

TYSOE & DISTRICT RECORD

NOVEMBER 2023

Issue No: 841

Price 50p. Annual Subscription £5



Image: Thornstead Farm, CV36 5EJ pumpkin picking 21 & 28 October.

In this issue:

- **We celebrate Autumn, 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness'**
- **We report on Apple Day at the Community Orchard**
- **We hear how harvests used to mean "legs on the land"**
- **While also observing November as a time for Remembrance**
- **Plus there's the opportunity for some star gazing!**

THE RECORD TEAM

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**DECEMBER /JANUARY Copy
deadline - Friday 17th November**

#TysoeSupportsUkraine

*Thank you for supporting Breaking The Chains.
Your donation will help us continue to help the animals!*



**BREAKING
THE CHAINS**



Dear Rebecca and the Residents of Tysoe,

Thank you ever so much for your generous donation of £700 that you raised during your village fete. We are very grateful that you chose us as your charity.

The money you raised will help us continue to rescue and care for animals in Ukraine. Whether that's helping animals in villages close to the frontlines or caring for the many cats and dogs we have in our shelter, it will help cover costs to provide shelter, food and medical treatment to all those that need it.

On behalf of myself, the Breaking the Chains team, and all of the animals, **THANK YOU!**

Tom S-N

Chairman and Founder, Breaking The Chains International

AUTUMN AND REMEMBRANCE

The concert on Saturday 7th October intertwined the two threads which run through this November issue –a celebration of Autumn and remembering the sacrifice of war.

We were held spellbound by Anton Lesser's readings from Laurie Lee's 'Cider with Rosie' – his tales of getting lost as a toddler in the tall, June grass "thick as a forest and alive with grasshoppers," how magnificent his sisters appeared "full-rigged, those towering girls, with their flying hair and billowing blouses" and his frustration of waiting for 'the present' on his first day of school, only to be disappointed. "I sat there all day but I never got it. I ain't going back there again!"

We listened to the harvests of yesteryear, 'entering the church on Harvest morning was like crawling head first into a horn of plenty. . .' - which seemed entirely appropriate sat in our beautifully decorated church brimming with flowers and produce, though admittedly more packaged groceries than stooks of grain!.

The verse was interspersed with haunting melodies of Vaughan Williams' 'The Lark Ascending' played by Maddy Evans, while David Brown's mellow tenor urged us to: "Try to remember the kind of September / When grass was green and grain was yellow," by American composer Harvey Schmidt.

Act II explored darker themes as Laurie took himself to Spain where he fought in the Spanish Civil war. A stranger approached him in Seville: "I don't know who you are, but if you want to see blood, stick around – you're going to see plenty." We learnt how he killed a man. "I remembered his shocked, angry eyes. . . Was this then what I'd come for . . . to smudge out the life of an unknown man in a blur of panic which in no way could affect victory or defeat?"

Growing up I used to think there would come a time when the world would be at peace, but just as Laurie realised his mistake over 'the present', so too the reality dawned that war seems part of our human condition. Will we never learn?

The Editor

HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST MARY'S CHURCH



The church was brimming with fabulous autumn flower and food displays.



ALL ON AN AUTUMN EVENING



Featuring: Verse Anton Lesser, Violin (and accompanist) Maddy Evans, Voice David Brown

WHAT A SPLENDID WAY TO SPEND AN AUTUMN EVENING!

We would like to thank our wonderful performers, sandwich makers, bar staff, raffle ticket sellers, Jacqui and the Post Office staff and especially the audience that made this evening such an outstanding success enabling us to raise an amazing **£3,282.25** (plus a late donation of £15) and further boosted by £532 received from 'Tysoe Supports Ukraine' meaning that the grand total of **£3,829.25** will be sent to help equip the ambulance which will then soon be on its way to Ukraine.

FANTASTIC!

Colin and Chris Locke



Ukrainian
Celebration Cake
won as a
raffle prize.





FROM TYSOE TO YPRES

James Hancox wrote this book “well into his 90th year”. He has a remarkable memory for events and details. The first part is about his upbringing and work as a farm labourer, first in Yorkshire and then back in Tysoe. “It was 1914 and time rolled on towards harvest”. World War One started on 4th August and James joined the army on 5th September that year, which is where we pick up his story.

“My first days in the army were interesting and sometime laughable. Six of us from Tysoe found ourselves at Budbrook Barracks, home of the Warwickshire Regiment.” The men were given lumps of bread and lard and a mug of tea. From there they moved to Dorchester where they joined the Dorset Regiment. “As might be expected there were lads from all walks of life. We had some real characters.”

He described how they “got our khaki uniforms and (.303) rifles and marched from Wareham to Romsey via the New Forest, sleeping in open fields at night and how one of two of the lads helped themselves to strawberries through a gap in the hedge.

July 1915, and they were on the move, the 7th Dorsets boarded the boat from Folkestone to Boulogne, heading to Ypres. The order came for them to go to the frontline trenches: “At the entrance we was told to wait while they carried the dead and wounded out, at the same time the bullets was whistling.”

