

Deddington was the focus on the *Today* programme for the CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND to launch its campaign against redundant road signs. Is the CPRE concern merely cosmetic? Does familiarity with our surroundings breed content? The Parish Plan project is an opportunity for all of us to look with fresh eyes at our surroundings to see what positive improvements we would like. Do

roadsigns blight our villages more than road-users - or rather our vehicles when we are not using them? The Parking meetings on 7 September, and the Parish Plan meetings next month, and the D-o-L Forum, not forgetting letters to the Parish Clerk and *DN*, are all channels to share ideas. **CH**



September Diary

Wed	1	Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8 pm
Thu	2	Deddington School: 2005 admission forms available.
Mon	6	Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10 am- noon.
Tue	7	Craft Group: meetings restart, Holly Tree, 2.15 pm- 4.30 pm. ➡ p.9
Tue	7	Deddington Badminton Club: season starts, Windmill Centre, 6 pm Juniors, 7 pm others. ➡ p.10
Tue	7	WI: Valuation of Antiques, Holly Tree, 7.15 pm
Tue	7	Parish Parking Taskforce: open meetings, Town Hall, 5.30 pm, or 8 pm ➡ p.2
Wed	8	Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys: restarts 3.15 pm in the School Hall. ➡ p.9
Wed	8	Boys' Brigade Juniors: restarts 5.15 pm, Windmill Centre. ➡ p.9
Wed	8	Deddington History Society: Alan Rosevear, <i>N Oxon Turnpike Roads</i> , Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.10
Sat	11	Historic Churches Trust: Sponsored Ride or Stride, 10.00 am ~ 6.00 pm. ➡ p.5
Sun	12	<i>Songs of Praise</i> : BBC1 with songsters from Deddington recorded at Blenheim Palace. ➡ p.4
Sun	12	Parish Church: Piano & Song Recital by A Soddy and A Carwood, Parish Church, 7.30 pm ➡ p.8
Mon	13	Youth Club: Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm ➡ p.10
Wed	15	Parish Council Meeting: Town Hall, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.2
Mon	20	Pre-school AGM: Pre-School, 8.00 pm ➡ p.3
Tues	21	Fairtrade Morning: Parish Church, 10.00 am~12.30 pm. ➡ p.15
Fri	24	Coffee Morning in aid of MacMillan Nurses at 5, Gaveston Gardens, 10 am~noon.
Fri	24	St John's Hempton: Harvest supper, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.12
Sat	25	Deddington Farmers' Market: 9 am~12.30 pm. ➡ insert
Sat	25	Living Rooms Project: 50/50 auction, Windmill Centre, 2 pm. ➡ p.5
Thu	30	Book Club: 7.30 pm. (for venue call Sally Lambert 338094) ➡ p.9

October Diary on page 15

Weekly Meetings

Mondays:	Brownies: Windmill Centre, 6-7.30 pm.
Mondays:	Youth Club: Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm ➡ p.10
Tuesdays:	Craft Group: Holly Tree, 2.15-4.30 pm. ➡ p.9
Tuesdays:	Deddington Guides: Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm.
Wednesdays:	Babies & Toddlers Group: Windmill Centre, 9.30-11am ➡ p.10
Wednesdays:	Anchor Boys: Deddington School, 3.15 pm. ➡ p.9
Wednesdays:	Boys' Brigade: Windmill Centre, 5.30 pm. ➡ p.9
Every other Wednesday:	Friendship Club: Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm.
Thursdays:	Life & Portrait Art Group: Town Hall, 10-12.30 & 1.30- 4 pm.
Thursdays:	1st Deddington Cubs: Windmill Centre, 6-7.30 pm.
Thursdays:	1st Deddington Scouts: Windmill Centre, 7.30-9 pm.
Fridays:	Coffee Morning in aid of Katharine House: Parish Church, 10 am~noon.
Fridays:	Babies & Toddlers' Group: Windmill Centre, 9.30~11 am. ➡ p.10
Fridays:	Deddington Friendly Bridge Club: Holly Tree, 2-5 pm.

THE DEDDINGTON NEWS - Copy please to the relevant editor by next copy date: 21 SEPT

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Meeting in Town Hall - 21 July 2004

PRESENT: Cllrs Flux (chair), Alton, Haslam, Rollason, Spencer, Squires, Swash, Todd, Watts, Westley, Wood, D/Clr O'Sullivan, C/Clr Jelf, the Clerk, the Minutes Secretary and 5 members of the public.

HEMPTON ALLOTMENTS

Tony Campion urged that the ownership of the land be established so that a grant for installing water supplies could be secured. The allotments are a valuable focus for the community. Affidavits from residents to be submitted by end of July.

PLANNING & PROPERTY

PC no objection: (i) Crown & Tuns, Deddington - ventilation duct. (ii) Ex-Windmill Stores, Deddington - new fascia and lights. (iii) Holcombe Hotel, Deddington - fire escape improvements. (iv) Stone Walls, Hempton - single storey building behind garage. (v) Castle Barns, Castle Street, Deddington - 2 dwellings from one & creating new first floor.

PC objection: (vi) 15 The Daedings, Deddington - 2 storey extension: over-development & lack of adequate parking space. (Cllr Flux declared an interest.)

CDC approvals: (vii) Dragon House, Bullring, Deddington - erect double garage. (viii) Hempton House, Hempton - conservatory and rear 1st floor extension. (ix) Tawney Cottage, High Street, Deddington - conservatory. (x) Featherton House, Deddington - replace window and fire escape (monitor reinstatement of verge).

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

No prize, "but a model of cleanliness and a joy to visit; thriving social life." Planters: remove one from Oxford Road approach; seek cost of moving one on Clifton Road. Would local businesses offer to sponsor upkeep of a planter ?

PARKING ON VERGES

Not illegal, but unwelcome as damaging and unsightly especially in conservation area. Residents have no right to designated space on highway, unless disabled. Parking on the road aids traffic calming and safety. The installation of posts around the 'Co-op green' is welcome, and re-seeding awaited.

PARKING WORKING GROUP

Eames, Forsyth, Broadbent and Morris selected for width of expertise to join PC taskforce. [The Taskforce will be holding an OPEN meeting in Deddington Town Hall on Tuesday 7 September.]

VILLAGE PLAN WORKING GROUP

Hill, Robinson, Ward and Hall make up project team with 4 councillors. Open meetings proposed for Clifton, Hempton and Deddington in October - followed by all-age questionnaire. Plan to be completed by December 2005. [See dates and venues of OPEN meetings in insert with this issue.]

NEWS IN BRIEF

- OCC Speed management group looking at road accident spot beyond Aynho.
- 2nd quote for CCTV to monitor cricket pavilion sought.
- Deddington Circular Walk - Andre Tansley has volunteered to monitor routes.

- Town Hall: costs of renovation and disability access being assessed.
- School Early Years Unit: More information on sources of funding £30,000 needed.
- CDC Biodiversity Questionnaire [as in *Cherwell Link* - see page 16] to be widely made known.

PARISH FINANCES

Invoices passed for payment totalled £8887.40, including £1365.26 imprest (stewards' wages); £977.33 NI/tax & Clerk's wages; £136.72 phone; £2590.76 environment; £296 Youth Club grant; £1645 Holly Tree Club; £194.93 pavilion windows; £289.14 for dog bins may be cancelled as not in budget.

Investments totalled £568415.04, of which £5158.43 Barclays (£2332.01 current account + £823.18 imprest) @ 0.1%; £1000 Bradford & Bingley @ 2.85% on 120 days; £564259.85 West Bromwich @ 4% overnight.

FREQUENCY OF PC MEETINGS

Agreed to continue monthly meetings if sufficient business a week before. The August meeting was cancelled.

