

The Byword



Photo of Holy Cross by Bernard Tisley

December/January 2025

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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Choir Practice:	Wednesdays at 7.00pm.	
Organists:	Diana Charters and Meriel Gardner	
Choir Mistress:	Mrs Alison Buck (alisonbuck1@hotmail.co.uk)	Tel: 260977

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Tower Captain:	Mr James Grennan	Tel: 261596

Methodist Church:

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



01327 227000

**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.

SEE OUR ADVERT ELSEWHERE IN THE BYWORD ON HOW TO

GIVE A CHRISTMAS GIFT

SEND £5, £10, £20 OR £??

*** £5 = A MEAL ON CHRISTMAS DAY FOR ONE**

*** £10 = A TURKEY FOR A FAMILY**

*** £20 = TOWARDS AN ENERGY BILL**

***£?? = A ££ DONATION TO BGNS**

You'll receive a gift certificate for you to personalise and give to your giftee

Christmas Treats

Our Christmas Luncheon is

In Village Hall

At 12pm - 2pm

On Friday 13th December

R.S.V.P. your attendance asap

If you'd like a meal for Christmas Day itself, please let us know in plenty of time.

Get in touch if you'd like to get involved in helping the festivities happen.

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

& sign up on the Newsletter page

GIVE A CHRISTMAS GIFT



VIA CASH OR
CHEQUE, OR



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gift certificate for
you to personalise
and give to your
giftee

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* £10 = A TURKEY FOR A FAMILY

* £20 = TOWARDS AN ENERGY BILL

*£?? = A ££ DONATION TO BGNS



AND LET US KNOW YOUR NAME, HOW YOU DONATED AND ITS DATE

PLEASE PUT YOUR CASH OR
CHEQUE IN A SEALED
ENVELOPE & DELIVER TO
49 BODDINGTON RD, BYFIELD,
NN11 6XT



SCAN ME



SCAN ME



Letter from the Rectory

At this time of year as the evenings get colder and darker the Christmas lights on shopping streets and in houses seem to get brighter until by the last week in December almost every garden contains a shrub covered with fairy lights and almost every house has a brightly lit Christmas tree in the window. Even as I write this at the beginning of November the shops are already playing Christmas music and beginning to be full of seasonal treats and Christmas decorations and I'm sure that by the time you are reading it the Christmas countdown will be in full swing with Santa and his elves in every shopping centre alongside carol singers raising money for charity. December always seems to be a mad dash towards Christmas, packed full of preparations and occasionally panic.



In the church year the season of Advent comes before Christmas. Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas but it much more than that and it is easy for the season of Advent to get lost in the busyness of preparing for Christmas. Advent comes at the darkest time of the year, and it is a time when we both wait and prepare for our Christmas celebrations and wait and prepare for the time when Jesus will come as the light that chases away all darkness. Over the centuries lots of traditions have become attached to Christmas, trees and turkey and presents and Santa, and sometimes those traditions can get so loud, and Christmas can become so busy that we forget about Jesus, the light and hope that he brings and the amazing Christmas gift of love that God gives us. Advent is a time to strip away those layers of fairy lights and tinsel so that we can really see the small clear light of Jesus that shines best in the darkest of places.

I love the Christmas season, which can be a time for celebration, lights, decorations and parties, a time to meet up with family and friends and a time to enjoy special family traditions. I also know that sometimes this season can be difficult. The Christmas lights and music can be a reminder of the friends and family who we are no longer able to see or the special family traditions that are no longer possible. Sometimes the pressure to have a happy Christmas can leave us feeling isolated and alone but Christians believe that the whole point of Christmas is that God himself came as a child in a Bethlehem stable so that human beings would never need to be alone and so I look forward to hearing from you if you want someone to talk to.

This will be my first Advent and Christmas in the Fiveways benefice and over the next few weeks I look forward to seeing many of you at some of the special events and services which will be happening in churches across the benefice. Whether you come alone or with family and friends you are very welcome to attend. Also, if you want a quiet space to sit and think away from the busyness, the churches across the benefice will be open during daylight hours, throughout the whole of the Christmas season, as they are all year round. However you celebrate Christmas, I pray that you will know the love of God surrounding you through Advent, Christmas and into the year ahead.

