

TYSOE & DISTRICT RECORD

AUGUST 2025

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Painting of 'The Red Horse of Tysoe' by Nigel Fletcher, kindly donated as a raffle prize to support the THRG 's 'Myth, History and Landscape' event.

In this issue of the Record you can read:

- **A report on the THRG's brilliant Red Horse Seminar**
- **The winning entry in our Red Horse Short Story Competition - 'The Fog Horse' by Aiden Ralph**
- **Learn about Tysoe School's Platinum Award for Outdoor Play**
- **Make a date for the Tysoe Flower Show & Fete and find out which children's Nursery Rhyme classes to enter**
- **How the hot weather has been a bonanza for Ladybirds!**



Hooray, the CHURCH CLOCK is there!
chiming again!

Isn't it great to hear the quarter hours and the hours being struck once more? Not only does it help to tell us what the time is, but it also provides a sense of permanence and reassurance - part of the very fabric of Tysoe.

The church chimes might take a bit of getting used to for newcomers to our village, but you'll become accustomed to them soon and then notice if they're not

there!
Idioms about time. It's fair to say we are obsessed with time. Here are some examples:

- Time flies
- Beat the clock
- Turn back the hands of time
- Once in a blue moon
- A stitch in time saves nine
- Better late than never
- Only time will tell
- Time is of the essence
- Living on borrowed time
- The eleventh hour

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www.tysoerecord.org

WORDS OF WISDOM

I was stopped in my tracks when I read this Facebook post by my near neighbour, Lauren. I thought it was a brave thing to write and share.



Lauren Holly

2d · 👥

Today marks a year since one of the discs in my spine decided it didn't like where it was living and migrated through my spinal cord. Since then I've learnt to live with the chronic pain & numbness - recovery is odd; you just kind of find a way to deal with it and crack on .. can't feel my feet today but probably will tomorrow so whatever, onwards. 🙌

If I've learnt anything it's that life really can change in an instant and we really should rid of ourselves of the things that hold us back and grab hold of the things that make us happy. (If you know, you know 😊)

Cheers to the staff at the JR for ensuring I wasn't paralysed and can continue shaking my ass to ACDC and the like 💖🍷

The truth is that none of us know what tomorrow will bring, but good health is fundamental. It allows us to get the most out of life. For most of us it is something we take for granted, unless, like Lauren, we've had the misfortune to suffer ill health and pain. So we would all do well to heed her advice and make the most of every day. As the saying goes: *'Time waits for no man.'*

Here's wishing a speedy recovery to all those who are poorly or are undergoing treatment and thanks to all the doctors, nurses and carers who look after them.

The Editor

THE RED HORSE OF TYSOE: MYTH, HISTORY AND LANDSCAPE



On Saturday 19th July the people of Tysoe filled a packed Village Hall to listen to a programme by the Tysoe History Research Group (THRG). The event was organised and chaired by John Hunter who also gave the introduction. Carol Clark expertly managed the audio-visuals including a clip from a 1980 TV programme and a recording by Anton Lesser.

Gill Stewart started the presentations with an insightful look at what art in the landscape might be, who created it, when and why, followed by Rosemary Collier who explained how the location of the horse had developed over time and the impact of buildings, farming and tree planting. The reason why the escarpment depicted a horse was explored in depth by David Freke, who emphasised the changing significance of the horse over time. This was followed by David Low who set about untangling fact from the fiction and provided a timeline of events.

A more personal tone was taken by Susie Carrdus and Kevin Wyles. They gave a background to the work of Kenneth Carrdus and Graham Miller who had spent much of their adult lives immersed in locating evidence of the Red Horse. Their research was superbly analysed by David Freke in the last presentation; he not only verified their work but also identified the fact that the red colour of the horse had been achieved by 'importing' material from a different part of the escarpment. Its creation had been a major achievement.



The Tysoe History Research Group would like to thank Red Horse Fuels, Nigel Fletcher, and Susie Carrdus for their kind sponsorship.

Steve Millward



So what conclusions can we draw?

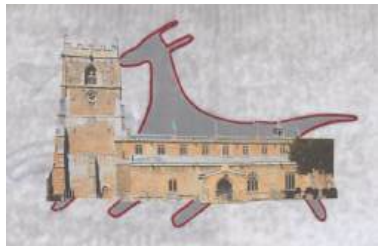
The THRG is fortunate to have an abundance of academics, consequently all the presentations were excellent. So what conclusions can be drawn from the wealth of information shared with us? There are still many questions to be answered but what we do know is:

There was a red horse, there may have been several which both the archaeological and historical records show. We know that images of horses were frequently carved into the landscape, the most famous being the Uffington White Horse, dating from the Bronze Age. We also know that the landscape and farming in the Vale of Tysoe has changed little over the past 6,000 years (with added inclosures and hedgerows).

