DISCOVERING DEDDINGTON

Deddington, Clifton and Hempton:
'Three Bound Together as One'

Introduction 3
A Walk Round Deddington 6
Eating and Drinking 38
Into the Countryside 39
A Walk Around Clifton 40
A Walk Around Hempton 44
Daeda's Wood 48
Farms and Fields 50
How to Get Here 56
Where to Stay 57
Notice Board 58
Acknowledgements 64

DEDDINGTON MAP GROUP

MAPPING THE MILLENNIUM

Copyright © Deddington Map Group 2000

ISBN 0-9538362-0-7

First published 2000

All rights reserved. Except for the quotation of short passages for the purposes of criticism or review, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission in writing of the publisher.

Sources:

Beeson, C.F.C. (1962) *Clockmaking in Oxfordshire*
Cherwell District Council Circular Walk No. 7
Colvin, H.M. (1963) *A History of Deddington, Oxfordshire*
Dallaway, J .(1793) *English Heraldry*
The Deddington News
The Domesday Book (1086)
Gardner, L.E. (1955) *Clifton Past & Present*
Mais, S.P.B. (1956) *Our Village Today*
Marshall, E. (1878) *History of Deddington*
Register of Listed Buildings (1988)
Sherwood, J. and Pevsner, N. (1974) *The Buildings of England: Oxfordshire*
Stevenson, G. (1977) *Oxfordshire*
Stradling, S. (1985) *From Hempton to Hobart*
Vane Turner, M. (1933) *The Story of Deddington*
The Victoria History of the County of Oxford, Vol. XI (1983)
Wing, W. (1879) *Supplement to Marshall's Deddington*
Centre for Oxfordshire Studies
Church leaflets, archives and public records
Deddington OnLine website
Deddington Oral History Project
National Portrait Gallery
Trinity College, Oxford
Local knowledge

Published by Deddington Map Group, The Stone House, Market Place, Deddington, Oxon OX15 0SD

Printed by the Alden Group, Oxford

Introduction

Today in Deddington

There is a stability about Deddington that in this world of constant flux gives me great delight. Change has accelerated since those words were written by S.P.B. Mais in 1956, yet Deddington, and its hamlets of Clifton and Hempton, have retained their individuality. They have prospered partly through the influx of professional people and commuters who appreciate the delightful environment, the convenient position for travelling, and the special character Deddington calls its own. Today's community supports a health centre, dentist, thriving primary school, post office and library. With more than 70 businesses and some 20 shops listed on the parish website, we aim for self-sufficiency, as we did in the past. The motor car ruled at the end of the 20th century (for how long?), but there is still an hourly bus service from the Town Hall for Oxford or Banbury.

About 30 clubs and societies cover an extraordinary variety of interests, many of them involving the meeting room, sports hall and playing fields of the Windmill Centre, on Hempton Road.

The parish church is our oldest, largest and most ambitious building. Hempton has its own thriving church. But many former places of worship have been converted to secular use. There have been at least seven non-conformist chapels, only two of which still serve their original purpose.

Over the centuries, eating and drinking places in great variety have come and gone. Today, several old coaching inns survive among the ten places to eat or drink, every one of which is good of its kind.

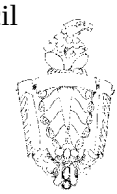
The Early Years

Deddington seems to have been settled by the 6th or 7th century. Nobody knows what it was called then, but Daeda, a Mercian lord who gave the place its present name (which means Daeda's 'tun', or settlement), lived much later, possibly in the 10th century.

The earliest focus was probably near the castle which was commissioned soon after the Norman Conquest by Bishop Odo of Bayeux, half-brother to King

William I. By the 12th century Deddington had come into the ownership of the de Chesney family, who were almost certainly responsible for the shift westwards, away from the castle to Philcote Street, the Market Place and New Street. The late 12th and early 13th century was a great period for creating new towns, and the de Chesneys laid out what were called burgages for occupation by merchants. In 1275 Deddington was a parliamentary borough and in 1302 and 1305 returned two members to Parliament. By the end of the 14th century, the castle had largely gone.

Deddington never really matured as an urban community, but something of the character of a town has always adhered to it. Indeed the local soccer club is still known as Deddington Town Football Club and the Parish Council meets in the Town Hall. However, as early as the 12th century, Banbury (10k to the north) was already beginning to outstrip it in size and prosperity. But Deddington is at the junction of the major north–south Banbury–Oxford road and the ancient east–west Buckingham–Chipping Norton road, a location that enabled it to remain a trading centre for the next few centuries.



Civil War and After

During the Civil War, Deddington's position on the road between royalist Oxford and parliamentarian Banbury involved it more than it can have liked in troop movements and skirmishes in the area. After the Battle of Cropredy (1644), which the Royalists just about won, King Charles I stayed at Castle House. Some of the field names commemorate these times.

The Industrial Revolution passed Deddington by. The place is on relatively high ground, and the crucial freight routes – the Oxford canal and the Great Western Railway – were built along the Cherwell valley 3 kilometres to the east; they passed through Banbury which consequently grew rapidly. Deddington's lack of an industrial base, together with agricultural depression, led to a decrease in population from about 2000 in 1880 to 1490 in 1901. But it still provided a market for the local area and regular transport to Banbury and Oxford. It was also the centre of a rural deanery and the meeting place for the local magistracy. This encouraged professional people such as solicitors, doctors and clergy to come and live here.

Markets

Markets were central to Deddington's continuing survival. The earliest probably dates from the laying out of the borough in the 12th century, and was held on

Saturdays. The most important annual charter fair was held as early as 1393 and continued until the 1930s. It was known as the 'pudding-pie fair' because of the plum pudding baked in a hard crust of pastry made for the occasion. Once upon a time, it is said, the King on his travels was given gloves at Woodstock, cake at Banbury and at Deddington, 'something between the two'. In the heyday of the fair between the 18th and early 19th centuries, the centre of the Market Place was reserved for pigs, sheep were sold in the Bullring and horses in the Horsefair, stretching up the road towards Hempton in busy times. The October fair was where servants were hired, cattle sold, and oxen roasted. There was free beef and beer for the regulars of the main pubs. An attempt in 1846 to revive the monthly cattle market petered out in half a dozen years.

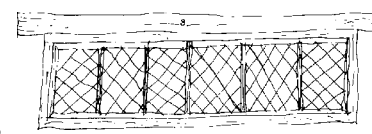
Buildings and Boundaries

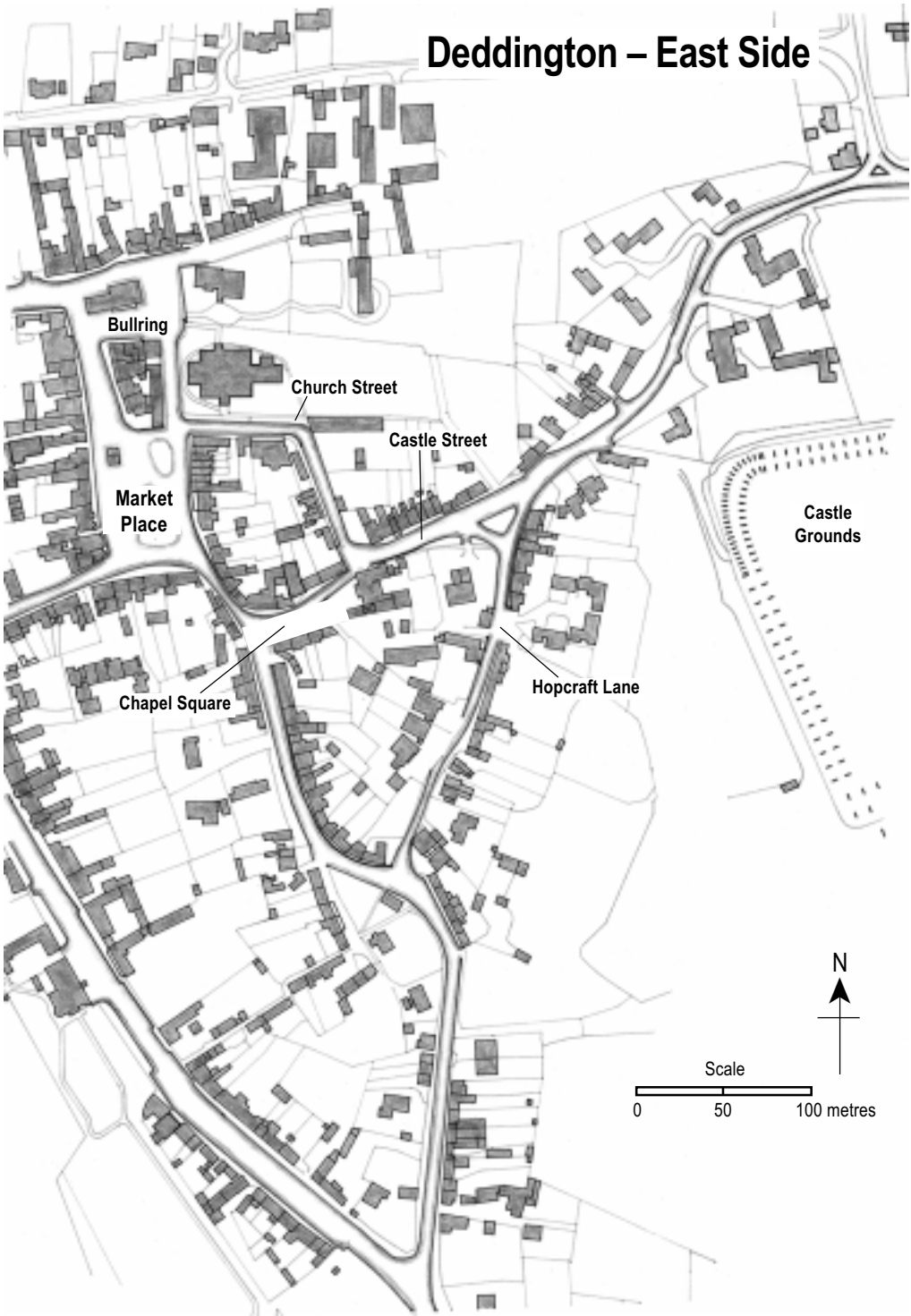
Between them Deddington, Clifton and Hempton have 110 listed buildings, many of them built of the locally quarried ironstone that gives them their warm, golden colour, or of brick from kilns that lined the Oxford road well into this century. The last 20 years have seen housing increased by a quarter, and many of the small farms and barns on our main streets and winding lanes have been converted into houses or businesses. Even so, there are still nine working farms within the four parish boundaries.

Three of those edges are water: the River Swere on the north, the River Cherwell on the east and the Sowbrook or Sor Brook on the south. The western boundary has changed several times over the years as Hempton and Barford shared the same field system until the enclosures of the early 19th century.

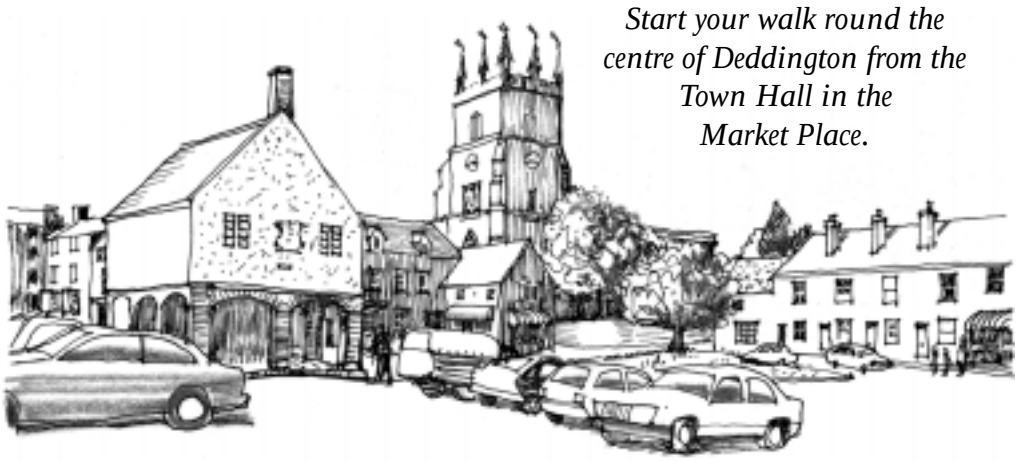
People

Deddington has association with a few prominent people – Bishop Odo of Bayeux once owned the place, Piers Gaveston was imprisoned here, Sir Thomas Pope was born here, King Charles I slept here. Yet its character has been shaped by less exalted folk, and you will meet some of them in the pages that follow – the clock-making Fardons, and the Masons who manufactured axle-trees; Charles Faulkner, antiquarian, and William Cotton Risley, squire-vicar; Joseph Wilkins, self-taught artist and John Knibbs, last of the ale-testers. Perhaps most telling of all, it is the largely unknown craftspeople, workers with wood and stone and iron, who put their stamp on what we see today, in all its rich and sometimes quirky detail.




Deddington – East Side
Bullring
Church Street
Castle Street
Market Place
Castle Grounds
Chapel Square
Hopcraft Lane
N
Scale
0
50
100 metres

A Walk Round Deddington



Start your walk round the centre of Deddington from the Town Hall in the Market Place.

Car drivers rushing along the A4260 main road between Oxford and Banbury could easily miss the centre of old Deddington. The stagecoach driver of 200 years ago would have turned off to one of the inns in the centre of the town. Today's visitor is rewarded by a detailed exploration of Deddington's rich stonework, architecture and heritage.

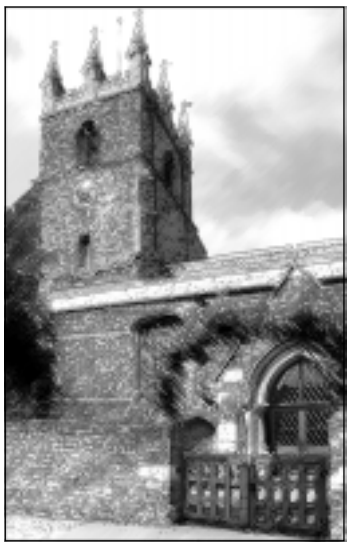
Town Hall

Rebuilt in 1806, the ground floor brick arches were open for shops and market stalls. In 1858 the arches were blocked up to provide a shelter for the fire tender. The upstairs room was formerly used for vestry meetings, and as a public reading room and court house. It now hosts monthly Parish Council meetings and occasional exhibitions. The coat of arms granted in 1994 is displayed on the south wall, and the red telephone kiosk on the north wall is the classic 1935 K6 designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott.

Cross over the road to the church.

The Parish Church Dedicated to St Peter and St Paul

The church stands on high ground and, even without its original spire, its 31m tall buttressed square-based 17th-century tower is a dominant feature of the local landscape. A landmark for travellers, eight gilded weather vanes swing on stone pinnacles. The churchyard has a war memorial, an unusual strawberry tree (*arbutus*), and carved headstones from the 17th century under the limes.



There was a Norman church on the site which may have been cruciform. The earliest surviving work in **the present church** is of the early 13th century and is to be found in the chancel and south wall. The earliest historical record is 1254. By 1327 (the next historical reference) the church, with the exception of the west wall, had taken the basic form we see today (see plan, opposite).

In the **15th century**, the roof of the nave was raised to accommodate the clerestory, and several chapels were built in the aisles: two flights of steps in the centre of the north and south walls are all that remain of them. The large window in the south wall also dates from that century, as do the slightly later east windows of both aisles.

The religious upheavals of **the Reformation** inevitably affected the church. Many parish records have been lost, but the removal of the figures which once surmounted the chancel screen probably happened in the reign of Elizabeth I.

A most dramatic change occurred in the **17th century**. The tower had a tall spire which fell down in 1634, causing much damage to the rest of the church. Rebuilding was halted by the Civil War and King Charles I had the bells melted down for artillery. The Crown did not honour its pledge to replace them, and new bells were not hung until 1791, with the treble and second replaced in 1946.

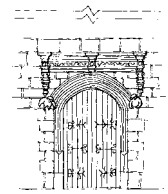
During the **18th and 19th centuries** the church interior was remodelled. The royal coat of arms over the north door can be dated from its heraldry to between 1801 and 1837. A new roof, new glass in many of the windows, a new vestry and south porch as well as plasterwork, tiles and pews date from the 19th century. From 1858 to 1868 the work was directed by the diocesan architect, G. E. Street.

