

the Deddington news

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17 MARCH 2011

Copy please to
Mary Robinson

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I make no apology for devoting a considerable amount of space and effort this month, and into the future, on what I know many people consider to be an extremely important matter for our community: the threatened closure of Deddington Library. Please read the available information, keep a watch on sources of news as it unfolds, and write, write, and write again! Don't sit back for others to do it all, otherwise we shall certainly not be successful.

JC

Book a Future for Deddington Library

After the well-attended Public Meeting on Tuesday 15 February, the following night the Parish Council voted unanimously to fight OCC over the proposal to close Deddington Library. We believe that a very strong and persuasive argument can be built as to why our library should not be on the list of those set to close, and that a huge weight can be put behind the case, not only from people living within this Parish but also neighbouring parishes that rely on Deddington's facilities. OCC's own study (2010) into the demographics of our Parish presents us with a strong case for survival in itself and OCC would find it difficult to dispute!

It was agreed that four parish councillors would work with the Friends of Deddington Library (and any other interested supporters in the village) to devise a strategy and build the case for continuation and the Parish Clerk will be writing to OCC to convey this intent. When we have received and interpreted the Consultation process document, we will be urging everyone in the Parish and surrounding area capable of writing to put pen to paper to let OCC know both the strength of feeling and the compelling reasons why its proposal is wrong.

Updates, meeting dates and progress will be posted regularly via the *DN* website and Deddington OnLine and of course we would welcome ideas and suggestions from supporters via the DoL website or on our Facebook page.

Heather Ashworth (Ward)
Heathera@cherwell.co.uk

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

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

held at the Town Hall on 16 February

The meeting was chaired by Jim Flux; there was a good turnout of County, District and Deddington Parish Councillors and three members of the public. The meeting took place in the recently redecorated Town Hall and it was warm, well lit and much better furnished. The major issues for discussion were the threat to Deddington Library, the Ash Cottage, Clifton redevelopment and the new Calcutt Farm, Hempton silo development, and the review of the emergency response plan.

Open Forum

Two Clifton residents addressed the meeting to thank DPC for their support concerning the planning approval of the Ash Cottage development and asked what more could be done. More pressure and an appeal were being considered. Some procedural anomalies were being investigated.

One Deddington resident raised the Library closure threat. It was suggested that surrounding villages outside the Parish should be approached for support. It was also suggested that DPC should consider purchasing the building and taking over joint responsibility with OCC for running the Library. A DPC led working group is to be formed to plan a Deddington response to the Library threat. It was pointed out by County Councillor Jelf that many places were well advanced with their plans to take community responsibility for their threatened libraries. CC Jelf suggested that to stand a chance of success a response to OCC should be prepared earlier than the time allowed in the 12-week consultative period.

Library

The DPC response to the threat was discussed. The conclusion was that DPC would fight the threat. A working group would be formed led by a DPC working group. The alternative plan for the Parish to take responsibility for the Library was thought to undermine the primary objective of fighting the closure. However the dilemma was that if Deddington Library was saved it would be at the expense of some other recipient of OCC funds. Other parishes were already preparing community driven library management groups and if Deddington did not compete for the limited available OCC support funds, DPC would possibly miss the one chance funding opportunity. A separate working group would be formed to consider alternative management options.

Cherwell District Council

In April bus passes will be accepted on the 'Dial-a-Ride' bus services and the first service for bus pass

holders will be changed to 9.00am. *[And bus tokens are no longer being issued, so they can no longer be used to buy a Senior Rail Card – Ed.]*

Highways, Finance & GP, and Environment & Recreation

Little new progress on many of the issues; OCC were criticised for lack of response to the many letters and requests from the Highways group.

DPC procedures

A discussion took place about the turnover of Parish Councillors. With the support of two recently retired councillors a small attitudinal survey will be undertaken amongst the existing councillors to shed light on dissatisfaction and the causes of so many disaffections.

Planning

Applications: Calcutt Farm, Hempton has submitted a revised plan which repositions the proposed 35ft high silo. The plan also includes tree planting; the group considered the plan an improvement and made no objection. Bentleys, 14 High Street, felling a eucalyptus tree in the garden, no objection. Ash Cottage, Chapel Close, Clifton, a revised plan has been submitted; confusion surrounds this whole planning process because of inaccuracies with the plans, the suggestion of some procedural anomalies and now some evidence of a bat population; the planning group again recommended objection to the plan.

Appeals: End Cottage, The Stile, redevelopment of the land behind the end cottage; the planning group repeats its original objection.

Deddington OnLine

DPC will take a more active part and improve communication with both DoL and Deddington OnAir. Efforts would be made to improve the accuracy of DPC information on site.

Emergency Response Plan

A review of contingency planning for predictable emergencies (weather, major accident, power, gas or water failure, fire or flooding) will be prepared for the DPC meeting in June and publication in September.

Invoices agreed for payment £3,518.

Investments of £567,158 at Barclays, West Bromwich BS, Santander and Anglo Irish Bank.

Next meeting – Wednesday 16 March 2011 at Hempton Church Hall.

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter Charles Barker, and not the official Minutes. To see those, go to <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/pcminutes>.

THE VIEW FROM THE LIBRARY

As many of you will know by now, Deddington Library is under threat of closure due to the financial cutbacks that OCC have to make over the next year. If you would like to write to any of the following to make any comments, for example, what the library means to you personally and the value the library has in our community as a whole, your correspondence will be recorded and responded to as appropriate:

futurelibraries@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Cllr. Heathcoat – Judith.heathcoat@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Cllr. Jelf – ray.jelf@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Should you not be able to use e-mail, postal addresses are available from the library.

On a lighter note, the library is in the process of receiving a large consignment of lovely new books! So come and have a browse! Why buy when you can borrow for free? If you would like to join the library it takes only a few minutes, you would be made very welcome. Don't forget we also have PCs which are free to use too!

Stella O'Neill
Library Manager

DIARY

March

Tue	1	Fire Station: 7.00pm informal drop-in session
Wed	2	Photographic Society: Jane Ryman, 'Portrait Photographs of Family and Children', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
Sat	5	British Legion: Race Night
Mon	7	Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am–noon
Tue	8	WI: AGM, followed by cheese and wine, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
Tue	8	Fire Station: 7.00pm informal drop-in session
Wed	9	Deddington Toddlers and Babies: AGM, 10 St John's Way, Hempton, 7.30pm
Wed	9	History Society: Gillian White, 'Portrait of Queen Elizabeth the First', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
Thu	10	Monday morning Club: Film evening, <i>Treeless Mountain</i> , Holly Tree, 6.30pm
Fri	11	Fundraising event for village nursery and PFSU, Formula Fast, Banbury, 6.45pm for spectators
Sat	12	PTA: Quiz Night, Windmill Centre, 7.30 for 8.00pm
Sat	12	British Legion, Quiz Night
Wed	16	Parish Council Meeting, Hempton Church Hall, 7.30pm
Wed	16	Photographic Society: Workshop, Valentina and Anatoli, 'Software Processing of Photographs', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
Sat	19	British Legion: Disco for St Patrick's Day
Wed	23	Deddington Town Football Club: Semi-final, Junior Shield, Oxford City FC Stadium, Kick-off 7pm
Wed	23 –	
Fri	25	Primary School: <i>The Wizard of Oz</i> , Parish Church
Thu	24	Book Club: Call Sally Lambert on 338094 for title of next book
Sat	26	Deddington Farmers' Market, Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
Sat	26	Deddington Players: AGM, Holly Tree, 7.00pm

April

Mon	4	Monday Morning Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am–noon
Wed	6	British Legion: Club meeting, 7.30pm
Wed	6	Photographic Society: Barry Singleton and Bill Sykes, 'Our Journey into Photography', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
Sun	10	Tennis Club: Free Adult Open Morning

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

Imagine the scene one day in February in a sleepy corner of Clifton. Neil, our postman swept into town and saw two horses and three ponies grazing in the gardens of one of the closes in the village. He parked his van by a five-bar gate and, with calamity Di (allegedly wearing chaps and a stetson) and horse whisperer Ang, rounded up the by now placid equines and returned them to the big field bounded by the new fencing. Luckily none managed to eat too many flowers in the 'Tim nice but dim' memorial garden. Generous rewards were offered by a grateful owner who was working that day. Days later the Iron Man Mayo has to

drop out of a jog to Henley due to an injured subtalar calcaneal navicular joint. Good job he wasn't needed at the rodeo as his rhinestones were being polished. Clifton cycle club got off the ground and did a quick 20kms over to Bloxham, one member pushing it back up the gated road to Deddington – but it's a start.