NEXT MEETING Wed 15 September, Town Hall, 7.45pm

Official minutes of PC meetings may be seen at the Clerk's office and the Library, on parish noticeboards and the village website: www.deddington.org.uk/pcminutes

**Parking in the Parish**

The Parking Taskforce has been created to establish "How the parish can improve the quality of our local environment via a socially responsible and environmentally friendly commercial transport and parking proposal."

Everyone can contribute personally by attending one of the appropriate meetings scheduled for **Tuesday 7 September** in the Town Hall. Businesses are invited for 5.30pm, the Public at 8.00pm.

If you are unable to attend - why not use THE FORUM at www.deddington.org.uk/forum to make your views known and give the Taskforce some positive suggestions as to how to solve the very real problems that traffic and car parking causes in our Parish ?

The Forum is very easy to use (*free access to the internet in the Library*) and all views will be passed on. However, the editorial staff reserve the right to remove any material that breaches our code of acceptability for the public domain.

Colin Clark 338064, Colin.Clark@deddington.net

Deddington OnLine
<http://www.deddington.org.uk>



Summer Fun 2004

The holiday activities in Deddington Church on four Tuesdays in August truly lived up to their name. Nearly every week the children cooked and played tennis, chess and many other games. At the craft workshops they made door hangers, wind chimes, pencil cases, frames and windmills, to name a few of the items: come and see the display in the Church until 5 September.

On the last morning we had our first drama workshop admirably led by the Blazon Junior Church group. The children's performance of "Pick a Pocket or Two" was a delightful finale to these holiday activities. Afterwards we just managed to have our traditional picnic in the churchyard before a downpour sent everyone scampering home.

As always we are deeply grateful to the many adults and two teenagers who shared their time and talents with the children. Our adult/child ratio of 1:2 is perhaps the secret of our success. *Jane Green*



*Gemma's
windchime*

AROUND THE WORLD

It was a dark and rainy night...no, really, it was! Way back in the winter of 2003, when daylight struggles to appear, and we all drive to and from work in the dark, we (the Fleming Family of Deddington), decided to get away from it all, and go backpacking around the world for a year. And by July we were ready, and set off; Ray, Sarah, Charlotte (7) and Emily (3), plus four backpacks and a Lonely Planet. The year's trip was all about doing new things, and new experiences, and this started quickly at the first destination, Canada, when the BBC Holiday programme sent a film crew out to follow us for ten days!

The trip through Canada seemed like an extended holiday - 5 weeks of cities, seaside and mountains - and it was only at the end of it that we realised that we weren't going back home, but had another 11 countries ahead of us!

Ray Fleming

... the story unfolds next month

It has been a very busy summer for Pre-school this year. We have for the first time run a holiday club for five weeks of the school holidays attended by many children from the village ranging in age from 2½ to six. The club was very much enjoyed by staff and children alike and I'd like to thank all the staff involved for their hard work and enthusiasm.

We also ran four crèche sessions for the summer activities, which the children too young to join the sessions in the church attended. These were well-attended sessions and thanks go to the staff and mummy helpers involved.

We would like to welcome all the new children attending for the first time this term and of course we are delighted to see some familiar faces too who will be with us for another year. Goodbye and good luck to all the children who left in July and will be starting school this term. Many thanks to all those parents who gave gifts or made donations to Pre-school - they are all very much appreciated.

At the end of last term Ofsted visited us again, for the educational part of our inspection and we were delighted to receive the highest possible rating of 'Very Good' for the education we provide for our pre-schoolers. Congratulations to all the staff who have worked so hard this year to achieve this result. Full reports will be provided to all parents, but if you wish to see the report it can be viewed on the Ofsted website.

We held our first Parents Evening before the end of last term, which was very well attended and helped to explain how we work with the children and measure their progress as they move to their first year at school.

As many of you will know, the '80s Night was a great success and we succeeded in raising over £3,000. Thank you to all those who supported the event by buying tickets, attending, helping to set up and clear, and to the ever loyal band of fundraisers who have worked so hard this year to ensure this event was a success.

Our AGM will be held on Monday 20 September at 8.00pm, when we will be electing the new committee for the coming year. All are welcome. *Julie Westley*

7 Eagles Fresh Foods

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great food**

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look after fish, meat, cheese ...**

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we would like to hear from you.**

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Full time is available**

**Please phone Paul in confidence
to arrange an informal chat**

07831 304348


Sunday 12 September

Recorded at Blenheim Palace with Aled Jones,
Chris de Burgh, & Katherine Jenkins,
plus songsters from Deddington
See press for time of programme

SS PETER AND PAUL, DEDDINGTON AND ST JOHN, HEMPTON www.deddingtonchurch.org

You will always be very welcome at any service in Church or Chapel

Parish Church in September

Wed	1	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	2	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	5	10.30 am	Morning Praise
		6.30 pm	Evensong
Wed	8	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	12	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist and Children's Church
Tue	14	6.30 pm	HOLY CROSS Eucharist
Wed	15	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	16	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sat	18	7.30 pm	Ecumenical Harvest Supper
Sun	19	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30 am	Morning Praise for Harvest
Tue	21	6.30 pm	ST MATTHEW Eucharist
Wed	22	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	26	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist and Children's Church
Wed	29	10.00 am	ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS Eucharist



*For Baptisms, Weddings,
Funerals, hospital or home visits
in case of illness,
please contact the Vicar,
the Rev. Dr Hugh White,
28 Duns Tew (349869);
or one of the Churchwardens,
Liz Dickinson (337050)
or Iain Gillespie (338367)*

St John Hempton

Sundays 5 & 19 9.00 am Eucharist
Sunday 26 6.00 pm Evensong

From the Parish Registers

BAPTISMS: 11 July - Jacob Thomas Plumbe; 1 August - Charlotte Julia Rice, Emma Sophia Rice

WEDDINGS: 24 July - Danny Norman Rookyard & Angela Priscilla Green

7 August - Paul Charles Down & Sheena Jane Morris

FUNERALS: 12 July - Canon Stephen Skemp; 23 August - Jim Morris; 24 August - Kenneth Benfield

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS:

Mews House, Castle Street, Deddington [Jean Welford 338539] alternate Weds from 8 Sept, 7.30pm

2 The Leyes, Deddington [Liz Dickinson 337050] alternate Weds from 8 Sept, 7.30pm

Charity of the Month - each month a charity benefits from donations in the box in the Parish

Church or St John's Hempton: the use by taxpayers of the pink *GiftAid* envelopes is commended.

September: DEDDINGTON SCHOOL

WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Morning services at 10.30 am; 19 September - United Harvest service

26 September - John Neale; other Sundays - Pastor Isabel Walton

Bible Study/Fellowship every Wednesday at 7.30 pm

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, New Street

Joyce Minnear 338 529

Sunday *morning* worship jointly with Wesleyan Reform congregation at 10.30 am

Sunday evenings: Service & Fellowship at 6.00 pm :

September 5 - Pastor Isabel Walton (and Communion); 12 - Richard Wilson; 19 Mr & Mrs Eaton;

26 - to be announced; October 3 - Pastor Isabel Walton (and Communion)

R.C. PARISH OF HETHE WITH ADDERBURY

The Revd A J Burns 277396

Hethe : Mass is said every day [except Wednesday] at 10.00 am. Confessions: Sats -5.30-6.00 pm

Adderbury : Mass is said Sundays at 8.30 am; Wednesdays at 7.00 pm; Confessions before Mass.

The Eve of Sunday Mass at St John's, South Bar, Banbury is said at 4 p.m. on Saturdays to allow Catholics from the villages to attend by bus.

KENNETH BENFIELD, late of St Michael's, Clifton, was born in Wootton near Woodstock in 1928, the eldest child in a large and close family. Most of his working life was spent at the Cowley car works, where he did panel beating, spot welding and then moved to the trim shop. He was highly proficient at what he did in the factory and consequently often had time to help others with their work. Cars and motor-cycles were his great love, both to tinker with and to drive at speed, but Ken could turn his hand to most jobs of a practical nature. His generosity with his skills on behalf of others will be appreciatively remembered.

