

the Deddington news

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Sue Cave

We regularly receive more contributions than we have space which shows what a thriving community we have. This month I am unable to include full details from Oxfordshire Youth Offending team asking for volunteers, Mobility Trust looking for sponsored activities, and Cherwell District Council Go Active raising awareness of local physical activities. Please contact me if you are interested. **JC**

DIARY

March

- Mon 2 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am-noon
Wed 4 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8.00-10.00pm
Wed 4 Photographic Society: Colin Harrison, 'Ten Days in the Land of Enchantment', Deddington Arms, 7.30pm **p16**
Tue 10 WI: AGM, Cheese and Wine, and The History of Masks, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
Wed 11 Deddington Police Office: Drop-in session, 5.00-7.00pm
Wed 11 History Society: Stephen Barker, 'The Civil War Battle of Cropredy Bridge', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm **p16**
Thu 12 Monday Morning Club: Film evening, 6.30pm
Wed 18 Parish Council meeting: Town Hall, 7.30pm
Thu 26 Book Club: Call Sally Lambert (338094) for venue **p15**
Thu 26 Deddington FC Reserves: Final of Geoff Wilson Cup, Bicester FC ground, KO 7.30pm **p15**
Sat 28 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9.00am-12.30pm **p13**
Sat 28 Royal British Legion: Albert's Quiz Night, 8.00pm
Sat 28 PTA Quiz Night: Windmill Centre, 7.30pm **p3**

April

- Wed 1 School production: 'Peter Pan', Parish Church **p3**
Wed 1 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8.00-10.00pm
Thu 2 School production: 'Peter Pan', Parish Church **p3**
Sat 4 School PTA: Pete Boss and The Bluehearts, and Indigo Child, Windmill Centre **p3**
Wed 8 Deddington Police Office: Drop-in session, 5.00-7.00pm
Wed 8 History Society: Windmill Centre, 7.30pm **p16**
Tue 14 WI: It all Started with Avon, Amy Duckett, Holly Tree 7.30pm
Wed 15 Parish Council meeting: Town Hall, 7.30pm
Thu 16 Monday Morning Club: Film evening, Holly Tree, 6.30pm
Wed 22 Deddington APCM: Parish Church, 7.30pm
Sat 25 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9.30am-12.30pm **p13**
Wed 29 LYRA concert, Parish Church

A vacancy has been created on the Parish Council due to the resignation of Helen Spencer. This will be filled by election or co-option. Please see the noticeboard on the Town Hall.

Copies of the Deddington News are available at THE FLOWER SHOP with a box for donations.

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Town Hall 18 February 2009

Present: Cllrs Flux [Chair], Alton, Anderson, Collins, Ince, Privett, Squires, Todd, Ward, Watts, Westbury, Wood, CDC Cllr O'Sullivan, the Clerk, the Minute Clerk, 12 members of the public and the DN correspondent.

Open Forum

Messrs Day, Higgins, Gooding, Rennison and Blyth collectively expressed the will of the public at the meeting in objecting to the wind turbine at the WCC. There was some confusion about the split of responsibility between the PC and WCC. It was also suggested that there was a conflict of interest between the PC and WCC. The Chairman pointed out that the planning application had been withdrawn and that the PC were consequently unable to discuss the application. It was also pointed out that great care and advice had been taken to avoid conflicts of interest within the PC and that the WCC was a completely separate and independent entity. The objectors felt that there had been a breakdown in communications between the residents of the area around Mill Close and the WCC. Further points: there was a complaint from Mike Gooding, Mill Close, about the nuisance caused by the security lights at the WCC and that the new dog waste bin on the Hempton Rd was not being emptied. PC took note of all these points and said they would be addressed. Mr Blyth complained about the inaccessibility of the plans on the CDC website. The problem was recognised but it was a CDC responsibility. Eleven members of the public then left the meeting.

Finance & General Purposes

Budget: The discussion that followed centred on the relative merits of a variety of cost-saving measures to bring PC costs in line with anticipated revenue. Following the discussion a budget would be prepared for approval at the next PC meeting.

Village steward: To be employed more flexibly in response to demand but hours reduced by 50%.

Grass cutting: In future grass cutting costs would be restricted to the amount contributed by OCC and English Heritage.

Weed control: Paths and play areas to be treated once unless Health & Safety was compromised.

Windmill playing fields: The cost of grass cutting is expected to exceed revenue from the clubs by £5000. This was debated and generally found acceptable except that there was some concern about the lack of information concerning the clubs' third party revenues.

Cemetery: Income has not covered costs for some years. The village steward has volunteered to cut the grass and look after part of the border hedge. This would be done for the cost of fuel and maintenance of his own machinery and equipment which he would prefer to use. This significant gesture will result in savings of over £1700.

Castle Grounds: The Colts will be responsible for the cost of removing the mole infestation.

Town Hall: PC will be responsible for redecoration

once DCE complete the structural repairs.

Stonepits title: Land Registry are to inspect the site.

Play areas: Safety checks to be carried out on remaining springers and H&S arrangements to be reviewed.

Environment & Special Projects

Wildflower sites: Proposed sites have been inspected and a report will be prepared for submission to the PC. Work is planned to start in the autumn.

Deddington planters: Nicholson's nursery will stock four planters in Deddington and two in Hempton with herbaceous summer flowering plants with PC responsible for maintenance. Nicholson's signage has yet to be approved. Jennifer Saunders has agreed to continue caring for the Clifton planter.

Hanging baskets: Sponsorship of about £100 is being sought to brighten Market Place.

Planning

Application withdrawn: 18m tower and wind turbine at the WCC.

DPC no objection: [1] 27 Gaveston Gdns, garage conversion to include side and rear extension. [2] 14 The Daedings, rear first floor extension, pitched roof and dormer windows over existing ground floor extension.

Approvals: [3] 14 High Street, demolition and rebuild of existing lean-to extension.

Other planning matters: Cherwell Rural Strategy 2009-14 available in PC Office.

Highways

Earls Lane: OCC have provided speed data. Signage, street lighting and lack of footpath being reviewed.

Speed indicator device: A unit is being delivered to Deddington Police for tactical deployment in area.

High St traffic lights, New Street crossing, Hempton pinch point: All being reviewed.

Recreation: Most matters that were the responsibility of the Recreational Working Group were dealt with under other headings, except for:

Satin Lane allotments: The Committee had decided that the planned shed on the site would be used for the allotment holders' own equipment and materials and as a noticeboard. The shed would be owned by the PC and any liability for contents would be the allotment holders.

Annual Fair: This will be held on the weekend of 12/14 Nov. Control of the fair would be retained by the PC to avoid some of problems in previous years.

AOB Councillors are eligible to claim expenses. Unanimously agreed that only travel and exceptional expenses would be claimed and nothing for normal attendance. The Annual Parish Meeting would be held on 6 May at the Windmill Centre.

Parish Finances

Invoices passed for payment: £3,045.08. Investments totalled £532,612 at WBromBS, Barclays, Birmingham Midshires BS & Anglo Irish Bank.

Next Meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 18 March 2009 at the Town Hall.