Apart from that it's been a quiet month with the Clifton Twitchers debating the value of niger seed as an unusually high number of goldfinches have moved in. These are not to be confused with the Clifton Tweekers who know how to keep the characters down.

Martin Bryce
MartinDNBryce@aol.com

AN EVENING OF ENGLISH SONGS BY CECILIA McDOWALL AND DONALD LANE

The Holywell Music Room in Oxford is the oldest custom-built concert hall in Europe. It opened to the public for the first time in 1748 and has been the venue for professional recitals ever since. On 12 February, its doors opened for an evening of songs written by two distinguished contemporary composers – Cecilia McDowall and Donald Lane.

Cecilia McDowall's compositions are regularly commissioned. One of her most recent was performed for the first time last year in Deddington Church by the choir of St George's Windsor as part of the Maurice Frost Festival. Her style is innovative, energetic, and her work portrays a wide range of emotions, from passionate songs of love and nature to the witty 'Song of the Mice' and 'The Chipmunk', settings of poems written by Russian political prisoner Irina Ratushinskaya.

Donald Lane's pieces are complex and fascinating. His skill lies in a particular ability to interpret poetry and translate the words into a musical language where the harmonies and rhythms, rarely conventional, communicate the passions of the poet. His settings of both Yeats and Spenser were colourful and fervent.

The second half of the concert opened with the world premiere of Donald's song cycle 'Kings and Tanists' brilliantly performed by Anna Tilbrook and James Gilchrist, the tenor to whom it is dedicated. The music aptly reflected the emotional soul-searching in the poems of Irish poet James Stephens. It was James Stephens too who furnished the words for 'In the Poppy Field' – a delightful piece for soprano, tenor and flute, cleverly combined with an Irish folk tune, which charmed the audience.

The music of both Cecilia McDowall and Donald Lane demands virtuosic performers and the two singers, James Gilchrist and Jane Harrington, the flautist Julian Sperry, and the pianist Anna Tilbrook, although fully stretched, did not disappoint. Indeed the audience was spellbound by their stunning performance and sensitive interpretation. Being in the audience when music is being performed in public for this first time is a unique experience and having both composers present added something very special to the occasion. It was a privilege to be there.

Elsa Williams

elsawilliams@btinternet.com

Deddington OnAir was broadcast from the church on BBC TV on Sunday 21 February, and hit the news headlines on Monday. Watch this space! **JC**



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CHURCH AND CHAPEL

March

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Wed	2	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu	3	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	6	10.30am	First Sunday
		6.30pm	Evensong
Wed	9	10.00am	Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes ASH WEDNESDAY
Thu	10	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	13	10.30am	Sung Eucharist with Healing Prayer
Wed	16	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu	17	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	20	10.30am	Eucharist
Wed	23	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thu	24	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Fri	25	6.30pm	Eucharist
			THE ANNUNCIATION
Sun	27	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30	Service of the Word
Wed	30	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu	31	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels

St John's Hempton

Sun	6	9.00am	Iona Eucharist
Sun	20	9.00am	Eucharist
Sun	27	6.00pm	Evensong

The Barfords

Sun	6	4.00pm	Eucharist (BfdStM)
Sun	13	4.00pm	Evensong (BfdStM)
Sun	20	4.00pm	All Age Worship (BfdStM)
Sun	27	4.00pm	Eucharist (BfdStJ)

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms

Jan	16	Mazey Lou Spellman
		Emily McTaggart Hayward
		Callum Mark Hayward
		Alfie Andrew Hayward
		Amy Chloe Haynes
Feb	20	

Interment of Ashes

Jan	11	John Fowler
Feb	21	Pat Adkins
Feb	25	Roy Berridge
		Service of Thanksgiving
Feb	7	Ray Sones

For baptisms, weddings, funerals or home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, the Rev. Dr Hugh White, 28 Duns Tew (349869), the curate, Revd Dr Dan Inman (338582) curatedan@gmail.com, or one of the church wardens, Glynne Bianchi (337743) or George Fenemore (338203). For further information please go to www.deddingtonchurch.org.

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Sunday mornings at 10.30am Pastor Isabel Walton

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Congregational Chapel, New Street

This Chapel is now closed. The congregation continues to worship on Sunday mornings with the Wesleyan Reform Church.

Joyce Minnear 338529

RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury

Fr John Burns 277396

Mass at Holy Trinity, Hethe: every weekday except Wed at 9.30am, Sun at 10.00am.

St George's Church Adderbury: Mass Wed 7.00pm and Sun 8.30am.

Confessions at Hethe Sat 5.30–6.00pm and at Adderbury before Mass.

The Eve of Sunday Mass at St John's Church, Banbury, is said at 4.00pm on Saturdays to allow worshippers from the villages to attend by public transport.

Wednesday 9 March is Ash Wednesday and is Day of Fasting for Adults and a Day of Abstinence for all Parishioners. There will be Imposition of Ashes before the Masses in both churches.

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

On 12 April at 2.00pm Trevor Goodall's ashes will be interred at the Parish Church. All friends are welcome to return to my home for drinks following the service.

Jenny Goodall
338021

DOWN ON THE FARM

Here we go again! By the time this has scraped past the editors' red pencil the countdown to the new lambing season will have begun. Due to the 2010 snow the ewes have already been 'inside' some four weeks longer than planned, something that has placed a heavy burden on the winter feed stocks as last summer's hay crop was reduced by some 40% due to the dry weather in June and July. As the sheep came in early we have been bulking out the rations with oat straw to save the hay, but as lambing approaches and the growing lambs reduce the stomach area, the ewes need a higher level of nutrition, so the haystack has been opened up. Even now it is having to be carefully rationed to last until the spring grass can take over. The down side to feeding straw is that we had to increase the amount of bought-in feed nuts to keep the protein levels up, so what we gained on increased grain prices will be lost on increased feed bills, but that's life on the farm.

The bees have made an early start and by the middle of February all the hives were producing brood and on warm sunny days they were collecting pollen from the snowdrops, and hazel and alder catkins. This is a sure indication that the Queen is laying but it is still very early in the year and a prolonged 'Blackthorn winter' could cause heavy losses.

The woodwork shop has been very busy and I have made a lot of new equipment ready for when the

season takes off. Due to the very hard weather the Green Woodpeckers (chisel bills) have done a lot of damage. I have 'patched' the damaged hives for now but as soon as the weather warms up (15°C plus) the bees will have to be re-housed in new hives and the damaged hives re-built.