LUCY BOLTON gave 51 of her 87 years to serving the public: postmistress for North Aston between 1940 and 1945, then for Deddington from 1950 until 1965. In 1967 she joined the staff of the Deddington Surgery, where she stayed in various invaluable posts until finally she retired - at the age of 80. In her later years she acquired a knitting pattern called 'Teddies for Tragedies' and knitted nearly 400 of them, beautifully, each one different for children in hospital or at Katharine House. Twice widowed - Ron Knight killed in action in October 1944, and 'David' Bolton after long illness in 1960 - she is survived by her son Ron in Barford, their home since 1965.

JIM MORRIS was born in King's Sutton in 1929, the eldest boy in a family of 10. After working on a farm, Jim joined the Grenadier Guards, performing ceremonial duties at Windsor and in London, but mostly operating as an Officer's Driver in Germany. After the army, he drove Heavy Goods Vehicles and was driving for the Water Board at his retirement. Jim was a convivial man, enjoying the pubs of Deddington and the Legion Club, where he served on the committee. He was a large presence in all ways, cheerful and helpful, and well-liked in the village where he will be greatly missed.

STEPHEN SKEMP retired to Clifton in 1977. After dedicated ordained ministry in South Africa, Somerset, Yorkshire, and Stanmore, in 1971 he became Archdeacon of the Aegean with chaplaincies first in Ankara and then Athens. He met Honora on her way back to her home in South Africa from study in Holland. They were married for 62 years, the last 13 after moving to Goose Green. Beneath a rather dry exterior was a lively sense of humour. Caught by Greek armed policemen with Honora and her sister watching birds through binoculars, he said "Mia Pappa [I'm a priest], with my wife and sister-in-law". After lengthy hostile interrogation they were released. The police had understood him to say "I am the Pope" !

40th Anniversary

Ride or Stride

Sat 11th Sept 2004

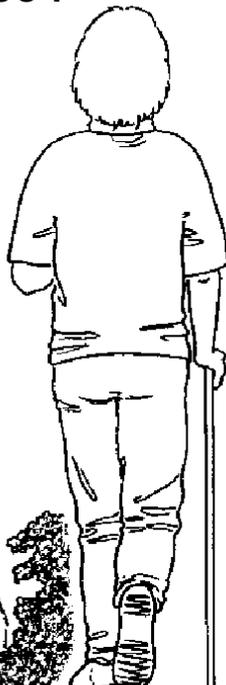
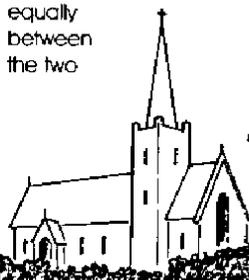


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Your contribution will be divided equally between the two



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50/50

AUCTION

Windmill Centre
Saturday 25 September

Viewing from 1.00pm

Prompt start at 2.00pm

Good quality 'stock' sought for the above event
e.g. silver, china, glass, jewellery,
small items of furniture ...

Vintage Bentleys accepted - just one will do !

Half the selling price to you and half to the project.

Professional auctioneer.

For further details
contact John Sampson on 338739.

A LIVING ROOMS PROJECT Event

Old Tyme Music Hall

planned for 26 February 2005

Do you sing, dance, recite, play an instrument ?

Please contact Wendy Burrows 338082.

First Rehearsal on Wednesday 27 November 7~9pm
in Parish Church

A LIVING ROOMS PROJECT Event



Janet Lincé with Choros and members of the Oxford Sinfonia gave us a concert of contrasting choral and orchestral music on the Saturday of the Festival

weekend. The seldom performed *Mass in D* by Beethoven with its powerful Gloria, shuddering Miserere and beautiful Benedictus revealed a composer in full command. This was the highlight of the evening. The musicians rose to the occasion, sending tingles down the spine with a magnificent choral sound and sensitive orchestral accompaniment. The dynamic contrasts between dramatic forte and delicate piano were finely judged and the blending of the fine line-up of soloists a delight. This was music making of the highest order.

Dvorak's serenade for wind, which started the evening off, lacked sparkle, perhaps suffering from the church's acoustic, in sounding muffled and sombre. Vaughan William's *Serenade to Music* with its lilting opening and waves of beautiful choral sound warmed the heart, though the setting for voices with just strings and piano lacked the subtleties of the full orchestral version.

Sunday brought us a staged early operatic masterpiece in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*. This was a delight and a triumph. As Dido's Lament wafted to the vaulted ceiling of Deddington Church, the hearts of even the most

hardened of concert goers must have been moved. We had witnessed not just a historical curiosity but living theatre, its all too human railing against Fate and officialdom being as relevant today as 300 or 3000 years ago. Despairing handmaidens, vicious witches, bemused sailors, enchanting dancers and believable principal singers with a finely balanced orchestra



combined to give us a memorable evening.

The successful melding of professional skills with amateur enthusiasm, that was so successful in last years *Noyes Fludde*, were evident here again, and this arguably is the feature that could and should give the Deddington Festival its distinctive flavour. We owe a real debt of gratitude to Janet for her skilled musicianship and to Janine Elton for her inspired production.

The two days of music climbed ever higher as the performances unfolded. It made all the effort put in by villagers, outsiders, professionals and amateurs, not only worth while but worth doing again....and again.

Donald Lane

POETRY PLEASE

It was very gratifying that the 2004 Deddington Festival was launched with John Cheney's third excursion into poetry - or at least verse - and that it was so well supported. Nor was it in the least surprising that it was enjoyed so much by those who came.

The range was about as extensive as possible - from Shakespeare and Milton to George Spenceley's Stanley Holloway and Brian Putland's Cyril Fletcher. It was particularly pleasing that our first contribution was by a visitor to Deddington, Jackie Vaughan, and once she got things going there was a continuous flow of both the serious and the comic. John's very welcome interjections of some of his hilarious and original observations on local life were matched by Bill Drake's lucubrations on a variety of subjects, including John himself. Thelma Dover had some amusing things to offer, including Thomas Hardy's 'Ruined Maid', and Donald Lane and Molly Neild regaled us with self-selected specimens of their favourites - Cecil Day Lewis and Ogden Nash. It is a pity there is not space to record all the contributions, but they had their due reward in the enthusiastic reception by a discriminating and delighted audience.

It was good to be made so welcome back in the Unicorn. Let's do it again, John !

Ralph Elsley



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From Deddington to Strasbourg



On 1 September Terry Davis begins his five-year term as Secretary General of the Council of Europe - so will be less often the Deddington resident he has been for 17 years. After being a member of the Council's Parliamentary Assembly for 12 years, and President of the Socialist Group in the Assembly since 2002, he was elected with cross-party support on the first ballot in June, the first Briton to hold the office since 1969.

The Council of Europe was founded with Churchillian support in 1949. Now with 45 countries as members from the Urals to the Azores, it is older and wider than the European Union. Its focus is promoting democracy, human rights and the rule of law, rather than its sister's political and economic agenda. Visit www.coe.int.

Terry says: "I have a vision of Europe as part of a world where men and women are treated fairly and equally – a Europe where people live in peace on the basis of mutual respect without any discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin or religious belief – a Europe with no borders, no visas, no passports ... The Council of Europe is the best way to turn that vision into reality".

His wife Anne says: "We are great fans of the *DN* and will be having it forwarded to Strasbourg - we don't want to lose touch with Deddington!" *EA*



"THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN IS COMMANDED BY HER MAJESTY TO INVITE ..."