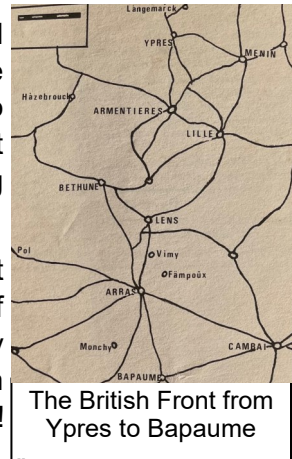
After about ten minutes one of our men was killed. I asked how far off the Germans were? About 14 yards he replied, “If you go a few yards farther and listen you will hear them talking.”

James describes how “the blue bottle flies was terrible” and water was scarce. He saw men and pigs sleeping together in a pig sty. Unsurprisingly, after the first time under fire, they were all “shaken up for several days but eventually got over it.”

"The time came for us to go up that dreaded road, The Menin Road to take up position in the Hooge trenches. In Ypres we had to get into thigh boots, and we needed them, the dugout was knee deep with water, also it was freezing hard."

"Several of the men had trench foot, the feet became so swollen the boot had to be cut off. If you got wounded in the morning you had to stay where you were till dark before going down in the Menin Road." It must have been a living hell!

"It was here that we spent our Christmas in 1915."



"The last place on the Ypres sector was the Bluff, and here A Company was to go over the top and attack, ...here that our losses were very great." James ended up spending eight months round Ypres on this first tour. If you would like to read more you can request a pdf copy of the book by emailing Carol at thrg.info@gmail.com.

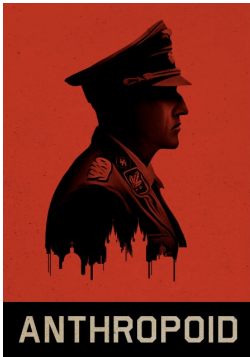
2023 POPPY APPEAL

The Royal British Legion is moving towards zero use of single-use plastic. This year will see paper only poppies in very limited quantities. When I have used up my existing Poppy stock, future Appeals will be paper only. However, Rome wasn't built in a day, and there will thankfully be a transition period; I don't like the new poppies they are not natural bedmates for arthritic fingers. Hopefully the transition will be less traumatic than the N. Ireland Accord! Any comments on the new poppies will be gratefully received.

There will be a gathering at the Cairn in the Natural Burial Ground at 1045 hrs on 11 Nov 23 to mark the Eleventh Hour. Just turn up.

As cash becomes ever more scarce the Appeal is moving with the times. In addition to cash, people will now be able to donate by scanning a QR code with their telephone.

David Sewell



RESISTANCE HAS A CODE NAME

The film *Anthropoid* came out in 2016. In May 1942 volunteer parachutists were airlifted to Czechoslovakia by the RAF in an attempt to assassinate Hitler's heir apparent and architect of the holocaust Reinhard Heydrich. whose brutality to the citizens of Prague earned him the nickname 'Beast of Prague'.

Tysoe has a small link to this event. Following Hitler's invasion of Czechoslovakia, members of the Czech Free Army made their way to England and established their headquarters in Leamington Spa. Officers and men were stationed in local large houses, Walton Hall, Moreton Morrell and Woodley House in Kineton to name three..

Lots were drawn and three men from Woodley House, Jan Kubis, Josef Gabcik and Josef Valcik were selected for the operation. They eventually achieved their aim of Heydrich's assassination, but at horrendous cost. Hitler was so incensed, he ordered the nearby village of Lidice razed to the ground, men and boys executed and girls and women sent to concentration camps.

The paratroopers took shelter in a local church, and after a prolonged stand-off they saved the last of their ammunition to commit suicide.

Here's the Tysoe connection: On a Saturday evening those three brave men would cycle from Kineton through Lower Tysoe, past the Church, past the pub to dances in the village hall. My cousin knew those men, she danced with them and she married one of their colleagues.

There's a memorial in the form of a parachute to them in Jephson Gardens, Leamington. On its inauguration, it was surrounded by heather from the village of Lidice.

These three heroic men Kubis and Valcik (Czech) and Gabcik (Slovak) are hailed as heroes in their respective countries and I find it amazing that these brave paratroopers whose actions possibly changed the course of history were regular visitors to our village.

Phil Walker

THE CZECH MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN, JEPHSON GARDENS



Following the Czech Free Army's location in Leamington, there are still a number of Czech descendants in the town and every year they arrange a memorial service at the fountain.

Haven House, Kineton (now apartments) is where the men were stationed. At the time it was owned by Lord Willoughby De Broke who also owned Compton Verney.

Phil Walker

A RAINY INTERLUDE

Soaked to the skin, having spent a two hour walk through the old walled city of Krakow, visiting the castle, the early churches and the sculpture of Pope John Paul II, who was of Polish birth, I find myself seeking shelter and spot a cafe in one of the many backstreets, safe from the never stopping trams at every bend and corner of the city of today. The cafe has three tables, two occupied by two laptops with two adults. I order and sit with my very welcome hot cappuccino and idly throw out a comment: "you seem to be a journalist." A pause, then a smile and then she replies: "No not a journalist but I'm in marketing." The ice is broken.

