

March 2019

# *The* **DEDDINGTON NEWS**



Delivered free to Deddington, Clifton and Hempton

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## The DEDDINGTON NEWS

I make no apology for including a small handful of items from outside our parish. In my view it would be a sad day when we were so inward-looking that we concerned ourselves only with the immediate locality. What do you think?

And can you remember meeting a visiting French musician at the farmers' market in October 2011? Are you our own Miss Marple? She was quite slim and elegant and was happy to practise her French (see p11).

### What's On March

- |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| Sat | 2  | Parish Spring Clean: Town Hall, 8.00am   |
| Sat | 2  | North Cotswold Chamber Choir: Concert, Parish Church, 7.30pm   |
| 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: 'Mindfulness and Meditation in Photography', Andrew Scriven, Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm    |
| Thu | 7  | Knit and Natter: Holly Tree, 7.00–9.00pm   |
| Sun | 10 | Cricket Club: Winter Nets, North Oxfordshire Academy, 3.00–4.00pm  |
| Tue | 12 | WI: Holly Tree, 7.30pm   |
| Tue | 12 | Charity Fashion Show, Parish Church, 7.45pm  |
| Thu | 14 | Holly Tree Club: Film Night, <i>The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society</i> , Holly Tree, 6.30pm     |
| Wed | 20 | PC Meeting: Old School Room, Hempton, 7.30pm   |
| Wed | 20 | Photographic Society: Workshop on Exposure Modes and Controls, Simon Lutter, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm   |
| Thu | 21 | History Society: 'The Village News – The Truth Behind England's Rural Idyll', Tom Fort, Primary School, 7.30pm |

*Continued on p16*

### Deddington Circular Walk

This month's image is from the Clifton loop of the walk: Tithe Lane is off the B4031, opposite Manor Farm. If you start your walk in Deddington, Tithe Lane is about halfway round the Clifton Loop; if you are in Clifton it is the beginning. Remember that ground nesting birds can be disturbed by dogs, particularly in the spring, so please keep them under control.

You can download a map of the walk 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).

Also have a look at *Walking around Deddington* written by the late Ralph Elsley some years ago and reproduced on Deddington OnLine: [www.deddingtonhistory.uk/guides/countryside/ralphswalks](http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/guides/countryside/ralphswalks).

*Alison Day*

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## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Windmill Centre, Deddington, Wednesday 20 February

Present were Councillors Collins, Cox, Eames, Oldfield, O'Neill, Reeve, Robinson, Rogers (Chair), Swadling, Timms and Watts. Also in attendance was Cllr Fatemian (OCC).

Cllr Brian Wood has stepped down after 15 years on the Council, during which time he has dealt with the accounts. Sincere thanks were expressed for his long and dedicated service.

#### *County Councillor's Report:*

Cllr Fatemian is pursuing the instalment of Elderly Crossing signs at the High Street junction with Grove Court.

OCC has been named the best performing county council waste disposal authority in England for its recycling rates.

#### **Planning Applications**

Tennis Courts, Windmill Centre: Variation of condition preventing the floodlights from being used on more than three nights per week. There were seven objections to this application and 18 letters of support. Cllr Cox made a spirited representation on behalf of the residents and Ed Toll spoke for the Tennis Club. There is to be an attempt to improve relations between the Club and local residents who have complained about noise and incivility from members entering their gardens to collect lost balls. In future, any balls lost to the south and east of the courts may not be retrieved. Mr Toll urged residents to contact him if there are any further problems. It was recognised that the growth of the Club is a very positive thing, especially for the junior age groups. The Council had objected to the original application but expressed their willingness to accept the proposal of the Environmental Officer for the use of floodlights five nights per week with a prompt cut-off at 9.30pm; a log of complaints is to be kept; Court 3 will not be used on any floodlit night.

#### *No objection*

Featherton House, Chapel Square, Deddington: Tree works to reduce one cherry and one apple tree.

Gegg's Lodge, Hempton Rd, Deddington: Erection of link extension, porch and external alterations to form single dwelling from two existing dwellings. No objection provided that parking on Hempton Rd ceases and all parking and vehicle movements are contained on the property.

Sentry House, Castle Street, Deddington: Thinning of oak trees (subject to tree preservation order).

Steps Cottage, St Thomas Street, Deddington: Change of use to holiday let. It was noted that there may even be a benefit to on-road parking in St Thomas Street.

#### **CDC Approvals**

Affric, New St, Deddington: Fell 3 ex-Christmas trees. Victoria House, Horse Fair, Deddington: Demolition of modern conservatory.

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

Ithaca, Hopcraft Lane, Deddington: Tree works.

2 Chapman's Lane, Deddington: To alter plot 3.

Orchard House, Chapel Close, Clifton: Two storey extension.

#### **Environment and Recreation**

Despite initial optimism, the dog ban from pitches at the Windmill Centre has not been as effective as first anticipated and it has again proved necessary to clean the pitches before football matches. Dogs must be kept on a lead throughout the Windmill site and are not allowed on the grass areas. Dogs off leads will be reported. Dogs must also be kept on leads at the allotments.

A litter bin is to be removed from the Castle Grounds as it has been wrongly used to deposit dog waste.

A fir tree on Gaveston Green is to be felled at a cost of £380. A replacement tree will be planted.

A quote for £835 has been accepted for two weed-killing treatments throughout the parish.

The offer of an English oak as a memorial tree in the cemetery has been accepted.

#### **Finance and General Purposes**

*Windmill expenses:* the following were agreed: £6,892.80 first payment towards the multi-play piece; £4,712 for replacement doors; £7,450 for the heating system.

Up to £500 was agreed for a maintenance schedule at the Castle Grounds.

#### **Highways and Transport**

OCC has recommended that the following be attached to all future planning applications: 'that grass verges be restored after completion of the proposed build'.

Construction has begun of the footpath link between Deddington Grange and Gaveston Gardens.

A vote of thanks was made to all farmers for the work they carry out for the parish free of charge such as hedge trimming and snow clearing.

The County Councillor was asked to follow up the request for a light to be installed in a dark area on Hempton Road.

It was noted that the work being carried out by Thames Water on the sewage treatment plant in Clifton is having a detrimental effect on the road.

Thames Valley Police will be holding a forum at the Fire Station on 6 March at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

Traffic calming measures have been approved for the Hempton Road if the proposed housing development to the west takes place.

**Next PC meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 20 March in the Old School Room, Hempton.**

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter, Jean Rudge, and not the official minutes. To see those, go to <http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2019.html>.

## FARMERS' MARKET

### HINTS OF SPRING?

March is proverbially wayward when it comes to predictable weather but whatever the weather there will be new season produce at the market. Here's what to do with that produce.

#### Roast Fillet of Lamb with Anchovy and Mint

(from Nigel Slater's *The Kitchen Diaries*) – Serves 4

Mint – about 8 sprigs or 10g

Anchovy fillets – 50g

Olive oil – 4 tablespoons

New season's garlic – 4–5 cloves, peeled

New season's lamb fillets – about 350g

New potatoes

Pull the leaves from the mint and put them in a food processor. Drain the anchovies but don't rinse them; you want all their fishy saltiness. Put them in with the mint, the olive oil, garlic and several serious grinds of black pepper. Blitz to a slush, it should be a sort of herby slop, then scrape it into a bowl. Roll the lamb in the paste, cover the bowl with cling film and set aside for a couple of hours, somewhere cool but preferably not as cold as the fridge.