The farm has a number of well-used rights of way and many people use the paths to walk their dogs. Although the main ewe flock is housed at the moment, the Cotswolds, being a long wool breed, are better left outside in a small sheltered paddock. During the afternoon of 12 February, a very pleasant sunny day, some idiot allowed their dog to worry and maul my Cotswold flock. Although the sheep that were bitten were not badly injured, they are heavily in lamb and the stress of being chased could cause them to abort their lambs. I have spent a lot of time and money trying to reintroduce the Cotswold breed back into the parish and these lambs will be the first born on this farm for 200-plus years. I am very distressed to think that my small flock of an endangered breed has been damaged in this way and I ask you all please to keep your dogs on leads at all times when walking on the farm. I give warning to the owner of the sheep worrier that we are on high alert and will take all lawful steps to prevent it happening again.

George Fenemore
338203

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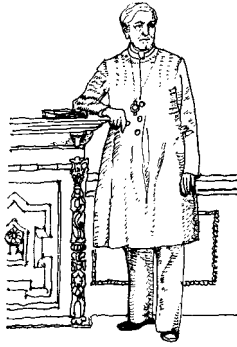
DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the month of March 1861:

5th March – Attended the Assize Courts with Holford – our Adderbury corn stealing case was tried and the parties – thief and receiver, (Paynton and Wilkins) – were convicted, the former was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment with Hard Labour, the latter to 3 months. The sentence was considered a light one in each case, Paynton had been receiving 11s. per week of his master, Mr. Wyatt, for some months past and beer occasionally.

8th March – I signed a summons against Mr. Hiorns for assaulting his female servant and refusing to pay the wages due to her.

13th March – Holford on his return from hunting reported that Radley College had become insolvent – and was about to be broken up.



14th March – I drove to the Lunatic Asylum at Littlemore to arrange about T. Lardner's sister being admitted as an inmate, pro tempore only I hope. On my return to Oxford I called on the Warden of New College and was sorry to find the rumour as to Radley confirmed – with some unpleasant circumstances attending the resignation of the Warden.

16th March – The Vicar cut down and sold the remaining ash tree in the Churchyard during the week.

21st March – Mr. Brogden called with a paper relating to the value of this Living and its future increase by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. I called on Mrs. Emberlin and Mrs. Rizbah Matthews who were both very poorly – sent them each something to comfort and support them.

Buffy Heywood, 338212

Deddington Festival Community Concert Thursday 30 June in the Church 7.00pm to approx 9.15pm

There will once again be a Community Concert this year. The programme will be songs from the shows and will be called 'In Praise of Musicals'. Twenty-one musicals have been selected with one song from each.

We want as many people as would like to be part of it, so if anyone out there would like to who has not already agreed to be brave and perform, please contact me. No audition required – just the willingness to come to a few rehearsals in May and June.

*Wendy Burrows
338082*

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News from Hempton

The Parish Council will again be holding their monthly meeting in the Church Hall on Wednesday 16 March from 7.30pm. There will be ten minutes for the public at the start, so if you have any concerns, go along and voice them.

St John's Church has recently had its five-yearly inspection by our architect. Although the report is on the favourable side there is still work to be done. With a five-year timescale, this is in addition to the new doors between the Church and hall which should be fitted shortly. The Friends of the Church are responsible for all maintenance costs; money is available for the doors but fund-raising will need to be done for other proposals.

I have just received the interim results for the Ride and Stride Day in 2010 and, apart from two churches in Oxford, St John's had the most visitors out of the rest of Oxfordshire, which were 117, so well done to

everyone concerned.

The Table Tennis team are bottom of Division Two of the Banbury League and, with half the matches played, look like relegation candidates. They were also well beaten in the second round of the cup by a strong Mollington team.

As you walk round the village it is nice to see all the spring flowers coming up on the grass verges. This always reminds me of the late Dennis Washington who had some of them planted, as well as the people who planted the ones on the Duns Tew Road.

I end with the sad news of the death of Ray Sones from St John's Way. Ray was a family man and a well-respected member of the community and of both St John's Church and St Peter and St Paul in Deddington, as was demonstrated by his thanksgiving service at the latter. Our condolences to family and friends.

Les Chappell 338054

Getting your message across

In addition to *Deddington News* and Deddington On-Line, Deddingtonians can now also communicate a message to the rest of the community via Facebook and Twitter.

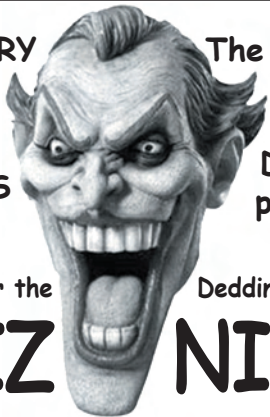
Eileen Anderson and David Rogers would be delighted to help any person, club or society promote an event or occasion.

If you have a message you want to get across to

the village, please feel free to email it to eileenandersonuk@yahoo.co.uk or david@blueskyday.biz and they will be delighted to assist.

If you have an article for *DN* please send it to editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk and if you want this to appear on the DoL Forum, then please register and post your message directly.

David Rogers, david@blueskyday.biz



The GLORY The INFAMY

The JOKERS The DODGY pictures

It's time for the Deddington PTA...

QUIZ NIGHT


WINDMILL CENTRE

SATURDAY 12 MARCH

Warm up around 7.30pm. Quiz starts at 8pm.

Maximum of eight people per team.

£8 per person, including hot potato supper.



Fully licensed bar available.



All teams to bring a raffle prize.

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FARMERS' MARKET

The March Farmers' Market will be on the 26th, one week after the spring equinox, so the days will be longer than the nights at last! And we promise there will be the usual great range of products and produce for you to enjoy.

Elsewhere in this month's *DN*, Mary Robinson has written about our local apple, the Deddington Pippin. Andy Howard, the discoverer of the apple and local apple grower, will be at the market with examples of the apple, and will be demonstrating grafting; the most common form of propagation for apple varieties. Come and see Andy, and maybe you could be growing a truly local apple next year.

Last month I mentioned that we had the largest turnout ever of the erection team for the bitterly cold December market. Despite all that help, we have a gap that needs plugging. Part of the work for each market is to run out the cables that take the power from the town hall to those stalls that need it. We could do with setting up a small team to do this job each month, watt could be easier? So if you would like to become part of the current team, please let us know.

Paul Drawmer
paul@drawmer.net

Missing the point – or getting it?

Each year over 80 million chocolate Easter Eggs are sold in the UK but the astonishing fact is that none of them ever mentions on the elaborate packaging that Easter has anything to do with Jesus. This year some enterprising people have produced the Real Easter Egg, a 125g Fairtrade milk chocolate egg in a box that amongst the traditional yellow chicks and bright flowers includes a panel about the real meaning of Easter, and how Jesus burst out of the tomb, like a chick bursting out of the eggshell (geddit?) and has inspired people ever since.

Most supermarkets were dubious about these Real

Eggs and declined to stock them, but churches have ordered them in larger than expected numbers. Selling at £4.25 each, Deddington Fair Traders have secured a modest supply which will be available this month and would make an ideal gift for friends, godchildren, family, grandchildren and chocoholics. A charitable donation is included in the price of each egg. Please place your order as soon as possible by calling 337761 or email deddingtonfairtraders@gmail.com. If demand exceeds our supply we will try to get additional supplies if they are available.

