



CROUGHTON PARISH NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2012

CROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting held on 12th December 2011

Highways: 2011 ended with the village's roads having benefited from some minor improvements such as extensive patching of the 30 mph zone between Park End and Blenheim and the refurbishment of the white lines and yellow zig-zags. If you spot any minor highways defects such as potholes, please report them direct to Street Doctor. This can be done online using the NCC website <http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor> or by telephoning 0845 601 1113. We look forward to the extension of the 30 mph zones at Portway and Brackley Road.

Affordable Housing: A shortfall in funding is delaying the submission of a planning application for the proposed 9 dwelling development along Brackley Road. Northants Rural Housing Association remains optimistic and the Parish Council has been consulted on the local connections criteria in relation to allocations. Watch this space!

Budget 2012/2013: The Parish Council concentrated on the three components of its budget setting -

- anticipated Receipts from Allotment rents, Cemetery fees, Newsletter sponsorship and advertising
- regular Payments for functions such as grasscutting, water rates, dog waste services, footway lighting, training and administration
- designated Reserves for lighting, the allotment wall, election costs etc.

The Council will probably need to draw on more of its reserves than in previous years in order to set a realistic budget that will deliver the normal services yet also accommodate some additional expenditure on street lighting, the allotment wall, the website and neighbourhood planning. The target is for a maximum increase of 3% over the current budget. Once the budget has been agreed the Council will then set the Precept for 2012-2013.

The Financial Risk Assessment and Asset Register were both updated and it was agreed to review the Financial Regulations.

Cemetery: If you visit the Cemetery you will discover the newly set out Garden of Remembrance adjacent to the crescent of shrubs. This facility will accommodate the interment of ashes, which had formerly been placed in small plots in the main section of the Cemetery. Enquiries in respect of interment of cremated remains should be made in the normal way- via the Funeral Director in the first instance. In time, budget permitting, the Council hopes to provide an Information Board at the Cemetery.

Croughton Village Website

For all information on events, parish council meetings and general information etc., please go to the website:

www.croughton.org.uk

Diamond Jubilee Event 2012: The Parish Council has released its grant in the sum of £500 to the Croughton Jubilee Fund in support of the tremendous efforts local people are expending to ensure the celebrations are truly majestic.

Next Meetings: Monday 9th January 2012 and Monday 13th February 2012, both at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Room of Croughton Village Hall

Date for your Dairy: The Annual Parish Assembly will be held at 7.30 p.m. on **Monday 30th April 2012**.

Thank you to all our volunteers

Croughton Parish Council would like to say a big thank you to all our Parish Council volunteers for your excellent work in 2011. They are: John Austin and Rodney Cash who refurbished the Bus Shelter; Rob Robbins and Brian Tomlin who carried out maintenance at the Allotments and new planting at the Cemetery; our Footpaths, Pocket Parks and Trees Wardens, Friends of Portway Pocket Park, our Highways Representative, the Neighbourhood Watch Team, the Newsletter Editorial and Distribution Team, Trustees of the Pools Allotment Trust and the Web-master and Web-contributors.

We would also like to thank Jamie Bodley-Scott, the Core Organising Committee and all the many volunteers who have been working hard to plan and organise what we are sure will be a wonderful Croughton village event on Saturday 2 June 2012 to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Together with volunteers for All Saints Church, All Saints CE Primary School, Croughton Playing Fields and Village Hall, Croughton Pre-School, and the Reading Room, you all enrich the lives of all of us living in Croughton village and your efforts are much appreciated.

What's On.

Monday 9 January 2012, 7.30 pm

Parish Council Meeting in the Croughton Village Hall.

Friday 13 January, 8.00 pm (doors open at 7.30 pm)

Croughton Cinema, "Oranges and Sunshine". The Village Hall.

Wednesday 18 January, 7.30 pm

WI meeting in the Village Hall.

Tuesday 24 January, 8.00 pm

Croughton History Group meeting in the Village Hall.

Thursday 26 January 7.30pm

Open meeting to discuss the future of the Reading Room.

Friday 3 February, 8.00 pm (doors open at 7.30 pm)

Croughton Cinema, "Conviction". The Village Hall.

