

For Chinese people, a quarter of our brothers and sisters, 18 February this year is New Year's Day. So, as I was given a Chinese name at my baptism, it is not too late for me to wish our readers a Happy New Year! The Chinese New Year greeting is "Kung hei fat choi" meaning "Congratulations! Get Rich!" Advertising in the *DN* is a 'win-win' proposition. Thanks to our advertisers we can continue to publish the *DN* and to distribute it free; our readers in turn help our advertisers to get rich thanks to the adverts, so that demand for space in our pages means that it needs to be booked months ahead. Our advertisers pay for the *DN* to be printed, but it is thanks to Ruth John-

son & Pat Swash that the pages are printed, and thanks to the loyal band of collators that the pages are put in order - with much mirth. Thanks too to the distributors who deliver your copy, and to Pat Britain, who, with her irresistible charm, keeps the teams of collators and distributors happily at full strength. This community enterprise, now in its 30th year, makes the *DN* the envy of other village publications. The New Year also brings a change of style to the pages of the *DN*. This is thanks to Fay Hand, who is using her self-taught Publisher skills, to make the job of Editor that much easier. CH



February Diary

- Thu 1 'Meeting Islam', Shaineem Ramzan, Parish Church, 7.30pm > p.5
- Mon 5 Monday Morning Club coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30-noon.
- Wed 7 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8 pm.
- Tue 13 WI: *Experiences of a Birdwatcher*, John Brucker, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm > p.12
- Wed 14 History Society, *Isambard Brunel*, Dr Steven Brindle, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm > p.13
- Thurs 15 'The Truman Show': film in Parish Church, 7.30 pm.
- Wed 21 Youth Club: AGM, Windmill Centre 7.00 pm > p.13
- Wed 21 Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm
- Thu 22 Book Club meets > p.12
- Sat 24 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9am-12.30 pm.

 * Copies *
 * of the DN *
 * area available at *
 * THE FLOWER SHOP *
 * with a *
 * Box for donations *

March Diary

- Sat 3 PTA Quiz Night, Windmill Centre, 8 pm.
- Mon 5 Monday Morning Club Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am-noon.
- Wed 7 Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8pm.
- Sat 10 *Music in the Air*; Concert in (The) Parish Church, 7.30 pm
- Tue 13 WI: Annual General Meeting, Cheese and Wine, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm
- Wed 14 History Society, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm > p.13
- Thu 15 'Last Temptation of Christ': film in Parish Church, 7.30 pm
- Wed 21 Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm
- Sat 24 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9am-12.30 pm.
- Wed 28 Deddington School *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat*, Parish Church
- Thu 29 Deddington School *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat*, Parish Church

Weekly Meetings

- Mon: Brownies: Windmill Centre, 6-7.30pm
- Mon: Youth Club: Windmill Centre, 7-9pm
- Mon: Bellringing Practice: Parish Church, 7.30-9pm
- Tues: Craft Group: Holly Tree, 2.15-4.30pm
- Tues: Deddington Guides, Windmill Centre, 7-9pm
- Tues Badminton Club: Seniors, Windmill, 7-10 pm
- Every other Wed: Friendship Club, Windmill, 2.30pm
- Wed: Boys Brigade Anchor Boys, Windmill Centre, 5pm
- Wed: Boys Brigade Juniors: Windmill Centre, 5.45pm
- Wed: Boys' Brigade Company: Parish Church, 7pm
- Thu: Life & Portrait Art Group: Town Hall, 10-4pm
- Thu: 1st Deddington Cubs: Windmill, 6-7.30pm
- Thu: 1st Deddington Scouts: Windmill, 7.30-9pm
- Fri: Babies & Toddlers Group: Windmill, 9.30-11am
- Fri: Katharine House Coffee Morning: Parish Church, 10-12
- Fri: Friendly Bridge Club: Holly Tree, 2-5pm
- Sat: 'DYG': Parish Church, 6.45-8 pm.

THE DEDDINGTON NEWS - Copy please to the relevant editor by next copy date: **17 February 2007**

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Meeting in Town Hall, 20 December 2006

Present: Cllrs Squires (Chair), Alton, Anderson, Collins, Flux, Ince, Privett, Rudge, Spencer, Todd, Watts, Westbury, Wood, the Clerk and 2 members of the public.

Town Hall

A new lease has been agreed with Deddington Charity Estates: 4 years wef 1/11/06, with option for a further 4 years. PC responsible for internal decoration, but not structure. Backlog of repairs satisfactorily completed.

Traffic Calming

Strong support for John Cheney's letter in DN requesting pelican crossing in New Street.

No news of speed restriction proposals on A4260.

Wheelie Bins

Emptied bins left on pavements are hazard to pedestrians, especially pushchairs and disabled. Check with CDC for alternative if householders have no other space to store them. Otherwise PLEASE REMOVE THEM PROMPTLY.

Cherwell Villager

This present bus service very little used here. Door-to-Door Dial-a-Ride service planned from summer 2007 to collect passengers from home. Phone 01295 273086 or visit www.banburyshire-cta.co.uk for information.

Post Office Closures

Petition on MP's web site:

www.ProtectOurPostOffices.com.

Planning

PC No Objection: (1) 2 Manor Farm Barns, Hempton Road, Deddington - remove lower fir branches. (2) Langton House, Chipping Norton Road, Hempton - conservatory at rear; front garage extension, porch roof & dormer. (3) Homestead, The Lane, Hempton - carport, hovel store, walled garden.

CDC Approvals: (4) Ashley House, Chapel Close, Clifton - pitched roof to extension and 3 dormer windows with obscured glass to prevent overlooking properties behind. (5) 8 Hopcraft Lane, Deddington - fell cypress and prune willow. (6) 33 St Johns Way, Hempton - conservatory at rear.

CDC Comments: CDC will have 'Home Extensions and Alterations Design Guide': useful for applicants to consult before applying. Stoneleigh House, Victoria Terrace, Deddington - rendered walls accepted. Earl's Close agreed with diocese as address of new vicarage [no road sign yet. Ed] Tree Preservation Order being considered for area west of Banbury Road near traffic lights.

Teen Scene

Consultations continuing with police, play area specialists and suppliers re. installations near Windmill Centre for young adults, to whom short-listed options will be put. Layout and location yet to be drafted. Village Nursery has major health and safety concerns if next to their premises. Working group requests £10k from PC for part-funding subject to approval and other grants.

Vandalism: Draft leaflet, illustrating damage and costs of repair and seeking further information, approved for circulation.

