

# DECEMBER 2019 & JANUARY 2020

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## MESSAGE FROM THE RECORD OFFICE

This month we have been quietly tapping on shoulders to encourage new contributors to come forward for The Record. And boy, are we chuffed with the results! We hope you are too. We have also experimented some more with the printing. Please let us know your thoughts. We are off now for Christmas. Have a wonderful time and we will see you later in January.

### How to contribute to The Record

We welcome all of your contributions, big or small. Send us your What's On, write us a letter, give us a thought for the day, tell us about your memories of Tysoe or even draw us a picture. Be creative.

You can contribute in one of four ways:

1. Send us an electronic copy. For ease of production we prefer email/ word text in Arial font size 11 but we can also accept hand or type written copy. 300 words maximum. Please send adverts as a .PNG or JPEG file. Please email **tysoerecord@gmail.com**
2. Message us on Facebook **@tysoerecord**
3. Send us handwritten or drawn copy to Dinsdale House.
4. Contact one of the team and we will write it down for you.

We never intend to print offensive or controversial content but if we do, any views expressed are solely those of the author. We reserve the right to amend, edit or exclude copy when required. We presume that if you send images of any living person that you have the permission of that person for their image to be published.

**NEXT DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY** 17 January 2020

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## HAVE YOU STARTED TO PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS?

Advent is the church's time of preparation, when we look ahead to God's coming in Jesus - then and now. But instead, for many, it becomes a time when we seem to become more stressed, trying to make it the "perfect" Christmas. The shops become crowded and people rush around buying gifts and extra food for the feast. Is that what Christmas is all about?

Remember that the Saviour of the world was born on earth in a humble stable, in the middle of a world in turmoil, a little like we are now. The true meaning of Christmas is that it comes in the midst of the hustle and bustle, the disorder we see around us, with hope, wonder and joy. There is the joy of new birth, the wonder of the response to Jesus' coming from angels, shepherds and wise men. And the joy of realising that this child brings hope for us all.

However, there are many for whom this time of year is no different to any other, no presents, no food, and no hope of a change in circumstances, seemingly nothing to celebrate. As we did last year our church is encouraging people to get involved in the "Reverse Advent Calendar" scheme. The idea is that either a household has a box or something similar and place in it an item of food every day of Advent, or they come and place these items directly in the box in church. By Christmas Eve there will be 24 items of food for the Foodbank in each box, to distribute to those people in need.

That is the real Christmas Spirit. God gave us his Son that we might share in His kingdom. This Christmas may we share some of what we have with those less fortunate?

May I wish you peace and goodwill to you and those you love.

George  
**Rev'd George Heighton**

### IF YOU HAVE A CHURCH ENQUIRY PLEASE CONTACT

- George Heighton - 680201
- Jill Longbottom - church warden - 680236
- Roland Cherry - church warden - 680793

**tysoechurch.org.uk**

## T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS...

...and retained fireman, Pete Billing was enjoying a few pints in The Peacock Inn. It is 1963.

At 23.10 hours, one of the locals left the bar only to return saying that the pub was on fire. The landlord, Chris Clark, was reported to have said, "go home, you've had too much to drink"!

Fortunately, somebody had the good sense to check. The thatch above the garage was alight. Pretty soon it spread to the living quarters and stores (now The Peacock Inn bar and lounge).



Tysoe Fire Station 1967

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Pete was the second to arrive at the fire station, after Bill Harris, and so began a night for Tysoe to remember.



The Peacock Inn after the fire of 1963

Local historian and ex-fireman, Kevin Wyles, in his book from 'Thatch to Fire', reported:

"Before the siren or bells sounded, the pump was out of the station and a jet was out on the roof. Four jets and hose reels were used from the village hydrants with two sets of breathing apparatus"

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The fire was serious enough to bring fire crews from Shipston, Kineton, Stratford, Leamington Spa and Southam to support Tysoe's retained firefighters, a role that paid approximately £12 per quarter. The crews worked through to Christmas Day and then to Boxing Day bringing the fire under control and then damping down.

## T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS...CONTINUED

Although there was no immediate risk to life, the icy and windy conditions that Christmas made for challenging conditions for the firemen and caused concern for other buildings in the vicinity. Heritage's, the thatched shop, across Main Street was considered particularly vulnerable (now The Old Bakery).

Tony Lomas, 89, recalls:

"It was a bitterly cold night. As was usual practice we cut a piece of thatch to stop the fire spreading across the roof. But it didn't work! It was so windy and so cold and yet the fire was so hot. The dust ignited in the remaining thatch. It went up 'whoosh'.

It was so bitterly, bitterly cold. Everything was freezing up. Even the wooden extension ladders we used on the roof froze together. We had to drop them from the roof to the floor to break the ice off them before we could dismantle them."



Firemen Pete Billing and Tony Lomas cleaning the pump inside the Fire Station, 1965.

The fire was believed to have been started by a lit paraffin heater sitting on top of the landlord's car in the garage. It was keeping the engine from freezing!

\* \* \*

Tysoe had its own retained Fire Service between 1897-1998. It is commemorated in the stunning window in St Mary's Church.

\* \* \*

With special thanks to Tony Lomas and Pete Billing for their memories.

\* \* \*

Copies of 'From Thatch to Fire' by Kevin Wyles is currently available in Tysoe Village Stores priced £12.50. Thanks to Kevin for permission to use extracts from his book and the photographs included here.

## STRICTLY OFF THE RECORD

Shirley Cherry recently spoke to Sarah-Ann Roberts from New Looks about her regular visits to Strictly Come Dancing.

### **Q. How many years have you been going to watch Strictly?**

A. Seven years. First year I went to Blackpool. Being in the home of ballroom was amazing! The atmosphere was just brilliant. I loved it! That was with Bruce Forsyth and Len Goodman as chef judge, Darcy, Bruno and Craig. The other six years I've been to Elstree.



Sarah-Ann with Anton

### **Q. When were you last there?**

A. I was there last for Halloween. The make-up, hair and costumes are simply stunning. We got to the VIP tent about 3pm. They took us in about 5pm which is when they pre-record a few things before the live show and then there is some recording after, so we finished about 11pm. There was a shock exit as Catherine and Johannes went.

### **Q. Who do you think will win this year?**

A. Well, my favourite is Kalvin. I just think he is an amazing dancer. And I love Oti.

### **Q. After seven years haven't you got tired of it yet?**

A. No, I don't think I ever will. I absolutely love it! I know I'm really lucky to go every year as millions of people apply for tickets, but I take someone different every time. My husband's been, my daughter's been, my cousins and my best friend. We are all die-hard fans!

### **Q. How big a fan are you? Do you follow the goss on 'It's Takes Two'?**

A. Yeah, I watch it every night with Zoe and Rylan. I don't go out on Saturday nights. I've refused invitations to places because I'll miss Strictly. Every Saturday its pyjamas on, a cup of tea and that's me and my hubby for a couple of hours!

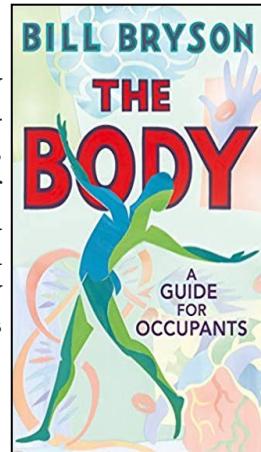
## BOOK REVIEW

### **"The Body. A Guide for Occupants"**

by Bill Bryson

This is the perfect book for medically uninformed readers. It explains, lightheartedly, but with meticulous research, the wonder of our bodies; how the disparate and myriad components work tirelessly, and in symbiosis to sustain us, day in, day out. The body's complexity is astonishing.