After congratulating her on her English and an hour with the two of them, I learn he is a programmer and they are refugees from neighbouring Ukraine waiting for a return to home, where they have family. We communicate at many different levels and as I leave, I'm offered an umbrella as it's still raining and I'm still wet through. We have another, take it. With a warm feeling, I leave without the umbrella.

Mark Sinclair





FOOD BANK

Can you help your local Food Bank?

Demand at Shipston Food Bank, which serves all the surrounding villages as well as the town itself, continues to increase.

The average number of food parcels handed out each week is more than 2½ times higher than the same period last year. We are currently feeding up to 90 adults and children.

The resources we have available to meet this growing demand are diminishing, however. Donations of food in our collection boxes have fallen dramatically during this year. That means we are having to buy more and more of the food that we distribute. The amount that we need to spend on top-up supplies has almost tripled in the past six months, while our regular income of donations from individuals and local businesses has remained fairly static. We are rapidly eroding the financial reserves that we managed to build up over the past three years.

The demand for food parcels seems unlikely to reduce to any great extent in the foreseeable future, so if we are to be able to carry on supporting our local families who find themselves in food poverty, we need to increase our resources significantly. Can you help us?

- Could you drop a few basic food items every week into the collection box in your local church?
- Could you make an occasional or regular monetary donation to the Food Bank?
- Could you join a team of shoppers, so that we can purchase food from a budget supermarket in a nearby town and so reduce our costs?
- Could you organise a fund-raising event for us?

Do please contact our Administrator, Drina Heighton, on 01295 680201 if you think you can help us or would like more details of how the Food Bank operates.

Ed Jackson, Treasurer

TYSOE BRIDGE CLUB



Sad to say that due to a lack of members we have decided to cease playing Chicago Bridge at Tysoe. However, as we had a kitty we decided to purchase goods for the local Food Bank with the monies which remained.

Jane Ridgway

Holly Tree Fair St Mary's Church Tysoe

Sat 9th Dec 2023

10.30am – 1pm

Lots of Stalls:

Cakes,
Christmas Gifts,
Raffles, Tombola and much more....

Refreshments and Mince Pies

Come and Try George's 'Famous' Pork Baps

In aid of several charities

**FREE
ENTRY**



Tysoe C.E. Primary School

Welcome to our

Open Mornings/Afternoon

For Reception 2024

Monday 13th November 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Tuesday 21st November 9:30am - 11:30am

Saturday 25th November 9:30am - 11:30am.

Please sign in at the main office

Telephone: 01295 680244

“REMEMBER, REMEMBER THE FIFTH OF NOVEMBER”

It is now as important as it ever was to remember the causes and results of national terrorism and international conflict. Many of us grew up with elders who had lived with the effects of worldwide warfare but mercifully have been spared such personal experience ourselves.

Our news bulletins now carry horrific pictures and stories from war torn Israel/Palestine and many of our communities and schools have welcomed refugees from Ukraine as our parishioners raise funds for an ambulance, and other important aid for war torn parts of the world. Refugees, ambulances, hostages and airborne attacks on civilians have become commonplace news. We must never accept this is acceptable.

Our own United Kingdom faces challenges as to how the next generations see their neighbours and manage borders, some of which have been open and almost invisible for many years, even centuries. Queuing at the customs may prove an irritant but a mindset that makes people into ‘others’ can be very dangerous. Loving our neighbours is a Christian imperative. Defining our neighbour is a challenge Jesus faces in his gospel teaching – remember the Good Samaritan? It is more than a tale about first aid in emergency. Jesus asks us to see and care for a ‘neighbour’ in an unexpected place.

As we continue to remember with gratitude our nation’s deliverance from terror, and the sacrifice of previous generations early this November let’s teach our children to think carefully about these things, and let’s not stop gathering to remember the past with both sorrow and gratitude and fervently pray for the Peace of the World. Remembrance Sunday is November 12th this year and you are all invited to come into the parish church to offer your prayers for peace after gathering at the War Memorial.

In Lent this year our Study and Lunch groups raised a small amount of money for ‘Embrace the Middle East’ the Christian development charity tackling poverty and injustice in the Middle East. Go to their website to see how you can help the Christians living and working in Gaza - <https://embraceme.org/>

Rev Heather Parbury

ACTS OF REMEMBRANCE

On **12th November at 10:50am** we will begin our annual act of remembrance at the War Memorial with the laying of wreathes and the last post. This will be followed by our service in church.

On **13th November at 2.00pm** the school children will carry out their own service of remembrance and we will also rededicate the War Memorial plaques which have been refurbished.

Rev George Heighton



TYSOE CHURCH RESTORATION FUND

TCRF has existed in its present format since 1963 and celebrates its 60th birthday this year. We're unable to give an accurate figure as to the sums raised for the church over the years, but do know that it runs to many tens of thousands

After the Covid years, we're resurrecting the annual Christmas party and Draw for all members of the 200 Club and which will be hosted in the village hall on 8th December. Invitations to follow and it is hoped that as many members as possible will be able to attend.