Hugh Marshall 337761



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29 June - 10 July

Community Concert
Deddington Rocks
Classical Concert
Stekpanna Jazz
Poetry Please
Farmland Walk
Art
Writing Competition
Art Exhibition . . .

www.deddingtonfestival.org

FROM THE FIRE STATION

Well, it's been a busy start to 2011, with a fire call virtually everyday for the first three weeks of January, a brief respite for the last week, followed by another busy couple of weeks into February. In total so far, we've had 30 fire calls.

At this time of year, we're seeing the usual chimney fires and more road traffic collisions. When the icy conditions came back in January, we attended four collisions in a matter of hours rather than days. These were both local incidents (A4260 Duns Tew cross-roads) and further afield at Mixbury and on the M40.

We've attended five chimney fires so far, in Somerton, Fritwell, Duns Tew and Clifton, with the Clifton incident being at Watch Manager Fenemore's farm! I have since checked the mobilisation times with Control and this has been the quickest turnout time for our appliance this year. Chris did request a silent approach to this incident, but as a crew we decided to let the world know whose house was on fire, approaching at full volume!

Probably the most interesting job so far has been the oil fire in Southam Road, Banbury, which was caused by an oxy-acetylene cutting set which ignited rubbish in a pit of oil. This was tackled initially using foam extinguishers and high pressure hoses, but eventually needed a type of foam called FP-70. We don't use this much as it has serious environmental consequences and we have to notify the Environment Agency and Food Standards Agency just in case any runs into local watercourses. In this instance, the foam was contained with the oil, inside the pit. It took the foam stocks from the whole of North Oxfordshire to extinguish the fire.

Finally, we were called out in the small hours of the morning to reports of some rubbish that had been set on fire under Deddington Town Hall. On arrival, it was apparent that a large pile of newspapers had been deliberately set alight. Fortunately, passing police spotted it and called us and they are now investigating.

Chris Fenemore has now been appointed as the permanent Watch Manager. He's busy setting out the way forward for the station in terms of training, recruitment and crew development. Whilst we are not currently engaged in large scale recruitment, there are a couple of kit pegs available here and we are looking to fill these positions this year.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact us for an informal chat on 338281 or come to the station to see us on Tuesday 1 or 8 March at 7.00pm when we are holding informal drop-in sessions.

Graham Harding, A/Crew Manager
FireDeddington.Retained@Oxfordshire.gov.uk

YOUTH CLUB

A Treasurer would be fabulous to work with the youth club team, very basic accounts, just an hour and a bit each month, we'd love you to support our club.

Villagers aged 9 to 15: Youth Club is really rocking on Monday nights at the Windmill Centre 7–9pm, lots of socialising, sports, games, cooking, crafts, music, PS2, table tennis, air hockey, pool, giant jenga and just wait 'til you see the tuck shop – you'll love it!

Thank you to the Parish Council for helping fund our club.

For more details of the Treasurer's role: email helen@spencerbuilders.co.uk or call 337373.

THE TASTE BUDDIES

We are the Taste Buddies. We lunch out every two months to assess local pubs and restaurants. We hope you will find our observations useful.

WHERE? The Kingham Plough, The Green, Kingham OX7 6YD. Tel: 01608 658327

A friendly relaxing pub in a lovely setting overlooking the village green, decorated in a shabby chic style in the bar area. There is another larger restaurant area behind.

FOOD SERVED: Every day Lunch 12.00–2.00pm, Sundays till 2.30pm. Dinner 7.00–9.00pm (bar snacks only on Sunday evenings).

COST: Starters £7.00 – £8.00, Main £12.00 – £16.00, Dessert £6.00. Bar Menu £3.00 – £7.00

WERE THEY PLEASED TO SEE YOU?

Yes, we were made to feel welcome and shown our table immediately on arrival.

WAS THE COOKING GOOD?

Superb. Using the best quality locally sourced organic ingredients our meal was very attractively served, the



portions were generous and had a richness of taste that comes from organic food and outstanding preparation.

For starters we had Cotswold Rare-bit with homemade sour dough toast, a home cured venison ham with a Grebiche sauce and a crispy egg which had to be seen to be believed, and a cauliflower cheese.

Mains were Hereford beef-burger with triple-cooked potato wedges, salad and homemade ketchup, a loin of pork with pressed Maris Piper potatoes, cabbage and apple jelly, and Baked St Eadburgha cheese with Heritage potatoes and a thyme, chicory and walnut salad.

We shared a bowl of mixed homemade ice creams. The dessert menu was limited to a choice of three dishes, all of which were simply delicious. The wine list was smallish but with a good and also unusual choice.

VALUE FOR MONEY?

With the high standard of organic ingredients we felt it definitely was.

WOULD YOU GO AGAIN?

Absolutely.

FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

FROM KATIE AND ANDREW
JACOB, ST. MARY'S RD,
ADDERBURY

We hope you may be interested in the story of Ronnie. Ronnie's nanny is Shirley Jacob (Newell) who ran the hairdressers, *Shirley's Salon*, and her mother was Dorothy Lines (Newell) – true Deddingtonians! Ronnie has cerebral palsy. There is an operation, called Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy that will give him a chance of independence and save him a life of painful orthopaedic surgery. We have to raise a lot of money – £50,000–£60,000 – as it's performed in St Louis Children's Hospital, Missouri, USA. We've had many generous donations and fundraising ideas. There is a charity football match and auction at Banbury United on Friday 11 March at 7.00pm. Sky Sports' Mark Wedderburn has organised prizes such as Wimbledon Centre Court tickets and Manchester United gold-signed shirts. Please contact us with your ideas. They will be received with great thanks. You can follow us or donate on www.ronniesjourney.co.uk or Ronnie's Journey on Facebook or call 07789 658813. We look forward to hearing from you.

(*Banbury Guardian* and *Banbury Sound* have been following Ronnie's story. Ed)

FROM JENNY CROSS, STAFF NURSE,
THE PADDOCKS, DEDDINGTON

I would like to thank friends and neighbours who attended my Coffee Morning in November for Katharine House Hospice. £154.25p was raised through the sale of Christmas Cards and a raffle.

Please be assured that this contribution will be wisely used in the ongoing provision of comfort and care for our patients and their families at the Hospice. Thank you for your continued support of what has now become an annual event.

FROM DONALD LANE, CHURCH STREET,
DEDDINGTON

May I express my great appreciation to the 40 strong contingent from Deddington, who bravely came to my concert at the Holywell Music Room in Oxford on Saturday 12 February, to hear new music by Cecilia McDowall and myself. Performed by outstanding musicians in a beautiful venue, the evening was universally proclaimed a success, not least because of a full house. Thank you for making the evening one of the highlights of my life.

FROM CHRISTOPHER HALL, PHILCOTE STREET,
DEDDINGTON

Those who take part in the consultation over the future of Deddington Library need to take on board these dilemmas: if the County's Libraries' budget is



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

to be ring-fenced, what vital service should be cut instead? If within that budget, Deddington's library is to be saved, whose library is to be sacrificed instead?

The gut reaction is anger. Creativity in devising a sustainable Plan B would be more positive, so that the future of aspiring young adults, such as the GCSE student who spoke at the meeting, is ensured. Al Gore wrote

in 1992: 'We have convinced ourselves that we care far less about what happens to our children than about avoiding the inconvenience and discomfort of paying our own bills'. If keeping our Library means doubling the very low Parish Precept, so be it.