**Nicola Rexton**



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## THE CHRISTMAS ROBIN!

According to a poll conducted in 2015, the robin is the UK's favourite bird and it was the 8<sup>th</sup> most numerous species in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch in January 2019. Male and female robins both have red breasts whilst the young are brown all over. Robins eat worms, fruits, seeds and small creatures such as insects.

Robins are very territorial and in summer each breeding pair defends their territory, whilst in winter individual birds have their own 'patch'. About 6 breeding territories would fit onto a football pitch, whereas winter territories are smaller. Robins will sing all year round to defend their territory and males also sing to attract a mate in the breeding season.

Nesting boxes constructed during the Harvest Weekend (including two for robins) will soon be put on trees in St Mary's Churchyard - ready for the spring!



Original artwork by Shirley Cherry

On average, robins live about 2 years and less than half of each year's brood will survive to the following year. However, they do produce quite large numbers of young, and since 1970 the national population has increased by almost 50 percent. Hard winters have an impact on survival and robins need to feed regularly, since their fat reserves will not last long in very cold weather. This is where humans can help; robins particularly like mealworms but will also take meat scraps, fat, cheese, crumbs and dried fruit.

British robins usually do not move more than a few miles. However, some will cross the Channel to spend the winter in warmer locations, going as far as Spain and Portugal. Our local robins may also be joined by migrants from continental Europe and Russia, which come south to avoid the extreme cold.

**Rosemary Collier**



## WILDLIFE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN 2020

- RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch on 25-27 January 2020.
- Talk on 'Butterflies of Tysoe' by Mike Slater, Butterfly Conservation Warwickshire, on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in the Village Hall, 7 for 7.30 pm.
- Does Tysoe have bats in the belfry? Bat night in St Mary's Churchyard, with Warwickshire Bat Group on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020.



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## CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION OF MP For Stratford-on-Avon, 12 December 2019

LING Felix Benjamin	Labour Party	SKINNER Dominic Edmund Paul	Liberal Democrats
PASSINGHAM Dave	Green Party	ZAHAWI Nadhim	Conservative Party

## COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS

Sunday 3rd November saw the kick off of fundraising for the Tysoe Christmas Tree Lighting and Sing-a-Long on 7th December. The Record was there to take part and report...and we make no apologies for the deliberate quizzing puns\* in the following copy!

19 teams of four eggheads ventured out in the cold to take part in the 6th annual Christmas Quiz at the Village Hall. It wasn't University Challenge but Rose Morris is as feared as Jeremy Paxman. Thankfully Steph Howles kept the mood light with her catchphrases.

The worthy winners on the night were 'One Man Down' who this year were awarded the Lilian Hopkins Memorial Trophy kindly donated by Jacqueline Franklin and Kay Brooks. Runners up were 'My Wife thinks I am in Brighton!'



2019 Quiz Winners 'One Man Down'



Sandra Randerson asks the audience

As quiz papers were given the once over by the moderator, the audience were invited to take part in the now favourite, 'Play Your Cards Right', which was eventually won by Pete Watson. Pete kindly returned his prize of £50 to the kitty. Thanks Pete.

It was all good fun but the evening was not pointless. All monies raised from the quiz are combined with those from the Santa Run on 1st December to fund the Christmas Tree Lighting and Sing-a-Long. It is an expensive 'do' even for our small village. The costs - for insurance, marquees, Santa's flights - all add up.

## COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS

The Christmas Tree Lighting team work hard to make sure that Santa's first visit of the year to the village is as seamless as possible. Our thanks go to Steph Howles, Alison Cross, Pete Randerson, Sandra Randerson, Jackie Keyser, Kristen Bradley and Rose Morris for their hard work and commitment.

We will see you all on the 1st December for the Santa Run (or walk). Give us a wave if you are watching or take up the chase!

\*we counted six!

### SANTA RUN or WALK

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER 12.30PM

2.5K run or walk through Tysoe, starting and finishing at the village hall.

Free Santa suit to wear and keep.  
Christmas hamper for 1st male & 1st female. Medal for all finishers

Adults £10 or £7 with own suit  
Children (6-15) £5 or £3 with own suit  
Family (2 adults & 2 children) £25



To register, ring  
Steph on  
01295 680755

### JOEY'S JOKE



A bunch of tomatoes from the allotments decided that they would join the Tysoe Santa Run last year. They split up and whilst running down Main Street, one said:

"Tommo's fallen behind, should we wait?"

"Nah" said the other, "he'll ketchup!".

## YOUR LETTERS...voices from the village

### Lilian Hopkins

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the thoughtfulness, support and generosity that we have received as a family at this difficult time.

From those who have written cards and letters, to friends and customers who baked cakes for our Mother's funeral. To Liz, Dee and Chris and members of the W.I. who helped with the catering, TADA and the choir who sang in Church. To both Jackie's who organised the church flowers, David for putting the chairs out. Rev George and Jill Tucker for delivering a funeral service that was both uplifting and personal. To Locke's for the wonderful and caring service we received as a family in carrying out both ours and Mum's final wishes, at such a sad and difficult time.

Thank you for showing us we are not alone in our grief, as many of you were so shocked and saddened by Lilian's untimely and sudden death. We are eternally grateful that we live in a wonderful caring community where community spirit still exists. Lilian was truly part of this and wholly at the heart of this. We hope that the Post Office will continue to thrive and grow without her and that we can continue her legacy for the future.

God bless you all, and from the bottom of our hearts we thank you.

### Conway, Jacqueline and Alan, Kay and Keith, Martin & Rachel and families.

I have just read your delightful and thoughtful tribute to Lilian. Bravo! She was all that you say and it will be quite a loss. Whenever I went in she asked about Bill and even though he has been living in the home for over two years now she never forgot to enquire how the 96 year old spring chicken is doing.

A lovely lady and a fabulous service much fought for and much needed.

Thank you for bringing her to everyone's attention and I love the new look Record by the way!

**Alexandra Messervy**

With reference to your Tribute to Lillian, she was the first person I met in Tysoe on December 21<sup>st</sup> 1990 and in spite of not having a clue who I was let me take some flowers (having forgotten my wallet).

**Graham Bown**

- - -

### Joyce Walton 1928 – 2019

We would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes & condolences following Joyce's recent death. She lived in Lower Tysoe for almost 70 years and was very involved in village life. She will be sadly missed.

**The Walton Family**

## YOUR LETTERS...voices from the village

### **Proud to be British**

We may not be able to do BREXIT but nobody does Remembrance better than us!

Although Tysoe may be a small cog in a large machine, lots of littles eventually make a big. I am indebted to everyone who has contributed towards Remembrance. Thank you. If anyone would like to be involved next year please contact me (680316).

**David Sewell**

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### **New Look Record**

I just wanted to say huge thank you to the Record for the new advert and in general! Its so much more cheery and easy to read, I love it!!

**Jane@CroftPies**

I congratulate you on the new look Record, an absolutely super job, great layout, quality paper and colour and the content is now even more relevant to the village. Well done to you all, this is a real credit to the village and worth every penny of the £2.50. I just hope you can hold the price although a small increase would be worth it.

**David Roache**

Let me congratulate you on a whizzy new 'Record' that came through the letter box today. Absolutely splendid!

