

THE TEAM

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The DEDDINGTON NEWS

There are so many options of things to do in the parish and December is no different. There are new groups popping up from time to time such as Knit and Natter and the Community Choir, as well as all the long-established ones. But if this sort of thing doesn't attract you, don't be blue at home. The church is reaching out to people who are feeling alone or blue, in particular over the festive period. Happy Christmas to you all. We're back with the February issue. **JC**

What's On December

- Sat 1 Hempton Christmas Bazaar: Old School Room, 11.00am
Sat 1 Charity Party (Macmillan and Parkinson's): Windmill, 6.00–11.00pm
Sat 1 WWI Concert: Parish Church, 7.00pm
Mon 3 Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
Mon 3 Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm
Wed 5 Photographic Society: Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm
Thu 6 Knit and Natter Group: Holly Tree, 7.00pm
Thu 6 Christmas Fayre: Parish Church, 7.30–9.30pm
Sat 8 Royal British Legion: AGM and Christmas Dinner, Deddington Arms, 7.00pm
Mon 10 Primary School F1: Concert, Parish Church, 2.00pm
Tue 11 Primary School KS1: Concert, Parish Church, 4.30pm
Tue 11 WI: Christmas Birthday Lunch, Deddington Arms
Thu 13 Primary School KS2: Concert, Parish Church, 6.00pm
Thu 13 Holly Tree Club: Film Night, *The Holly and the Ivy* (1952), Holly Tree, 6.30pm
Thu 13 History Society: Christmas Social, Deddington School, 7.30pm
Mon 17 Parish Church: Open for Quiet Music and Advent poems, until 8.30pm
Tue 18 Parish Church: Open for Quiet Music and Advent poems, until 8.30pm
Wed 19 PC Meeting: Holly Tree Club, 7.30pm
Fri 21 Baby and Toddler Group: Visit from Father Christmas, Windmill, 9.30–11.30am
Fri 21 Neighbourhood Plan: Deadline for Comments
Sat 22 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
Sat 22 Parish Church: Blue Christmas, 4.00pm
Mon 24 Christmas Eve Carols: Deddington Brass, Market Place, 6.00pm
Tue 25 Parish Church: Christmas Lunch, 1.00pm

January 2019

- Wed 2 Photographic Society: Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm
Thu 3 Knit and Natter Group: Holly Tree, 7.00pm

Continued on p2

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

in The Old School Room, Hempton, on Wednesday 21 November

Present: Cllrs Collins, Cox, Eames, Greeve, Oldfield, Robinson, Rogers (Chair), Squires, Swadling, Timms and Watts, also Cllr Williams (CDC) and Cllr Fatemian (OCC).

County Councillor's Report: OCC will return to finish Hempton road junction roadworks. Five volunteers have come forward to join a new scheme to identify and report issues to Fix-My-Street.

Planning

No objections

Craxton, Castle End, Deddington – Tree works.

Hempton House, Snakehill Lane, Hempton – Change of use from agricultural land to equestrian and installation of manège.

Old Post House, New St, Deddington – Single storey extension, internal remodel. This property is not listed. Compton Cottage, Philcote St, Deddington – Single storey rear and side extension.

Rushall House, Earl's Lane, Deddington – Single storey side addition under lean-to roof to provide utility/WC. Garden room improvements.

Objections

11 Hempton Rd, Deddington – Conversion of single dwelling to two self-contained houses. Objection on the grounds of over-development and loss of neighbour's amenity. Also concern about water run-off from new driveways. Should permission be granted PC would ask for a permeable surface.

CDC Approval

SS Peter and Paul's Church, Deddington – Tree works. 6 Windmill St, Deddington – Single storey rear extension.

16 The Paddocks, – Conversion into two dwellings.

End Cottage, The Stile, Deddington – Tree works.

Environment and Recreation

DPC is to provide materials for the Primary School to make a speedwatch scarecrow.

A litter bin is to be installed by the memorial bench on Cosy Lane and the Co-op will be asked to install a bin on the green where the postbox used to be. Existing bins by the seat are to be repaired.

Unfortunate incidences of owners wilfully allowing their dogs to foul the churchyard were reported.

The hedges at the Hempton allotments are to be cut (£235).

The Christmas tree will be delivered and installed on Tuesday 27 November. Volunteers are welcome.

Thank you to all who helped with the autumn litter pick, especially to Ben Dyche at CDC.

Highways and Transport

New Street bus stop – hard-standing has been installed and is appreciated by at least one resident.

Concern was expressed by a resident about the increased heavy traffic through Hempton. The installation of a 'black box' is to be investigated which would record speed and type of traffic. CC Fatemian is to look

for previous data for comparison.

Thames Valley Police is hosting a Bike Marking Operation on 19 January. This will be publicised locally. There will be a temporary road closure from 28 January until 31 January at Barford St John and St Michael (Buttermilk Farm) whilst new water connection works are carried out.

A hazel and a rowan tree have been chosen as WW1 Commemoration trees. Location to be decided.

As from September 2019 free school transport will only be available for children attending their nearest school. For those affected, help should be sought from their County Councillor to get the policy amended.

Finance and General Purposes

The opening hours for the Parish Council office are Monday and Thursday 9.00am–12.30pm, Wednesday 9.00am–5.00pm

Next PC meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 19 December in the Holly Tree Club, Deddington.

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter, Jean Rudge, and not the official minutes. To see those, go to <http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2018.html>.

Friends of Deddington Library

We had not met at the time of going to press, so there is nothing for the committee to report. We are extremely grateful though for the continued support of the community through the purchase of the 2019 Deddington Calendar and also our post- and note-cards. Sales are slightly down on 2018 so please support the library as the calendars make great Christmas gifts. We were present at the November farmers' market and will be at the December one, so please come and buy a copy or two.

In the meantime we'd like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, may all your wishes come true. Thank you.

Bryn Williams

abw@brynwilliams.com

What's On (continued from p1)

Mon 7	Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, 10.30am
Mon 7	Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm
Tue 8	WI: Life Outside WI, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
Thu 10	Holly Tree Club: Film Night, <i>The Greatest Showman</i> , Holly Tree, 6.30pm
Wed 16	PC Meeting: Primary School, 7.30pm
Thu 17	History Society: 'Farming in Deddington', George Fenemore, Primary School, 7.30pm
17–19	Deddington Players: <i>Dick Whittington</i> , Windmill Centre
Thu 24	Book Group: Contact 01869 338094
Sat 26	Farmer's Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm

SPACE2LEARN – A Successful Year

In October 2017, the three of us met for the first time to talk about plans for fundraising for a new school building – that was the birth of *Space2Learn*. In the intervening 13 months, we have managed to raise a staggering £30,000.

Our approach to fundraising is to offer people something they want or involve them in something they will enjoy. The first £600 was raised by proud parents, family and audience at the school's Christmas performances last year. Our quiz night at the beginning of February raised £1,000 and was attended by some of the parish's keen quiz fans. Our biggest event to date, the Masquerade Ball in April, raised £20,000 – we were overwhelmed by the generosity of all our sponsors, donors and guests. Then in July a group of cyclists, led by John Upson, undertook a breathtaking challenge – three ascents of Mont Ventoux in one day. Through their Herculean efforts we raised another £4,500. In September, Elli Ince generously put on a play at the Windmill, *Into the Breach*, which raised £300 and was a fantastic show well-attended by adults and children alike. In November, we held a Dia de los Muertos fancy dress party, an evening of food, drinks, live music and some amazing



costumes. At that we raised £2,500. The remaining money is made up of generous donations from Deddington Players, Deddington Festival and Farmers' Market, for which we are most grateful. Last but not least, through easyfundraising, we have raised another more than £700 just by people choosing us as the charity to benefit from their online shopping.

