS!**

### **200 Club Winners – December 2022**

1st Prize - No 101 - Karen Chidwick - £25  
2nd Prize - No 65 - Rachel McCollough - £15  
3rd Prize - No 81 - Vic Tolchard - £10

## WASSAILING THE TREE!

*Waes hael*: an Anglo-Saxon phrase variously translated as *be well* or *be in good health*. The phrase to be *hale and hearty* has a common origin.

The short, dark days of January can seem as bleak to us as they no doubt did to our predecessors who, greatly to their credit, came up with one way of beating those January blues in the form of a social gathering involving a suitably warming drink or two - originally at the expense of the feudal Lord as a means of demonstrating seasonal goodwill.

In rural areas, particularly those with a tradition of growing apple trees for cider-making such as Herefordshire, Somerset and Devon, the ceremony is effectively a form of blessing of the trees and has ancient roots believed to encourage the fertility of the orchard and thus increase the yield of apples.

The Wassailers, often with appropriately costumed characters such as the Wassail King and Queen, assemble around the trees offering up a piece of toast soaked in the Wassail cup as a gift to the tree spirits.

To tempt these arboreal spirits, and to drive away any evil demons, the Wassailers make as much noise as possible by shouting, banging pots and even firing shotguns into the air around the trees. This cacophonous din is however tempered with a variety of rather more melodious song and verse, no doubt intended to placate the benign spirits as much as for the Wassailers to enjoy.

The Wassail is held on Twelfth Night which, in the Christian calendar is now fixed as 5th January; although, there are many practitioners who resolutely observe 17<sup>th</sup> January as was the case before the adoption of the Gregorian Calendar in 1752.

Wassail bowls or cups are traditionally fashioned from turned wood in various sizes and degrees of sophistication. There are some surviving examples fashioned from exotic hardwoods such as *Lignum vitae* (literally Tree of Life) as well as native hardwoods.

Q. What's ailing the tree?

A. Nothing! It's perfectly healthy!!! ( *With apologies to Spike Milligan*).

## DAVE HANCOCK – AN APPRECIATION

Born in Weymouth into a seafaring family, Dave arrived in London Barn, Farthinghoe some forty years ago and made our village, so remote from the nearest coastline, his home. He married Wendy in our church and they would have been together for 29 years in February.

His first job as a mechanic ignited a lifelong interest in motorised transport and tools (someone who insists on taking a cement mixer on holiday could be regarded as obsessive), resulting in a collection of both, including his beloved Mercedes and motorbike whose restoration - following an 'incident'- has been passed to Rob Healey.

Dave, was very much a communicator, a 'people-person', and spent much of his professional life as a senior manager for BT, involved in education and training: something he cared passionately about.

Having retired, Dave reinvented himself with an alter ego – that caped crusader *Handy Hancock* – and immersed himself into an array of practical projects around the village, only some of which involved trips to Accident and Emergency. Dave could turn his hand to anything and delighted in acquiring new knowledge and technical expertise. His sage advice, as well as his practical skills, will be fondly remembered and sorely missed.

The village was very much home to Dave and he threw himself wholeheartedly into it, not just as Handy Hancock, but also in his service on the Parish Council, as Chair of the Village Hall Committee and as a member of The Fox's Aunt Sally team. Dave was instrumental in providing us with a Village Hall to be proud of and also in the erection of the Village Beacon.

Above all, Dave valued family and friends. He was someone who always made time to chat – preferably over a pint of ale – and had a knack of making problems seem both manageable and solvable.

A much loved husband, father, grandfather and friend.

**Wendy, Family and Farthinghoe**



**ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE****JANUARY 2023**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> January</b> <b>First Sunday after Christmas</b>	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion	Aynho (TR/HW)
<b>8<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>First Sunday of Epiphany</b>	9.30 Morning Worship <b>9.30 Morning Worship</b> 11am Morning Worship	Evenley (CO) <b>Farthinghoe (ML)</b> Hinton (CO)
<b>15<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>Second Sunday of Epiphany</b>	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion	Croughton (HW/TR)
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> January</b> <b>Third Sunday of Epiphany</b>	<b>9.30am Morning Worship</b> 11am Holy Communion 11am Morning Worship 11am Morning Worship	<b>Farthinghoe (Lay Led)</b> Aynho (JD) Croughton (CO) Hinton (ML)
<b>29<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Epiphany</b>	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion	Evenley (TR/HW)

---



**KATHARINE  
HOUSE  
HOSPICE**

**FROM KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE, ADDERBURY**

For inclusion in your December edition  
(By email)

### **What's coming up later this winter?**

As we head towards the end of the year we're sharing some updates, ideas, and events for the festive season. We couldn't continue to support our wonderful community without the help of people like you. Thank you!

