

"This is the season of goodwill, when profits cram the bulging till," wrote a critic decades back. The **Deddington News** Team wish all our readers true happiness this Christmas and in the New Year - so do our contributors; so many did so in the copy they submitted this month that the repetition was in danger of becoming vain. Our advertisers also wish us well, as we them and thank them for making possible this expression of our community; alas we cannot always meet their every demand for space.

Thanks to Amanda Gray for our Christmas cover - our

first in more than one colour. **How many mice can you spot, and from what are they hiding?** - the answers too are hiding in this issue. Extra copies of the cover are available in School and Library - a colouring competition for children, with Fairtrade prizes for each age group to be collected at the Market on 18 December. Entries to the School please by MONDAY 13 DECEMBER.

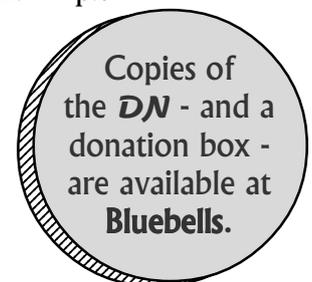


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December Diary

- Fri 3 'Poetry Please' with John Cheney, Unicorn Inn, 7.30 pm.
- Sat 4 Christmas Activities for children, Parish Church, 10 am-12.30 pm. ➡ p.7
- Sun 5 CHOROS Carol concert: Parish Church, 6.00 pm
- Mon 6 Monday Morning Club: Christmas Lunch, North Cotswold Restaurant, leaving Town Hall at noon.
- Wed 8 Boys' Brigade: Christmas Party at The Windmill Centre ➡ p.9
- Wed 8 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8pm.
- Wed 8 Deddington History Society: Christmas Social, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.9
- Mon 13 Deddington Pre-School: Christmas Show, Parish Church, 1pm. ➡ p.3
- Tue 14 WI: Christmas Dinner at The Unicorn. ➡ p.7
- Wed 15 Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm. ➡ p.2
- Fri 17 Deddington Babies & Toddlers: Christmas Party. ➡ p.8
- Sat 18 Deddington Farmers' Market: 9am~12.30 pm. ➡ p.13
- Fri 24 Carols round the Christmas tree in the Market Place, 6pm. ➡ p.6



January 2005 Diary

- Wed 5 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8 pm
- Mon 10 Monday Morning Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10am-noon.
- Tue 11 WI: Jan Warner, *Survival of the Fittest, a History of Child Rearing*, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm ➡ p.7
- Wed 12 History Society: Edward Shawyer, *N Oxon Archaeological Finds*, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm ➡ p.9
- Tue 18 Copy Date for February **Deddington News**. [NB - No issue in January]
- Wed 19 Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm ➡ p.2
- Thu 20 Deddington Players present *Robinson Crusoe*, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ insert
- Fri 21 Deddington Players present *Robinson Crusoe*, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ insert
- Fri 21 Bowls Club: Quiz Night, The Unicorn, 7.30 pm ➡ p.7
- Sat 22 Deddington Farmers' Market: 9am~12.30 pm ➡ p.13
- Sat 22 Deddington Players present *Robinson Crusoe*, Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm ➡ insert
- Sat 22 Deddington Players present *Robinson Crusoe*, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ insert

February Diary

- Wed 2 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8pm.
- Mon 7 Monday Morning Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10 am-noon.
- Tue 8 WI: Margaret Hyslop, *Crafty Inspiration*, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm ➡ p.7
- Wed 9 History Society: Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.9
- Wed 16 Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45pm. ➡ p.2

see p.10 for Weekly Meetings

THE DEDDINGTON NEWS - Copy please to the relevant editor by next copy date: **18 JAN**

MANAGING EDITOR: Christopher Hall 338225
 The Knowle, Philcote St <achall@globalnet.co.uk>
 PARISH AFFAIRS CORRES: Norman Stone *pro hac vice*
 CLUBS EDITOR: Alison Day 337204
 <alison.day@btinternet.com>
 DIARY EDITOR: Jean Flux 338153
 FEATURES EDITOR: Molly Neild 338521
 CHURCH/CHAPEL ED: Frank Steiner 338264
 LETTERS EDITOR: Kristin Thompson 337052
 <op@kristin.demon.co.uk>
 DECEMBER COVER: Amanda Gray

MONTHLY ADS & INSERTS : Jane Plummer 338481
 [Copy Date - 10 JAN] Dragon House, Bull Ring
 ANNUAL ADVERTS: John Sampson 338739
 Shepherd's Cottage, The Lane, Hempton
 TREASURER: Buffy Heywood 338212
 Deddington Manor, New Street
 DUPLICATING: Ruth Johnson and Pat Swash 338355
 COLLATING & DISTRIBUTION: Pat Brittain 338685
 assisted by Liz Handley, Alison Brice 338950
 and teams
 DEDDINGTON-ON-LINE: <http://www.deddington.org.uk>

Meeting in Town Hall - 17 November 2004

Present: Cllrs Flux (Chair), Alton, Cox, Ellis, Harvey, Haslam, Spencer, Squires, Swash, Watts, Westley, Wood, C/Cllr Jelf, D/Cllr O'Sullivan, the Clerk, the Minutes Secretary and 4 members of the public.

SOME GOOD NEWS....

Re-positioning of Hempton traffic priority sign has made significant improvement to road safety.

....AND SOME NOT SO GOOD

Clifton buildout and path, due for completion by the County Council in August, has not even been started. Deddington traffic calming measures should have been finished by the County Council by the end of August. They were not.

YOUR VIEWS WANTED

Following 'Have your Say' open meetings in Deddington, Clifton and Hempton, PC to consult wide range of clubs, societies and other parish interests on their priorities, opinions, concerns and suggestions relating to the Parish Plan Project.

PLANNING

PC no objection (i) Russett Cottage, The Stile, Deddington - demolish kitchen and bathroom and erect 2-storey rear extension. (ii) Roseville, Chapel Close, Clifton - single-storey rear extension. (iii) Sylvan Cottage, Clifton - garden room, covered walk and pergola. (iv) Holcombe Hotel, High Street, Deddington - demolish lean-to, erect single-storey pavilion for staff use; convert and alter outbuildings for staff accommodation and hotel letting bedrooms; erect single-storey extension.

CDC approvals (all in Deddington). (v) Monks Court (vi) Windmill Stores (vii) Crown and Tuns (viii) Flat 2, Tuckers House (ix) The Olive Restaurant (to stay as Class 3 restaurant/cafe).

PC to check whether planning permission is needed/ was given for the sign The Village Pub painted across the front wall of the Red Lion.

NO CHANGE THERE THEN

District Council representative will address February 2005 PC meeting on social housing, which used to be known as affordable housing, and before that as low-cost housing.

ROADSIDE MEMORIALS

A memorial garden has developed round the tree where a police officer died in a car crash last year. PC noted that this is more than the customary short-term placing of flowers, and could set an undesirable precedent. County Council to be consulted on the official position.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- County Council reviewing options for providing additional parking in area near Lime Cottage.
- BMX track to be grassed over to stop loose stones scattering.
- Andre Tansley thanked for excellent monitoring report on Circular Walk.
- C/Cllr Jelf reported that County Council strongly opposes government plans to centralise (ie reduce) Fire Service control centres. Northamptonshire has flatly refused.

