

Doynton Parish Pump

Christmas church services: Candlelight carol service December 17th, 6.30 p.m. Please bring a candle in a suitable holder. **Christmas Eve:** meet at the pub at 6.30 p.m. to sing carols, then move on to the church for a short family-friendly service. **Christmas Day:** Morning Worship 9.30 a.m.

Doynton Village Market: Since our last missive, the customers have returned, plus more, so a big thank-you to all who are reading this. The Wick Brownie group always bring an extra energy to the hall: this year they are raising funds to try and help buy/save the Foxlease estate down in Hampshire, a centre for Girlguiding UK. They will be with us again on our December 23rd market, so please pop in and support them. Markets are on **December 9th and 23rd** (note changed dates) and **January 6th and 20th 2024**. Order Christmas meat (pick up on December 23rd) and other goodies from Elizabeth Crew (tel. 937 3168). Lastly, all of us at the market would like to wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy 2024!

In November, **Doynton and Wick WI** welcomed Susan Symonds with some little-known facts about Queen Victoria. Susan's talk was followed by our AGM. Twelve of the 14 Committee members remain, (re)joined by Elizabeth Copping. Tina Holbrook remains for her ninth and final year as President. We need new faces for next year, Doynton and Wick's Centenary, if our WI, and indeed Avon Federation of WIs, are to stand the test of time. Next meetings: Wednesdays December 14th (Christmas meal at Tracy Park) and January 10th (7.30 p.m., Doynton village hall).

Doynton apple juice for sale: 100% pure, pressed, delicious apple juice made from Doynton apples – zero food miles! All proceeds to Summers Field Community Orchard. £3.50/bottle, £10 three bottles, £36 12 bottles. Ideal as a gift. Pasteurized, best before October 2024. Contact: Corinda 07587 175474, Jenny 07468 413228 or Chris 07712 582974.

In order to encourage another bumper harvest in 2024, we will be holding our **annual Wassail** on **Tuesday January 9th** at 6.30 p.m. in the orchard. All welcome. Come along and join this ancient tradition!

On **Friday January 19th** (7.00 p.m.), there will be a professionally-run **wine tasting and cheese pairing**, with a quiz and raffle prizes donated by the Cross House Inn, St. Aldam's nursery, etc., at Doynton village hall. Profits to Dorothy House Hospice Care. Tickets £30 from Sarah Drayton.

The **quiz night** on October 28th raised £377 for Doynton playing field. Renewed thanks to Chris, Elizabeth, John and Corinda for organizing and asking the questions. The next quiz is on April 6th 2024.

The **scarecrow trail** on October 29th raised a magnificent £1230 for Cancer Research UK. And what works of art they were!

The Doynton "Warm Wednesdays" **community café:** 10.30 a.m.–12 noon in the village hall. All welcome!

The **Doynton Memory Café** continues on the first Thursday of each month (2.00–4.00 p.m.). Tel. 07817 311001 or see "The Memory Cafe at Doynton" on Facebook.

Doynton fête: 2023 As he hangs up his fête supremo boots, the volunteers on the fête committee send special thanks to Andrew Read, who has chaired the committee for nine years and is now stepping down. This year the fête raised £4,538.32 for village causes and for charity. Andrew will still be in the village to be a fount of knowledge and provide contact details for anyone taking over the reins. Planning for the next fête, to be held on Saturday June 8th 2024, should begin in January with a few light admin tasks and then ramp up from April, so look out for committee recruitment messages around Christmas and New Year.

Dates for your diary

Thursdays 9.30–10.30 a.m.: **post office** in the village hall – use it or lose it!

Thursdays 9.30–11.00 a.m. in the village hall: **yoga classes** with Jean Foley, £9 per class. Tel 07341 347547.

Sunday February 4th 2024: **Doynton Hard Half Marathon** in and around the village. Email dhhm@emersonsgreenrunningclub.co.uk for details.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

See you in February!