- A warden through Police Community Support Officer scheme could cost less than repairs needed after vandalism.

Shorts

- Allotments: Satin Lane full; seek quotes for clearing 2 extra plots.
- Assistant Village Steward - see advert below.
- Village Clean-Up: Saturday 9 June - keep date clear.
- Chestnut trees: concern for Hempton avenues.
- Windmill Centre: seeking quotes for access road repairs and traffic calming.
- Market Place bus stop: concrete seat and hard-standing to be repaired.
- Pied Piper has found no signs of rats in residence.

PARISH FINANCES

- The 2006/7 accounts forecast £4k deficit if all commitments are met.
- 2007/8 Precept to be submitted in New Year; increase may be £1 (3.3%) to £31.50 for Band D property. [Current precepts: Adderbury £25.54, Bloxham £38.13.]
- John Suckling to be internal examiner.
- Invoices passed for payment totalled £10,037.05 - including £4,306.38 for work at Town Hall.
- Investments totalled £563,273.36, of which £4094.41 Barclays @ 0.1% imprest and current account; £298,709.76 West Bromwich @ 4.45% overnight; £55,223.01 Alliance & Leicester @ 2.5% on 30 days; £200,000 Birmingham Midshires 2-year bond @ 5.13%.
- Minutes Secretary still needed.

Deddington Parish Council

A vacancy exists for an additional
Village Steward

**Approx Four Hours per weekend
and to provide cover
for holidays, sickness etc.
as required**

Equipment and essential clothing provided
Wage Scale £7.74 per hour
(minimum of £11.61 per hour
for weekend work)

For an application form apply to :
Parish Office, The Windmill Centre,
Hempton Road, Deddington, Banbury. OX15 0QH
Tel:01869 337447

Closing date 1st March 2007

Meeting in Town Hall, 17 January 2007

Present: Cllrs Squires (Chair), Alton, Anderson, Collins, Flux, Ince, Privett, Rudge, Wood, C/Clr Jelf, the Clerk and 2 members of the public.

Town Hall Renewable 4-year lease with Deddington Charity Estates finalised, thanks to PC negotiators: legal costs paid by PC. Clerk to review running costs and charges.

Traffic Calming OCC have trialled new Vehicle Activated Speed [VAS] sign in Clifton (as on A4260 in Adverbury and Bodicote). VAS installation may be subsidised if a fatality has been recorded within 1km of proposed site. Tests proposed to monitor whether 40% of traffic exceeds 35 mph at two possible VAS sites: possibly entrance to Hempton from west and to Deddington from west and south. VAS signs have reduced speeds in Blaydon by 5-6mph.

Clifton Road Photos of fly-tipping to be sent to CDC requesting action.

Coach causing damage using unofficial 'layby': OCC alerted.

Earls Lane OCC suggests creating hard standing for cars visiting the Health Centre using recycled road materials. Should Health Centre contribute to cost?

Bus Stop/Shelter OCC to visit to discuss repair or installation as funds are now available. Planning Group to vet range of shelter designs for Conservation Area.

'School Run' OCC survey: car use lower in county than in neighbouring counties; increased bus use; reduced cycling, though 5 times national average; walking no change.

Planning

PC No Objection: (1) Holcombe hotel: rebuild stone wall at rear. (2) Mews House, Castle Street, Deddington: 2-storey NE extension, 1-storey SW extension - IF no later conversion to business or occupation separate from main dwelling; neighbours concerned.

Received that day: (3) The Homestead, The Lane, Hempton: extensions. (4) 45 Mill Close, Deddington: detached double garage.

PC Objection: (5) 19 The Paddocks: developer wants new 2-bedroom bungalow with access from Mill Close, requiring relocation of pumping station - 'backland' development, access for construction traffic.

CDC Approvals: (6) 2 Manor Farm Barns, Hempton Road, Deddington - remove lower branches. (7) Homestead, The Lane, Hempton - carport, hovel store, walled garden.

(8) Victoria House, Horse Fair, Deddington - conservatory at side and rear.

CDC Refusals: (9) 35 Gaveston Gardens - extend garden into landscape area with new garden shed; prece-

dent eroding buffer zone between housing and open country. (10) Stable Cottage, Hempton Road, Deddington - installation of solar panels; harms Conservation area. (PC to seek CDC policy on eco-installations in Conservation Areas.)

Appeal Decision: (11) Conversion of barns to dwelling at rear of The Chestnuts, Clifton: refusal upheld - intrusion into countryside.

CDC investigating: (12) Development next to Orchard House, St Thomas Street: possible infringement of planning permission, including threat to oak trees with preservation order.

Teen Scene Play area suppliers submitting proposals with estimates for installations leading to mapping of footprint. Meeting to be held with Village Nursery.

Vandalism: leaflet to be circulated with DN.

Shorts

- £250 prize for Best Village received.
- Postbox: access needs to be improved.
- Castle Grounds: request for use as wedding reception venue in August agreed with precautionary conditions, e.g. noise and no parking on access road.
- Parish Plan: analysis complete; report being prepared.
- Dogbins: 4 more needed.

PARISH FINANCES

- PC Members' Allowances: policy reaffirmed not to claim for attendance at meetings, except for travel costs on PC business (in line with other villages).
- The 2006/7 accounts forecast £4k deficit.
- 2007/8 Framework budget of c.£63k tabled, including £2.5k for pavilion, £3k for Windmill entrance, and extra £3k for grass-cutting due to climate change, but excluding possible capital costs of £10k for 'Teen Scene', £15k for VAS signs, £3.5k for bus shelter, £2.3k for traffic-calming at Windmill.
- 2007/8 Precept to be submitted to CDC; agreed to seek £1 increase (3.3%) to £31.50 for Band D property, in line with inflation.
- Invoices passed for payment totalled £6,680.01 - including £3,950.94 for Town Hall.
- Investments totalled £563,273.36, of which £7591.37 Barclays @ 0.1% imprest and current account; £341,709.76 West Bromwich @ 4.85% overnight; £1,111.27 Alliance & Leicester @ 2.5% on 30 days; £200,000 Birmingham Midshires 2-year bond @ 5.13%.

NEXT MEETING Town Hall

Wednesday 21 February - 7.45 pm

Official minutes of PC meetings may be seen at the Clerk's office and the Library, on parish noticeboards and the village website:

www.deddington.org.uk/pcminutes

Christmas seems a long time ago now, and, although we have had a holiday to recharge the batteries, the school is feeling very busy. The Christmas productions were fantastic as always and we have had wonderful feedback from everyone who came to see them. My thanks must go to all the staff and parents who helped us at such a busy time of year, and made these shows such a success.

