



# CROUGHTON NEWS

December 2013



## Croughton Colts Football Club

The Colts coaches are hosting mini- soccer sessions for players at 6, 7 & 8 years of age.

The training sessions are on **Sunday mornings from 9:30am to 10:30am** at Croughton Playing Field costing £1.00 per session.

The sessions are open to both boys and girls.

They are aimed at boys and girls who would like to try football to see whether they like it, and then if we have enough players to form a team we will then look for someone to manage the team.

Croughton Colts are still looking for a manager / coach to form a new under 8's team at the club. We currently have several boys and girls who are interested in playing. The club will provide support both on and off the pitch. Please contact me, Steve Connor, at [steve\\_connor@sky.com](mailto:steve_connor@sky.com) to find out more.

Forthcoming fixtures: Bloxham v Colts Tornados, Launton Boys Athletic v Colts Spitfires, Colts Diamonds v City Belles and Colts U 15's v Steeple Claydon.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Croughton Colts Football Club please contact Steve Connor on 07806 556057 or email me at [steve\\_connor@sky.com](mailto:steve_connor@sky.com).

### Croughton Teens

This is a new Social Club for teenagers aged 12 to 17—for you and run by you—with adult support and presence. It is held on designated Wednesdays from 6.00 to 7.30 p.m. at the Reading Room. Watch out for posters in the village for the dates of forthcoming meetings.

### Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators Team.

In addition to reporting incidents to the police, it is imperative that members communicate with each other. Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators will disseminate information received from the Community Messaging System to their members in the most appropriate way.

The Croughton Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators are:

Mrs Jean Coles, High Street, tel: 01869 810473.

Will Merrell, Portway Drive, tel: 01869 810569

Maureen Burgess, Portway Crescent, tel: 01869 811821

Brenda Reeves, Park End, tel: 01869 810468 .

Vera, The Blackbird, High Street, tel: 01869 810237.

Mrs Christine Tomlin, Mill Lane, tel: 01869 810124.

Beckie Jones, Wheelers Rise, tel: 01869 819734.

## Croughton On Facebook

Croughton has a number of Facebook Groups and Pages that everyone in the village is welcome to join. If you already have a personal profile, search for the following - if it's a Group, request to 'Join Group', or if it's a Page, click 'Like'.

**Croughton Chat** - a Facebook Group for people who live or work in Croughton, or the immediate area, who want to ask questions, find information, swop ideas, make recommendations and generally have a lively conversation about things that are of interest to all.

**Croughton Carboot** – a Facebook Group where villagers and people in the local area can buy and sell just about anything (except animals).

**Croughton Memories** – A Facebook Group for anyone who has lived, or lives in Croughton and who would like to see old photographs and read people's stories of growing up in the village, or post their own memories and photos.

**Croughton History Group** – a Facebook Page where you will find information about forthcoming meetings and events. We're also building a timeline of village historical facts and photographs.

---

## What's On.

### Friday 6th December 8pm

"God Jul - Happy Christmas from Sweden" Croughton Wine Appreciation Group wine tasting evening in Croughton Village Hall.

### Monday 9th December, 7.30pm

Parish Council Meeting in Croughton Village Hall (Budget Setting session at 7 p.m.).

### Friday 13th December, 7.30pm

Croughton Cinema, "The Great Gatsby".

### Tuesday 17th December, 6pm by the Post office

Carol Singing around Croughton.

### Wednesday 18th December

Annual Christmas meal for WI members.

### Boxing Day, 26th December, 1pm

Brackley Morris Men at the Blackbird.

### Monday 13th January 2014, 7.30pm

Parish Council Meeting in Croughton Village Hall.

### Tuesday 14th January at 10.30am

Meeting of Friends of the Reading Room.

### Wednesday 29th January

Beginners' Whist Evening.

---

## Croughton Village Website

For all information on events, parish council meetings and general information etc., please go to the website: [www.croughton.org.uk](http://www.croughton.org.uk)

## Parish Council Meeting held on 11th November 2013

**Neighbourhood Watch Award:** At this year's AGM of the Northamptonshire NHW Association Cllr Jean Coles was presented with a Certificate by South Northants Police (Brackley Safer Community Team) in recognition of her *exemplary contribution to the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Croughton and in appreciation of her loyal service to the village.* The Parish Council congratulates Jean and is grateful to her and the team of NHW contacts for their efforts towards making Croughton a safer community.

