

February 2019

# *The* **DEDDINGTON NEWS**



Delivered free to Deddington, Clifton and Hempton

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Alison Day

## *The* DEDDINGTON NEWS

'February fill-dyke': an old name for February, traditionally known for heavy rains or snow. After 2018's Big Dry we are in critical need of February living up to its old title to recharge groundwater. Will the more extreme weather patterns emerging as a result of climate change drench us or exacerbate the effects of last year's drought?

CD

### WHAT'S ON

#### February

- Sat 2–23 Council for Preservation of Rural England: Star Count  
Mon 4 Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am  
Mon 4 Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm  
Wed 6 Photographic Society: Presentation by FujiFilm, Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm  
Tue 12 WI: 'Travels to Small Islands', John Suckling, Holly Tree, 7.30pm  
Thu 14 Holly Tree Club: Film Night, *Mama Mia! Here We Go Again*, Holly Tree, 6.30pm  
Wed 20 PC Meeting: Windmill Centre, 7.30pm  
Thu 21 History Society: 'The General Strike of 1926', Chris Farman, Primary School, 7.30pm  
Sat 23 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm  
Tue 26 Friends of Deddington Library: Bengal Spice Night, 7.30pm for 8.00pm, £20 per person  
Thu 28 Book Club: Contact Sally Lambert, 01869 338094 for details

*Continued on page 13*

### DEDDINGTON CIRCULAR WALK

The theme for the front cover of the Deddington News this year is the Deddington circular walk. This month's image is the beginning of the Hempton loop and shows a wintry Cosy Lane looking back up the hill towards the Daedings.

The walk is part of the series *Circular Walks in Cherwell* and forms a figure of eight with the two loops – Hempton to the west and Clifton to the east – xmeeting in the Market Place. The route is well signed, and each one offers optional short cuts. The full walk is 18.5 km/12 miles, with the Hempton loop being 8.5 km/5.5 miles and the Clifton loop 10 km/6.5 miles. You can download a map from Cherwell District Council's website at [www.cherwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/7931/deddington-circular-walk](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/7931/deddington-circular-walk). Even if you don't need a copy of the map it is well worth while checking the website as updated information is added noting any changes in the map text or on the ground.

*Alison Day*

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## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### 19 December 2018 at the Holly Tree Club

Present: Councillors Collins, Eames, Greeve, Higham, Oldfield, Robinson, Rogers (Chair), Squires, Swadling, Timms, Watts and Wood and CDC Cllr Williams.

CDC has resolved to purchase the Mill Arts Centre from OCC for a token £1 and to agree a revenue budget of £50,000 to cover transition costs and £250,000 for immediate remedial works.

If there are any businesses or residents who wish to take advantage of a scheme to supply them with Superfast Broadband (> 24mps) they should contact Steve Newman on 01295 221860 or

[Steven.newman@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:Steven.newman@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk)

### Planning Applications

#### *No objection*

Middle Corner Cottage, Hempton: Removal of single-glazed windows and replacement with traditional flush casements with slimline double-glazed units.

The Unicorn, Deddington: Relocation of bar, new doorway and steps using existing stone archway. Signage works including fret cut tree behind the unicorn statue. The Mount, St Thomas Street, Deddington: Tree works. Annual trim of cedar and cypress boundary with St Thomas Street Fell and removal of almost dead tree. Weeping Ash, Main Sreet, Clifton: Erection of conservatory.

Calder Cottage, Philcote Street, Deddington: Alteration to rear ground floor window.

Castle House stable, Bull Ring, Deddington: Retrospective minor revision to 17/02012/F to include two new windows to south side.

Castle View, Goose Green, Deddington: Tree works.

Castle House Cottage, 1 Hopcraft Lane, Deddington: Internal works, additional roof light and replacement of two rear casement windows.

Ivings House, Philcote Street, Deddington: Installation of two bollards. This is a Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed Development which the PC does not comment on. It is a matter between the applicant and CDC. If granted, the matter will not require the usual planning permission.

#### *CDC approval:*

Craxton, Castle End, Deddington: Tree works.

Hempton House, Snakeshill Lane, Hempton: Change of use from agricultural land to equestrian.

6 Windmill Street, Deddington: Single storey rear extension.

Old Post House, New Street, Deddington: Single storey extension, internal remodel and demolition of outhouses.

45 St John's Way, Hempton: New garage.

Old Manor Farmhouse, Hempton Road. Deddington: Tree works but permission not granted to fell box elder

### Environment and Recreation:

Harry Roberts is our new PCSO.

### 16 January 2019 at the Primary School

Present: Councillors Collins, Oldfield, O'Neill, Robinson, Rogers (Chair), Swadling, Timms, Watts and Wood and CDC Cllr Williams.

### Planning Applications

#### *No objection*

Stone Pits, Hempton Road, Deddington: Outline planning for up to 21 dwellings of one, two or three bedrooms, including seven affordable units. Conditions: main spine road to be adopted (as proposed); speed limit on the Hempton Road to be moved westwards (as proposed) and a VAS, gates or a pinch point be installed; disposal of surface water to provide a 30% allowance for climate change and permeable paving to be used wherever possible; fire hydrant to be installed. Pembury Estates' representative stated no problems arose from the drainage reports and ecology survey and Thames Water has no objection connecting to the foul water sewer on the Hempton Road. Some councillors expressed concern about this. It was requested that four of the seven affordable houses should be single bedroom units. £42,357 of Section 106 funds could be used for improvements to the existing sports fields at the Windmill and renovation of changing rooms or a junior football north of the development; £17,533 to install floodlights for three tennis courts – not requested by PC and thought to be disproportionately large; and £22,380 for improvements to the Windmill Centre.

Affric, New Street, Deddington: Fell three ex-Christmas trees.

Old Post House, New Street, Deddington: Fell overgrown fruit trees overshadowing pool and likely to cause structural damage to garden wall. Replant with young fruit trees. Fell hawthorn and replant with ornamental species.

Victoria House, Horse Fair, Deddington: Demolition of modern conservatory and partial demolition of front of garage; new garden room, extension to garage and other minor alterations.

Greystones, Banbury Road, Deddington: Single storey rear extension and internal alterations.

Ithaca, Hopcraft Lane, Deddington: Tree works.

2 Chapman's Lane, Deddington: Alter plot 3 to include basement, raise roof to the lower wings by 300mm, form canopy porch over front door and replace roof light in bedroom 2 with dormer window on north elevation. Noted that not all conditions from previous applications have been successfully discharged.

10 High Steet, Deddington: Partial demolition of existing garage and replacement with garage with studio/office above.

Manor Farmhouse, Clifton (listed building): Minor internal alterations.

Orchard House, Chapel Close, Clifton: Two storey extension and erection of single garage and parking

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter, Jean Rudge, and not the official minutes, which are available at <http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2018.html>.

**PARISH COUNCIL***continued from page 2*

Ilbury Farm, Nether Worton Road, Hempton: Demolition of existing dwelling. Replacement dwelling, garage, access with landscaping; associated change of land use.

**Objection**

Four Winds, Main Street, Clifton: Single storey part rear extension, two storey rear extension and window replacement. Objection as there is no vehicular access to allow work to be carried out safely.

**Extension request**

Deddington Tennis Club: Variation of planning permission preventing floodlights from being used for more than three nights per week. Extension to be requested from CDC to allow neighbours time to respond. Concern has already been expressed by residents of Mill Close.

**CDC approval:**

The Unicorn, Deddington: Signage works including a fret cut tree behind the unicorn statue.

The Mount, St Thomas Street, Deddington: Tree works.

Castle View, Goose Green, Deddington: Tree works.  
11, Hempton Road, Deddington: Conversion of single dwelling to create two self-contained houses. DPC had objected to this application (See November meeting.)

**Environment and Recreation**

Signage has been installed on the dog walking path and pitches at the Windmill. The ban seems to be effective as there was no need to clean the pitches for the last match.

The parish Spring Clean is on Saturday 2 March, volunteers welcome, 8.00am at the Town Hall.

A request was approved for a fundraising event for 500 guests in aid of young stroke victims at the Windmill Centre on 14 September from 2.00pm until 1.00am, with music and drink service stopping at midnight.

