



# CROUGHTON PARISH NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2012

## CROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Parish Council Meeting held on 9th January 2012

**Budget & Precept 2012/2013:** The Parish Council, mindful of the current economic climate, has set a budget for the next financial year that will enable it to continue with grasscutting and dog waste services, maintenance of the Cemetery, Footway Lighting and Allotments, website and newsletter communications, and administration. The budget of £24,450 also includes provision for critical expenditure on the allotment wall and some replacement lighting, as well as matters related to Neighbourhood and Emergency Planning. To meet these budget requirements the Council intends to use £4,840 of Reserves and anticipated Receipts of approx. £3,000. By doing so the Council has been able to set a Precept of £16,661, representing an increase of 2.75% over the current figure.\*

As part of next year's budget setting the Parish Council will consider the introduction of Participatory Budgeting and encourage residents to become actively involved in the process. The current Public Participation session will be retained at meetings - last month it provided a useful opportunity for a member of the public to ask the Council about potential Budget increases and if it had considered any savings such as switching off the street lights at certain times of the year, a move that the Council will indeed explore.

**Planning is now higher up the Agenda!** Members of the public wishing to speak in support of or express concerns about a particular proposal, or to simply learn of the council's decision, may find this slot more convenient and satisfactory in terms of their time spent at a Meeting. Please note that the Parish Council is a statutory consultee on planning applications. Decisions are taken by the principal planning authority. On grounds of pedestrian safety and aesthetic appearance, the Parish Council objected to the new proposal to install wrought iron style railings, with pedestrian access and automatic bi-fold gates at The Old Chapel, 23 High Street.

**Neighbourhood Planning:** Information on this Localism topic is steadily being gathered and digested, through attendance at bespoke training sessions and by the information received via our County Association of Local Councils and other organisations.

**Next Meetings:** **Monday 13th February** 2012 and **Monday 14th March** 2012 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. (Venue to be confirmed) The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Pamela Gelder, who will present the Annual Parish Council Report,

cordially invites members of the electorate to come along. Village groups and local businesses are invited to report on their activities during the year.

\*Would Readers please note that in the last month's Newsletter it was inadvertently stated that the target increase of 3% related to the Budget. The statement should have read 'The target is for a maximum increase of 3% over the current Precept.' Please accept the Council's apologies for this error.

### Northamptonshire Police

Putting Communities First

Telephone: 03000 111 222  
[www.northants.police.uk](http://www.northants.police.uk)



#### Don't give thieves an easy ride

With one January morning's frost resulting in a vehicle theft from Northampton, motorists are being reminded to never leave their vehicles unattended with the engine running to warm up or defrost.

A police spokesperson said: "It is vital that vehicles are clear of frost and snow before driving, but we would always advise motorists to stay with their vehicle whilst defrosting. "People may assume that nothing will happen in a few minutes, however what might only seem like a few minutes in the house, can provide the small window of time an opportunistic thief needs."

"This type of crime is preventable and we urge members of the public to allow extra time to safely clear their windscreens in the morning."

Police Non-Emergency number: 101  
Police Emergency number: 999

## What's On.

### Friday 10 February, 8.00 p.m.

"Unusual wines from France, Spain & Italy": Croughton Wine Appreciation Group wine tasting evening in the Village Hall.

### Monday 13 February, 7.30 p.m

Parish Council Meeting. in the Parish Room of the Village Hall.

### Wednesday, 15 February, 7.30 p.m

WI meeting in the Village Hall.

### Tuesday 28 February, 7.30 p.m

Croughton History Group meeting ("The Home Front") in the Village Hall.

### Thursday 1 March, 7.30 p.m.

Next meeting about the Reading Room.

### Friday 9 March, 8.00 p.m, (doors open at 7.30)

Croughton Cinema, "Oranges and Sunshine". In the Village Hall.

### Monday 14 March, 7.30 p.m

Parish Council Meeting. in the Parish Room of the Village Hall.