Every blessing, Clare



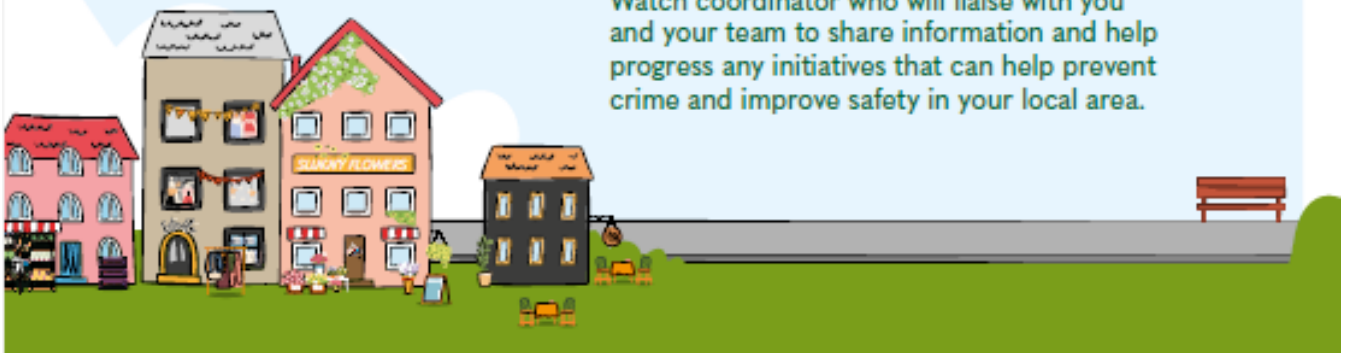
Become part of Street Watch

STREET
WATCH
YOUR
LOCAL
AREA

Join Northamptonshire
Street Watch and do
something amazing
for your community.

You will work collaboratively with
like-minded, passionate and dedicated
community members as well as your local
neighbourhood policing team.

You'll be supported by your local Street
Watch coordinator who will liaise with you
and your team to share information and help
progress any initiatives that can help prevent
crime and improve safety in your local area.



As a Street Watch member, you'll patrol
your local area alongside your neighbours
for at least two hours every month, at
times which suit you.

You'll be encouraged to talk with people you meet
during your patrols, helping them to take an active
interest in keeping their neighbourhood safe.



For further information visit
northants.police.uk/streetwatch
citizensinpolicing@northants.police.uk



Citizens
in policing

Your waste and recycling 2025 collection calendar

A1 area Daventry



West Northamptonshire Council



Your collection day has not changed - please look up your usual collection day on the calendar below.



Recycling
Collected every two weeks



Garden waste
Collected every two weeks



Food waste
Collected every week



General waste
Collected every three weeks

Garden waste collections

You will only receive garden waste collections if you subscribe to the chargeable service.

There will be a short break for garden waste collections from 21 December 2024 to 4 January 2025.

Batteries and small electrical items:

Please place your old small electrical items and batteries in a bag on top of your general waste bin for collection on your usual general waste collection day.

December 2024

	M	T	W	T	F
W R F	2	3	4	5	6
G F	9	10	11	12	13
R F	16	17	18	19	20
W F	23	24	25	26	27
R F	30	31	1	2	3

*Weds collection changed to Saturday, 21 December
*Thurs collection changed to Saturday, 28 December

January 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
R F	30	31	1	2	3
G F	6	7	8	9	10
W R F	13	14	15	16	17
G F	20	21	22	23	24
R F	27	28	29	30	31

*Weds collection changed to Saturday, 4 January

February 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
W G F	3	4	5	6	7
R F	10	11	12	13	14
G F	17	18	19	20	21
W R F	24	25	26	27	28

March 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
G F	3	4	5	6	7
R F	10	11	12	13	14
W G F	17	18	19	20	21
R F	24	25	26	27	28
G F	31	1	2	3	4

April 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
G F	31	1	2	3	4
W R F	7	8	9	10	11
G F	14	15	16	17	18
R F	21	22	23	24	25
W G F	28	29	30	1	2

May 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
W G F	28	29	30	1	2
R F	5	6	7	8	9
G F	12	13	14	15	16
W R F	19	20	21	22	23
G F	26	27	28	29	30

June 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
R F	2	3	4	5	6
W G F	9	10	11	12	13
R F	16	17	18	19	20
G F	23	24	25	26	27
W R F	30	1	2	3	4

July 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
W R F	30	1	2	3	4
G F	7	8	9	10	11
R F	14	15	16	17	18
W G F	21	22	23	24	25
R F	28	29	30	31	1

