

the Deddington news

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Copy please to
Jill Cheeseman

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Colin Robinson

We are sad to record the deaths of two of our most respected residents who were deeply involved in our community in their different spheres: Walter Meagher and Norman Stone. However, they would not wish us to be gloomy on their accounts and there is much in the community to be cheerful about and this month's issue illustrates this well. We hope you think so too!

DIARY

SEPTEMBER

- Wed 1 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8.00pm
- Wed 1 Photographic Society: 'Printing Quality Images Effortlessly', John Hurlinger, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
- Sat 4 Parish Show: Parish Church, Exhibitors, 9.00am, open to public 2.00pm
- Mon 6 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am–noon
- Tue 7 Royal British Legion: Trip to Bletchley Park, depart club at 9.30am
- Wed 8 History Society: Deborah Hayter, 'The Seventeenth Century Village', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Thu 9 Monday Morning Club: Film evening, *Revolutionary Road*, Holly Tree, 6.30pm
- Sat 11 Oxfordshire Historic Churches Ride and Stride
- Sun 12 Wildflower planting: Hempton road cemetery, 10.00am
- Tue 14 WI: 'England's Inland Waterways', Adrian Williams, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Tue 14 First Aid for Animals, Hook Norton Vets, Windmill Centre 7.00pm
- Wed 15 Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm
- Mon 20 Youth Club: Restarts Windmill Centre, 7.00–9.00pm
- Tue 21 PTA: AGM, School Hall, 8.00pm
- Fri 24 Coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Nurses, 5 Gaveston Gardens, 10am–noon
- Sat 25 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9am–12.30pm
- Sat 25 Royal British Legion Club: Help for Heroes Charity Race Night, 8.00pm
- Sat 25 Hempton Church: Harvest Supper, 7.30pm
- Mon 27 Friends of Hempton Church: AGM, 7.30pm
- Tue 28 Memorial service for Norman Stone, Parish Church, 12 noon
- Thu 30 Book Club: Contact Sally Lambert, 338094

October

- Mon 4 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, 10.30am–noon
- Wed 6 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8.00pm
- Wed 6 Photographic Society: 'An Introduction to Photoshop Elements', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm

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

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting in Town Hall 21 July 2010

The meeting chaired by Jim Flux was also attended by two parishioners, Maureen Cox and Bryn Williams, who were standing for co-option; both were voted in. There remain two further vacancies for councillors. The main points of interest at the meeting were the new planning applications. DPC need to appoint two nominees for Deddington Charity Estates Committee: Helen Oldfield was appointed and a volunteer is sought for the other nominee.

Headlines

Charles Barker (DN Correspondent) floated the idea that if the Congregational Church in the High Street should ever come onto the market it would make a very good concert hall. It could be the spiritual home for not only the Deddington Festival but provide a venue through the year for various cultural activities including the Christmas pantomime.

Open Forum

New Planning applications

St James Farm, Main St, Clifton, conversion of another barn to holiday accommodation, no objection but with conditions.

Stable End, St Thomas St, conversion of outbuild-

ing to provide home office and additional residential accommodation. Objections because of dangerous access onto St Thomas Street and the possibility that development could become a separate dwelling.

7 St John's Way, Hempton, single storey rear extension and garage conversion, no objection.

Applewood, Castle St, enlargement of existing porch, no objection.

Tays Gate, Earls Lane, garage conversion into living accommodation, no objection.

High Bank, St Thomas St, fell one tree, no objection.

Church of SS Peter and Paul, felling various trees, no objection.

Bunkers, Philcote St, fell one tree, no objection.

Brief reports were received from Finance and General Purposes, Recreation, Environment, Special Projects and Highways.

Invoices agreed for payment £4,486.

Investments of £553,165 at Barclays, West Bromwich BS, Santander and Anglo Irish Bank.

Next meeting Wednesday 15 September 7.30pm at the Town Hall

To see the official Parish Council minutes, go to <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/pc/pcminutes>.

Lance Corporal Mark Hollingworth of the Royal Logistics Corps and three of his Deddington friends are hosting a charity evening for HELP for HEROES at the Deddington Royal British Legion Club on the High Street on Saturday 25 September at 8.00pm. The Club has applied for a special licence and members of the public are welcome. Admission is free. Drinks will be at the usual low members' club prices.

