

# TYSOE & DISTRICT RECORD

DECEMBER 2023 / JANUARY 2024

Issue No: 842

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Christmas wreath by Hope & Glory Flower Company.

**ENTERTAINMENT** is the focus of this festive issue. We look at:

- **MUSIC** . . 'All that Jazz!' and meeting Tysoe's Nightingale
- **DANCING** - A Golden Opportunity and the 'Sixpenny Hop'
- **DRAMA** - An interview with the young 'Masquerade' director
- **CHRISTMAS STORIES SPECIAL**- by our talented local writers!



Jane Ellis, Neil Douthwaite, Clare Howard,  
Karen L MacRae, Sitala Peek and  
Beverley Thorpe - Jotters Writing Group

Design and illustrations  
by Shirley Cherry  
Sponsored by the  
Tysoe & District Record



## SEASONS GREETINGS

Our theme for this Christmas and New Year issue is entertainment. Victoria Risk, a former TV drama director/producer, has kindly written our editorial. Read about the music scene in and around Tysoe, including an invitation to 'Swing into Christmas' with TADA. There's an interview with budding young director and actor, Ben Keyser; plus, prepare to be 'shaken but not stirred' by the Casino Vegas Bond Party at Happy Herefords on New Year's eve!

As a Christmas gift to all our subscribers, we are delighted to include a special supplement of six wonderful Christmas Stories to keep you company and entertained in the dark winter nights ahead. ENJOY!

### THE RECORD TEAM

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### GET IN TOUCH

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[@tysoerecord](https://www.facebook.com/tysoerecord)

Hard copy to Shirley at Orchard  
House, Back Lane or Carol at 16  
Windmill Way.

**FEBRUARY Copy deadline -  
Wednesday 17th January 2024**

## Thank you to our distributors

At this time of year we like to thank our distributors, all volunteers, without whom you wouldn't receive your copies of the Tysoe & District Record. They turn out in all weather to make their rounds!

For the record (excuse the pun!) they are: Liz Atkinson, Irene Beever, Jude Canning, Christine Duke, Liz Finlyson, Faith Hall, Graham Hicks, Muriel Paxton, Mike Sanderson, David Sewell, Mark Sinclair, Jackie Thompson, Jenny Tongue and Linda Wadeson.

## THE ARTS IN TYSOE



Participating in any of the arts, such as painting, pottery, writing, poetry, story-telling, drama, singing, dancing or playing an instrument increases our social connections, deepens our relationships, keeps our minds sharp and reinforces our feelings of belonging. It gives meaning to our lives and helps us appreciate our world and have a deeper understanding of our emotions.

We are very lucky in Tysoe to have so many galleries, theatres and historic houses within our area to inspire us. How can we use this inspiration, no matter our age, and feel fulfilled by it? Some of you may already belong to choirs, Am Dram groups or attend art classes, but what about those of us who feel insecure about our ability and need motivation?

Painting and photography can help with stress and anxiety and feelings of isolation, enabling the mind to focus on the world outside of ourselves and letting it into our hearts and minds.

A suggestion: buy yourself a note book that has both plain and lined paper. This is your private book of inspiration. Make a list of the things you would like to do or take part in. Then make time to walk up to the woods, looking at the fields, the trees, the plants and the sky as you go. Listen to the birds and smell the air. When you've gone far enough, find somewhere to sit and jot down everything you remember in detail. You might even make a quick sketch of where you are. When you get home, read what you've written and think about how you felt - then try to connect the words and the emotions. This might be your first poem or an idea for a short story. Who knows you might be following in the footsteps of Tysoe's most famous author, Joseph Ashby (1859-1919), an agricultural trade unionist, rumoured to be the illegitimate son of the Marquis of Northampton. See Wikipedia.

There is so much music, singing, dancing and drama that Tysoe has to offer but if it's not to your taste then think about getting a group of friends together and starting something new, whatever your age. My last word of advice, the arts for us amateurs is about play and having fun and getting rid of that inner critic.

Victoria Risk

## TYSOE'S SPECTACULAR FIREWORK DISPLAY



Photo credits: Matt, Nisha, Hayley, Rose and Mark



Sadly, it rained steadily on Tysoe Fireworks' Night 28th October, but it didn't take long for the warmth of the bonfire, combined with cheerful chats from under our umbrellas, to dispel the gloom.



Bright, multicoloured flashes from Tysoe Children's Group stall acted like a visual overture, while the sizzle of the sausages and the warming drinks from the pavilion all added to the atmosphere.



In the distance, well beyond the safety rope at the edge of the football pitch, we could see headlights flashing, busy in the darkness. A shout went up from the pavilion and we gathered along the rope, ready for the fireworks to begin.



Right on time, a wonderful array of dazzling colours, fizzing rockets and spectacular super-sized sparklers stirred memories of past chemistry lessons, as elements burnt brightly in the sky.

With loops and leaps the fireworks ranged from silent to booming, from gentle to showering the ground with star dust. All too soon, the display came to a close with cheery applause and we squelched happily home, ready for next year!

**A huge thank you to all who put on the display, undeterred by the persistent precipitation!**

Matthew Harcourt

## A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY!



Tysoe Dance and Exercise Class has spaces to fill and currently the sessions are FREE for everyone. This is a partially seated dance/exercise class using music from many genres e.g: Bach to Boyzone, Elvis to The Proclaimers and is open to both men and women.

Our tutor is a registered and insured Dance Instructor and our aim is to maintain and improve the physical and mental fitness of the more mature inhabitants of Tysoe and surrounding area, keeping us supple and active. More importantly we hope that, by being active and improving our balance and strength, we will stay well away from the doctor's surgery and remain useful members of society!

