

THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE



Village news, notices and events....

USEFUL CONTACTS

West Northants Councillor

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Chairman to the Parish Council

Mick Morris
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Website

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Village Hall Bookings

Marjorie Morris
07900 590808
bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org

Allotments

Ruth Brittain
07951 755171
Henry Bankes-Jones
01295 710491

Primary School Head Teacher

Mr Ricky Emms
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
Phone - Benefice Administrator
- 01280 702861

WNC Planning Department

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

The Fox Inn

01295 713965

Chronicle Editor

Lynne Lee
chronicle@farthinghoeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Editors Welcome

Hello everyone. I hope that you've been enjoying what is said to be our hottest summer on record. However; now there can be no doubt that we are all praying for rain, for the Farmers, for our gardens and allotments and to give ourselves, and our animals, some time to cool down.

September is a time of fresh starts and new beginnings whether by starting a new school or class, or by taking up a new interest as the Summer draws to a close, and the Autumn approaches. Additionally, the month has given rise to many traditions; the most well known of which is the Harvest Festival. Early Harvest Festivals were known as Lammas (Loaf Mass) and were celebrated on August 1st. Farmers would make bread from their fresh wheat crop, and it would be given to the local church as communion bread to be used during a special service of thanksgiving for the harvest. Harvest celebrations changed over the centuries and in 1600 Thomas Nashe is reputed to have written the verses:

'Hooky hooky we have shorn
And we have bound,
And we have brought Harvest Town home'.

We cannot be altogether certain whether or not Nashe wrote the song but it was sung over many decades at harvest suppers.

By the 19th century the Harvest Festival was formalised to become more like the celebrations with which we continue today. Here in Farthinghoe; we hold the Harvest Service, and donate produce and other foodstuffs to allow local charities to benefit, as do many other towns and villages. It is a time of abundance and kind generosity. Some villages still hold Harvest Suppers; but in general it is the accepted thing to help those in need at this time.

As well as the Harvest there are other ancient traditions that are associated with September. September 29th is Michaelmas Day. St. Michael was depicted as a young man dressed in white robes or in armour. He was granted a feast day by Pope Gelasius in AD487 and on later dates several apparitions were reported - one in the 8th century at Mont St. Michel in Normandy, and one some time later at St Michael's Mount in Cornwall.

The annual Braemar Gathering still takes place in Braemar, Grampian, as it has done for 188 years. Large crowds attend to proclaim their Monarch as Chieftain of the Braemar Gathering. In Abbot's Bromley in Staffordshire the Horn Dance is performed on the first Monday after September 4th. The dancers collect their horns from the church - 6 Deer Men, a Fool, a Hobby Horse, a Bowman, and Maid Marion. They then dance to medieval music around local villages, returning later to their village green having walked and danced for about 10 miles. Not for the faint- hearted!

Of course, our Village Show will take place this month. Let's hope that the weather will be kind and that we can all enjoy the various stalls, fun and activities that will be available. To me; following the Village Show, life begins to quieten a little, and I look forward to the coming of Autumn, my favourite season. A period when I can revel in the glories of the countryside and take even more pleasure in the changes and the beauty that nature extends to us.

Enjoy your September

Lynne



As many of you will be aware for many years now, during winter months in particular, we have had a dangerous problem of water cascading out of Baker Street and joining the water already cascading down the Main Road towards the Limes Farm entrance.

An attempt 5 years ago by Kier to solve this problem was an unmitigated disaster in that it did not address the drainage situation, but actually added to it by causing the road surface to continually break up allowing HGVs to make contact with the sub surface drain pipe which should have had the protection of that road surface.

Finally, after 3 years we have received the following news from WNC Highways:

“With regards to the temporary drainage repairs, a design is progressing to install a carrier pipe down the centre of the carriageway which will be away from the channel where the concrete is situated. We will then look to install approximately two catch pits and four gullies from this new line and remove the existing drainage pipe that has been installed on top of the concrete in the channel. We have asked Cadent for a site meeting to look at, and agree, working methods to safely remove enough concrete to install the new gullies and connections.

The design is due to be completed in early September and the programme of works is estimated to last two weeks, however a 24/7 closure will be required for the duration of works due to the lack of working space.”

Fingers crossed!!