### 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)

## Jubilee Bunting Day, May 7th

Seamstresses and sewing people - we need your help to make bunting for the Jubilee celebrations. On **Monday 7th May** (the bank holiday Monday) we plan to have a community sewing session in the Village Hall to create streams of bunting to hang in the high street and adorn the stalls at the fete. If you would like to help cut out, sew, stitch and glue, then we'd love to hear from you!

More importantly we need fabric and tape. Between now and May 7th please save any odds and ends of fabric or items of clothing you no longer need that can be cut up and turned into bunting flags. If you'd like more information contact Fran on 811823 or email [franbs@btinternet.com](mailto:franbs@btinternet.com), or check the Croughton Jubilee website: <http://www.croughton.org.uk/index.php/what-s-on/diamond/>

## Books, DVDs and CDs

Do you have any unwanted books, DVD's or CD's in good condition that you would be prepared to donate to the Jubilee fete second-hand stall? If so, please contact Shirley on 810862. Thank you!

## Croughton Jubilee Parade

To allow you all plenty of thinking, planning, making time, this is a heads up for the Croughton Jubilee celebration parade. The theme is "Memories of the last 60 years". Suggestion are anything that has happened since the coronation 60 years ago, such as fashion (mini skirts, mods and rockers), music (Abba look alikes?), history or any royal theme. You may wish to take part on your own, with your partner, family or any group variation. There will be several prize categories and full details will soon be available on the Croughton Village Website.

## Croughton Cinema

Our final film of the current season will be "Oranges and Sunshine" on **Friday 9th March** at 8pm. It tells the story of Margaret Humphreys, a social worker from Nottingham, 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 were 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."

Doors open 7.30pm Admission: CFC Members: £3.00; Non-Members: £4.50; Under16s: £3.00.

## Charity Quiz Night —Please support Children With Cancer UK

I am hosting a charity quiz night at the village hall on **Saturday 17th March**, 8.30 pm–11.30pm as part of my commitment to run the London Marathon and raise much-needed funds for Children With Cancer UK. £12 per team (maximum 6 members per team). Cash prizes for winners and runners-up. Licenced bar and nibbles.

Any donations to my marathon run for this worthy cause would be greatly received, however large or small. You can either donating on-line (<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Shawn>) or by popping a donation through my door (The Old Post Office, 25 High Street, Croughton). Thanks in advance. Shawn.

Will users of the Village Hall and playing fields please drive carefully/slowly along Wheelers Rise and when entering the Village Hall Car Park. There have been occasions when vehicles are being driven at speed, especially by those attending the football matches at the weekends.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter

## SNC Job Clubs

The South Northamptonshire Council Job Club Team have launched a new scheme to bring the benefits of the Job Clubs to rural areas within the district: The Job Clubs provide confidential support and advice to residents looking to find their way back into work, education or training and the Team are keen to bring these benefits to local villages where there may be a demand.

The practical support and advice that can be provided includes CV Writing, Job Matching Service, Confidence for Interviews, Vacancy Searches, Career Advice, Money Advice Service, Volunteering and Benefits and Housing information. The Job Clubs are either run as a 'fair' style event where partners attend with a small stand of information or a workshop (typically lasting 2-3 hours) on a subject area such as interview technique or CV writing.

If you would be interested in coming to a session at Croughton Village Hall please would you contact the Clerk to the Parish Council on 01869 819905. Email: [clerk@croughton.org.uk](mailto:clerk@croughton.org.uk) Please detail the area of support you would most like to see at a session and whether you would prefer this as a 'fair' style drop in event or a workshop.



## Croughton History Group

On **Tuesday 28th February** our talk will be by Martin Lay on "The Home Front". That's tin hats, gas masks, rationing, etc and plenty of nostalgia.

He is particularly interested in the women's organizations that took up the challenge at home.

Meeting 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. £1 members, £3 non-members. including refreshments. For further details contact 01869 810124, [b.tomlin332@btinternet.com](mailto:b.tomlin332@btinternet.com) or 01869 810545, [leo.coleman@btinternet.com](mailto:leo.coleman@btinternet.com).