### **Tractor Run route**

The ever-popular RC Baker Tractor Run is back – and this time they really are going the extra mile! A new extended route has been announced for this year taking the fairy-lit fleet into the heart of Banbury. We cannot wait for the buzz and the bling of the Tractor Run, so make sure you get Saturday 17 December in your diaries. You can find the route map, timings and details of how you can donate to this event here: [www.khh.org.uk/tractor](http://www.khh.org.uk/tractor).

### **O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree...**

Our Tree-cycle scheme is back – and available in even more areas! So instead of worrying about how to environmentally dispose of your tree after all the festivities are over, you can 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 post code is included in the scheme. [www.khh.org.uk/christmastree](http://www.khh.org.uk/christmastree)

### **Spread some cheer and volunteer!**

We couldn't run our events or continue to provide all our services without the support of our brilliant volunteers. We're always on the lookout for new volunteers, but especially around Christmas when we're running lots of events and adding extra touches to make the season even more special. If you think you can help, take a look at the seasonal roles available on our website: [www.khh.org.uk/FestiveVolunteer](http://www.khh.org.uk/FestiveVolunteer).

### **The gift that keeps on giving**

If you're after a great idea for Christmas pressies, then we think our Charity Calendar for 2023 makes a great gift. The calendar features 12 stunning local scenes – taken by talented members of Banbury Camera Club – and helps to raise vital funds for our hospice. You can pick up your calendars as well as our fantastic range of Christmas cards in one of our shops or find them in the Christmas Shop on our website. [www.khh.org.uk/christmas-shop](http://www.khh.org.uk/christmas-shop)

### **We're here to help**

If you have lost someone you love and would like some support, we have a team of trained Bereavement Support Workers waiting to help you. The support is free, can be carried out face to face or on the phone. And you don't need to have had any direct involvement with the hospice, we are here for anyone who needs us. If you'd like to find out more about how we can help support you, please take a look on our website: [www.khh.org.uk/bereavement-services](http://www.khh.org.uk/bereavement-services).

### **Digital monthly newsletter – keep up to date with your hospice**

Sign up to receive our Katharine House digital monthly newsletter and keep you in touch with all our latest news and fundraising events at the hospice. [www.khh.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.khh.org.uk/newsletter)

**The following has been sent to Farthinghoe School who wish to share it with us all:**

4<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As your child returns to school after the festive break, it is important you are aware that there remains a risk of winter infections. You may have seen or heard that Flu, COVID-19, and Scarlet Fever are continuing to circulate, and as a result there is an increased risk of infection amongst the school community.

Professor Susan Hopkins, the Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has issued the following advice to help protect your child and others they are in contact with:

- If your child is unwell and has a fever, you are advised to keep them at home until the fever has passed and they feel better. During this time your child should avoid attending school, nursery, childminder or having contact with any other person outside the household.
- An adult who is unwell should also try to stay at home and avoid seeing others.
- If a person is unwell and they have to go out, they are advised to avoid attending a healthcare setting, such as a GP surgery or hospital, unless calling first. Also do not attend a high-risk setting such as a care home or nursing home.
- If a person needs to leave the house whilst they are unwell, UKHSA recommends a face covering is worn at all times to help avoid passing their infection to others.
- Good hand hygiene continues to be important to avoid spreading infections through touch. You are asked to encourage your child to regularly wash their hands, with soap and warm water.
- Vaccination is the best protection against any avoidable illness such as Flu or COVID-19. You are advised to ensure your child is vaccinated when they are invited.

For more information about getting your child vaccinated against Flu visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/>.

For more information about the Covid-19 vaccination visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/>.

The Public Health Team of West Northamptonshire Council urges you to follow this advice, to help keep your child, their school community, and the local population safe.

Farthinghoe Events presents:

# VALENTINE'S PARTY

**SATURDAY, 25th FEBRUARY 2023**

**7.00pm to midnight**

**Farthinghoe Village Hall**

**Ticket price : £12.50 per head**

**Price includes:**

**Welcome drink**

**Hot food**

**Disco and Games**

**Cash Bar**

**Dress code—smart casual**

**To book, email [wendy.gainford@gmail.com](mailto:wendy.gainford@gmail.com)**

**Subsidised with thanks to the Village Hall Committee—**

**profits to be paid to charity**

**Including the Grand Opening of**

**HANCOCK'S BAR**