Pre-heat the oven to 220C/Gas 7. Put the fillets in a roasting tin or shallow ovenproof dish, spreading the marinade paste all over it. Roast for 15–18 minutes which will toast the outside without burning the mint, and leave the meat juicily pink within.

Leave to rest for a good five minutes, then slice into thick chunks and serve with a few new potatoes.

You can just boil the new potatoes or you can boil them until tender, drain them, tip them into an ovenproof dish and press each one hard with the back of a spoon to break them open. Drizzle with olive oil, season with black pepper and chopped rosemary before finishing in the oven with the lamb. And enjoy.

It's worth thinking about a white rather than a red wine with this dish.

The market is on Saturday 23 March from 9.00am to 12.30pm, with further 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.com](mailto:ian.willox@btconnect.com)



**FRESH GRIMSBY FISH**

- Salmon
- Sea Bass
- Sea Bream
- Cod
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- Plaice
- Halibut
- Prawns
- Crab
- Mackerel
- Red Bream

**LOCATION**

**DEDDINGTON MARKET PLACE**  
**EVERY THURSDAY 1:55 TO 2:30pm**

**Tel: 07578 195979**  
[robhill74@me.com](mailto:robhill74@me.com)

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 on **07850 616069**

## DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM



**W**e're in trouble again. We have a sagging gate on the footpath to Bowman's Bridge. The gate is some 14 feet wide and catches the ground at about half its arc, so more than enough to allow free pedestrian passage. The offending gate is on the 'to do list' but February is not a good time weather-wise to

set new gate posts in concrete but we have 28 days to complete the repair before the next inspection from the new OCC footpath officer.

The next problem is with a bridle gate at Bowman's Bridge as it seems it's difficult to open if you're on horseback. I have been in the saddle since the age of six and opening and shutting gates is something that I have never had a problem with. I would just jump them. The recommended catch will cost some £250 plus fitting, but needs must. I must be a good boy in this modern mollycoddled world. The third problem – they always come in threes when it comes to officialdom – is the Clifton 'green' lane or rather the drove road which has become somewhat overgrown. The offending part of the lane is not on my farm but is the responsibility of two local landowners. My boundary is the western side up to the Clifton sewage works but not the lane itself. As a green lane it is the responsibility of the OCC and the new footpath officer's department so, come on you local whistleblowers, get your facts right.

We have always kept the lane mown for the benefit of walkers but this will now come to an end. We have a duty to keep all rights of way on the farm in good order and we do. The farm has a number of rights of way and, as tenants, the area of the rights of way are counted into the area on which we pay rent but are unable to crop. We are obliged to maintain them but things have changed. When I first came here almost 50 years ago it was local traffic with a cheery wave if I was on a tractor or a chat to pass the time of day. Now it's a wave of a map case and the greeting 'We have the right.' Ho hum.

As I bash this out the ewe flock at Clifton are settling into their lambing pens and enjoying their meals-on-wheels service. It won't be long before the North Aston flock are inside but they don't start until April. It's good to be able, albeit with a stick, to take a night-time walk around the barns and greet a number of old friends who come for a head scratch and a few treats from the Old Man's pocket. By the time this hits the door mat they will be on with the job. We scanned both flocks a few weeks ago with results a little disappointing but, given last summer's weather, not surprising – rather too many singles but at least they will go off to market early.

The big question is has winter got a sting in its tail? At the moment I am being serenaded by at least two song thrushes, the robin has changed his tune and it won't be long before the blackbird gets going. Although we have had some snow and rain, the farm is still very dry, with little water in the ditches and no field drains running. We have seen very few of our normal winter waders on the river meadows but, with any luck, the curlew will be back in time for when the ewes and lambs return to the valley and I will hear their haunting ethereal call again on my morning rounds.

With all the present political problems, just how many more seasons the river valley will see prancing lambs remains to be seen. I have kept sheep for over 60 years. Since the advent of the EU most of our lamb has been exported to the continent were they appreciate our high welfare and hygiene standards. With a 'no deal' it will be subject to tariffs and be priced out of the market, so your high welfare river valley grass-fed British lamb is in the hands of the career politicians, but lamb can always be imported.

**George Fenimore**  
**01869 338203**



**History Corner**  
**www.deddingtonhistory.uk**

We are getting used to hearing about Deddington around the world but when Karen and Eric Turburfield visited a friend in Crete they were somewhat surprised to find he had a copy of the *Modern Universal British Traveller* published in about 1779 in which 'Doddington or Deddington' features. The picture it paints is not entirely flattering: 'a place of great antiquity ... at present a very poor town ... not a single building that merits particular notice.' It does say that we 'formerly sent a member to Parliament' so Victoria Prentis is coming home, so to speak, by setting up her constituency office in Orchard House. This information occupies about a quarter of the article.

The remaining three-quarters is entirely devoted to explaining how bridegrooms and their friends conducted tilting competitions on horseback (jousting at a swinging target on a pole) and how the rider 'generally received a smart stroke upon his back, neck or head and was sometimes unhorsed to the great diversion of the spectators.' Perhaps it would be fun to bring this custom home again as well.

For the full article browse What's New on the History home page at <http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/>.

**Rob Forsyth**  
**[robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com](mailto:robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com)**

## CHURCH AND CHAPEL

### March

#### 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)

#### Services for Ash Wednesday

*Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes*

Wed 6 10.00am and 7.00pm

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  
Sun 31 10.30am Family Communion – Benefice Mothering Sunday Service

#### St John's, 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

27 January Alice Isobel Daphne Blant

##### Funerals

17 January Paul Richardson  
21 January John Minnear  
4 February Grace Simpson

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

#### RC Parish of Hethe

**Revd Robert Hughes 01869 720860**

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.

## DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have had another busy month at Deddington Primary School.

We would like to begin by saying thank you to Nicholson's Garden Centre staff who came to our school, refreshed our soil and fixed the beds on the school allotments. We are very grateful for their hard work, expertise and hours of time freely given. We look forward to the next few months when we can grow produce and flowers again.

Several classes have been on trips. The Year 6s had a fantastic day at the Imperial War Museum in London, travelling on the one day of snow we had on 1 February. The Year 1s visited Banbury Museum for a great morning when they learnt about toys in the Victorian era. The Year 5s visited the Warriner Farm learning about animals and wildlife and made amazing clay owls during their visit.



In sport, we were lucky to have input from a qualified gymnastics instructor from Wade Gymnastics Club who came to teach children in Years 3 and 4. Some Year 6 pupils took part in a netball tournament at Bloxham CE Primary School, and one team made it all the way to the final but sadly were defeated. However, everyone who took part thoroughly enjoyed the competition.

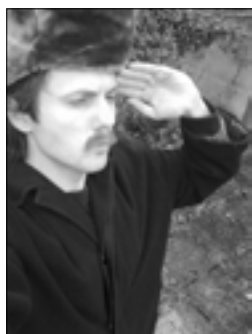
Finally, we are looking forward to our annual visit from Scholastic Book fair at the start of Term 4. We hope to raise a lot of money through our sales to put towards buying new books for our children to enjoy.

**Denise Welch**

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



## BLISSFUL THINKING



You might have choked up at seeing the raft of poignant memes proliferating social media about the Mars Rover 'Opportunity', which has run out of battery life after some 15 years of exploring the red dead planet. Its last operational words were reportedly 'My batteries are low and it's getting dark', which seems like the finest encapsulation of

expiration acceptance since Oscar Wilde's possibly apocryphal: 'Either those drapes go or I do.'