We have a very busy time ahead with class visits. This month Year 2 are visiting the Botanical Gardens in Oxford to look at botanical illustration and some wonderful exotic plants. Year 3 are off to Sulgrave Manor to experience life as a Tudor, including costumes. Hopefully they will return with some photographs that I can share with you in the next issue. Year 4 will be looking at castles this term: therefore there will be several visits to Deddington Castle to see Motte and Bailey first hand.



The Foundation Stage will be visiting the Oxford Museum to look at their animals exhibition, which is linked in with their role play of a vet's surgery. They are thoroughly enjoying this topic and I have already visited with one of my pets!

We will be attending church for a Holy Communion service later in the month to join the parishioners in this special service. This was such a wonderful experience last year that we have decided to repeat it; it was lovely to feel part of the wider church community

Rehearsals are now well under way for our March production of *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. The auditions were quite arduous. The standard of the childrens' singing and reading was very high, so the decisions did not come easily. We have a fantastic cast and look forward to seeing many of you at the performances in the church at the end of March.

Judith Tinsley 338430

PTA

It already seems a long time since Christmas but we must say some "thank-you's" to all who supported and helped out at our Christmas events! Thanks to all who purchased our school Christmas Cards this year - we had a fabulous response from the school and the wider community, which was very much appreciated.

Santa's float got off to a good start on 9 December in Barford St Michael, Hempton and the west side of Deddington - it was cold but dry and Santa and his little Elves enjoyed meeting all the children en route. However, Sunday night was a different story - Noah's Ark would have been more appropriate!! It was appalling weather - cold, wet and very windy. Many thanks to those who gave so generously on both evenings and for Santa, his sleigh driver and Elves on both nights for helping make this another successful PTA event.

Santa made a return trip to Deddington on Market Day in December, where he waited in his Magical Grotto to greet the hoards of excited children. The children were able to tell him what they hoped he would bring the following evening and there was an air of excitement and anticipation. Over in the Church, the PTA joined forces with Deddington PFSU and added to the Christmas spirit by singing carols. Again, very many thanks to all those who supported and helped out at these events, including the Farmers' Market Committee and the Vicar.

2007 promises some old favourites and some new events. It kicks-off with our popular Quiz night on Saturday 3 March at The Windmill Centre, starting at 8pm. So, it's time to dust off those books and start brushing up on your general knowledge - we're not going to let the teachers win again this year! For further details or to pre-book your place, please contact Mike on 01869

338750. This event is always very popular and tickets usually sell fast.

Another exciting event being planned is the school production of "Joseph" on 28 & 29 March which will be held in Deddington Parish Church by kind permission of the Vicar. This promises to be a fantastic evening so put the dates in your diary and watch out for more details next month.

Janet Watts and Stella O'Neill



PFSU

Our topic this term is 'Jungle Animals'. As part of our theme the children will be making collages of parrot and tiger faces. If you, or someone you know, has a jungle animal and would like to visit the PFSU, please contact Anna. Later this term we will

be celebrating the Chinese New Year by making lanterns.

Our joint PFSU and Village Nursery Quiz Night is on Sunday 28 January at the Crown and Tuns Pub at 7:30pm. Tickets are £5 per head, with a max of 6 in a team. Tickets are available from the PFSU (337484), Village Nursery (337383) and the Crown and Tuns Pub. All welcome!

Emma Thompson

VILLAGE NURSERY

The Christmas Party was a huge success; the children thoroughly enjoyed watching the entertainer, and were very attentive. Very impressive behaviour considering some of the little ones are only just 2. Special thanks must go to James Privett who made a fabulous Father Christmas! If you are interested in visiting the unit with your child, please contact Anna at the Village Nursery (337383).

Emma Thompson

SS Peter and Paul, Deddington and St John, Hempton

www.deddingtonchurch.org

You will always be very welcome at any service in Church or Chapel

Parish Church in February

Thur	1	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
		7.30 pm	'Meeting Islam' [see below]
Sun	4	10.30 am	'Presentation of Christ in the Temple'
			All Age Morning Praise & BB Parade Service
		6.30 pm	Evensong
Wed	7	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	11	10.30 am	Eucharist
Wed	14	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	15	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	18	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
Wed	21	10.00 am	Ash Wednesday - Eucharist with imposition of Ashes
Sun	25	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.30 am	Morning Worship

St John, Hempton

Sun	4	9.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	18	9.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	25	6.00 pm	Evensong

From the Parish Registers : Baptisms - 10 Dec Alfie Ross Coppin, James Tyrrell
 Wedding - 6 Jan Fiona Bright & Peter Ratcliffe
 Funerals - 15 Dec Honor Mullens; 8 Jan Sidney Berry

Bible Study Groups: Contact Jean Welford 338539, Liz Dickinson 337050 or
 Iain Gillespie 338367 for dates, times & venues.

Charity of the Month - February: Practical Action 'advocates the sustainable use of technology to reduce poverty in developing countries' - please use the special envelope to put donations [if a taxpayer, in a pink GiftAid envelope] into the Parish Church chest.

WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Sunday Mornings at 10.30 am: Pastor Walton.

Bible Study/Fellowship every Wednesday at 7.30 pm

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, New Street

Joyce Minnear 338529

Sunday morning services 10.30 am united with Wesleyan Chapel

Sunday afternoon services 3.00 pm Pastor Derek Walker of Oxford Bible Church

R.C. PARISH OF HETHE WITH ADDERBURY

The Revd A J Burns 277396

Hethe : Mass is said every day [except Wednesday] at 10.00 am. Confessions: Sats - 5.30~6.00 pm.

Adderbury : Mass is said Sundays at 8.30 am; Wednesdays at 7.00 pm; Confessions before Mass.

The Saturday evening Mass at St John's Banbury is said at 4.00 pm to allow Catholics from the villages to attend before the last bus leaves town.

Wednesday 21 Feb is Ash Wednesday. It is not a Holiday of Obligation but a day of Abstinence from Flesh Meats for all over the age of 14 and of Fasting for all adults between the ages of 21 and 60.

'Meeting Islam'

On **Thursday 1 February** at 7.30pm in the Parish Church **Shaineem Ramzan** from the Banbury Muslim community will lead a presentation on the basics of Islam and a chance to meet and talk with some of our Muslim neighbours.

