

THE APPLETON WITH EATON

APRIL 2025
NUMBER 692

Advertiser

PRODUCED BY THE CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY



80

VE DAY®

80TH ANNIVERSARY

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

8 MAY 2025

SAVE THE DATE
FOR
APPLETON WITH EATON'S
VEDAYEVENTS
THIS MAY!

MORE DETAILS
CAN BE FOUND IN
THE PRELIMINARY
PROGRAMME
INSIDE

April – the cruellest and the kindest month

Wealands Bell – *Rector of Appleton and Besselsleigh*

‘April is the cruellest month (says TS Eliot), breeding/Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing/Memory and desire, stirring/Dull roots with spring rain ...’ He wants what’s dead to stay dead; his hardships and regrets to go unvisited, covered up in deep and ‘forgetful snow.’ But he finds that the bright beauty of the unfolding season contains its own opposite; every sign of life is a reminder of loss: a cruelty indeed.

I have a similar complaint: namely, that a late Easter is tricky to navigate. The earth is on a rampage of sound and colour, the woods are all birdsong and a lush green carpet of wild garlic. We duly take the children to church for their end-of-term service, and although we sing merrily about spring chickens and new Easter life, the church itself is still heavy in Lenten purple, surrounded by the grisly props of Christ’s suffering, a full fortnight away from the happy ending, the empty tomb, and the nice bit in the garden with Mary Magdalen.

It’s like this because reality is like this. We are right to believe that the good will triumph, of course! – for without the victory of the good, of order over chaos and life over death, there would be nothing in existence other than an absurd swirling of the darkness, and never a beam of light or life to move things on.

But it is a victory that keeps us waiting, and one that is constantly challenged: the jackboot is always crushing the spring flower; prophets of truth and peace are always being silenced; the weak and the poor are always the most grievous victims of injustice and war. There is always another school-shooting; another senseless illness; another migrant child, washed up lifeless on the shore.

The flower grows back, yes. New prophets arise; failure and regret are seen in a new light; and the topsy-turvy Kingdom of God is never overcome, even by the most destructive human behaviour. But none of it happens hey-presto, quick-as-a-flash, summoned by magician’s wand or conductor’s baton. We must wait for it, endure our three dark days in the tomb, and long for the release that only God and good neighbours can provide.

I do a lot of my waiting in church, where folk from round here have been waiting since about 1189. You might care to join us. Good Friday at 2pm doesn’t have the fun and *fa-la-la* of Christmas Carols, but for those who can take their reality neat, it’s good, bracing stuff. It’s more jolly on Easter Day at 10am, but you wouldn’t want to read the last chapter first ... How about both ...?

Well, whether I see you or not, I do wish you all the very happiest of Easters, and with all the goodness and kindness that a new month can bring.



Green Appleton

Spring is Sprung!

The days are getting longer and the sun is even shining

(sometimes)! And down in the woods the bluebells are greening up the ground. It's even dry enough to walk through the woods without wellies, so there's no excuse – come on down and take some photos at our photo stations, and add them to our collection. The project has been going for just over a year now, so we have a fantastic record of a full cycle of the seasons. With a bit of luck, we will also be able to compare this spring with last year's and see if there are visible differences.

Dates for your diary:

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 1st April, 7.30 at 66 Netherton Road .This is open to all, so come along if you have ideas about what the group is doing.

We will have a stand at the VE Day celebration in The Plough Inn's garden on Monday 5th May on the theme "Make Do and Mend".

The next Repair Café is scheduled for Saturday 31 May, 10am – 1pm, in the village hall. Save all your breakages and bring them along, or just drop in for a cuppa.

Hope to see you there!

SAT 10 & SUN 11 MAY

10.30AM – 5.00PM

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[15] 1998
119 MINUTES

Appleton
Village Hall
Friday 25 April

Doors: 6.45^{pm}

Film: 7.30^{pm}



Tickets on door £6
U18s £3



Appleton Chapel

Tues 8th April	7.30pm	“Heart to Heart” and Healing Forum.
Sun 13th April	3pm	Family Service followed by refreshments
Good Friday		
18th April	5pm	Meal
	6pm	Devotional Service
Easter Sunday		
20th April	3pm	Family service with refreshments
Thurs 24th April	7pm	Applejack Club
Dr. Ken Stallard		01235 868304

Appleton WI

After a very important annual meeting in March, Sally Lawton has been elected president, and the committee of the previous year will continue to serve for another year.