There'll be a few spare tickets available for next year's 200 Club and, if you'd like to join us, please contact Percy Sewell on 01295 680210.

PRIZE WINNERS IN ST.MARY'S RESTORATION 200 CLUB



JULY: 1st 146. 2nd 41. 3rd 176. 4th 179.

AUGUST: 1st 143. 2nd 196. 3rd 119. 4th 37.

SEPTEMBER: 1st 20. 2nd 26. 3rd 98. 4th 25.

Christmas turkeys, cockerels and geese

"Festive flavour to savour, with family and friends"

Your local 'one stop' farm for Christmas Day.

Heart of England Farms
Festive flavour to savour

www.heartofenglandfarms.com 01926 843460



Carers4Carers
monthly meeting at
Kinton Village Hall

Friday 24th November 10:30 - 12 noon. As well as our usual refreshments and chat, we're preparing for Christmas! Yes, that time of year is creeping close so both carers and companions will be having fun making a Christmas decoration.

For more information about our support group for carers, including help with transport to/from meetings, phone Gillian on **07947 893504**, email us

at kcarers4carers@gmail.com or carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk

KADS

MASKERADE

BASED ON THE NOVEL
BY TERRY PRATCHETT

PLAY ADAPTED BY STEPHEN BRIGGS

22-25 NOVEMBER 2023
KINTON VILLAGE HALL
8PM (DOORS OPEN 7:15PM) - BAR AVAILABLE
TICKETS £7.50 AT KADS.ORG.UK OR 01295 680487

THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION OF 'MASKERADE' (BRIGGS/PRATCHETT) IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS LTD. ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL FRENCH LTD. WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.CO.UK



October's speaker for the WI was Alan Godfrey with the intriguing title for his talk of "Postman's Knock". Some of us thought we may be being treated to an evening dedicated to children's games but instead Alan gave us a very informative, illustrated talk on the development of the postal service in England with a particular reference to Warwickshire. We heard about the start of the mail coach era... how uncomfortable the coaches were to travel in and how unscrupulous inn keepers arranged to serve pre-paid meals to the passengers just as the

coach departed meaning these uneaten meals could then be resold on making a healthy profit.. MPs at that time had the benefit of free postage and often took advantage of this perk, for example one MP sent two housemaids to London "by mail" using this concession.

Alan had brought an original post horn with him and gave us quite a deafening demonstration of its use as a warning of a coach's approach.

Forty members attended and we were pleased to welcome new members and visitors.

Eileen Mann, WI President

Follow us on Facebook, email tysoew.i.1917@icloud.com or visit our website: www.tysoewi.com

A note for the diary - on the evening of Wednesday 13th December the Tysoe Heritage Research Group will be presenting '**The Tysoe 36 - commemorating 150 years**' in the Village Hall. It narrates the remarkable story of the 36 Tysonians who emigrated to New Zealand in the SS Scimitar in 1873.

John Hunter



WHITE HYACINTH CAKE DESIGN CHRISTMAS ORDERS!

now being taken, last day for orders is 10th December 2023

Round Cakes, prices for Fruit/Sponge

	Standard	Deluxe	Novelty
6 inch...	£45.00/£40.00	£55.00/£50.00	£50.00/£45.00
8 inch.....	£55.00/£45.00	£70.00/£55.00	£55.00/£50.00
10 inch....	£75.00/£65.00	£100.00/£80.00	£85.00/£75.00



Standard: Edible picture topper, 3 designs to choose from, with or without dedication.



Deluxe: Individual design, traditional, elegant decoration: handmade sugar flowers/foilage.



Novelty: Penguins? Polar Bears? Snowman? Just a lot of fun!



To order:

Call/text Debra 07964 339739/ 01295 596583.

Email: debra@whitehyacinthcakes.co.uk

Collection from Church Lane, Whatcote CV36 5EF



Enjoy our edible festive toppers! They make a perfect gift for family, friends and teachers. Presentation boxes with gift labels:

4 for £9, 6 for £13 or 12 for £26



Our novelty cupcakes come in presentation boxes/label. Choose from Santa, his Elf, Christmas pudding, present, Reindeer or a cute penguin, or have a mixture! Just £12 for 4, £18 for 6, £36 for 12!

Christmas Coffee Morning & Craft Sale

Saturday 2nd December

10.30am - 12 noon

Tysoe Village Hall

Free Entrance - Refreshments available

Supporting our local dementia cafes

With Tysoe WI supporting Warwickshire Air Ambulance



Heather & Paul Dowler Tysoe 688376


talkdementia.uk

MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE - ALL CHANGE!



Autumn can be a period of intense activity and change, as nature starts to get ready for winter. Whilst our summer bird visitors, such as swallows, house martins and swifts, have already left for warmer climes, some of our remaining species are preparing for the cold and a shortage of food. Squirrels are collecting nuts and seeds to store during the colder months, and are certainly stripping walnut and hazel trees in Lower Tysoe. Frogs and newts will hibernate at the bottom of ponds, whilst common toads are likely to hibernate in damp leaf litter or anywhere dark and damp. Pleasingly, we seem to have quite a healthy population of toads in Middle Tysoe, many of them spending their youth in the Editor's garden. These are now being dispersed to more suitable habitats for winter.

