

the Deddington news

THIS MONTH'S EDITOR
Mary Robinson

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Julie Wigg

It's that time of year again. We look back at 2010 and remember the highlights, with the most successful Festival and Parish Show yet; and we mourn the passing of old friends whose lives enriched us. We also look forward to 2011 and what it might bring to our community: a resolution to the future of the Town Hall and the War Memorial? For the immediate, the DN team thanks our contributors and advertisers for their support, and hopes you enjoy our seasonal holiday in peace and happiness.

DIARY DECEMBER

Wed	1	Tennis Club: AGM, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
Wed	1	Photographic Society: 'Travels in Botswana, Namibia and S Africa', Micki Aston, CPAGM, Christopher Rawlins School, Adderbury, 7.30pm
Sat	4	Live Music: Pete Boss and Indigo Child at the Windmill, bar to be run for the benefit of the PTA
Sat	4	Hempton Bazaar, Hempton Church, 11am– 2pm
Sun	5	Choros Advent Carols, Parish Church, 6.30pm
Mon	6	Monday Morning Club: Christmas lunch, Peppers, 12 for 12.30pm
Wed	8	Fairtrade stall, Primary School, 2.30pm
Wed	8	History Society, Christmas party with the Vale Islanders, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
Wed	8	Royal British Legion Branch and Club: AGMs, RBL Club, 7.30pm
Thu	9	Monday Morning Club: Film evening, <i>An Education</i> , Holly Tree, 6.30pm
Sat	11	Children's Activities, Parish Church, 10am–12.30pm
Mon	13	Youth Club: Disco, Town Hall, 7–9pm
Tue	14	WI: Christmas and 85th birthday meal, Otters Restaurant,
Wed	15	Parish Council: Meeting, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
Sat	18	Deddington Farmers' Market, 9am–12.30pm
Tue	21	Opera Della Luna, Parish Church, 7.30pm
Fri	24	Carols in the Market Place, 6pm
Fri	31	Close of 'BT Race to Infinity' survey – VOTE NOW!

JANUARY

Mon	3	Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am–noon
Wed	5	Photographic Society: Ian Bateman, 'Audio-Visual Techniques', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
Thu	6	Cubs and Scouts restart
Sun	9	Photographic Society, Annual New Year Dinner, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7 for 7.30pm
Tue	11	WI: John Suckling, 'St Kilda, A Far Better Place', Holly Tree, 7.30pm
Wed	12	History Society: Peter Leney, 'T E Lawrence', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
Thu	13	Monday Morning Club: Film evening, <i>The Road</i> , Holly Tree, 6.30pm
Wed	19	Parish Council: Meeting, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
Thu	20–	Deddington Players, <i>Puss In Boots</i> , Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
Sat	22	
Sat	22	Deddington Players, <i>Puss In Boots</i> , Windmill Centre, 2.30pm
Sat	22	Farmers' Market, 9am–12.30pm
Wed	26	Friends of Daeda's Wood: AGM, Unicorn, 7.30pm
Thu	27	Book Club meeting, for venue, ring 338094

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

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**17 November 2010**

The meeting was held at Hempton Church Hall and was chaired by Jim Flux with 11 additional parish councillors and four members of the public. There remains one vacancy on the PC. Lorraine Watling would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in being co-opted.

Public Forum

Jane Welford and others spoke on the additional development at the Ash Cottage site, Clifton. There are some strong feelings locally regarding this development which has been allowed to go ahead by Cherwell DC, regardless of local residents' and PC's objections, in a piecemeal fashion. Objectors believe that planning applications have been misleading in terms of the size of building in relation to the plot and proximity to neighbours in particular. There have already been incidents of obstruction by parked cars and delivery vehicles, causing residents access difficulties and CDC rubbish collections to be aborted. PC suggested that residents write again to our MP, Tony Baldry. This matter was also discussed later in the meeting.

Planning:*New Applications:*

(1) Ash Cottage, Chapel Close, Clifton: three terraced dwellings, demolition of existing original dwelling. Evidence of bats has been found and arrangements have been made to accommodate them. Following comments from local residents (above), PC to reconsider this additional application. (2) Hempton House, Snakehill, Hempton: amended plans, canopy at front, extensions to side and rear, no objections. (3) 57 Mill Close: front and rear two-storey extensions, no objection. (4) 18 Hempton Road: reapplication for first-floor extension taking account of previous objections, no objection. (5) Gaslight, Earl's Lane: fell Leylandii, no objection, but full site appraisal and management report to be carried out.

Refusals:

(1) Castle Farm Cottages, Earl's Lane: demolition of semi-detached brick cottages, construction of two detached stone dwellings. CDC unconvinced existing dwellings unfit, excessive height, footprint and overall massing. (2) Land to rear of End Cottage, The Stile: loss of green open space, back land development in Conservation Area. (3) Hamisaren, 2 Castle End: fell willow, consent issued in error, now subject to Tree Preservation Order.

CDC is considering new planning consultation arrangements whereby planning applications would be emailed only to PCs, and letters of notification would no longer be sent to neighbouring residents. *[Is this cause for concern? – Ed.]* CDC also considering advertising all applications in only one newspaper and pre-application advice may be charged for.

Environment and Recreation

Cricket Club has arranged with Football Club to cut playing field. Most of Football Club's matches are being played at Steeple Aston and Fritwell due to pitch congestion at Deddington. Attempts being made to establish ownership of land 'east of Batchelors Row, The Lane, Hempton' which would be suitable for play area. Clifton play park use being reviewed with view to upgrade/refurbish.

Highways

Cost of £150 per metre for Clifton to Deddington footpath upgrade. Still no date yet for repair of Clifton Main Street drain. Cars turning north from Hempton Road and then stopping at lights have been causing a hazard. Shroud has been incorrectly fitted.

Finance & General Purposes

Windmill Centre Solar Panels: Cost of fitting would be around £20,000, although financial return would be advantageous. However, security could be an issue.

Town Hall: Recommended that original redecoration costs plus inflation be paid by PC to enable Deddington Charity Estates (DCE) to carry out some of the work, possibly with volunteers. Some improvements are currently being made. DCE have suggested that they intend to charge for use of the undercroft but cost of lighting would need to be reviewed by PC.

Castle Grounds: Clarification needed on Friends' responsibilities and the scope of their work.

Christmas Tree: This will be delivered on 30 November. Thanks were expressed to the Farmers' Market Committee for their donation of £300 towards the cost. A parish councillor has also donated £50.

Parish Finances

Invoices agreed for payment £5,036.52.

Investments of £535,302 at West Bromwich BS, Santander and Anglo Irish Bank.

Next meetings:

Wednesday 15 December at the Holly Tree Club

Wednesday 19 January 2011 at the Windmill

Centre

JC

CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS

Once again you are invited to sing carols at 6pm on Christmas Eve around the Christmas tree in Deddington's Market Place. George Fenemore will act as MC while Geoff and Joan Todd play the tunes on their Trueman street organ. A band of willing volunteers will be serving mulled wine, mince pies and shortcake to refresh you. A collection will be made for Katharine House Hospice.