It is rather awesome when a buff envelope is delivered with the morning post, the address in beautiful handwriting, postmarked Buckingham Palace. Inside, a gold-embossed invitation to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, a yellow admission card, a sheet of general information covering do's and don'ts, time schedule, dress code and history and plan of the Garden. Dress Code presented few problems. Ted, the old soldier, would attend his Sovereign's parade in regulation mufti right down to black shoes he had bought after World War II, which, held together by spit and polish, would defy any Quartermaster's muster. Deddington saw to it that we had all the proper accessories. A black rolled umbrella from John Lee for Ted and a beautiful black straw hat for me from José Stevens, who also gladdened Ted's heart on the great day by looking after his best friend Lucy, the rescue dog. It occurred to me that Lucy should really have partnered him, because it was by kind consideration of the RSPCA that our names had been forwarded to the Lord Chamberlain. I was, of course, delighted to be invited, and duly stood in for Lucy on the day.

We travelled to London, Victoria Station, by bus, risking life and limb crossing and recrossing a network of inner city roads muddled by road-works, dust and

Banbury & District Council for Voluntary Services was one of 100 volunteer groups this year awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. Some of its members attended a reception at St James Palace hosted by the Queen. Later a celebration was held at Broughton Castle, at which Hugo Brunner, the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, presented the Queen's Certificate to members of the Banbury Volunteer Bureau. Deddington's Parish Council chairman, Jim Flux, is also chair and organising secretary of the Council for Voluntary Services. *Photo courtesy of CDC*



grime and a never ending stream of traffic to walk to the Grosvenor Gate entrance to Buckingham Palace Gardens where we joined a queue of smartly dressed fellow guests. There was just time to take José's hat out of the plastic carrier bag and clap it on my head before police at the gate scrutinised photographic identity (driving licence) and collected the yellow entry admission card.

The Gardens, covering nearly 40 acres, are not at all ostentatious. Woodland, a huge lake, gravel paths, lawns, wild life, we might have been anywhere in the country. The broad stretch of well-trodden lawn at the back of the Palace was already crowded with a multitude of happily promenading guests in all colours of dress - including national costumes from post-imperial countries. Skirting the lawn were the Main Tea Tent, our port of sustenance throughout the afternoon, the Diplomatic Tea Tent, already filling with guests in exotic silks, and the Royal Tea Tent awaiting the party most of us hoped to see sometime during the afternoon. The Bands of the Prince of Wales's Division and of the Irish Guards played selections of music during the afternoon. The 2 bandstands were far apart, needing to semaphore to each other by lowering a pennant when at rest and flying it when at play. In this manner there was never a break throughout the afternoon, heightening the festive atmosphere of a wonderful Party. At 4 pm the National Anthem stopped the guests in their tracks. The Queen, dressed in brilliant yellow, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, Prince Edward and the Countess of Wessex stepped from the Terrace. Her Majesty's Gentlemen at Arms then formed lanes for the Royal Party to move through the guests. ... *continued on Page 15*

FROM MARIANNE ELSLEY, (Past editor, DN) PHILCOTE STREET, DEDDINGTON

In July's *DN* there was an announcement that Norman Stone was retiring from our local paper. I should like to say something more about Norman and Angela.

They came to the village in the 1980s and have worked steadily for our benefit ever since. The *DN*, when they jointly took over the editorship in February 1987, creaked along. The typing, printing, stapling and distribution were done if and when possible. I remember mums keeping an eye on babies in prams while printing the magazine. Then, during Norman's and Angela's editorship, came word processors and Angela took on the job of teaching us all on the then new Amstrad. She is the most willing, patient and helpful instructor I know.

Norman is a versatile man. He writes, paints, devotes himself to local books, was behind the Millennium Map initiative and at any time has more projects on the go than we have fingers on our hands. All is done quietly, modestly and without fuss. Under his guidance as joint editor, a committee was formed to run the *DN* (this structure is still successfully in place) with Norman in charge, full of ideas but never raising his voice.

Then Alan M. Sugar Trading changed direction and we all had to learn to use a home computer. Angela again taught many of us, while still being involved in other aspects of the *DN* production.

These two edited the *DN* until February 1994 and did wondrous things for our local paper. It must be the best in the county. And now we hear that Norman is retiring as Parish Affairs Correspondent. He and Angela will be enormously missed. The *DN* relied on their accuracy, promptness and understanding. They will be hard to replace. I am sure by now they are both well into new ventures and wish them luck.

Thank you, Norman and Angela.

FROM HUGH O'DONNELL (Chairman), EILEEN ANDERSON, JANET LINCÉ, HUGH WHITE

The Organising Committee of the Deddington Festival (2004) would like to thank all those who arranged, took part in and attended the Festival activities in June. We are particularly grateful to the individuals and organisations who generously sponsored the Festival. Thank you, too, to the *DN* for the appreciative editorial (July), with its suggestions as to how the Festival might develop in the future. We agree that the more broadly-based planning you see as desirable is now appropriate. We have always hoped that the Festival would expand, once it had been established that the village would like to "own" the Festival. The financial contributions from within the village, the attendances, the desire of local organisations to be involved, and the discussion around the Festival suggest that this ownership is at least in prospect, if not already a reality. Our future work as an (expanded) committee will be conducted accordingly. We are sure we can count on the *DN* to promote and support an event which is set fair to enrich the life of the village and the region around.

FROM MRS HONORA SKEMP, GOOSE GREEN, DEDDINGTON

Honora, Alison and Nicholas want to thank all those kind friends who sent messages of condolence after our dear Stephen died. It was heart-warming that so many thought of us at that sad time.

FROM REVD DR HUGH WHITE, DUNS TEW

Readers of the *DN* might like to know that Fr. Herman Ndlovu, the priest of the parish in Mbatho, South Africa, in which the HIV/AIDS centre supported by the Deddington Living Rooms Project is situated, will be in Deddington for a few days in September. He will be speaking at the Parish Church's Harvest Festival on 19 September at 10.30am.

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

FROM MARY TIBBETTS, VICTORIA ROAD, OXFORD

In the June issue of the *DN* Ruth Johnson wrote an article called, "Farewell to the Old Post Office." I was a child living in Deddington in the '20s and '30s. The post office was then in the premises of Tucker's Stores (now the Olive Restaurant). In those days the post office employed two girls. I remember the daughter of one of my mother's friends starting to work there in about 1923. Ivy Rainbow, who died not long ago, also worked there, as did my eldest sister. She left in about 1934 when the post office was still housed in Tucker's Stores. Mr West probably bought the newsagent's business in the late 1920s, but it was not until the mid 1930s that he moved the post office itself into his newsagent's shop, which has just been vacated.

FROM JENNIFER SODDY, HIGH STREET, DEDDINGTON

In November this year I am taking on a special challenge, trekking in the Brazilian Wilderness to raise money for a special charity – Breast Cancer Care. This is the national charity that offers support and information to those affected by breast cancer. To make the trip worthwhile, I have committed to raise over £2,500. To help me raise this money may I ask you to attend a concert by Alex Soddy, pianist, and Andrew Carwood, international award-winning tenor, in Deddington Parish Church on 12 September at 7.30pm? Please support this worthwhile cause by coming to what promises to be a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

A Charity Concert in Aid of Breast Cancer Care

**A programme of solo piano music & song by
Schumann - Chopin - Bridge - Britten**

**Alexander Soddy – Piano
& Andrew Carwood
Gramophone-Award-Winning Tenor**

Deddington Parish Church

Sunday September 12th. 7:30pm

Tickets: £6.50 inc. glass of wine or juice

Boys' Brigade Annual Camp

The Deddington contingent set off from The Paddocks on Saturday 31 July at 9 am and a small group of our parents and siblings were there to wave us off.

The journey to East Runton, near Cromer in Norfolk, took about 4 hours and we arrived at the campsite just after lunch. In East Runton we met up with our officers, Mr Bushell and Mr Elvridge, together with boys and officers from the 12th Enfield and 12th North Suffolk (Brampton) BB companies.