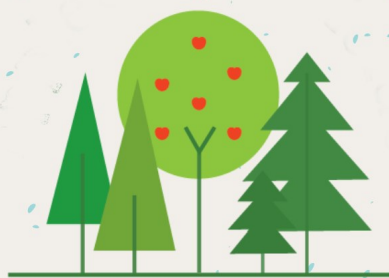


The latest 'State of Nature' report for the UK was published recently, with the following very worrying headlines for England:

- Wildlife in England has declined in abundance by 32% on average since 1970;
- Of 8,840 species assessed, 13% are classified as threatened with extinction;
- Over half of plant species assessed have seen decreases in distribution;
- Distributions of invertebrate species have decreased by 18% on average since 1970.

Autumn is a good time to make plans for supporting wildlife during 2024 and beyond, including feeding wild birds over winter, putting up bird boxes well before the spring, thinking about re-wilding part of your garden for wildlife and, if you have any available land, sowing wildflower seeds. If you are planning to sow Yellow Rattle, the wildflower that helps suppress competitive grass in wildflower areas, and now quite abundant in the churchyard and School Lane, then it is especially important to sow it before Christmas, to make sure it has the greatest chance of success.

Rosemary Collier



Woods &
Wellies 

All weather outdoor stay and play for
babies, toddlers and preschoolers 0-5yrs



Weekday and weekend sessions
Birthday parties and private hire

Follow us @woodsandwellies  

Applecross Fields, Radway, Warwickshire
email: applecrossfields@gmail.com



APPLE DAY ON THE 14TH OCTOBER

Apple Day was originally initiated nationwide in 1990 by Common Ground.

“The aspiration was to create a calendar custom, an autumn holiday. From the start, Apple Day was intended to be both a celebration and a demonstration of the variety we are in danger of losing, not simply in apples, but in the richness and diversity of landscape, ecology and culture too. It has also played a part in raising awareness in the provenance and traceability of food.” [<https://www.commonground.org.uk/apple-day/>]

We have continued this tradition at the community orchard, and on a sunny, but chilly, Saturday there was much chopping (mainly adults) and pressing (adults and children) of lots of apples – both from the orchard and those that people brought along from their own gardens. Everyone also enjoyed yummy homemade cakes along with cups of tea or freshly pressed apple juice.

Membership is open to all for a small fee. This entitles you to lots of lovely organic fruit throughout the growing season and an opportunity to contribute to the continued benefits of this wonderful resource. See <https://www.commonground.org.uk/community-orchards/>



The orchard is next to the allotments on the Sherington Road in Tysoe. To find out more please contact Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080) or message us via the website: www.wot2grow.co.uk

www.wot2grow.co.uk

Allison Aves





FUNDRAISING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Now until mid-January Tesco Express in Shipston, is featuring us as part of their blue token scheme. Tesco customers can vote for the group they want to see funded every time they shop in-store. The project with the highest number of votes across the region will receive £1,500 (or up to this value), the second-placed project £1,000 (or up to this value), and the third-placed project £500.

So please **VOTE FOR US!**

Saturday 28th October We will be attending the Village Fireworks Display at the playing fields selling glowsticks. All money raised will go towards purchasing equipment .

11th November until Christmas Eve Warwickshire Christmas Trees School and/or nursery donation project When parents or staff of your school visit our farm and purchase a tree from us, we earmark 10% of the value of their tree to be donated back to the nominated school/ preschool. It is that simple!

Monday 20th November Bags 2 School, A perfect time to clean out unwanted clothes shoes etc before Christmas, please bring items by 8.00am on 20th November.

Saturday 25th November We will be in attendance at Tysoe Primary School Christmas fair so please come and pay us a visit

Thursday 30th November This year we will be holding our AGM on this day so please **SAVE THE DATE!**

Monday 4th December We will be drawing our raffle. Please contact us at admin@tysoechildrengroup.co.uk to purchase your tickets - there are some fantastic prizes to be had.

www.tysoechildrengroup.co.uk

LOTS OF HALF TERM FUN!

WHAT'S ON

WHAT'S ON

BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

**Saturday 28th
October
Tysoe Playing Field**

Gates open at 5pm
Bonfire at 6pm
Fireworks 7pm
Free Entry
Donations welcome
BBQ and Bar

£5 per ticket
(Under 4s free)

£2 from every ticket goes
to Tysoe Primary

Pick Your Own Pumpkins

Saturday 21st Oct & Saturday 28th Oct

10am - 2pm

Refreshments available

Visit the pigs, calves, chickens,
turkeys and sheep

Thornstead Farm CV365EG

07854918934



WARWICKSHIRE CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

OX15 6NP

SIMPLY MENTION YOUR
SCHOOL AT CHECKOUT WHEN
BUYING YOUR TREE WITH US
AND WE WILL DONATE 10% OF
THE VALUE OF THAT TREE
BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL WITH
NO EXTRA COST TO YOU!

HELP US HELP YOU!

