

THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE

Village news, notices and events....



And a happy New Year to all in Farthinghoe and Steane...

USEFUL CONTACTS

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Brackley Medical Centre
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Hospitals

The Horton
01295 275500

Vets

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The Fox Inn

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To All Farthinghoe and Steane Residents

During October a letter from Dame Andrea Leadsom MP was posted to residents in the Parish, this letter concerned the alleviation of traffic problems occurring at the Pinch Point.

This Parish Council does not, and never have considered our traffic problem in this way.

It is about the need for a village bypass with the possibility of an interim Weight Restriction whilst planning, funding and building a bypass can take place.

With regard to paragraph 4 of Dame Andrea's letter we have to add that at the 1 September meeting mentioned, we had requested WNC Highways to provide a full explanation of how the Methodology for these calculations worked in this specific instance and we had subsequently confirmed this request in writing .

It is now close to the end of November and we still await news on this and all of the other issues raised.

We have evidence from other Parishes in South Northants that letters like Lynne's to support of Parish Councils have been very productive.

Should any other residents feel as strongly as Lynne does then we recommend them to follow suit and to respond directly to Dame Andrea Leadsom MP because it is important for her to know directly.

Rgds

Mick Morris

Re : Proposed Farthinghoe Bypass

Dear Dame Leadsom,

I arrived in Farthinghoe in 2019, along with my husband, following twenty years of living abroad.

We were delighted to have chosen an ancient and beautiful village, surrounded by glorious countryside. We were not so happy once we realised how much the negative impact of the A422 that runs through the village would affect our daily lives, as it affects the lives of all who live here.

Initially, we were informed by our neighbours that the people of Farthinghoe had been assured that a Bypass would be in situ by 2025. We enquired, by whom had this assurance been given? The answer? By your good self, our local MP. We asked ourselves what has taken place since that long ago village meeting to further the progress of the Farthinghoe Bypass? The answer? Precisely nothing. In fact I am given to understand that precisely nothing has been achieved during the thirty-five years since the 'fight' for the Farthinghoe Bypass began.

This is an outrageous and ridiculous situation; and I fail to comprehend why despite all of the hard work carried out by our parish Council, this village continues to be denied a much needed Bypass. In an article penned by the Chair of our Parish Council Mick Morris, published in the Banbury Guardian on November 7th 2023, it appears that there is no coherent explanation as to why nothing has been processed to further the construction of a Bypass. In addition I understand that monies amounting to £36 billion saved by abandoning the HS2 Northern route – are to be allocated to the A43 duality project between Northampton and Kettering, and to the A509 Isham Bypass. Nothing apparently to South Northants and certainly nothing towards the Farthinghoe Bypass.

I am also informed that you commented that fifty years of demands for the Farthinghoe Bypass have not been met due to the 'tricky' road layout in the village. I can assure you that here in Farthinghoe, we are only too well aware of the 'tricky' road layout. Hardly a day goes by without multiple incidents of huge HGVs becoming stuck on the so called 'pinch point' causing danger and chaos, as irritated drivers speed through the narrow lanes of the village in order to beat the resulting traffic jam.

In your recent letter sent to all Farthinghoe residents, you indicated that The Department of Transport have decreed that Farthinghoe is well below their 'score' for allocating funds for a Bypass. This should not be about 'scores' it should be about the quality of peoples' lives – people whose lives are affected daily by the A422, and about the hazards and dangers that we all face. Not least by our village school and by our church, as parents, children and churchgoers have to cope with the difficulties that occur when attempting to cross the road. Drivers are often impatient when meeting the traffic lights; do not adhere to the speed limit, and on more than one occasion I have been nearly run down when they have decided that they didn't want to wait for the 'green light'.

You stated that the decision taken by the Department of Transport is 'disappointing'; that we face 'challenges' due to the 'pinch point' and that you will 'work hard' to find an alternative solution to a Bypass. I would say that 'disappointing' is somewhat of an understatement, that we do not want an 'alternative' that we want and desperately need

a Bypass. This situation should not be allowed to continue for any longer than is humanly possible, and I would therefore urge you in the strongest terms, to work as hard and as speedily as you can, to put an end to it .The people of Farthinghoe need a firm assurance that in future they will be able to live safely and without the concerns and fears that the A422 has inflicted upon this village for so many years.