FROM VIV O'DONNELL, GROVE COTTAGE, HIGH
STREET, DEDDINGTON

A big thank you to Jenny Goodall who kindly gave me a tea party for my birthday. It was such fun. I was so overwhelmed by all the dear friends who came and brought flowers and gifts, I was speechless. My daughter carried everything home for me but once there I didn't know who had given what, and this is my way of thanking everyone and especially Jenny for all the trouble she went to.

FROM DEBBIE, LUCY AND IAN, CENTREPOINT,
CHAPEL SQUARE

Many will have seen that the Community Notice Board inside the Co-op has been removed, and that it is no longer possible to display 'postcard' adverts or publicise events. We have now created a new board in our front window and, as at the Co-op, we will offer this as a free service, with an optional charitable donation. We appreciate this is not as well-positioned as the old board but we hope locals will come to use it on a regular basis. We will try to ensure the board can be read day and night.

FROM SHARON GILL (NEE WYNNE),
BASINGSTOKE, HANTS

I am researching my family tree and whilst searching the internet I came across an article in the *Deddington News* dated October 2003. It was regarding the history of Tuckers Stores and written by Ruth Johnson. I am the youngest Wynne daughter, Sharon, and just wanted to say a big thank you to Ruth for such lovely words about my father.

Sadly we lost Dad in 1981, still very much missed. My Mum, Nicky, at the tender age of 81, lives near me in Basingstoke and I know she will be very touched by your article which I will indeed be showing her.

Many thanks again, albeit some years late, for bringing some very happy memories back to me.

PTA

Firstly, a huge thank you to the Deddington Players for their kind donation from their recent pantomime. It is greatly appreciated.

The race is on to purchase tickets for the year's hottest event so far... the PTA Annual Quiz Night! As usual, this is being held at the Windmill Centre on Saturday 12 March. This is always a night of great fun and frivolity and tickets (which are selling fast) can be booked by emailing deddington@cherwell.co.uk or by phoning 338468. Tickets are £8 per person which includes supper and there is a maximum of eight people per table. Who will be the 2011 champions?

Arrangements are gathering pace for the seventh Annual Deddington Walk which will be held on Sunday 15 May. We have a new route, new theme, lots of entertainment laid on and it is sure to be a fabulous day – make sure you make a note of the date and encourage your friends and family to join in. Further details next month or see www.deddingtonwalk.co.uk.

Finally, our summer fête will be held on Saturday 18 June – new attractions are planned so don't miss it!

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Janet Watts, Chair
337135

Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

As I write this the busy first term of 2011 is drawing to a close. The PFSU children have been finding out about animals and have enjoyed visits from a number of pets. We wrote letters to the vet inviting her to pre-school and were delighted that she could come along to see us and tell us about her job and about looking after animals.

We celebrated Chinese New Year at both settings and enjoyed visiting the May Fu II Restaurant to see their New Year decorations and to sample their delicious food. In our final week of term the PFSU welcomed some musical parents to pre-school who brought along their guitars and violins for us to find out about and hear. We also had fun at our Bookstart Story afternoon, when the children were presented with their Bookstart Treasure Chests, and on the final day of term we came to pre-school in animal fancy dress.

At the Nursery the children have been finding out all about transport and had a visit from the fire engine.

Thank you to vet Juliet Owens, the May Fu II Restaurant, Deddington Fire Service and to all the parents who have supported our activities this term. Our amazing committee have done us proud again raising £1,500 for the Nursery and PFSU from the jumble sale in the Church on 12 February. Apologies to anyone who was inconvenienced by the queues that formed in the Market Place and thank you to everyone who supported us on this occasion.

Nursery is now open all day on Fridays – spaces are available.

Lucy Squires
337484

Puss-in-Boots

Despite the absence of several well-known local players and the lack of a pianist, this year's pantomime brought colour, jollity and and music to the stage of the Windmill. The youthful choruses sang vigorously and tunelessly and enjoyed themselves so enthusiastically that their delight came over the footlights and enhanced the atmosphere. The show played to full houses each night.

The only criticism, heard quite often, was 'What was the story about?' which was the fault of a rather muddled script and not the fault of the producer or players. Congratulations to the producer, choreographer, stage crew, wonderfully clever wardrobe lady, players and dancers, and particularly to the efficient people up on their lonely balcony who managed the sound and lighting so well.

Molly Neild
337719

PRIMARY SCHOOL

As we move into the spring term (at last) we are feeling in a very creative mood at Deddington School!

The majority of the school is involved in our *Wizard of Oz* production at the end of this month, the school hall is constantly ringing out with songs from the musical, and children are working hard to perfect their lines. We are very grateful that Deddington Church is once again letting us take over their facilities and we hope that this year is as successful as previous years. We shall be performing 23–25 March at 7.30pm. Tickets will be on sale nearer the time.

We are also celebrating Red Nose Day this year by encouraging the children to wear red, and on World Book Day we want children to dress a teddy bear as a favourite book character.

Jane Cross, Deputy Headteacher
338430



Windmill Community Centre

Recently we have had problems with the lock on the main door. The committee has decided to replace the lock with a new security lock. This will be done on Monday 14 March.

ALL NOMINATED KEYHOLDERS should contact Joyce Minnear, Booking Secretary (tel 338529) for a replacement key. We will require £10 deposit which will be refunded when the key is returned. The new security keys can only be obtained through Joyce. If a second key is essential an additional deposit of £5 will be required.

Jim Flux, Treasurer
jimflux@tiscali.co.uk

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Photographic Society

At our last meeting John Prentice gave an interactive workshop on 'The comparison of photo-processing software'. Summarising the nine most popular software applications currently available, John went on to consider four applications in more detail, demonstrating their common aspects with a series of specimen photographs. Starting with Corel Paint Shop Pro, he showed the application's large number of features and ease of use, but noted several shortcomings. There are even more features with Adobe Elements, currently the market leader, with few disadvantages apart from the steep learning curve and its lack of instinctive feel. Adobe Lightroom had been developed in response to the specific requirements of a photographers' forum. Consequently it was judged as easy to use and there were perhaps fewer features. Finally John reviewed Google Picassa, which can be downloaded from Google. It had a lot of the more common features and was easy to use and good for anyone wishing to gain a first experience in photographic processing.

It was a most interesting examination of the different photo-processing software available, with lots of audience participation, which made for a popular and very lively evening.

On 2 March the noted local photographer, Jane Ryman, will give a presentation on 'Taking portrait photographs of family and children', followed by a workshop on 16 March from members Valentina and Anatoli on the 'Software processing of photographs'.

The AGM of the Society is on 6 April, which will be followed by a presentation by two members, Barry Singleton and Steve Sykes, on 'Our journeys into photography'. Lastly, on 20 April member Simon Lutter will give another of his series of workshops on 'Getting the most out of your camera'.

Everyone is welcome, just come along to the meetings at 7.30pm in the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho.

John Branton 01295 811079 www.adandd.co.uk

1st Deddington Brownies

Recently the Brownies had fun celebrating Valentine's Day and taking part in an enrolment evening. They are looking forward to celebrating Thinking Day with friends from across the District, going to London to visit Hyde Park, and taking part in the Deddington Community Concert. Congratulations to Brown Owl (Anne Kent) and Tawny Owl (Sian Westbury) who are both now fully qualified Brownie Guide Leaders. Anne has also taken on the role of job-share District Commissioner overseeing all Brownie, Guide and Rainbow packs in Adderbury, Barford, the Bartons and Deddington. If your daughter would like to join Brownies when she is seven it would be worth putting her name on the waiting list now. Brown Owl can be contacted at the1stdeddingtonowls@hotmail.co.uk.