Its date is still unknown. One theory suggests the Tysoe horse could have been created by the Earl of Warwick after the bloody battle of Towton in 1461 where he slayed his horse to embolden his men. But could it have been earlier? Horses were worshipped by pagans, they were thought to pull the sun across the sky. Local history sources don't mention any horse until the 15th Century, but does that mean it didn't exist? John Hunter made reference to Donald Rumsfeld's "knowns, known unknowns, and unknown unknowns" 2002 statement ref. the debate over WMDs or was he really referring to the Red Horse of Tysoe?

Analysing the research of Carrdus and Miller, our own archaeologist David Freke, believes the existence of a red horse is indicated by the crop marks (False Oat Grass) on their aerial photos of the 1960s. These marks have subsequently disappeared under the tree plantation.

One of the most astonishing revelations from the seminar was the sheer size of the horse (30m tall x 80m long). The Red Horse of Tysoe was an equine hill figure on a monumental scale - as shown in John's slide (right) which superimposes Tysoe church on the outline of the horse. It would have taken



a significant body of people to make it, cutting the outline of the horse into the base clay and then laying the red ironstone rubble over it. The horse would have dominated the landscape and been visible from a long, long way off (landscape facing page- View from Pittern Hill above Kineton 5m).

At the end of the seminar the audience was asked if they would like to see the Red Horse reinstated to which there was a resounding **YES**.

The Editor

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL OUR SHORT
STORY WRITERS!**



I felt honoured to be one of the four judges of the Red Horse story competition, and was very impressed with the quality of the stories submitted and the imagination shown by all the authors - eight adults, and especially the seven children.

We judges worked independently and scored each story based on five different criteria, including “plot” and “imagination”. We also read the stories without knowing the names of the authors, so that we could give an unbiased opinion.

Many congratulations to all the entrants, whose efforts are appreciated, but especially to our winners: Esme Taylor in Children’s Category Key Stage I for her story “The Red Horse of Tysoe”. Elina Williams in Key Stage II, for her story “The Mystery of the Red Horse and His Friends”, and the Adult Category was won by Aiden Ralph (pictured above) for his story “The Fog Horse”.

Unfortunately neither of the winners of the Children’s categories were there to receive their certificates, but certificates were presented to Betsy Coatham, Elswyth Green (see above). While Aiden was presented with his, as were Shirley Cherry, Deborah Baker, Neil Douthwaite, David Roache and Joanne England by Susie Carrdus whose father, Kenneth Carrdus, with his friend Graham Miller, spent much of their lives investigating the location of Tysoe’s Red Horse.

Certificates will be delivered to the other competition entrants in both the Children’s and Adults’ categories who couldn’t attend. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if one of the tales was actually the reason why the red horse came to be carved into the hillside?

Following the presentation we were all able to enjoy a recording of Tysoe’s own Anton Lesser reading Aiden’s winning story, “The Fog Horse”.

Helen Keayes, Editorial Assistant



“The Fog Horse”
by Aiden Ralph



***“The cannonball has flown
it’s arc now,
To be found by the plough,
Years from now,
Keep on falling down”***

From ‘Falling Down’,
a song by Sparklehorse

The mist clung thick as sheep’s wool to the fields behind the cottage. Henry pulled his thin coat tighter, kicking at clumps of wet grass. Twelve years old and already burdened with a knowing softness for broken things. Stray cats with torn ears, birds with snapped wings, rabbits caught fast in snares set by other boys. He’d find them, tucked away in ditches or shivering under hedgerows, and try his best. Sometimes it worked. Mostly, it didn’t.

A sound cut through the grey quiet. Not a bird cry, nor the bleat of a lost lamb. This was deeper, rougher. A horse, sounding like its lungs were tearing. Henry stopped, listening hard. It came again, a panicked, desperate sound from somewhere out in the dense white. He edged towards it, boots sinking in the damp earth.

He nearly stumbled over it. Huge, it was bigger than any carthorse he’d ever seen. Steam rose from its chestnut coat, dark with sweat or blood, maybe both. One leg was held crooked, splintered bone jabbing raw through the hide. Its eyes, wide and rolling, fixed on him. A warhorse, breathing in shuddering gasps. It looked magnificent, even wrecked like this.