Regards

Mick Morris

VILLAGE NOTICES

CHURCH NOTICES

Coffee Morning

On Friday, September 12th from 10 – 11am in the Church Vestry.

Coffee, Cake & Chat

There will be a Raffle. Hope to see you there!

Harvest Festival

On Sunday, September 14th at 5.30pm.

We would welcome donations of flowers, fruit and vegetables, and help in arranging them.

We would also like donations for Brackley Food bank of tinned or dry foods. These can be left in the Church Vestry at any time! Or brought to the Coffee Morning.

Church Cleaning

Will take place on Tuesday, September 16th from 8.30am

WANTED - PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

We are looking to recruit an Administrator for the Astwick Vale Benefice working 3 hours a week at a rate of £15 per hour.

The role of Administrator works to ensure to smooth and ordered running of the Benefice Office, assists with and undertakes office administration, and is part of planning for the parishes. The Administrator is to support the Rector in his duties, and the work of the five parishes, by providing office support. Familiarity with computers, organisational skills, and the ability to work well with staff and volunteers as part of a team or under your own direction are essential.

Interviews will be held on the 27th August. For the full job description, to apply, or for all enquiries, please contact the Rev. G. Frost: rev@gfrost.name

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Will be held on Wednesday, September 24th from 10 – 11am in the Village Hall.

There will be a Bring & Buy, and also a Raffle.

Please support this Charity!

MARGARET MARY ROGERS

Margaret beloved wife to Paul and mother of David and Christopher,
passed away on Thursday, 21st August 2025 aged 76.

The funeral will be held at St Martin's Church, Brackley,
on

Friday 5th September 2025 at 3pm

ALLOTMENTS 2025 RENT COLLECTION

Rentals for the Church Piece allotments become due on Monday September 1st. Rentals remain at £12 per plot, which is extremely good value for something which provides year-round physical and mental well-being. Rentals will be collected in person by the trustees, Henry Bankes-Jones and Ruth Brittain, at 7pm in the Church. If plot holders prefer to pay online, the bank details are as follows:

Account name: FARTHINGHOE RECTOR CHURCHWARDENS TST CHURCH PIECE

Sort code: 40-09-02

Account Number: 41727885

Reference: Plot holder's name

There are several vacant plots available. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Ruth or Henry. Contact details can be found on the inside cover of the Farthinghoe Chronicle.

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

VILLAGE HALL

BOOKS & BAKES – FRIDAY 26th September - 3.00 - 4.30

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

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
Mother & Baby -	Monday 9.00am – 10.30am
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 - Subscriptions

Thanks to all of you who have renewed or signed up for this year. There are still some of you who have not yet paid, so don't delay! And we still have numbers for anyone wanting to join for the first time!

If you are unsure whether you are in the draw, then do contact any of the committee who can check for you or email treasurer@farthinghoevillagehall.

150 CLUB JULY WINNERS			
1 st Prize -	£25 -	No. 22 -	Rosemary Jarvis
2 nd Prize -	£15 -	No. 111 -	Andrew Dealey
3 rd Prize -	£10 -	No. 72 -	Wai Hovland

**Farthinghoe Village Hall AGM
held on 20th August 2025
at 7.30pm**

Attendees : Marjorie Morris - Chairman
Lisa Wenmouth - Treasurer
Sowjana Vallore

Apologies for Absence : Lynne Lee

Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes were approved and signed

Chairman's Report

The Solar panels fitted to one side of the roof are now successfully generating sufficient electricity for the hall's needs, which is enabling us to provide a much more comfortable temperature in the hall.

The new storage container was delivered in April to replace the two sheds taken down during the Christmas break, which will provide a much safer facility for the marquees. Also, new curtain rails were installed and panelling in the kitchen finished ready for decorating.

Various events were organised during the year including the Village Show at the end of September, which despite the weather went well and we were able to donate over £380.86 to Guide Dogs for the Blind. The Panto in December was very popular with 60 attendees and enjoyed by the adults and children alike. 80+ tickets were sold for Swing From Paris at the end of March, which was an outstanding evening, and Brackley Chamber Music Society returned to the hall for a concert in May. Along with all that we also fitted in another Jackie Allen Fashion Show.

