

THE APPLETON WITH EATON

OCTOBER 2025

NUMBER 698

Advertiser

PRODUCED BY THE CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY

st Laurence Harvest Supper

ALL Proceeds will
support the
EMBO project
in KZN, South Africa
through Medic Assist
International

FRIDAY 10th OCTOBER 2025
IN THE BARN, SOUTH LAWN
6.00 - 8.30PM (SUPPER AT 6.30 PM)

ALL WELCOME
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
RAFFLE

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
THE COMMUNITY SHOP

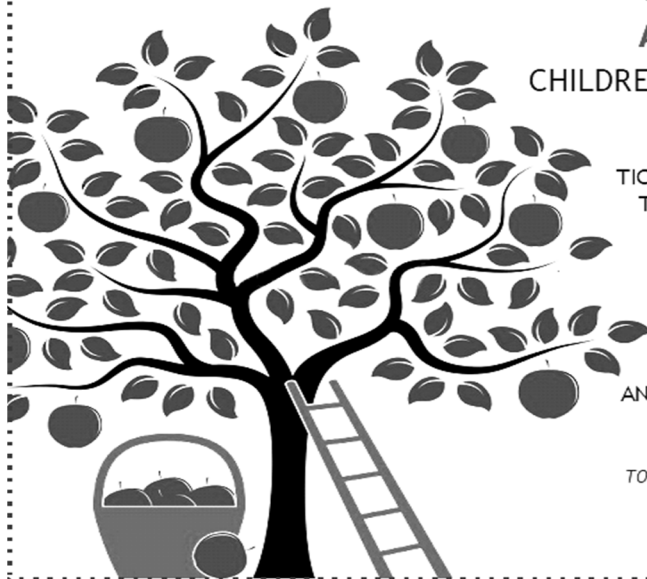
£10.00 ADULT

£5.00 CHILDREN
6-14 YEARS

FREE FOR OVER 75
AND UNDER 6 YEARS OLD

PAYING BAR AVAILABLE

TO ASSIST WITH THE CATERING
PLEASE COULD TICKETS
BE PURCHASED BY
Monday 6th OCTOBER



In the spitting image of God.

by the Revd Wealands Bell, Rector

The mists and mellow fruitfulness are back; and the Church thanks God for the harvest once again. All over England, small children go to school armed with tins of tuna fish. More recently, Church practice involves thanksgiving for the whole of Creation at harvest-time: St Francis' feast-day is 4 October and, with his green, animal-loving credentials, it seems good to bind it all together in one great celebration of what we receive on earth.

It is part of the bedrock of Christianity that God is the ultimate source and sustainer of all things. From baby otters to jammy dodgers, God has created everything out of nothing, and 'Behold!', says the Bible, 'it is very good!'

This isn't so much an early piece of consumer-feedback as an important theological reflection: God is good, so the world God made is good. Matter is good. The flesh and bone we are made of are good, and those who are drawn into a pessimism about humanity might think again. You and I, dear Reader, are made 'in the image and likeness of God', insists Genesis 1.27. We may try to disguise the fact, behaving more like brute beasts than angels. But if we are in truth animated with the breath of God (Genesis 2.7), then we should reflect that constantly. We may be particularly intelligent, highly evolved apes. But we are rather more than that besides.

For some, God's image and likeness are most clearly visible in our rationality. For others, it's seen in our creativity, or through our wise stewardship of the earth's resources.

Whatever we take our defining characteristic to be, Genesis leaves us with two further ideas. Chapter 1 concludes with the Sabbath, the rest-day that marks God's completion of the perfect creation. Humans are commanded to observe this day, to be drawn further into the life of God, and to experience a foretaste of that eternal rest in God which is our human destiny. (There's more to Churchgoing, you see, than meets the eye.)

The second idea dominates Chapter 2, the finding of a spouse for Adam, 'bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh', someone with whom he can build the great human community to which we also belong, knit together in families and friendship groups, reflecting the divine image corporately as well as individually.

All of which is why the children take tins of tuna for their school's donation to local food-banks. Because all we have is from God, and because, like us, all our neighbours are made in God's image, this time of celebration involves recognising the divine presence in others, whatever their national, economic or legal status. We are God's; they are God's. When we have grasped this harvest-time truth, caring for 'these little ones' as diligently as we can is not only an inviolable obligation, but an indelible joy.