The class is currently funded by the Stour Health and Well-being Partnership, Tysoe Parish Council and The Tysoe Utility Estate. **The class runs Thursdays 10.30 to 11.30 am in the Village Hall during term time. If this has piqued your interest come and join us or contact: Eileen Mann 01295 680921**

The class was started by the Tysoe Women's Institute in 1999 but has since expanded to be open to a wider audience of older men and women. We have learnt a variety of dance styles eg. Waltz, Rock 'n Roll, Bollywood, Jazz Dance, Greek dancing and even a toned-down version of the Can Can!

## HALF-TERM HALLOWEEN AT HAPPY HERFORDS



Featuring:  
Pumpkin carving,  
marshmallow roasting,  
smashing pumpkins  
and quidditch tryouts - loads of wizzardy fun!

...AND ALL THAT JAZZ!



Photo credit: Ben Viollet

Having thankfully recovered from Covid, Jazz 59 returned to the Village Hall in fine form, giving us an evening of great entertainment and pleasure, a welcome tonic during these troubled times.

The first session gave us a stylish introduction to the evening with fine piano playing well supported by percussion and double bass, although with the later introduction of a finely played lead guitar, the music really started to take over.

The remaining two sessions reminded us of the 50s and 60s, including pieces by Dizzy Gillespie, John Coltrane and Dave Brubeck, with solo performances by all members of the group, which were particularly enjoyed and appreciated.

Finally, we were introduced to a delightful vocalist, Ruby Lamont, who sang pieces for the period with great clarity and sensitivity and hit the high notes spot-on - lovely!! All proceeds from this fabulous evening's entertainment were donated to helping Paul and Heather with their wonderful work for people suffering with dementia.

Bob Ashby - Roving Jazz Reporter

Thank you to everyone who supported the jazz evening. You helped us raise **over £700**. Amazing! Paul and Heather Dowler.

## BEGINNERS' UKULELE

If you want to start learning or get back to learning the ukulele, this new 6 week course starting in January, could be just what you are looking for. We'll cover all the basics and develop good techniques for making chords



and strumming whilst having a lot of fun. The teaching will be free but room hire and refreshments are likely to make the course cost £20. Yes, you will need a ukulele and be able to print out song sheets (or see them on a tablet), but you'll get advice before we start. If you want to continue after the course, there's the opportunity to join our existing ukulele group.

Starting week commencing **8th January: 2 hours a week for 6 weeks.**

Timing: Monday pm, Tuesday pm or Wednesday am. Let me know your availability. Venue: Shipston or Wellesbourne to be agreed.

Email: **Cheryl at [beginnersukes@swift-mail.com](mailto:beginnersukes@swift-mail.com)** to let me know if you are interested.

Cheryl Hunnisett

## SHIPSTON TOWN BAND

With the appointment of a new conductor and many projects in the pipeline for the next 12 months, *there has never been a more exciting time to join Shipston Town Band.*



We're always happy to hear from any brass players or percussionists. Also drummers, we know you are out there! We have 3 bands

If you are interested or know anyone who could be, please get in touch

with us at [info@shipstonband.co.uk](mailto:info@shipstonband.co.uk)



## Dates

16th December  
Saturday

17th December  
Sunday

Tickets from Tysoe

## Venue: Tysoe Village Hall

Evening performance. Tickets £10  
Doors open 6.30pm, starts 7pm  
Bar available

Matinee performance. Tickets £7  
Doors open 2pm, starts 2.30pm

Village Stores. Telephone: 01295 688333 ext2

All proceeds to [TalkDementia.uk](http://TalkDementia.uk)





## 'LIFE IS A MASKERADE' - INTERVIEW WITH BEN KEYSER



Ben Keyser is 24 years old, turning 25 just after Christmas. He is a Tysoe resident. You may have seen him play Richard Hannay in Kinton Amateur Dramatics Society (KADS) much-applauded production of 'The 39 Steps' earlier this year (see photo above). He's just directed Maskerade, their latest production.

**Q. When did you first become interested in acting?** **A.** I've always been a Drama Queen, hooked from my first nativity play.

**Q. You're young to be a director, aren't you?** **A.** I was asked if I'd like to direct about Feb/March time. KADS is a fun group to work with. Everyone is very honest; they're not being paid to perform but are there for the love of it. After such a demanding role as Richard Hannay, it's good to step back and let someone else grab the limelight.

**Q. What attracted you to this play?** **A.** I scanned lots of scripts. I read this one and laughed my socks off. This play is a great introduction to the world of Terry Pratchett.

**Q. What's been most challenging?** **A.** Every rehearsal has been great fun. The challenge is making sure the people in charge of props and costumes don't start crying because there are over 26 characters and *so many props!*

**Q. Any special highlights?** **A.** Anton Lesser is now a patron of KADS. He's come along to a couple of rehearsals and helped paint the set. I can't wait to get him along to watch the final show after seeing it in development.

**Q. How do you intend to follow this production?** **A.** I auditioned for a role in the Bearpit theatre, Stratford. We're going to be performing 'An Evening of Tom Stoppard' two short plays in February 2024. I have a major role in 'The Real Inspector Hound' and a supporting role in the second.

We hope Ben's success continues! The Editor

## REDEDICATION SERVICE OF THE WAR MEMORIAL



On Monday, 13th November children from Tysoe C E School held their own act of remembrance at the War Memorial. The children read some wonderful poems and prayers which they had written. We then went to the refurbished Memorial plaques. These were rededicated and more poems and prayers were read out.

