

THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE



Village news, notices and events....

USEFUL CONTACTS

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07900 590808
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Allotments

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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

Rector

Office@astwickvalebenefice.org
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WNC Planning Department

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

The Fox Inn

01295 713965

Chronicle Editor

Lynne Lee
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Editors Welcome

Hello everyone,

I believe It is fitting to begin my editorial with a note on the anniversary of D Day 6th June. Operation Overlord was the codename for the Battle of Normandy launched on 6th June 1944. 160,000 Allied Troops crossed the English Channel to bring about the ending of the War in Europe.

In his letter to the Troops General Eisenhower wrote “The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you.” Although the Normandy Landings were successful there was a great loss of life and many injuries were sustained. Every year in Normandy, many commemorations and celebrations are held on 6th June; and during our time there we made sure that we joined our neighbours in order to pay our respects. Firstly, a ceremony in our home village followed by a moving service in the British War Cemetery in Bayeux. It was an emotional day; but it would be followed by concerts, dancing to Glen Miller music and spending time with Veterans, which was an honour and a great pleasure.

June can be a beautiful month as it heralds in the Summer (we hope!). Roses are in full bloom, pots and baskets filled with flowers adorn our gardens and weather permitting we can relish in Barbecues and Picnics. Midsummer’s Day on June 21st – the longest day – has long, been enjoyed in many ways. The Pagans, or Druids, flock to Stonehenge to celebrate the Summer Solstice at dawn. In pre-Christian times Midsummer’s Day was observed by leaping over bonfires; a tradition still carried on in some parts of the country, especially in Yorkshire. Flaming torches would be carried in Midsummer processions as fire was said to destroy demons; and it was said that Fairies might steal babies and replace them with changelings that resembled old men. St. John’s Wort left to dry on a window ledge was indicated as a protection against evil spirits.

Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream has always held a place in my affections. First published in 1600 it is the most lyrical of Shakespeare’s plays and was most likely designed to grace a wedding. It focuses upon love and marriage and June has remained a popular time for weddings.

Hippolyta, I wooed thee with my sword,
And won thy love doing thee injuries;
But I will wed thee in another key,
With pomp, with triumph and with revelling.
A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Act 1 Scene 1
William Shakespeare.

However you celebrate June (and I don’t advocate rising before dawn to join the Druids or leaping over a bonfire) have a lovely, summery month.

Lynne



In the April edition of the Farthinghoe Chronicle you will find the following item prepared by Dave Weston

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”

Since this mail was written in April the following feedback was received from Nick Henstock.

“Prior to the Parish Council meeting on June 11th Nick Henstock will be sending the Parish Council written details of a revised Weight Limit solution following our request for reconsideration. Having given the Parish Council sufficient opportunity to study this proposal Nick Henstock will then attend the Farthinghoe Parish Council in July for further discussions”

It is also very pleasing to learn that the new WNC Portfolio Holder for Highways, Cllr Richard Butler has also chosen, at an early stage, to attend the Farthinghoe Parish Council meeting in June. Richard is a lifetime resident of Brackley which means that he will have considerably more personal knowledge and experience of the A422 traffic problems than the previous incumbent. Hoping that this brings with it good omens. We will keep you informed.

A422 Drainage Issues:-

These drainage issues have been causing danger and inconvenience for many years. You will all have been aware that, for many months now, drainage investigations have been carried out on numerous occasions. With ensuing traffic chaos, I have to say, caused by severely inadequate “Professional” traffic management it mainly concerns the A422 from Manor Lane to the Limes Farm entry, although not confined to this location. The indications are that the considerable repairs may require complete A422 road closure over a number of weeks,

We will keep you posted.

VILLAGE NOTICES

CHURCH NOTICES

Church Cleaning

Tuesday, June 9th from 8.30am.
Help appreciated.

Coffee Morning

Will take place on Friday, June 13th from 10 – 11am. In the Church Vestry.
Coffee, Cake & Chat plus there will be a Raffle.
Hope to see you there!