YOUTH CLUB

Cllr Swash resigned as PC representative on the Youth Club. PC's Environment and Recreation Group recommended no need for specific replacement and suggested PC should offer help on an ad-hoc basis. [Cllr Wood has since volunteered to represent PC on Youth Club management.]

COMMUNITY POLICING

Local MP Tony Baldry wrote seeking PC views on the Government's proposals to enhance policing in the community, notably to give 10,000 Parish and Town Councils the power to issue on-the-spot fines for anti-social behaviour, and to provide extra cash in 60 areas to "target low-level yobbery" by issuing Antisocial Behaviour Orders through the Courts. PC decided to make this an agenda item at the December PC meeting and study the actual proposals very carefully.

VANDALISM

Vandalism is not a serious problem in the parish. Security to be improved at Windmill Centre. Adderbury Lakes to be consulted on their experience of CCTV.

CHERWELL TRANSPORT STRATEGY

To obtain copies of Cherwell District Transport Strategy consultative questionnaire, parishioners should telephone 01865 815785, or complete it on-line by going to the website www.transaction.org.uk. A copy of questionnaire to be placed in library.

LEGACY

The late Mrs A.K.M. Brearley-Kelsey (Kay Kelsey), an American who lived in New Street for half of each year, left £9,000 for the benefit of the library. Friends of Deddington Library having been disbanded, there is no mechanism for dealing with this direct. The County Council will be asked to ring-fence the bequest.

PARISH FINANCES

Invoices passed for payment totalled £18,788.49 including £1,102.04 imprest (stewards' wages and office expenses); £1,052.72 Nat.Ins/Tax and Clerk's wages; £2,673.71 grass cutting etc; £13,042.50 resurfacing all-weather court.

Investments totalled £562,564.92, of which £4,805.07 Barclays (£3,309.88 current £1,495.19 imprest) @ 0.1%; £1000 Bradford & Bingley 2.85% on 120 days; £556,759.85 West Bromwich @ 4% overnight. Clerk to investigate reports that a new 3-day Community Deposit account with Alliance Leicester pays 4.6% gross. If suitable, £250,000 of parish reserves will be transferred from West Bromwich BS.

Cash flow monthly forecasts 2004-5 are helping to improve PC management of Parish finances. 3-monthly internal audit reports will be made to PC.

NEXT MEETING Wed 15 Dec, 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

We have had a busy November with all the decorating and building additions being completed, along with the fitting of our new interactive whiteboards and new computer software. The children also thoroughly enjoyed the recording of our school CD and we should be able to raise around £400 from selling them. The finished recording is great and a lovely reminder of the children's singing for many years to come. Clearly our fundraising efforts for our Partnership Early Years Unit have also been recognised in the public arena and we have had BBC South Today, BBC Radio Oxford and The Banbury Guardian show an interest.



This month has seen the launch of our new House System in school. The four houses are called Daeda's Wood, Barford Green, Snake Hill and Castle Green. These names were selected through a whole school vote and the final selection was chosen by the vast majority. The children across all the age ranges have been put into a house for celebration and rewards, and can now collect house points as recognition for good work or excellent behaviour. The children are now looking forward to designing house badges in the New Year.

Christmas is nearly upon us once more and the school is already well into its preparations. Our key stage 1 children are presenting a musical story called "Whoops-a-Daisy Angel" on 14 December, with key stage 2 putting together a more traditional Carol service with Nativity tableaux - both in Deddington church 5.00-6.00pm. All are welcome to come and celebrate this special time of year.

Judith Finsley 338430

PTA

What a fantastic Fireworks Night we had this year! The weather was perfect and the fireworks were brilliant. But most of all, the amount of support received from our community was outstanding! Thank you all so much for donning wellies and woollies and coming along to this event. I must thank the Co-op, who very generously supported our Fireworks night, and all those who gave their time to help organise the event, we are very grateful.

Christmas is rapidly approaching and we have Santa's Float revved-up and coming to your street on the weekend of the 11 & 12 December. Santa is preparing his reindeer and trusty elves for his jaunt around the villages. One of last year's drivers, who miserably failed a three point turn in The Leys, hasn't re-taken her Sleigh Driving test. Hopefully Santa will be able to stick to his route plan and timetable a little better this year!! This weekend is great fun for the PTA. As usual, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please see the posters in the village for the route plan.

Santa's new Magical Grotto will be in the Town Hall on Saturday 18 December during the Farmers Market. Santa is looking forward to meeting all the children. Please come along and help him make your Christmas special! [See ad for details]

Stella O'Neill

A special person is needed to work for 16.25 hours per week (Monday-Friday 9.00am-12.15pm), from 5 January 2005 term time only, with one of the Special Needs Children: a delightful autistic young man supported by a Statement of Special Educational Needs. You will need to be patient but firm and be willing to work as part of a co-operative team. Application forms and further details can be obtained from the Headteacher [on left]. The starting salary will be G3: point 10 = £6.36 per hour. **Closing date: 6 December**

Pre-School

The quiz night at the Crown and Tuns on 28 November was very successful and lively. All the children are looking forward to the Christmas carol concert in the Parish Church on Monday 13 December at 1.0pm, raising money for the **LIVING ROOMS** project. You don't have to be a parent or child involved in the Pre-School. The annual Pre-school Christmas party is on Thursday 16 December at the British Legion. *Rowena Dickerson*

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Deddington Parish Church
Sunday 12 December at 3.45 pm
Bring children to this candlelit service



Support with your donations
the Children's Society's work
with children who run away from home



Deddington Primary School PTA
Registered Charity Number 1052715

Hol Hol Hol -

Santa's Float

On Saturday 11th December from 5.30 in
Barford, Hempton & Deddington (west of the lights)

On Sunday 12th December from 5.45 in Clifton
& Deddington (East of the lights) & Market Place.

Santa & his little helpers will be very grateful
to receive your generous donations.



Santa's Grotto!

Visit Santa in his Magical Grotto in the Town
Hall at the Farmers Market on Saturday,
18th December 9.00 am - 12.00 noon.

Come and tell Santa what you'd really like him
to bring you for Christmas. Have your photo
taken with Santa and receive a special gift too!
£3.00 per visit.

