

The content of this *DN* may seem like 'fiddling while Rome burns'. That was what the emperor Nero reputedly chose to do - his choice to do nothing did not keep him out of politics. His was a political choice so that the blame would fall on others.

Today there are choices to be made. Even if prayer is not your thing, please keep in mind

- those whose choices have created the crisis
- those making hard choices

- those bullying others to make choices
- those who have no choice but to carry out the choices of others
- those who will suffer from choices they had no say in making.



Another Roman official chose to wash his hands - his failure to accept responsibility is never forgotten. *CA*

## MARCH DIARY

See page 12 for APRIL DIARY

Sat	1	School Quiz Night, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. → p.3
Mon	3	Monday Morning Club: Coffee Morning, The Holly Tree, 10am-noon. → p.6
Mon	3	Deddington Youth Club, Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm.. → p.5
Wed	5	Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8-10 pm.
Sat	8	Englefield Ensemble in Bloxham School in aid of Katharine House, 7.30 pm
Mon	10	Deddington Song Circle, 7.30-9 pm → p.5
Tue	11	Lent lunch for charity, Parish Church, 12.30 pm. → p.4
Tue	11	WI, Annual General Meeting, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm
Wed	12	History Society: Charles Tyzack, <i>Wychwood Forest</i> , Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm → p.6
Wed	12	Deddington Pre-School: 'GEORGE' Fashion Show, Parish church, 5.45 for 6.00 pm → p.3
Fri	14	LYRA - Russian Singers' concert, Parish church. 7.30 pm → p.6
Sat	15	Deddington Colts Race Night, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. → p.6
Sun	16	Banbury Road Run and Fun Run in aid of Katharine House → p.3
Tue	18	Lent lunch for charity, Parish church, 12.30 pm. → p.4
Tue	18	COPY DATE FOR APRIL DEDDINGTON NEWS.
Wed	19	Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30 pm. → p.2
Fri	21	Babies and Toddlers group visit to Kinderkids at Witney, 2 pm. → p.5
Sat	22	Deddington Farmers' Market, 9am-12.30 pm.
Mon	24	Deddington Song Circle, 7.30-9 pm. → p.6
Tue	25	Lent lunch for charity, Parish church, 12.30 pm. → p.4

Monday:	Song Circle: 7.30 pm second & fourth Monday of each month. → p.6
Tuesdays:	Deddington Guides: Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm.
Wednesdays:	Anchor Boys: 3.15 pm, Deddington School. → p.6
Wednesdays:	Boys Brigade: 5.30 pm, Windmill Centre. → p.6
Wednesdays:	1st Deddington Girls' Brigade Explorers, Deddington School, 3.15. pm.
Thursdays:	Life & Portrait Art Group: Town Hall, 10-12.30 & 1.30-4 pm. → p.6
Thursdays:	1st Deddington Cubs: 6-7.30 pm, Windmill Centre.
Thursdays:	1st Deddington Scouts: 7.30-9 pm, Windmill Centre.
Fridays:	Coffee morning in aid of Katharine House: Parish Church, 10~12.
Fridays:	Babies & Toddlers Group: Windmill Centre, 9.30 -11.30 am.
Fridays:	Bridge Club: Holly Tree, 2-5 pm.
Fridays:	British Legion: Prize Bingo and "Play Your Cards Right" at 8 pm.

**Reminder:** If you are planning a village event and consult the diary editor before you fix the final date, she will be able to advise you whether any other group already has plans for the same day that might draw off your potential support. Of course, if you then register your fixture with her well in advance, she will be able to advise other groups to avoid competition.

### Deddington News - Copy please to the relevant editor by next copy date: MARCH 18

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**MEETING IN TOWN HALL, 19 FEB 2003**

Present: Cllrs Flux (chair), Alton, Cox, Ellis, Harvey, Spencer, Squires, Swash, Todd, Watts, Wood, D/Cllr O'Sullivan, the Clerk, the Minutes Secretary, and 3 members of the public.

**10-MINUTE OPEN FORUM**

Walter Meagher, of Hopcraft Lane, gave a brief insight into his work on identifying, describing and mapping the individual trees and hedges of the parish. Most of our 600 hedges date from the 1808 enclosures. The churchyard is a particularly rewarding site to study. Mr Meagher paid tribute to the wide range of collaborators and authorities involved in the work, which will provide an extraordinary data base for the parish. Chairman thanked him, and suggested that a major presentation should be made to the community, preferably at the Windmill Centre.

PC Clive Middleton introduced himself as our new 'beat bobby', in succession to Bob Donohue. He sketched in his 27 years experience in the force, and gave details of the 56 crimes committed in the parish over the last 12 months. His email address is [clive.middleton@thamesvalley.police.uk](mailto:clive.middleton@thamesvalley.police.uk)

**PLANNING AND PROPERTY**

Provided neighbours agree, PC no objection to: (i) The Cottage, Philcote Street - demolish outbuildings, erect 2-storey extension. Cllr Haslam, who was not present, had declared an interest. (ii) Greenstone Cottage, 4 New Street - form internal ground floor toilet and first floor ensuite. (iii) Castle View, Goose Green - fell 2 leylandii and plant 2 fruit trees. (iv) Mullions, Castle Street - fell conifer.

Note: Clerk to check that building work at ex-police house on Hempton Road does not encroach on adjacent land.