## Croughton WI

Carrie O'Regan's cookery demonstration, "Winter Warmers", including tastings of each dish, was a highly successful evening, with a good turn-out of members, in January. The next meeting will take place on **Wednesday, 15th February**, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Trevor Davies, a senior lecturer in education at Reading University (and well-known local resident), who will talk about his experiences in Romania. This promises to be a lively and informative evening. Visitors are welcome.



Thank you to everyone who attended the open meeting in January. It was a great turn out and it was good to share ideas and opinions. A small working group has formed to take forward ideas on how we can save this old building from closure. If

you would like to be part of this team or have any ideas to contribute, please come along to the next meeting on **Thursday 1st March** 7.30pm.

If you can't attend but would like to get in touch please email me on [sarahrobbins307@gmail.com](mailto:sarahrobbins307@gmail.com).

Oxfordshire Theatre Company and The Watermill Present:

## 'Some Like it Hotter'

by Richard Hurford

**Friday 30th March** 7.30pm at Croughton Village Hall. This brand new, fast-moving fantasy musical sees the return of the three stars from the hit film 'Some Like it Hot'. It's September 2010 and Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon are forced to re-enact their roles and don high heels and stockings. With daring dialogue, razor-sharp wisecracks, sparkling musical numbers and red hot jazz, this promises to be a memorable evening. Its autumn tour received fantastic reviews, and we are thrilled to be able to host it.

Once again this event is being organised in association with Northants Touring Arts, without whose sponsorship it would be difficult to promote. Tickets are now on sale, priced at £8.00 and £7.00 concessions, from 01869 810124 or 810393. A bar will be available. Don't miss out - book now!

[www.oxfordshiretheatrecompany.co.uk](http://www.oxfordshiretheatrecompany.co.uk)  
[www.northantstouringarts.co.uk](http://www.northantstouringarts.co.uk)

## 'Unusual wines from France, Spain & Italy' Wine Tasting with the Croughton Wine Appreciation Group

**Friday February 10th** at 8pm, Croughton Village Hall. For this wine tasting evening, we will be joined by independent wine merchant Cadman Fine Wines ([www.cadmanfinewines.co.uk](http://www.cadmanfinewines.co.uk)). Nick Marlowe, the company's Customer Service Manager, will be bringing along wines from undiscovered and underrated appellations of France, Italy and Spain.

Cadman Fine Wines is based in Northamptonshire and they source hand-crafted wines from producers and winemakers who really care about the contents of the bottle. The event starts at 8pm. Price for members £7, for non-members £10. Everyone is very welcome to come along. Please register by **6th February** via email: [croughtonwag@gmail.com](mailto:croughtonwag@gmail.com) or call Claire on 810987.

Thank you to everyone who came to our Christmas wine tasting in December. Judging from the high scores, we managed to find some good quality wines at very reasonable prices. For details of December's wines and scores check our website: [www.croughton.org.uk/index.php/village-life/societies-and-clubs/wine-club/](http://www.croughton.org.uk/index.php/village-life/societies-and-clubs/wine-club/)

## Ladies Pamper Evening

**Thursday 15 March;** 7.00pm-10.00pm, Croughton Village Hall

Fancy a massage, manicure or a quick trim? Come and pamper yourself whilst enjoying a glass of wine and a nibble! Tickets £2 in advance, or £2.50 on the door. Please contact 'Croughton Pre-School' on 07909 868579/01869 810652 for further details and tickets

Proceeds to Croughton Pre-School (Charity No: 1021218).

## Brackley Cottage Hospital

On behalf of the Cottage Hospital, I would like to give a heart-felt thank-you to all the contributors in the village on "Jean's Book". With the help of communities like yours, the Trustees are committed to continuing the services until they can be transferred to the new facility. The total amount raised on "Jean's Book" in 2011 was £ 742.46. Best wishes for 2012.

George Britchfield, Chairman of the Trustees

(Jean welcomes any newcomers - please ring 01869 810473.)