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 December

Wed 1 10.00 am Eucharist
 Thur 2 2.00 pm Squeals and Wheels
 Sun 5 10.30 am Morning Praise
 6.00 pm **CHOROS** Advent Carols
 Wed 8 10.00 am Eucharist
 Sun 12 10.30 am Sung Eucharist
 & Children's Church
 3.45 pm Christingle
 6.30 pm Confirmation, & Licensing
 of Lay Curate
 Tue 14 5.00 pm School Nativity
 Wed 15 10.00 am Eucharist
 Thur 16 2.00 pm Squeals and Wheels
 5.00 pm School Christmas
 Production
 Sun 19 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10.30 am Pause before Christmas
 (devotion)
 6.30 pm Carol Service
 Wed 22 10.00 am Eucharist
CHRISTMAS EVE 11.30 pm Midnight Mass
CHRISTMAS DAY 10.30 am Family Eucharist
 Sun 26 10.30 am ST STEPHEN Eucharist
 Mon 27 6.30 pm ST JOHN Eucharist
 Tues 28 6.30 pm HOLY INNOCENTS Eucharist
 Wed 29 10.00 am Eucharist
 Fri 31 11.30 pm Watchnight Service

St John Hempton

Suns 5 & 19 Dec, 2 & 16 Jan 9.00 am Eucharist
CHRISTMAS DAY 9.00 am Eucharist
 Sun 23 Jan 6.00 pm Evensong

From the Parish Registers

Service of Thanksgiving 23 Oct Joe Small

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS:

Aberford, Hopcraft Lane, Deddington [Jean Welford 338539] Weds 1 & 15 Dec, 5 & 19 Jan, 7.30pm
 2 The Leyes, Deddington [Liz Dickinson 337050] Weds 1 & 15 Dec, 5 & 19 Jan, 7.30pm

Charity of the Month - use special envelope to put donations [if a taxpayer, in a pink *GiftAid* envelope] into the Parish Church chest.

December: AFASIC January : PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER

WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Sunday Mornings at 10.30 am (Carols on 19 Dec), Christmas Day 9.30 am - 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
 There will be no Sunday evening services at the Chapel before February.

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

Fri 24 11.30 pm Carols
 12.00 Midnight Mass

Sat 25 10.30 am Mass

Sun 26 10.00 am Mass

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

Sat 25 9.00 am Mass

Sun 26 8.30 am Mass

*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)*

deddington festival 2005



Many thanks to the Deddington Arms for providing accommodation free of charge for the Wine Tasting on 19 November, and to Doug Reid of

S H Jones for his selection of affordable wines. This busy, buzzy event turned into a bit of a party, raising some £250 towards funds for next year's Festival. About the same amount has been generously donated - more about donations in our next report. Here are some provisional dates for your diary, all in June 2005 (*Organisers in brackets*):

- 24 Poetry Night at the Unicorn including Writing Competition winners (John "Poetry Please" Cheney)
 - 24-26 Open Art Exhibition at the Holly Tree (Art at the Holly Tree)
 - 25-26 Craft Exhibition in the Town Hall (Deddington Craft Group)
 - 25 Afternoon rehearsal and evening performance of Rossini's *Petite Messe Solenne*, performed in Parish Church by local singers and Chorus (Janet Lincé)
 - 26 "Festival Cup" Cricket at the Windmill (Deddington Cricket Club)
 - 26 All-ages Open Workshop/Rehearsal followed by Orchestral Concert in Parish Church: *Carnival of the Animals, Peter and the Wolf, Mother Goose Suite* (Oxford Synfonia and Janet Lincé)
 - 26 Midsummer Jazz in the Parish Church (Tim Dawes)
- Other possibles: Music Hall and Drama at the Windmill Centre; Art Competition; Chinese Food Tasting.
- VOLUNTEERS WANTED - TO RUN AN ART WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN**, Saturday 25 June, Windmill Centre. Contact Festival Secretary, Eileen Anderson 338325. *Norman Stone*

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL

Everyone needs friends. The Deddington Festival is no exception. The projected 2005 Festival programme aims to celebrate "all the talents and interests of our amazing community," to quote Norman Stone in October's *DN*. However, if 2005 is to achieve this goal, we need broad-based support from as many parish residents as possible. Given support, there is no reason why our Festival should not grow and grow.

Would you like to be involved? We are setting up a body to be known as *FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL*. Yes, we need money. We also need enthusiasm, ideas, offers of practical help and the belief that we can accomplish something memorable in the years ahead. This is a chance to be in at the beginning of the venture.

For a donation of £10 a year you can become a Friend. Your financial donation will help to pay for the related costs of running a festival. It will also entitle you to Festival privileges. Your offer of commitment will help to shape the Festival and will be an essential part of a challenging community enterprise.

We shall soon be sending out a Friends' membership form. Please fill it in, pledge your support and get our Festival Journey under way. *Kuistin Thompson*

WRITING COMPETITION

In conjunction with next year's Deddington Festival, the Deddington Writers Group will be running a competition, on the theme of Festival, for five categories of writing:

- i. short story of up to 1500 words, for all age groups
- ii. poem of up to 40 lines, for under 16s
- iii. poem of up to 40 lines, for adults
- iv. non-fiction, up to 1000 words, for under 16s
- v. non-fiction, up to 1000 words, for adults

Entrants must be residents of Oxfordshire. Entry forms with full details will be available in the New Year from Deddington Library; 26 The Daedings, Deddington OX15 0RT <sylvie@daeda.clara.co.uk>; or downloaded from www.deddington.org.uk/arts/writing.html

Sylvie Spenceley

WELL REMEMBERED

JOE SMALL was born in Birkenhead. Playing truant from a Catholic school was but a part of preparation for life - first doing National Service servicing Spitfire aircraft, though later his favoured tool was a hammer. From British Rail he joined the London solicitors Barlows. Starting as a clerk and self-taught, over 40 years he became a senior partner. A Freemason, he rose to the rank of Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire. He was also a Livery Man in the Worshipful Company of the Painters-Stainers, and a Freeman of the City of London, and latterly a non-executive director for the Municipal Mutual Insurance Company. Without a single golf lesson, he managed a single digit handicap for some years. After by-pass surgery, he and Brenda travelled extensively, however navigating on the road merely by the sun landed them in some unplanned locations. *James Small*

The Warriner Choral Society

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

AN EVENING OF
SEASONAL MUSIC

AND

AUDIENCE CAROLS

Saturday December 18th 2004

7.30 p.m.

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Musical Director Martin Quinn
Organist Jeremy Meager

Tickets £7.50 (concessions £6)
wine & refreshments

available from Bloxham Post Office

One Man Band

Jenny on 01295 721224

or on the door

Sponsored by spratt endicott

FROM ARTHUR LEWIS, CHAPMANS LANE DEDDINGTON

As a member of the Deddington Branch, Royal British Legion, I would like to congratulate the Officers and members of the Boys Brigade Band. Since its formation a great deal of hard work and training has taken place. I know many of my fellow Legion members will join with me and say what a wonderful display the Band gave and how nice it was to have a band leading the Remembrance Sunday Parade in Dedddington.

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 JOHN & GAY BREWER, PHILCOTE STREET, DEDDINGTON

We wish all our friends in Deddington a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We will be giving a donation to the Katharine House Hospice in lieu of cards.

FROM GEOFF TODD, HOPCRAFT LANE, DEDDINGTON

Christmas Carols will as usual be sung around the Christmas tree in the Market Place, Deddington, at 6 o'clock on Christmas Eve evening. All are invited to our traditional gathering which will as usual feature music from a street organ accompanied by mulled wine and mince pies.

Deddington Charity Estates

With the death of Bob Stevens - who was a lovely man and an excellent chairman - the Charity is seeking another trustee. The job involves three or four meetings a year and a small amount of admin. The existing trustees are Hugh White (as vicar), Pat Swash and Terry Clinch (nominated by the Parish Council), Vivien Pleydell-Bouverie and myself (co-opted).