We have been overwhelmed by the support from the community for our events and fundraising efforts – thank you to each and every one of you who has supported us. A special thank you to those who have given up lots of time and energy on the organising and planning side – events don't just happen. We have been blessed with some truly amazing team members. For now, we are taking a break, but please keep an eye on our website for photos from this year and for events in 2019.

**Becky Jones, Pete Kenny
Bev Hamblet-Bowes**

Space2Learn is a project of Deddington PTA
info@s2ldeddington.uk
www.s2ldeddington.uk
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/space2learn/>

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FARMERS' MARKET

NOT A CHRISTMAS RECIPE

If you've forgotten to place your orders for the Christmas market, you may still be able to – just contact stallholders directly. You'll find their details at <http://www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk/stall-holders.html>.

Christmas is rarely understated. There is an assumed compulsion towards seasonal excess which can pall after a few days. So this month's recipe is seasonal comfort food and could play an excellent supporting role for leftover roasts for example.

It's a restrained version of a Bangladeshi dish that would often appear at lunchtime when I was working in Dhaka.

MUSTARD MASHED POTATOES – serves 4

1 medium sized parsnip, peeled and cut into cubes
 2 medium sized floury potatoes, peeled and cut into cubes
 Turmeric, a pinch
 Butter Dijon Mustard
 Mustard oil Milk
 Mustard seeds (black or white), toasted
 White pepper (optional)
 Garam masala (optional)

I've been deliberately vague on the amounts because this dish is best worked out by taste and error. Some people will like a full throated mustard hit, others just a hint.

Put the parsnip cubes on to boil in water. Add a teaspoon of salt to the water and a pinch of turmeric (this subtly underlines the earthy notes of the root vegetables and gives them an attractive golden colour). After 5–10 minutes add the potato cubes (they cook more quickly than the parsnips). When both vegetables are soft, drain and leave to steam off some of the water

in a warm oven. Then mash the parsnip and potato mixture over a low heat (to drive off more water) until smooth. Add a generous lump of butter and mash in. Add at least a teaspoon of Dijon mustard (you may want to add more but wait until the end of the seasoning process) and mash that through the mixture. Stir in a little milk to loosen it. Continue adding milk until you get the right consistency. Dry fry about a teaspoonful of mustard seeds until they have started to pop (like tiny popcorn) and stir through the mash. Add a glug of mustard oil (which is the key ingredient – available at supermarkets and ethnic shops) and stir through. Taste. A healthy pinch of ground white mustard might be a good thing.

You can serve the mash at this point, perhaps with a scatter of garam masala over the top or you can put it in an oven dish to toast the top, or reheat later in a hot oven.

Any leftovers can be turned into a high octane version of bubble and squeak.

The market webpage is www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk. The market is on Saturday 22 December from 9.00am–12.30pm.

If you can't wait till then, there's always the Adderbury market on the second Thursday of each month at The Institute, The Green, Adderbury, 6.00–8.00pm. More details at: www.market.adderbury.org.

Good shopping and a Merry Christmas to all customers and stallholders!

Ian Willox, 01869 337940

ian.willox@btconnect.com

The dates of the next few markets are: 26 January, 23 February, 23 March, 27 April, 25 May and 22 June.

Holly Tree Club

Our November film, *Saving Grace*, was very good and everyone enjoyed it. Likewise, the trip to Stratford Garden Centre in October was most enjoyable, an interesting place to visit.

The December film on Thursday 13th is a step back in time. *The Holly and the Ivy* is a 1952 black and white film starring Ralph Richardson, Margaret Leighton, John Gregson and Celia Johnson, about an English clergyman whose neglect of his grown offspring in his zeal to tend to his parishioners, comes to the surface at a Christmas family gathering.

On Thursday 10 January, we're kicking off the New Year with a real show-stopper. *The Greatest Showman* comes to town, starring Hugh Jackman, and inspired by the imagination of PT Barnum. It is an original musical that celebrates the birth of show business and tells of a visionary who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that became a worldwide sensation. You don't need to be a member or to book to see the film, just come along. All over 55s will be made welcome. The only cost is £2 for refreshments on the night.

We are looking forward to our Christmas lunch at the Deddington Arms on Tuesday 4 December; I'm sure all our members will enjoy good company and a lovely meal.

The Monday Morning Coffee Club is open to over 55s and is held on the first Monday of the month at 10.30am in the Holly Tree Club. New members are welcome so don't forget to invite your new neighbours.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our committee for all their hard work with the Holly Tree this year and to wish the committee, our members and supporters a very happy Christmas and a prosperous, healthy New Year.

For all Club enquiries, please contact Liz Dickinson on 01869 337050 or Diana Marshall on 01869 337761. For all Holly Tree booking enquiries, please contact Hugh Blythe on 01869 338126 hughblythe@btinternet.com.

John Finnigan, Chair

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

January 2019

Please see the enclosed Christmas card for all the December services in the Benefice

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Sun 6	10.30am	Family Service
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong
Sun 13	8.00am	BCP Communion
	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 20	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 27	10.30am	Holy Communion (informal said service)

Hempton

Sun 6	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 20	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 27	6.00pm	Evening Prayer

Barford St Michael

Sun 6	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 13	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 20	10.30am	Family Service
Sun 27	9.00am	Holy Communion

For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the Vicar, Reverend Annie Goldthorp at vicar@deddingtonchurch.org or on 01869 336880. If Annie is not available, then please contact one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie (01869 338367) or Dave Hughes (01869 347294). We also have a Curate, Reverend Paula Smith, who can be contacted on curate@deddingtonchurch.org.

RC Parish of Hethe

There is no longer a resident full-time incumbent at Hethe. A non-resident priest will say one Mass on Sundays (no Latin Mass).

Mass is said at 9.00am on Sunday at SS Peter and Paul's Anglican church in King's Sutton.

The Vigil Mass at St John's Church, Banbury, is said at 4.00pm on Saturdays to allow worshippers from the villages to attend by public transport.

What's On At Church

Between Advent and Christmas?

You will find all our services listed on the Christmas card enclosed with this issue of *Deddington News*. There are, however, some things that need pointing out for special attention.

Advent is a time for preparation and often this time of reflection becomes overwhelmed by the rush to get everything organised for Christmas. To help with this, the church will be open until 8.30pm on 17 and 18 December. Our church will be beautifully lit and, together with some quiet music and Advent poems, promises to be the perfect place to relax amongst all the 'busyness' of the season.

If Christmas is a difficult time for you – perhaps you have hard memories of this time of year, maybe you are out of work, in a broken relationship and find that the overall jollity of the season is getting you down – then please come to our Blue Christmas Service at 4.00pm on Saturday 22 December. This is a safe space where we offer hope as we recognise that Christmas is not always happy for everyone.

Christmas Day can be miserable if you have to spend it on your own. Please don't be lonely this year – come and join us for Christmas lunch in church, from 1.00pm. We just need to know how many to cater for, so if you would like to come, just pop your name on the list that is on the table at the back of church. We don't need all your details, just your first name will do.

Revd Annie and Revd Paula

Deddington PFSU and Nursery

We've enjoyed the autumn with lots of walks and playing in the leaves; the pre-school children even spent a morning making their own autumn lunch.

Christmas is on the way and the children are hard at work learning songs and making cards and gifts. The PFSU children will join their friends in the F1 class for their performance of Wriggly Nativity on Monday 10 December at 2.00pm in Deddington Church. Nursery children have their turn on Wednesday 12 December from 10.00am–12.00pm, when they hold a creative morning with their families which will include singing some Christmas songs.

Our Christmas parties will be held on Thursday 20 December at both settings.

