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THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE



Village news, notices and events….

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The Fox Inn

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EDITOR'S WELCOME

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun,
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit that round the thatch-eves run;
To bend with apples the mossed cottage trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core.
To Autumn: John Keats: September 1819.

Hello everyone,
As we enter September, we begin to ease ourselves into Autumn. It is, and has always been my favourite season. Nature is slowing down and preparing for Winter, but it is a time of abundance and unrivalled beauty. I love to walk the fields and woodlands, to gaze upon the glorious colours as the trees change from green to gold and amber. Time to gather in Apples and Blackberries to conserve or to add to pies and crumbles, and time to occupy ourselves with the gradual 'closing down' of our gardens as we cut back blooms and replace the summer flowers in our tubs and baskets for Winter Pansies and Cyclamen.

There are many traditions associated with the month; the most well-known being the Harvest Festival. Once known as Lammas (Loaf Mass) it was originally celebrated on August 1st. Farmers would make bread from their fresh wheat crop; which would be given to the local church as communion bread to be used in a special service of thanksgiving for the harvest. By the nineteenth century the Harvest Festival was formalised to become more like the celebrations with which we continue today. In Farthinghoe we hold the Harvest Service and donate produce and other foodstuffs to local charities, as do many other towns and villages.

September 29th is Michaelmas Day. In ancient times St Michael was depicted as a young man dressed in white robes or armour. He was granted a feast day by Pope Gelasius in AD 487; and on later dates apparitions were reported to have been seen – one in the eighth century at Mont St. Michel in Normandy, and one sometime later on St. Michael's Mount in Cornwall.

September can be a lovely month when the weather is kind; and brings to mind walks when my children were small, picking Acorns and Conkers for the school nature table and watching them joyfully kicking up the leaves that had begun to fall. Sadly, it seems that playing Conkers is no longer acceptable but I enjoyed it and so did my children. (Did anybody ever die from a Conker smack??) New beginnings abound in September; a new school or college, a new interest or hobby. We are fortunate to have many local clubs, associations and places of education where all manner of things with which to occupy ourselves with can be found. And who (if you're as old as I am!) can forget the thrill of a new pencil case to take to school, filled with pencils and (wax) crayons, when we were small, plus a new wooden pen with a steel nib to dip into the inkwell and a sheet of blotting paper to mop up the messy mistakes.

I hope that September will provide you with a pleasurable and productive month; whether by enjoying the gradual changes in the countryside, planting up Spring bulbs or by taking up a new interest.

Lynne.

END OF ROAD CLOSURE

We understand that all the work is now on track to be completed within the promised program and that the Tarmac teams have been organised to resurface the road during next weekend

Mick Morris
mick@farthinghoeparishcouncil.gov.uk

VILLAGE NOTICES

CHURCH NOTICES.

Church Cleaning
Will take place on Tuesday, September 8th from 8.30am.
Many Hands make light work!

Coffee, Cake & Chat
On Friday, September 11th from 10 – 11am in the Church Vestry.
There will be a Raffle and the Team would like to thank everybody who turned up on the very hot Fridays!

Harvest Festival
This will take place on Sunday, September 27th, at 6pm. Gifts of fruit, vegetables and flowers will be most welcome! Also help in arranging them would be very helpful! We will again be collecting items of dried or tinned foods to be given to Brackley Food Bank. These can be left at the Church at any time.

Farthinghoe Church Piece Allotments - 2026 Rent Collection

Rentals for the Church Piece allotments become due on the first Monday in September, which this year will be **Monday 7th September**. Rentals remain at £12 per plot, which is extremely good value for something which provides year-round physical and mental well-being.

Rental payments for those allotments adjacent to Queens Street opposite the Church Piece cottages on which chickens are permitted should be paid separately to the Farthinghoe Lodge Farm account, details for which should already have been provided to those specific plot holders. The funds will then kindly be transferred to the Church Account.

Rentals for those allotments located between the main road and Charlton Way will be collected in person by the trustees, Henry Bankes-Jones and Ruth Brittain, at 7pm in the Church. Alternatively, if plot holders would like to pay online, the bank details for online payments 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 a few vacant plots available. New plot holders will be very welcome. 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.

CAST & CREW WANTED: ALL SAINTS' CROUGHTON CHRISTMAS PLAY!

Looking for a fun local project to get into the festive spirit this autumn? We are staging a special production of the Nativity at All Saints' Church in Croughton, and we're recruiting our cast and crew! Whether you are a seasoned performer or haven't trod the boards since primary school, we have a place for you.

We have roles big and small, comic and dramatic. If you've ever fancied yourself as a wise king, a tyrannical ruler, a dry-witted shepherd, a member of the Holy Family, or simply want to relive your glory days as Innkeeper #2, we'd love to welcome you.

