

## *Doynton Parish Pump*

A brief note to let people know there will be an **orchard works party in Summers Field on May 6<sup>th</sup>** from 10 a.m. Please feel free to come along to see what the Friends have been up to and the plans for 2017. If you wish to become a Friend or renew your membership we will have gift aid forms and deep pockets and will gladly receive your membership subscription: £10 ensures maintenance and continued support for the orchard for another year. For the masochists amongst you, we will have spades and an array of tools to keep you occupied for an hour or so. In return, if you time it right, there will be the inevitable tea and cake – you'll have earned it!

There is a new village group for you to join! The Friends of Doynton Phone Box are taking over where BT left off to nurture the village phone box, outside the Cross House Inn. Contact Elaine Weightman for further details (doyntonparishcouncil[at]hotmail.co.uk).

*Anneli Hendy writes:* A few of us have started meeting at the Cross House on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. for a gentle run of about an hour around the surrounding villages and off-road footpaths. We would like to invite anyone who has an interest in running, or would like to start, to join us. We run as a group and no-one would get left behind, as those who are faster or more experienced would run on in front and then loop back and act as "sheepdogs" at the back of the group. If there is enough demand, we could offer a "couch to 5 km" programme for those who have not run at all, over a nine-week period. Perhaps we could enter our very own village team for the Doynton Hard Half-Marathon in 2018? Contact: Anneli Hendy (aa.jhendy[at]btinternet.com).

**Lenten lunches 2017:** Once again, the lunches were well supported. With the money donated and a donation from a well-wisher, we were able to send £400 to the children's charity CHICKS, which provides holiday breaks for deprived children, many of whom are carers for a parent, leaving no time for them to be normal children. Thank you to all who came and donated, to the soupmakers, other helpers and especially to Pauline Blacker, who did all the shopping. This was the 17<sup>th</sup> year of the Lenten lunches: in all, we have donated £7500 to various charities: a list will go up in the church porch soon.

**Meet the Neighbours** at the Cross House Inn will resume in the autumn – watch this space for details.

## *Doynton Village Hall*

Plans for the **80<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations** on Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> are well under way. There will be a celebration tea in the afternoon (offers of cakes and sandwiches gratefully received) and a BBQ in the evening, with live music from popular local band "Freefall". The hall is freshly decorated and looking not a day over 21 – come and help us celebrate!

We still need your **photos** of the hall through the decades for our exhibition. If you can offer any photos, please contact Pete Hart on 0117 937 2611/ peter.j.hart[at]btinternet.com. They will be scanned and safely returned to you in a few days.

All offers of help to Sue Merrall (scmerrall[at]yahoo.co.uk) or Tracey Baker (traceytkr[at]aol.com), please.

**WI news:** in April, Ron and Gina Pritchard spoke about the local charity RP Fighting Blindness, which raises funds for research into the hereditary eye condition retinitis pigmentosa. At the May meeting, members will vote on two resolutions, on "alleviating loneliness" and "plastic soup" – the microplastic fibres shed from synthetic clothing which contaminate our oceans and poison aquatic life. Come along to Doynton village hall on Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m.

**Doynton Village Fete – Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup>**, 2.00–4.30 p.m. at the village hall. Live music from Filton Concert Brass, morris dancers, entertainer, great teas & cakes, craft stalls, tombola, bric-a-brac, welly whanging and lots more.

The beautiful **gardens** of the **Old Rectory**, next door to the hall, will be open on the same day, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission £4.00, children free. Home-made teas from your very own WI.

**Safari supper Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup>:** the popular Safari Supper will start from Mill Cottage, Mill Lane at 7.30 p.m. Tickets £22 per person, available from Jo James, tel. 937 3794. Proceeds to the Samaritans.

**Dates for your diary (see also [www.doyntonvillage.org](http://www.doyntonvillage.org))**

Fridays May 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>: **mobile library** at the Cross House Inn, 10.40–10.55 a.m. and the bus stop 11.00–11.15 a.m.