

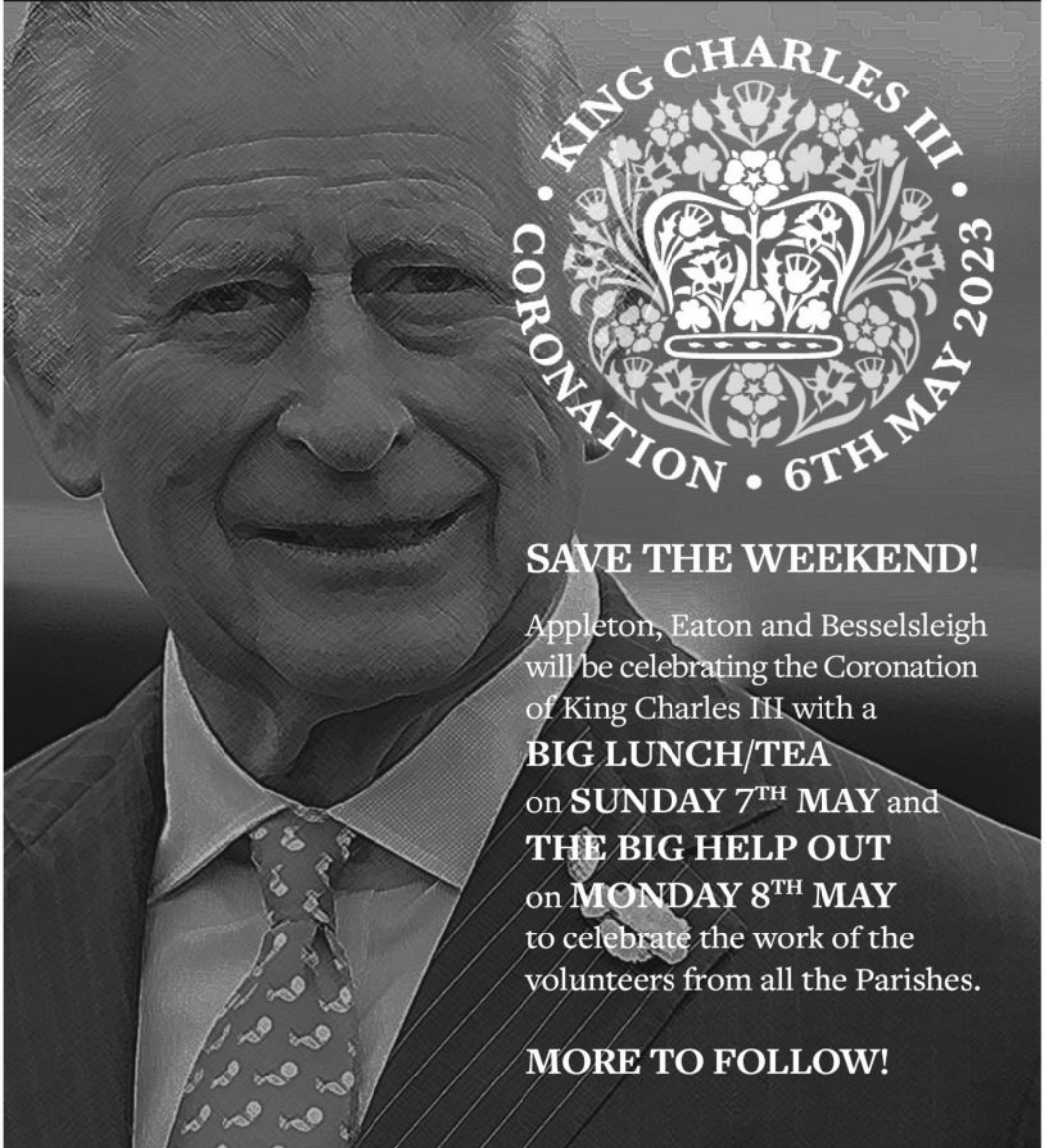
THE APPLETON WITH EATON

MARCH 2023

NUMBER 667

# Advertiser

PRODUCED BY THE CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY



## SAVE THE WEEKEND!

Appleton, Eaton and Besselsleigh will be celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III with a

### **BIG LUNCH/TEA**

on **SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY** and

### **THE BIG HELP OUT**

on **MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

to celebrate the work of the volunteers from all the Parishes.

