

# *The Byword*



*April/May 2024*

## Magazine and Parish Information

A magazine published by Holy Cross Church, Byfield, for all the residents in the village. The magazines are issued in February, April, June, August, October and December. Contributions are always welcome: copy to the Editor by the first Sunday of the preceding month, please.

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### Parish Church of Holy Cross:

#### Rector

55 Church Street

**Lay Reader** Mrs Lesley Palmer ([lep23a@gmail.com](mailto:lep23a@gmail.com)) Tel: 264374

**Churchwardens:** Mrs Chris Cross, 28 Bell Lane ([chrisxx43@gmail.com](mailto:chrisxx43@gmail.com)) Tel: 260764

Mrs Lyn Grennan, 35 The Twistle ([grennans@gmail.com](mailto:grennans@gmail.com)) Tel: 261596

**Hon. Treasurer:** Miss Pam Hicks, 1 Edwards Close Tel: 261257

**Deputy Treasurer:** Mrs Diana Charters Tel: 261725

**Baptisms, Banns, Marriages, Funerals:** Contact Pam Hicks – details as above

**Choir Practice:** Wednesdays at 7.00pm.

**Organists:** Diana Charters and Meriel Gardner

**Choir Mistress:** Mrs Alison Buck ([alisonbuck1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alisonbuck1@hotmail.co.uk)) Tel: 260977

**Bell ringing Practice:** Fridays at 7.45pm

**Tower Captain:** Mr James Grennan Tel: 261596

### Methodist Church:

**Minister:** Rev Philip Robinson ([ministry@banbury.circuit.org.uk](mailto:ministry@banbury.circuit.org.uk)). Tel: 01295 709717

### R.C. Church of the Sacred Heart, Main Street, Aston le Walls:

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Jose Marie, The Presbytery, Aston le Walls Tel: 01295 660592

### Useful Telephone Numbers

Byfield Medical Centre	01327 265841
Urgent medical concerns 24/7	111
Rural Wheels	01327 263627/262153
	Or 07791 438043
Byfield School	01327 260349
Byfield Nursery	01327 264230
Daventry Library	0300 1267000
Police (non-emergency)	03000 111222
Fire Headquarters	01604 797000
Ambulance Headquarters	01604 230555
Horton Hospital	01295 275500
N'pton Gen Hospital	01604 634700
Danetre Hospital	03000 272800
Rugby Hospital	01788 572831

Stagecoach (Banbury)	01865 772250
TRANSCO Gas	0800 111 999
Anglian Water	0800 771 881
Thames Water (sewers)	0845 9200 800
Environment Agency Floodline	0845 9881188
Powergen (general)	08455 191523
(emergencies)	0800 056 8090
E.ON	0904 545 0286
Western Power	0800 6783 105
Samaritans – free national	116123
Samaritans – Banbury	01295 270000

To report an abandoned vehicle:  
Call ELVIS on 08456 121 999

Citizens Advice Bureau (Daventry)	0808 278 7899
West Northants Council	0300 126 7000
Richard Corbett (Village Hall)	01327 260180



We can help with :

**Shopping  
Collecting prescriptions  
Friendship and company**



We can get in touch with you regularly, or you can call us on 01327 227000.

**If you have a problem or issue, you can turn to us, and if we can't help, we'll find you someone who can.**

**New to the Village ?**

Firstly – Welcome! Secondly - Do you have a Good Neighbours Fridge magnet, and details of how we help? Thirdly - Would you like to become a volunteer and meet some of your neighbours?

When you join our roster of volunteers, you state what you can help with and when you can be available. We will offer small tasks to suit and you can accept or decline each time, with no obligation. Whether you are handy, friendly, talented or just have a car and the time to use it, we can find the occasional way for you to help someone else – a reward in itself !!

Call or email for a no-obligation chat, and find the sign up form on the website.

**Rural Community Larder - @Woodford Halse**

This is a fabulous resource for the whole community and that includes Byfielders!! The Larder provides access to store cupboard and fresh food each week, at prices that allow your finances to stretch further, as well as helping reduce food waste.

Why not come along and have a quick look :

**Tuesdays 1-2.30pm & 6-7pm**

The Nest (in the primary school carpark) Scrivens Hill

If you need assistance in getting to it, please do get in touch, as our volunteers are to be found helping there each week.

**[ByfieldGNS@gmail.com](mailto:ByfieldGNS@gmail.com)**

**01327 227000**

**Follow us on Facebook!!**

Join our mailing list for information on Share our Shed offers / requests & more Good Neighbours news [www.byfieldgoodneighbours.com](http://www.byfieldgoodneighbours.com) & sign up on the Newsletter



BYFIELD BOWLS CLUB  
warmly invites you  
to a

QUIZ NIGHT  
on

FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL

Venue: Bowls club  
(Russell Pavilion)  
Time: 7pm; 7:30pm start

Only £5 per person to include refreshments

Bar available

Up to 4 people in a team

Tables limited so please book early with

Chris Cross 07539 778449

chrisxx43@gmail.com

SEE YOU THERE!