The charity Help for Heroes benefits military personnel who are injured on active service especially at the present time in Afghanistan and is particularly aimed at giving a chance for injured soldiers and their families to enjoy a better quality of life.

The evening will take the form of a Race Night consisting of nine races with eight horses in each race – there will also be an extra race at the end of the evening. During the evening there will be a raffle which we are delighted to say is being supported by many local and Banbury businesses, so the prizes will be well worth winning.



There will be a 'tote' operating during the evening – if you are not familiar with charity race nights everything will be explained by our MC Hugh Morris who is well known in the village for encouraging the party atmosphere on these occasions.

To give more excitement to the evening you can 'buy' in advance a horse for £5 and if your horse wins, you get a proportion of the 'tote'. You can also sponsor a race for £10 or simply make a donation but most of all do come along and enjoy the evening and place your bets.

For more information or to 'buy' a horse, sponsor a race or make a donation ring Mark on 0792 892 0596 or email Mark.y.83@hotmail.co.uk. We look forward to seeing you on 25 September.

Ray Morris 338143

BADMINTON @ CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL

No Strings Badminton is a CDC initiative providing a flexible opportunity for anyone, 16+, who would enjoy playing badminton regularly, but who doesn't want to commit to joining a club. Sessions are available at

Spiceball Leisure Centre, every Thursday from 4.30pm to 5.30pm, cost £2.50 per session and rackets will be provided for the first couple of weeks. For information contact Spiceball Leisure Centre on 01295 257522.

Low Carbon Hook Norton

You may have read in the press that Hook Norton was recently awarded a substantial grant to fund their campaign for a Low Carbon village. In March I attended a forum at Bodicote House where more details were given and questions could be asked about this initiative. It was interesting to hear how a community project developed from a meeting of originally only one or two people. There are now 125 members meeting every other month and a team of about eight which administers the project.

Their first step was to measure the carbon footprint of each household. (This can be investigated by visiting Google Act on CO₂ or <http://www.carbonworkout.org.uk/>). Energy saving projects started with just six houses and a matched grant of £4,000.

One resident, working individually, has reduced the carbon footprint of his 16th century thatched cottage by 80% and now holds open days to show what he has done. In the future it is envisaged to take advantage of 0% interest loans for work done on properties to make them more energy efficient – these loans will be linked to the property rather than the individual owner.

Community buildings such as the school and the sports club have solar panels and will see a return on



their investment from April 2011 when cash will be recovered from renewable energy schemes via the feed-in tariff – you will actually be paid for producing your own electricity. The profit will be shared by members after the installation costs have been covered. The school has a heat recovery system in the computer room and there are also plans for a small wind turbine on a nearby farm.

There is a scheme to re-use cooking oil from local businesses to supply a bio-diesel tank and an electric car, based at the school, can be hired for short journeys (up to 40 miles round trip). There are re-charging points in Oxford and Birmingham and you also benefit from free parking while the battery is charging (about 2–3 hours).

It will be interesting to see how the scheme develops in the future – watch this space!

Jean Rudge

jeanrudge@hotmail.com

GEORGE'S WALK

Deddington Festival has many facets but one event not touching directly upon the arts attracted 44 people (and a dog) on Wednesday 23 June. Clifton farmer George Fenemore had planned a walk around Home Farm, where he lives, works and relaxes.

The walk initially followed the Drovers' Lane, an ancient route, with George explaining its origins and showing us a ridge and furrow field abutting the track, examples of historic agricultural practices. We stopped frequently for George to identify plants or trees. He wasn't beyond testing the knowledge of some of those enjoying the walk either! Leaving the lane and crossing the ridge and furrow field we entered the rather dry flood plain. Strange to think that just weeks earlier it had been deep under the waters of the River Cherwell. This presented views across the valley and took us into a protected wild flower meadow. George is allowed restricted use of this area for grazing his sheep at certain times of the year. Yet again he often stopped, plucked a flower and asked for it to be identified.