Church Fete

Will be held at the Village Hall on Sunday, June 29th from 1pm – 4pm

HOUSE RENTAL

We are still looking for a 2/3 bed property to rent in Farthinghoe or nearby, due to our current property being sold, so if anyone knows of anything suitable coming up to rent please contact us on: melsyh@aol.com

Carmelle Harris & Emma Butt
Main Road Farthinghoe

David Henry William Dashwood

David, the deeply loved husband of Katie and father of Henry and Sophia, passed away on Wednesday, 21st May 2025 at the age of 64.

The funeral will be held at St. Michael & All Angels Church, Farthinghoe,
on
24th June at 2.00pm

VILLAGE HALL

BCMC Concert - 17th MAY

Brackley Chamber Music Group returned with another excellent programme of chamber music for strings consisting of Mendelssohn's Octet, Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Mandolins and Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No.3. All providing a very enjoyable evening, with the profits being donated to Farthinghoe Primary School.

BOOKS & BAKES – FRIDAY 27th JUNE - 3.00 - 4.30

Come along and join us for tea/coffee & cake and lots of catch-up chatter.

FUTURE EVENTS

Village Show – Sunday 14th September

Preparations are now underway for this year's show. We already have a number of stalls lined up to attend and the bar is booked. We are now looking for someone to run the BBQ on the day, so if you would be willing to do that, or would like to be involved in anyway either with the organisation or by taking a stall on the day please get in touch with Marjorie or Lynne.

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 (Hayley)
	Thursday 9.30am – 10.30am (Lisa)

150 CLUB MAY WINNERS

NO INFORMATION SUBMITTED

Rector's Ramblings

I read recently that optimism can be difficult in these 'dark and difficult times'. I must confess that I am not, and never have been, an optimist. Nor a pessimist. Prepare for the worst and hope for something a bit better is more my motto. I was not overly optimistic when I found myself 20 miles from my hotel and luggage with a deflated tyre. I was fortunate to slew into the carpark of a hotel as it happened, but at 9.30pm on a Sunday in the Highlands, I suspected help might be a while in coming. It is at moments like this that I, like many others, may curse fate, fortune, the laws of nature and of sod, and myself.

However, as I reflected that evening, hard as it is, it can be good to remember the little bits of good that can swarm around the headline calamity. To be grateful that in the empty hotel, when the insurance and recovery numbers just lead to messages asking me to call back on Monday, the barman, having said the nearest garage was in Oban and closed, found a willing taxi. Or the other bar occupant, the head chef, who offered to open the kitchen for a free sandwich. To be glad of the chance to speak with the Catholic Taxi driver on life and death, and marriage, and to be grateful for his waving the fare.

Trying to prepare for everything the next day, and wonder how I could get back to the car with my luggage from my remote spot, I went for a walk. I knew I wouldn't sleep. I lent on the parapet outside the hotel, overlooking the loch in the moonlight, and sent up a short and silent prayer for help - even though I felt sure it was not what I should be praying about. Then I saw the railway below the hotel, and the station platform below me. A quick search revealed that this line amazingly ran just two stops further, behind the hotel I had slewed my car into.

I am not an optimist. Life, experience, and heredity have not equipped me to be such. Every silver lining has a cloud. But, as we also see in life, as the Cross itself stands testament; even from the worst, God is capable of bringing good. One does not eclipse the other, but both are equally there. Whether it is the hand that catches us in the stumble, or the one that offers a plaster after we fall, they speak equally of the same presence of love and care.

George Frost

LOCAL EVENTS TO ENJOY IN JUNE

Brackley - Sat 7th June.

Brackley Litter Wombles Community Litter Pick.
10am -12pm Lark Rise Shops

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Brackley - Saturday 7th June

Brackley Jubilee Choir Swan song Summer Concert.
7-30pm St Peter's Church.
The final Concert after 47 years.

Evenley - Saturday 7th June.