## What's going on at Woodford Halse Community Library in April and May

<b>Rhymetime</b>	Every Tuesday during term time 2.30-3.00pm
<b>Storytime</b>	Every Saturday 10.30am for young children and their families
<b>Craft group</b>	Tuesday April 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> and 30 <sup>th</sup> , May 14 <sup>th</sup> and 28 <sup>th</sup> 10am-12.00
<b>Book Club</b>	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> April and 16 <sup>th</sup> May 10.00-11.00am
<b>Library choir</b>	Every Thursday 7.00-8.30pm.
<b>Art Group</b>	Thursday April 11 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> , May 9 <sup>th</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup> 10am -12.00

A crafting table is always available for the children during normal opening hours.

**Byfield Surgery Social Prescribers will be holding a drop-in on the first Wednesday of each month.  
10.00-11.00am**

All activities are provided *Free* by The Friends of Woodford Library. Donations of books or money always gratefully received. All donations go towards enhancing your library experience.

**Volunteers** can help with your Blue Badge Application and your Bus Pass renewal. Do pop in and see us. We are a designated **Welcoming Space**; do come along and see us as there is always a warm welcome, a cuppa and a chat.

**Saturday Book Sale** - We will be holding a **Book Sale Saturday 10.00- 12 midday** (April 6<sup>th</sup> and May 2<sup>nd</sup>). Lots of bargains including children's books, DVDS and CDs plus books for the adults as well.

**Library opening hours:** **Wednesday 10am -2pm, Thursday and Friday 2-5pm  
Saturday 10-12 midday**



**7.30pm at The Memorial Hall, Woodford Halse**

Our Garden Club Year has just started and we have the following meetings planned in April and May:

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm** – Dr Hazel Roberts – “Growing Food not Gluts”

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm** - **Plant Sale** plus talk Sue Hartell – “The Fynbos of the Western Cape”

If you are interested in gardens and gardening then please come along and join us. We are a diverse and friendly club and new members and visitors from surrounding villages are always welcome. Annual membership just £10.

See our exciting 2024 programme on Facebook, email [woodfordhalsegardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:woodfordhalsegardenclub@gmail.com) or telephone Avril on 07717 440355 for more information.



# ***Ceilidh***



***Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>***

***7pm - 10pm***

***Byfield Village***

***Hall***

***Dancing to:***

***The Folk Camps Party Band***

***Callers: Pat Cannell and Patrick Self***

*The Folk Camps Party Band is an exciting multi-ability multi-age ceilidh band drawn from all parts of the Folk Camps spectrum that attends several festivals a year to show off the essence of Folk Camps.*

**What is a ceilidh?**

*A ceilidh is Gaelic for a party. Often called a barn dance.*

**How will I know what to do?**

*The dances are easy and fun. There will be a 'caller' who will talk you through the dances.*

**Who is it for?**

*Everybody; families, old folk, young folk and all shades in between*

**Tickets: £10 (under 16s accompanied by an adult, free)**

**Pat Cannell 01327 260483 pat.cannell@gmail.com**

**Cathy Hillman 07515 002487**

**Licensed Bar.**

# FACE TO FACE

## with Tony Bignold



Tony is what you could call a 'village character'. Known by most of the people in this village as the affable bloke with a white van who seems to be anywhere and everywhere - whether up a ladder, building a wall, mending a fence or with a paintbrush in his hand.

Tony truly is a Jack of all Trades, the one you call in desperation to get you out of a fix relating to the house or when you have bodged up DIY!

The great thing about Tony is that he always has a smile or wave for everyone, and if work permits ... a bit of a chat! He is one of the most amiable people you could meet but there is another side to him - one that functions mostly at weekends.

So let's find a little more out about this fixture on the village scene.

Tony was born 7 weeks prematurely in Banbury Horton Hospital on March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1966 to Sylvia and Frank and was an only child. He went to St. Mary's Primary School, Banbury; Harriers Grange, Banbury; Bishop Loveday, Bodicote and Stanbridge Hall, Banbury.

Tony left school at 16 to take up a building apprenticeship with Hinkins and Frewins of Banbury. At this time, he was fashion conscious enough to become a 'Mod' ... part of a group always known as snappy dressers (remember Mods and Rockers?).

Tony first met Cathy, his wife, when they were at school together and both took part in a production of 'My Fair Lady'. Tony was (rather predictably) Alfred Dolittle, while Cathy took the part of a cockney flower girl. Although theirs was only an acquaintance at this time Fate was about to take a hand in their futures.

The years passed and in 1989/90 Cathy was working at Neithrop School in Banbury when the roof lifted off in gales. Who should be sent down from Hinkins and Frewins than Tony! The couple started to see each other, then drifted apart, only to get back together in 1998. They moved to Byfield in 1999 and got married in 2000 at St. Paul's Church in Banbury (with a hailstorm to greet the newlyweds) followed by a reception in Byfield Village Hall. They were blessed with Freya on Christmas Day, 2002 and Bronya in July 2004.