CDC approvals: (v) Mourne Cottage, Market Place - 2 storey extension. (vi) Parish Church - tree maintenance. (vii) Greenstone Cottage, New Street - wooden shed. (viii) Holcombe Hotel - change of use to residential. (ix) Holmwood, Chapman's Lane - double garage with room over. (x) Land west of Chapman's Lane sewerage works - change of use from agricultural to light industry.

Parishioners Dilys and John Wilson, Craxton, Castle Street, who were not present, disputed PC's reference, at Jan 15 meeting, to an application in respect of Castle Dene, Castle Street. PC stated that the official minutes record what was actually said, and confirmed that the February *Deddington News* report was accurate. PC will add explanatory note to official minutes of today's meeting.

**GOODBYE SKIP . . . .**

Cherwell District Council has decided to terminate the village skip service throughout the District. The last appearance of the Cosy Lane skip will be over the weekend 29-30 March, 2003. PLEASE DO NOT USE THE SITE AS A TIP.

There are several legitimate ways of disposing of waste materials, from fridge-freezers to fizz bottles. Bulky items - furniture, kitchen appliances etc - can be collected for a fee of £10 for up to 4 items. No

charge for fridges and freezers, while for a small charge, items in good condition will be collected by Banbury Council for Voluntary Service for re-use in the community. Call 01295 221940 for further details. Householders can also dispose of waste and recycle materials at Alkerton (01865 815796/816043 or Ardley (01869 343459) \*. In addition there are over 40 sites for recycling glass and most other materials.

**. . . HELLO BLUE BOXES**

CDC reminds us of the kerbside recycling service, *aka* Blue Boxes. Deddington is doing well (39%) but more of us could recycle. Next Blue Box collection dates are March 3-7 and 17-21, followed by March 31-April 4, April 14-17, and April 28-May 2, to coincide with your usual rubbish collection day.

**SCOOP THAT POOP!**

Dog foulers continue to infect our parish. Surveillance cameras operate at the Windmill Centre. Offenders will be prosecuted. Dog Wardens to be asked to step up patrols.

**PARISH FINANCES**

Invoices passed for payment totalled £3,646.06 including £1,413.46 imprest account (mainly stewards' wages), £905.65 Nat Ins and Tax, and £675.78 clerk's wages.

Investments totalled £523,625.44, of which £10,806.01 Barclays (£4,683.83 @ 1% on 14 days + £3,918.24 @ 0.3% overnight + £1,703.94 @ 0.1% imprest + £500 @ 0.1% current), £1,000 Bradford & Bingley @ 3.25% on 120 days; £511,819.43 West Bromwich @ 3.75% overnight.

Precept 2003/4 confirmed as £27.50 a year, based on a Band D property compared with the 2002/3 precept of £19.60 a year (see insert from PC in this issue of D News).

**FINANCIAL NEWS IN BRIEF**

Insurance value of Town Hall confirmed at £105,000. PC has repairing lease until 2006 at £75 a year.

Rental charge for PC's office at Windmill Centre will go up from £1,000 to £1,200 per annum - the first increase in 7 years.

Book grant to Library will be reduced to £500 a year, now that OCC book funding has increased.

**COAT OF ARMS**

At present, a one-off charge is levied for approved use of the Deddington Coat of Arms (£100 commercial users, £50 voluntary groups). From April 2003, this will be supplemented by an annual charge of £25 for commercial users and £10 for others.

**NEXT MEETING Wed 19 Mar, 7.30pm, Town Hall.****ADVANCE NOTICE**

Wed, 7 May, Annual Parish Meeting, Windmill Centre  
Wed, 21 May, AGM and PC Meeting, Town Hall

*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](http://www.deddington.org.uk/pcminutes)*

\* *The nearest Recycling and Re-use site is on the A422 west of Farthinghoe in Northamptonshire. It accepts electrical goods for re-sale to the trade, and is a happy hunting-ground for 'wombles'. It resells garden refuse as compost, but does not accept all waste. Ed*

It hardly seems possible that the Spring half-term holiday has come upon us once again. This term children have been involved in a number of activities both social and educational and we have welcomed a number of visitors into the school.

In January the Oxford Touring Workshop worked with children in Key Stage Two designing fantasy planets to introduce a forthcoming production of "The Little Prince". A visiting Scientist made learning about materials a really interesting and fun experience for our younger children and we were able to benefit from the expertise of one of our local doctors who came into school to talk to our Year 2 children about drugs and medicines.

On the last Friday in January we took part in the National UNICEF Day for Change and raised over £100 for children in Cambodia and Tanzania. Children throughout the school have enjoyed discos provided for them by the PTA and we will soon be running a 6-week after-school girls' football course arranged through our local partnership of schools.

On Thursday 10 April we will be holding our Easter Service in the Parish Church at 10.00 a.m. Please join us for this important day if you are able.

I should like to end this month's contribution on a more serious note. As I write everyone within our school community is concerned for the health of one of our oldest pupils who is currently seriously ill in hospital. Please join us in praying for his safe return to health, for his parents, relations and friends and for the professionals working so hard to help him to recover.

### Deddington Pre-School in partnership with

# GEORGE



proudly present a  
Spring / Summer Fashion Show.  
to raise funds for  
Deddington Pre-School.  
to be held on 12th March  
in SS Peter & Paul Church  
tickets are £5 each  
available from  
Deddington Post Office,  
Julie on 338964 or Nikki on 337117.  
Refreshments are included.  
Doors open at 5:45pm for 6:00pm start.  
We hope to see you there!

