

# *The Byword*



*April/May 2023*

## 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

|                   |  |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
| <b>Lay Reader</b> | Mrs Lesley Palmer ( <a href="mailto:lep23a@gmail.com">lep23a@gmail.com</a> ) | Tel: 264374 |
|-------------------|--|-------------|

|                       |  |             |
|-----------------------|--|-------------|
| <b>Churchwardens:</b> | Mrs Chris Cross, 28 Bell Lane ( <a href="mailto:chrisxx43@gmail.com">chrisxx43@gmail.com</a> ) | Tel: 260764 |
|-----------------------|--|-------------|

|  |  |             |
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|  | Mrs Lyn Grennan, 35 The Twistle ( <a href="mailto:grennans@gmail.com">grennans@gmail.com</a> ) | Tel: 261596 |
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|                        |                                 |             |
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| <b>Hon. Treasurer:</b> | Miss Pam Hicks, 1 Edwards Close | Tel: 261257 |
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|                          |                    |             |
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| <b>Deputy Treasurer:</b> | Mrs Diana Charters | Tel: 261725 |
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**Baptisms, Banns, Marriages, Funerals:** Contact Pam Hicks – details as above

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

**Organists:** Diana Charters and Meriel Gardner

|                        |  |             |
|------------------------|--|-------------|
| <b>Choir Mistress:</b> | Mrs Alison Buck ( <a href="mailto:alisonbuck1@hotmail.co.uk">alisonbuck1@hotmail.co.uk</a> ) | Tel: 260977 |
|------------------------|--|-------------|

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

|                       |                  |             |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|
| <b>Tower Captain:</b> | Mr James Grennan | Tel: 261596 |
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### Methodist Church:

|                  |   |                   |
|------------------|---|-------------------|
| <b>Minister:</b> | Rev Philip Robinson ( <a href="mailto:ministry@banbury.circuit.org.uk">ministry@banbury.circuit.org.uk</a> ). | Tel: 01295 709717 |
|------------------|---|-------------------|

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

|                       |  |                   |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|
| <b>Parish Priest:</b> | 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<br>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               | 01327 708800                           |
| Rugby Hospital                 | 01788 572831                           |
| Richard Corbett (Village Hall) | 01327 260180                           |

|                              |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| 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

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| West Northants Council | 0300 126 7000 |
|------------------------|---------------|



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 page

## ***A Greener Byfield event – promoting sustainability in our community.***

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Jan we held our first sustainability event in the village hall. Following the Greener Byfield survey (see Aug/Sep 2022 edition of the Byword) which highlighted specific interest in promoting nature/wildlife, solar panels and heat pumps. The event featured talks on rewilding by Dr Helen Buttrick, solar panels by Mike Johnson, heat pumps from Richard Corbett and the local pocket park by Chris Butlin. In addition to the talks, time was available for attendees to view stalls from a range of local sustainability groups:

- Woodford Community larder [Woodford Halse Community Larder | Facebook](#)
- Byfield Good Neighbours [Home - Byfield Good Neighbours](#)
- M&S Renewables – solar panels [Home | My Site \(mandsrenewables.com\)](#)
- Helia Net Zero – sustainability consultants [Helia Net Zero](#)
- Eco4All – sustainability coach [Helping you live a more planet friendly lifestyle \(@eco\\_for\\_all\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)
- Byfield Green Group
- Climate Action West Northants. [Climate Action - West Northamptonshire \(facebook.com\)](#)

Thank you to all those that attended and spoke at the event, it was well attended and very positive feedback was received. Several attendees had tried rewilding without much success so appreciated additional advice on how to progress. There was much interest in solar panels and particularly the integration of batteries. There was also interest from individuals in receiving specific sustainability advice for their personal circumstances.



For those of you unable to attend this time, we hope to run a future event aimed at families in the Spring/Summer. If you have any specific queries or would like to find out more, please feel free to contact me at [india@cantab.net](mailto:india@cantab.net) or 07919 656477.

Northamptonshire  
**NSRA**  
Safer Roads Alliance

**FREE**  
**Mature Driver Roadshow**  
**2 May 2023**

**DRIVING  
SAFER  
FOR  
LONGER**

*Advice on:*  
Car adaptations  
Eyesight  
Highway Code changes  
How to stay safe  
First Aid

Police Headquarters  
Wootton Hall, Northampton  
NN4 0JQ

**FREE: IAM RoadSmart Mature  
Driving Assessments** (limited number  
available on first come first served basis)

<https://what3words.com/bill.necks.boxer>

### Free Mature Drivers Roadshow – 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

Are you a mature driver (aged 60+)? Live in Northamptonshire? Rely on being able to drive? This FREE roadshow is for you!

