



CROUGHTON NEWS

February 2014



Croughton Colts Football Club

Croughton Colts 'Diamonds' under 13's clinched their Bucks Girls League North title with a 6-0 home win over Blisworth

Vixens. The girls remained unbeaten in winning the league. The girls are aiming to complete the League & Cup 'Double', they play City Belles at home on the 8th February at Croughton in the quarter final.

Croughton Colts are still looking for 2 managers / coaches to take over our new under 7's & under 8's teams at the club. We currently have 11 boys and girls who in the under 8's (Year 3), and 9 boys in the under 7's (Year 2) squad. The club will provide full support both on and off the pitch. Please contact me, Steve Connor, at steve_connor@sky.com to find out more.

Congratulations Colts Spitfires coach Jack White who has recently been appointed coach of Northampton Town FC under 9's. Jack is also involved with the under 18's squad at MK Don's.

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.

Don't be dim about home security now that the evenings are dark!

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.



Table Top Sale Saturday 22 February

Do you need to clear some space at home? Have you got items you would like to sell?

If so, why not participate in our fund-raising Table Top Sale at the Reading Room from 2.00 to 5.00 p.m. All you pay is £5 for a table and you keep all the money from your sales. Please contact Richard or Jane on 01869 810004 to book a table.

You can set up your allocated table anytime from 1.00 p.m. on the day.

Do you enjoy finding unusual gifts or spotting a bargain?

If so, the Table Top Sale might just be the event for you. There will also be refreshments on sale and a raffle. If you would like to catch up with friends and support the Reading Room at the same time, put the date in your diary now and come along on 22 February. All funds raised go towards the costs of running The Reading Room and keeping it open for other events.

The AGM of Croughton Village Hall and Playing Fields

... will be held on **Wednesday 26th February 2014.**

Venue and time: Parish Room, Croughton Village Hall, 8.00pm

What's On.

Friday 7 February, 8pm

"A bluffer's guide to wine tasting" Croughton Wine Appreciation Group wine tasting evening in the Village Hall.

Monday 10 February, 7.30pm

Parish Council Meeting, The Parish Room, in the Village Hall

Wednesday, 19 February, 7.30pm

WI meeting in the Village Hall

Friday 21 February, 7.30pm

Croughton Cinema, "Captain Phillips". In the Village Hall.

Saturday 22 February, 2.00 to 5.00pm

Table Top Sale at the Reading Room.

Tuesday 25 February, 7.30pm

Croughton History Group (Nine Elms, London's last steam depo), in the Village Hall

Monday 10 March, 7.30pm

Parish Council Meeting, The Parish Room, in the Village Hall

Annual Parish Assembly Monday 7th April 2014.

Croughton Village Website

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

Parish Council Meeting held on 13th January 2014

The Budget 2014/2015: The Parish Council has set a budget of just under £24,000 and a precept of £16,940. For the first time in 3 years the Parish Council has set a larger Precept, increasing the current figure of £16,661 by £279. However, despite the absence this year of a £576 grant to mitigate the effect of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme, there should be no increase in the band D parish element of Council tax as the Precept will be shared over a larger tax base.

Local Plan, Phase One: The Parish Council submitted its comprehensive 3 part document in response to the Issues consultation relating to the SNC Local Plan. Croughton's response addressed several issues, including the Parish's unique or special characteristics, the potential for enhancement, our Vision for and needs over the next 10–15 years, improvements required to achieve the aim and to make the village more sustainable, Village Confines Policy and protection of Green Spaces. The results of the Village Plan Survey conducted last year were also included. Thank you to everyone for your input.

Our response also focussed on Issues specific to the Rural Areas such as Development—strategy, scale and type of housing mix, and environment.

We hope that Croughton's submission will help inform the next stage of the Local Plan, the Options stage, which will be the subject of further consultation in the Spring and Summer.

Affordable Housing development, Brackley Road: The Parish Council is delighted that its original choice has been accepted by SNC, the Street Naming Authority, and the road on the development is to be named officially 'Townend Close'. The Parish Council has asked for the 30 mph speed limit to be extended as far as the Cemetery. The creation of a footpath is still under consideration but cost and drainage elements seem to be frustrating the decision. The construction of the dwellings is going well and they should be ready for occupancy by the end of March 2014.

Dates of next two Meetings of the 2013/2014 financial year: Monday 10th February and Monday 10th March 2014.

Time: 7.30 p.m. Venue: Parish Room Croughton Village Hall.

Annual Parish Assembly Monday 7th April 2014.

