

Doynton Parish Pump

Autumn is almost upon us and, sadly, there will be more than leaves falling this year – the magnificent false **acacia tree** at the entrance to the village hall has been declared unsafe and must come down. This tree grew from a sucker of the one planted in memory of Honor Pitman, who died on war service in 1943, and has itself produced a sucker. If that does not survive, a new tree will be planted.

More power to your elbow? There are some gaps on the **brass-cleaning rota** at Holy Trinity church – call Pat Rees (937 2221) for more details.

Wendy Scott's family writes: "We would like to convey our sincere thanks to the residents of Doynton village and surrounds for their kindness following the loss of our mum and grandma. We were quite overwhelmed to receive numerous letters and cards and to see so many friends and neighbours who were able to attend the funeral and wake at the village hall. Macmillan Cancer Care looked after Mum while she was in hospital, and the collection and contributions for them in Mum's memory came to a very generous £921. Thank you all so much."

WI news: the annual mystery trip in July was to Hamswell Farm (where several members, including the late and much-missed Caroline Rubery, have lived in the past), for a demonstration of Chinese cookery by Teresa Wharton. The weather and the beautiful rural views were perfect. Members picked up useful tips during the preparation of a lettuce wrap starter and a wonton soup with dumplings, and then devoured the results. In August, John Caldicott gave a moving account of Thomas Coram's Foundling Hospital, where desperate women gave up their babies in the hope of a better life for them than their own grinding poverty. The first "hospital" was founded in the eighteenth century and provided food, shelter and a basic education intended to prepare the boys for apprenticeships or the armed forces and the girls for domestic service – but no love, and the constant shame of a start in life which none of them had chosen. John himself arrived at the hospital in 1936 at the age of five. Boys and girls were strictly segregated and isolated from the local community. John eventually left the institution, made a career for himself and married, "but I had to learn to live in a family". Next month's meeting will feature Linda Dowsett on "My journey to The Weakest Link". Competition: the most famous person you have met. Bring your surplus produce for the harvest stall. All welcome on Wednesday September 12th, 7.30 p.m., at Doynton village hall.

Holy Trinity Doynton Harvest Festival Celebration Sunday 23rd September at 11am

This family friendly Harvest Celebration will be followed by a **ploughman's lunch*** in the Church, together with wine, cider and soft drinks, so please come along and enjoy spending time with family and friends at this very special time of the year.

Everyone is very welcome to join us for the service, lunch or both!



*No charge for lunch, but donations would be gratefully received.

A big "thank-you" to all who contributed to **Doynton Village Fete** in June – the organizing committee, stall-holders and helpers, and everyone who parted with their hard-earned cash. The final profit of £5500 went to PAWS-GIST, the playing field, Summers Field and Holy Trinity church. Thanks also to all who helped at the **Doynton House open gardens** on July 15th, which raised £2500 for nursing charities.

Other dates for your diary (see also www.doyntonvillage.org)

Saturdays September 1st and 15th: **Doynton Village Market** at the village hall, 10.30–11.30 a.m. No market September 29th.

Friday September 14th: **village lunch** at Holy Trinity church.

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

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

Fridays from 6.30 p.m.: **pop-up pub** in the village hall.

Please send your items for the next Parish Pump by September 15th.