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

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH, CROUGHTON

We are presently without a Rector (but are in the process of advertising for one). Until we appoint a replacement, please contact the Church Wardens in the first instance on any matters for which you would normally contact the Rector: Angie Robbins [roy@robco-reed.com](mailto:roy@robco-reed.com) and Mary Marriott on 810267 (or [dollshouse59@gmail.com](mailto:dollshouse59@gmail.com)). You may also contact the Benefice Office on 01869 810903.

## SERVICES AND NOTICES

### Songs of Praise, Sunday 12th February ,6.00pm

You are invited to come and sing somebody's favourite hymn (perhaps yours?) at Croughton's Songs of Praise. If you would like to suggest a hymn please contact Liz Ogden at [ejocog@gmail.com](mailto:ejocog@gmail.com) (810883) or Mary Marriott [dollshouse59@gmail.com](mailto:dollshouse59@gmail.com) We need to know the first line of your chosen hymn, why you have chosen it, and then anything particular, such as the tune you want (if there's a choice) or the particular verse(s) you want sung. Forms can also be found in the Church Porch. There will be wine and light refreshments and a collection will be taken for the Organ Repair Fund (one of the pipes is bending at an alarming angle, although we have been told it is quite safe. It does need fixing, though).

**Pancake Praise, 21st February, 5.30pm-7.00 pm** at Croughton Village Hall. Fun for children aged 5-11, with activities, worship songs, pancake races and pancakes to eat. All welcome. A donation of £1 per child would be appreciated.

On **Friday 2nd March** the Women's World Day of Prayer will be celebrated in St Michael's Aynho at 2.15 pm. Everyone - men and women - welcome.

### Sunday 5th February, 3rd before Lent

11.00 am Holy Communion Aynho (HW)  
9.30 am Morning Prayer Croughton (COR)  
9.30 am Holy Communion Farthinghoe (HW)  
11.00 am Family Worship Hinton-in-the-Hedges (Lay team)

### Sunday 12th February, 2nd before Lent

9.30 am Holy Communion Aynho (HW)  
11.00 am Holy Communion Evenley (HW)  
6.00 pm Songs of Praise Croughton (HW)  
6.00 pm Evening Prayer Farthinghoe (COR)

### Sunday 19th February, Sunday next before Lent

11.00 am Morning Prayer Aynho (WU)  
9.30 am Holy Communion Croughton (GB)  
11.00 am Family Worship Evenley (Lay team)  
10.00 am Family Worship Farthinghoe (COR)

### Ash Wednesday, 22nd February

11.00 am Holy Communion  
with imposition of ashes Evenley (GB)

### Sunday 26th February, 1st of Lent

10.00 am Benefice Holy  
Communion Hinton-in-the-Hedges (HW)

### Sunday 4th March, 2nd of Lent

11.00 am Holy Communion Aynh (HW)  
9.30 am Morning Prayer Croughton (COR)  
9.30 am Holy Communion Farthinghoe (HW)  
11.00 am Family Worship Hinton-in-the-Hedges (Lay team)

GB = Revd Gill Barker; HW = Revd Hugh Warwick;  
WU = William Usher; COR=Carrie O'Regan

## The Brackley Morris Men

After their warm welcome in Croughton on Boxing Day, are hoping to perform again at the Blackbird for the Queens Jubilee celebrations in June.

We love to spread the word about our dancing, and so we're going to hold one of our practices in Croughton Village Hall on **Thursday 12th April**, 8.00–9.30pm.. We're currently in our recruiting season, so why not come and see what it's all about. There's no cost and no obligation. Who knows, there may be one or two of you men out there who'd like to join us. You could even be dancing with us on 2nd June! Although we've always been a male dancing side, this taster evening is open to all, so we're inviting anyone who'd like to have a go to come along. We just ask that any youngsters are accompanied by an adult.