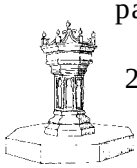
Twentieth-century changes include the pulpit and lectern by Franklins of Deddington (early 1900s) the organ by Binns of Leeds (1912), stained glass windows (1924 and 1936), kitchen (1994) and the replacement cross over the south porch (1996). In 1994 the parish was granted a coat of arms; the Letters Patent are displayed in the north aisle.

Tower – the clock, though made by Taylor's of Oxford, was installed by Thomas Fardon (d. 1838) in 1833. It strikes on the hour, day and night. The Fardon family, Quakers and clock-makers (whose work is illustrated, right), worked in Deddington from the early 18th century.

Referring to the plan:

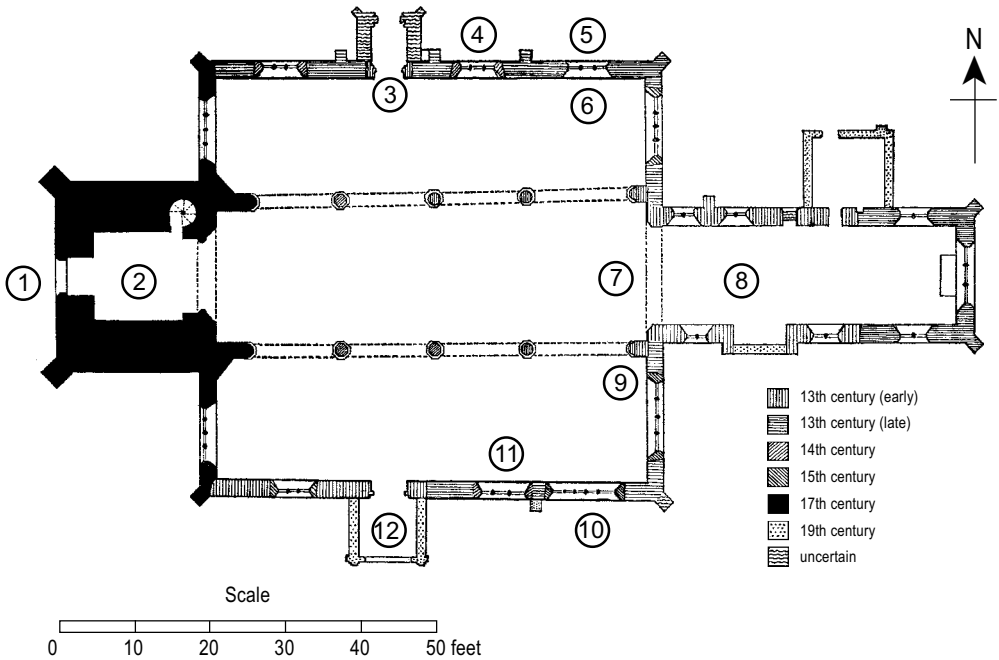
1. **West face** carvings either side of the 17th-century door resemble grotesques found in Oxford. The figures of SS Peter and Paul are part medieval and part 17th century.





2**. Font** – first used in 1663, though the cover is 1950s. (The medieval font was smashed when the spire fell down.) The bell tower above has a set of eight bells.

3. **North door** – of the 13th century. The porch beyond has a saucer-shaped ceiling with fan tracery and may be 17th century. The door is surmounted by the royal coat of arms and surrounded by crosses which once marked the graves of local men killed in the 1914–18 war.

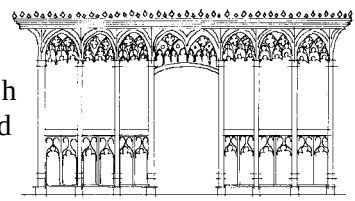


Plan of the Parish Church (from Colvin, A History of Deddington, Oxfordshire)

4. **'Charity' window** by C.E. Kempe shows the traditional personification of Charity with attendant saints. The date of the window is thought to be 1900.

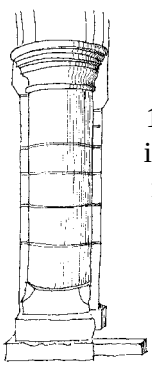
5. **Jones Memorial Windows** – these windows are at the east end of the north aisle in what is now the Lady Chapel. Dr George Horatio Jones was a General Practitioner for many years in the early part of this century who lived and had his practice at Ilbury House in New Street. He was twice married, first to Emily May whose memorial window (1924) is above the altar and who died without children in 1923, and secondly to Muriel, whose window (1936) is the most easterly on the north wall of the Lady Chapel. They had two children, Lesley and Martin. Both windows were designed by Archibald Davies of the Bromsgrove Guild, Worcestershire. Davies worked intermittently for the Arts and Crafts firm of Morris, Marshall, Faulkner and Co. between 1909 and 1928, and the firm's influence is clearly seen in these windows.

6. Under the 1936 window is the damaged **altar tomb** of William Billing, Merchant of the Staple at Calais, who died in 1533. He was one of the richest men in this whole area.



7. **Chancel screen** – basically 15th century, although much restored. The brackets on top would have held the pre-Reformation rood figures.

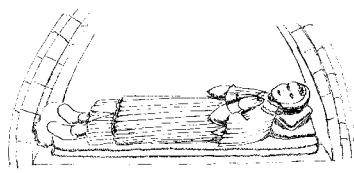
8**. Chancel** – the oldest part of the church – contains four 13th-century sedilia on the south side. The east window depicting the Crucifixion with St Mary Magdalen and St John, is by Kempe (1888) and has his emblem of a triple wheatsheaf on a red shield.



9. The base of the **column** in the east respond is perhaps a fragment of the old Norman church.

10. The large **15th-century window** on the south-east in the south aisle is reputedly in the style of Richard Winchcombe, the master mason responsible for very fine work in Adderbury and Bloxham churches and at the Divinity School in Oxford.

11. The **effigy** beneath is a 14th-century lawyer, possibly Ralph de Bereford, or Barford.



12. **South porch** – rebuilt in the 18th century and again in 1865. The old medieval porch had a room above it, and traces of stairs can be seen in a small gothic arch by the south door.

Leave the church by the south porch into Church Street, once known as Paternoster Lane. The Old Vicarage is on your right and the Old Malt House is on the corner next to the churchyard.

The Old Vicarage

This 17th-century house was rebuilt in 1802 by William Rose, a local builder. The plain, asymmetrical front has good sash windows.

The Old Malt House

Brewing needs malt, which is barley or other grain prepared by steeping, germinating and kiln-drying. The Old Malt House is a collection of buildings where this processing was carried out. Four hundred years ago, a team of three ale-testers was employed by the parish. The last official ale-tester, John Knibbs, died in 1901 aged 94.

Turn the bend and see on your right the Almshouses with new decorative railings.

Almshouses

Parish Trustees elected in 1818 commissioned the building of rooms 'for 4 poor men and 4 poor women', and the Almshouses were completed in 1822 in a pleasing style with pointed windows with Gothic tracery, and octagonal brick chimneys. There would have been four apart-ments upstairs and four down. The tenants were allocated 4 shillings (4/-) weekly (3/- for women), an early pension, small but adequate (4/- is 20p). In 1960 Mrs Thomas provided funding to renovate the building, which now contains four homes.

Next door to the almshouses is a converted Methodist Chapel, now Wesley Place.

Wesleyan Reform Chapel

Followers of John Wesley built this small chapel around 1800 and it was mentioned in the Oxfordshire Religious Census of 1851. When the new, bigger, stuccoed chapel with a gallery replaced it, the first building served as Sunday Schoolroom. During World War II it was a Forces' canteen. It was sold in the 1990s to be converted into a private house.

Beyond the end of the street, the newer Wesleyan Chapel is on your right, in Chapel Square.

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

This was built in 1851 at the centre of a thriving Wesleyan community, one of whom, John Whetton, is commemorated on a plaque in the church. Another plaque commemorates the Woolgrove and Deely families, leading non-conformist Deddingtonians of their time. The church was extensively remodelled in 1996.

Chapel Square (formerly Tabernacle Square) houses **Centrepoint,** a business centre offering office premises and services to small business, including **Akita**, a provider of computer solutions.

Continue left along Castle Street, passing a Victorian terrace of houses on your left. Johnson's yard is on your right.

The site now occupied by Johnson & Co. was used in the nineteenth century by the successful joiner's and builder's business of **Robert Franklin** (d. 1864). The business was turned by his sons **H.R. and W. Franklin** into a firm with an international reputation for high-quality restoration work on church and college buildings in London, Salisbury, Oxford and elsewhere. Abroad, their contracts included the pulpit and chancel screen of Hobart Cathedral, Tasmania, Australia, where they are still to be seen. Henry Robert Franklin lived at Castle House and William at The Blocks (now Featherton House).

At their height the Franklin workshops employed as many as 200 skilled masons and woodcarvers. The firm closed in 1917.

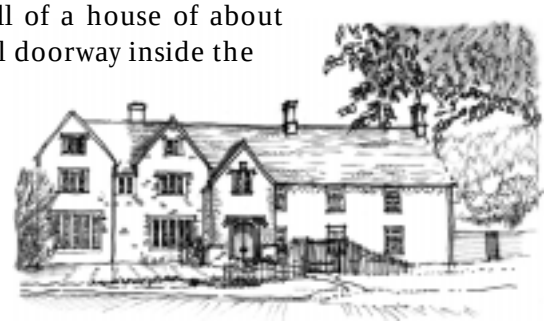
The Franklin chancel screen built for Hobart Cathedral, Tasmania, 1916
(Photographs reproduced by kind permission of Oxfordshire Photographic Archive, Centre for Oxfordshire Studies)

Johnson & Co. is a timber and builders' merchant specialising in joinery quality softwoods and mouldings. Featherton House, a 17th-century house, is a residential care home for retired persons, offering long-term, respite and day care.

Walk on towards one of Deddington's oldest houses, Castle End, beyond the limes.

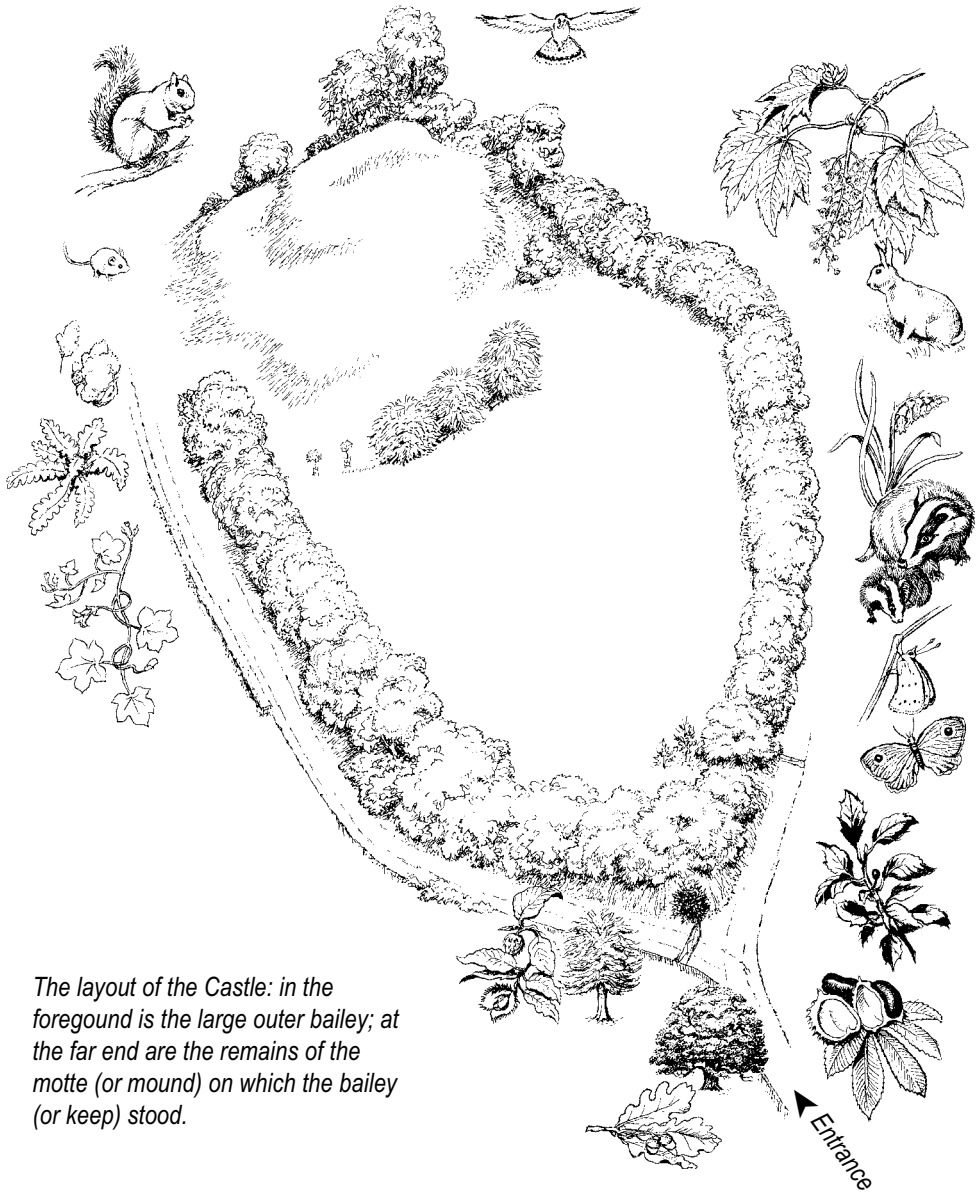
Castle End

Facing the house, the left end is 17th century, with two gables and stone mullion windows. The right half was face-lifted in Georgian times, but behind the sash windows is the hall of a house of about 1500, over cellars. It has the original doorway inside the porch with its date of 1647 and is roofed with hand-cut Stonesfield slates from a quarry near Woodstock. It was known in the 19th century as Blount's Farm, and in the early part of the 20th as The Poplars. During World War II, Land Army girls kept goats in the nether field.



Next to it is the entrance to Castle Grounds with a 19th-century lodge cottage marking the gateway. If you have time, explore the castle site. There are helpful information boards by English Heritage and The Deddington News.

The Castle Grounds



The layout of the Castle: in the foregound is the large outer bailey; at the far end are the remains of the motte (or mound) on which the bailey (or keep) stood.

Castle Grounds

For more than 200 years there was a castle here. It was built not long after 1066, on land granted to the warrior-bishop Odo of Bayeux by his half-brother William the Conqueror. Odo, who held enormous estates across England, is best known today as the commissioner of the famous Bayeux Tapestry. Following Odo's rebellion in 1086, Deddington was seized by King William. It was at that time one of the largest and most valuable estates in the county.

The Normans were not the first to occupy this land; the last known Saxon lord of the place before the Conquest was Brihtwine whose house was almost certainly on the site later occupied by the castle. Quantities of Saxon pottery have been found there.

Strengthened in the 1100s, the castle was later held by William de Chesney, Lord of Deddington in the mid-12th century, when England was ravaged by civil war. During the struggle between King Richard and his brother Prince John in the late 12th century it was seized by the Crown. Descendants of the Chesneys, the Dive family, regained possession in 1205 and styled themselves 'Lord of Deddington Castle', but by 1310 there seems to have been little left apart from 'a chamber and a dovecote'. At the close of the 14th century the castle had largely gone, the stones were sold, some were 'borrowed', and all were carted away. In time, new uses were found for old ground: timber and pasturage in the 18th century, a resort of the local gentry for sport and recreation in the 19th.

Nothing now shows that there was a tower on the mound. Excavations in 1947 and 1977 of the $8\frac{1}{2}$ acre site uncovered traces of some Saxon building. The main archaeological and documentary evidence is of the castle in the 11th–14th centuries. There was an inner bailey containing a stone hall, a solar and chapel, with a tower on the east side and a gatehouse on the west side giving access to the large outer bailey. Pottery from the 11th–13th centuries was found. The site was subsequently covered over and now the entire enclosure is under grass.

The outer yard or bailey, with steep earth banks, is now a tree-lined recreation area frequented by dogs and their walkers, local sportsmen, and mothers and toddlers. The land is indeed well suited for uses other than natural history. There is a daredevil's run, on the northern embankment, where sledges make their way on the first snowfall.