Henry turned and ran, fear giving way to the familiar urge to fetch help. He ran back to his thatched cottage beyond the lake. He burst in startling his father sitting by the fire. “Dad! There’s a horse! A massive horse, hurt bad, out in the field!” His father looked up, slow. A man worn down by toil and worry. “Horse? What horse? Don’t be daft, lad.” “It’s true! A red one, like knights ride. It’s hurt bad. We need to help it.” His father sighed, pulling on heavy boots. “Come on then.”

They trudged back out, the mist swirling around them, colder now. Henry led him to the spot, near an old oak. Nothing. Just flattened grass and the silence. “Well?” his father asked, impatience rough in his voice. “Where’s this grand beast then?” Henry searched frantically, eyes darting through the white. “It was here! Right here! Big as anything, bleeding...” His father shook his head, grunted, turned back. “Got enough real troubles without you dreaming up more. Stop with the stories, Henry. The land is full of them.” He looked at his son with pity. “Let’s go.” Henry felt the familiar sting of disbelief, queasiness in his stomach and heat behind his eyes.

Weeks crawled by. The damp chill stayed. Then, one morning, the mist returned, thicker than ever. And with it, the sound. That same desperate noise. Henry didn’t fetch his dad this time. He crept out alone, heart thudding. It was there again. Same spot, same awful injury. The chestnut coat gleamed. He approached slowly, hands outstretched. “Easy now,” he whispered. “Easy.” He fetched water in his cupped hands from the lake, offering it clumsily. The horse dipped its head, drank a little, its breath warm on his skin. He touched its neck, feeling the tremor beneath the coarse hair. He stayed with it a while, just talking soft nonsense, until the mist seemed to thin slightly. Did he fall asleep? He wasn’t sure, he blinked, the horse was gone. Vanished into the white, leaving only the trampled earth.

Months later, the world had changed. King against Parliament. Noise, shouting, men marching. Henry found himself miles from home, clutching a flagstaff near Edgehill. He wasn’t sure how it had happened – swept up in the fervour, or maybe just running from the silence of home. He’d wanted something different; he hadn’t known different meant this.

The battle, when it came, wasn’t grand. It was mud, fog, and screaming. The heavy clang of metal, sickeningly close. Men fell like sacks, groaning or suddenly silent. Smoke burned his eyes, noise battered his ears. Disorientated he stumbled backwards, separated from his company, the flag trailing in the mud. Enemy soldiers, grim-faced under their helmets, loomed out of the smoke, pikes lowered. He was trapped, small and helpless, the flag useless in his hands. He clamped his eyes shut, waiting for the blow. Is this the end?

A thunder of hooves. An otherworldly inhuman scream. He looked up. The chestnut horse. A red flare in a monochrome scene. Riderless, impossible, terrifying. Its eyes were crazy as it smashed into the soldiers, teeth bared, clouds of steam pumping through its nose, front hooves lashing out like hammers. Steel glanced off its hide. Men scattered, shouting in alarm, scrambling away from the sudden, demonic fury. It wasn't fighting like a regular horse; it was pure, wild rage. In moments, the enemy was gone, vanished back into the swirling chaos.

The horse stood panting, its sides heaving, the old leg injury nowhere to be seen. It turned its great head, looked straight at Henry with those dark, knowing eyes. Then, it reared once, a silhouette against the grey sky, before dissolving back into the battle smoke and fog. Gone.

Later, huddled with the remnants of his company, faces streaked with powder, blood and grime, Henry asked "The horse... did you see it? The red horse?" A grizzled soldier nearby spat. "Horse? Saw hundreds of them, mostly dead. Keep your wits about you, boy. Battle plays tricks on the eyes." Another laughed sarcastically. "Ghost horses now, is it? You took a knock to the head?" No one had seen it. Just another of his stories, they thought. He fell silent, the memory burning bright against the surrounding misery. Now he was doubting himself, was it all a dream?

They marched away from the battlefield, a quiet, weary column. They trudged past the Vale near Tysoe. And there, cut deep into the rich, red soil of the hillside, was the giant figure of a horse. Ancient, stark against the green. Everyone saw it. A murmur went through the ranks. Old tales surfaced, whispers of a guardian spirit, tied to the land. Henry stared at the carving, then back towards the battlefield. He knew. They all looked at it, this sign in the soil. And maybe some of them knew too. The world was still harsh, the future uncertain, but something else had transcended through the mist and the mud that day. Something old, fierce and red.

Aiden Ralph

To hear Anton Lesser's reading go to: <https://youtu.be/izUpiBooNqE>



'Lets hold Warwickshire Open Studios at our village hall' they said. 'Great idea'

So, in January 2025 the planning began. Applications, 13 artists (pictured above), a rolling video of artists and their work, advertising, social media, tea, cake and Pimms.