We lost two regular hirers this year and a couple of other hirers reduced their time. However, we have gained two new hirers taking classes on Monday and Thursday mornings. One-off hire remains strong, both from the village and outside, mainly children's parties, but we have had two anniversary celebrations. There have been two weddings this year and another one booked for September. We also have two booked for next year.

Treasurers Report

This year we have completed the solar panels project which was the final part of the large upgrade of the hall over the last eight years.

The solar panels are generating approximately 92% of our electricity, the main usage from the grid is first thing in the morning, and our costs are now under £20 per month. We have just received our first SEG payment – which is the amount for the electricity we have sold back to the grid – for 3 months - £195. I am looking to move to another SEG supplier who will pay more per unit. So far this has been based on spring and summer generation, but based on this, we will certainly be very close to break-even/slightly profitable.

We received two grants for the solar panels, covering the cost in full. We were also able to use a grant for the purchase of the new storage unit. This coming year we plan to redecorate the hall entirely and are currently receiving quotes for the work.

Based on the good state of our finances and the projections going forward, I do not propose any increase to our hire costs and I think that we should consider our original aim for villagers to be able to use the hall without charge. Currently they pay £5 per hour.

The 150 club continues to contribute to the Village Hall Funds, but we need to decide whether the effort of this is worth the income we receive.

Regular hirers have used the hall for 707 hours in the year, alongside one off hires from both village and non-village people. The hall has also been used for weddings.

Going Forward

We are planning a new noticeboard on the outside wall which will combine the Farthinghoe Village Hall sign and enable notices to be displayed advertising events.

We have two quotes for the re-decoration of the hall and will be making a decision on next week. As we will probably have to close the hall for a period of 1-2 weeks for the work to be carried out, it may have to wait until after Christmas.

We are also looking into providing a second defibrillator for the village to be housed on the outside wall of the hall and all profits from the Village Show this year will be put towards that. We are also in discussions with The Panto Company to put on another show before Christmas.

General

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who keep everything running smoothly, specifically Rachael who manages to keep it clean and tidy, Keith for keeping the lawn and hedges well trimmed, and Jenny Phipps for giving her time to keep the garden tidy.

Committee

The present Committee were re-elected, along with two attendees who expressed an interest in joining, so the new Committee will be follows:

Marjorie Morris - Chairman
Lisa Wenmouth - Treasurer
Lynne Lee
Ryan Jones
Sowjana Vallore
Becky Wright
Wendy Hancock

VILLAGE SHOW SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER

Arrangements are now going well for the Show (See poster following). We have had a great deal of interest from people wishing to take stalls, so along with the usual attractions below it should be a great day - come and enjoy it all.

- Cash Bar
- BBQ & Soft Drinks
- Cream Teas
- Aunt Sally
- Raffle
- Bouncy Castle

If you wish to enter in the produce competition in any of the following categories please bring your entries to the hall by 11.30am so that they can be put on display

Produce Competition - 50p per entry

Vegetables - Beans, Courgettes, Tomatoes, Onion, Potatoes, Carrots, etc.

Chutneys & Jams - whatever you like

Cakes - Victoria Sponge, Fruit Cake, Scones - all to your own recipe

Flower Arrangements - Fresh or Dried

Also, if you would like to be involved in any way, either helping to set up on the day, by running a stall, or judging the Produce, please get in touch either by email or phone

marjoriemorris@hotmail.co.uk

Phone - 07900 59080



FARTHINGHOE VILLAGE SHOW

SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

12 NOON - 4.00PM

Produce Competitions

Bouncy Castle

Aunt Sally

Children's Games

Raffle

Name the Teddy

Cash Bar

BBQ + Soft Drinks

Afternoon Teas

Plus

Stalls Selling a Variety of Goods

All profits this year will go towards providing a second defibrillator for the village
to be sited at the Village Hall.



Rector's Ramblings

During my leave in August I had a terrible haircut. I have seen shorn sheep with a better hairdo. Like any ewe under the clippers, I wanted to run, and feared that I might lose an ear in the struggle. I did get a cut on the neck, and was only a little surprised not to get a squirt of blue spray afterwards. I suspect that whilst I wanted a haircut, he wanted to try his hand at trepanning, and we met somewhere in the middle to the satisfaction of neither.

However, I did take this useful opportunity to think on the sin of Vanity. We are not discouraged by our faith from doing well, looking good, or having a talent. However, Vanity is none of those things, it is when we distort our view of ourselves, or put things out of proportion. There is nothing wrong with a good haircut, but a bad one doesn't take anything away from me really.