August 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
R F	28	29	30	31	1
G F	4	5	6	7	8
W R F	11	12	13	14	15
G F	18	19	20	21	22
R F	25	26	27	28	29

September 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
W G F	1	2	3	4	5
R F	8	9	10	11	12
G F	15	16	17	18	19
W R F	22	23	24	25	26
G F	29	30	1	2	3

October 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
G F	29	30	1	2	3
R F	6	7	8	9	10
W G F	13	14	15	16	17
R F	20	21	22	23	24
G F	27	28	29	30	31

November 2025

	M	T	W	T	F
W R F	3	4	5	6	7
G F	10	11	12	13	14
R F	17	18	19	20	21
W G F	24	25	26	27	28



Please ensure your bins are out kerbside by 6:30am on your collection day.

To find out more visit www.westnorthants.gov.uk/waste

Byfield Parish Council

There are several ways to keep up to date with Parish Council matters, from Facebook to the website, as well as through attending our meetings or speaking to individual members. We volunteer to help make Byfield a great place to live, and your feedback is valuable.

- Facebook – please follow @byfieldparishcouncil
- Website – please go to our website 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. Contact details for the Parish Clerk are:

Alex George

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

Email clerk@byfield-pc.gov.uk

Chairman's report

I have compiled the Parish Council entry to the Byword for quite a few years and it is now my pleasure to welcome a new person to that role – Councillor Mike Burdon. I'm sure Mike will bring lots of improvements to the look and feel of the news and information we provide and I thank him for taking on this extra task.

There are going to be Parish Council elections in the spring of 2025, West Northants Council will run the election process and you should be contacted for details of who is eligible to stand and nomination papers. This could be your chance to make a difference to our village! In the meantime, the work of the PC does not stop and there are all sorts of ideas and projects being explored, why not attend a council meeting to observe all that's going on? Following concerns raised by villagers the PC has had the white hatching lines just outside the Co-op repainted to highlight that this area is intended for short term parking for shop users, those with impaired mobility or taking bulky items to the post office. We ask that it is not occupied overnight or for long periods during the day.

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

Parish Council duties

The Parish Council divides its focus across a number of areas, and often acts as a liaison to West Northants Council (WNC) and relevant organisations, like those working on HS2. A list of councillors and their chosen area of responsibility is listed on the website. We encourage you to give feedback on areas across the village that you would like to see improved, developed, or looked at.

The Environment

The Parish Council is enthusiastic about receiving suggestions about planting trees and shrubs on any public land, as well as supporting the efforts of individuals and groups who work to improve the village. The process is simple, you can email the clerk with details of your suggestion or come to a meeting and talk about it.



The Parish Council is grateful to villagers who trim grass, plant shrubs or otherwise maintain public areas near their property, but of course – no one should be placing themselves at any risk to do this.

WNC regularly suggest that we register any issues with our roads and verges on fixmystreet.com. This includes registering potholes, fly tipping (albeit infrequent), and other issues. The more people that engage and register complaints, the more weight it will carry. WNC will then review the issue and post updates.

Footpaths

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

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.

Allotments

Councillor Lindsay Clark continues to oversee the area and we follow a policy of sub dividing the bigger plots into more manageable sized areas. To enquire or register your interest, please contact the clerk clerk@byfield-pc.gov.uk . Byfield Parishioners have priority for any plots.

Lights and Utilities

Cllr Christl 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

Pocket Park

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



Come and join us !!

WE MEET ON THE 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT BYFIELD SCHOOL HALL, 7.30PM.

THE W.I. IN BYFIELD SINCE 1924

In July the W.I. celebrated their centenary with afternoon tea, and music by Beau Norton which was most entertaining. We had the past W.I. members and also representatives from W. I. House. It was a fun afternoon.



W.I. Byfield ran the Macmillan Coffee morning in September



£660.54 was raised, thanks to everyone who helped and supported the event. All bric-a-brac and books unsold went to the Air Ambulance.

Members also attended a **Willow Weavers Workshop**, funded by a bursary won by the Byfield W.I. at the County AGM, which was enjoyed by everyone.

We had a fashion evening in September and 'Desert Islands Disc' evening in October.

In December we will be having our Christmas Lunch, venue to be decided.



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

Contact Anne Linsey (07809 281622) for more details.

The planters on the Byfield road have shed their summer colour and will soon be planted with bulbs for the Winter/Spring time.