Lucy Squires 338442

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

So far this term the Cubs have worked towards and gained their Personal Safety badge which includes road safety, being aware of dangerous environments, bullying etc. We have also spent an evening discussing garden birds and their diets prior to joining in with the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch. For the fitness award the Cubs made 'food wheels' which show the different food groups and then put this knowledge to good use by making pizzas.

We all had an enjoyable evening at the panto. I'm always amazed at how many sugar worms one Cub can eat!

Philip, Toby, Patrick and Olly attended the District Supercub event where they listened to a story then made a scrap model based on something from it. Although they did not win they all did very well.

Coming next, decorated clothes hangers for their uniforms and Easter boxes.

The group is actively working towards the formation of a Beaver group (6–8yrs); if you would like to help, please contact me.

Jo Churchyard CSL 338071

jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

Scouts also attended the panto and consumed the same amount of sugar as the Cubs, but before that we started the term with an inter-patrol quiz, with rounds as diverse as origami, flags and capitals and the 'yes/no' game. Cobra Patrol was the runaway winner and was awarded our 'no expense spared' trophy.

We are concentrating on some of the core elements of scouting, starting with basic navigation as they will be going on several night hikes in the next few weeks and we will be relying on them to find their way home.

In February they celebrated the Chinese New Year with an evening of Chinese themed activities, such as fortune cookie-making, the construction of a very small terracotta army and a mad relay game involving sweets and chopsticks.

Scouts need a few laptops (everything is on the internet these days). if you have an old one, or if your company is replacing some, we would be very willing to take them off your hands.

Pete Churchyard SL 338071

pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

Book Club

At our January meeting we discussed *Brooklyn*, by Irish writer Colm Toibin. Set in the 1950s, the story follows the fortunes of a young Irish girl who emigrates from small-town Ireland to New York in search of new opportunities. The writing is simple and straightforward and gives an evocative picture of the culture of that time in both Ireland and America, as well as some very real descriptions of her disorientation and homesick-

CALLING MORE CLUBS

ness in her new environment. Most of the group enjoyed the book, but we thought the characters lacked depth and the minute details were, at times, tedious.

The next meeting is 24 March. Please call for the title of the next book.

Sally Lambert 338094

Deddington Toddler and Baby Group

Firstly, a big hello and welcome to all the new mums, dads, children and babies who have joined us over the past few weeks. It has been lovely to see some new faces and meet our new babies – our newest recruit being only 11 days old!

Santa's visit to our Christmas Party in December was great fun! Thank you to everyone who helped organise the party and provided raffle prizes. The raffle raised £65 towards the group's funds. Congratulations to Mike Horth, Anna's Daddy, who won the hamper of Christmas goodies.

We are currently planning new crafts and activities for the next few months, including Easter bunnies and Mother's Day gifts. We are also holding our AGM on Wednesday 9 March at 7.30pm at 10 St John's Way, Hempton, and welcome all our mums and dads to come along and share views and ideas for the running of the group.

If you are a parent, carer or grandparent living in Deddington or the surrounding villages and look after a child aged 0 to 5 years then we would love you to come along and join us. We meet every Friday morning from 9.30 to 11.30am at the Windmill Centre, Deddington. We have plenty of toys and lots of space for the children to play in as well as a soft area for our babies. We all gather part way through the morning for a sing-song, which the children (and adults) love! After this we have a much-needed cup of tea or coffee with squash and biscuits for the children.

If you would like to know more about the group, our AGM, or are thinking of coming to the group but are nervous about turning up without knowing anyone, then please give Rebecca a call on 336298. We look forward to meeting you.

Wendy Samways

WI

On 8 February Dusty Rhodes gave an entertaining, informative talk about the origins of many country customs. Beginning with January and going through to December, Dusty explained that frequently repeated incidents quickly became a recognised custom, many of which survive to the present day. Dusty was thanked by Doreen Watkins on behalf of the members and several visitors who had enjoyed his talk.

Our annual meeting is on 8 March, followed by cheese and wine.

**Rene Mahony
338438**

1st Deddington Guides

I hope everyone has appreciated the wonderful singing and music emanating from the hall. Our own talent show winners were Livia A and Daisy L with a super dance routine – we also had a play, magic show, flutes, clarinets, recorders, a stilt performance, storytelling, gymnastics and singing! We're also in full voice for our entertainment charity show for 29 March 2011.

Some patrol activities and badge work are continuing, together with quizzes, bedding rolls for camp and games of all kinds.

Before our Easter egg hunt we will have made pancakes, relaxed with some yoga, learnt about fossils and mapping and celebrated with national thinking days.

Maggie Rampley, Guider 01295 810069

Marion Trinder, Guider 340806

Deddington Boys Brigade and Community Band

The band is on the look out for new recruits! Whilst remaining a part of the Boys Brigade and supportive of their events, we are expanding our membership to include all band players from the local community. We already have several girls and adults in the band as well as the boys. Brass and percussion players of all standards are very welcome to join us on Monday nights in the Living Room at Deddington Church, from 6.45 until 8.00pm. Please give Ros or Graham Wallington a call on 338088 if you would like to find out more about us, or just turn up on a Monday. We will be playing in Deddington Church at the Farmers' Market on 23 April so please come along and support us if you can.

Lucy Squires 338442

Deddington Town Football Club

1st team results:

22/01/11	KEA (a)	L 2-3	Hall, Thornton L
05/02/11	Ducklington (h)	(CUP)	W 4-3
12/02/11	FC Naranja (h)	(CUP)	W 4-1
	England, Flemming S,	Thornton L	(2)

Reserve team results:

15/01/11	Heyford Ath Res (a)	(CUP)	L 3-4
	Kaye (2), McPhee		
22/01/11	Priors United (h)	(CUP)	L 2-7
	Kaye, Smith		
29/01/11	Swis FC (a)	W 6-1	
	Kaye (3), Large, Paroussis		
05/02/11	Pepperpot United (a)	L 1-4	Kaye
12/02/11	Abba Athletic (a)	L 1-4	Walker

Testosterone-tipped tellurian titans triumphantly teeter towards trophy troves. Your imperious Firsts loiter on the cusp of unimagined accomplishments in progressing to the semi-finals of the John Fathers Junior Shield; a competition open to teams from across the county. Deddington have not reached this stage since the

...AND EVEN MORE CLUBS

1920s and, if they should win, would see your local team drawn in the preliminary rounds of the FA Cup! The win against Ducklington was achieved in the most glorious of circumstances, as Jack Davies scored a magnificent equaliser late on, before Steven Fleming grabbed a winner that brought the house down. This run, along with progress in other cups, has been tempered slightly by a narrow defeat to KEA, though Deddington still remain well in contention for the title at this stage.

The Reserve team has had a far less fruitful month since returning from the blizzardous hiatus; eliminated from two cups and losing two away league games, though they gained a welcome and resounding victory away at the hopeless Swis FC. Jordan Kaye scored another hat-trick in this game as well as goals in most of the other matches to add to his burgeoning haul.

The semi-final of the Junior Shield will take place at the Oxford City FC Stadium on Wednesday 23 March, kick-off at 7.00pm. More details can be found on the Deddington Facebook page. Make sure you're there to help us live the dream!

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

1st Barford and Deddington Rainbows

We started off the term by making birdfeeders out of pinecones for the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch, which was messy but fun! We celebrated Burns Night with haggis, neeps and tatties, which were all surprisingly popular. I think all the Rainbows decided that they really rather liked haggis! We made heart baskets from woven card for Valentines Day, but the most popular evening again has been our 'Sleepover'. Squirrel hasn't done her overnight permit, so we all come to a normal meeting in our pyjamas and dressing-gowns and bring our sleeping-bags and play lots of Sleeping Lions. Connie, Shona, Anya and Hannah were all very good at this, but we did let them wake up for hot chocolate!

