

THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE



Village news, notices and events....

USEFUL CONTACTS

West Northants Councillor

Rebecca Breese
Tel: 01280 709976
Rebecca.Breese@westnorthants.gov.uk

Clerk to the Parish Council

Dave Weston
Tel: 07920 888250
clerk@farthinghoeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Chairman to the Parish Council

Mick Morris
chairman@farthinghoeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website

www.farthinghoeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Village Hall Bookings

Marjorie Morris
07900 590808
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
Taylor Vets
Brackley - 01280 474796
Middleton - 01295 233555

The Fox Inn

01295 713965

Rector

Office@astwickvalebenefice.org
Phone - Benefice Administrator
- 01280 702861

WNC Planning Department

WNC Planning Department
Phone - 0300 126 7000
planning@westnorthants.gov.uk

Chronicle Editor

Lynne Lee
chronicle@farthinghoeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Editors Welcome

'O to be in England now that April's here.'
'Home thoughts from Abroad' by Robert Browning 1838.

Browning wrote this short poem whilst on his first trip to Italy. It is generally seen as an Englishman's nostalgic recollections of home paying homage to the delicate beauty of April.

April is a month of newness and freshness as trees explode into blossom, Daffodils and Primroses bloom and it seems to me that everyone begins to feel and look more cheerful now that the dark months of Winter have passed.

It is also notable for quite a few matters. The first is April Fool's Day on the 1st. As a child I recall playing jokes on parents and unfortunate teachers. As a member of the Gymslip Mafia I remember sneaking off with the keys to the staff room and locking them all in during break. They weren't happy; but we owned up and detention wasn't a problem as we were all there so often! In France April 1st is known as 'Le jour du Poisson' (the day of fish) and they, like us, play practical jokes on each other. One instance I remember was someone putting notices outside a local Cafe saying that it was closed due to an infestation. The good-natured owner knew that it was one of his pals and got his revenge by serving the culprit a coffee with salt in it.

Of course. April often coincides with Easter, a religious festival that combines sadness and joy. The Pagan traditions around Easter go back to ancient Egypt with eggs seen as symbols of fertility and renewed life. Within Christianity, the custom of Easter Eggs can be traced to the early Christians of Mesopotamia, who stained the eggs red to represent the blood of Christ that he shed at his crucifixion. Again, the eggs were seen as a symbol of new life following the resurrection. In more modern times the practice of making gifts of chocolate eggs has prevailed for centuries. Chocolate eggs first appeared at the court of Louis XIV in Versailles and in 1720 the widow Giambore in Turin started producing chocolate eggs by filling egg shells with molten chocolate. In 1873 J.S Fry & Sons manufactured the first hollow chocolate eggs and in 1875 Cadbury created the Easter eggs that we know and love today.

April 23rd is St George's Day and Shakespeare's Birthday. Sadly, there are not many celebrations nowadays for our patron saint; but in Stratford upon Avon the Bard's Birthday is most certainly feted. The exact date of his birth is not known but he was born in April 1564 and christened on April 26th following the custom of baptizing children soon after their birth. As he died on April 23rd 1616 scholars decided to make that date also his Birthday. It is a wonderful occasion in Stratford. The children from the Grammar School (attended by William) along with Actors and members of the public form a procession to Holy Trinity Church where he is buried carrying posies of flowers to lay on his tomb. Once that is done there will be readings by actors from the Royal Shakespeare Company at various venues in the town, and always a large cake around which all stand to sing Happy Birthday. It is a joyful occasion and one that I have often enjoyed along with my daughter who is also a great fan of The Bard.

April has much to offer and much to cheer us. Enjoy the blossoms, the wildflowers, the birdsong, the emerging hedgehogs and do enjoy your Easter Eggs! Happy April

Lynn



VE DAY – 80th ANNIVERSARY

As many of you will already know this year on May 8th it will be the 80th Anniversary of the celebration of Victory in Europe day. Farthinghoe Parish Council will be joining in with the National Lamp Lights of Peace ceremony at 9.30pm at the village Beacon in New Road.