Warwickshire open studios has been running for 25 years and on the weekend of the 21st and 22nd June over 400 visitors from far and wide joined the artists in a celebration of creativity. Paintings, mixed media, glass, journals, jewellery and ceramics were all on show in our village hall which was transformed into a gallery space.

Many pieces of work were given new homes along with commissions being taken.

Amazing tea, cake, ice cream, and Pimms were available by courtesy of the village hall committee.



One visitor commented. 'What an amazing selection of arts and crafts on show. The standard is very high and it is great to be able to meet the artist behind the work. I hope you are coming back next year?'

A massive thank you to everyone who visited, the artists and everyone involved. 2026? Let's see.

Penny Varley



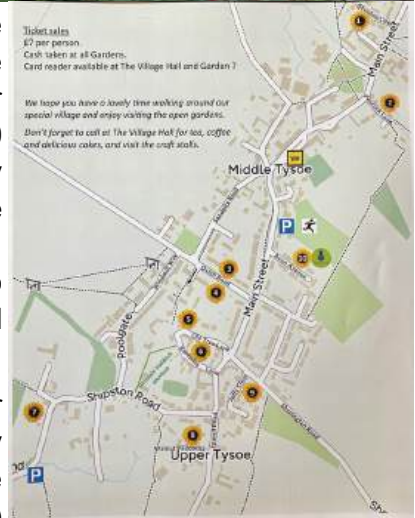
What a wonderful weekend, despite the rain on Sunday the visitors were not deterred and kept coming. Over the weekend 511 people visited the 10 Tysoe gardens which were generously opened by their owners. Despite the very hot weather preceding the event, the gardeners had worked hard to make each of the gardens a wonderful spectacle and inspiring place to visit.

Approximately £4,500 was raised for the NGS charities, including a hefty £569 from the refreshments. Tysoe village also benefited as 50% (£569) from the refreshments was shared with the Village Hall and Tysoe WI. The hall was further supported by a range of stalls, selling garden sculptures, horticultural goods, honey, bird boxes and stained glass.

Many people were involved in making the weekend a success, I can not mention them all but many teams made it happen.

A big thank you to Alexandra and her team who sold tickets at the village hall. To Liz and her team who made the refreshments a success, to Ben and the village hall team for all the work making it a successful day. Thanks to Ian and the car park team. To Beverley who helped everyone master the Sumup machines. To George for the excellent map. To Lily and her Dad, Colin, for the fantastic signage around the village, which was much talked about by many people including the Warwickshire NGS contact, and to Mike and Colin Lumley for the large arrow signs around the surrounding villages, all collected back in on Sunday evening. Thanks of course to the garden owners and all their helpers for the advertising and help on the day.

Sue Sanderson (Tysoe NGS Open Gardens contact)



CCOTS CHOIR SUMMER CONCERT



On Saturday 28th June CCOTS (the Community Choir of Oxhill, Tysoe and Shenington) held their Summer Concert at Tysoe Village Hall. It was a great event enjoyed by a lovely audience of 75. It proved just as popular with the choir themselves. Singing a real mix of songs from the beautiful “And So It Goes” by Billy Joel to the classic war time “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy” in the first half, the choir thrilled the audience with a half hour medley of songs from Les Miserables in the second half.

The tickets and raffle raised a wonderful £800 and the choir has been able to donate £200 to the remarkable and wonderful Tysoe Dementia Cafe and a further £200 to Cancer Research UK.

The choir is a very inclusive organisation and wants to give everyone in the surrounding area the opportunity to sing and to enjoy the camaraderie that comes from being a part of a truly lovely and friendly group. If you are interested we are always happy to see new faces at our rehearsals and you can find us at Oxhill Village Hall at 7.45pm on Wednesday in term times.



For more information visit www.CCOTS.org.uk or email: md@ccots.org.uk

Philip Marshall

OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING AT TYSOE



After eighteen months of planning and playing, Tysoe C of E Primary School completed a final Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) audit with our OPAL mentor, Rachel, on 9th July.

We won a **PLATINUM AWARD!**

Only 2% of OPAL schools around the country receive a Platinum Award needing to achieve more than 90% in the final audit.

We believe play is a right for all children as outlined by Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Together with our pupil representatives and our Governor Play Champion, our Play Team, led by Miss Simpson and Miss Burnett, have transformed playtimes at Tysoe. Our Play Charter was written by the children and is lived every day at Tysoe.



Paige Allister , Head Teacher

Editor's note: Many congratulations from the Tysoe & District Record.