Revd George



### The Children's Society

The CS is a UK based Charity that supports disadvantaged UK youngsters. In these days of 24-hour media, disasters appear to be

around every corner and some young people have no one to turn to for support and advice. That is where the CS steps in.

You can help by taking a collecting box in your home for occasional coins which will be collected annually. It's amazing how the pennies mount up. This year I sent over £200 from box holders in Tysoe. Please take a box and make a difference to a young person's chances. Thank You

Gill Roache 01295 680309 [gillyr@buzzinternet.co.uk](mailto:gillyr@buzzinternet.co.uk)

## NEARLY A CENTURY OF ENTERTAINMENT

The history of Tysoe Village Hall spans nearly a century. Across the decades, the hall has hosted countless societies, clubs, groups and events and has been the centre of village activity.

Investment has been consistent. Most recently our audio-visual equipment has been upgraded, the previous installation having served well for over a decade and a new projector, and a comprehensive suite of audio equipment is now in place.

Importantly, fast broadband is now available for all our hirers and visitors bringing us up to date with the modern world. We are ready to take advantage of these assets - and further entertain our village.

The hall - as Rev. McNulty envisioned as a community resource in a December 1925 entry in The Tysoe Church Magazine - is there to serve the greater need. **So, what would villagers like to see? Shall we have a Community Cinema? More live music? Comedy nights? Quiz nights? Would your teenager like to play their Xbox or Playstation on the new big projector screen - with loud surround sound?**

As a relative newcomer to the village, I feel very fortunate to be a part of the committee that guides such a wonderful, accessible, affordable, warm and well specified amenity. Let us know what you think and have YOUR say, by:

Picking up a form from the Post Office

At our Facebook page - Tysoe Village Hall

Using the QR code

Emailing me for a form

Or just giving me a call

Ben Viollet

Trustee - Tysoe Village Hall

Email: [ben.viollet@gmail.com](mailto:ben.viollet@gmail.com)

Mobile: 07775 500139



Christmas turkeys, cockerels and geese

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**Carers4Carers**  
monthly meeting at  
Kineton Village Hall

**Friday 8th December** We'd love to see you at our festive meeting. There will be music and a mince pie or two! Anita will be offering hand massages for some well-earned TLC.

**Friday 26th January** Join us for an informative talk from Shipston Home Nursing (tbc). Refreshments and chat will also be available!

For more information about our support group for carers, including help with transport, phone Gillian on **07947 893504**, email us at [kcarers4carers@gmail.com](mailto:kcarers4carers@gmail.com) or [carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk](http://carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk)

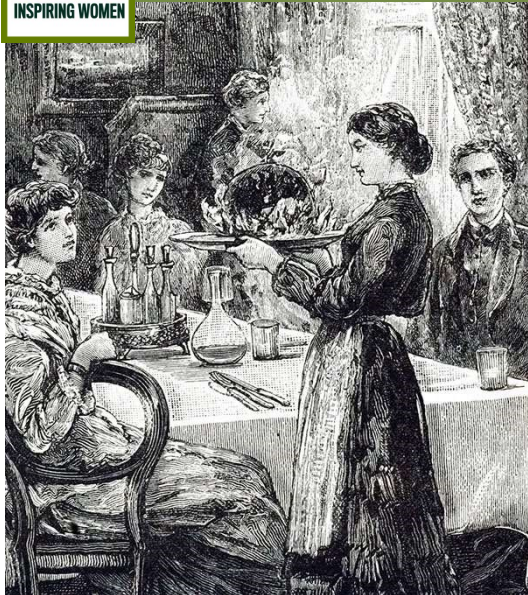


**AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH**  
**TUESDAY MORNING**

**19th DECEMBER 2023**  
**& 16th JANUARY 2024**

**9am -12 noon - It's FREE!**

Includes *STAY AND PLAY*  
for mums and tots!



In our October meeting the W.I. were well entertained by Jo Golby (making a return visit by popular request) who enacted the part of a Ladies Maid at Warwick Castle working over a Victorian Christmas Season.

Jo is a professional re-enactor and has worked in a costumed role at Calke Abbey and at Warwick Castle for many years.

She is entertaining and informative so we were all soon whisked back to the

days of Daisy Countess of Warwick who would keep her guests well entertained for at least eleven days, which was the length of time it took for her massive Yule log to burn to ash.

We learnt that a mince pie (once savoury mince of course) represents the nativity: the pastry is the crib; the mincemeat represents the baby Jesus; and the pastry lattice top the swaddling cloths. Also it seems that eating a mince pie on Christmas Day is a criminal offence and has been since the days of Oliver Cromwell whose law it was and is still on the statute books....you have been warned!

We look forward to a trip to Worcester at the end of November for our Christmas shopping fix .

Now that we are in the Christmas Spirit we are also keenly anticipating our Christmas meeting where we are being treated, amongst other entertainment, to a very unusual version of Snow White.

Eileen Mann, WI President

**Follow us on Facebook, email [tysoew.i.1917@icloud.com](mailto:tysoew.i.1917@icloud.com) or visit [www.tysoewi.com](http://www.tysoewi.com)**



## A REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR INVITATION

Last year seems to have raced by. I am thinking about the liturgical year, as our new church year begins on the first day of Advent, which will be 3rd December 2023. You may perhaps have started opening the doors on your Advent Calendar on 1st December?

This year we are inviting everyone to get involved in the “Reverse Advent Calendar” scheme. The idea is that each household or individual has a box, or something similar, and places an item of food in it every day of Advent. (An alternative is to place these items directly in the box in the church porch.) By Christmas Eve there will be 24 items of food in each box, for the Foodbank to distribute to people in need. This Christmas there are lots of people in need, especially with the cost of food and heating etc. going up and up. For many, even the everyday items are out of reach, never mind the luxuries most of us look forward to over Christmas.