Immediately prior to this event, at 8.15 pm or thereabouts in the Fox Inn, the Parish Council will be providing a warming bowl of vegetable soup and a roll for all attending residents. We will need some guidance on numbers to be catered for, so if you are intending to come to the Fox please contact Barry Willet by mid. April to book your place.

Contact details - barry@farthinghoeparishcouncil.gov.uk or Mobile 07881 917212

Mick Morris

Annual Parish Meeting

The Parish Council will be holding the Annual Parish Meeting in The Village Hall on Wednesday 23rd April at 7.00pm. All are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Dave Weston
Clerk and RFO Farthinghoe Parish Council

WNC Highways Exhibition

Following on from the recent WNC Highways Exhibition at the Village Hall on 10 March 2025 Dave Weston sent the following email to the WNC Assistant Director of Highways, Nick Henstock.

“Nick, Thank you for attending the recent public event at Farthinghoe Village Hall. I know at that event you were specifically asked to consider installing a weight limit through the village on the A422 with the amendment that in the case of M40 closures the weight limit could be temporarily switched off allowing vehicles over 7.5 tonne to use the A422 until the M40 was reopened. In such instance we would like National Highways to immediately inform the village of the Motorway closure. Additionally, you were asked to include the installation of a 20mph limit through the village on the A422 with this limit being applied to incorporate the Hinton airfield junction. These limits to be supported by average speed cameras to ensure compliance. I understand you advised a timeline of June 2025 for a response. Can you confirm these ideas are being properly considered by WNC Highways as agreed at the Exhibition and that we can expect an answer to them by the end of June 2025.”

Dave Weston
Clerk and RFO Farthinghoe Parish Council

VILLAGE NOTICES

CHURCH NOTICES

Church Cleaning - Tuesday, April 8th from 8.30am.

Many hands make light work.

Church Coffee Morning - Friday, April 11th,

Coffee, Cake & Chat in the Church Vestry from 10 – 11am.

There will be a Raffle and everyone is welcome.

Flowers for Easter

Help with decorating the Church for Easter would be very much appreciated. Arrangements can be put in the Church on Saturday 19th April.

Lent Courses.

We are pleased to announce that there will be two Courses run in the Benefice this year. A course at Croughton will be run by the Reverend Terry Richards, whose groups and courses have been widely enjoyed in previous years. The Reverend George Frost will also be running a Lent Course that will meet in St. Michael and All Angels' church in Farthinghoe, every Tuesday in Lent (11th March – 15th April) at 12noon. If you would be interested in joining either, or learning more, please contact the Rector.

HELP - HUNTING FOR A HOUSE RENTAL!!

We are still looking for a 2/3 bed property to rent in Farthinghoe, due to our Landlord needing to sell the property we are currently renting. We would love to remain in Farthinghoe or nearby, so if anyone is aware of a suitable property coming up for rent please contact us by email on: melsyh@aol.com

Carmelle Harris & Emma Butt
Main Road Farthinghoe

Geoff Hovland

Sadly, Geoff passed away on 19th February and the funeral will be held at Banbury Crematorium at 12 noon on Thursday 3rd April. Geoff had always enjoyed living in the village, having moved to Seven Sisters Close in 2015.

VILLAGE HALL

SWING FROM PARIS – Friday 28th March

What a fantastic evening we had when the above group entertained us with two hours of very enjoyable music. With over 80 tickets sold, it was good to see so many people in the hall and we hope to get them back for another evening in the future.

BOOKS & BAKES - THURSDAY 24th APRIL - 3.00 - 4.30

Come along and join us for tea/coffee & cake and lots of catch-up chatter. In February the pupils from the school entertained us with a few songs and we hope they will join us again.

FUTURE EVENTS

Fashion Show - 5th April

Jackie Allen is returning to present her Spring & Summer collection. Tickets are £5 including a glass of bubbly / beer or soft drink. We already have two models but if anybody else wants to join in please let me know.

Concert - 17th May

Brackley Chamber Music Group returning with another programme – see poster following.