We need an additional lunchtime assistant to help with putting out and clearing the school dining tables and serving lunches to the children. This person would be employed by County Facilities Management. The position is for approximately 8.75 hrs per week at a rate of £5.08 per hour - 11.30am - 1.15pm. Please apply to Chris Drinkwater - 07768057228.

Vouchers: We are currently collecting Walker's Books for Schools and Tesco's computer vouchers in school. Please bring your donations to the collection points in the school entrance hall.

Lynne Stephens 338430

### Hi! YOU BUDDING ARTISTS



Make a colourful picture out of this year's DN cover. There will be a £10 WHSmith token as the prize in each of three classes: Pre-school, Infant and Junior.

The closing date will be last day of this term - **Friday 11 April.**

If you don't want to use the family's copy of the DN, spare copies of the cover are available from Deddington School office.

Completed entries - in an envelope signed by a parent, guardian or teacher confirming the name and class of the child, and that it is his or her unaided work - may be left at the School, or delivered to the Editor's address.

There will be a further prize for the first opened entry from a person correctly identifying all the species depicted on the cover.

An exhibition of entries will be held later.

### The Paul Bithell Banbury Run

The Banbury Guardian's sponsored run for Katharine House Hospice is taking place on Sunday 16 March. Among the runners for the 2-mile event will be Deddington's 81-year-old George Spenceley. If you would like to sponsor him, please ring 338995

The Katharine House Hospice

**PRAYERS for PEACE will take place in the Market Place at noon every Sunday until further notice.**

### SS PETER AND PAUL, DEDDINGTON AND ST JOHN, HEMPTON

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

#### Parish Church in March

Sun	2	10.30 am	Morning Praise
		6.30 pm	Choral Evensong
Wed	5	10.00 am	Eucharist (ASH WEDNESDAY)
Thurs	6	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels (Toddlers and Prams)
Sun	9	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
Wed	12	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	16	10.30 am	BENEFICE EUCHARIST & Baptism Barford St. Michael
Wed	19	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	23	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30 am	Mattins (BCP)
Tues	25	6.30 pm	Eucharist (THE ANNUNCIATION)
Wed	26	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	30	10.30 am	Eucharist (MOTHERING SUNDAY)



NB - Changes in the usual pattern of services on the last three Sundays in March

#### St. John, Hempton

Sundays 2 & 23	9.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 30	6.00 pm	Evensong

Everyone is welcome to **LENT LUNCHESES** on Tuesdays -11 March - 15 April -12.30 for 12.45 pm in Deddington Church for a simple meal of home-made soup, bread & cheese. Suggested contribution of £2.50 in aid of a mental health charity in Banbury.

**BIBLE STUDY HOME GROUP** Mar 3 & 17, 2.30 pm Derrick Wincer at 12 The Daedings (338004)

**EMMAUS course in Lent**, starting on Wed 12 March at 8.00pm and the following Weds until 9 April at 7.30 pm, and fortnightly meetings after Easter, is for anyone interested in exploring further Christian belief, and as part of preparation for Confirmation. A Confirmation service is planned for Deddington on Monday 23 June by the Bishop of Dorchester. Please contact the Vicar if you might like to be confirmed on this (or another) occasion.

*If you wish to enquire about 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)*

#### From the Parish Registers

**FUNERALS** 31 January Frank Tarling 12 February Agnes Graham (Bunty Johnston)

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, New Street

*Joyce Minnear 338529*

Sunday morning services will be held at the Wesleyan Reform Church with their congregation;

Sunday evening services and fellowship at 6.00 pm

2 March	Pastor I. Walton (and Communion)	9 March	Richard Wilson
16 March	Ross Adkins	23 March	Cliff Elbourne
30 March	to be announced		

#### WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square

*Pastor Isabel Walton 337157*

Sunday morning services at 10.30 am

Preachers: 2, 9 & 16 March Pastor Isabel Walton,

23 March John Neale,

30 March Mike Graveny

Bible Study/Fellowship every Wednesday at 7.30 pm

#### R.C. PARISH OF HETHE WITH ADDERBURY

*The Revd A J Burns 277396*

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

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

Ash Wednesday 5 March: Masses, with Imposition of Ashes Hethe 10.00 am, Adderbury 7.00 pm

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

**Deddington Babies & Toddlers Group**

The toddler group is thriving and a warm welcome to all our new members. We are supporting Comic Relief on Friday, 14 March with a cake sale at our usual session: please bring donations and money! There is an outing to Kinderkids at Witney on Friday 21 March at 2 pm after our meeting in the morning. Kinderkids is an interactive play area with soft play, climbing frames and an area for babies. Please sign up on the list if you are interested: the subsidised cost is £1 per family. We continue to meet throughout school holidays (with the exception of Good Friday) and new members are always welcome to join us on any Friday between 9.30 and 11.30 am at the Windmill Centre.

*Lucy Squires* 338442

**Deddington Art Group**

The group enjoyed a busy month, but is looking forward to warmer weather and an opportunity to paint outdoors. The studio group meets at the King's Arms for lunch. We meet every Thursday from 10 am-12.30 pm and 1.30 pm-4.00 pm in the Town Hall.