Thousands in our world are struggling to survive in areas torn apart by wars or devastated by natural disasters. Others are facing starvation due to the failure of their crops because of climate change. When we celebrate Christmas, it is rightly a time of joy and rejoicing: the Saviour of the world was born! We recall the story, bearing in mind that Jesus was born on earth in a humble stable, in the middle of a world in turmoil. In our difficult and challenging times, we trust that within the death and destruction and chaos we see around us, we will, by the grace of God, be able to detect signs of hope and look again with wonder and joy. Can we share the joy of new birth, the wonder of the response to Jesus’s coming from angels, shepherds and wise men? Can we express joy knowing this child brings hope for us all?

We hope you will come and join in one or more of the services to celebrate the real Christmas Spirit.

I wish peace and goodwill to you and those you love.

*Revd George Heighton*

Email [revgeorgeh@outlook.com](mailto:revgeorgeh@outlook.com)

Telephone 01295 680 201

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES



Sunday 17th December	6pm Carol Service
Sunday 24th December—Christmas Eve	3pm Crib Service
Sunday 24th December—Christmas Eve	11.30pm Midnight Mass
Monday 25th December—Christmas Day	11.00am Holy Communion Service

## A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - DO COME AND JOIN US!

Please remember to **bring plenty of cash** as the absence of Internet in church means stallholders have difficulty taking card payments.

**12 stallholders** are due to attend with lots of fabulous gifts: Shelley Chocolates, Aromahotties and White Hyacinth Cakes to name a few.

We are supporting **Crisis at Christmas**. Do come early so you don't miss out on Rev George's famous pork baps!

**CCOTS Community Choir** will be singing!

### Holly Tree Fair St Mary's Church Tysoe

Sat 9<sup>th</sup> 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**



## 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!



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!



### To order:

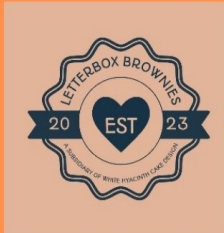
Call/text Debra 07964 339739/ 01295 596583.

Email: [debra@whitehyacinthcakes.co.uk](mailto:debra@whitehyacinthcakes.co.uk)

Collection from Church Lane, Whatcote CV36 5EF



## Orders for Christmas Letterbox Brownies



### New for Christmas 2023

Looking for a different gift idea? Then look no further.....The simple way to send a Christmas treat from the comfort of your armchair. CHOCOLATE BROWNIES! Pick from 3 box sizes.

- Small - 4 bite sized Brownies
- Medium - 12 bite sized Brownies
- Large - 20 treat sized Brownies

You can order a 3, 6 or 12 months Subscription for someone special. They will receive a different mixed box through their letterbox each month, allergy dependent.

Please see website for full list of flavours and ingredients.

[www.letterboxbrownies.co.uk](http://www.letterboxbrownies.co.uk)



Remember Brownies are not just for Christmas they are for all year round!

To order Call/email/text: Debra - 07964 339739 - [debra@whitehyacinthcakes.co.uk](mailto:debra@whitehyacinthcakes.co.uk)

Collection from Church Lane, Whatcote CV36 5EF



## TYSOE VILLAGE STORES - TEA ROOM REOPENS!



Meet Charlotte, the new manager.



Our Tysoe Village Stores reopened the doors to its Tea Room on 2nd November. An occasion welcomed by the village with open arms. Managed by Charlotte, and supported by Albie and Freya, the girls have been delighted with the positive reception and support from the village and community as a whole.



The team is excited for the future and looks forward to establishing the Tea Room as a valuable asset to the village and district: currently offering a wide range of hot teas and coffees, soft drinks, delicious homemade sandwiches, a variety of cakes, toasted teacakes, scones and other sweet treats. We look forward to seeing you soon.

**Opening times:** Wednesday-Saturday, 9am - 3pm.

**Email:** [tysoetearoom@gmail.com](mailto:tysoetearoom@gmail.com) for any enquires.

*Tysoe Village Stores  
and  
Tea Room*



join us for our

# TYSOE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS TURN ON

## 9TH DECEMBER

TYSOE VILLAGE HALL  
From 5pm, lights on at 6.30pm

Food, Drink, Kids crafts, carols & Music!

FATHER CHRISTMAS WILL BE HERE ASWELL 😊



## Penny Varley Ceramics

Inspired by nature, created in clay.

Unique handmade ceramics made in Tysoe.

Wonderful as a gift or to treat yourself.

Commissions undertaken.

Visit the website to book your studio visit, workshop or to see my latest creations.

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Or contact me on

07486 452099 or follow me on  



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No muddy paw prints. Happy to hang out!

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## **TYSOE WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN**



In December it will be 15 years since we moved to Tysoe and we have spent that time renovating the cottage and the walled garden, previously part of Tysoe Manor. The garden has now “settled in” although ever-changing, as gardens do, be it by planting or a new project.

The aim when we moved here was to create a space for growing a wide range of fruit and vegetables, still keeping an attractive walled environment including trees, shrubs and flowers alongside the vegetables. In 2015 we opened our garden, along with others in the village for the NGS (National Garden Scheme) and continue to do so. We will be opening on July 6th and 7th 2024.

We produce many basic crops, potatoes, onions, apples, strawberries, but also experiment with more unusual crops, some never to be repeated! Yard long bean (interesting but not a nice taste); chick peas that taste lovely when fresh (nothing like the tinned or dried ones) but they have one pea per pod with a spike!