*Best Regards,
Mrs.Lynne Lee B.A (Hons) M. A.*

BANBURY GUARDIAN BYPASS ARTICLE

The Editor would like to draw attention to an article published in the Banbury Guardian on 7th November 2023 in which Cllr. Morris was interviewed about the bypass. The article may be accessed using this link:

<https://www.banburyguardian.co.uk/news/people/banburyshire-village-should-get-hs2-roads-money-says-leader-of-community-fighting-35-years-for-bypass-4401335>

PAT CRISP – FUNERAL NOTICE

Pat and Richard live in Middleton Cheney, but have many friends in Farthinghoe having supported and involved themselves in so many functions within the village.

Pat's Funeral Service is to be held on **Wednesday December 13th 2023** at 12.00 Noon at St Mary the Virgin Church, Brill Road, Ludgershall Nr Aylesbury HP18 9NT

Donations in lieu of flowers to be divided between Katharine House Hospice and Ludgershall Church Restoration Fund.

VILLAGE NOTICES

Coffee, Mince pies and Chat

Will be on Friday, December 8th, from 10 – 11am in the Church Vestry. There will be a Bring & Buy, and also a Raffle. Hope to see you there!

Church Cleaning

On Tuesday, December 12th, from 8.30am. All help much appreciated!
Thank you!

As we come to the end of another year, thanks are due, especially to those who clean the Church and brasses, keep the Church yard in good order, those who arrange flowers, help at services, and provide the music! Many thanks! If I have missed your Job, many thanks!

VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

FUTURE EVENTS

CHRISTMAS BOOKS & BAKES - FRIDAY 22nd DECEMBER

Please come and join us for a little bit of relaxation before the big day. Lisa has agreed to come along and provide some Christmas music on the piano.

FASHION SHOW - 2ND DECEMBER - 7.30pm

Would you like to be a model at the above event we are organising with Jackie Allen, who had a stall at the Village Show. We are looking for volunteers of all shapes and sizes to be models. If you would like to take part please contact me on the following email address - marjoriemorris@hotmail.co.uk

Tickets for the show will be **£5.00** each to include a glass of Prosecco/Beer and a selection of clothes and accessories will be available for sale.

REGULAR SESSIONS :

Art - Tuesday 10.00am - 12.00 & Friday 10.45am - 1.15pm

Ballet - Monday 5.00pm - 7.00pm & Saturday 9.00am - 1.00pm

Ballroom - Thursday - 7.00pm - 9.00pm

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

WINNERS!

150 CLUB DRAW OCTOBER 2023

1st Prize - No 73 - Alistair Wenmouth

2nd Prize - No 3 - Nikki Kerby

3rd Prize - No 81 - Vic Tolchard

Farthinghoe Christmas Tree Festival

St Michael and All Angels Church Farthinghoe

By the time you read this article, some trees will have been decorated in the church during Advent Sunday - thank you to Seven Sisters. KPH has kindly donated two trees and Evenley Christmas Tree have donated one.

We will be decorating the tree donated by the Parish Council by the 10th at the latest.

Please bring along your memories - either photos or objects to decorate it - it will be the large one by the altar.

Rosemary kindly opens the church everyday.

If you would like to add a tree and decorate it, then Evenley Christmas Trees are a very reasonable price - call David on 07763 898010

Tesco's trees are currently half price with your clubcard.

Social media usually is giving away Christmas trees at this time of the year.

Any size tree, real or artificial is very welcome - Small trees in the windows would look very pretty.

Battery lights can be used. Decorate in any theme you like!

The Carol service is on the 17th December.

We will meet in the church at 6.30pm on the 23rd to sing carols around the village, culminating in the Fox for mulled wine and mince pies - all welcome to join us. Please give generously when you hear us, the money will go to our church's charity, in aid of children.

Hoping you will join in with the festivities this year - any questions please email me

wendy.gainford@gmail.com or WhatsApp me.

Wendy on behalf of the Events Committee - Pippa Parnell, Margaret Rogers,
Lisa Wenmouth and Becky Wright



With Christmas fast approaching, we are delighted to announce that Limes Farm Cafe will be hosting a Christmas Soiree for Farthinghoe Residents on **Saturday 16th December from 7pm - 11pm.**

Enjoy a delicious festive themed buffet with savoury and sweet treats and drinks from the Pay Bar. The event will be informal, so you can mingle whilst enjoying your food & drinks. Tickets are limited to a maximum of 60, so early booking is recommended to avoid disappointment.

Tickets are available to purchase from Monday 6th November at Limes Farm Cafe. Ticket price £18pp.