Geoff Todd 338532

ON THE FARM

Water, water everywhere but not a drop to drink! The tide in the Clifton valley is, after some ten months, on the rise again and our winter visitors are beginning to arrive. We are seeing increasing numbers of Lapwing, Golden Plover, Redshank and various species of duck and swan drifting up and down the river valley to feed and roost in the increasing number of wetland habitats being provided for them on the river valley farms between Banbury and Oxford. As I sit and bash out my December offering the moon is about half full, if that is the right term, and the 'hounds of Hell' (geese) can be heard calling to one another as they make their night-time flights on to the flood water. It won't be long before the ewes are brought up out of the valley and put under cover for the winter, leaving the birds undisturbed until after lambing. The rising tide in the valley at this time of year is something that has taken place for thousands of years and will, despite the experts' flood control efforts north of Banbury, continue until global warming has turned it into a desert.

Another rising but this time one that has been caused by man and the lack of action by OCC and Thames Water is the Clifton spring. Although men in hi-vis jackets have dug a few holes in the new pavement, the drain that collapsed when the new footpath was laid is still blocked, and now the winter rains have arrived the water is once again washing out of the farm drive. The problem has been made worse by a leaking water main with the escaping water digging yet another hole in the already damaged farm entrance. This burst water main has also attracted the attention of the hi-vis

jackets in the form of the leak detection crew, but as yet nothing has been done to repair the drain or the water main. As the problem with the collapsed drain will soon be in its fourth year and the water main has been leaking for three months, perhaps it's time for a phone call to an old friend at the local radio station.

Happy Christmas!

George Fenemore 338203

MORE AWARDS FOR GEORGE

At the Banbury Agricultural Association's annual Presentation Dinner at the Warriner School on 1 November, George Fenemore was for the second year awarded, as he already knew, the Savills Challenge Cup for his continuing conservation work. What he did not expect was to come third in a new Diversification Competition, beaten only by two much larger local enterprises: 'That was the icing on the cake', he said. Then the President of the Association began



Pic Christopher Hall

reading a lengthy citation for the winner of the Tony Baldry Challenge Cup for 'Services to Agriculture & the Community', quoting passages from George's published articles and his annual production of two tons of honey. George could not believe his hard-of-hearing ears: 'That was the cherry on the top!' Good on yer, George!

CH

Windmill Community Centre

In order to ensure that all clubs and regular users are aware of their responsibilities, new updated Terms of Hire notices will be sent out to start on 1 February 2011. These are the same as for casual users.

Due to the rise in the costs of utilities hire fees are being increased by around 3% from 1 February. For full details, go to <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/windmillcommunitycentre>.

Overall security and the number of 'illegal entries' to the building are an ongoing cause for concern. The lock of the main and side entrances (which have the same key) will be replaced, and all keyholders would pay a deposit for their keys. In this way we can restrict the number of unauthorised keys. When it is not being used, the main hall may be locked to prevent trespassing. This will be reviewed following on from the proposed changes to the front door lock.

A project to install PV solar panels is being revived since quite favourable incentives are now available. This project is supported by the Parish Council.

The committee thanks the Deddington Players for their recent work to install trunking in the hall for all the lighting and sound cables.

Jim Flux, Hon. Treasurer, 338153

Last Orders for Christmas

There are still many suggestions for Christmas presents in the Fairtrade catalogue and orders can be placed up to mid-December for Christmas delivery. Traidcraft also offers a range of 'virtual gifts' in which you send a card to your relative or friend to tell them that you have given a Christmas gift to help train a farmer, set up a small business, buy a hive for bees etc. We have a good range of Christmas cards and seasonal foods which, with stocking filler suggestions, are on sale in the Church during the Farmers' Market on Saturday 18 December. Christmas cards and some seasonal foods and gift suggestions will be on sale on Sunday mornings in Deddington Church, and at the Fairtrade stall in the school on Wednesday 8 December at 2.30pm. Please contact Deddington Fair Traders to place an order or make an enquiry.

Hugh Marshall 337761

deddingtonfairtraders@gmail.com

Church Bazaar

A big thank you to all those who helped and supported the Deddington Church Bazaar. Over £1,100 was raised.

Jean Welford 338539

SCHOOL PTA

What a fabulous fireworks evening we all had! The weather held out and we had a beautiful clear sky. Mulled wine and hot chocolate kept us warm whilst the barbecue did a roaring trade with delicious sizzling sausages and burgers. It was fantastic to see the field full of children and adults laughing and having fun. Thank you all so much for supporting this event and we sincerely hope you enjoyed the evening. We raised the spectacular sum of £1,550. Special thanks must go to the Co-op and Farmers' Market Committee who very generously supported us. Finally a huge thank you to all those who gave their time to help organise and put on the event – we are very grateful.

Our next event is a live music gig at the Windmill with Pete Boss and the Bluehearts and Indigo Child on Saturday 4 December. Tickets can be bought from Pete Boss, The Old Farmhouse, New Street, Deddington OX15 0ST, email: pboss@btinternet.com or phone 338536 – don't miss it!

Christmas is rapidly approaching and, once again, we have our popular range of Christmas cards designed by the children. Samples of the cards are available should you wish to 'try before you buy'; contact Janet on 337135 or email janet@janetwatts6.wanadoo.co.uk for a sample pack or to place an order. The cards can also be viewed on the school website www.deddington.ik.org.

Santa's Float will be on its way from the North Pole and landing in Deddington on the weekend of 11 and 12 December. As usual, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please see posters around the villages and the advert in this issue of *DN* for the route plan. Santa's Magical Grotto will be in its new location in the Living Room in the Parish Church on Saturday 18 December during the Farmers' Market. Santa is really looking forward to meeting all the children so please come along and help him make your Christmas special! Please see posters and advertising for further

details. A huge thank you to Hugh White and the PCC for allowing us to use the Church. Our dedicated carol singers will once again be singing in the Church during the morning of the December Farmers' Market. Do come along and listen to the spirit of Christmas or even join in!

In the meantime, on behalf of the PTA, I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.

Janet Watts, PTA Chair, 337135
janet@janetwatts6.wanadoo.co.uk

PFSU and Village Nursery

Christmas is coming and once again we are alive to the sounds of Christmas songs and knee-deep in glitter! The PFSU children are rehearsing hard for their Christmas production with the F1 children in the Church. This will be on Monday 13 December at 2.00pm and is called *Born in a Barn*. Our youngest children at Nursery are also doing a Nativity play this year. At the PFSU we will be holding two decoration days, when parents are welcome to join us to help make and put up Christmas decorations and make the room look really festive. And of course there are also lots of secret Christmas preparations going on!

Our Nursery had an Ofsted inspection during September and we were delighted to receive a judgement of 'good' with 'outstanding' features. Well done to all concerned.

Look out for us at the Christmas Farmers' Market where we will be raffling a fantastic Christmas hamper and selling our famous reindeer food, guaranteed to bring Santa to your house this Christmas.

Lucy Squires 337484

Children's Christmas Activities

These will be held in the Church on Saturday 11 December from 10am to 12.30pm. They are suitable for children aged 5–11. Cost is £1.50 per child, and applications need to be in by 7 December please!

Olivia Crane

formerly of

The Retreat

in Deddington's Bullring

is now offering treatments at her home treatment room in Banbury

Call **07887 507028** for information or to make an appointment



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News from Clifton sur Mer

A big Clifton welcome to Jill and Tony to the north of the village who have lately been joined by son and young family. They arrived a good few weeks ago – but something was stuck in my tinterweb letterbox and news has only just come through. Jill is looking to reignite the Clifton path debate so Cllr Collins may well add her to the growing list of campaigners, but I'll gladly pass on any other interested parties to our ever so self-important neighbour if they let me know.