**John Hunter**

Our revamped November copy arrived on our mat today, looks amazing! Thank you.

**Sarah Turner**

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### **A Different Kind of Saddle**

Give me a training plan and I will follow it, 11 months of training rides, pedalling 4000 miles before I even got to the start of the 2019 Deloitte Ride Across Britain (RAB) at a misty Lands End at the early part of September to spend nine nights camping at base camp locations across the country.

Spending an average of 11 hours in the saddle, covering between 104 to 120 miles each day, resulted in something I had not trained for, saddle sores. These became a priority requiring daily medical attention, consuming a cocktail of paracetamol & ibuprofen to provide the impression of relief.

I cycled across some memorable places, with a sense of disbelief which, 10 weeks later, hasn't really left me! Thanks to all who supported me on my RAB. We raised £3,625.00 for Shelter.

**Rose Morris**

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### **Water, water everywhere...**

Grateful thanks from many are due to John Tongue for his sterling efforts all round the village mitigating the effects of the floods.

Thank you John.

**Jude Canning**

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## **TYSOE PARISH CHURCH**

At St Mary's church we are all looking forward to the run up to Christmas with a variety of services to be enjoyed amidst a dramatic drop in the temperature outside. As we go to press we will have recently spent some time preparing for our usual Christmas Fayre in church, and numerous offers of help have been forthcoming to be stallholders, make cakes and mince pies, donate prizes for tombola and raffles, etc. Thank you to all those who helped in any way – and look out for a report on the Fayre in the next Record!

Details of the Christmas services are shown below, with a major change this year to the date and time of the popular Family Christingle service, so come and join the children on December 15th.

We were sorry to hear the sad news that Joyce Walton had died and we send our condolences to all the members of her family. We send best wishes for a speedy recovery to a number of people who have not been well or have been in hospital recently and we wish all our readers a very happy Christmas and a good New Year.

### **SERVICES AT ST MARY'S IN DECEMBER**

•	1 Dec	11.00am	Parish Communion	JT
•	8 Dec	11.00am	Parish Communion	GE
•	11 Dec	10.30am	Midweek Holy Communion	GH
•	15 Dec	11.00am	Christingle Family Service	GH
•	22 Dec	11.00am	Parish Communion	GH
•		6.30pm	Carol Service	JT/TM
•	24 Dec	5.00pm	Children's Crib Service	GH
•		11.30pm	Midnight Mass	JT
•	25 Dec	11.00am	Christmas Day Holy Communion	GH
•	29 Dec	11.00am	United Benefice in St Mary's	GE

### **SERVICES AT ST MARY'S IN JANUARY**

•	5 Jan	11.00am	Parish Communion	
•	8 Jan	10.30am	Midweek Holy Communion	
•	12 Jan	11.00am	Parish Communion	
•	19 Jan	11.00am	Family Service	
•	22 Jan	10.30am	Midweek Holy Communion	
•	26 Jan	11.00am	Parish Communion	

Every Saturday at 8.30am there is Morning Prayer with George



## TYSOE METHODIST CHURCH

### SERVICES AT THE METHODIST CHURCH IN DECEMBER

- Dec 1 Rev Elizabeth Clark at 1030am.
- Dec 8 Sacrament with Rev Peter Powers at 1030am.
- Dec 8 Messy Church with Rev Jemima Strain & Rev Peter Powers at 4pm.
- Dec 14 CHRISTMAS PANTIVITY at 4pm, all are welcome. Posters will go up soon.
- Dec 15 Carol Service with Mr G Howe at 4pm.
- Dec 22 Rev M, Rowland at 1030am.
- Dec 25 Christmas Worship with Rev Peter Powers at 915am.
- Dec 29 Please note that there is no service today.

### SERVICES AT THE METHODIST CHURCH IN JANUARY

- Jan 5 Rev Brian Mason at 1030am.
- Jan 12 Covenant Service with Communion with Rev Peter Powers at 1030am.
- Jan 12 Messy Church with Rev Jemima Strain & Rev Peter Powers at 4pm.
- Jan 19 with Mr John Neal at 1030am
- Jan 26 Reader Service with Mrs Margaret Clarke at 1030am.

All are welcome to services, Please note start times.

- **Tuesday Coffee shop** 10:30 -12 noon. All welcome.
- **Friday Lunch club** first Friday each month, if you wish to go please let Marion Ascott know on 680584.

We send thank you's to all who run the Coffee shop each week. Also to all involved with the Monthly Lunch Club. Please note that there will not be a lunch club in January 2020.

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This Year we have not had a Christmas Bazaar, but we plan to have a good Coffee Morning & get together in the New year when the weather gets better .

By the time you read this we will have said a very fond farewell with the passing of Mrs Joyce Walton who had been a very long time member of this church, she also used to be involved in other organisations in

## **TYSOE METHODIST CHURCH CONTINUED**

the village, We remember Joyce's family, may she rest in eternal peace.

We have been told of the passing of Ms Gwen Pritchard of Whatcote. Gwen was a member of this church, we think of her family.

Take a moment at a quiet time and reflect on the miracle of Christmas. A very happy and peaceful Christmas to you all.

From All at The Methodist Church.

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### **Thought for the day...**

“Life is a preparation for the future; and the best preparation for the future is to live as if there were none.”

Albert Einstein

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

At last we're making some progress!

The District Council have now given us all of the comments made on the Submission version of the Plan, including their own and the independent Examiner has given us his Clarification Note following his visit to the village in November.

By the time you read this the Parish Council will have submitted their responses to all of these comments and it is hoped that the Examiner will be considering all of that material in drafting his report.

All of this means that, with a reasonable following wind, we may see the Examiner's report sometime in December which may mean that we will be heading for a referendum in the village early in the New Year. Not before time I hear you all shouting. Much of this delay has been driven by the four month hiatus while our Plan was sitting on a desk at the District Council during which time they got on with publishing their Site Allocations Plan. This has all been very unsatisfactory, however we must move on and hope that we can progress to a referendum when all residents will be able to vote on the Plan.

Once again I thank residents for their patience and hope that we can put this important document to bed as soon as possible in 2020.

**David Roache**

Chairman

Tysoe Neighbourhood Plan Group

For more information on the Neighbourhood Plan go to the Tysoe Parish & Community website at

**[www.tysoe.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan](http://www.tysoe.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan)**

## NOTICE OF CANCELLATION—STOUR SINGERS

Stour Singers' planned Christmas concert at St Edmunds Church on 14 December has been cancelled due to the illness of Director, Richard Emms. Our best wishes go to Richard for a speedy recovery.

## MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS PAST

Christmas was always a time of mystery, wonder and expectation.

It started with carol practices at school so that we could entertain the vicar and school governors who 'graced the festive board' at our breaking up tea party, and who dutifully doled out oranges, nuts, sugar mice and a new pencil to every child, whilst Father Christmas gave each of us a present from the big tree. Having then officially broken up, we went home and this usually meant having a few days to spare before 'The Day' itself - just long enough for us to get in everybody's way and believe me, our eyes and ears never worked so well! In desperation, our mothers sent us off for walks.

One time we were intrigued to see a man carrying a big sack on his back. He disappeared through a 'doorway' in a stone wall which formed a circle in front of a small spinney in a field which ran alongside the A6 between the villages of Scotforth and Galgate near to Lancaster. We thought he was Father Christmas and that he must have Mary and Joseph inside there, waiting for the baby, Jesus. We daren't go near to look in case 'they' left.