Don't miss our ever-popular Christmas Fayre on Thursday 6 December from 7.30–9.30pm in Deddington Church. There will be mulled wine, Christmas music from Deddington Brass, and the opportunity to start (or finish) your Christmas shopping with a variety of stalls. This event is open to everybody and we'd love you to join us.

Finally may we remind our PFSU families that the deadline for primary school applications is 15 January 2019.

Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2019 from everyone at the Nursery and PFSU.

Lucy Squires
01869 337484

Wine Time

It's the time to hang the stockings on the wall. It's the time for every Santa to have a ball! At Christmas fizzy wine should feature heavily in your celebrations. Most people are familiar with Champagne and the ubiquitous Prosecco but there are many more (at sensible prices). Try grabbing one of the below for a fizzy adventure and see what you think.

Franciacorta is an Italian sparkling wine currently being pushed by Tesco in their Finest range. At £13 a bottle it's worth a go. It's made the same way as Champagne and usually with two of the same grapes (pinot noir and chardonnay). It can be expensive, so it's great to see Tesco champion it.

Cremant is French for any sparkling wine made using the Champagne method but from a different region. They often use different grapes from those in Champagne and so have different flavours. There are many; here are three that can be fantastic value. **Cremant d'Alsace** – soft and easy drinking with usually mild flavours using pinot noir, pinot gris and pinot blanc as well as Riesling. **Cremant de Loire** – frequently chenin blanc-based, the grape gives it a wonderful distinctiveness. Try Majestic's Langois at about £14 or Sainsbury's Taste the Difference version at about £12. **Cremant de Bourgogne** – from Burgundy and usually pinot noir and/or chardonnay. These can be as good as any you can find and at a fraction of the price. Lidl's 2017 offering won prizes at about £8 a bottle.

Cava. What a fall from grace this wonderful Spanish/Catalan wine has had. It's never taken its rightful place in the pantheon of fizz due to previous marketing disasters. This makes it great value for money. Sainsbury's sell an own brand Cava Brut for just under £6. It's a good wine, but for the price it's exceptional. Cava uses different grapes from Champagne but is made the same way. It delivers citrus and crisp green apple flavours and if aged can add complexity and toasty depth.

American fizz from places such as Anderson Valley, Canernos and Russian River has driven Californian sparkling wines to the top of the quality table. Try Anderson Quartet NV by Roederer Estate for about £25 a bottle – made by one of the most famous Champagne houses, but in California. Widely available from sources such as Waitrose or Wine Society.

English Sparkling Wine. Now, sadly, priced to match Champagne but it can be amazing. Furleigh Estate Rosé, a pink wonder from Dorset, is a great example at around the £25 mark. Camel Valley in Cornwall remains my favourite, despite the fame of Ridgeview, and if you are feeling like splashing out, then give it a go – all widely available and on their websites).

Charles Elvin 2018

Charles.elvin@btopenworld.com

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DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM



Well, that's another year done and dusted, with dust being the operative word. In the past 45 years since we arrived in Clifton we have had some dry years, but this has been the worst for its length. Way back in April we were swimming ewes and lambs off the Clifton meadows, after flash flooding and

then the big wet became the big dry. Flooding in the river valley is par for the course but this year not only did we lose the early spring grazing for the ewes, the curlew were also washed off and did not return to breed.

Then the big dry started and, although we have had some rain, here we are in December facing a considerable moisture deficit, but the crops, including the replanted rape, are looking good and the environmental strips have also come good, which is just as well as the government inspector cometh.

We have been involved for over 30 years in any number of government flagship environmental schemes: Environmentally Sensitive Area, the river meadows right through to a whole farm Higher Level Scheme and now Higher Level Tier. Many of you have been on the festival farm walks (A Walk on the Wild Side) and seen what we are doing, but now Natural England has been more or less disbanded the environmental mantle has been passed on to the Rural Payments Agency, yet another Government quango. The government inspector arrives after the statutory 24 hours' notice period. With farm maps that are ten years out of date, the farm inspection will take two days with every field, hedge and wildlife strip being measured. He will then come back for another two days in the farm office to go through all the farm records, so I will have to tidy my desk. Any discrepancy will result in yet more investigations and reduced or delayed payments which, at the end of the day, is the government's desired result. The irony is that the

payments we receive for forgone income goes to the landlord in the form of rent as there is no reduction in the rent we pay for the land we put into environmental schemes. In much the same way the many rights of way that cross the farm form part of the total acreage but cannot be cropped and must be maintained. The Old Man has been ordered to button his lip and keep out of the office for the duration, so he's off fishing to find his 'girlfriend', a most beautiful hen brown trout.

Just what the situation will be after the mayhem of the EU debacle and Mr 'Green' Gove's 'public money for public goods' remains to be seen. Ho hum.

The bees are now in bed and will be left to tick over until the Farm Student returns from his agricultural college to take over, as the Old Man with his ram-bashed knee cannot cope with the rough going.

As I have already commented, the farm is still very dry with none of the farm field drains running. For the last two years we have not seen the normal amount of visiting winter waders, as there has been little winter flooding, so we await just what the winter weather gods have in store for us but, despite the summer weather, the barns are full of hay and winter feed for the sheep. Blue and his compatriots have done a good job with the conventional flock and, after a short rest, are sorting out the organic flock with the first lambs due in April and May.

I have stood down from the knee operation since I will be needed in the lambing shed for night duty as it is unfair to leave it all to the boys and our vet student, even if I can't do much apart from looking for any problems with a mobile in my pocket. It is many years since I lambed my first ewe, but I can still give advice, even if it's not needed.

Christmas is coming and the church choir is up and running again with a new music director, so it's good to be back in harness after a five-month hiatus. There will be changes to the way things are done but, after 60 years as a chorister, it will be good to get going again and a real stress buster from the farm and the inspectors.

George Fenemore
01869 338203

Hempton Common Lands Charity

First established in 1808, the charity manages seven acres three rood and eleven poles of land situated in Hempton, let by the trustees to farmers. The proceeds were to be spent on coal which was distributed to the poor of Hempton. The charity has recently updated its constitution to modernise its goals and is now better able to support parishioners resident in Hempton.

The charity can consider applications for furniture, bedding, clothing, food, fuel, heating appliances, tools, books, payment of fees for instruction or examination

or travelling expenses. This list is indicative rather than exclusive.

Most of the grants are up to £100 but the trustees might consider making a larger grant if funds were available.

Applications must be made in writing to the vicar of Deddington and more details are available on our website, www.hemptoncharity.org.

David Rogers

Deddington Housing Association

The Deddington Housing Association (DHA) management committee is a small group of volunteer trustees which manages and oversees the upkeep of the four Holly Tree bungalows in Earls Lane, Deddington.

We have recently invested in a programme to create a further residential unit at the Holly Tree. This is a newly renovated and refurbished one-bedroom, two-storey cottage, suitable for single person occupancy.

Our properties are for the benefit of the 'aged and/or physically disabled persons in necessitous circumstances within the parish of Deddington upon terms appropriate to their means' or those who can demonstrate very strong links to the parish. However, as this is a two-storey property, it would not be suitable for

anyone with a physical disability that restricts mobility, specifically in respect of the use of stairs. It is anticipated that the property will be available in early 2019.

Expressions of interest can be registered in the first instance via email to chair@thedha.org or by post to Stella O'Neill, DHA Chair, c/o College Farm Cottage, 5 Hopcraft Lane, Deddington, Oxon OX15 0TD.

The closing date is midday Friday 21 December 2018. Those whose expression of interest shows they meet the charity criteria will be sent a full application form for completion, following which shortlisting, interview and appointment will be carried out.