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

Tel 07866 701666

Email sally.doran@hotmail.co.uk

Dear Villagers,

We're excited to share that the Parish Council is considering the addition of an **outdoor weights gym** at the Brightwell!

This initiative aims to provide high-quality, gym-grade weights equipment for everyone in our community—completely free to use. With five equipment stations, you'll be able to complete a full-body resistance training workout, all in a space similar in size to the existing basketball court.



This isn't standard outdoor equipment; we're debating a high-spec option that provides better functionality and durability, designed to serve villagers of all abilities, from young adults to seniors. You don't need to be a gym enthusiast to make use of this facility—it's intended to be accessible to everyone!

Your feedback is essential since this gym would be for the entire village, we want to ensure it reflects the needs and preferences of our community. Whether you're a fitness fan, a curious neighbour, or someone

who simply wants to make Byfield an even better place to live, your opinion matters. We've already received helpful comments through our Facebook page and at recent public forums, but we'd love to gather even more feedback. Additionally, we're reviewing various installation options around the Brightwell and looking into liability aspects to make sure we have a well-rounded plan.

How to Share Your Thoughts:

- Survey: You'll find a brief survey below. Simply fill it out and drop it off at the village hall post box.
- Email Us: Send your thoughts and suggestions directly to us at clerk@byfield-pc.gov.uk.
- Attend a Meeting: Join us at the Parish Council meeting every 2nd Thursday, 7:30 pm, at the village hall meeting room.

We're excited about the potential of this outdoor gym to bring our community closer and promote a healthy lifestyle.

Warm regards,

Byfield Parish Council

Questions:

Conceptually, do you think that an outdoor weights' gym should be added to the village?

Yes

No

Unsure

What points would you like to raise about this project / questions that the parish council should investigate answers for?

BYFIELD 2ND TUESDAY GROUP

In October members and guests had a very informative talk on the history of Byfield church from Pam Hicks and then in November officers from Northants Police came to advise on how best to avoid being scammed by bogus phone calls. And, also, how best to make sure your money stays in your bank account.

Members will be going to Green Acres for a Christmas meal in December and then... it is January again.

Tim Boddington will be giving another of his entertaining talks on 14th January – this time about visits to Iran - “Mufti, burkas and biriani: Life in Iran”.

11th February – Sarah Condry will explain about life as a Guide Dog ‘Mum’.

11th March – John Wood on Radio Comedy of the 1950s and 1960s.

Meetings are at 2pm for a 2.30 start. New members are always welcome. There is an annual membership fee – £12 from 1st January. This goes towards paying for speakers. Plus a meeting fee of £2 to cover hall hire and refreshments. A raffle is held 4 times a year.

In between the speaker meetings members and guests continue to have a light hearted Beetle Drive on the afternoon of the 4th Tuesday. 2-4pm in the Meeting Room of the village hall. Currently £2 per person.

Something new.... Starting on Wednesday 8th January the Group will be running weekly **Coffee and Chat** sessions in the side annex of the village hall. 10am to 12 noon. £2 for coffee and biscuits.



These will be open to anyone who wants to pop in for a cuppa. And perhaps keep warm without having the heating on at home. Byfield Good Neighbours Scheme has offered to help, if possible, with transport for any parishioners who are not able to get to or from the hall. Please ring GNS on 01327 227000 or by email to ByfieldGNS@gmail.com.

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



*Merry Christmas
And Happy New Year
To all our readers*



WOODFORD HALSE COMMUNITY LIBRARY IN DECEMBER & JANUARY

RHYMETIME

Every Tuesday during **Term Time**, 2.30 - 3.00pm. Musical fun for under 5s and their carers (last session before Christmas on 10th December)

Craft Group TUESDAY December 3rd and 17th , January 7th and 21st 10.00 - 12.00 midday
Art Group THURSDAY December 12th, January 9th and 23rd 10.00 - 12.00 midday
Book group THURSDAY December 19th and January 16th 10am -11.00 am
Book Sale FRIDAY 6th December 7pm library will be holding stalls and a book sale at the Carols evening. Lots of children's books, as well as books for the adults.

Craft table A craft table is always available for the children during library opening hours.

PLEASE NOTE THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS FROM SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER AND WILL REOPEN AGAIN ON THURSDAY 2ND JANUARY 2025.