We then returned to higher ground to the sound of nesting curlews and into the arable section of his farm. There we saw a variety of cereals being grown

for our dining-tables. As we passed around the edges of some fields, eight metre-wide headland strips of seed-producing plants were in evidence. The plants were varied and included sunflower, borage and radish with their seeds providing food for a wide variety of wild birds throughout the winter. Elsewhere other headlands were sown with clovers and seeding grasses to feed George's ever-essential bees. Neighbouring fields had splashes of wild red poppies.

One wouldn't think that U2 spy planes could have any effect on this farm but George told us of the discovery of a Roman settlement by crewmen of one just across his fields as the result of USAF activity when they were based at Upper Heyford. Our walk around a farm which now uses modern methods and machinery had encompassed centuries of development in the area: Romans, ancient farming methods, the river, the canal, railways, motorway and jet planes but most importantly the nature and biodiversity which surround George and all of us.

A walk that was due to take an hour had lasted more than twice as long – but what a perfect way to spend a beautiful summer's evening.

Geoff Todd 338532

First Aid for Pets

Knowing what to do in an emergency may save your pet's life! Hook Norton Vets are presenting a demonstration at the Windmill Centre on Tuesday 14 September at 6.45pm for 7pm.

Call 337732 or 01608 730501 to book your place – a limited number are available. A donation of £3 for Dogs for the Disabled is requested.

Sarah-Jane Courage

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

September

Wed 1 10.00am Eucharist
 Thu 2 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels
 Sun 5 10.30am First Sunday
 6.30pm Evensong
 Wed 8 10.00am Eucharist
 Thu 9 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels
 Sun 12 10.30am Iona Eucharist
 (with Healing Prayer)
 Tue 14 6.30pm Eucharist HOLY CROSS
 Wed 15 10.00am Eucharist
 Thu 16 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels
 Sun 19 10.30am Eucharist
 Tue 21 6.30pm Eucharist ST MATTHEW
 Wed 22 10.00am Eucharist
 Thu 23 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels
 Sun 26 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10.30am Service of the Word
 Wed 29 10.00am Eucharist (with Healing Prayer)
 ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

From the Parish Registers

Baptism: 1 Aug Oscar Rafe Evans-Pollard
 Jenny Greenwood Sansom
Weddings: 31 July Peter Gilmore and Amy Stevens
 14 Aug Mark Doggett and Samantha Troup
Funerals: 2 July Irene Gregory
 15 July Dorothy Mitchell

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Sunday mornings at 10.30am: Pastor Isabel Walton

Congregational Chapel, New Street

Sunday morning services are held at the Wesleyan Reform Church together with their congregation and there are now no other Sunday services. This church is due to close shortly.

RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury

Mass at Holy Trinity, Hethe: Every weekday except Wed at 9.30am, Sun at 10.00am.
 St George's Church Adderbury: Mass Wed 7.00pm and Sun 8.30am.
 Confessions at Hethe Sat 5.30–6.00pm and at Adderbury before Mass.
 The Eve of Sunday Mass at St John's Church, Banbury, is said at 4.00pm on Saturdays to allow worshippers from the villages to attend by public transport.

St John's Hempton

Sun 5 & 19 9.00am Eucharist
 Sun 26 6.00pm Harvest Festival Evensong

The Barfords

Sun 5 4.00pm Eucharist (Bfd St M)
 Sun 12 4.00pm Evensong (Bfd St M)
 Sun 19 4.00pm All Age Worship (Bfd St John)*
 Sun 26 4.00pm Patronal Feast Eucharist
 (Bfd St Michael)*

*** Please note change of venue**

For baptisms, weddings, funerals or home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, the Rev. Dr Hugh White, 28 Duns Tew (349869) or one of the church wardens, Glynne Bianchi (337743) or George Fenemore (338203)

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

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Joyce Minnear 338529

Fr John Burns 277396

PROPOSED INTERNET CAFE IN THE PARISH CHURCH

Deddington Parochial Church Council wishes to seek the views of Deddingtonians on the provision of an Internet Cafe within the 'Living Room' at the back of the Parish Church.

We envisage a setup similar to that available in Deddington Library. We understand that the Library's current provision of computer facilities is heavily utilised and we would seek to offer a provision complementary to, rather than in competition with, that of the Library.

We propose offering not only internet access but also computer skills training to all.