Stella O'Neill, Chair

VACANCY – Gardener/handyman

Duties include grass-cutting, lawn maintenance (aerating etc) planting, weeding, pruning. The applicant must be self-employed, physically fit, able to climb ladders, have some garden knowledge, and be fully insured. Initially it will be for three hours a week in summer and three hours a fortnight in winter months. Some general maintenance knowledge and ability to

do odd jobs in addition to the regular gardening would be advantageous. Please send your details and CV to chair@thedha.org or by post to Stella O'Neill, DHA Chair, c/o College Farm Cottage, 5 Hopcraft Lane, Deddington, Oxon OX15 0TD.

The closing date is midday Friday 21 December 2018.

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POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

AUSTRALIA, CANADA AND US – GUNS AND POLITICIANS

Travel has many benefits: meeting people, seeing great sights and expanding the mind. As I write this on a plane back from Sydney to the City of Angels, I am thinking about cultural differences, having visited Canada and Australia in the last three months plus, of course, the UK and US. I was passing through the body scanner at Sydney airport, when the security man stopped me, looked at the read-out screen and said 'It appears you have a large penis sir'. I love Australia, the people are very welcoming and they certainly don't take life too seriously.

There are times when I am in Canada that I can forget that it isn't America. In Alberta last month at the centre of the Canadian oil business, it certainly felt similar to Texas: big steaks, tall skyscrapers and a lot of unrefined money. But a 50 minute flight west over the Rockies to an airport with four gates and it can't be more different, relaxed and very welcoming.

I was asking the folks there how they felt about Trump. They laugh. They all think he is a lunatic but in Calgary they are just as disparaging about their own liberal Prime Minister. But with the renewal of the US trade agreement with Canada, they were generally more interested in the impending legalisation of cannabis.

What the people of these great nations share is a love of the Queen, a fear that Charles will mess it all up, and an understanding that guns are a very bad thing. In California this month they had the 307th mass shooting in the US in the 311 days of 2018. Three hundred and twenty-eight people died in those incidents and 1,251 were injured. In Denver, a friend of one of my staff was shot dead on the street walking home from a bar I have visited several times. I get fed up of explaining to intelligent people that guns are the cause of these issues. But the huge wave of younger and female voters will hopefully begin some fundamental changes.

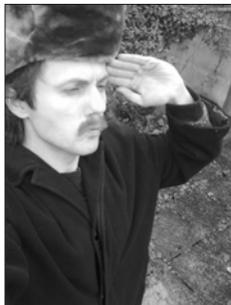
The music scene in Denver is very busy and we take advantage whenever we can. I have long ridiculed the Americans in the audience. Around 30% will wear earplugs while enjoying rock music which seems very odd to me. Last month we were ten rows back for the Foo Fighters and I could not hear properly for days. It's official, I am getting old, I want quieter rock'n'roll.

The great nation of America is somewhat different from more recent ex-UK colonies I have visited. Doing business is easier, people want to be sold to, but greed is stronger and it is a divided society. I feel it as I arrive back from a very positive Australia. They simply replace Prime Ministers but in the US things are more likely to be fatal.

Mike Ward

mikew@qsoftware.com

BLISSFUL THINKING



A lot of people disrespect teachers, either playfully or resentfully. Not me. It takes a certain skill set to be able to both master something and communicate it effectively to others, especially when the side hearing the information can potentially lash out physically or verbally with impunity, whilst the tutor must always retain composure and

decorum, when hurling the transgressor in the cunningly concealed under-desk oubliette seems a far more attractive alternative. Making things even more difficult is the fact that everyone takes on information in a slightly different way.

Ultimately, the best teachers need to be able to get into the head of their student and understand how they specifically learn and apply that knowledge effectively. All of these thoughts buzzed around my head recently while taking on the task of educating the sire on smart-phone operation. When it comes to technology, men of a certain age tend to resemble the classic chimp trying to operate a car by just thumping the controls violently with a quizzical gurn etched across their countenance. Some commands have sunk in, I think. I don't even use a smart-phone myself, so I have been effectively

winging it as an auto-didactic pedagogue (try saying that ten times rapidly). Whether the project succeeds or fails, it's been a funny familial bonding experience, and even if the 'student' hasn't learned anything, the 'teacher' certainly has!

Aaron Bliss

aaronjbliss@hotmail.com



Christmas Eve Carols

Deddington Brass will be playing carols

in the

Market Place from 6.00pm

Mulled wine will be available, sold on behalf of
Katharine House Hospice

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

This column promoted the Chances comedy night last issue and it was good. Sadly up against PTA fireworks but all night I was deeply amused. It was a great night and good to see a poorly 'Rory the Post' nab the best raffle prize. Do come next time – it was great. And the chance to educate the host in Early English was fun despite his shouting down 'Kevin', only to have his words confirmed by the headline act who clearly had Google on his side. *Preo on anan gebundene* has a wider audience now.

Last week it was Milton Keynes or Carlisle as an outing for Book Club in the Gillette Soccer Saturday away day, so the next trip in the spring has been re-planned as a Woodstock-based tour of Winston's grave, the Oxford Light Infantry Museum and Blenheim, with still enough pubs for the most riotous of our number. The Book Club Christmas night out is, of course, planned for the night before the December market when we will journey to Candleford and tour all its licensed premises as per usual. We really missed the RBL last year and it seemed quieter than usual, so this year come and look us up and join in. Ruby in Bengal as is the new normal.

The Duck had a Curry and Quiz night, won again by the usual suspect, assisted this time by out-of-towners from the 'Hart' of Barford (who are about to celebrate their fiftieth), but Dave Darst was a fabulous quiz master and I recommend any and all future events of this

nature. The pumpkin carving competition was judged by Vicar Annie this year but sadly this correspondent doesn't have the results. Parishioners should be aware that the Lower Larkriser who gave Annie specific encouragement during her daring church tower descent has been 'called out' and punished.

Speedwatch came and went with 28 drivers being notified to Thames Valley Police and two being identified with no tax or MOT. Letters will be sent to the miscreants and this initiative now passes back to Candleford. Sadly this was difficult to do on work days so the volunteers had to be off work as normal work times for volunteers meant it was too dark to spot the registration plates – but thanks to all volunteers, be they active this time or not.

Martin Bryce
martinbryce@gmail.com

Minutes Secretary

for Deddington Parish Council

Duties to include taking minutes at Parish Council meetings and holiday cover for the Clerk

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Please contact the Parish Clerk on 01869 337447 or email deddingtonparishcouncil@googlemail.com

David Rogers, Chair, DPC

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24 May 2018



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LETTERS

FROM SYLVIE NICKELS, BANBURY

It was pleasing to see a review of my memoirs *So, What next? – a Look with Hindsight at the Modern World* – in the September *DN* – but a small protest! It covers the decades since my childhood in World War II – not World War I. I admit to being old but not *that* old. Those who shared my journey through the 20th century might be interested in my website:

www.sylvienickelsbooks.com which includes a lot about north Oxfordshire, 'my' wood and Deddington's entry into the digital world.

I hope to make some of my books available at a farmers' market early in the New Year.

FROM TERRY TIMMS,
DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCILLOR
DEDDINGTON WAR MEMORIAL CEMETERY

I would just like to say a huge thank you to all those who turned up over the last few weeks to tidy the cemetery ahead of Remembrance Sunday. From mowing, strimming, cleaning around graves and trimming trees to pressure washing, cleaning and painting metal fences and gates, you all did an amazing job which is appreciated by many – a grand job well done. Thank you.

