

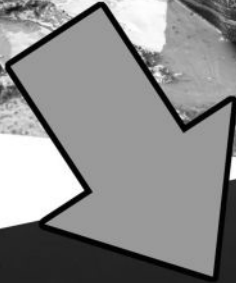
THE APPLETON WITH EATON

# Advertiser

PRODUCED BY THE CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY

MARCH 2025

NUMBER 691



**SPRING IS HERE!**

## Letting in the Light of the Lengthening Days of Lent

by the Revd Wealands Bell, Rector

### ASH WEDNESDAY



5<sup>th</sup> March

**Ashing and  
Eucharist**

10am at St Laurence's

I guess the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday (5 March) will leave most readers unaffected. Yes, I hope that anyone who fancies a pancake on Shrove Tuesday will get one; some of you may even treat yourselves to a well-fried collop the day before. But beyond that, I accept that most of our nation cares little about the Christian calendar. Even just 500 years ago, the whole life of our villages would have been shaped by the Church's fasts and feasts, whether the splendour of Easter, or the long green Sundays of the weeks after Trinity.

I regret the passing of those days, if only because we've replaced them with such very thin gruel: a bleak cycle of retail opportunities starting with Christmas and

New Year, then Valentine's and a Guinnessy St Patrick, with flowers for Mother's Day and a Chocoholic Easter, before an entire Summer of Pimm's and barbecue briquettes, till it's time for the whizz-bangs and burgers of Firework-tide, and the whole merry-go-round begins again with Christmas – which *actually* starts as soon as the back-to-school trousers and geometry sets have disappeared from the shelves in early September, to be replaced by that ultimate symbol of British culture – the plastic container of *Quality Street*.

But *Spring is Sprung! The grass is ris!* And now that we are putting the muddy pathways and winter darkness behind us, it's a good time to reflect that this is where the word *Lent* comes from. It is the extra light of the days as they lengthen (Old English *lencten*) that christens for us the forty days between now and Easter, a quarantine that can be an unappealing commemoration of Christ's temptation in the wilderness, and the re-enactment of his death in Jerusalem. It is a season marked by repentance and renunciation – giving up some small (and often liquid) pleasure; or taking on some extra virtuous discipline, like reading the Rector's column in the *Advertiser*.

But giving stuff up doesn't need to be gruelling. Perhaps we can take our cue from the Spring and (even if we don't 'do' God) use it as an opportunity for renewal, stripping away our own dead foliage by living deliberately differently for six weeks, getting into new habits and discovering new pleasures, like vegetarian cookery, or exotic tea, or an unknown author. By fasting from whatever we have grown too reliant on, we increase our future appreciation of it, counter our craving for it, and reorient ourselves more towards the deeper realities of life. Indeed, the more we examine and burrow into our own hearts, the more we discover Reality itself. And the shock of that, whether welcome or not, is that this heightened Reality is known better to many, and more simply, as God.

### MOTHERS' DAY *aka Mothering Sunday*



30<sup>th</sup> March

**All-age Celebration**  
at 10am in Church

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



The 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day is on the 8<sup>th</sup> May and the Parish Council is looking to organize events around that time. A meeting was held at the end of February to start discussions of plans and the Council will send out more information as it becomes available. We are looking for volunteers, so if you are interested in volunteering to help with these events, please contact the Parish Clerk. Here is a link to the national website: [www.veday80.org.uk](http://www.veday80.org.uk)



### **Highways-related issues**

The Council is aware of many potholes on Church Road. These have been raised for repair and our superuser has also asked for the road to be resurfaced. We don't know if the latter will occur, but the potholes are due to be fixed in the near future.

### **Litter Pick**

The Council is looking to hold a litter pick in March. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Clerk.

### **Pavilion Working Group (PWG)**

Thank you to all who responded to the questionnaire regarding the Pavilion and Sportsfield. The PWG will be meeting in early March to tabulate the results and once this is complete, further information will be sent out.

Allison Leigh, Parish Clerk

**07767 596 650 / [parishclerk@appleton-eaton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@appleton-eaton-pc.gov.uk)**

The background of the entire page is a faded, grayscale photograph of a church with a prominent steeple and a cross on top. In the foreground, there is a graveyard with several tombstones and flowers. The text is overlaid on this image.