REGULAR SESSIONS :

Art -	Tuesday 10.00am - 12.30 & Friday 10.45am - 1.15pm
Ballet -	Monday 5.00pm - 7.00pm & Saturday 9.00am - 1.00pm
Martial Arts -	Sunday 11.30am - 1.30pm
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

New regular Yoga class starting Thursday 3rd April 9.30 – 10.30 (see poster on next page for further information)

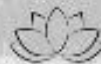
150 CLUB MARCH WINNER

1st Prize £25 - No.112 – In memory of Neil Gunn
2nd Prize £15 - No.149 – Alistair Wenmouth
3rd Prize £10 - No. 96 - In memory of Pip Clayton



New classes starting in April

Suitable for beginners



09:30 - Tuesdays - Jubilee Hall, Bloxham



09:30 - Thursdays - Farthinghoe Village Hall



20:00 - Thursdays - Jubilee Hall, Bloxham



£8 a session

**Please don't hesitate to message me
with any questions or queries, looking
forward to meeting you - 07885**

773389



**Please bring your
own mat**

CPR TRAINING - FARTHINGHOE VILLAGE HALL Friday 11th April

We have arranged for Bobby Manser from East Midlands Ambulance Service to come along and provide CPR training on the above date.

If you have not had any training previously, or you want to refresh your memory on what to do in an emergency, please contact either me or Marjorie to book a place.

We can take 10 people per session and have currently booked two sessions at 2.00pm and 6.00pm but can book further sessions if required.

Many thanks

Sowjanya

sowjvin@gmail.com

**East Midlands
Ambulance Service**
NHS Trust



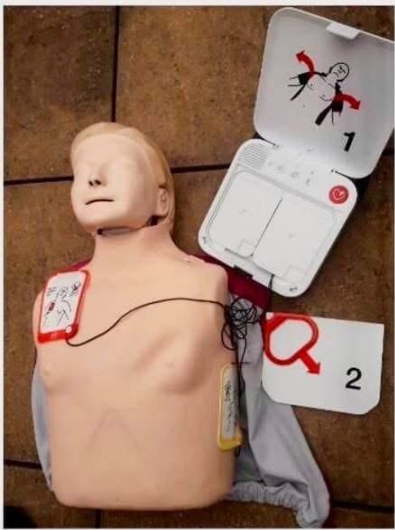
Free CPR and Defibrillator Training

For Community Groups and Businesses.

**Would you know what
to do in an emergency?**

Over 50% of people have never had any training on how to do CPR or use a defibrillator.

If you are a member of a community group and would like to arrange a session with our help then email:



bobby.manser@emas.nhs.uk



FASHION SHOW

SATURDAY 5th APRIL

FARTHINGHOE VILLAGE HALL

at 7.30pm

Tickets £5.00

(Including a glass of Prosecco/Beer/Soft Drink)

Available from:

marjoriemorris@hotmail.co.uk

Tel. 07900 590808



MODELS WANTED PLEASE CONTACT MARJORIE

Brackley Chamber Music Club
proudly presents 'Pologonia'...

Chamber Music

Magic and Fantasy

A concert full of romance, fizz and charm,
featuring the wonderful Mendelssohn Octet,
conjuring up the energy and mischief of
Midsummer Night's Dream

Sat 17th May 2025
7:30pm

Mendelssohn Octet

Vivaldi Concerto for Two Mandolins

Rob Garcia, Stuart McGowan - Mandolin

Brandenburg Concerto No. 3

Doug Abrams - Violin
Anna Fleming - Violin
Penny Tolmie - Violin
Claire Hedges - Violin
David Barker - Viola
Rhian Frankcom - Viola
Sian Welsh - Cello
Jenny Hubble - Cello
Chris Seddon - Bass




Farthinghoe Village Hall, NN13 5PD
15% Discount Special Offer; Early Bird tickets (on sale until 17th April)
Admission: £12 Early Bird: £9
Under 16s free entry
www.tickettailor.com/events/bcmc/1643591
Profits from this concert will go to: Farthinghoe Primary School Charity number: 1085971

Brackley Chamber Music Club is pleased to present their third season of chamber music for strings this May Spring at Farthinghoe. The string group Pologonia consists of a growing small group of talented players whose enthusiasm and creativity shines through each performance.