The Campaign for Rural England is holding a star count in February 2–23, but preferably 2–9, to measure how dark our skies are. For details go to the CPRE website.

**Finance and General Purposes**

The parish precept has been set at 10%. A Minutes Secretary has been appointed.

**Highways and Transport:**

There will be an attempt to monitor the volume of traffic on the Hempton Road and to compare the results with a similar count in 2014 to assess any increase in traffic.

An offer from James Greenwood to maintain the flower planter to the north of Deddington was gratefully accepted, as would be any similar offers.

**Next PC meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 20 February 2019 in the Windmill Centre Lounge.**

**WINE TIME**

The start of a new year can be the bane of publicans and wine merchants. Even if you don't stop imbibing for the month or two, many people cut down or take time off to allow their livers to reduce to normal size. It's probably not a bad idea.

One way to reduce your intake without resorting to drastic measures is to work your way through those leftover sweet or fortified wines from Christmas. The temptation is to put them in a cupboard and get them out next Christmas. There is a better way. They almost all have one wonderful characteristic; once opened they keep well for many days and sometimes weeks due to their sweetness and, in fortified wines, the higher alcohol levels. Some are better kept in the fridge, others are fine living on the side. Help yourself to a glass or two each evening during the cold winter months.

Sweet or dessert wines, such as Sauternes or Monbazillac from the Bordeaux and southwest regions of France or the wonderful Tokaji from Hungary, will be very happy for a week after opening and usually will be fine after two weeks if kept in the fridge. This would be similar for Australian 'stickies' such as Rutherglen Muscat and for Canadian Icewine.

Port depends on what type. Tawny port is oxidised already as part of the production process, giving it the brown or tawny colour. This means it will keep well for a month to six weeks. Late Bottled Vintage (LBV) ports will give you two weeks of joy before declining. Ruby port will usually retain its character for a month to six weeks. Vintage port can keep for a week but loses character after only two to three days, (the same would apply to crusted ports) – better to drink these within a day or two of opening.

Madeira from Portugal is a wonderful wine and remarkable in that once opened it will last not only for weeks but months. It doesn't really go off as it is already carefully oxidised during production, which is what gives the glorious rich nutty flavours. It will do better in the fridge but it's not essential. Often bought for cooking, it also makes a perfect late night drink.

All wines, once opened, will last longer if kept cool or in the fridge as the chemical reactions that make them go off (oxidation and acidification) are slowed down at lower temperatures. This is also true for reds. Just allow them to warm up properly before drinking or they will taste very metallic.

Important note, don't leave anything, in particular fortified wines or spirits, in a lead crystal decanter for more than a couple of days. There is sound research showing fortified wines and spirits leach out small amounts of lead from lead crystal decanters over time into the wines and spirits, and lead is not good for you. Transfer leftover spirits or wines into a glass bottle. If your decanter is not lead crystal there is no risk.

**Charles Elvin**

[Charles.elvin@btopenworld.com](mailto:Charles.elvin@btopenworld.com)

## POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

### Allergies, Nicotine and Politicians Telling the Truth

It is finally all over for me. I seem to have developed an allergy to Leo the dog. Yes, we all know who is going to have to leave.

This takes me back 15 years to when I last had an allergy test, at a clinic some New Earth friend recommended to me. It was all going quite well until the 'doctor' came up with his diagnosis, which basically entailed me giving him an armful of blood which he was going to 'treat' and then inject back in to me. I looked around the room for the candid camera, made my excuses and left.

For me, one of the great joys of living in America is the language differences. I've trained my neighbours to understand the joys of queueing, rather than standing in line and my car has a bonnet not a hood. But I still laugh at those strange little bags that American people hang off their belt while running. On a US broadcast of a soccer (sorry, football) game last month, I watched one of the best. A nicotine addict called Sarri is the manager of a dodgy (strange) team called Chelsea, who were losing towards the end of the first half and he was looking very stressed. The English commentator said 'I bet Sarri wants to go round the back of the stadium and have a fag at half-time'. At the end of the game Graham Le Saux appeared on screen to apologise.

People ask me most days what I think about Brexit,

and I quiver and go back to a simpler subject, Trump. Let's be clear, being a politician has always involved being economical with the truth. However, President Trump continues to pave completely new ground. The *Washington Post* reported that in 2018 he averaged 15 false claims a day. But the most astounding thing to me about the American system is how politicised everything is. It is so bizarre that following confirmation of a Supreme Court justice, he can state that he is going to get his own back on the other political party.

My latest American 'primary care physician' is not a typical American doctor. In the world of middle class America, that is the 75% with good health insurance, they visit a doctor if they have a cold. They expect an appointment the following day, and waiting is not an option. Dr John Harris reminds me of the first doctor we had in Deddington; he is always running late, but an appointment is a long discussion about life, the universe and everything that is important to you. A lovely man (both Dr John and Dr Hugh), but in America these things come with a twist. John also wants to convert me to God. We always have a good time together and I hope his referral to the allergy clinic goes better than my last one. I am better at believing in an eternal being than I am in believing in vampires who are going to refresh my blood.

**Mike Ward** [mikew@qsoftware.com](mailto:mikew@qsoftware.com)



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## CHURCH AND CHAPEL

### February

#### Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Mon–Fri 8.45am Morning Prayer (also on the first Saturday of the month)

Wed 10.00am Holy Communion (with prayers for healing on the fourth Wednesday of the month)

Sun 3 10.30am Family Service  
6.00pm Choral Evensong

Sun 10 8.00am BCP Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 17 10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 24 10.30am Holy Communion, Informal Said Service

#### Hempton

Sun 3 9.00am Holy Communion

Sun 17 9.00am Holy Communion

Sun 24 6.00pm Evening Prayer

#### Barford St Michael

Sun 3 10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 17 10.30am Family Service

Sun 24 9.00am Holy Communion

#### Barford St John

Sun 10 9.00am Holy Communion

#### From the Parish Register

##### Baptisms

25 November George Henry Wincott

9 December Gemma Rose Cawston

##### Weddings

8 December Rebecca Greeves and Thomas Coker

##### Funerals

18 December Doris Pratt

For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the Vicar at [vicar@deddingtonchurch.org](mailto: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, Revd Paula Smith, who can be contacted at [curate@deddingtonchurch.org](mailto:curate@deddingtonchurch.org).

#### RC Parish of Hethe

There is no longer a resident or 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.

**Revd Robert Hughes 01869 720860**

## TALES FROM THE PUMP

I think it's important for people in business to be enthusiastic about their product and the one thing I'm not grumpy about is beer. Not only do I love beer but I make sure that my ales go through many quality control sessions for which I take personal responsibility.

There is a bit of a debate these days about the difference between craft beers and real ale. The term 'craft beer' originated from the States and was generally produced by micro-breweries with pubs attached. Now in the UK, craft beers are produced by small brewers and the beers tends to be quite hoppy, stronger, and dispensed cold with carbon dioxide pressure but still with some fermentation, so not pasteurised like keg beers such as John Smith. Real ale is cask-conditioned beer served with a hand-pump or from the barrel, without additional gas pressure because it has secondary fermentation in the barrel.



Although I am a real ale man I think we should celebrate the innovation and enthusiasm the craft brewers have brought, winning new beer drinkers – both men and women. There are now over 2,000 breweries in the UK, the most since the 1930s and almost 70% more than five years ago.

So where is all this beer going, I hear you say, given that pubs are closing at a rate of 18 a week and 11,000 have closed over the last 10 years? Interestingly, pubs are employing more people than ten years ago so it's the smaller pubs that are closing and perhaps the bigger ones are getting bigger and serving more food. Here in the parish of Deddington we still have our five pubs offering a great selection of ales from brewers such as Turpin's, North Cotswold, Charles Wells, St Austell, Adnams, Butcombe and Hooky – all of which need my regular sampling – purely for research reasons of course.