APPLETON WITH EATON HISTORY GROUP

**God's Acre:  
Writing Village History  
from the Graveyard**

**a talk by**

**Professor Robert Evans**

**(Regius Professor Emeritus, University of Oxford)**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm  
in Appleton Village Hall**

**Everyone welcome**

**Admission £5**

**Wine and soft drinks available**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT ROGER GILKES  
TEL.01865 863640, EMAIL RHGILKES@GMAIL.COM

## **Young Farmers' Clubs in the Appleton, Besselsleigh and Wantage Area, 1956 – 58**

Does anyone in the area remember the events which Young Farmers' Clubs organised during the years 1956 - 1958? As an assistant County Organiser at that time, I remember a few in outline.

- Most memorable was the Annual Ball at the Victoria Gallery in Wantage, organised by the Wantage YFC and its secretary Suzanna. I had to present a trophy, and danced most of the evening with a young farmer from Grove. I stayed overnight with farmers at East Challow.
- Another event was the Annual YFC Rally at the Pusey Estate, organised by the Faringdon YFC and its secretary, Judith. A very windy day when the contents of one leaflet/bookstall got strewn all over the area!
- A tractor trailer tour of Binning's Farm at Besselsleigh was interesting, and was followed by an excellent supper in the farmhouse kitchen.
- The Englefield Estate provided another venue for Cattle Judging Contests, and one guest was Richard Todd the actor, who I believe had a farm himself.
- World Ploughing Championships took place at Shillingford, and Swedish Young Farmers won the day. I organised a dance in Oxford in the evening for all involved and the mayoress of the time addressed the gathering.
- Club Leaders held a weekend conference at Reading University. I remember a particular incident in which some young farmers climbed onto the roof above the girls' dormitory and frightened us all to death – me included!

The work was always interesting, meeting some young people from all over the area. When the County Organiser retired, I was asked to take over, but I declined as I wanted a private life! I joined the College of Technology in Oxford instead and started a new chapter!

Barbara Bunyan

### **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](mailto: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.

EVERYONE HAS A MOTIVE.  
NO ONE HAS A CLUE.

Appleton  
village  
cinema

# Knives Out

[12A] 2019 130 MINUTES

Appleton Village Hall  
Thursday 20 March  
Doors: 6.45pm Film: 7.30pm



Tickets on door £6 / U18s £3

## **It's time to renew the Electoral Roll at St Laurence Church Appleton with Besselsleigh**

The Electoral Roll is a list that every parish holds of all those entitled to vote on elections within the Church of England. Membership on the Electoral Roll entitles a person to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and to vote there in the elections of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and to the Deanery Synod. If you are 16 years of age or more and live in the parish of St Laurence Appleton with Besselsleigh or you are a regular worshipper in church but live outside the parish, you can join. The roll is completely renewed every six years, at which point all members have to re-apply for membership or else their names will be deleted. 2025 is such a year.

If you would like to be on the Electoral Roll a form needs to be completed. Hard copies are available in church (just inside the door), along with a box to place the completed form in. Or electronically by visiting the website [stlaurenceappleton.org](http://stlaurenceappleton.org) to download a form or email [carol.dodimead@gmail.com](mailto:carol.dodimead@gmail.com) to request one. Electronic signatures are permitted on the form, your name can be typed where the signature is required as long as it is sent from a personal email address.

Present Electoral Roll members will receive a form directly.

The deadline for returning completed forms by is **17<sup>th</sup> April 2025**.

Any questions please contact Carol on the email above or 07767796071.

---

## **Appleton WI**

On Thursday, 20th March we shall meet at 2pm in Appleton village hall for our annual meeting. This is an important occasion when the committee and officers stand down, and a new committee and officers are elected, so do come along to make your choices.

It is the beginning of the WI year and a very good time to join this wonderful organisation, so if you have been thinking that you might give it a try, this is the time to come along.

There will be a raffle and a bring and buy sale, and if there is time we shall read out a few favourite poems, so bring one along if you have one.

Elaine Flint

01865 861838

## **MARCH 2025 Appleton Community Shop news**



### **Thank you**

Many thanks to everyone who puts their loose change into the Sobell pot by the till. To date we have given £926.29 to this local charity. Every penny helps, so please keep donating, as it all adds up.



