

THE APPLETON WITH EATON

# Advertiser

PRODUCED BY THE CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY

JUNE 2023

NUMBER 670

## **St Laurence Church, Appleton with Besselsleigh FAREWELL TO Phil and Isabel**

Phil's last service as Rector of Appleton with Besselsleigh will be an  
All Age Service

on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at **11.00 a.m** (NB later time than usual)

It is hoped that as many as possible will be able to join us at this service and there will be a BBQ held outside Church immediately after the service to which all parishioners are warmly invited.

To assist with the catering it would be helpful to have a rough idea of numbers so if you hope to attend please could you sign up next time you are in or passing by St Laurence or let Jane Cranston know on 863681 or [jane@cranstonjane.co.uk](mailto:jane@cranstonjane.co.uk)

We much look forward to seeing you there

St Laurence PCC

## ***Dear Friends***

I've had numerous conversations over the past few weeks about my move from Appleton this summer. Many were over the Coronation Weekend at all the splendid events organised by those working hard behind the scenes. Thank you to all those who played any part in them!

Two questions dominated those conversations: When is my last Sunday and what does the new job involve? Allow me to seek to answer both.

My last Sunday will be 2nd July and I'd like to invite, as many as would like to come, to join us for church that day. We're moving church to 11.00am that morning and following it with a BBQ, to which you are also invited. This will be an opportunity for me to say 'Farewell' and 'Thank you'. I do hope you're able to come.

The military charity I'll be working for, as Ministry Director, is SASRA – the Soldiers and Aviators Scripture Readers' Association. Isabel and I will move locally and, although their HQ is in Aldershot, I'll work mostly from home. Much of my time will be spent visiting the 20 staff who deliver the charity's mission, supporting them and encouraging them.

SASRA has the privilege of working alongside military personnel, taking the opportunity to show how Christian values and ethics support and reinforce the values and standards of the British Army and the Royal Air Force. Jesus Christ's selfless service and ultimate sacrifice have been an inspiration to generations of men and women serving in our Armed Forces, from whom we expect so much. It all started in 1818 when Sgt Rudd, a Non-Commissioned Officer in the Royal Artillery offered the scriptures, biblical literature and his personal witness to his colleagues. His efforts founded the Soldiers' Friend Society, turning into the Army Scripture Readers' Society and merging with the Soldiers' and Airmen's Christian Society in 1938. This ministry was sustained with active ASRs deployed forward to support our soldiers in both World Wars, and in peacetime, across the world in various garrison locations.

Currently, SASRA has Army Scripture Readers deployed in army bases across the UK. All ASRs have previous military experience and are passionate about sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with the soldiers they work alongside. Throughout the careers of our soldiers, ASRs will offer testimony, exhortation, fellowship and encouragement, whether their soldiers be in basic training, their everyday workplace, on exercise, or in pre-deployment training for overseas tours.

With my very best wishes

Phil Parker

*Rector*

## “Don’t tell him, Pike”

Don’t panic, don’t panic! No, I’m not down at Walmington-on-Sea re-enacting Dad’s Army. This month, *Esox lucius*, the pike, a largely solitary fresh water apex predator that can be found all over Blighty in our rivers, lakes, canals, reservoirs and lochs, often lurking in the vegetation and bursting out with ferocious speed to catch its prey. They mainly feed on other fish but also frogs, small mammals and ducklings with larger fish taking small ducks and moorhens. The territorial pike is a long slender fish, olive green with cream blotches and belly, the dorsal fin set back near to the tail making them quick and powerful. The British record is 46lbs 13ozs, caught in a reservoir in South Wales back in 1992, but larger fish have been found dead, in fact I have a taxidermic specimen that was found dead (mine is just over 36lbs and 43” long.) The name pike comes from the shape of the fish which resembles the medieval pole-like weapon, the pike. Young pike are known as jacks. Females can grow up to five feet in length and live for 25+ years, their jaws full of hundreds of razor sharp teeth. So next time you go wild swimming take care as you may just come out with less than you went in!