Before we invest in this project we would like to ask for feedback from the community. Would you like to see an increased provision of publicly available internet services in Deddington? Would you be interested in help getting to grips with the internet? Would you use either or both of the services we propose: (1) internet access in the Parish Church; (2) computer skills training in the Church?

Please contact Hugh White, Vicar, with your comments.

349869, vicarhugo@hotmail.com

FRIENDS OF DAEDA'S WOOD

It is with great sadness that the Friends heard of the death of Walter Meagher. He was an important naturalist and a true friend of the wood, which he featured in his book *Portrait of a River* (the River Swere).

'Daeda's Wood is an amenity for the whole area.' So said a participant in our willow-weaving morning on 26 June as part of the festival and he was right; people came from Banbury, Barford, Bloxham, Fritwell, Middle Barton, Somerton and, of course, Deddington. The weather was glorious, with just enough shade from the Holly Tree's trees to save people and willow from drying up completely. Soaking six foot long bundles of willow for five days and then keeping it moist on the day posed an interesting problem, added to which we had no idea how many people would come. The event turned out to be a great success and people clearly enjoyed themselves, some staying for the full three hours and others dropping in for a short stay. Although no-one had much previous experience, everyone managed to make something, from a simple wigwam to a beautiful cat. On the Sunday we installed the structures in the wood and waited. About 20 people braved the blistering heat but, of course, England was playing Germany that day and judging by the reports of the match we had a better time in the wood!

Elspeth Cox
elspethcox@waitrose.com



RIDE AND STRIDE 2010

in aid of
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 Churches Trust

SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

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 and other historic churches
 in Oxfordshire

Call Jane Green on
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 and sponsorship forms

FRIENDS OF THE CASTLE GROUNDS

At the request of English Heritage and the Parish Council, we obtained quotes for the removal of saplings that had set themselves on the banks of the Castle Grounds ramparts, over the last 20 -30 years. Having obtained a felling licence from the Forestry Commission, the work was carried out by Bob Staig from Steeple Aston.

The work has been ongoing since the beginning of August and should be completed no later than



Mike Taylor using his chain saw

the end of September. As a result, a large amount of wood, either cores (lengths) or logs are available, free of charge, to parishioners.

If anyone within the parish would like to take advantage of this offer then, subject to availability, please contact Libby Gibbs on 340538 or me to arrange a day and time to meet at the Castle Grounds for collection.

Even if you don't want logs, the Castle site has been considerably enhanced after all this hard work and is well worth a visit.

Terry Clinch
 338711



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 Oxon OX17 3NL
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FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

FROM JOHN SAMPSON,
SECRETARY, FRIENDS OF
HEMPTON CHURCH

Sean Parsons writes that there was no consultation about the proposal by the Friends of Hempton Church to restore the two Gothic doors between the Church and the Hall (*DN* July 2010). He is mistaken. In fact, we went to considerable lengths to bring this scheme to people's notice. Last September Les Chappell outlined it in the *DN* and pointed out that a brochure with the story of the doors and a picture of how the new doors would look was on view in both Deddington and Hempton churches. In a later issue he referred to it again. The proposal was enthusiastically discussed at a well-attended AGM of FOHC and unanimously approved.

Sean also queries the cost and whether the money could not be better spent on a play area. Whatever our feelings, this would not be possible. The use of FOHC funds is strictly defined by its constitution, the main aim being the upkeep and improvement of Hempton Church. As for the cost, the committee took care to find the least costly way of carrying out the work to the high standard that is appropriate and is demanded by the Oxford Diocesan Advisory Committee. Meanwhile, we would like to thank all those people who have responded so generously to our appeal.

FROM WENDY BURROWS, MARKET PLACE &
JANE GREEN, CHURCH ST, DEDDINGTON

We would be glad to know if any readers share our constant deep regret at the loss of the chestnut trees in the Market Place, and their replacement with trees that seem quite inappropriate in a traditional village setting. Now that Oxford County Council have recently planted new chestnut trees on the Hempton Road and the two-year old trees in the Market Place seem far from robust, we believe we have an opportunity to ask for the present trees to be replaced either with chestnuts or a pair of other suitable native trees. If anyone would like to pursue this please contact Wendy on 338082 or wendyburrows888@btinternet.com, or Jane on 337837 or green-jane@btconnect.com.