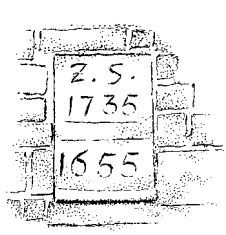
Surprisingly, there are 23 kinds of herbaceous plants in the natural amphitheatre that comprises the Grounds, including bluebells and lords and ladies; 26 species of trees and shrubs, including elm, willow and ash; and 3 species of ferns.

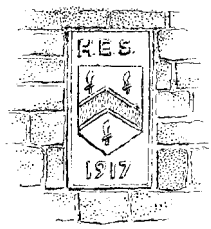
Returning in the direction of the Market Place, turn left into Hopcraft Lane. On the left is the Schoolhouse, now commercial premises known as Orchard House.

Orchard House

A rectangular farmhouse of 1655, with a staircase projection at the back. There are traditional stone mullions on the ground floor and wooden frame windows above. A long lattice window gives light to a lace-makers' or weavers' workroom. Lessons for both boys and girls were transferred to this house from a schoolroom at the church. In the 20th century the building was extended to be a goldsmith's workshop and is now occupied by several companies.

The coats of arms of the Stilgoe family, farmers and mill owners, appear on the house front, along with dates from three different centuries.

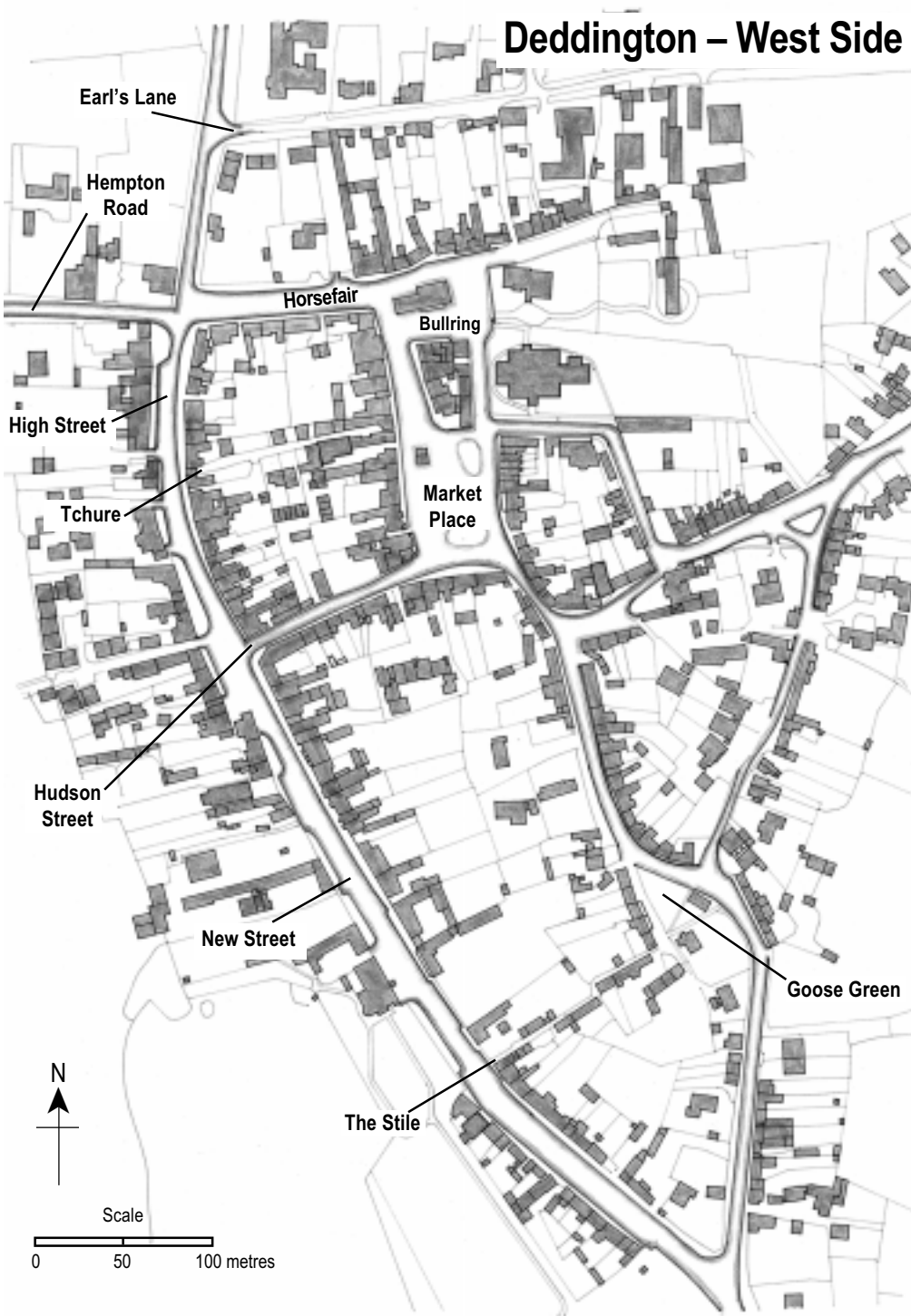




Beyond, the lane falls to Goose Green.

Goose Green

Possibly Gorse Green, it used to have a spring, a natural centre for surrounding cottages on what was the old main road through Deddington. The green is overlooked on the south by The Mount, a modernised 17th-century house, once The Bishop's Arms Inn and then The Hole in the Wall, because beer was passed through a window to thirsty patrons outside. On the green, Baerlein House was built in 1849 as a coal house for the Deddington coal charity, then used both as a mortuary and to house the fire tender. Now it is the office of the **Radionics Association,** representatives of a particular form of complementary therapy.


Deddington – West Side
Earl's Lane
Hempton Road
Horsefair
Bullring
High Street
Tchure
Market Place
Hudson Street
New Street
Goose Green
The Stile
N
Scale
0
50
100 metres

Pass Baerlein House and The Mount, as you climb the gentle slope to The Stile.

The Stile

The Stile is a narrow passage running between garden walls through to New Street. Notice the bracketed wooden gutter on the right, and the sign, now barely legible, banning cycles and motor cycles.

Joseph Wilkins (1820–91) was a self-taught local signwriter and noted topographical artist who lived in The Stile. His depictions of the area, particularly his remarkable bird's-eye views, are now an important historical source. Here is part of his drawing of Deddington in the 1860s. (See the back cover for the full drawing.)

Once at the main road, turn left for a view across the street of two monkey-puzzle trees fronting a former chapel.

Chapel on New Street

Used now for storage purposes, this former chapel may be the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel of 1840 referred to in Colvin's *History of Deddington*. It is not mentioned in the Religious Census of 1851. The Ordnance Survey map of 1886 shows it belonging to the Primitive Methodists. It was later used by the Salvation Army, a movement which grew out of Primitive Methodism.

The row of cottages on your left includes Quinque House; the nearby Plough House was once an inn.

Quinque House

Up till 1834 this 'monotonous row of cottages' (in centre of early 20th-century picture, *right*) was the parish workhouse, where 'each poor person [was] to have a pint of beer a day, meat three times a week and a good fire, and a candle to go to bed by'.

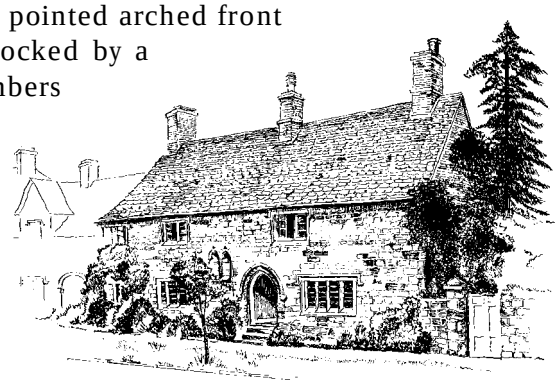
Plough House

Possibly a merchant's house in the Middle Ages, by 1774 an inn (the largest building in the picture, *above*), and now a much altered private house. The cellar has the stone rib vaulted style of a 15th-century crypt. The premises were once used by Eli Walker, pork butcher and poulterer.

Turn back to go north, where Leadenporch House will be on your right, with pleached limes and its giant Wellingtonia tree visible from all directions.

Leadenporch House

Leadenporch House is a rare survival from 1325 of a yeoman's hall house, with its original, early 14th-century pointed arched front doorway, and a window, partly blocked by a 17th-century chimney. The roof timbers still have soot from a central open hearth. It has been much changed and in 1834 was known to be a beer shop 'in a stage of dilapidation'. Shortly afterwards it was repaired and some of the surviving Gothic detail is probably of this period. A working farm until the 20th century, it has a great thatched barn which now houses the **Phethean Studio Pottery Centre**, which specialises in slip decorated earthenware and holds intensive short courses in pottery throughout the year.



Sir Thomas Pope (1507–59), Tudor courtier and founder of Trinity College, Oxford, was reputedly born in Leadenporch House. His great fortune, which stemmed from his profitable position as administrator of the revenues of monasteries suppressed by his master Henry VIII, enabled him to buy Wroxton (north of Banbury) for a country seat as his family rose inexorably into the peerage and out of Deddington. Our drawing is from an oil painting of Sir Thomas, one of several portraits of him in Trinity College.

Sir William Scroggs (1623–83), Lord Chief Justice, is believed to have been born in Deddington. He is notorious for his partiality and cruelty during the Popish Plot trials inspired by Titus Oates in 1678. Sir William was impeached for treason in 1680, and though the impeachment was rejected the following year, he was dismissed from office. A couple of years later he was dead. Our drawing of him is from a painting in the National Gallery London.

Next to Leadenporch House you will walk past the Old Post House and Ilbury House.

Old Post House

Once a post office, run in the 1850s by J. Calcutt, post-master and printer, this convincingly old-looking building was rebuilt in 1935, as the datestone admits. Other examples of relatively recent Deddington rebuilds are the Three Horseshoes in the Bullring (see p. 33), and Mourne and Hendon Cottages on the east side of the Market Place.

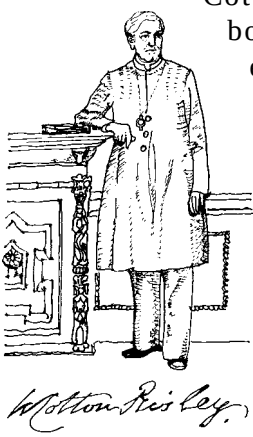
Ilbury House

The handsome early Georgian stuccoed face of Ilbury House hides an earlier Jacobean building. Once known as the White House, it has in its time been a girls' school, a lawyer's office and the home of Henry Churchill, Coroner.

On the opposite side of the road are Deddington Manor and Park Farm.

Deddington Manor

Built in the 18th century, unusually in this area in neoclassic style, the Manor was known as Deddington House until 1930. The building's fine dressed stone facing (ashlar) is original, and extensions were built in the early and mid-19th century. The Doric porch was added later and there were further additions in the 1920s. The park-like gardens have an old brick ice-house below ground. Deddington House was the home of the Churchill family until the 1830s, when the Rev. William Cotton Risley first leased and then bought it. Vicar here 1836–48, he espoused conservative High Church views that were not much to the taste of his parishioners. The 1851 Census describes him as a 'clergyman not having care of souls'. In retirement he continued to live in the house, fulfilling the self-appointed role of squire. Cotton Risley left detailed diaries of his involvement as magistrate and minister. All 40 or so volumes are now in Oxford's Bodleian Library.



Our drawing of Cotton Risley is from a photograph in the Oxfordshire Photographic Archives.

Park Farm

Park Farm, built in the late 17th and early 18th centuries, is still a working farm today, with traditional barns and other agricultural buildings.

Beyond in the former blacksmith's forge is **Archway Garage** with the old-style swinging arms of its petrol pumps and a repair service for all makes of cars.

The premises also house **J.C. Bikes.**

Just beyond is another of Deddington's three places of worship, the Congregational Church.

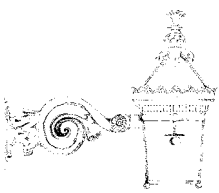
Congregational Church

Nonconformity has always been strong in Deddington. Indeed the history of religious dissent dates from as early as the 16th century. In 1827 and 1872 it was estimated that almost a quarter of the population were dissenters. Designed by John Sulman, this 1881 church replaced a previous small chapel in a house in the Tchure. It is remarkable for its delightfully restrained use of Victorian Gothic and its octagonal turret. A kitchen was added about 1980. Plaques in the church commemorate the Dodwell family, Eddy Lines and Florence and Fred Deely.

As you continue your walk, notice the Crown and Tuns on the right.

Crown and Tuns

An 18th-century building, probably with 16th-century origins, the Crown and Tuns pub has a handsome shallow stone arch to the central carriageway, now filled in as the bar entrance. Coach horses were changed and rested here. Extensive alterations in the 20th century were largely internal and hardly affected the Georgian exterior. A cast-iron bracket lamp still hangs on the outside wall.



A few doors up, in a former ironmonger's shop is **Huntley's,** an art shop which also does picture framing on the premises.

Russell House, until recently an antiques shop, used to be the Hotel Russell, before that the Volunteer and earlier still the Flying Horse.

On the (south) corner of New Street and Hudson Street is a building which has been a sweet factory, an ice-cream parlour, then a Mexican restaurant and now houses a Chinese restaurant and take-away, **May Fu Two**

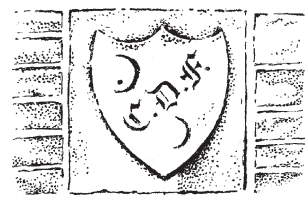
On the other side of the main road, the late 18th-century **Bowler House** was home from 1891 to 1919 to some members of the Bowler family, though the building was then known as Eastleigh. Contrary to popular belief, William Bowler, who first produced his renowned hat in 1850, price 12 shillings, neither lived nor worked here.

At this point New Street changes its name. In the 1851 Census it was New Street all the way, but by the Census of 1881 the northern stretch had become High Street, and so it is today. This drawing by Joseph Wilkins was probably made about 1865.

A quick detour into Hudson Street reveals a clutch of small businesses.

Hudson Street

Hudson Street, formerly Hudson's Lane, was named after William Hudson (d. 1832), a well-off draper and grocer who hid his sovereigns in a teapot. He wanted the old church clock to 'give place to a better' and got his wish, at his posthumous expense, when the present clock was installed in 1833.



Charles Faulkner (d. 1871) and his son, Charles Duffell Faulkner (d. 1894), were among the leading Deddingtonians of their period. Faulkner the elder was a man of independent means whose great passion was collecting and studying antiquities. He lived in Hudson Street, building the house known as The Priory to house a museum displaying his extensive collections. Faulkner also rebuilt the house alongside, now called Priory Dene, notable for its unusual gothic-style metal windows with coloured glass. Faulkner's collections were dispersed after his death, but some fossils and carvings adorn the curious buildings opposite his house. His son, a lawyer and Temperance advocate, became County Coroner and was Treasurer of the Deddington Prosecution Association.

A traditional red and white striped barber's pole identifies **Webb's Barbershop.** Across the courtyard the **Cyclogical Shop** retails and repairs adults' and children's bicycles. **Otmoors Airguns & Tackle** are retailers of sporting and target airguns, and fishing tackle. The **Ashcroft Clinic** treats neuro-muscular and joint disorders using osteopathy, massage and chiropody. **Goldford Furnishings** are specialists in antique re-upholstery, using traditional materials.

On the (north) corner of Hudson Street and High Street, in premises occupied in the 19th century by a farm implement repair shop, and more recently by a garage and car restorer, is now **Deddington Dental Practice**, providing dental care independently of the health service, or on the NHS for children.

Turn right into the High Street and head north towards the traffic lights.

Across the main road you can see Grove House, Maund's Farmhouse and the Holcombe Hotel.

Grove House

With stone mullions and latticed windows, this substantial house was probably built for a yeoman farmer in about 1690. There is a fine 17th-century staircase inside.

Maund's Farmhouse

The 17th-century Maund's Farmhouse owned at that time by Christ Church, Oxford, incorporates part of a 12th-century building. It has been much altered over the years. Two fine half-round Norman arches tucked away inside could perhaps have come from Deddington Castle, which had largely been demolished by the early 1300s.

Holcombe Hotel

Probably two 18th-century houses, with earlier origins, what is now the Holcombe Hotel was a school in the early years of the 20th century. For more information about local schools past and present, see p. 35.

On the east side of High Street you will see the British Legion building. There were several 19th-century shops in this row, now homes.