But what are the Deddington Charity Estates? Well, they haven't been in the news for decades but they have a long history. Briefly: as early as 1612 the Commission for Charitable Uses identified various houses, pieces of land and small charities that, hitherto, had been bequeathed to the parish for the purpose of helping the poor. They appointed 13 'freeholders and holders' as 'feoffees' to administer these assets - an arrangement which continued for nearly 300 years. Some income from the assets was used to build (in 1608) a Town-House with shops beneath and adjoining, the rent from which was also used to support the poor. The house became known as the Town Hall and was rebuilt in 1806. In property terms, two other events are significant. As a result of the Deddington Inclosure Act 1808, the feoffees were granted what became known as the Pest House field. It lies on the left of the Milton road, opposite the OCC depot, and is currently leased to a local farmer. Secondly, in 1822 building of the Almshouses in Church Street was completed.

When I took over as Clerk from the late Bill Hunt, the Charity Commission Scheme of 1856 was still the governing document. In this scheme the organisation formally became Deddington Charity Estates and the feoffees became trustees. Because of a dispute with the Charity Commission, a draft Scheme of 1989 was never signed by the trustees, but, in practice, most of its clauses

FROM DAVE AND DI KEATS, THE FISH AND CHIP SHOP, HEMPTON ROAD, DEDDINGTON

We would like to thank all our customers for their support over the last six years and thank those who gave cards and flowers to Di. Also a special thank you to Andy and Nikki Shephard who organised a Surprise Party, and to everyone in Wimborn Close who donated to the gifts we received. (Apologies for missing the deadline for the November issue of the *DN*.)

FROM CAROLINE, CDC AMENITY SERVICES

I've been asked for further advice about recycling. If fruit juice cartons are lined with foil or waxed, unfortunately they are not able to go into the blue recycling boxes. Cartons with plastic spouts are not a problem.

Light bulbs, which contain non-ferrous and other valuable metals, aluminium foil and food trays, and domestic batteries are collected at the Alkerton and Ardley waste disposal sites. Any queries please contact OCC Waste Control Authority on 01865 816043.

were implemented. In particular, the number of trustees was reduced to six: two nominated by the parish council, three co-opted plus the vicar of the parish. This clause has been retained, and the dispute resolved, in a new Scheme that is close to acceptance.

If this background arouses your interest and you would like to become a co-opted trustee, please contact me.

Charles Newey 338282 charles.newey@deddington.net

clairefuller
life coaching

KEEN TO MAKE SOME CHANGES?

I am a fully qualified Life Coach and I work from an office in Bloxham Mill. I offer face-to-face coaching for individuals and small groups.

I offer support to motivated people who really want to change their lives for the better.

- ◆ Are you happy within your career - or is there something else you would rather be doing?
- ◆ Would you like to improve your work/life balance?
- ◆ Would you like to think more positively, or be more confident and assertive?
- ◆ Are you keen to lead a healthy lifestyle?

Life Coaching helps you focus on what is important to you.

**** GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE ****
(offer a life changing experience to a loved one)

Please contact Claire on 01295 724555
or visit my website: www.clairefuller.com

1st Deddington Cub Scouts

We have gained three new Cubs - Josh, Jake and Oliver. Since September Joseph and Russell have been invested; we hope they all enjoy their time with us.

This month Tom, Barney, Edward, Mark, Ben, Adam, Jordan and Matthew received their silver awards - the highest award cubs can achieve - from the County Commissioner and the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire. They were presented with a certificate and woggle, which they have been wearing with pride.

This term we have made totems, both human and cardboard, looked at myths surrounding sleep, collected and played conkers (no armour, just a quick talk about knuckle safety), had an evening about elephants, restaged the Battle of Hastings - rolled up newspaper standing in for swords - and had a blitz evening complete with air raid. After a short pause for breath, we'll be celebrating Mickey Mouse's birthday and creating stunning decorations before rounding off with the Christmas party.

Thanks to Adam, Matthew, Adam, James and Josh for attending Remembrance Day parade.

Jo Churchyard 338071 jochurchyard@hotmail.com

1st Deddington Scouts

Welcome to Sam and to Tom and Barney who have come up from Cubs. Last month Jack, Lewis, Tom, George and Matt, attended the County Patrol Camping Weekend at Youlbury campsite. This is a leaderless camp and the scouts provided their own food, which they cooked on open fires. The camp provided the opportunity to try many different activities including rifle shooting, aerial runway and cardboard box caving. The weather was kind to them and they all came back tired and smelly, so a good time was had by all.

We tried animation and fire-lighting this term. A WW2 evening, which included aircraft spotting and rationing, was finished off by turning the Scouts into Sappers for a mad game of bomb disposal.

Coming soon - cartooning, stunning Christmas centrepieces and an unusual party.

Thanks to Lewis and George for attending Remembrance Day parade. *Peter Churchyard* 338071

Deddington Beeches Bowls Club

Now that winter is upon us our thoughts turn to indoor activities and we are holding a Quiz Night on Friday 21 January 2005 at the Unicorn Inn commencing at 7.30 pm - entry £8.00 per team of four. Please contact me on 337213. If you cannot make up a team just come along - you will be assured of a warm welcome.

Yvonne Twomey 337213

WI

Our speaker on 9 November was Marianne Allitt, a Holistic Therapist who demonstrated Aromatherapy. She set up a pleasantly scented display of oils and accessories, and explained that aromatherapy is a complementary therapy using oils extracted from natural, raw, organic material for therapeutic purposes.

Oils especially suitable for treating and relieving a number of conditions were listed. Her very full interesting talk was much appreciated by members.

14 December - Christmas dinner at the Unicorn, Deddington. Our next meeting is 11 January - a good time for potential new members either to come along or phone. We shall be please to welcome and/or hear from you.

Rene Mahony 338438

Deddington Town Football Club

1st Team Results:-

Bodicote (a) (Coronation Cup) Lost 1-4 J.Crawley.

Arncott (h) Won 3-1 M.Hewitt, K.Laird, S.Flemming.

Bullnose Morris (a) (Junior Shield) Lost 2-6 K.Laird, B.Durrant.

Wroxton (h) (Jersey Cup) Won 5-0 K.Laird (2), J.Flemming, J.Pearce, S.Flemming.

Abba Ath (h) (Charity Cup) Won 4-1 B.Durrant, D.Clouston,

S.Flemming, J.Pearce.

The 1st team have once again had an excellent month, which was dominated by cup matches. Two goals by the in-form Keith Laird ensured a smooth passage through to the last eight of the Jersey Cup; this was an excellent all round team performance. Strikers Ben Durrant and Julian Pearce were on target in the comfortable victory over Abba Athletic. Currently the team are riding high in the Premier Division in second place, which was helped by the victory over Arncott. Veteran Michael Hewitt was one of the goal scorers. The team have won eight of their opening twelve matches.



**Preparing For Christmas Activities
For Primary School Aged Children
5-11 years
Deddington Parish Church**

Saturday 4th December, 10am until 12.30pm

Cooking, making presents & decorations, chess and other games

Cost £1.50 per child

Application forms & general enquiries to: Kate Petty 338425
Sarah Liebrecht 337628
Sally Heslam 338216

Additional application forms are available from Deddington Primary School Office and the Church. To guarantee a place please have your application in by Monday 29th November to the School Office.