Allotment Vacancy

Please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council if you would like to take on the tenancy of a plot on the south side of the site. Half year rent from 1st April 2014 is £16.00.

clerk@croughton.org.uk Tel: 01869 819905

Annual Parish Assembly

**7.30 p.m. on Monday 7th April 2014
In Croughton Village Hall**

Cllr Brian Tomlin, Chairman invites you to the Annual Parish Assembly. This annual gathering is an interesting and informative social event when your elected representatives at parish, district and county level report back on their year.

Local groups and organisations are warmly invited to attend and to report on their activities over the previous 12 months. Please accept this invitation to come and find out more about the community in which you live and work.

Tea and coffee will be served.

Coffee Mornings ...

... thank you to all of you who are supporting our Reading Room Coffee Mornings - your support is much appreciated.

If you haven't yet tried Jane's delicious cakes, why not come along – The Reading Room is open **every Tuesday morning** from 9.00 to 11.00 a.m. All funds raised go towards the costs of running The Reading Room and keeping it open for other events.

Volunteer Committee Officers

Croughton Pre-School is a registered charity located at Croughton Village Hall and is currently seeking a volunteer Committee Chairperson.

We are seeking a local professional to help our charity pre-school by becoming a chairperson of our committee in order for the pre-school to remain open.

If you have some time and you are interested in being elected as chairperson please contact us on 01869 811968 or 07776 277493, or you can email us at info@croughtonpreschool.org.uk.

For further information or visit our website: www.croughtonpreschool.org.uk

Thank you in advance.

“A bluffer's guide to wine tasting”



Wine Tasting with the Croughton Wine Appreciation Group

Friday 7th February at 8pm, Croughton Village Hall

Croughton Wine Appreciation Group will be hosting a bluffer's guide to wine tasting on Friday 7th February. From aromatics, acidities and aging, to tannins, textures and tastes, our presenters Adam Harmon and Ben Salt will help you identify cabernet sauvignons from cabernet francs and bluff your way out of any difficult wine tasting situation. From complete beginners to those looking for a quick refresh, the group will be introduced to the basic elements of wine tasting and be taken through six varied reds and whites. Using these techniques, the evening will conclude with a final white and red for the group to identify together.

Do come and join us – everyone is very welcome. The event starts at 8pm. Price for members £7, for non-members £10. Please let us know in advance that you're coming so we can ensure we have sufficient wine and cheese.

Email: croughtonwag@gmail.com or call Claire on 810987.

Croughton WI

The January members' meeting was one of popcorn and relaxation, viewing the film *The Englishman Who Walked up a Hill and Came Down a Mountain*, a film with the feel-good factor.

The next meeting is on **Wednesday, 19 February**, in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. The speaker is Sheila Wallington, who will be demonstrating the art of cake decorating. Sheila, a talented lady, has been with us before when she talked about and showed us examples of her jewellery-making skills. This promises to be an interesting evening. Guests are welcome.

Croughton Cinema

Our next film for 2014 will be "Captain Phillips" to be shown at the Village Hall on **Friday 21st February**, starring, Tom Hanks and Barkhad Abdi.

"The film focuses on the relationship between the Alabama's commanding officer, Captain Richard Phillips (two time Academy Award®-winner Tom Hanks), and the Somali pirate captain, Muse (Barkhad Abdi), who takes him hostage. Phillips and Muse are set on an unstoppable collision course when Muse and his crew target Phillips' unarmed ship; in the ensuing standoff, 145 miles off the Somali coast, both men will find themselves at the mercy of forces beyond their control."

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

Our final film of the current season is scheduled to be "Philomena" on 21st March 2014 – more next month!



Croughton History Group

Our talk on **Tuesday, 25th February** is "Nine Elms, London's last steam depot".

The talk is by Alan Newman and is based on his experiences while working at Nine Elms Loco Shed in London. Nine Elms was the last steam depot in London, serving Waterloo, and closed on 9th July 1967.

Alan started on the 1st January 1962 and attained Top Link (No1 link) status by October 1966. Alan was very lucky to work the very last steam-hauled passenger train to depart from Waterloo on Saturday 8th July 1967. The train was the 8.30am Waterloo – Weymouth with Merchant Navy 35023 Holland Afrika Line.

Meeting 7.30pm in the Village Hall. £1 members, £3 non-members, incl refreshments. For further details contact 01869 810443, caroline@redworks.co.uk or 01869 810545 leo.coleman@btinternet.com.

For those who haven't yet paid, please remember next year's subs are now due, £10 as before.

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, swap 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.