FROM BRYN WILLIAMS, DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
After reading last month's 'From the Fire Station' column containing brief introductions to the volunteers and their reasons for joining the Fire Service, I was compelled to write a note of thanks. As Christmas approaches and our thoughts focus on family, friends, religion, charity and inevitably those not so fortunate, we take so much for granted these days that reading those accounts really brought home to me sadly just how much the emergency services are taken for granted. They're the ones keeping us safe, be it at Christmas or during the other 364 days of the year. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the men and women who protect us come rain or shine, holiday time or not. They're a constant and we should take a moment to say thank you. So this Christmas why don't you shake them by the hand and thank them personally for stepping up and making a difference, I will be. Thank you.

FROM JO AND THE CHANCES TEAM

On 15 September CHANCES was a fundraiser with a mini-festival theme held in Deddington to raise awareness for younger stroke survivors.

We crowd-funded and sold artwork painted by Jo to raise the majority of the funds to put on a fundraiser with a difference. Finding sponsorship was tough but



we persevered and had sponsorship from the Deddington Arms and Dijon Designs who all believed in the idea and causes. Thank you both so much.

Jo didn't want to do a typical fundraiser. With her love of music and festivals, she became quite determined since her strokes that this was the perfect thing to make the point that strokes happen to younger people.

CHANCES came about via three younger stroke survivors who met through rehab. Jo and Loyose, who were in the same corridor in rehab and spent months together at Oxford Centre for Enablement, and Cath who we met later via our speech and language therapist from the Stroke Association. The CHANCES event was in support of OCE and the Stroke Association but also one smaller but important charity called Different Strokes, which supports younger stroke survivors. This charity played a big part in Jo's recovery. Its all about second chances, giving and taking chances.

The event was private but was a huge success. We thank everyone who supported it.

Jo didn't do this alone despite some assumptions. She had the vision to know what needed to be done but had support to achieve it, particularly from a great mentor, Anand Mavani from Hogsozzle Festival, who heard of Jo's ideas on her Instagram blog [@stroke_ofabrush](https://www.instagram.com/stroke_ofabrush) and helped add her to groups and give advice so Jo and the CHANCES team had the right tools in place to put CHANCES together. We are forever grateful to Anand and Hogsozzle for such kindness.

Since 15 September things have gone a little mad, and CHANCES has a website <http://www.chancesfestival.co.uk/> and a date for 2019.

There has been great support from local businesses and thank you to everyone involved including sponsors, others who donated their services, a considerable number of businesses and individuals too many to mention. But the biggest thank you goes to family for the ongoing day-to-day support.

We are still waiting for final donations to come in to gather a total. Costs were higher due to a few unforeseen hiccups, but we should have this soon. Please keep an eye out on CHANCES Festival social media where it will be announced soon.

CHANCES will be back in 2019 and will be a public event so if you wish to offer support or sponsorship, please contact Jo via the CHANCES social media pages. CHANCES is all about giving chances, so for any aspiring photographers, musicians or artists, please contact us and submit some examples and we may see you next year.

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the months of November and December 1848 and January 1849.

2nd November – I laid in bed with lumbago – I signed several Clothing Fund Tickets for those to whom I have usually given them.

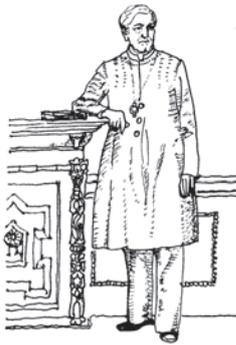
4th November – I went to Oxford – paid my Doctor a visit for lumbago asking for relief. Engaged another Cook in Oxford, Eliza Heardon, 35 years of age, at 20 guineas per annum.

12th November – Widow Robbins of Clifton came begging – relieved her to purchase her son some clothing on going into Service. A young man of this place offered himself as a servant.

18th November – Holford returned from Glympton and the Woodstock election – Mr Barnett having been returned as MP again.

5th December – Thomas bought another carriage horse today for £48. I gave him two sovereigns for himself – four years old and warranted sound and quiet in harness.

11th December – I met Messrs. Lechmere and Dormer at Mr. Field's office and heard a case of night poach-



ing against a man named Brock of Lower Heyford who was found yesterday morning armed with a gun in Rousham great spinney and had a pheasant in his pocket. Convicted him and sent him to Oxford Castle for three months with hard labour.

19th December – Rent Day took place as usual.

27th December – Holford and Willy went to meet Lord Redesdale's hounds at Gt. Barford. Just as we were out of Church the whole pack with Lord Redesdale and a large number of sportsmen passed the town.

1st January – Holford and Willy went to meet the hounds at Pomfret Castle. I went to Oxford to attend the Sessions.

27th January – I went up to Mr. Field's office and heard a case against a woman named Ann Cross for passing base coin. Committed her for trial at the Assizes.

Buffy Heywood

bd.heywood@btinternet.com

Neighbourhood Plan

Last chance for a last word

As you probably know from the leaflet we distributed to every house in the parish, the final consultation on the neighbourhood plan is now under way. All the documents can be found at the websites detailed below and there are print copies of the plan at the library and at Cherwell District Council, Bodicote House, not, I'm afraid, at the Duke at Clifton as previously promised. We don't have enough copies.

Please pitch in with your comments. You don't have to fill in CDC's formal response form, a straightforward email to PlanningPolicyConsultation@Cherwell-dc.gov.uk, including your name and address, would be fine. Alternatively you can write a letter to the CDC planning department. The deadline is 21 December. All responses are forwarded straight to the independent examiner who'll be checking that our plan conforms with local and national policy.

Suggestions for improvement, right up to the finishing tape, are very useful but, obviously, expressions of support for the plan would be welcome too from the point of view of the neighbourhood plan steering group who, depending on temperament, anxiously or confidently await the examiner's report.

www.deddingtonneighbourhoodplan.org

www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/221/neighbourhood-plans/397/deddington-neighbourhood-plan

www.cherwell.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsultation

Helen Oldfield

helenmoldfield@yahoo.co.uk

History Corner

www.deddingtonhistory.uk

The eleventh day of November 1918 was the declared end of WWI hostilities but Deddington soldiers continued to die. Private Harry Gardiner married his girlfriend, Ellen Hawtin, on 30 October. The January 1919 entry of the Deddington Deanery magazine records that he had died on 2 December. The entry for February records three final deaths: 'George Davis in Salonica, Edwin Bliss in India, Bernard Hawkins has died. He was not a prisoner as was earlier reported.' It also notes the return of Leonard Long, POW, in Germany, James Cowley, POW in Mesopotamia, and QMS HJ Harmsworth from Italy and that he had been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

The 1918-19 outbreak of Spanish flu reportedly killed more people than the war so I investigated deaths in the parish during the epidemic years of 1918-19 using the recent Oxford Family History Society graveyard survey. It is not a complete record of course because not everyone was buried in our churchyard; however there is no apparent spike in deaths for those years compared with several years either side so the chances are that the village, in its rural isolation at that time, got off lightly.

Rob Forsyth

robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

01869 338384

CALLING ALL CLUBS

RBL Branch Report

By the time this edition is being read the 100th anniversary of the end of The Great War will have come and gone. A lot of effort went into making it memorable, namely:

John Price's outstanding cover design for the November *DN*:

Mike Housley and Alexander Roman's generosity and energy in leading the Deddington Ball fundraising team, estimated to have raised £13,000 to be shared between the RBL Poppy Appeal and Action for A-T. Our auctioneer, Al Kitchen, can take a bow for this as well;

The 14 Silent Soldiers who appeared in the church and which were donated by the Armed Forces Covenant Trust and Deddington Charity Estates;

The eclectic group who created our soldier and Deddington Original Golf Society who donated the money to pay for him.

Thank you to everyone who contributed in whatever way to all these activities.

Our AGM is on 8 December at 7.00pm in the Deddington Arms with dinner afterwards. We shall discuss suggested activities for next year: a visit to Bletchley Park, a film night, and a WWII Battlefield tour led by David Hood are on the list. Ideas and volunteers to organise a fundraising event are also being sought.