Why not purchase yourself a permit and see if you can catch one. I’ve caught plenty over the years and if you don’t, hey-ho, you’ve enjoyed all the other wildlife and fresh air, but watch out for those teeth if you do!

Two Parrots are sitting on a perch.

One bird asks the other one "Does something smell a little fishy to you?"

If you can think of a better fish pun, let minnow. (Note to self: You stupid boy!)

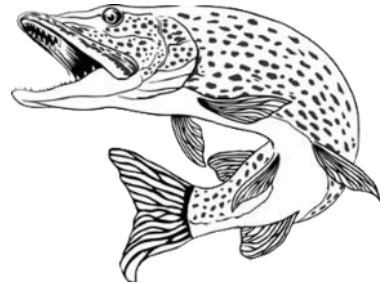
Something to look out for this month: how about a barn owl. With our lovely long evenings get out into the countryside and just before dusk see if you can spot one quartering. If you’re lucky you may see one during the day.

Next month: Carry on Screaming.

Tight lines!

Clive

Charwood House



## Appleton Voluntary Transport Scheme (AVTS)

We try to arrange transport to medical and dental appointments in Abingdon, Oxford, Witney and Wootton for residents of Appleton, Eaton, Fyfield and Besselsleigh, who have no other means of transport.

The contact telephone number is 07503 447884. Leave a message if your call is not answered and we will get back to you.

Please note that

- Covid safety measures remain in force and masks need to be worn
- We need at least 48 hours notice of an appointment
- There is a small charge to cover the driver’s costs.

Demand for our service is picking up again, but we are very short of drivers. If anyone would be happy to help, please do contact us.

# Opera in the Garden

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 7pm (gates open at 6pm)

In the riverside garden of Cubs Puddle, Millway Lane, Appleton.

All funds will go to St Agnes Court care home in Banbury for damaged and disabled people and the James Cowper Kreston Foundation, providing grants to local charities.

Bring your own picnics and seating as usual and enjoy an evening of opera, operetta and songs from the shows.

Tickets £15 each from Claire Barratt

[Cbarratt28@gmail.com](mailto:Cbarratt28@gmail.com) / 07767 400419

# Candles for Ukraine

Do you have any old candle ends? At St Laurence Church we are collecting candle-ends to help Ukraine.

Inlight Ukraine is a charity which makes 'trench candles' similar to those used in WW1 and WW2. They are made from empty tin cans, cardboard, and melted candle-wax.

Soldiers in trenches and civilians sheltering in bombed out basements are without heat or light. These simple trench candles burn for several hours, so food and water can be heated and light provided. This makes a lot of difference and raises morale. For further information: <https://inlightukraine.com>

There is a collection box in St Laurence Church. Please bring any candle-wax you have and leave it there, and we will take it to an Inlight collection point in Oxford.

*Barbara Payne & Pete Day*



# AGM **appleton** **village hall**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 7:45pm**  
**in the main hall**

This is a statutory meeting as required by our charity commission articles at which the chair and treasurer will present their annual report and the new committee will be formed, based on those who have previously applied by the deadline of 6pm on Thursday 25th May.

## **Appleton History & a glimpse of the future ?**

Some friends went for a pleasant walk in Bessesleigh Woods a week or so ago. Such was the atmosphere that the thought of a poem about the woods occurred to them. One of the friends had a mobile phone with live access to ChatGPT – an Artificial Intelligence chatbot.

After very little hesitation the friends decided to ask ChatGPT to write a poem about their walk in the Woods. In a matter of seconds the chatbot replied with 84 words –

I pause and listen to the birds,  
Their sweet and gentle song,  
A symphony of nature,  
That's been here all along.

A stream runs through the forest,  
Its waters crystal clear,  
A gentle babbling melody,  
That soothes the mind and ear.