[grumpylandlord1@gmail.com](mailto:grumpylandlord1@gmail.com)



## DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM

Here we go again with the lambing rites of spring. The ewes are settled into the routine of their Meals on Wheels service and looking very content to be inside for a few weeks, and the Old Man is on night patrol greeting a number of heads coming for a scratch and a few treats from his pocket. We hear so much from the chattering environmentalist about intensive livestock farming but the ewe flock (the only flock left in the parish of Clifton) spends ten to eleven months, depending on the weather, grazing in the Cherwell river valley, only coming inside for the lambing period with all their progeny being grass fed or finished for market on traditional root crops. Any countryman knows that a lamb will stand any amount of cold as long it has a full tum and a dry back but we have to bring the ewes and their new-borns inside to protect them from the ever-increasing predator pressure from foxes and badgers that the all-knowing environmentalist has encouraged.

The ewes and lambs go into individual pens for a few hours to 'mother up' and are then turned away into one of the other barns in small groups of 20–25 before going out into the grass paddocks around the farm buildings, and eventually being moved back on the meadows for the summer. Once the lambing season starts, the sheep get 24/7 attention, with the Old Man doing the nightwatch with a mobile phone in his pocket to give the 'boys' a chance of a few hours' sleep, but if there is anything he can't deal with, with his damaged knees, a quick call and the cavalry appears.

Although the farm is still extremely dry with very few of the field drains running, the crops look well, although for this time of the year I would like to see more leaf on the wheat. With the loss of yet more of our chemical crop controls, (insecticides) we have lost all but a few acres of our winter-planted oil seed rape and this may well be the last time we attempt to grow the crop, which will have a big effect on the wild and honey bee populations as it is this early pollen and nectar crop that gives them a good start to the year. The other really good bee crop was field beans but that has gone the same way – but our masters know best, and we can always import the seed or processed oil from crops that have been grown with the technology that we have been banned from using.

Although we have some water in the dykes and cuts we have so far not seen any of our over-wintering visitors. Golden plover have been very few and far between and we have seen no lapwing (green plover) for some 18 months. As this hits the door mat we should see the return of the curlew but, as they have failed to breed in the last two years due to predator pressure and development flash flooding, we may not see any of them, which will be a particular disappointment to me, as the wild call of the curlew was the first sound I heard when I walked the farm as a prospective tenant 45 years ago. Although we have been involved in any



number of environmental schemes to help this iconic bird, it seems as if we have been beaten by our masters, the local environmental experts and the local planners. But they all know better, ho hum.

With a few weeks left before we strike out into the unknown, crops in the ground, lambs about to be born and young people starting their farming careers, we still don't know what trading conditions we will face and, if we can't trade, we won't be farming much longer. The last of our 2018 harvest has left the farm. Ironically, all of it went onto boats to other parts of the world. No doubt some will come back in plastic trays as supermarket ready meals. Most of our lamb crop has gone the same way, with the exception of a few that have gone into our new boxed lamb scheme, providing high welfare, river valley grass-fed lamb, direct to your freezer.

The bees are tucked up in bed (I hope) but the mild winter to date is giving them problems, with many of the hives still active and needing feeding to keep them going, so it's time to mix some more sugar syrup.

Whatever our politicians come up with, spring is just around the corner, the bees will be buzzing, the lambs will be prancing and, with any luck, I will be out of the hands of the medicos with some sun on my back, driving my tractor, and all will be well in this farming world.

**George Fenemore 01869 338203**

### Friends of Deddington Library Fundraiser

## *Bengal Spice Night*

**Tuesday 26th February 2019**

**7.30 for 8pm**

**£20/head**

Enjoy a specially selected range of fabulous authentic dishes at our favourite local Indian Restaurant

Book your tickets now! Limited availability!

### **Tickets on sale at Deddington Library**

Monday 2-7pm, Thursday 1-5pm;  
Wednesday & Saturday 9.30-1pm

Or can be reserved by e-mail to  
**fodlbooks@gmail.com**

Or phone **07986 141 291**

**All money must be paid on  
collection of tickets**

## SMARTER THAN YEAST? SURELY WE JEST

I have just passed my 75th birthday and cannot fathom why it has made me so cheerful. After all, along with contemplation of one's own mortality, there is cause to despair of the Brexit impasse, the devolution of civil society, resurgent nationalism around the globe, the sabotage of democracy and a host of other societal ills that are easily the makings of a curmudgeon. A gloomy person might wonder if the Age of Reason was not really our history but a comedy instead and perhaps we are the long-awaited punch-line.



But I am disposed to hope that Hamlet was right when he said we were a 'piece of work' (really, he did) but added that we were 'noble in reason', 'infinite in faculty' and 'paragon of animals'. Such is the hope of a man with grandchildren. This of course brings me to yeast (really, it does). To be precise, while yeast is not really an animal, it is a living organism that has lately taken centre stage in questions posed by resource ecologists: 'Are humans smarter than yeast?' Before answering too quickly, consider that this particular question is either profoundly absurd or profoundly instructive.

In years past I would bake homemade buttermilk bread with flour made from Deaf Smith County, Texas, hard winter wheat. This glutinous mix was so resistant to rising that a generous supply of active yeast was necessary and I always proofed it first by putting a small amount in warm water and then adding some sugar. Because the yeast was not 'infinite in faculty', it simply consumed the entire sweet resource base, emitted a lot of carbon dioxide and then died off. Of course that was yeast and not human society. (How presumptuous for ecologists to suggest that we would behave that way). Yeast intelligence is uniform but alas we live in a world where less than thoughtful people may on occasion constitute a voting majority.

Therein is the great paradox of our age and any age that may survive us: intelligence alone cannot save us because intelligence is not collective. Nor is a lack of intelligence a factor in keeping morons from

positions of power. For example, even though the science on climate change is settled, we have political leadership in my native land that celebrates its own ignorance by denying both the science and clear evidence that the climate is indeed changing for the worse. Indifference to a changing climate is systemic and even pretends to be well-intentioned as we see with

UK regulations that prohibit energy-efficient windows in listed buildings.

Why then, so cheerful? Cheerful because I believe we are leaving behind the age where environmental ignorance can thrive and where we can behave as if we are no smarter than yeast. Climate change has begun to accelerate and the incremental measurement of change we've seen to date is being supplanted with what may become exponential changes ahead. It could happen so quickly that whatever we think of as societal coping mechanisms will not be up to the challenge. For instance, if severe weather events worsen much sooner than predicted there is no capacity to replace property and infrastructure lost in a timescale that matters. Rattling insurance actuaries rattles bankers which rattles people who have the capacity to rattle politicians – a beneficial mechanism of self-correction in the midst of chaos.

We are entering the age of consequences. Every thought I might have about the implicit peril we face is offset by the comfort that many in our society are considerably smarter than yeast. The renewable energy industry now employs more people than work in the fossil fuel industry. We can, if we choose, build houses that on a mild winter day are kept warm by the waste heat from appliances. Near future electrification of the vehicle fleet will give us energy efficient transportation in cars and light vans that may well last for decades. Advances in material science will help us to leave behind the throwaway society. These are but a few of the choices to be made, opportunities to be had, and, with them, a hope that we're smarter after all.

**Dan Desmond** [dessr@outlook.com](mailto:dessr@outlook.com)

## FARMERS' MARKET – VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!

We are a friendly group of volunteers of all ages who spend a few hours each month to make our market one of the best in the country. We draw on a team of over 30 men and women who put up and take down the stalls, staff the information desk during the market, and help with the management and administration. All our profits benefit the community, sometimes by as much as £5,000 a year. We are now seeking to increase our pool of volunteers in order to ensure the market can continue to thrive.

We are looking for people who can, among other things:

Help at 12.30pm for 45 minutes to take down the market stalls.

Assist with the control of traffic and parking on the morning of the market.

Help with putting up publicity signage and banners in the week before the market.

Staff the information desk during the market and keep an eye on the market itself.

If you are interested call Steve on 01869 337461, drop us an email at [srwatermanbt5@btinternet.com](mailto:srwatermanbt5@btinternet.com) or come to the information desk at one of our markets. You can find out more about us on [www.deddington-farmersmarket.co.uk](http://www.deddington-farmersmarket.co.uk) and [Facebook@DeddingtonFarmersMarket](https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonFarmersMarket).



