

BYFIELD STREET NAMES
 TUBLEE opened in 1831 and named after the sister of George and Queen Mary.

GREENWOOD: the greenwood charity was established in 1683 when £300 per year was given for the education of poor children.

EDWARDS CLOSE: Thomas Edwards of Bugbrooke left £100 per year for repairs on Lane St. Mary (1723).

FESSEY: In 1871 Joseph Fessy left £100 to be distributed on St Thomas Day to the poor and infirm.

POTTERS END: Mr. Potter was a distinguished resident of Byfield and a landowner in the later 17th century. He gave £150 in 1830 to be given in the form of coal to the poor.

THE GRUSLURY: In 1499 Mr. Shaw left some land to rent the money afterwards to be paid for paving the village churchyard.

KINGHLEY CLOSE: Sir John Kinghley, brother of Byfield T. T. Big and son of the benefactors of the school, left £154 for the Sunday school.

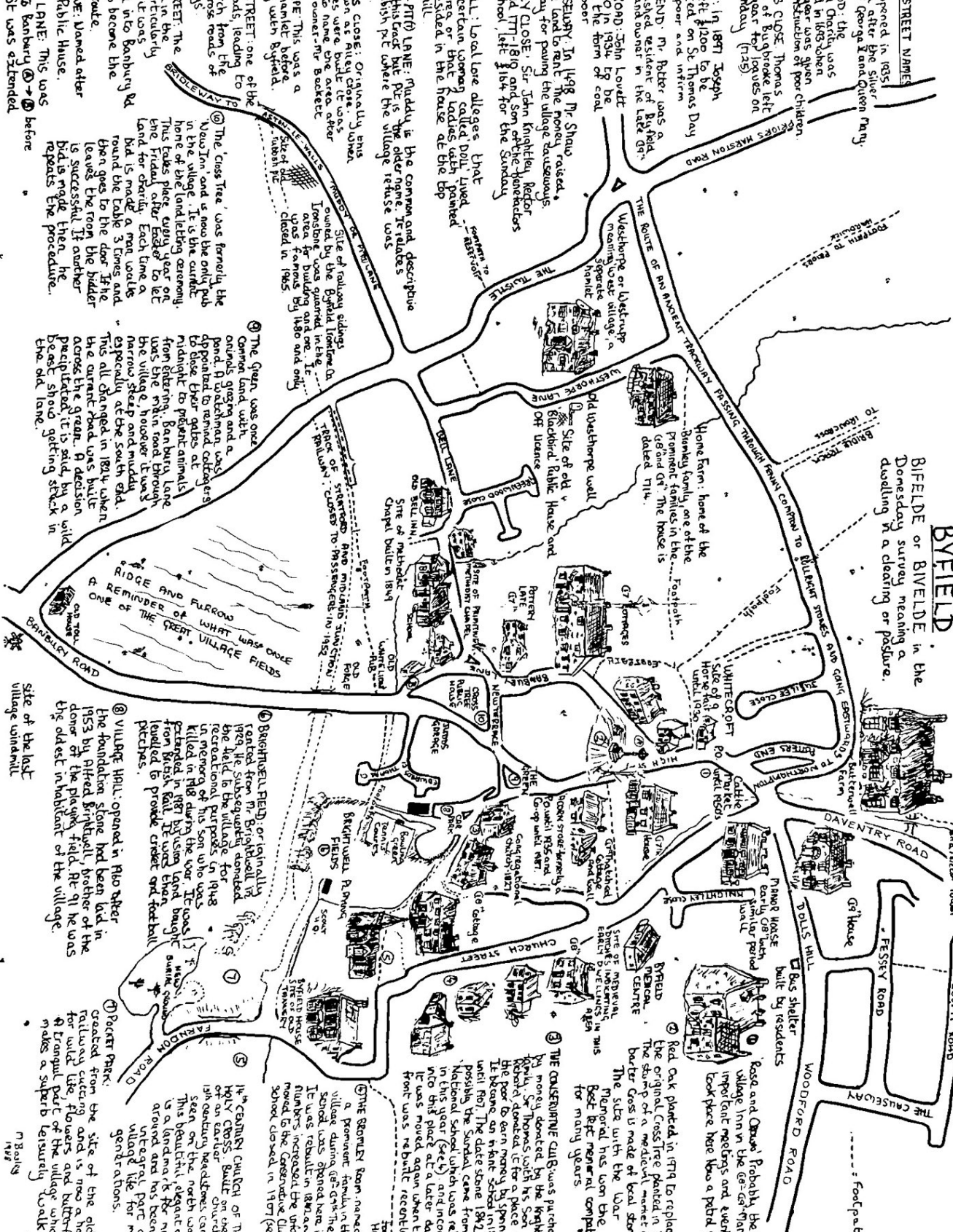
DOLLS HILL: Local lore alleges that either a certain woman called Doll lived in that area or that a road was named Doll's Lane. The house at the top of the hill.

MUDDY or PITTY LAKE: Muddy is the common and descriptive name of a fish pond where the village refuse was dumped.

BECKETT'S CLOSE: Originally this was known as 'Beckle'. It was the houses near the area after a former owner - Mr Beckett.

WESTHOLPE: This was a separate hamlet before combining with Byfield.

BYFIELD or BYVELDE in the Domesday survey meaning a dwelling in a clearing or pasture.



CHURCH STREET: one of the oldest roads leading to the church from the village. Cross roads of the village.

HIGH STREET: The main road in the village particularly so when it was extended into Bannbury Rd in 1824, to become the through route.

BELL LAVER: Named after the Bell Public House. This was the road to Bannbury before the High St was extended.

THE CRASS TREE: was formerly the main tree and is now the only pub in the village. It is the current home of the land letting ceremony. Thus takes place every year on the Friday after Easter to let land for crops. Each time a bid is made 3 times and then goes to the door. If the bid is successful, the bidder repeats the procedure.

THE GREEN: was once common land, with ornamental grazing and a pond. It was given to the village to be used for grazing and to prevent animals from grazing. Bannbury Lane was the main road through the village, however it was narrow, steep and muddy especially at the south end. This all changed in 1824 when the current road was built across the green. It is said, by a local legend, that a decision was made to get a wild beast show getting stuck in the old lane.

BRIGHTELL HILL: opened in 1820 after the foundation stone had been laid in 1813 by Alfred Brightwell, brother of the donor of the playfield. It is the oldest inhabitant of the village.

PARROT PARK: created from the site of the old railway cutting and is now a lawn for wild life flowers and butterflies. It was a superb leisurely walk for many generations.

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THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB: was purchased by money donated by the Kinghley family. Sir Thomas left his son Robert a place for the poor to earn money by spinning. It became an inn and school in 1871 until 1901. The date stone 1882 and possibly the Sunday school was rebuilt in this year (see note) and incorporated into this place at a later date. It was moved again when the front was re-drawn recently.

THE BRITISH BORN: named after a prominent family in the village during the 18th century. The school was opened here in 1750. It was rebuilt in 1824 and when numbers increased the school moved to the Greenway Club. The school closed in 1907 (see No 3).

THE CENTURY CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS: built on the site of an earlier church in 18th century headstones can be seen on the north wall. This beautiful, elegant church is a landmark for miles around and has been an integral part of village life for many generations.

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