We would be grateful to hear from anyone ready to help. Please contact Jane Green on 337837.



Reserve Team Results:-
 Hethe (h) Lost 1-6 R.Oakey.
 Finmere Res (a) (Eric Morris Cup) Won on Penalties (6-6 aet)
 P.Kirsopp (2), R.Oakey, M.Walker (2), D.Gibbs.
 Finmere (h) Lost 0-5
 Hornton (a) Lost 0-6
 Decoma Sybex (a) Lost 2-3 P.Kirsopp, D.Gibbs.

The Reserve team had a tough month. The only victory came in an extraordinary match against Finmere Res in the Eric Morris Cup. At the end of extra time the scores were locked at 6-6! In the penalty shoot out Aaron Bliss in the Deddington goal was the hero making the vital saves. Currently the team are bottom of Division 1 and will need to achieve some victories during the second half of the season to start moving up the league.

75 Club Winners: 29/10/04 G.Reason £100; 5/11/04 G.Reason £50; 12/11/04 Mrs M.Simons £50; 19/11/04 Mr M.Simons £50

Why not come and support your local team? Each Saturday you will usually find that one of the teams are playing at the Windmill Centre ground. The kick off time is 2pm and your support would be very much appreciated by the club. *Steve Plumb* 01295 278258

Royal British Legion Branch and Club

November is our busiest month of the year with the Poppy Appeal and Remembrance Sunday. Branch members prepare over 50 collecting boxes and trays of poppies and our volunteer team of house-to-house collectors to cover as many households as possible in Deddington and the surrounding villages. A very important contribution is made by businesses in the

district who sell poppies on our behalf.

Remembrance Sunday was bright and clear with an excellent attendance for the parade that was, for the first time, led by the band of the Deddington Boys Brigade under the direction of Graham Wallington with bugler Irene Bailey. Our sincere thanks to our Standard Bearer, Den Freeman, who carried out his duties in his usual impeccable manner for the 10th year in succession. Thank you to our local Police team and to members of the Parish Council for their support. Our thanks to the Vicar and to all who officiated at the well attended and uplifting Church service. We are most grateful for the Church donation of £460 towards the Poppy Appeal. We are confident that at £3,550 we shall exceed last year's total by over £200.

October and November is the time for membership renewals and all but a very few members have done so. The Club is looking forward to an excellent programme of entertainment over the festive season. Membership of the Royal British Legion, including the Deddington Royal British Legion Club, is open to all over the age of 18. The subscription for Branch and Club combined is £15 and £10 for men over 65 and women over 60. Membership is valid at all British Legion Clubs throughout the world. Spouses/Partners of members may use the Club in their company, as can family members under 18. Full details from the Secretary or by visiting the Club on Friday evening or all day Saturday and Sunday.

Raymond Morris 338143

Deddington Babies and Toddlers Group

The toddlers are looking forward to Christmas! The Christmas Party is on Friday 17 December. Please bring a wrapped and named present for your child of about £5 in value to be given out by you-know-who. We are also looking for donations of food. There will be no Toddlers' session on Christmas Eve.

Lucy Squires

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Deddington Players

After the Christmas excitement is over there is still something to look forward to - Deddington's favourite pantomime. Rehearsals for *Robinson Crusoe* are already under way. The show takes to the stage on 20, 21 & 22 January, at the Windmill Centre. See posters, and the leaflet in this *DN* for times, prices and details of our special offers and incentives. Don't miss it! *Lucy Squires*

Deddington Badminton Club

We are well into the season: club nights are Tuesday 7-9:30pm with Juniors 6-7pm. Junior membership is again strong this season. Our Mixed and Ladies teams are struggling for players -We urgently need Ladies for these teams! If you can help, please call Janine or Mark or turn up on club night! The Mens' teams top Divisions 2 & 3. Progress of all teams in the Banbury League can be followed on the recently created website - www.btbl.org.uk. For more details call Mark 338056 or Janine 347539.

Mark Tyler

Deddington Guides

An action packed term! We have played games by torchlight, made fruit cocktails, burnt some chocolate biscuits and dressed up for Halloween! We had a very smart turn out for Remembrance Day and Kayla played the piano beautifully at the extravaganza show in Banbury. Well done all!

Our pet show was a huge success with pet spiders, rabbits, guinea pigs, rats and hamsters attending the meeting! Learning crafts from other countries was great fun and Mexican godeyes wall hangings have been repeated in miniature as Christmas decorations. The audience loved our fashion show - all costumes made from recycled materials.

Many of these activities have been completely organised by the Guides in their patrols. We have also learnt about coping in emergency situations and how our small efforts at recycling can perhaps help the environment. We're now going to wrap pass-the-parcels for all the children's groups in the village and sing at Wardington House Nursing Home Christmas party.

Keep an eye out for the Guide and Scout Group Christmas post boxes in the Co-op and Barford post office from the end of November. Deliveries to Deddington, Hempton, Clifton and the Barfords.

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

1st Deddington Boys' Brigade

Thank you to parents for their support in ensuring that nearly all our boys were able to take part in this year's Remembrance parade. The BB contingent of nearly 40 was led for the first time by our brass band. The BB would like to thank our bandmaster, Graham Wallington, for all his efforts in developing the band (which included composing all the music played on the day!).

Last month the Anchors welcomed James as a new member. Also, sadly, we said goodbye to Rory, who returned to New Zealand after a short stay in the village.

In November the Windmill Centre hosted the Oxfordshire Juniors Top Team competition. We are pleased to report that the Deddington 'A' team (Josh, Tom, Ben and Mark) won the event and our Deddington 'B' team came second. Teams from Deddington have now won the trophy for 3 years in a row!

BB activities for 2004 finish on 8 December with a Christmas Party for all Anchors and Juniors at The Windmill Centre.

Brian Bushell 338715

Deddington and District History Society

Our November speaker, Audrey Linkman, gave us a most interesting insight into using old photographs as historical evidence. We shall riffle through those racks of photographs in antique shops with a keener eye and a greater appreciation from now on.

On 8 December we are having a Christmas social, with food, refreshments and the society's special mulled wine. We shall have fun exercising our new talents as photographic experts. The entertainment will also include a performance by the Steeple Aston handbell ringers. These events have been hugely enjoyable in the past, and this year should be no exception, so please let Moira Byst know that you will be coming. Ring her on 338637 to book a place.

Our speaker on Wednesday 12 January will be Edward Shawyer, on recent archaeological finds in North Oxfordshire. Edward hopes to encourage and perhaps organise us to undertake fieldwalking in the area. Please come along to learn more.

