



CROUGHTON NEWS

June 2026



Croughton Village Fête, Saturday 20th June 2.00pm–4.00pm

The countdown is on! The Croughton Village Fête takes place on Saturday 20th June from 2.00pm to 4.00pm, and preparations are well underway for what promises to be a wonderful afternoon of fun, laughter and community spirit.

Raffle Tickets on Sale Soon!

Thanks to the incredible generosity of local businesses and supporters, we have some fantastic raffle prizes up for grabs this year. Raffle tickets will shortly be available from The Blackbird, Croughton Village Tea Rooms, on the day and from members of the fête team collecting donations for the Tombola and Children's Bric-a-Brac stalls.

Tickets are £1 each or £5 per book.

Some of Our Fantastic Raffle Prizes Include:

- £50 John Lewis Voucher
- Brighton Retro Bluetooth Radio
- £25 Green Farm Voucher
- £50 Cash Prize
- Evenley Wood Garden Family Ticket
- Twisted Tree Brewery Crate of Beer
- Cottage Afternoon Tea
- £50 Voucher for Edith et Moi Hairdressers
- Plus, many more wonderful prizes!

What's Waiting for You at the Fête?

- Children's Bric-a-Brac
- Children's Games
- Book Stall
- Cakes Stall
- Plant Stall

- Face Painting
- Ice Cream Stall
- The Infamous Tombola
- Grand Raffle
- Tea, Coffee and Refreshments

Donations Still Needed

We're still collecting donations for our tombola and children's bric-a-brac stalls. Collection points can be found at:

- The Blackbird • Croughton Tea Rooms • The Co-op
- Croughton All Saints School • The Co-op • 43 Park End

Volunteers Still Needed

The fête can only happen thanks to the support of volunteers, and we're still looking for a few more people to help both before and during the event.

Whether you can spare an hour, help set up before the fête, run a stall for part of the afternoon, or assist with packing away afterwards, your help would be greatly appreciated. It's a wonderful way to support the village and be part of one of Croughton's favourite community events.

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated prizes, contributed items, volunteered their time, or supported the fête so far. We look forward to welcoming you, your family, friends and neighbours on **Saturday 20th June between 2.00pm and 4.00pm** for a fantastic afternoon of community fun.

See you there!

Please note: The raffle draw will take place at 3.30pm, so make sure you get your tickets before then for a chance to win one of our fantastic prizes.



Portway Pocket Park Community BBQs

After a hugely successful 2025 programme, this year we're hoping for more of the same – more new faces, more laughs and plenty more warm sunny evenings for our free-to-attend community BBQs, held on the beautiful and ever-improving Pocket Park on Portway Drive in Croughton (what3words: ///reform.shrubbery.commented).

This year, BBQs will be held on the last Saturday of every month between May and August as follows:

Saturday 27 June

Saturday 25 July

Saturday 29 August



How it works

Join us on the Portway Pocket Park from 5pm onwards. Bring your own food to cook on the communal gas BBQ as well as your favourite tippie, plus a dish to share (e.g. a salad, some nibbles, fruit or a dessert).

The BBQ will be ready to cook on from 6pm until around 7.30pm, then we'll chat, maybe kick a ball around or play a game, plus you can keep warm later into the evening by the fire pit. It's family friendly, and well-behaved dogs are welcome too.

If you are able, a small donation helps with our running costs, and will be most gratefully received.

Croughton Village Website

For all information on events, parish council meetings and general information etc.
www.croughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk



Croughton Parish Council – May 2026 meeting

CPC meetings are held on the second Monday in the month, at 7:30pm in Croughton Village Hall.

The minutes of all Croughton Parish

Council meetings are published on the website:

www.croughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

There were no new Planning Applications to discuss this month

A selection of items discussed:

- **Election of a Chair:** The annual process of electing the Chair for the year 2026/27 concluded with Cllr Vee Griffiths reluctantly stepping forward in order for the meeting to proceed.
- The Council noted the resignation of Cllr Kate Goodchild, and the vacancy has been advertised.
- **Allotment Wall:** The rebuilding project has taken a step forward towards the Council being able to apply for a loan to cover the anticipated shortfall. The paperwork has been agreed and will be sent to NCALC, before being sent to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for approval.