It made me recollect a few days previously, when I was meandering up the Hempton Road and discovered that it had actually happened: the Windmill Street phone box had been removed. After the notice had

been plastered on its grimy glass for a few years warning of its impending obsolescence, I guess I hoped it was something of an empty threat, akin to your parents threatening to kill you if you got into trouble at school again. But now it is a stark reality. No more secret liaisons to be arranged, no more explicit chat-lines away from prying ears, no more scam quiz hotlines draining your forty pieces of silver in no time flat. The new square looks a little desolate now. Perhaps I'm being overdramatic, but it didn't just represent a method of communication: it was shelter from the elements, refuge from the hurly burly of modern life, and most importantly of all, a genuine public convenience, of which we seem to be seeing the end, in all elements of life. So long good buddy, some of us hopeless nostalgists will retain your memory in the scrap yard of our hearts.

**Aaron Bliss**

[aaronjbliss@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronjbliss@hotmail.com)

## OOOPS!

*Correction:* In the February 2019 issue of *DN* the Dick Whittington photograph was erroneously credited to Gemma Collins. This should have read Gemma Scott. Our apologies to Gemma and the Deddington Players. We're not even watchers of *The Only Way is Essex*.

## Residential, Nursing & Dementia Care

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24 May 2018

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## POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

### Gun control, beds and washing-machines

I just got back from a trip to Europe. I know this because I tried to get in the wrong side of the car. I was actually visiting the liquor store, something I seldom do of course and the checkout lady asked for my ID in order to prove my age. I'm 66. Welcome to Amerika.

Last week I remembered the first time that I encountered the insidious nature of the gun culture in the Land of the Free. It was 1977 and my girlfriend and I were doing a Greyhound bus tour across the States and were sampling the peculiar delights of Las Vegas. We were staying in a pretty sleazy hotel, very similar to many cheap motels we visited that month. At 2.00am we were woken by someone running down the corridor outside our flimsy door. Then a voice rang out, 'Stop or I'll shoot'. More rapid footsteps and doors banging, and then all was quiet, apart from my pounding heart.

I remembered this event because this week was the first anniversary of the Parkland school shooting in which 17 kids were killed. The resulting grief and uproar went on for some weeks but little has happened since. It will be interesting to see how many politicians include this issue in their auditions for the Democratic nomination for the big election in 2020. There certainly won't be any Republicans who go anywhere near it.

The problem of course is the attitude of the people. All the good folk I was drinking with last night certainly understand that gun control is essential, even the two ladies who are still Trump supporters. But a number of the people I work with believe in 'concealed carry'. They could have had a gun on them as I talked to them this week. And every one of them has the crazy belief that if they had been there, they would have made all the difference.

The worst gun case I read about this month was in New York City. A disturbance at a cell phone store was attended by two passing police officers. When the offender drew a gun, they backed out on to the street and their colleagues outside shot them. One officer died, the other is in hospital. It's a difficult job they do but the incompetence and blatant racism of a minority can be difficult to comprehend.

Gun control, health care, racism, and a culture of lying are the big issues that wind me up almost daily. Other differences really don't matter. They all park 'front in' so I demonstrate my superiority by doing the job properly. Our bed is enormous (6ft 3in in both directions), the washing-machine is huge and thus a great time saver for me. We have an ice-machine and enough room in our garage for two trucks.

An American's view of the world is very US centric, but I do get asked about Brexit several times a week. I live in a mad country with crazy ideas about how to protect life, how to love each other, and how to build a wall. But they certainly laugh when I try to explain the current issues in the UK.

It was great to see everyone on our recent trip but it's back to the American form of lunacy. I think I am going to buy a bullet proof vest.

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

### New Skittles Evenings



When the Deddington British Legion Club closed, their skittle alley, balls and skittles were given to the church. Rather than let them lie there unused, we decided we would get them

out, dust them off and start playing again.

We aim to play once a month in church on Thursday evenings from 7.00pm and our first event will be on 23 May.

Do come and have a go.

**Wendy Burrows**  
01869 338082

## EXPLORE YOUR BOUNDARIES



### INTERESTED IN PLAYING VILLAGE CRICKET?

Deddington Cricket Club  
plays OCA standard  
Saturday league cricket

We are a friendly club that is looking  
for players to join us this season

**Why not come along to our winter nets on  
Sundays from 10 March – 14 April,  
3.0-4.30pm, at North Oxfordshire Academy?**

For more information go to  
**[www.deddingtoncricket.co.uk](http://www.deddingtoncricket.co.uk)**  
or contact Lewis Bletchly  
at **[bletchers98@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bletchers98@hotmail.co.uk)**  
or phone **07943 269907**



## What's the State of Play?

'A sea of mud', I hear you cry. But there's amazing progress: the zip-wire, swings, slide and roundabout are in, disability-friendly ramps underway, a wheelchair and buggy-friendly path is being laid around the area, and woodland trail pieces are in.

But *please, please*, parents and carers, keep children off the equipment until it has passed its safety test. There's no wire on the zip, no seats on the swings until they're safe – we'll tell you when.

The hedges around the bowling green are being removed or lowered (before the bird-nesting season starts) to give open views across the whole play and sports area. Heras fencing will continue to make the site secure until the contractors are off site. There will then be an interval before the Robinia timber multi-play centrepiece is constructed. While Trevor Stewart, the contractor, is on site his working area will again be fenced off for safety.

Dogs running loose on the playing field are still causing a problem. Be aware, dogs are only allowed on leads on the path and through the copse. No dogs are allowed – even on leads – on the playing field or in the children's play areas. Most dog-walkers are being responsible and clearing up after their dogs but there are still a few who think it's clever to let their dogs run free to poo anywhere and leave it for the footballers to



pick up – or worse! There's been some confusion over signs and bins, but I hope that's now been sorted. Please help make this work. We'll be reviewing the success of the new scheme in June (or earlier if the problem persists), and no one

wants to see a total dog ban.

Our application for government funding towards upgrading the Under-6 play area has been submitted but there have been lots of applications which might lead to a delay in finding out whether we have been successful.

Plans are well underway to make significant improvements to the Centre building: refurbished loos, better heating in the main hall, improved lighting, wifi and CCTV, and new signage. These are being funded by the Parish Council and the Windmill Management.

We are fortunate to have such a dynamic team working to improve your Community Centre, so thanks to them and to the Parish Council for supporting them.

Have a look at the new Windmill website – you'll be surprised at how much goes on up there: [www.thewindmilleddington.org/](http://www.thewindmilleddington.org/).

**Mary Robinson, Chair**  
**Windmill Development Group**  
[development@windmillcentre.org](mailto:development@windmillcentre.org)

## Deddington Library

The library has been particularly busy lately with the influx of some 200 new books and, of course, the removal of a similar amount of stock to make way for them.

The first Wednesday of the month we hold a Health Visitor-led baby clinic. This was particularly busy but so lovely to see so many parents, carers and little ones using the library. The next session is 9.30–10.30am on Wednesday 6 March for those of you who would like to come along.

The Bookworms reading group has reached its maximum of 12 members, which oddly brought about another little issue in February, as I realised we only had nine chairs. Our thanks to the Friends of Deddington Library for funding an additional six chairs to accommodate our reading groups and visitors to the library. Thanks to Bryn Williams for unpacking them and putting them together. I won't tell Jenny you're a DIY genius.