Chris Day 337204

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THE FLOWER GARDEN

Right at the end of the garden year and without warning a new plant has come my way: a ground-cover Mahonia. I did not know that such a thing existed. The leaves and flowers are like the shrub Mahonia, but it grows at a slant and covers the unwanted stuff nicely. The friend who gave it to us put in four rooted cuttings, so there is a good chance of some survival. We'll see what it can do next spring. Wait for the next report. We are working away at the pots, emptying and refilling. Your pruning is probably finished, so you can sit down and clean up the tools. Sort them and oil them ready for next year. Secateurs can be sharpened. After that, feet up and order bulbs or just enjoy the wonderful pictures in the catalogue. I have found a most helpful local nursery. They are willing to come to Deddington, don't charge for delivery and dump your purchases just where you want them. Moreover they have in my opinion the best winter pansies in the area.

Marianne Elsley

Dear Garden,

Another year gone by, another year begins. Once again we have seen the seasons come and go, the weather being wet or hot or dry or cold and wet again. There was a time when it all seemed so inevitable and, apart from the exceptional winter or an unusually hot summer, everything seemed to come round more or less regularly. But now they tell us the world is getting warmer. The Arctic ice-cap is melting and the sea level will soon have risen enough to flood several parts of Britain. I doubt if Deddington is in danger of becoming drowned, but it could get hot. Or again, they say that if the Gulf Stream gets cooled by all that melting ice, we might just get a great deal colder. Either way will mean changing our gardening ways. I used to love the Autumn bonfires with that wonderful smell of wood smoke, but apparently that simply adds to global warming, so has had to stop. And if it does get warmer shall we be growing oranges in Satin Lane and avocados in the allotments? Will there be no frosts to kill off the summer aphids or break up the newly dug soil? 'Over my dead body' it might be. But it could happen. Anyhow, let's hope we can have at least one more year like the one just finishing. Thank you, garden, for being there in spite of it all.

Hugh Marshall

**Friends of Daeda's Wood**

Several rainless summer weeks in the Balkans, and especially Turkey, can change one's perspective. I felt positively euphoric trotting round Daeda's Wood last weekend in a steady drizzle. It was the sheer smell of life - 2004 in gentle decay but plenty of promise for 2005. A wren rummaged in a pile of dead leaves, a party of long-tailed tits flickered through, amazingly a scattering of yarrow and at least one field scabious were still in flower. And at this time, you can see the bare bones of the trees: there's a particularly good stand of (pre-Daeda's Wood) sycamores by the Swere in the north-west corner. It is encouraging to see how much the creeping thistle has retreated with the developing tree canopy, also helped by the extra cut of meadow areas this year. As for those bollards, there have been mutterings, but the access for wheelchairs is now infinitely better and the area churned up by manoeuvring cars reduced. Anyway we will now get plenty of practice for those three-point turns. If you have any comment about them, please ring our Woodland Trust Officer, Neil Chamberlain, on 01844-290912.

Sylvie Spenceley 338995.

Weekly Meetings

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

PURELY PLANTS

At Middleton Cheney

- * *New Gift Wrapping Service*
- * *Vast range of Gift Ideas*
- * *Tibetan fleece-lined Woollens*
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ON THE FARM

The beans were ploughed in during the second week of November, but the ground has been too wet to put a cultivator in to level the surface off, so we could be in for a rough ride with the combine next year. The mild wet weather of late has made things difficult. The meadows have been flooded since mid-October and we have sold the remainder of last spring's lamb crop, so that the main ewe flock can graze what is left of the grass land that has not been flooded, and we may have to bring them into their lambing quarters before Christmas. This will make for a long expensive winter, a rather different picture from last year when the field drains did not run until the New Year and the ewes stayed out until February. It is not only the sheep the wet weather has given problems to. Some of the oil seed rape has got wet feet and is looking rather sorry for itself and we are still having

 problems keeping the grey hoards at bay (field slugs). What we need is a dry cold month or two which will send the dear little things underground, but then again, if we get a lot of frost with the present sodden ground conditions the wheat will be lifted off its roots, so it's a case of "if the slugs don't get it the frost will." The New Year will bring a whole new set of farming problems. January 1 will see the start of the new CAP arrangements, but as yet we have received little information from our masters. We do from time to time get the odd letter (sometimes very odd) from Mrs B explaining the main changes but I expect, as with most things to do with government, the real problems will be in the small print. Whatever happens we are in for some very big changes in the way we farm and what we produce. Traditionally farmers have grown food crops to feed the nation, but with the new arrangements farming in this country will move away from food production into farming the environment and growing industrial and niche crops for a local market, with most of our every day food needs being imported. A rather gloomy forecast, not unlike the weather at present, but at least I shall be travelling to a south sea island in mid January, where the local girls all wear grass skirts and I get to use a pair of grass clippers. Want to know more? Well, come to the Windmill Centre and all will be revealed - well, not quite all. *George Fenemore* 338203

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

Robert Huntingdon, the son of Nick Huntingdon from the Duke of Cumberland's Head, has written *The Nanny State* - a witty, perceptive and most entertaining book on a variety of issues that have increasingly come to dominate our political agenda. A number of signed copies are available at the Duke of Cumberland's Head.

Linda Davies and Peggy Russell have raised £103.73 for the worthy cause of the Red Cross.

Carol Drawmer, Eleonore Bruyere

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Following the three Parish Plan open meetings in Clifton, Deddington and Hempton, Jonathan Watts, our Parish Councillor, reported that percentage-wise Hempton had the best attendance.

A special welcome to several new families who have recently moved into the village. And it is particularly nice to see the Homestead and the Barnstead occupied again. Both these properties are situated in the Lane and have been empty for a good many years.

The Carol Service will be held in the Church on Friday 17 December at 7.00pm followed by traditional refreshments. There will be a Eucharist on Christmas Day at 9.00am. But there will be no evensong in December as Boxing Day is the 4th Sunday. Having put up eight signs advertising the Christmas Bazaar I was very annoyed to find that four of them were knocked to the ground and three of the stakes had vanished, resulting in my having to repair them and put them up again.

The Table Tennis Team is playing in Division 1 of the Banbury & District League and are finding it hard going. To date they have played 4 and lost them all.

As it is the end of another year I would like to thank Sue Montague, Barbara Chappell and Mavis and Bernard Barton for delivering this paper in Hempton. The next issue will be in February and I would be grateful if people in the village could let me have some news as I am sure there are some items that do not get reported as I never hear of them. *Les Chappell* 338054

UNICORN INN

Joy, Carol & the team welcome you to the Unicorn

The Unicorn Inn is a village pub with separate non-smoking and smoking restaurants and a lovely garden for sunny days.

Chefs Joy and Jude invite you to enjoy freshly prepared and cooked food using quality local produce and fresh fish daily: menus change regularly. Traditional Sunday lunch served 12:00 to 3:00 including rare sirloin of beef
Bar menu at lunchtime offers a selection of hot & cold dishes, sandwiches and warm salads.



Christmas Menus

Party menus 3 courses from £14.95

A few tables available for Christmas day lunch.



The RAC have just awarded us a 3 diamond rating plus a Fine Dining award, a Sparkling Diamond Award and a Warm Welcome award.

The Unicorn – Market Place – Deddington

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Parish Cook Book - NOW OUT
Where can you get 140 recipes for 4¹/₄p each? Bluebells and the Library.