At the time Tony had a job building swimming pools for a big firm but when they wanted him to go abroad, he declined as he didn't want to leave the family. Instead, he became house husband for 6 months which, although rewarding, proved to be the hardest job he has had in his life!!! (Housewives please note).

At this point Tony decided to set up his own little building business, calling it 'Think Big.' A turning point came in Tony's life when he joined the Byfield cabarets and took part in an act with Tony Head based on the Blues Brothers. Tony enjoyed this so much it became almost addictive. After the cabaret the pair sang at The Hare and Hounds (Wardington) Music Festival and this led to other bookings as 'The Two Tones'. Tony Head did not really want to continue so Tony B. now sings on his own and is so successful that he is booked up nearly every weekend at pubs and festivals, sometimes as far afield as Skegness. This is the other Tony ... the

showman! The music he sings is mainly Madness, The Specials and Bad Manners. However he harbours a wish that one day Tony Head will rejoin him for a couple of songs as he doesn't have as much fun on his own!

Tony has loved Byfield ever since he moved in as it is so friendly, is in the countryside but has all the facilities you could need. So I think you will be seeing plenty of him for years to come!

## Questions for Tony

**Earliest memories?** Going shopping in a pushchair to Woolworths and Macfisheries in Banbury.

Playing in a sandpit with my Dinky toys.

Banging my head on my Mum's kitchen dropleaf table (everyone had one!).

**Alternative career?** An entertainer of some sorts, like a singer or an actor. I loved acting out parts as a child .... like Captain Scarlet!

**What do other people compliment you on?** They say I am polite, kind and considerate. I love it when a piece of work I have done for someone is appreciated. People seem to enjoy my singing and it appears to make them happy.

**What would you most like to change about yourself?** I constantly battle with my weight, especially since giving up smoking.

**Your Perfect Day?** A barbecue with the family in the garden on a hot summer's day. I would be holding a pint of ice cold Magners Cider.

**What really annoys you?** Rude people, especially those who push into a shop queue. Also tailgating vehicles!

**A strange habit of yours?** Restless legs, constantly tapping my foot.

**Your favourite place?** The Lake District, especially Buttermere and Keswick. It is so friendly and the scenery is amazing.

**A treasured item?** A watch Cathy bought me for an anniversary present. It is a Claude Valentini Millenium Sports Watch.

**A favourite piece of music?** I have loved music since I was a little boy and used to listen to Family Favourites in the kitchen while my mum made Sunday lunch. Later I got told off for scratching some of the family vinyl records. I love Ska, Motown and the Sixties.

**Top of your bucket list?** I would love to sing at Glastonbury ..... not on the main stage obviously, but probably in a gazebo by the toilets!

**One thing that would improve your life?** Being able to use a lap top as I am computer illiterate.

**Your last meal on this Earth?** Either a nice steak and chips or pork chop with rind on OR a Sunday roast followed by blackberry crumble and ice cream. I would wash it down with my favourite ... Magners cider!

**C.C**





# Byfield Parish Council

The Parish Council has its own website [www.byfieldpc.gov.uk](http://www.byfieldpc.gov.uk) where all agendas, minutes and useful documents can be seen. The Parish Council normally meets on the second Thursday of the month in the village hall starting at 1930 hrs. Members of the press and public are always welcome to attend. contact details for the Parish Clerk are:

Frances Williams  
Byfield Parish Council  
c/o Byfield Village Hall  
The Green  
Byfield  
Northants  
NN11 6UT

Telephone 07717 337048

Email [clerk@byfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@byfield-pc.gov.uk)

## Chairman's Report

Byfield Parish Council is a group of volunteers who devote their spare time to trying to make our village a better place to call home.

*Please note the entries below regarding the closed churchyard and the burial ground.*

If you are moving away then farewell, and thank you for being part of our community. If you are new to Byfield then welcome, we are sure this will become a happy and fulfilling place for you to have your home.

**The Annual Parish Meeting** will take place on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 19.30 hours in the village hall. All villagers are welcome to attend to hear a report on the activities of the Parish Council, reports by village clubs and organisations followed by two short presentations. One on thoughts and suggestions for developments to the play area and the other on ideas and a suggested route for a village bypass / relief road from an interested resident.

**Fibre Broadband providers** have caused a lot of upheaval and annoyance and it looks set to continue for a while yet. The Parish Council have complained about their working methods and also the weekend working which we feel is particularly impactful on residents. Unfortunately, the operators have a statutory right to carry out these works and seem to be immune to complaints and requests for engagement.

## Village Hall

The village hall is a long established and important part of our community but like lots of other ventures it is battling rising prices and local competition. Hire costs are very reasonable and discounted further for Byfield residents. As well as the main hall there is a meeting / small function room available, both spaces are adaptable, well equipped and open for all sorts of functions, parties, activities and meetings. Why not contact the bookings secretary to discuss how the Village Hall can help you. Email [byfieldcalendar@gmail.com](mailto:byfieldcalendar@gmail.com) to chat about your ideas?

