

Doynton Parish Pump

A very happy New Year to everyone! Spring is on its way – three teams of gardeners have planted hundreds of **spring bulbs** around the white gates at the entrance roads to the village. Look out for the first shoots emerging!

The **Doynton Hard Half Marathon** will take place in and around the village on Sunday February 4th, starting at 11 a.m. Come along, enjoy the spectacle and cheer on the runners! Volunteers from Doynton village will provide hot drinks and cakes at race HQ (aka the playing field) in aid of Bath Welcomes Refugees. For enquiries and to offer marshalling or other assistance, email [dhhm\[at\]emersonsgreenrunningclub.co.uk](mailto:dhhm[at]emersonsgreenrunningclub.co.uk). To offer cakes or assistance with teas, email Jenny Bartram ([jjbartram\[at\]btinternet.com](mailto:jjbartram[at]btinternet.com)) or Jill Ritchie ([jill.ritchie\[at\]globallearning.co.uk](mailto:jill.ritchie[at]globallearning.co.uk)).

Come to Holy Trinity Church Doynton on **Wednesday February 7th**, 7.30 p.m., to welcome **our new priest-in-charge**, Revd Canon Elaine Jones. Elaine will be moving down from Lancashire with her husband Rob to take over the combined benefice of Abson, Doynton, Dyrham, Pucklechurch and Wick. Refreshments will be served.

Doynton village hall: have you admired the magnificent photographs of scenes in and around the village, now proudly displayed in the hall? Many thanks to Doynton Photographic Group. The **village hall AGM** will take place on **Tuesday February 27th**, 7.30 p.m., in the hall – all welcome!

The Doynton **Seed Swap and Plant Sale** will take place on Saturday March 9th, 10.00 a.m.–12 noon, in the village hall. Swap your saved or surplus seeds with your neighbours, or find some seeds for your garden and make a donation. Garden and house plants and potted-up bulbs and seedlings will be on sale, as well as second-hand tools, pots and garden accessories. To donate gardening books, tools, etc. for recycling, please contact Jane on 07920 258844. A tool sharpener will be on hand to put a fresh edge on those shears and secateurs in preparation for the new season, for a moderate fee. Coffee, tea and home-made cakes will be on sale.

The **“Warm Wednesdays” community café** is back, every week 10.30 a.m.–12 noon in the village hall. All welcome for tea, coffee and good company!

Many thanks to all who helped and participated at the **wine and cheese evening** on January 19th, which raised £637, with more to come, for Dorothy House Hospice.

Doynton Village Market has a new supplier of meat and fish: Larkhall Butchers. Order by the Wednesday before the market from Elizabeth Crew (tel. 937 3168) Next markets Saturdays February 3rd and 17th, 10.00–11.00 a.m.

Happy New Year from **The Memory Cafe at Doynton**, and thank you for your support in 2023. The cafe continues to meet on the first Thursday of each month from 2.00-4.00 p.m. at Doynton village hall – next on February 1st and March 7th. This free and friendly get-together is open to all with dementia or memory loss and their carers. See our Facebook page – “The Memory Cafe at Doynton”, email (mcdoynton@gmail.com) and phone/text (07817 311001).

In January, **Doynton and Wick WI** kicked off its centenary year with a talk by Rob Jones on life with triplets – a topic not unfamiliar to some of the audience. Rob retired from his stressful police career to find himself multitasking as a stay-at-home dad to a two-year-old and three infants. And he can still joke about it! Next month’s speaker is Geoff Vian on “my life as a TV cameraman”. The competition is: “a favourite TV programme”. All welcome at Doynton village hall on Wednesday February 8th, 7.30 p.m. Please bring any tins or packets you can spare for the foodbank.

Doynton village fête: a few people have stepped down from the fête committee this year and as a result there are a number of vacancies. If you would like to see a village fête in 2024 and are willing to help organize it, please contact Andrew Read ([andrew.read\[at\]zen.co.uk](mailto:andrew.read[at]zen.co.uk)).

Doynton Parish Council: your ~~country~~ parish needs you! If you can help to plan the celebration of the **80th anniversary of D-Day** on Thursday June 6th, please contact Doynton parish clerk or members of Doynton Parish Council (tel. 07725 165181 or email [doyntonparishcouncil\[at\]hotmail.co.uk](mailto:doyntonparishcouncil[at]hotmail.co.uk)).

Doynton apple juice for sale: 100% pure, pressed, delicious apple juice, £3.50/bottle, £10 three bottles, £36 12 bottles. Contact: Corinda 07587 175474, Jenny 07468 413228 or Chris 07712 582974.

Please donate any packets or tins of food you can spare to the **Doynton foodbank** and **North Bristol and South Glos foodbank** in the church porch.

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, £10 per class. Tel 07341 347547.