COME AND CREATE A FAMILY
TRADITION BY CHOOSING YOUR
PERFECT TREE FROM OUR FIELD



For more details, please visit our
website



www.warwickshirechristmastrees.co.uk
@warwickshirechristmastrees



HAPPY
HEREFORDS

Herberts

BURGER BARN


HALF TERM @ TYSOE

MONDAY 30th ~ JOIN US 12 - 4 PM FOR
PUMPKIN CARVING & BROOMSTICK
DECORATING, BURGERS HOTDOGS
& COFFEE AVAILABLE.

TUESDAY 31st ~ JOIN US FOR A SPOOKY WALK
TO THE GLADE FOR A GAME OF
QUIDDITCH & MARSH-MALLOWES
AROUND THE FIRE 4:30 - 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY 1st ~ PUMPKIN SMASHING IN THE
VERY BEST WAY!!!! 2-5 PM

NOVEMBER DATES - WHAT'S ON

	Every Friday	Food waste collection
	3, 24	Black bin collection
	10, 24	Blue & Green bin collection
	Every Friday	Tysoe Dementia Café, 10am -12 noon, Tysoe Village Hall
	Friday 3	Friday Lunch Club in the Village Hall - contact Marion 680584 / Nicola 680058
	Monday 13	Tysoe Parish Council Ordinary meeting 7.15pm, Tysoe Village Hall
	Tuesday 7	Mobile library 2-2.45, parks up outside the Village Hall - (changing to every 4 weeks!)
	Tuesday 14	FREE coffee morning, St Mary's 9am -12 noon

EVERYONE WELCOME
COME AND MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS, MAKE
NEW FRIENDS AND DISCOVER WHAT OUR
LOVELY COMMUNITY HAS TO OFFER

Community Breakfast

SUNDAY 29TH OCTOBER
9AM TIL 12PM
TYSOE VILLAGE HALL

Full English Breakfast
Kids, gluten free and vegan options
Suggested donation £10 adult £5 child

HALLOWEEN CRAFTS




AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH
TUESDAY MORNING
14th NOVEMBER
9am -12 noon - It's FREE!

Includes *STAY AND PLAY*
for mums and tots!

Join Compton Verney's Autumn Colour Landscape Tour

The tours cover why leaves change colour in the Autumn, trees of special mention in the grounds at Compton Verney and wildlife and environmental stresses on trees. Dates: **Tuesday 7 November** and **Tuesday 21 November**. Tours start at the Welcome Centre at 11am and last around 45 minutes, finishing at the house. (No need to book.) For more details about What's On visit: **comptonverney.org.uk**.



Decked for Christmas from 11 November

Visit Upton House and Gardens
Every decoration inspired by
Aesop's Fables, check our website

nationaltrust.org.uk/uptonhouse

For everyone, for ever



© National Trust 2022. Registered Charity no. 205846.
Photography © National Trust Images/Anna Shaw





VANDALISM IN TYSOE

This is a piece I hoped never to have to write. A spate of mindless vandalism and anti-social behaviour has left the village with several smashed picnic benches, broken fences and a stolen “plastic policeman”.



This sort of damage doesn't happen accidentally.

Last year the Parish Council, using residents' funds, provided two picnic tables at the children's playground. It wasn't too long before these were broken. They were very kindly mended by a village resident only to be smashed again. At the same time the fence around the playground has been broken and very recently one of the “plastic policemen”, provided to the school by the Parish Council to prevent dangerous parking, was stolen.

I'm sure that no resident of the village expects this sort of anti-social behaviour but, unfortunately, it has happened in Tysoe.

The Parish Council does not have limitless funds and those funds it has are provided by all residents through your Council Tax. To use those funds to put right the results of senseless behaviour affects us all. Someone must know who is responsible. If you do know, please implore whoever it is to stop.

Tysoe is far better than this, such vandalism has no place here.

David Roache,
Chair, Tysoe Parish Council

VILLAGE WALK-AROUND AND AUDIT – SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER



The Parish Council will be conducting a village walk-around and audit on Saturday 18th November.

Who is involved? – All Parish Councillors plus **any members of the public who are interested would be very welcome to join us.** Any-one interested please gather at the Village Hall at **9.00 on 18th November** where tea, coffee and cake will be available for participants. **Purpose** – to audit the state of village infrastructure such as:

- State of drainage ditches, drains etc.
- Potholes
- Poor pavements and footpaths
- Damaged fences and hedges (where they affect public spaces on PC owned land)
- Condition of street signs, road markings etc. Identify where signage can be improved.
- Identify any dangerous or overhanging trees.
- Identify damage to kerbs, verges etc.
- Identify damage to playground equipment, picnic benches etc. on playing field.
- Any other suggestions?

The parish will be divided up into sectors and Councillors and other helpers will be assigned to those sectors. Each will be given a checklist of which issues should be noted and marked on a map of the village. Outside the village, but within the parish, the “audit” will consist of a “drive-by” along all of the roads within the parish. All comments and noted issues will then be collated and matters raised with the appropriate authority.