- **Allotment Working Group:** A report has been received of a break-in to sheds at the allotment, as well as further break-ins in the surrounding area. The police have been informed and are investigating.
- **Defibrillator:** A number of groups and individuals have approached the Council about fundraising for a replacement defibrillator. It was agreed to organise a meeting to get the interested parties together to discuss a plan of action.
- **Vacancy for clerk (part-time):** The current Clerk has submitted her resignation as she intends to retire by the end of August. Adverts have been posted on the website, Facebook and noticeboards. Anyone interested is welcome to contact the Clerk for further information.
- **Councillor vacancies:** There are now 3 vacancies on the Council. Anyone who is interested in becoming a Parish Councillor should speak to a current Councillor or contact the Clerk for more information: clerk@croughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or 07863 356095 (call or text).

Please note that the Clerk works part-time, so there may be a delay in responding to any messages.

The Blackbird

Finally, the garden is open and has been received well.

June Events

4th Every 1st Thursday of month is Quiz Night with Uggy's Pizza van.

6th Live Music with Amber

17th 9pm, England / Croatia

20th Live Music with Jodie / pizza van

23rd 9pm, England/Ghana

27th 10pm, England/Panama

30th Last Tuesday of month is always Thai food van.

Special Day ... July 11 "Blackbird Festival" with 5 bands in the garden.



Faulty Footpath Lighting:

Please report any faulty footpath lamps to the Clerk. You will need the number of the light, located on the lamppost, and the street name.

To contact the Clerk: clerk@croughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or 07863 356095.

Other issues:

If you are aware of any other issues around the village (blocked footpaths, overhanging vegetation, flooding, potholes etc.) please report them through the website: www.fixmystreet.co.uk

Sewing/Craft Drop In - 2nd & 4th Wednesday in the Village Hall

We have an informal get together twice a month where you can share ideas, join in with projects we have or simply do your own thing and chat.

Bring along yourself and a craft/knitting, hand sewing or your machine and latest project for 2 hours on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays each month.

No commitment and come along whenever you want – even if it is once a month or just occasionally.

£3 per session just to cover the cost of the hall.

Remember you don't have to sew or knit particularly, just any type of craft you want to join in and natter along at the same time. There's always some space if you do need to spread out.

Either come along or message the village hall email - croughtonvillagehall@gmail.com or drop Sally a message on 07949 074106.

The Croughton Wine Appreciation Group

The next CWAG event is fast approaching on **Friday 5th June – 'Wines of Moldova'**

Discover the rich flavours of Moldova and Romania, featuring both indigenous and international grape varieties.

This will be a guided tour lead by Christina Pavnoiu of Wine Chateau Ltd who will take us on a tasting that will introduce us to blends displaying a unique, regional character.

This event as always will be held in the Village Hall in Croughton starting at 8pm. There will be a short break mid-way for bread and cheese. Anyone with food intolerances i.e., dairy or gluten please let us know.

For this event members will pay £12 and non-members £18.

For those who have not been before we are a sociable friendly bunch of all ages who just love to drink wine and try new ones and learn something on the way.

The next event after this will be **July 10th**. An exploration of some of the supermarkets more unusual wines.

Please let us know if you wish to attend by emailing Martin at croughtonwag@gmail.com



Croughton Parish Council is recruiting for a Clerk/ Responsible Financial Officer

The responsibilities of the Clerk/RFO include:

- carrying out the day to day running of the Parish Council
- being the 'face' of the Council, with good communication skills (both verbal and written)
- managing the accounts and paying the bills
- producing an Agenda for the meetings and writing the Minutes
- maintaining the administration for the Cemetery and Allotments

Basic computer knowledge and experience in Word and Excel, as well as a willingness to be self-driven, would be an advantage.

