

The Farthinghoe Chronicle

Issue 719

January 2015

Have you seen the new-look Farthinghoe Parish Council website? Go to www.farthinghoeparishcouncil.org and let us have your comments by emailing chairman@farthinghoeparishcouncil.org or tell me your thoughts if you see me in the village. The website is now managed by the Chairman, Ross van Geest and myself, and we have plans to fill it with information and turn it into a far more useful tool for the village. This is just one step towards addressing one of the main priorities on the Parish Council strategy; to improve communication and provide greater transparency of the council's activities.



Ross and I attended the village hall committee meeting in December. We are lucky to have such a great facility within the village. It has a large number of regular bookings but there is a need to increase the number of events held, so that it again becomes an integral part of the village. The money generated by these events goes towards the upkeep, so if we want to ensure it's there for the future, we need your support. We will be working with the committee to improve communication and advertising of events, but please help us by coming along to enjoy what's on offer.

2015 is election year. Elections for the Parish Council will take place on election day, 7th May 2015. Nomination papers will be available at the end of March and must be hand delivered by 4pm on 9th April 2015. If there are more nominations than seats on the Parish Council, of which there are 5 for Farthinghoe and 2 for Steane, an election will be held. If there are 7 or fewer nominations, the places can be co-opted. If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact me and I will do my best to answer them.

Are you ready for winter? The Parish Council took the decision to order salt bags for the village so that if we do have any harsh weather, we aren't reliant on Highways to replenish the salt boxes. Please use the box near the Fox and once we have received the additional bags, councillors will keep it topped up.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, 14th January in the Beasley Room at the Village Hall. Public time will be from 7pm to 7.15pm. We wish you all a healthy and prosperous 2015.

Pip Clayton, Parish Clerk Tel: 01295 712208 Email:
clerk@farthinghoeparishcouncil.org

Useful Contacts

District Councillor

Rebecca Breese 01280 709976

County Councillor

Ron Sawbridge

01604 859721

Clerk to the Parish Council

Pip Sandel 01295 712208

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Chair of the Parish Council

Ross van Geest

chairman@farthinghoeparishcouncil.org

Village Hall booking secretary

Mrs Diane Jones

07526 588755

Primary School Head Teacher

Mrs Fiona Toman

01295 710406

Website

www.farthinghoeparishcouncil.org

Community Police Officers

101

Doctors Brackley Health Centre

01280 703460

Springfield Surgery

01280 703431

Washington House Surgery

01280 702436

Hospitals

Brackley Cottage

01280 702388

The Horton

01295 275500

Fox Inn

01295 713965

Limes Farm

01295 711229

Banbury Guardian news

Rosemary Jarvis

01295 711130

Foot Health Practitioner

Sue Craigie MCFHP, MAFHP

sue.craigie@hotmail.co.uk

01295 711540

079707 54757

Rector

Rev. Simon Dommett

01869 810903

www.astwickvale.co.uk

SNC Planning Dept

01327 322237

<http://>

www.southnorthants.gov.uk/

[PlanningApplications.htm](http://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/PlanningApplications.htm)

Chronicle Editor

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Deadline for

February

Farthinghoe

Chronicle:

Friday 16th January



Village News and Events

Farthinghoe Friends: No meeting this month.

Farthinghoe W.E.A. New Course: British Art Through The Ages: British Art will be studied, starting from the earliest art in the country up to the 19th century. Different styles, movements and artists will be considered, as we look at how art in the rest of the world influenced art in Britain, what British artists brought to the art world and how foreign artists helped keep art alive in the country.

Tutor: Barry Whitehouse Fee: £52 or free. Farthinghoe Village Hall, Friday evenings 7.30 - 9.30 pm ,7 meetings, beginning 16th January. Contact Lin Deeley on 711938 for more information.

Coffee Morning Many thanks to everyone who supported this event! The mince pies were delicious - the children from the School entertained us - and we raised £206! What better way to spend a cold December morning.

Parochial Church Council A meeting is to be held on January 13th at 7.30pm at Farthinghoe Lodge.

Church Cleaning This will take place on Tuesday 20th from 9am onwards. As we are starting a New Year, perhaps some new people would like to help.

Mothers' Union No meeting in January - but subs are due!

HAVE YOU LOST A DARK GREY CAT?