## **MORE TO FOLLOW!**

## Dear Friends

*“And ultimately, it’s my life.”* Those words were spoken on a recent radio debate about euthanasia. The contributor was seeking to justify his right to choose the time and manner of his death. But the debate could just have easily have been about abortion, or the redefinition of marriage, or a host of other current moral ‘hot potatoes’, for his statement sums up the philosophy of secular humanism that is coming to dominate our culture. In the absence of faith in God, the only compass left for my choices is my own wants and desires. Indeed, the rejection of God is often explicitly commended as the prerequisite for moral and emotional maturity – the ability to stand on my own two feet and make my own decisions. To believe in God is to forfeit my freedom.

Of course, even a moment’s thought reveals significant flaws with this creed. For a start it is simply not true. All of us live in a network of relationships that means that I can never act alone without impacting the lives of others. The husband who abandons his wife and children may try to justify his actions with the claims “It’s my life”, but most onlookers (not to mention his wife and children) would condemn it as utterly selfish. Likewise, the teenager who ruins a family holiday by only considering his own wants is rightly regarded as immature. The fact is that humans are fundamentally relational beings, rather than autonomous individuals.

Which explains why ‘it’s-my-life-ism’ is also an unliveable philosophy. If I try to retain exclusive possession of my life, I will shy away from all relationships that might tie down and make me committed or indebted to others. I will end up lonely, isolated and self-absorbed, which sadly describes the lives of a growing number of people in our culture: they are busy, successful, rich in possessions and experiences, but they have no-one with whom to share these things.

But the ultimate tragedy of this belief in human independence is that it places an unbearable weight on the individual to take sole responsibility for their happiness. My present well-being, not to mention my eternal joy, rests on me and my choices. If I am unhappy, I have no-one to blame by myself and no-one to rescue me but myself. No wonder it’s a short step to demanding the ‘right to die’.

What a relief, then, for the Christian to hear the words Paul wrote to the church in Corinth: *‘You are not your own; you were bought with a price.’* By creation I belong to God, but in my sin I have rejected his loving ownership. Yet God loved me so much that he was willing to buy me back as his possession at the infinite cost of his own blood. My eternal security and happiness rest no longer on me and my efforts but on him and his past work of redemption. To the ears of those who place independence above all else, this language of belonging sounds like slavery but, as the Christian discovers, it is perfect freedom. It is only as more see through the lies of our culture, that they will discover the joy and security that comes from belonging to Christ.

With every best wish,

Phil Parker

*Rector*

## **Appleton Community Preschool**

Appleton Community Preschool is saddened by the news that the current Village Hall committee will not seek re-election, and we would like to thank the members for all their hard work during their tenure.

The ACP is a group of parents committed, first and foremost, to establishing a viable Pre-School in the village that meets the needs of the community.

The results of the recent public questionnaire showed a clear mandate for exploring the potential of the Village Hall as the venue.

There were some very informative comments and helpful suggestions that we will take on board.

Once the new Village Hall Committee is in place, we look forward to working with them, getting back to the village about the matters arising from the questionnaire, and engaging with the community over future plans for the preschool.

## **The Comet Minibus**

Have you ever thought about using the weekly Comet minibus service into Abingdon, that runs on Monday mornings? Villagers who use it, use their time in Abingdon for all sorts of things: visiting the doctor's surgery, shopping, meeting friends, or having a coffee.

The minibus leaves Appleton at 10.10 and returns from Abingdon at 1pm. You can pick up the Comet near School Lane and on Netherton Road near the village hall. All we ask is that you donate £2.50 towards the return cost of your journey. There is a money box on the Post Office counter that can be used for the donations. The additional running costs of running the service are met by Appleton with Eaton Parish Council and Fyfield and Tubney Parish Council.