British Legion

On the site now occupied by the Royal British Legion in the High Street was Mason's axle-tree workshop (an axletree is a crossbar fitted to the underside of wagons and coaches). The Mason family, blacksmiths, locksmiths and ironmongers in Deddington since the late 17th century, established the axle-tree factory around 1820. They acquired such a reputation for quality as to attract orders to supply axles for royal coaches, including Queen Victoria's coronation coach; indeed, it was the firm's boast that there was hardly a crowned head in Europe but rode in state above its axles. Mason's employed up to 80 people in the later 19th century, with 40 workmen in the back forge, but in about 1896 the patent was sold to Walker's of Wednesbury, and the business closed.

An arch formed by the first floor of No. 10 High Street is the entrance to the Tchure, which will lead you back into the Market Place, and a surprise view of the church tower above rooftops.

The Tchure

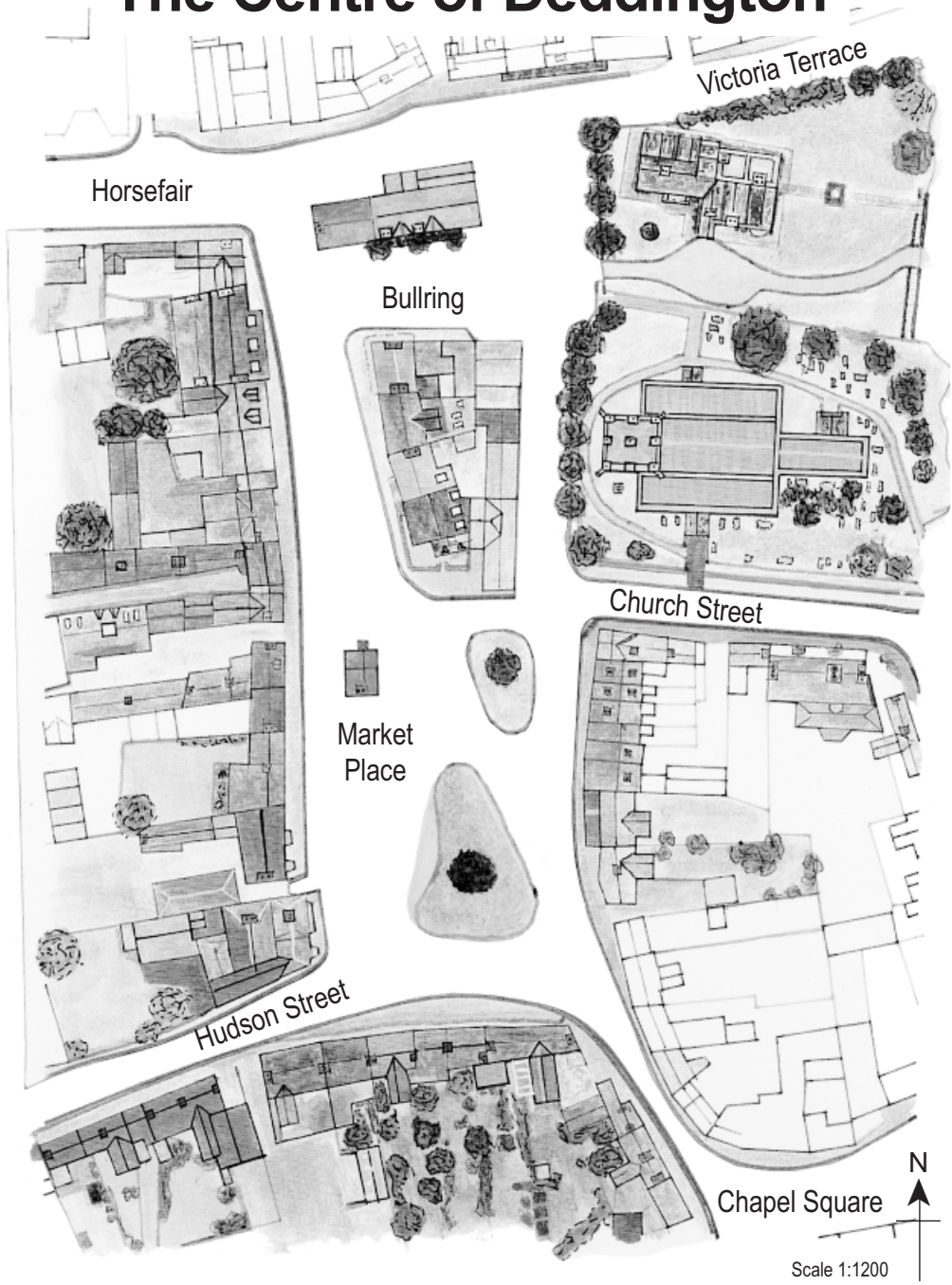
This passageway from High Street to Market Place is where the last bakers in Deddington, the Wallin brothers, were at work by 4am. Their shop is now a cottage, called Rising Dough. There is a clock-mender's workshop behind the barred window.

Foresters Hall

Before 1881 the members of the Congregational church met in a small chapel in the Tchure, later called Foresters Hall. That building, shown as a chapel in the 1886 Ordnance Survey map (surveyed in 1881), was home to the lending library before the present library was opened in 1956. It is now in commercial use as part of publishers Philip Allan Updates.

Passing under the low arch and leaving the Tchure, you might wonder what the word actually means. We cannot be absolutely certain, but it seems likely that 'tchure' and regional variants like 'tewer' 'ture', 'chewer', 'chure' and 'chare' derive from the Old English word for a narrow lane or turning.

The Centre of Deddington



An extract from the Millennium Map of the Parish of Deddington, the starting point for this book (work in progress).

As you come out of the Tchure, turn right.

The Market Place with its neat and tidy greens is the focus of life in Deddington. It was not always so. It was once an 'ugly piece of rocky ground' with a highly polluted pool in the southeast corner. The pool was filled in in 1861.

A walk round the square today reveals a variety of shops and hostelries which contribute to the self-sufficiency of the parish.

Philip Allan Updates, educational publishers and conference organisers, occupy a number of buildings including the Victorian shopfront of the former Deddington Saleroom. **Viva,** a ladies' retail dress shop, specialises in smart casual wear and occasion dressing.

Unicorn Inn

This mid-17th century coaching inn was remodelled in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, when it was given its present front, and again in the 20th century. The 'Queen' stagecoach left here every morning for Oxford, calling again each evening on its way to Banbury. The 'Queen' also stopped at the Crown and Tuns in New Street.

Drake International Services in Market House is a marketing and sales agency for academic publishers.

Police

Deddington's first police sub-station in 34 years opened in April 2000. This administrative office for the area is a base for six beat officers. Full details of telephone numbers, etc. can be found on p. 60. At previous times, the building was an antiques shop, Market House Tea Rooms, then Tiffany's Restaurant, followed by Dexter's which moved across the square in 1998.

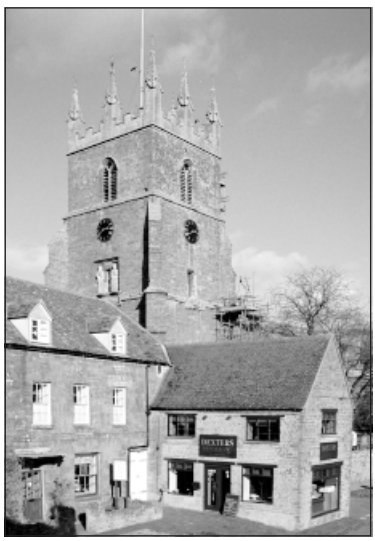
Pretoria House

Bluebells, florist and gift shop offers a flower delivery service in the local area. **The Finishing Touch** provides hair design and products for both men and women.

Pretoria House got its name when Deddington celebrated the relief of Mafeking by burning President Kreuger in effigy on a bonfire. The wind got up and sparks carried to the thatched roof of the farmhouse on the Pretoria site which was burned down. It was reconstructed of the old materials in 1905.

Across the Market Place, the **Acorn Stores** is open every day and sells an extensive range of groceries, frozen foods, fruit and vegetables.

Looking north, notice Dexter's and Foodies in the mid-18th century building once known as Tucker's House, alongside Steve Miller.



Dexter's Restaurant has been at various times an ale house, village stores (Tucker's) and antiques shop. It is now a restaurant on two floors.

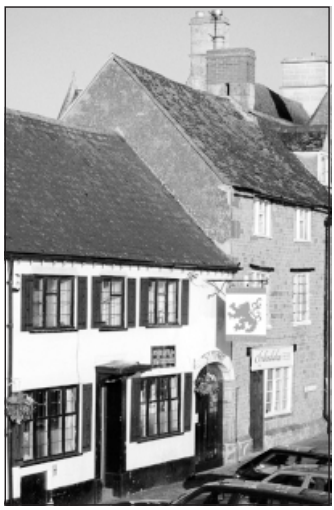
Foodies Deli and Café was formerly The Horn of Plenty.

Steve Miller Hairworkshop provides ladies' and gents' contemporary hair design.

Round the corner, you come to the **Post Office**, a late 17th-century building, altered in the 19th and 20th centuries. In addition to providing the usual sub-post office services and the National Lottery, the Post Office and Newsagent sells newspapers and magazines, cards and stationery.

From the Post Office, look across the way to Hayward White, Time After Time, the Red Lion and Clydesdales.

Hayward White, land and estate agents, deal in the sale of village and country homes. **Time After Time** sells, repairs and restores clocks and barometers. In the same premises **Craft Time** offers a range of local crafts and gifts.



Red Lion

In the 19th century, a farmhouse became the Red Lion, which briefly became the Blacksmith's Forge and is now the Red Lion again. The original 17th-century Red Lion was possibly on the north side of the Horsefair, which was known then as Red Lion Street.

Clydesdales, Clarins Gold Beauty Salon, offers a range of beauty therapy services.

Look towards the Deddington Arms and spot the overhanging cornice of The Hermitage.

The Hermitage

Refaced in Bath stone in the mid-18th century, this private house dates at least from 1640, with cellars and well. It was once occupied by the town's guild. The front door has an unusual fanlight, and the cellar vent is a neatly bored solid stone. The name comes from the French 'L'Ermitage', a refuge, as it was once an orphanage. Cora Collin (d. 1978), who endowed land off the Horsefair for the building of four homes for senior citizens, bought The Hermitage as her own home in 1944.

Opposite the Hermitage is Laurel House, an early 19th-century building where the **Antiques Centre** has four floors of period furniture, silver, porcelain, pictures and collectables.

(*left*:) Laurel House in the early part of the 20th century.

Deddington Arms

This partially timber-framed building is possibly of 16th-century origin, and has been remodelled every century since. It retains a 17th-century gabled front with stone mullioned windows and 16th-century chimney stacks. The stage coaches 'Rival' and 'Regulator' called here daily on their way to Oxford and their return to Banbury or Warwick. Formerly the King's Arms and, in 1710, the Queen's Arms, this inn gained its new name in 1996, a couple of years after the parish was awarded its coat of arms.

On the north eastern corner of the square is Wychway House on the Bullring. Behind this and next to the churchyard is Castle House.

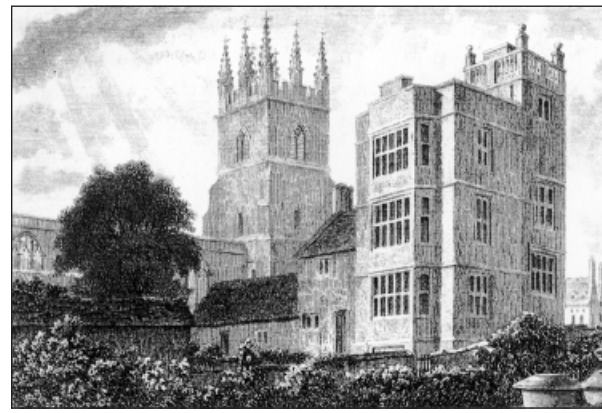
Wychway House

Built of 19th-century brick, and incorporating earlier stone cottages, this was once a warehouse for woollens, then Churchill's Emporium, a department store. You can still see the hoist on the east end and traces of big letters which proclaimed 'The Cheapest House for Blankets and Flannel'. Now offices and flats.

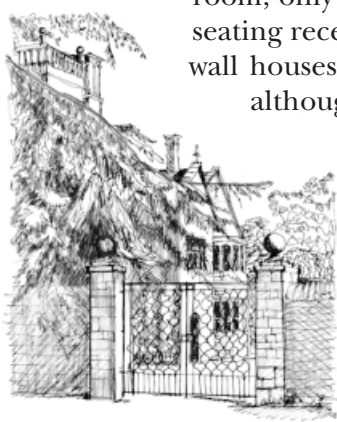
The **British Microlite Association,** in Wychway House, promotes and governs the sport in the UK.

(*left:)* Churchill's Emporium, in its heyday in the early years of the 20th century.

Castle House



So called because of its association with the Castle Estate of which it was at times in effect the manor house, it was known at various periods as the Rectorial Mansion, the Rectorial Farmhouse, the Old Parsonage and the Great House. According to Skelton's engraving of 1823, it was among the 'principal antiquities of Oxfordshire'. It is now a private house, mainly 17th century, with a 13th-century chapel. Surprisingly, the chapel is on the first floor, in the oldest part of the house, the tower area. It is a tiny, intimate room, only about 2.5m x 3m. Two walls are taken up with stone seating recesses with cushions, and the centre arch on the north wall houses the only window. It is still maintained as a chapel, although not in regular use.



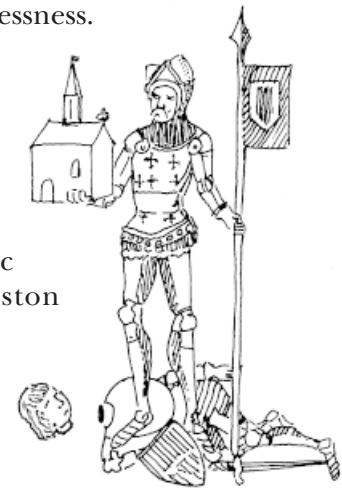
During the Civil War, royalist troops were frequently quartered in Deddington, and in August 1644 King Charles I slept here after the Battle of Cropredy Bridge. In 1649, Leveller Troops (a republican party in the parliamentary army whose radical politics were a source of alarm even to their own officers), were quartered in Deddington.

Thomas Appletree of the farming family was the occupier of Castle House in 1654, his initials noted on the rainwater heads. The house was bought in 1894 by H.R. Franklin a local builder who carried out a lot of restoration work, including the south-facing porch and bay window. The east front was reconstructed after a fire in 1925.

Piers Gaveston

There must have been great excitement in Deddington at the arrival in June 1312 of Piers Gaveston, one of the most powerful men in the kingdom. He had risen to eminence through the favouritism of his lifelong friend King Edward II. Immensely gifted and capable of great charm, he nevertheless alienated the

greatest barons in the land by his arrogance and tactlessness. He had surrendered in Yorkshire to Aymer de Valence, the Earl of Pembroke, on the promise of his life and was being brought south when he was lodged in Castle House. Here he was seized by his implacable enemy, the Earl of Warwick, who carried him off to be beheaded at Blacklow Hill, near his town and castle of Warwick. Gaveston's brief and tragic visit is commemorated by Piers Row and Gaveston Gardens, off the Hempton Road.



This picture of Piers Gaveston from Dallaway's *English Heraldry* of 1793 is, quite literally, a 'head alone' portrait.

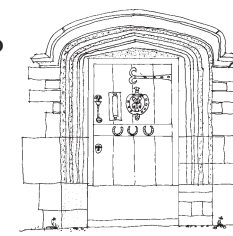
Tucked by the boundary wall of Castle House is Victoria Terrace, shaded by tall pines. Go left towards the traffic lights, and you will pass the Three Horseshoes. Continue on to Horsefair.

Victoria Terrace

This terrace of three-storey houses fronts the way to the one-time Pound in what is now the yard of Earl's Farmhouse.

The Three Horseshoes

Once an inn, now a private house, the name was changed to the Exhibition Inn after the Great Exhibition of 1851. It was thatched until 1944 when the roof fell in, and then entirely rebuilt from a near ruin. Fine carved stonework outlines the flat Tudor arch over the main entrance. The door has blacksmith strap hinges and, of course, three horseshoes.