Friday 10 February, 8.00 pm

Croughton Wine Appreciation Group wine tasting evening in Croughton Village Hall.

Northamptonshire Police

Putting Communities First

101 - non emergencies & enquiries



Between Wednesday 21 and Saturday 24 December, a house in High Street Croughton was broken into.

Anyone with information please call us on 101 or alternatively, information can be given anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

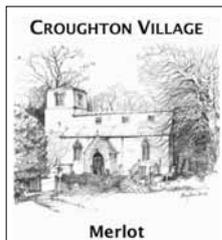
Croughton W.I.

Members enjoyed their Christmas meal and festivities at the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, in December. This rounded off an interesting year of talks, discussions and visits.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 18 January**, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The speaker will be Carrie O'Regan who will demonstrate the making of a 3 course meal under the title of "Winter Warmers". Carrie is a local and well-known cookery expert and this promises to be an excellent evening to begin 2012. Guests are welcome.

Croughton Village Wines

A huge thank you to everyone who has bought Croughton Village wine and port over the past couple of months. Every bottle you have purchased has generated a donation to the Croughton Jubilee Fund, and so far you have managed to raise over £350 for the Fund!



The unique pictures of Croughton All Saints Church and the Dovecote on the bottle labels have made Croughton Village wines particularly special, and we remain indebted to the late Mary Laws for allowing us to use her beautiful drawings.

Croughton Village Wine doesn't stop here. We will continue to sell the Merlot and Sauvignon Blanc through 2012, and we hope to have some additional wines available in time for the Jubilee festival in the summer.

To order, contact Fran (franbs@btinternet.com, tel: 01869 811823), or Lesley (lesley.ramsay@googlemail.com) or Caroline (caroline@redworks.co.uk, tel: 01869 810443). There's no minimum quantity you need to buy.



Croughton History Group

On **Tuesday 24 January**, Derek Batten will be talking to us about "The Human Aspects of the American Civil War" to mark the 150th anniversary of its outbreak. Derek, who is a member of the American Civil War Round Table, will deal with some interesting aspects of the war as well as give an insight into some of the major characters involved.

Our annual members' dinner will be at the Red Lion, Adderbury, on **Friday 2nd March**, charge £22.50 per head. Please make bookings by email to Brian at b.tomlin332@btinternet.com or at the January meeting. Menus will be circulated nearer the date.

Northamptonshire
County Council

my
county
council

Northamptonshire County Council's number for general enquiries has changed!

0300 126 1000

It replaces the 01604 236236 number and means that everyone in the county calling from a landline will be charged at a local rate, regardless of their own area code. Anyone calling the council will now access an automated call-handling system, which requires callers to press a number to choose the council service they want to contact.

However telephoning is not the only way to access council information and services. Customers can now contact the council by other means:

- Visit the Website - www.northamptonshire.gov.uk
- Download the iPhone or Android app
- Find on Facebook
- Follow on Twitter - @MyCountyCouncil
- Browse the website from a mobile phone

Competition Time!

Calling all children in and around Croughton. We need you to design a logo for the Croughton Diamond Jubilee festival. The winning picture will be used throughout 2012 in the build up to the festival, on our posters, the website and all the advertising for the great event itself.

What are we looking for? A picture that is fun and colourful, and that includes some reference to the Queen's diamond jubilee and also to Croughton village. There will be two classes in our Jubilee Logo Competition: one for children up to 8 years old and a second class for children between 8 and 14 years old (on the 2nd June 2012).

You can create your picture on the computer or on a piece of paper, and should be 8.5 x 11 inches or A4 in size. All entries are to be submitted by 31st January 2012. Your entries should be clearly marked Jubilee Logo Competition and you can drop them off with:

- The School
- The Pre-School
- Jean Coles 54 High St
- Monica Johnson 25 Park End
- Lori Dunn School Liaison Office at RAF Croughton
- Or electronically to lolidunn09@gmail.com or croughtonjubilee@gmail.com

Croughton Reading Room

Open Meeting

You are invited to an open meeting on **Thursday 26 January** 7.30pm to discuss the future of the Reading Room. At the meeting we would like to hear

your thoughts on how we can preserve the building and make it a viable asset for the village.