## **March 4<sup>th</sup> Celebrations Return to Appleton**

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March, after a break of 2 years, the bellringers will be celebrating the 205<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the original ring of six bells being given to the village in 1818 by the then Lord of the Manor, Robert Southby.

A peal of Stedman Caters, conducted by Stephen Stanford, will be attempted in the morning starting at 10.00 am; this is expected to last until about 1.00 pm.

In the early evening, local members of the Appleton Society will be joined by ringers from around the country for a dinner in the Village Hall, after which there will be handbell ringing and traditional ringers' songs, including the March 4<sup>th</sup> Song composed by John Harding in 1818, will be sung.

# APPLETON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL invites you to COLOUR RUN

**SATURDAY, 18TH MARCH**

**at Appleton Sportsfield  
Netherton Road OX13 5QW**

Gates Open at 2:45 pm.  
Group Warm up at 3:00 pm.  
Run Starts at 3:15 pm

Dress Code: White tee, sun glasses /swimming goggles (to protect your eyes.), and throw on some colourful accessories (tutu, hairband, hat etc.). Dont be shy!

You don't need to be running to attend the event. Come for cakes, drinks, snacks and to enjoy the colourful vibe

**CASH  
ONLY**

**Suggested donation: £5/child**

(included in price: a participation medal)

COLOUR  
RUN



## **Trustees Wanted - Campaign to Protect Rural England - Oxfordshire**

### **Do you care about your local countryside?**

Want to make a difference?

Due to retirement of current trustees, we are looking for an Honorary Secretary and a Board Member to join our team.

This is an excellent opportunity to play an influential role in a respected and long-standing environmental charity, applying your experience to make a real difference and to be part of a friendly group that is passionate about the Oxfordshire countryside.

Application deadline is **30 March 2023** in the first instance, but we are happy to receive expressions of interest on an ongoing basis.

For further info, please contact our Branch Director, Helen Marshall.

E: [director@cpreoxon.org.uk](mailto:director@cpreoxon.org.uk)

T: 01491 612079

See our website for more information: [www.cpreoxon.org.uk](http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk)

### **Farewell to a Much-Loved GP**



Over 50 people gathered at the Kennington Health Centre on Friday February 3rd for an afternoon tea party to say thank you and farewell to Dr Mary Akinola on her retirement from the GP Practice.

Dr Mary had joined the Kennington Health Centre on March 4 2002. John Ashton, the chairman of the Botley and Kennington Patients Participation Group recalled that Dr Mary had attended the earliest meetings of the PPG from 2013 and was a regular

attender. When the Botley Health Centre took on the Kennington Surgery in 2017 Dr Mary remained.

John Ashton thanked Dr Mary for everything she had done and wished her a pleasant and happy retirement.

Dr Mary was presented with two gift vouchers, one for a department store and one for a bookshop. Numerous cards and other gifts were brought to the tea party for her. In response Dr Mary said she was overwhelmed, She felt she was not just a GP to those present but also a friend and that traffic was two way. She thanked those present for sticking with the Practice and said that she prayed for something better to come. It had been a privilege to be part of their lives, from great grandmothers to little children, and both were present at the occasion. She said it had been an absolute joy to be part of their lives and thanked them for putting up with her for 21 years.

A further presentation was made to Sylvia Buckingham, a former chair of the PPG from 2016, who was stepping down from her membership of the group.



## **Easter Egg Hunt**



Barry and Rachel are once again organising the Appleton Easter Egg Hunt. After such a couple of unsettling years and the success of last year's event we thought it would be a lovely tradition to continue.

Parents, Carers, Grandparents, Aunties and Uncles please bring your children along to **LONG CLOSE** (the field behind the Church) on **EASTER SUNDAY** at **3PM** when the fun will begin.