While we're on the subject of the world wide internet thingy can I go on record and say how sorry I am that only 81 votes have been cast out of 1201 possible in the fibre optic raffle organised by the GPO? This reflects very badly on the wider parish, and outsiders (like those in Steeple Aston who have three times the votes) might just accuse us of living in the past. There are only around 30 days left in this race to infinity.

A new club has been founded in Clifton that goes under the title of the 'Not Strictly Come Dancing Club'. I'm told that membership is open to all those beleaguered blokes who cannot face 90 minutes of Brucie (or frankly the sight of the recent Honourable Member for Maidstone being manoeuvred around the floor like a fridge freezer on an ice rink!) every Saturday evening from now until Christmas. The inaugural meeting has been held and debugged. The chairman is one Andre Tansley (who is getting a reputation for leading people down the wrong path) and they meet in the pub. Let's be honest guys – it sounds quite tempting doesn't it?

Actually all credit to Andre who recently played a major part in getting the public footpath reinstated at Coombe Hill Farm. I know it's somewhat outside the bounds of our village but it's good to know we have people looking out for all our enjoyment.

Many of us enjoyed seeing children of the parish (some even from Upper Larkrise) remembering our pagan roots as they celebrated the festival of Samhain – or Hallowe'en as the Christians like to call it. A great effort was made on so many fabulous costumes.

And lastly how we enjoyed 'Not Rob's Birthday Party' at the Duck on the 6th. Fireworks, Harry from Croughton sang brilliantly and the Heat Seekers entertained with tunes from before they were born. The Gloucester old spot pigs even enjoyed the fireworks, with the young ones basking in the glory of their recent flawless DEFRA visit. Well done everyone!

Martin Bryce, MartinDNBryce@aol.com

STOP PRESS – Library to Close?

Under OCC's forthcoming round of spending cuts, our Library is set to close unless local volunteers can be found to run it. Communities will be able to bid for council cash to help them run their libraries. The 'Friends of Deddington Library' have come to our aid before; can they do so again and help retain this valuable asset in our Community? A taste of things to come in this new Big Society? **MR**

The Race to Infinity

BT survey to encourage communities to declare interest in fibre broadband

Over the next five years, BT is rolling out superfast fibre optic broadband across the UK. If your area is not on the announced roll out plan, then The Race to Infinity gives you the opportunity to fast track your area to get BT Infinity next.

The five areas with the largest percentage of votes by 31 December 2010 will win the chance to bring superfast broadband to their area. BT will also donate £5,000 of computer equipment to a local community project.

To cast your vote and find more information, visit <http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com>.

DEDDINGTON ONLINE

The Digital Push, or how Deddington is keeping up to date!

Deddington OnLine is one of the biggest and most comprehensive community run websites in the UK. The breadth and depth of its coverage of local matters and history are better than most other location-specific sites, including those in tourist hot spots.

A digital café now operates in the church. DOL's editor-in-chief Elizabeth Burak plans to help out with internet training. So if you're not at all sure about computers, but want to know, then do drop in.

DOL, DN and Churchtv are three websites that prove that Deddington is at the forefront of the digital age. There is a government appointed 'digital champion' who has announced a competition to find Britain's Digital Heroes. I nominate the founders of DOL – did you know that DOL held its first computer awareness session back in 1997 in the Deddington Arms? This predates the present government campaign by quite a few years.

Paul Drawmer
paul@drawmer.net

THINK PINK!

The council's newly introduced bright pink banks for the recycling of small electricals has come to Deddington. Anyone planning to throw away any old or broken small electrical items like a radio, toaster, kettle, video or DVD players should drop them into the pink recycling bank that is now permanently sited by the bottle banks in the A4260 lay-by on the Banbury Road.

The new bank has come just in time to capture any old or broken electrical gadgets that are disposed of to make room for some of the 150 million latest small electrical products bought nationally at Christmas. The banks are not to be used for larger items such as televisions, computer monitors, fridges or washing machines; these items should be recycled at the council's recycling and waste centres in Ardley or Alkerton.

Craig Stephens, 01295 221913
craig.stephens@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

December

Wed	1	10.00am	Eucharist*
Thu	2	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	5	10.30am	First Sunday*
Wed	8	10.00am	Eucharist*
Thu	9	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	12	10.30am	Sung Eucharist (with Healing Prayer)*
		4.00pm	Christingle
Wed	15	10.00am	Eucharist*
Thu	16	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	19	10.30am	Eucharist*
		6.30pm	Carol Service*
Wed	22	10.00am	Eucharist (with Healing Prayer)*
Thu	23	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Fri	24	11.30pm	Midnight Mass Christmas Eve*
Sat	25	10.30am	Family Eucharist Christmas Day*
Sun	26	10.30am	Eucharist St Stephen*
Mon	27	6.30pm	Eucharist St John
Tue	28	10.00am	Eucharist Holy Innocents
Wed	29	10.00am	Eucharist*
Thu	30	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Fri	31	11.30pm	Watch Night Service

For baptisms, weddings, funerals or home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, the Revd Dr Hugh White, 28 Duns Tew (349869), or one of the churchwardens, Glynne Bianchi (337743) or George Fenemore (338203)

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Sunday at 10.30am: Pastor Isabel Walton

Information on the meetings of other faith groups can be found at <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/church/otherfaithsandbeliefs>

A Parish at War – Comments Wanted

A draft written version of the article – currently on DOL – will be placed in the Library in December. Anyone who wishes to is welcome either to annotate the text by hand for errors and omissions, or convey them to Rob Forsyth directly via the contact details on the cover.

A final version will then be produced and lodged with the Library as a reference book, and may also be available for sale if printing costs are not too high. It would help assess costs if those who might be interested in obtaining a copy (no commitment at all at this stage!) could let me know by phone or email robert.s.forsyth@googlemail.com.

Rob Forsyth 338384

St John's Hempton

Suns	5	9.00am	Eucharist
	19	9.00am	Eucharist
Sat	25	9.00am	Eucharist Christmas Day

The Barfords

Sun	5	4.00pm	Christingle (Bfd StM)
Sun	12	4.00pm	Evensong (BfdStM)
Sun	19	4.00pm	Carol Service (Bfd StM)
Fri	24	4.00pm	Crib Service (Bfd StM)
		11.30pm	Midnight Mass
Sun	26	4.00pm	Eucharist St Stephen

January Services To be announced

* Services to be broadcast live via Churchtv

From the Parish Registers

26 Oct	Interment of Ashes	Denys Heywood
18 Nov	Interment of Ashes	Norman Stone
21 Nov	Baptism	Emily Ophelia Handley White

RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury

Fr John Burns 277396

Fri	24	Hethe	9.00pm	First Mass of Christmas
Sat	25	Add'y	9.00am	Mass
		Hethe	10.30am	Mass
Sun	26	Add'y	8.30am	Mass
		Hethe	10.00am	Mass

Mass 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

The Eve of Sunday 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.

The Celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany has been transferred to the previous Sunday; 6 January 2011 will therefore not be a Holy Day of Obligation.