## Standard Information that you may have read before

**Website and Facebook** – we are making much more use of both our own website and Facebook, why not have a look today? The links are:

- Facebook – please follow @byfieldparishcouncil
- Website – please go to our website [www.byfield-pc.gov.uk](http://www.byfield-pc.gov.uk)

## Environment



You may have read this before but it is a useful reminder not only about land ownership but also our obligation as householders to keep hedges and other planting under control and not to provide a hazard to pedestrians or road users. The Parish Council is grateful to villagers who trim grass, plant shrubs or otherwise maintain public areas near their property, it is a neighbourly thing to do. No one should place themselves at any risk doing this and of course it does not create any exclusive rights of access or ownership to a piece of land and it remains entirely legal to walk on or across such areas.

## New News on Environment

Once again villagers are failing to pick up dog waste when walking their pets around the village. Are you distracted by your phone? Take a moment to check what your dog is doing when it stops, it might just be sniffing but it could be something else. Scoop the poop!

The winter storms caused damage to some trees and we sought to rectify these problems as soon as possible. We are also aware of the regular flooding of the lower car park near to the scout HQ, this is triggered by a pipe under a driveway being unable to take the flow of water and then the footbridge becoming clogged with debris and thus forcing water into the car park.

Replacement fruit trees have been planted at Fiveways with guards placed to protect them whilst they become established. Any fruit on these trees or others on public land, such as the apple trees near Becketts Close, is free to collect and eat.

Additional Hawthorn trees have been planted at the attenuation pond end of Clock Meadow.

The Parish Council will happily consider planting trees on any public land and invites suggestions.

## Elections are coming – remember your Voter ID

It is expected that there will be an election for a Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner in early May 2024 and there will be a General Election by January 2025 if not before. It is important to remember the new rules about voter ID or you may find yourself unable to vote. Below is some information taken from West Northants website, it has been abridged so please, *do not regard this definitive*. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact WNC directly, the details are given below.

### Voter ID

The UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to produce accepted photographic identification when voting in person at a polling station. This new requirement applied for the first time in England on the 4th May 2023 to coincide with local elections taking place in some areas. Your photo ID proves that you are who you say you are when voting, and prevents someone else from taking your vote.

From October 2023, the Voter ID requirement has been in place for UK Parliamentary General Elections. By elections and General Elections can occur at any time and with short notice.

## Acceptable forms of Photo ID

You may already hold an accepted form of photo ID. You can use expired photo ID, as long as the image within the ID remains a good likeness to you. You only need to bring one of the documents to the polling station to vote in person, but it must be the original document.

You can use:

- Passport (UK, EU/EEA, Commonwealth issued)
- Driving licence (including provisional licences) (UK, EU/EEA issued)
- Blue Badge
- Certain older/disabled people concessionary travel cards
- Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- Biometric Immigration document
- Defence identity card
- Certain national identity cards

For more information and the full detailed list of acceptable voter ID, please visit the [Electoral Commissions](#) or call the helpline on [0800 328 0280](#).

## Apply for the free Voter Authority Certificate

If you don't hold an accepted form of photo ID, or you think that your photo ID no longer resembles you, you can apply for a free Voter ID document known as the Voter Authority Certificate. You must be a registered voter to be issued with a certificate, and you can apply for the certificate at the same time as registering.

To apply, you will be asked to provide your full legal name, address, date of birth and National Insurance number. You will also need to provide a recent passport style photo of yourself. This can be taken on a digital camera or camera phone. If you need help in taking your photo or completing your application, please use the apply in person option below.



Visit the UK Governments website to complete an application form online and upload your photo directly to your application.

## Apply by post

You can download an application form and return this in the post to the address below. [Applications are available online](#) from Gov.UK. Alternatively, please use WNC contact details below to request a paper application form that they can send to your home address.

## Apply in person

If you need help with applying for a Voter Authority Certificate, WNC can arrange an appointment for you to attend one of their council office locations. A member of the team will assist you in completing the application and in taking your photo. For an appointment, please call [0300 126 7000](tel:03001267000).

## I vote by post

If you vote by post, you do not need to provide voter ID. If you would prefer to vote by post at future elections, please contact WNC and they will send you a postal vote application form for you to complete.

## I have changed my name

The name on your photo ID document should match with the name stated in the electoral register. If you attend the polling station with photo ID that states a different name, you will be asked to provide an additional document that gives proof to the name change. For example, a marriage/civil partnership certificate, change of name deed, deed poll.

You should also contact WNC so that they can amend and update the register to the correct name.

## Contact WNC

All completed paper applications can be sent to this postal address. They also accept scanned copies to their email address.