Our Rhymetime sessions on Mondays, 2.30–3.00pm, term-time only, are very popular and much enjoyed by those who attend – and me too.

We really need another Rhymetime volunteer so,

If you're interested in helping, please contact me for details. Our Rhymetime hosts do one half-hour session every 4–5 weeks. Come and visit a session to see what we do.

Don't forget that if you need any support getting online, we have a Digital Helper who can assist you, whether its setting up an email account, helping you set up online shopping or basic use of Word and Excel, we can arrange sessions for you in the library. Just give us a call.

We look forward to seeing you in the library very soon.

Our sister library at Adderbury is holding a Call my Wine Bluff evening of team wine tasting on Saturday 2 March at 7.00pm at Adderbury library. You will need to use your powers of deduction to identify the wines. Nibbles and wine will be provided. The event is hosted by our local wine experts, Slurp. Tickets are £9 from the Adderbury library or by email from Keith R Mitchell, [krmcbe@gmail.com](mailto:krmcbe@gmail.com).

**Stella O'Neill, Library Manager**  
**01869 338391**  
[Deddington.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Deddington.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

## The Blue Lamp of Deddington

I have been busier than ever this month, so busy in fact that this month's column has been 'ghost written' as Rebecca has had us hard 'noseygrindstone', keeping everyone in Banburyshire (excluding Banbury which its own team) safe and well.

A particular challenge has been covering the patch with fewer numbers this period as temporary postings and other reasons have left us short crewed this month. We have, however, managed to persevere with initiatives such as cycle marking in other communities, helping establish other speed watch teams along the lines of the excellent team you have established in Deddington parish, and carrying on with the 'window walk' I pioneered in your community last month and extending it to the other 42 villages in our patch.

And this is very much the hallmark of what Rural Community policing is all about – working with elements of the community – Deddington on my case, hitting on worthwhile activities and then taking them to other team members to use in their adopted areas.

Sorry I haven't been around quite as much in January as I would have liked but the task goes on and I will see you again very soon.

Remember 'keep 'em peeled' and let me know of any concerns or ideas you have.

**Harry Roberts**

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

## Friends of the Castle Grounds

Recently a man was seen using a metal detector and digging in Castle Grounds. This is illegal in any part of an English Heritage site so, if you see anyone doing this, please gather as much information as possible and pass it on to the police or contact a member of the Castle Grounds committee.

The AGM will be on 28 March at the Deddington Arms meeting room at 7.30pm. Please come and find out about us and discover our plans for this year. We are always looking for new members. Membership forms will be available at the AGM, or you can contact Jean Welford on 01869 338539, or download a form from Deddington OnLine at <http://www.deddington.org.uk/clubs/friendsofcastlegrounds>. We are looking for a new secretary so if you are interested contact me or join us at the AGM.

The path by the badger setts is eroding and very muddy, so be careful if you walk that route. We are talking to English Heritage about repairing the area.

Please be responsible and pick up after your dogs. Some dog owners kindly pick up other dogs' mess when they use the Grounds. Free poo bags are available from the Parish Council office at the Windmill Centre.

We will return with our famous tombola at the Four Farms Run on 12 May and donations would be gratefully received.

**Carol Garrett** [cgarrett@btinternet.com](mailto:cgarrett@btinternet.com)



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1970s ring by Andrew Grima to be sold by Mallams on March 27 with a guide price of £1000-1500

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## Wine Time

One of the most frequent questions asked about wine is what you should pay for a bottle? It's always a matter for personal judgement and views on value for money. However, there are some details that wine lovers might want to take into consideration when wandering down the supermarket aisles.

Wine is taxed twice. There is the same duty on each bottle of wine regardless of sale price. This is currently £2.23 per standard (75cl) bottle up to 15% alcohol. VAT at 20% is also payable ... and the duty has VAT charged on it too. Then you have to take into consideration everything else that gets the wine into your glass. Roughly, a £5 bottle breaks down in the following way: £2.23 duty; £1.08 margins to the organisations involved; £0.83 VAT; £0.36 packaging (bottle, cork or cap); £0.20 transport and logistics; £0.30 for the wine. So, £5 buys you about 30 pence worth of wine and around 61% of the price is tax. In case you were wondering, in France the duty on a bottle of wine is around 3p per bottle.

However, spend £10 on a bottle and you get about £2.70 spent on the wine. Although the price doubles, the shift in quality from £5 to £10 comes as you are getting nine times more spent on the wine. Unfortunately, the above does not translate into a hard and fast rule that a £10 wine will always be so much better than a £5 wine. Wine sellers play around with pricing, reducing wines as loss leaders or increasing them to create the impression of quality or to allow the illusion of discounting later. If you are daring enough to move to £20 the value of the wine in your bottle increases to around £7.03.

Many people find the idea of spending £15 on a bottle from a shop ridiculous, in particular when you can find good, drinkable wines at £5 or £6. In a pub, however, we spend £5, £6 or more on a large glass of wine; at 25cl that's a third of a bottle. Additionally, most of us don't think twice about spending £15 to £20 on a bottle of average Prosecco in a pub to share.

So how do you use this information to your advantage? Some shops follow a strict mark up policy: Co-op is one and can be a source of excellent wines at sensible prices although, as if to prove my point about there being no rules, one of their new wines, Les Cardineaux by Perrin, failed to impress on tasting and is not really worth its £10 price tag. They used to sell Baron de Ley Rioja Reserva at around £10 and that was extraordinary – the same wine is now available from Waitrose and Tesco at £12 and it's still well worth it. Branded wines, such as Villa Maria from New Zealand, can offer good value for money. For example, Villa Maria Pinot Noir at around £12 is a very good wine for the price, as Pinot Noir is usually expensive. The Wine Society sells its own brand white Burgundy for around £10 and is a fabulous wine at that price. Almost any Wine Society Exhibition range wine is similarly good value and usually between £10 and £20. Own brand wines from the supermarkets, such as Taste the Difference or Tesco Finest, can also be a good choice as they can keep non-wine costs as low as possible. Enjoy exploring.

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

## Holly Tree Club

Firstly, the committee, members and I would like to wish John Finnigan, our chairman, a speedy recovery following his recent fall. We look forward to having John back on board as soon as he has recovered.

Our first outing of the year was to Robbins Nest for lunch which was well attended and much enjoyed. We are now planning the April outing – more details soon.

Our Valentine's night film in February was *Mamma Mia, Here We Go Again!* This was a wonderful, amusing and in places, hilarious, sequel to the original film; although if you hadn't seen that, it could be a bit confusing as the action swapped back and forth from the present day to scenes from 30 years ago. Everyone who attended enjoyed a nostalgic evening with great scenery and plenty of ABBA songs and both Bjorn and Benny made cameo appearances.

Our next film night, in association with Age UK, is on Thursday 14 March when we are showing *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, a romantic drama set in 1946. In the aftermath of WW2, a London-

based writer begins exchanging letters with residents on the island of Guernsey and decides to write a book about their experiences during the war while under German occupation. It stars Tom Courtenay, Michael Huisman, Lily James and Penelope Wilton. There's no need to be a member or book to see the film, just come along. All over 55s will be made very welcome. The cost is £2 for refreshments on the night.

Work continues on our plans to upgrade and extend the hall. It's a time-consuming process which will take a while to show results, but we can assure you, much is going on in the background to deliver this project.

Don't forget our Monday morning coffee club for the over 55s is held on the first Monday of the month at 10.30am in the Holly Tree Club.

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).