Friends of Daeda's Wood

The leaves have almost all come down now in the wood, together with some branches, notably from

one of the old pollarded willows. Let us hope that the wood survives any future storms without too much damage. Storms aside, winter is a beautiful time in woods, especially on a frosty but sunny day. The flowers are gone, the birds are few but the trees show their structure and individuality so clearly without their leaves. Even if a cold walk does not appeal, come along to the AGM on Wednesday 26 January 2011 at 7.30pm in the Unicorn, and become a Friend. It costs only £5 a year to support your wood.

Elsbeth Cox, Chairman, 337635

Thoughts ... on the Town Hall

November has been an important month for us. The lease on the Town Hall has been surrendered and we have been making some improvements to make it an attractive facility for all the community. This has involved a steep learning curve. Risk assessments have not previously played a role in my life but one has been carried out on the Town Hall. Some of the points are so obvious like having a switch for the lights at the top and the bottom of the stairs, but I did not expect the location of rubbish bins to be an issue. It is, and we have been told to move them away from windows, particularly windows near a stairwell.

The spruce up continues and we hope to be able to invite you to come and visit the Town Hall soon. We hope that the redecoration will happen in the near future but we are awaiting news on this. We are convinced that we need to take positive steps to rejuvenate and protect this village asset. Our current thinking is that a major refurbishment must await gaining a clearer idea of the demand and a more propitious economic climate.

We would like to display photos, pictures and memorabilia of Deddington, particularly those relating to the Market Place, the Almshouses, the Pest House Field and the Town Hall. If you have any that you are willing to allow us to display or copy and then display, we would like to hear from you. Does anyone have a collection of the postmarks of Deddington?

We would like to hear from anyone who is interested in the Town Hall or the work of the Charity Estates. Please write to us at the Town Hall, email bookings@deddingtontownhall.com or phone.

Michael Allbrook, DCE, 338374

DN IN 2011

We are extremely pleased that John Price, who came to Deddington in 1997 and lives in Gaveston Gardens, is now helping us to produce the *DN* ads. He is a retired senior journalist and editor with a long career in provincial and Fleet Street newspapers, culminating in the post of head of graphics at the *Daily Mail*. We are very chuffed to have his professional expertise at our disposal, though he is modest enough to claim to be self-taught in the latest software!

More changes afoot for *DN* in 2011: we have two extra pages of both editorial and advertising for your delectation and delight; our *DN* website (<http://www.deddingtonnews.co.uk/>) takes on a new look from February; and – just to show the next generation we're keeping up – we even have a presence (along with Deddington OnLine) on Facebook. We haven't quite got round to Twittering yet, life's just too short!

Grateful thanks to Julie Wigg, of Church Street, for providing this year's atmospheric Christmas cover.

And finally, what about a last minute boost in the response figures to BT's 'Race to Infinity' (see p5)? We don't want to be left behind in 2011! **MR**

Deddington School PTA

Santa's Float



Saturday 11th December
from 5pm

Barford St Michael
Hempton
Deddington (west of the
traffic lights, ie Hempton
Road, Gaveston Gardens,
Mill Close etc)

Sunday 12th December
from 5pm

Clifton
Deddington (east of the
traffic lights)



Listen out for the
music and come
and say "hello" to
Father Christmas
and his helpers!

Your generous
donations are
very welcome!

Charity No 1052715



HANDEL MESSIAH

Saturday December 11th
St Mary's Church
Bloxham
7.30 pm

Refreshments

Tickets £10.00 (£8.00 concessions) from
Hamptons International Deddington
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SWIFTS IN OUR MIDST

The 'glorious twelfth' of August and they've gone – those symbols of summer, so iconic that the BBC reputedly used their distinctive screams as an audio backdrop to create an atmosphere of joy for a Jane Austen winter wedding! But they'll be back next spring in squadrons to delight us with their aerial acrobatics and consume huge quantities of insect pests.

GREEN PIECE

Here in Deddington we are very fortunate in having a well-established colony in Hopcraft Lane, but nationally the swift population has declined by 40% over the last 15 years. This is largely because they return each year to their traditional nest sites, often to find them gone because of improvements to insulation in modern roofs, which excludes the birds from their nesting holes. Although the species is protected during the breeding season, the sites are vulnerable for the remaining nine months of the year and may be destroyed by renovation or demolition.

Fortunately, measures are now being taken to discourage this practice and to encourage new builds to incorporate special 'swift bricks' which provide good nesting habitats. Alternatively, nesting-boxes can be provided in suitable sites, as David Rogers has done in Mill Close. A recording of swift calls has already attracted interest from the birds in the centre of the village. Other suitable sites have been identified such as the church tower, the fire station, the Windmill Centre, some private addresses and the school. This used to have a thriving colony of its own until the roof space was blocked off to exclude the birds, apparently in 1998, according to George Fenemore. Shame!

We could extend our colony if we take positive steps to help the birds. Nest-boxes are not expensive or difficult to install. The site needs to be north facing with a clear approach and a good drop in front to al-

low the birds to get airborne – swifts spend nearly all their life in the air. If you think you have a suitable site and would like to help, please contact the Parish Council or you could visit the swift conservation site: <http://www.swift-conservation.org/>.

You can also obtain an interesting booklet from the Oxford Museum of Natural History, whose tower was colonised in the 19th century as soon as it was built and which now hosts some 50 pairs of breeding birds. These can be watched on video in the museum throughout the season.



Finally, if you are lucky enough to have swifts already nesting at your property, please let us know. Cherwell District Council is compiling a register of sites which will help them to protect the birds in the course of any future planning applications. The new Spiceball Sports building incorporates swift nest-boxes – we could also do our bit and ensure that our children and theirs can enjoy

'... a bolas of three or four wire screams
Jockeying across each other
On their switchback wheel of death.
They swat past, hard-fledged,
Veer on the hard air, toss up over the roof
And are gone again ...'

Ted Hughes

But not forever!

Jean Rudge 338110

Parking at the Health Centre

The Health Centre is asking able-bodied patients to park in Earl's Lane or in the village centre, rather than at the Health Centre. The yard has only eight parking spaces and the suggestion is that they be reserved for patients with mobility problems, or parents with small children. However, Earl's Lane is a residential area, and it is important that patients don't block house entrances.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

FROM RAY & HAZEL HALL,
GAVESTON GARDENS

We would like to thank everyone who attended, donated and helped at our Macmillan Coffee Morning. We raised £442.00.

FROM PHILIP & SUZANNE
ALLAN, THE HERMITAGE

We wonder whether other parishioners were struck, as we were, by the irony of the Parish Council report in the November issue of the *DN*? Immediately following a statement on the dire state of the Town Hall, and the urgent need to raise cash to repair and improve it, was an item reporting on £560,000 of funds squirrelled away in several bank accounts – and currently earning very little interest. This money has been lying idle for many years now. Why? Money that belongs to the community should be put to work for the benefit of the community. And what better way to spend some of it than on the village amenity, the Town Hall? What would be the point of appealing to parishioners to stump up new funds when funds belonging to them already exist for purposes such as this? Others have urged the Parish Council in the past to spend at least the bulk of this substantial reserve. It currently serves no purpose. Perhaps it is time for parishioners to take control and spend the money in a sensible way.

FROM JANE GREEN, WESTON HOUSE

Eight families or singles took part in this year's Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride event.