SCHOOL NEWS

As spring and, hopefully, good weather approach we look back on what has been another busy term.

At the time of writing Mrs Tinsley, our Headteacher, and Mr Fane, our Year 4 teacher, are coming to the end of their visit to Mmabatho in South Africa. Whilst there they have been able to forge deeper links with the school there and have also seen what everyday life is like. They have used the monies, so generously donated by the families and staff of Deddington School, to buy much needed sports equipment. Flying out soon will be Miss Burn, Mrs Sargant and Mrs Knox

PTA

Firstly, thank you to Deddington Players for their kind donation from their recent pantomime and to Mark Holman for his generous donation. They are greatly appreciated.

The race is on to purchase tickets for the year's hottest event so far... the PTA Annual Quiz Night! As usual, this is being held at the Windmill Centre on Saturday 28 March. This is always a night of great fun and frivolity and tickets, which are selling fast, can be booked by email at joker@cherwell.co.uk or by phone on 338468. Tickets are £8 per person which includes supper and there is a maximum of eight people per table. Who will be the 2009 champions?

A week later, on Saturday 4 April, we are back at the Windmill running the bar during a fantastic live performance from two successful local bands: Pete Boss and The Bluehearts, and Indigo Child. This is destined to be a fab night of contemporary rhythm and blues complemented by Indigo Child's classic

laden down with more gifts and letters from the children!

Back at school the children have been busy rehearsing for our production of Peter Pan in April. Our F1 class has been on lots of trips this term, including a visit to the May Fu II restaurant to celebrate Chinese New Year, a visit to the vets in Deddington, and a trip to Oxford University Museum to coincide with their topic All about Animals. Year 2 visited St John's Museum in Warwick to find out more about their topic on the Victorians, specifically Florence Nightingale.

Jane Cross
Deputy Headteacher
338430

party selection which is guaranteed to get the evening started in a lively manner. Tickets are £7.00 (£8.00 on the door) and available from Pete Boss, The Old Farmhouse, New Street, Deddington, OX15 0ST, email pboss@btinternet.com or tel 01869 338536.

Arrangements are gathering pace for the fifth Annual Deddington Walk which will be held on Sunday 17 May. We have a new route, new theme, lots of entertainment laid on and it is sure to be a fabulous day – make sure you make a note of the date and encourage your friends and family to join in. Further details next month or see www.deddingtonwalk.co.uk.

Finally, our summer fete will be on Saturday 20 June – new attractions are planned so don't miss it. Thank you once again for your continued support.

Janet Watts, Chair
337135

PFSU and Village Nursery

We have had an enjoyable few weeks of term, finding out about a variety of animals, celebrating Chinese New Year and enjoying the snow! We'd like to thank everyone who brought in their pets to meet us. We even had a pony on the school playground! For Chinese New Year we made lanterns, willow pattern plates, dragon puppets and red money envelopes, and we enjoyed Chinese food for our snacks all week. We had lots of fun in the snow particularly enjoying making footprints, building snowmen and painting them a variety of colours. We brought some snow indoors, built with it and observed how long it took to melt. So the snow was a great learning opportu-

nity for our children.

After the half-term break we look forward to finding out about transport and journeys. These will include journeys around our village where the children will be able to photograph some of the things they see. We also hope to have visits from a variety of vehicles. We are pleased to welcome a number of new children to Nursery this term and hope they settle in quickly and enjoy their time with us. Both settings are currently almost full. Finally, we'd like to thank the Deddington Players for their generous donation from their fund-raising raffle at the pantomime. It will be put to good use.

Lucy Squires 337484

PARISH BUTTERFLY SURVEY

Because 2008 was an atypical year, we are continuing the survey through 2009. If the weather is warm enough the first butterflies could be on the move in March. Walter and Wendy Meagher have formulated checklists, which will make record-keeping much easier. If you are interested in joining the team (all enthusiastic amateurs) please get

in touch and we'll send you a copy of the checklists. All records are valuable, even if only sporadic. News about the proposed butterfly booklet next month.

Kristin Thompson 337052
kristin.a@zen.co.uk
Joan Todd 338532

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

March

Sun	1	10.30am	All Age Worship
		6.30pm	Evensong
Wed	4	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu	5	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	8	10.30am	Eucharist
Sun	15	10.30am	Eucharist
Wed	18	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu	19	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
		6.30pm	Eucharist ST JOSEPH
Sun	22	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30am	Sunday service and Baptism Parade Service
Wed	25	10.00am	Eucharist THE ANNUNCIATION
Sun	29	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30am	Eucharist PASSION SUNDAY

From the Parish Registers

Funerals

5 February John Styles
13 February Morwenna Jane Stewart

For baptisms, weddings, funerals or home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, the Rev Dr Hugh White, 28 Duns Tew (349869), the Rev John Dane (337403), or one of the church wardens, Glynne Bianchi (337743) or John Osborough (07753 802841).

The Vicar will be abroad for three months from February to April and the Reverend John Dane will be Priest-in-Charge during that period.

St John's, Hempton

Sun 1 9.00am Eucharist
Sun 15 9.00am Eucharist

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Suns 10.30am

Preachers 22 March Pastor Walton and 29 March John Goulder

Bible Study

Thu 2.30pm at the Wesleyan Manse, 3 Castle Street, Deddington

Pastor I Walton 337157

Congregational Chapel, New Street

Sunday afternoon services have been resumed following the winter break.

Sunday morning services are held at the Wesleyan Reform Church together with their congregation.

Sunday afternoon services at The Chapel at 3.00pm organised by Pastor Derek Walker of the Oxford Bible Church.

Mrs J Minnear 338529

RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury

Masses at Holy Trinity, Hethe: every weekday except Wed at 9.30am, Sun at 10.00am.

St George's Church, Adderbury: Mass Wed 7.00pm and Sun 8.30am.

Confessions at Hethe Sat 5.30-6.00pm and at Adderbury before Mass.

Rev A J Burns 277396

Lent Course

The Lent course this year will be looking at some of the fundamentals of the Christian faith, particularly in the light of the Darwin anniversary and the Richard Dawkins controversies.

We will be using a series of recorded interviews with some of the country's leading theologians and scientists.

The course will begin on Wed 4 March at 7.30pm and will be repeated the following Wednesday 11 March at 11.00am. The course will run for five weeks. There will be time for a discussion of the issues raised in the videos. The Wednesday morning sessions will be followed by the Lent lunch at noon.

The first session will ask 'In the light of Darwin and Dawkins, can we believe in God?' Subsequent sessions will explore 'If there is a God, why is there suffering?'

There will also be sessions on the meaning of Jesus' life, mission, miracles and resurrection.

John Dane

From John Dane

The time has come, the walrus said...

As many of you will already know, my time as curate in Deddington was due to end in September. We began looking for a new position earlier in the year and I am very happy to have been appointed Chaplain at Chichester University. It is a role that will use my counselling background as well as my training as a priest and I am very excited at the prospect.

It is, however, tinged with much sorrow as we prepare to leave Deddington which has played

such an important part in all of our lives during my training. I will be starting in Chichester in June and commuting until term ends in July when we will move down to our new home. Valerie, Patrick, Tobias, Andreas and I will very much miss you all. We are planning a farewell service in church on 12 July and hope that you will join us there. More details of that will follow. We want to thank everyone in Deddington for their love and support over the past five years.