**The Revd Annie Goldthorp**  
Interim Chair



## LETTERS

FROM BRENDA SMALL, CLIFTON  
I hope that the person who was driving through Clifton at 2.05pm on Tuesday 22 January and killed my Jack Russell and drove off is not sleeping too well.

Without doubt my dog should not have been on the road but, had the person driving the car been going slower, they may have had a chance to stop. I have spent thousands of pounds making my garden safe for my dogs, but I cannot account for people who do not do not secure it properly.

Too many people drive at speed through Clifton and a child running across the road would stand no chance, nor indeed an adult trying to get to the post-box coming out between the parked cars, not forgetting the residents of the nursing home trying to get across the road.

I would just like the person responsible to know that a whole family is devastated, including two little girls who overcame their fear of dogs and when here played with them the whole time.

FROM PIERRE BARTHELEMY, AJACCIO  
I'm a French musician living in Corsica. I play in a band named Wakan which is quite well known in our island.

In October 2011, my wife and I had a journey through UK. We rented a car and we stayed in Deddington for three days to visit Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. We really loved this place.

I wrote a song about these moments in which Oxford and Deddington are very present.

I remember that a very kind elderly lady, who was at this church fair, asking my wife and me where we came from. She had a lot of questions but she also gave us a lot of information about Deddington and I understood she was very glad to improve her French. When we



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

came to the market, the chairman explained where we were, and I answered him: 'We met some kind of Miss Marple who told us about this event', and he answered 'Oh, we get quite a lot of Miss Marples in Deddington'. It was so funny that I couldn't help but put this anecdote in my song which is included in our new album scheduled for release around May. I hope you will enjoy it as much as we spend a wonderful time

and enjoyed your nice district.

FROM ALBERT P HUMPHRIES MBE, DEDDINGTON  
No disrespect to Mike Ward, but a lot of people have said that they thought the *DN* was for Deddington news and they have no interest in what Mike is doing in the USA. Surely, if he wants to let his friends know, then he could email them, particularly when space in the magazine is at a premium.

FROM RUTH JOHNSON, DEDDINGTON  
Snow in Deddington on the first day of February might have kept many an intrepid old Swiss firmly and safely at home, but when the sun transformed the village into a winter wonderland, who could resist evoking past memories to stomp outside, regardless of cries of disdain from caring relatives.

They did not know what I already knew had miraculously happened in Deddington the evening before the day the snow came. The volunteer snow wardens had been out in force, even before the first snow flake fell, spreading welcome salt on road and pavement which, even when covered in a pleasing white mass the following morning, remained slip-proof.

This intrepid walker would like to thank our friendly snow wardens for giving us all 'safety under foot' to enjoy our wintry walks.

## PAUL MASTERS

PSYCHODYNAMIC PSYCHOTHERAPIST

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## NEWS FROM CLIFTON

Recent practise drills of the Clifton Lifeguards have seen life imitating art as *The Wind in the Willows* [this fine literary piece is based on a river, not a canal – Ed] seems to have come to life as the good-natured Mole, is bored with spring-cleaning, has clearly set off to Lower Larkrise in search of his modern day Ratty. This has meant him leaving his calling cards on the lawns of your neighbours, causing a heated debate as to who his best friend Ratty is, and therefore best placed to modify Mole's hobby. The smart money is split between cyclist Clinky and Sydeny – two neighbours who regularly debate in public and on the t'interweb – as to who should be taking a restorative lead on resolving this destruction. It is hoped that Mole soon stops as his calling cards have been seen further afield in Banburyshire.

A recent gold anniversary soirée in Candleford identified another couple of potential lifeguards who were seen presenting themselves as if they were members. They would of course be welcome after the standard introductory training that happens each Thursday in the Duck at 8.30pm. When not fearing the wrath of green-fingered Lower Larkrisers, these

two are key elements in a weekly sporting endeavour which keeps many a chap in a higher state of physical wellbeing than they otherwise would. This is the Monday night Windmill all weather court five-a-side gang that often sees five of our residents making up the numbers. The gang is of very mixed ability with the good players more than generous in their acceptance of the significantly less able ones for an hour each Monday evening at 8.00pm. They run themselves silly and score lots of goals. The gang could always use one or two others so, if you used to play – and let's be honest here, everyone used to play – and fancy a run out, contact me and I'll get you on the team sheet.

By next publication the Book Club will have enjoyed their cultural trip taking in Oxfordshire's military history, premiers' graves and the paintings of one WS Churchill. There will be a bit of a walk to keep us healthy and a drink or two to keep us hydrated, along with insightful and valuable commentaries from the team who will have buffed up on their subjects, making this worthy of the cultural label they proudly affix.

**Martin Bryce**

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

## Tales from the Pump



As I was leaving the loo in Birmingham Airport the other day I was met by a display asking me to rate my experience. I could choose from five emoji options ranging from a big smile on the left to a really unhappy face on the right. What tremendous empathy on the part of Birmingham Airport that, given my advancing years, they cared whether I

had achieved a reasonable stream, a hopeless dribble or nothing at all if I had a guy standing next to me.

However the display got me thinking – does the need to rate more and more of our experiences mean that we are becoming an increasing judgmental society? The pub trade is bombarded from all sides by third party review platforms such as TripAdvisor and Google – everybody has become a critic. They take a picture of their fish and chips and tell us the meal was smashing – and then write a review on TripAdvisor, saying the peas were mushy, not like the crushed minted ones they like and the service was grumpy. Look folks, the menu said 'mushy' and my whole business is based on me being Grumpy. However, for a grumpy guy, I'm quite relaxed about reviews because most are positive and those that offer a criticism are usually constructive and give the pub team something to work on.

They act as a great free mystery shopper but the feedback is too late – we need instant satisfaction scores. Perhaps I could get some emoji displays on the dining tables and the bar. Could we put the 'Rate Your Experience' displays in the bedrooms? Perhaps not. And as far as the rating in the loo at the airport – there wasn't an emoji with blown-out cheeks for 'Phew that's better' or a puzzled look for 'Will I need to go again in five minutes' so I didn't bother.

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

## News from Hempton

I have very little to report on this month. The Old School Room is being used quite often by different organisations which provides some income for the ongoing cost of running things at the building which of course includes the church.

It is nice to see all the spring flowers shooting up in the grass verges as you approach the village from Deddington. Many of these were planted by the late Dennis Washington together with other people from the village, particularly those living on the Duns Tew Road who planted that area.

I have little else to say so please let me know if there is anything to put in next time.

**Les Chappell**

**01869 338054**

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

## Deddington Day Centre aka Windmill Thursday Club

Here today and still here tomorrow, despite some very challenging years. Sadly the club lost its chairman and co-founder with the death of Jim Flux who was really the mainstay of our administration. Christine Stanbridge bravely picked up the torch as our new chairman and has done wonders in dealing with our loss of funding from OCC and all its associated problems.

We then lost our transport, as the minibus donated by OCC became unroadworthy and too expensive to maintain. Again we have been fortunate that Our Bus Bartons has offered to bring clients from Middle Barton, our furthest outpost and home of our most long-standing members. Other clients have been able to make individual arrangements to reach us.

Then our caterer, Fran, moved away from the area and we were rescued by the Unicorn, who will supply our usual two-course meal.

Finally, we said goodbye at Christmas to our co-ordinator, Annie Freeman, who brought so much fun to our sessions. Again we have been lucky in appointing Kay Anderson from Aynho, who is very experienced and forward-looking – already we have a page on Facebook!