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

They raised the excellent sum of £816.00 which will be shared between our own Parish Church and the Trust's maintenance fund to meet special requests from the county's churches. The Trust's organisers are extremely grateful to all the Deddingtonians who took part and to all those who so generously sponsored them.

FROM AARON BLISS, HEMPTON ROAD

Many ideas for environmental protection involve huge and uncomfortable lifestyle changes, and yet one of the most simple is still not being heeded. In the Co-op we still get through thousands of plastic carrier bags a week, which, though biodegradable, will still clog up our tips and probably streets for 30 years or so. Still people take extra carriers for items they can quite easily carry or fit in pockets. When such a painless change is not made, can we really hope to reverse our damage to the natural world?

FROM CAROL GARRETT, ARCHWAY COTTAGE

I am off trekking once again! I am planning to complete a trek to Nepal in the new year, to raise funds for Dogs for the Disabled which trains puppies to be assistance dogs, offering confidence, companionship and independence to people across the UK. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, please contact me or visit my fundraising website: www.justgiving.com/carol-garrett. Further information about the charity can be obtained at www.dogsforthe-disabled.org.

The Tastebuddies Eat at the Duke of Cumberland's Head, Clifton

We are the Tastebuddies. We lunch out every two months to assess local pubs and restaurants within a 20-mile radius of Deddington. We hope you will find our observations useful.

Where? The Duke of Cumberland's Head, Clifton, Tel: 01869 338534

Food Served: 12.00–2.00pm every day; 6.00–9.00pm Sunday to Thursday; 6.00–9.30pm Friday and Saturday

Jazz piano on Sunday lunchtimes played by Peter Oxley from Deddington

Cost: Starters £6.50–£7.50; main course £10.00–£16.00; dessert £4.50–£5.00

Sandwiches, baguettes, ploughmans and paninis available (not Sundays). Good board of daily specials.

Are they pleased to see you? Welcoming, personal service.

Is the restaurant attractive? Typical country pub, very nice inglenook fireplace, but we found the canned music rather intrusive. Loos need attention.

Was the cooking good? The menu was extensive,

unusual and varied, with vegetarian options; the food was well presented. Everything was homemade on the premises and locally sourced. Some is reared or grown behind the pub.

Our starters: goats cheese with warm potato and beetroot salad; home smoked duck and orange salad with saffron aioli; confit leg of guinea fowl with sautéed wild mushrooms, spinach, salsify and butternut purée.

Main courses: fillet steak with horseradish mash; peppered Barbary duck breast; and confit duck rillettes with fondant potatoes and butternut squash; also an amazing rabbit dish.

Desserts included fruit crumble with vanilla ice cream, and strawberry compote. Desserts were disappointing after excellent starters and main courses.

Local real ales and cider, an extensive wine list, 30 or so single malt whiskies.

Value for money: the meal was slightly overpriced for a pub, but the cuisine was certainly above average.

Would we go again? Yes, for starters and mains.



The Allotment

As we prepare for winter evenings in front of the fire, there are just a few jobs you could do on those lovely clear winter days:

- Protect your pots in bubble wrap and if you think that is not beautiful enough add a little hessian to the outside.
- If you have apple and pear trees it is time to get out and prune them. You're aiming for an open goblet shape, so remove any crossing, damaged and horizontal branches and prune to an outward facing bud. Don't prune soft fruit trees at this time of year as you can damage them. Also leave trained apple and pear espaliers alone as these require summer pruning.
- If you want rhubarb now is the time to plant it – you may be lucky and get a crown off a neighbour. When you're planting it dig in a lot of manure around the crown and let the crown peek out and see the light; it doesn't appreciate being buried.
- Cut leaves from the crowns of kale to encourage side shoots for harvesting in late winter.
- Turnips, swedes, parsnips should be lifted by the end of the month otherwise they grow too large and turn woody.
- If we have a hard frost coming you can protect your cauliflowers by wrapping a few of the outer leaves around them.

Have a great Christmas and enjoy your sprouts!

Samantha Willis

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the month of December 1860:

5th December – Holford went hunting to North Aston – the Prince of Wales was at the Meet.

8th December – Robert passed his last Examination in the Schools – I rejoice to record – in Law and Modern History.

14th December – Robert returned from Oxford having taken his B.A. degree yesterday.

21st December – Bonner brought in 3 tons of coal, out of 20, promising the remainder next week. I ordered Mrs. Lamb a ton of coal as an Xmas Box.

22nd December – Filled the Ice House. Gave the widows their annual Xmas Boxes at the Farm House – tea and money.

24th December – Went to the Farm House and gave away the usual two sheep.

25th December – Christmas Day, Church twice at Clifton. Between 7 & 8 pm, 10 of the National School girls and two teachers came and sang some Xmas carols – and received each some money and a wine glass of elder wine. This was our 25th Xmas Day spent at Deddington.

26th December – The Ringers came and received their annual Xmas Box with the Sexton.

27th December – Holford and Robert went to a Ball at Glympton Park – they reached home again at 20 minutes to 5 o'clock am. **Buffy Heywood 338212**

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CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

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on Sunday 12 December

at 4pm

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WELL REMEMBERED

BETTY HILL 1928–2010

Betty was born in Harrow and studied architecture at Liverpool University, graduating in 1950. She then joined Buckingham County Council Architecture Department and subsequently Oxford Regional Health Authority where she worked on the plans for the Horton Maternity Unit and a new ward at Bicester Hospital. After a spell at the University of Virginia, USA, she became a Senior Lecturer at the School of Architecture at Oxford Polytechnic. She was an active and prominent member of the Doric Club, the founding institution of the Oxford School of Architecture.

In 1965 Betty and her mother moved to Leadon-porch House Deddington where, as well as continuing with her successful career, she contributed hugely to the community. Betty served on the Parish Council for 12 years, where her qualifications and knowledge made her invaluable, especially on the planning group. Betty also participated enthusiastically in many other aspects of village life: she designed the Holly Tree Cottages, organised a voluntary group in 1978 to paint the Town Hall, led the campaign against the OCC plan for motorway lighting on New Street/High Street, was a founding member of the gardening club and regularly helped paint the scenery for the pantomime – to name just a few.

Betty was an accomplished potter and the diversity of her work reflected her character in that she loved experimenting with a wide range of clays and mixing her own glazes to see whether she could produce something individual. Many people within the parish have a garden pot or one of her smoked shapes inspired by pebbles on a beach. She also was a very keen and able tennis player. Her grass court was an integral part of the garden she loved; but most of all she enjoyed her dogs and cats who were her constant companions and was a familiar figure on the Castle Grounds amongst the dog walkers.

Betty will be well remembered by several generations of international architects as well as by so many friends in Deddington whose lives have been enriched by knowing her. There was no part of the village that her friendship did not reach at some stage.

Friends of Betty

BRIAN COSGROVE MBE 1926–2010

If you look up into the sky and see a small plane it could be a microlight aircraft, a plane and organisation Brian was very much involved with. His love of flying started at the age of eight when, against his parents' wishes, he had a flight in a DH Dragon. The cost was five shillings and he had a ride whenever he could afford it. In 1943 he enlisted in the RAF, serving in Yorkshire and the Far East where a senior pilot taught him to fly. Demobbed in 1947, he took a job with Spillers, the flour millers, in Cardiff. He also joined the RAFVR(T) and became a gliding instructor, retiring in 1964 as a Flight Lieutenant.