There is far more produce that we can use, although a friend recently said that we have more vegetables at one meal than they do in a whole week! Family and friends get a fair amount of what we produce. Our freezers and stores are full and we sell the rest from the trolley at the bottom of the drive. Organically grown and picked at the optimum time for best flavour, what’s not to like? Plants too.

In January each year we add up the money we have raised and decide which local groups and charities we want to share the money with. Last year we gave money to: Tysoe Dementia cafe, NGS (National Garden Scheme, medical charities), Dogs for Good - Banbury, Shipston Food Bank and Tysoe CE Primary School for outdoor resources and provisions.

We are asking for suggestions as to which local group or charity we could give the money to this year. Please let us know your thoughts, email us at: [tysoewalledkitchengarden@gmail.com](mailto:tysoewalledkitchengarden@gmail.com)

Sue and Mike Sanderson

*Tysoe Village Hall and  
CARAMBA PLAYERS*

Sunday  
7th January 2024  
at 2.30 pm



*Treasure  
Island*

Tysoe Village Hall, CV35 0SE

Adults £6.00

Children £4.00

Pay on the door

Registered Charity 523027

**Christmas Coffee Morning  
and Craft Sale**

**Saturday 2nd December from 10.30am - 12 noon**

**Tysoe Village Hall**

**Free Entrance - Refreshments available**

**Supporting our local dementia cafes**

  
talkdementia.uk

**(With Tysoe W I supporting Shipston Home Nursing)**

**12 Stalls with a wide variety of  
Crafts and Christmas Gift Ideas**

## THE TYSOE 36 : COMMEMORATING 150 YEARS

AN ILLUSTRATED PRESENTATION IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON  
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 13TH AT 7.PM

On the evening of December 13th 1873 six families including children from Tysoe met at the Old Tree to say farewell to friends and relatives. The following day they travelled to Banbury, then by train to Plymouth to board the Scimitar, a sailing ship that would take them to a new life in New Zealand. There were 36 of them in all – the Tysoe 36.





On the evening of December 13th 2023, exactly 150 years to the day, the Tysoe Heritage Research Group (THRG) will be commemorating the event with a presentation in the Village Hall. Who were these families? Why did they choose to leave Tysoe? How was life on the ship during its two-month voyage and what went so catastrophically wrong that the Prime Minister of New Zealand referred to the Scimitar as 'a floating pest house' and a local paper described the emigrants as 'the sweepings of the cities and towns of the old country'?

Using records, sources and letters, THRG has built up a picture of Tysoe in the mid-19th century, the tragic events on the voyage itself and the new lives that the Tysoe 36 made for themselves twelve thousand miles away. There are some fascinating connections, not least being the paintings of Tysoe artist William Matthison found hanging on New Zealand walls, and who would have guessed that a small three-year old from Lower Tysoe would become a world-famous entomologist. . . . Admission free (donations welcome). The Social Club bar will be open.

THRG

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### DECEMBER 2023 JANUARY 2024

	<b>Most Fridays / Saturday 30</b>	Food caddies waste collection	<b>Saturday 6 Friday 12,19, 26</b>	
	<b>15</b>	<b>Black</b> bin collection	6 (Sat), 26	
	<b>8, 22</b>	<b>Blue &amp; Green</b> bin collection	6 (blue only),19	
	1,8,15, 22,29	<b>Friday 10am-12 noon</b>	Tysoe <b>Dementia Café</b> , Village Hall. Please book. Tel: 688376	5, 12, 19, 26
	<b>1</b>	<b>Friday</b>	Friday Lunch Club—Christmas Celebration	
	<b>2</b>	<b>Saturday 10.30-12 noon</b>	Christmas Bazaar ,Tysoe Village Hall for the <b>Dementia Cafe</b>	
	<b>5</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	Mobile library 1.45pm, parks up outside the Village Hall.	9
	<b>9</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	Holly Tree Fair at St Mary's Church, 10.30am—1pm	
	<b>9</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	Christmas Tree Lighting from 5pm Village Hall. Lights on 6.30pm!	
	<b>11</b>	<b>Monday</b>	Tysoe Parish Council Ordinary Meeting, 7.15 Tysoe Village Hall	8
	<b>16,17</b>	<b>Friday, Saturday</b>	<b>Swing into Christmas with TADA and JAZZ59</b>	
	<b>25</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	
	<b>26</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>BOXING DAY</b>	
	<b>31</b>	<b>Sunday Saturday</b>	<b>NEW YEAR'S EVE - 007 Party! NEW YEAR'S DAY 2024</b>	1



HAPPY  
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HAPPY  
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**HERBERTS BURGER BARN**  
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**THE EARLY SESSION 6-8.30PM**  
**KIDS NEW YEAR COUNT DOWN @**  
**8PM**

Includes: **Rodeo Bull, dancing & DJ, shooting gallery and loaded fries from Happy Herefords.**  
Tickets £10 from Burger Barn, £15 online.  
Recommended ages 5-12 years. Call or message Monica on **07770 770976.**

# Tysoe Social Club



A warm welcome awaits at Tysoe Social Club.  
Upcoming dates for your diary:

- ☉ **Saturday 2 December** – Family Christmas Bingo – prizes for all up for grabs!
- ☉ **Saturday 9 December** – Live Music from 'The Dropouts'
- ☉ **Saturday 23 December** – Live Music from 'The Jolly Rogers'

We will be open on **Christmas Eve, Sunday 24 December** and **New Years Eve, Sunday 31 December**

Standard Social Club opening hours as follows: Monday – Saturday 7.00pm – 11.00pm, closed Sundays.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Tysoe Social Club!**

**Tysoe Social Club, Main Street, Tysoe, CV35 0SE**



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## NORTH COTSWOLD FARMERS' MARKET



The North Cotswold Farmers' Market is held on the first Thursday of the month between 6 and 8pm. The market is located in the spacious and stylish village venue, The Hall CV36 5HG, which also provides a bar and hot supper for customers to enjoy during the market.