TYSOE VILLAGE PRESENTS:

Afternoon Tea in aid of Breast Cancer Now

DRINK TEA, RAISE MONEY, CHANGE LIVES

**SUNDAY, 31 AUGUST 2025
2-4PM**

Weather permitting this event will be held on Tysoe Playing fields; if we are unable to hold the event outdoors it will be held in the social club.

Alongside afternoon tea there will be Fun for the whole family, including tombola, raffle, games and activities for children - all in aid of Breast Cancer Now





“Gliding for women and Girls” was the subject of our July meeting and how exciting it turned out to be!

Our speaker was James Giles from the Edgehill Gliding Centre. After giving us the basics of how gliders are designed and the physics of flight the fun then began. James provided us with a “build it yourself” toy plane that he encouraged us to fly to test our recently acquired knowledge re: lift, wind speed and the need for a good take off. A village hall of women soon resembled a playground

of unruly children as planes whizzed here and there with crashes and near misses. We needed an air traffic controller!

Our brave volunteer, Diane, (pictured above) was kitted out in a parachute (despite being in a floaty summer dress) and then she used “Condor” a flight simulator where she was in control of a projected glider. For a first attempt at piloting she did very well even performing some unintended acrobatics.

James then introduced a “mystery guest” who turned out to be Jane Jervis one of our members who, unknown to all of us, was a fully qualified glider pilot and instructor. It was inspirational to hear Jane’s account of her love of gliding and her many adventures and gliding experiences.

Our August meeting will be our members only August Tea.

Eileen Mann, W.I. President

Follow us on Facebook, email tysoewi1917@yahoo.com or visit www.tysoewi.com

WELCOME TO NEWCOMERS

The Fellowship Coffee Morning is a great way to 'break the ice' if you are new to Tysoe. You don't need to be of a religious disposition. Everyone is welcome and will be made to feel welcomed. April, who has recently moved to Old Tree Lane attended the last one. Apparently it had taken her three years to get along to a coffee morning where she was living before, so she decided to be more proactive this time. So why not follow her example and come and make some new friends? We'd love to meet you.

The Church Community

PRIZE WINNERS ST MARYS' RESTORATION 200 CLUB 2025

APRIL

1st 126. 2nd 172. 3rd 115.
4th 58.

MAY

1st 47. 2nd 128. 3rd 200.
4th 40.

JUNE

1st 166. 2nd 42. 3rd 121.
4th 35.



Your Churches Need You

We are looking for a new Secretary for our joint PCC (Parochial Church Council) for the parish of Tysoe with Oxhill & Whatcote

The ideal person would be required to take minutes of the meetings, (about 5 each year) and be the contact person for correspondence from The Diocese of Coventry

Support and assistance will be given for the first year. For more information contact Rev George Heigh-ton: revgeorgeh@outlook.com



CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

COFFEE MORNING

Tuesday 19th August at St Mary's Church, Tysoe

with **Stay and Play** for preschool children, carers and parents



In August many people will be on holiday, while some may already have returned. It may seem that the church is taking a

break too as this is a quiet time without any major festivals. However, there are some notable exceptions. I remember being on holiday in France in August and was told that everywhere would be closed on 15th, which seemed quite strange as in this country Christmas Day is probably now the only day that most shops close. In Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox countries the 15th is celebrated as "The Assumption of Mary". The belief is that the Virgin Mary, at the end of her life, was taken up body and soul into heaven. This doctrine is not shared by all Christians and there is no record of such an event in the text of the bible, however our church, to give it its full title, "The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary" church has retained this dedication since before the Reformation. That seems quite unusual as during the Reformation, often associated with King Henry VIII's break from the Catholic Church in 1534, and the establishment of the Church of England, many churches were renamed during the conversion to Anglicanism.

In the Church of England Mary's role in salvation history is remembered on 15th August; the Gospel for that day is Mary's Song – known as the Magnificat – which is lovely poetry, familiar to people who attend Evensong. (Luke 1.46-55)

Although there aren't many special services in August, there is always plenty to do around the church. There is the churchyard to care for; it looks wonderful and provides an outdoor space for people to sit and reflect. Inside, our beautiful church is much appreciated by visitors. Thanks to the efforts of those who clean, arrange flowers, and look after the building. We depend on a team of volunteers who give their time and talents to keep it in good order.

On Sunday 31st August at 11am there will be a special joint service of Holy Communion at St George's for all five churches in the South Feldon Group to which everyone is warmly invited. I hope you have a restful time during the holiday period and feel refreshed whether you go away or stay local.