We're looking for:
· On-stage roles: Mary & Joseph, Kings, shepherds, angels, Herod, and classic ensemble parts (big and small!).
· Backstage & Creative crew: Costumes, sewing, props, and tech support.

Why join?
· Only ONE rehearsal a week, or fewer, throughout October & November.
· Script-in-hand options available—no late-night line learning required!
· A warm, friendly group (and plenty of tea and biscuits).

Show Dates: 11th & 12th December
Location: All Saints' Church, Croughton

Join us for fun, friendship, and a wonderful shared project to start the festive season. To take part, ask questions, or request a copy of the script, contact rev@gfrost.name / 01869 810 903

Take the Next Step in Your Faith Journey: Confirmation in 2027

Have you been baptised and feel ready to affirm your faith for yourself? Or perhaps you are exploring faith and curious about making a personal commitment?

We are delighted to share that our Benefice will be hosting a Confirmation service next year!

Contact: The Reverend George Frost
Email: rev@gfrost.name
Phone: 01869 810 903





FARTHINGHOE GARAGE SALE

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

1-4 PM

In aid of St Michael's Church, Farthinghoe.

Tea's courtesy of the Church committee

Parking at the village hall. Maps of houses taking part in the village available from the Village Hall, Cockley Road.

Contact Becky by 12th September if you want to hold a sale outside your house or at the village hall

beckygregorywright@hotmail.co.uk



VILLAGE HALL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM will be held on **Wednesday, 16th September at 7.00pm** in the Village Hall.
All are welcome to come along and hear what plans we have in place for the coming year.

BOOKS & BAKES – FRIDAY 25th SEPTEMBER - 3.00 - 4.30

Come and join our ever-growing group for tea/coffee & cake, lots of catch-up gossip and enjoy the books in our Library. We will also be holding the 150 Club draw during the afternoon.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING - Thursday, 1st October from 10am – 11am

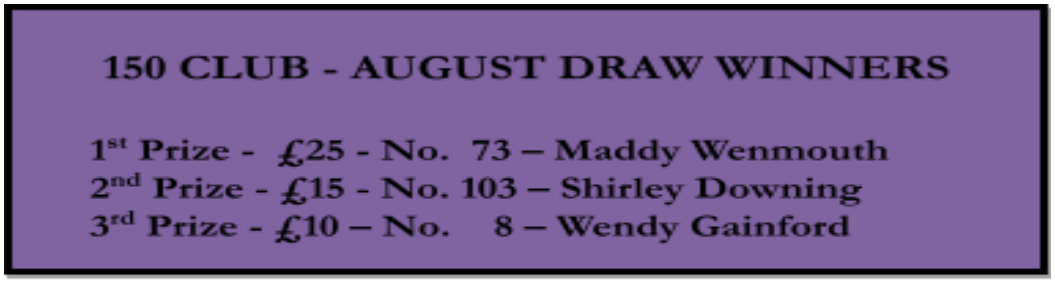
We are pleased to be able to host this event being organised by Rosemary Jarvis who has spent many years raising funds for this very worthy charity.

REGULAR CLASSES:

Baby Massage	Wednesday 10am - 11am
Ballet -	Monday 5.30pm - 6.30pm & 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 CHILDRENS CLASSES STARTING IN OCTOBER

Jemma and Rosie are moving their very successful children's classes from Middleton Social Club to Farthinghoe Village Hall from the beginning of October. These will take place on Monday and Thursday mornings and further information will be in the October Chronicle



Rectors Ramblings

‘Do unto others as you would have them do to you’ is a phrase, like ‘Judge not lest ye be judged’ or ‘pray for your enemies’, that most of us first heard in primary school. They are the large and sweeping statements that ranks of teachers spend the first few years of our education trying to drill into us. Before, of course, we progress and attempt to make our way in the wide world, where things are not as simple, and we put away childish things.

It can be hard to both see the evil that can lie within us and the good. Harder still to see it in all others. The Puritans of old have been much discredited largely because of their lack of fun -Oliver Cromwell was never nicknamed Mr. Chuckles- whilst their error truly lies in good intentions gone wrong. The Puritanical desire is to live a good Christian life. How do we know if we are good? We cannot trust our own view, we are biased, so we look not only to intention and belief but to what sort of life we lead. A good person will do the right thing and will be in the company of good people.

However, we are none of us wholly good or wholly bad. The Christian faith embraces us even in our imperfection without endorsing our faults. Puritanism ironically demands perfection or oblivion. On paper there seems no contest in these views, but black and white is a simple and reassuring creed, as is the alternative that insists there are only murky shades of grey. How then are Christians to understand themselves or others?