Currently the Reading Room is at real risk of being boarded-up or sold. This is due to lack of income and the need for major renovation work. Certainly, nobody wants to see this happen so we need to take action now and hopefully during this meeting some fresh ideas can be explored.

Please join us at the Reading Room on Thursday 26th January at 8pm. If you can't attend and have some ideas please email me on sarahrobbins307@gmail.com.

Croughton Cinema

Our first film of 2012, "Oranges and Sunshine", is on **Friday January 13** in the Village Hall. "Oranges and Sunshine" tells the story of Margaret Humphreys who uncovered one of the most significant social scandals in recent times: the forced migration of children from the United Kingdom. Almost singlehandedly, against overwhelming odds and with little regard for her own well-being, Margaret reunited thousands of families, brought authorities to account and worldwide attention to an extraordinary miscarriage of justice. Children as young as four had been told that their parents were dead, and been sent to children's homes on the other side of the world. They were promised oranges and sunshine, they got hard labour and life in institutions."

Our second film of 2012 is "Conviction" on **Friday 3 February** at 8pm. Based on a true story and starring Hilary Swank as Betty Ann Waters, an unemployed single mother of two boys, who saw her brother begin serving a life sentence in 1983 for murder and robbery of a woman living in a trailer next door to him in Ayer, Massachusetts. Betty Anne, a high school dropout, decides to dedicate her life to save her brother. Convinced that he was innocent, she spent the next 12 years taking steps to earn a law degree. In 1995 with a law degree in hand, she began focusing on her brother's case. Challenging the conviction with DNA evidence, with the help of the Innocence Project, she proved her brother's innocence. Kenneth Waters walked from jail a free man, in March 2001 after 18 years in prison. He only enjoyed 6-months of freedom, because on September 19, 2001, he fell 15-feet off a wall hitting his head and died. The estate of the late Kenneth Waters settled a civil rights lawsuit against the town of Ayer's for \$3.4 million in 2009.

Doors open 7.30pm; films start at 8.00 Admission: CFC Members: £3.00; Non-Members: £4.50; Under 16s: £3.00.

Jubilee Celebrations — Dog Show



We are thinking of holding a Dog Show on the morning of

June 2nd, Jubilee Day, before the start of the main celebrations. We would like to gauge what interest there is in the village for such an event. There would be classes for all sorts of dogs, as well as amusing ones.

Please could you either give me a ring on 810207, or email me at cyril.fletcher2@tiscali.co.uk if you would like to attend such an event, or show a dog. This is not a firm commitment, but a chance for us to see if such an event would be viable.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Cyril Fletcher

Fed up with the telly?

Then come and join us at the Croughton Short Mat Bowls Club and have a go!!

We meet every Monday evening at the Village Hall at 7.30pm. It's all very friendly and informal. All equipment is provided. Contact Cyril Fletcher, telephone 01869 810207.



(Astwick Vale Benefice: Aynho and Croughton with Evenley and Farthinghoe and Hinton-the-Hedges with Steane)

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, CROUGHTON

Croughton Church is a beautiful ancient and ageless church, enhanced by mediaeval wall paintings, peaceful and steeped in prayer—a welcoming Christian focus for the whole village..

During the interregnum please contact the Church Wardens in the first instance: Angie Robbins roy@robco-reed.com and Mary Marriott on 810267 (or dollhouse59@gmail.com). You may also contact the Benefice Office on 01869 810903.

Thank you!

To everyone who sang, listened and otherwise participated in the carol singing round the village. Just over £100 was raised for Christmas charities supporting those who are homeless or lonely over the Christmas holidays.

Songs of Praise, Sunday 12th February

Croughton's Songs of Praise will be held on Sunday 12th February at 6.00pm. If you would like to suggest a hymn please contact Liz Ogden at ejocog@gmail.com or one of the Churchwardens (and say why you have chosen it). There will be refreshments and a collection will be taken for the Organ Repair Fund.