In the past this event has been enjoyed by so many of the children from the parish. We have always managed to make this a free event for all and would like to do the same again this year. We fund this event ourselves and with kind donations from local organisations, businesses, and private sponsors. If you are able to make a donation, please contact Rachel or Barry who would love to hear from you. Donations can be monetary, or if you would prefer in chocolate eggs. Any donation, whatever the size would be very much appreciated.

Please come along and join us for a fun afternoon.

Kind regards,

Rachel and Barry Knight

Tel: 01865 864977 Mobile: 07584426030

rachelknight954@btinternet.com

## **Appleton WI**

Our March meeting will be on Thursday, March 16th at 2pm in the Village Hall.

It is our very important Annual Meeting when we look back over 2022, and elect the committee and officers for 2023. We'll have a quiz when business is completed, and there will be the usual raffle and bring and buy stall.

Before then some of us will be lunching at The Chequers on March 15th. Get in touch with Jennie Revill if you'd like to join us. It has an excellent reputation.

Elaine Flint

01865 861838

# Gardening Club



In February we had a very interesting talk on Shakespeare's Plants and Gardens given by Andrew Mikolajski who is an experienced gardening author and has a particular interest in garden history.

Andrew first looked at the flowers quoted from Shakespeare's plays and told us which plants Shakespeare may have been referring to – for instance a gillyflower might be either a carnation or stock, both of which were grown at the time, and woodbine could be any climbing plant. Popular plants at the time were pansies, often referred to as Cupid's flower, lilies, lily iris and crown imperials amongst others. Medicinal plants were also grown some of which had been brought back by the Crusaders. Knowledge of herbal plants was passed from woman to woman who gained a reputation of being witches.

Andrew then talked about Kenilworth Castle where the Elizabethan Garden has been recreated using plants which would have been available at the time. The castle was gifted to Robert Dudley in 1563 and when Elizabeth 1 was to visit the castle he planted up a garden especially for her. It is thought he might have planted beds full of pansies. This garden is laid out following the design of Islamic Gardens – rectangular area divided into four with paths between each bed a fountain in the centre, an aviary and two arbours planted with honeysuckles.

At our next meeting we will have a talk by Rosy Hardy on Spring Flowering Perennials. Rosy founded and runs Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants in Whitchurch, Hampshire which specialises in herbaceous perennials. She will be bringing a selection of plants for sale. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm in the School Hall. Visitors are always welcome to join us and there is a small charge of £2.

## **St Laurence Church Appleton with Besselsleigh Revision of Electoral Roll**

In preparation for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which will take place on 3rd May, the Electoral Roll needs to be revised. The revision period will take place between 5th- 17th April. Electoral Roll forms are available to collect from the porch, St Laurence Church. Please place completed forms in the box just inside the door by 17th April, or contact Carol Dodimead directly for a form [carol.dodimead@gmail.com](mailto:carol.dodimead@gmail.com)

The Church electoral roll is the foundation of the whole structure of synodical government in the church. It contains the names and addresses of everyone who can vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. If you are baptised and over 16 (or will be 16 in the next twelve months), a member of the Church of England and are a resident in the parish or have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the past six months you are eligible to be on the electoral roll.

## **Appleton Community Shop March 2023**



### **Exciting news – we own our own freehold premises!**

The Board are delighted to report that the freehold of the Village Shop is now owned by Appleton Community Shop Limited.

In the days when the shop was privately owned the owners of Rowan Cottage (the thatched cottage behind the shop) also owned and ran the Shop. When, in 2000, the then owners decided that they could no longer run a shop, a group of villagers got together and set up the Community Shop and for the last 22 or so years the Shop has been paying rent to its Landlord.

A while ago, the opportunity presented itself for us to buy the freehold of the Shop and, after careful consideration, the Directors agreed that it would be a good thing to do as it both secures the asset for the village in perpetuity and, although there will still be constraints on the space available and what can be done with it, it will allow us to develop the business as we would want. The Directors approached our volunteer base and were delighted and impressed with the number of people who stepped straight up and offered to support the purchase with long term and generous loans. We were able to raise the money to buy the freehold outright.

Thank you, thank you to those generous lenders who, together with the Shop's Board of Directors, have enabled us to ensure that the Shop's freehold premises are now in Village ownership.