## THE BLUE LAMP OF DEDDINGTON

Well, I'm Harry; PCSO Harry Roberts if we're being formal, and for many weeks now I've been assigned to make contact with a selection of villages, including Deddington, with the hope of becoming a common point of contact from your Geographical Police Team. I'm working on a team that consists of Sergeant Rebecca Fishwick, two police constables and 11 other PCSOs keeping you safe from crimes in an area that incorporates 43 villages: Banbury shire.

It was suggested by the chair of our group that if I write an account of what we've been up to you will get to know me and help me become part of your community so I can do my job better serving you. Then you can contact me using my email address below (if you wish this can be taken as an anonymous communication if you clearly state this, but it would help if I can reply and enter into a discussion) about any topic you see fit to raise. You may well have seen me at the Thames Valley Police stall at November's farmers' market and I certainly enjoyed meeting many of you. Surrounded by great food, beer and gin were perhaps too tempting, but resistance to being corrupted is in the job description.

Recently we hosted a bike marking event in Banbury. Despite the atrocious weather, I am happy to report a total of 62 bikes were marked. This process puts a unique and traceable number on your bike to identify it if it becomes 'not in your possession'.

You may have seen me walking around Deddington with colleagues, surveying households which seem to have a large number of valuables clearly on view. In doing this, I met some of you and felt so welcomed that I wanted to continue this outreach.

I was asked to include a bit of humour so here it is. I was on patrol in Deddington the night of 21 December when I saw a bunch of Clifton residents around 11.00pm. and asked where they were going at this time of night. They replied, 'We're on our way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as staying out late'. 'Really?' I asked. 'Who's giving that lecture at this time of night?' They replied, 'That would be our wives.'

Here is my work email should you wish to contact me. However, I must clarify that if you want to report a crime, you must do so via 101 or 999 so that it is recorded correctly.

**Harry Roberts**

[harry.roberts@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:harry.roberts@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

## FROM THE FIRE STATION

December was a fairly quiet month with only five fire calls. This was due in part to our availability as two of our crew have been out of action due to sporting injuries but, as ever, we have taken this in our stride and I would like to thank the crew for the extra cover they provided, especially over the Christmas period, to maintain our high level of availability.

On a positive note to start the new year, both Fire Fighters have recovered from their injuries and returned operationally fit and back on the run. We have also been very happy to welcome Tom Hall back after a three month sabbatical.

We are pleased to report that our recent recruitment campaign has been very successful with four applications to join us being received. I will be looking forward to introducing them to you over the coming months. There are still more vacancies to fill so if you are interested in joining please give us a call, come and see us on a Tuesday night 7.00–9.00pm or visit our Facebook page.

By the time you read this we will have had our annual station inspection by the Brigade's manager responsible for service delivery. He will come out to inspect our station, our appliance and equipment and test the crew on selected operational procedures – and yes, he does wear a pair of white gloves when he goes around the appliance to check it is clean.

I never like to tempt fate but we have had very few chimney fires so far this year so just a quick reminder to have your chimney swept at least twice a year if you regularly have a fire. Chimney fires often lead to serious fires and, even if the fire is restricted to the chimney, structural damage can still occur.

**Chris Fenemore, Watch Manager**

## After School Tuition



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request.

## Management Committee

'Wotcha lads and lassies!' 'Wotcha Willie!' Sorry, I was just remembering two of the more memorable lines from the Deddington Players' sell-out 2019 pantomime *Dick Whittington*. It was great to see the Windmill packed out and everybody having such a good time. We are grateful to all our other regular Windmill users for your understanding in accommodating this hilarious annual village event. Panto week does tend to take over the whole building.

We've made a small start to the refurbishment I mentioned in December and if you came to the panto you may have noticed new curtains and blinds around the place. Over the coming months we will be over-seeing more substantial improvements including new heating in the Main Hall, improved WiFi, new lighting, new signage, new fire doors, new upstairs flooring, new showers and new loos. We are very grateful to the Parish Council for their financial support.

It's all going on and, with the contractors coming to start work on the brand new children's play area, I think you will soon see the Windmill transformed. Remember you can find information about everything that goes on at the Windmill at [www.thewindmillededdington.org](http://www.thewindmillededdington.org) or on our Facebook page. If you want to enquire about hiring a space or make a booking email [enquiries@thewindmillededdington.org](mailto:enquiries@thewindmillededdington.org) or call us on 07720 834006. We look forward to seeing you soon.

**Vaughan Jones**

[vaughan@englishlanguageamatters.com](mailto:vaughan@englishlanguageamatters.com)

## Development Group

**It's all about to happen ...**

Work will start on the new children's play area at the Windmill on 28 January – unless we're under a blanket of snow. Contracts have been signed with Creative Play for the steel equipment and the timber zip-wire, swings and woodland pieces. The design and construction of the multi-play centrepiece has been

## DEDDINGTON PFSU AND NURSERY

Happy New Year. Thank to everyone who supported our Christmas events. The Christmas Fayre raised £2,500. This term the pre-school children are finding out about animals, as well as learning about Chinese New Year. We are hosting visits from some of our family pets, and will be talking to a vet about the work she does. The Nursery children are learning about transport and numbers, as well as continuing with regular woodland walks, playground visits and yoga. Forthcoming events include a car boot sale on Sunday 24th March, the Four Farms Challenge on Sunday 12th May, and a hamper raffle at the end of February. We'd like to extend a warm welcome to all the new children and families who have joined us at both settings this term.

**Lucy Squires 01869 337484**



a bit more troublesome, but we're pleased to say that it will be built by Trevor Stewart, a local supplier whose work we've all seen in Steeple Aston and many other villages.

Before work starts some hedging on the northern side of the old bowling green will be removed to allow access. Planting of the buffer zone between the play area and Mill Close houses will be done mid-February. There will be a builders' compound on the car park to allow for unloading of equipment and materials, and the work area will be protected by Heras fencing. Parents, be aware of work areas and contractors' vehicles moving in the daytime, and please keep your children safe. We're very much hoping the new play park will be ready for use by the Easter school holidays, but it's all weather-dependent.

Dogs are now only allowed on leads on the Windmill site. Signs were put up in December, bins have been relocated, an additional bin is on the way, and the six-month trial is now in place. A recommended dog-walking path is also waymarked. Sports teams are saying the dog poo situation on the playing field is much better, so let's hope it stays that way. No one wants a complete ban.

We've got wind of a government initiative – Pocket Parks – and have applied for a £25,000 grant which would allow us to refurbish the Under-6 play area equipment. The deadline is 25 January so we have had to move fast. We ticked all the boxes but it depends on the competition. Think lucky.

**Mary Robinson, Chair**

[development@windmillcentre.org](mailto:development@windmillcentre.org)

## CLIFTON SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS

Thames Water is replacing critical equipment at the Clifton sewage treatment works in Chapel Lane. This involves draining down the works, starting on Saturday 26 January and removing all sewage from the site by tanker until work is finished, which is expected by 25 February. The work is necessary for the smooth running of the sewage treatment plant, and helping to ensure the water discharged into the adjacent watercourse is of suitable quality. It will not affect water supply. Damage to the bridleway may occur and will be repaired. Notice of such work will be given later.

During the work period Clifton residents may notice an increase in tanker movements and an increase in noise. This will be a seven day a week operation, with up to three tankers per day. If the weather is wet flows to site will increase and, consequently, the number of tankers.

Rachael Followell-Mattin, Customer and Stakeholder Manager for Thames Water, asks for residents' understanding and provides the following contact information for the company's customer centre: 0800 316 9800 and quoting bulletin board number 972041. The lines are always open.

**CD**

## DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

What a great start to the New Year we have had! Attendance at the first Rhymetimes of the year has been excellent. Our Rhymetime hosts put a lot into these sessions on Monday afternoons, 2.30–3.00pm during term time. We need another Rhymetime volunteer to do one session every four to five weeks, so if you are interested visit a session to see what we do or simply contact me for details.

Exciting news – some years ago, we were left a legacy by Kaye Brearley-Kelsey who very much enjoyed using the library. Although not a gift in perpetuity, this legacy will greatly supplement library stock for the next few years. So, I spent many happy hours choosing books and placing orders and I'm very pleased to report that these books have already started arriving. Last year's budget was spent over a range of genres and age groups, in particular on teenage stock, new crime authors and a top up of junior stock for the 8–12 year olds, as well as some adult non-fiction. Please get in touch if you'd like to make recommendations for future purchases.