**Highway Improvements:** The Parish Council has conveyed its thanks to Northamptonshire Highways for the carriageway resurfacing at Wheelers Rise, Park End, High Street, Blenheim and beyond.

The period for comments on the proposed Order to restrict parking and limit waiting times at Park End has now expired. Once in force, these new arrangements should prove helpful to the Co-Op and to residents. The effect of this scheme will be taken into future consideration by the Parish Council when it reconsiders the desirability of making the layby into a designated bus stop.

**Budget Setting Process:** The Council put forward broad brush suggestions for next year's budget. A draft budget will be produced on 9th December following the Participatory Session immediately preceding the Parish Council Meeting, and subsequently finalised at the first Parish Council Meeting of 2014.

**Dates of next Meetings: Monday 9th December 2013 and Monday 13th January 2014.** Time: 7.30 p.m.  
Venue: Parish Room Croughton Village Hall  
(Electors are invited to take part in the Budget Setting session at 7 p.m. on 9th December)

### Highways Warden

Northamptonshire County Council would like to appoint a volunteer Highways Warden for Croughton. This person would act as the local eyes and ears on the local road network and be a key point of contact between the community and Northamptonshire Highways. The appointment of the Highways Warden would be agreed by the Parish Council.

Visit the NCC website [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk) for information

If you would be interested in being considered for this role please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council.  
Email: [clerk@croughton.org.uk](mailto:clerk@croughton.org.uk) Tel: 01869 819905

## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

The collection in the village this year raised £541.40. Many thanks to everyone who contributed.

## 5ways Barbershop Evening

Croughton PCC would like to thank all the people who promoted and sold tickets, who donated their time setting up the hall and clearing up afterwards, and generously donated prizes for the raffle. We raised £500 towards the repair of the organ. Thank you

## Coffee Mornings ...

... every Tuesday morning from 9.00 to 11.00 a.m. at The Reading Room. Do come along with your friends and try some of Jane's delicious cakes.

## Beginners' Whist Evening

**Wednesday 29 January**

We are holding a whist social evening for people who would like to learn to play whist - it will be a fun, social event with light refreshments. Beginners are most welcome and will be given help; experienced players are also very welcome to come and assist everyone else! We will assemble from 7.00pm, sort out teams and start at 7.30pm. Please ring Jane on 01869 810004 to book a place.

## Reading Room News

Thank you to table top vendors, lenders of tables, raffle prize donors and everyone who came along to support the recent Table Top Sale at the Reading Room. The event raised £180 which is much needed for ongoing costs. Thanks especially to Jane and Richard who worked hard to promote the event and who provided the refreshments for us all.

There will be a short meeting of Friends of the Reading Room on **Tuesday 14 January at 10.30am** at the Reading Room, primarily to focus on events in January and February. The meeting is open to anyone who is able to attend. To make a booking for a meeting or social event at The Reading Room contact Jane or Richard on 01869-810004.



## 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.

## The Impacts, 2nd November

This was a brilliant night at the Village Hall and we wish to say a huge thank you to all those involved. Thanks to the generosity of those who donated raffle prizes and to the Hall and the Impacts Band for reducing their fees, the sum of £625.00 was raised which has been divided equally between All Saints' Church and the Reading Room.. Many thanks to all those who came along to support and have a good time and to the team of helpers behind the scenes.



## Croughton History Group

The History Group has no events for December or January.

## Carol Singing around Croughton

Tuesday 17th December. Meet at 6pm by the Post office

### Croughton Cinema

Our final film for 2013 will be "The Great Gatsby" to be shown at the Village Hall on **Friday 13th December**.

The film stars Leonardo DiCaprio, Carey Mulligan and Joel Edgerton and won four major awards and received ten nominations. The film is an adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's Long Island-set novel, where Midwesterner Nick Carraway is lured into the lavish world of his neighbor, Jay Gatsby. Soon enough, however, Carraway will see through the cracks of Gatsby's nouveau riche existence, where obsession, madness, and tragedy await.