Rob Forsyth
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Photographic Society

Our November meeting was a co-operation between the Society and Banbury Camera Club with speakers from Banbury visiting us and giving presentations. Andrew Spackman's presentation entitled *What I Decided to Photograph Despite Advice of Judges*, included photographs from the 1970s on film and digital images. The series showed the development of his experience and style, influenced by critique and advice from judges. Diana Gamble's presentation of wildlife photographs started with scenes taken on her phone during her early morning walks. Her presentation continued with photographs taken on African safaris, which included shots of a family of cheetahs hunting, lions with their kill, and wildebeest on the move. The concluding pictures were brilliant close-up photographs of gorillas. Diana explained how they approached them and took close-up dramatic portrait-style pictures of these magnificent animals. Diane Berridge gave a fascinating talk on restoring old photographs. Restoration of badly faded Victorian pictures were shown. WW1 produced many portraits of men in uniform taken before going off to war. Particularly interesting was adding authentic colour to old photographs. A series of pictures showing the *Titanic*, rendered in colour, were particularly impressive.

Our members who had visited Otmoor RSPB Reserve showed a video of the starling murmuration. The meeting continued with our monthly challenge,

'Leading Lines'. Many interpretations of the theme were shown, and a helpful critique was done by Martyn Pearse.

Paul Brewerton
Paul.brewerton@btinternet.com

Deddington Bookworms

Bookworms met in November to discuss Richard Beard's personal account of the death of a brother in *The Day That Went Missing*. He worked through complex family relationships, focusing on his father's personality and how his response deeply affected the whole family. The tone set was that they would 'carry on regardless', never mentioning the accident that resulted in the death.

We discussed the attitude of society in the 1970s. Was the response of this family typical of the time? What lay behind their inability to express anything of the shared experience on that fateful day and what, if any, improvements have happened since then to help us cope with bereavements?

Much of the book is devoted to Beard going to extreme lengths to come to terms with his part in what unfolded. Is this due to his own perceived guilt or the guilt of others? By the end of the book he has made some progress and so it concludes on a positive note. Generally, we were glad we had read it but would have some reservations in recommending it to others.

Our next book promises to be more light-hearted: *A Spool of Blue Thread* by Anne Tyler. We meet in the library on Monday 3 December at 6.30pm.

Deddington Library
01869 338391

Knit and Natter Group

We are a small and friendly group who love to knit (or crochet) and natter. We meet on the first Thursday of



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CLUBS*Continued from p13*

each month at 7.00pm in the Holly Tree Club and for two hours knit, relax and chat with no interruptions. There is plenty of expertise for those who want to expand their skills and lots of encouragement for those who haven't picked up their needles in years. We all have different projects on the go, some are quick, and some are slow.

New members are always welcome and so, if you love knitting and would like to join us, please contact me for more information or just drop in to the Holly Tree when we next meet.

Cheryl Wild
07789 966486

Book Group

In October the book group read *The Lie of the Land* by Amanda Craig, a novel about sophisticated townies grappling with life in the country. After some years Lot-tie and Quentin's marriage is failing but, as both have lost their jobs and are unable to afford a divorce, they choose to let their London home and move to rural Devon. The general opinion was this was an unlikely premise. With some degree of comedy, the author introduces many modern social problems: infidelity, financial hardship, distressed children, intelligent frustrated teenagers, mild racism, outright hostility from neighbours and a macabre murder at some time in their cheaply rented cottage. Although well written if occasionally clumsy, the group agreed that too many modern relationships and situations made an indigestible story, with opinions divided on the characters drawn. However, it did give rise to a lively discussion on life today. There is no meeting in December and the group resumes in January. Contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for details of the chosen book.

John Sampson

Deddington Baby and Toddler Group

There's been a couple of changes to the Deddington Baby and Toddler group over the last few months. A new group of volunteers is running the sessions, having taken over from Louise Tustian and Maggie Moseley Richards. We firstly want to give a big thank you to Lou and Maggie for giving up their time and energy running the group for so long.

The other change is the group, held in the Windmill Centre every Friday, has changed its time to 9.30–11.30am. We hope this will help parents dropping older children at school.

Sessions cost £3 per family and include snacks, tea or coffee, crafts and free play with a huge number of toys. Our group is aimed at 0–4 year olds but older siblings are always welcome.

Finally, a date for your diary is 21 December as we will be having a special appearance from Father Christmas and we've heard rumours he'll be bringing a bouncy castle (fingers crossed).

We hope to welcome lots of new and old faces there.

For weekly information or to get in touch please follow us on the Deddington Baby and Toddler Group Facebook page.

Abi Francis
abi.hill@yahoo.co.uk

Deddington Players

Rehearsals are well under way for this season's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*. There are three evening performances 17–19 January and a matinée on 19 January. Get the dates in your diaries and don't miss out on an hilarious night out. Will Dick find the road to London paved with gold? Will King Rat succeed in his dastardly plans? Will the dames' 'signature dishes' ever bag them the men of their dreams? All will be revealed. Tickets on sale soon at local outlets and online at www.ticketsource.co.uk. Follow the Deddington Players' Facebook page for the latest information and backstage gossip.

Suzie Upson
suzieupson@mac.com

Women's Institute

Some twenty of us met on 13 November. After the business side of the meeting we had a most enjoyable talk from Analiza Jones on the making of handwoven bags from the Philippines. She took us through the process from cutting back the most unlikely spiny plants to the finished article. It was brought home to us the subsistence level that most of the end products were produced at. No electricity or any form of health and safety. Stripping the hard outer parts with machetes and turning the strips into fine threads. From this threadwork came material like gauze – sisal ropes and products to weave the casing for handbags via some dying in brilliant colours. Coconut shells were cut and polished with discs. As usual they were being pushed to one side by more developed countries: think China.

Our next meeting is the Christmas birthday lunch on 11 December at the Deddington Arms.

The January 2019 meeting sees the payment of subscriptions followed by *Life outside the WI*, short talks by some of our members on their careers.

If you would like to come and join us, please ring either Jenny Cox, president, on 01869 337015 or Jenny Cross, secretary, on 01869 337613.

Julia Hobbs

Deddington and District History Society

Our November meeting welcomed back Simon Wenham who gave us another insight into Victorian Britain, this time the Great Exhibition of 1851. The driving forces behind the Exhibition were Henry Cole, a painter and innovator; Joseph Paxton, whose Chatsworth Stone Glass Building provided its prototype design;

CLUBS *Continued from p14*

and Prince Albert who brought together a commission of political and business leaders who made it happen.

Erected in Hyde Park, the venue was the largest glass building in the world. On the opening day, 1 May, 500,000 people attended, causing traffic congestion in London. Ticket cost varied from one shilling to £1 enabling a wide sector of society to attend. Apart from the manufacturing showcases from around the world there were unusual exhibits including an 82 blade Swiss knife and a silent alarm bed which tipped its occupants out at the set time. One major attraction was the first flushing toilet. 800,000 visitors paid a penny to use it, hence the phrase still in use today.

Six million overseas and 21 million British visitors went to the Exhibition, many travelling by train for the first time. Whilst it showed the progress, innovation and confidence of the Victorians, it also revealed tensions in their society. Class, gender, racial and religious divides were all exposed, often through the press. £180,000 of the profit was used to help fund Imperial College, V&A Museum and the Royal Albert Hall.

The building was dismantled in 1852 and re-built in Sydenham where it continued to attract visitors until destroyed by fire in 1936. Overall it was a great success, raising Britain's prestige throughout the world and encouraging further innovation.