*To celebrate **Harvest and Creation Festival**, join us in church on **Sunday, 5 October**, for a short, über-relaxed, family-friendly service at 10am. We meet from 9.40am for coffee and pastries. Come and say hello! The **Harvest Supper** is at 6.00 for 6.30pm on **Friday 10 October**, South Lawn, Netherton Road, 6.30pm.
Details from Village Shop.*

The Last Escape



The ropes were tight: the flames were real: the applause never came ...

A play of enemies, regrets and ghostly revenge

"A thrilling one-man show packed with character wit and surprises."

Saturday 15th November, 8pm

Tickets £10 on the door

Cinema club

RENEE ZELLWEGER CHIWETEL EJIOFOR LEO WOODALL COLIN FURTH HUGH GRANT
**BRIDGET JONES
 MAD ABOUT THE BOY**



Rating [15]

Thursday 16th October

Adults £6, £4 under-16s

Bar open from 7pm, film at 7:30pm

Drinks interval

Appleton WI

A very successful "Tea at the Ritz" was held in August, when we welcomed many visitors. Everyone gave generously to our collection for Women's Aid.

We also celebrated our president's 90th birthday as she joined a growing group of nonagenarians. Ninety is the new eighty, if not the new seventy!

In October we have our Harvest Lunch. We meet in Appleton village hall at 12 for 12.15 on Thursday, October 16th, when we will have a short presentation by Age UK. We shall have a two course lunch followed by tea or coffee. The charge will be £7. There will be the usual stall and raffle.

Elaine Flint

01865 861838

Appleton Chapel

Tues 7th Oct 7:30pm	Healing and "Heart to heart" forum. Caring and sharing fellowship
Sun 12th Oct 3pm	Harvest Festival
Mon 13th Oct 7pm	Sale of all harvest gifts and flowers, fruit, vegetables and grocery items. Exceptionally cheap.
Thurs 23rd Oct, 7pm	Applejack Club
Dr Ken Stallard	01235 868304

Appleton with Eaton Tennis Club

Car parking

Pressure on our car park is increasing, particularly during our popular junior coaching sessions on Friday afternoons. **Please walk or cycle to the tennis club if you can**, so we can reduce traffic on Badswell Lane and avoid overspill car parking, both of which affect our neighbours. The tennis club car park is reserved for tennis players and those bringing children to play tennis.



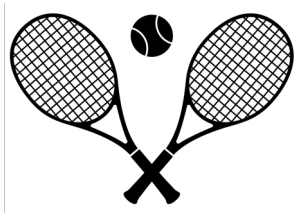
Cardio Tennis (non-members welcome)

Cardio tennis sessions are suitable whatever your standard and are run by Head coach Bart, on Thursdays from 10.30am-11.30am. You must sign up before the session (on the WhatsApp group) and pay as you go with cash. Email appletonwitheatontennisclub@gmail.com if you are interested in joining the Cardio WhatsApp group.

Membership

If you would like to join our friendly tennis club, please email the club on appletonwitheatontennisclub@gmail.com or turn up at one of our club sessions (Saturdays 10 am-12 pm, Wednesday 7-9 pm, or Thursday 1.30-3.30 pm).

For more information see: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/AppletonwithEatonTennisClub/>



Appleton History - Ancient Fields

In 1830 the landscape of Appleton changed dramatically. Before then there were no fenced fields – the land was a wide open space.

This open land was divided into long narrow strips about 6ft wide; each strip was given to a family. Each year the lord of the manor and villagers met to agree who was going to get what – in order to share the land fairly; animals were kept separately in pounds and there was woodland – for timber.



The bulk of the crops grown were wheat or barley interspersed with whatever was in current fashion. Each strip would be carefully maintained by brushing earth away from the edges to the centre; over time the strips became ridges. These ridges can still be seen as “ridge and furrows” in some fields.

In about 1830 the law divided Appleton land into plots held by chosen farmers; this announcement was nailed to the Church door. These new fields had to be enclosed by fences – thus the Appleton we see today.

These fields were often ploughed and over time the ridges disappeared. There is a very small patch of land in Appleton that still has its ridge and furrows.. I visited it recently but there is no easy public access to it - its boundaries are now very overgrown. The aerial photo of 20 years ago shows the field as it was.

John EVANS

je@oxmed.net

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.

