



CROUGHTON NEWS

October 2021

“ABILITY” - A Community Mini-Bus Service for residents of Croughton

The Ability mini-bus service runs on Tuesdays & Thursdays to Banbury town centre, Gateway & the main supermarkets and on Fridays to Brackley (including the new Sainsbury's). There are also some special trips to a selection of destinations, please check <https://abilitycic.org.uk/> for news.

You need to REGISTER with the scheme before you can use this service. You can REGISTER online here – <https://abilitycic.org.uk/register/>

You can also pick up a registration form to complete from The Blackbird, Croughton Tea Rooms or the Co-op

You do need to PRE-BOOK your seat for each journey as spaces are limited. To book your seat Tel: 01327 604123

It is FREE to use from the village bus stops if you have a valid bus pass

A door-to-door service is available for a small annual fee The bus picks up from the bus stops at Park End & The Reading Room & other pre-arranged locations in the village at about 10am & returns at 1pm.

Face masks or a scarf MUST be worn on the bus.

If you don't have a bus pass, the single fare to Banbury is £6.70 or return fare £13.40 and the single fare to Brackley is £4.75 or return fare £9.50

The Reading Room

Coffee Morning Tuesdays

The Reading Room in the Back Room 9 to 11

Cake 70p a slice, Tea/Coffee 50p

Raffle every week.



Croughton All Saints CE Primary School



Harvest Hamper

This year we will be making hampers for the retired members of our village community

Please contact the school office if you would like to receive a Harvest Hamper. Deliveries will be made on Friday October 22nd.

RSVP on 01869 810727 by Friday October 15th. Thank you

We do not feel able to host a harvest lunch in school again this year ☹️

From Mrs Goulder and all the children

Croughton Xmas Fayre,

Sunday 28th November, 11am-3pm at the Village Hall

The Croughton Xmas Fayre returns with all its jingle bells and reindeer whistles this year. You'll be able to pick up some great Christmas gifts, enjoy festive activities with all the family.

Our Oxford Head Chef will be back with scrumptious food to keep you fuelled, plus spiced punch to keep you warm. Save the date - Sunday 28 November, 11-3 in the village hall.

Village Hall

The hall is now back and filling up fast for those parties. Please email croughtonvillagehall@gmail.com if you wish to book.

“One heel of an (Italian) wine tasting ”

(Wine tasting with the Croughton Wine Appreciation Group)



Join us on Friday 15th October at 8pm in the Village Hall for our next wine tasting event. Autumn may be around the corner but we will be enjoying a taste of Italian sunshine at our October event. We will be sampling a range of wines from the South of Italy - specifically focusing on Italy's second biggest wine region - Puglia.

If you are a member of the Croughton Wine Appreciation Group, membership has been rolled over to 2022. Members pay £10 and non-members pay £15. Please let us know in advance that you're coming so we can ensure we have sufficient wine and food. Email: croughtonwag@gmail.com

Croughton Village Website

For all information on events, parish council meetings and general information etc.
www.croughtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Council Meeting

For the date of next Parish Council Meeting please visit www.croughtonparishcouncil.org.uk

The Agenda will be published on the parish noticeboards at the Village Hall and Co-Op car park and on the website. Please note that this Meeting is open to Members of the Public. 10 minutes in total (up to 3 minutes per person) are set aside for public participation, usually the third item on the Agenda, and this provides the opportunity for members of the electorate to speak to items listed on the Agenda.