Around us -locally and globally- we see how we treat with other people. For all that anger and violence are decried as new vices, I think they are far from original sins, and have been with us a long time. It was once said that people said online, with anonymity, the things they would never say in person. I am not sure this is still the case, if it ever was. If we are beset with old vices and new expressions, what is the way forward?

It is hard to forgive. If we are wronged we want redress, justice, to be more than a victim conquered. When we are asked to measure ourselves by the standard of the good Christian life, it is hard not to measure others. I am afraid that I have no cure all today. These things are hard, and they remain hard. Perhaps this is why we seek to instruct people with the passages we began with from the earliest age. Not because they are the simple things of children, which we believe we have grown beyond, and which have become trite through repetition, but because in their uncompromising simplicity they offer us the greatest challenge. A challenge that takes years, a lifetime or more, to begin to surmount. We must remember that all humanity is bound up with us in the salvation offered by God to his creation. With that, however, we are not obscured from the sight and knowledge of God, not lost in the crowd; but neither can we hide there. We are responsible for our actions, and they matter. We are forgiven, we must try to forgive others.

George Frost

LOCAL EVENTS DURING SEPTEMBER

Chatty Cafes in Brackley.
Every Monday 2pm -4pm Esquires Cafe, Juno Crescent.
Every Tuesday 3pm -5pm The Crown Hotel, Market Place.
Every Thursday 6-30pm onwards Paisley Pear, Northampton Rd.

Veterans Breakfast Club - Paisley Pear - From 9-30am
First Saturday of the month. Breakfast, banter and friendship
Open to all veterans and serving personnel.
Brackley.chair@rbl.community for further information

'Fifty Years of Archaeology in Northamptonshire' - Andy Chapman
Wednesday September 2nd: Brackley Methodist Church. 7-30pm
Members Free - Visitors £3 - Karen Gees -: 01280 702837

The Beatles Years and Beyond
Saturday September 5th: -The Mill - Banbury - 7-30pm
Tickets online.

Brackley Bite Club: Music and Street Food.
Friday September 11th Egerton Hall; Brackley from 5pm

Brain Magic Live - Lock 29 - Banbury
Friday Sept 11th - 7.30pm
Tickets online

The Rolling Clones
Friday September 11th -: The Mill Banbury: 7-30pm
Tickets online.

Heritage Open Day.
Saturday September 12th - Upton house and Gardens. 10.00 am
Payment on entry.

Evenly Gardening Society Talk
Tuesday September 15th 8pm – Evenley Village Hall.
'Lawrence Johnston - Hidcote and Serre de Madone' - Anna Steven
Members £3 -: Visitors £4

A Lumos Candlelight Experience
Saturday September 19th - 6pm - St Mary's Church Banbury
Info. online

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LONE WOLF
Early Bird
£16
COMEDY
CLUB
FARTHINGHOE
Saturday 10th October
Follow us on
Carey Marx
"International Multi-Award Winner"
Andrew Bird
"Comic's Comic Winner"
Jake Lambert
"Michael MacIntyre Tour Support"
DOOR 7pm SHOW 8pm
TICKETS £20
www.lonewolfcomedy.co.uk
Cockley Rd Farthinghoe Brackley NN13 5PD
Line Up Subject To Change

Sunday Service Planner for the Astwick Vale Benefice September-October 2026								
	6th September 14th after Trinity	13th September 15th after Trinity	20th September St Matthew the Apostle	27th September Michaelmas	4th October 18th after Trinity	11th October 19th after Trinity	18th October St. Luke the Evangelist	25th October Last Sunday after Trinity
Aynho	11am Communion	10am Morning Worship	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at **Farthinghoe**	10.30am Communion	11am **HARVEST**	10am Morning Worship	10.30am Benefice Communion All villages invited to join together at **Hinton-in-the-Hedges**	9.15am Communion
Croughton	3.00pm **Songs of Praise**				9.15am Morning Prayer	11am **HARVEST**		11am Morning Prayer
Evenley	11am Morning Prayer	9.15am Communion			11am **HARVEST**	9.15am Communion		5.30pm Evensong
Farthinghoe	9.15am Communion	5.30pm Evening Prayer	5.30pm Evensong at **Croughton**	6.00pm Evensong/ **HARVEST**	9.15am Communion	5.30pm Evening Prayer	5.30pm Evensong at **Croughton**	9.15am Morning Prayer
Hinton-in-the-Hedges with Steane	6pm Evensong **Steane Chapel**	11am Morning Prayer			4pm **HARVEST**	11am Morning Prayer		11am Communion