Visit www.deddingtonnews.co.uk & Deddington OnLine www.deddington.org.uk

WELL REMEMBERED**MABEL GODFREY 1919 - 2009**

Mabel was born in Deddington in 1919, her father a Deddington man. Mabel attended Deddington school and then worked for Mr and Mrs Hall who ran the King's Arms, later the Deddington Arms. Mabel's first charge was to look after the Hall's children, Pat and Robin, but when they grew up, Mabel stayed on at the King's Arms as general factotum. After the War, Mabel married George (Togo) Godfrey. There were two daughters, Jennifer and Helen. The family moved to the Paddocks when that development was first built. Here Mabel was a proud housekeeper and a firm mother. Here too, rooted as she was in Deddington and loving the place, she kept an eye and an ear on the goings-on in the village and became a source of information about it. On what she gathered she was not one to mince her words or conceal her opinions and this forthrightness could get her into hot water. She was, though, warm-hearted, particularly fond of animals and children (she worked in the school canteen for some years) and generously helpful to those in various kinds of need – such as Fred Abel, the donkey man, visiting gypsies or newcomers to the village. She helped the village to stay connected and villagers to know, and so to care, about one another. It will be rather less easy for us to be what a community should be, now Mabel has gone.

HW

GREEN PIECE**Turn that light out!**

Did you know that the tradi-

tional 100 watt incandescent light bulb is no longer to be stocked in high street shops? Did you check out the eco-bulb library in the church on market day? Next year the 60 watt bulb will be phased out and *all* such bulbs will be banned by 2012. A low energy light bulb (yes there are problems with them for some people) uses about a quarter of the energy of the old bulb. Replacing just one old 100w bulb could knock £7 off your annual energy bill; add that up around the house. Energy supply is rapidly becoming critical. The UK seemed to be reasonably protected from the Russo-Ukrainian fight over gas supply but we must not be complacent; this might still raise the price of our domestic gas again. We have only about two weeks' worth of gas in store, while France has 80 days' worth and Germany 90 days'. Many of us in the parish use it to cook by and heat our homes; use energy with respect. Ultimately gas and oil are bound to run out, maybe within a generation. It takes a generation to change social attitudes and habits (think smoking in public places). And it takes a generation to grow a fire-wood coppice. So it's time now to prepare for our children's future. And what if James Lovelock is not wrong?

Colin Robinsoncolin.robinson@deddington.net**AIRPORT TRANSFERS
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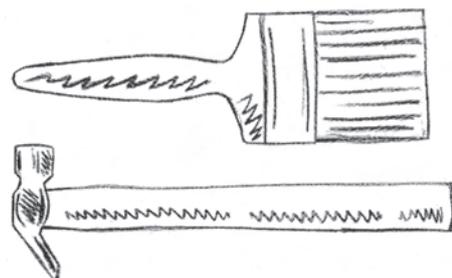
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Last month we asked for some help with further information from the mid-20th century. Now for a further plea: in 1941 there was big fire in Deddington at Johnson's Timber Yard. Does anyone have any details about this event? If

you have an original press cutting, or pictures of the fire, we would like to borrow them to make a copy.

Some say the internet is made all the more interesting because of the visual images available. Whilst looking at some of the clubs' and societies' entries, I am somewhat disappointed at the lack of pictures. Only about half of the clubs and societies listed have any pictures at all. Even a logo lifts a page of blank text. If you want help in adding pictures, just ask. If you have a lot of pictures, get your own gallery pages – that's what the Photographic Society have done.

The gallery at DOL has an amazing collection of images of the village. I particularly like the pictures of all the buildings which show how the village has changed during the last 80 years or so. But there seem to be very few pictures showing activities. Apart from the 2002 Jubilee, there are not many images of us actually doing things. Have you any pictures of the 1977 Jubilee, or Deddington at War? Want to have your say? Put it on the forum!

**Paul Drawmer 338450
07850 878887
paul@drawmer.net**

FROM THE FIRE STATION

We have received a total of 19 fire calls this past month, two chimney fires, one road traffic accident, one car fire, one lock-in, three false alarms, six stand-by to other stations, a serious fire in Banbury at a shoe shop, and a fire in an extraction unit at a chocolate factory. (Sadly we had to taste it to make sure the chocolate was not smoke damaged. Well, it's not all fun in the Fire Service!)

We seem to be making a good start to the year, we have a new recruit, Sharon Wilson from Adderbury. She will do her basic training at the end of February and we hope to have her responding to fire calls by the end of March.

Father Christmas has also paid us a visit (a bit late, though he was nice and clean when he came down our chimney as we have just had it swept. I hope you have had yours done recently?). He bought us a new fire engine (well new to us) which we are having great fun getting used to; the only sad thing is that we no longer go 'nee nar' but now 'wail and yelp', so keep your eyes and ears open!



**Chris Fenemore Acting Watch Manager
Deddington Fire Station
01869 338281**



Brackley Bridge Club

welcomes

BEGINNERS and IMPROVERS

Come and join this friendly club. We welcome complete beginners, those who haven't played for years, in fact anyone who wants a pleasant game

The club meets

Sunday Evening from 7:00pm until 10:00pm
at

Brackley Bowls Club (next to the Tennis Club)



Contact:

John Wallington 01869 338580 or
Rosie Moffat 01295 768704

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DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL



Festival 2009 will run from 25 June to 5 July, beginning with a community concert in the Windmill Centre on 25 June, through to a jazz concert on 4 July, given by Stekpanna. The jazz concert is being sponsored by a local business and details will be given later in the year. We would welcome sponsors/part sponsors for our other events – please contact the Secretary if you are interested in supporting us in this way or feel able to make a contribution to our fundraising activities.

On Sunday 5 July we end the festival with the last day of the ever popular Art Exhibition and the final opportunity to purchase some of the items on display.

A new venture this year will be a Literary Evening which will include the announcement of the winners of the Writing Competition.

On Saturday 27 June Janet Lincé will be conducting the Oxford Sinfonia in what promises to be a splendid evening of orchestral masterworks by Wagner, Haydn, Richard Strauss and Mendelssohn, featuring horn soloist Rachel Grovenor.

Donald Lane invites you to come and listen to his Palm Court Trio, and perhaps take tea in the church, on the afternoon of Sunday 28 June.

Book early to join Sue Cave (www.suecave.com) for what will be another enjoyable and instructive Art Workshop planned for 4 July - spaces are limited and are suitable for those aged 17 and over. Details can be obtained from the Secretary. Please check out our website at www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk for other events and for more details, including entry forms, of the Writing Competition. The deadline for entries is 30 April 2009.

We are very sorry that we are unable to bring you the Fun and Rocks Day again this year - but plans are already in hand for a fabulous event during Festival 2010. It will be worth the wait!

Eileen Anderson, Secretary
338325

eileenandersonuk@yahoo.co.uk

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL URGENTLY REQUIRED - OPEN GARDENS

Dear Gardeners, I need your help. Please do come forward and open your garden, whether large or small, on Saturday 27 June and Sunday 28 June from 2.00pm to 6.00pm (last entry 5.15pm), all in aid of the Friends of Deddington Festival.