February Church Services

Detail s at www.astwickvale.co.uk

Sunday 9th February 4th Sunday before Lent

9:30am Holy Communion at Aynho
9:30am Holy Communion at Croughton
10am Family Worship at Farthinghoe
11am Holy Communion with Baptism at Evenley
6pm Evensong BCP at Hinton in the Hedges

Sunday 16th February 3rd Sunday before Lent

10am Communion at Evenley
4:30pm Family Pizza Praise at Evenley

Sunday 23rd February 2nd Sunday before Lent

9:30am Communion at Croughton
11am Family Service at Evenley
11am Communion CW at Hinton-in-the-Hedges
11am Choral Matins at Aynho
6pm Evensong BCP at Farthinghoe

Candle Prayers Returns for February

Your local church will be open from 7:30–8:00pm, lit with candles, giving you the opportunity to come and enjoy the peace of these special places. You may want to light a candle for somebody or a situation, or just sit on your own for a few minutes.

At 7:30 there will be a short opening prayer for those who want to join in followed by a time for personal space, then at about 7:50 there will be a short quiet closing prayer for those who want to join in.

You are invited to come for as much or as little as you like, I just want to offer you some peace and space for prayer, private reflection or just enjoying the beauty of the place.

10th February Monday, St. Michaels, Aynho
18th February Tuesday, Most Holy Trinity Hinton-in-the-Hedges
26th February Wednesday, St. George Evenley

Shrove Tuesday 4th March

The Rector and his wife (Simon and Heather) invite you to come to an Open House and Pancakes at the Rectory, Aynho Court, Croughton Road, Aynho, OX17 3BD. Please feel free to drop in any time from 6pm to 8pm and sample freshly cooked pancakes and Rectory hospitality. Warning of advanced numbers welcomed but do just drop in if you can. Looking forward to seeing you, Simon & Heather 01869 810903.

Summer Holiday Club

Looking ahead to the summer our Holiday Club run at Croughton School. It will run from Monday 4th August to Friday 8th August with a special Family Praise Service to round it all off.

Brackley Cottage Hospital

On behalf of the Cottage Hospital Trust, I would like to thank all the contributors in Croughton on Jean's book, who raised £504.50 in 2013. Your combined support continues to be of great assistance in the continuation of services offered to the community by the Cottage Hospital, and we really are most grateful. This year we are anticipating great strides forward in the provision of the new facility.

George Britchfield, Chairman of the Trustees.

Jean welcomes any newcomers - please ring 01869 810473.

Yolly's Malaysian Food Night

(On Each Last Thursday of the Month)

Thursday 27th February 2014

Why not have a break one night a month & let me do the cooking!!!

Chicken & Mixed Vegetables, Fried Noodles.

Price: Large : £5.95 Small £3.95

NB: As this will be a Main Meal on its own, may I suggest 1 large portion per person

To place your order please send your name and contact number to me—text: 07964 417311 or email: yolanda@malaysianmemories.co.uk

I will have your order hot and ready to eat to be picked up at the Car Park at The Reading Room at 6.30 pm prompt (Please try to bring the correct money). Thank you very much. Yolanda Tapping.

Aynho Gardening Club

The Aynho Gardening Club meets once a month from January to November, usually on the second Wednesday of the month in the village hall at 8 p.m. The main aims of the club are to foster interest in gardening, flowers and vegetables through talks by knowledgeable people and visits to well-known public gardens and those of gifted amateurs.

Members of the club do not need to be expert gardeners. A shared interest in making things grow or pottering in the garden is what binds us together.

The club also organises an annual Flower and Produce show at the end of August. This is open to any members to enter. Categories include flowers, fruit, vegetables, cookery, flower arranging, photography and general crafts. People of any age can enter and there are also a number of categories for children only. Entrants and visitors can come to look at the displays in the afternoon and buy some of the produce in an end-of-show auction.

We would be delighted to welcome any residents from Croughton to our monthly meetings and on our trips. Please contact Chris Tomlin on 810124 or Annabel Bellamy on 810847



Peppa pig outfit for hire.

Ideal for children's parties £20.00

Proceeds all to Croughton toddler group

Please contact Sarah on 07837 549682

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



Charity Quiz

Saturday 15th March 2014
Croughton Village Hall
7.30pm ~ 11.30pm

Licensed bar, nibbles, cash prizes...and more...



Tickets are £3 per person. Maximum of 6 people per team.
To find out more or purchase tickets, call Shawn or Becca Battista on 01869 810514. Catch Becca at School/work, or email us at quiztickets@btinternet.com or message us through Facebook.

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.