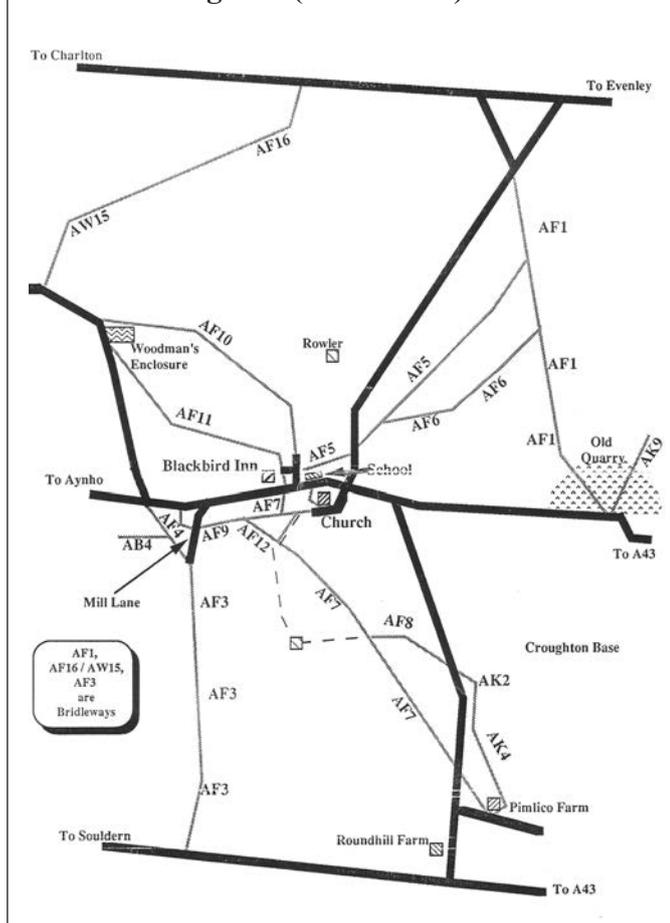
If you wish to attend please register with the Clerk via email in advance of the meeting. Please sanitise your hands on entering and leaving the building and respect other people's space. The wearing of face masks/face coverings during this meeting is optional. Thank you.

Footway Lighting

The Parish Council is responsible for the 57 lights around the village. If you notice a light that is not working please report its location to the Parish Clerk.

The columns will carry a number between 1 and 57 for further ease of identification. Those lights that are bracketed to telegraph poles do not have numbers on the poles. The number is not so clearly visible but can be found on the box to which the light is attached. Faults are reported for remedial action to the Parish Council's Lighting Contractor. Thank you.

Simplified plan of footpaths and bridleways around Croughton (not to scale).



Croughton Pre-School

Where little minds grow



Croughton Pre-School is now open from 9 – 3 Monday to Friday. For those of you who don't know about us we are a fantastic rural village preschool where each child in our care is encouraged to be the best that they can be. We have lots of real-life learning opportunities linked to our beautiful setting.

So far this term we have thought about oral hygiene role playing as dentists, explored Jurassic Park turning into mini archaeologists and digging for fossils, and most recently discovering the story Monkey Puzzle, making banana bread and using our handprints and finger prints to make our own monkeys!

Croughton Pre School is a fully charitable organisation and the recent world wide pandemic has understandably had a huge impact upon our ability to fund raise if you or anyone you know is in a position to help we are always on the look out for charitable donations and have a full year of exciting fund raising events planned. Please contact us for information on how you can help using the details below and of course keep checking our facebook page too:

Email: info@croughtonpreschool.org.uk

Phone: 01869 811968

Registered Charity No: 1021218

Wheelers Rise, Croughton, NN135ND

Please can you help?

We are very grateful to the current team who clean the church, but the numbers have dwindled recently and we do need some extra help.

It is not an onerous task, with some dusting/polishing and vacuuming - which does not normally take more than an hour, even less if you bring a (socially distanced) friend.

If you feel you can help us to care for our lovely old church, even if just a few times, please ring Chris on 01869 226383.



Nothing on Telly?

Why not come and join us at our Village Hall – The Croughton Short Mat Bowls Club. We are a small friendly club who meet every Monday evening at the Village Hall. Our motto is "We don't do serious" !! All equipment provided, just a small weekly subscription required. Please contact Cyril on 01869 810207 for more details.

Suspicious activity surrounding the Base ...

... can be reported 24/7 to the MoD Armed Mobile Patrol on 07773 971 924. Please do not use this number to report civilian issues – that should properly be brought to the attention of Northamptonshire Police. Call 101 or go online.

I Need Your Help

Your Croughton church possesses possibly the most artistically important medieval wall paintings in the country. They are considered by the art world to have heralded the foundation of British painting.



However, this cultural treasure is in dire need of restoration before they fade completely. Although I have raised £15,800 to date it is only a small part of the £70,000 which restorers require to halt the decline and enhance their appearance for the benefit of future generations to enjoy.

