

THE APPLETON WITH EATON

Advertiser

JANUARY 2025

PRODUCED BY THE CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY

**HAPPY NEW
YEARI**

Two ornate, silver-colored bells with intricate patterns and a central emblem on the front. They are suspended by their clappers and hang in the center of the page. The background is a black and white photograph of a snowy landscape with trees and a path.

**Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.**

**Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.**

Alfred Lord Tennyson

WELCOME TO 2025

Gold, Frankincense, and a big slice of ordinariness

Wealands Bell, *Rector*

Happy New Year! I do hope you're coping in this harsh retail wasteland between Christmas and Valentine's Day. What on earth are we to do, with literally nothing to spend our money on? I can offer only the scantest comfort of reminding us that, with our arrival at Epiphany on 6 January, the Church is *still* only half way through the Christmas season, turning its attention away from simple shepherds and the stinking menagerie of St Luke's Gospel, to set up house with the Holy Family in down-town Bethlehem, just in time to welcome their exotic guests from the East, who slide off their bad-tempered camels and open up their precious gifts. And no, this is *not* the wise men's masterclass in buying perfect birthday presents for new-borns. These gifts are in code, informing us that this ordinary and entirely human baby is in fact our King (hence the gold), our God (incense) and our Saviour (myrrh, a bitter resin, symbol of sacrifice). Gifts of a pale lemon sleeping-suit and a Fisher-Price activity centre would no doubt have been more practical, but they would have more than somewhat missed the point. In Jesus, God is taking on our human nature, so that we can take on something of the divine nature.

As well as this story, we bring in the New Year by turning our attention to the sign of the water-become-wine at Cana of Galilee. This is emphatically not a story about keeping our booze bills in sensible proportions. Rather, it invites us to ponder the changes that might occur if and when we invite God to transform through love the ordinary things of life.

On the whole, we humans are fairly useless at living with our own ordinariness, and we do almost anything to disguise it. We dress it in finery and designer labels; and spray on the veneer of a shinier car, or a slightly further upmarket postcode. We might flee our flesh-and-blood communities by taking refuge in fantasy or the virtual world; or we build façades, or claim beliefs we do not hold, all to distract us from embracing the *who* and *how* we really are.

New Year is a good time to think about all this. We don't particularly need to get into the whole thing of resolutions if we don't want to. But just to ask that most basic questions about being an ordinary human will be useful and interesting. It might help us to accept who we are, to love and forgive ourselves in ways we might not usually manage. And if we start to value ourselves properly, we might look after ourselves a bit better; maybe even start to value other people as they also deserve. Heaven knows, we might even begin to ask ourselves whether we have grown out of God quite as much as we think we have. The answer to that question may be a real surprise. And, as always, if you want to talk about it, you know where to find me.



Green Appleton

A very Happy New Year to you all

Our next **Repair Cafe** will be on

Saturday 8th February, 10am-1pm at the Village Hall.



Please keep all your items for repair until then. Remember - **FREE** repairs, **FREE** tea and cake **and** the chance to save items from ending up in landfill. It's a win win!

PLUS (on the same day)

Green Windmill event. This is a brilliant way of recycling items that you might not want but someone else could make use of. Put your items outside your house with a Green Windmill and wait for people to take them away. Then go and see whether others have items you could rehome. Green Windmills and instructions can be collected from the shop from the beginning of February. More details in the February Advertiser.

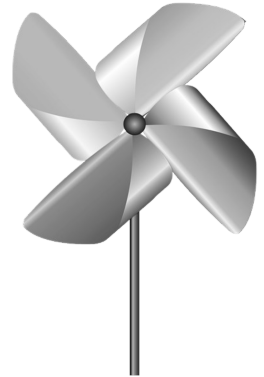


Photo stations - It's important that we record the changes across the seasons. Can we ask you to continue to take photographs using our stations and upload them as you've been brilliant in doing up to now? Remember, there are three stations in Besselsleigh Woods and one in the Churchyard

just past the bell tower. Keep the photos coming. Thank you.

iNaturalist - It's a quiet time for nature at the moment but that doesn't mean there aren't lots of interesting things to see and record. Please continue recording the nature (flora and fauna) around our beautiful parish using the app. We have well over 2000 observations now but we need more. There's a prize for the 3000th observation - and our prizes are great!