Electoral Services  
West Northamptonshire Council  
The Guildhall  
Northampton  
NN1 1DE

Telephone: [0300 126 7000](tel:03001267000)

Email: [electoralservices@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:electoralservices@westnorthants.gov.uk)

## Further information

For more information on Voter ID, please visit the [Electoral Commission](#) or call their helpline on [0800 328 0280](tel:08003280280).

## **Brightwell Recreation Ground**

The impressive and newly refurbished Brightwell Pavilion is available for occasional hire. Please contact the clerk with any initial enquiries.

## **Closed Churchyard**

The Parish Council is responsible for the closed churchyard, that is the area around Holy Cross Church. We maintain the walls, cut the grass or strim dependent on the area and keep the paths clear. Care of individual memorials is the responsibility of the family or friends of the deceased and we can only take action if a memorial is unsafe.

## HS2 and Highways

Cllr Gillic acts as our liaison with HS2 contractors. We encourage villagers to find much more information, and personalize what they receive, you can get a lot of information from the [HS2 website](#).

If you have a question about HS2 or their works, please contact the HS2 Helpdesk team on [08081 434 434](tel:08081434434) or email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

If you see unusual loads or activity in the village please try to get a photograph of the vehicle or activity in order for us to challenge with the contractors. It is important that the transport plans and construction methods are adhered to at all times.

## Burial Ground

Please follow the rules on the noticeboard to help keep this a calm and comforting place including not using glass. The Parish Council reserves the right to remove items which are dangerous or unsightly such as decaying flowers.

## Footpaths

Remember whenever using public footpaths to follow the countryside code, pick up after your dog, leave gates as you find them and keep to established path.

We are aware of issues with The Tongue (the footpath connecting Becketts Close to the Village Hall and High Street.) Although this is officially a Highways responsibility the Parish Council will see what we can do to alleviate the problems.



### The Countryside Code

#### *Respect other people*

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Park carefully so access to gateways and driveways are clear
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Follow paths but give way to others where it's narrow

#### *Protect the natural environment*

- Leave no trace of your visit, take all your litter [home](#)
- Don't have BBQs or fires
- Keep dogs under effective control
- Dog poo – bag it and bin it

#### *Enjoy the outdoors*

- Plan ahead, check what facilities are open, be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs

## Planning

There has only been one recent planning application in the village:  
2023/7528/FULL

The Cross Tree Inn, 2 Banbury Road, Byfield, NN11 6XL  
Change of use from 2 garages to Farm Shop

If you are considering making a planning application in order to extend or improve your property you might find it helpful to contact the planning office at the Daventry office of West Northants Council. The advice they give could save time and help to ensure that your application proceeds as quickly as possible. ***It is also helpful to inform your neighbours of your plans so that if they have any concerns, these can be discussed.***

## Allotments

Councillor Lindsay Clark continues to oversee the area and we now follow a policy of sub dividing the bigger plots into more manageable sized areas. All plots are currently taken but to go on the

waiting list please contact the clerk [clerk@byfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@byfield-pc.gov.uk) .Byfield Parishioners have priority for any plots that do become available.

### Lights and Utilities

Cllr Davis is the first point of call for any faulty light, that includes day burners as well as those not working at night - email [christl.davis@byfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:christl.davis@byfield-pc.gov.uk)

### Pocket Park

If you would like to become involved in maintaining and developing the whole area please feel free to reach out to the co-ordinator at [brightwellpp@runbox.com](mailto:brightwellpp@runbox.com), or come along to one of the monthly sessions. We look forward to meeting you. - Chris Butlin - Brightwell Pocket Park Coordinator

John Gillic - Chair - Byfield Parish Council

Councillor	Tel./email	Area(s) of Special Interest
John Gillic ( <i>Chairman</i> ) 28 Banbury Lane	01327 262917 j.gillicbpc@icloud.com	Council Chairman; Finance, Burial Ground, Closed Churchyard, Village Hall Trustee
Sally (Pom) Boddington 31 Bell Lane	01327 263745 pom.boddington@byfield-pc.gov.uk	Pocket Park, Allotments, Environment, Brightwell Recreation Ground
Michael Burdon 19 Westhorpe Lane	07576 977382 michael.burdon@byfield-pc.gov.uk	TBA
Lindsay Clark 39 Lovett Road	lindsayclark.bpc@gmail.com	Allotments Coordinator, Rights of Way
Santon Crowshaw 33 Bell Lane	santon.crowshaw@byfield-pc.gov.uk	Highways, HS2 Liaison
Christl Davis 20 Westhorpe Lane	01327 261504 christl.davis@byfield-pc.gov.uk	Streetlights, Council Property incl. Trees, Brightwell Recreation Ground, Finance, Combined Charities Trustee
Barbara Ridyard The Old Chapel, The Green	01327 612482 barbara.ridyard@byfield-pc.gov.uk	Planning, Play Area, Brightwell Recreation Ground
Simon Shepherd 19 The Twistle	01327 262177 simon@haymakingservices.co.uk	General Maintenance
Nick Thompson 26 Greenwood Close	07716 167082 nick.thompson@byfield-pc.gov.uk	TBA



As you may know from previous editions of the Byword after seventy-six years of loyal service the Byfield and District branch of The Royal British Legion has closed.