If anyone has any issues they would particularly like the Parish Council to consider, please email details to parish.clerk@tysoe.org.uk and david.roache@tysoe.org.uk

David Roache,
Chair, Tysoe Parish Council



PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Hi Tysoe,

At October's Parish Council meeting it has been another busy month. Councillors are looking at projects to provide activities for young people in the village, some young people attended to talk about their idea for a Pump Track in the village.

Another topic was the possibility of 2 new Defibrillators which Councillors hope to place appropriately for the public's use. The purchase is dependent on funding so watch this space!

Councillors thanked both Thomas Fox & Gareth Atwell for their work maintaining public areas. Gareth has volunteered his time and labour to mend broken picnic tables and fixing parts of the children's playground.

It was noted by Councillors that the picnic tables now need regular repairs and also one of the new school parking signs is no longer in use as someone has removed the figure from its stand. If anyone has any knowledge of these, please could they contact me!

Two new grit bins will be placed on the Epwell Road so that once the colder weather hits grit can be scattered to help vehicles on the road. The Traffic Group have been carrying out traffic surveys. Our thanks to these volunteers who are helping to identify roads in the Parish where the traffic speed is cause for concern. Councillors are looking at ways to deal with these issues.

A new tenant will be announced for Breech Furlong soon.

Councillors will be taking their Annual Village Walk Around, checking for potholes, road signs, trees etc. There are 3 groups, anyone wishing to join the groups and help, please be at the Village Hall at 9am on November 18th, the groups set off at 10am.

Further information – see the minutes on the Parish Notice Board, and website www.tysoe.org.uk

Charmaine Swift
Tysoe Parish Clerk/RFO

THE MAKING OF TYSOE: GRAVE TALES FROM THE CHURCHYARD

In the last issue we looked at masons' errors in St Mary's Churchyard, set in stone. This note will look at two expertly carved headstones (THRG memorial nos 74 and 75). Prominently located by



the porch door, they are memorials to the French family, who can be traced in the parish registers from the 1680s to the early 1800s. They were clearly a well to do family, as shown by the location of their memorials, and by the quality of the carving. The style is baroque, in vogue for churchyard memorials from the early 1700s to 1760s. These two are almost certainly the work of the same expert craftsman; similarly carved headstones are found in other local cemeteries. We know three Tysoe masons active at this period but, given the quality of these two stones, their maker was probably not a Tysoe man.

The baroque style is well suited to the local ironstone as it allows deep relief and crisp detail. The swags, garlands of flowers, cherubs, winged cherub heads, cornucopias, bat-winged skulls, and the text in an oval or escutcheon are typical; as is the lettering, lightly cut to allow a flowing cursive style. Unfortunately this erodes badly and the smaller stone is now mostly illegible. The Rev'd Harvey Bloom recorded the larger stone in 1912, the surviving traces can be still be deciphered. It commemorates Timothy French's two wives Mary (d.1682) and Margaret (d.1737), and their children William (d.1680) and Elizabeth (d.1687). The smaller stone was thought to commemorate "Thomas" in a 1971 survey. Re-examination in 2020 suggests this is Timothy's stone. The parish register shows he died in January 1713/4. Sadly we have no record of the occupation or status of the 18th century French family in Tysoe – unless someone can offer any information?

These stones are vernacular works of art and are free for all to enjoy. See more info on the THRG webpage: <https://tysoehistory.org.uk>.

David Freke

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HOBBIES: STRATFORD ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY



The Stratford upon Avon Astronomical Society meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 8pm (doors open at 7.30pm) at Alderminster Village Hall. Everyone is welcome, especially beginners and those wanting to learn more. The first Tuesday 7th November is Club Night and on 21st November the speaker will be Ian Muirhead from the University of Manchester, with a talk called '[Megaconstellations, Starlink, space junk and the night sky.](#)' (Please note speakers start promptly at 8pm.) Each month one of our members offer pointers to what to look for in the sky during the coming weeks.

Satellites

Firstly, the biggest, oldest, and the only natural satellite of the Earth, is the moon. People are surprised when they are told you can see man-made satellites with just your own eyes. They look like 'stars' moving across the sky at a constant speed. They can fade, as they move into the Earth's shadow. Most travel in a west to east direction, but some appear to go south to north.

The brightest by far is the International Space Station (ISS). Its passes are easy to predict on apps like 'Heavens Above'. Occasionally, you will see a second satellite preceding or following it. These are Dragon Capsules service modules taking or removing equipment or crew from the ISS.

Sometimes you can see Sky trains of the Starlink satellites being released and deployed. There can be dozens in a row. The best time to see them is an hour or two after sunset. You might be surprised how many you can see. Club nights offer more information on what to look out for each month and if it is clear we do some observing just outside the Village Hall, so please join us.

Come along for free, if you want to join there's £15 annual fee. For details visit <http://www.astro.org.uk> or contact Chairman John Waller john.waller@astro.org.uk or call 07703 192188. **Happy Observing!**

Thomas Fox

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Previous issues of the Tysoe & District Record are available online at www.tysoe.org.uk/tysoe-record.

DOWN ON THE FARM - BURLANDS



Burlands is a 448 acre farm comprising mostly arable land with around 50 acres of woodland and pasture, including a seasonal camp site. The heavy clay soil severely limits us to what we can grow in the way of crops.