As always, if you have any questions please contact us here: greenappleton2021@gmail.com or via our website: www.greenappleton.org.uk.

News from the Appleton with Eaton Parish Council:

Congratulations to Appleton Community Shop!

The Parish Council would like to congratulate the Appleton Community Shop and all of the volunteers on their recent 2024 King's Award for Voluntary Service. Your wonderful work is much appreciated by the Council and residents, and we are thrilled that you have received this well-deserved honour!

Pavilion Working Group

The Pavilion Working Group is working on a village consultation to gather views from residents on a Pavilion refurbishment project. Be on the lookout for this in the February Advertiser!

Water on the road by Oaksmere

The Council is aware of the issue of water on Oaksmere. This isn't within the Parish Council's remit however the Council is in communication with appropriate agencies. We will continue to try and encourage these agencies to seek a resolution.

Please do continue to put any issues on Fix My Street. If you are interested in becoming an Oxfordshire County Council Superuser of Fix My Street per our note in previous editions, please contact the Clerk.

Allison Leigh, Parish Clerk

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

Pete Tompkins

On behalf of Pete's family, we would like to send our heartfelt thanks for all your kind messages at this sad time

EVERGREEN CLUB

Our meeting will be on Friday 10th January 2025. A good start to the
NEW YEAR

All welcome for tea and chat.

Appleton WI

On 16th January we shall meet in Appleton Village Hall at 2pm, when we shall be discussing the resolutions which have been proposed for the 2025 Annual Meeting. Our WI can choose one to support, so do read about them in WI Life magazine. There will be time to spare afterwards to listen to members' choices of favourite poems.

There will be a raffle and a bring and buy sale.

We are at the stage of planning the coming year's programme, so please think about what you would enjoy hearing about in our meetings.

Elaine Flint

01865 861838

APPLETON TENNIS CLUB

The Tennis Club has been busy in the run up to Christmas. We held an indoor Santa –themed fun tournament on 4th December and a presentation evening on 6th December. This was an opportunity to sample some mulled wine and mince pies, celebrate our 2024 tournament winners, juniors joining our ladies teams and the winners of the the Gilkes Cup and Polly Birch junior awards.



Adult and junior coaching will restart in January. For juniors and for the green advanced group, the sessions will start on Thursday 9th January and for everyone else the start date is Friday, 10th January. The sessions will last until the 28th March. Our head coach Bart Wisniewski will lead the coaching sessions.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

24th January - Appleton Tennis Club Meal at The Plough, Appleton

7th March - AGM at the Village Hall, Appleton.

Appleton with Eaton Tennis Club Committee

appletonwitheatontennisclub@gmail.com

Website: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/AppletonwithEatonTennisClub>

Appleton Trust Hardship Fund

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

Please apply to the Trust Clerk by email at

ClerkAppletonTrust@yahoo.com

Or Mrs Sue Halliday at 12, Netherton Road

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

Appleton Players will be meeting to discuss 2025 productions on Tues 21st January in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

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.



appleton
village
cinema

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

[PG] 1962 129 MINUTES

Appleton Village Hall
Thursday 23 January
Doors: 6.45^{pm} Film: 7.30^{pm}



Tickets on door £6 / U18s £3

COMING UP
Thursday 20 February

SIDEWAYS

+ WINE TASTING

JANUARY 2025 Appleton Community Shop news



Message from Jane Cranston, our Chair, to our volunteers, customers, staff, friends and all supporters

It seems to have become something of a tradition that for the New Year's first Advertiser I write a piece about the shop. In recent years, I've looked at the effect that Covid had on our community and our shop and I've talked about the effect that the weather, be that too hot, too cold, too windy or too wet (and we



have a lot of most of those) has, and continues to have, on shop sales. What I've never mentioned is the beneficial effect of your employing workers from outside the village to build your extensions and garden walls, to dig out your drains and mend your roofs. We like outside work people as they get hungry and thirsty and can't pop home for a lunchtime sandwich.