### **New sandwiches**

We have a new vegan option: spinach and carrot. Not only very colourful but also very tasty, and you don't need to be vegan to enjoy them. Give them a go, you'll be surprised.



### **Hot cross buns**

We're delighted to have hot cross buns ready for Easter (and they are so good it seems a shame to only sell them for the month). We had some tasters available earlier in February, and everyone agreed they are deeply moreish!

### **Supper club:**

Hot cross bread and butter pudding

Dig out your own recipe for this simple but delicious desert and replace the bread (or brioche) with hot cross buns for an Easter treat.

### **Shop opening hours**

Monday-Friday: 7am–6pm

Saturday: 8am–1pm

Sunday: 8am–12noon

### **Post office**

Mondays and Thursdays, 9am–1pm

Shop telephone: 01865 863191

Email: [appletonship@gmail.com](mailto:appletonship@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	£26,525
Jan	£22,995	£24,690	£23,937
Feb	£23,195	£24,144	
March	£27,445	£26,109	
April	£23,622	£24,762	

---

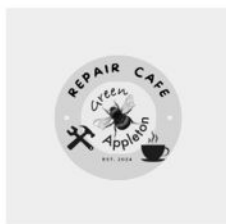
### **Appleton Voluntary Transport Scheme (AVTS)**

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.

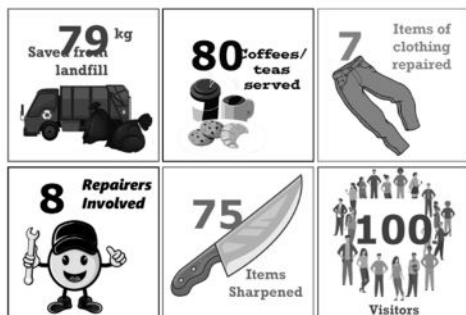


A huge **THANK YOU** to all that came to our Repair Cafe on Saturday 8th February!

### What an incredible event!

Thank you to our repairers, our bakers, our kitchen helpers, those who brought items along to be repaired and those who just came in to see what was going on. Thanks also to everyone who donated so generously towards our costs. Together with support from VOWH Climate Action Fund we are definitely able to continue these events into the future.

Here are our February statistics:



If we add in November's results we have:

- **Saved 117 KGs from landfill**
- **Sharpened 104 items**
- **Done 18 sewing repairs**
- **Served 157 teas and cakes**

And we couldn't have done it without you! **Thank you.**

Date for your diaries:

**The next repair cafe will be 31st May at the Village Hall : 10-1**

**Our other projects:**

Please continue taking photographs from our **4 camera stations** in Besselsleigh Woods and the Churchyard. Spring flowers are just beginning to show and soon we'll have a full year of records to look back on.

**iNaturalist.** As we head towards Spring, please continue to record your findings in iNaturalist. We are building a substantial record of flora and fauna in our Parish - but we need more!

## **Tantalising!**

Where did I put them? Where can they be?

Just when I need them – they decide to be lost!

I checked the laundry basket, the airing cupboard – even the washing machine – to no avail. Did I throw them out with some other items I was putting into the charity bag, I wonder? I checked again and again all the places where they could be but no joy.

I am usually a careful, precise person with items in their rightful places and these should be where I usually place them, but I cannot lay my hands on them. I was getting quite annoyed with myself and disappointed because I don't usually mislay things, particularly as the items are not numerous in number.

I need them but they are nowhere to be found. A mystery. Bother! I shall have to get some more if I can find the right type or quantity.

I decided to forget the situation for a while and continue with my usual chores, but suddenly, on mopping my bathroom floor, behold, there they were, innocently lying at the foot of the radiator! How did they get there? I must have tucked them on the radiator bars to keep warm and then they dropped down into a neat pile on the floor!

What a relief – I wasn't going crazy! Of course, what am I writing about?

My blue bedsocks!

Barbara Bunyan

---



### **EVERGREEN CLUB**

Our next meeting will be on Friday 14th February and we will be entertained by Southmoor Choir as well as having tea and cake.