*Annette Murphy* 337318

**Deddington Guides**

Thank you for supporting our group Christmas post project: all the money raised is for replacing much used camping equipment. Fund raising takes time and

stretches our very committed leaders to the limit. If you have some time to spare and any talents in that direction we would love to hear from you. We have had a busy half term: we celebrated Chinese New Year by trying new food, chopsticks and dancing ceremonial dragons with colourful decorations and fearsome masks. Thanks to Rose and Kate for organising this. Some guides have been busy on individual badges and all the guides have learnt some basic skills in the tradition of guiding. Moreover, on Thinking Day there was an opportunity to learn about the life of guides and girl scouts around the world. We also spent some time looking at the difficulties some people face through disability and hope we now have a better understanding. All girls 10 years old and upwards are very welcome to join us.

*Maggie Rampley* Guider 01295 810069

**Deddington Youth Club**

The management committee ran the youth club evening on 3rd February with the welcome assistance of the "A" team from OAYP. The next evening will be 3 March from 7 pm until 9 pm with a further evening on 7 April with the "A" team attending on each occasion. We are still looking for a leader, but there is a possibility of an excellent young man from OAYP. However if anyone is interested, please contact me.

*Gay Brewer* 338097

**Deddington Song Circle**

If you like singing, then come and join us around the piano on 10 and 24 March at the new time of 7.30 pm. A sense of humour and enjoyment of singing are the only requirements - everyone can sing! Bring a friend for extra fun.

*Annette Murphy* 337318

**Deddington Friendship Club**

The AGM on 29 January was our first meeting of 2003 and the present officers were re-elected. Members were asked about various venues for outings and future activities within the club: the details will be given at a later meeting. On 12 February Mrs Marian Richards gave a most interesting talk on the Bowen Technique, a different type of therapy that she practises at her clinic.

*Joyce Minnear* 338529

**Deddington Town Football Club**

1st Team Results

Bishops Itchington(a) (Charity Cup) Lost 3-4 J.Pearce 2,  
B.Durrant.

Souldern (a) Lost 2-3 J.Pearce, D.Walker.

Chasewell Park(h) Won 4-2 A.Shepherd, M.Walker,  
B.Durrant, J.Pearce

The first team had a tough month: Bishops Itchington from the premier division narrowly beat them with a golden goal in the Charity Cup. A poor performance at Souldern resulted in a 2-3 defeat, whilst the game against Chasewell Park saw a much improved team effort and a 4-2 victory. Julian Pearce continued his fine goal-scoring run and there were goals for Marc Walker, Ben Durrant and veteran midfielder Andy Shepherd.

**Little Princes and Princesses**

**Little Princes and Princesses  
is a Children's Boutique  
stocking clothes and toys  
for 0-8 year olds**

Oilily, Catimini, Petite Bateau, Bebe Amour  
Milly Brown, Bonne Nuit and Loopy  
are just some of the collections in stock

and for Mum,  
there are pieces of jewellery  
and handbags to indulge

**A warm welcome and  
friendly service awaits you**  
(Gift wrapping service available)

**Pretoria House, Market Place, Deddington**  
**Telephone 01869 336222**

**5% Discount on production of this voucher**

The team still have an outside chance of gaining promotion.

Reserve Team Results

Sinclair Res (h) (Eric Morris Cup) Lost 1-2 K.Wild

Wroxton Res (h) (Supplementary Cup) Won 5-2 P.Kirsopp 2,  
D.Gibbs 2, K.Wild.

Finmere Res (a) (Supplementary Cup) Won 2-0 P.Kirsopp,  
G.Smith.

Cup matches dominated this month: a gutsy display against higher division opponents Sinclair Reserves just failed to topple them. Two fine victories in the Supplementary Cup guarantee a semi-final place. Phil Kirsopp, David Gibbs and Gary Smith all scored in these matches.

75 club winners all winning £50 are G. Smith, P. Freeman, Mrs P. Churchill and G. Middleton

*Steve Plumble* 01295 278258.

### 1st Deddington BB Juniors

We thank the Jubilee Committee for the kind donation of £100 towards the work of the BB in Deddington. During February Lewis Williams, Ben Cook and William Liebrecht were promoted to the Junior Section from the Anchor Boys. We received the new company colours, which will be dedicated in a special Church service later in the year. With a total of 25 members the BB are planning to expand their activities and, in particular, the company would welcome volunteers to help us with cricket and a proposed marching band (drums and bugles)

*Brian Bushell* 338715

### 1st Deddington BB Anchor Boys

During February we welcomed Oliver Tindale and Jack Watling as new members. Recent promotions to the Junior Section means that we can continue to offer places to boys in years 1, 2 and 3.

*Nick Westbury* 337059

### 1st Deddington GB Explorers

Following the success of the Boys' Brigade, Deddington Church is pleased to announce the launch of the 1st Deddington Girls' Brigade Company. A Girls' Brigade Explorers section is open for girls in school years 1, 2 and 3, which will meet normally at Deddington School at 3.15 pm on Wednesday afternoons.