Strange to relate this same man was seen by us STILL carrying his sack at exactly the same time as before in January! We couldn't make this out at all because all our decorations had been taken down and the old holly burned and the tree cast out. Besides if our theory was right, then according to Biblical records, Joseph and Mary and the baby should have fled by then. We had all that worked out by then as well, except that we had the little village of Glasson Dock in mind instead of Egypt!

We whispered among ourselves and our mothers heard us - there was no mystery any more - it was the farmer taking a sack of mangolds into the sheep fold to feed his flock who were in-lamb; a far cry from Christmas and the Christmas child don't you think? But there is a quotation,

"He became The Good Shepherd. Feed my sheep; feed my lambs".

May we each be very conscious of our calling.

**Margaret Gibbs**

(from Bibles and Bicycles—Memories of Local Preaching 1796-1996)

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO 'THE RECORD'!

November 2019 has been a wonderful month for the Record. Here are a few of our highlights:

1. We celebrated our 800th issue. And thanks to the kindness of the Christmas Tree Lighting team the Record's editorial team gatecrashed their quiz on 3rd November for a photo opportunity. We think that Richard Ellis caught our best side.

Thanks to Shirley's quick thinking our story was featured in the Banbury Guardian, Stratford Herald and the Kenilworth Weekly News.



Photograph courtesy of Richard Ellis, Tysoe

2. Colour! Need we say more.
3. We launched the Tysoe & District Record Facebook page. Please follow us @tysoerecord.
4. We also now have a tab on the Tysoe Parish website. Go to **[www.tysoe.org.uk/tysoe-record](http://www.tysoe.org.uk/tysoe-record)** to see our most recent past issues of the Record. We will add back copies over time.
5. We had cake with some of our wonderful distributors.

## THE FINISHING TOUCHES

The finishing and distribution of The Record has been co-ordinated by Sue and Gerald Hart for more years than they care to remember. When required, with the help of Teresa Allen, they staple and fold copies and then divide into routes for our extensive team of distributors.

### Our Distributors

- Christine Duke
- David Sewell
- Faith Hall
- Gerald Hirons
- Irene Beever
- Jackie Thompson
- Jenny Tongue
- Jude Canning
- Margaret Gibbs
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- Mike Sanderson
- Muriel Paxton
- Teresa Allen

### Further afield

- Mike & Barbara  
Shepherd—Oxhill
- Liz Atkinson—Whatcote

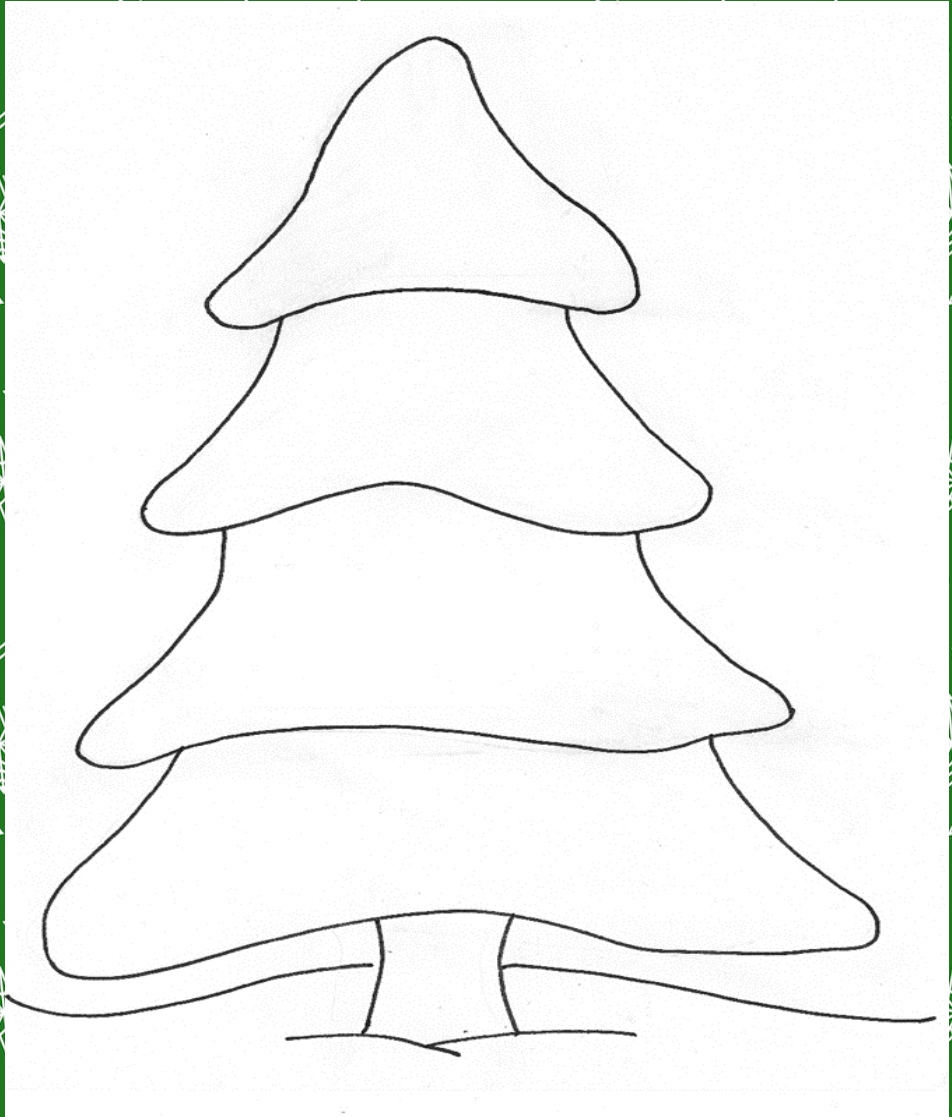


Back L-R David Sewell, Margaret Oliver, Christine Duke, Irene Beaver, Mike Sanderson  
Front L-R Gerald Hart, Sue Hart, Gerald Hirons, Beverley Thorpe, Jackie Thompson  
(Shirley was taking the picture).

## CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING CHALLENGE

Decorate this Christmas tree for the chance to win a copy of Beki Benjamin and Josh Welsby's "The Adventures of Butterbee Farm Colouring & Activity Book" with colouring pens.

Follow our Facebook page **Tysoe & District Record** and message your name with a photo of your tree by 15 December. Good luck.