FROM ROB FORSYTH, NEW STREET,
DEDDINGTON

The Parish at War: firstly may I thank the many people who have provided Michael Allbrook and me with so much information. I sense that we have come to the end of the information gathering phase because the flow has dried up. Everything received so far has now been placed on the DOL website. In view of the fact that not everyone can access the internet and would prefer the written word, the next task is to compile a



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

hard copy. This is therefore a final call to anyone who has not yet contacted us to please do so as soon as possible, via my details below, and in any case no later than 30 October. I shall then begin compiling a draft. I plan to complete this around the end of the year, then place a draft copy in the Library for some months. I will advise this via the *DN*. Anyone who wishes to check it for accuracy of information and feedback to me can then do so, tel 338384, email robert.s.forsyth@googlemail.com.

FROM SUE LANE, FUNDRAISING MANAGER,
KATHARINE HOUSE

Residents in the Deddington catchment area can be justifiably proud of their fundraising achievements for Katharine House in recent weeks. We are thrilled with the results of our first house-to-house pilot. This involved volunteers delivering envelopes to residents and calling back to collect later. Such schemes rely totally on the availability and keenness of volunteers and we were fortunate that 150 came forward, spread across the hospice catchment area. £773.86 was collected in Deddington and a further £236.41 in Hempton, making a total of £1,010.27. This campaign has raised over £13,000 in total – a most valuable contribution towards the ongoing work of our medical and nursing teams.

A further £1,020 was raised when I opened my garden in July. Huge thanks to the 200 who visited and a special thank you to Brass Bits (Grahame and Ros Wallington from the Daedings) for their wonderful entertainment on the day. The band sounded marvellous and thankfully the weather was kind. Special thanks to Kay and Chris Clayton of Hempton who worked so hard serving cream teas. Our first Festival of Open Gardens raised over £5,000, so if anyone in Deddington, Clifton or Hempton would like to open their garden for Katharine House next year, please let me know. Thanks to all for your marvellous support.

FROM ALEC KINGHORN, 19 THE DAEDINGS,
DEDDINGTON

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to all those who helped in the search for my wife, Dorinda, on Sunday 22 August. Dorinda, who has Alzheimers, was eventually located on the Chipping Norton road, about five miles away, not bad for a 74-year old! Anyway, a happy conclusion to a worrying event.

We have lived in Deddington only for about 18 months, but we have been most impressed by the strong community spirit in the village. Long may it continue!

Thank you again to everyone who offered their support and help.

DEDDINGTON POLICE NEWS

Recently youths have been camping at Castle Grounds and starting small campfires. The area is an ancient monument and fires have caused damage. Fires are NOT permitted at the site and constitute a criminal offence. The area is regularly policed by PC Miller and action will be taken against individuals who continue to damage the site.

There have been a number of thefts from and criminal damage to vehicles in Bodicote and Hook Norton. We urge people to be vigilant and report anything suspicious but also to remove any valuable items from their vehicles when not in use. If you see anyone acting suspiciously, make a note of the vehicle registration and report it as soon as possible.

A stone bird-bath was stolen on Saturday 17 July from the Bull Ring. Any information please contact PC Miller.

We are pleased to report that we have two new volunteers starting at Deddington Police Office. PC Miller is still looking for more local people to help run

the office, so if you have a few hours a week to give to your community, please make contact. Volunteers will be trained to assist with crime reporting, intelligence submission, 'Neighbourhood Watch' and traffic advice, acting to build greater partnership between the village and police. Full training and support will be given resulting in a recognised volunteer's qualification.

The Banbury Rural Neighbourhood Action Group are looking for new members. We are particularly interested in getting representation from younger residents of the villages, as well as those living in the smaller villages such as Clifton and Hempton. If you are willing to give your time once every six weeks or so, please contact Sergeant Bruce Riddell at Banbury Police Station.

Should you have any problems or concerns, please phone the Thames Valley Police non-emergency number on 08458 505 505 or email banburyrural-neighbourhood@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. In an emergency please dial 999.