Last year this event was a huge success so, come on, you garden owners, please do contact me and let us do the same this year. Very many thanks.

Joan Wright 338535 joanwright@suffolkonline.net

Deddington Writing Competition

'Everyone has at least one good story to tell' and, if you have, why not take a look at this year's Deddington Writing Competition and try your hand at entering? There is a good chance that your entry could be read by one of the distinguished authors who have agreed to judge the competition and, even if you are not the winner, you could receive a helpful note of advice from a published author.

Details of the competition, which is divided between the Open Competition and the Junior Competition for those of school age, are now in local libraries and on www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk or ring 337761.

The judges in the **Open Competition** are:

Angela Burdick, judge for the short story category, is a fiction writer and journalist. She has been a book reviewer for the *Irish Times* and feature writer for the *Oxford Times*. The author of *Look! I can Cook!* etc, and *A Place of Safety*, she is currently working on another novel.

Merryn Williams, judge for the poetry category, is a poet, novelist and critic. Published collections of her poetry include *The First Wife's Tale* and *The Latin Master's Story*. She is editor of *The Interpreter's House* magazine and the newsletter of the Wilfred Owen Association. She is working on a biography of Ruskin's wife.

For the **Junior Competition**: Dennis Hamley, judge for the short stories, has been writing for children and young adults for nearly 40 years. Among his published books are *Hare's Choice*, *The War and Freddy* and *Death Penalty*, a murder mystery set in a football club. His *Divided Loyalties* has been shortlisted for the Calderdale Book of the Year Award.

Brian Levison, judge for the poems, is a prize-winning poet who writes for adults and children. Recent books include *Strange Smells of a Cat*, and *Adding an A*. His children's poems appear in anthologies by Macmillan Education, Nelson and OUP. He has taught creative writing and his poetry has been broadcast by the BBC.

Hugh Marshall
337761

WINDMILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

The planning application for the wind turbine at the Windmill Community Centre was submitted to Cherwell DC in December. It has been decided to withdraw it because certain questions remain to be answered, and some issues need to be further researched.

The Parish Council is considering holding a public meeting at which the wider question of Deddington's approach to energy conservation and microgeneration will be addressed.

Mark Tyler 338056



FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

FROM ROB FORSYTH, THE STILE HOUSE, DEDDINGTON

Nick Allen from Adderbury suggested last month that the reason Deddington in Tasmania is so called may lie in my accounts of transportees from this parish published in this magazine. It is perhaps worth commenting that in my introductory article in June last year I said that it was just such a similar thought that had prompted me (and others) into research into the subject in the first place. Sadly, this did not prove to be the case. Deddington, Tasmania was known as such in 1825 but the first transportees to Tasmania (Thomas Waite and his son William) were not sentenced until 1827. For the full account of our research into the 22 people from this area who were transported to various colonies, please visit <http://www.deddington.org.uk/history/articles/transportees>.

FROM MARY ROBINSON, QUINQUE HOUSE, NEW STREET

I would like to thank all those friends who have given me wonderful support and comfort in the last eight months of my cancer treatment. You were really great and it meant a lot to me. The treatment is all over and I look forward to getting my life back!

FROM CHRISTOPHER HALL, THE KNOWLE, DEDDINGTON

When the original windmill in Deddington was built centuries ago, was it also vigorously opposed by those who lived or played near it? Or was it recognised that windmills were then an essential technological development to harness free energy to save the physical labour of grinding corn, or to save low-lying areas from flooding to preserve livelihoods?

In today's world wind turbines are an essential technological development to harness free energy to save the dwindling stocks of non-renewable fuels, and to save money. In the not-so-long run they will also contribute to preserving livelihoods, as the escalating price of energy contributes to the ever increasing costs for industry and transport, and our own homes too.

No doubt some considered the mediaeval windmills to be eyesores, yet now they are the subject of innumerable photographic compositions, as are wind turbines. Electricity pylons across the countryside have never been objects of beauty, but they have been accepted as a necessity for the national economy if the benefits of power were to be available in every locality. To provide the same utility today, wind turbines are needed to provide energy in every locality, avoiding the considerable loss in the transmission of power generated at a distance and at great cost mostly from non-renewable sources.

Noise is one objection raised, yet measurements

have shown that the noise levels from the proposed installation are well below acceptable limits and below that from other sources to which we have become accustomed. Indeed noise is an environmental factor which ears quickly learn to tune out so that it is no longer noticed.

Every household needs to explore its own avenues to reduce energy consumption for the sake of future generations. In addition to secondary-glazing, 18 years ago we installed solar panels, which have now run for nearly 13,000 hours; whether they have paid for themselves, or will do so, is not the point. The Windmill Centre Committee proposed the wind turbine as one such expedient, in addition to others not as an alternative. The great advantage of this proposal was its ability to attract grants and investment which were not available for other projects. The savings in energy costs from this installation could be invested in the other means to reduce consumption.

Decades ago if there had been the same national investment into harnessing the freely available power of the sun (not only solar energy but wind, tide and wave) as there was into nuclear energy, the national economy would have greatly benefited and independence from overseas suppliers secured. That opportunity was lost because the power of the sun had no military potential.

FROM DERRICK ROBBINS, SARASOTA, FLORIDA

I well remember that, in 1941 I think it was, snow fell for about a week in Deddington. School was cancelled and we kids went sledding. My Uncle Chris Ell made me a sled and at first we went to the Castle Grounds. This however was not thrilling enough so we all went a little way up the Banbury Road, turned left and there was a field with a long slope.

I enjoyed the article by Ruth Johnson. It brought back memories of bygone days not to be forgotten. How well I remember those dough cakes and lardy cakes produced by Mr Dodwell, lovingly known as Doughy and sometimes Dicky Dodwell. Does anyone make them today? I have the recipe for both. I am not concerned with putting on too much weight. I maintain 135lbs. Another little amusing story. One Christmas time, late in the evening, a group of rowdy lads were making a lot of noise right under the windows of the baker's shop. Poor Mr Dodwell had to get up each morning around 4.00am to get the bakery up and running so he did not appreciate the racket preventing his well-earned sleep. So he opened the bedroom window and poured a bucket of water on the unsuspecting crowd. Unfortunately, my Uncle George Clark had just turned out of the Tchure and got the lot full blast. The air was blue for quite some time thereafter.

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

IT'S ALL GROW

On the Farm

Blackbird has spoken, or so I am reliably informed, as it has been many years since I have been able to hear the first birds of spring, or for that matter any other time of the year. But I can see them, so the anti-farming lobby's handbook *The Silent Spring* is well wide of the mark, even if the February snow event put somewhat of a dampener on the annual squabbles for the best farmyard nesting sites. Things are now back to normal with the rites of spring back on track, but as the weather warnings have given way to flood warnings the spring tide at Clifton-on-sea is in full flood so, as the curlew and redshank are due to return to the valley any time now to establish their breeding territories, they may well find hedge to hedge water and move on elsewhere. This would be very disappointing as the work on our breeding wader project is beginning to attract an increasing number of breeding curlew, lapwing and - for the first time last season - redshank.