Mendelssohn Octet for Strings

Written when Mendelssohn was just 16, this piece is a remarkable display of youthful brilliance and sophistication. Attending a performance of Mendelssohn's *Octet* is a chance to experience one of the genre's most stunning masterpieces. It's a work that truly has it all—energy, complexity, beauty, and emotional resonance. Don't miss the opportunity to hear it live!

Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Mandolins

What makes this work so captivating is the interplay between the two mandolins. Vivaldi uses them not just as solo instruments but as voices in an intricate conversation.

Bach Brandenburg Concerto No. 3

Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 in G major, BWV 1048* is a vibrant and lively masterpiece that showcases the brilliance of Baroque instrumental music

Rector's Ramblings

It all started in a Garden.

As I sit in my study, I can see out into the little orchard by the side of the house. The trees are bare, but circling around their bases halos of daffodils, which I planted last year, are bursting out. All but two are facing away from my window, but you can't have everything. Whilst the apple and plumb trees are completely bare, the apricot tree by the side of the house, also without any leaves, is pushing out a profusion of delicate pink blossoms. How something that has sat through the winter looking like a pile of dead sticks can suddenly prove the strong life within it by bursting out in flower is beyond me.

As I write, we are still in Lent, and from here it feels like it will be Lent for a good while yet. However, on the 20th April comes Easter. Easter is the great day in the Christian calendar, so holy that it has hallowed every Sunday since in its memory. The women who followed Jesus go to his tomb in the garden, and find it empty. It is the miracle at the heart of the Christian faith.

I knew a gardener who said that his work amongst plants helped him to ground his understanding of Easter. After all, he said, nothing in a garden stays dead for very long. Even the stuff that is cut off, or dug up, or withered, goes to compost, and is full of such life that it is used to help grow other plants. I have often thought of the bulbs, planted only to burst out with life. Perhaps the apricot tree is another part of creation that can point us to our creator. Perhaps it is just a miracle: like many things, and like nothing at all.

We celebrate Easter because in that Garden the tomb was empty, and God - mistaken variously for a teacher, a carpenter, a corpse, and a gardener - reaches out with scarred hands to embrace creation. To tell us that the sin that had clung to us from Eden, was gone. We are free, and may choose what to do with that freedom. We celebrate Easter not just because Jesus' tomb was empty, but because he has emptied our tombs, and given us life, hope, and love. The worst in life, in humanity, or in the world cannot blot out the light of easter.

It all started in a Garden.

George Frost

LOCAL EVENTS TO ENJOY IN APRIL

Evenley Wood Garden. April 4th - 21st
'Easter Egg Hunt and find the Golden Bunny'
10.00am - 4pm.
Book online.

Stowe Gardens - April 5th - 21st.
'A-Z of Amazing Things at Stowe'.
10.00 am - 17.00pm
'Fun Facts about nature, Architecture and History'
Book online.

Banbury Sunday April 13th. Market Place.
'Taste of Spring'
Stalls selling a selection of cuisines.
Live music. 10.30- 16.30pm

Stowe Gardens - From April 16th
Monthly Dog Walks. 10.30am - 12pm.

Brackley. Saturday April 19th
Egerton Hall Brackley.
'Disney Showcase.'
Disney Characters, Live music, Magician -- 2pm.
Book online.

Brackley - Thursday April 24th
'Learn to Crochet' - 6.30pm - 9pm.
Stitching Kitchen
Station Road.
Book online.

TAYLOR VETS

Your Pet's Happy Place



ACCEPTING NEW REGISTRATIONS

Scan our QR code to register!

Burgess Farm, Middleton Cheney, Banbury, OX17 2NE



Nurse Clinics

Professional advice for your pets, always tailored to their needs.



Out of Hours Care

Available for you and your pet around the clock with our in-house out-of-hours service.



Full In-house Diagnostics

Fully equipped to handle both routine and complex surgeries.



Members' Club

Lower your pet's routine veterinary costs by joining our members' club.