Driving is an important part of our everyday life and we (Northamptonshire Safer Roads Alliance (NSRA) are keen to help to keep mature drivers driving safer for longer.

Our driving ability to drive changes over time for different reasons, especially as we get older. It's important that we recognise whether and how our driving is changing so we can stay safe and protect both ourselves and those around us.

This Mature Drivers Roadshow is aimed at drivers 60+, and will cover all different aspects of driving. There will be a short talk and then plenty of time to meet informally with our many stand holders. Free advice will be available on car adaptations, eyesight, how your prescription medications may affect you, and much more.

There will be FREE IAM RoadSmart Mature Driver Assessments available to be booked.

**Our aim is to keep mature drivers driving safer, for longer.**

Book your Free tickets via Eventbrite: <https://mature-drivers-2023.eventbrite.co.uk>

The event is being held at Police Headquarters, Wootton Hall, Northampton NN4 0JQ (<https://what3words.com/bill.necks.boxer>) with two sessions, 9.30am and 1.00pm.

**Henny Cameron**





## What's happened since December?

Your Larder had a busy festive season, with shoppers able to do a 'double shop' in the week before Christmas to tide them over, which included presents, toiletries and cleaning products above our usual fare.

**Christmas Meals** – Since the pandemic Food4Heroes have supplied nutritious meals across the whole of Northamptonshire to help support families during the school holidays and also at Christmas time. This year, the Larder helped deliver some of the 1500 Christmas meals to families and individuals who otherwise would have struggled to fund/cook their traditional meal. Thank you to all the volunteers who collected meals from the larder on 23<sup>rd</sup> and distributed them to the surrounding rural villages, along with the extra treats we were able to add for both adults and children.

## New for 2023:

### **New opening times: Tuesdays 1pm – 2.30pm, 6-7pm**

There is usually a queue at the beginning, so if you find standing in line a challenge, you may be better to come along a little later in either session – there will be plenty available still.

You'll have noticed a change in our logo, reflecting our closer work with the Hope Centre in Northampton, who can guarantee us a consistent food supply for our Members across the year. You can find out more about Hope Food Larders across the County on their site. Food for Thought Daventry (FFTD) is our 'mother charity' and help us expand the work we're doing to support the rural community by us, such as the Warm Space (see below), Cookery courses (see below), and funding for improving the physical facilities and our ability to operate and expand the Larder. FFTD have multiple projects across the area, and being a Member with us means you can access the other projects as well.

We're delighted to have secured support from 'Bloody Good Period', to help provide free Sanitary products for all our Members. Lifetime cost of a period: £4 on Tampons, £4 on pads, plus £2 panty liners=£10 x 12months x 40 years = £4,800 – at a minimum! We don't believe that anyone should be at a disadvantage just because they menstruate. Along with sanitary products we will also provide incontinence pads and pants, all free to **Members**. All the products we have available will be displayed on a table during the Larder session, for you to choose the right products for your household. *Please note we are still waiting delivery of the re-useable products.*

### **Warm Space:**

We started up in December our Warm Spaces which **Operates every Thursday 10.30am – 2pm at 'The Nest'**, in the grounds of Woodford Halse Primary School on Scrivens Hill. It's open for those over the age of 60 to gather for free, in a warm, safe, welcoming place to spend some time out of their homes. You **don't** need to be a Member of the Larder to use our Warm Space.

Please do come along and meet people, enjoy various activities and grab a hot drink, soup, sausage roll and some lovely homemade cakes. We even send you home with some home cooked frozen meals!

If you struggle getting out and about, we can arrange your transport. Call 07507294061  
View more Warm Spaces around the county at: [www.westnorthants.gov.uk/cost-living-support](http://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/cost-living-support).

### **Cookery courses:**

For anyone who could do with some new ideas of how to eat cheaply and well, Cooking on a Budget is a free cookery course using produce from the Larder. It's for adults of all ages, full of tasty recipes and tips for when time is short, money is tight, cooking for one or a big family. Cook and eat delicious meals from chilli to chowder, minestrone to mushroom risotto.

If you are interested please contact us on 07507294061 or [community.larder@woodfordhalseacademy.net](mailto:community.larder@woodfordhalseacademy.net) You could just join us and observe what's going on, while having a cuppa and some companionship. Let us know if lifts are required.