Part of living a life of faith is our seeking to know God more fully, and part of this requires us to truly know ourselves and the world around us. What really matters, what it/we really are. Don't deny an ability that exists, and don't allow our minds to construct a view of ourselves that is so focused around something that is just an aspect of part of us. Vanity has become a glib catch all term, but it is when we skew our understanding so that our whole value is held in our ability or appearance, and then in turn where that value only exists if we believe it is recognised by other people.

The Christian faith teaches us that each person has an inestimable value inherent in them. All built equally in the image of God, and all redeemed by Christ. With this value comes a responsibility. If we can't see ourselves and our world clearly, we will never achieve anything, and we will fear losing what we already have when we cannot see it reflected back to us in others. Hair will grow (or not) but we remain children of God, imperfect mirrors of our creator. You are loved more than you know, and worth more than you may realise. We all are.

George Frost



PLANNING ON
HAVING A CLEAR
OUT?
JOIN IN WITH THE
FARTHINGHOE
GARAGE SALE
SUNDAY 28TH
SEPTEMBER 1-4PM

In aid of St Michael's Church, Farthinghoe.

Parking and maps of houses taking part
in the village available from Farthinghoe
Village Hall.

Teas from 2pm at the village hall by church
committee.

Please contact Becky by 12th September if
you want to hold a sale (£5/garage)
beckygregorywright@hotmail.co.uk



LOCAL EVENTS TO ENJOY IN SEPTEMBER

Brackley - Tuesday September 2nd.

Esquire's Coffee Shop, Poppyfields Way

Card Making Session. 9-30am-1030am.

Jemini Crafts. £8 to include refreshments, tuition and supplies for 2 cards.

Sulgrave Manor - Saturday September 6th.

'Wolf at the Door' (Anne Boleyn) - 7-30pm

A Musical tale of love and Tudor Tragedy.

Book online

Brackley - Friday September 12th.

Egerton Hall

Brackley Bite Club. Pop up Street Food.

5pm -9pm

Sulgrave Manor - Monday/Tuesday - September 29th - 30th

10-30am - 4pm - Autumn Fest

A celebration of all things Autumnal for all of the family.

Brackley Saturday September 30th.

Pete's Place

Country Karaoke - Country Music & Dancing - 8-30pm.

BYGONE DAYS

Farthinghoe has changed in many ways over decades and centuries; and in an increasingly uncertain world it is interesting to look at how the village lived through some of the difficult times of the 20th century.

Preceding events to the First World War were recorded by the school; telling us that in September 1913 several thousand soldiers passed by the school from 7am to 9am. The children were allowed to watch the march past. In December 1914 following the outbreak of war it seems that the pupils displayed a keen interest in the German raid on Scarborough. When a Zeppelin arrived to drop bombs on Charwelton the children were allowed out to see it as it passed over the school. In May 1916 a revised timetable was instituted due to the new summer-time regulations. Plus, the Food Economy Campaign was introduced with an official circular requesting that schools should stress the need for food economy during lessons. December brought news of the fall of Jerusalem to General Allenby and the following year brought news of the Austrian capitulation with the Kaiser's abdication on November 10th. One can imagine the cheers of the children when given the good news. They had helped the war effort by picking blackberries to make jam for the soldiers, and the following day they were told that an Armistice had been signed by the Germans and that the war was over. A half day holiday was granted. Finally on July 19th 1919 Peace Day was celebrated and the children were provided with a Tea, though no sports could be enjoyed as torrential rain put paid to any outdoor activities.

The Second World War had more impact upon the school. On September 11th 1939 the school opened after the summer holidays to find that the main classroom was occupied by a Mr. Robinson and twenty-six evacuees. In 1941 a Mrs. Black came to speak about War Weapons Week, and the children were set to designing a poster for it, all vying to draw the best one. 'Digging for Victory' was taken very seriously, though we are told that at least on one occasion a potato fight took place. (The world may change but children don't). The Chairman of the Parish Council was involved in the fracas – how shocking - and recorded how the driver of an open truck in a passing Army convoy was hit by a flying potato. An MP despatch rider rode through the school gates to investigate, but the culprit was never discovered. The children gathered nettles 'to help the war effort' (for nettle tea or to sting the enemy to death, one wonders?) and many pupils joined the Junior Red Cross. The aerodrome at Hinton was the scene of many crashes and the children were quick to rummage among the debris for 'treasures' or heaven forbid - live ammunition; which brought about the stern attention of the local police. Gas mask drill was fun; they amused themselves by making rasping noises as they breathed heavily. V.E Day was celebrated in May 1945 and we are informed that there were still six evacuees here alongside twenty-one local children.