Sunday: At 6.30 am (every morning) the camp was awoken by the first bugle call, we then had an hour to tidy up our tents ready for daily inspection. After breakfast we put on our uniforms and paraded through East Runton behind our band to the Methodist Church. After the service we marched back to camp and tucked into a traditional Sunday roast. In the afternoon there was a table tennis championship. Lights Out was sounded at 10 pm

Monday: In the morning we went to the 'Splash', the local swimming pool and after lunch we played in a cricket tournament.

Tuesday: We spent the whole day at 'Hilltop' an outward bounds centre and during the day we went rock-climbing, abseiling and tried archery.

Wednesday: We went for a walk to Cromer: after lunch there was a football tournament followed by rounders.

Thursday: In the morning we went to 'Splash' again and in the afternoon we played Danish cricket. We did a night hike around East Runton in the evening.

Friday: We practiced 'dear 'liza' and the 'Deddington' march for the camp concert (held later that evening) and enjoyed fish and chips before spending the afternoon on the beach.

Saturday: The officers put the tents and equipment away and the camp came to an end at 1 pm. We arrived back in Deddington at about 5 pm after a long car journey.

All had a great time and all the boys would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr Bushell and Mr Elvridge for all their hard work in making the camp such a success.
Josh, Mark, Ben & Tom

1st Deddington Boys' Brigade Company

Weekly BB activities restart on Wednesday 8 September. The Juniors (open to all boys aged 8 and over) meet at The Windmill Centre from 5.15 pm. The Anchors (open to all boys aged 5 and over) meet in the School Hall from 3.15 pm. Our marching band meets on Tuesday evenings from 7 pm at the Congregational Church. The first Church Parade is on Sunday 3 October.

Throughout the last session we had a regular weekly attendance of over 30 boys led by a dedicated team of 8 adult officers and helpers. In the next twelve months we expect the membership to continue to grow and as our boys get older we will need additional help to continue to provide a challenging programme for them. If you have experience of working with young people or feel you could assist us with our sports and activities, please contact us as soon as possible. Traditional BB

activities include band, cricket, table tennis, gymnastics, boxing, first aid and various crafts.

Brian Bushell 338715

Deddington Craft Group

Is there still anyone who does not know about the Craft Group after the June exhibition? It was so hurriedly arranged that you may have missed discovering what goes on. It is a knowledge-sharing group for a variety of fabric crafts headed by a qualified teacher and supported by some very talented members, notably our quilting expert, Bridget O'Connor. There are always new ideas being presented and help on hand for many projects and skills, whether you would like to learn something new or practice a craft in a time when no one else can take your attention. We have sewing machines and a selection of fabrics, stuffing and paints; in fact most things required by crafters. Above all, the group is super friendly and we have space to work in the Holly Tree room where it is warm and light and a cup of tea comes just when you need it. What else could you want on a winter Tuesday afternoon? We start on 7 September at 2.15 pm until 4.30 pm. Do call if you have any questions. We charge £4 for a whole term and £1 per week to pay the rent.
Stella Marmion 338834

Book Club

During August we read Claire Tomalin's book *Samuel Pepys: The Unequalled Self*. Our choice for September is *The Bookseller of Kabul* by Asne Seierstad, which is an intimate portrait of the life of a family in Afghanistan. Our next meeting is on 30 September at 7.30pm - please call Sally for location. New members always welcome!

Sally Lambert 338094

Deddington Beeches Bowls Club

The recent Charity Day organized by our President, John Boyt and his wife Jan, raised the magnificent sum of £545 for the British Heart Foundation. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported this event.

Yvonne Twomey 337213

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Deddington Badminton Club

Our season starts on Tuesday 7 September at 7pm with Juniors from 6pm and we welcome old players and new ones. This year we will have two men's teams, two mixed teams and one ladies' team. It is not all about teams, however, and we have a great social membership with youngsters and some of more advanced years! We have memberships to suit all.

Janine Beckwith 347539, *Mark Tyler* 338056

Deddington Youth Club

I would like to thank all those who generously supported our fund raising Coffee Morning on 8th July. The sun managed to shine for us and we were in the garden as planned. The raffle, bring and buy stall and donations raised £266.50, with which we are delighted. The money will be used to buy some very much needed new sport and craft equipment, which we will buy at the start of our weekly meetings. The first meeting is on Monday 13 September at The Windmill Centre, 7-9 p.m. All between 10 and 16 years are welcome.

Unfortunately Graham Darnell, our excellent treasurer, is moving from the area and so we are looking for a replacement. Anyone who could spare a little time and enjoy being involved with some very worthwhile youth activities, please contact me.

Mauveen Forsyth Chairman 338384

Deddington Players

An unmissable night's entertainment is promised on the evening of 15&16 September at the Windmill Centre

when the Deddington Players stage a one-act play, Tom Stoppard's *The Real Inspector Hound*. With additional musical entertainment and a supper, this promises to be a really enjoyable evening. For tickets watch out for the posters or call 338153. *Lucy Squires* 338442

Deddington Babies & Toddlers Group

Dates for your diary include our Autumn Sale on 15 October and visit from photographer Ian Taylor (taking informal photographs of the children) on 29 October. We continue to meet every Wednesday and Friday at the Windmill Centre between 9.30 and 11.30am. New members are always welcome - just drop in!

Lucy Squires 338442

Deddington & District History Society

History Society members have enjoyed a number of events over the summer. Our visits to Chalgrove, to the canal museum at Stoke Bruerne and to Tooley's Boatyard in Banbury, and our Windrush Valley walk were all blessed with lovely weather.

Our winter programme of talks will again take place at the Windmill Centre on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm. We begin on Wednesday 8 September, when Alan Rosevear will speak on *The Turnpike Roads of North Oxfordshire*. On 13 October we welcome back John Woolley, who two years ago gave us a hugely entertaining talk on the Great Train Robbery. His subject this time will be the History of Policing.

We look forward to greeting old members in

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September. Potential new members can contact Moira Byst on 338637, or just turn up at the Windmill Centre and introduce yourselves. You will be warmly welcomed.

Chris Day 337204

Deddington Girls Brigade.

Due to staffing difficulties, we have sadly had to make the decision not to hold Girls Brigade this term. It is hoped that this will only be temporary and that helpers will come forward so that we can re-open in the not too far distant future.

Jean Welford

Royal British Legion Branch & Club

A most enjoyable evening was held by members on Saturday 24 July when appreciation was shown to those who had given major support to the Branch and Club during a difficult year.

The proceedings were opened by President Norman West awarding the prizes for winner and runner-up in the annual pool competition to George Brain and Danny

Keys. Nina Fairns the Chairperson showed her appreciation of the work of the Secretary Raymond Morris by a personal presentation. Life Membership of the Royal British Legion was awarded to George Reason for his loyalty and unstinting service to the Deddington Branch and Club, supported by his wife Violet who received a bouquet of flowers. Josie Bliss, the Club Manageress since May 2003, received a bouquet of flowers for her exceptional services

Norman West unveiled a brass plaque bearing a dedication from all the members of Deddington Branch and Club in recognition of Norman's services to the Royal British Legion over more than two decades. Past President and Trustee, Arthur Lewis, read an appreciation of Norman's commitment to the Legion. Mrs Eileen West was given a glass bowl thanking her continuing support.

The Secretary lastly thanked Eddy Harrison and Hugh Morris for their financial and personal support for keeping the Club running over the last year against all adversity. The committee also thank Dennis Freeman for his role as Standard Bearer, and all members for their support during the year and look forward to even more success in the year to come.