### **Additional Support:**

As a supporter of those facing hardship, we are becoming a key route for the Council, charities and other agencies to communicate support that is available to you. In December we supported over 180 pensioners to access a shopping voucher of £100 through AgeUK and recently we supported over 600 households to access a £125 shopping voucher through Northampton Council for those who were either on benefits or struggling with the cost of living. As a Member you will be informed of these as we know about them, and supported to apply as necessary – **just one more reason to become a Member!**

Please spread the word to your friends outside Woodford that this is a 'wider rural area' initiative, and that all are welcome no matter which village or farm you live on!

### **Are you having difficulties in accessing the Larder on a Tuesday?**

Now we are established, with two sessions on a Tuesday, we are able to expand our support to individuals within the community. Working closely with our local health professionals who highlight individuals within the community who may benefit from additional support, which may be due to illness (COVID, Flu) recovering from an operation, bereavement or mobility issues, our support comes with no judgement, and you can always speak to us to discuss your personal situation.

If you find yourself struggling one week to attend the Larder, please do get in touch and we can go through the different options available to make sure you do not miss out on a shop. Likewise, if you know of anyone within your community who may need help with food or company.

We have to thank those lovely volunteers who have offered to do this, in addition to the Monday / Tuesday larder work. It can be some extra company, someone to pop in every so often and sit with them and have a cuppa or taking them to the local shops/chemist or doing this on their behalf.

If you would like to become a volunteer of the Larder, please do get in touch with us. We would love to hear from you and join our group of 50+ volunteers. We are always looking at how we can improve our service, offer more variety, find sponsors, donors for produce etc. so please do get in touch with us. Times are going to get tougher for those who are already finding it tough. **Let's all work together to help each other.**



PayPal



GOFUNDME



## Come and join us at Little Angels!



A time of simple worship for families with babies and pre-school children, held in Holy Cross Church, Byfield on the third Monday in the month from 2—2.45pm. We have a short interactive story, one or two action songs and a simple prayer. There are then activities and toys for the children - and time for a cup of tea and a chat!

In January we listened to the story of Jesus baptism in the river Jordan and decided we definitely would not want to be baptised in the Cherwell – warm water in the font is much more enticing!

In February we welcomed Pippa, Ellery, Logan and Benjamin to our service. We enacted the story of Jesus recruiting his first disciples whilst fishing on the Sea of Galilee. We caught so many fish in our net that our 'boat' capsized! Peter and Jesus really did need help from John and James to bring the fish ashore. We all enjoyed playing the instruments while we sang – what a joyful noise!

In April we will be meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> but then on 15<sup>th</sup> May and 19<sup>th</sup> June. Do come and join us!



## Rising Stars!

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

We meet in Holy Cross Church, Byfield usually on the third Thursday in the month in term time from 6 – 7.30pm. Our evening is based on a Bible story but will include games, puzzles, crafts and **FOOD!**

In January we took the theme of Jesus' Baptism. We created a mosaic 'River Jordan' as people arrived and then thought about questions we would like to ask Jesus. We will try to answer these questions at our next meeting!

When we are born, we are each given a name that is special to us: we are all individuals and quite different from one another. We put our names on a Jam jar with coloured nail varnish, decorated it and allowed it to dry. We then thought about all the people in the group and wrote on slips of paper what was special about each one, later putting the slips in their jar for them to take home to read. Jesus had decided that it was the right time to be baptized as he needs to begin his ministry. Our challenge was to see if we could work out the 'correct time' required to complete an obstacle course. Not easy!! However, Freya managed to be exactly right!

We finished the evening with hot dogs.

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

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

LP



# Byfield Parish Council

The Parish Council has its own website <https://www.byfield-pc.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 19.30 hrs. Members of the press and public are always welcome to attend.

## Chairman's Report

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February marked a significant change both for the Parish Council and for the Clerk Angela Weller, who retired after serving for 38 years. Angela gives generously of her time and has been, and continues to be, involved as a supporter, organizer and participant of various groups and activities in the village. Indeed, Angela still lives in Byfield and will continue to be part of these things for years to come. During her tenure as Clerk, she worked tirelessly to provide services to our community and has been doing the job for so long that she has seen the entire street light network replaced twice! For all of the time that I have served, first as a councillor and then as Chairman, Angela has always been cheerful, energetic and engaged with her role helping, advising and organizing countless pieces of work, trades people and suppliers. What you may not know is that during this time Angela also served as Clerk to Flore Parish Council, Kilsby Parish Council and for a brief time Clerk to Charwelton Village Meeting.