Horsefair

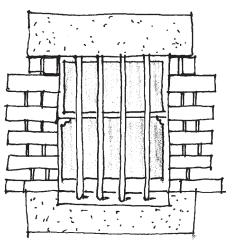
On the walls of the left-hand side of the Horsefair are some iron rings once used for tethering horses during market times. The mounting block outside the 18th-century Whittawyers, formerly Manchip House, must have been a help to riders visiting what was The Ship Inn – and perhaps even more useful when they were leaving.

The Horsefair has at different times been known as Uff Lane, Huff Street (or Lane) and Red Lion Street.

At the traffic lights, turn left into the High Street. The library is on your left.

Library

Designed by W.W. Wilkinson as an extension to the then Police Station and lock-up, the former Magistrate's Room dates from 1874. Previous magistrates had used a room in the King's Arms, now the Deddington Arms. The Old Court House became the library in 1956, when Professor J.R.R. Tolkien, of *Hobbit* fame, spoke at the official opening. He judged his own performance so 'wretched and inadequate' that he would not accept his fee of 2 guineas (£2.10). Today's library is connected by computer to the world wide web, including the parish's own website, but the old courtroom benches are still in place below the shelving, and the bookstore retains the barred window of a lock-up cell.



At present the library is open for fewer than 12 hours a week (for details, see p. 60), but these hours may be extended quite substantially if and when the building is used for a wider range of activities.

In addition to the free loan of a wide range of books, and pay-as-you-go access to the Internet, the library also provides the base for a mobile library serving villages in the north of the county; a Books on Wheels service (run by the WRVS) for housebound people in the area; loan of videos; loan of spoken word cassettes (120 available); a homework kit for schoolchildren (a pre-selected set of books kept permanently in a special section); a jigsaw puzzle borrowing system; access to photographs of neighbouring villages on microfiche; organised school visits by infant classes once a week.

Deddington Parish Council has funded several thousand pounds' worth of books. The Friends of Deddington Library, an advisory and supportive group of volunteers, aims to help the library develop a further range of services to the community.

The library also has a large wall-mounted fabric collage made by the Deddington Craft Group in 1991; it depicts buildings, trades and activities in Deddington through the ages.

Coming out of the library, turn right and cross the traffic lights into Banbury Road. Continue to the junction with Earl's Lane. On the north side is the school.

Primary School

Land endowed by the Cartwright family of Aynho and parish fund-raising ensured a school was built by 1864, when the population was at its highest (over 2000). The Victorian building has been extended and is filled to capacity with 165 boys and girls. The school is connected to the Internet and has its own website, and every class uses computers.

Education in Deddington goes back to at least 1548, when William Burton was a 'good schole master and bryngyth up yought very well in learnyng'. A century later a 'schoole house was made in ye church … for Edward Kempster [the parish clerk] to teach theire'. In the 18th and 19th centuries various charity schools came and went, before the educational system we know today began to emerge. Thomas Alexander Manchip (d. 1911) was a local historian who served as headmaster for 37 years. Many different buildings have been used as schools, for instance a converted barn in Hopcraft Lane (formerly School Lane), the White House (now Ilbury House) in New Street, a house in Church Street, the Holcombe Hotel, and the chapel in Hempton.

A purpose-built school in Clifton lasted from 1870–1945, but the Windmill School that opened in 1951 on the Hempton Road closed only 20 years later.

Beyond the school on the Banbury Road is the Fire Station.

Fire Station

A volunteer Fire Brigade was formed in Deddington in 1884 and taken over by the Parish Council in 1896. Today, Deddington Fire Station serves an area of some 310 sq.km (120 square miles). 120–150 calls per year are answered in an average response time of 8 minutes. Deddington is a retained station; the firefighters carry alerters, which are activated by control at Kidlington. At any time of day or night the crew may be called upon to turn out rapidly in response to an emergency call.

The full complement of crew is 12. However, over the past few years crewing levels have been difficult to sustain, especially during the day, and new recruits are continually being sought.

Retrace your steps to Earl's Lane, and turn left. As you continue on past the school, you come to the Health Centre on your right.

Health Centre

The Health Centre has one female and three male doctors offering a range of services: dispensary, minor surgery, physiotherapy, podiatry, speech therapist, treatment room, district nurses, health visitors. The practice covers a wide area and at set times there is free transport from villages to the Health Centre and back again.

Earl's Lane

Completing a circuit round the town, the lane offers open green views across farmland. When the sun is low in the sky, you can still see the ridge and furrow evidence of man and oxen ploughing the land 500 years ago and more. The north side hedgerow has six species of tree, so could be 600 years old. A gas-holder at the east end of the lane was installed by Deddington Gas, Coal and Coke Co. Ltd in 1862. Only the name remains, in the Old Gas House, on the site.

From here you can walk towards Banbury and Daeda's Wood or return via Tay's Gateway to the square. A choice of refreshment awaits you in the Market Place afterwards.

Take another look at the coat of arms plaque on the south wall of the Town Hall. It is a potted history of our ancient and colourful heritage.

On the shield, a red cross, a wolf's head and an engrailled cross symbolise the three manors (or estates) – Castle of Windsor, Duchy of Lancaster and Christ Church – and the embattled border signifies a town, enclosed and protected. The crest stands for Deddington Castle, and the chained eagle represents Piers Gaveston, imprisoned there (or in Castle House) in 1312. The ox symbolises the market and also Oxfordshire, while the horse refers to the Horsefair. Both stand on sheaves of wheat, signifying local farming.

'Threo on anan gebundene', the motto, means 'three bound together as one', that is to say, Deddington, Clifton and Hempton, and also the three manors. It is Early English in recognition of the fact that there was a settlement here long before the Normans came and the language started to change.

Eating and Drinking

Unicorn Inn
Market Place, Oxon OX15 OSE
Managers: Gaynor and Bob Curtis
Tel: 01869 338838 Fax: 01869 338592
email: gaynor@gecurtis.freeserve.co.uk
18th-century coaching inn. Six en suite bedrooms. Secret garden and barbecue. Pub food and restaurant.

Red Lion
Market Place. Oxon OX15 OSE
Proprietor: Martin Ellis
Tel: 01869 338553
Free house with real log fire and bistro food. Courtyard restaurant in summer, bar meals at other times. Aunt Sally on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Deddington Arms
Horsefair, Oxon OX15 OSH
Manager: Kemal Ghouse
Tel: 01869 338364 Fax: 01869 337010
email: deddarms@aol.com
Innovative fresh food. Real ale. International wine list. Air conditioning. Twenty-seven en suite rooms, including the former Magistrates' Court. Conference rooms.

Foodies Deli and Café
Market Place, Oxon OX15 OSA
Proprietor: Lucy Parker
Tel: 01869 337470 Mobile: 0802 340240
Delicatessen. Catering for cocktail parties, dinners, buffets, corporate lunches, family meals, picnic hampers. Small café open all year round. Coffee on the patio in summer.

Dexter's Restaurant
Market Place, Oxon OX15 OSA
Man. Dir: Jamie Dexter Harrison
Tel/Fax: 01869 338813
email: dexteruk@globalnet.co.uk
Modern British food. A la carte, vegetarian and set menus. Children half price. International wine list. Open seven days a week, 10am–2pm and 6–11 pm.

Crown and Tuns
New Street, Oxon OX15 OSP
Landlord: Alan Humphries
Tel: 01869 337371
Family-run 16th-century coaching inn serves Gold Medal Hook Norton Real Ale. In every edition of the *Good Beer Guide* since 1974. Darts, dominoes, Aunt Sally.

May Fu Two
1 New Street, Oxon OX15 OSP
Proprietor: Michael Lim
Tel: 01869 338047/338830
Restaurant and takeaway. Authentic Peking cuisine, plus traditional recipes from various regions of China. Open Mon–Sat 12 noon–2pm and 5.30–11pm. Sun 12 noon–2.30pm. Parties catered for.

Holcombe Hotel and Restaurant
High Street, Oxon OX15 OSL
Res. owners: Carol & Chedley Mahfoudh
Tel: 01869 338274 Fax: 01869 337167
Seventeen en suite rooms, including bridal suite. Classical French and traditional English cuisine in the restaurant. Conference facilities. A member of the Best Western group of independent hotels.

Windmill Fish'n'Chips
Hempton Road, Oxon OX15 0HG
Proprietor: Mrs Maureen Bond
Tel: 01869 338496
Traditional fish and chips. Kebabs, hot dogs. Cheeseburgers. Omelettes. Mushy peas. Open Wed–Sat 12 noon–2pm. Wed, Thurs, Sat 5–8pm. Fri 5–9.30pm. Closed Sun, Mon, Tues.

Duke of Cumberland's Head
Clifton, Oxon OX15 0PE
Director: Nick Huntington
Tel: 01869 338534 Fax: 01869 338643
Table d'hôte meals in the restaurant. Bar food every day except Sunday evenings. Six en suite bedrooms.

Into the Countryside

Two and a half kilometres (1.5m) either side of Deddington are the two villages which are part of the parish. The Town Hall plaque below the coat of arms records 'Threo on anan gebundene', Early English for 'three bound together as one'. Recent foot and cycle paths encourage a 'green' connection between the three distinct places.

Both Clifton and Hempton are embraced in their own circular walk, allowing the walker to start from Deddington and complete 10km(6.5m) around Clifton to the east, and 8.5km(5.5m) around Hempton to the west. On pp. 40–49 you will find suggestions on the route to take, and what to look for.

Deddington's Hedgerows

Insects, birds, and wild mammals are more abundant where hedges have a mixture of trees and shrubs, are wide and densely packed with vegetation, run for long distances without gaps, and connect with other hedgerows of the same kind. There is more wild nature in the 870 or so hedgerows of Deddington parish than in its few wooded sites.

If you get down on your knees and take a hedgehog's view, the bottom of the hedgerow is a hobgoblin's world of criss-crossing branches, spiny passages, thick leaf mould, new stems from old stumps, and worms and beetles. The hedgerow is a zoological garden and the farmer its keeper.

Country Code

Please remember the Country Code:

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
- Close gates behind you
- Guard against all risks of fire
- Keep dogs on a lead and fully under control
- Keep to public paths across farmland
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences and hedges
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
- Take your litter home
- Help to keep water clean
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees
- Take special care on country roads
- Make no unnecessary noise

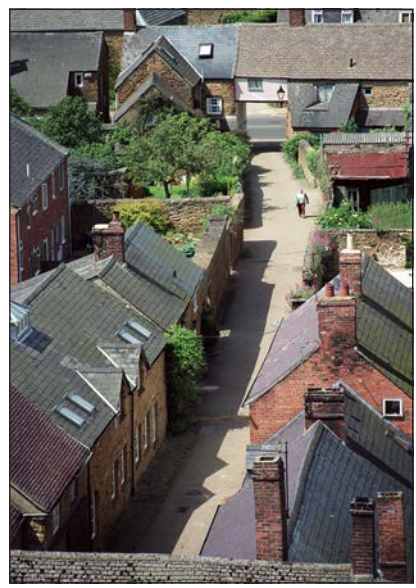
Castle House

Hempton Road

Market Place

Philcote Street

The Tchure



Market Place from Foodies

Hayward White and Craft Time

Antiques Centre and Post Office

Market Place Cottage

Foodies and Dexters

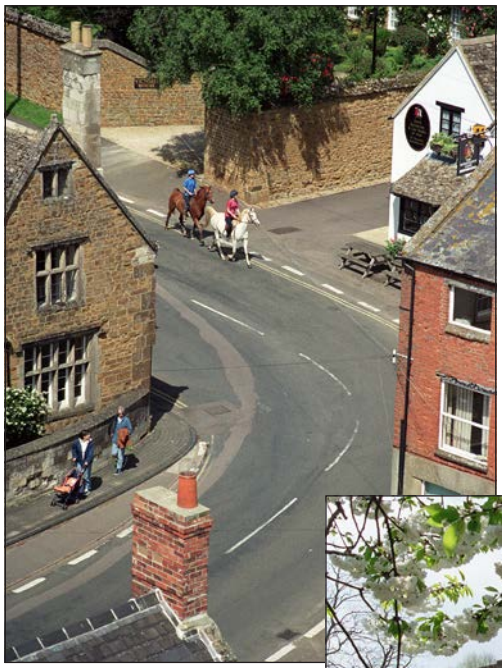
Osborne House

Horsefair

Philcote Street

The Tchure

Leadenporch House



Horsefair

Bullring

Deddington Manor

The Parish Church

The Church from the Tchure

The Four Seasons

Spring at Castle End

Summer in the Bullring

Autumn fruits

Christmas in the Market Place

Deddington
to the west

The Town Hall

Clydesdale

The Stile

Wesleyan Reform Church

Clifton

Clifton

Hempton

Hempton

Cosy Lane

A Walk Around Clifton

Clifton (which in Anglo-Saxon means the settlement on the river bank) is a pretty hamlet of 75 mainly two-storey ironstone rubble cottages close to the River Cherwell. Some of the cottages date from the 18th and early 19th centuries. The relatively small number of new houses has been quickly absorbed. A few Cliftonians have lived in the village all their lives but these days most of the residents are relative newcomers, attracted to the village by the peace and beauty of the countryside while earning their living elsewhere.

Clifton has lost its church and Methodist chapel to other uses, but still has an inn and a 17th-century watermill, both near the river. Easter 1998 brought the most spectacular floods in living memory, when the ground floor of the mill house was under many centimetres of water. The mill race overflowed on to the road which was passable only by tractor.

Chapel of St James

This former chapel, designed by J.C. & G. Buckley, is now a commercial building. The site was probably given by Mr Wright of St James Farm, Clifton, and the stone by the Cartwrights of Aynho in Northamptonshire.

The building was paid for by the Rev. William Cotton Risley, who laid the foundation stone in 1851. The chapel was consecrated in 1853. In the 1930s it was very active and even had its own choir. It was closed in 1976 because of declining con-gregations, when the cross was given to Deddington Secondary School and, after that closed, to the Warriner School, Bloxham. The communion silver and linen were presented to the Bishop of Zaire, for use in his new cathedral in Boga.

Businesses operating in the former Chapel of St James include **DPA,** commercial lighting consultants. Across the way is Ashley House Workshop where you will find **James Guthrie,** picture framer and restorer to the fine art and antiques trade.

Wesleyan Methodist Chapel

Now a private house, this chapel was built around 1815. It was sold about 1970 because of declining numbers in the village.

Duke of Cumberland's Head

This thatched building, probably 17th-century, was remodelled in the 18th and 20th centuries. In the 1850s 'the Duke' also housed a beaver hat factory.

Castle Antiques at Manor Farm sells furniture, silver, china, etc., as well as reproduction garden furniture. **St Anne's Residential Home** specialises in the the care of older people with memory loss and dementia.

Cherwell Valley Views

The scenery has changed little over the years, although there used to be more willows along the river. Dutch elm disease devastated the native elm population in the 1970s. Clifton is rich in native flora and fauna and even the opening of the nearby M40 motorway has made little difference to the numbers of birds and animals to be seen. Why not take the Clifton Loop of the Circular Walk which will take you $2\frac{1}{2}$–3 hours? Some of the walk will be muddy in wet weather, so do wear stout footwear. It's worth it.

The Clifton Loop of the Circular Walk *(see map, p. 42)*

1 From Deddington Market Place, follow the Clifton road south through the pinch point.

2 Turn first right down Philcote Street, then bear right into St Thomas St.

3 At the junction with the main road, turn left and almost immediately left again to go along Chapman's Lane. Soon you will enjoy the first of several fine views.

4 Turn left at the farm buildings, then right at the T-junction, passing the aviary and farmhouse on your right and, in due course, two ponds.