Our April meeting will be held at 2pm on Thursday, 17th April in Appleton Village Hall when we have a return visit from John Caldicott with a follow up to his inspiring talk about the Foundling Hospital. There will be a raffle and a bring and buy stall. Visitors are always welcome.

Elaine Flint

01865 861838

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
village
cinema

A celebration of family
A vision of love
A memoir of war
All through the eyes of a child

**Hope
AND
Glory**

[15] 1987
107 MINUTES

Appleton Village Hall
Thursday 8 May
Doors: 6.45pm Film: 7.30pm

Tickets on door £6 U18s £3

80
VE DAY
80th ANNIVERSARY
A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION
8 MAY 2025

Save the Dates for Appleton with Eaton's VE Day Events

Sunday 4th May

Special Commemorative All Age Church service: 9.40 for 10am

There will be a children's 80th VE day craft activity and coffee and croissants available for all in the church from 9.40am with an all age service starting at 10am

Also come to see the display of a large dove made by the school on the church wall, full of messages, poems or prayers for peace from the children.

Monday, 5th May

Celebrate in The Plough Inn's garden!

Afternoon: VE Day celebration at The Plough Inn's garden in Appleton. The following will be on offer:

- Fun balloon-themed fairground ride for children and adults!
- Live Jazz band playing 1940s music
- Wartime cooking competition for adults and children. Bake Anzac biscuits or honey cake – recipe to follow!: Prizes!!
- 1940s fancy dress competition for adults and children: Prizes for the best costumes!
- Green Appleton event
- Children's Games

More to follow!!

Village Hall Display

2 – 4pm: Join us in the village hall for an exhibition of memorabilia and photos of Appleton with Eaton during the war

Appleton Bell Tower

Between 2:30 – 3:30pm: Members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild will ring Appleton's church bells

Thursday, 8th May

6.00pm at the War Memorial: candlelit 'Pots for Peace'

Be part of remembering the 80th VE Day, by writing your prayer, poem or message for peace and placing it in a pot.

How will it work?

- a) There will be 80 jam jars (or more if required) with paper inside for your message, available for you to collect from the shop and the church.
- b) Write your prayer, poem or message for peace and put it in a pot. Each pot will have a red, white or blue lid (thanks to the cubs and scouts), and an electronic tea light inside.
- c) The pots can either be left in the church or shop (they will be collected), or brought by you to the War Memorial on Thursday 8th May.
- d) Join us for a short community tribute at 6.00pm on Thursday 8th May, to honour the 80th VE day and see the tea lights switched on.

We are hoping the tea lights will then last through the weekend until Monday 11th, after which the pots will be collected!

Collection boxes for the Royal British Legion will be available in the shop and church if you would like to make a small donation

6:30-7:30pm: The bells will be rung as part of a country-wide initiative to recreate the ringing of bells at that time and date in 1945.

Appleton cinema in the village hall

7.30 pm: Appleton Cinema will be showing the film Hope and Glory about World War II in London in the Village Hall.

Timings are approximate and may change. There will be an updated programme nearer the time. We hope to see you there!

Masters of War

Bob Dylan

Come you masters of war
You that build the big guns
You that build the death planes
You that build all the bombs
You that hide behind walls
You that hide behind desks
I just want you to know
I can see through your masks

You that never done nothin'
But build to destroy
You play with my world
Like it's your little toy
You put a gun in my hand
And you hide from my eyes
And you turn and run farther
When the fast bullets fly

Like Judas of old
You lie and deceive
A world war can be won
You want me to believe
But I see through your eyes
And I see through your brain
Like I see through the water
That runs down my drain

You fasten all the triggers
For the others to fire
Then you sit back and watch
When the death count gets
higher
You hide in your mansion
While the young people's blood
Flows out of their bodies
And is buried in the mud

You've thrown the worst fear
That can ever be hurled
Fear to bring children
Into the world
For threatening my baby
Unborn and unnamed
You ain't worth the blood
That runs in your veins

How much do I know
To talk out of turn
You might say that I'm young
You might say I'm unlearned
But there's one thing I know
Though I'm younger than you
That even Jesus would never
Forgive what you do

Let me ask you one question
Is your money that good?