CHARLES BERNARD DODWELL B E M *(continued)*

It is December 1920, Bernard, aged 7 and a bit, is off to Banbury with his father and mother to do some Christmas shopping. Into Deddington Market Square trundles the horse drawn Carrier Cart with room for 10 people, all of whom line up again after shopping in the town for the return journey. They are now heavily laden with parcels and at the bottom of Deddington hill the driver stops, looks around for extra horse power and puts a patiently waiting nag into traces with his cart horse to help pull up hill. But to-day, with some extra sacks of food on board, even two horses struggle and strain and men and boys on board are bidden to dismount and walk, but are allowed to mount again for the straight run into Deddington. In those days only the three Deddington doctors and a builder owned motor vehicles and petrol was sold from 2 gallon cans in Holliday's shop. Bernard tells us that his father, Bernard George, manager of a butcher's shop in Oxford, lived in digs during the week cycling home at weekends. When he found similar employment in Banbury he cycled to work daily. His mother, Mary Ann, née Bishop, the eldest of 10 children, found work in Deddington with the Bowler family looking after their sons until her marriage. His grandparents lived in cottages in the Tchure which were connected to his uncle Richard Dodwell's Bakery and Butcher shops and his aunt Daisy lived in Pretoria House with her husband Percy who ran his building business from a spacious yard behind the house. Throughout his idyllic boyhood Bernard was surrounded by his loving family. With uncle Richard he delivered bread and cakes by horse and cart and remembers being 'pampered' by customers with tea and crumpets. Bernard writes how much he enjoyed spending school holidays with his farming relatives in the area. He already felt useful helping with hay-making, cherry-picking, harvesting the corn and mushrooming. The reward for his efforts culminated in exciting trips into Banbury with uncles and aunts, stabling the horse in *The Buck & Bell*, selling butter, eggs, fruit or mushrooms and ending the day with a well earned drink (port for aunts & uncles) in *The Buck & Bell*. All field work on these farms was done with horses until about 1929 when Fordson Tractors arrived on the scene. Throughout Bernard's boyhood horses clip-clopped through Deddington and were regular customers at Mr Tibbetts' Smithy where the eagerly gaping boys were allowed to blow the long arm of the Fire-draught to roar up the fuel. *(to be continued)*



Ruth Johnson

**Traidcraft**

Last orders please! Even as you read this, thousands of cards will be going out bearing a word or two about Traidcraft, CAFOD, Christian Aid and SCIAF (did you work out what they all stand for?) and perhaps some Christmas puddings have been enriched with F/T raisins, sugar, nuts etc., or some exciting parcels will be under the tree. We can take orders up to the middle of December and will be in the Church on Market Day, Saturday 18 December. *Hugh Marshall 337761*

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley from the months of November and December 1854 and January 1855:-

On 26th November W.C.R. heard that Mr. Barber (Susan's Uncle) of Adderbury was dying ("He was one of the kindest and best friends I ever had"). He went to Adderbury and stayed there until after the funeral - when he was buried in the family vault and later to put his affairs in order and prove his Will.

There are no more entries until ...

19th December - Susan and I and the two eldest boys drove to Banbury to Rent Day at the Red Lion. The day passed off well and pleasantly - tho' one could not but feel sensibly the absence of poor Mr. Barber who had always been present on like occasions for 25 years or more.

20th December - The Gas man called - they were laying down the pipes.

22nd December - I, Holford & Willy drove to Swalcliffe to be present at the re-opening of the Church after its complete restoration - a fine old extensive specimen of a Parish Church. (The builders employed were Robert Franklin of this place.)

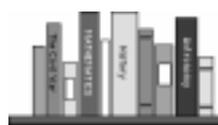
23rd December - I called at Butcher French's and ordered meat for divers persons - was busied at the Farm House in sending out to different persons 2 fine sheep and 42 packages of tea to the widows, etc.

7th January - A poor old man of Clifton Mill met with his death on Wednesday, I believe by pitching almost head foremost from the top of a cart loaded with sacks etc. He had many hair breadth escapes before - he was I fear too much addicted to drink.

8th January - Poor old Cowley's widow who was killed last week came to consult me as to what she was to do for a living - I told her the Parish must relieve her and I spoke to Calcutt, the Guardian, about her - and sent her to the Relieving Officer also who promised to report her case tomorrow. I gave her 2s.

Buffy Heywood

Some of you may remember Kathleen (Kaye) Brearley-Kelsey who lived at Folly Cottage in Deddington. A great supporter of the Library system, she often came in with gifts of money requesting that I buy books in memory of someone she had cared for. She would make suggestions as to the subject,



carefully selecting a topic to suit, and I did my best to find something to satisfy her requirements. Those of you who use the Library may have seen the bookplates inside with her dedications. In accordance with her wishes her family have given the Library a sum of money to be used over the next few years. I already have some books in mind that I should like to buy, but I am always ready to consider any suggestions so please, if you have any, let me know. I should like to take this opportunity to thank the family and also the Parish Council for their help and involvement.

Rosemary Arnold

Deddington Farmers' Market

Who would have thought that three years after the start of Deddington Market it would be runner-up in the 2004 National Farmers' Market of the Year competition! The winner was Orton in Cumbria and we were joint second with Haverfordwest. We are delighted. As a completely voluntary organisation, we rely entirely on those of you who, as helpers, supporters, stallholders and customers, have helped to make it such a success. Many thanks to you all, let's keep up the good work. [CONGRATULATIONS! - Ed]

The market is now established as an important part of our community. However, in endeavouring to ensure its long term future on a sound footing, most members of the management group are conscious of their mortality! Apart from young Kevin Mayo, we are all over 60. So, we will need young new blood from time-to-time. The job involves a meeting each month, normally helping in some way on market day and, depending on the rôle, some admin. If you are interested in joining us, now or some time in the future, please get in touch with one of us. Charles Newey 338282, Kevin Mayo 337284, Chloe Smith 338974, Geoff Todd 338532, Pamela Ward 336269 and Althea Wood 337904



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

Many thanks to *DN* readers who responded to our request for Blott videotapes. We hope to publish an article on the 1985 BBC film featuring Deddington next year. Any assistance with producing text copy would be welcomed. Also next year we plan to publish each month a small number of photographs submitted by parishioners on subjects that are relevant to life in the Parish that month. This will eventually build into a local pictorial archive. Finally we are supporting the Parish Working groups on Parking and the Parish Plan. Dedicated space is given on the Forum where views can be posted at any time. The Village Plan Working Group will be given their own web page to explain their work and timescales for public consultation.

Colin Clark 338064 colin.clark@deddington.net



18 people attended a Presentation Dinner at Eynsham Hall on 17 November for blood donors who have given 75 or more donations. Among them was Geoff Todd who received an Edinburgh Crystal plate acknowledging over 75 donations he has given since he started giving blood in 1959. Those present had given over 1650 donations to date with three of their number having reached personal centuries. If you have never given blood or have stopped doing so, why not contact 08457 711 711 or www.blood.co.uk about giving this valuable gift for the benefit of those who need it. You never know you might be a recipient one day. Donor sessions are regularly held in Banbury, Bicester and other local towns and you can even make appointments to do so, thus reducing the former need to wait.

