

Doynton Parish Pump

Doynton Christmas card delivery: post cards for friends in the village in the church porch from December 1st. Delivery December 23rd. Please provide full name and address!

Christmas services in Holy Trinity church: candlelight carol service on Sunday December 15th, 6.30 p.m., led by Archdeacon Christopher Bryan. Please bring a candle in a suitable holder. **Christmas Eve in Doynton** Tuesday December 24th, 6.30 p.m. at the Cross House Inn then processing down to the church, with mince pies and mulled wine to follow. **Christmas morning Holy Communion service** on Wednesday December 25th, 10 a.m., led by Rev. Elaine. (Also: **Churches Together** on Sunday December 29th, at St Thomas, Pucklechurch, 10 a.m.).

And for the pagans: **wassail** in Summers Field community orchard on Tuesday January 7th 2025, 6.30 p.m. Bring a torch and an instrument or bash a saucepan to drive the evil spirits from the orchard and promote a good apple harvest next year. And don't forget to dress warmly!

Friends of Summers Field: Sally Pattison from South Glos Council will give a demonstration on **fruit-tree and hedge pruning** on Sunday January 19th, 10.00 a.m. – free entry, with free tea and cake. Please confirm attendance (email Lisaj.Williams[at] me.com or phone 07974 771670).

Doynton Hard Half Marathon is on Sunday February 2nd, starting at 11.00 a.m. It's hilly, it's muddy, it's great fun (or so they tell us). Residents are inconvenienced as little as possible and kept fully informed. To volunteer or for further information, email dghm@emersonsgreenrunningclub.co.uk.

Seed swap and plant sale: Saturday March 8th from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in the village hall, focusing on seed from wildflowers and garden plants that attract wildlife. Garden tools, equipment and books will also be on sale.

Local Nature Action Plans: Little Things Matter: Doynton is preparing its own parish plan to help nature, addressing broader issues like preserving or recovering habitats and creating nature corridors where nature can thrive. Potential projects being evaluated are: a wildlife tower; the creation of a wildlife corridor between Doynton and Dyrham; and a scheme to monitor the health of our rivers. Contact Sarah Magraw (sarah.magraw [at] gmail.com).

Bulb planting: more bulbs planted in October – look out for them in spring!

Doynton Village Market: market dates in December are Saturdays 7th and 21st (the latter mainly to pick up pre-ordered goods, but do stay on for festive treats). We have on sale home-made Christmas puddings, and will be taking orders for mince pies and any other Christmas goodies, as well as our usual cakes, puddings, chocolate truffles, fudges, etc. If you want anything for the festive season, please pre-order (details below). Gluten-free products available to order, also apple juice, fresh vegetables and eggs. Our nimble-fingered crafters offer a varied selection of cards and pictures, plus home-made collectable soft figures and sewn and knitted products: please come along and you may find something unique! As always, please order by phone (07711 670704, **note new number**), message or WhatsApp, before midday on the Wednesday before the market. For the December 21st market, please order by Saturday December 14th at the latest. No market January 4th, next markets January 18th and February 7th and 21st.

The **Memory Cafe at Doynton** meets on Thursday December 5th in Doynton village hall: activities and companionship for people with dementia and their carers. For more information, see Facebook "The Memory Cafe at Doynton", email mcdoynton [at] gmail.com or tel. 07817 311001.

Doynton and Wick WI met for their November meeting at Doynton Village Hall. The speaker was practically a neighbour! John Lever gave an interesting and engaging presentation on four women from the past who contributed to modern art in this country. At the subsequent AGM a new Treasurer, Secretary and committee were elected, with Tina Holbrook continuing as President for a further year. In December, members will be dining at the Cross House, Doynton for their Christmas celebrations. The WI Group Christmas concert will take place on Monday December 9th, 7.00 p.m., in Holy Trinity church, Doynton. The meeting on January 8th (7.30 p.m.) will be in Wick Chapel, when Ben Stock will entertain members with songs from his repertoire.

The "**Warm Wednesdays**" **community café** is back every Wednesday, 10.30 a.m.–12.00 noon, in the village hall. Be there or be square!

Post Office in the village hall: every Thursday 9.30–10.30 a.m. for standard post office services. Order groceries by 6.00 p.m. Wednesday for collection (Oldland Common Post Office and Store, tel. 932 3159).

The Pump will be spending Christmas watching the bulbs grow.

A happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year to you all!