He had a successful business career, taking him to a senior management position in London and running sales and management training courses. He was made redundant in 1978; the following year he saw a strange flying-machine at Wellesbourne which turned out to be a microlight, and in 1981 he joined the school at Enstone. In 1988 he became secretary of the British Microlight Aircraft Association and was retitled Chief Executive. Meanwhile, the office had moved to Deddington. He held the position for ten years, overseeing pilot licensing, aircraft registration and air worthiness. He retired in 1993 and was awarded the MBE for services to microlighting; he was accompanied by his daughters, Katherine and Joanne, to receive his award.

Brian wrote several books over the years and also found time to be a Parish Councillor. Brian lived in The Lane in Hempton for many years and he would often stop and have a chat – it was difficult to get away sometimes! An epitaph for him would be 'Father of Microlighting'.

Les Chappell

TONY BOLTON 1920–2010

Tony was born in Ecuador (his father was in the Merchant Navy), the last child of the family, there being two elder sisters. Tony gave much of his life to the services, where he found great fulfilment. He first joined the Navy, meeting and marrying Avis. They had one daughter, Sue. Tony continued in the Navy after service during the War, leaving eventually in the mid-1950s. Following a brief spell in commerce, he enlisted in the RAF, which for the family meant a series of relocations both in this country and abroad. Tony then worked for Cherwell District as a planning officer. On retirement he devoted himself to his hobbies, chiefly photography and gardening – the garden in the Daedings was always full of colour. Tony also enjoyed music, the *Telegraph* crossword – and all kinds of cake. Whether it was the discipline of the officer or the propriety of the English gentleman that made it so, afternoon tea was to be served at 4.00pm precisely. Certainly, right to the end, despite the bewilderingments of Alzheimer's, Tony was the perfect, courteous gentleman, as he was an admirable husband, father and friend.

HW

Friends of Deddington Festival

The AGM of the Friends of Deddington Festival took place on 4 November in the Parish Church. Thirty-four members attended and, during general discussion, it was suggested we ask for a volunteer to fundraise. Someone out there is just waiting for this opportunity. Please come forward and contact a member of the committee: Heather Nason 338494, Elspeth Cox 337635, Althea Wood 337904.

Althea Wood, altheawood@aol.com

News from Hempton

Please remember this Saturday, 4 December, the Christmas Bazaar from 11.00am in the Church and Hall: plenty of stalls, a grand draw and hot lunches on offer, also items for children, so bring the family along and help the Friends of the Church to raise funds to maintain the building. We have just had the 5-yearly inspection of the building, so I am sure there will be things that need to be done. The Carol Service will be on Friday 17 December at 6.30pm with the Deddington Church choir, followed by refreshments of a Christmas nature. Christmas Day Eucharist will be at 9.00am but there will be no Evensong this month. Our normal pattern of services will resume on 2 January.

St John's has started a Sunday School in the Church Hall which runs on the third Sunday of each month during the 9.00am service. Let's pray for its success.

Well done to the three families who rode for us on the Ride & Stride cycle ride in September. £234 was raised, of which half comes back to St John's. Would people in the village be interested in helping Jonathan Watts set up a heating oil syndicate? The understanding is that you could save as much as 4p per litre for a bulk order. If you are interested, please ring Jonathan on 337135 or email jonathan@janetwatts6.wanadoo.co.uk.

The Table Tennis team is playing in Division 2 of the Banbury & District League this time after promotion last season. They have started poorly, losing four and drawing one, but are through to the 2nd round of the cup after defeating a Sibford team by 294–265 pts. Let's hope the League form improves.

Les Chappell 338054

FARMERS' MARKET

The December market will be on 18 December, moved forward to fit in better with Christmas. This really is a good opportunity to stock up with provisions and gifts. If you look here: <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/farmersmarket/stallholderdetails> you will be able to contact any stallholder and check if they will have that special something you are hoping to buy.

Cherwell DC will be at the December Farmers' Market with their Recycling Road Show. They will be presenting a cookery demonstration introducing 're-cycling' recipes suitable for use after Christmas, together with advice on other recycling matters.

I saw that over 60% of UK households will spend more than £200 on food at Christmas, with more than half of them spending over £300. Christmas can be an expensive time: when the pressure is on value, look at the produce at our market. Fresh food of great quality, just what you need for a celebration! Maybe we will learn how to make the food go further with the recycling recipes as well.

The January market will be on the 22nd, back to our usual date of the 4th Saturday.

Paul Drawmer, paul@drawmer.net

SCHOOL NEWS

December is upon us and the classrooms are ringing out with the sound of carols as the children rehearse for our Christmas concerts which will take place during the last week of term in the Church. These are always lovely occasions which are very well attended by parents and grandparents, and a really nice way of ending the term.

This term we have had several school trips: Years 5 and 6 have been to the Oxford Playhouse to see award-winning author Andy Stanton; Year 6 have also visited Bletchley Park as part of their Second World War topic, and Year 1 went to Chipping Norton Theatre for a production of *Beauty and the Beast*. We also ran a competition to find who could create a healthy, delicious and exciting packed lunch. Over 70 children entered and the 12 lucky winners (two from each year group in Years 1–6) went to Peach Barns in North Aston where they had a chance to make their packed lunches and to bring back some goodies – a lovely day!

We are happy to welcome Lloyd Collings to Deddington School; Mr Collings is teaching Year 2 whilst Mrs Fane is on maternity leave. Our school community is extremely proud of Mrs Sargent, our Year 5 teacher, who has raised money for the school by taking part in the Great South Run. She completed the 10-mile course in less than two hours! A fantastic achievement – we are still counting sponsor money and will keep parents informed about how much was raised.

After our Christmas break we will be welcoming our new Headteacher, Clive Evans, to Deddington and I shall be returning to my role as Deputy Head and move back into the classroom. I know that he is very keen to join us, and the children, the rest of the staff and I are really excited about welcoming him into our community.

Jane Cross, Acting Headteacher 338430

Discovering Deddington

Discovering Deddington, our own historical and present-day guide to the parish, published in 2000 by Deddington Map Group to celebrate the millennium, is on sale via Amazon or from Hugh White at the Church. The book with its subtitle 'Three Bound Together as One' (the meaning of the motto on the coat of arms) covers Deddington, Clifton and Hempton. It is packed full of information about the villages at the start of the 21st century, but there is plenty of history too. The headings tell of 'A Walk Round Deddington', 'Eating and Drinking', 'Into the Countryside', 'A Walk Around Clifton', 'A Walk Around Hempton', 'Daeda's Wood', 'Farms and Fields', 'How to Get Here', 'Where to Stay' and, finally, 'Village Notice Board', listing services, clubs and societies. The book costs £3 from Hugh White, and £4.95 from Amazon.