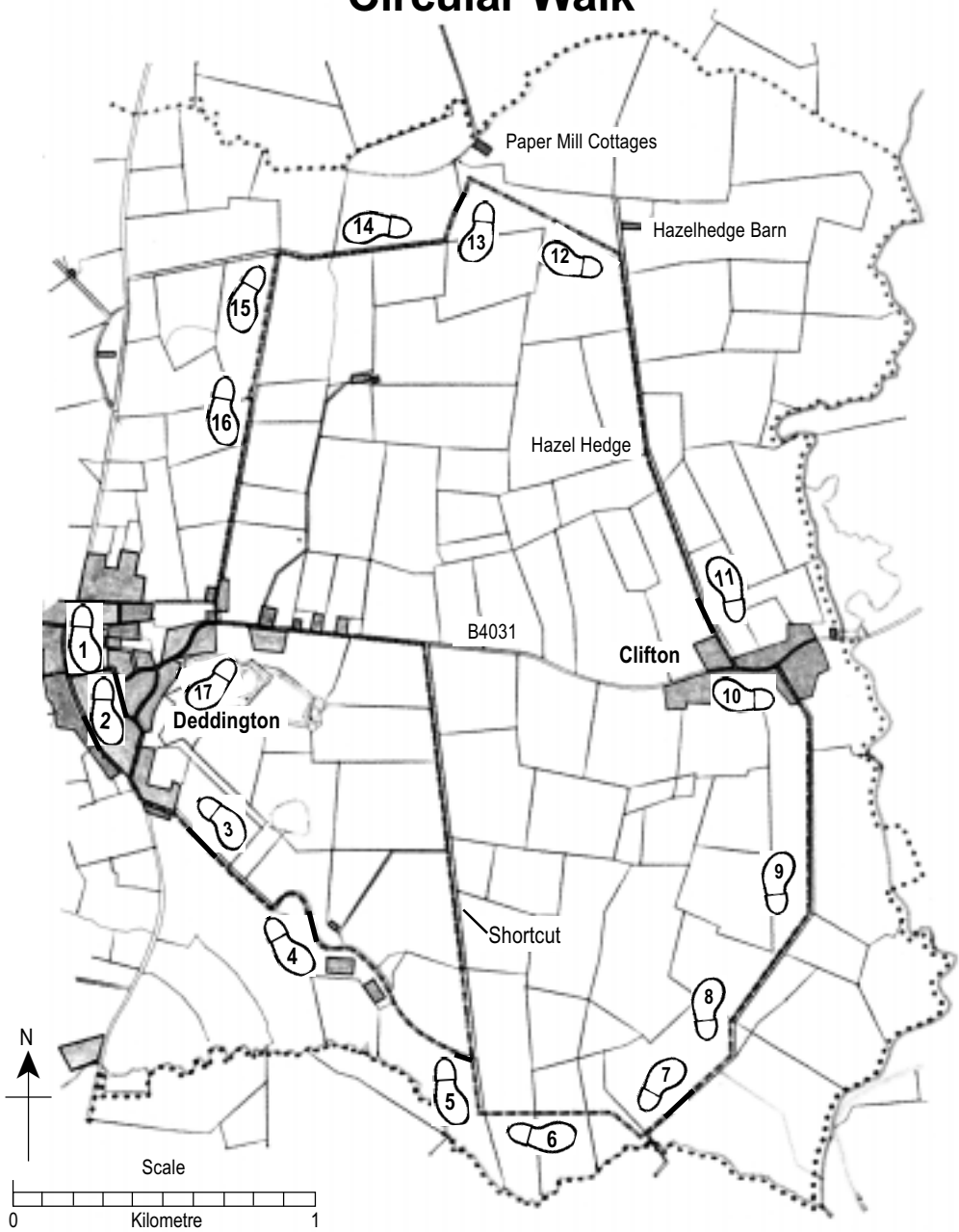
5 After the second pond, bear right at a T-junction and continue to the end of the hedged lane (see Shortcut).

6 Turn left, follow the hedge and then cross a field; go through a gate and across another field, descending to a copse.

Shortcut: *Turn left at the T-junction for an alternative route back to Deddington. Go left again when you reach the main road.*

7 At the stream (South Brook), turn left through the first gate and continue with the hedge on your right along two fields. Bowman's Bridge on your right is

The Clifton Loop of the Circular Walk



For those needing more detail, or who would like to venture further afield, we recommend the OS Explorer sheet 191 covering, Banbury, Bicester and Chipping Norton.

an old pack horse bridge. Roe deer, hares, rats and foxes inhabit these windswept fields. As you turn north, you look out across the fields to the River Cherwell. In winter these are often flooded and attract substantial flocks of wildfowl (mallard, wigeon, pochard, teal) and waders (lapwing, golden and grey plover).

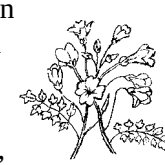
8 At the end of the second field, turn left and in 100 metres right through a gate along the field edge.

9 Pass a double field gate and carry on along the hedged lane to reach Clifton (opposite the Duke of Cumberland's Head) in about 1km. The hedgerow supports an astounding variety of birds and you may see hunting kestrels or sparrowhawks. Garden warblers provide the most spectacular birdsong in summer, and dragonflies join the insect population. At the fishing lake on the right, a pair of herons can often be seen standing silently at the water's edge, or perched on a branch of the island willow.

10 At the junction with the main road, turn left.

11 Opposite Castle Antiques entrance, turn right up Tithe Lane passing Hazel Hedge on your left in 800 metres, then continue for 700 metres towards a stone barn passing two farm track junctions on the way.

12 Before the barn, bear left diagonally across the field and continue through the gate in the opposite corner.



13 Before Paper Mill cottages, turn sharp left and keeping within the same field follow the hedge down to the barn. (Paper Mill cottages are reminders of the earlier existence here of a paper mill making bank notes in the late 18th to mid-19th century. The mill was converted to a cornmill by Z.W. Stilgoe.) At the far corner, turn right beside the barn and through a metal field gate.

14 Follow the field edge, keeping the hedge to your left. Continue along the farm lane towards a barn.

15 Just before the barn turn left over a stile and go uphill, keeping to the left. Cross another stile at the top. At the top of the steep pasture look back for fine views, including the spires of Adderbury and King's Sutton churches.

16 Follow the hedged lane for 1km. Joining Earls Lane, continue straight on to meet the Clifton road.

17 Turn right at the junction and follow the road through to the Market Place.

A Walk Around Hempton

Hempton (which in Anglo-Saxon means the high settlement), stands on a ridge 146 metres above sea level. To the north it overlooks the valley of the River Swere, whilst southwards there are unbroken fields rolling across the valley to the villages of Duns Tew and Over Worton. To the north and northwest of the village, the traveller may see fields with a curious wave-like appearance, the vestiges of the medieval ridge and furrow method of farming.

During the Civil War Hempton was, like Deddington, a Royalist stronghold. At this time many Oxford colleges started buying up land around the village and to this day the name College Farm is still in use.

The enclosures of 1808 were the start of the decline of the peasant farmer. The drift of people away from Hempton to Midland industrial towns is perhaps best illustrated by the fact that, at the end of the eighteenth century, it had three pubs. By the time Victoria came to the throne there was only one, The Plough, which stood at the corner of the Barford Road. But as the population of Hempton continued to decline it finally closed in the 1930s. Today, Hempton remains a small village of two-storey ironstone rubble cottages dating mainly from the 18th or early 19th centuries. In 1962 the building of St John's Way, a housing estate to the east of the village, doubled the number of inhabitants.

Church of St John the Evangelist

This church was built in 1851 by Franklins of Deddington, on land bought by the Rev. William Wilson, rector of Over Worton, and the Rev. William Cotton Risley, retired vicar of Deddington. It was designed and paid for by the Rev. Wilson, who also gave the 12th-century Norman font from his own church.

The church originally had a north aisle, which was used as a school, but the arches were filled in in the 1960s, when the school was no longer needed. In 1988 St John's was threatened with closure, but was saved by the determined efforts of the Friends of St John's Church. Attached to the church is an old Victorian schoolroom, recently refurbished to create a community centre for the village. In 1999 the church started taking weddings for the first time for many years.

Methodist Chapel

Now a private house, this Methodist chapel was built in 1840, listed in the Oxfordshire Religious Census of 1851, and closed in the 1950s.

Big Sky

From the high ridge of Hempton, there are spectacular views over the rolling North Oxfordshire countryside. It is well worth walking the Hempton Loop of the Circular Walk. The Hempton Loop takes 2–2½ hours to walk. We start you off in the centre of Deddington.

The Hempton Loop of the Circular Walk *(see map, p. 46)*

1 From Deddington Market Place, walk northwards towards the Deddington Arms. Turn left towards the main road.

2 Cross at the traffic lights and walk along the Hempton Road for 300 metres.

3 Turn right into the Daedings and almost immediately straight on along the bridleway (Cosy Lane) for 1 km. There are fine views as you descend into the Swere valley.

4 On reaching the tarmac lane, turn right then left into Daeda's Wood (see pp. 48–9).

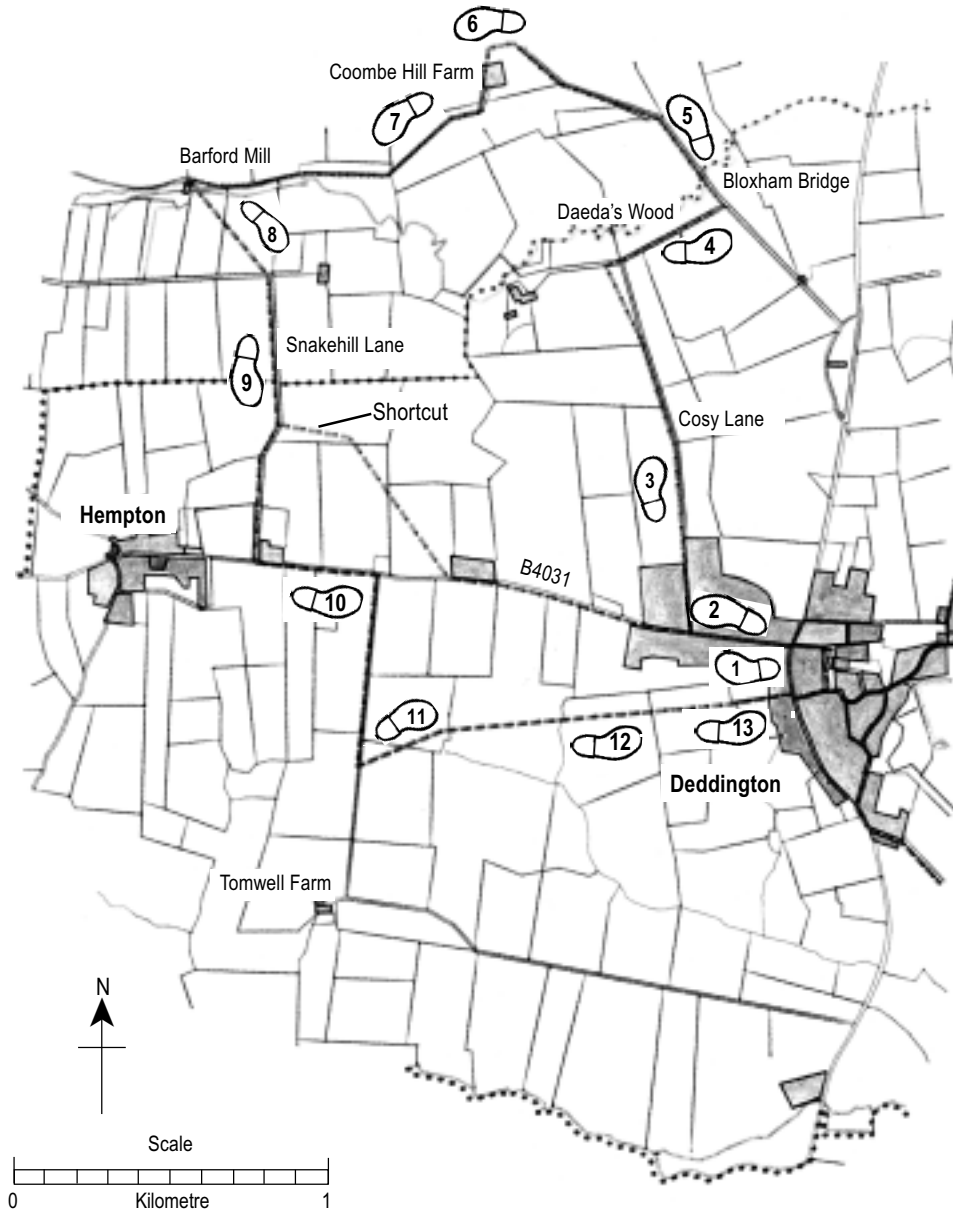
5 At the far end of Daeda's Wood turn left along Milton Road, soon crossing the River Swere. Continue for approx 700 metres. (You are now outside the Parish of Deddington.)

6 Turn left through a gate and across a field to Coombe Hill Farm, then through a field gate and across the farmyard.

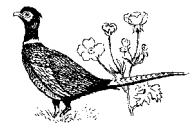
7 Follow the farm lane downhill for approx. 1 km. Note the meanders of the River Swere at the bottom.

8 Turn left by the mill and through the gate. Cross the paddock, then go over the double stile bridge. Continue bearing diagonally across two fields.

The Hempton Loop of the Circular Walk



For those needing more detail, or who would like to venture further afield, we recommend the OS Explorer sheet 191 covering, Banbury, Bicester and Chipping Norton.



9 Cross the farm lane and follow Snakehill Lane up to Hempton in about 1km (see Shortcut).

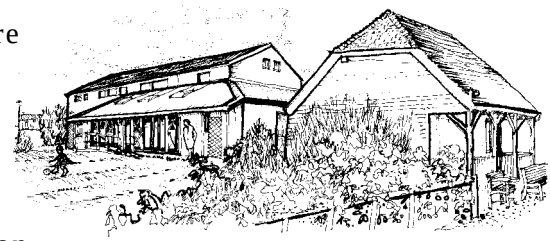
10 Cross the Hempton Road and turn left. After about 400 metres turn right down the drive of Tomwell Farm.

11 700 metres down the drive turn sharp left at a gap in the hedge and diagonally cross two fields. Beyond the second hedge continue across fields.

12 Cross a farm lane, then go uphill following the line of telegraph poles across two more fields (passing the Windmill Community Centre on your left).

13 Return to Deddington via a lane called The Grove. Cross the main road, then walk along Hudson Street to return to the Market Place.

Shortcut: *About half way up Snakehill Lane turn left to follow a path uphill across the fields which offers extensive views. Cross the single sleeper bridge over a ditch with care. When you reach the road, turn left to walk back to Deddington along the Hempton Road and past the Windmill Centre.*



The multi-purpose Windmill Centre was opened in 1987 and is owned by the Parish Council. Until 1840, a windmill stood here, and there was a school 1951–71. Today, the Centre is available seven days a week for activities from art to yoga, badminton to quizzes. Outside, bowls, cricket, football and tennis are played, and there is an all-weather court. The annual village pantomime is staged at the Centre. A **Nursery School** for 2–5 year-olds uses the premises five mornings a week. Nearby, **Deddington Pre-School** has its own premises.

Windmill Stores is a 'corner shop' mini-market, open seven days a week. Alongside, **Windmill Fish'n Chips** serves kebabs, mushy peas and omelettes, as well as the traditional 'chippy' takeaway. **Stonecrop** is a bed-and-breakfast guest house.

A little to the west of the Windmill Centre you will find the **Millennium Gate**, installed at the cemetery in 2000.

Daeda's Wood

Daeda's Wood is the first of 200 Woods on Your Doorstep in England and Wales: a Woodland Trust millennium project supported by the Millennium Commission among others. The 9 acre arable field was bought by the Woodland Trust, assisted by substantial contributions from Cherwell District Council and local residents, many of whom helped plant the 3,500 trees in November 1996 and, later, sow the seeds for a wildflower meadow.

The contorted northern boundary is formed by the River Swere, so the trees planted had to be suitable for a sometimes wet terrain: ash, five species of willow, oak, alder, grey and black poplar, aspen, downy birch, osier, hawthorn, blackthorn and guelder rose.

A stretch of path gives wheelchair access and there are two seats. However, Daeda's Wood will be allowed to develop as naturally as possible: so expect to see grass and rank vegetation left to provide habitats for insects and birds. When the trees are mature enough to create a canopy this will change the habitats again. Several grass rides wind through the site. Daeda's Wood has quickly become a popular destination for local walkers and nature watchers.

The variety of wild flowers will increase and change as the wood develops. Already you can expect to see clumps of white campion, pink threads of delicate ragged robin, the bold ox-eye daisy, lovely mauve clusters of meadow cranesbill, purple knapweed, the scarlet splash of poppies, and waving banks of rosebay willowherb. Later there will be the handsome rose-pink musk mallow, white or pink flowerheads of yarrow, and large white heads of angelica. Purple loosestrife will add their bright spikes to the Swere's banks, and water lilies drift in the stream itself. The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Naturalists' Trust (BBONT) chose the Swere's banks as one of their sites for an otters' holt. Sections of the river banks are also home to the unusual beautiful and banded demoiselle damselflies.