SERVICES AND NOTICES

Sunday 8th January

9.30 am *Holy Communion* Aynho
6.00 pm *Evening Service* Evenley

Sunday 15th January

9.30 am *Holy Communion* Croughton

Sunday 22nd January

10.00 am *Benefice service* Croughton

Sunday 29th January

10.00 am *Benefice service* Evenley

A very happy New Year 2012 to everyone.

CROUGHTON PRE-SCHOOL Pre-School Assistant

We are looking for a bank member of staff for a temporary 3 month contract. Monday, 8.30am-1.30pm, Wednesday to Thursday, 8.30am-3.30p. £6.08 - £6.30 per hour depending on qualifications and experience.

To work as part of the Pre-School team to provide safe, high quality education and care for young children. For further details and a job description please contact Imogen, Pre-School Chairperson on 01869 810652 or write enclosing your CV to Croughton Pre-School, Wheelers Rise, Croughton, Northants. NN13 5ND.

Croughton Lunch Club

Held on **4th Tuesday of the month** at The Stratton Arms, Turweston. We meet at 12.30 for lunch at 1pm.

All Welcome. Annual membership £3.00. Call Diane Watts on 01869 811732 or Carol Dyson on 01869 810293.

South Northants Council: Brackley Job Club

Tuesdays 11.30 a.m–1.30 p.m. at Brackley Town Hall, High Street, Brackley NN13 7AB

Dates of 'Which Way to Work' sessions in 2012 are: 17th and 31st January; 14th and 28th February; 13th and 27th March.

A Job Club is designed for anybody looking to return to employment, training or education. Help is available with CV writing and application forms, money advice, volunteering opportunities or support in starting up in business.

A 'High Tech High Touch' free, confidential and supportive approach is offered to help you get back into the workplace.

Visit www.southnorthants.gov.uk/jobclub for latest details

Need a New Interest?

We are planning to open a new Bridge Club in Aynho Village Hall on Friday evenings, 7.00–10.00 pm. Experienced players are welcome, we also welcome complete beginners.

So, if you are looking for a new interest, please come and join us..

For further details, please call John on 01869 338580 or Madeleine on 01280 847046.

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

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Croughton Village Hall Regular Activities

You are welcome to join any of the groups, just call the contact or drop in...

Croughton Pre-school 01869 811968
Monday 9–1pm (including lunch club)
and Tuesday to Thursday 9-3pm

Parent & Toddler Group Beckie 01869 819734
Friday 10–11.45am term time

Art Class Kathleen Bartlett 01295 780493
Monday 2–4pm

Short Mat Bowls Cyril 01869 810207
Monday 7.30–10pm

Line Dancing Julie 01608 683280
Tuesday, improvers at 6.45–8pm;
intermediates 8–9.45pm

Karate Tracy 07779760006
Wednesday 7–9pm, beginners welcome

W.I. Pam 01869 810393
3rd Wednesday in the month 7.30–9.30pm

History Group Brian 01869 810124
4th Tuesday in the month 7.30–10.00pm

Cinema - see newsletter for dates of films

Croughton Wine Appreciation Group
meet alternate months, Fran 01869 811823

For further information on **Village Hall bookings** contact **Sally Ward** on 01869 811102 or email croughtonvillagehall@gmail.com

The MCS Specialist School Community Team

... are proud to present our series of computer classes. Especially for over 50s. At St Johns Site, High St Brackley. Community entrance

Monday 9.30–11am

Term 1. 9th Jan–6th Feb 2012

Explore your Laptop

Term 2. 20th Feb–26th Mar 2012

Explore your computer Accessories

Wednesday 10.30–12:00 noon

Term 1. 11th Jan–8th Feb 2012

Using the computer- Refresher course.

Internet, Skype, Emails.

Term 2. 22nd Feb–28th March 2012

Introduction to "Microsoft Word Processor".

Thursday 9.30–11:00am

Term 1. 12th Jan–9th Feb 2012

Windows Movie Maker. Using Old and new Photos.

Creative course.

Term 2: 23rd Feb–29th–March 2012

Picasa- Photo editing program. Using free software.

All sessions £4.00. Contact Anne Brady 01280846330.