George Heighton

Email revgeorgeh@outlook.com Telephone 01295 680 201

See our Facebook Page "Our churches; Tysoe with Oxhill & Whatcote"

TYSOE



FLOWER SHOW & FETE

Saturday 16th August 2025

Always a great family day out



Gateridge Suffolk Punch Horse Display

SWWWC Gun Dog Display Team

Banbury Cross Archers

Bakayoko Music Drum Workshop

and much, much more

Lots of entertainment for children

and plenty of food options

www.tysoeflowershow.org.uk

TYSOE



FLOWER SHOW & FETE

Saturday 16th August 2025
from 1pm

SECTION I - CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Get making and enter your
creations to the Flower Show.
Show us what you can do!



UNDER 5

- 126 A creation of "Incy Wincy Spider"
- 127 Do a painting "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"

5 YEARS - 8 YEARS

- 128 A decorated egg "Humpty Dumpty"
- 129 6 jam tarts - homemade and decorated



9 YEARS - 12 YEARS

- 130 6 cookies on a plate, recipe to be shown
- 131 Miniature garden in a seed tray "Mary Mary Quite Contrary"



TO ENTER

You will need to complete an Entry Form from the 'Schedule of Classes'. Hand it in at Tysoe Village Hall on Wednesday 13th August between 7pm-9pm. It is 50p to enter a class. Then you bring your entry along to the marquee on the day of the Show between 8am - 10.45am.



AUGUST DIARY DATES

For contact details for Tysoe Clubs and Societies see the 'Tysoe Phone Book' on pages 38 & 39

BINS				
	Food waste (food waste caddy)	Recycling (blue-lidded bin)	Refuse (grey bin)	Garden waste (green bin)
01/08/2025	✓	✓		✓
08/08/2025	✓			
15/08/2025	✓	✓	✓	✓
22/08/2025	✓			
29/08/2025	✓	✓		✓

What	Where	When
Coffee Morning (donations plate)	St Mary's Church	Tuesday 19 Aug 9am - 12noon
Craft & Laugh	Village Hall (McNulty Rm)	None in August
Fitness & dance exercise class	Village Hall	Every Thursday 10:30am -11:30am
Lunch Club	Village Hall	Friday 1 Aug 1pm
Mobile Library	Outside Village Hall	Tuesday 26 Aug 2pm
Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall (McNulty Rm)	None in August
Pickle Ball	Village Hall	Every Thursday 7.15 - 9.15pm
Community Hub Coffee Morning (see page 29)	Village Hall	Every Friday 10am-12noon
Tysoe Tots	Tysoe Primary School	Finished till September
Tysoe WI	Village Hall	August meeting / Private function

www.tysoerecord.org 'What's On' for a full listing of events!

FAMILY ACTIVITIES



BIG PLAY WEEKEND

Sat 9 - 10 Aug, 10.30am - 3.30pm

A weekend of playing and making across the whole site. Find building blocks and Lego bricks on the ground floor and play games on the grass. Explore the gallery or pop along to Play on Words to listen to a story of adventure and myth under the shade of the trees with writer Cate West. PLUS the Ring-world team are back – get hands-on with the multi-coloured, inflatable and movable sculptures that children can enjoy all day. Activities will be happening inside and outdoors, close to the main gallery. Please check with the team on the day for exact locations.

KIDS GO FREE

Accompanying grown ups will need a valid day ticket or membership

<https://www.comptonverney.org.uk/whats-on/big-play-weekend/>

Compton Verney, Warwickshire, CV35 9HZ

Telephone: 01926 645 500



National
Trust

Muses and More

Textile exhibition by Vivienne Beaumont

Until 25 August

10am - 4:30pm at Upton House

Exhibition celebrating the Nine Muses, the rare 18th-century Chelsea porcelain group in Upton's collection. Normal admission
nationaltrust.org.uk/uptonhouse



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Photography © National Trust Image/Wyenne Beaumont



MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE—AN INSECT EXPLOSION!

According to the Met Office, spring 2025 has broken historical records, being an unprecedented season of warmth and sunshine across the UK. England was particularly dry, experiencing its driest spring in more than 100 years. In general, warm, dry weather is good for insect development and survival, and insects usually develop faster at higher temperatures. The continuation of hot, dry weather into at least the first part of summer has similarly been favourable for many insects, providing considerable opportunities for flight by butterflies, bees and other species. Whilst this year is likely to have favoured butterfly development and survival, many butterfly species are still making up for lost ground following a very poor year in 2024.