Especially, they seem to be very keen on pasties and fizzy drinks! Thank you for inviting them into the village and please keep on extending, repairing and employing as we move into 2025.

2024 has been another year full of 'news'. Indeed, I often wonder whether the slow decline in newspaper sales is not only because no one below a certain age gets their news from newsprint anymore, but also because the daily diet of gloomy news gets everybody down and many people no longer want to look at depressing headlines day after day!



Why are the media so reluctant to major on good news stories? So, to prove that I'll never make it in the world of media, I plan to end with a good news story!

Appleton Community Shop: 72 active volunteers, a similar number of volunteer predecessors going back 25 years, the equivalent of just one full time member of paid staff, directors and supporters plus, crucially, customers. And now we have all been recognized by the Establishment! Nearly a quarter of a century of Appleton Community Shop serving our community has seen us being awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service. This is the highest accolade in the country for groups of volunteers and awarded by assessors who knew nothing about us until early in 2024.

What a wonderful end to the year and may our commitment to our community and the goodwill of so many volunteers (and maybe even a few more!) continue into 2025 and well beyond. I'll repeat once again my usual final paragraph. Whatever is going on in the world, we are so lucky to live in lovely supportive, caring Appleton (with, of course, Eaton and Besselsleigh) and you, our customers, have been patient, polite and supportive. Thank-you. Thank-you all very much.

As we look forward to 2025 may I, on behalf of the Directors, the Staff and the Volunteers, wish you all a safe, healthy and happy year ahead.

Friday supper club

After eating almost non-stop for the past couple of weeks, I'd like to suggest a detox Friday supper. Sit down to a bowl of chopped lettuce (our pack of Little Gems are ideal), plus one of our ready-made salad dressings, and a soft bread roll. Much nicer than it sounds, and eating a meal of lettuce will make any overindulgence fade into the past very quickly.



Shop opening hours

We are back to normal for the new year:

Monday-Friday: 7am–6pm

Saturday: 8am–1pm

Sunday: 8am–12noon

Post office Mondays and Thursdays, 9am–1pm

Shop telephone: 01865 863191

Email: appletonshop@gmail.com

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

Monthly Turnover

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
May	£23,699	£27,338	£27,718
June	£25,008	£29,347	£28,268
July	£27,427	£28,208	£30,582
Aug	£25,651	£24,841	£25,678
Sept	£24,070	£24,479	£ 25,345
Oct	£24,066	£26,318	£ 26,522
Nov	£24,697	£26,600	£ 26,224
Dec	£26,788	£27,354	
Jan	£22,995	£24,690	
Feb	£23,195	£24,144	
March	£27,445	£26,109	
April	£23,622	£24,762	



ALL AGE BINGO!

APPLETON VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY 2025
DOORS 4.00PM • EYES DOWN 4.30PM

TICKETS £12.00 ADULTS £8.00 CHILD
TO INCLUDE A HOT DOG OR BURGER

PRIZES!

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
THE COMMUNITY SHOP FROM 2ND JANUARY

PAYING BAR AVAILABLE
TO ASSIST WITH THE CATERING PLEASE COULD TICKETS
BE PURCHASED BY WEDNESDAY 15TH JANUARY

EVERYONE WELCOME

 **RAISING FUNDS FOR JUBILEE PARK**



Are you experiencing rising living costs due to fuel bills?

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energy, accessing grants
and financial support.



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help**



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much for arranging
our grant. And so
quickly! Your help is
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This is a free service, supported by
Oxfordshire County Council, which could
save you money, make your living space
more comfortable, reduce stress and
improve your health.



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www.bhbh.org.uk



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**OXFORD
CITY COUNCIL**



Listening Learning Leading



**Vale
of White Horse**
District Council



**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**



RIVER TESTERS WANTED!

Free training: Friday 17th January, 10.30am – 12.30pm

One Planet Abingdon, OX14 3HG

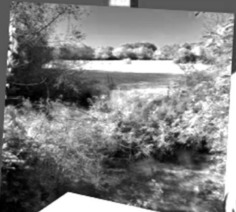
Are you concerned about pollution in your local rivers and streams? Do you have 30 minutes to spare a month?