NEW TO DEDDINGTON

'Free Spirit':

an informal Christian occasion
 Live band, songs, prayer, tea, coffee and cakes, etc.
 Windmill Centre Sunday Feb 25 3.30
 for start of worship at 4.00pm
 It's different. Come along and make the difference.

WELL REMEMBERED

Sidney William George Berry was a "good ol' Dedd'nt'n boy". Born 1920, he lived here all his life except during WW2. A charming, popular man, he cultivated his own extensive vegetable and fruit garden, and knew much country folklore and local history. Having been in the Boys' Brigade himself, he was delighted to see a company now in the village. Sidney worked for a village baker, butcher and fishmonger, before volunteering for the Royal Navy. His ship was sunk after participating in the hunt for the Bismarck. He was then on Arctic Convoy runs to Russia and in the relief of Malta, for which he received the Malta Medal. In 1943 Sidney joined submarines which he thought might be safer! After the war he became foreman at the Highways depôt. Sidney always marched in the Remembrance parade until 2005; he died on 27 December 2006. Members of the Royal British Legion and the Submarine Association attended his funeral, his Russian convoy beret, medals and Union Flag dressing his coffin. Sidney's reminiscences may be heard at <http://www.deddington.org.uk/>

Colin Robinson

Arthur (Tad) Tyrrell was born in 1922 in Bloxham, one of three children. As a young man he was parachuted into Holland and was in Germany when the end of the war in Europe came. After the war he worked for the GWR. In the course of a job on the railway near Aynho he met Mary. They married in 1966 and Arthur moved into Mary's house in Clifton. Here he formed a close relationship with his stepson Nigel. After the GWR, Arthur worked for the Welfords as chicken catcher and in the maintenance department at the Horton Hospital. His great interests beyond his family were animals, birds and gardening. His garden regularly boasted colourful flowers and a sturdy crop of vegetables, with which he would generously supply his neighbours. He

built an aviary at the back of his house, and, when his outside birds had gone, he had a budgerigar in the front room to keep him company - though he would have preferred another Jack Russell. He enjoyed a neighbourly chat and just sitting at his window watching Clifton go by. Arthur had a combative streak, but was naturally sociable, loyal (sometimes fiercely so) to his friends and fundamentally tender-hearted.

Hugh White



Nora Palmer - 1914 - 2006

Nora and the Revd George Palmer came to Deddington in 1963. During his 15 years incumbency Nora was a gifted musician, teacher and carer. She operated the vicarage in the open-door tradition, where, on entering, one felt engulfed by her warmth, love, sense of humour and Christian understanding. It was there that the DN was first printed. In this way she gave George exactly the sort of support he needed in his ministry. Nora worked tirelessly to resurrect the Church Choir. Through her efforts money was raised for robes, for Church music, for membership of the RSCM. With no fuss she shared with us all her God-given gift of music, at times taking over at the organ at short notice. She and Canon George left the Parish in 1978, and throughout their happy retirement in Benson, Nora managed to support and encourage her old friends in Deddington. She never forgot a name; in fact her wide interest in everything was stunning, in particular her knowledge of C of E hierarchy, rites and duties. Canon George died in 1993, but in spite of her grief Nora continued to do what she did best. She poured out her love to her sons, her large family and to all around her. Nora, I know, loved weddings, an excuse to buy a pretty hat. She will certainly wear her best hat now and the heavens will rejoice and sing at her arrival.

RJ

2007 deddington FESTIVAL

The **Rosemary Arnold Quiz** is to be held at 7.30pm on Monday 29 January in the Upper Room of the Unicorn Inn in the Market Place, Deddington. Tickets £3 each and it will be teams of 4 where possible. There will be prizes for the winners and a raffle will be held. Ring Eileen Anderson for tickets. She will get the tickets to you or hold them at the door for you. There are only 50 tickets available.

"Music in the Air" classical masterpieces to charm your ear on Saturday 10 March at 7.30 in the parish church. The performers will be Mary Small and

Susie Tomlin, Sopranos, and Anna Teare, Flute with Donald Lane at the Piano.

Tickets will be £5 on the door, or from 337199.

As part of this year's Festival, there is to be a young people's concert, **'Celebration of Youth'**, on Friday 29 June, at 7.00pm at the Windmill Centre. Young people's groups in the village have agreed to prepare items for this event, but we would also like individuals, who may or may not be members of the groups, to perform solos or duets. The performances could be singing, reciting, playing an instrument or dancing. If anyone would like to be part of this new venture, or if anyone knows of a talented child who enjoys the experience of performing, please contact Wendy Burrows on 338082. There will be just two rehearsals prior to 29 June to pull all the prepared items together into a programme.

FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

Please address all letters to:
 KRISTIN THOMPSON
 5 THE LEYES, DEDDINGTON
 e-mail: op@kristin.demon.co.uk
 and include your name and address,
 even if they are not for publication.

E-MAIL FROM PAULA BLYTH, GAVESTON GARDENS, DEDDINGTON

I would like to thank my friends in Deddington and Clifton for their support when I ran the New York Marathon recently, to raise funds for the Children With Leukaemia charity. Through everyone's generosity I managed to raise in excess of £2,000. Thank you so much to all who sponsored me and especially to Diane who travelled to New York to be with me over the race weekend.



FROM VALERIE CHURCHILL, NEW STREET, DEDDINGTON
 I would like to thank the Revd. Hugh White for all his help in the wonderful funeral service for Sidney Berry on 8 January. Thanks also to the choir, bell ringers and the Royal British Legion standard bearer; and to Joy and Carol for putting on such a great spread at the Unicorn. I should also like to thank dear Sidney's lovely family and his wonderful

bunch of friends for making it so special for all of us.
 FROM THE TREASURER, LI TIM-OI FOUNDATION, TETBURY, GLOS

We are most grateful to the parish for choosing us as your charity of the month of December. The packet I have received contained cheques and CAF cheques amounting to £473-74. As GiftAid forms covered £230 of this giving, we shall in due course recover a further £65, making a total of almost £540. Your generous donations will amount to half the annual grant for one of our women students, and there are even some courses where it will pay for the whole year.