Barn Owl Farm Shop from 5pm.
Board Games Night. Bring your own games.
Drinks and snacks available.

Banbury - Saturday 14th June

Banbury Show - 10.00am - 3pm
Entertainment, arena shows, music and much more.

King's Sutton Village Hall – 27th June

Jackie Allen Fashion Show & Sale – 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Tickets £5 in advance or £6 on the door
Obtainable from sueashdown@hotmail.com

Banbury Saturday 28th June.

Armed Forces Day - Spiceball Park - 10-00am - 3pm.
Meet the Regiments - Military Parade - Live entertainment. .
Celebrate Troops past and present.

Sulgrave Manor - Sunday 29th June.

Robin Hood performed by The Pantaloons - 5pm.
Live music and audience participation.
Book online.



Upcoming Open Gardens

Have you taken a look at our Open Garden itinerary for this year? Once again, we have some incredible supporters opening their gardens and offering people the chance to pay a visit and enjoy the stunning outdoor spaces, all while raising money for our hospice. Make sure you get the dates in your diary now and check the website for full details of each event.

www.khh.org.uk/gardens

The Accumulator Challenge is back

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 2025 and February 2026. Hurry – sign up before Friday 25 July to boost your start-up fund by £25! - www.khh.org.uk/accumulator

Waterfall in love with a new challenge

We're very excited about this brand-new event for 2025. Take the plunge and walk the waterfalls for Katharine House Hospice on 13 September. Our epic Waterfall Challenge will take you through the heart of the Swaledale Valley – and you'll face the freeze in not just one, not two, but three breathtaking waterfalls along this walk. You'll be part of a small and exclusive Katharine House Hospice group and led by an experienced guide throughout the challenge. Find out more and sign up here www.khh.org.uk/waterfall

Have your say on our care

We're looking for people who are interested in contributing to research, education and service improvement. Can you help? Whether you're a patient, carer, family member, existing supporter or member of the public – your voice is crucial in helping us to improve palliative care locally and beyond. As part of our Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) group, you'll help to shape the future of our care and make a meaningful impact! If you'd like to get involved in the PPIE group, you can contact the team by emailing pallcarePPIE@ouh.nhs.uk or find out more here: www.khh.org.uk/ppie.

Bake a difference

Everyone loves a cuppa and a slice of cake, right? Well, our Care for a Cuppa campaign, which runs all year round, is the perfect excuse to do just that while raising funds for Katharine House. Could you host a coffee morning, cake sale or bake-off event and help us raise some dough for our hospice? We also have lots of resources to help sweeten the deal. Find out more here: www.khh.org.uk/cuppa.

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 Benefice June 2025					
	1 st June 6 th of Easter	8 th June Pentecost	15 th June Trinity Sunday	22 nd June 1 st after Trinity	29 th June 2 nd after Trinity
Aynho	11am Communion	10am Morning Worship	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at Aynho		10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at Evenley
Croughton	9.15am Morning Prayer	11am Communion		11am Morning Prayer	
Evenley	11am Morning Prayer	9.15am Communion		4.00pm Pet Blessing	
Farthinghoe	9.15am Communion	5.30pm Evening Prayer		9.15am Morning Prayer	
Hinton-in-the-Hedges with Steane	6pm Evensong Steane Chapel	11am Morning Prayer		11am Communion	

Sunday Service Planner for the Astwick Benefice July 2025				
	6 th July 3 rd after Trinity	13 th July Sea Sunday	20 th July 5 th after Trinity	27 th July 6 th after Trinity
Aynho	11am Pet Blessing	10am Morning Worship	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at Farthinghoe	9.15am Communion
Croughton	9.15am Morning Prayer	11am Communion		11am Morning Prayer
Evenley	11am Morning Prayer	9.15am Communion		5.30pm Evensong
Farthinghoe	9.15am Communion	5.30pm Evening Prayer		9.15am Morning Prayer
Hinton-in-the- Hedges with Steane	6pm Evensong Steane Chapel	11am Morning Prayer		11am Communion