Not having to pay rent is a bonus and a welcome one especially at a time when we are having to work hard to keep our other costs manageable. We use a large amount of expensive electricity to keep the chillers and freezers going and all other costs continue to increase as well. Never has the word Community been so important to the Shop. Without our remarkable and flexible team of volunteers Appleton would not have a shop. The support provided by Volunteers and the Board to the management team means that the Shop remains open for a remarkable 64 hours week after week! You only have to be working there at 7 am when families have a 'breakfast crisis', at 5.59 pm when there is no supper in the house or, best of all, Christmas Eve when the sellotape has run out, to know how valued the Shop is in the Village.



With our huge thanks for the ready willingness of so many to support our Village Shop, in this case in particular to those who have supported us in buying the Freehold.

Long may Appleton Community Shop continue!  
The Directors

PS We plan to celebrate our purchase along with celebrating the King's Coronation. Watch this space for the Big Help Out celebrations on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May

### Shop Opening Times

Monday-Friday 7am-6pm

Saturdays: 8 am-1pm

Sundays: 8 am -12 noon

### Post Office

Mondays and Thursdays 9am-1pm

**Take a look at the Community Shop home page on the village website at:**  
**[www.appleton-eaton.org/appleton-community-shop](http://www.appleton-eaton.org/appleton-community-shop)**



And Follow us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/appletoncommunityshop](http://www.facebook.com/appletoncommunityshop)

Shop Tel No: 01865 863191    [appletonshop@gmail.com](mailto:appletonshop@gmail.com)

### MONTHLY TURNOVER

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
May	30,553	21,608	23,699
June	28,172	25,008	25,008
July	28,988	26,461	27,427
Aug	24,338	23,714	25,651
Sept	22,704	22,317	24,070
Oct	22,402	21,125	24,066
Nov	22,995	21,844	24,697
Dec	24,992	24,552	26,788
Jan	22,924	20,223	22,995
Feb	22,000	18,923	



### Ring for the King

Throughout the United Kingdom, plans are being made to *Ring for the King* to mark the Coronation of King Charles III on 6<sup>th</sup> May.

Appleton Church has a world-famous ring of 10 bells, however, after restarting ringing post-Covid, we only have 7 ringers left and urgently need to recruit some new (or lapsed) ringers to help us ring all 10 bells to mark the Coronation.

If you are interested in learning to ring (you need to be over 10 years old) or are a lapsed ringer and would like to return, please contact the Tower Captain, Michele Winter ([michele.winter@btinternet.com](mailto:michele.winter@btinternet.com)) to find out more details.

## **News from the Appleton with Eaton Parish Council:**

### **2023/2024 Precept**

The Parish Council has created its budget for the 2023/2024 financial year which can be found on the website under the Parish Council/Finance section. The Council took into account comments from residents on the precept as well as looked at the running of the council and has created a budget which has kept the increase in the precept to 5.2%.

If you have any questions on the budget, please feel free to contact the Clerk.

### **Pop-Up Café**

The Pop-Up Café will continue to run the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month with the next one taking place on the 9<sup>th</sup> March.

All ages welcome – and we'd love our Ukrainian residents to know you are more than welcome!

We hope to see you there!

### **Parish Council Elections – May 2023**

Elections for Parish Councillors will take place in May 2023. The Oxfordshire Association for Local Councils is holding a free session called **'So you want to be a councillor?'** on the **15<sup>th</sup> March from 2-3pm.**

**The session will be held via Zoom and there is no need to book. If you are interested in attending, please contact the Clerk who can provide you with the Zoom details.**

**If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk who can provide you with information on the electoral process.**

### **Litter Pick**

The Council is looking to hold a litter pick, focusing on the verges on Netherton Road up to the A415. If you are interested, please contact the Clerk.

### **King's Coronation**

Plans are advancing for a Big Lunch/Tea on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> and to celebrate our Village volunteers with a Big Help Out Event on Monday 8<sup>th</sup>.