Box Office:- Members:£3.00. Guests: £5.00. Children under 16 £3.00. Licensed bar Doors open 7.30pm.

### Croughton WI

Carrie O'Regan, well known to our members, was the speaker at the November meeting. She gave us an inspiring description of the walk she and Kevin did along part of the Way taken by St James, one of Christ's disciples, from Astorga to Santiago de Compostela in Spain during May this year. They decided to do this in their own time rather than being part of a pilgrim group, taking 8 and a half days to complete the trek. Those of us listening envied the simplicity and sense of being able to get away from the trappings and fast pace of modern life, something we could all do with from time to time.

The next meeting, on **18 December**, is the annual Christmas meal for members which, this year, is at the Rose and Crown in Charlton.

### Rector's Christmas Letter

To me, the lighting up of Christmas trees, the laying of our Christmas Crib, The gatherings together of family are times of cheer and encouragement. It cheers and encourages me when our communities get together in a spirit in good will for all, when the old are cared for and the stranger invited in. When we hear again the incredible Christmas story, as we gathered together to share in the singing of Carols to celebrate Christmas in our communities.

This may all be a bit rose eyed for some, those who don't get invited in, for those where there is no time or room. For those who will be sleeping under canvas or on street corners. But even those things remind us of Jesus' birth, born in a stable because there was no room in the inn, and then soon after his birth, his family were forced to flee to Egypt fearing for their lives becoming refugees. So let us not forget them in our celebrations.

The true Christmas, away from the piped carols and glitter of the high street store may seem very remote to many, yet for others the circumstances couldn't be closer and the glitter of the high street a joke.

But I hope and pray that as the Christmas lights shine out from our homes and churches into the darkness, they will be signs of hope and encouragement and of Christmas cheer to all who see them and maybe in our good will we might invite them in to share in this most precious time. For Jesus came to invite everybody to share in the celebration, we may only hear of shepherds, angels and wisemen in our carols. But the invitation today is the same as it was then, it is for you as much as for me to come and see the wonder of the Christ child, the saviour of the world.

Happy Christmas One and All

Simon

## All Saints Church, Services and Notices

### Sunday 8 December ~ Advent 2

9:30am Croughton ~ Communion Service

9:30am Aynho ~ Communion Service

10:00am Farthinghoe ~ Family Worship

11:00am Evenley ~ Family Worship ~ Toy Service

4:00pm Family Christingle Service ~Croughton

### Tuesday 10 December

12:00noon Evenley ~ Village Lunch

### Saturday 14 December

2:30pm Aynho ~ Wedding Blessing

### Sunday 15 December ~ Advent 3

10:00am Evenley ~ Benefice Communion Service

6:00pm Hinton ~ Lessons & Carols

### Tuesday 17th December

Carol Singing around Croughton

### Thursday, 19 December

1:00pm Aynho ~ Wedding

### Sunday 22nd December ~ Advent 4

9:30am Croughton ~ Communion Service

3:00pm Evenley ~ Lessons & Carols

4:30pm Croughton ~ Family Carols

5:00pm Aynho ~ Lessons & Carols

6:00pm Farthinghoe ~ Lessons & Carols

### Tuesday 24th December ~ Christmas Eve

12 noon Evenley Village Hall~ Drinks with the Wardens

4:30pm Aynho ~ Carols on the Green

5:00pm Farthinghoe ~ Crib Service

11:00pm Hinton ~ Midnight Mass

### Wednesday 25th December ~ Christmas day

9:30am Croughton ~ Communion Service

9:30am Farthinghoe ~ Communion Service

11:00am Aynho ~ Communion Service

11:00am Hinton ~ Family Worship

11:00am Evenley ~ Family Service

### Sunday, 29th December ~ Christmas 1

10:00am Aynho ~ Communion

### Evenley Toy Service 8th December Evenley

'We shall be collecting toys, games and books for the Children's Centres in Banbury again this year. Any donations which are new or nearly new in good working order would be very welcome. The centres mainly support families with children up to the age of 5, though many will have older brothers and sisters. Our gifts are used as Christmas presents and for use in the centres all year.

If an item needs a battery please do put one with it and we are not able to accept any soft toys.