Raymond Morris



Friends of Daeda's Wood

Daeda's Wood provided the setting for some very interesting happenings this summer. Topping the list in July was the Druidical celebration of Philip and Judy Chard's wedding. About a hundred people foregathered by the wildflower meadow, complete with Morris dancers. The ceremony was led by a High Priest, assisted by colourfully dressed representatives of the four points of the compass from whom were invoked the blessings of earth, fire water and air. See www.druidry.org/obod/druid-path/weddingceremony.html

Nancy White, who continues to monitor our damselfly population, reports a good season, though numbers are a little down. Interestingly, these attractive creatures have been straying more often out into the open rides, possibly due to increasing vegetation close to the river. Dragonflies were on the increase too, not such happy news for the damselflies which form part of their menu.

Kristin Thompson reports a good year for butterflies after a slow start. Apparently the unpopular creeping thistle provides the butterfly's idea of paradise so on those areas of thistle left untreated, there were splendid displays, with the Marbled White and the Comma particularly welcome. Where the thistle has been treated by extra cutting, it certainly seems to have had effect, and it is also noticeably retreating in areas where the tree canopy has thickened.

We dare not ask the Editor to print a complete list of Daeda's flora, so the following are merely added to the lists already printed in the issues of September 2000, 2001 and 2002, and July 2003. Most interesting newcomer is the nettle-leaved bellflower (*Campanula trachelium*), but our earlier lists seem to have omitted a couple of others: common bistort (*Polygonum bistorta*) and wild basil (*Clinipodium vulgare*)

Finally, in mid-July, we had a 'village walk' down to

the wood on a most pleasant evening. Not many turned out, but some of us brought wine and nibbles, the wild flowers were fantastic and we all had a great time. An added pleasure was the presence of our Woodland officer Neil Chamberlain and his wife, Annette.

Sylvie Spenceley 338995

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NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Several events will be coming up in September. On Saturday 11 September the Church will be open for the annual Historic Churches Ride or Stride, 10.00 am ~ 6.00 pm. On Friday 24 September the Friends of the Church will be holding a Harvest Supper in the church hall at 7.30pm. Tickets will be limited to 40 so please let me know if you wish to come. Cost of tickets: £ 7.50 per head. Food and soft drinks will be supplied; if you require something stronger, please bring a bottle and glasses. The Harvest Festival service will be two days later, Sunday 26 September at 6.00 pm. Gifts of produce or flowers will be most welcome and can be left at the Church that weekend. Produce will be auctioned afterwards for charity. On Monday 27 September the Friends will hold their Annual General Meeting at 8.00 pm. Please attend this if you possibly can as committee members and new ideas are needed. The Parish Council will hold a Parish Plan meeting in St. John's Church Hall on Monday 11 October at 8.00 pm, another most important meeting for residents of this village.

Once again the Hempton sign at the east end of the village has gone missing. Several months ago it disappeared only to be found in a neighbouring field. It was then put back in place. No such luck this time, so it looks as if we will need a new one. Jean Gibbard would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their help and support after she was burgled. This happened in broad daylight, so it is a warning to all of us to lock up all doors and windows when we are out of the house.

Les Chappell 338054

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

During this summer I have noticed people looking at our house (Post Office Cottage) and talking in an animated fashion. On the first occasion I recognised Len Plumbe. I already knew that Len was born in what is now our bathroom! Len was with his brother Cyril, aged 91. It was marvellous to hear the brothers talking about their many fond memories. Cyril was delighted to see the old nail on the beam where he used to hang his gun. Apparently our utility room is where there was an outside privy. According to William Cobbett's *Cottage Economy* many families had a pig or two, bought in the spring at 4 months and then let out to graze. The pig shed for these cottages was around where our neighbours Mr & Mrs Small have their garden shed. When Len was born, Cyril went to stay with Mr & Mrs Homans, the parents of our present Mr Homans.

A couple of weeks later, Mrs Jackie Hall (née Wheeler) said that her father, Albert, was one of twins born at the Post Office in 1924. Mrs Mabel Jennings, the then Post Mistress, was their aunt and took on their care. Mrs Laurie Barton, the daughter of E Gardner who wrote the pamphlet on Clifton, told me that Mrs Jennings had a hut built in her garden which she used as a kitchen and for which she paid an extra 6d in rent. I hope to hear of or from any relatives or friends of Miss Butler who lived in the cottage next to the Plumbe family.

From Clifton's children: 'This summer on hot days we had water fights with our friends. In June we had a garage

ON THE FARM

As I pen this the rain is yet again lashing at the office windows, something which has become the norm for this summer. Hay making was spent dodging the storms, which we did not do very well, and ended up with most of the hay getting wet. So far the harvest has not been any better but I am pleased to say that the wheat is in the barn, but as yet of unknown quality. It has been a case of grabbing the odd load when we can, between the storms, and unlike last year every load has had to be dried. The yield is well up on last year but so are the harvesting costs, due to world oil problems. With the damp conditions the combine is using a lot more diesel than normal and taking longer to do the job. Last year the dryer was only used for a short time to dry some of the oil seed rape and we only used a small amount of gas. This year the dryer has been going non-stop and is using a ton of gas every 3 days and we still have some oats and the



beans to cut. The biggest question mark over this year's harvest is just how much the rain has affected the wheat quality and its value. Having spent a year growing and nurturing a crop of wheat which should have been top quality bread wheat, it is more than a little depressing to have to sit back and watch the rain reduce it to a crop of animal feed wheat and count ourselves lucky if we can find a market for it.

But we are not alone in all of this and better off than some, as it was reported in the farming press that as of 20 August only some 25% of the wheat crops in this country had been cut and that in many parts of the country the ground was too wet to carry the combines and that the grain was sprouting in the ears. Despite all the complaints about farming and the damage farmers are doing to the countryside, many in this well-fed part of the world seem to forget that they are all dependent for their daily food on the land and those who work it. They pay little heed to the problems that bad weather can cause at harvest time. Ultimately the supermarkets will put up food prices on the strength of a poor harvest and blame the farmers. So what's new?

Well, actually quite a lot. The new CAP reforms come into force at the start of next year, the emphasis being moved from food production to farming the environment, in other words instead of growing food crops we shall be growing wild flowers. With even more of our food needs being dependent on imports we can then all blame the increased food prices on the weather in other parts of the world. This, if the experts are right, will become even more unpredictable given all the extra fumes that would be pumped into the atmosphere by all the extra boats and planes that would be needed just to keep us supplied. Have our masters lost the plot, or is it just me?

George Fenimore

sale to raise money for cancer charities. We were really pleased to raise over £100 and would like to thank everyone who supported us.'

Carol Drawmer

THE FLOWER GARDEN

It's been a pretty varied summer out there and I really don't want to give you a weather report but - my flowers are nothing to boast about. The beds looked super at the end of June, then came storms, leaf-shredding, hole-biting winds which took along with them petals and colour, and the whole garden was reduced to a damp colourless mush. Apart from the lawn, that is. That was dry, rock hard and resisted all comfort. Ah well, that's gardening for you. And the really nice thing about it? There is another season coming along, full of promise.

So now let's look at the individual performers and award prizes. Guess what comes first? A group of strong-looking splendid thistles, for flowering next season. I still have a few potted up to give away. They will stand on our doorstep all next week for anyone who wants to adopt them; after that, the bin. One prize certainly goes to the Penstemons. They have flowered in all sorts of colours and places, undeterred by wet or low temperatures. Next (I don't like them much, but for perseverance) the small pink mallows. They don't give up easily and have a long season.

Prize-giving over, we can have a look at the plant catalogues and light-heartedly plan a whole new garden. Out with that awful straight path of paving slabs which goes from one end of the garden to the other. Instead we'll have a circular patio with a bit of water in the middle and the whole thing looks better already. All we have to do is sign the cheques !

See you next month.