The final act for our branch was the ceremony to lay-up our current Branch Standard in Byfield's Holy Cross church on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024. As the Legion rules state no more than one type of standard can be displayed together, our previously retired Branch Standard will therefore be transferred to the care of the Woodford Halse Archive Trust for preservation. That Trust looks after various artefacts of historical interest for villages in our area.



*The Standards at the Chancel step*

Our members wishing to maintain a local connection have the option to transfer their allegiance to the Middleton Cheney Branch of the RBL. Middleton Cheney will take on the responsibility for most of the district formerly led by Byfield. Anyone in the area wishing to become part of the RBL can join that Branch directly - Middleton Cheney RBL branch doesn't have a web site but they are on Facebook: [Middleton Cheney & District Royal British Legion | Facebook](#)

Contact Richard on [richardsoltimms@gmail.com](mailto:richardsoltimms@gmail.com) (01295) 712431.



*The County Chairman, County Standard, Byfield Standard and the Middleton Cheney Standard*

The area's annual Poppy Appeal, which is independent of RBL Branches, will continue as before.

The laying-up ceremony was conducted by Bishop Ed of Byfield. He accepted our Standard into the care of the church in the presence of some of our members, the RBL's Chairman for Northants, the Chairman of Middleton Cheney Branch and members of the congregation assembled for the usual Sunday morning service, which preceded the ceremony.

If anyone is interested in the history of the Byfield and District branch of the RBL, we would refer you to our web site, where you will find a comprehensive account of our activities over recent years. The RBL has agreed to keep that web site in being, although it will no longer be updated. Just search for Byfield Legion.



# **BIG BOWLS WEEKEND AT BYFIELD BOWLS CLUB**

**SUNDAY MAY 26<sup>TH</sup> 2-4 P.M.**

**FREE**

**OPEN TO MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS**

**CHILDREN OVER 7 WELCOME TO HAVE A GO**

**EVEN IF YOU HAVE NEVER TRIED LAWN BOWLS, COME ALONG AND HAVE SOME FUN!**

**PLEASE WEAR FLAT SHOES, BOWLS CAN BE SUPPLIED.**





**BYFIELD PTA VILLAGE EVENT**

# **BIG BANK HOLIDAY QUIZ**

**CASH  
PRIZE!**

**SAT 4TH MAY - 7.30PM  
BYFIELD VILLAGE HALL  
BAR AND REFRESHMENTS**

**TEAMS OF UP TO 6  
£2.50 PER PLAYER  
EMAIL: [BYFIELDPTA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BYFIELDPTA@GMAIL.COM)  
TO BOOK YOUR PLACE**

Come and join us!!

**WE MEET ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT BYFIELD SCHOOL HALL, 7.30PM.**

**April 17<sup>th</sup>** meeting there will be a talk on “The Repair Shop and Me” by Christine Farmer.

**May 15<sup>th</sup>** meeting we have our AGM/Resolutions and then a talk on “Fraud/Scams”.

**June 19<sup>th</sup>** it will be 100 years since the W.I. started in Byfield so we will be celebrating our centenary, on the Brightwell field, with afternoon cream tea and a musical event.

**LOOK OUT FOR POSTERS NEARER THE TIME.**



**July 17<sup>th</sup>** we will be holding our SUMMER PARTY.

**August** we plan to have an outing – details nearer the date.



The walking group continues to meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at the village hall at 10am, all are welcome!

For more details about the W.I. contact Sally Doran:

Tel 07866 701666

Email [sally.doran@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sally.doran@hotmail.co.uk)



## Little Angels

Little Angels is a time of simple worship for families with babies and pre-school children, held in Holy Cross Church. We have a short interactive story, one or two action songs and a short prayer. There are then activities and toys for the children - and time for a cup of tea and a chat.

In January Milo and Harry helped to retell the story of the three wise men coming to visit Jesus. It took the Magi nearly two years to travel from Arabia to Bethlehem so Jesus would have been similar in age to our Little Angels.

We met during half term in February and welcomed three older brothers, Jack, Arlo and Harry to our meeting: it was good to see Ellery again. We retold the story of the temptation of Jesus as he prepared to begin his ministry: the boys helped to build the high towers of the temple but Jesus refused to throw himself off and rely on the angels to save him.

Come and join our storytelling! Find out more about Jesus and how much he cares for us.

We meet on the third Monday in the month: 15<sup>th</sup> April, 20<sup>th</sup> May and 17<sup>th</sup> June from 2- 2.45pm.

Lesley and Lyn.



### Rising Stars!

#### **A Junior Church youth group for those aged 7 – 12 years.**

In January we started by gathering information about the Magi from around the church and then listened to Matthew's account of their visit. We talked about the joy they felt when they met Jesus and then took it in turns to try to make one another laugh. Isobel was very good at resisting the temptation!