We sadly say goodbye to Shona, Amy M, Anya and Connie this half-term, as they go up to Brownies, but spaces aren't there for long and we welcome Poppy and Makenna from Barford and Harriet and Caitlin from Deddington.

Rainbows are girls aged 5–7 years and we meet in Barford St Michael Village Hall on a Friday afternoon.

Please do put your daughter on the waiting list early; don't wait until they're nearly five as we have a long waiting list.

Hazel Neal 337822

Deddington Branch Royal British Legion

We held our first committee meeting of the year on Wednesday 19 January. The forthcoming events to celebrate the 90th birthday of the British Legion were discussed and they are expected to include a service in the Parish Church, subject to the approval of the Vicar, and a trip to the National Memorial Arboretum

in Staffordshire. We hope to have full details in the April edition of *DN*.

It is with regret that we received notice of the resignation of Dave Keats from the Branch Committee.

Memberships become consolidated at this time of the year and we are pleased to report that 153 members are fully paid up. This is only two fewer than last year.

Jean Morris, Branch Secretary 338143
DeddingtonRBL@aol.com

Deddington Tennis Club

With Easter approaching the club is gearing up for summer tennis with free adult open mornings on Sundays 10 and 17 April. Also on Sunday 17th there will be a junior afternoon with free coaching from our LTA qualified coaches, starting at 2.00pm with ages 3 and 4 and a separate group for 5 to 7 years; at 3.00pm ages 8 and 9, and at 4.00pm ages 10 to 13. All standards are welcome, so please come along for a game and meet the club.

There will be a junior tennis camp over the Easter break; please see our website nearer the date for details.

Steve Ashby, Head Coach
01295 263855

Deddington Players

Thank you to everyone who came to see *Puss-in-Boots* in January. We had a lot of fun and we hope you did too. More of you came to see us this year which was fantastic, and the cast was also bigger than ever. Thanks to your generous purchase of raffle tickets we were able to make donations to Katharine House, Deddington School PTA, Deddington PFSU and Deddington Thursday Club. Any further profits will be invested in improvements to our sound system at the Windmill Centre.

Our AGM is at the Holly Tree Club at 7.00pm on Saturday 26 March 2011. This meeting is open to all members and prospective members and is your chance to contribute to plans for the coming year. We are still looking for more adults to join the cast – could it be you?

Lucy Squires 338442

Deddington and District History Society

In February we enjoyed a return visit by Liz Woolley, who has established herself as a firm favourite with us as a speaker. On this occasion she spoke to us on the subject of child labour in Oxfordshire in the 19th century. Most of us think of child labour in terms of young children toiling in the factories and mines of the Midlands and the North. Yet in rural counties like Oxfordshire, child labour was as much a feature of everyday life in the nineteenth century as in industrialised areas.

...AND YET MORE

Liz told us the story of our county's child workers, many of whom started work part-time at the age of six or seven and, until compulsory school legislation in the 1870s, left education for good by the age of ten to become permanently employed. Oxfordshire children worked in agriculture, in domestic service, and in lace-making, gloving and a host of other small-scale occupations. We also learned that cottage industry and agricultural work were by no means a soft option compared to work in factories and mines.

On 9 March Gillian White will speak on 'How do you solve a problem like Eliza? Portraits of Queen Elizabeth I'.

We are always delighted to see new members. Just turn up at the Windmill Centre on the second Wednesday of any month to be assured of a warm welcome. Talks start at 7.30pm.

Chris Day (Chairman) 337204
Moiria Byast (Secretary) 338637

Deddington Royal British Legion Club

They say variety is the spice of life and there's something for everyone in the Legion's upcoming events calendar.

Those who like a little flutter should get themselves along to the club on Saturday 5 March for our video Race Night. As well as betting on the night you can improve your chances of winning by becoming an owner and naming and cheering on your own runner(s). We're also looking for local businesses or generous individuals to sponsor each of the races.

On Saturday 12 March there's an opportunity to get the grey matter working and to show off your general knowledge in our Quiz Night. Entries are invited from teams of up to four people at a cost of only £2.50 per head. I understand that the football club is planning to enter a crack team so how about some friendly rivalry with entries from some other village clubs/institutions to give them a run for their money?

On Saturday 19 March the Guinness will be flowing and there'll be all kinds of shenanigans and the craic will be great as we celebrate St Patrick's Day with a disco. Become an honorary Irishman/woman for the day and Riverdance your way to the Club for what should be a lively evening.

Gareth Smith

Deddington Beeches Bowls Club

Do you want something competitive and exciting to do this summer in the evenings and weekends? Then why not join us at the Club bowling green situated near the Windmill Centre, Deddington?

Male or female, young or old, come on your own or with some friends – the more the merrier.

Shoes and bowls are available free of charge for you to have a try. If you get the bug (we are sure you will) you can play in club matches at home and away

at various venues in and around Oxfordshire. You can also enter club/county and national competitions. Is there a budding county champion out there?

So why not give it a go, meet new friends and socialise with a competitive spirit?

Also, when the dark winter evenings are with us we move to Banbury Indoor Bowling Club at Woodgreen, just off Orchard Way where we also play day and evening leagues and home and away club matches.

Contact any of the following for more information.

Pat Clements/Ted Davies 338710
Yvonne and Chris Twomey 337213

Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

The DOGS held their AGM in early February. Nearly 30 members turned out with the election of a new chairman as the main agenda item. Our previous chairman, Mike Roberts, led the DOGS through a time of transition, which now finds us firmly in the 21st century! Many thanks to Mike for a superb job. Nominations were opened and Tony Lowe proposed and elected unanimously.

At the conclusion of the AGM the programme of the main golf events for 2011 was presented. These are: Friday 13 May, Studley Wood Golf Club; Monday 13 June, Burford Golf Club; Friday 12 August, Cherwell Edge Golf Club; and Friday 21 October, Temple Golf Club.

The meeting adjourned and in no time the DOGS carried on doing what they do best – sampling the ales at the Deddington Arms.

David Darst 338589

Just 36 lines or 2000 words

Apologies for the delay in getting the full details of this year's Deddington Writing Competitions on to the Festival website (www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk) but they are now readily available online, in the Library or from dwgcomp@yahoo.co.uk.

In the Open Competition the writer chooses the subject or topic which can be a true or fictional piece of up to 2000 words, serious, factual, abstract or humorous, whilst for some authors a poem of up to 36 lines may be the preferred means of expression.

The Junior Competition is divided into three age-groups and the subject given for poem or story is 'News' which invites a wide degree of interpretation.

The closing date for the Junior Competition is 8 April and entries in the Open Competition must be received by 6 May. Details of the cash prizes and rules of the competition, as well as of the distinguished authors who have agreed to judge the competition and present the prizes, are set out in the competition leaflets.

Hugh Marshall
337761

WELL REMEMBERED

Derrick Edward Frederick Robbins 1928 – 2010

Derrick was evacuated to Deddington in September 1939 to stay with his uncle, Chris Ells, at Tower View (now Wirral House). He subsequently moved to the USA and was living in Sarasota, Florida when he found the *DN* on the internet some years ago; he then contacted Ruth Johnson to offer his crystal clear recollections of his war years in the village for publishing in *DN*. Many people will remember the series that ran over some two years.