David Rogers

david.rogers@primarycaresystems.co.uk

Deddington Branch Royal British Legion

Remembrance Sunday, 14 November 2010

The changeable weather prior to Remembrance Sunday gave us concern that we may have to adopt the wet weather programme. But the rain held off and the parade was probably one of the best supported for many years. We live in fear of having large numbers surrounding the War Memorial after a downpour with the possibility of people slipping and falling. The matter of the location of the War Memorial rumbles on; if only a decision could be made to relocate to the Market Place like most villages in the country – surely there must be someone in the village that shares our concern. *[The PC is still actively considering this – Ed.]*



Well over 200 people paraded from Horse Fair led by the Boys Brigade band, with the standard carried by Dave Keats. The Vicar led the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial and the bugler was Irene Dailley, to whom we are extremely grateful. Most went into church after that where the congregation was thought to be over 300. Christopher Hodges gave the address, reading from the experiences of his father, John, a member of the church choir who had served in the Second World War. It brought home to many the realities of war.

Our thanks to all who joined us at the War Memorial and in church, the Boys Brigade Band, the Revd. Dr Hugh White, the choir, organist and bell ringers and also Pastor Isabel Walton who led the prayers; to Richard Boss who stewarded the parades and all others who were involved.

After the church service the Chairman of Branch Albert Humphries MBE led the parade back through the Market Place with the salute taken by our President Major David G Hood MC (retd).

Once again we thank George Reason of Windmill Street who erected and maintained the Memorial Garden in the Market Place. As a result of Armistice Day preceding Remembrance Sunday this year we decided not to mark Armistice Day formally, but hope to do so from next year onwards.

Our Poppy Appeal organiser, Norman West, reports a highly successful response to the 2010 appeal. We thank the villagers of Deddington and surrounding villages for their generosity and also the school, Featherston House and the 35 shops and offices who agreed to have our poppy boxes and collecting tins.

The provisional results are:

House to house collections	£2792
Shops, offices etc.	£1105
Churches	£800
Wreaths	£120
Donations	<u>£200</u>
	<u>£5017</u>

This is an increase of some £500 over last year.

Albert P Humphries MBE, Branch Chairman
338943

Deddington Royal British Legion Club

The club steward Scott Burton has moved on to other things and we have decided not to replace him. Volunteers are running the bar for the time being to enable us to build up our cash reserves. If any members or even non-members would like to help out with running the club and bar would they please ring or email as below.

The AGMs of the branch and club will be held at the clubhouse, High Street, Deddington on Wednesday 8 December at 7.30pm (members only). Nomination sheets for election to office or committee are posted in the clubhouse. Six months' membership is required. Nominations will close at end of business on Sunday 5 December 2010.

Raymond R Morris Club Chairman 338143
DeddingtonRBL@RBL.com

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CALLING ALL CLUBS

Youth Club

Our two fantastic new youth leaders, Hayley McDowell and Pauline DeMeis, have started with us and have lots of fresh ideas so come along on a Monday night to join us from 7–9pm. We are open to all 9–15 year olds who live in the parish.

Each member who brings along a non-member friend to join us will receive free entry that week. We would like to say thank you to Deddington Farmers' Market for their very generous donation. So far this has been used to buy a new badminton net, and we are all still deciding what to spend the rest of the money on.

Our last meeting before Christmas will be a disco in the Town Hall on Monday 13 December at our normal time of 7–9pm – hope to see you all there.

Jill Radini 01869 336133
jillmunson250@hotmail.com

Deddington Players

Rehearsals have begun for the 2011 Pantomime, *Puss in Boots*. With 46 people on stage and many more behind it this promises to be another true community effort and a show not to be missed. With no *Deddington News* in January this is my final chance to remind you to put the dates in your new and empty 2011 diaries – it is at the Windmill Centre on 20, 21 and 22 January 2011, evenings and an afternoon matinee on the Saturday. Call 338153 for tickets. Happy Christmas!

Lucy Squires 338442

Photographic Society

In October the Society held its annual Photographic Exhibition at Deddington Parish Church and just under 300 visitors attended. Members showed 58 photographs covering a broad range of subjects that illustrated their individual photographic skills and work over the past 12 months.

At the Society's November meeting Phil Binks gave a presentation on 'Big Boys' Prints – Prints to Inspire Photographers'. Explaining his belief that the visual impact of photographs is always enhanced when the prints are of A3 size or larger, Phil showed a series of large prints from his own personal collection to illustrate the point. Starting with prints from 35mm and medium-format film cameras in the early 1990s, he discussed the print quality problems that attended the introduction of early digital cameras, now overcome with the current digital camera range. Stressing the importance of using a tripod wherever possible, Phil displayed some impressive prints that illustrated his photographic techniques in a variety of situations including car and steam rallies, sporting events, churches and cathedrals, architecture of buildings, studio portraiture, indoor and outdoor entertainment, landscapes and foreign travel. It was an informative

and most interesting evening embracing a whole spectrum of photographic activities by a presenter willing to respond to questions and share his personal experiences with his audience.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 1 December at Christopher Rawlins School, Adderbury (please note new venue for this month only) when there will be a presentation by Mikki Aston CPAGB entitled 'Travels in Botswana, Namibia and South Africa'. All are welcome, please just come along to the meeting.

John Branton 01295 811079

1st Deddington Scout Group

We wish all our members and their families a very Happy Christmas.

Cubs

The Cubs are still working on the model of Deddington Castle; most of the parts have been made and we now just need to put it all together.

The annual display of guys in the Market Place was a great success and thanks to the generosity of shoppers we raised £215, which is nearly half a ShelterBox. We will be looking at other ways of raising the rest of the money.

We will be tackling road safety and Christmas decorations during the next few weeks. The visit from the Blue Cross clashed with the school fireworks and it will now take place in the New Year.

We finish on 9 December as the KS2 performance is on 16 December. Cubs will start again on 6 January 2011.

Jo Churchyard, CSL, 338071
jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

Scouts are still working towards their guide and meteorologist badges by taking some photos of 'dangerous' places in the parish and keeping a record of weather conditions.

There will be several hikes during the winter term (more fun in the dark) when we walk Scouts home. The first was to Adderbury (windy and very muddy) to take Felix home. We set some caches to find with our new GPSs and each box contained a treasure – a candle, a candle holder, matches and last of all a little cake (it was Felix's birthday). We also invested Angus and Jack at Daeda's Wood.

We will be making some beautiful gifts for Christmas and swimming at Spiceball in lieu of a Christmas party.

Scouts finish on Wednesday 15 December and will start back on Thursday 6 January 2011.

Pete Churchyard, SL, 338071
pete.churchyard@btinternet.com



CALLING MORE CLUBS...

Deddington Town Football Club

1st team results:

- 23.10.10 Cropredy (a) (Cup) L 3–4
 30.10.10 FC Naranja (h) (Cup) W 6–4
 England (3), Garstin, Hall, Thornton, L.
 13.11.10 Hornton (a) W 2–1 Garstin, Thornton, L.

Reserve team results:

- 23.10.10 Sinclair United Res (h) L 1–4 Lane
 30.10.10 Wroxton Sports (a) (Cup) W 4–3
 Flemming, J. (2), Kaye (2)
 13.11.10 Kings Sutton Reserves W 2–0
 Kaye (2)

A bear risks stings on his tender rhinarium as he ingresses the hive in pursuit of his mellifluous treasure, much as our football teams venture into hostile territories in order to claim the sweet, sweet taste of victory, always searching for that final triumph that will yield the silver chalice so they may drink the blood of the vanquished. A defeat followed by two wins for both our bounce-back specialists this period. Target man Andy England helped himself to a hat-trick, which is more than the real England can manage these days, whilst Luc Thornton and Matt Garstin weighed in with strikes in two games. The first team management situation may be clearer soon, with Matt Garstin deciding to put his passion solely into playing, leaving Mikey Large as Godfather of the team.