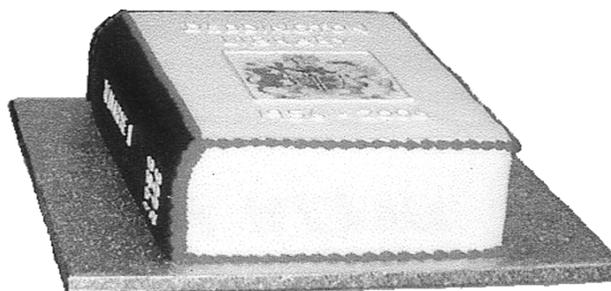
FROM LESLEY CLARK, 5 BARRONS CLOSE, ONGAR, CM5 9BJ

My mother was evacuated to Deddington during the War. Her name at the time was Patricia Petre. She had very fond memories of living with Emily Spires and remained in contact with her until she died. Emily Spires and her husband originally hailed from Chesterfield. They had a daughter called Dorothy who married Tom Pratt, and they in turn had a son called Billy. My mother and I were going through some pictures recently and thought it would be interesting to see if we could contact Dorothy, Tom or Billy Pratt, or any of their descendants. If you could help by putting an appeal in the DN, I would be most grateful.

Deddington Library celebrated its 50 years in the village with an Open Day on 14 December. The Mobile Library's half century of service was also marked.

County staff and the Friends of Deddington Library, under the chairmanship of Geoff Todd, had organised a day of activities - story times for children, displays, a visit from Anne Granger, the popular crime writer from Bicester, to meet readers over morning coffee. An open evening featured a reception in the Library itself to which locally-based authors were invited. There were reminiscences from retired librarians and from Janet Boyt, who currently manages the mobile library. Stella O'Neill was introduced as the new Library Manager to her future customers; she started work on 8 January. Although it was a pity to cut into the remarkable iced fruit cake, 'Volume 1' complete with coat of arms, constructed by Bryony Fenemore, it was delicious. There are always good things to be found between the covers at Deddington Library.

Maureen Dew

**HOBBIT AUTHOR J R R TOLKIEN 'WRETCHED AND INADEQUATE'**

Designed by W W Wilkinson as an extension to the then Police Station and lockup, the former Magistrate's Room dates from 1874. Previous magistrates had used a room in the King's Arms. The Old Court House became the library in 1956, when Professor J R R Tolkien, of *Hobbit* fame, spoke at the official opening. He judged his own performance so 'wretched and inadequate' that he would not accept his fee of 2 guineas (£2. 10). Today's Library is connected by computer to the world wide web, including the parish's own website, but the old courtroom benches are still in place and the bookstore retains the barred window of a lockup cell. To help develop the range and depth of library services to the local community, Deddington Map Group seized the opportunity of the 50 year celebrations (see Maureen Dew's report, above), to present the library with a cheque for £500. Before spending the money, the Library Service will consult the Friends and other local groups such as the History Society, Writers Group, Book Club, PTA and, of course, the Map Group. Maybe the 15 or so local authors whose books were on display during 50th Anniversary Week might also have some suggestions. Norman Stone (with acknowledgements to *Discovering Deddington*).



On the Farm

Water, water everywhere but not a drop to drink, or so the local Water Company would have us believe. This time last year we were wondering if the meadows would ever flood

again. Now after almost continual flooding since the beginning of October the farm is as wet as I have ever seen it and we still have a hose pipe ban (*the hosepipe ban was lifted on 18 January ED*). Perhaps we have been having the wrong sort of rain, but, whatever sort of rain we have had, the ground is very water-logged. It has been impossible to do much of the winter field work. It will be some time yet before the ground is dry enough to carry the tractor and sprayer without the use of wide flotation equipment, which we have not had to use for some years. But at least, with the meadows under water, the wild fowl and wading birds have returned and we have seen good numbers of Duck, Golden Plover, Snipe and Lapwing. Perhaps our efforts to improve the habitat for wading birds will encourage a few pairs of Snipe and Lapwing to stay on for the breeding season.

As I write this the silly season is already well on its way. We have once again worked through the

maze and jumped the hoops of the annual assured farm inspection with a clean bill of health, had an inspection visit from Trading Standards and Health & Hygiene in the honey room, and are now getting to grips with the latest regulations on animal tagging and movements. We also awaited the arrival of the annual van load of explanatory booklets and forms from DEFRA which will need to be filled in for next year's farm payments. They will need to be returned long before we see any payments from last year's paper work, so no change there.

As I mentioned last month, due to the very wet weather the ewes came in some 6 weeks early. They have settled down well into the routine of their winter housing and seem to be very contented to be inside out of the wind and rain. The lambing is due to start at the beginning of next month and we have a lot of preparation work to do, to say nothing of the grain from last harvest which will all have to be loaded out before the start of lambing. It will be impossible to load lorries when the ewes are in full swing, and sod's law dictates that the transport firms will be screaming for 4 loads a day just as mayhem breaks out in the lambing shed. So, as we have all seen of late, it never rains but it pours.

George Fenemore 338203

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From the Fire Station

Incidents: We have attended 16 shouts over the last two months, making a total of 180 fire calls for the year. They included a roof fire, 5 Road Traffic Collisions*, 5 stand by to other stations, 3 flooding in domestic properties (2 in Deddington), extraction unit in a car paint shop, and a small fire involving Christmas decorations. We have had a very quiet time over the Christmas period with only one call. I hope that this had something to do with our Christmas fire safety campaign at the Farmers' Market: we handed out over 250 Fire Safety leaflets. But life at Deddington Fire Station has been far from quiet. Unfortunately Anne broke her leg while visiting family in New Zealand, but she returned to find that she has been awarded a MBE for Service to Fire Safety - Congratulations! A Big well done to Tim Parker who has worked hard to pass his competency to ride the fire appliance and is now responding to fire calls.

We also have two new recruits who will hopefully starting their basic training in March. So things are slowly improving but we still have plenty of empty fire kit pegs that need filling ! And finally congratulations to Alex and Liz on the birth of their daughter Rose. So, as you can see, being a member of the Fire Crew at Deddington is far more than Fighting Fires. Why not come up and meet us and hang your fire kit on one of those empty pegs ?

Chris Fenemore (Crew Manager)

(* 'Collisions' until proved to be 'accidents'. ED)



Anne Waters MBE

When Anne Waters came to live in Deddington 11 years ago, she took her nursing experience to our Fire Station as a Retained Firefighter, becoming the Leading Firefighter when Albert Humphries MBE retired two years ago. She is now Watch Manager, responsible for recruiting, training and day-to-day admin. She has now also been awarded an MBE, but not just for her work locally. She is a Cadet Instructor in Kidlington with the Fire Service Youth Training Association, of which for four years she has been the National Chair. As one of the only 2% of firefighters who are women, the great majority of whom are Retained Firefighters, she has been a leading light in 'Networking Women in the Fire Service' and continues to be its national Treasurer. Without the support of her family, she could not have fulfilled these roles. The fire crew is supposed to be on the road within 5 minutes of a shout. So a retained firefighter needs the supportive co-operation of spouses, partners and employers, making recruitment a continuing challenge. There remain 4 spare pegs in Deddington Fire Station. Three experienced crew members have left recently because their families outgrew the housing they could afford in the village. Look out for the Recruitment Event Anne is planning, and look out for her in a planned BBC1 documentary.