PICKLEBALL SESSIONS



**APPLETON
VILLAGE HALL
EVERY THURSDAY
4:45 – 6:45PM**

**FIRST SESSION FREE
EQUIPMENT PROVIDED**



Appleton Poppy Appeal 2025

Donation boxes will be located at:

- Appleton Community Shop & Post Office
- The Plough
- Eight Bells

Collection points will be available at Millets and Webb's Garden Centre.

Pin badges can be found in your area, and they also can be reserved/ordered by messaging me on 07342812801. (Collection or delivery can be organised.)

Your support and generosity last year helped us raise just under £5,000 - a tremendous amount - and we thank you in advance for your donations for this year's Poppy Appeal. All your donations are invaluable in enabling the Royal British Legion to provide life-long support to serving and ex-serving members of the British Armed Forces, and their families.

Thank you, Jamie Butcher

This year's Poppy Appeal will run from 23rd October, with Remembrance Sunday being 9th November

Join us for

APPLE PRESSING on

Saturday 11th October at

South Lawn Netherton Road Appleton

In aid of A BAND OF BROTHERS

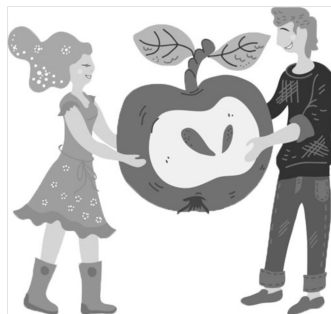
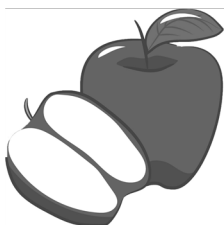
www.abandofbrothers.org.uk

Plenty of apples provided (bring your own if you like, but not necessary)

Suggested Donation: £5 for pressing

BBQ - pay on the day

Please bring cash and bottles (screw top)





Green Appleton

We'd like to say a huge thank you to those that came to Woodfest. It was a fabulous event. We'd like to thank Besselsleigh Wood Group for their hard work. Green Appleton ran a nature treasure hunt and we asked people to create pictures of hedgehogs and butterflies, combining colours and found items from the woods. If you'd like to see some of the fabulous creations you can find all of them on our website using this link: [https://](https://greenappleton.org.uk/timelapse/woodfest2025)

greenappleton.org.uk/timelapse/woodfest2025.

Restoration project in the churchyard:

We have now done the final mow in the area to the south of the churchyard. You'll notice that we've left a small area along the wall of the Manor. This is done to leave an important habitat for insects that are still active. You might feel it looks a little untidy but it's creating homes for lots of creatures so it's doing a really important job and fits beautifully with our remit for the restoration project.

Date for your diary:

Our next repair cafe will be Saturday 25th October, 10-1 in the Village Hall. Please don't take items for landfill - keep them and see if we can give them another lease of life!

Green Appleton needs you!

You'll notice that we've been very busy of late and we'd definitely like to keep things going but we're feeling a bit thin on the ground. We'd love you to get involved - even if it's to stick posters up, doing a bit of washing up or baking for the cafes or just giving us your thoughts on what we're doing. You're all very welcome and we'd love to hear from you.

Please contact us: greenappleton2021@gmail.com

EVERGREEN CLUB

Our next meeting will be on Friday 10th October at 2pm. There will be a quiz as well as tea and chat. Please remember those photographs of when we were very young!

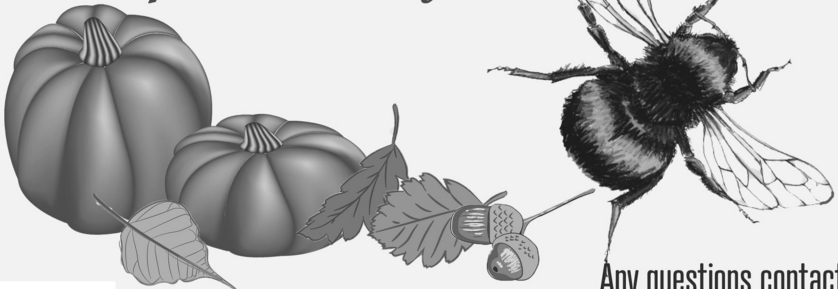


Green Appleton Autumn Repair Cafe

on Saturday 25th Oct 10am to 1pm
at Appleton Village Hall

* Sharpening *Garments
*Small Electricals *Computers
*Jewellery *Bikes

*Come along, bring your
item for repair and have
a free cup of tea and piece
of cake while you wait*



Any questions contact
greenappleton2021@gmail.com



**Vale
of White Horse**
District Council

Supported by VOWH
Climate Action Fund

October at your Village Community Shop



As the crisp autumn air settles in, the Community Shop is preparing for the season ahead.