Small groups created a 'King costume' out of bin bags, newspaper, ribbons and coloured paper: they went to a lot of trouble and looked amazing, especially Arlo! In February we met just after Valentine's Day and Shrove Tuesday. We discussed the meaning of Lent and read of the temptations that Jesus faced in the desert. We discussed ways in which we could show our love for others and chose actions from a list to try to complete during Lent.

Then we were ready for a challenge. How many times could they flip a pancake in a minute? The most talented managed to flip their pancake more than 30 times! Come and join us in Holy Cross Church on the third Thursday in the month from 6 – 7.30. Our evening is based on a Bible story but will include games, puzzles, crafts and **FOOD!**

We will be meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 16<sup>th</sup> May and 20<sup>th</sup> June. Do come along – we'd love to welcome you.

Any questions? Email [lep23a@gmail.com](mailto:lep23a@gmail.com) or text 07941 328535  
Lesley and Lyn.



## Messy Church

We had great fun at Messy Church on 28<sup>th</sup> January, retelling the story of Joseph and his coat of many colours.



The children created a wonderful picture of Joseph in his coat, they gave gingerbread men a smart jacket, made some amazing marble paintings and some dazzling colour resist pictures.

We finished by eating tea together.

Many thanks to all are many helpers – we couldn't have done it without you!

\* \* \* \* \*

## A message from Kim



Hi everyone! Just a little update on my sponsored run! I successfully completed the 10km trail run at the Pitsford Reservoir on Sunday 3rd March; it took me 1 hour and 27 minutes to complete it (not my best time, but considering the very muddy and slippery inclines, I would consider it respectable!), and as of writing I've managed to raise £435 for the Bowls Club!

I definitely couldn't have done this alone, and I'm so grateful for such a generous and responsive community - especially since I have been so disorganised right until race day, ha-ha!

I'm hoping to do this again for various more charitable causes, so watch this space 😊 Again, thank you all so much for your support!

Kim

## Byfield 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Group

This group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month – either in the village hall or by going on outings.

It is open to anyone from Byfield or surrounding villages. While it did start life as an Over 60s Club it is not restricted to “the elderly”.

Membership is £11 for 2024 – pro rata if joining part way through a year. A meeting fee of £2 is charged to cover hall hire and refreshments.

In February members learned how to make use of the *Ability* Community Bus which already collects many residents of the Boddingtons and Aston le Walls for trips to Daventry or Banbury for shopping including directly to the Gateway Retail Park in Banbury. All the while the Stagecoach 200 bus continues to operate between Daventry and Banbury so Byfield residents are well catered for but the time may come when this service is reduced or even closed. This is when the service offered by *Ability* can come to be so useful and even essential.

The programme for the coming months is:

9<sup>th</sup> April Bernard Tisley will explain about the World of Gliding and how he went about making a video to explain how to learn to pilot a glider.

May to August – outings to various locations suggested by members. These will include a visit to Fosse Way Garden Centre, a visit to Chedham’s Yard in Wellesbourne and to nearby Charlecote Park, a possible visit to Birmingham Museum for their Pre-Raphaelite exhibition and another outing yet to be decided. Some of these visits may be open to non-members.

10<sup>th</sup> September – Back to the village hall when Martin Sirot-Smith will explain some Tudor Harvest Customs.

For further information about the group please contact Rosemary Johnson on 01327 261327 or Angela Weller on 01327 260022.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Congratulations to Byfield Medical Centre



Byfield Medical Centre has been awarded the 2024 Certificate of Excellence.

Only the most highly-recommended clinicians and providers across the country receive this endorsement in recognition of outstanding care and patient reviews.

# Byfield Big Breakfast

Come and join us for a delicious full English breakfast.

April 6<sup>th</sup> 10am – 1pm

Last orders at 12.30pm



This is the last Big Breakfast for the season and we will re-start in October. Thank you to everyone who has supported this event and a huge thank you to all of the dedicated team.

We are looking for helpers to join the Team.  
If you are interested, please contact Lyn on 01327 261596.

## BYFIELD MEDICAL CENTRE



### Ordering Medication

We have 4 ways of ordering medication:

- Drop in a prescription request to the surgery
- Call the request line - always extremely busy
- Sign up for NHS app and order in minutes
- Send an email to [byfieldscripts.k83031@nhs.net](mailto:byfieldscripts.k83031@nhs.net)

For those that are able, please try to order through the app or email to free up the phone lines for those that are not as good with technology.

=====

### Social Prescribers at Byfield surgery

My role as a Social Prescribing link worker is to connect people to community-based support, including activities and services that meet practical, social, and emotional needs that affect their health and wellbeing. This includes connecting people to activities and services, for example: exercise classes, arts and craft, as well as housing, financial and benefits advice.

We can also show you how to make use of the NHS App, and how to order your repeat prescriptions.

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## Byfield Village Hall

For information about Byfield Village Hall please go to: [www.byfieldvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.byfieldvillagehall.org.uk)

The website should provide all the information you require about forthcoming events and the facilities available if you are interested in making a booking.