More detail will be given in the April Advertiser but if any individuals, groups or clubs have any ideas and/or are planning a public village event that they would like included in the programme for the weekend or would like to become involved in any way, please do contact the Parish Clerk at [parishclerk.appletonwitheaton@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerk.appletonwitheaton@gmail.com) by the 11<sup>th</sup> March.

## A420

The Council would like to remind people who are walking at night to please carry a torch and wear reflective clothing. This is for everyone's safety.

### Dog Fouling

Huge thanks to the vast majority of dog walkers in the village who pick up after their dogs.

However, a very small number of owners are continuing to allow their dogs to foul footpaths and verges. In particular the footpath to Besselsleigh woods from the church is often the site of uncollected dog waste despite there being a bin at the gate to the church yard and (often) spare bags at the entrance to the pathway. This is a path regularly used by fellow villagers and their children.

Please pick up after your dog everywhere - the village, the footpaths, the fields - and help to keep the parish clean and safe for everyone.

**Allison Leigh, Parish Clerk**

**01865 865 876 / parishclerk.appletonwitheaton@gmail.com**

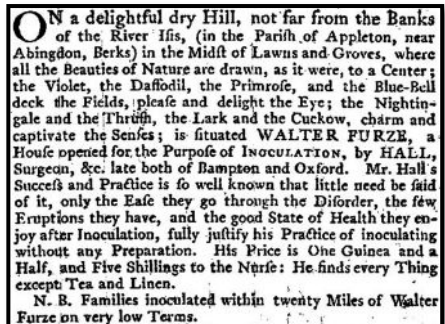
### Appleton History & Health – Viruses

We have seen a lot of viruses and vaccinations in the last three years - but such experiences are not new. 245 years ago a Dr Hall was practising inoculation in Appleton against a much-feared virus – smallpox. He used a dwelling called Waters Furze - about a quarter of a mile upstream from the end of Badswell Lane.

Here he practiced smallpox inoculation. He took a piece of smallpox scab or pus from an infected person and scratched into the skin of his patient. A smallpox infection would ensue – but only about 1% would die – compared to as much as 25% in an epidemic. The patient would remain at Waters Furze for up to a month – looked after by a nurse. Dr Hall's fee was a guinea and a half plus five shillings for the nurse – all in about 37s (£1.85) - equal to six weeks of a labourer's wages; clearly only for the well off.

Some 20 years later a new method - vaccination - was created – an invention that has probably saved more lives than any other.

John Evans



**O**N a delightful dry Hill, not far from the Banks of the River Isis, (in the Parish of Appleton, near Abingdon, Berks) in the Middl of Lawns and Groves, where all the Beauties of Nature are drawn, as it were, to a Center; the Violet, the Daffodil, the Primrose, and the Blue-Bell deck the Fields, please and delight the Eye; the Nightingale and the Thrush, the Lark and the Cuckow, charm and captivate the Senes; is situated WALTER FURZE, a House opened for the Purpose of INOCULATION, by HALL, Surgeon, &c. late both of Dampton and Oxford. Mr. Hall's Success and Practice is so well known that little need be said of it, only the Ease they go through the Disorder, the few Eruptions they have, and the good State of Health they enjoy after Inoculation, fully justify his Practice of inoculating without any Preparation. His Price is One Guinea and a Half, and Five Shillings to the Nurse: He finds every Thing except Tea and Linen.  
N. B. Families inoculated within twenty Miles of Walter Furze on very low Terms.

## **Appleton with Eaton History Group**

The Group would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the Village Map. We are getting very close to our target. Further donations to get there are welcome and can be made via the JustGiving website: [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/appleton-information-board](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/appleton-information-board), via cheque at the collection point in the village shop, or by bank transfer to Appleton with Eaton History Group, Barclays Bank (20-97-48, Acc.No. 83760227)

The next meeting of the History Group will be on Thursday 2nd March at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Committee Room. Everyone is welcome. We will shortly be advertising dates for our events this year so watch this space!