Our next meeting, at 7.30pm on 13 December, is our Christmas party with the usual challenging quiz, party food and festive spirit, £7.50 entrance.

Barrie Smith, Chairman
01869 337813

Local Vocals – the Hempton, Deddington and Clifton Community Choir

We now have a great name for our choir, 'Local Vocals'. Our second taster session in November was attended by 34 singers and once again we made a great deal of noise – at times in perfect harmony. Our final taster session will be at 7.30pm on Monday 3 December at the Primary School with the usual donation of £4. Look out for posters around the villages with details of the weekly sessions that will start from 14 January. Look forward to seeing you.

Alison Grieve
07707 026375

SPORT**Deddington Original Golf Society**

The 2018 golfing season was, like the weather, phenomenal. The slight downside was the lack of grass on fairways. A small price to pay.

The Society goes from strength to strength and 2018 has been hugely successful in enticing new, younger members. This has had the effect of lowering the average age of DOGS to 73. Barry Pawley has been instrumental in attracting these members. He stamped his mark on proceedings from day one.

SPORT *Continued from col1*

We now have a trophy for each venue: Secretary's Shield plus a Chairman's, Captain's and Handicap Secretary's Cup.

I am particularly proud of the donations we have made to various charities over the years. This was capped this year by a presentation to the Royal British Legion of money which enabled the Deddington Branch to commission a steel silhouette (Archie) which has been standing on the green in Deddington during the Armistice ceremonies and bears a plaque stating 'Donated to the Parish by the Deddington Original Golf Society'. Archie's resting place will be in the church until next year's memorial. DOGS will live in perpetuity at the foot of Archie.

And handing over to the new chairperson I would like this opportunity to thank all DOGS members not only for the support they have given me but for the amazing support you give to our wonderful Golf Society. I hope you all have an incredible Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.

Tony Lowe
Chairman

Deddington Town Football Club*First Team Results:*

20.10.18	Woodford Utd 3rd (h)	W 4–2	Hall (2), Plant, Thornton (Joe)
27.10.18	Woodford Utd 3rd (a) (CUP)	W 9–0	Cook (2), Hall (2), Plant (3), Simon-Norris, Thornton (L)
10.11.18	Bodicote Sports (a)	W 7–1	

Reserve Team Results:

20.10.18	Hardwick Sports 1st (a)	L 0–9
27.10.18	Chasewell Pk Res (h) (CUP)	L 0–1
03.11.18	Chacombe Park 1st (CUP)	D 1–1
10.11.18	Banbury Rangers 1st (a)	W 3–0

A hugely positive month was had by both teams in vastly differing ways. The First Team demolished all-comers, giving Woodford a couple of ferocious beatings they're liable not to forget for a while, with Simon Hall grabbing a brace of braces and Ollie Plant a hat-trick. The Humbugs currently sit handily behind only Bishops Itchington in the Premier Division, while the Reserves continue to struggle, but picked up a crucial victory in the league against Banbury Rangers, who they leapfrogged in the process. In fact, after an initial horror show against Hardwick, the Reserves improved steadily game by game. Let's hope the excellent 3–0 win will be a corner turned. Merry Christmas everyone!

Aaron Bliss
07909 642882

Deddington Town FC Youth

All our teams play in the Witney and District Youth Football League. The Under 15s playing in the B League had a 7–0 home defeat to table topping Chip-ping Norton. The Under 14s playing in the A League

SPORT ————— *Continued from p15*

got their first point of the season with a 1–1 home draw with Bampton Town, with Mateo Lluna scoring the goal. The Under 12s playing in the B League had a 4–0 away defeat at Witney Vikings.

All the teams showed their respect in a one minute silence before their matches over the Remembrance weekend. The Under 7s and Under 6s joined the Under 12s before their friendly with Banbury United at the Windmill Centre.

Deddington Town FC is part of the Banbury Football Partnership to promote youth football in the area. At a recent meeting the clubs discussed ways to get more children and young people participating, and ways to support coach development.

**Roger Sykes, Development Officer
and U7/U6 Coach
01869 337034**

Deddington Cricket Club

On 27 October the club held its end of season dinner and awards night. It was great to see so many people, with an especially good turnout from our Ladies team, and to have club president and committee secretary Derek and Jill Cheeseman, as well as Mike Sinfield, one of the Club's two very reliable and supportive umpires, with us. Everyone enjoyed themselves.

Five new awards were handed out to the Ladies team after their inaugural season in the Midlands League and nine to the wider club. Details of the winners are shown on our website, <http://deddington-cricket.co.uk/end-of-season-awards-2/>. Congratulations to all of them.

The square has been 'put to bed' and is looking in good condition, thanks to the warm, dry weather so far this autumn. Thanks to all those who helped with the work.

The club AGM will be in January and the date will be circulated to all members. Indoor winter nets will also be arranged so look out for information about these. New members are always welcome.

**Simon Oldfield
07771 997358
simon.oldfield0@gmail.com**

YOUTH —————**1st Deddington Scout Group**

At the October farmers' market, the Scouts ran a cake stall. The stock was all made by Scouts and parents and it was surprisingly delicious. I suspect a few diets went to the wall that weekend. They raised £61 which will go towards equipment for a Scout Group in the Gambia. Well done everyone.

Praise too for the display of poppies which adorned the gates of the cemetery for Remembrance Day, simple but effective and rather touching. We learned about some of our original Scouts (we formed in 1911)

YOUTH ————— *Continued from col1*

who we know were killed and appear on the memorial. It makes it far more personal.

Coming soon – the night hike to Horley.

**Peter Churchyard
deddingtonscouts@gmail.com**

Cubs

Last month a group of Cubs enjoyed a morning of laser tag with other Cubs from the county. It was an outdoor venue in a wood littered with old tanks, cars and even a helicopter. If the amount of shrieking, whooping and gunfire had anything to do with it, then they had a brilliant time.

We spent a couple of sessions in the run-up to the centenary looking at WW1 and the different types of people, services and animals involved in the conflict.

**Jo Churchyard
deddingtoncubs@gmail.com**

Explorers

Another attempt at navigation worked well – the unit didn't get lost and completed the Bloxham circular walk in a good time, considering it was dark.

We held a Big Broth evening to fundraise for Centrepoint. It had an international twist. As ever the Explorers proved what good chefs they are and there were some really interesting things to eat, resulting in donated money.

Members of the unit attended Remembrance Day parades in various villages. In Deddington there was a very poignant moment when one of the unit read a passage about Polish Scouts in a small village during WWII who were the first casualties of the atrocities, merely for wearing Scout uniform. Fortunately, they were not despondent and there are now more than 140,000 Scouts in Poland.

**Contact Janet Duxbury 01608 737959
spartansexplorers@gmail.com**

Thanks to everyone who turned out for the Remembrance Day parade – you were a credit to the group.

Christmas card boxes will be appearing soon in Eagles and Barford Post Office. Have your cards delivered locally at the very reasonable rate of 20p per card.

1st Deddington Guides

The last few weeks have seen the Guides busy in their newly-formed patrols, engaged in planning and organising their own activities.

We gave a nod to Hallowe'en with some fun costumes, food and seasonal games such as apple-bobbing, doughnuts on a string and the ever-popular mummy game – involving lots of loo paper rolls.

We redressed the balance by talking about various saints (All Saints day) and what good they had done for others. Definitely some role models there.

A wonderful time was had painting old style with potato prints, with the Guides all clad in bin bags.

YOUTH *Continued from p16*

They had a great time painting autumn themed masterpieces.

We've been sampling some ideas and activities from a new Guiding activity programme being launched. It will take us a while to blend familiar with new challenges – but we're making a good start.

We had a super turnout for Remembrance Day. Well done Guides. They looked very smart. We were proud of our colour parties, wreath and cross representatives.