*Jean Welford* 338539

### Monday Morning Club

The Coffee Morning in March is on the 3rd, 10 am-noon and in April we meet on Monday 7th. *Jean Flux*

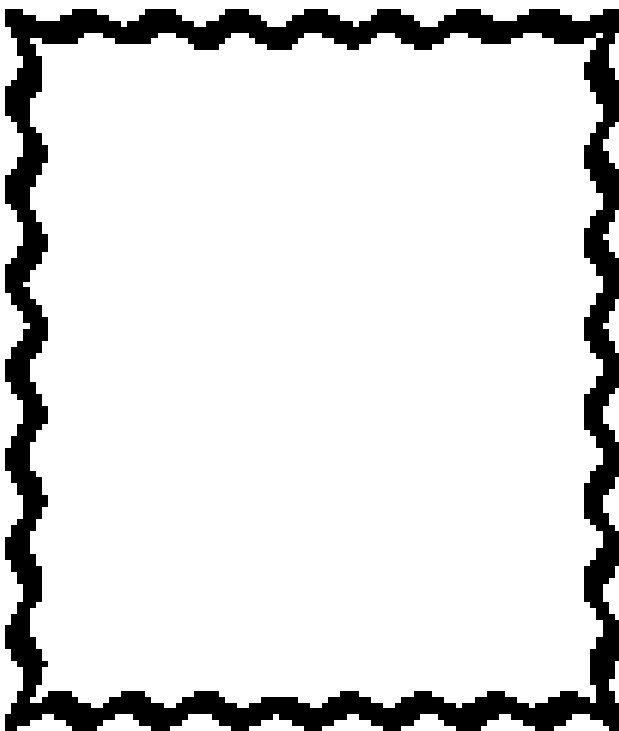
### Deddington & District History Society

We had our usual lightning-fast AGM at the February meeting. We then moved on to the main business of the evening: Peter Allen spoke about the history of the Cherwell Valley Railway, concentrating on the people who built and operated it rather than on the more usual engines, signals, bogies and rivets. Our speaker on 12 March is Charles Tyzack, on "The Decline and Fall of Wychwood Forest". Charles was to have given this talk in January: in the end, however, we decided to cancel. Charles very generously agreed to return in March and members are urged to attend and show their appreciation. *Chris Day* 337204

### Deddington Colts

Race Night : Saturday 15 March - Windmill Centre 7.30 for 8.00 Essential! Real live racing; lucky ticket; roll-for-the-bottle; bar. Includes a Charity Race for children's organisations in the village. Tickets £3.00 (book in advance with Nikki Preece: 337036 or Hugh White: 349869). Come and make a killing! (In view of the strange and unnatural practices to take place during the evening, this is an occasion for 18 and overs only.)

*[Beware - the Ides of March !!! - Ed]*





**Home-Start Banbury**  
supporting families

Remember being at home with pre-school children?  
**FUN** but **ISOLATING** and  
**EXHAUSTING**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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**FROM MOLLIE SANDERS, HUDSON STREET, DEDDINGTON**

Mollie Sanders would like to thank all her friends in Deddington for their congratulations and very best wishes on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday.

*(The DN team would like to add their own warm congratulations.)*

**FROM RUTH JOHNSON & PAT SWASH (DN DUPLICATING TEAM)**

One thing is certain, the DN's duplicating machine does not like holidays! While we enjoyed the festive season and a month's leave from printing, he pined in his dark dank corner. How then can he express his displeasure, except by giving us a hard time when we pull him back into the light? First, he refuses to accept the first master copy. Next he crumples virgin sheets of paper and when we empty him, he holds on to yet another trial master and makes us peel it off manually. For our guidance he then lights up a picture of a spanner, indicating that something is very wrong with his tummy. Now we are patient people. But patience alone does not print the DN. After half an hour of sulking he gets cracking and never falters until all 1100 copies have been printed. He really is a most sensitive individual and deserves our love and respect. Perhaps visiting him during the next long break in the summer will soothe his hurt feelings!

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 GEORGE FENEMORE, HOME FARM, CLIFTON**

Having served as a Parish Councillor I am well aware of the need to set a realistic Parish precept. The upkeep for Deddington, Hempton and Clifton has increased many times over and will continue to do so. The more Parishioners ask for, the more it will cost. Having said that, a projected expenditure of some £68,000 for 2003/4 seems rather high for a community of just over 2000 people.

The facilities we all enjoy today were bought with money raised by Parish precept in the late '70s and early '80s when part of the Windmill site was bought by the PC from the County Council for £22,500. The Windmill Centre was built and land sold to provide the present sports field and a £1,000,000 trust fund – not bad value for a penny rate – to pay off the original loan. The Centre and the sports facilities were in place BEFORE the capital fund was established in 1990. Money from the fund has since been used to enhance the facility, giving us a centre many larger communities can only dream of. A past PC and a small group of like-minded members of the community had the foresight and tenacity to see the project through. We must preserve and evolve this asset for future generations. The capital fund must be preserved.

*(In accordance with DN practice, a copy of the above letter has been sent to the PC. - see insert from PC)*

**WELL REMEMBERED**

**FRANK TARLING** was born at Dane Hill in 1921 and grew up in Hempton and Deddington Mill. A true countryman, he loved gardening and shooting - dubiously acquired venison sometimes appeared on the family table. He worked locally as a groom, a decorator, a painter and a builder and he served as a fire-fighter. During the war he was wounded and spent time as a prisoner in Germany. A gentle, but strong and proud man, a perfectionist in all he did, he commanded both the love and the respect of his family and will be much missed in the village.

**BUNTY JOHNSON** was born in 1904 and came to Deddington towards the end of life, taking up residence in Featherton House. She had grown up in Persia where her father was a doctor and where she met her husband Frank. She was Scottish and had a particular love of the Borders, to which she often returned, but she lived in and visited many different countries and took a keen interest in the variety of life. She painted water-colours and enjoyed gardening. An independent lady, she was nevertheless strongly committed to her family and took great pleasure in her three grandsons. Her sense of humour was appreciated at Featherton House, where she will be remembered with much affection.