Stalls offer a range of local, homemade and home grown produce; meat, eggs, game, artisan bread, jams and chutneys, honey, apple juice, oils and walnuts, cheese, tea, mouth-watering pies and sausage rolls, delicious cakes, locally grown vegetables and authentic Greek and Swedish cooking.

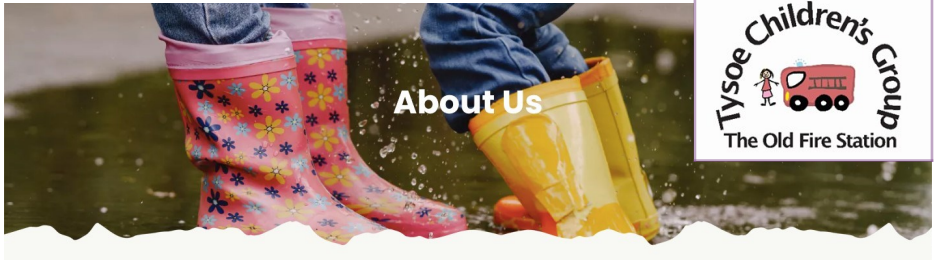
Not only does the market offer the best of our local produce, you have a unique opportunity to spend time talking to the producers themselves and to find out how much love, care and knowledge goes into their products.

In addition to the food stalls, we also have some local, talented crafts people too. Some are regulars, such as our ceramics lady and allotment florist, and others change each month.

Thursday 2nd December will be our last market in 2023 and we will be welcoming back stalls selling local gin and cured meats as well as our regulars. We take a break at the beginning of 2024 and start up again in April.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Annie Parmenter



## EVENTS AT TYSOE CHILDREN'S GROUP

Warwickshire Christmas Tree Farm is **open now** until Christmas Eve. Come and tag your tree to collect later. All reserved trees are cut fresh on the morning of collection. Be sure to mention **Tysoe Children's Group**, so 10% comes to us!

**Now until mid-January**, we are part of the Blue Token Scheme at the Tesco Express, Shipston. If our project gets the highest number of votes we will receive up to £1,500, the second-placed project £1,000, and the third-placed project £500. So please **VOTE FOR US!**

**Join our AGM Thursday 30th November at 7.30pm.** Tysoe Children's Group is a registered charity. If your child or children attend

you automatically have family membership which entitles you to a vote. We have to hold an AGM, and need at least 30% of our members (our families) to attend.



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[@warwickshirechristmastrees](https://www.instagram.com/warwickshirechristmastrees)



**Become a Trustee** and help us run and shape the future Tysoe Children's Group. Our trustees are parents/carers and members of our community. We are looking for new people to join who have skills, but above all enthusiasm and commitment to ensure our children get the very best care and education.

Many thanks for your support

Team TCG

[www.tysoechildrengroup.co.uk](http://www.tysoechildrengroup.co.uk)

## TYSOE C OF E SCHOOL - OUTINGS

Pupils at Tysoe C of E Primary School have many opportunities to extend their learning experiences by going on trips organised by their teachers, Tysoe Utilities Trust and The Friends of Tysoe School, to whom we are most grateful, often subsidise these trips.

Silver Birch Class went on an evacuee day to Winchcombe Railway Station. The children time-travelled back to 1940 and got to experience life as an evacuee by:



- taking a ride on a steam engine
- taking cover in an air raid shelter
- doing some emergency fire-fighting
- and even capturing a German spy!

We had a fantastic day and the staff at Winchcombe told us that our class were the best-behaved, most polite group of evacuees they had ever had!

At the RSC Willow Class had a really good experience learning more about Macbeth. They really enjoyed being taught by an actual actress who revised the play with them and taught them how to express themselves using actions.





## WOT2 GROW COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Did you know that the community orchard has a small nut grove? It includes hazel and walnuts – some of which were used in our cakes sold at Apple Day. The collecting of the nuts has to be just right though – too early and they are not ripe, but too late and the squirrels will have beaten us to it!

Lots of apples and pears have been picked in the last month, although if you have walked through the orchard recently you may have noticed a lot of them are still on the trees. Part of the reason for this is there are too many to pick and not enough pickers. The insects have enjoyed the rotting fruit though!

If you would like to pick/receive lots of fresh organic fruit through the summer and autumn, please join us. 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](http://www.wot2grow.co.uk)

The banner features a central logo for 'Woods & Wellies' with a stylized tree and a red boot. The text 'All weather woodland stay and play for babies, toddlers and preschoolers 0-5yrs' is written in red. Below the text are three photos: a tree with a red boot on its trunk, a child sitting in a field of autumn leaves, and a child in a hat and boots standing in a woodland. A QR code is in the top right corner. The banner is decorated with a string of Christmas stockings and gifts, and falling confetti.

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

**Christmas sessions running during December**

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## MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE IN WARWICKSHIRE

According to the recent State of Nature Report 2023 <https://stateofnature.org.uk>, the UK's wildlife is continuing to decline, including in our region. As a result, the UK is now one of the most nature-depleted countries on Earth.