The air is filled with fragrance,  
Of flowers and of earth,  
A scent of peace and harmony,  
That's present from our birth.

As I walk through Besselsleigh Wood,  
I feel my spirit soar,  
A sense of calm and gratitude,  
For nature's open door.

Note the mention of the stream in the woods – not an input. This is just a glimpse of what Artificial Intelligence systems are capable of – both beneficial and sinister; many, many questions will follow.

ChatGPT was only released some months ago and the question of who owns the copyright of this poem arises; it's unclear as original copyright assumes a human creative input. It is an example of technology being ahead of the law.

James PAGE

John EVANS

### **What would you like to see in your Advertiser?**

Could we make the Advertiser more interesting? If so, how? What sort of content would you like to see? Can't promise cutting edge journalism or salacious celebrity gossip but maybe we can improve what we have.

Send your ideas to [editor.advertiser@gmail.com](mailto:editor.advertiser@gmail.com) or on paper to 30 Eaton Rd. Appleton.

No hate mail or incendiary devices please.

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

## **Coronation Thank You!**

Thank you so much to all of the many volunteers who came forward to make the Coronation weekend a memorable one! It was a wonderful weekend from start to finish and the coming together of Appleton, Eaton and Besselsleigh made it happen.

Special thanks to James Mansfield, Felicity and Richard Dick and Jane Cranston to leading the charge over the three days!

## **Vale of White Horse District Councillor**

Appleton with Eaton's newly elected District Councillor is Mark Coleman. Mark is eager to hear from residents as to anything you would like to raise with him. He will be making himself available in the village and these sessions will be advertised. He can be contacted via email on [Mark.Coleman@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:Mark.Coleman@whitehorsedc.gov.uk).

## **Pop-Up Café**

The Pop-Up Café will pause until October 2023. Many thanks to the craft group for all of their support of this event. We also would like to thank Rosemary Munro for her lovely playing of the harp at one of the mornings. We welcome any ideas for the future of the pop-up café.

## **Traffic works by Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)**

OCC sent the following report on traffic works on the 15th May. These have also been sent in a shout out in mid-May:

### **Update on the railway closure between Didcot and Oxford:**

Network Rail engineers have made good progress on building the temporary structure that will support the Nuneham Viaduct bridge. Work to reopen the railway by 10 June is on track and Network Rail is working closely with us and local bus operators to also progress Oxford station improvements.

### **Road closures affecting A34 in May and June:**

National Highways will be carrying out essential repair work on the A34 at Wolvercote between 11 May and 26 June. This will involve a series of overnight and weekend carriageway closures of the A34 between the Pear Tree and Botley interchanges, with a diversion route in place.

We are aware of the inconvenience this is likely to cause, as the timing coincides with the closure of Botley Road for Network Rail's redevelopment of Oxford Station in addition to the railway closure south of Oxford. However, National Highways is not able to defer the works.

While this essential safety work is taking place, the northbound and southbound carriageways will be closed at different times to reduce the impact on other routes. National Highways will also collaborate with utility companies during this period so gas and water repairs can be carried out at the same time.

The A34 will be closed **southbound** between the Pear Tree and Botley interchanges:  
Weekend: Friday 2 June, 9pm to Monday 5 June, 6am.  
Overnight: Tuesday 6 June, 9pm to Wednesday 7 June, 6am  
The A34 will be closed **northbound** between the Botley and Pear Tree interchanges:  
Weekend: Friday 9 June, 9pm to Monday 12 June, 6am.  
Weekend: Friday 16 June, 9pm to Monday 19 June, 6am.  
Weekend: Friday 23 June, 9pm to Monday 26 June, 6am.