Nostalgia Coffee Morning

In Woodford Halse Library
First Monday of the month 10.30am-12 noon
Monday December 2nd and Monday January 6th
A social get together for those experiencing memory loss or diagnosed with Dementia, and their carers.
For more info contact Robyn on 07855 245665

All activities are provided FREE by The Friends of Woodford Halse Library and new members are always welcome.

Our Volunteers can help with bus pass renewal and blue badge applications, please check the documents required before attending the library.

If you would like to volunteer to help at the library, please contact **Robyn** on **07855 245665**. Hours are flexible and we have lots of different roles to suit.

LIBRARY OPENING HOURS

Wednesday 10am - 2pm, Thursday and Friday 2 - 5pm,
Saturday 10am-12 midday

Bishop Ed is running the London Marathon 2025

I'm running the London Marathon again. This will be my 11th marathon. My last – who knows? I shall be 72.

I am running it for the national charity **Sense** which has been marvellous in supporting our granddaughter Mia. If you are able to sponsor me that would be great. I have a justgiving page at www.justgiving.com/page/edward-condry-trimarathon.



Sense works with those who are deaf or blind and who those have serious physical disabilities. Mia was born with no eyes and is permanently in a wheelchair. She has nevertheless done much. She has been to the theatre and to rugby matches. She sings in a choir. She has even been surfing in Wales, with her wheelchair strapped to the board. I am running the London with our daughter, Fran, Mia's mum.

Sense has provided Mia with monthly sensory play sessions at home with an incredible lady called Anne who has been visiting her for 15 years. She has been lucky enough to attend Sense holidays - 5 day sensory adventures around the UK with Sense workers and volunteers. These help her parents to have a break and open up Mia's horizons to new people, opportunities and independence.

The marathon will also (I hope) complete a London "tri-marathon" of the RideLondon 100 mile bike ride in May 2024; the 22 mile Great River Race rowing on the Thames through London in September 2024 (that's five Oxbridge Boat Races) and the London Marathon itself, running on April 27th 2025. The Cycling and the Rowing marathons are now done, both with our son Jerome - "just" the 26 miles of the marathon left on April 27th 2025.

Fairly serious training is now started.

Thank you.

Ed Condry, Westhorpe Lane.

Advance Notice

Photo Museum Exhibition Day

Saturday 29th March 2025
10am – 4pm

On this day, all the thousands of photos in the collection will be available to view in Byfield village hall.

More details in the next edition of the Byword.

Caring for our Community

We have the privilege of joining together in caring for our community by providing local people in crisis with hampers during the Christmas holidays.

How you can help

- Buy anything from the list below
- Bring to The Old Bakehouse, 7 High Street, Byfield between now and Wed 11th December
- You can also donate the cost of the produce by cheque - made out in the Charity name: Food for Thought Daventry or by BACS Sort Code: 23 05 80 Account No: 35016899

Shopping List

Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Ham, Tinned Tuna, Tinned Soup, Tinned Peas, Tinned Carrots, Tinned Fruit, Gravy Granules, Mayonnaise, Custard Carton, Carton Long Life Milk, Box of Chocolates, Tea/Coffee, Mini Choc rolls/Biscuits, 1L Bottle of soft Drink, packet Cheese Biscuits, Selection Box, Mini Christmas Pudding, Box of Mince Pies, 6-Pack of Crisps, bar/box Chocolates, Stuffing mixture.

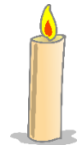
If you know of someone who is struggling and would benefit from a Christmas Hamper or a regular food package, please let us know at rurallarderwh@gmail.com

Christmas Bin Collections

- There will be no garden waste collections from Monday 23rd December to Monday 6th January.
- Real Christmas trees will be collected on Monday 6th January. This service is available to everyone not just garden waste bin subscribers.
- If you have more recycling than will fit in your bin, then you can put it in clear or white plastic bags or cardboard boxes and place alongside your recycling bin on the appropriate day.
- Food waste caddies will continue to be collected weekly. Remember that you can recycle leftover raw and cooked food including vegetable peelings, egg shells, out-of-date food, plate scrapings, solid fats, meat and fish bones.
- Don't forget that you can line your kitchen caddy with any bag – it doesn't have to be a compostable bag.
- Household waste Recycling Centres will be open at the usual times during the Christmas season except for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day when they will be closed. Centres will also close early at 2pm on Christmas Eve.



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 September Pippa built the walls of Jericho for our story. We marched round the city six times and blew our trumpets loudly. The walls tumbled down and Joshua was able to lead the Children of Israel into the city!