Andy Spencer continues to impress with his debut season's management of the Reserves, never allowing a losing run to continue for long. Jordan Kaye has been back amongst the goals with a brace of braces, while the team have made cup progress. In the lead-up to Yuletide the outlook is looking good for these merry gentlemen. For those of you who wish to help support your local club whilst standing a chance of winning £50 every week (£100 every ninth week), Deddington Town runs a '75' club. For more details, contact our club treasurer Paul Smith at psmit104@astonmartin.com.

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

Deddington and District History Society

We welcomed back Martin Way for our November lecture. Martin is always a popular attraction, his talks combining knowledge with humour, illustrated by the treasure trove of historic objects that he brings with him. On this occasion he spoke about Cotswold sheep and shepherding, his talk greatly enlivened by his direct experiences as a shepherd over many years. He told us as expected about the importance of Cotswold wool for the wealth of medieval England, but the most fascinating part of his talk dealt with traditional shepherding practice and the tools of that trade, many examples of which he had brought with him, from sheep bells and crooks to smocks.

On Wednesday 8 December we shall hold our annual Christmas Social. After a light buffet supper

(bring a bottle if you wish) there will be a programme of song and dance by the Vale Islanders, dancers and musicians specialising in 17th-century repertoire. This should be terrific fun, so make sure to reserve a place early. The cost is just £3 for members, £6 for non-members. Please order your tickets from Moira Byast on 01869 338637.

We like to mix up our programmes by offering a variety of local and non-local topics. With that in mind we shall start 2011 with a talk on 'T. E. Lawrence' by one of our members, Peter Leney of Barford St Michael, at the Windmill Centre at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12 January.

Chris Day 01869 337204
Moira Byast 01869 338637

WI

Our speaker, Steve Flinders, an ex-soldier gave a topical poignant talk about the work done by the charity Talbot House and Veterans' Aid. Originating in the shocking loss of life and the severely wounded of the First World War it is still giving help and support today. Homelessness and mental trauma are among the great difficulties that present-day veterans suffer, and this is where Talbot House is able to give its support. Members had several questions for Steve and then Maureen Cox thanked him on behalf of members.

Our Christmas dinner and the celebration of the 85th birthday of Deddington WI are on 14 December. On 11 January 2011 John Suckling will speak on 'St Kilda, a far better place'.

Rene Mahony 338438

1st Deddington Guides

What a busy term! Welcome to several new Guides. We have built up our six new patrols and they are working very well together. Campers, advanced camper and traditions of guiding are badges we have worked hard for and four guides have started on their Baden-Powell award. Some very exciting and interesting activities: we loved toasting marshmallows and presenting in journalistic style our first aid knowledge, dressing up for Hallowe'en and apple bobbing. We had huge fun and got covered in glue making lifesize angels for the feast of all angels at Barford Church – a very lively service in the company of many angels!

Thank you to all who supported our Pakistan flood relief fund raising stall – we raised £100. A huge thank you to the Farmers' Market team for the stall and for the cheque for £300 – very generous!

The gang show in Oxford is something we look forward to. The next show will be more special as Emma and Natalie have joined the cast along with Rangers Maisie and Jasmine – well done.

We learnt both verses of the national anthem ready for Remembrance Day when the Guides did us proud! Well done to all who came – super turnout on this spe-

... AND YET MORE CLUBS

cial day. We were able to understand much more of what people went through after Captain Ted Johnson came to talk to us one evening. Ted has so many tales and experiences to share about his wartime service: tales of combat and capture and more importantly stories of reconciliation and friendship with German soldiers in later years.

Another inspirational event for us, and the finale of our centenary year, was 'Vision'. Six hundred from Cherwell division met at Broughton Castle one very cold but beautifully clear night. We were entertained by a brilliant jazz singer, country dancing, crafts and ghost stories in the churchyard and then in excellent well-organised style we excitedly counted down to 20.10 on 20.10.2010 when all Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Rangers and leaders renewed their promise along with thousands of others gathered across the country! The cheering afterwards was almost as loud as the firework display. A great end to a special year.

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069
Marian Trinder 01869 340806

Book Club

In October we read *The Affairs of Flavie* by Gabriel Chevallier. Most of us enjoyed this tongue-in-cheek portrait of French provincial life set in the 1930s, poking fun at French society and those aspiring to it. Written with gentle and affectionate humour, the story follows both the business and love affairs of a Grenoble family. We found the insular attitude of the French at the start of the Second World War interesting and we were amused by the French view of English society.

The next book is *Brooklyn* by Colm Toibin and the next meeting is 27 January 2011.

Sally Lambert 338094

Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

The DOGS would like to take this opportunity to wish all a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year. Our AGM will be in January 2011 and all DOGS members will be notified in due course.

David Darst 338589

1st Deddington Brownies

What a busy month for the Brownies! On 20 October we joined Brownies, Guides and Rainbows from around the area to renew our promises at 20.10 on 20.10.2010. This special finale to the Girl Guiding UK Centenary year took place at Broughton Castle and included fireworks, dancing, singing, hot dogs and ghost stories! It was a memorable evening for everyone who took part.

We started the new term with a trip to the Snow Dome at Milton Keynes for a morning of tobogganing that was followed by lunch. We got very wet, very cold

and had a great time. Thank you to the Farmers' Market for their generous donation that supported this trip. The following week we were in church to present the First Sunday service, our theme being the Girl Guiding Centenary. The Brownies turned out in force again on the Sunday following that to support the Remembrance Sunday parade and service. All these activities have been in addition to our weekly meetings when they have tackled yoga and other athletic skills! We look forward to Christmas and wish you all a happy one.

Lucy Squires 338442

Deddington Vets Football

Firstly an apology: although it is December this is the first posting in the *DN* of a season that is already three months old – that's almost as late as a Dom Clark tackle.

Let me take this opportunity to make amends by giving a brief synopsis of the story so far. For those who are not aware Deddington Vets, or DUST (Deddington under 60s) is to Deddington Town FC what Dad's Army is to a crack commando unit.

We have played three games so far this season, all away. The first against Swalcliffe was a 5–1 loss. Somewhere along the way the term 'vets' game' was misinterpreted and we ended up playing a youthful Saturday afternoon side that happened to supply a 50-year old ref. We held out for 60 minutes, but eventually succumbed to the long ball game and the speed of their young forwards. The situation wasn't helped by our goalkeeper being taken to hospital with a broken arm – get fit soon Jim.

Things picked up in subsequent matches and we went on to beat Kineton 3–2 and had very good 5–2 win against Honnington. Our December game is a local Derby against Banbury. I'll try and report back before March.

Barry O'Connell 338988

Ken Wilkinson

On 25 October, at the Oxfordshire Association for Young People AGM held at Blenheim Palace, Ken Wilkinson received an award in recognition of his support for Deddington Youth Club. Ken, a volunteer for over ten years, was thrilled to receive the award, which was presented by Lady Spencer-Churchill, Patron of OAYP. Deddington Youth Club is immensely grateful for his ongoing enthusiasm and commitment.

Helen Spencer (YC committee member)



Pic Helen Spencer