**Allison Leigh, Parish Clerk**  
01865 865 876 / [parishclerk.appletonwitheaton@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerk.appletonwitheaton@gmail.com)

## **Appleton School Celebrate the Coronation with Local Residents and Governors at a Royal Themed Lunch!**

On the eve of the Coronation of King Charles III, pupils and Friends of Appleton School welcomed some very special guests from the community to a celebration lunch and entertainment. Those who came included local residents and members of the Appleton WI and Evergreen Club. We were joined by some residents of a local care home which the school is linked with.

The school hall was decked with a beautiful array of red, white and blue decorations hand-made by the children.

After lunch, guests were entertained to a re-enactment of the Coronation with Appleton School's King and Queen for the Day from Year 6, crowned by our own Archbishop of Canterbury- Rev Phil Parker in disguise! We were treated to a bugle fanfare and a run through of the Coronation Service to come the next day. All the different stages were explained and acted out magnificently by King, Queen and Archbishop!

The pupils sang a special song written for the Coronation and we finished by joining in with a rousing rendition of the National Anthem.

It was a really special occasion and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone there. Thank you to all the staff and Friends of the school who made such a memorable event possible. It was a great start to the Coronation weekend.

And the Big Help Out Continues:

As part of the Coronation celebrations, and in the spirit of the Big Help Out, all the pupils at Appleton will be involved in community-based activities during the summer term.

Year 4 and 5 helped to decorate Church Road and the Church for the Coronation weekend and over the next few weeks you may spot our Year 6 pupils volunteering in the village shop.





### NEW refillable range now in Appleton Shop!

The refill range for zero plastic waste home essentials  
Laundry detergent: Fabric conditioner: Washing up liquid: Kitchen cleaner:  
Handwash

#### How it works

1. Buy a bottle of your chosen product.
2. Enjoy using it. It's a quality, natural, product. And it works
3. When you're running low, buy a pouch of concentrated refill.
4. Return the finished refill pouch to Appleton Shop to be recycled.

Ta da! Zero plastic waste!

### The Big Help Out

Thanks to everyone who came to visit us during the Big Help Out on Monday 8th May. Our cheeses were well-sampled, there was lots of interest in our splosh range, and Carole's cakes and marmalade went down a storm.

### Carole's home made cakes and marmalades

Thanks to all those who partook in the arduous task of sampling five different types of cakes at the 'Big Help Out' event!

Feedback was very clear and, having taken on board your views, we will be slightly altering our cake ingredients. Fresh, delicious (officially!) homemade cake by the slice available daily for £1.65 from the shop. Treats in store for all of us!

For those who followed the cake tasting with a marmalade tasting we can report a resounding 'wow' and here can't report much in the way of 'clear feedback', except that all five marmalades were thought to be delicious and people liked different ones.

The home team admit to a sneaky preference for the 'Three Fruit Marmalade' but it was agreed that all five were outstanding.



An enormous thank you to Carole for her hard work and wonderful support of the Shop!

### How can you get involved?

We have about 60 regular volunteers, but with summer approaching we are always happy to welcome more. Most people work for 1-2 hours a week, including manning the till, opening up, sorting newspapers, baking, ordering and collecting products. Term-time only? No problem. Don't want a regular commitment – no problem! Want to try out without commitment, no problem!

For more information, pop into the shop, or drop an email to [laura.olver@icloud.com](mailto:laura.olver@icloud.com)

### Friday night supper club

Hoping for some warmer weather, how about a tapas evening?

Stock up on hummus, tzatziki, salamis and meats, cheese, crackers, a few nuts, perhaps a carrot or some celery cut into batons to dip. A bottle of Rioja, and you're set for the evening. All we need now is some sunshine....