CH

Police

Additional volunteers are required to staff the Police Office in Deddington, particularly on Wednesdays and Fridays. mornings or afternoons.

For details apply to Rose White, Volunteers Co-ordinator, on 01295 754524

News from Hempton

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Christmas Bazaar. It was a good family occasion and running the event over lunch time was ideal, as many people enjoyed the hot snacks on offer. Well done to all our stallholders who made people welcome. The total raised was just short of £1000, which goes to the Friends of the Church who pay to maintain the fabric of St. John's.

The Carol Service was well attended with a full Church. The congregation sang twice as many carols as previously, because the Deddington Choir were not involved this time. The collection raised just over £100, which is going to help pay for an operation for Connor Rose who suffers from cerebral palsy. The operation he needs is not available on the National Health Service at the moment. Connor is the grandson of Gary and Deena Rose who live on St. John's Way.

The Christmas Day service celebrated Eucharist with a congregation of 30.

The Table Tennis team is playing in Division 2 of the Banbury & District League after being relegated last season. They have lost their best player from last season, and are once again having a poor time of it. Record to date is P9-W0-D1-L8. Let's hope for a better second half of the season for them .

Les Chappell 338054

Deddington OnLine
<http://www.deddington.org.uk>

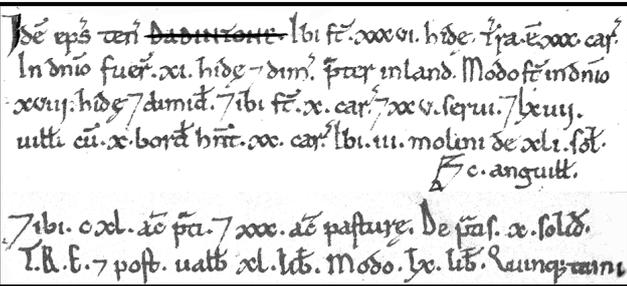
Put in your two-penn'orth. You can broadcast your opinions, exchange views on parish matters or debate whatever you want using the Forum. You may call for information and make announcements, or pursue matters raised in the pages of the DN. Recent uses have been history enquiries, appeals for fire fighters, parking and road problems, club notices and *in memoriam* messages. The more the Forum gets used, the more useful it becomes. Go to www.deddington.org.uk and click on Forum.

Colin Clark 338064

Deddington @ Domesday

This year's DN cover is a series of snapshots from our village's story. Here's the first of several articles to explain its content:

Domesday Book was compiled in 1086 to inform King William of his financial and military resources, either directly owned or owed by his tenants, i.e. everybody else. Deddington was one of more than 400 manors that William had granted to his rapacious half-brother Odo, warrior-bishop of Bayeux, making him the greatest landowner in England after the King. The Domesday Book entry gives us essentially a taxman's view of what Odo held (rather than enjoyed, since by 1086 William had locked him up). What follows is a translation of the text (*in italics*) interspersed with an explanation of the more obscure terms.



THE LAND OF THE BISHOP OF BAYEUX

The same bishop holds DEDDINGTON. There are 36 hides [a hide was originally the amount of land reckoned sufficient to support a farming family. By 1086 the hide was standardized for taxation purposes at approximately 120 acres: 36 x 120 =

c.6.75 sq.miles]. *There is land for 30 ploughs* [30 plough teams are required to work the land]. *In demesne* [the home farm] *there were* [i.e. before the Conquest] *11½ hides in addition to the inland* [the core part of the estate, worked by slaves and providing supplies for the lord's own use; exempt from tax]. *Now there are 18½ hides in demesne, and there are 10 ploughs and 25 slaves* [the bishop needs only a third of Deddington's ploughs to farm over half the land because he can call on the services of peasant farmers and their ploughs. Slaves provide free labour but are expensive to house and feed, so it is more efficient to train them as skilled or semi-skilled workers, e.g. ploughmen]. *64 villeins* [peasant farmers] *with 10 bordars* [low-status dependent smallholders] *have 20 ploughs* [few if any tenants are wealthy enough to own a plough of their own]. *There are 3 mills rendering 41s. and 100 acres of pasture. From the meadows* [the most valuable land of all] *10s. TRE* [in the time of King Edward] *and afterwards it* [i.e. Deddington] *was worth £40; now £60* [i.e. one of the half-dozen most valuable estates in the county. Odo is screwing the maximum out of the place]. *5 thegns*...[Odo's predecessor landowners: unnamed, dispossessed, and gone we know not where]. We cannot know the total population of Deddington in 1086. There were at least 94 heads of household, plus 25 slaves who may have had families. A total population of 400-500 people is possible.

Chris Day



FRED THE DONKEY MAN - 1908-1982



Today we take leave of Fred. More than 20 years after his death, writing about him brought back many memories from villagers, but nowhere is there an authentic recollection of Fred the boy or Fred in early manhood. He never talked of his past, and that makes me feel disloyal to him when dragging it up once more. On the other hand I also feel that I owe it to our readers to recall what others had already put in print. Just a few throw-away sentences I read in an article in the Oxford Times loaned to me by Mike. It is dated February 1982 and the unknown writer, after reporting Fred's death, refers to Fred's early background somewhat cautiously: It is believed that he grew up on a farm in Norfolk. He then worked in a factory until he joined the Royal Artillery at the outbreak of WWII. Disaster struck towards the end of the war, when his gun site was hit by a bomb burying Fred under heaps of rubble. He survived, but thereafter could no longer settle into his civilian

job, and might at that time have opted for a life on the road. A free agent, beholden to no one, moving from place to place must have been his dream of the good life. And so we meet him in the 1960's in and around Deddington. We remember him wearing his "Circus Ringmaster's" top hat, proudly showing off his donkeys, dogs and other pets who appeared as devoted to him as he to them. Fred would surely be most surprised that the children he entertained on his travels, now well into middle age, still remember a name of his dog, have kept receipts for money donated towards his new caravan, and treasure every faded sepia photo they possess of him. Fred the Donkey Man has to them become the symbol of that by-gone age when their mothers happily gave them tuppence to enjoy his imaginary flea circus, in spite of the chance that the odd live flea might be carried home, when boys who begged their mothers for sausages to share a fry-up with Fred were given them, no matter how unhygienic his cooking utensils, and when a ride on one of his donkeys was a pleasure never forgotten. We can't imagine Fred doing his own thing in 21st-century Deddington, but his stubborn independence against all odds even then is a very precious memory.