### Deddington PFSU and Nursery

The first term of 2019 has flown by. We particularly enjoyed our day playing in the snow. This term the PFSU children have been learning about animals. We have had lots of animal visitors to preschool and a visit from the vet. Thank you to everyone who has been in to see us.

We've been learning about Chinese New Year and children from both settings enjoyed a lovely meal from the May Fu II restaurant. The preschool children also visited the restaurant to see their New Year decorations. Thank you to the May Fu II for hosting our visit.

We're currently selling tickets for our hamper raffle which will be drawn at the end of March. Our car boot sale is on Sunday 24 March. We're grateful for all your support.

**Lucy Squires 01869 337484**

### Friends of Deddington Library

Unfortunately our FoDL curry night at Bengal Spice had to be cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control. This will be rearranged, when friends will be able to decide if they are able to attend or whether we need to arrange a refund.

There will be more opportunities during the year to support the library which we'll notify you about through the DN and Facebook. Our main one is, of course, our calendar, so please continue to shoot those village and parish scenes and enter your pics in our annual photo competition. As usual you can either send them to me or drop off a CD of images to Stella in the library.

**Bryn Williams, [abw@brynwilliams.com](mailto:abw@brynwilliams.com)**

That we have survived these perilous times is largely due to the support and generosity of local organisations and individuals, for which we are enormously grateful. However the fight continues to raise funds to keep the club running and ensure that it will be there for our elderly residents of the future.

We currently have a couple of places for new clients and would also warmly welcome new volunteers to help with the daily running.

We would like to recognise and thank our many benefactors, including: individual residents of the parish and beyond, including the generous people who have made a monthly pledge; the parish councils of Deddington, Adderbury, Barford, Duns Tew and Steeple Aston; the *Deddington News*; the Farmers' Market; the Parish Show; Deddington Festival; Deddington Players; Miggy, who has organised two lucrative and enjoyable treasure hunts; Pam Goldford for our stalls at the October market; Mid-Counties Co-op; Tesco; Waitrose,

...and anyone else who has not been mentioned by name, but whose contribution was warmly appreciated.

Finally our loyal volunteers, both at front of house and behind the scenes, without whom the club could not function. Here's to the next twenty years.

**Jean Rudge, Vice-Chair  
01869 338110**



**FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON LIBRARY**  
Sign up and support us at  
[www.FriendsofDeddingtonLibrary.org](http://www.FriendsofDeddingtonLibrary.org)



## PHOTO COMPETITION

FoDL invite entries of photos of Deddington, Clifton, Hempton and the surrounding countryside. The winning entries will be included in the new and exciting 2020 Parish Calendar

All age groups and abilities are welcome.  
 Image files minimum of 5Mb, 300dpi  
 saved as High-Quality JPGs.

Deadline for entries Friday, August 16th, 2019.



**Submit your entries ASAP**  
 by email to [abw@brynwilliams.com](mailto:abw@brynwilliams.com),  
 or on a CD/DVD to Stella at the library

For more details, visit the FoDL website  
[www.FriendsofDeddingtonLibrary.org](http://www.FriendsofDeddingtonLibrary.org)

**Good Luck!**



## Mbawemi Women's Project, Malawi

*Pronounced 'Umbah-Way-Me'*

*translated as 'The Good Woman'*

In September, October and November 2018 Pete and Jenny Soddy worked with this small charity in northern Malawi. The main focus of the work was to empower women to become financially independent with the aim of providing for their children and extended families. The charity covered two centres, Mzuzu, the third largest town in Malawi, and Nkharta Bay situated on the northern part of Lake Malawi (some of you might remember Malawi being Nyasaland and Lake Nyasa) and this is where we were based last year.

We are developing a website for the project and hopefully by the next edition of *Deddington News* it will be up and running. For those who might be interested, they will be able to read about the story so far and see details of plans for supporting Mbawemi throughout 2019 and beyond. Watch this space.

**Jennifer Soddy**

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

## DN Monthly Advertisement Rates

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- Print-ready copy must be submitted by the 10th of the month preceding publication

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- The design should have good contrast, not be too subtle nor have large black areas

- *DN* does not endorse or recommend any of the advertising organisations

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### Inserts

- Cost: £40

- No more than three inserts will be carried in any one month

- The advertiser is responsible for supplying 1,100 A5 or A4-folded copies

## CALLING ALL CLUBS

### Photographic Society

Our meeting on 6 February was a presentation by Shanice Meddings from Fujifilm. Shanice started by sharing experiences of her early days in photography. In the past Fuji produced compact and bridge cameras but have decided to leave that field behind and move into mirrorless cameras. An extensive range of cameras was laid out for inspection and were available for us to handle. They were all mirrorless models with APC sensors, lighter and smaller than traditional DSLR type bodies, designed in the style of the film cameras of former days. Aperture settings were on the lens barrel, and speed settings were on the top plate, with an eyelevel viewfinder showing the exact image to be recorded. Settings may be made before the camera is turned on. An extensive range of lenses was available to try out, with models up to the latest 200mm lens, coming in at £5,000. Two top-of-the-range medium format cameras with much larger sensors were also available for members to handle. These cameras are capable of producing superb images with fine definition.

The meeting continued with our monthly challenge and the subject was 'patterns'. The photographs ranged from close-up images showing patterns created by nature to features of buildings and architectural patterns with members showing first and second choice and reserve images. Some older shots and archive pictures were also allowed. The usual friendly banter accompanied the images.

The next meeting is on 6 March at 7:30pm in the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho. All are welcome.

**Paul Brewerton**

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

### Deddington Bookworms

This month we read *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders, a novel based on the true story of the death of President Lincoln's young son Willie. Willie dies of typhoid fever at the age of eleven. The story takes the reader through his death, funeral, burial and transition to the next stage through the eyes of the dead Willie and other occupants of the bardo (an intermediary state between life and the afterlife).

The layout of the book is unusual (one member described the style as 'off the wall') and the majority found it difficult to read. Saunders introduces many characters (166 in total) and this, along with the layout, makes the story hard to follow. The majority of the characters are fictional but some are not and so often it is not easy to tell fact from fiction.

The novel was a winner of the 2017 Man Booker Prize and received glowing reviews. However, it failed to live up to these enthusiastic reviews for the majority of the group. Having said that, the few members of the group who did manage to get to the end of the book enjoyed the read as it was so different, and that is what Bookworms all is about.

We are now reading *The Narrow Road to the Deep North* by Richard Flanagan.

**Deddington Library**

**01869 338391**

### Local Vocals Community Choir

Following three successful taster sessions in 2018, Local Vocals started their weekly sessions in January with temporary choir leader, Steph, since our usual leader, Cat, had been laid low with a bad cold. Steph took us through the delights of Cole Porter's *Blue Skies* which

## CALLING ALL CLUBS Continued from p14

I am still humming. Back in the safe hands of Cat we have been concentrating on *Cecilia*, *Mingulay Boat Song* and *Sloop John B*. Each ninety minute session starts with a warm-up. You can sing in whichever part you like, tops, middles or bottoms. There is no audition or a need to read music as we learn by ear. We end with refreshments, the chance to get to know others in the choir and we leave with big smiles. All adults wishing to spend time in a relaxed group singing away the cares of the day are welcome. We meet on Mondays at 7.30pm during term-time at Deddington Primary School. For more details contact me.