We wish Angela a long and happy retirement and thank her for all she has done over so many years.

Angela's departure brings some changes, firstly, as mentioned last time, we welcome our new Clerk Natalie, a new contact number and a new address for the Parish Council.

Natalie Nunn  
Byfield Parish Council  
c/o Byfield Village Hall  
The Green  
Byfield  
Northants  
NN11 6UT

Telephone 07738 660763

The email address remains unchanged [clerk@byfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@byfield-pc.gov.uk)

I am very pleased to welcome to this parish council news an article from our new pocket park co-ordinator Chris Butlin. Chris is enthusiastic and committed to developing and improving this area for the whole community and I hope many villagers will feel that they want to get involved in ways big and small. Further details below under **Pocket Park**.

## The Coronation

Early May sees a weekend of celebrations to mark the coronation of His Majesty The King and the Queen Consort. These are rare and significant events in our nations life and the Parish Council encourages everyone to take part, decorate their houses, have a street party or find their own way to mark this occasion.

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.

## **Environment**

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.

## **HS2 and Highways**

Cllr Crowshaw 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.

## **Volunteering Opportunity**

The Parish Council has benches located throughout the village and for many years a parishioner took it upon himself to 'look after' these very useful assets. Sadly he died a couple of years ago and this task has fallen away. Would anyone be interested in taking on this small role in our community? It would involve checking the benches a couple of times a year, some light weight cleaning, refreshing the stain on a few wooden ones, reporting any damage or issues to the clerk and whatever else seemed appropriate for the job. For an initial informal chat please contact John Gillic on 07966 848671 email [j.gillicbpc@icloud.com](mailto:j.gillicbpc@icloud.com)

## **Brightwell Recreation Ground**

The work on the Brightwell Pavilion is drawing to a close and we look forward to the new facilities reopening to everyone in the village.

## **Burial Ground**

It is perhaps time to remove Christmas wreaths and earlier items from graves and dispose of in the grey bins.

## **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 paths.

## **Pocket Park**

The new season awaits us, we are beginning to see the harshness of winter replaced by the flowers of spring. This is very visible in the Brightwell Pocket Park where we have snowdrops, crocus and daffodils all braving the early spring weather and bringing much longed for colour.



We, in Byfield have a wonderful local asset in the pocket park and after walking in it every day through lockdown I took on responsibility for the management of the park at the end of 2022. I have now met with the group that help maintain the space several times. We have walked the park, looked at the challenges and opportunities and are now building a plan of what we would like to achieve. The Brightwell Pocket Park Group is an active group of people from across the village who care about their space and the environment, enjoy a little physical exercise, and want to help improve our leisure space. We also supported the recent Greener Byfield event with a presentation on the park, which was well attended.

From March we will have regular sessions to work on the park. These sessions will start on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March and will run between 10:00 and 13:00, tea and coffee provided, and we will meet outside the Brightwell pavilion. The plan is to run these sessions on the last Saturday of the month between 10:00 and 13:00. Come and join us, no matter what your age or ability, we will be working on everything from planting wildflower beds to building insect hotels, clearing paths and a bit of gardening. Later in the year we are planning to support another Greener Byfield event, launch a website along with a broader plan for the area.

Our objectives are to:

- Culturally
  - Bring a group of likeminded people together – Community
  - Bring our local heritage into view – Educate
  - Use the space to run local events – Cultural activities
- Environment
  - Work to improve the wildlife habitat - Wildlife
  - Make the management of the Pocket Park sustainable as possible – Environment
  - Raise Environmental awareness – Educate
- Socially
  - Create a sensory walk and spaces to support better mental health – Health
  - Support the Pocket Park Team by providing a plan, regular contact and exercise – Community
  - Run events and engage the local community - Social



If any of the above inspires you, please feel free to reach out to me 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

## Planning

Recent planning applications in the village include:

WND/2022/1102 - 46 Church Street, Byfield – First floor extension and installation of disabled access lift

WND/2023/0081 - 35 Bell Lane, Byfield - Demolition of existing conservatory. Construction of front extension, side and rear extensions and changes to existing fenestration.

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.***

## Playground

The cable on the slide has been replaced and some alterations done to try and ensure that it lasts for longer than the original. We are hopeful that some other improvements will be completed in early spring.