He has been living at the back of my bungalow at **3 Charlton Way** for nearly 2 weeks.

He (?) has nasty wounds at the base of his tail and under his chin on his neck. RSPCA have been and couldn't catch him and the Cat Protection are coming this week.

Do you know who he belongs to?

Call 01295 712020

Rector's Letter

I would like to thank everybody for the Christmas cards, gifts and good wishes we received this Christmas. It has been a great pleasure and joy to celebrate our Lord's birth with friends and family. Strangely one thing I was often asked in the busy run up to Christmas was why there are no flowers in church.

The simple answer is that traditionally flowers are not put into church during Advent and Lent, but why you may ask. Well both seasons are seasons of preparation but both are very different. The season of Lent in preparation for Easter is a period of self reflection, as we look at the wrong or sinful things in our lives, which lead Jesus to die on the cross for us. So it is a sombre season of reflection and self examination. For this reason flowers are not in church, for there is no joy in our wrongfulness. We do celebrate the new life at Easter and so welcome the change in mood with joy. But the season of Advent is about joyful anticipation of something good and new. That is why in an Advent calendar behind each door is a little surprise or gift, in verse, picture or chocolate.

The season of Advent is building in great excitement towards the fulfillment of God's promises; the first to send the messiah or Jesus and the second promise that Jesus would one day come back to earth again. So the flowers are absent from church, so like party decorations they can be put out when the party starts ie on Christmas day.

Now why do I mention that in January, well for many people Christmas has about run itself out by the time you get to Christmas day itself, the parties and lunches, Carol Singing...by the time Christmas comes we have worn ourselves out, before the party has started. Sadly then we miss so much of the real party, and Christmas is forgotten before the New Year comes. But the church in its season of Christmas and Epiphany with the coming of the Magi or Kings, continues the celebrations for six weeks. What a party! What a time of joy! These six weeks help to remind us that Jesus isn't just for Christmas i.e. one day, 25th December; he is for all of our life.

So I hope and pray that 2015 will be a year of growth and that we do not put Jesus away with the Christmas decorations when we take them down.



Astwick Vale Church Services 2015

Sunday, 4th January

9:30 FARTHINGHOE ~ Communion
said

11:00 AYNHO ~ Communion

11:00 HINTON ~ Morning Worship

Sunday, 11th January

9:30 AYNHO Communion

9:30 CROUGHTON Communion

10:00 FARTHINGHOE ~ All Age Wor-
ship

11:00 EVENLEY ~ Communion

6pm HINTON ~ Evensong BCP

Sunday, 18th January

10:00 BENEFICE ~ Communion
EVENLEY

4:30pm PIZZA PRAISE ~ EVENLEY

Sunday, 25th January

9:30 CROUGHTON ~ Communion

10:30 AYNHO ~ Family Service

11:00 EVENLEY ~ All Age Worship

11:00 HINTON Communion BCP

6pm FARTHINGHOE ~ Evensong BCP

Sunday, 1st February

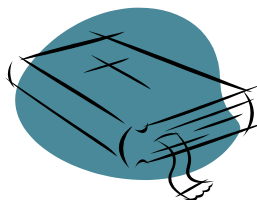
9:30 FARTHINGHOE ~ Communion
said

10:00 CROUGHTON ~ Family Service

11:00 AYNHO ~ Communion

11:00 HINTON ~ Morning Worship

6pm BENEFICE ~ Taizé Worship ~
EVENLEY



Cuppa and Chat starting February: Come and join a new group called Cuppa and Chat. We will start meeting in February and be meeting for six weeks looking at the most famous prayer-the Lord's prayer. We may be very familiar with saying it but what did it mean? And what does it mean today? Come and explore with a chat. If you would like to host a group please get in touch with rev Simon Dommett, so that more details can appear in the February newsletters. Look out for more details.

Weekly Pews News: Each week I publish up to date information about services and events around our 5 churches which may not have got into the monthly newsletter. If you would like a weekly copy delivered FREE to your inbox then send an email with PEWS NEWS in the subject line or body text to astwick.vale@gmail.com and I will add you to our circulation. You can unsubscribe at any time by emailing astwick.vale@gmail.com with the word UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject or body text at any time. But I hope you will find it so useful that you won't want to.