Professional Care, Personal Service



- ✓ Easy Parking
- ✓ Relationship First
- ✓ Simple Registration
- ✓ Continuity
- ✓ Experienced Team
- ✓ Independently Owned



Call Us: 01295 233555



Email Us: middleton@taylor.vet



Register Online: www.taylor.vet



TAYLOR
VETS



SPRINGing into action

Whether you join us at an event, sign up to be a volunteer or shop with us – your support makes a difference! Without the generosity of our wonderful community, we couldn't keep caring for local people when they need us the most. Thank you!

Remembering a loved one

This month we have launched the return of our popular Rose to Remember event. You can remember a loved one by purchasing a beautiful yellow hand-crafted metal rose as a tribute to the life and memory of someone special. 500 yellow roses will form a stunning temporary installation in the hospice gardens from Tuesday 10 June to Sunday 22 June, but you will need to buy your rose ahead of the display. We have a limited number of roses available, so find out more and order yours here: www.khh.org.uk/rose-remember.

Having a spring clean?

If you're having a clear out and have good quality clothes that need a new home, how about donating them to one of our six charity shops across the area? Rather than throwing out your pre-loved unwanted items, donating to a charity shop is more sustainable and helps raise money for our hospice. Find the details for all our charity shops here: www.khh.org.uk/retail.

Start your day differently

Looking for an unforgettable adventure? Then why not join Katharine House in a trek across the Great Wall of China next year? Taking place on 9-17 October 2026, this trek is exclusively for Katharine House supporters and will take you to a remote section of the Great Wall of China, from Gubeikou to Jinshanling and Simatai. Not only will you trek on the wall itself, but you will also have the opportunity to trek through wild and remote landscapes with distant views of rolling green hills and mountain peaks – with one of the great wonders of the world as the backdrop. Find out more on our website here: <https://www.khh.org.uk/trek-china>

Leaving a lasting legacy

Katharine House Hospice recently joined forces with more than 140 hospices across the UK in a nationwide campaign to encourage people to leave a gift in their will to their local hospice.

The 'This is Hospice Care' TV campaign aimed to challenge the perceptions of hospice care, and we're proud to say our very own Sally from fundraising was on the steering committee. You can see the national TV advert [HERE: www.youtube.com/watch?v=BguWCwJiFiQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BguWCwJiFiQ). Get a tissue ready.

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

Sunday Service Planner for the Astwick Vale Benefice March—April 2025									
	2 nd March Quinquagesima	9 th March 1st Sunday of Lent	16 th March 2nd Sunday of Lent	23 rd March 3rd Sunday of Lent	30 th March Mothering Sunday	6 th April Passion Sunday	13 th April Palm Sunday	20 th April Easter	27 th April St. George
Aynho	11am Communion	10am Morning Worship	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at Evenley	9.15am Communion	10.30am Morning Prayer	11am Communion	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at Hinton-in-the-Hedges	11am Communion	9.15am Communion
Croughton		11am Communion		11am Morning Prayer	11am Morning Prayer			10am Communion	11am Morning Prayer
Evenley	10am Morning Prayer	9.15am Communion		5.30pm Evensong	11am Morning Prayer	10am Morning Prayer		9.15am Communion	5.30pm Evensong
Farthinghoe	9.15am Communion	5.30pm Evening Prayer		9.15am Morning Prayer	9.15am Communion	9.15am Communion		5.58am Dawn Service/ 9.15am Communion	9.15am Morning Prayer
Hinton-in-the-Hedges with Steane	6pm Evensong	11am Morning Prayer		11am Communion	11am Morning Prayer	6pm Evensong Steane Chapel		11am Communion	11am Communion

Holy Week

SERVICES

Monday 14th	9.30am—Communion—Farthinghoe 9pm—Compline—Hinton-in-the-Hedges
Tuesday 15th	9.30am—Communion—Aynho 9pm—Compline—Evenley
Wednesday 16th	9.30am—Communion—Croughton 9pm—Compline—Farthinghoe
Maundy Thursday 17th	7.30pm—Agape Meal—Evenley 9pm—Compline—Aynho
Good Friday 18th	11am—Passion Story—Evenley Village Hall 2pm—Good Friday Liturgy—Hinton-in-the-Hedges 9pm—Compline—Croughton

All Welcome!