## Lights and Utilities

Cllr Davis is the first point of call for any faulty light - email [christl.davis@byfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:christl.davis@byfield-pc.gov.uk)

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT VOTER IDENTITY REQUIREMENT

From 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 new legislation will be in place so that voters in England will need to show Photo Identification (**e.g. a passport or driving licence**) in order to be able to vote at Polling Stations in some elections. You will be turned away from the Polling Station if you do not have it with you.

This will apply to: Local elections, Police and Crime Commissioner elections, UK parliamentary by-elections, Recall petitions.

From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections.

If your name is entered on the electoral roll and you do not have any photo ID it might be simpler to apply for a postal vote. However, if you prefer you can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate. You will need to apply either on line at Gov.UK or the electoral commission websites by completing an online form or printing a copy of the application form and sending it to:

Electoral Registration Office  
The Guildhall  
St Giles Square  
Northampton  
NN1 1DE

Both options will require a digital photograph that meets the requirements for a passport or driving licence application.

Alternately you could use one of the following if you have it (which can be **valid** or **expired**).

UK Proof of Age Standards Scheme (PASS) card

UK biometric residence permit (BRP)

UK Defence identity card (MOD Form 90)

Northern Ireland Electoral Identity Card or Scottish National Entitlement Card

National ID from an EEA country

Blue Badge

Government travel pass for older or disabled people including Freedom pass, or disabled person's concessionary pass

### 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.

### Communications and Social Media

The Parish Council has a presence on social media as follows:

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

Ways to contact us:

Our Facebook page allows for Parishioners to contact us directly via Facebook Messenger, and we try to respond to every message we receive as quickly and thoroughly as possible. Our email addresses can also be found on the website, where there is also an option to complete an online form.

John Gillic - Chair - Byfield Parish Council

## Boddington & District Gardeners' Association



On 25<sup>th</sup> April, Dr Helen Buttrick will be visiting Boddington & District Gardeners' Association to talk about some of the easy ways we can help the environment in our gardens. This will include small-scale rewilding, composting, growing-your-own veg and alternatives to fertilisers and pesticides.

You're welcome to come along as a member or guest at 7:30pm on 25<sup>th</sup> April at Boddington Village Hall.

How to join:

You can join the club at any meeting or email [bridyard@icloud.com](mailto:bridyard@icloud.com). The annual £9 membership (£14 for a household) includes regular guest speakers, organised garden tours and garden centre discounts. £2 to join an event as a guest.

## Byfield 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Group Programme for the next few months

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| April 11 <sup>th</sup>     | "Why I write poetry" – Dennis East                     |
| May 9 <sup>th</sup>        | Afternoon visit to Broughton Grange Gardens            |
| June 13 <sup>th</sup>      | Day visit to a Garden Centre – members to decide which |
| July 11 <sup>th</sup>      | Day visit to National Memorial Arboretum               |
| August 8 <sup>th</sup>     | Another outing – venue to be agreed                    |
| September 12 <sup>th</sup> | And yet another day out?                               |
| October 10 <sup>th</sup>   | "My Life as a Bishop" – Rev Dr Ed Condry               |
| November 14 <sup>th</sup>  | "Saints and Sinners of Northants" – Derek Blunt        |
| December 12 <sup>th</sup>  | Seasonal lunch – venue to be agreed                    |

Meetings in April, October and November will be in the village hall. 2pm for 2.30 start. When the group was formed many years ago it was called *Byfield Over 60s* and was for parishioners age 60+. However, anyone of any age may now come along to meetings and outings. In most months the Group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday.

Beetle Drives are now held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays during the winter months – October through to March.

Subscription is £10 a year Jan-Dec but is proportional for those joining part way through a calendar year. A fee of £2 per member is payable for meetings in the hall to cover hire, refreshment costs and speaker fees. A free raffle is held 4 times a year.

For further information please contact Rosemary Johnson 01327 261327 or Angela Weller 01327 260022



**BYFIELD BOWLS CLUB  
OPEN DAY**

**SATURDAY 22ND APRIL  
2.00 PM**

**NEWLY JOINED PLAYERS  
AND ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING VERY WELCOME**

**TUITION AVAILABLE**

**COME ALONG AND JOIN IN**



## Byfield and District Branch of the Royal British Legion

Thinking ahead to the King's coronation in May 2023, and wishing to do something to commemorate King Charles III being Head of the British Armed Forces, our branch has placed a number of poppies in a jar.