Marianne Elsley

Fresh diet

We are told that five pieces of fresh fruit or vegetables each day is an important part of a healthy diet and, rightly, our children are taught this at school. With all the fresh produce in the shops, this should not often be a problem, but for the gardener who is planning a rotation of crops it could be quite a challenge. Not too difficult at this time of year when the summer vegetables and salads are still being harvested and there are beans, lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber and marrows to be picked; where the wasps and other bugs have left any, there can be apples, plums and pears on the trees; and the hedges have been offering a healthy crop of blackberries. For those without a vegetable garden or allotment, the self-pick farms still have a range of soft fruits to pick and freeze.

This year's stop-start weather may have been a blessing for growth, if a problem when the storms broke down plants and trees, but later in the year there could be problems in finding enough in the garden to keep the healthy diet going. Potatoes are not on the list of fresh vegetables (and chips certainly don't count) but other root crops can be acceptable as well as the usual autumn and winter crops of beans, leeks, sprouts, cabbage etc. Even so, five pieces per day for a family will take some planning. Perhaps there is a course at the College or a website that would help?

Hugh Marshall

**DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO**

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the month of September 1854:

12th September - Our annual Flower Show took place - the Band played before our house previous to going to the Castle Grounds. The smallest number of persons present I ever remember on a like occasion - why I could hardly tell.

16th September - The Morning Post announced the death of my oldest, kindest and most constant friend, poor dear Lord Eldon after 2 or 3 years of suffering from severe epilepsy.

21st September - I fell in with Mr. Hedley, the Banbury Gas Company's Director and Superintendent, in company with Mr. H. Churchill - I walked to the field adjoining the Clifton Road and surveyed the preparations already made and the work going on towards the completion of the gasometers etc. I offered to lend him my mare and cart to bring up some iron pipes from the station.

24th September - Stated at Clifton Church that the alms would be given to the Radcliffe Infirmary - as the day would be observed as a thanksgiving one, for the present most abundant harvest.

27th September - Received a note from Mr. Hiron relative to the Deddington Pool, which had caused a good deal of strife and discord in the Parish after a Vestry held at which the matter was fully discussed and certain proceedings took place.

30th September - Dean's wife came to complain of his ill treatment of her - told her I would grant her a summons on Monday if she would come for it.

(His brother, Shuckburgh, with his wife, son and daughter had been staying with them for 3 weeks, among other places they had visited Great Tew, Kings Sutton Church and Blenheim.)

Buffy Heywood

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WINDMILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Both shower rooms and the gents toilet are to be upgraded. The shower room flooring will be replaced by non-slip tiles, and the stainless steel urinals will be replaced by porcelain basins which should be easier to keep clean. The work is urgently needed and will be put in hand immediately.

Work will also start shortly on resurfacing the all-weather court with an Astro-turf type material which will be marked out for multi sports. The court will be kept locked and a tariff of hire charges is being drawn up. The new court should be ready for use before the end of the year.

Additional security measures are being put in place following recent vandalism. On the advice of the police we are investigating a CCTV system; security bars on the toilets are in place; and a gate is to be fixed to the rear stairwell.

The Committee is still in need of a secretary! Not a big job, but one which is vital to the running of this most important village asset. If anyone is interested, please contact me.

Roy Hart 338871

**"THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN IS COMMANDED
BY HER MAJESTY TO INVITE ..."** from page 7

At that moment it was a joy to watch the well rehearsed ceremonial of propelling Royals through a lovingly curious mass of people. A Company of Yeoman of the Guard in their ancient dress, carrying equally ancient lances kept order, following their sovereign from corner to corner of the field surrounding the chosen guests in whose midst she and members of her Party had stopped to talk. Ted and I were so interested watching the Yeomen execute their onerous task that we never got into chatting distance of the Queen.

Finding myself standing beside a red cassocked cleric I couldn't help remarking how well he fitted into this picture of pageantry and why was he wearing pillbox red! (Ted at that moment wished he had brought Lucy instead of his nosy wife!) Not at all offended by my direct questioning, he introduced himself as a Chaplain to the Queen, and in conversation we were able to explain to him the history of our equally red robed Choir in Deddington Church. And talking of the Church, the Churches were very well represented. The élite of Rome in their bright purple sashes and skull caps and that of England in more subdued purple robes. Colour matching between the purple of one cleric and his wife's long dress was so striking that in that kaleidoscopic sea of humanity they became, for me, almost a reference point!

With the Royal Party making their way slowly to their Tea Tent, we too went back to the Main Tent for a second "cuppa" and some more of the delicious fare on offer. The seating along the open-sided tent was always taken up, but with many others we carried our tea to the edge of the lake for a peaceful picnic before we went to explore the gardens. We returned just in time to see the Queen chat to a group of guests in wheelchairs before she took her leave.

The sound of the National Anthem at 6 pm was a

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

Congratulations to the winners of the Harry Potter competition, Samuel Reeves, Max Watling, Oliver Tindale and Sophie Tompkins. It was a very close thing and the scoring was very high. You really know your Harry Potter books!



This month's new videos include *Cold Mountain*, *Mona Lisa Smile* and *Rock School*, and the hire period remains 7 days. What a bargain!

Rosemary Arnold

DEDDINGTON POLICE OFFICE

Deddington beat bobby PC Clive Middleton is to be congratulated on becoming North Oxfordshire's community officer of the year.



Thames Valley Police are asking for volunteers to join the existing eight who help man the police office in the Market Place, Deddington. Anyone over 18 will be welcome. Those interested should contact Rosie White, Volunteers Co-ordinator, on 01295 754524.

Deddington Map Group

The full range of Map Group products will be on sale at the Farmers' Market on Saturday, 25 September and again on 27 November. Only £4 for the definitive book *Discovering Deddington*. Illustrated Maps of Clifton, Hempton and the Farms & Fields of the parish, £5 each. Ken Langstaff prints of Deddington and Banbury, also £5 apiece. Map of Deddington £8. Ages of Buildings £10. Everything ready for you to frame, or we can do it to order, at very reasonable cost. Presents for the family, souvenirs for visitors, mementos for people who used to live here ... or just for yourselves. See you in the Market Place on 25 September.

Norman Stone 338019



gentle hint for us guests to go home, but friendly members of staff in the main tea tent were still smiling from behind plates full of very inviting cakes. We thought of the long trek home, as did many others, and settled down for yet another little feast! The caterers and their staff, quite a few of them foreign students, surpassed themselves. It was a pleasure to hear from one beaming little Asian girl who poured my tea, that the Queen had passed by and all of them had seen her at close quarters.

Our Royal host had certainly been most generous and deserves our heartfelt thanks for a wonderful afternoon. Sadly we have been advised to desist from sending the customary 'bread & butter' letter. I suppose mail from 3000 grateful guests would overwhelm the Buckingham Palace Postal Services. Think of the trees we've saved by sparing the paper. The Prince of Wales, and no less a man than the *Deddington News* Editor should be pleased!

Ruth Johnson

Deddington Fair Traders

With just over three months to go before Christmas, it is not too early to be getting ideas about cards and gifts. A glance through the Traidcraft winter catalogue will soon prove that buying in a way that is certain to help others need not mean getting anything dull, unattractive or unusable. So we shall be delighted to show you samples of this year's Christmas cards and some of the many gift ideas, as well as to give a free catalogue or to receive your order at the Fairtrade Morning in Deddington Church on Tuesday 21 September from 10.00 a.m. till 12.30 p.m. Drop in for a coffee (Fairtrade of course) and biscuit (ditto), take a good look at the excellent bargain box of Christmas cards as well as samples of this year's extensive range, and think about ordering some of this year's range of gifts - or even something for yourself. If you cannot come on the 21st, please ring 337761 for a free catalogue.