Ruth Johnson

(Many thanks to Debbie, Mike, Maureen and Alan who shared their memories with me)

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

As there is a gap in the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the next few months, I am giving some extracts from Jackson's Oxford Journal for the relevant time - note the heavy rains then also!

3rd January - Great complaints at present exist in our town as regards the impure state in which the gas is supplied to customers of late.

10th January - John Williams was brought before the Rev. Cotton Risley charged with committing an act of vagrancy at Clifton. He was sentenced to 21 days' imprisonment in the House of Correction, with hard labour.

17th January - Recent heavy rains have overflowed the Cherwell and the meadows are consequently under water; the bridle and foot road from Clifton to Souldern is therefore rendered impassible.

24th January - A girl of 15 years was charged with pulling up and stealing two iron bars to the cellar from the house of John Petty, grocer, High Street, Deddington. She was imprisoned in the House of Correction for one month, the magistrates expressing the opinion that she was a little cunning, artful girl, for there was no doubt she had been pickling about for a long time.

31st January - National Schools: A general meeting of the subscribers to these schools was held in the Boys' Room, the Rev. W. Cotton Risley in the chair. The schools had reopened in February 1856, and there were admitted during the year 115 boys and 122 girls.

Buffy Heywood

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Banbury Citizens Advice Bureau is about to run its next training course, and there is still time to apply. The course starts at the beginning of February, and covers all the subjects that advisers need to know, as well as training in the CAB computer programmes and local procedures.

Anne Reynolds, Bureau Manager, says: "Banbury CAB needs more volunteer advisers. We are currently turning clients away, so if we can increase the number of advisers we will be able to help more people." "Volunteering for the CAB is fascinating and rewarding, and the training is very thorough. It's a great thing to do if you are recently retired, or if you want a challenge once your children start school. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are welcome."

Mike, a volunteer adviser, says "I enjoy working at CAB because besides helping the community I get an awful lot out of it myself. There is a wonderful camaraderie among advisers - everybody helps everybody else. Every problem is different so my brain is kept working."

Marian, another volunteer, says "When I arrived in the UK from Slovakia, I went to the CAB for answers to many questions about life in the UK. They were so helpful that I decided to become an adviser myself to help others in similar situations."

Banbury CAB helps thousands of local people to resolve their financial and other problems each year.

"If anyone is interested in being considered for the training starting in February, they should contact me as soon as possible for an application form, and we will then arrange a short interview. We are looking for people who can offer at least one day a week, and we provide full support and travel expenses", says Mrs Reynolds.

For more information and an application pack contact Anne Reynolds on 01295 259698 or E-mail anne.reynolds@banburycab.org.



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1st Deddington Scout Group

Thank you to everyone who used the Christmas post boxes, we raised £180. As usual we had a few that were difficult to deliver, but with persistence and a little detective work we managed to find most of them. We decided to post the two for Lymington and Northampton the distance being a little too far for two Scouts on bikes. Also, thanks to all the deliverers and to Eagles and Barford Post Office for having the boxes. You may have seen a number of 'guys' on display in the market square last November; Cubs and Scouts made these and the pennies collected amounted to £95. We would like to make this an annual event so suggestions for this year's theme would be appreciated. Coming soon to a market near you – Scouts will be giving out free cotton shopping bags from Oxfordshire environmental services as part of their community award. As this year is Scouting's centenary we intend to host a party for anyone in the parish who has ever been a Cub, Scout, Beaver or leader anywhere, not just in Deddington. If anyone has photos of local scouting we would love to display them and add copies to our archive.

Jo & Peter Churchyard 338071

WI

Our speaker on 9 January was Moira Byast who gave members a fascinating insight into her work with hearing-impaired adults. Moira teaches lip-reading to adults and has done so over many years, giving advice, too, on how her students might deal with crowded social occasions where people may wish to talk with them. Explaining the difference in the techniques necessary with the aid of a marker on a board helped members to understand a little of this very important skill. Moira finished her talk with a short story in silent lip read which made us all concentrate and brought to members the value of such teachers who prevent isolation and improve the lives of their students. On 13 February John Brucker will speak on 'Experiences of a bird watcher'. Meetings take place

on the second Tuesday in the month at Holly Tree Club room at 7.30 pm. New members will be welcomed.

Rene Mahony 338438

Deddington Babies and Toddler Group

If you are at home with a baby or toddler, we'd love to see you at our group. We meet every Friday at the Windmill Centre from 9.30 to 11.30. There are plenty of toys for all ages as well as a singing session and a craft activity. Mums, Dads and carers can enjoy a coffee and a chat. We look forward to welcoming you soon!

Emma Durand

Deddington Writers Group

Full details of the 2007 Deddington Writing Competitions are available now. The Open Competition invites a story, article, reminiscence, or poem on the theme of 'Oxfordshire 2007' the millennium of the County, whilst the Junior Competition is divided between those of Primary school age and those of Secondary age. Details of prizes, which have been increased this year, conditions, closing date, entry form and much more are on the competition leaflets available in the Library, on www.deddington.org/arts/writing.html, or (with an s.a.e. please) from 'DWG Competitions, 7 The Daedings, Deddington'. It's never too soon to start thinking what to write!

Hugh Marshall 337761

Book Club

During December and January we read 'A Time of Gifts' by Patrick Leigh Fermor and are about to start 'Shalimar the Clown' by Salman Rushdie. At our last meeting we discussed 'Arthur & George' by Julian Barnes and here is a summary of our views. 'This biographical/historical detective thriller was a hit with the group. Written in the form of two parallel biographies, which gradually come together as the book develops. 'Arthur', we discover, is Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and 'George' the victim of a miscarriage of justice whom Arthur seeks to clear. A good portrait of life in Edwardian times especially with respect to upbringing and attitudes to race. As well told, we thought, as many of the Conan Doyle books themselves and spiced with some Sherlock Holmes style detective work.' Next meeting 22 February. Call for venue. New members always welcome.