We will be running a "Guess the number of poppies" competition and our members will be at various local events / clubs with our jar over the preceding months to the coronation, to encourage your £1 donations for each guess.

Watch out for us at the Byfield Big Breakfast in April (with our grateful thanks to the Big Breakfast organisers), and as many other local events and occasions as possible.

All proceeds will be given across to the RBL Poppy Appeal which provides such valuable support and aid to its Armed Forces community.

There will be three prizes for the nearest correct guesses. Results will be drawn over the Coronation weekend. Good luck to all that have a go.

### Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast

There are a number of Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Clubs already in being around UK. The nearest we know about is at Banbury. These provide support for their members in many ways. It could be advice on local issues and giving each other tips. Or just an excuse for a bit of banter and a laugh.

It was proposed at the Royal British Legion meeting held in February 2023 to start an Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club for Byfield and surrounding villages. The intent is for the "Club" to provide an informal social environment for a chat and a laugh with a breakfast bap and mug of coffee. If you are serving or have served in HM Forces, an RBL member, SSAFA etc there will be an opportunity to meet old and new colleagues. You might know someone who has been there or "done that before". If there is sufficient interest the "Club" would meet every month, or perhaps every 2 months. In the future the "Club" might also meet in the surrounding villages providing there is a suitable venue.

A provisional date for the inaugural Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast will be at The Cross Tree pub, Byfield, on Saturday 24th June 2023 between 10.00 and 12.00. Please let Bob Cubitt at [cubittbob@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cubittbob@yahoo.co.uk) know if you can make it so we can pre-order where possible. The planned breakfast will be a bacon or sausage sandwich/bap plus tea or coffee at a cost of £5 (subject to price changes between now and then). Vegan options can be made available if you tell us in advance.

Please spread the word on this and if anyone is interested in attending, it would help with planning if you could drop Bob Cubitt an email.

### Meeting Speaker April 2023

We have a speaker, Neil McKenzie, from Northants Police to open our meeting on Monday 3 April 2023, to talk to us about scams and fraud.

Meeting starts at 8pm in Byfield Village Hall meeting room.

Non-members are welcome to attend for a £1 donation on the night.

Our website (search for RBL Byfield) and Facebook page are there for you and please remember ALL are welcome at Byfield & District RBL - you don't have to be ex-service to be part of this organisation, both men and women are Members of the Byfield & District RBL - and there are no age limits.



## Bethlehem Marathon



Very many thanks to all of you who have sponsored me to complete the 10km section of the Palestine Marathon which took place on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> March in Bethlehem. A party of 20 ABCD (Action around Bethlehem Children with Disability) supporters flew out from Heathrow to Tel Aviv on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March. We stayed at a hotel next to the Church of the Nativity on Manger Square.

On the Friday those running the Marathon and the half Marathon set off at 6am: those of us taking part in the 10Km set off at 10am. The route took us through the centre of Bethlehem, along part of the wall dividing Palestine from the rest of Israel, past Banksy's 'Walled Off' Hotel (many of the rooms look straight onto the wall just a few metres away) and through two Refugee camps. We were cheered on our way by many of the bystanders and nearly mown down by children on electric scooters!

I finished just after midday – it was pretty hot by then – and collected a beautiful medal made from the local olive wood. By the end of the day the group had raised the target amount of £20,000. Many of us had more to collect once we were home.

The next day we visited one of the clinics for disabled children supported by ABCD in the Jalazone Refugee camp. Since the charity was founded in 1983 one small room has become a 4-storey building equipped with Physiotherapy equipment, two treatment rooms, a sensory room, several teaching rooms and a huge 'garden room' with adapted swings, seesaws, a roundabout, a rocking horse etc as there is no outdoor open space at all in the Camps. ABCD supports 3 other clinics like this in three more of the 19 Camps on the West bank. There is little provision made for those who are disabled, by the state. The money you have kindly donated will make a huge difference. Thank you again!

LP



### BYFIELD BIG BREAKFAST

April 1<sup>st</sup> is the last Big Breakfast of the season.

Thank you to everyone for their support for this amazing social event. Also, a huge thank you to the Big Breakfast Team – without their hard work and commitment it wouldn't be possible.