The bees have so far survived the lowest temperatures that any of our present stocks have experienced and to date all are present and correct. I have managed to feed them sugar syrup every month since we finished extracting honey last September and that was supplemented with a pollen substitute in February. But as March is usually the 'crunch' month with regard to colony losses we are not out of the woods yet. However, it appears that our new hive design has worked as I

can now feed the bees without opening the hive in cold weather. This keeps condensation to a minimum, something that can be a real winter killer, by using a wire mesh floor with a sliding drawer base to control ventilation. This drawer base also forms part of our integrated pest control programme. In the non-honey-producing months we use a chemically impregnated strip to control the dreaded Varroa mite. This is removed before the honey season starts. The bees are then dusted with plain flour, which they are not too happy about, but it encourages communal grooming to remove the flour along with any Varroa mites, which then fall through the mesh floor. As the mites can't climb back up into the hives they die, or are easily disposed of by removing the drawer slide and scorching it off with a gas torch.

The plans for this year's queen breeding programme are well in hand. I shall not be using any of the imported New Zealand queens as, although they are very docile, they seem unable to cope with the extremes of the English climate. I have a few hives of the English black bees from a strain bred by Brother Adam at Buckfast Abbey. Although more aggressive, these bees will fly when the others are still tucked up in bed waiting for it to warm up. So what with lambing just round the corner and the hives all of a buzz, we look like being in for a busy but not, I hope, too painful time of it, so what's new down on the farm?

George Fenemore 338203

The Allotment

Well hats off to those of you who caught the one day at the beginning of February to dig the allotment. As I'm writing we're still covered in snow but I'm optimistic about the end of the month. However, once the snow has melted we need to beware of frost. The use of fleece is a good way to protect your seedlings and soft fruit trees. If anchored properly fleeces will also protect against flying pests, such as carrot root fly.

Of course poor weather doesn't need to curb your gardening activities. Garlic needs a cold period to get started and so March is probably the last month to get this in the ground. You can also buy your early and main crop potatoes and get them going. To do this you first need to chit them, which is laying the tubers out in a single layer on a tray with the 'rose' uppermost - the end that has the most eyes or buds. Chitting takes about six weeks by which time you should have good sprouts of about 5cm. If you want larger potatoes, remove some of the sprouts to leave about three. If you have a smaller allotment it might be best to concentrate on earlies, as there are few things lovelier than your own freshly harvested potatoes. It is probably easier to buy rather than grow your main crop potatoes and plant other more exciting vegetables if space is a bit limited.

An interesting idea for starting early peas is to

plant them in sections of guttering (cut to manageable lengths) in the greenhouse or cold frame, then when they're ready to transplant you can just slide the entire contents into the trench.

February to April is also when you should get your onion sets in the ground, spaced according to the size you'd like them to become - larger spaces give larger onions.

After snow the ground is always very wet and you need to be aware that waterlogged ground will usually cause seeds to rot. Obviously it would be best to wait until the soil is warmer and drier for all planting. You can help this along and aid germination by covering your soil with plastic. Note: anchor it down well - sheets of plastic blowing round the allotments won't increase your popularity!

As the temperature starts to rise dreaded pests get on the move again, so check your fruit trees. Are the grease bands securely in place, to prevent the codling moth climbing up and laying their eggs? Also remember that, whilst your seeds are growing, so are the weeds. Areas that you're not ready to plant yet could be covered with plastic.

Happy gardening and let's keep our fingers crossed for more helpful weather.

Sam Willis

Samantha.willis@gmail.com

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev Cotton Risley for the month of March 1859:

1st March - I heard from the Bishop again and answered his letter regarding Brogden.

2nd March - I went up to Oxford by the last train to be present at the Assizes tomorrow morning.

3rd, 4th & 5th March - Attended the Criminal Court each day. On the 5th I called on poor young Woolgrove, an outpatient of mine at the Infirmary, supposed to be in a hopeless state from previous improper treatment in the case of an Eye – he had taken a large quantity of mercury for the purpose of salivation which had been continued too long.

10th March - I called on Mr. J. Churchill just returned from India after 15 years in the Bombay Residency, with his wife and 8 children.

14th March - I heard a case of felony against Henry Rowen of South Newington and committed him for trial at the next Quarter Sessions – a stealing of beans and barley flour. He is a bad character and got away from the Police. A lecture in the evening by Mr. H. Churchill on Painting – 79 persons present.

29th March - Mr. Burgess came at my request to read a letter I had received from Mr. Devenport with reference to our Vicar's giving Mr. Burgess notice to quit the Curacy in 6 months, with consent of the Bishop etc.

30th March - A snowy day throughout, it fell heavily and had it occurred earlier in the season would have been 8 or 9 if not 12 inches deep – this was the first real snow this year.

Buffy Heywood 338212

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 1925 – 2007

Daphne Harper's walk through Deddington village in the 1940s continues. She has just whetted our appetite with the aroma of excellent baking issuing from Wallin's bakery and now strides on, probably munching a freshly baked doughnut.

Next door to Wallin's is the Hayward's fruit, fish and general grocery shop. Jim and Lily Hayward began the business, their son Walter drives into the outlying villages with goods in his mobile van, and daughters Doreen and Peggy help in the shop. Further along, still on the west side of Market Square is a veritable 'Aladdin's Cave'

run by Harry Wells, colloquially known as 'Ticky Wells' [because he offered goods 'on tick']. In his empire you can buy anything from a pin to a suite of furniture, from a carton of elastic to tweed suits. His wife Ruth helps in the shop supported by employed staff. Ticky Wells drives his own van delivering goods into the rest of Oxfordshire but

also into Warwickshire, Northamptonshire and as far as Gloucestershire. Two doors south of 'Aladdin's Cave' we take another rest, maybe a welcome drink in the 'Unicorn Hotel' run by Mr & Mrs Bill Saunders and daughter Freda. We press on, past Mr & Mrs Charles and Gertie West's general Haberdashers and cross over into Chapel Square where Arthur Canning sells candles, night-

lights etc and paraffin, a truly combustible sounding mixture! There are 3 more shops in Chapel Square. The first belongs to Miss Sermon who makes wooden toys, paints and displays them for sale to the delight of many young customers. The second, across the road, is a Butcher's shop, owned by Mr & Mrs Sandy Hopcroft, who employ an excellent local butcher, Mr Jack Melcher. On Wednesdays Mrs Hopcroft always makes faggots, large trays full of them, turning faggot & peas lunches into a Wednesday village tradition. [At some time Reg Powell, their nephew joined them,

eventually took over and moved into larger premises in Market Place at the end of Hudson Street]. The third shop in Chapel Square is yet another Grocers owned by Mr & Mrs Weaver and their son Bert.'

Daphne, probably reflecting at the time of writing on the proliferation of Deddington shops, pauses here in her remembrance to remind us that, without the then obligatory Government Ration Books, only a few goods could be bought, but remembers gratefully that Deddington traders

shared out their wares fairly.