I have received plenty of advice for which I am so grateful but I am now in need of physical assistance in raising the rest of the money. So, if you are able, for example, to apply to and undertake a Lottery Fund application, or are able to undertake fund raising opportunities or are even an experienced crowd funder, I shall be delighted to hear from you.

I am obviously very concerned that I feel I cannot continue to carry this project forward alone anymore, which would sadly see the wonderful cultural heritage on our doorstep unable to be saved for the nation. So, if you can help, I will be delighted to hear from you.

Please contact me: Brian Smith 01869 810 540
email: brian.smith71@btinternet.com

All Saints Church, Croughton

October Services in Astwick Vale Benefice

10th October

9.30am, Croughton, Holy Communion
9.30am, Farthinghoe, Morning Worship
10.00, Aynho, Morning Worship
11.00, Evenley, Morning Worship

17th October

10.30am, Hinton, Benefice Service and Holy Communion

24th October

9.30, Croughton, Morning Worship
9.30am, Evenley, Holy Communion
11:00, Aynho, Baptism with Holy Communion
11.00, Hinton, Holy Communion
6pm, Farthinghoe, Evening Prayers

31st October, All Saints/All Souls

10.30am, Farthinghoe, Benefice
3.00pm, Evenley, All Souls,

If you have any concerns you can contact:
Revd Sue Cooper 01869 810903,
or Church Warden: Angie Robbins 01869 811445.

Pastoral Letter October 2021: Revd Sue Cooper writes

Dear Friends, as I sit writing this letter I have just finished doing my paperwork for a Baptism service we had yesterday at Church. I have been struck by how joyous it has been these past few months to be holding Weddings and Baptisms again. These are wonderful celebrations that mark the journey of life. Someone once said to me that Clergy are privileged to perform the rites of passage through life and he was right, Clergy are privileged to officiate at these occasions, but Church is not the only place for occasions that mark special times in life. In our homes we have birthday celebrations and Wedding anniversaries. We also have other types of rite of passage such as 1st days at school, graduation days and school proms. Also we have celebrations that have been imported from overseas such as baby showers. These are all forms of rituals that we do with both families and friends, or in larger groups of society, and they mark events or celebrations which recognise important changes or events in a person's life.

In Church we have another "rite of passage" known as Confirmation, and this service marks a very important event in a person's life. This is a special service for people who were baptised as babies, or as children, and who were too young to take on the Christian faith for themselves, and so at their baptism their Parents and God Parents committed to bringing them up in the Christian faith. But the baptism service for a baby or young child was never meant to be the end point, it was intended to be the beginning point in a lifelong journey of faith with God and the Church. This is why we offer a service of Confirmation for older children and adults who have been baptised.

Sadly, many people who were baptised as babies never go beyond baptism, and that's a pity because Confirmation is an opportunity for them to publicly confirm their Christian commitment for themselves in front of family and friends

and congregations. It gives a person the special opportunity to say the declarations and promises that were made for them as a child, and is a way of "owning" the Christian faith for ourselves.

I was 22 years old when I became a Christian, and was baptised; I was later Confirmed at the age of 47. And there is something profoundly liberating in "nailing our colours to the mast" so to speak, and knowing that we are part of a cause or movement that is bigger than ourselves. All human beings belong to God whether they know it or not, but it is wonderful to be able to embrace this reality publicly and to commit to him and his Son Jesus. Jesus wasn't ashamed to be associated with the disciples and followers, and none of them were perfect, in fact they were a mixed bunch of ordinary folk just like us. Jesus was committed to them even to the point of calling them his friends, and Jesus is still committed to his followers today and calls us his friends, but the question is, are we committed to him?

There is to be a deanery Confirmation service on Sunday 21st November at 3. pm at St Peters Church, Brackley. If you would like to be Confirmed at this special service of celebration please do contact me. If you have not been baptised and would like to be, then contact me and we will arrange it. I will be holding some informal sessions for people interested in Confirmation or Baptism, so please do come along, I would love to meet with you. For details contact me at revsue.cooper@gmail.com or Tel 01869 810903.

God bless you all, with love Rev Sue.

John 15: 14-15 "You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you."