Finally, a thank you to the Deddington market committee for their generous gift. We wanted the Guides to be involved with the new programme from the start and so this cheque has helped enormously towards the cost of new badge, handbooks and resources.

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

Marian Trinder 01869 340806

Catherine Blackburn 01295 258008

1st Deddington Brownies

The Brownies spent the last few weeks preparing for their Entertainer badges. Scripts have been written, dances rehearsed, props and costumes brought from home and programmes designed ready to perform.

We have also been on our long-awaited sleepover at the museum. With bags packed and sleeping bags ready we met at Warwick Market Hall museum. Having explored the exhibits, tried the Lego challenge and watched a movie we settled down to sleep in the museum itself.

Claire Friday

deddingtonbrownies@gmail.com

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

We have had another busy month in the library. Linda Newbery joined us to present her latest book, *The Key to Flambards* on 9 November. It was very interesting and all who attended had a lovely evening hearing where Linda got her inspiration from and how her relationship with KM Peyton, the author of the original Flambards quartet has flourished over many years.

Our library continues to flourish, although we have to work harder at finding ways to meet the evolving needs of our community; but the challenge is part of the fun.

We are extremely grateful to our community volunteers who turn up every week to support the day-to-day running of the library; they are stalwarts of our library and also help with fundraising. I am very grateful for your support; I couldn't do it without you.

A huge thanks to our Home Library Service which continues to thrive. Our volunteers regularly take books to the housebound in our parish and the wider community.

Our last Rhymetime session before Christmas will be at 2.30pm on Monday 17 December, so come and join in with our lively Christmas themed session. We start again on Monday 14 January.

Library *(Continued from col 1)*

On behalf of myself and the library's fantastic group of dedicated and hardworking volunteers, we wish you all very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Stella O'Neill, Library Manager
01869 338391

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Saturday 1 December is the Christmas Bazaar from 11.00am in the church and the Old School Room, with the usual stalls and hot lunches, Santa's grotto and a prize draw. This is always a nice family occasion and there will be things for children to have a go at. Please come along and support this event as it is the Friends largest money raiser of the year and all profits go towards the upkeep of the building.

Christmas services at the church will be the Carol Service on Friday 21 December at 6.00pm, followed by refreshments, and Sunday 23 December, Holy Communion at 9.00am. There will be no Evening Prayer on 23rd nor a service in Hempton on Christmas Day.

Many thanks to the people who have given me information to put in the column over the past year.

Les Chappell 01969 338054
ljchappel39@mail.com

DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

We've had another fantastic month at Deddington Primary School.

Our PTA organised the school Fireworks Display which took place on 2 November and everyone enjoyed it. Our thanks to the PTA for putting this on.

Many children in KS2 have been involved in singing events. Earlier this month, our performance at St Mary's church, Banbury, as part of the 'Children Singing for Children' concert was spectacular, as I'm sure anyone who came along to see would agree. Year 6 children then took part at St Mary's again in a special service for Remembrance Day, but this time with some of our children doing readings, based on stories about Deddington families who had been directly involved in, and affected by, WW1. This was an amazing occasion with a significant and most important purpose.

The School Council organised an event for Children in Need at the end of November. Cakes were brought in and sold at the end of the day to raise money for this great charity event. Our thanks to everyone who helped.

Finally, we are all busy preparing for our Christmas concerts in F1, KS1 and KS2 which are all taking place in the week beginning 10 December. We hope many of you in our community will be able to come to the church and join with us in those special celebrations.

Denise Welch
dwe13954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

Management Committee

The party season is upon us and where better to hold your party than at the Windmill? Er, don't answer that. Seriously though, it's not a bad venue and we are working very hard to make it better. Kids' parties, fund-raising parties and 50th birthday parties – the Windmill has hosted all these and more over the past few weeks. The latest addition to our menu of party extras is some spectacular festoon lighting, courtesy of Neil Skinner of SKR Lighting Design. It really transforms the space into something special. More details on our website.

Other more permanent improvements you are likely to see in 2019 include a much more efficient (and quieter) heating system in the main hall, more robust WiFi, new flooring, new fire doors, updated décor throughout and, last but not least, a complete refurbishment of the downstairs and upstairs toilets. We are working hard to make the Windmill the best community centre it can be and we are grateful for your support.

Which reminds me, we have a vacancy for a trustee. You would join our two other trustees in overseeing the management committee's activities and ensuring that we fulfil our duties in an effective and financially responsible way. We are particularly interested in attracting somebody who might be able to help us with identifying and bidding on funding streams for future capital investment. Is that you? If so, please contact me.

Finally, on behalf of the whole Windmill team, may I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year? See you at the Windmill for the Deddington Players' Panto on 17, 18 and 19 January. (Oh yes I will!)

Vaughan Jones

vaughan@englishlanguagematters.com

Tales from the Pump

I wasn't surprised when a smug Philip Hammond dropped in the other afternoon for his usual Virgin Mary. 'I suppose you expect me to be grateful to you for not upping the duty on beers and spirits in your budget the other week', I grumped at him.

He did his usual lifting one eyebrow trick with a slight sardonic smile and said, 'Well, you should be.'

I moaned on. 'The truth is it was to your benefit that you didn't raise the duty – not mine or my loyal drinkers. We both know that in every year since the duty escalator was abandoned in 2013, alcohol duty has delivered more revenue to the Treasury, not less. Between 2013 and 2018 the revenue from alcohol duty rose from £10bn to £11.5bn, an increase of 15%. Despite the duty escalation freeze, £1 in every £3 spent in the pub goes to you, Phil, and beer duty in the UK is three times the European average.'

Philip sipped his very spicy drink (I'd overdone the



Development Group

New MUGA: We've received more than £100,000 from Cherwell District Council to pay the contractor, so I think we have a good result there.

Children's Play Area: We've had our own 'long, detailed

and impassioned debate' over the appointment of contractors for the play equipment, and the Parish Council has been asked to make their decision at the November meeting but is seeking legal advice on one aspect. One thing we want to get on with this autumn is planting the buffer zone between the play area and the houses on Mill Close with trees and shrubs. A planting scheme is being worked up, ready to go when the funds have been cleared by the PC. The advantage of doing it at this time of year is that we can buy bare root plants which are cheaper than container-grown. We're cautiously optimistic that a Forest School can be run using the woodland trail with the pavilion as a resource centre.

Hall: The Management Committee will be presenting their 2019 budget and business plan to the December PC meeting. This will cover projects that they hope can be undertaken next year. The PC is working on enforcing the dog ban on the playing field and new children's play area; signs have been ordered and the ban is expected to be put in place shortly.

Mary Robinson

Chair, Windmill Development Group
development@windmillcentre.org

Tabasco a bit) and, with eyes watering, ventured, 'The brewers and you landlords will probably take advantage of the freeze to up prices anyway.'

He shouldn't have stepped on my home ground. 'That's just not the case. Your own published figures show that between 2008 and 2013 – the duty escalator years – beer prices rose 21%. Between 2013 and 2018 – in the five years since the duty escalator was scrapped – beer prices rose little more than 11%. So beer price rises in pubs have almost halved since the duty escalator was abolished. This benefits investment in pubs, my drinkers and the jobs of my bar staff. The British Beer and Pub Association estimates that the slowdown in price increases has helped safeguard 3,000 jobs that would otherwise have been lost.'

I began to feel a bit sorry for Phil, wilting under my tirade whilst smarting from the Tabasco. 'Actually', I joked, 'if you guys had wanted to come up with a fun way to collect tax, then I guess the pub is as good an idea as any although, having said that, you're not getting much duty cash from that Virgin Mary.'

Grumpylandlord1@gmail.com