Around 80 people met at Warwickshire County Council's Northgate House on 13 November to discuss approaches to 'Restoring Nature across Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull'. The main focus of the day was development of the new Local Nature Recovery Strategy, which is a locally-led plan for growing and recovering nature, and will consist of:

- A map showing the most valuable existing habitats for nature
- A map highlighting specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals
- Agreement on local priorities for nature's recovery



*Supported by*

Warwickshire Coventry & Solihull  
Local Nature Partnership

Warwickshire County Council is leading on the creation of the Nature Recovery Strategy for Warwickshire, together with Local Nature Partnership, of which I'm a Board Member. When completed, the strategy

will become a blueprint for the recovery of nature, showing how and where we can support things like wildflowers, woodlands, wetlands and wider and wilder hedges and edges. The strategies are statutory requirements of the Environment Act. This means that local areas must develop them, and report on the progress of the strategy every three to ten years.

There will be an opportunity to provide input to the plan, as an individual or an organisation, and Tysoe Wildlife and the larger network of town and village groups working for wildlife (South Warwickshire Area Network for Wildlife – SWAN) will be actively engaged. Please email [TysoeWildlife@gmail.com](mailto:TysoeWildlife@gmail.com) if you would like to learn more and become involved in this important initiative.

Rosemary Collier

## TYSOE POST OFFICE – USE IT OR LOSE IT



Tysoe is immensely fortunate to have a Post Office. It provides residents with postal, banking and other services without which they would have to travel to other villages or towns. Often, those who rely most on these services are those who are least able to travel. The Post Office is a valued Community Asset but one that many take for granted. Tysoe residents should not think that this valuable facility will always be here. The margins on providing postal services are diminishing all the time and even with the Hope & Glory business in support, the Post Office is barely viable.

If you value this resource in the village then the most effective way of ensuring it will be available long-term is to use it now. So, use it now over the Christmas period but continue to use it once the Christmas spirit has evaporated. If we don't use it there is a real likelihood that we will lose it and with it the legacy that Jacqui and her family have built-up over many years.

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Tysoe Flower Show and Fete  
Committee  
Tysoe Bowls Club



## PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Hi Tysoe,

This week's Parish Council meeting was very much centred around Acorn's Anaerobic Digester planning application. The Parish Council submitted their response to Acorn's amendments, having agreed them at the meeting. Councillors ask all residents if they wish to make comments regarding the application amendments, they should do so either via the planning website or to the planning officer, Joseph Brooke, ( [Joseph.Brooke@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Joseph.Brooke@stratford-dc.gov.uk)) in writing or via email. The more objections received means the Planning Office will understand that that there are still strong feelings against this proposal.

Our Affordable Homes Committee is working hard to secure land to build more affordable homes in the village. It is hoped that they will be able to meet the needs of those villagers who are looking for homes within Tysoe, at present the Housing Needs Survey shows a requirement for 21 homes of varying sorts. Watch this space for more news – you can also find out further information on the Parish website at [www.tysoe.org.uk](http://www.tysoe.org.uk)

Breech Furlong, a piece of land owned by the Parish Council used to help Tysoe's young people in farming, currently has a vacant tenancy. Councillors have been working to find a new tenant and the decision on the tenancy will be made at our December Meeting.

More work is planned on Tysoe's streetlights. I know some of you are aware that some lights are in need of repair and replacement. Unfortunately, response times are slow as parts take time to be made and for the work to be scheduled-in, but they are in progress.

Other planning applications were discussed. Decisions for these can all be seen on the Parish website in the Planning Report.

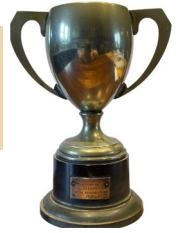
I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and New Year!

**Charmaine**  
Tysoe Parish Clerk/RFO  
Email: [parish.clerk@tysoe.org.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@tysoe.org.uk)





## MEET TYSOE'S NIGHTINGALE - DOREEN SMITH (nee Heritage).



The Heritages were all good singers, music was part of their lives. Doreen always wanted to sing. Mr Farbrother, Tysoe school's new headmaster who joined in 1938, played the piano and organised concerts. Doreen was picked to sing and act which she loved.

As her parents ran the local dance band, Doreen had to go with them to the village hall, as she couldn't stay at home alone (see opposite). She loved singing along. After meeting Jack Friday, an excellent pianist, she spent many happy nights singing at Banbury Town Hall and at gigs nearby, including various Oxford colleges.

In 1946, age 18, she won a 'Crooning Competition' at the Carfax Assembly Rooms in Oxford (trophy above). One of the judges was the editor of 'Melody Maker'. He gave her an excellent write-up which helped to launch her professional career. A job with a Leicester-based band quickly followed, they toured the country by bus. Helen Davies became her stage name. A residency in Nottingham came next, where she sang every night and Saturday afternoons.

In summer the band played at the Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth where they did some BBC broadcasts. But Doreen found life on the road a bit lonely so when the contract ended she moved back to Tysoe and joined the family business. She still managed to sing with Eddie Turton's band in Oxford and at Upper Heyford 2-3 nights a week, driving herself to the gigs in her Morris 8. In 1956 she married Geoff Smith. The couple started a family seven years later, so her singing career took a back seat for a time.

Doreen has continued to sing throughout her life, latterly with a band called 'Summer Wine.' She recorded a CD in February 2006 in her 78th year which features songs such as: 'The Lady is a Tramp', 'Smile' and 'A Nightingale Sang in Berkley Square.' It is a joy to listen to it and hear Tysoe's very own nightingale singing!

The Editor





During the Second World War the airmen from Shenington aerodrome would visit Tysoe for entertainment and a dance band was formed by Mr Fran Heritage, a local shopkeeper. This was originally called the 'Buskers Band', but was renamed the 'Melody Makers'. The musicians, all local and mostly self-taught, would perform at dances held three times a week. Some of the airmen who could play piano, drums or saxophone would play with the band to earn extra money. The 'Melody Makers' also went to Shenington aerodrome to play as well as to Ratley and Wellesbourne.