## DATES FOR JANUARY 2020

<b>SUN</b>	<b>5</b>	Tysoe Tennis Club-Adults, 09.30-10.30, TSP Tysoe Tennis Club-Juniors, 10.30-12.30, TSP
<b>MON</b>	<b>6</b>	Yoga, 9.30-10.30, TVH
<b>TUE</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Blue &amp; Green Bin refuse collection</b> <b>Mobile Library 13.45-14.45, TVH</b> Tysoe Bowls Club. Various times, TVH
<b>WED</b>	<b>8</b>	Fitness Pilates for healthy backs, 9.00- 9.50, TVH Fitness Pilates, 10.00-11.00, TVH Craft & Laugh, 14.00-16.00, TVH Chicago Bridge, 19.00-22.00, TVH
<b>THU</b>	<b>9</b>	Fitsteps, 9.30—10.30, TVH Dance Exercise, 10.30-11.30, TVH
<b>FRI</b>	<b>10</b>	Fitness Pilates - Intermediate level, 09.15 - 10.15, TVH Tysoe Bowls Club. 19.30-21.00, TVH
<b>SUN</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Rumpelstiltskin by Caramba Players, PM (time to be confirmed), TVH</b> Tysoe Tennis Club-Adults, 09.30-10.30, TSP Tysoe Tennis Club-Juniors, 10.30-12.30, TSP
<b>MON</b>	<b>13</b>	Yoga, 9.30-10.30, TVH
<b>TUE</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Black Bin refuse collection</b> St Mary's Churchyard Tidy-up Team meet 14.00 Tysoe Bowls Club. Various times, TVH
<b>WED</b>	<b>15</b>	Fitness Pilates for healthy backs, 9.00- 9.50, TVH Fitness Pilates, 10.00-11.00, TVH Craft & Laugh, 14.00-16.00, TVH Mid-week Movie (film to be confirmed), 19.30, TVH
<b>THU</b>	<b>16</b>	Fitsteps, 9.30—10.30, TVH Dance Exercise, 10.30-11.30, TVH
<b>FRI</b>	<b>17</b>	Fitness Pilates - Intermediate level, 09.15 - 10.15, TVH <b>Mobile Library 14.30 - 15.00, Oxhill Village Hall</b> Tysoe Bowls Club. 19.30-21.00, TVH
<b>SAT</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Wassail, 16:30pm, Tysoe Community Orchard</b> <b>Deadline for copy to Tysoe &amp; District Record</b>

## WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER - PULL OUT & KEEP

<b>1</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>Santa Run, 12.30, TVH</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>MON</b>	Yoga, 9.30-10.30, TVH Pilates, 18.45-19.45 then mince pie & Prosecco, TVH
<b>3</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>Black Bin refuse collection</b> Tysoe Bowls Club. Various times, TVH
<b>4</b>	<b>WED</b>	Fitness Pilates for healthy backs, 9.00- 9.50, TVH Fitness Pilates, 10.00-11.00, TVH Craft & Laugh, 14.00-16.00, TVH Women's Institute (members only), 19.30-21.30, TVH
<b>5</b>	<b>THU</b>	Fitsteps, 9.30—10.30, TVH Dance Exercise, 10.30-11.30, TVH
<b>6</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>Last date for Letters to Santa</b> Fitness Pilates - Intermediate level, 09.15 - 10.15, TVH <b>Christmas Lunch Club with TADA, 12.30, MC</b> Tysoe Bowls Club. 19.00-21.00, TVH
<b>7</b>	<b>SAT</b>	<b>School Christmas Fete, 13.00 - 15.00, TVH</b> <b>Christmas Tree Lighting &amp; Sing-a-Long, 17.00, Village Green</b> <b>Tour de Trig refreshment station, TVH</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>SUN</b>	Tysoe Tennis Club-Adults, 09.30-10.30, TSP Tysoe Tennis Club-Juniors, 10.30-12.30, TSP <b>Tour de Trig refreshment station, TVH</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>MON</b>	Yoga, 9.30-10.30, TVH Pilates, 18.45-19.45 then mince pie & Prosecco, TVH
<b>10</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>Blue &amp; Green Bin refuse collection</b> <b>Mobile Library 13.45-14.45, TVH</b> St Mary's Churchyard Tidy-up Team meet 14.00 Tysoe Bowls Club. Various times, TVH
<b>11</b>	<b>WED</b>	Fitness Pilates for healthy backs, 9.00- 9.50, TVH Fitness Pilates, 10.00-11.00, TVH Craft & Laugh, 14.00-16.00, TVH Chicago Bridge, 18.30-22.00, TVH
<b>12</b>	<b>THU</b>	<b>General Election Polling Day, 07.00-22.00, TVH</b> Fitsteps, 9.30—10.30, TVH Dance Exercise, 10.30-11.30, TVH

## WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER - PULL OUT & KEEP

<b>13</b>	<b>FRI</b>	Fitness Pilates - Intermediate level, 09.15 - 10.15, TVH Tysoe Bowls Club. 19.30-21.00, TVH
<b>14</b>	<b>SAT</b>	<b>Christmas Pantivity, 16.00, MC</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>The Record Christmas Quiz entry deadline</b> Tysoe Tennis Club-Adults, 09.30-10.30, TSP Tysoe Tennis Club-Juniors, 10.30-12.30, TSP <b>Christingle service, 11.00, SMC</b> <b>Carol Service, 16.00, MC</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>Black Bin refuse collection</b> Churchyard Tidy-up, 14.00-16.00, SMC Tysoe Bowls Club. Various times, TVH
<b>18</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>Latest recommended posting date 2nd class</b> Fitness Pilates for healthy backs, 9.00- 9.50, TVH Fitness Pilates, 10.00-11.00, TVH Craft & Laugh, 14.00-16.00, TVH
<b>19</b>	<b>THU</b>	Fitsteps, 9.30—10.30, TVH
<b>20</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>Latest recommended posting date 1st class</b> <b>Mobile Library 14.30 - 15.00, Oxhill Village Hall</b> Tysoe Bowls Club. 19.00-21.00, TVH
<b>22</b>	<b>SUN</b>	Tysoe Tennis Club-Adults, 09.30-10.30, TSP Tysoe Tennis Club-Juniors, 10.30-12.30, TSP <b>Carol Service, 18.30, SMC</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>Blue &amp; Green Bin refuse collection</b> <b>Crib Service, 17.00. SMC</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>SUN</b>	Tysoe Tennis Club-Adults, 09.30-10.30, TSP Tysoe Tennis Club-Juniors, 10.30-12.30, TSP
<b>31</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>Black Bin refuse collection</b> Yoga, 9.30-10.30, TVH

### KEY TO VENUES

TVH	Tysoe Village Hall	MC	Methodist Church
TSP	Tysoe Sports Pavilion	SMC	St Mary's Church

## DATES FOR JANUARY 2020

<b>SUN</b>	<b>19</b>	Tysoe Tennis Club-Adults, 09.30-10.30, TSP Tysoe Tennis Club-Juniors, 10.30-12.30, TSP
<b>MON</b>	<b>20</b>	Yoga, 9.30-10.30, TVH
<b>TUE</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Blue &amp; Green Bin refuse collection</b> Tysoe Bowls Club. Various times, TVH <b>WOT2Grow AGM, 18:45pm, TVH</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>22</b>	Fitness Pilates for healthy backs, 9.00- 9.50, TVH Fitness Pilates, 10.00-11.00, TVH Craft & Laugh, 14.00-16.00, TVH Chicago Bridge, 19.00-22.00, TVH
<b>THU</b>	<b>23</b>	Fitsteps, 9.30—10.30, TVH Dance Exercise, 10.30-11.30, TVH
<b>FRI</b>	<b>24</b>	Tysoe Bowls Club. 19.30-21.00, TVH
<b>SAT</b>	<b>25</b>	RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch
<b>SUN</b>	<b>26</b>	RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch Tysoe Tennis Club-Adults, 09.30-10.30, TSP Tysoe Tennis Club-Juniors, 10.30-12.30, TSP
<b>MON</b>	<b>27</b>	Yoga, 9.30-10.30, TVH RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch
<b>TUE</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Black Bin refuse collection</b> <b>Mobile Library 13.45-14.45, TVH</b> Tysoe Bowls Club. Various times, TVH
<b>WED</b>	<b>29</b>	Fitness Pilates for healthy backs, 9.00- 9.50, TVH Fitness Pilates, 10.00-11.00, TVH Craft & Laugh, 14.00-16.00, TVH
<b>THU</b>	<b>30</b>	Fitsteps, 9.30—10.30, TVH Dance Exercise, 10.30-11.30, TVH
<b>FRI</b>	<b>31</b>	Fitness Pilates - Intermediate level, 09.15 - 10.15, TVH Tysoe Bowls Club. 19.30-21.00, TVH

### KEY TO VENUES

TVH	Tysoe Village Hall	MC	Methodist Church
TSP	Tysoe Sports Pavilion	SMC	St Mary's Church

## CHRISTMAS WORDSEARCH

Find the following 15 words and names mentioned in this issue of the Record to win a copy of Beki Benjamin's latest storybook, "Where's Tumble" illustrated by Josh Welsby.