There is already a wide variety of birds. In winter sizeable flocks of visiting fieldfare settle noisily in the mature trees, or on the surrounding fields. Along the river you may see the brilliant flash of a kingfisher, the flurry of mallard or moorhen, or a heron at lift-off. Flocks of yellowhammer are ever present; often tree sparrows or groups of long-tailed tits flit through the trees. Usually there's a kestrel on the hunt, possibly a great spotted woodpecker. As the trees grow there should be increasing summer populations of warbler – willow warbler, chiffchaff, blackcap, garden warbler. And, who knows, perhaps one day a nightingale.

1997

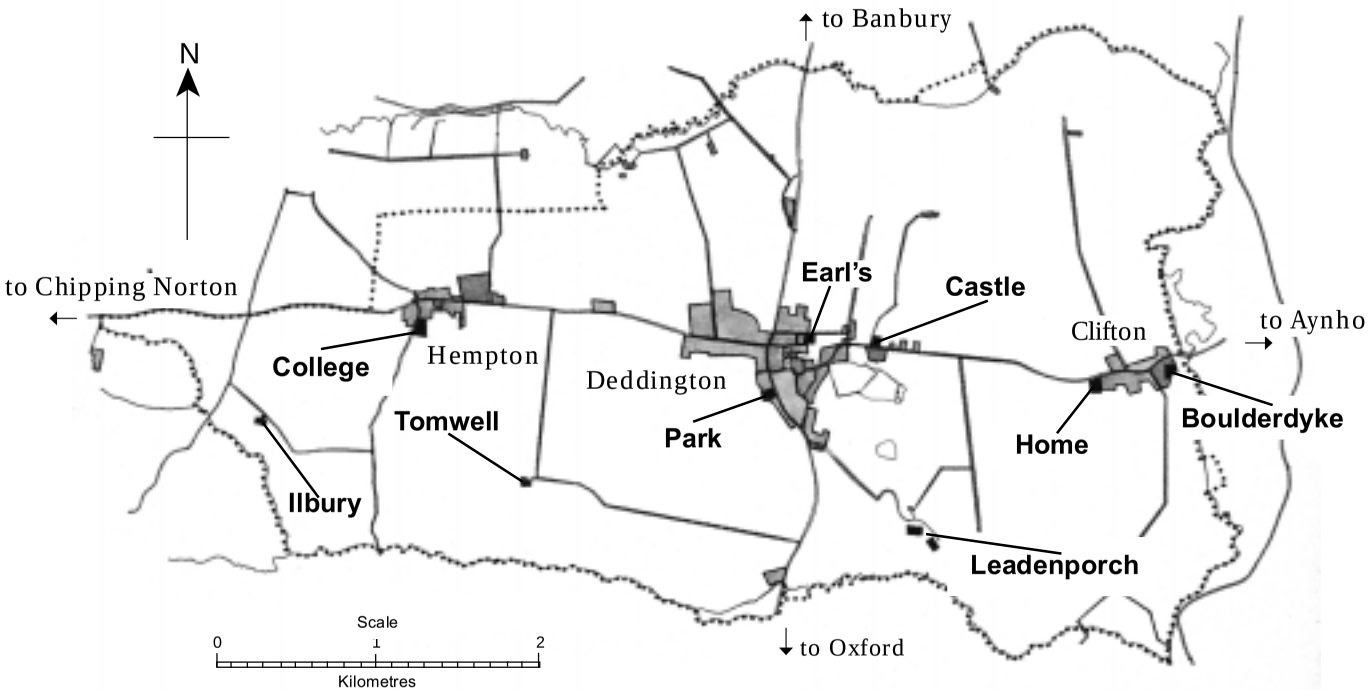
'Tall oaks from little acorns grow … '

1998

You can reach Daeda's Wood either by taking the first turning left (the Milton Road) off the Banbury Road out of Deddington; or by walking down Cosy Lane, leading north from the Daedings on the Hempton Road.

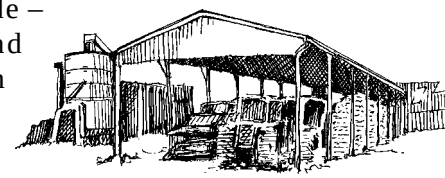
1999

The Nine Working Farms in the Parish of Deddington



Farms and Fields

The farms and fields of the parish of Deddington add up to 3,618 acres, or about 1,500 hectares. Today there are nine working farms in the parish (see map opposite), varying in size from 60–1,100 acres (25–460 hectares approximately). Four are on the Clifton side – Castle Farm, Leadenporch, Boulderdyke and Home Farm – and three on the Hempton side – Tomwell, Ilbury and College Farm. The last two working farms in the centre of Deddington today are Park Farm, on New Street, and Earl's Farm, but in the past many of the centrally placed houses were farmhouses with stables and farmyards to the rear, working many strips of land scattered around the open field system surrounding the village.

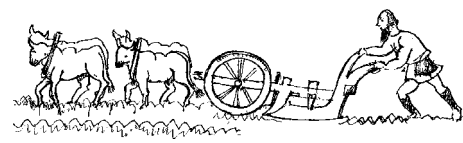


College Farm, Hempton

Domesday

Evidence of an Iron Age hill-fort at Ilbury, and the discovery of Romano-British remains east and north east of the Oxford road, suggest that there has probably been substantial settlement hereabouts since prehistoric times. By the 6th or 7th century, considerable agricultural development must have taken place, but practically nothing is known about these pre-Conquest years.

By 1086, at the time of the *Domesday Book*, Deddington, Clifton and Hempton, with Ilbury, consisted of some 48 'hides'. A 'hide' equalled 100–120 acres, and was originally considered an area of land sufficient to support a family. There were then perhaps 500 inhabitants of the parish, mostly employed in agriculture. Hempton and Clifton each had its own mill, and there were two at Deddington. The arable land had a high annual value for the time.



From a late Anglo-Saxon drawing

The Middle Ages

In the Middle Ages each farmer's holding was divided into many strips, scattered across the township and intermingled with the strips of his neighbours. Farming was therefore of necessity a more collaborative activity than it is today. Farmers would sow seed on ridges raised up within their strips, and remains of ridge and furrow now under grass can still be seen today. Later, a four-course rotation was introduced and by the 13th century crops of wheat, rye, oats, peas and beans

Medieval ridge and furrow, Deddington

were cultivated. In 1195 it was recorded that the livestock on the 'demesne' (the land belonging to the manor), consisted of 54 plough oxen, 6 draught horses, 3 bulls, 24 sows, 3 boars and 249 sheep. Sheep and their wool became increasingly important and, by the late Middle Ages, Deddington's pastures were sufficient for as many as 4,500.

1500–1800

In the 16th century Deddington was described as 'verye fertile, yieldinge greate store of corne and pasture'. Ownership in the parish had long been concentrated in the hands of institutional landlords, largely the three 'manors' (or estates) of Christ Church, Oxford, the Castle of Windsor, and the Duchy of Lancaster. The strips of cultivated land were held side by side, manor by manor. As late as 1777 one of the principal farms had its 80 acres scattered in 329 pieces of arable and 90 pieces of grass. Common land was subject to very complex rules and regulations, and in 1795 there were about 45 acres of common.

The 16th and 17th centuries saw the emergence of several wealthy farming families in the village, amongst them the Appletrees, Bustards, Drapers, Lanes, Stilgoes and Churchills.

The 1808 Enclosures

Arguably the most important change in the agricultural life of the parish since the early Middle Ages came when Parliament in 1808 allowed the parish to be enclosed. Strips of land were thrown together and redistributed as individual, consolidated farms. In the long run, enclosure led to an increase in farming efficiency, and land values rose.

Whereas many farmers did well out of enclosure, the loss of common rights put most smallholders and labourers at a disadvantage. Various attempts were made to help them find work, and in the 1820s the Vestry (the equivalent of today's Parish Council) ordered that men seeking agricultural work in the village should meet for hiring under the Town Hall at 6am on Mondays. By the winter of 1832 some 60 men were reporting daily for work. Part of the wages were paid by the parish, and those unemployed on the farms were put to work on roads and

stone quarries or sent out as roundsmen. It was in this period that the almshouses were built (1822) and a Coal Charity set up (1830s).

The Twentieth Century

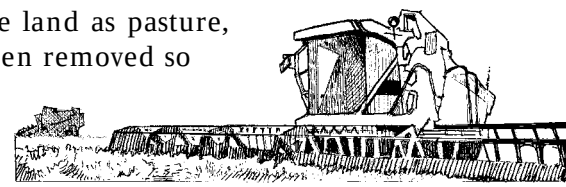
By 1914 almost two thirds of the land was under grass, with density of sheep and cattle high for the county. Principal crops were wheat and barley (and remained so for another 50 or so years) with 10 per cent of arable under oats. In 1954, Christ Church Manor comprised 1,604 acres or 45 per cent of all the land in the parish.

As recently as 1970, farms tended to specialise – there were four dairy farms: two cereal-growing and two stock-raising. The chief crops were wheat and barley, and the cultivated area was almost equally divided between pasture and arable.

The last 20 years or so have seen drastic reductions in pasture. No doubt Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy – or BSE – has played a part recently, though the main factors are probably EU subsidies and the cost of labour.

Farming Today

Now the principal crops are wheat and oilseed rape (almost unknown only 20 years ago), with peas and beans. Three farms grow barley, one oats and one a plantation of cricket bat willows. Livestock comprises about 800 sheep, over 500 pigs, cattle including one herd of Highland cattle, and horses, including thoroughbreds. There is a chicken farmer, and one with 40 hives of bees.

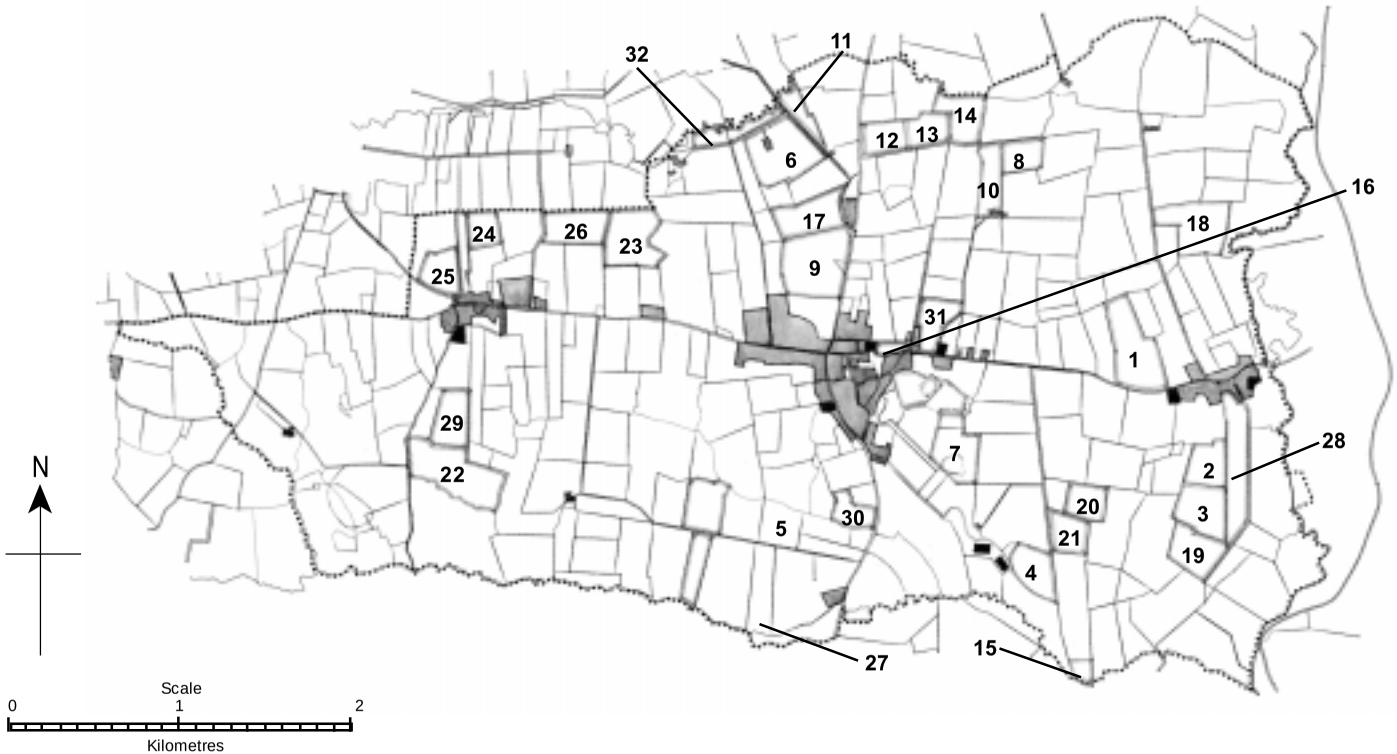


There is six times as much arable land as pasture, and many old hedgerows have been removed so that pasture could be made into fields capable of using combines and other modern machinery. Four-wheel drive vehicles, quad bikes and an agri-buggy are used to get around the farms in place of the horses of olden times.

All this has contributed to enormous reductions in the agricultural workforce. In 1755, it was stated that most of the inhabitants of the parish were employed in agriculture, and this was also very probably true back in medieval times. Today, one farm uses agricultural contractors, but the others are all self-farmed, and apart from some casual labour at harvest time, the total number of employees is six in an adult population of some 1,700 – surely one of the most far-reaching changes to have affected life in the parish over the last 1,000 years.

The Fields of Deddington Parish

All the fields of Deddington parish have names. Some have kept their names through the centuries, others have changed over the years.

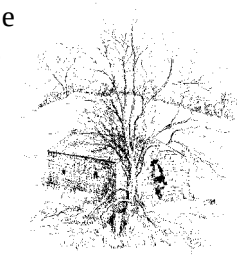


Field Names Today

Fields were sometimes named after a previous owner, or whoever worked in the field: for example, **Garrett's Banks (1), Gardener's Hill (2), Ben's Garden (3), Justin's Peace (4), Peggy's Bank (5), Sid's Field (6)** (see map opposite). Others tell fascinating stories. One of the oldest is **The Fishers (7)** thought to have been the fishpond for Deddington Castle in the 12th and 13th centuries, when locally caught fish was an essential part of the diet.

Battle Thorn Hills (8), on Castle Farm, probably dates from the Civil War when in 1644 Royalist troops were marching from Aynho. A sword, bullets and human bones have all been found near **King's Spring (9**), where King Charles I may have stopped to drink on his way to the Battle of Edge Hill. Another war is commemorated by **The Butts (10**), used as a rifle range during World War II.

Waggoner's Halt (11) had a shed for drivers and pasture for horses on the steep hill on the Banbury Road, and at **Church Pits Meadow**, stone from three pits **(12) (13) (14)** was used to repair the church after a storm blew down the tower in 1634. There was also a quarry on Leadenporch Farm. Stone for the Clifton Road came from **Tatles Pit (15),** and was carried down Jerusalem Lane by horse and cart. **The Pound (16)**, where stray animals were held until their owners paid a fine, is now the front garden of Earl's Farmhouse. **Pest House Field (17)** was the site of the village pest house, where sufferers from infectious diseases (mainly smallpox) were kept in isolation. This was still in use in the 19th century. Now all trace has virtually disappeared.