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## **Green Appleton**

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### **Green Windmill Day**

Appleton's version of a recycling swap shop.

(Just because it's not useful to you, doesn't mean it's not useful to someone else!)

Saturday 25th March (daylight hours)

Pick up your windmill and instructions from the village shop from 18th March.

Let's make this the biggest one yet!

### **Tuesday 4th April**

#### **Free Fun 'Wild' Morning**

at South Lawn Barn 10am to 1pm

JOIN US for fun activities for all the family- whatever the weather - with Wild Oxfordshire, Oxfordshire Mammal group, Farrant's Farm, story telling, seed planting ..... and more.

Refreshments will be provided at minimal charge.

Dress for outdoor activities

For ideas of numbers, please register your interest at the following email: [greenappleton2021@gmail.com](mailto:greenappleton2021@gmail.com)

**Watch out for future Green Appleton events**

## 'As Mad as a March Hare'

This phrase has been around since the 16th century, just like 'hare brained'. I'm referring to the brown hare, Britain's fastest wild mammal. They can reach speeds of up to 45 mph and outrun most pursuers, outwitting them by running in a zig-zag, swerving fashion. The 'mad March boxing' is usually a female 'jill' fending off the attentions of a male 'jack', standing on their hind legs and literally boxing, either to show that she is not yet ready to mate or as a test of his determination. Spring is their main mating season although breeding can take place between February and September with as many as three or four litters of two to four young. Baby hares are known as leverets. They're born fully furred and eyes open so that they are ready to run from predators if need be. Lifespan is 3 to 4 years and is a solitary one entirely above ground (unlike rabbits) sleeping and breeding in shallow depressions known as forms. Hares are nearly twice the size of rabbits with longer black tipped ears, orange eyes, reddish brown fur and powerful hind legs. Hares are herbivores; their favourite food is grass but they will also eat flowers, seeds, vegetables and fruits. Typically hares can be seen bounding across fields, so grab some binoculars and head out ring side, I mean field side, and you might just see a good fight!



Did you hear about that bald guy down Netherton Road that got rabbits tattooed onto his head? From a distance they looked like hares.

Oh yes, and on a warm March day 'keep 'em peeled' for a buttery yellow brimstone.

Next month: Easter gems

Clive

Charwood House



### **Evergreen Club**

The Evergreen Club will meet on March 10th at 2pm in the Village Hall.

All welcome, just come along and enjoy tea and company. It will be nice to see you.

### **Appleton Village Hall**

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## Botley and Kennington PPG AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Botley and Kennington Patients Participation Group will be held on Tuesday 21 March at 6.30 at Kennington Health Centre in person and online. Any patient wishing to an item to be considered at the meeting is asked to notify the secretary, Chris Sugden on [csugden@ocrpl.org](mailto:csugden@ocrpl.org) by March 7th

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Siobhan 07765780672  
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small contribution for maintenance would be  
appreciated.

Contact Jennie Revell 863611

**Appleton website is now**  
[www.appleton-eaton.org](http://www.appleton-eaton.org)

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# St Laurence Church

## Appleton with Besselsleigh

A growing church eager to serve the community

### SUNDAY SERVICES

#### March 2023

- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>** *A song from the deep – Jonah 2*  
**8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)**  
**10.00am All-age Service**
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>** *Away with this man – Luke 23:13-25*  
**10.00am Holy Communion**  
**6.00pm Evensong (BCP)**
- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>** *The long walk – Luke 23:26-31*  
**10.00am Morning Service**
- Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>** *Father, forgive – Luke 23:32-38*  
**10.00am Holy Communion**  
**6.00pm Evensong (BCP)**

Please consult our website for up-to-date information  
[www.stlaurenceappleton.org](http://www.stlaurenceappleton.org)

**The church building is open every day for all to visit**

#### **Who to Call:**

For enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Pastoral Care, Holy Communion at home, Church Buildings, please contact Rev'd Phil Parker on 01865 655867 or email him on [rector@stlaurencechurchappleton.org](mailto:rector@stlaurencechurchappleton.org)