Ruth Johnson 338355

PS No picture of Daphne's cottage of birth in St Thomas' Street (now demolished) has been found, leaving me to include a picture of other cottages, lower down the street, taken quite a few decades before Daphne's birth!



St Thomas Street. On the right are the gates to Bliss's orchard, with Mrs Bliss in the righthand doorway. The cottages on the left were thatched, like many in the village. From a postcard dated 1905 lent [c1975?] by Mrs Alice Sykes, Market Place. Her late husband, Bertram, is the boy on the right of the line of children

News from Clifton

The unusual precursor to an epic Clifton on Sea (see 'On the Farm' *passim*) was of course the snow, and the children of the village, denied the national curriculum, studied modular construction techniques and built Cliff the snowman to an impressive 8ft 9ins tall. The fact that he straddled a scooter as he stood on two separate legs merely made the efforts of Noah, Olivia, Alice, Mika, Ollie, Luca, Chloe, Harry, Louise, Jake, Sam and Matt all the more impressive. A route march for food and beer by half the village on Friday up to the bright lights didn't reveal a taller effort, but I'm sure 'Candleford' had one hidden away somewhere.

Last month I dropped a hint about supporting Iron Man Mayo in his entry into the Marathon Des Sables. Now the subtlety for which this column is famous might have left some of you thinking this is no big deal. Well let me spell it out. There are six separate stages that range from 20km to 80km and include an actual marathon as one of the stages. Sand makes up 25-50% of the route. A previous route over the six days was Day 1 - 28km, Day 2 - 35km, Day 3 - 38km, Day 4 - 77km, Day 5 rest day, Day 6 - 42km, Day 7 - 18km, Total 238km. Kev currently has pledges totalling circa £1,000. That is only £4 per kilometre from us all! A pledge of only £60 will gain you the highest donor title.

Now c'mon, after all Kev has done for the parish (PTA chair, PTA quiz chief techie, Deddington Walk founder, Commander of the Deddington Farmers' Market erection squad, committee member *et al*) he deserves even more support. You still have two weeks (.ish) so hurry and sign up on <http://www.kevinmayoultra.co.uk> and let's show the whole world what being a member of this community really means. I'm watching you.

Martin Bryce 338031

News from Hempton

St John's Church will once again be open on a daily basis at the beginning of British Summer Time. The only time it will be closed is when the ceiling is being re-decorated, which will be for about two weeks.

The Church Hall is being used on a regular basis. Should anyone wish to use it, please give me a call. It is ideal for small parties, meetings, etc.

The table tennis team (which uses the hall) is once again fighting relegation from Division Two of the Banbury League. They are currently bottom but one, but they have reached the semi-final of the Cup, defeating Bodicote 'B' in the third round by 306 points to 281 points. They hope to go one better this season as they were beaten in the final last year.

After the heavy fall of snow which made it difficult getting out of the side roads it is nice to see the spring flowers coming up in the grass verges, particularly the snowdrops. However, it is sad to see as you walk along the footpath out of the village from the bus stop that where the hedge has been cut the cut-off branches are laid out on the grass verge. This spoils the entrance to the village.

The Easter service in St John's Church this year will probably be a sunrise Eucharist at 6.00am on Easter Day. More details in next month's issue.

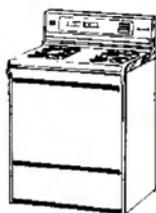
If anyone has any news for this column, please call me or drop a note into 4 The Lane.

Les Chappell 338054



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POLICE

I am pleased to announce that Sgt Scott Evans has now arrived at Banbury police station and has taken over the running of the Banbury and Bicester Rural teams.

During January the Banbury Rural Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have been reduced to two as PCSO Kevin Lewis has moved to the Bicester Rural neighbourhood.

The PCSOs have been busy with the Junior Citizens Scheme. This involves young people from local primary schools attending a day at Oxford Fire Station. During the day the pupils are taught skills in personal safety, stranger danger, rail track safety and fire safety among many others. The aim is to provide the young people with the knowledge to stay safe.

The PCSOs have also been conducting visits to victims of crime on the rural beat. These visits help to reassure the victims of crime and are an opportunity for speaking with the communities.

I am currently investigating an incident in North Newington in which an air rifle is being used to shoot pellets at front doors in the village. If anyone knows anything about this incident please contact me.

The Banbury Rural Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) meeting was held in January and following that meeting the mobile speed indication device will be deployed in a number of villages. We are still monitoring speeding problems throughout the villages and, if you feel that there is an area that needs addressing with speed enforcement, please get in touch with me.

With the NAG priority being burglary of dwellings, I can report that between 13 Nov 08 and 20 Jan 09 there were six recorded incidents.

PC 1698 Phil Morris
0845 8 505 505

The Rose Family

Fruits of Rose Family plants living in hedges are almost all good for birds: apple, blackberries, blackthorn, bramble, hawthorn, dog rose, domestic apple (*Malus domestica*), Midland hawthorn, pear (*Pyrus agg.*), and wild cherry (*Prunus avium*). Species of this family form the body of most hedges, fill



the under-storey in many wooded places, ornament the edges of green country lanes, and, despite profound neglect, blossom in old and abandoned orchards. In flower, they decorate the byways: blackthorn in early spring, hawthorn in late spring, blackberry and dog rose in mid-summer. Thorns, spines, and prickles (blackthorn, bramble, dog rose, hawthorn), and spur shoots or pegs that have the effect of blunt barbs (apple, pear) fit these plants for effective hedgerow life. Bramble, more common than dog-rose, achieves levels of universality similar to hawthorn. A good place to see dog-rose is on the east side of the lower portion of Jerusalem Lane, off Clifton road, a major component of this long old hedge.

Walter Meagher

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NO PETS

Deddington Farmers' Market

The March market is on the 28th, the day before the clocks change for summer time. You'll lose an hour of sleep the next morning, so stock up for a great Sunday breakfast! You know, all that good stuff: eggs, bacon, sausage, tomatoes etc.

It's always interesting to hear how Deddington Farmers' Market compares with others; we heard



recently of a visitor from Surrey who said that, compared with Guildford, our market had better quality, a greater range of produce and better prices. Do you visit other markets, and how do you think Deddington market compares?

When you come along to your local market, where so many stalls are fitted so neatly into a rather compact space, spare a thought for the dedicated team of helpers who turn out early in all weathers to set the stalls up ready for the traders to load with produce. They then return to work up an appetite for lunch by taking them down, and packing them away again to return the square and the church to normal. Have a look at this: <http://www.kevinmayoultra.co.uk/> to see why Kevin Mayo won't be moving stalls about for the March market.

Do you have a Deddington market bag? I was most surprised to find out that about 1,300 bags have been sold. When these were first sold, the plastic supermarket bag was everywhere. Now that stores and buyers are being encouraged to be more aware of waste, the Deddington market bag is being used wider afield. I did hear of one which went to New Zealand. Now, that's spreading the word.