As a 'baby boomer' born just after World War Two, I can remember the hardships of continued rationing; and have memories of playing on bomb sites in the city where I grew up. Much to the anger of my parents! Children will always find ways to lighten hard times and to make us smile through them. It is clear that the people and the children of Farthinghoe exhibited humour and good old British stoicism during those long-ago dark days and stood together, and it is heartening to see how the sense of community from back then still continues.

Editor

Request from snvb volunteer centre in Towcester



**SUPER HEROES
WANTED**

**FOR VOLUNTEER DRIVING
IN AND AROUND FARTHINGHOE**

**DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO A CAR, SOME
SPARE TIME AND WANT TO HELP PEOPLE
GET AROUND IN YOUR LOCAL AREA?**

**CALL US NOW ON
01280 841099**

BUCKET VOLUNTEER
CAR SERVICE

I'm writing to ask for your support with our volunteer car service, which provides vital transport for community members who need help getting to their medical appointments. We are already assisting several residents in Farthinghoe, and with more requests coming in, we urgently need additional volunteer drivers from your area.

This role is completely flexible — you choose when you're available, and there's never any obligation to take on a journey. Every offer of time, no matter how small, makes a real difference. Passengers contribute to expenses at 45p per mile, so volunteers are never out of pocket.

By spreading the word within your community, or even considering volunteering yourself, you can help ensure that local residents continue to receive the support they rely on.

Thank you so much for helping us strengthen your community through this service.

Warm regards,

Rachel
Tel: 01327 358264
Fax: 01327 358428
www.snvb.org.uk

**Challenge accepted!?**

Are you part of a local business, community group, college or school? Do you have what it takes to beat the rest and become the ultimate accumulator? Katharine House will give you an initial £50 investment and task you with raising as much as you can between October 2025 and February 2026. Visit www.khh.org.uk/accumulator to find out more.

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.

Help us celebrate a community united since 1985

In July, we launched our hospice history campaign, inviting people to share their memories of Katharine House Hospice over the years. Our founder, Neil Gadsby, set up the official Katharine House charity in 1985 after his daughter, Katharine, sadly died of cancer at the age of 20 years. Your local hospice was named in her memory and opened its doors in 1991. Thanks to Neil's determination and the incredible support of local people, the hospice opened its doors in 1991. We're celebrating how he rallied the community to raise the funds needed to build the hospice — and how that support has continued ever since. Go to www.khh.org.uk/khh-memories to find out more and read shared memories.

Wanted! Volunteers to help us run our Christmas events smoothly

It's never too early to prepare for Christmas! And we at the hospice are no exception. The run up to Christmas is a hectic time for the fundraising team, with a frenzy of festive events taking place to help raise vital funds to support the incredible work of our hospice. We are only a small team and can't do this without you. Can you please spare some time and help us coordinate some of our fabulous events and be a special Santa's Helper? Find out more from early September at: www.khh.org.uk/santas-helpers.

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 September – October 2025								
	7 th September 12 th after Trinity	14 th September <i>Holy Cross</i>	21 st September 14 th after Trinity	28 th September <i>Michaelmas</i>	5 th October 16 th after Trinity	12 th October 17 th after Trinity	19 th October 18 th after Trinity	26 th October <i>Bible Sunday</i>
Aynho	11am Communion & Baptism	10am Morning Worship	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at Croughton					
Croughton	9.15am Morning Prayer	11am Communion						
Evenley	11am Morning Prayer	9.15am Communion	5.30pm Evensong	11am Morning Prayer	11am Morning Prayer	9.15am Communion	10.30am Benefice Communion	5.30pm Evensong
Farthinghoe	9.15am Communion	5.30pm HARVEST	Evenley					
Hinton-in-the-Hedges with Steane	6pm Evensong Steane Chapel	11am Morning Prayer						