If the answer is yes, then you could be a water watcher!

We are looking for people to monitor the health of local waterbodies every month. The data will be used to detect pollution hotspots and hold Thames Water to account. All equipment and support provided free.

Book your free place here:
thames21.org.uk/event/freshwater-watch-training-abingdon-and-the-ock/

Or email
Claire.Robertson@thames21.org.uk
Call 07856715542



Thames21 Thames21 @thames21

Appleton History – Night Sky

Appleton eyes will have long looked at the night sky. The mystery of the changing scenes of moon, stars, planets, comets and shooting stars would have formed many stories.

One of the most striking stellar winter views is that of Orion – The Hunter. He stands feet apart with his arms high above holding his weapons. Below his feet is the brightest star Sirius - his dog. Orion wears a belt – of three stars – mysteriously linked to the Pyramids of Giza.

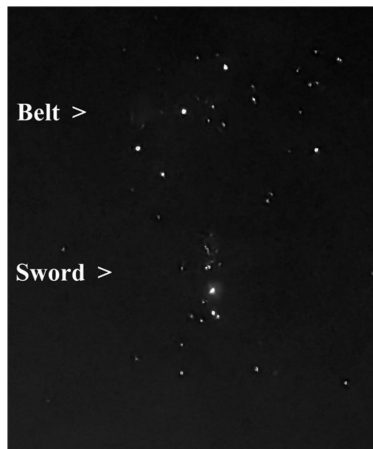
From his belt hangs his sword – a tight group of stars and a cloudy nebula – all together a rather misty visage. Surprisingly modern phone cameras can take good photographs of the details of his sword and similar sky scenes.

Phone cameras can usually “see” well into the invisible infrared part of the spectrum; often about 100% more spectral range. Hand held cameras usually have this option filtered out. Most cameras now have vibration reduction systems that help to reduce image shake.

On a clear night with a dark black sky find Orion and point your phone camera to just below his belt of three stars. Steady your camera against a doorframe or similar and take a photograph; probably several and then see what you’ve got. With luck an image much clearer than that our ancestors would have known.

This image was taken with a hand held Pixel 6 phone camera.

John
EVANS



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1 Abbey Street, Eynsham, Witney, Oxford
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Home visits available

Advertiser

Deadline for February issue:

19th January (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



FIELD | FAMILY | FORK

(but a bit naughty)
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www.milletsfamcentre.com



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ADVERTISEMENTS See p.14 for costs and deadlines

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general well-being.

13 Norwood Avenue, Southmoor OX135AD
07810 557639/tlay@espina.co.uk



DAVIDSON-DECORATING

Interior and exterior work.
References available.
Siobhan 07765780672
davidsondecorating@gmail.com



APT HARD LANDSCAPING

Paving: Fencing :Stone walling:
Brickwork :Turfing:General garden
maintenance

Andy:07887778784
email:andythomas@hotmail.co.uk



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Appleton website is now
www.appleton-eaton.org

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Lane, Appleton. Email:

accounts.advertiser@hotmail.co.uk

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.

Appleton Village Hall

Suitable for meetings, parties, dances
and wedding receptions.
www.appletonvillagehall.com

St Laurence Church Appleton with Besselsleigh

SERVICES – JANUARY 2025

Sunday 5th	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP said)
	10.00am	All Age Christingle Service with Baptism Arrive from 9.30am for refreshments and making of Christingles
	5.30pm	Eucharist of Epiphany
Sunday 12th	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
	4.00pm	Evensong (BCP)
Sunday 19th	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
Sunday 26th	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
	4.00pm	Evensong (BCP)
Sunday 2nd	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP said)
Feb	10.00am	All Age Service Arrive from 9.40am for welcome and refreshments
	5.30pm	Eucharist of Candlemass

A Celebration of Holy Communion is held every Wednesday at 10.00am

(said service lasting about 25 minutes)

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

Who to Contact:

For enquiries about baptisms, weddings, funerals, burials, pastoral care and home communion, please contact the Rector, 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; phm.day202@btinternet.com