

Doynton Parish Pump

Doynton Open Gardens is almost here – roll on Sunday May 27th and Monday 28th! The following gardens will be open (12 noon–5 p.m.): Brewery Cottage; Brook House; Chestnut Tree Cottage; Doynton House; Dymock's Wood; Hillbrook Cottage; Iona; Old Brewery; Rose Cottage; Summers Field and allotments. Teas in the village hall from 2.30 p.m. Any offers of cakes, or donations of plants or vegetable seedlings for the plant stall, would be very welcome. Please contact Sue (tel. 937 3497) or Jenny (937 4561).

Congratulations to **Summers Field community orchard** – their application to the Tesco "Bags of Help" scheme has been accepted! This means that in May and June Summers Field will feature as one of three local charities competing for the customer vote in nine Tesco stores, including the one at the petrol station in Warmley. Look out for us in-store and get voting!

Summers Field is a Charter Branch of the Charter for Trees, Woods and People, which sets out 10 principles for a society in which people and trees can stand stronger together. The Tree Charter, for which Sarah Rouse, who grew up in Doynton, worked as project officer, was launched in Lincoln Castle in November 2017. The Summers Field Charter is now proudly displayed in Doynton village hall. See <https://treecharter.uk/home.html>.

Doynton phone box: Thank you to everyone who participated in decorating eggs for our Easter tree. It is now time to have a Spring clean in the box to get it ready for its next exhibition. We are going green-fingered for May to be part of the Doynton Open Gardens, and turning the box into our very own mini-garden. Do pop along, relax and put your feet up in the box! Got an idea for an exhibition? Contact Emma at emmalouise.roch@gmail.com or 07780 567213

Lenten lunches: Although we were able to put on only three lunches this year owing to the snow, we have been able to send £315 to Tearfund. Our thanks to the soup-makers and helpers, to Pauline Blacker who once again did all the shopping, and to all who came and gave so generously. Tearfund are celebrating 50 years of relieving suffering in the Name of Jesus. Today, more than ever, they are working hard with so many refugees in all the Middle Eastern conflicts.

WI news: the refreshments at the cycle ride in March were a huge success, so much so that they have already booked next year's date – April 7th 2019 [have they started training too? Ed.]. The WI was able to fulfil our promise to give £500 towards school uniforms for the Haven Homes orphanage in India. We are also well on the way to making a kitbag for each child (150 in total).

Our longstanding member and WI Adviser Maureen Crew is passionate about supporting the charity Associated Countrywomen of the World, which connects rural and non-rural women and their communities worldwide. Maureen is asking members to bring out-of-date coins, traveller's cheques, etc. to the next meeting. By doing this we will be able to help a project in Kenya to learn computer skills and also civic rights and responsibilities – especially using their votes.

Michelle Fricker of Crust and Crumbs then spoke about her passion for baking. She started baking very early in her life and by the age of 15 her chocolate cakes were to die for. Five years ago she started a bread workshop and, with three children under the age of four and needing to be at home, she baked and sold her goods from home and still does so. One of her posters read "By doing business locally, you not only get personal service and real value, you also strengthen our local community economy". She says she bakes because it makes her happy, and hopes it shows in her baking. Her bread included cheese and onion and marmite and we all had a taste. Michelle then demonstrated how to make a small white loaf. Another great meeting.

Come to Doynton village hall on Wednesday May 9th (7.30 p.m.), when we will consider the annual national resolutions. The talk is by Dorothy Cook on "Midwifery", and the competition is "A lovely baby photograph". Don't forget your unwanted coins!

To book **Doynton village hall**, contact Suzanne Carten, email [doyntonvillagehall\[at\]mail.com](mailto:doyntonvillagehall[at]mail.com) or tel. 07986 636611.

Dates for your diary (see also www.doyntonvillage.org)

Saturdays May 5th: and 19th and June 2nd: **Doynton Village Market** at the village hall, 10.30–11.30 a.m.

Friday May 11th, 12.30–1.30 p.m. – **village lunch** at Holy Trinity.

Mondays 10.00–11.00 a.m.: over-50s **keep-fit** in the village hall.

Tuesdays 8.30 a.m.: **Morning Prayer** in Holy Trinity church.

Tuesdays 7.15–8.15 p.m. and Thursdays 9.30–11.00 a.m. and 7.00–8.30 p.m.: **yoga** in the village hall, tel. Sam (07734 201431).

Thursdays 9.30–11.30 a.m.: **Post Office** in the village hall.