*Hugh White*

**LADY DRIVER** and **OLIVER HAWES** died as the DN goes to press. Tributes will follow in the next issue.

The Warriner Choral Society

## Spring Concert

**JOHN RUTTER *Psalmfest***  
**ANDREW CARTER *Benedicite***

*With members of the Oxford Symphony Orchestra  
and children of the Sibford School Junior Choir*

Musical Director : Matthew Smallwood

**Saturday 5th April 2003 at 7.30 pm**  
**Main Hall, Sibford School,**  
**Sibford Ferris, Banbury**

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### THE FLOWER GARDEN

March and at last we have arrived at the time when we can throw out the pots of Poinsettias. I am not keen on them and the acres of bright red on the supermarket floor before Christmas fill me with gloom. I know there are other colours and they are an economical purchase. They last for ever, and are very hard to kill, but I think they are coarse plants with leaves and bracts which are too big. We can also now get rid of the deadery, the dried flowers and dusty leaves, and instead have bowls of Hyacinths and crocuses.

There is nothing quite as pretty as the English spring garden, but on the whole enthusiasts don't go to inspect gardens at this time of year. The reason is, I think, that a spring garden is a spring garden, is a spring garden. They are all the same, and your own is the prettiest of the lot. I know I delight in mine.

There may be a shift to the dwarf narcissi, or to tulips but the mixture is much as before. The ground is now dry enough to tackle the perennial beds and divide the plants. This is a good time to share the hardies with your friends: Geraniums, Alchemilla, Hostas and grasses can be chopped into two or three bits and will do well. We also spread the compost this month. As usual we got three bags of nicely rotted stuff out of the bin, but found no treasures this year. Over the season I have lost four single ear rings, a pair of clippers and a 'spud' [hand tool], but no sign of any of them.

We have had a few plant casualties, among them a

magnificent white Hebe, which just hauled off and died. When Paul took it out, the main stem had rotted right through. I have also said goodbye to my Wistaria. It was given to me about twenty years ago, and has never once flowered. Year after year it clogged up the climbing rose which was next to it, and we finally got out the pruning saw and cut it down.

So, onwards and upwards in the garden. Next month will be a busy time.

*Marianne Elsley*

There is something particularly pleasing about the sight of a newly ploughed field or a freshly dug vegetable bed. The rich red soil looks clean and receptive to the seed, the ground is level and the edges neat. Soon new shoots will be growing through to reveal a promise of even better to come. It's a February sight, and will now be overtaken by March with life breaking through and, in the village allotments already, those plump pink bulbs of new rhubarb bursting out of unlikely looking mounds of apparently unfriendly roots. Around them the remaining winter leeks and sprouts are ready for a final gathering, whilst onion sets begin to grow and newly planted fruit bushes begin to bud holding out yet more promise of good things to come. Winter frosts and spring rains have settled the soil, making it appear less light and friable, but all the firmer to support new growth.

*Hugh Marshall*

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**ON THE FARM**

According to old weather lore, if March comes in like a lion it will go out like a lamb, or if it comes in like a lamb it will go out like a lion. Another one claims it is not Spring until you can put your foot down on twelve daisies. Either way I hope Spring is not far off as we have a lot of field work to get done before the first of the lambs appears. The land that was destined for winter beans was too wet to plant in November or December and will now go into Spring rape. This is probably just as well, as the bean price has gone through the floor and looks like staying there. We ploughed the land 'on the frost' just before Christmas and even then the water was running down the furrow behind the plough, but it has now got a nice 'frost meld' and should work down well if the top dries out. The winter-sown oil seed rape will soon need its first fertiliser dressing, and we shall have to decide what to do with the weak patches - leave them alone and take what comes or replant with spring rape. The winter wheat seems to be well except for some slug damage in one or two places. The bees have all been fed and will have another feed before you read this. We have lost a number of colonies in the last few weeks: four to badgers, who reduced the hives to matchwood to get at the over-wintering food stocks, two to woodpeckers who made holes large enough for rats to get in and eat the bees and honey and two weak colonies to the cold weather. However what we have left are all 'strong' and with the right weather they should get away to a flying start. We shall need to undertake a breeding programme to replace the lost stocks and replace a number of the older queens, so I could be in for a painful time of it. But they say it is good for the rheumatics!

According to a recent consumer survey most consumers do not have a clue about the farm assurance logos, only half of those in the survey knew what 'organic' meant and only 9% understood the meaning of 'fair



trade'. Further figures revealed that 38% had no interest in food production, 51% had a passive interest and only 11% were actively finding out where their food came from. Price, sell-by date and appearance were in the forefront of the consumer's mind when buying, but sadly animal welfare and crop assurance schemes came right at the bottom of the list for consumers. All rather depressing.

I expect that most consumers, if they had been asked, would know the meaning of global warming but would have little idea of how it could affect them. The February *DN* gave a report of a meeting on climate change in which the speaker, Dr. David Frame, gave a vivid description of his predictions of the possible effects. He went on to say that "people in the least developed countries are most at risk because they live closer to the margins of tolerance and are more dependent on agriculture." I find this a rather misleading statement as ALL nations, developed and undeveloped, depend on agriculture for their daily bread.