### Shop opening times

Monday-Friday: 7am–6pm

Saturday: 8am–3pm (1pm until 10 June)

Sunday: 8am–12noon

### Post Office

Mondays and Thursdays, 9am–1pm

Shop telephone: 01865 863191

Email: [appletonshop@gmail.com](mailto:appletonshop@gmail.com)

Follow us: <https://www.facebook.com/appletoncommunityshop>

### 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	£23,195
March	£24,876	£22,318	£27,445
April	£22,316	£21,454	£23,622

## Appleton Village Hall

Suitable for meetings, parties, dances and wedding receptions.  
[www.appletonvillagehall.com](http://www.appletonvillagehall.com)

## **A WARM WELCOME FOR HALL'S NEW CEILING**

RESIDENTS in Appleton and Eaton celebrate a potential 90% reduction in heat loss at the village hall, thanks to a new insulated ceiling funded by a grant from FCC Communities Foundation.

As energy prices go through the roof, the insulated ceiling, new web-based heating controls and LED lighting are designed to minimise heat wastage and slash the costs of running the hall.

As well as ensuring the many users of the hall are warm and heat is not wasted, the improvements also provide a welcome brighter interior to this popular but dated village facility.

FCC Communities Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation that funds environmentally friendly projects which meet a proven community need. Encouraged to find out more by Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE), the Village Hall Committee was delighted to find that the Appleton project qualified and the formal application process began.

In due course, a grant from the Foundation to cover the full cost of improvements (£11, 557.60) was agreed.

Colin McGuire, Chairman of Appleton Village Hall Committee, says: "The hall is a focal point for the village and these improvements will make a real difference not only to the many people who use it, but also to the local environment generally".

"We are extremely grateful to FCC Communities Foundation for providing funding and to the FCC staff who were so very helpful at every stage of the application process. Without this support from the Foundation, we would not have been able to go ahead with this important energy saving work."

Replacement of the ceiling took four days to complete and was timed to cause the least amount of disruption to activities in the hall. These include community social events, charity fundraising and being a central venue for essential village organisations, such as the Parish Council, to meet.

Whether it is the Women's Institute, the Evergreen club for older members of the community, attendees at the regular exercise classes or coffee get-togethers held in the hall, the local community joins the Committee in expressing gratitude to the FCC Communities Foundation for granting the funding that made the transformation possible.

## **Evergreen Club**

Next meeting June 9th in the Village Hall at 2pm

Tea/chat and entertainment.

Come and join us - all welcome

## **SAVE THE DATE**

An Evening of  
Singing and Satire  
In Appleton Village Hall  
With Louise Woodgate  
And Terence Blacker  
Saturday 23rd September

## ***An Evening of A Capella, From Ballads to Barbershop***

a concert brought to you by Synergy, Oxford Harmony and Harmony InSpires, takes place in Wesley Memorial Church, New Inn Hall St, Oxford OX1 2DH on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7.15pm; tickets are £12, students £8 and children under 16 free. For more information see: <http://synergysingers.co.uk>; <https://oxfordharmony.org.uk>; <https://www.harmonyinspires.org>

## **Appleton Trust Hardship fund**

The Appleton Trust has some funds available to help those individuals or families in immediate hardship with no other means of support.

Please apply to the Clerk to The Appleton Trust at [ClerkAppletonTrust@yahoo.com](mailto:ClerkAppletonTrust@yahoo.com)

The Appleton Trust takes your privacy very seriously and will not pass your personal details on to anyone.

## **Appleton with Eaton History Group**

We hope everyone has had an opportunity to view the village map which was unveiled by Elo-die and Eleanor, two members of our scout group, on Coronation Day. Despite the wet weather there was an enthusiastic crowd to witness the event.

Our next project, "The Coronation Time Capsule" began over the Coronation Weekend. We are aiming to leave a record for future generations of villagers so they know how we currently live, work, and play. Full information is available on the Village Website and we will be advertising the project further over the next few months. Please collect a card, or cards, from the Village Shop and tell us something about your lives here. We hope that every age group will join in the project.

If you would like any further information on the History Group or the Time Capsule project please contact Rosie Page, Helen Stedman ([helen\\_stedman@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:helen_stedman@yahoo.co.uk)) Jackie Lewis ([jackeielewisthame@gmail.com](mailto:jackeielewisthame@gmail.com)) or any member of the History Group.