**Paul Drawmer 338450
07850 878887**

Pantomime 2009

Captain Hook's Revenge, this January's pantomime, was thoroughly enjoyable. As well as the expertise of several well-known Deddington thespians and one ever-welcome adopted Deddingtonian, we saw plenty of new talent. The crowd of young children who could have turned the event into a nursery romp were disciplined, confident and delightful. The songs were truly tuneful, the costumes colourful and as beautifully made as ever, the scene painting imaginative. One was aware of competent choreography keeping the crowded stage pleasant to watch all the way through.

Incidentally, this panto saw the first appearance of seven-year-old Ben Fenemore who is the third generation of his family to appear on the Windmill stage. His grandfather George has been in all but the first of our 17 pantos and his Aunt Elizabeth was once a sweetly singing young fairy.

Molly Neild 338521

Deddington Parish Show 2009

This year's Parish Show, the second of the new era, will be on Saturday 5 September in the Parish Church. We shall not combine with the Church Bazaar this year, as we need more space and tables, and the organisers of the Bazaar would prefer it to be nearer Christmas.

The green flyer with this DN issue gives a list of the classes. As you can see, there are many more than last year, especially for children, giving greater opportunity for a huge range of talents.

You are getting this information early so that you can organise your planting and get going on making non-perishable things ready for the show. Last year's response made us hopeful that this year's show will be bigger and better, so please don't disappoint us!

We have welcomed two new members, Naomi Fenemore and Stan Nelson, and wish to thank Michael Allbrook, who has retired from the committee, for his contribution to our 2008 show.

Wendy Burrows 338082

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An Account of those Sentenced to be Transported from Deddington to the Colonies

This is the third of Rob Forsyth's extracts (Sept 2008 extract 2). The full article can be seen on DOL at <http://www.deddington.org.uk/history/Transportees.pdf>.

1835 5th March Robert COWLEY (22) and John WHEELER (25) were both charged with killing eight sheep belonging to Henry Dean the elder of Deddington – tenant of Earl's Farm - and also killing another sheep belonging to Henry Dean the younger and stealing its carcase. Henry and John Cowley were all involved in some way but escaped the charges. A very full transcript of the discovery of the evidence by the village Constable, including discovering a leg of mutton hidden under clothes, bloody footprints and more, can be read in the publication *Banished!* in the library. It is recommended reading. **Robert Cowley** was transported to Hobart in the *Aurora* where he arrived in October 1835 and was pardoned in 1846. **John Wheeler** was shipped out on the *Mary Anne* to Sydney where he arrived in October 1835. Nothing more is known about him after this.

1836 4th January William LEWIS (31) was charged with stealing several thimbles, the property of Thomas Fardon* of Deddington. When being pursued he threw away a bundle containing '...a crow bar, several skeleton keys and other housebreaking implements...' One would not be surprised to hear that he pleaded guilty! He was transported to Sydney on the *Moffatt* arriving in August 1836. He was not from a Deddington family having been born in Lancaster.

Recording Parish Biodiversity

In time for this year's Deddington Festival, Wendy and I are publishing in booklet form *Historic Green Lanes*, one chapter from the book to be published later in 2009, *The Natural History of Deddington*.

In 2000 I started, with the help of Alison Day, Wendy Meagher, Sylvie Spenceley, Kristin Thompson (we being the Deddington Parish Naturalists), Tom Curtis and Justin Mathews (both from the University of Oxford), a survey of Deddington parish hedges. With the help of the CPRE, the scope expanded to an inventory of the woody plant biodiversity of 598 hedges, more hedges than any parish has ever inventoried. The result has been a series of profiles of species' frequency, from hawthorn and ash to wild apple and field maple, that occur in our hedges. The distribution of less common (hazel) and rare (viburnum) species has been mapped. Colour dot maps, and other maps, were prepared by Peter Terry. An outline of the book will be provided with *Historic Green Lanes*. In this booklet there are contributions by Richard Broadbent, Philip Rigby, Andre Tansley, Kristin Thompson and Jackie Williamson.



Photo taken by Sylvie Spenceley

1837 27th February Zachariah GIBBS (28). Ten years on from his first offence and transportation to Bermuda [see DN Sept 2008] - and none the wiser it seems! - Zachariah is charged with breaking into the house of Mary Butler of Stoke Lyne on '15th December last, and [having] stolen 10 loaves of bread, 30 lbs. of bacon, 12 lbs. of cheese and two silver spoons, the property of Elizabeth Butler'. Zachariah's eloquent defence is a masterpiece: 'My Lord, I got to say this, I'm innocent of the crime. Well, my Lord, Nancy Butler and William Butler told me as if I wouldn't give 'em four pounds, they'd send me where their father and brother went to. Now, my Lord, I went to Nancy Butler's house and I slept with her. That's true and her picked my pocket of nineteen shillings and a pocket handkerchief and I found the pocket handkerchief in her drawer and her swore me out and out it wasn't the same. And her wanted me to pay for it and so accordingly I didn't and then she asked me 'will you lend me two pounds?' and I says no, for I think you've had quite enough off me, and her knows that's true. That's all I've got to say, my Lord'. Nancy Butler was called to give evidence, but she denied the whole of the prisoner's statement! This time he was transported to Hobart where he served out his time and died an old man in 1881.

*Thomas Fardon was a very well known Quaker clockmaker in the village. The church clock was built by him. A lot more about him can be seen in the October, November and December 1994 issues of the DN either in the library or in Deddington OnLine website in the history section.

Indeed, TNHD has been a parish cooperative undertaking, privately funded, and provides detailed inventories not only of the parish hedgerows but also of all the oak trees (measured and sorted into age classes). Butterflies, birds, small and large mammals, ferns and lichens have also been inventoried. Habitats, in particular parish woods, wetland habitats (including floodplain meadows, springs, seeps and ponds) and riversides were studied. The herbaceous flora of the entire parish has been examined and tabulated; hot-spots have been looked at in detail. The chapters Deddington Castle Grounds, the 'Living Churchyard' of SS Peter & Paul, and Plantations Old and New have been on Deddington OnLine for some time.

What is the purpose of this work? It is to establish, using the professional care of the trained naturalist, the parish of Deddington's importance - its standing - in the biodiversity of the county and of the country. I hope you will come to our table at the Deddington Festival.

Walter L Meagher wmeagher@gmail.com

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Book Club

At our last meeting we discussed *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak. This book celebrates the power of words; the good they can do and the evil, and focuses on ordinary people in Hitler's Germany and the way they stand up to the Nazi regime in small but meaningful ways. The narrator is 'Death', but this should not put you off as once you get past the first confusing pages, you realise that he has a compassionate voice and can be trusted. Well written, with vivid characters and some beautiful descriptions, often skilfully delivered in a very few words. The narrative is unsentimental and matter-of-fact in tone, thought provoking and at times heartbreaking. Highly recommended by the group.

The next book, for discussion at our meeting on 26 March, is *The Story of Lucy Gault* by William Trevor.

Sally Lambert 338094

Youth Club

At our recent AGM we discussed the present high number of members. It was decided that, unfortunately, there would be no new members enrolled for Youth Club until at least Easter, as there is a limit to the number of young people we can legally and safely supervise. If you become 10 years old between now and Easter and would like to join Youth Club, please ring Dawn Franklin on 338884 and she will put your name on a waiting list, and get in touch with you when there is a space.