*George Fenemore* 338203

**NEWS FROM HEMPTON**

Stonepits on the Duns Tew Road is now set to become allotments. Ten residents of the village are definitely having plots. If anyone else is interested they should apply to the Parish Clerk at the Windmill Centre in Deddington, who can supply more information. Many thanks to Derek Parker and Tony Campion for getting the scheme off the ground, and to Derek for all his preparatory work, i.e. hedge cutting, killing the grass off and ploughing all the land. It will be nice for this derelict land to be put to good use for the village.

The Table Tennis team has played three more matches. Their record is P11, W5, D4, L2.

At the Deddington end of the village there appears to be a serious problem with moles. The grass verge, which is kept mown, is full of mole hills. Let's hope they do not start to appear in people's gardens. Is this a problem with which the Parish Council can deal?

The two new houses in the Lane are nearing completion. Once everything is finished it will be a pleasant tidy area at the top of the Lane.

*Les Chappell* 338054



*Cutting the first sod for the allotments Derek used his Lister single-cylinder engined 1969-70 Winget tractor from Barrow-in-Furness docks and a pre-war Ransome plough from Ross-on-Wye*

### Before Daeda's Wood

In Wilson & Reid's book, *Inventory of Ancient Woodland: Oxfordshire* (1995), 'Ancient woods'

are 'those which have had a continuous woodland cover since at least AD 1600 and have only been cleared for understorey or timber production'. In 'the Cherwell Valley ... no wood at all is recorded for most of the villages except on the east of the river from Islip down'. Deddington is typical of Cherwell Valley villages, a landscape from which trees were felled long before 1808, but in our time, Daeda's Wood has reversed that trend.

The Woodland Trust sponsored the planting of 3,500 trees in 1996 on a 3.68 ha field - now called Daeda's Wood - along the River Swere, part of the Woods-On-Your-Doorstep project. It is remarkable that a person as little known as Daeda should be commemorated so long after his birth! This was a novel venture, taken with the belief that trees have a worth independent of their cash value.

Ronald Canning - a boy in the 1930s - of Rose Cottage, Deddington, remembers that his 'grandfather and his sons farmed the two water meadows where the Millennium Wood known as Daeda's Wood has now been developed. The barn, which is now a private house and the field around it, on the other side of the Mill road, was also part of his farm. The meadows, although very wet, did not have any great depth of water but could only be used for grazing and haymaking in the summer. During periods of heavy rain, the river used to flood but most of the water lay in Mr Lovell's fields to the west of Daeda's Wood. The trees along the bank of the river were crack-willows which were cut back during the winter to provide materials for post and rails and for making hurdles which were used for penning sheep. It was very precarious to pollard the willows because, true to their names, the trunks would sometimes split and fall to the ground, so woe betide anyone who was in the way'.

The unwoodedness of Deddington is not as a result of the conscientious pillage of ancient forests, but because it is an old parish sited on land long cleared for farming. Old crack-willows on the river edge are a feature of Daeda's Wood, no less because some are torn open and leaning over; I admire their persistence and vitality despite disability. Although the strictest ecological perspective argues that old trees should be left to grow older, it is well known that if crack-willows are regularly pollarded, they live longer.

Daeda's Wood is not the only site of a new plantation; indeed, there are many sites and some quite substantial. For example, Jim Calcutt and Roger Nobbs have each planted thousands of trees. DOL will be putting on their website a species list of new plantations. But in closing, let me thank Ronald for sharing his memories with us, and hope that a record of oral history is constantly added to other documentation of parish life.

*Walter L. Meagher*



### RIPPLES - A Million March for Peace

I've never marched. A suspect activity. But, like a million others, I made for London on February 15 and marched to Hyde Park. It was an extraordinary experience.



Students and specific interest groups apart, the March was dominated by Middle Englanders - not noted for their militant tendencies. There were individuals, school groups, elderly couples holding hands, parents pushing buggies. Some banners were aggressive and hard hitting, others were whimsical.

The March was tidy. We ate our sandwiches (I didn't see one slice of white bread) and, in the absence of rubbish bins, dirty paper-cups and bags were neatly lined-up in the gutters. But the heart-stopping noise was the roar of the crowd as we came to Parliament Square and again as we passed Number 10, kept to the far side of Whitehall by barriers and a solid line of police and marksmen. The roar seemed to grow spontaneously, deafening, electrifying, a life of its own.

Apart from my main agenda (I was marching for logic and truth - first casualties in the build-up to war), I had vowed to shake my fist at Downing Street. Pathetic. But when the moment came, it took all my resolve to stand by the barrier, ignore gun-toting authority and raise an arm. The physical is much harder than the cerebral.

After three hours, filled with an extraordinary sense of shared purpose, we came to Hyde Park. Rebels? I, and thousands like me, didn't stay for the Rally itself. I went off to see my family in Camden. They opened the door, demanding a narrative. What I demanded was a loo.