Soup

A wide range of soup will be readily available in the shop. Varieties such as Thai Chicken, Tomato and Basil, and Butternut squash grab and go soups. The New Covent Garden Soup Co's Vegetable, Chicken or Mushroom, as well as the classic Heinz Tomato, Chicken or Vegetable.

Pop in and let us know if you have any other favourites.

Seasonal vegetables are available if you make your own soup

Halloween

Spooky Season will soon be upon us.

We'll have plenty of sweets for those trick or treat callers.

A few decorations and maybe even a pumpkin or two.

If Halloween isn't your thing - we will have posters available to put in your window specifying whether you are welcoming callers or not.

Kindling and firelighters.

Our stock of kindling and firelighters will be back, ready for those warm, cosy fires.

You'll be pleased to know that Carole is back with her range of your favourite cakes and bread pudding.

To keep you going through the colder days, our coffee machine is on and the hot cabinet is full of pasties, sausage rolls and samosas.

If you fancy volunteering at the village shop, please pop in for a chat.

Shop opening hours

Monday-Friday: 7am–6pm

Saturday: 8am–1pm (no longer summer hours)

Sunday: 8am–12noon

Post office Mondays and Thursdays, 9am–1pm

Shop telephone: 01865 863191

Email: appletonship@gmail.com

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

Shop turnover			
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
May	£27,338	£27,718	£26,869
June	£29,347	£28,268	£28,376
July	£28,208	£30,582	£27,256
Aug	£24,841	£25,678	£24,839
Sept	£24,479	£25,345	
Oct	£26,318	£26,522	
Nov	£26,600	£26,224	
Dec	£27,354	£26,525	
Jan	£24,690	£23,937	
Feb	£24,144	£22,477	
March	£26,109	£25,360	
April	£24,762	£24,843	

Thank you for WOODFEST 2025

It was two years since we got wet at the 2023 Besselsleigh WoodFest and we were all grateful for the ideal dry and warm day for the 2025 event.

From the children who were enthralled by stories of the mysterious Apple Gruff through to the adults who were fascinated by Tim Read's informative walk around the woods (which was billed to last for 45 minutes but so gripped was everyone it ran over into an hour and a half!), everyone in the family had a good afternoon.

Burgers and hot dogs were on sale, as were tea, coffee and large quantities of cake. However, as is the way in our villages, everyone involved gave their time for free and the organizers of the event would like to thank everyone from Green Appleton, Wilderness Pioneers, Earth Trust and the Story Tellers as well as all those who helped with the preparation of the site, the setting up of the event, the baking of the cakes and helping on the day for their generosity in the giving of their time and expertise.

Thanks too must go from all of us to the Monday morning Besselsleigh Wood Group who have worked so hard all year to improve the footpaths in the woods, both clearing them of growth and fallen branches as well as ensuring that they now remain useable even in the worst of the wettest winter weather.

Thanks to everyone for a thoroughly enjoyable day out in the Woods We're looking forward to the return of this much loved event in 2027!

COFFEE SOCIAL - open to all

Come and join us in the Village Hall for the first sociable coffee morning on Wednesday 8th October 10-11.30 am.

Meet up with old friends and make new ones (we will even provide tea if required) Hope you can join us.

News from the Appleton with Eaton Parish Council:

New Councillor!

Many of you may now be aware, but we wanted to be sure to welcome our new Councillor, Rob Filbrandt to the Council!

Possible Merger between Appleton with Eaton Parish Council and Besselsleigh Parish Meeting

Appleton with Eaton Parish Council (AWEPC) has been approached by Besselsleigh Parish Meeting (BPM) to consider a merger between AWEPC and BPM following the 2027 Community Governance Review. AWEPC is holding a consultation which can be found in the newsletter or on our website: appleton-eaton-pc.gov.uk.

Walking after Dark

Council would like to remind people who walk at night to please wear reflective clothing.

The Council would like to also remind drivers to limit their speed along Oaksmere where pedestrians are vulnerable, especially as the days become shorter.

Thank you in advance as we are concerned for everyone's safety.

Pavilion

Thank you to all who were involved with the Sportsfield Open Day in August. A fun afternoon was enjoyed by all and useful feedback received regarding future plans for the pavilion.