We welcomed Alex Giles and Joe Munson on to our committee as representatives of the members. They have already made some useful suggestions.

Also at the AGM the chairman, treasurer and secretary re-iterated their wish to leave at the end of the summer term, or earlier, so we are still looking for new people to help run this worthwhile organisation. Please get in touch if you can spare an occasional hour or two at home and the odd session of supervision at our Monday evening meetings.

We have some great activities planned for the next few weeks including pancake making, T-shirt design and a fire awareness course.

Pam Axten 337919

Deddington Badminton Club

We are now in the final part of our season, which ends on 28 April. Our club nights are Tuesday from 7.30pm. Our teams are having mixed results but should all remain in their respective divisions with the exception of our Men's B, which look like returning to Division 2 as they have not had a single victory this season. Our Men's C team have some great new players with two of our juniors - Max Watling and Oliver Tindle - playing in nearly all matches and really improving their game.

Mark Tyler 338056

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team Results:

24/01/09 Cropredy (CUP) (h) W 2-1 Own Goal, Hewitt

31/01/09 Cropredy Reserves (a) W 5-0 Hall (2), Laird (2), Hewitt

21/02/09 Heyford Utd (CUP) (h)L 1-2 (aet) Hewitt

Reserve Team Results:

24/01/09 Glory Farm Reserves (a) D 1-1 Ayckbourn

31/01/09 KEA 'A' (CUP) (h) W 3-2 Rollason (2), Thornton

21/02/09 Fenny Compton Res (a) D 2-2 Thornton, Ayckbourn

As the sky scattered its jewels far and wide in February, the lack of under soil heating meant an inevitable series of postponements. Even sacrificing a substitute to the Sun God could not appease winter's captivating wrath, so the team had to make do with kicking snowballs, as even a trip to the shops meant a pack of huskies navigating treacherous tundra.

The First Team have progressed in one cup and agonisingly been eliminated from another, but happily now await a semi-final appearance at Banbury United's stadium on 25 February. Evergreen veteran Micky Hewitt has cracked in four goals in four games, while Keith Laird has also been showing those youngsters how it's done.

The Reserves have faltered slightly with awkward away games only yielding two draws, Fenny Compton proving particularly galling as the Reserves were leading and controlling the game until late on. In between these setbacks came a titanic comeback in the Geoff Wilson Cup semi-final. They now have a cup final at Bicester Town Football Club on Saturday 28 March, where support will be much appreciated. Kick off is at 7.00pm.

The First Team are still well placed to mount a swashbuckling promotion charge, whilst the Reserves' recent results have mirrored the only team above them, thus leaving it as 'as you were' in the league standings.

'75' Club Results:

23/01/09 S Plumbe £50

30/01/09 C Cox £50

13/02/09 B Debenham £50

20/02/09 C Franklin £50

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

Deddington Art Group

The upper room in the Town Hall in Deddington is used for meetings and now our weekly Art Group. It has had an electrical inspection with a certificate. We are grateful for the village support. We would like to sell paintings on a Thursday 12.30 to 1.30pm and Farmers' Market days: I have koi carp in oils. I would like some guidance on e-bay.

Ken Wilkinson 337256

CALLING MORE CLUBS

Deddington and District History Society

Despite the wintry weather we had a good turnout on 11 February when Michael Hodges spoke about his discoveries during 25 years of metal detecting. He brought along an astonishing amount of material (covering six tables), ranging from a set of five Bronze Age axe heads to a modern wedding ring. The axe heads are normally on display at the Ashmolean Museum, being finer than any that the museum has in its own collections. Michael has devoted much time and energy to improving hostile relations between detectors and archaeologists, to the extent that they now often work together, which was far from the case in the past.

On Wednesday 11 March Stephen Barker will speak on the Civil War battle of Cropredy Bridge. As always, anyone is welcome to come and join us.

We still have some copies of our reprint of Mary Vane Turner's *The Story of Deddington*, an important source for Deddington history. If you would like a copy you will need to move fairly quickly. The book costs £9: please contact Janet Broadbent on 338173, or buy it from Deddington Library. When the remaining copies have been sold the book will once more be out of print. It is already on the way to becoming a collector's item!

Chris Day (Chairman) 337204
Moira Byast (Secretary) 338637

Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

Following our Annual General Meeting the programme of DOGS events is now finalised. The golf days for 2009 are:

- Cotswold Hills Golf Club, Friday 1 May 2009, full day.
- Burford Golf Club, Monday 15 June 2009, full day.
- Kirtlington Golf Club, Friday 14 August 2009, 1/2 day (followed by a social gathering).
- Kenilworth Golf Club, Friday 16 October 2009, full day.

This is an exciting schedule that should prove to be very popular with both our members and guests. NB: To be announced is our gala summer weekend away.

David Darst 338589

Photographic Society

This month a member who has relocated with his family to Namibia, returned to give a presentation of his work experience there. Scott Hurd now lives in Otjwarango and has combined opening a photographic business with setting up local apprenticeship schemes for deprived Africans in the township. One scheme involves digital photography, a charity supported by the Society with second hand equipment, and Scott showed the work of two of his apprentices - who showed great creative potential. Scott showed a selection of his business photographs originally produced for hotels, lodges, travel brochures, sporting events, newspapers etc.

He then moved on to show his own large collection of personal wildlife photographs, covering an immense variety of subjects from animals, reptiles, birds, insects, trees and fauna, to native Africans in the tribal areas. Scott finished by explaining his photographic techniques noting that, while the light, visibility and scenery all contributed to some amazing photography, sand and dust were an ever-present problem for camera equipment. An absorbing and fascinating presentation by one of our members.

John Branton 01295 811071

Deddington Cricket Club

Since our report in February we can now confirm that we have obtained grants totalling £19,210 and we have given instructions for the work to be carried out for our two-lane artificial net system which we hope will be completed before the beginning of the season.

We are planning our own fund-raising activities to help narrow the gap; meantime we are negotiating with the Parish Council for a possible loan.

Sundays have been designated Ladies' Day so come along ladies, let's be having you!

For more information on club activities, log on to www.deddingtoncc.co.uk.

Derek Cheeseman 338609



OXFORDSHIRE BEFRIENDING NETWORK

Volunteers supporting people with life threatening and terminal illness

Would you like to make a difference in 2009?

Being diagnosed with a serious illness can be one of the most overwhelming experiences anyone can face, as it involves not only coping with the symptoms of the illness, but a huge adjustment in lifestyle and often social isolation.

Having a regular visitor, someone outside the immediate family, who will listen, can offer emotional support and be willing to accompany the ill person on their 'journey' can be invaluable.

We are currently looking for new befriending volunteers and we offer free training, expenses and on-going support.

Our next Befriending trainings start in Oxford in May/June and October 2009.

If you can offer 2-3 hours a week to befriend someone living in your area, are warm, compassionate and emotionally mature please contact us on 01865 791781 or email: enquiries@oxonbefriending.net for a Befriending information pack and application form.

We also run an Advocacy service and will be running training for Volunteer Advocates in April. For Advocacy enquiries, please ask for Jan Penrose or email: jan.penrose@oxonbefriending.net