Please bring your gifts to Evenley church for the Family Toy Service on 8th December at 11am or contact Carrie on 01280 702300. I shall be delivering the toys on the Monday immediately after the service.

Thank you.'



The Brackley Morris Men always get a great reception in Croughton, so we're coming again on **Boxing Day, 26th Dec**. We'll be dancing at 1pm at the Blackbird, and then staying for some music and song in the bar. Do come and join us. It's our 'have-a-go' season, so why not come to one of our regular practise nights in January. We practise in Manor Road Junior School at 8pm on Thursday evenings (term time only). Further details of our diary, news and history can be found at <http://www.thebrackleymorrismen.org.uk>

## Festival of Trees

St Olaves's Church, Fritwell.  
21 Christmas trees on view until 5th January 2104.  
Open every day, free entry.  
[www.st-olaves.org](http://www.st-olaves.org)

### Don't be dim about home security now that daylight hours are shortening!



That is the message from Northamptonshire Police's burglary team in the knowledge that burglars become more active under cover of darkness.

Seven 'light bulb moments' to consider are as follows:-

1. Leave lights on inside your house.
2. Leave a light on in more than one room, upstairs and downstairs – remember to choose low-energy lamps.
3. Use a timer switch to operate the lights as it starts to get dark – change the times that the lights come on, to create the illusion that someone is moving around inside the house.
4. Make sure your door is well lit and fully visible from the street – dusk to dawn lamp adaptors are available from DIY stores.
5. Keep shrubbery and hedges at the front of the house pruned to below one metre – remove any cover for a burglar to work unseen and give your neighbours every chance to spot something suspicious.
6. Keep curtains closed at night – if you are away, ask a neighbour to close them for you.
7. Check existing lighting is in good working order and replace any faulty equipment – remember to check batteries in torches and smoke alarms.

If you are concerned about suspicious activity in your neighbourhood, ring the Police on 101 – in an emergency always ring 999.

## 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 Friday 9–3pm

**Parent & Toddler Group** Monica 01869 810668  
Monday 1.15–3.00pm, term time

**Art Class** Kathleen Bartlett 01295 780493  
Monday 2–4pm

**Short Mat Bowls** Cyril 01869 810207  
Monday 7.30–10.00pm

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

**Karate** Tracy 07779 760006  
Wednesday 7–9pm, beginners welcome

**Badminton** Heather 01869 811104,  
Paul 01869 819734, Julian 01869 8116326  
Thursdays 6–7pm, (starting 5 September)

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

**History Group** Leo 01869 810545  
4th Tuesday in the month 7.30–10.00pm

**Cinema** - see newsletter for dates of films

**Croughton Wine Appreciation Group**  
meet alternate months, Claire 01869 810987

**Buttons & Bows** (Sewing Group) Claire 01869 810185  
1st Thursday in the month 7.30–9.30pm

For further information on **Village Hall bookings**  
contact Sally Ward on 07923 449202 or email  
[croughtonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:croughtonvillagehall@gmail.com)

## Brackley Fringe Festival

2nd/3rd August 2014.

This is a not for profit community festival organised by a keen group of volunteers who care about Brackley, surrounding villages and their communities. We wanted to provide a stage for amateur artists to perform on, to provide entertainment for the community of Brackley and surrounding villages. If there is anyone you know who would like to perform please ask them to get in touch and we will do our best. We hope not to turn anyone away. The festival incorporates music, drama, comedy, arts and crafts, so hopefully will appeal to everyone.

The festival will cost a lot to put on and we're trying to raise as much money as possible, so we have organized a few fundraisers (with more to follow) –

Afternoon Tea Dance, Sunday 15 December, Brackley Town Hall, 2-5pm

Titch Interactive Theatre (3 – 10yr olds), Monday 17th February, 2pm, Brackley Football Club.

We have a website [www.brackleyfringe.co.uk](http://www.brackleyfringe.co.uk) and a facebook page Brackley Fringe Festival that can keep everyone updated.

Newsletter submissions by 28th of each month to: Georgina Lucas,  
50 Portway Drive, Croughton.

Tel: 01869 810923, or e-mail [galucas@waitrose.com](mailto:galucas@waitrose.com)

The Croughton Newsletter is published by the Parish Council.