**Alison Grieve**  
[alisongrmail@gmail.com](mailto:alisongrmail@gmail.com)

### RBL Branch Report

The committee is now focusing on activities for the next 12 months. First up, David Hood is planning to lead a group to Normandy in July to tour the Battle for Caen area and Pegasus Bridge. This is likely to be in a 12-seater minibus so places will be limited to RBL members. If you are interested, please let me or David (01869 338200) know. We are also considering a summer barbecue again and an autumn trip to either the Imperial War Museum or Bletchley Park. If you would like to express a preference for either we can take that into account when deciding which one to plan for. A definite event for your diary will be a fund-raising Burns Night Supper on Friday 25 January 2020.

We are also considering having one evening a month for members to gather at a local hostelry to be social. We would like to hear from you if you think this would be popular.

**Rob Forsyth Chairman**  
**01869 338384**  
[robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com](mailto:robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com)

### Women's Institute

Deddington WI met on Tuesday 12 February when we were entertained and educated by John Suckling's account of his latest trip to a remote island. This time it was Easter Island, discovered by Dutch explorers on Easter Sunday and later in 1774 by Captain Cook. The remote island, with two volcanoes, is known as Rapa Nui by the inhabitants. It is administered by Chile but the nearest land is Pitcairn Island, some 1,200 miles away. The capital town, Hanga Roa, has an international airport but the journey there via Madrid and Santiago is long and tedious. The island is best known for its Moai, the famous statues of which there are around a thousand, mostly no longer standing. After explaining the geography of the island, John took us on a photographic tour. As usual his photographs were excellent and really brought to life this strange place. There are very few trees and almost no wildlife. The sacred sights are looked after by guides or

rangers who look like gauchos. The scenery reminded me of English moorland, open and grassed, with rock showing through. This was an enjoyable talk. Where next we wonder?

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

**Moir Byast**

### Book Group

Our first book for 2019 was *The Woman in the Window* by AJ Finn, which reached the top of the *New York Times* best seller list and will be released as a film later in the year.

The protagonist of this psychological thriller is Anna Fox, a former child psychologist who has become agoraphobic following a traumatic event and is living apart from her husband and young daughter. Mixing medication with copious amounts of alcohol, she spends her days spying on her neighbours and watching classic black and white films. When she witnesses a violent attack, her account is dismissed as the delusion of a depressive drunk.

Some of us felt it took a while to really engage with the intricacies of the plot and with Anna's initially rather unsympathetic character. However, as Anna's safety is threatened by her attempts to uncover the truth, the mystery becomes gripping. The twists and turns are skilfully handled and result in a suspenseful page-turner. It is easy to imagine that the novel will become a very successful film.

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

**Sian Waterman**

### Deddington and District History Society

We have two varied and interesting talks scheduled for March and April. On Thursday 21 March Tom Fort will speak on 'The Village News – the Truth Behind England's Rural Idyll'. Tom is a former journalist and writer who has published extensively on social history. You might have seen his most recent venture, the BBC4 programme 'Crossing England in a Punt – River of Dreams', a fascinating historical and geographical journey.

On Thursday 18 April John Bridgeman will speak on 'The Oxfordshire Yeomanry'. John is a trustee of the Oxfordshire Yeomanry Trust, and also of the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum at Woodstock. His talk will explain who the original Yeomen were and how the regiment has developed up to present times.

We meet in Deddington Primary School at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

Enquiries to Barrie Smith, Chairman, on 01869 337813.

**Chris Day**

**CLUBS** ————— *Continued from p15***Craft Group**

We meet on Tuesdays from 2.00–4.30pm at the Holly Tree.

**Maureen Golder**

**01869 338699**

[maureengolder@btinternet.com](mailto:maureengolder@btinternet.com)

**Friendly Bridge Club**

We meet on Fridays at 2.00–5.00pm at the Holly Tree.

**Hugh Blythe**

**01869 338126**

**Deddington Day Centre (Thursday Club)**

We offer a pleasant and friendly day out for the elderly, including lunch, tea or coffee and a range of activities on Thursdays 10.00am–3.00pm at the Windmill Centre. Cost £15.00.

**Kay Anderson**

**Deddington Brass**

We hold Monday evening practises from 7.00–9.00pm in the church. More information is available on [www.deddingtonbrass.myfreesites.net](http://www.deddingtonbrass.myfreesites.net).

**Michael Liebrecht**

**01869 33762**

[liebrech@1gc.com](mailto:liebrech@1gc.com)

**Life and Portrait Art Group**

We meet on Thursdays from 10.00am–12.30pm and 1.30–4.00pm at the Holly Tree. Cost £10 per session.

**Ken Wilkinson**

**01869 337256**

**Live Better, Live Well Oxfordshire**

Looking for information about services and activities in Oxfordshire?

Then Oxfordshire County Council's Live Well Oxfordshire directory is the place to start your search – it's easy to use and brings together more than 2,000 services and activities across the county, from care services to help people stay independent, transport services to help people get out and about, and new hobbies for people to enjoy, to local carer groups.

You'll find useful information and advice on a range of subjects, all aimed at giving you greater choice and control over the support and services you or a loved one needs. Go to [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/livewell](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/livewell) and discover what's available.

**Kate Gleeson**

**Strategic Commissioning Manager  
Adult Services, People Directorate  
Oxfordshire County Council**

**What's On** *Continued from p1***March**

- Sat 23 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.30am–12.00pm
- Sat 23 Banbury Symphony Orchestra: Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Sat 24 PFSU and Nursery: Car Boot Sale, Primary School
- Thu 28 Book Club: Contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for details
- Thu 28 Friends of Castle Grounds: AGM, Deddington Arms, 7.30pm
- Fri 29 Space2Learn Quiz Night: Primary School, 7.30pm, teams of 6 to be booked in advance via [info@S2Ldeddington.uk](mailto:info@S2Ldeddington.uk), £5/head

**April**

- Mon 1 Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
- Mon 1 Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm
- Wed 3 Photographic Society: AGM, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
- Tue 9 WI: Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Thu 11 Holly Tree Club: Film Night, Holly Tree, 6.30pm
- Wed 17 PC Meeting: Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Thu 18 History Society: 'Oxfordshire Yeomanry', John Bridgeman, Primary School, 7.30pm
- Thu 25 Book Group: Contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for details
- Sat 27 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm

**Musical Notes**

There will be two concerts in the parish church during March.

The first, on Saturday 2 March at 7.30pm is the North Cotswold Chamber Choir, performing Italian and English Renaissance Music for Lent, including music by Caldara, Ingegneri, Anerio, Monteverdi, Victoria, Lotti, Tomkins, Gibbons, Tallis and Byrd, with conductor Sarah Tenant-Flowers. Tickets are £18, concessions £15, £8 for under 18s, available from from Jaffe and Neil in Chipping Norton or contact [info@nc3.org.uk](mailto:info@nc3.org.uk).

The Banbury Symphony Orchestra will be presenting an English spring concert on Saturday 23 March at 7.30pm. This will include Elgar's *Enigma Variations* (featuring the famous 'Nimrod' variation) and music by Holst, Delius and a local Oxfordshire composer, Nicholas Barton. More information is available at [www.banburysymphony.org](http://www.banburysymphony.org). Tickets are £10 and are available from the website. Tickets for 18s and under are free. Tickets for 18s and under remain free, as are our concert programmes.