The conditions have also favoured some species that we consider to be pests – and this includes aphids (greenfly). The flight activity of aphids is monitored by the Rothamsted Insect Survey who run a network of suction traps (vertical vacuum cleaners) throughout the country. This spring and summer they've captured large numbers of pest aphids – with particularly high numbers of cabbage aphid (which infests brassicas) and the black bean aphid. The aphid 'explosion' has provided a great opportunity for the insects that feed on aphids – principally ladybirds (adults and larvae) and hoverfly larvae. You may have noticed plenty of these in your garden, particularly if some of your plants are infested with aphids. Although these are the 'good guys' and really do demolish large numbers of aphids, their presence is unwelcome in the fresh produce that is sold in the supermarkets, which presents commercial growers with a dilemma. It is to be hoped that the abundance of flying insects has also been good for other species that rely on insect food – such as house martins, swallows and bats – of which we have a few in Tysoe!



Rosemary Collier

Round image: ladybird larva, large image: adult ladybird both from Pixabay.com.

TYSOE SOCIAL CLUB

Upcoming Events

AUGUST
02

Live Music - Pete Watkins

AUGUST
29

Karaoke with Ian

SEPTEMBER
06

Live Music - The Coopers

EVERYONE WELCOME. FREE ENTRY TO ALL EVENTS.

PIZZA NIGHT EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH



WOT2GROW NEWS

It has been a busy time in the Community Orchard as the soft fruit ripens - raspberries, red and blackcurrants, apricots and cherries. Last week a team of volunteers were able to pick enough apricots for eight punnets to be taken to Kineton Manor Nursing Home, as well as plenty of fruit to be distributed to members.



The orchard is looking good, despite the lack of rain, and the fruit trees are maturing well. Compare it to this photo taken ten years ago when the orchard had just been planted. Our thanks go to the members over the years who have put in so many hours to ensure it continues to flourish.



The orchard is next to the allotments on the Shenington Road in Tysoe. For more information about membership please email: mirandawot2grow@gmail.com. Allie Aves

Contacts: Miranda Forrester (680265); Paul Sayer (680451); Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080)

Kineton & District Local History Group

Saturday 9 August 2025 at 11.00am

Burford Tolsey Museum and Town Tour

To join KDLHG email: alec.hitchman@btinternet.com

www.kinetonhistory.co.uk

Our Annual Cream Tea with Gentle Jazz in the Garden

Sunday 29th June,
2-4pm Windmill Views,
Walnut Paddocks, Upper
Tysoe.



We had a very, very hot but an extremely enjoyable and successful day. The cream spoilt in the heat and we had to run out and get some more, but we managed to serve 87 cream teas, and raised a **fabulous £770!** We are pleased to announce we intend to make this an annual event.

Paul and Heather Dowler

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THE MAKING OF TYSOE: GRAVE TALES FROM THE CHURCHYARD (13) INFANT MORTALITY

Mid-18th century headstone, with nursing mother. Idlicote

In previous articles we've generally looked at the more formal aspects of gravestones – styles, motifs, location, size – but we've not considered the human element behind memorials; the death of an individual. On the public face of a gravestone any emotional response to a death is mediated through symbols and phrases which are at some remove from private feeling. However, some of

the most poignant headstones, often occasioned by the death of a child, manage to convey the emotional wrench of such an event. A 17th century gravestone in Compton Wynyates churchyard has images of two baby coffins, together with crossed bones and the sexton's pick and spade. A 17th-century wall plaque on the chancel of Horley church has a carving of a mother nursing her baby with an epitaph "[This] Mother and her Sucking Child/[who] by neighbors all were much bewayld/ [...] now both are blest/ [...] in] Grace Together rest". A similar nursing image can be seen on an early 18th-century headstone at Idlicote. On a slightly later headstone in Lechlade churchyard a mother nurses a babe at each breast. Unfortunately the inscriptions on both these memorials are illegible, but they almost certainly also commemorate the death of the mothers in childbirth or soon afterwards.

By the 19th century such immediate images of bereavement had been replaced by an elaborate system of symbols. There is some debate about what the ubiquitous winged cherub heads depict:- heavenly spirits, the souls of the dead or prayers? On one headstone in Ettington Old Churchyard there is no doubt that its eleven winged heads represent the nine infant sons and two daughters of Mary Coldicott, who died in 1732 in her 44th year. Although until recently infant mortality was high, there is no evidence that the expectation that some children would probably die in infancy made parents any less affected than we would be, who live in more fortunate conditions. Many historic epitaphs testify to the genuine distress experienced, sometimes many times over.

David Freke



Tysoe Parish Council has a vacancy for Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer A Permanent but Part-time role (12 hours/week)

Candidates for the above position will need good organisational, secretarial and administrative skills, plus good numerical and financial acumen. Ideally applicants should have an understanding of rural issues, live within 15 miles of Tysoe, and a desire to provide high quality services to the community. Key areas include:

Meetings, Policies & Procedures – Administration of the Council’s monthly evening meetings, including preparing the agenda, taking minutes, advising Councillors on procedural/legal matters and progressing actions. Also attendance at and administration of the Council’s Committees and updating appropriate Council policies.