Stephen Ferneyhough, 07764 799947.  
www.thebrackleymorrismen.org.uk

## Phoenix Fridays!

A great range of greeting cards and stationery. I'm introducing Phoenix Fridays! Come along for a coffee on any of the Fridays below (no need to book) and browse to your hearts content! February 24th, March 16th, April 27th, May 25th. All 9am to 11am. At The Orchard House, Church Lane, Croughton,

Can't make a Friday? Then why not Borrow a Basket. A great selection of Phoenix goodies to rummage through at home - keep the basket for a day or two.

10% of sales donated to Together for Short Lives (reg Charity 1144022)

Elizabeth Wilson. Tel: 01869 819630  
Email: phoenix@elizabethscards.com

## Ballet, Tap & Modern Classes

every Tuesday in The Reading Rooms  
Croughton. From ages 3 years plus.

To book a FREE TRIAL contact  
Hayley or Marianne on 07988626298  
or [info@mswelitedance.co.uk](mailto:info@mswelitedance.co.uk)

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## Croughton Village Hall Regular Activities

For a full list of activities please see:  
<http://www.croughton.org.uk/index.php/village-life/societies-and-clubs/>

For further information on **Village Hall bookings** contact **Sally Ward** on 01869 811102 or email [croughtonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:croughtonvillagehall@gmail.com)



### There have been lots of exciting events at Croughton School during the Autumn term.

One of the first things to do in September is to elect the School's new Head Girl and Boy—Ella Eilertsen and Drew Beckett. They are very busy representing the school this year. Their duties include ringing the school bell in the morning and welcoming parents to school on a Friday morning for Assembly.

The Friends of Croughton School have been incredibly busy, holding their Late Summer Fete in September and then their Christmas Fayre in December and have raised in excess of £3,000 so far this School year. A big "thank you" to all villagers who came along and supported these events.

Two Year 6 pupils, Lily Hamp and Isabelle Clamp, attended a Sports Leader residential course in Northampton. The girls learnt how to set up and run a sporting activity in readiness for our own Olympic Games at school at the end of May 2012. They also learnt new skills such as rock climbing, archery and trampolining. On the final day the girls were presented with a Sports Leaders Certificate by Vicki Hubbard, GB's high jump hopeful for the Olympics. Vicki enjoyed meeting all the children so much that she stayed to challenge them all at ping pong in the evening.

In October six children from Class 5 and three members of staff visited Sweden for a week, also as part of the Comenius project. The children stayed in the homes of the Swedish families and had a fantastic time.

Gardening Club, run by Croughton resident Mr Perkins achieved great success in winning the Tap Teachers Gardening Award. Their prize was a fabulous £300 of gardening vouchers for the School.

Reception, Class Two and Class Three, worked incredibly hard on their Christmas performance of "Humph the Camel" which was exceptionally well received, with both performances being completely sold out.

## Croughton Colts Football Club

Croughton Colts Football Club was recently formed in order to provide children from in and around the village with the opportunity to play football. We currently have one team who play at the under 10's age group (year 5s). However the club are aiming to expand this to other age groups from under 7s (year 2s) upwards. Plans are in place to hold Mini-Soccer coaching sessions in the near future for boys and girls between ages 6 & 9; all sessions will be with club FA qualified coaches.

The team has already been presented with a brand new kit kindly sponsored by Darren Moss Tiling Services and got off to a flying start with a 2-0 victory away to Charlbury Town Youth Stars. This was followed up with a fine 4-0 win away to local rivals Charlton & District. The boys were then brought back down to earth with a 4-0 defeat away to Combe Junior Sports!

The club will be applying to join the Witney & District Youth District League for the 2012 / 13 season. The team train on Thursday evenings at Chenderit School, 6:00pm–7:00pm before outdoor training begins at the end of March.

If you would like more information about coming along to an 'open' training session for our current team (we are looking for more players!) or register an interest in the Mini-Soccer coaching sessions please contact Steve Connor (manager) on m 07806 556057 - h 01280 704174 or email at [steve\\_connor@sky.com](mailto:steve_connor@sky.com)



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)