See you all about 2 pm

# APP ROCK

Charity music event

Saturday 29th March 2025 Village Hall - Live music

3 artists

**Matt Russ** – Village favourite

**The Band with no name** – Great covers

**Vince Freeman** - Toured with Van Morrison and  
Scouting for Girls !!!!

Pop up food van

Full Bar

Merchandise

A great night of fun, music and dancing

Tickets £15 adult, under 16 free (with paying adult)

Available soon

## **Abingdon Riding for the Disabled**

Lower Lodge Riding Centre,  
Southmoor.  
OX13 5HW

Charity Bingo Night

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Doors open at 6:45pm  
Eyes down at 7:30pm

Great prizes



**FITSTEPS DANCE FITNESS:** Now three classes in Appleton

FitSteps is a Ballroom and Latin dance fitness workout with no partner required.

Get fit and have fun! – no dance experience needed and suitable for everyone.

There are three classes weekly available in Appleton Village Hall on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please contact [Alison.fitsteps@outlook.com](mailto:Alison.fitsteps@outlook.com) for times and more details.

## **PELLMANS**

**Your Local Solicitors**

### **• Property**

Buying & Selling Homes,  
Commercial & Agricultural

### **• Wills, Probate and Trusts**

Tax Planning & Lasting Powers of  
Attorney

### **• Business and Business Contracts**

Contracts

**01865 884400**

**[www.pellmans.co.uk](http://www.pellmans.co.uk)**

1 Abbey Street, Eynsham, Witney, Oxford  
OX29 4TB

Home visits available

# Advertiser

Deadline for April issue:

**19th March** (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)*  
"Beautiful  
breakfasts"

Now available in the  
Farmhouse Kitchen

Kingston Road | Frilford | Nr. Abingdon | OX13 5HB  
[www.milletsfarmcentre.com](http://www.milletsfarmcentre.com)



Moss Removal & Roof Cleaning  
Patio & Driveway Cleaning  
Render & Brickwork Cleaning  
Solar Panel & Skylight Cleaning  
Installation of Bird Protection  
Chimney Cowl Installation



Enhance the appearance of your property  
with our quality assured friendly service  
[info@mossinator.co.uk](mailto:info@mossinator.co.uk) - 01865 362797

# ADVERTISEMENTS See p.14 for costs and deadlines

## CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

unbeatable results & your

carpets dry in approx. 1 hour! Call Grimebusters  
01865 726983



## JAMES JOLLY

Garden clearance, maintenance, hedge cutting,  
tree surgery, fencing and patio cleaning.

Tel. 01865 390740



## 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:andyphomas@hotmail.co.uk



## STELLA MOBILE HAIRDRESSER

30 years experience. Contact Stella on 01865  
864687. mobile 07977 099975 email  
stelladixey76@gmail.com



## OXFORD WOOD RECYCLING

We have your DIY wood needs covered -  
timber, hardwoods, tool hire, friendly advice  
and low prices.

"Simple, easy and makes the world a better  
place." Morgan OWR Customer.

Find us at 4 Suffolk Way, Abingdon, OX14  
5JX

Tel 01235 861228

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

## Appleton Village Hall

Suitable for meetings, parties, dances  
and wedding receptions.

[www.appletonvillagehall.com](http://www.appletonvillagehall.com)

## Appleton website is now

[www.appleton-eaton.org](http://www.appleton-eaton.org)



**St. Laurence Church website  
now**

[www.stlaurenceappleton.org](http://www.stlaurenceappleton.org)

EDITOR: Helen Stedman 30 Eaton Rd,  
Appleton

Email: [editor.advertiser@gmail.com](mailto:editor.advertiser@gmail.com)

DISTRIBUTION COORDINATOR:

Sophie Willis.

Email: [willissophie@googlemail.com](mailto:willissophie@googlemail.com)

ACCOUNTS: Wanda Todd, 12 Badswell  
Lane, Appleton. Email:

[accounts.advertiser@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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.

**St Laurence Church Appleton with Besselsleigh**

**SERVICES – MARCH 2025**

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

<b>Sunday 2nd</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> (BCP said)
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>All-Age Eucharist</b>
<b>Sunday 9th</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
	<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Evensong</b> (BCP)
<b>Sunday 16th</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
<b>Sunday 23rd</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
	<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Evensong</b> (BCP)
<b>Sunday 30th</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>All-Age Mothering Sunday Service</b> Arrive from 9.40am for refreshments
	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>Eucharist</b> (short said service)
<b>Sunday 6th</b> <b>April</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> (BCP said)
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>

(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