The role is part time, at 10 hours per week and offers a salary of £16.35-£17.85 per hour, depending on experience. Working from home for some of the time is an option.

For further details, or if you have any questions, contact the current clerk, who is due to retire in August: clerk@croughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk



**Tuesday Coffee Mornings
at the Reading Room –
Closed until 16th June**

Astwick Vale Benefice Services for June 2026

Details at www.astwickvalebenefice.org

St. Michael, Aynho • All Saints, Croughton, •
St. George, Evenley • St. Michael and All Angels, Farthinghoe
• Most Holy Trinity, Hinton-in-the-Hedges

7th June

11.00am Communion, Aynho
9.15am Morning Prayer, Croughton
11.am Morning Prayer, Evenley
9.15am Communion, Farthinghoe
6pm Evensong, Steane

14th June

11am Communion, Croughton
9.15am Communion, Evenley
5.30pm Evening Prayer, Farthinghoe
11am Morning Prayer, Hinton

21st June

10.30am Benefice Communion, Farthinghoe
5.30pm Evensong, Croughton

28th June

9.15am Communion, Aynho
11am Morning Prayer, Croughton
5.30pm Evensong, Evenley
9.15am Morning Prayer, Farthinghoe
11am Communion, Hinton

Croughton School PTFA 100 Club

Results May 2026

1st S Morris 2nd R Worrod 3rd M Ewan

Congratulations to the winners!

There are still numbers available to join the club.
Contact the school PTA.



Rector's Ramblings

"All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well" – *St. Julian of Norwich*.

As the last Rector's Ramblings went to press I was rushing into Northampton General Hospital. My Father had suffered a mini-stroke, a side-effect of his otherwise excellent cancer medication. However, aside from a few bad days due to a virus, he is recovered. As I write this month's ramblings my Grandfather has been in Hospital for a week following a major decline with his dementia. Dealing with dementia is rather like grieving in slow motion. You care for the person, but mourn who they were.

In the last month the usual round of visits, meetings, home communion, last rites, wedding preparation, baptisms, and burials have continued. One bible passage that has come up a great deal is St. Paul's writing on the nature of love. Not only its famous description of the qualities of love (kind, patient, understanding, etc) but on its enduring nature.

Paul says that many things will change or end. The gifts of ministry and prophecy will pass away. In faith hope will give way to delight and faith itself to sight, but love is the one thing in this world and the next that endures and grows. To talk of the goodness or the love of God can seem a strange, hopeful, and removed concept. Something that may or may not be part of our lives.

Julian of Norwich, whose famous quote began these ramblings, could be discounted as the witterings of someone with their head in the clouds. Often this is how they are parroted back. It omits the context of a woman who knew a great deal of hardship and saw in Christ the personification of both suffering and through that Divine Love.

Those that love share the lot of the ones they love. To say that the distresses of our lives or the world invalidates the love of God is to not understand how we ourselves know and show love. It is not dependant on what another can offer, or what they are, or something we observe because of who they have been, it is more than that. The claims of faith do not say that none of these things matter, or that we can skip over our trials unconcerned. On the contrary our faith takes them seriously, and with that it takes love seriously, and shows us that of all, it is love endures in life and death.

I will close with the wiser words of Julian, who developed a theology of sorrow – not by reflecting on any particular cause of suffering, even her own, but by exploring how it intersects with, or teaches us about, love. Pain is everywhere but it is love, she believed, that is unconquerable: 'He said not', she reported, 'thou shalt not be tempest, thou shalt not be travailed, thou shalt not be diseased, but he said: "Thou shalt not be overcome".'

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness." – *Lamentations 3:22-23*



**KATHARINE
HOUSE
HOSPICE**

Aynho Road
Adderbury
Oxon OX17 3NL
www.khh.org.uk

Now more than ever, community support is vital. It costs over £5.9 million a year to run every element of Katharine House Hospice — the equivalent of £16,261 every day. With only around a third of this cost provided by the government, we rely on our local community to help us continue delivering vital specialist palliative care for local adults living with an incurable illness.