Joyous New Year

Simon



The Biggest Loser Challenge

A brand new fundraiser for the New Year, Katharine House is offering supporters the opportunity to apply for one of 30 places in our Biggest Loser Challenge - to get healthy, lose weight and raising funds for the Hospice.

Three local gyms have very generously donated 12 weeks membership, together with classes, advice and support to help participants on their way to losing weight. Participants must pledge to raise a minimum of £350 sponsorship. The closing date for applications is 6th January 2015. Please call the Fundraising Office on 01295 812161 for an application form or see our website www.khh.org.uk/biggestloser.

CARE FOR A CUPPA

Sunday 1st– Sunday 8th March 2015

Brighten up the dark winter months by taking part in our **Care for a Cuppa** fundraiser! We would like to invite you to organise a coffee morning or afternoon tea for Katharine House between Sunday 1st – Sunday 9th March 2015. Invite your friends and family around for a cuppa, cake and chat and we will provide you with a Care for a Cuppa fundraising pack complete with posters, balloons, recipes and top tips to make your event a success. Simply ask for donations on the day for coffee and cake, or hold a raffle or sweepstake for something a little different. You can hold your Care for a Cuppa at home, at work, at school or at your local club or society – the possibilities are endless!

We would also like to invite local cafes, pubs and restaurants to hold their very own Care for a Cuppa between Sunday 1st – 8th March 2015 – or even a Care for a Curry or Cocktail! For more information please call Sarah Brennan on 01295 812161.

To find out more please call the fundraising team on 01295 812161 to order your Care for a Cuppa fundraising pack! Every penny that you raise by organising a Care for a Cuppa event will make a tremendous difference to local patients and their families. Thank you.



What's on at



Guilt Free 2015

We care for all our customers so once we have helped you over-indulge at Christmas, we are by your side to help you bound into 2015 with our special guilt free menu! Available from 1 January 2015 the guilt free menu options might be low on carbs and fat but it will still be high on taste and quality. And as our resident fitness guru will tell you, it's not just what you put in but also what you burn, so after you've enjoyed your guilt free morsels, feel free to burn those calories with a bracing walk in the grounds and maybe a few squats or jumping jacks by the lake!



Compost Corner

As our world hurtles round the sun at 100,000 kilometers per hour, tilted gently on its axis, we have now tipped ever so slightly on to the other side of the winter solstice, reached the perihelion, and can now start to think about the possibility of whipping off those winter drawers and planning what to exhibit in the Village Show. Those less inclined to such exhibitionism can content themselves with growing vegetables for their own gratification.

I think I have been far too traditional when it comes to growing vegetables so this year I am considering trying some more unusual fare. For example, scolymus – which is not a spinal deformity but actually the “Spanish thistle”, grown for its edible roots – sounds delicious! [says Eeyore]. I am also strangely tempted by Couve Tronchuda (Portuguese Cabbage), which is described as “loose-centred and non-hearted” – sounds like someone I work with! Why is it that we have attributed the Iberian peninsula with these obscure foodstuffs? No doubt I will discover why these old-fashioned vegetables have lost popularity.

For this year’s show, as well as the vegetable sections, I may even try my hand at entering some of the baking and preserving categories; perhaps jam tarts, as they combine both. I’m already looking forward to spreading my dainties on the show table.

Don’t forget to get your leeks started now – sprinkle a few seeds onto some compost in a flower pot on a windowsill and you will get a head start. I’m sure there are lots of other things you could be doing with vegetables in the short, dark, cold days of January but I shall stick with leeks.



Signing off for now.

Mrs Trellis

Wanted: Chronicle Editor!!!



Due to other commitments, unfortunately I am unable to carry on editing the Chronicle. The last 2 years have been great fun—and I look forward to handing over to the next Editor. If you are interested in finding out more about this please do contact me on 01295 711 148 or sjdowning@btinternet.com.

Happy New Year to all our readers!

Shirley

FESTIVAL OF OPEN GARDENS 2015 We would love to hear from anyone who would like to open their garden to raise money for the hospice in 2015. Your garden would be featured, along with all the others, in a programme that will be distributed to all our supporters with our spring newsletter in late March/early April. We already have supporters opening their gardens around Banbury and would be delighted to hear from anyone else willing to take part in our festival. For further information please telephone Sarah (01295) 812161 or email sarah.brennan@khh.org.uk



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY- BLACK DYKE BRASS BAND We have been fortunate enough to secure the world's most famous brass band for a concert at St. Mary's Church, Horsefair Banbury on Saturday 28th March. Tickets £20 from Fundraising on (01295 812161). Due to the popularity of this event, we would urge supporters to get their tickets early, to avoid disappointment. More details to follow.