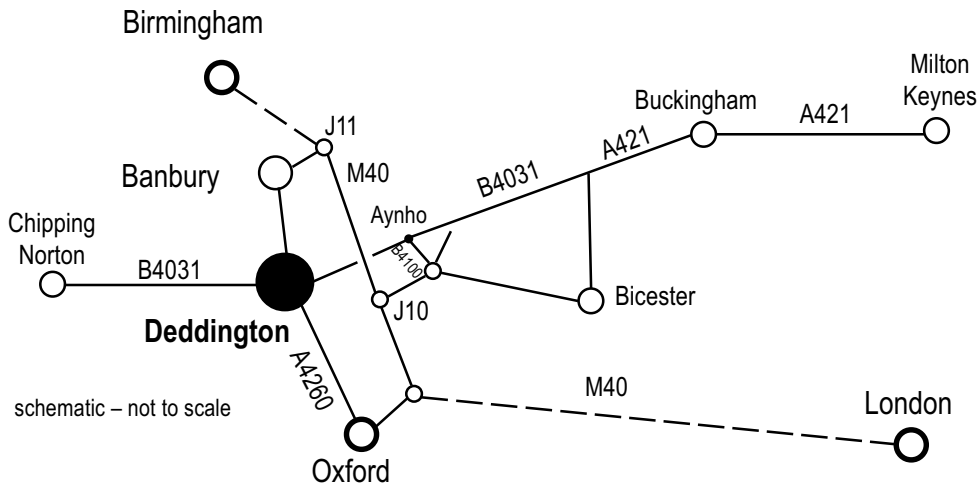


The Pest House in 1980

Osier Bed (18) tells us of the craft of basket-making in Clifton that only died out in the 1930s. **Banslip (19)** is where a weed grew that was used in the past to stop abortion in animals. **Spinney Ground (20)** and **Fox Cover (21)** in Clifton and **Foxy Leigh (22)** in Hempton tell their own story, and Hempton seems to have had its share of fighting with **Warlands (23).**

A series of fields called **The Slad (24), Deep Slad, Lower Slad** and **Dancing Slad (25)** indicate a shallow valley, and it is said that gypsies camped on **Dancing Slad. Snake Hill (26)** was obviously somewhere to tread with care. **Purgatory (27)** has a connection in some places with mass burials from the plague, but could describe a very wet and boggy field. On the other hand, **The Oven (28)** and **(29)** are very dry and bake hard in sunny weather. **Brickyards (30)** on the Oxford Road recalls two brick kilns established in the 19th century; bricks and tiles were made here until the middle of the 20th century. **Townsend (31)** next to the old Gas House marks the extent of the old town.

HOW TO GET HERE



By Road

From the south: leave London–Birmingham motorway M40 at Junction 10 on to A43/B4100/B4031 via Aynho; from the north: M40 Junction 11 via Banbury and A4260; from the east or west, approach by B4031.

By Rail

Banbury (north) and Oxford (south) have frequent rail links with London, Birmingham and beyond. Tel. 0345 484950 for all national rail passenger enquiries. From Banbury or Oxford stations: by bus (below) or taxi.

By Coach

National Express coaches leave Banbury bus station for destinations nationwide. Tel: 0990 757747.

By Bus

Of several services, the most frequent and useful is X59 Stagecoach Oxford–Banbury, stopping in Deddington High Street and Market Place: northbound at 08.19, then 09.39 and thereafter 39 mins past each hour until 19.39; southbound at 07.41, then 09.00 and thereafter on each hour until 18.00. Journey time: Banbury 25 mins, Oxford 45 mins.

By Air

Birmingham International: by 5-minute rail link then mainline rail to Banbury or Oxford; or National Express Flightlink coach to Oxford or Banbury (0990 808080).

London Heathrow: by Underground to London Paddington or Marylebone station for rail links to Oxford or Banbury; or National Express Flightlink coach (above); or City Link to Oxford (01865 785400).

London Gatwick: by train to London Victoria station, then Underground to Paddington or Marylebone station for rail links to Oxford or Banbury; or National Express Flightlink coach (above).

Ordnance Survey

Deddington is covered by the Stratford-upon-Avon and surrounding area Landranger map 151. The OS map reference for Deddington Parish Church is SP 467 317.

WHERE TO STAY

Deddington has a wide range of accommodation from the venerable (but modernised) to the recent:

The Deddington Arms
Horsefair, Deddington OX15 0SH
Tel: 01869 338364 Fax: 01869 337010
email: deddarms@aol.com
Sixteenth-century inn,
rooms en suite, restaurant,
real ale bars

Duke of Cumberland's Head
Clifton, Deddington OX15 0PE
Tel: 01869 338534 Fax: 01869 338643
Sixteenth-century thatched inn,
rooms en suite,
restaurant, bar, garden

Hill Barn
Milton Gated Road
Deddington OX15 0TS
Tel/Fax: 01869 338631
Bed and breakfast in converted barn set in open countryside,
1 km from village

Holcombe Hotel
High Street, Deddington OX15 0SL
Tel: 01869 338274 Fax: 01869 337167
Seventeenth-century award-winning hotel,
rooms en suite,
AA red rosette for food

The Leadenporch House
New Street, Deddington OX15 0SP
Tel: 01869 338791
email: phethean@clara.co.uk
Two rooms with private facilities, attached to Phethean Studio Pottery Centre

Stonecrop Guesthouse
Hempton Road, Deddington OX15 0QH
Tel: 01869338335 Fax: 01869338505
Modern Cotswold stone house,
friendly atmosphere

Unicorn Inn
Market Place, Deddington OX15 0SE
Tel: 01869 338838 Fax: 01869 338592
email:gaynor@gecurtis.freeserve.co.uk
Eighteenth-century inn, rooms en suite,
secret garden, pub food and restaurant

Notice Board

Parish Council

Deddington Parish Council meets at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of every month (except August), usually in the Town Hall. Most of its work is carried out by six working groups. Unusually, parishioners are allocated time at the beginning of each meeting to ask questions or raise issues.

The Council supports a variety of causes such as the Library, Youth Club, Katharine House Hospice, and local organisations are entitled to apply for grants. It also oversees the committees that manage the Windmill Centre, the Holly Tree Club and the castle grounds, all registered charities. Small grants are made annually to local students who go on to higher education.

Parish Councillors in 2000: Jim Flux(Chairman), Geoff Todd (Vice-Chairman), Jim Bell, Bryan Clarke, Terry Clinch, Brian Cosgrove, Maureen Cox, Linda Davies, Joan Fisher, Mandy Harper, Betty Hill, Charles Newey, Pat Swash, Vivienne Walker.

The Parish Clerk's office at the Windmill Centre, Hempton Road, Deddington (Tel/Fax: 01869 338153 with answerphone) is open 10am to 5pm on Monday and Wednesday.

Windmill Centre *(see also p. 47)*

This modern community centre on the Hempton Road, overlooking rolling countryside, was opened in1987. Bookings are made through Joyce Minnear, 01869 338995.

Education and Child Care

The state-funded Deddington Church of England Primary School currently has 120 pupils from the parish and surrounding villages. It was built in the 1860s and most recently renovated in the 1990s. School and parish work closely together. For example, the school premises are used for a number of parish events, and also provide the venue for printing and collating *The Deddington News*. The parish also has a number of pre-school facilities.

Deddington Church of England Primary School
Earls Lane, Deddington OX15 0TJ
Tel/Fax: 01869 339430
email: deddington.school@rmplc.co.uk

Deddington Babies and Toddlers
(non-profit making, ages 0–3)
Contact: Sara Burkill
Tel: 01869 338133

Deddington Nursery School
(ages 2–5)
Windmill Centre, Hempton Road
Deddington OX15 0QH
Contact: Moira Russell-Rayment
Tel: 01295 265979

Deddington Pre-School
(ages 2–5)
Hempton Road
Deddington OX15 0QH
Contact: Amanda Munson
Tel: 01869 337383

Lipreading Classes
(held in Banbury, Bloxham, Adderbury)
Contact: Bridget Doole
Tel: 01869 338113

Health *(see also p. 36)*

Deddington Health Centre
Practice Manager: Dina Bentley
Earls Lane, Deddington OX15 0TQ
Tel: 01869 338611 Fax: 01869 337009
email: practice@deddington.oxongps.co.uk

Other health facilities:

The Ashcroft Clinic
(Osteopathy, massage, chiropody, hypnotherapy, reflexology)
Hudson Street
Deddington OX15 0SW
Tel: 01869 338854

Deddington Dental Practice
(NHS for children and exempt patients if living in Deddington area; otherwise private)
High Street, Deddington OX15 0SJ
Tel: 01869 337377

Care for the Elderly

The **Windmill Thursday Club** (formerly known as Deddington Day Care) is a club for the frail and elderly, sponsored by Social Services. It provides a day out at the Windmill Centre with activities, company and a good meal. The club co-ordinator is Maggie Moojen on 01869 337660.

There are two private care homes in the parish:

Featherton House
(residential care home)
Chapel Square
Deddington OX15 0SG
Tel/Fax: 01869 338259

St Anne's Residential Home
(specialising in memory loss and dementias)
Clifton, Deddington OX15 0PA
Tel: 01869 338295

Fire Service *(see also p. 36)*

Oxfordshire Fire Service HQ
Tel: 01865 842999

Deddington Fire Station
Officer in charge of station:
Sub-Officer Albert Humphries
Tel: 01869 338943 Fax: 01869 337757

Police *(see also p. 28)*

Deddington Police Post
Market Place, Deddington
Tel: 01869 338444

24-hr Local Police Line
01295 252525

24-hr Central Switchboard (staffed)
01865 266000
24-hr Customer Services (answerphone)
01295 754550
Local Inspector
01295 754541

Neighbourhood Watch

Contact: Jayne Taylor
01295 754611

Library *(see also p. 34)*

Deddington library currently has a book stock of nearly 6000 and a membership of nearly 1000. Its latest facilities are free access to Deddington OnLine, our community website; and pay-as-you-go Internet access.

The library is open for 11½ hours a week: Monday 2.00–5.00pm, and 6.00–7.30pm; Wednesday 10.00am–12.30pm; Thursday 2.00–5.00pm, and 6.00–7.30pm. These hours are under review.

Deddington Library
Library Manager: Rosemary Arnold
The Old Court House, Horsefair
Deddington OX15 0SH
Tel: 01869 338391

Friends of Deddington Library *(see Clubs and Societies)*

Post Office

Opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am–5.30pm;
Wednesday, Saturday 9am–1pm
Post Office, Market Place
Deddington, OX15 0SA
Tel: 01869 337545

Churches and Chapels

There are four churches and chapels in the parish, serving followers of the Church of England, Congregational and Wesleyan Reform denominations. Deddington also comes within the Roman Catholic Parish of Hethe with Adderbury.

The Parish Church is St Peter and St Paul in the centre of Deddington; St John the Evangelist is in Hempton. During 2000 St Peter and St Paul is undergoing extensive restoration. The church is widely used as a venue for concerts, craft fairs and other community events. It was recently provided with refreshment facilities and toilets which are available during such events.

St Peter and St Paul, Deddington; and St John the Evangelist, Hempton
The Vicarage, Earls Lane,
Deddington OX15 0TJ
Tel: 01869 338329

Deddington Congregational Church
Secretary: Joyce Minnear
Tel: 01869 338529

Wesleyan Reform Church
Minister: Pastor Isabel Walton
Tel: 01869 337157

Roman Catholic Churches in Hethe with Adderbury
Parish Priest: Rev. A.J. Burns
Tel: 01295 277396

Friends of Hempton Church *(see Clubs and Societies)*

Good Neighbour Group
Contact: Angela Waller 01869 338970
The group consists of about 20 parishioners, each responsible for a section of the parish, and offering help in a crisis or with everyday tasks for those in need.

The Deddington News

The parish's community newsletter is published every month except January and August, and is independent of any other organisation or interest. It was founded in 1976 and has always been delivered free to households and businesses throughout the parish. Its funding comes from advertising revenue. Its aims are to report and discuss all matters of interest and concern to its readers and encourage their participation. It is produced, printed, collated and distributed entirely by a team of volunteers, numbering 40 plus.

Managing Editor: Kristin Thompson Tel: 337052; email op@kristin.demon.co.uk

Deddington OnLine (DOL)

The idea of a Deddington parish website was first conceived during a conversation in a local pub in 1997 as an appropriate way to mark the approach of the 21st century. By January 2000 the voluntary members of the Website Editorial Group had created several hundred pages of words and pictures which provide information on the past, present and foreseeable future of Deddington, Clifton and Hempton. DOL is a growing site, updated at least monthly. It is run and edited in compliance with a code of practice designed to maintain high professional standards, preserve the privacy of those who wish it, and provide an interesting forum for debate, comment and information. DOL is part of the Oxfordshire Web Ring. You can visit DOL at «http://www.deddington.org.uk» and let the editors have your comments via the feedback link accessed from the home page.

Clubs and Societies

Deddington's 30 or so clubs and societies reflect the great variety of interests and skills of its parishioners. Some groups meet in individuals' homes, some in club rooms, yet others make use of the facilities of the Windmill Centre. Clubs and societies come and go, and the following is a snapshot of those flourishing at the beginning of the year 2000.

Art at the Holly Tree Studio (limited membership)
(local artists meet regularly and arrange an exhibition of their work once or twice a year)
Peggy Baker 01869 338576

Art Society (Banbury and District)
Maureen Dew 01869 338304

Babies and Toddlers Group
Sara Burkill 01869 338133

Badminton Club
Mark Tyler 01295 810732

Beeches Bowls Club
Yvonne Twomey 01869 337213

Brownies
Vivien Pleydell-Bouverie 01869 338269

Clifton Residents
Louise Blount 01869 337292

Craft Group
(creates a variety of handicrafts with guidance of qualified teacher; annual displays and demomonstrations)
Stella Marmion 01869 338834

Cricket Club
Peter Blackburn 01869 338117

Cub Scouts
Jo Churchyard 01869 338071

Deddington Ladies
(monthly social evenings, August fete and November bazaar with proceeds going to over-60s' Christmas Party)
Jackie Adkins 01869 338563

Deddington Players
(village drama group producing the occasional play and the popular annual pantomime involving 50+ parishioners on and off stage)
Jim Flux 01869 338153

Football (Colts Football Club)
Viv Walker 01869 338016

Football (Deddington Town Football Club)
Steve Plumbe 01295 278258

Friendship Club
(regular meeting place for over-55s, with speakers and outings)
Christine Gillespie 01869 338367

Friends of Daeda's Wood
Sylvie Spenceley 01869 338995

Friends of Deddington Library
Geoff Todd 01869 338532

Friends of Hempton Church
John Temple-Smith 01869 338429

Gardeners
Elizabeth Tothill 01869 338186

Golf (Deddington Original Golf Society)
Arthur Kennedy 01869 337020

Guides
Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

History Society
Moira Byast 01869 338637

Map Group
Norman Stone 01869 338019
(formed to create a Millennium map and a series of publications to celebrate Deddington, Hempton and Clifton in the year 2000)

Monday Morning Club
(monthly coffee mornings and regular theatre and other outings for over-55s)
Jean Flux 01869 338153

Naturalists' Group
Walter Meagher 01869 338202

Parent Teacher Association
Rachel Teare 01869 337077

Play-reading Group (limited membership)
Ralph Elsley 01869 338251

Royal British Legion
Ray Morris 01869 338143

Scouts
Michael Scott 01869 338910

Tennis Club
Peter Gough 01295 810354

Women's Institute
Rene Mahoney 01869 710213

Writers' Group (limited membership)
Kristin Thompson 01869 337052

Youth Club
Gay Brewer 01869 338097

Acknowledgements

Editors	Norman Stone and Mary Robinson
Design and Production	Mary Robinson
Imaging	Colin Robinson
Cartography	Peter Terry
Writers	Chris Day, Maureen Dew, Maureen Forsyth, Buffy Heywood, Betty Hill, Walter Meagher, Charles Newey, Mary Robinson, George Spenceley, Sylvie Spenceley, Norman Stone, John Temple-Smith, Elizabeth Tothill, Jackie Williamson
Illustrators	Maureen Dew, Bill Dickinson, Jacqui Gordon, Margaret Jones, Kenneth Langstaff, Jo Mace, H.E. Robinson, Norman Stone
CDC Circular Walk No. 7	© Cherwell District Council
Photographs of Daeda's Wood	© Sylvie Spenceley
Other present-day photographs	© Colin Robinson

Maps reproduced from Ordnance Survey mapping on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. MC 015830. Deddington Parish coat of arms reproduced by kind permission of Deddington Parish Council.

Every effort has been made to check the accuracy of entries. The editors are not responsible for errors and omissions in the text, but would appreciate constructive feedback. We have tried to trace and contact copyright holders of old photographs prior to printing. Deddington Map Group apologises if photographs have been used without permission, and will rectify this in future editions.

Criteria for the choice of businesses selected for inclusion were their presence on the route of the walks and the use of dedicated premises.

DMG gratefully acknowledges financial assistance from:

Deddington Parish Council
Rural Action (Oxfordshire Rural Community Council)
Cherwell District Council

Deddington Map Group Members Past and Present:

Chairman:	Norman Stone	Christine Blenntoft	Walter Meagher
Secretary:	Mary Robinson	Chris Day	Colin Robinson
Finance and Copyrights:	Maureen Forsyth	Maureen Dew	Kristin Thompson
Map Maker:	Peter Terry	Buffy Heywood	Elizabeth Tothill
		Betty Hill	Jackie Williamson
		Ken Langstaff	