The Pavilion Working Group will be meeting in the near future to consider costs and further consultation of residents prior to the Parish Council resolving a way forward.

If you would like to be involved in any way, please feel free to contact the Clerk.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on the
6th October 2025, 7:15pm, Appleton Village Hall.

All are welcome!

Allison Leigh, Parish Clerk

07767 596 650 / parishclerk@appleton-eaton-pc.gov.uk



Appleton CE Primary School

A New Chapter

Introducing Appleton School's New Headteacher

I am writing to you with immense excitement and pride as I introduce myself as the new head teacher of Appleton C of E Primary School. I feel incredibly privileged to be joining a school with such a long history and so much to be proud of.

I firstly wanted to thank everyone for the wonderful welcome I have received from staff, parents and pupils alike. The Appleton Primary School values of respect and kindness have certainly been on display.

Of course I'm not the only one who has joined the school this term – we have several new members of staff and an entire class of 4 and 5 year olds embarking on their school journey. The term has started very well and it has been a pleasure to watch the children as they throw themselves in to their learning with such passion and excitement.

I firmly believe a school is at its best when it is deeply connected to the community it serves. That's why, in addition to the usual school priorities such as developing the curriculum, improving the quality of teaching and embedding a strong learning culture, we have identified enhancing links with the local community as a key priority within our school development plan. We are particularly keen to work more closely with local residents, community groups, and businesses in the area. The aim is to strengthen ties to create enriching experiences for our pupils and to explore how the school can contribute to the wider life of the community and vice versa.

If you think you might be able to support us in our desire to work with the wider community, please do get in contact. You would be most welcome to drop by the school office but I expect it might be more convenient to reach us via email either using the office email (office.3850@appleton.oxon.sch.uk) or you could contact me directly using the headteacher email (head.3850@appleton.oxon.sch.uk).

I look forward to getting to know you and working together for the benefit of the whole Appleton community.

Zaheer Ahmed

Headteacher
Appleton C of E Primary School

Seasonal Spotlight – Autumn

It's that time of year when the trees will be changing colour, the air is getting colder and fresher, and we can't help thinking of warm drinks, cosy clothes and playing in the crunchy leaves.

As we enter Autumn, it can be tempting to cut back all the dead and dying vegetation in our gardens and green spaces. It's worth considering that many of these woody stems will become perfect winter homes for insects as they enter hibernation and can create areas of architectural beauty in our homes and communities.

In Oxfordshire, the hedgerow species we generally recommend planting (for their capacity to provide for both people and wildlife year-round) and you're most likely to see in your local area include Blackthorn, Spindle, Common Buckthorn, Guelder Rose, Wild Privet, Cherry Plum, Dog Rose and Hazel. Fruiting season for many of these species starts from late



Wild
Oxfordshire

Riverside trees

The native white, crack, pussy, osier and goat willows are a familiar sight along the Thames and its tributaries. Willows provide shelter for birds, mammals, including bats, otters and water voles. Their leaves are the larval foodplant of the Purple Emperor, Large Tortoiseshell and Comma butterflies and their catkins the earliest sources of food for bees. Both the male and female flowers (catkins) carry sugary nectar, and the male flowers also carry protein rich pollen, which is so important for developing bee larvae. Willow nectar is also a major energy source for Blue Tits during early spring.

Traditionally managed by 'coppicing and 'pollarding', mature trees can be cut to form a thick stump or 'coppice stool' that considerably extends the life of the tree and lets in light to the shrub layer. Some Crack Willow pollards are known to have lived for 1000 years. Willow is also a useful hedge plant in damp conditions.

Trees for Bees

Trees are an important, stable long-term source of food for bees and other pollinators, providing thousands of flower heads all in one place. Plant a variety of tree species selected to benefit bees and other pollinators, with species that flower at different times of the year to provide nectar, pollen and nesting sites as well as offering a haven for other wildlife and cleaning the air and water and storing carbon.