Follow our Facebook page **Tysoe & District Record** and message us your name and a photo of your completed wordsearch by 15 December. Words may be forward, backwards and diagonal. Good luck.

1. Anton du Beke,
2. Carols,
3. Christmas,
4. Mince Pies,
5. Mulled Wine,
6. Nativity,
7. Pantivity,
8. Quiz,
9. Robin,
10. Santa Run,
11. Strictly,
12. The Peacock Inn,
13. Tree Lighting,
14. Turley,
15. Wassail

N	Q	N	B	T	O	A	L	C	X	D	E	Y	R	M
T	N	Q	U	Q	U	I	P	P	X	K	P	L	O	I
C	J	I	P	R	A	R	A	Q	E	G	P	T	B	N
D	H	L	K	S	A	N	K	B	A	N	E	C	I	C
Q	G	R	S	C	T	T	U	E	P	I	J	I	N	E
O	M	A	I	I	O	D	N	Q	Y	T	K	R	Y	P
X	W	F	V	S	N	C	U	A	X	H	L	T	V	I
M	G	I	Z	O	T	I	A	L	S	G	C	S	D	E
P	T	F	T	D	Z	M	G	E	U	I	F	Q	R	S
Y	G	N	Y	I	A	X	A	G	P	L	B	C	B	O
W	A	T	E	H	V	W	J	S	O	E	V	S	O	E
M	U	L	L	E	D	W	I	N	E	E	H	U	O	R
Y	T	I	V	I	T	A	N	U	C	R	O	T	I	J
C	A	R	O	L	S	B	Q	H	Y	T	A	B	V	N
G	T	R	G	P	L	T	X	Y	J	X	R	G	Z	V

# Ring the Changes !



- Learn skills that are over 400 years old.
- A challenging and rewarding activity
- Physical and mental exercise
- Opportunity to visit interesting new places
- Join a lively local community

Everyone  
Welcome!

For more information contact  
David Bell on 01295 688466 or  
email [davidbell811@btinternet.com](mailto:davidbell811@btinternet.com)



## Exercise your *Little Grey Cells* – play bridge

Bridge is a game of strategy, memory and concentration. Played with a partner it is a great way to exercise your 'little grey cells', have social interaction and beat those winter blues.

Why not come along and play Chicago Bridge with the Tysoe Bridge Club. All bridge players welcome, regardless of experience.

**Where:** Tysoe Village Hall

**When:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday each month (September – May only)

**Time:** 19:00 – 22:00

**Cost:** £3 per session (includes refreshments)

For more information please contact Gerald or Sue Hart on 01295 680710 or Jane Ridgway on 01295 680262.

## OUT & ABOUT

### KINETON VILLAGE HALL

#### CARERS4CARERS MONTHLY MEETING

- **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 10.30 – 12 noon:** Join us for our Christmas meeting with seasonal refreshments and activities, together with lovely TLC treats from Anita.
- **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 10.30 – 12 noon:** Join us for coffee, biscuits and a workshop led by South Warwickshire Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT).

Please let us know in advance if you would like us to look after your loved one in our Companionship Group. For more details, including help with transport, please phone Gillian on 01926 640203/07947 893504.



*S. Swan Singers*  
and Friends

Seasonal selection of Christmas music, songs,  
poems and readings featuring

**Fantasia on  
Christmas Carols**

*by Ralph Vaughan Williams*



Sunday 8th December at 2.30pm

St Peter's Church, Kineton

Refreshments      Retiring collection



### CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING & SING ALONG

**SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER**

Free event starting at 5pm  
Tree lighting at 6pm

Burgers, hot dogs & mulled  
wine available

And Santa Claus will be  
making a visit to give the  
children a present each



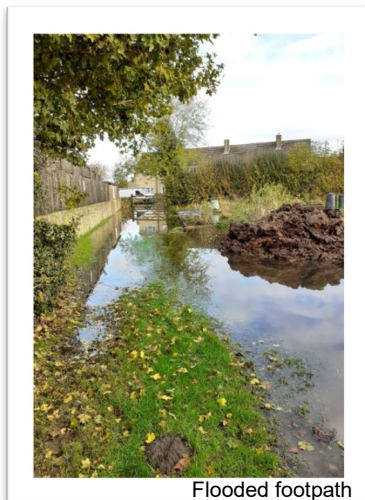
## WOT2Grow COMMUNITY ORCHARD

What a month of rain! We always need water at the orchard as the ground is free draining unlike the heavy clay in most of the surrounding areas. But most people agree we have had more than enough. The main entrance from the road has been flooded several times to a depth such that wellies were nearly filled!



We continue to gather windfalls and also pick apples from the later varieties. The cider apples are beginning to fall which is the perfect time to gather them up.

This is the first year we have had a good crop of Bramley apples, about 75kg so far! The leaves are also falling but enough remain to make it very damp if trying to do any maintenance work. Pruning the fruit trees will start in the new year when hopefully it will be a bit drier and snow free.



Flooded footpath

- Wassail is happening again on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January from 4:30pm. This fun event is open to everyone so do come along and hear about the tradition we are keeping alive. Stout boots are necessary and bring a torch and something to make a noise to scare away bad things and be prepared for the gunshots that ring out over the orchard!!
- The AGM is on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 6:45pm in Tysoe Village Hall, again all are welcome as it is your community orchard.

The Community Orchard is just behind the allotments on the Shenington Road in Tysoe and is open 24/7! But why not come along and help out, even half an hour can make a difference.

**More information?** Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue & Mike Sanderson (688080) or see the website [www.wot2grow.co.uk](http://www.wot2grow.co.uk)

## HELPING OTHERS AT CHRISTMAS

Christmas and the New Year are very busy times for most Food Banks and Banbury Food Bank – where I volunteer – is no exception.

We are overseen by the Trussell Trust and provide three days' worth of well balanced food for clients who are experiencing an emergency and who come to us with the appropriate voucher. We also offer a hot drink and a chat which for some is as important as the food.

Over the years that I have volunteered I have been struck by the fact that the majority of our clients are either physically extremely unwell or mentally ill and often both. It makes sense, of course. People who are suffering ill health or injury lose their jobs and their livelihood. They are entitled to benefits, but the application process seems to be ever more difficult, and delays seem to be more frequent and to be lengthening. Benefits are also sometimes inexplicably cut pending reassessment, leaving both individuals and whole families without the means to live. Many people break down in tears as they talk about their situation.

Clients are so grateful as they leave with their food. They comment that it has made a huge difference.

**ITEMS MOST NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS** tinned food (ham, fish, meats, vegetables, potatoes, tomatoes, soup, veg meals, fruit, custard), coffee, tea and chocolate, jam, peanut butter, toilet paper, toiletries, laundry and cleaning products, savoury Christmas snacks and treats.