Will it buy you forgiveness
Do you think that it could?
I think you will find
When your death takes its toll
All the money you made
Will never buy back your soul

And I hope that you die
And your death will come soon
I'll follow your casket
By the pale afternoon
And I'll watch while you're
lowered
Down to your deathbed
And I'll stand over your grave
'Til I'm sure that you're dead



Appleton with Eaton Tennis Club

Oxfordshire Coach of the year 2025!

Our club coach, Bart Wisniewski, has been awarded Club Coach of the year by Oxfordshire LTA. Well done to Bart, who coaches more than 50 juniors at our club, and was nominated by the club committee as well as by parents of our junior players. We are very pleased to have such a skilled (Level 4) tennis coach at our small club, and our junior and adult players are benefiting hugely from Bart's dedication and enthusiasm.

Membership renewals

The 2025/26 season begins on 1 April 2025. Existing members should have received an email about renewal of their membership. We are freezing junior membership rates for the fourth year running and increasing adult and family memberships by a modest 2%. The new membership rates will be:

Accompanying adult	£37
Adult	£78
Family	£161
Junior 11 and under	£13
Junior 12 and over	£26
Student	£26

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).

Date for the diary

Sat 28 June Club tournament finals day

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



APRIL 2025 Appleton Community Shop news



Easter

We have Easter celebrations sewn up! Hot cross buns, chocolates, eggs (chocolate or chicken!) cake, cards and more

New cards

We have a new stock of cards, so if there's a birthday, wedding or other event coming up, you're bound to find the right card here in the shop.



Birds, birds, birds

The birds have had it tough this year as they have struggled with the unusual weather. So treat them to some bird feed and bring more feathered friends into your garden. We sell decanted bottles of seeds so you get the price of a large sack without having to pay out for 10kg or more. And don't forget to note any birds you

see on the Green Appleton iNaturalist page.



Friday night supper club

Spaghetti Bolognese: whether meat or veggie, you'll find all the ingredients in the shop – including the garlic bread of course!



Shop opening hours

Monday-Friday: 7am–6pm

Saturday: 8am–1pm

Sunday: 8am–12noon

Post office Mondays and Thursdays, 9am–1pm

Easter opening hours

Good Friday 18th April 9–11am

Saturday 19th April 8–1pm

Easter Day 20st April 9am–12 noon*

Monday 21st April 9–11 am*

**No newspaper delivery. Shop collection only*

Post Office

Monday 21st April Closed

Tuesday 22nd April 9–1pm

Shop telephone: 01865 863191

Email: appletonship@gmail.com

Follow us: <https://>

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[appletoncommunityshop](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	£22,477
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.

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 to download a form or email 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 **17th April 2025**.

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



**** Save the Date ****

Opera in the Garden :

Saturday 12th July 7pm

At Cub's Puddle on the River Thames

More details in the June Advertiser

Claire Barratt

April News – Curlew

The Curlew's wonderful 'bubbling' call is one of the most evocative sounds of springtime in meadows and pastures across Oxfordshire. Something we cherish, but which is sadly under threat. The Curlew is arguably the most pressing bird conservation priority in the UK, where nearly half the breeding population has been lost over the last 25 years and where range contraction has seen Curlews disappear from many traditional sites.

Watch our 'Curlew River' film which explores the work of farmers and volunteers to help our wonderful Curlews as well as highlighting the fabulous ancient meadows and wet grassland habitats that they inhabit in our area.

<https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/projects/curlew>



Would you or your children like to help make an Easter Garden?

If so, please go along to the barn at South Lawn on Saturday 19th April at 10am – 11am.

Everything will be provided and everyone welcome but especially the youngsters!

The garden will be taken to church for display at the Easter vigil on Saturday evening and the church services on Easter Sunday, and for the Easter season.

Claire Barratt

EVERGREEN CLUB

Our meeting will be on Friday 11th April at the usual time. We will be enjoying Seated Exercise with Ellen, followed by tea and cake!

Leotards optional!