The wartime dances in the village hall became very popular. The Saturday dance was called the 'Sixpenny Hop', as it cost sixpence for entry, while the other two dances were known as the 'Sweatbox'. The dances were frequented by a range of groups from the local area, including airmen from Shenington, the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAFS), the young women from the land army who were stationed at Idlicote, soldiers from the Central Ammunition Depot in Kineton, and members of the Czech Free Army who would cycle from Kineton. A resident described how fights would sometimes break out between soldiers from Kineton and airmen from Shenington.

The Shenington airmen, who came from America, Canada and Australia as well as from Britain, were seen as a great attraction and young women from other villages used to come to Tysoe to meet them. The 'Sixpenny Hop' would end with a 'twilight' waltz during which all lights but one were turned off. One resident remembered how this had caused concern among the older generation and so two well respected female committee members stood in the doorway during the waltz to keep an eye on the couples.

Extract from 'Memories of Tysoe' by Margaret Hunter

# Thomas Fox

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**UP TO  
DATE**

Previous issues of the Tysoe & District Record are available online at [www.tysoe.org.uk/tysoe-record](http://www.tysoe.org.uk/tysoe-record).

## TENNIS NEWS



Tysoe Tennis Club  
www.tysoetennisclub.co.uk

### IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO PICK UP A RACKET! Catching up with Ian Hook.

I joined the Tysoe Tennis Club last summer. I had played tennis no more than a couple of times a year throughout my life. I was a typical "Wimbledon One-Day Wonder": watch tennis for two weeks, get excited, play once and then forget about it until next June.

In lockdown that changed somewhat. Confined to outdoor activities I started playing with a friend in Cropredy. Interest piqued I thought why not give "TTC" a go? It was, after all, on my doorstep. Any doubts about my game not being up to "club standard" was soon dispelled. Everyone has been so welcoming and supportive during those early days when my serving felt like one long double fault!

There are regular 'mix-ins' when you can just turn up and play. But I've also enjoyed playing in matches against other clubs. There's a quiet competitive spirit, but never is it taken too seriously, which suits me. I've come to appreciate that tennis is a great game for life. We have players of all ages including a thriving junior section.

But most of all I've enjoyed the camaraderie, playing in such a wonderful location with the hills and sheep for company — the perfect tonic after a stressful day at work — oh and the tea and cake on match days!

For more information about our social tennis sessions, where anyone can come along visit the website or contact Carol Spencer, our Club Secretary on email: [carol.spencer234@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:carol.spencer234@hotmail.co.uk)



Ian centre, flanked by Nicki Campbell and Julian Gardner after a mixed doubles match.

[www.tysoetennisclub.co.uk](http://www.tysoetennisclub.co.uk)

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A HAPPY NEW YEAR



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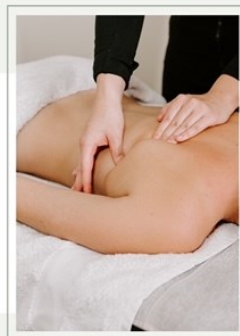
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- 10.15 - 11.00 - Mobility & Core Pilates at Oxhill Barns, Oxhill
- 18.15-19.15 - Mobility & Deep Stretch at Tysoe Village Hall

### **Wednesdays**

- 9.15-10.10 - Pilates for Improvers
- 10.20-11.15 - The Pilates Practice at Oxhill Barns, Oxhill

### **Thursdays**

- 9.15-10.15 - The Pilates Practice at Sherington Village Hall

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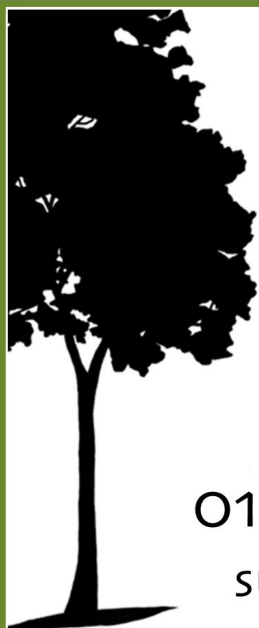
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<b>TYSOE PHONE BOOK</b>		
District Councillor	Malcolm Littlewood	07514 951 174
Lunch Club	Marion 680 584	Nicola 680 058
NGS Open Gardens	Julia Sewell	01295 680 234
Parish Clerk	Charmaine Swift	parish.clerk@tysoe.org.uk
Police, Safer Neighbourhood Team, Shipston		01789 444 670
Poppy Appeal	David Sewell	01295 680316
Post Office	Jacqui Franklin	07816 403798
Shipston Link	David Sewell	01295 680 316
St Mary's Church	Rev'd George Heighton	01295 680 201
Talk Dementia	Paul Dowler	01295 688 376
Tennis Club	Carol Spencer	01295 680 659
Tysoe CofE Primary School	Paige Allister	01295 680 244
Tysoe Children's Group	Yvonne Dillon	01295 680 624
Tysoe Bowls Club	Phil Short	01295 680 732
Tysoe Flower Show	Steve Allen	07808 633 155
Tysoe History Research Group (THRG)		thrginfo@gmail.com
Tysoe Social Club		01295 680 627
Tysoe Surgery	Dr Raj Kanwar	01295 680 220
Tysoe Utility Trust Grants	Yvonne Dillon	01295 680 567
Tysoe United FC	Steve Allen	07808 633 155
Tysoe Wildlife	Rosemary 01295 680 127	Shirley 680 793
Village Hall Bookings	Jacqueline Franklin	07816 403798
Warwickshire County Cllor	Chris Mills	07966 133607
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