So on the behalf of all those who have received help from Food Banks during 2019 and those for whom a Food Bank will be a lifeline this Christmas, I would like to thank you for your generous donations. Have a very merry Christmas!

**Isobel Watson**

IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS, FOOD  
BANKS IN THE TRUSSELL TRUST'S  
NETWORK HAVE GIVEN OUT  
**MORE THAN 820,000**  
EMERGENCY FOOD PARCELS





## Penny Varley Ceramics

original creations in clay

Pots for the home, pots for the garden, workshops and speaker events.

Looking for something unique - commissions undertaken.

See website for details of where I will be showing my work.

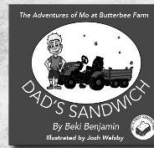
Www.pennyvarleyceramics.co.uk  
01295 680700



## Fabulous Christmas Gift For Little Farmers!

*A series of books about a mischievous young boy called Mo, who loves chocolate and Massey Ferguson tractors.*

Available from  
Tysoe Post Office



Book 1

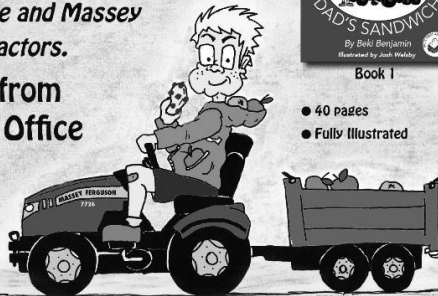
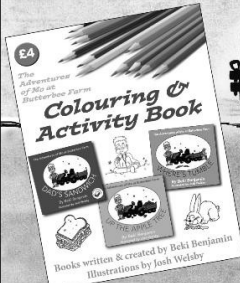


Book 2

- 40 pages
- Fully Illustrated



Book 3



**By Beki Benjamin**  
Illustrated by Josh Welsby  
CD narrated by Beverley Cressman  
[www.butterbeefarm.net](http://www.butterbeefarm.net)



Audio CD **£5**

## TENNIS CLUB UPDATE

Tysoe Tennis continues to thrive and still play matches through the winter, sometimes in woolly hats, gloves and body warmers!

- Because the weather has been against us, Mixed A matches have been postponed. The Mixed B in the Banbury League comprising of Philip Marshall, David Fellows, Carol Spencer and Jane Smith fought valiantly but lost against a strong Kings Sutton team. They play Byfield next.
- The Ladies A travelled to Claverdon with the team of Shirley Cherry, Julie Smart, Sylvia Wilcox and Jude Canning. Both pairs lost one rubber although Sylvia and Jude lost a championship tie break which would have been the winning rubber so, regrettably, we came away with a draw. So close!
- This same team then went to Napton and won convincingly 4-0, which means the team are now second in Division 5 and only two points away from the top team.
- Like the Mixed A, the Ladies B have had their matches postponed because of bad weather.

### **Junior Activity**

The Sunday morning junior sessions are also running through the winter which are run by parents 09.30-10.30 weather permitting. If your child wants to come along and give it a go, we provide rackets and balls and are open to all ages from 4 upwards. Membership is not required to start with but, if you are keen to carry on playing after trying us out, we will ask you to join.

### **Membership Fees:**

Junior (under 16) £18

Student (over 16 in full-time education) £21

Adult (over 18) £75

Family (up to 2 adults plus children under 16) £150

### **Contacts:**

Club Secretary – Carol Spencer 07708 412767 or  
carolspencer234@hotmail.co.uk

Junior Tennis – 07796264358 or lfinlyson@live.co.uk

Website – [www.tysoetennisclub.co.uk](http://www.tysoetennisclub.co.uk)

# Heart of England Farms

Festive flavour to savour

## Locally reared, free range, Christmas Bronze and White turkeys, Cockerels, Geese and Ducks.

Since the day we started farming in 1983, Heart of England Farms have been rearing poultry in the way that people expect – by traditional methods. Our customers can be assured of a supreme bird, produced to the highest standards of food safety and animal welfare.

Our free range bronze turkeys and geese, cockerels, ducks and traditional white turkeys are all brought on to the farm as day olds and reared using time honoured traditions.

The open fields used to house our free range bronze turkeys are perimeter fenced, however this is to keep the wily fox out rather than keep the turkeys in!

The geese are able to wander at will being allowed acres of space for grazing. If not your first choice for Christmas Day, our delicious cockerels and ducks are ideal for your New Year Celebrations or a forthcoming special occasion.

For prices and ordering please see our website, if you have any individual questions do not hesitate to call. Collection days are 23rd and 24th December.

[www.heartofenglandfarms.com](http://www.heartofenglandfarms.com)



01926 843460

Henley Road, Claverdon, CV35 8PS

## SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM SANTA

**Dear boys and girls,**

Christmas is a very exciting but busy time for me: the elves are making toys, the reindeer are practising their sleigh runs, and I'm busy preparing my list of who's been good this year.

I will be getting my sleigh ready for the long journey on Christmas Eve and inbetween I will try to reply to as many of you as possible. Please send your letters to:

**Santa/Father Christmas,  
Santa's Grotto,  
Reindeerland,  
XM4 5HQ**



Please send your letters to  
Santa by **Friday 6 December**

**TYSOE POST OFFICE**

**OUR  
CHRISTMAS ROOM IS NOW OPEN**

**POP UPSTAIRS & SEE**

**LOTS OF GIFTS, CARDS AND DECORATIONS**

***SHOP LOCAL***





## WHITE HYACINTH CAKE DESIGN

From traditional to novelty, large to small, White Hyacinth Cake Design can create the perfect Christmas cake for your table.

With prices from £18, you are sure to find the best cake for your celebration. See the website for more ideas.

Cross another job off your list and call Debra on 01295 680340 or 07964 339739.  
[www.whitehyacinthcakes.co.uk](http://www.whitehyacinthcakes.co.uk)

Last orders for Christmas cakes 10/12/2019



## Croft Pies

Local, homemade



### Tasty choice of Aga-baked pies including:

- \* Steak \* Steak & Kidney \* Chicken & Mushroom \* Chicken, Ham & Leek
- \* \* Breakfast Pie (sausage, bacon, mushroom & egg) \*
- \* Roasted Sweet Potato, Red Pepper & Manchego Cheese \*
- \* Beef or Cheese & Onion Pasties \*

Pies come in individual, 2-3 person or I can fill your own dish.  
Prices from £2.50 for individual size.

### Delicious home cooked meals available including

- \* Cottage Pie \* Lasagne \* Chicken & Broccoli Bake \*
- Prices from £3.50 for individual portions.

\* Various hot and cold **catering options** also available \*

**\* Pork Pies \* Gluten Free Options \***



For further information, prices and to place orders call **Jane Gardner in Lower Tysoe** on **01295 680683** or **07766 706906**



## TYSOE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

As we draw near to the end of a very busy year, we are finishing off with our Christmas Party, members only for this one.

- We had a great willow weaving workshop where everyone made fabulous angels. We hope to hold another one in the spring.
- The Craft and Laugh group completed their needle felted display after many hours of work, including making their own felt.
- We visited Gloucester Quays and enjoyed the Victorian Christmas market, after all the rain in the days leading up to it, thankfully the weather was kinder to us. It was a magical day.
- We welcomed another new member at our November meeting, which followed our AGM, where our committee and President Jacqui agreed to stand for another busy year!