I took over the contact from Ruth in order to facilitate the transfer of the, by now, very extensive collection of stories to Deddington OnLine. In the process Derrick became a good internet friend and a most amusing correspondent. He followed the month-to-month goings-on in Deddington closely and provided yet more memories for the website. I would have very much liked to meet him and we joked about his now being legally able to drink a pint of Hooky if he came to visit us - as opposed to a furtive sip from a friend's glass behind the Unicorn as a schoolboy.

When I stopped getting responses to emails I feared what we now know. Sadly he passed away in March last year. We only found this out recently via an internet search by Eileen Anderson; it led her to a notice in the Sarasota Herald Chronicle which fortunately also provided the name of his daughter, Jasmyn Copeland, and where she lived. A further search of social networking sites led to Eileen making personal contact. So although we have lost a very good friend, we have made another to whom we send our sincere condolences. I would like to think we might be able to tell Jasmyn in person one day how much Derrick's tales have been appreciated in the village.

His *Recollections* can be found at www.deddington.org.uk/history/worldwars/personalstories/index/recollectionsofthe1940s.

Rob Forsyth
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

UP THE ALLOTMENT

Did you know 14 February is the day robins officially start nesting so with that in mind if you do have any hedges to trim I'd get out there quick. Once the buds burst from those promising bubbles you're too late.

With the hint of new beginnings and those seed packets staring at us, it's time to think about propagating but what should we start them off in? The government is aiming for a total withdrawal of peat use by home gardeners by 2020. Is that achievable at the moment? There are alternatives out there



Irene Robinson 1922 – 2011

Born in Peckham, Irene left school at 14. Her headmistress got her a job in a corset factory but her father insisted that she should work in his confectioner's and tobacconist shop. Marrying at the beginning of the Second World War, she gave birth during an air raid and was burnt out of the flat she shared with the family.

In the 1950s she nursed her mother to her death and so became home-maker for her husband, son, father and brother, running two homes and the shop while dreaming of a cottage in the country. She got there eventually when she moved with husband Ted from London to Middle Barton in 1981. Too soon afterwards, Ted died in 1983 and at 61, Irene bought a motor scooter, never having driven anything before. For the WI, Irene baked weekly for their stall in Woodstock.

Finally, to be nearer to Mary and Colin, Irene came to Deddington in 1998. She loved this village which was quite a buzz after a cul-de-sac in Barton. Deddington Craft Club took her into their delightful circle where she discovered she could in fact do things she'd thought beyond her. Sadly her eyesight worsened until she could no longer see to sew but the Craft Club continued to scoop her up every week. Thank you ladies. A number of medical problems made life more and more uncomfortable until Irene died in her sleep in the Horton on 23 January.

Colin Robinson, colin@workhouse.org.uk

and the RHS has been running trials with the current alternatives:

Loam based – sand and loam

Green waste;

Wood fibre – predominantly shredded wood

Coir – coconut fibre-based media with vermiculite

In all cases, buy the seed-based alternative as the multipurpose varieties can be too coarse and lumpy to make a suitable seed bed and they will not contain the right nutrients. The product that most reflects the texture of peat is coir and there have been some very satisfactory results with this product although not in this particular trial. Whilst the product is a pleasing medium to handle the germination was erratic. (If you want information about the trial go to the RHS website and search 'Peat-free media'.)

The advice the RHS are giving is that changing to peat free alternatives will require changes in cultivation; watering regimes of peat-free media differ from those of peat, eg green waste was easily over watered in this trial.

It is still early days and industries are continuing to develop and enhance their products so try, try again and hopefully we'll have an alternative that we're all happy with in years to come.

Samantha Willis
samantha.willis@gmail.com

THE APPLE OF OUR EYE

The eagle eyed among you might have seen a TV crew filming in Deddington last October. Nothing new in that, our photogenic Market Place has often been subject material for cameras. But what were they doing on the Banbury road, up by the Council road depot? The answer is in a tree, not any old tree but an apple tree of the Deddington Pippin variety; and if you have never heard of it, read on.

It was discovered in 2007 by Adderbury grower Andy Howard who says:

'It is called a pippin because it probably comes from the discarded seed of an apple (possibly thrown from a car window) which has been wild pollinated, maybe by a crab apple. An ex-County road surveyor for Oxford who has pictures of when the new Banbury road was built in 1938 confirms there was no

tree there at that time, so we can date the tree from after then, and the size of its trunk/height confirms it as 65–70 years old. It is also a pippin due to its location: no one would intentionally plant a tree in that position, half way up a bank on a main road. It doesn't fit the description in Bunyard's classification for any apples of this size shape, colour and storage characteristics.

The apple has a green base with red stripe going to total red by January with some yellow striping. It is a tall concave shape with a long thin stalk which comes out well above the basin. Its skin is initially "greasy" but then goes drier. A sweet, crunchy, juicy apple with creamy white flesh which has a real aromatic depth of flavour with a good balance of lemony tanginess and nuttiness. If it survives the hungry blue tits who really

appreciate its flesh on cold days, it keeps well into March. It is such a good sweet late storing apple that I am now grafting it on so that its properties continue.'

Andy will be at the March Farmers' Market with samples of the Deddington Pippin. He will also have some trees for sale (Parish Councillor Jean Rudge already has one on her allotment), together with other varieties including the North Aston Non-Pareil. On his display will also be examples of late storing apples for tasting. Andy, a member of the Mid-Shires Orchard Group, will be demonstrating fruit tree grafting, and will be happy to answer questions and offer advice.

Back to the TV programme: *The History of the English Apple* is a one-hour BBC4 documentary on 'wild apples' which have been grafted and then domesti-

cated. It is scheduled for transmission this summer, time not yet known. Chris Beardshaw, who presents the programme, said in a December Gardeners' Question Time radio programme: 'This autumn I planted an apple which will be perfect for harvesting on Christmas Day. It's called the Deddington Pippin, and it's at its best after the frosts of early winter, so next year for Christmas I might just be having Deddington Pippin.'

Since this mention Andy has been inundated with requests for the tree. He has sold out now but will be grafting and budding more for next season and has a waiting/reservation list. He can be contacted on 01295 810516 or johoward@metronet.co.uk.

Mary Robinson
mary.robinson@deddington.net



Andy Howard on his stall last March at the Farmers' Market (pic Geoff Todd)

Deddington Parish Show Saturday 3 September in the Church

This is, perhaps, the month for a reminder about our Parish Show, as we start to plant seeds and think ahead to the spring and summer gardening and maybe create a painting and/or craft work, sewing or making jewellery – or writing a limerick (this time it must start with 'The Deddington Vicar...').

An insert of the list of classes will be put into the April edition. Hopefully you will be able to find some classes you can enter.

Wendy Burrows, Hon Secretary
338082

Take a look at the NEW *Deddington News* website – we've been completely revamped, thanks to Mary Robinson.

Oxfordshire Family History Society

OHFS has started a project to record the text on all of the memorial inscriptions in and around the Parish Church. The plan is to photograph and record the text on all of the headstones, footstones, tombs, plaques, kneelers and book jackets. The information will be compiled into a reference work that will be available to purchase through the OFHS or browse in the internet café in the Church.

The team meets every Monday afternoon at the church from 1.30pm and new helpers are welcome.

If you would care to be involved or to find out more please contact David Rogers on 337065, david@blueskyday.biz or Eve Magee, eve.magee@yahoo.co.uk. No experience is required, just sturdy footwear if it's damp and a spot of enthusiasm would help.

David Rogers