Molly Neild



I dealt with an incident this month, the circumstances of which I thought I would share with you, particularly as 'the Festive Season' will soon to be upon us.

Late one evening in one of the villages I patrol, my attention was drawn to a person driving a motor vehicle approaching the junction to the main road I was driving on. The driver appeared in a 'trance like state', and appeared to experience problems in overcoming the effects of gravity acting upon the vehicle due to the slight incline at the junction. Clearly further investigation was required and a short distance later I stopped the vehicle.

The driver remained seated in the vehicle, and as I leaned in I was immediately over-powered by the smell of intoxicating liquor. The eyes were glazed, the speech slurred and the driver unsteady on their feet. The driver was in my opinion drunk, and was subsequently arrested and taken to Banbury Police Station. The sample provided by the driver was three times the legal limit, and he was charged. The result of this indiscretion was a £500 fine and a disqualification from driving for a period of 28 months. Quite clearly, the magistrates had not been too impressed.

This driver was fortunate, yes fortunate, because on this occasion no-one was injured. Other people are often less fortunate up and down the country, particularly at this time of year, when the effects of alcohol consumed at festive occasions cloud the judgment and impact on our normal behaviour.

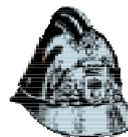
No doubt, Thames Valley Police will soon be announcing their annual *Drink Drive* campaign in an effort to reduce death and injury on our roads. Certain things in life do not mix, and alcohol and the driving of a motor vehicle is one such example. Arrange between friends as to who will be the 'designated' driver and who will remain on soft drinks. Book a taxi well in advance, but above all, 'leave the car at home'.

On a separate issue, a man was arrested by police from the Deddington office following a reported act of indecent exposure along the Milton gated road. Following Home Office guidelines, the man received an official police caution. The report came about due to the vigilance of a local person from Deddington, and I would like to thank the person concerned for the time taken to report the matter to us.

PC Clive Middleton

FIRE SERVICE

Since the last report we have received: 1 garage fire; 1 electrical fire; 1 petrol leak; 1 fatal road traffic accident; 1 car fire; 1 house fire; 1 call to the M40 and 9 calls to stand by. 166 calls this year so far. Please take extra care over the Christmas period, especially with your Christmas tree lights and candles and make sure you have your chimney swept before you light up those lovely log fires. Anyone needing Fire Safety advice or a home visit, please contact us on 01869 338281. Have a safe and happy Christmas.



Pete Taylor, Sub Officer

Time to catch up with the travel tales of the Fleming's round the world backpacking trip. They're now on their third country, Fiji. After flying into the main island - Viti Levu - from the States, they took a catamaran to the outlying Yasawas chain of islands.

Charlotte, 7, picks up the story...

Fantastic Fiji

We stayed in a hut made of wood and palm leaves, on a desert island. You can only reach the islands by boat - first a big boat for 2 hours, and then into a little rocky boat with a smoky engine to get over the coral reef. When we arrived, everyone seemed very friendly. They took our rucksacks from us, they said "Come and sit down, have something to eat" - they really looked after us nicely.

We met a boy called Stanley, who was nine - just a bit older than me - and he showed us around. A couple of days later we met his cousin called Varsity, who was 2 - she was very cute. One day we went into the village, where Stanley and Varsity's grandparents lived. We were going into the village to weave a mat, and Stanley showed us the way as we had no idea where we were going - none of the houses are numbered like in Deddington. I really loved mat weaving - I found it quite hard at first, but I loved learning how to do it, and didn't want to finish. Stanley's grandmother said she would add some string to the edges to make it pretty, and the next day she



brought it back to us - it looked really pretty. We carried my little mat everywhere with us, in the bottom of my rucksack, and we still have it.

Stanley showed me how to look for starfish. One day when we were looking around the reef, we found an octopus, so we called for his granddad - he came running to catch it, and then they cooked it for us for our tea that night. It was really cool! I really liked the food in Fiji - we had a lot of rice and curries, which are really tasty.

Bayside didn't have any electricity or hot water, so we had to have a cold shower every morning. When it was meal time they would blow the conch shell as a horn to let us know that the food was ready.

After five days we went to a different island, called Nacula, which had electricity for 3 hours a day - wow! The food wasn't as nice as Bayside - they had curries too, but not as tasty. We stayed in grass huts

called Bures, which had very comfortable beds. We had to sleep under mosquito nets because of the mosquitoes that fly around all night long.

After two weeks in Fiji we had to leave, to fly on to Australia, and it wasn't fair - it had been such a great place to be.

Charlotte Fleming

For some pure escapism on a cold and dark winter's night, take a look at the Fiji photo album and video on their website, at www.rfleming.net.

The River Swere in Deddington Parish *continued*

Just past the Old Paper Mill of Adderbury Grounds Farm there is a grass track over the river. Below this vantage point, the Swere passes between high, unscalable banks. There is a covering darkness of sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), the young trees reaching out from both banks forming a canopy of shade. In a short distance light breaks through, on the high banks where openings occur, and reed-grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) grows to 2 m high.

If one enters the stream with the landowner's permission (for there is no public access to the river here), wearing high boots and walks east toward the Cherwell, there is a low muddy shore with three species - blue water-speedwell (*Veronica anagallis-aquatica*), water-cress (*Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum*) and water forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpioides*) - habitués of this habitat in every course of the river. In other sites of this water-margin vegetation, with water-logged mineral soils, there occurs fool's water-cress (*Apium nodiflorum*), which is especially more abundant in the upper course of the river.

Roger Nobbs' Castle Farm is the last farm to border the Swere before it joins the River Cherwell. Today, the river is mostly straight along the farm, but in 1881 the Swere meandered, and marsh plants grew on its sides. The work of deepening and straightening the channel, and draining the marsh, was carried out in the 1950s, by the former Water Authority. Unlike now, extreme efforts were then made to increase the area of fertile

land that could be given to crop production. Nature will reclaim the riverside land for marsh only when man's maintenance lapses for a long period.

Few trees dot the river in Castle Farm reaches - an alder or two, a few hawthorn, a good-sized oak and three oak saplings. Grey willow (*Salix cinerea*) is more common than crack-willow; of special interest, because of its size, is the buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) tree on the edge of Bourne field, handsomely proportioned and laden with fruits.

Reed sweet-grass (*Glyceria maxima*), tall and graceful, grows densely, sometimes in the channel close to midstream; but then moving towards the confluence of the two rivers, the abundance of *Glyceria* diminishes, and branched bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*) appears.

Just as quickly there is another change in the river flora: dense clumps of tall dark stems of common club-rush (*Schoenoplectus lacustris*). Common club-rush is widespread in the Cherwell, concealing moorhen.

Joining the River Cherwell, the Swere sheds the water it has collected from springs, streams and run-off over a distance of 25.3 km. The precise location of the confluence is obscured by common reed (*Phragmites australis*), which may grow to 3.5 m tall, perhaps the world's commonest giant grass. As soon as the Swere enters the Cherwell, it is lost in the hurry of a larger world, and our story ends. We hope that the pleasure we have had in tracing the course of a small neighbourhood river will be repeated in other parts of the British Isles.

Walter Meagher