EXERCISE CLASSES FOR OVER 60s

GO Active and Cherwell District Council have set up classes in Steeple Aston to remedy the lack of exercise classes for the over 60s who found they no longer play tennis etc in the same way as they used to. The classes will be held in the Steeple Aston Village Hall and the details are:

Pilates: Fridays 11.15am – 12.15pm on 17, 24 September and 1, 8, 15 and 22 October

Fitness classes: 11.15am – 12.15 pm on 25 October and 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 November

Cost £3 a session or £15 for six sessions

Julie Whybrew 347850

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Autumn/Winter Hanging Basket Workshop

Wednesday 22 September 7.30pm
(Please pre-book your place)

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Friday 24 September 9.30am-12noon

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News from Clifton

Clifton's Angela Catania will follow in the footsteps of Iron Man Mayo and will be raising money for Cancer Research UK as she runs the Great North Run on Sunday 19 September. If you would like to help in her fundraising please contact Angela on 337787, post money through her door at 4 Walnut Close, or donate on line at www.justgiving.com/Angela-Catania.

It's been a great month to be a McGovern! Anna has returned from her six-month trip to the Far East encompassing Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand and Singapore, and she tells the regulars in the Duk what a time she has had!

However the champagne (or what was left of it after the last issue's good news) was saved for Rose who has returned from university in Hull with a Geoff Hurst in Sports Science that will take her on to Belfast to study for a PhD. When (not if) she succeeds this will bring the number of doctors in Clifton up to four (although two of them are medics apparently). Clearly the water here has something very special in it.

For those of you keeping count, the third doctor is Sanjay who has moved into Walnut Close with Tarunya and their young son Aayush. Sanjay practises medicine in Bloxham, so some of you may already know him. They clearly don't believe the stories that emit from this little nook of our corner of heaven so we welcome them all with open arms.

We want to say a similarly big hello to Pamela and Simon who have moved into the new house in Chapel Close from Christchurch. They won't know it yet – but the sea view they have left behind is only a few months away.

Also I am told, at last month's Farmers' Market, Cllr Collins (who seems to stick his nose in everywhere!) asked the 15 assembled members of the erection crew who wasn't from Clifton. Only four hands went up. This is a long-winded way of saying well done to Garry (Main Street) for joining in this fine body of people. Beware the Christmas drink though!

However there is another new family in our midst – and you know who you are! Please reply to my message from last month and let me introduce you properly to your exceptionally friendly neighbours.

Martin Bryce
MartinDNBryce@aol.com

Farmers' Market

The September market will be on Saturday 25th and it will mark nine years since the Deddington Saturday market was revived after 171 years! Deddington Farmers' Market is a non-profit organisation and, with the aid of many willing volunteers and prudent management, keeps its prices to stallholders low enough to encourage the very best local traders to come and sell their produce.

Wildflowers in the Cemetery

The Parish Council has obtained a grant to create a small meadow of wildflowers in one discreet corner of the Hempton Road cemetery. This will then be maintained as such until the area is required for burials. We hope that this will visually enhance the cemetery for residents and visitors alike. It will also provide a welcome source of nectar for insects, butterflies and bees. If the project is successful we plan to replicate this planting scheme in other areas of the parish.

Please note that prior to planting some work is required to prepare the ground but the PC will try to ensure that this will be done in a sensitive manner and no work will take place when funerals are scheduled.

On Sunday 12 September, the Oxford Conservation Volunteers are coming to help us plant some 500 wildflower plants and we would like to invite any other interested parties (especially accompanied children) to join us. You will need to be armed with a sturdy trowel and a watering can.

We meet at the cemetery gates at 10.00am. Please come!

Jean Rudge
Deddington Parish Council
jeanlrudge@hotmail.com

PARISH SHOW, 4 SEPTEMBER

Do come along to the church to support the show, whether or not you have entered any of the classes.

It opens at 2.00pm to the public (free entry) and there are teas, cake stall, bottle stall, raffle and Katharine House Hospice stall, as well as all the exhibits for you to admire.

Entries have to be in by 10.00pm on Wednesday 1 September, so by the time you read this, you will probably be too late to put in an exhibit.

If you didn't get a Show programme, they are available in the church porch.

On Sunday 5 September, the first Sunday church service at 10.30am will be a 'follow-up' for the Show with the theme of 'Talent and Creativity'. We are hoping that children will show some of the exhibits they prepared for the show.

