

Doynton Parish Pump

Spring is on its way ... isn't it? Even if we are still floundering through the mud. Look out for the **spring bulbs** around the white gates on the entrance roads to the village.

Doynton Playing Field: Saturday April 6th sees the next edition of the legendary playing field quiz. Doors open at 7.30 p.m. for a prompt start at 8.00 p.m. Tickets £20 for teams of four people or £5 single ticket – cash only please. Donations of raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated –please bring on the night. Contact Jane Stewart (tel. 937 3299/ 0774 0462247/ johnjane252 [at] gmail.com).

Friends of Summers Field: the community orchard committee will hold its AGM on April 25th at 6.30 p.m. at the Cross House Inn (in the snug). Everyone welcome. There will be a **cream tea** in Summers Field on Sunday April 28th, 3.00–4.30 p.m., tickets £3.50 adults, children free. There will be picnic boxes available for younger children and nature-based games and activities. No need to book, just come along.

Doynton Village Market: a big thank-you to the customers who came on March 16th: most sellers sold out by the end of the morning, which is always a good sign, and even if we hadn't, we always go home with a smile on our faces, having seen and spoken to so many of you. One of the many positives of the market is seeing new and familiar faces. So if you were disappointed at there not being much left to buy, or if there is anything you would like us to make for you, then please call Elizabeth Crew (tel. 0117 937 3168) by Wednesday morning before the market to pre-order. Hopefully we will see you again in April – **Saturdays April 6th and 20th**, 10.00–11.00 a.m., in Doynton village hall.

Doynton and Wick WI: in March, members welcomed Jenny Bowman, speaking on “The King of Swaziland and his 15 Wives”. Jenny shared her love for Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland), a small independent African kingdom. She showed some lovely photographs of the colourful characters and culture, abundant wildlife and varied landscapes. Did you know that the collective name for a group of zebras is a “dazzle”? Next month, we look forward to a returning speaker, the genealogist Claire Dimond Mills, who will be delving into our very own WI's 100-year-old past with her presentation “Who do we think WE are?”. Anyone with an interest in our local history is most welcome as a guest (tickets £4). Men are allowed too (if they dare!).

The competition is “a memory of a past meeting”. All welcome at Doynton village hall on Wednesday April 10th, 7.30 p.m.

Doynton Seed Swap and Plant Sale: this event was a great success with many visitors from near and far. Seeds of all kinds were swapped, garden tools and accessories were recycled and a variety of plants were on sale. Doynton cake-makers also rose to the challenge and provided some excellent cakes for a sociable tea and coffee break. The event raised £625 for the Hillfields Community Garden charity, based near Fishponds. Many thanks to everyone who contributed or supported in any way.

The Memory Cafe at Doynton meets on the first Thursday of each month, 2.00-4.00 p.m., in Doynton village hall. This free and friendly get-together is open to all with dementia or memory loss and their carers. Tea/coffee, cake and fun activities are provided. See Facebook “The Memory Cafe at Doynton”, email (mcdoynton@gmail.com) or phone/text (07817 311001).

“Warm Wednesdays” community café: every Wednesday, 10.30 a.m.–12 noon in the village hall. All welcome for tea, coffee and good company! Catch up on the gossip here!

Doynton Parish Council: your ~~country~~ parish needs you! Calling for volunteers for the celebration of the 80th anniversary of D-Day on Thursday June 6th. The main events throughout the UK will be a "Fish & Chip Supper" and the lighting of a beacon/bonfire at 9.15 p.m. on June 6th. Please contact Doynton parish clerk or members of Doynton Parish Council if you can help: tel. 07725 165181 or email doytonparishcouncil [at] hotmail.co.uk.

Volunteers still needed for Doynton village fête (contact Andrew Read (andrew.read[at]zen.co.uk)).

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. Many families are still in great need.

Dates for your diary

Saturday October 12th: advance notice of the Summers Field barn dance in the village hall. More details to follow!

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.