Please let Lucy or Rachel know if you have any specific dietary requirements.

JOYEUX NOEL

As I look forward to Christmas, and begin to immerse myself in preparations; I find myself looking back to other Christmases – in another land – France – and I recall how different the celebrations are in our two countries.

I adore Christmas, and when we moved to Normandy I wondered how different the traditions and festivities would be from what we were used to in England. The answer to my query was: very different, but nonetheless, very enjoyable. The French love any excuse to celebrate and make the most of every festival, something we found such a pleasure during our many years of living there.

In Normandy, you will not see a single Christmas decoration, tree, or any lights anywhere until December 1st. The same goes for the shops, Christmas gifts, toys etc are not put on display prior to that date. We found that refreshing – being used to seeing – and being irritated by – a plethora of Christmas paraphernalia shortly after the August Bank holiday. But on December 1st Christmas explodes into each town and village – fairy lights festooned all around, Christmas trees in the streets and lanes and cribs outside the churches. In the shops all the wonderful chocolates and confectionery and enticing gifts appear. The French don't exchange Christmas cards, they send out New Year (Bonne Annee) cards; but all of our French friends loved to receive our English Christmas cards – the more Robins and sparkle the better !

The main festive meal is eaten on Christmas Eve; nowhere will a Restaurant or Cafe be found open on that day as everyone gets together with their families. Only the Bakeries remain open – French Law states that bread must be available on every day of the year – and the Butcher's shops – until lunchtime. Mostly Goose or Duck will be served but occasionally Turkey. I recall standing in our local Butcher's shop one Christmas Eve to collect our Turkey. The shop was crowded, everyone chatting and laughing as is customary and our Butcher asked me what I would serve with the Turkey, did I make a 'farci' (stuffing) 'Oh yes' I said and proceeded to describe good old sage & onion with sausage meat. Howls of laughter from the French and "Eeerrgh". And what sauces did we have with the meal? 'Oh bread sauce and cranberry sauce – and gravy'. 'What's Gravy'? I told him and again shrieks of laughter and cries of 'pain??' (bread) and 'cerise??' (cranberry) Eeerrgh ! Did we have 'Escargots'? (snails) 'Non Non Non'! I cried followed by 'Eeerrgh' and we were all by then howling with laughter, as I left with our Turkey to a chorus of 'Bon Noel Madame'.

A Carol Service has always been a part of Christmas for us and, I had thought that it was a pity that now living in France we would not be able to attend one. I had reckoned without our Local Priest, a delightful man, the Abbe Cerveux who summoned 'all you Brits' to come and sing English Carols in his Church. We duly turned up with a small crowd of ex-pats and were ordered 'don't sit at the back you lot, just because we beat you at Rugby'. We did as we were told and were soon lustily singing our favourite Carols to

the congregation. Along with French Carols, which I am sorry to say are rather gloomy. As always it finished with 'Jingle Bells' which all French children know and love.

The French don't have crackers. Don't understand the concept at all. So on Christmas afternoon after lunch when we, along with our visiting family, did our usual walk around the village with our dogs – wearing paper hats – we were met with much amusement and bemused looks. 'Quoi'? (what??) I explained the custom. 'Oh les Anglais, heula!' (Oh the English – blimey !!)

We spent many Christmases in rural Normandy and enjoyed them all – revelling in the differences between our two cultures. Now, back home in England we once more celebrate all of the age old traditions with joy, but look back with pleasure at the ones we learned in France, and we are sure that our French friends enjoyed a few of ours.

Merry Christmas !

God Bless Us , Every One! 'A Christmas Carol ' Charles Dickens 1843

Lynne Lee.

CHRISTMAS JOKES AND CHRISTMAS QUOTES

What's white and can't climb a Christmas tree? A fridge!

“Yes,” said Queen Lucy. “In our world too, a stable once had something inside it that was bigger than our whole world.” C.S. Lewis, *The Chronicles of Narnia*.

Why doesn't Santa employ goblins? Because they're so un-elfy!

“Oh, Christmas isn't just a day; it's a frame of mind.” Kris Kringle in *Miracle on 34th Street*.

What was the snowman doing in the allotment? Picking his nose!

“Never worry about the size of your Christmas tree. In the eyes of children, they are all 30 feet tall.” Larry Wilde

What do you get if you cross a Turkey and a centipede? Drumsticks for everyone!