**SOBELL
HOUSE**
HOSPICE



Palliative care bereavement support service

We are looking to recruit volunteers for our bereavement service to provide support to family and friends who have lost someone close to them.

Are you...

- warm, empathic and a good listener?
- able to support other people's expression of grief and distress?

Do you...

- have 16 hours a month to spare?
- have your own transport?
- want to make a difference?

We provide...

- foundation level training (apx. 60 hrs).
- ongoing training, supervision and support.
- travel and phone expenses.
- online mandatory training (apx. 8 hrs).

We do not recommend this work for those who have experienced a significant bereavement in the last two years.

Training will take place from September to December 2025 and it is essential that all training is attended.

**Closing date
for applications:
30 June 2025**

**If you are interested in finding out more
or applying, please contact us on:**

W: sobellhouse.org/bereavement-volunteer

E: pallcarevolunteerservices@ouh.nhs.uk

T: 01865 225944/01865 225868



Registered Charity No. 1118646

News from the Appleton with Eaton Parish Council:



The 80th anniversary of VE Day is on the 8th May and there are lots of village events taking place during that time. Please see the programme in this month's Advertiser.

We are looking for volunteers, so if you are interested in volunteering to help with these events, please contact the Parish Clerk. There is a planning meeting at The Plough on the 2nd April at 7:30pm – all are welcome!

Also, we are looking for ideas for children's games. If anyone has any ideas, please get in touch with the Clerk and/or join us on the 2nd!

Here is a link to the national website: www.veday80.org.uk



School parking

The Council is looking for parent and resident volunteers to aid with the issue of school safety and parking during school times. If anyone who would be able to help put out the little children stands and cones at around 8am and/or 2:30pm, please contact the Clerk.

Litter Pick

The Council's litter pick will most likely be at the end of April. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Highways-related issues

Oaksmere- The closure on 25th February was for Thames Water work so we still have to wait until early April (new financial year) when the road re-surfacing is scheduled. Meanwhile, please drive carefully as it is very uneven.

Bend at the end of Eaton Road- (by turning to Eight Bells) There is uneven surfacing and potholes reported but no date for repair yet.

Fixmystreet- Please continue to use this website to report any potholes you notice. Without your help the County Council is usually unaware of them.

Meanwhile, mind how you go!

Allison Leigh, Parish Clerk

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



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NHS Health Checks

Getting an NHS Health Check is a great way to stay on top of your health. It's a simple process that can give you peace of mind and help you stay healthy.

Think of an NHS Health check as an MOT for your body. The aim of the check is to keep you as healthy as possible and reduce the chances of problems in the future.

It's all about prevention and helps detect potential problems before they get the chance to do real damage.

Speak to your GP Practice and find out more!



Oxfordshire Advice Navigator is an easy to use online tool. It can help you navigate your way through advice on debt, benefits or

support.

It takes you through step by step, question by question and gives you tailored, local information straight into your email inbox.

If we think you might need more guidance because of the answers you have given, one of the team will be in touch. It's a single place to access a whole range of advice without the worry.

Head over to oxfordshireadvicenavigator.org.uk for more information or call 01865 410 660 for advice.

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Advertiser

Deadline for May issue:

19th April (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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References available.

Siobhan 07765780672

davidsondecorating@gmail.com



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Andy:07887778784

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Appleton website is now

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**St. Laurence Church website
now**

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.

St Laurence Church Appleton with Besselsleigh

SERVICES – APRIL 2025

Sunday 6th	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP said)
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
Sunday 13th	10.00am	Palm Sunday Eucharist
	5.30pm	Evensong (BCP)
Thursday 17th	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist in the ‘Upper Room’ followed by Watch of Prayer until Midnight Come-and-go optional (and silent)
Friday 18th	2.00pm	Good Friday Liturgy (Reading of the Passion, Prayer at the Cross, Holy Communion)
Saturday 19th	8.00pm	Easter Liturgy (New Fire, Easter Proclamation and Readings, Baptismal Promises, First Eucharist), with a drink to break the Lenten fast
Sunday 20th	10.00am	Easter Day Festal Eucharist
Sunday 27th	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
	5.30pm	Evensong (BCP)
Sunday 4th- May	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP said)
	9.40 for 10.00am	All-Age Service for VE Day Refreshments from 9.40am

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