Check out the guidance on our website for more information: <https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/guidance/tree-planting-guidance>

Hedgehog –friendly things to do this autumn and winter

Put out a shallow dish of water or make sure your ponds are easy to get out of for hedgehogs (shallow edges or a platform / ramp), so they have water to drink

Leave a wild patch each year with piled up logs or leaves that you don't disturb

Always move your burn piles before you light them as hedgehogs and frogs often use them to sleep in (this is, after-all, how hedgehogs were once upon a time cooked to be eaten!). Thankfully it is now illegal to eat this endangered species

Avoid using pesticides or herbicides as this will make hedgehogs very ill. Find out more here

www.hedgehogrescue.org.uk/hedgehog-friendly-slug-pellets/

If you want to put out food, cat or dog food is best

If you find a sick or injured hedgehog, or one up and about during the middle of the day, call Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital on 01844 292292



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COUNTY COUNCIL**

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Better Travel*

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for everyone – no Lycra needed.

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3. Take the quick Get Started Survey to earn 100 BetterPoints and start earning for your trips straight away.

Keep an eye on the app for prize draws (including electric bikes and European city breaks), boosted BetterPoints, new local vouchers and advice on how you could travel locally.

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COUNTY COUNCIL**

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Find us online

**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**

Everything for young people in Oxfordshire

Oxme.info is Oxfordshire County Council's website for children and young people, providing lots of helpful information about next steps in education, work and training, local opportunities and activities, and health and wellbeing support.

Young people can access information and services for them, such as the

Targeted Youth Support Service, Education, Employment and Training Team, and health services such as the Tellmi app.

Find us online at **oxme.info**

Advertiser

Deadline for November issue:

19th October (19th of the month is the usual deadline)

Notices for village organisations

All printed copy to the editor - just post it through the letterbox—or by email to editor.advertiser@gmail.com before the deadline. Please email if you can!

No formal payment is required but we ask for a donation towards the running costs of the Advertiser: between £5-50 depending on the length and frequency of entries. Liaise with Wanda Todd to agree an appropriate donation.

Advertisements

To book advertising space:

email Wanda Todd: accounts.advertiser@hotmail.co.uk

2012 Advertising charges per issue

●Listing:

30p per word of 3 letters or more and a minimum of £3.00 per advert. Each telephone and email address is to count as a word

●Display adverts:

£25 for a quarter page

Please indicate whether you want (1) a display advert or (2) a listing. If you want a listing the charge is made per word so please either supply the text or say how many words. Note that payment is required in advance, and for long-term adverts we would like 3 months in advance.

Cheques payable to Appleton PCC

and sent to Wanda Todd, 12 Badswell Lane, Appleton OX13 5JN



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ADVERTISEMENTS See p.14 for costs and deadlines

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DAVIDSON-DECORATING

Interior and exterior work.

References available.

Siobhan 07765780672

davidsondecorating@gmail.com



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Paving: Fencing :Stone walling:

Brickwork :Turfing:General garden
maintenance

Andy:07887778784

email:andyphomas@hotmail.co.uk



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Appleton Village Hall

Suitable for meetings, parties, dances
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St. Laurence Church website
www.stlaurenceappleton.org

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NOTE: This newsletter is also available on
the Parish website. If you do not wish
your item to be displayed online, please
inform the Editor. All items are included in
good faith, and the Appleton with Eaton
Advertiser cannot take responsibility for
any content.

SERVICES – OCTOBER 2025

Sunday 5th	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP said)
	10.00am	All-Age Harvest Thanksgiving a child-friendly Service of the Word <i>40 minutes, with coffee and pastries from 9.40am</i>
	5.30pm	Eucharist (short said service)
Sunday 12th	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
	5.30pm	Evensong (BCP)
<u>Sunday 19th</u>	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
Sunday 26th	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
	4.00pm	Evensong (BCP)
Friday 31st	2.30pm	Remembering the Departed with Hymns and Cake
Saturday 1st November	5.00pm	Memorial Eucharist said service with hymns, lighting of candles, and a brief visit to the church yard. (Wrap up warm.) (The whole service will last about 45 minutes.)
<u>Sunday 2nd- November</u>	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP said)
	10.00am	All-Age Eucharist for All Saints – <i>child-friendly</i>

The Eucharist (Holy Communion) is celebrated every Wednesday at 10.00am
(a quiet, peaceful service lasting 30 minutes)

The church building is open every day 9am to 5pm for all to visit

Contact us:

For enquiries about baptisms, weddings, funerals, pastoral care and home visits,
please contact the Rector, The Revd Wealands Bell: 01865 599003;
rector@stlaurencechurchappleton.org

For matters concerning the church building and churchyard, please contact one of
the Churchwardens: Jane Cranston: 01865 863681; jane@cranstonjane.co.uk; or
Pete Day: 01865 862671; p.h.m.day202@btinternet.com