Rose to Remember

Rose to Remember has become a special part of our hospice calendar. From 9 to 21 June, 600 beautiful purple roses will form a temporary installation in the peaceful grounds of the hospice, creating a space for reflection and remembrance. Each handcrafted metal rose honours the life and memory of someone special, and over 200 have already been sold. To find out more or buy your rose, visit: www.khh.org.uk/rose-remember

Upcoming Open Gardens

Spring is in full bloom, and we've got a wonderful line-up of beautiful gardens opening their gates over the coming months.

Sunday 7 June: Aynho gardens

Saturday 13 & Sunday 14 June: Hook Norton gardens

Sunday 14 June: Brackley Care Home garden

Sunday 5 July: Katharine House Hospice garden

Friday 14 August: Old Prebendal House, Shipton-under-Wychwood

Year round, by request: South Newington garden

To find out more visit: www.khh.org.uk/gardens



WANTED

Musical Director to help refund the Parish Choir at All Saints Church Croughton. A great opportunity to help people of all ages to come together to sing.

We are looking for someone to lead a choir for 2-3 services a month, with rehearsals, and rest periods guaranteed. In return, we can offer the support of our Parish Organist and Administrator, RSCM standard rate of pay, or above, and an enthusiastic congregation in one of England's 1000 Best Churches.

This role can be tailored for the right candidate.

To know more, please contact the Rector, The Reverend George Frost.
Tel: 01869 810903, email: rev@gfrost.name



All Saints' church
Croughton, Northamptonshire



Newsletter submissions by 28th of each month to:
Georgina Lucas, 810923. email: galucas65@outlook.com
The Croughton Newsletter is published by the Parish Council.

Croughton Village Hall Regular Activities

Pilates Monday 6pm
contact Sandy on 07944 826687

Short Mat Bowls Monday 7.30pm
contact Martin on 07762 659589

Gymnastics - Brackley Gymnastics School
Tuesdays 4.00pm onwards
depending on age/class
Contact Natalie on 07447743237

Ladies Fit Club Tuesday 7.30-8.30pm
contact Zoe 07701 339605

Gymnastics - Brackley Gymnastics School
Wednesdays 4.00pm onwards
depending on age/class
Contact Natalie on 07447743237

WI
3rd Wednesday in the month
contact Diane on diane3222@hotmail.co.uk

Sewing/Craft Drop In
2nd & 4th Wednesday each month 6.00-8.00pm
contact Sally 0749074106
or email croughtonvillagehall@gmail.com

Gymnastics - Brackley Gymnastics School
Fridays 4.00pm onwards depending on age/class
Contact Natalie on 07447743237

Wine Appreciation Group
Friday 8pm (bi-monthly)
contact Martin 01869 810721 or Claire 07751 375689

BRACKLEY HOGWATCH FUNDRAISING STALL



Funding the research, rescue, rehabilitation and release of hedgehogs in Brackley and surrounding villages

An update on Grace the injured hedgehog - She came into Brackley Hogwatch back in February weighing 578g & with an infected strimmer injury all along one side, it was uncertain if she would recover from her injuries. Thankfully she has recovered very well under the dedicated care and attention of our amazing carers, although she still has a scar & is unable to fully curl up. Today she weighs a glorious 1361g. This week she has been released into a lovely safe & shady garden, we hope she'll have a long and happy life there.

Our fundraising stall at Croughton Tea Rooms has recently been revamped by Sarah, thank you! There are now lots more lovely items for sale as well as a couple of houseplants in China pots. There is also a box to recycle your inkjet printer cartridges. Please take a look once you've enjoyed some delicious breakfast, lunch or a homemade cake. Thank you everyone for your continued support.

www.brackleyhogwatch.co.uk Registered Charity no. 1188770