If you would like to join the Big Breakfast Team please contact:  
Lyn – 01327 261596

**SEE YOU IN OCTOBER**

**Film Night at the Priors Hall**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

**'Living'**

Starring Bill Nighy



Year of Release 2022

Certificate 12

Running Time 1hr 40mins

Doors Open 7pm,

Film starts 7:30pm





*Coronation Ceilidh  
Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup>  
Byfield Village Hall  
Dancing to:  
The Folk Camps Party Band*

**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*

**Who are the 'Folk Camps Party Band'**

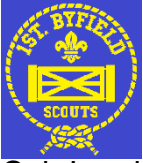
*The Folk Camps Party Band is an exciting multi-ability multi-age ceilidh band drawn from all parts of the Folk Camps spectrum that attends several festivals a year to show off the essence of Folk Camps.*

**What do we know so far?**

Arrangements are still being made but:

1. Time: Early evening - bring the family
2. Tickets: £5, £15 for a family
3. Licensed bar

**Look out for posters with more information.**



**1<sup>st</sup> Byfield Scout Group,  
Scout HQ, Brightwell Recreation Ground, Byfield**



Scout Leader - Jon Owen email: skip.1stbyfieldscouts@gmail.com:  
Cub Leader - Sally Huband email: akela.1stbyfield@yahoo.co.uk  
Beaver Leader – Rob Gericke email : beavers.1stbyfield@gmail.com  
Report collater – Helen Mason

Another packed term of activities has been enjoyed by all the Scout sections and this is just a few of the varied things they've all been up to.

The Scout section attended a winter camp in Staffordshire with an activity programme including climbing, pedal karts, crate stacking, archery, fencing, campfire



and a film evening. Although chilly and damp – (well it was winter!) they had a great time.

They've done backwoods cooking, learnt some Chinese and made spring rolls, are putting finishing touches to their outdoor planters (to be donated to a care



home) and are preparing a video to send to some Scouts in Hong Kong! They've also just taken part in the Monopoly Run in London where they came third in their game, finishing with £3519 (1st place had £3705) and owning all the yellow properties with hotels on them! Well done Scouts.



Cubs have been keeping a little warmer but still taking part in activities for their Astronomers bage – making star gazing 'telescopes', watching the moon and creating a papier mache solar



system. They've made Welsh cakes and have thought about managing their money and budgeting and sewing on buttons. All these activities whilst being good fun qualify them for their activity badges.



The Byfield Beaver Scouts have been causing a stir with their non-stop action and adventure as well. From farm visits to Remembrance Day parade, Guy Fawkes being burnt on a bonfire and First Aid they have been soaking up knowledge and learning life skills along the way. The Beavers even braved the elements and spent a night camping in the great (in)doors. When it comes to partying these guys really know how to let their fur down! Their



Christmas party in a barn, with festive decorations, games, treats galore had a visit from local magician, Magic Mat. It's not all fun and games for the Byfield Beavers, they also take their hiking seriously, even if it means trudging back from Boddington reservoir in the dark. These guys have got stamina! Currently the Beavers are channelling their creative side by building a dragon and learning about St George's Day. Who knows what they'll get up to next. One thing's for sure it's bound to be epic.



If you've got a child aged between 6 and 8 who is looking for a bit of excitement, then why not get in touch with Robert at the above address. But be quick as these little explorer places are in high demand and fill up fast. Don't miss out on the adventure of a lifetime!

Rob Gericke

### Finally Leader news

After my 5 years or so as Group Scout Leader and the previous about 20 years as Cub leader (occasionally Beaver and Scout leader as well, 30 years in total) I am hanging up my woggle and taking a step back. I will be staying on our Scout Group executive committee to help fund raise and keep the Scout hut going – so still around. Thanks to all the Leaders, young people and parents who have been involved with 1<sup>st</sup> Byfield Scout Group whilst I've been here, it's been fab!

The Group has also welcomed four new Section assistants, Tom, Jenny, Sam and Ann who have all completed their basic training and will be bringing more exciting ideas, activities and adventures to all the Scouts in the Beaver and Cub sections and will be fantastic assets to their 'team'. Thank you for volunteering, I know you'll have fun in your Scouting adventures.

If you feel you can help out whilst having some fun, the Scout section (10/12 - 14 year olds) needs another adult person to become a Leader. (Training is given). Please contact any of the above Leaders email addresses to find out how much time you need and more details. Thank you.

If you're interested in helping out as a member of our Executive committee (looking after the Scout hut and a SMALL amount of fundraising) please contact me (07910 341637) or Angela Weller our chairman (01327 260022). Thank you

Helen



## *Holy Cross Church*

### *Coronation Bank Holiday Tea Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May*

*Byfield Village Hall  
2 - 4pm*



*Tea/coffee and home-made cakes and scones*





## BYFIELD TENNIS CLUB (BTC)

BTC is a member's club open to residents of Byfield and the surrounding villages. We currently have around 160 members of all ages and ability.