In October we were joined by Jack, Arthur, Harry and Jago for the story of David and Goliath. Jack donned Goliath's breastplate, picked up his shield and wielded a spear. But he was defeated by Pippa who rejected the King's armour and knocked Goliath out with a 'stone' from David's sling! God was on her side.

We will be meeting at 2pm in Holy Cross church on 25th November, 16th December and 20th January.

Lesley, Lyn and Rev Clare.



Rising Stars!



A Junior Church youth group for those aged 7 – 11 years.

In September we celebrated harvest with a Pizza 'party'. We designed a pizza and decided who we would like to share it with at our party: we then thought about those who perhaps we OUGHT to share it with – those who need us to share our food and our friendship. We then had a 'vegetable' relay race before eating Pizza together and having special harvest biscuits to take home.

In October our theme was 'justice'. We had sheets with pictures of unjust situations and had to order them from least to most unjust which we then discussed. We shared the story 'This is my House' and identified the injustices, then listened to the advice that God sent to his people through the prophet Amos. We used wax resist and paint to make posters of things that are fair and unfair, then decorated a dark and a light biscuit before finishing with hot dogs.

Come and join us in Holy Cross Church from 6 – 7.30 on Thursdays 14th November, 12th December and 16th January. Our evening is based on a Bible story but will include games, puzzles, crafts and **FOOD!**

Do come along – we'd love to welcome you.

Any questions? Email lep23a@gmail.com or text 07941 328535

Rev Clare, LP, LG



Youth Church FOOD, FUN and FAITH



For young people of Secondary school age from across the Fiveways Benefice.

AT: St Mary's Church, Woodford Halse

TIME: Saturdays 5-7pm

DATES: 23rd Nov, 14th December, 11th and 25th January.

An opportunity to make friends and to explore faith through fun activities and informal discussions.

For more information talk to: Lesley Palmer 07941 328535 lep23a@gmail.com or
Rev Clare 01327 260204

Historic Churches Sponsored Ride and Stride



A huge 'Thank you' to Kim Averilla who ran round the five Benefice churches on September 9th, to those who sponsored her and to all those of you who 'manned' the church. We sent a cheque for £315 to the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust. Kim, you are amazing – we are in awe of your energy and fitness!

It was a day of great activity at Holy Cross as teams of Diocesan bellringers gathered there in the afternoon making a joyful noise before heading to the Village Hall for tea.

LP

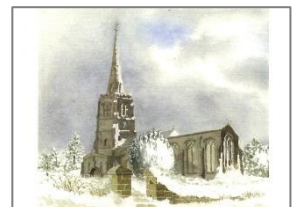


Byfield Calendars and Cards

Byfield Calendars for 2025 are being prepared and will be available from the Church Christmas Fair on 30th November and at the pub (thank you Glynis!).

We will also have the Christmas cards of Holy Cross Church available which have previously been very popular.

Calendars and cards are also available from 1 Edwards Close



Christmas Fair

At Holy Cross Church

Saturday 30th November

11am – 2pm



Homemade soup and bacon rolls

Craft Stalls

Refreshments and mince pies

Craft Activities for the children

Tombola with many prizes

Gingerbread House Raffle

Father Christmas with a lucky dip



CHARITIES APPLICATION

NEED A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS AN UNEXPECTED FINANCIAL NEED
FOR YOURSELF OR A GROUP?

Then you fill in the form on this page and give it to one of the Trustees listed. It would help if you can give a copy of a receipt or quote. We try to help by giving at least some of the money you are asking for and it comes in cheque form. Applications need to be in by 5th December.

Application Form for Funding

Do you wish to apply for funding for yourself?

Name

Address Phone

Someone else?

Name

Address

A Byfield organisation?

Name of group

Applicant Phone

What is the funding for?

Signature (Give or post to a trustee listed)

Byfield Combined Charities Trustees:

Chris Cross (Chairman), 28 Bell Lane ... Christl Davis, 20 Westhorpe Lane ... Lyn Grennan, 35 The Twistle ... Pam Hicks (Treasurer), 1 Edwards Close ... Rosemary Johnson (Secretary), The Corner House, 34 Bell Lane ... Angela Weller, 18 Church St... Lesley Palmer, 23 Banbury Road... Revd. Clare Glover, The Rectory, 55 Church St.



Byfield Big Breakfast

Come and join us for a delicious full English breakfast.