**Public Health
Northamptonshire**

Supporting Independence Programme

- Are you aged over 18?
- Have you noticed any changes in your health?
- Do you have difficulty walking or need help moving about?
- Are everyday tasks becoming difficult?
- Do you need someone to help you on a regular basis?
- Do you sometimes feel lonely or isolated?

The Supporting Independence Programme provides up to 12 weeks of one-to-one support for those of us who may have slowed a little, are feeling less confident getting around or who need someone to help on a regular basis. This could be supporting you to increase your levels of physical activity, support with your general health and daily living or providing emotional, social or nutritional support and advice. Support is currently delivered over the phone.

The assessment can be completed by anyone living in Northamptonshire, or completed on someone else's behalf to see if they would be eligible for independence support. For further information and to access the online assessment form, follow the link for the Supporting Independence Programme. <https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/health/pages/supporting-independence.aspx>

Oxfordshire Craft Guild

We are delighted that after a long drought of being unable to exhibit The Oxfordshire Craft Guild will once again be staging its centre-piece six week long exhibition at The Oxfordshire Museum in Woodstock running **from 20 November until 30 December 2021.**

With over 30 crafts people showing their work, visitors can be assured of finding a range of quality handcrafted items to enjoy, and those looking to find unique gifts for Christmas will find a wealth of beautiful objects from which to choose from.

The Craft Guild seeks to promote quality of making and design in a wide range of crafts. All of their members have had to go through a fairly rigorous selection process.

So visitors to these exhibitions can be assured of finding a range of quality handcrafted items to enjoy, and those looking to find unique gifts for Christmas will find a wealth of beautiful objects from which to choose from.

Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock

20 November -30 December

Tues – Sat 10.00 am-4.45 pm

Sundays 2.00 pm-4.45 pm

Closed Mondays

**Newsletter submissions by 28th of each month to:
Georgina Lucas, 50 Portway Drive, Croughton.
Tel: 01869 810923, or e-mail galucas@waitrose.com
The Croughton Newsletter is published by the Parish Council.**



**KATHARINE
HOUSE
HOSPICE**

Aynho Road
Adderbury
Oxon OX17 3NL

Our Santa Fun Run is back!

If you thought that Santa's elves worked hard, you should see our fundraising team in the run-up to Christmas.

December may feel far away, but we're already planning how to make our next Santa Fun Run the best one yet.

The race is taking place on Sunday 5 December at Spiceball Park, Banbury. Get the date in your diary and don't forget to let your friends and family know!

Could you spare a few hours to help us raise vital funds for Katharine House?

Last month we sent out a request for volunteers to help with street collections – and you did not disappoint. A huge thank you to everyone who has offered their support so far.

But we're still urgently looking to fill the last few street collection slots in the following locations.

- Thursday 7 October: Brackley Town Centre collection
- Friday 22 October: Banbury Town Centre collection

We're also holding a couple of gift wrapping days in Banbury early in December, so if you're nifty with wrapping paper and ribbon then let us know!

- Friday 3 December: Banbury Castle Quay gift wrapping
- Saturday 4 December: Banbury Castle Quay gift wrapping

Visit our website <https://www.khh.org.uk/>

Think NHS 111 First

NHS England and NHS Improvement has launched the next phase of the latest 'Help Us, Help You' campaign which focuses on the NHS 111 service as a new way to access A&E.

If you have an urgent but not life-threatening medical need, make sure you contact NHS 111 first rather than going straight to A&E. If you do need urgent care, then NHS 111 can now book you in to be seen quickly and safely in A&E.

As well as this, NHS 111 is also able to direct to or book an appointment at Urgent Treatment Centres, access to Out of Hours GP Services, pharmacies, emergency dental services and walk-in clinics.

Contacting 111 first will also help the NHS to keep you safe by maintaining social distancing and ensure that you receive the right care in the right place, in a more timely and safe way.

If you or your loved one have a life-threatening illness or injury then you should always use 999 and if you do arrive at A&E without contacting NHS 111 you will still receive medical care, with emergency treatments prioritised.

Just think 111 first. When you think you need A&E, contact NHS 111 by phone or online at <https://111.nhs.uk/>

Further information about NHS 111 First is available at www.northamptonshireccg.nhs.uk