While SPARK (the new computer system) settled down last year and I eventually got to grips with it, ordering books from the library catalogue can occasionally be a little slow. While I can do this at the counter, you may prefer to do this yourself as the public system is a little quicker. I, or one of our volunteers, can show you how to access your own online library account on

the library PCs where you can order books, renew the ones you have and access the wealth of information the online service has to offer. If you want to have a look at home go to <https://libcat.oxfordshire.gov.uk/web/arena/my-account>. You just need to have your 10-digit borrower number from your library card and your PIN. I can issue your PIN at the counter if you don't have it.

**Stella O'Neill 01869 338391**

[Deddington.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Deddington.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

## NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Once again a great bazaar at the beginning of December raised with more than £1,300 for the ongoing needs of the church and the Old School Room. It was a really happy family occasion with something for all ages. Many thanks to everyone who came along to support it, and to all those who made it possible by organising the event. About 50 people came to the carol service on the Friday before Christmas and the Deddington church choir was in very good voice under its new director. The lovely service was followed by traditional refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies – many thanks to those who laid them on. The Christmas Day Service was held after all at 8.00am with a small congregation which was nice.

**Les Chappell 01869 338054**

[ljchappell39@gmail.com](mailto:ljchappell39@gmail.com)

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## LETTERS

MICHAEL LIEBRECHT,  
DEDDINGTON

Very many thanks to everyone who came and joined in the carols on Christmas Eve in the Market place. Not only did an impressive crowd produce a fine performance to herald Christmas itself, but very generously they also gave just over £1,000 which we have passed on to Katharine House. I remain indebted again to the numerous people whose generous support is offered so freely in many different forms. I must mention the Calcutts, the Crown & Tuns, Bengal Spice, the Unicorn, the church and Nellie & Dove. Likewise Deddington Brass for turning out and, as ever, those in the very kind cohort who quietly appear each year to take on a share of all the necessary tasks to make it happen.



Please address all letters to:  
JILL CHEESEMAM  
37 THE DAEDINGS, DEDDINGTON  
letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk  
and include your name and address  
even if they are not for publication

SUE AND COLIN HEWITT,  
CLIFTON

On Monday morning we had to call out the fire brigade and an ambulance when a propane cylinder that was being used by a contractor laying paving for us outside our house burst into flames. The man bravely threw the canister near our garage but it took a while to put the flames out, by which time Chris Fenemore and the crew had arrived very quickly. They administered first aid to the man, who had scorched his face, until the ambulance arrived and he was later taken to the JR. We sincerely thank them all for their help in what could have been a much more serious accident. We take our emergency services for granted but it's not until something happens that we realise what a fantastic service they provide.

## NEWS FROM CLIFTON

Well, the first column of 2019 means I feel obliged to look back. Many of us saw the year out at the Duck for their second and very enjoyable soirée. Number down a bit on last year but booze, and excellent spread and music well into the New Year, with no hassle over getting there and back makes this a favourite for many. It goes without saying, of course, that if we don't support the pub we will again lose it and I'm sure we all remember how grim that was when so many of us met in the Unicorn to plan a course of action. Some faces I have not seen in the pub since but, despite what many think, I'm not in there every day.

Very many of you will have seen the results of a Prosecco-fuelled meeting of the Clifton Ladies Sports Club when they decided Clifton needed an army of Santas to make people feel seasonal. So they got to work (*got their lesser halves to work, I heard – Ed*) and lo! – eight Santas appeared as if by magic to lighten our moods as we travelled about. These Santas have drawn comment and praise from all over Banburyshire,

from folk within and without the parish and I, with many others, want to say 'Well done, ladies – a fine idea'. I can't wait to see where this idea goes next season.

Despite boasting two places of worship in the past, many in Clifton are a godless bunch so it was brave of Abseiling Angel Annie to hold a Beer and Carols evening at the Duck. Sadly I was unable to attend (any gathering with God at its core threatens lightning if I attend) but warm and successful reports have been passed on to this correspondent, so I'm happy to pass this success on.

I can also report that training for the newly-established Clifton lifeguards carries on. A dedicated team of watercourse rescue specialists regularly (but not frequently as yet) patrols the waterways in our midst to keep other folk safe, provide coffee, warm clothes and lifts home to those in 'peril on the sea'.

I'm saying 'Happy New Year' for the very last time.

**Martin Bryce**

[martinbryce@gmail.com](mailto:martinbryce@gmail.com)

## REMEMBERING THE SAILORS WHO DIED IN WWI

Understandably the main focus for events marking the 100th anniversary of the ending of the Great War has focused on the terrible slaughter the soldiers endured in the trenches. In doing so the contribution that the Royal Navy made at sea, on land and in the air has been overshadowed. A total of some 55,000 naval personnel in all branches died, of whom 8,000 were 'blue jackets' in the Naval Brigades, fighting in the trenches alongside the army – 40% of the total who fought. One blue jacket was worn by a Deddington man, Leading Seaman William Gardiner of the Hood Naval Brigade, who died at Gallipoli in 1915. The RN Armoured Car

Division fought with distinction and their experience led to the design of tanks and the later formation of the Royal Tank Corps, attributed with ending the war. The Royal Naval Air Service, with over 50,000 men, was the largest air force in the world by 1918 when it merged with the RFC to become the RAF. And we should not forget the Merchant Navy. Figures are hard to come by but at least 15,000 merchant mariners were lost at sea.

**Rob Forsyth**

[Robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com)

## WWI CONCERT TRIBUTE

This tribute took place on Saturday 1 December in the parish church.

You only have to look at the long list of names carved in stone on Deddington's war memorials to realise what a huge impact the loss of so many active men must have meant to families and the village community. Men were sacrificed to war but a full church heard Music Hall and war songs that they would have known which, with War poems and readings, made a fitting tribute to all who served. Forty-five talented parish residents took part, from 10–87 years old, including the school choir with their enthusiastic singing, ably tutored by Sally Barber.

There were outstanding soloists: teenagers Chloe Reilly, Elize Anderson and Annie-Rose Jones who will, one hopes, perform professionally one day, young mum Beatrice Maloney, sang *Vilia* from *The Merry Widow* in her beautiful soprano, Becky Jones' lovely voice gave us *Roses of Picardy*, Dave Hughes was a superb Burlington Bertie, Louisa Higham played a haunting flute solo, *The Supreme Sacrifice*, and Lewis Wallington played an unfaltering 'Last Post' at the end.

The hard-working pianist, Heather Nason, accompanied the singers faultlessly and Deddington Brass Band, led by Graham Wallington, welcomed the audience and entertained them during the interval. There were well-read poems and readings documenting the

War's horrors, the roles of women, nursing at the front and at home, and of the many horses. Iain Gillespie added an interesting footnote with an account of WWI aeroplanes involved in celebrating the centenary of the RAF.

Thanks to Richard Broadbent the War photographs and the words of the songs were projected onto the screen behind the choir so that everyone could join in which greatly added to the enjoyment. Revd Annie Goldthorp, who gave permission for use of the church, ended the concert with a prayer. Those of us who live in Deddington are grateful for the talents the village can muster for occasions like this.

Our thanks go to: Wendy Burrows and the organising committee of Heather Nason, John Sampson and Richard Broadbent, Ben Burrows of Holywell Press, Oxford, for sponsoring the printing of posters, tickets and programmes, our church wardens, Iain Gillespie and Dave Hughes, for preparing the church, the team of wine servers, Angela Everett, Bryony Fenemore and Lesley Nelson, and to Sue Ayles, Jenny Cox, Joan Wright and Anthea Wright on the door. It was an evening to remember.

The proceeds were donated to the British Legion, the band and the church.

**Maureen Dew**

[maureen\\_dew@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:maureen_dew@yahoo.co.uk)



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**DICK WHITTINGTON**

Photo courtesy Gemma Collins

Deddington Players' 2019 pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, was arguably their best yet and compared very favourably with Oxford Playhouse's recent production of the same name. A cast of 50, armed with a sparkling script written by Steve Moss, Carrick Cameron and Jen Toll, gave us the traditional mix of storytelling, in-jokes, song and dance and audience participation.