Wendy Burrows
338082

From time to time there are sufficient funds to allow contributions to be made to local organisations, and at the September market some 14 local groups will receive substantial donations.

Entertainment will be provided by a jazz band, there will be Owls Galore, and the Youth Club will be face painting. Oh, and yes, there will be the usual great selection of stalls. Look forward to seeing you there.

Paul Drawmer, paul@drawmer.net

DOWN ON THE FARM

Well, the last of the 2010 grain harvest came into the wet grain store well into the night of 16 August but the harvest is not over yet. We still have 50 acres of late drilled spring beans to cut, but they won't be ready until October. Dear old St Swithin has a lot to answer for. But to give him his due his forecast that the weather prevailing on his day (15 July) would set the scene for the next 40 days is far more accurate than anything on offer from our state-of-the-art forecasting service. Having said that, it is still rather galling that the second half of the growing season was very dry which had the effect of reducing the final yield only to have a delayed wet harvest period. We started the wheat harvest after church on Sunday 8 August and by the time rain stopped play late into the night of the 9th we had cut 120 acres of milling wheat. The combine did not move again until after the service on the 15th. After another long run the final load was tipped to await its turn in the drier late on the Monday night, but that left us with a mountain of straw to deal with before we can start cultivating in preparation for the planting of next year's crops. It's a mad world we live in.

As I sit at the keyboard we have just had the first thunderstorm of the summer, with some very heavy

rain, so it will be interesting to see if the Clifton spring starts to rise again and we can put the bottling plant back on the agenda. During the early summer the farmhouse and buildings were rewired and the electrical installation brought up to date with the latest regulation trip switches. These were all knocked out by the first heavy flash of lightning so everything in the grain store ground to a halt. So much for modern technology. But at least it proved that the old man had not completely lost his marbles when some months ago he bought a second-hand generator and had it fitted up to run all the farm buildings and the house. At the moment it runs on tractor diesel but can easily be converted for rape seed oil, so come the revolution we could become self-sufficient for our power needs. Now there's a thought.

Now the harvest is all but over for this year it is time to take the last of the honey off and prepare the hives for the winter. They have had a good season and worked hard and produced the best honey crop in 30 years. Let's hope we get a good 'St Luke's little summer' during the autumn that will produce a good crop of ivy for them to work before the winter sets in. They deserve it.

George Fenemore 338203



For all those fantastic sub-editors who maintain their own pages on DOL, manual version 2 is now available to help you through the editing process. It's available online and is in PDF format, so you can download it for printing

if you wish. Please contact editor@deddington.org.uk for the access details.

The maps section at DOL has been expanded over the last few months. If you look at the maps front page, <http://www.deddington.org.uk/history/maps>, there are links to some really detailed map images of Deddington, Clifton and Hempton.

Do you fancy a pub quiz, information on solar heating, where to recycle stuff, or just want to have a moan? Look at your local forum, it's there for you to use.

Paul Drawmer, paul@drawmer.net

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WELL REMEMBERED

Walter Meagher 1935 – 2010

Walter Leo Meagher was born on 7 January 1935 in Philadelphia. He was educated at St Aloysius Academy, West Chester, Pennsylvania and went on to the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He gained his first degree in History (with distinction) and Biology in 1958 and subsequently taught at the University, combining history with neuro-physiology. He was awarded his MA in 1961 and in the same year joined the publishing house of Prentice Hall. Here he became associate editor in charge of subjects as diverse as music, philosophy, religion and drama. In 1964 he was named senior editor for the Trade Division. This eclectic mix of the scholarly and the pragmatic characterised his life. By now he was married and subsequently had four children.

In 1966 he and two friends founded the scientific publishing house, Worth Publishers Inc with offices in New York. Among their notable publications were *Biology* (8 editions), *Biology of Plants* (7 editions), and *Invitation to Biology* (5 editions). In 1972 they also published Joseph Kerman's *Listen* (to music).

Diversity was central to Walter's life and after New York he lived in both New Jersey and California before coming to England. Further publications followed, including a series of Oxford guidebooks. The designer for these books was Wendy and in 1985 she and Walter married. Their son, Freddie, was born in 1988 in Somerton.