Sally Lambert 338094

Deddington Badminton Club

We started back straight after Christmas and have been able to play in January thanks to good co-operation with the Deddington Players. For safety reasons the Juniors start back 6 February because of the restricted space with the extended stage. All the teams are doing well, the Men's B had two great victories, 6-3 away to Bicester and 9-0 over Chipping Norton. The Mixed B still remains undefeated this season. New visitors are welcome with a night fee of £3. Club night is Tuesday at 7pm; for more info call Ian Cartledge 01295 720177 and to keep up with team news see www.btbl.org.uk

Mark Tyler

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Deddington and District History Society

At our January meeting Adrienne Rosen of Oxford University Department for Continuing Education told us about work that a small research group which she leads (including one or two of our members) has been undertaking on the 16th- and 17th-Century wills and inventories of Chipping Norton people. Such documents provide a uniquely personal insight into people's lives, something that her listeners found fascinating. This is work that can be done for our area, too, and it would be exciting to establish a similar research group here. On Wednesday 14 March Dr Steven Brindle will talk about Isambard Brunel, one of the greatest of Victorian engineers. This will be an opportunity to learn more about the man whose Great Western Railway left such an enduring mark on our region. All are welcome to attend the meeting, which will take place at the Windmill Centre at 7.30pm.

Chris Day 337204

DEDDINGTON YOUTH CLUB

The Autumn term was very enjoyable with a wide variety of activities. This term began on 22 January, and the main aims for the rest of the year are for the young people get fitter and be creative. The Youth Club Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday 21 February at 7.00pm at the Windmill Centre. This meeting is for everyone. If you are interested in what our young people are doing, please come

Deddington Town Football Club

1st Team Results

Bishops Itchington (h) Lost 1-6 J.Flemming.
Bishops Itchington (a) Lost 1-7 M.Gibbs.
Barford (h) (Benevolent Cup) Won 2-1 Own Goals (2).
Finmere (h) Lost 0-2
Wroxton (a) Won 5-1 B.Durrant, R.Waddelow, A.Gray, J.Flemming (2).

The 1st team finished 2006 in style by gaining their first league victory of the season. An excellent all round team performance resulted in the 5-1 destruction of Wroxton. This result has lifted the team out of the bottom two and John Flemming was in fine form scoring two of the goals. If the team continue to perform like this a mid-table finish is achievable. There was also a good victory over arch rivals Barford (who are unbeaten in Division 1) in the Benevolent Cup.

Reserve Team Results

Cropley 'A' (a) Lost 0-3
Real Islip Res (h) (Eric Morris Cup) Lost 1-5 Own Goal.
Bodicote Res (a) (Geoff Wilson Cup) Lost 1-3 T.Spencer.
Heyford Utd Res (h) Won 4-3 A.Perring, M.Walker, G.Morbey, J.Thornton.
Heyford Athletic Res (h) Won 3-1 T.Spencer (2), A.Bliss.

The Reserves also enjoyed an up turn in form gaining 2 excellent victories against both of the Heyford sides. Marc Walker and Guy Morbey were on target in the win over Heyford Utd. Joint Player Managers Aaron Bliss and Tim Spencer found the back of the net against Heyford Ath. These results have lifted the side up to a mid-table position in Division 2.

75 Club Winners: 22/12/06 P.Rudge £50; 29/12/06 Gary Smith £100; 5/1/07 C.Cox £50; 12/1/07 J.Gaw £50.

Boxing Day Charity Match: The annual charity match once again proved popular with current, ex and future Deddington players. In an entertaining game it was the veteran players who excelled and, in the process, won the 'Stan Brain' Memorial Cup. The proceeds from the game will be donated to Deddington Pre-School. Many thanks to Andy Shepherd for once again organising the match. Well done to everyone who participated and supported the game.

A Polite Request to Dog Owners: It is becoming a regular task for club members to remove dog mess from the pitch prior to the commencement of home games. Please can you dispose of dog mess in the bins that are located around the field? The only fouling that should occur on the pitch should be from the players!

Steve Plumb 01295 278258

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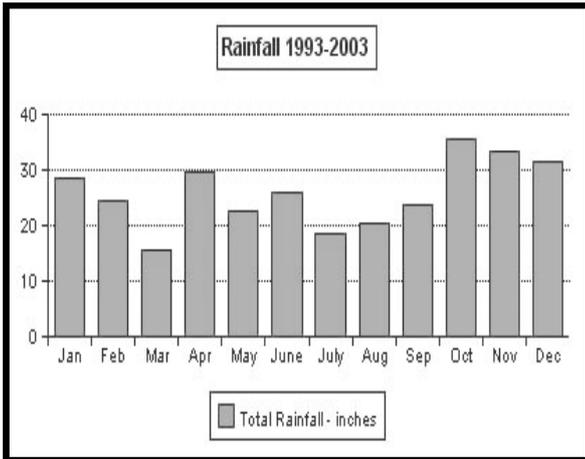
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Approved by **Dulux**

RAINFALL IN DEDDINGTON PARISH

Cloud-cover over Great Britain is almost the same in each half of the year, although the meeting and merging of polar and maritime air masses produce showers more frequently in the colder months. My son calls this 'global squabbling'.

Donald Welford, Boulderdyke Farm, Clifton, collected rain data from 1968; his widow, Jean Welford, has kindly made this data, with her records kept since Donald's death, available to me for use in the forthcoming book on Deddington hedges. Here are a few extrapolations.



The data shows that 1992 was the year of the greatest amount of rainfall, 34.71 inches. Is there evidence of a trend, even in such a small data sample, to support the idea of climate change? In particular, is there more rainfall per year in later than in earlier years of the sample?

Years in which rainfall was 30 inches or more

Table 2

Year	Inches
1974	30.72
1979	31.20
1992	34.71
1993	32.20
1994	30.00
1998	33.68
1999	30.97
2000	34.63
2002	33.08

The number of years intervening between one year and another of high rainfall decreases in the latter years of the sample. The year 1992 is a turning point. Before 1993, the average lapse was 9.3 years - a long time. Latterly, between 1993 and 2002, the average lapse is 2.75 years, more than 3 times greater than the average lapse in the earlier years.

Finally, if we look at rainfall for the nine year period 1993-2003 (11 years), March is the driest month (1.42 inches); June is not so good for haymaking (2.37 inches); July is better and favours Wimbledon (1.67 inches); and new leys are best drilled in September (2.37 inches) rather than October (3.23 inches). Carl Orff in Carmina Burana says: **O, Fortune changeable as the moon, you are always either improving or deteriorating.**

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