The whole production flowed and fizzed, with well-timed repartee, plenty of double-entendres and great engagement from all the leading characters, aided by genuine commitment from the audience. Dick's framing for theft was greeted by indignant cries of 'Excuse me' from one young 'witness' in the front row who was determined to see justice done. The costumes and make-up were spectacular and the acting, singing and dancing all of a very high standard. It was particularly good to see so much talent amongst the younger members of the cast.

What a marvellously enjoyable afternoon it was! Deddington Players go from strength to strength. The bar has been set high for future years so put the dates in your diary for the 2020 production.

**Adrian Brett**  
[aandcbrett@gmail.com](mailto:aandcbrett@gmail.com)

**WHAT'S ON****March**

|     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| Sat | 2  | Parish Spring Clean: Town Hall, 8.00am               |
| Mon | 4  | Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am |
| Mon | 4  | Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm                           |
| Wed | 6  | Police Community Forum: Fire Station, 6.30pm         |
| Wed | 6  | Photographic Society: Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm       |
| Tue | 12 | WI: Holly Tree, 7.30pm                               |
| Thu | 14 | Holly Tree Club: Film Night, Holly Tree, 6.30pm      |
| Wed | 20 | PC Meeting: Old School Room, Hempton, 7.30pm         |

**BLISSFUL THINKING**

You're strolling through Banbury town and some peripheral movement catches your eye. You glance left to see yourself in a shop window. You had been inadvertently watching your own gait and poise in motion: something that until then was a mystery to you. You try to continue, but now you are aware of yourself and don't walk the same way. I once visited the Cinematic Museum in Berlin where they have a room completely lined with mirrors from floor to ceiling from all sides and angles. It allows you to see the impossible – the back of your own head, and yourself moving from behind, away from you.

We can never see ourselves as we really are, only reflections from glass, water, cameras and people. Even the perspective we have from inside the flesh is perverted by agendas and insecurity. The closest to the true impression of 'us' would be an aggregate of information derived from all of these sources at once. I imagine this is what sentient Artificial Intelligence robots will be able to do, but that's no good to me in the here and now. Which is why I've decided to write in my will that I wish my brain to be preserved, until such time that it can be resurrected inside the construct of a bio-mechanical Minotaur. Fully self-cognisant and deadly, this must be what Nietzsche meant when he spoke of the Übermensch. Wish me luck!

**Aaron Bliss**  
[aaronjbliss@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronjbliss@hotmail.com)

**DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Our children had a busy few weeks before the end of last term, what with wonderful Christmas performances and our first Christmas Fayre where we sold crafts and edible goodies made by the pupils, raising more than £530 to donate to our PTA.

Our Year 5–6 boys cross-country team was very successful in their running and are now through to the county finals. Years 1 and 2 pupils thoroughly enjoyed a morning of dance with a theme of 'Dance Around the World'. A selection of KS1 and KS2 pupils participated in the 'Change4life' event consisting of games and archery. The whole school listened to the Swedish choir in church on Friday 7 December. The choir sang to us and then our children sang 'Light of the World' to them. It was a most enjoyable festive occasion, preparing us for what were then the forthcoming Christmas celebrations.

During early December, we were privileged to have 'BeSpace' set up in our Reflections room for several days. It was beautifully constructed by Mary Phillips, helped by Revd Annie and members of the congregation. All pupils were able to visit the room over the course of a few days. The atmosphere was very serene and calming and we would like to thank Mary, Revd Annie and everyone else for their time and hard work.

**Denise Welch**  
[dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk)



## DEDDINGTON FARMERS MARKET

### Spice Things Up

In February summer can seem a long way away. Carb heavy food can seem very attractive but this recipe will cheer you up on spices alone. It is also a quick dish that would make a very comforting weekday supper.

#### *Fish And Peas In A Fennel–Fenugreek Sauce*

From Madhur Jaffrey's excellent *Curry Easy*. Serves 2–3.

450g fillet of cod, hake or halibut (I prefer hake for price and flavour)

Salt

Freshly ground black pepper

Cayenne pepper

1/8 teaspoon ground turmeric

3 tablespoons of oil

1/8 teaspoon ground asafoetida

¼ teaspoon whole mustard seeds

½ teaspoon whole cumin seeds

¼ teaspoon whole fennel seeds

1/8 teaspoon whole fenugreek seeds

3 tablespoons natural yoghurt

4 medium tomatoes, coarsely grated

140g peas (frozen is fine)

Sprinkle the fish on both sides with ¼ teaspoon salt, some black pepper, ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper and the turmeric. Set aside for 30 minutes or longer, refrigerating if necessary. Put the oil in a frying-pan for which you have a lid over a medium-high heat.



When hot, put in the asafoetida, then the mustard, cumin, fennel and fenugreek seeds. As soon as the mustard seeds start to pop – a matter of seconds – add the yoghurt and stir until it almost disappears. Add the tomatoes (grating the tomatoes is a quick way of separating the skin and seeds from the pulp), ¾ teaspoon salt, ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper (or at least ½

teaspoon Kashmiri Chilli powder if you have it) and some black pepper. Stir and cook for five minutes or so until the tomatoes thicken slightly. Add the peas, stir and continue to cook for another minute. Lay the fish in this sauce. Spoon sauce over the fish and bring to a simmer. Cover, leaving the lid slightly ajar, and poach the fish, spooning the sauce over now and then, until it is cooked through – about 7–10 minutes.

This goes well with plain rice, a dahl and a leafy vegetable like kale. A beer does no harm.

The market is on Saturday 23 February from 9.00am–12.30pm with details on [www.deddington-farmersmarket.co.uk](http://www.deddington-farmersmarket.co.uk).

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](http://www.market.adderbury.org).

Good shopping!

**Ian Willox 01869 337940**  
[ian.willox@btconnect.co](mailto:ian.willox@btconnect.co)

## HOLLY TREE CLUB

The committee has been working hard over the last year or so on extension and renovation plans for the hall. After long consultation we're pleased to have a site plan and hall floor plan for which we will shortly submit a pre-application to CDC to solicit input from the planning and conservation officers. Before submitting a full planning application we will publish the plans for public review.

Immediately the outcome of the full planning application is known, we plan to begin tree work, repairs to the hall roof and the disabled pedestrian access, driveway and parking before the main building work is begun.

Meanwhile we have much fundraising to do. The committee is looking into starting a 100-type club and a legacy giving scheme. We are also preparing applications to trusts and funds. If anyone would like to get involved in fundraising or in supporting the Holly Tree Club in any other way, we would be very pleased to hear from you., [secretary@thehollytreeclub.org](mailto:secretary@thehollytreeclub.org).

At Film Night on Thursday 14 February at 6.30pm we are showing *Mamma Mia 2* – a humorous and romantic trip back down Abba's musical memory lane,

starring Meryl Streep, Colin Firth, Pierce Brosnan, Julie Walters and Cher. There is no need to be a member or to book, just come along. All over 55s will be made very welcome. The only cost is £2 for refreshments on the night.

Finally, I'd like to express our gratitude and appreciation to Liz Dickinson who has recently retired from the committee. Liz has been a stalwart of the Club for many years, supporting it over a very difficult time a couple of years ago, and helping organise numerous outings, films and events which have been so much enjoyed by our members. Liz will be greatly missed by the committee, but we're pleased to know she will still join in with the outings and coffee mornings, so we won't lose touch with her altogether.

For all Club enquiries, please contact Diana Marshall on 01869 337761. For all Holly Tree booking enquiries, please contact Hugh Blythe on 07907 020486 or [info@thehollytreeclub.org](mailto:info@thehollytreeclub.org).

**John Finnigan, Chair**  
**Management Committee**

## CALLING ALL CLUBS

### Royal British Legion Branch

The Branch AGM on 8 December was attended by the committee and 14 members and partners. I was delighted to report that the amount raised in Poppy Weeks was a record breaking £7,133. Congratulations to Norman West, appeal organiser, and all concerned. With the money raised from the Deddington Ball we have made a very significant contribution this year to the important work of RBL in helping ex-service people live on in the community. The AGM was followed by an excellent Christmas dinner for 31 members and partners in the Deddington Arms. We look forward to welcoming more new members in 2019.