To make a booking you can do that on the website by going to **Bookings/Booking Form**. Complete the form, press **Submit** and we shall respond. To find out if the Hall is available at your chosen time, search the Calendar on the **Home Page** or click on **Availability on Home Page**.

Our charges for hire of the Hall have not increased for 6 years but we now have to make modest increases. Look on the website for details and note that the popular rate for a 4-hour Children's Party is unchanged at £40.

You can also contact Richard Corbett on 01327 260180 or 07780 678996 or email [byfield.calendar@gmail.com](mailto:byfield.calendar@gmail.com)



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## Prior's Cinema

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April

**One Life** - the story of Sir Nicholas Winton starring Anthony Hopkins

**Year of Release: 2023 Certificate 12**  
**Running Time: 1 hr 50 mins**

**Doors Open at 7:00pm**  
**Film Starts at 7:30pm**



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Why couldn't the pony sing a  
lullaby?

She was a little horse!

What musical instrument is  
found in the bathroom?

A tuba toothpaste!

How does a scientist freshen  
her breath?

With experi-mints.

How are false teeth like stars?

They come out at night.

What did one volcano say to the  
other?

I lava you.

How do we know that the ocean  
is friendly?

It waves.

What kind of tree fits in your  
hand?

A palm tree.

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When a clock is hungry, it goes back for seconds!

Veni, Vidi, Velcro - I came, I saw, I stuck around.

Teacher: you missed school yesterday, didn't you?  
 Student: Not very much!

Let's talk about sodium. Na.

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Adult Ballet Fitness (no exp req)

10.45am - 11.45am

Dance Fitness (Over 50's)

11.45am - 12.30pm

### Saturday

Prima Ballerinas (3-5 yrs)

9.00am - 9.45am

Gymnastics (3-6 yrs)

9.45am - 10.15am

Intro to Ballet (5-7 yrs)

10.15am - 11.15am

Gymnastics 2 (6-8 yrs)

11.00am - 11.30am

Pre Primary Ballet (7-9 yrs)

11.30am - 12.15pm

Primary Ballet (9-10 yrs)

12.15pm - 1.00pm

### Saturday

Primary Modern & Street (6-9 yrs)

1.00pm - 1.30pm

Gymnastics 3 (8 yrs+)

1.30pm - 2.00pm

Grade 1 Ballet (10-11 yrs)

2.00pm - 2.45pm

Grade 1 Modern (10-12 yrs)

2.45pm - 3.15pm

Grade 2 Ballet (11-12 yrs)

3.15pm - 4.00pm

Grade 2 Modern (13 yrs+)

4.00pm - 4.30pm

Grade 3 Modern (14 yrs+)

4.30pm - 5.00pm

Grade 3 Ballet (12-13 yrs)

5.00pm - 5.45pm

Grade 4 Ballet (14 yrs+)

5.45pm - 6.30pm

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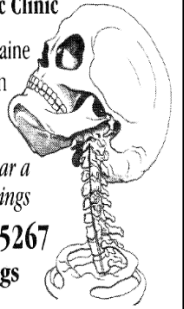
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**Parish of the Sacred Heart, Aston le Walls**

29th March 3pm Celebration of Our Lord's Passion and Holy Communion

30th March 8pm Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass

31st March 11.00 Easter Sunday Mass

Commencing on the 7th April 5pm Vigil Mass every Saturday until further notice and  
10.45am on Sunday

# Diary for the Fiveways Benefice of Aston le Walls, Boddington, Byfield, Eydon and Woodford Halse for April and May 2024

## APRIL

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April

10am BCP Morning Prayer at Eydon  
10am Café Church at Woodford Halse  
11am BCP Matins at Aston le Walls  
11am Holy Communion at Byfield

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April

10am Holy Communion at Boddington  
10am Holy Communion at Eydon  
11am Café Church at Byfield

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April

9.30am Holy Communion at Woodford Halse  
10am Holy Communion at Aston le Walls  
11am Café Church at Eydon  
6pm Evening Prayer at Boddington

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April

8.30am BCP Holy Communion at Byfield  
10am Benefice Holy Communion at Woodford Halse

## MAY

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May

10am BCP Morning Prayer at Eydon  
10am Café Church at Woodford Halse  
11am BCP Matins at Aston le Walls  
11am Holy Communion at Byfield

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May

9.30am Holy Communion at Eydon  
11am Holy Communion at Boddington  
11am Café Church at Byfield

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May

9.30am BCP Holy Communion at Aston le Walls  
10.30am Café Church at Eydon  
11am Holy Communion at Woodford Halse

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May

8.30am BCP Holy Communion at Byfield  
10am Benefice Holy Communion at Aston le Walls



### Every Wednesday

9.45am Holy Communion/Morning Prayer at Byfield.

### Bereavements

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of:



Rev. Stevie Cross RIP  
Denis Atterbury RIP

The deadline for the next Byword (June/July) is Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May