## **Appleton WI**

After 5 fun days in Blackpool, and yes, we danced on the floor of the famous Tower ballroom, it's back to business as usual.

We meet on Thursday, 15th June at 2pm in the village hall, when we shall hear about how the badger problem is being dealt with in a humane way. It promises to be an interesting talk.

There will be a raffle and a bring and buy stall, and visitors are always welcome.

Elaine Flint

01865 861838

## **Green Appleton**

### **\*STOP PRESS\***

### **Visit to Longmead**

This visit has now been re-scheduled for the evening of 7th June.

Join us and see the work of Catriona Bass at Long Mead, Eynsham.

If you haven't heard about the very important work that is taking place in the meadow next to the River Thames, have a look at the website:

[www.longmeadowwildlifesite.org.uk](http://www.longmeadowwildlifesite.org.uk)

If you are interested in joining us please let us know as soon as you've read this item by using the email below.

### **Bug Hotels**

You may have noticed our bug hotel in the south of the churchyard. We're delighted to tell you that we have another against the wall on the school side of the churchyard too. Thank you to the scouts for all your hard work.

### **\*NEW\***

### **We're going on a Nature Hunt.**

Are you a budding bird watcher, or enjoy looking for bugs? Do you have hedgehogs visiting your garden? Do you have a pond with frogs and toads? How many different sorts of bees or butterflies can you see?

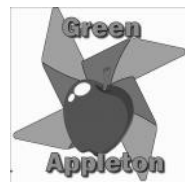
We're launching our Green Appleton Garden Wildlife survey and we'd love everyone to get involved - young and old. We're hoping you'll be able to upload your findings and any photos to the Parish Website. There'll be prizes and we'll report back in the Autumn.

Look out for more details in the July Advertiser

AGM - advanced notice

Please join us for our AGM on 10th July.

If you're interested in knowing more or getting involved please contact Green Appleton here: [greenappleton2021@gmail.com](mailto:greenappleton2021@gmail.com)



## **Anyone for Abingdon?**

Fancy spending time in Abingdon without the hassle of driving and parking? Consider using the Comet minibus that leaves Appleton at 10am on Monday mornings and returns at 1pm.

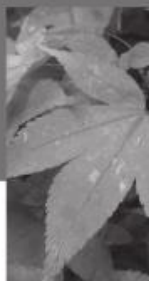
The minibus is a very sociable way to travel and could allow you to fit in a surgery trip, a visit to Abingdon market or a relaxing coffee break.

We suggest a £2.50 donation towards each return journey. If you have any questions about the minibus, please phone Mary on 07812 354496.

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### **DAVIDSON-DECORATING**

Interior, and wallpapering.

References available.

Siobhan 07765780672

[davidsondecorating@gmail.com](mailto:davidsondecorating@gmail.com)



### **APT HARD LANDSCAPING**

Paving: Fencing :Stone walling:

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maintenance

Andy:07887778784

email:[andyphthomas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:andyphthomas@hotmail.co.uk)



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**WI wheelchair is now available for use.** A  
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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NOTE: This newsletter is also available  
on the Parish Website. If you do not wish  
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good faith, and the Appleton with Eaton  
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# St Laurence Church Appleton with Besselsleigh

A growing church eager to serve the community

## SUNDAY SERVICES June 2023

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	<i>I am the Way</i> – John 14:1-7 Holy Communion (BCP) All-Age Service & coffee, croissants, chat & children’s activities
	10.00am	
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	<i>I am the Vine</i> – John 15:1-8 Holy Communion Evensong (BCP)
	6.00pm	
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Morning Service Guest Speaker: Eve Lockett
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	<i>I AM</i> – John 8:48-59 Holy Communion Evensong (BCP)
	6.00pm	

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 655867, or email him on [rector@stlaurencechurchappleton.org](mailto:rector@stlaurencechurchappleton.org)