**Rob Forsyth**

[Robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com)

### Photographic Society

Our first meeting of 2019 was well-attended by about forty people. The meeting followed our usual pattern in displaying members' own photographs, titled 'My Best Three of 2018'. It became apparent that our members are prolific photographers and selecting only three can be a real problem. There was wide variation in both subjects and photographic styles, ranging through portraits, architecture, landscapes, seascapes, wildlife and abstracts as well as locations covering China, India, and Spain to Fenny Compton, Stowe, and our own back gardens. The result was a display of stunningly good and highly imaginative pictures. Each author spoke about the subject, location or motivation behind the shot. The audience then asked questions and commented on the photograph, giving rise to helpful criticism, useful advice and the expected friendly banter.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 6 February at 7.30pm in the Apricot Room, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho. The subject will be a presentation by Fujifilm. The subject for the next monthly challenge is 'patterns'. As usual, interpret this in any way you wish. All are welcome.

**Paul Brewerton**

[Paul.brewerton@btinternet.com](mailto:Paul.brewerton@btinternet.com)

### Women's Institute

On 11 December the ladies of Deddington WI met at the Deddington Arms for their annual Christmas lunch. This was a new venue for us but we were made very welcome and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Another new venture was a visit from Secret Santa, who left a sack of gifts for everyone. Each member brought a small gift, suitably wrapped, and then took it in turns to pick a gift without knowing who had donated it. Going by the laughter which accompanied this, it was a welcome addition to the lunch.

Twenty-three members attended our January meeting and heard six of the group talk about things that

they do outside the WI. The ten minute talks ranged from owning a corner shop in the 1960s, working in a Spanish restaurant in a castle in rural Pembrokeshire, a childhood adventure in the Moroccan desert, wild camping in Namibia, owning a narrow boat and trips in it, to a very moving account of a much-loved mother's difficult life. The variety of experiences was impressive, sometimes humorous, sometimes heart-warming, but always interesting. It is hoped to repeat it in the future.

Our next meeting is on 12 February when John Suckling will speak on some more of his travels to small islands. As usual we meet in the Holly Tree club at 7.30pm and new members are welcome.

Please ring Jenny Cox on 01869 337015 or Jenny Cross on 01869 337613 if you would like to join us.

**Moir Byast**

### Deddington Bookworms

In December we discussed *A Spool of Blue Thread* by Anne Tyler. The story covers several generations of the Whitshank family and centres on the home they live in and their relationships.

Unfortunately, what promised to be a good read failed to live up to expectations. We were disappointed in the style and skill of the text, especially after reading the hype on the book cover. As some members failed to finish the book, it is not one we would recommend.

*The Outrun* by Amy Liptrot was the focus of our January meeting and there were mixed feelings, both amongst the group and individually. The book opens tantalisingly with a brief description of Amy's entry into the world and where she grew up (the Orkneys) before describing how she ended up in Hackney and vividly portraying her descent into alcoholism and the depths of despair she reached.

Most of the group found the descriptions of Amy's struggle with alcoholism, the details of the AA Twelve Step programme and how it supports people to reach sobriety very interesting. However, we mostly found Amy's introspection rambling and the book somewhat disjointed.

Whilst the stories from Hackney weren't popular, in the end the group agreed it was necessary for Amy to share an account of that very difficult and painful decade. In contrast, her writing about living on Mainland (the main island of the Orkneys) and Papay (one of the smaller islands) was engaging. One can feel the excitement of seeing the 'Merry Dancers' as she has 'swapped disco lights for celestial lights' and cold-water swimming to shock her senses away from her addictive and obsessive nature. She does not cut herself off from the outside world, using the Internet to enhance her understanding of the natural world. By developing routines, she finds it possible to avoid slipping back into alcoholism although the reader is left in no doubt of the daily challenges she faces and continual struggle to

## CALLING ALL CLUBS

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avoid doing so. Be warned – this could be a ‘Marmite’ book; one of our group really disliked it and definitely would not recommend it, preferring to watch paint dry!

We have had a number of new Bookworms join our group recently, which is wonderful. Welcome.

**Deddington Library**  
**01869 338391**

### Book Group

Our last book of 2018 was *The Silent Hours* by Cesca Major. The novel is based on the shocking fate which befell the occupants of Oradour-sur-Glane during the Nazi occupation of France. The event is a fact of history but the characters in the book are fictional. The story is told mainly through the viewpoint of three characters, interspersed with letters and accounts of the experiences of others. The horrific climax and aftermath are described very movingly.

We felt that the book cover was overly sentimental and rather misleading. Although a love story forms a large part of the book, the whole is a multi-layered portrayal of the varying lives and attitudes of villagers and refugees in wartime. The author spent some years as a history teacher and we agreed that the book would be very effective in helping young people to learn about a truly monstrous act of war.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 28 February. Please contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for details.

**Sian Waterman**

### Deddington Players

It's all over for another year. The dames have hung up their wigs, the pantomime horse has been put out to panto pasture and Dick Whittington is now running London. We hope you enjoyed watching our pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, as much as we enjoyed putting it on.

We had record audience numbers this year. More than 700 people came to watch and both Saturday performances were sold out. We also broke records on the stage with nearly 50 cast members and extra backstage help. If you took part or you watched a performance, thank you. If you've been inspired to get involved in future productions contact Suzie on 07717 205051.

**Suzie Upson**

### History Society

We were delighted to welcome George Fenemore as our January speaker. George's talk, aptly entitled 'From Carthorse to Computer', captivated a large audience. The Fenemores have farmed since the 14th century. As if that were not pedigree enough, George is also a member of the Tustin family, another long-established farming dynasty in this region. There was

therefore little doubt what the future held for the young George, which was just as well since he never really settled at school, preferring always to be outdoors ('loose', as he described it) with the farm animals and the wildlife on the family farm at Warkworth. George's memories, augmented by those of his parents and grandparents, provided a vivid picture of farming over the past century: the switch to mechanisation during World War I when thousands of men and horses were taken by the army; the lack of security for tenant farmers such as the Fenemores; George's first tractor, an American lend-lease machine that had been shipped over in the 1940s; and, since 1945, the ever-growing impact of government control (for which, read interference) and the driving down of food prices below sustainable economic levels.

George had always wanted his own farm, finally securing it in 1974 when he leased Home Farm, Clifton. He has been a notable pioneer of indoor lambing, on which he is an acknowledged authority. With George, it always comes back to his beloved farm animals and wildlife. It is worth recording that he sacrificed years of government grants in the 1970s and 80s by resisting the demand to root out hedges in the push to expand food production. We are, of course, all in his debt.

Our next event is at 7.30pm on Thursday 21 February, when local author Chris Farman will speak on the General Strike of 1926. We meet in Deddington Primary School and all are welcome.

**Chris Day**  
**01869 337204**

## SPORT

### Deddington Town Football Club

#### First Team Results

24.11.18 Bodicote Sports (a) (CUP) D 1–1 (aet won 5–4 on pens)

15.12.18 Finmere First (a) (CUP) D 1–1 (aet lost 3–5 on pens)

5.01.19 Middleton Cheney Res (h) W 7–0

12.1.19 Kingsmere Utd (h) W 6–1

#### Reserve Team Results

17.1.18 Banbury Sports Men (a) W 6–2

24.11.18 Charlton 2nd (h) (CUP) D 2–2

1.12.18 Banbury Rangers 1st (a) L 1–5

8.12.18 Sinclair Utd Res (h) L 1–2

15.12.18 Banbury Sports Men (h) Forfeit – away walkover

5.1.19 Bloxbury Athletic 1st (a) W 4–2

I hope you all got a new pair of shinpads in your Christmas stockings, because DTFC needs you right now in this year of our Lord twenty thousand and nineteen. The First Team has had a couple of months



**SPORT***continued from p16*

as satisfying as sherry and chocolate orange mince pies, with a narrow penalty shootout defeat preceded by a shootout victory and succeeded by some thumping league victories, to leave them in the shake-up for honours as winter burns its proverbial wick out.