Arable farming is undergoing a revolution and we're trying to adapt to what is happening. EU subsidies – often the difference between profit and loss – will disappear in the next 4 years. War in Ukraine has affected commodities – feed prices have increased but more so have the prices of raw materials and labour. And labour itself, particularly amongst the younger generation, is becoming scarce.

For some, the viability of trying to grow crops, using similar practices to the last 60 years, is now highly questionable. Long-term, can we continue with repetitive grain cropping, relying purely on artificial fertilisers and chemicals? The realisation is probably not, and farmers and governments have woken up to it. We're now encouraged, and paid, to farm sustainably, setting up environmental schemes, such as improving soil health, reducing artificial inputs and establishing wild flower strips. Regenerative farming is now the big mover.

This is not a cure-all but at least a step in the right direction: as usual, it's about getting a happy balance. But also, as usual, the paperwork can be a mine field, requiring professional assistance and, for this, we use Charlie Ireland and his team (contrary to how one Jeremy Clarkson likes to portray him, Cheerful Charlie actually is cheerful and also pragmatic and knowledgeable) and we're confident that our various schemes will soon be up and running.

Percy Sewell

ONCE THERE WERE LEGS ON THE LAND



The rural world I knew in the early 1950's. It was a world of country people where families had lived in the district for generations. Many were connected with the soil. It was a world of small farms, there were legs on the land, the legs of men and the legs of horses. Hand tools of various kinds were in constant use.

We had shops, a post office, baker, butcher and grocer who made regular deliveries. We had two chapels, a garage and two petrol pumps. We had a resident vicar, schoolmaster and policeman.

It may not have been a perfect world – there was poverty and hardship – but it was a real, organic community more precious than the glitter of gold.

Harvest was a happy memory. Clacking binder, sheaves, stooks, flashing pitchforks, the crunching wheels of loaded wagons going through a cobbled gateway, of ricks gradually increasing, the voices of laughter – and the sun above. The sun always seemed to shine.



Pictures by Gordon Beningfield

The late 1950's saw the combine harvester dramatically change the scene. The shorthorn dairy cow was being replaced by the black and white Friesian and the little grey Ferguson tractor began to appear on many farms.

It probably wasn't an idyllic world, though looking back that's how it seemed to be. People seemed to be content, if there was greed it wasn't blatant. Livestock had a reasonably natural life, grazing in fields and not cogs in a factory farm.

And now tomorrow's come. Actually it came some years ago. Small may be beautiful, but bigger is better it seems. Many farmers have been driven away. Small farms are disappearing.

There was a time when there were legs on the land, now they've been replaced by bigger and bigger wheels. And it's not only the flower that's crushed beneath the wheel.

Phil Walker

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE - THE COMPTON TREAT

I started Tysoe School in 1933 and I remember the most exciting day of the years that followed was our annual sports day held at Compton Wynyates. The school had nowhere to hold it as it was surrounded by allotments and farmers' fields. The Marquess and



Marchioness invited the school to hold this special day every year on the front lawns of their house. They also presented the prizes.

We were transported from the school playground by local farmers who provided their hay wagons. What fun! Parents and others had to make their own way either on bikes or on foot. We entered the estate via the back road which led to the church and other dwellings. Tea was provided in the main hall by local bakers, either H. Heritage or F. Styles. The event was known as the Compton Treat.

Doreen Smith



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Tysoe Tennis Club - end of season review

We are proud we have a positive and healthy junior membership at the Tennis Club. Our August junior coaching sessions proved very popular again. Plus our summer camps were fully subscribed and our three coaches were kept busy running these sessions.

In addition free taster sessions were designed for local children of junior school age. All were well attended throughout August and hopefully have inspired some youngsters to pick up a racket on an ongoing basis.

We also opened the club on the day of the Flower Show and invited juniors to be challenged by the ball machine, kept supplied by club members. Some great hitting was demonstrated by some budding players, and it was very encouraging to see so many future tennis players enjoying the club facilities.



From left to right: Runners-up: Colin Wilson, Nicki Campell; Winners: Liz Finlyson and Julie Smart.

For adult members, the season ended with the Annual Club Tournament which proved a very active afternoon's tennis, culminating with the final four players meeting in a close final. Congratulations to our eventual winners, Liz Finlyson and Julie Smart.

This coming season we have entered various Winter Leagues, both women's and mixed doubles - reports to follow.

Social Tennis takes place every Sunday morning and Tuesday evenings -all welcome if interested in joining the club!

Colin Wilson

www.tysoetennisclub.co.uk

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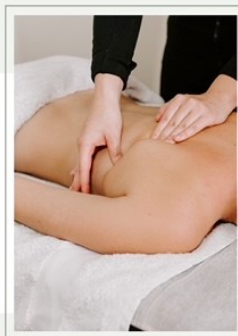
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Wednesdays

- 9.15-10.10 - Pilates for Improvers
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Police, Safer Neighbourhood Team, Shipston		01789 444 670
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Tysoe Children's Group	Yvonne Dillon	01295 680 624
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