*Kristin Thompson*

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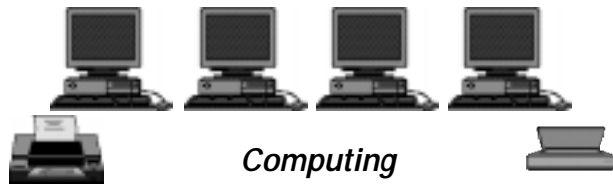
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**Computing  
in Deddington Library**

We're underway! In the last three weeks 36 people have attended our 'Getting Started' sessions and by the time you read this, most of them will have had a second session. The feedback has been very good - there is obviously a lot of enthusiasm for learning and, in Martin Ince (who has been running the Monday and Wednesday sessions) and Neil Good (in his Saturday session) we have two excellent tutors. We now have two new tutors, Richard Broadbent and Tansey Keys, and we can begin to plan a programme:

For the month of March there are sessions on Mondays at 3.00 and 4.00 pm, Wednesdays at 10.30 and 11.30 am, and on Saturday 8 & 23 March at 11.30 am. The priority is still for people who want to get started - so, if this is you, contact us - but, to meet other needs, the 11.30 sessions starting on Wednesday 12 March will be devoted to learning about spreadsheets. Ring Rosemary in the library (338391) to book.

We would welcome more tutors - you just need to be a friendly person with some computing expertise !

*Charles Newey* 338282 <charles.newey@deddington.net>, *Sue Goddard* 338122, *Geoff Todd* 338352, *Kristin Thompson* 337052 <op@kristin.demon.co.uk>

the  
**Deddington**  
news

Elizabeth Reed has completed the time-consuming task of scanning every issue of the *Deddington News* from 1976 to 2001, so as to make them available on two sets of CDs for historical research, or even on-line.

We now want to have all these issues bound into 13 hard-backed volumes for use in the Library. For scanning Elizabeth was able to borrow from a personal collection the issues missing from the Library collection. Before sending a complete set for binding, 16 of the missing issues have been found, but **TWO MORE ARE STILL NEEDED**.

**If you have the issues for June or July 1993 gathering dust and are willing to part with them, please phone 338225.**

A spare copy of February 2002 is also needed. *CA*



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

"Wretched and inadequate." This is how *Lord of the Rings* author, Professor J. R. R. Tolkien described himself after a visit to Deddington in the 1950's.

For further details see <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/library.html>

DOL is about to spring clean the web site. Please contact me if you spot any howlers or have any updated material to offer.

*Colin Clark* 338064 or <cclark@deddington.net>

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**APRIL DIARY**

- Tue 1 Lent lunch for charity, Parish church, 12.30 pm → p.4  
 Wed 2 Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8-10 pm.  
 Mon 7 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10 am-noon. → p.6  
 Mon 7 Deddington Youth Club, Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm. → p.5  
 Tue 8 Lent lunch for charity, Parish church, 12.30 pm. → p.4  
 Tue 8 Windmill Users meeting, The Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm.  
 Tue 8 WI: Delphine Sampson *Making a new garden*, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm  
 Tue 15 Lent lunch for charity, Parish church, 12.30 pm. → p.4  
 Wed 16 Parish Council meeting, Town Hall, 7.30 pm. → p.2  
 Tue 22 COPY DATE FOR MAY DEDDINGTON NEWS.  
 Sat 26 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9 am-12.30 pm.

**GREAT DEDDINGTONIANS- 1879-1930**

I need to declare an interest in adding the kindest, most unassuming, genteel lady to those who have left an indelible mark on this village, and we need to extend the above time span to 1976. I was privileged to know LILIAN ALICE WEAVER, organist for 60 years in the Parish Church, piano teacher, singing teacher, accompanist and promoter of love of music in this parish.



Born 1885, she began her long and faithful service as organist on Easter Sunday 1908. Those of us who knew her in old age will never forget the love that radiated from her frail body - her love of music, her love for her fellow parishioners and her love and trust in God. It did not surprise us that she never thought of material gain or aggrandisement. She started her organist's duties literally for the love of God. Once a year a grateful congregation made a house-to-house collection for her round the village. When in later years she had to agree, for tidiness' sake, to accept a salary she was wont to post a part of it back into the Alms box in Church. Did she sell herself short on home comforts? The story goes, that she enjoyed a sandwich with butter and mustard with an imagined piece of ham in between! - She looked upon the Church as her home, spent a good deal of her day in it, writing letters, receiving visitors and finding out parishioners' likes and dislikes of hymns!

Parishioners also remember her for her sense of fun and eagerness to use her gift for the good of the village. In the good old days when villagers had to make their own entertainment she never refused a request to play at a dance, a village hop, play at dancing classes or accompany a budding soloist at a concert. She taught the piano to many children and adults in and around the village.

In the 1940s Edward Short remembers spending four pence ha'penny on a bus ride from North Aston to Deddington where in her home, next to the Co-op, surrounded by her many rescued cats, he started his musical career. She enthused him to try out the organ and graciously sat beside him at the console to advise and encourage. Edward Short celebrated, last year, his 50th year as organist in North Aston Church.

In the musical world of Deddington, she was irreplaceable. She died at the ripe old age of 91, never I am sure, having harboured an unkind thought, or spoken an unkind word. Until her mother's death she

cared for her. In her own old age she brushed handicaps aside, let her mind dwell on joyful memories and placed her trust in God. Her many friends looked after her and cared for her to the end.

*Ruth Johnson* with help from Topper Davis and Edward Short

**NEWS FROM DEDDINGTON POLICE OFFICE**

Even Deddington did not escape the recent potential terrorist threat at Heathrow Airport, which resulted in officers from the rural team being deployed on 18-hour turns assisting the Metropolitan Police. Fortunately there is little to report on crime in Deddington and the surrounding area. You will no doubt be aware of 'passing' visitors now ensconced in the Dane Hill lay-by near to the North Aston turn. All the necessary agencies have been informed and the matter is in hand.

*Clive Middleton* Rural Beat Officer

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