“Christmas works like glue, it keeps us all sticking together.” Rosie Thomas, *Iris & Ruby*



We are thrilled to announce the opening of our new veterinary practice in Brackley.

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- Monthly payment plan for routine care

“We want to focus on traditional values of service and care. Looking after animals in pain or distress can be difficult and emotionally demanding- it’s important pet owners can trust and communicate with the people looking after them. Juggling the various demands of welfare, time, people’s circumstances and finances is tricky – people need to feel they can call me if they need something. Seeing the same vet and developing that relationship is important both to us and pet owners, so that is a real focus.” John Taylor MRCVS

Fell free to pop in and say hello, or register here: <https://taylor.vet/register>



Scan QR code to register



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.

Lights, Tractor, Action!

The much-loved RC Baker Tractor Run is back and once again the festive fleet will be making their merry way around Banbury and local villages on Saturday 16 December. Since 2016, the Christmas Tractor Run has already raised in excess of £97,000 – with £27,000 of that raised last year alone! Could you help to make it even more? Find the route map, timings and details of how you can donate to this event here: www.khh.org.uk/tractor.

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

Sowing the seed

We're already starting to think about our Open Gardens for next year and sowing the seed with our supporters... Could you help us grow our scheme and sign up to host your own Open Garden? Why not encourage your neighbours to take part in a whole village event? Find out more about what's involved here: www.khh.org.uk/gardens

Could you spare a few hours?

Katharine House couldn't continue to care for local people without the support of its amazing volunteers. So, if you have some time to spare, why not think about volunteering? The hospice has one-off opportunities as well as more regular roles, which are all listed on our website. www.khh.org.uk/volunteer

Challenge accepted

We're lining up some incredible challenge events for 2024! As well as the return of the popular Abseil and Skydive, we've got some brand-new events coming up, including running, cycling and walking events. Why not tick something off your bucket list and support our hospice at the same time? Keep checking our website to find out more as we announce them: www.khh.org.uk/events

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.

Astwick Vale Benefice**December 2023**

3rd December Purple 1st Sunday of Advent	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion	Hinton (TR/ML)	Isaiah 64.1-9 1 Corinthians 1.3-9 Mark 13.24-37 Psalm 80.1-8,18-20*
10th December Purple 2nd Sunday of Advent	9.30 Holy Communion 9.30 Holy Communion 10am Morning Worship 11am Holy Communion	Evenley (CP) Farthinghoe (ML by Ext) Aynho (LL) Croughton (ML by Ext)	Isaiah 40.1-11 2 Peter 3.8-15a Mark 1.1-8 Psalm 85.1-2,8-13
17th December Purple Carol Services 3rd Sunday of Advent	4pm 5pm 5pm 5pm 5pm + Christingle	Croughton (TR) Aynho (LL) Evenley (LL) Farthinghoe (LL or ML) Hinton (LL)	Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24 John 1.6-8,19-28 Psalm 126
24th December White Christmas Eve (4th Sunday of Advent)	5pm Benefice Crib Service 11pm Benefice HC Christmas Service	Farthinghoe (LL) Evenley (TR)	2 Samuel 7.1-5,8-11,16 Acts 13.16-26 Luke 1.67-79 Psalm 89.2,19-27
25th December White Christmas Day	10am Benefice Holy Communion 1030 Morning Worship	Aynho (JD) Hinton (LL)	Isaiah 9.2-7 Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-14[15-20] Psalm 96
31st December White 1st Sun of Christmas	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion	Croughton (TR)	Isaiah 61.10 - 62.3 Galatians 4.4-7 Luke 2.15-21



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Waste and recycling collections Christmas and New Year 2023

Give the gift of knowledge to your friends and neighbours
Why not take a photo of this poster...
Help share the message and pass it on...

Pass it on

What's happening in a chestnut shell

- **Daventry area** collections due to take place on 25 December **will take place on 23 December**, while collections due on 26 December **will take place on 24 December**. Collections due on 1 January **will take place on 30 December**
- **Northampton area** collections due to take place on 25 December **will take place on 30 December**
- **South Northants area** collections due to take place on 26 December **will take place on 23 December**
- Garden waste collections across West Northants will be suspended from 23 December until 5 January.

Have a Very Merry Christmas!

Real tree collections

Crews will collect real Christmas trees between Monday, 8 and Friday, 19 January

For more information scan here

West Northants Council

West Northants recycles

WestNorthants
www.westnorthants.gov.uk | 0300 126 7000