**JC**



## SPORT

### Deddington Cricket Club

The Club held its AGM and a quiz night on Friday 18 January at the Unicorn. The current officers were all re-elected for the coming year and the accounts for 2018 accepted. Once again, expenses exceeded income for the year, despite the Club securing some excellent sponsorship from Bristol Street Motors, Hire Fitness and Yellowtail Wines. Further fundraising and a new member recruitment drive is needed to help balance the books in 2019.

Following the AGM, everyone stayed to have a good meal and enjoyed a cricket-themed quiz. Some testing questions about people and events in cricket since 1744 were posed to the teams, with the three-some of Rob Preston, Manny Verma and Richard Holmes coming out on top by one point.

Winter nets start at North Oxford Academy on Sunday 10 March at 3.00–4.30pm. Visit [deddingtoncricket.co.uk](http://deddingtoncricket.co.uk) for more information.

**Simon Oldfield**  
07771 997358

[simon.oldfield0@gmail.com](mailto:simon.oldfield0@gmail.com)

### Deddington Town FC Youth



#### FA Charter Standard Development Health Check

Deddington Town FC youth section passed its annual Health Check status with the FA as a Charter Standard Development Club. This is the accreditation scheme for grass roots clubs. It shows that we are a well-run club, retain and increase participation from children and young people, develop our players and coaches, support the wider football workforce and improve playing and training facilities. This is due to the hard work of officers, coaches and players to pass the Health Check.

All our teams play in the Witney and District Youth Football League. The Under 15s had a heavy away defeat to Chipping Norton Swifts, followed by a home defeat to Brackley Athletic. The Under 14s had a 2–2 draw with Grendon Rangers, followed by a 4–0 home defeat to Witney Vikings. The Under 12s had a 2–2 away draw with Eynsham Youth, both goals by Ben Jones, followed by a narrow 3–2 home defeat to Launton.

#### Get involved

If you want to get involved with the club as player, volunteer, sponsor or fundraiser, please do not hesitate to contact us. Further information about the club is on our website – <http://www.deddingtontownfc.com/> 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 Town Football Club

#### First Team Results

19.01.19 Sinclair Utd (a) (CUP) W 4–0

26.01.19 Charlton & District (h)(CUP) W 5–1

#### Reserve Team Results:

None

A month and year thus far, relatively bereft of action, proved nonetheless fruitful for the First Team as they recorded resounding cup victories in mid-January. Their position just shy of the summit of the league looks promising, while what is going on in the Reserves' division is anyone's guess, as one team seems to have been effectively expelled from the division, with their results expunged. Despite this, hilariously they are not bottom as, the team below them with their results still intact, have also recorded zero points, only with a shocking negative goal difference. Who knows if the Reserves will even remember what shape a ball is when they are finally back in action.

**Aaron Bliss**  
**07909 642882**

### Deddington Original Golf Society

Men, women, beginners, amateurs and professionals are all welcome

**Nigel Oddy, Secretary**  
[nigeloddy@yahoo.com](mailto:nigeloddy@yahoo.com)

### Deddington Tennis Club

For further details on what we do, when we play and how to join us, please visit our website [www.deddingtontennis.com](http://www.deddingtontennis.com).

**Becky Jones**  
[becky@englishlanguagematters.com](mailto:becky@englishlanguagematters.com)

### Deddington Badminton Club

Meets every Tuesday from 7.00pm September–April at the Windmill Centre.

**Caroline Tindale**  
[deddingtonbc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:deddingtonbc@hotmail.co.uk)

### Ladies Netball

Wednesdays, 7.15pm–8.15pm, Windmill Centre all weather pitch.

**Sophie Cameron**  
**07812 739978**

## YOUTH

### 1st Deddington Scout Group

Offers scouting for girls and boys from 8 to 18. We cover the villages of Deddington, Clifton, Hempton and the Barfords. The Explorer Scouts cover a much wider area. More information is available on [www.deddingtonscouts.org.uk](http://www.deddingtonscouts.org.uk).

### Beavers

Beavers is for children between six and eight. We meet at the Windmill Centre from 5.30–6.30pm on Mondays during term time.

**Laura Kiff**

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

### Cubs

So far this term the Cubs have gained their Digital Maker badge by learning about computers and designing a game that could be played on one. We have also talked about winter walking and activities and what to wear to stay warm (apparently vests are hilarious!) and they drew some posters illustrating aspects of the Countryside Code.

Parker, Bailey and Jack represented the pack at the annual swimming gala, coming third in their section and fourth overall – well swum.

Cub Scouts meet on Thursdays in term time in the Deddington Studio at the Windmill Centre, 6.00–7.30pm.

**Jo Churchyard**

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

### Scouts

The Scouts also designed games for the Digital Maker badge based on the United Nation's global objectives (impressed?) and, as expected, they were more detailed than the Cubs, but both involved submarines. We then moved on to some core subjects: maps, contours and calculating distances.

Did you know you could make a three-course meal using a few basic ingredients, a mug and a microwave? Well you can - we're preparing them for student life.

Scouts meet on Thursdays in term time in the Deddington Studio at the Windmill Centre, 7.30–9.30pm.

**Peter Churchyard**

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

### The Girl Guide Association

Offers girls and young women a space where they can be themselves, have fun, build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills and make a positive difference to their lives and their communities. More information is available on [www.oxfordshiregirlguiding.org.uk](http://www.oxfordshiregirlguiding.org.uk).

### 1st Barford and Deddington Rainbows

Rainbows are the youngest section of the Girl Guide

Association aged between 5 and 7. We meet at Barford St Michael village hall on Fridays in term time, 4.15–5.15 pm.

**Hazel Neal 01869 337822**

### 1st Deddington Brownies

It's been a busy time at Deddington Brownies. We have been working on our Toymakers Badge and had a brilliant talk on First Aid from the South Central Ambulance Service.

Sadly we also said goodbye to our Brown Owl, Claire Friday, who has done an excellent job running Brownies. We will miss her and I only hope I can live up to the example she has set.

**Fern Stringer**

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

### 1st Deddington Guides

This term gives us another opportunity to get to grips with all the exciting formats, badges and activities being launched in the new Guiding programme this year. Some of the Guides are opting to complete the outgoing Baden Powell Award with others choosing to try for the new Gold Award.

We have played some very lively games, old and new, taken up several challenges in our patrols and shared our experiences with each other, whilst learning how to help others in various problematic situations.

The biggest challenge for many Guides has been learning to knit and sew, and all those who attempted their chosen craft have succeeded. Some Guides started by knitting scarves and some have done some nice decorative stitching projects. Well done to all and thank you to champion knitters Hazel and Helen who helped to pick up dropped stitches.

We then had a week off to spare our addled brains and sore fingers. We were pleased to welcome Ranger Guides from the Horizon Ranger Unit in Kidlington. It was exciting to hear about their programme including driving, climbing, ice-skating, cooking Christmas dinner, camping and travelling to places like Switzerland, Italy, Ireland and France. There are many opportunities to try a number of activities and many of the aged over – 14 Guides were very excited by the prospect and are interested in joining.

We rounded off the meeting with an introduction to Chinese New Year with an activity led by Libby. A hilarious ladders game was followed by a fun craft session making paper dragon puppets. Thank you to Libby who ran this session as part of her Baden Powell Award.

All girls aged 10 and over are very welcome. We meet 7.00–9.00 pm on Tuesday evenings at the Windmill Centre. Come along and meet us.

**Maggie Rampley 01295 810069**

**Marian Trinder 01869 340806**

**Catherine Blackburn 01295 258008**

**Tilly Neal**