Christmas Cheer, *by Julia Pepler*

Mathew wriggled left and right so he could see the Head Teacher, Mrs. Pertwee, through the bodies of children sitting in assembly in front of him. He could hear her shouting for them all to be quiet, and then she said, 'I've got something important to discuss this morning'. He frowned; when his Mum used words like that, it usually meant trouble. The room fell quiet.

'Hands up who's looking forward to Christmas!' Mathew grinned with relief and stuck his hand up high, along with the 55 others in their tiny school. She continued. 'Now, as you all know, we've had quite a tough year. Can anyone remind me about some of the things that have happened?' Mathew looked around as children began to call out, still stretching their hands up high.

'Mr. Taylor and Miss Brian left', someone shouted. Mathew remembered them. His Mum said they had to leave because they were caught smoking in the boiler room. He'd liked them though and missed them. Then someone else said, 'there was a fire and we got a day off school'. Mathew thought about the fun he'd had that day. Ben came round to play because his Mum was at work. Mum said Mr. Taylor and Miss Brian smoking in the boiler room caused the fire. It was a fairly small fire really, but it could've been worse, she said.

'All our Christmas decorations got burnt!' Mathew looked around. No decorations in the school hall. No Christmas tree. No tinsel. Miss Pertwee clapped her hands. 'Well done everyone, yes, all of those bad things happened'. Mathew remembered his Mum talking about something else as well: the school failing a test. He couldn't remember what the test was called, but two big men came to the school and everyone had to be on their best behaviour, and Mum said if the school failed again he might have to move schools. He didn't like the sound of another school. He really liked this one.

Mrs. Pertwee continued. 'So, the Christmas carol concert is on Friday afternoon, and you've all been practicing hard! Lets see if we can work even harder for 3 more days. Practice at home even. I'd like lots of Christmas cheer from all of you! Lets see if we can make so much cheer

that we turn next year into a better year'. Mathew thought about that. A better year; the school might pass its test, no new school to worry about then. And they might get Christmas decorations back. He spent all day thinking about it and he lay in bed that night wondering how happy his Mum would be if he could make loads of Christmas cheer!

The afternoon of the carol concert arrived. Mathew stood on the low stage with the other children, at the front because he was one of the shortest. He watched the parents arriving, looking out for his Mum. He could feel his Christmas cheer inside, even though the room was quite bare and didn't look very Christmassy at all. Mrs. Swan, the music teacher, came forward towards the stage, and Mathew fixed his eyes on her. The parents fell quiet, and Mathew felt a butterfly in his tummy. Mrs. Swan lifted her arms, and Mathew watched a huge smile appear on her face. Then without making a noise she mouthed to the children *Christmas Cheer*. Mathew saw her big lips curl up on the word *Christmas*, and her head was nodding, but her hands were still in the air, ready to start them off. He felt his cheeks burn, and realised, *this was it*. He opened his mouth and took a deep breath, crunched his shoulders to his ears, then yelled 'hip hip hooray!' with all his strength.

For a second the room was quiet, and then the Mums and Dads said *ahhh*, and burst into laughter; they were clapping too; then the teachers joined in. The other children were giggling uncontrollably. Mathew's mouth was wide open and his eyes were watering. Mrs. Pertwee stood up, and over the din shouted, 'Ladies and Gentlemen, a big thank you to Mathew for making the best Christmas cheer ever!' and with that every single person stood up and shouted *hip hip hooray!*



Happy New Year

From us all at The Fox

**New Years Eve Party at The Pub
Plus we are open for Lunch on
New Year's Day**

XXX

**Two courses meal for £12
Midweek Lunch & Early Evening**

XXX

**Ladies Night every Wednesday
Three courses & Wine £16.50**

XXX

**Happy Hour every Friday
5 to 7pm**

XXX

Food to take home

Pop in or see website for details



The Fox at Farthinghoe

01295 713965

www.foxatfarthinghoe.co.uk