- Club activity revolves around 4 open members sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and Friday and Sunday mornings. These sessions are open to all competent players of all abilities and involve mix in doubles play. There is a Rusty Rackets beginners' session on Saturday mornings for newcomers to tennis or those looking to get back into playing.
- On Friday evenings, there is formal junior coaching run by professional LTA coaches for young children and teenagers. The coaches also run school holiday sessions.
- For advanced players, the club has 4 teams who compete in the Banbury leagues. The match captain is always on the lookout for new talent!

For further information on membership please visit the club website <http://www.byfieldtennis.co.uk/>  
Membership enquiries: [info@byfieldtennis.co.uk](mailto:info@byfieldtennis.co.uk)

**Byfield Tennis Club** will be holding an **open afternoon** on April 29<sup>th</sup> 2023 from 2pm

Calling all residents of Byfield and the surrounding villages –

If you are interested in joining your local tennis club you are invited to come along to meet club members, have a knock, talk about tennis opportunities and see what we have on offer. We are actively looking for new members of all standards from social to team level players.

Contact: [info@byfieldtennis.co.uk](mailto:info@byfieldtennis.co.uk) or [www.byfieldtennis.co.uk](http://www.byfieldtennis.co.uk)



### Ring for the King

Throughout the country plans are being made to *Ring for the King* at the Coronation of King Charles III on 6<sup>th</sup> of May. In June 2022 we all celebrated Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee with the sound of bells. Bells also rang out with a muffled sound throughout the nation as a mark of respect at her passing in September 2022.

Following the announcement of King Charles' Coronation, Byfield Church Bell Ringers are aiming to recruit more ringers to be trained in time to *Ring for the King*.

**Do you want to learn to ring? If you're interested in learning to ring, or are you already a bell ringer?**

If you are interested, please contact Jim Grennan at 01327 261596 Byfield Tower Captain who will be able to teach and organise lessons for you.



## 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 not good with technology.

Thank you

## 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 5 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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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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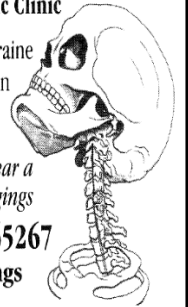
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A polo bear!

Why did an old man fall in a well?  
Because he couldn't see that well!

What's red and smells like blue  
paint?  
Red paint!

What did one plate say to the  
other?  
Dinner is on me!

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For More Information: **Contact Lisa**

Mobile: 07976 785053

Email: [lisakdukes@gmail.com](mailto:lisakdukes@gmail.com)

# Diary for the Fiveways Benefice of Aston le Walls, Boddington, Byfield, Eydon and Woodford Halse for April and May 2023

## APRIL

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Palm Sunday

10am Ecumenical Procession and Benefice Holy Communion at Aston le Walls. Meet at the Welsh Road end of Main Street.

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Day

6am Sunrise Service at Boddington  
10am Benefice Holy Communion at Byfield

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April

10am Holy Communion at Woodford Halse  
10.30am Café Church at Eydon  
11am BCP Matins at Aston le Walls  
6pm Evening Prayer at Boddington

### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

8.30am BCP Matins at Byfield  
10am Benefice Holy Communion at Boddington

### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April

10am Benefice Holy Communion at Eydon  
10am Café Church at Woodford Halse

## MAY

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

10am Holy Communion at Aston le Walls  
11am Café Church at Byfield

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

10am Holy Communion at Woodford Halse  
10.30am Café Church at Eydon

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

10am Holy Communion at Boddington  
11am BCP Matins at Aston le Walls

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

8.30am BCP Matins at Byfield  
10am Benefice Holy Communion at Byfield  
10am Café Church at Woodford Halse  
10.30am Morning Prayer at Eydon



### Register of Weddings

Connor Thorpe & Katie Capell

*Blessing and laughter and loving  
be yours for ever.*

### Bereavements

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of:



Brigid Hurn RIP  
Ann Emerson RIP

### Every Wednesday

9.45am Holy Communion/Morning Prayer at Byfield.

### 200 Club

If you want to join the Holy Cross 200 Club then speak to Chris Cross 260764. The draw is held on the second or third Sunday of each month, depending on the rota of services. There is a prize of £50 and £25 each month.

The deadline for the next Byword (June/July) is Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May