Look out for up to date information on next year's program on our website [www.tysoew.i.com](http://www.tysoew.i.com), see our Facebook page or email us [tysoew.i.1917@icloud.com](mailto:tysoew.i.1917@icloud.com).

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## TOUR DE TRIGS VISITS TYSOE

On December 7 & 8 look out for competitors in the Tour de Trigs who will be using Tysoe Village Hall as one of their relay stations.

Billed as the toughest non-stop cross country navigation exercise in and around North Oxfordshire, South Warwickshire and South Northamptonshire, in previous years the route has started in Bodicote, then east over the River Cherwell, north to Claydon and then via Edge Hill to Brailes and on to Cherington, through Whichford and then Sibford Gower, Swalcliffe, Shutford, North Newington, over Crouch Hill and back to Bodicote.

## Tysoe's Emoji Twelve Days of Christmas

On the twelfth day of Christmas Tysoe Village Stores sold me:  
**Twelve** ready-meals to save cooking over Christmas



**Eleven** luscious melt-in-the-mouth cakes



**Ten** essential household products



**Nine** magazines and newspapers



**Eight** litres of Mabel's milk



**Seven** savoury sandwiches



**Six** newly laid eggs



**Five** tasty cheeses



**Four** juicy oranges



**Three** bottles of bubbly



**Two** mince pies, and



**A** winning Lottery ticket!



Plus our Tea Room

is now **OPEN** -

Tues, Wed &

Thurs 10am-2pm

so pop in for a

warming cup of

coffee or tea,

cake and a chat!



@ Tysoe Village  
Stores

## DEANERY NEWS

In the past month we have journeyed together in the Deanery through the brokenness of the world. At All Souls' we gathered in many of our churches to weep with those who have lost loved ones, and together with our nation we remembered the terrible effects of war. Locally we have experienced pain and brokenness within our deanery and have gathered as best we can to support one another and to pray together.

It is into this broken world that Christ came. As Christmas approaches, we traditionally use Advent to get ready to remember that first coming and to look forward to the time when all will be healed, and all reconciled in him.

Please do continue to pray for the benefices of Ilmington and Stourdene and those who support them. And in the middle of local, national and international brokenness and pain, may we witness to the coming of the Christ child.

### **God in the dark**

Holy God,  
before us, beside us, within us,  
there is no place without you;  
help us to recognise your presence  
in the dark places,  
the difficult places, of our lives;  
even as we sing of your glory  
in the light.

Amen

*Chris Polhill*

**Deanery Synod** - next meets on Tuesday 28 January at 7.30pm in St Edmund's, Shipston. We will be welcoming Julie Bellamy, Director of Finance to come and speak to us.

**Paths of Joy, journeys in mental health** - our Lent services this year are on the theme of mental health with speakers who have worked extensively in the field. More details will follow in the New Year, but please reserve Tuesdays in Lent in your diaries. We are fortunate to have Rev Jean Fletcher in the deanery, who was a mental health chaplain and is a great resource for us.

**Rev'd Sarah Edmonds Maguire**

# P. H. GOODMAN & SON

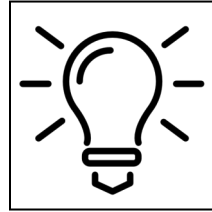
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## TYSOE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tysoe C of E Primary School welcomed Ofsted on Wednesday 25th September. The staff and Board of Governors are delighted that the inspectors recognised the many excellent aspects of the school and the grade of good has been maintained.

We are particularly pleased the inspectors recognised the good Quality of Education across the school. 'The staff know pupils well and care for them. 'Staff expect pupils to do their best and pupils rise to meet these high expectations.' The inspection also noted that the children behave well and are considerate of each other's views.

Our pupils 'feel safe and secure' and 'enjoy coming to school.' The 'many opportunities for pupils beyond the subjects they study' were also recognised during the inspection. Tysoe 'is a school at the heart of its community' and is 'a welcoming and friendly community of pupils and staff.'

The Board of Governors and all of the staff also acknowledged the many years of hard work from Mrs Coates. Mrs Coates

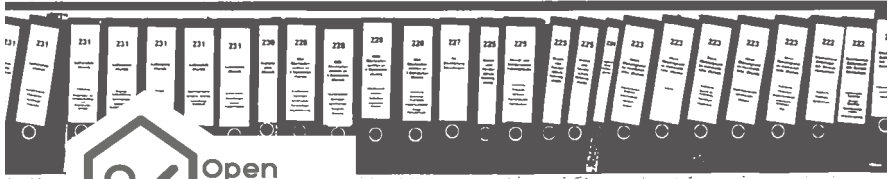
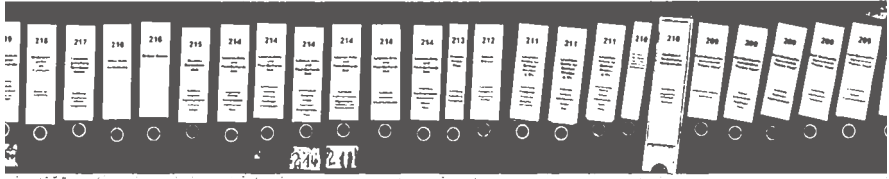
ensured there were strong foundations in place at Tysoe for the staff to continue to build upon. We are all very proud of our school, our staff and our pupils.

We recently enjoyed a class assembly from Silver Birch. They have been learning about World War II and were lucky enough to receive a copy of the first ever Tysoe School magazine from 1942.

Dr. Stuart Owen-Jones found an original copy among papers at his home and kindly forwarded it to the children - all the way from Wales. The children have enjoyed studying the magazine and learning about Tysoe during the war years.



Years 4, 5 and 6 pupils attended the service at the War Memorial on 11<sup>th</sup> November and read poems and prayers which they had written themselves. Pupils are pictured with Brian Temple-Brown.



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## DO SOMETHING AMAZING THIS CHRISTMAS

There are quite a few myths relating to the blood group O rhesus negative (O-). One is that people with O- blood are descendant from the people of Lemuria, a sunken lost island akin to Atlantis in the Indian ocean. My favourite though is that we are descended from aliens!

In all seriousness, being an O- blood donor feels like a great responsibility. This is because we are 'universal donors'. This means that anyone can receive the red blood cells from our donations, which is particularly important in an emergency when somebody's blood type is not known. People with O- blood can only receive red cell donations from O- donors. Around 8% of the population has O- blood but it usually accounts for about 13% of the blood stocks.

I am grateful to say that I have never needed a blood donation but take every opportunity I can to add to the blood banks.

Christmas is the time of year when the blood donor service is severely stretched. Whether your blood type is rare, common or somewhere in between, your donations are vital in helping save and improve lives. If you can, do something amazing by giving, or signing up to give, blood this Christmas. Thank you.



For more information go to [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk) or call 0300 123 23 23.

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## **TYSOE BOWLS CLUB**

### **Large Woods Tournament**

On Friday 25th October 14 members took part in the singles competition, each pair playing five ends. After some surprising scores Les Simmonds and John Gardiner made it through to the finals. After playing a further seven ends the final result saw Les winning by three shots and John being runner up.

Then on Friday 1st November we played doubles and again it was an exciting evening. The results were Jenny Gardiner and Phil Short winners and Janet Hopkins and John Gardiner runners up.

### **Small Woods Tournament**

Eight ladies played their matches on Tuesday 5th November during the afternoon. The final result was Sue Baxter winning and Pauline Wyatt runner up.

Congratulations to the winners and well done to all the players who took part.

Best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

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