The Reserves started and ended the period dealing out a couple of stuffings, though a forfeiture against Banbury Sports was as galling as rubbery roast potatoes, since the game that it had to be sacrificed for resulted in the First Team's only defeat, amid their otherwise excellent run of form. 'You pays your money, you takes your choice', as the wise man once said.

Speaking of wise men, I'd like to thank DTFC and Joe Davies particularly from the bottom of my black and white heart for making my Christmas wish come true and bestowing on me my old orange number 2 shirt from the mighty Reserves' iconic double-winning campaign, completed ten years ago this season. It now takes pride of place in my wardrobe and is to be touched any time I'm in need of inspiration.

**Aaron Bliss**  
07909 642882

**Deddington Town FC Youth**

All our teams play in the Witney and District Youth Football League. The U15s continue to have a challenging season with defeats in the B League. They lost 4–0 to Chesterton in early January but put in a strong performance nonetheless. The U14s had a 5–0 defeat to Hook Norton, followed by 9–0 win over Carterton (hat-tricks for Freddie Murfitt and Jack Friday), a 3–2 defeat to Launton, and an 8–1 win over Bloxham (four goals for Freddie Murfitt). The U12s had a goalless draw with Tower Hill, followed by two defeats in a row – 2–1 to Hook Norton, 4–1 to Kingston. However, they bounced back with a 6–1 away win at Middleton Cheney with a fine hat-trick for Ben Jones. All our other teams continue to flourish and develop – our U11s, U10s, U9s and U8s, as well as our U7s who train on Saturday mornings.

We are starting to plan for our Youth Presentation Day which will take place at the Windmill Centre on Sunday 9 June. We are looking for local companies to sponsor the event – trophies, event programme, or the overall event. If you want to help, then email Roger Sykes on [carsykes@btinternet.com](mailto:carsykes@btinternet.com)

Further information about the club is on our website [www.deddingtontownfc/](http://www.deddingtontownfc/) or visit us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc](https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc)

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

**Deddington Cricket Club**

*Home Counties Women's Cricket League*

The Deddington Ladies team will be playing in the

newly-formed Home Counties Women's Cricket League and will be in Division 1 North and West. They will also play in Group C of a Super 8s competition over the summer.

**Club Development**

In recent weeks, members of the committee have attended meetings held by the local England Cricket Board Development staff and the Oxfordshire Cricket Board to provide details of fundraising opportunities, how to run sessions for 5–10 year olds, including how to get more parents involved in youth cricket and about how to use the Cricket World Cup locally to promote clubs.

**Winter Nets**

Winter nets have been booked at North Oxford Academy at Drayton, Banbury, for the following Sundays: 10, 17 and 24 March, 7 and 14 April. Each session will be from 3.00–4.30pm and will cost £3 per person per session as last year. It will be great to see as many people there as possible to ease you into another season.

**Simon Oldfield 07771 997358**  
[simon.oldfield0@gmail.com](mailto:simon.oldfield0@gmail.com)  
[www.deddingtoncricket.co.uk](http://www.deddingtoncricket.co.uk)

**YOUTH****1st Deddington Guides**

Film night is a hugely popular annual event. The Guides in their relative peer groups each visit a leader's home to watch their chosen film. Dress code – onesies – for a very lively and enjoyable evening, possibly helped by pop, popcorn and other sweet treats. Two of our senior Guides, Hannah and Connie, led an activity where each group had to dress a model in an evening dress made from recycled materials. Some creations were truly amazing. We continue to enjoy activities from the new programme and are planning to become more involved in various badge activities next term.

Our Senior Guides' meeting was very fruitful in terms of moving forward as potential leaders, exploring the Guide programme in more depth and sharing great ideas for the future. Our Christmas activities included trying our hand at creating table centres, 3D card-making and icing biscuits. Some Guides sang carols and helped at the Wardington House Nursing Home Christmas Party. Our own Christmas party was a very exciting way to conclude the term. We are delighted to be meeting together again after the long Christmas break. We are keen to get cracking with the exciting events lined up for 2019. Some Guides travelling to Switzerland next year will be involved in fundraising activities. Girls ten and over are very welcome.

**Maggie Rampley 01295 810069**  
**Marian Trinder 01869 340806**  
**Catherine Blackburn 01295 258008**

## YOUTH

*continued from page 17*

### 1st Deddington Brownies

The New Year has started with great enthusiasm. We have welcomed our new Brownies and started work on our Toymaker badges. On Sunday 24 February we shall be celebrating Thinking Day with other Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units from the district in a fun afternoon of activities with an international theme.

**Claire Friday**

[deddingtonbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:deddingtonbrownies@gmail.com)

### 1st Deddington Scout Group

Thanks to everyone who supported our Christmas card delivery again this year – proceeds go towards our equipment insurance.

### Cubs

We finished the autumn term with the Local Knowledge badge. The Cubs indicated on a map where all the important services were in the village and then added a few of their own; apparently Deddington would benefit from having a fun fair, water park and giant chocolate fountain. We then decorated some bird houses with anything we could find in the craft boxes. They were to say the least 'unusual' and any birds moving in would probably need therapy.

**Jo Churchyard**

[deddingtoncubs@gmail.com](mailto:deddingtoncubs@gmail.com)

### Scouts

The Scouts ended the term in a festive mood, making chocolate lollies to stir into hot milk, although I think many of them were eaten on the way home. We also took a group on a night hike from Adderbury to the campsite at Horley. It was a near perfect evening, cold but fine and, having completed it in approximately four hours, were treated to burgers before settling down for a night in the toasty bunk room. We have finally bought the drinks bottles, first aid kits and whistles to send to the 16th Kombo Scout Group in The Gambia.

**Peter Churchyard**

[deddingtonscouts@gmail.com](mailto:deddingtonscouts@gmail.com)

### Explorers

Gosh, where has the year gone to? We had a busy December helping put up posters for the Tractor Run for Katharine House, had a board games evening, went to Horley with the 1st Bloxham Scouts and played Frisbee Golf in the dark – yes, that was a challenge, but the 'holes' were illuminated, unlike the Frisbees, and managed to free ourselves from the Scramm! Rooms in Banbury. Now we're looking forward to welcoming new members and the exciting things that are planned for 2019. Check back here to see what we've been up to.

**Janet Duxbury 01608 737959**

[spartansexplorers@gmail.com](mailto:spartansexplorers@gmail.com)



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[www.FriendsofDeddingtonLibrary.org](http://www.FriendsofDeddingtonLibrary.org)



### FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

We'd like to thank everyone for their support in buying our calendars and our valued sponsors who make its production possible. Your stunning images and participation in our photo competition makes it a unique and worthwhile fundraiser. Don't forget to continue shooting as there'll be many opportunities over the winter months to capture some spectacular images, especially if the promised snow appears in February. Those sunrises and cloud formations make for great shots. Our postcards and greeting cards are still available from the library, the Flower Shop and Nellie & Dove and we'll be printing a new set of cards from the selection of images in the 2018 calendar.

On 26 February we'll be having our Bengal Spice fundraiser. Attendees can choose from a specially prepared menu for £20.00 a head thanks to the generosity of Mr Chaudhry and his team. Last year's event was a great evening out as well as a lovely way to support the library and our favourite Indian restaurant. There are only 50 tickets, available from the library, so don't wait. Further details are to be found in our advert on page 6.

**Bryn Williams**

[abw@brynwilliams.com](mailto:abw@brynwilliams.com)

### DEDDINGTON BRASS BAND



Deddington Brass Band, which contributes to many village activities, from the Christmas carols on Christmas Eve to the farmers' market, was chosen by the Parish Show committee this year to receive a donation of £200 from Show profits. The band also received a cheque from the takings at the First World War tribute concert held on Saturday 1 December and greatly enhanced by the band's contribution.

**Wendy Burrows**

[wendy.burrows536@btinternet.com](mailto:wendy.burrows536@btinternet.com)

### MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES

1/6 page (820mm x 820mm) £15 per month

1/4 page (1250mm tall x 820mm wide) £20 per month

1/2 page (1250mm tall x 1700mm wide) £40 per month

Contact: Debbie Grimsley, [grimsleyhome@live.co.uk](mailto:grimsleyhome@live.co.uk), 07765 243748

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