Dates for 2024 - 2025:

December 7th
February 1st
March 1st
April 5th



10am – 1pm with last orders at 12.30pm

Prices remain the same as last year - adults £8 and child's meal £3.

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

Flowers in church



The flower team are looking for more members.
Please contact Diana Charters - 07788 763060 if you are interested.

Or pop into church on Tuesday 17th December after 9.30am when Christmas decorating will be happening!

200 Club

If you want to join the Holy Cross 200 Club then speak to Chris Cross on 260764.

The draw is held in church 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.

DIFY

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3 Bed Only £60

4 Bed Only £65

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Thrive Counselling

Joanna Browning (MNCPs acc.)

Are you feeling stuck or overwhelmed? Perhaps you want to understand yourself better?

I offer a comfortable, safe space where you can be entirely yourself.

A place where you will be heard, valued and accepted without judgement.

Together, we can explore your feelings, establish ways of coping better and discover the resolution for you.

Hour sessions in a quiet garden room in Byfield, online or a home visit if you prefer.

Please email or call for a free 20-minute initial consultation.

Reach.out.to.thrive@gmail.com 07450 103448



Need more Christmas Cards?

Barbara and Tony of 11 Edwards Close will be pleased to sell you cards on behalf of the Air Ambulance. They won't be at the Christmas Fair this year so you need to contact them directly.

Tel: 260763

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Katie, Byfield

Jeremy Taylor
Byfield Property Expert



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Byfield Village Hall

For information about Byfield Village Hall please go to: 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



01327 260243

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Priors Cinema Films

Friday 13th December
The Holdovers

Year of Release: 2023 Certificate PG

Running Time: 2 hours 13 mins

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

Friday 17th January
Wonka

Year of Release: 2023 Certificate PG

Running Time: 1 hour 56 mins

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



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What do you call Santa when he takes a break? Santa Pause.

What does Santa do when his elves misbehave? He gives them the sack!

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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

★ confidence

★ fun

★ friendships

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Diary for the Fiveways Benefice of Aston le Walls, Boddington, Byfield, Eydon and Woodford Halse for December and January 2025

DECEMBER

Sunday 1st December

9.30am Holy Communion at Boddington
10am BCP Morning Prayer at Eydon
10am Café Church at Woodford Halse
11am Holy Communion at Byfield
5pm Advent Carols at Aston le Walls

Sunday 8th December

9.30am Holy Communion at Eydon
10am Morning Prayer at Boddington
11am Holy Communion at Aston le Walls
11am Café Church at Byfield

Sunday 15th December

9.30am BCP Holy Communion at Aston le Walls
10.30am Café Church at Eydon
4.30pm Carol Service at Woodford Halse
6pm Evening Prayer at Boddington

Wednesday 18th December

6pm Carol Service at Byfield
followed by seasonal refreshments



Thursday 19th December

7pm Nativity Walk at Aston le Walls

Sunday 22nd December

8.30am BCP Holy Communion at Byfield
6pm Carol Service at Boddington
6pm Carol Service at Eydon



Tuesday 24th December

4pm Crib Service at Byfield
4pm Crib Service at Woodford Halse
9.30pm 'Midnight' Communion at Eydon
11.30pm Midnight Communion at Byfield

Wednesday 25th December

9.30am Christmas Family Worship at Aston le Walls
9.30am Holy Communion at Boddington
11am Christmas Family Worship at Eydon
11am Holy Communion at Woodford Halse

Sunday 29th December

10am Benefice Holy Communion at Eydon

JANUARY

Sunday 5th January

9.30am Holy Communion at Boddington
10am BCP Morning Prayer at Eydon
10am Café Church at Woodford Halse
11am Holy Communion at Byfield



Sunday 12th January

9.30am Holy Communion at Eydon
10am Morning Prayer at Boddington
11am Holy Communion at Aston le Walls
11am Café Church at Byfield

Sunday 19th January

9.30am BCP Holy Communion at Aston le Walls
10.30am Café Church at Eydon
11am Holy Communion at Woodford Halse
6pm Evening Prayer at Boddington

Sunday 26th January

8.30am BCP Holy Communion at Byfield
11am Benefice Holy Communion at Woodford Halse

Every Wednesday

9.45am Holy Communion/Morning Prayer at Byfield.

Bereavements

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of:



Iain Black RIP
Veronica Watts RIP
Joseph Allanson RIP

The deadline for the next Byword (February/March) is Sunday 5th January.