Hugh Marshall

the
CONSERVATION
foundation

THE LITTLE GREEN BAG RECYCLING SCHEME
FOR USED MOBILE PHONES AND PRINTER
CARTRIDGES

Ask the *DN* Editor* for a FREEPOST green bag to send in your used mobile phones (broken phones are accepted, and also chargers) and inkjet and laser printer cartridges (*no Epson please*). He has a larger bag for a workplace collection. By doing so you will be helping the environment, and at the same time raising funds for the Conservation Foundation and Katharine House. Recycling completely erases all data stored on mobiles.

If you are sending mobile phones and printer cartridges together, please wrap the cartridges to prevent any ink leakage from damaging the phones. Damage to phones can be reduced by wrapping them individually in kitchen or toilet tissue.

* See page 1 for contact details

What are the benefits of sharing a car ?

The UK has the worst congestion, longest commuting time, second highest road utilisation and highest car ownership in the EU.

The UK's traffic situation has led to significant social, economic and environmental costs:

- Traffic jams cost the economy £5 billion every year in lost productivity
- There are 10 million empty seats on the road every day
- 29% of children travel to school by car

Sharing a car:

- Reduces the costs of travelling by car - travelling with others enables you to reduce your transport costs by up to £1000 a year.
- Undercuts the cost of nearly all other forms of transport
- Reduces congestion and pollution
- Reduces parking problems
- Reduces the need for a private car
- Widens the recruitment catchment areas for businesses
- Provides a real solution to the lack of public transport in rural areas
- Facilitates the integration of public and private transport
- Is a way of meeting new, like-minded people.

*If half of UK motorists received a lift **one** day a week, congestion and pollution would be reduced by 10% and traffic jams by 20%.*

Sign on at www.liftshare.com - membership is free (58813 members and a million journeys registered) - to find out whether others are going your way. This is a win-win opportunity for everyone.

FROM LUKE GARRETT, ARCHWAY COTTAGE, DEDDINGTON

May I use the *DN* to thank most graciously all the people of Deddington who so generously donated money towards my GAP placement to Paraguay? I intend to purchase games equipment for the children at the orphanage in Asuncion during my stay. Thank you again, and I am sure you will be well informed of my progress by my parents in the local pubs !

October Diary

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Mon | 4 | Parish Plan: Open Meeting, Duke of Cumberland's Head, Clifton, 8 pm. ➡ insert |
| Mon | 4 | Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10 am-noon. |
| Wed | 6 | Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8 pm. |
| Mon | 11 | Parish Plan: Open Meeting, St John's Church Hall, Hempton, 8 pm. ➡ insert |
| Wed | 13 | Deddington History Society: John Woolley, <i>The History of Policing</i> , Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.10 |
| Tue | 12 | WI: Art Restoration, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm. |
| Fri | 15 | Deddington Babies & Toddlers: Autumn sale ➡ p.10 |
| Fri | 15 | Deddington Players: Supper & <i>The Real Inspector Hound</i> , Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.10 |
| Fri | 15 | Jazz concert: Parish Church, 7.30 pm. |
| Sat | 16 | North Cotswold Choir concert: Parish Church, 7.30 pm. |
| Sat | 16 | Deddington Players: Supper & <i>The Real Inspector Hound</i> , Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.10 |
| Wed | 20 | Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.2 |
| Sat | 23 | Deddington Farmers' Market, 9 am-12.30 pm. |
| Mon | 25 | Parish Plan: Open Meeting, Windmill Centre, 8 pm. ➡ insert |
| Fri | 29 | Deddington Babies & Toddlers: visit from Ian Taylor, photographer. ➡ p.10 |

Roger Nobbs and Wetland Habitat in Deddington

He regarded me with suspicion when I asked if I could walk on his land, and was reluctant to agree too readily to my request. "Stay on the paths," he said. I wanted to look at his hedges and visit the small pond hidden in the bushes by an obscure brook, but why would I tell others of a hidden treasure? I promised I would report to him after my walk, and so told him about the rushes and a sedge growing in a seep, but he showed little enthusiasm for my news. Why should anyone care about rushes? But Roger Nobbs of Castle Farm did, in a way I didn't at first recognise.

A pond, no matter what size, is where children dipping their nets might find dragonfly nymphs and caddis fly larvae live in muddy deeps, and where the watchful waiting heron stands concealed among the waving reeds. Watery habitats of Deddington parish (on which Cherwell District Council would like me to report) are its rivers and streams, ditches, springs, ponds and a marsh. Ronald Canning remembers catching newts in a pond in Earls Lane, 60 years ago. Today, 20% of the parish flora is uniquely associated with its wetlands.

Mr Nobbs' pond is man-made, a feature of the farm, dug at the head of a stream flowing down to the River Swere, and, like most parish ponds, it is on private land inaccessible by public footpath. On this occasion, he came with me, not to monitor but to discover what I would see. Mr Nobbs was a quiet man, hard-working and persevering, who planted hundreds of trees on his land, taking advantage of subsidies to do so, of course, but with a passionate prayer for their prosperity and a lifelong interest in the requirements of and differences between species.



Castle Farm's pond is surrounded by dense and high vegetation with water forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpioides*) locally abundant on the pond edge, and common bulrush (*Typha latifolia*) forming the forest of its shore. One hopes for a plant less common, such as a single population of blue water-speedwell (*Veronica anagallis-aquatica*) found where a small frog, alarmed by my approach, leapt into the dark green sediment-rich water. Sweet flag (*Acorus calamus*) and yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), characteristic wetland species, grow on the pond edge.

Of all the habitats natural to the British Isles, wetlands drew most attention from improving landowners from the time of 'Turnip' Townshend (1674-1738) to the Water Authority of the 1950s. Mallard and snipe were sacrificed to the corn goddess. Now the view is shifting. Wetlands are seen to be worth conserving, and the watchword is biodiversity.

Here is a table from *The Flora of Deddington* [unpublished manuscript], giving a summary of the herbaceous species found in Deddington parish wetland habitats. Pond and river are the richest wetland sites, with 44 and 60 species respectively.

Herbaceous Plants by Wetland Habitat in Deddington Parish

Habitat:	Marsh	Seep	Ditch	Pond	River
No. of Species:	19	21	21	44	60

The lesson for Deddington is that if more ponds are made, and existing ponds are enlarged, parish biodiversity would be enhanced, for: "Man opens the earth, alters the landscape to suit his requirements, and wild plants follow." (A. G. Tansley, *Introduction to Plant Ecology*, 1946.)

Walter Meagher

Help protect the wildlife in Cherwell District

Cherwell District Council wants to know what habitats and species are important to you, so that they are included in a Cherwell Biodiversity Action Plan.

Ask your family the following questions, and send in their comments and yours. For each question, please list a maximum of five priorities in order of importance.

- What do you consider to be the most important animal (mammal, bird, invertebrate etc) and plant species in your area and why?
- What do you consider to be the most important habitat (woodland, wetland, farmland etc) in your area and why?
- What do you consider to be the most important wildlife site(s) in your area and why?
- What do you consider the Council's priorities should be to improve biodiversity within the District and why?

Post comments to Sue Marchand, Landscape Officer,

Cherwell District Council, Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury OX15 4AA. Tel: 01295 221707 or email: sue.marchand@cherwelldc.gov.uk You can also find out more on the Council's website www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk.

Do you agree/disagree with these suggested priorities?

Farmland - skylark, brown hare

Hedgerows - pipestrelle bat, brown and black hairstreak butterfly

Woodland - lesser spotted woodpecker, bird's nest orchid

Parkland - tawny owl, bats

Unimproved grassland and heathland - fen violet, common lizard, four spotted moth, meadow pipit, hoverfly

Wetland - water vole, otter, snipe

Water habitats - great crested newt, toad, dragon and damsel flies

Buildings and gardens - bumble bee, swift, house martin, great crested newt

Geological sites - railway cuttings and quarries

Scrub - song thrush, cuckoo, turtle dove, grasshopper warbler.

..... from *Cherwell Link*