Planning Applications – Ensure Applications are circulated to Councillors and their responses submitted to the Local Authorities in accordance with timescales and policies.

Finances – Be responsible for the Council’s finances by preparing monthly reports to Councillors, quarterly financial statements, payment of invoices, banking, end of year accounts including the AGAR, submission of accounts for internal and external audit, VAT reclaim, preparing for budget review and precept determination. ‘Scribe’ is used for financial accounting and training will be provided if required. Previous experience in accounts is essential.

Administration/Communication - Deal with correspondence, draft public notices and undertake all necessary administration of the Council, including the Council’s website (training will be provided on website maintenance if required).

Candidate’s Experience must include admin/secretarial work, with good communication skills. They should be proficient in Microsoft Office (particularly Word and Excel) and capable of working independently. Good interpersonal skills are key and experience in a similar role and knowledge of Local Government, or CiLCA qualification would be an advantage. A laptop is provided.

Salary – is in accordance with the NJC “Green Book” SCP 7 – 11 depending upon experience, qualifications and transferable skills, and includes a ‘Working from Home Allowance’ of £25 per month. Hours must be spread across the week to ensure a regular response to emails and calls. The post attracts 21 days annual leave, plus statutory bank holidays.

For further details and a full job description please contact the Parish Clerk on parish.clerk@tysoe.org.uk. The Clerk can also arrange an initial discussion with Cllrs David Roache or Amanda Venables.

Deadline for applications is 15 August 2025. Your CV and written statement of no more than 2 sides of A4, setting out how you meet the person specification for the role, should be e-mailed to parish.clerk@tysoe.org.uk



Hi Tysoe,

I hope everyone has been managing to keep cool over these past weeks of unusually warm weather!

The Parish Council is still busy working on several fronts, on trees in the village, with the Community Police looking at speeding through the village. The Speed Watch Team and Police are finding ways to slow vehicles down entering, passing through and leaving Tysoe.

Besides Planning Applications, Councillors are still looking for suitable areas to build affordable homes in the village. The latest housing survey shows a need for 21 affordable homes.

Councillors are also looking to put in a dropped kerb opposite the Doctor's Surgery to make easier access for people crossing the road, working with WCC Highways. We hope to extend the parking at the Recreation Ground, and do further work on the entrance gate, post and a replacement fingerguard.

The street lighting project is almost finished, although we are still awaiting delivery and installation of 5 more replacement lights to complete this project.

Our County and District Councillors both reported at July's meeting and their reports will shortly be available on the Parish website www.tysoe.org.uk along with monthly finance reports.

The Biodiversity Team are planning a tour of the village over the summer months to look at various areas of interest, and places where new trees could be planted.

It goes without saying that Parish Council's work is continuous. Our Councillors volunteer their time dealing with issues that arise and support organising events.

We all wish you a happy and wonderful summer.

Charmaine

Tysoe Parish Council Clerk/RFO

Email: parish.clerk@tysoe.org.uk

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AUGUST EVENTS

2nd & 3rd

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the plant area

10am-5pm

Normal
admission fees
apply

16th

Tysoe Flower
Show

Petticoat Lane,
Tysoe Playing
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10am-5pm

25th

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Our sincere thanks to the parents and community members who donated unwanted clothing, shoes and textiles for our recent Bags2School collection. Thanks also to everyone who visited us at our Jar Tombola stall at the Tysoe Primary School's fete on 5th July. We raised £48.60 and £73.50 respectively to be used to pay for resources for the children in our care. Our next Bags2school collection is planned for Friday 14th November.



We will be having a stall again at Tysoe Flower Show and Fete so, please do pop along and see us there – Saturday 16th August from 1pm. It's a great family day out!

As another academic year draws to a close, all of the TCG Team would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the parents, volunteers, and children for their unwavering support throughout the year.

We wish all our pre-schoolers the very best as they embark on their exciting journey into reception.

Wishing everyone a truly wonderful summer break!

Team TCG

Tysoe Village Stores

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The Annual Cricket Match Tysoe v Oxhill

Sunday 17th August 2025 - Tysoe Playing Fields, 2pm start.



Please come and support, cheer on Tysoe as we aim to regain
The Cup!

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Cartoon from Facebook - @Growing up in the UK in the 50s /60s. GETTING OLDER AND WISER

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Tysoe Bowls Club	Phill Short	01295 680 732
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