By now Walter had identified botany as his overwhelming interest. He returned with his family to the States and in the late 80s, early 90s attended summer schools back at the University of Michigan.

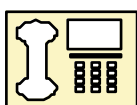


Two years in the West Indies followed but after that he and Wendy divided their time between Oxfordshire and San Miguel de Allende in Mexico, where one of Walter's most enduring legacies was established, the El Charco del Ingenio Botanical Garden, which he and his work had inspired. His subsequent book on the flora and fauna of this site, *Wild and Wonderful* (2008) exhibits the scholarship, enthusiasm and comprehensive vision that Deddington came to know so well.

During his time in Deddington Walter set about recording the wildlife of the area. Many of us happily joined in, checking plants, birds, butterflies and locations for his detailed booklets. In 2005 he published *Portrait of a River* tracing the route and surrounding wildlife of the River Swere. This resulted in the upper course of the Swere being named as a Target Conservation Area. He also wrote some 170 articles for a wide variety of publications including *Oxford Magazine*, *Audubon* and *Phytologia* and contributed to the *DN* and *Four Shires*. In all these enterprises Wendy was his close collaborator and designer. It was an ideal partnership.

Walter's death in July was a loss to many people in two continents. A tribute in the San Miguel newspaper, *Atención*, concluded with a farewell 'to this extraordinary man who has left such a void in our lives but also has inspired us'. Perhaps I may be allowed to end on a personal note and echo those sentiments. Knowing Walter was a pleasure, a privilege and an education.

Kristin Thompson
337052



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THE TASTE BUDDIES EAT AT OTTERS RESTAURANT

We are the Taste Buddies. Every two months we will be lunching out and assessing local pubs and restaurants within a twenty mile radius of Deddington. We hope you will find our observations useful.

Where?

Otters Restaurant, Market Place, Deddington

Tel: 01869 338813

Opening times: Tues–Saturday 12.00–2.00pm

Sunday 12.00–2.30pm

Tuesday–Thursday 7.00–9.00pm

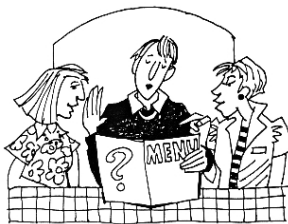
Friday & Saturday 7.00–9.30pm

Lunch deal: One Course £6.95, two courses £8.96, three courses £10.95

Dinner: Average cost of starter for dinner £4.00

Average cost of main course for dinner £15.00

Are they pleased to see you? Very welcoming, friendly atmosphere and attentive service.



Is the restaurant attractive? Very clean and pleasant with fresh flowers on the tables, fresh linen and relaxed atmosphere.

Was the cooking good? Mike the owner cooks to order. The portions were generous and very well presented and the food is very good value for money. For starters we had fresh mushroom soup bursting with flavour, a delicious home-made pâté

and a goat's cheese, tomato and pine nut salad. We requested an alternate ingredient in the salad and this was done graciously. For mains we had a succulent herb-crusted chicken with chilli sauce, a fresh vegetable stir-fry with spicy plum sauce and a spinach and mushroom crêpe. All were delicious, extremely well cooked, with fresh ingredients and generous portions. *Would a vegetarian starve?* Definitely not. There is always a vegetarian option on the menu.

Would you go again? Yes, definitely.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

It is the start of a new school year and our new F1 children are busy settling in, learning class routines and finding their way about the school. We are also excited to welcome our new Year 3 teacher, Mrs Townsend, to our school. I have a feeling she's going to fit in extremely well! September tends to be a quiet term as children get to know their new teachers and get back into the swing of working after the long summer break.

As many of you will know our head teacher, Mrs Tinsley, left at the end of last term and we are looking forward to our new Head, Clive Evans, joining us in January. In the meantime I have taken on the role of Acting Head, supported by a very strong and committed staff.

The Governors have asked me to alert parents to the government's change of policy about dates for applications for admission to primary schools at reception stage in September 2011 and thought a mention in the *DN* may be helpful. Whereas for some years applications have had to be submitted by a date in November, the closing date this time will be 17 January 2011. Under the old arrangements parents would be notified of decisions about the applications during March; it will now be 3 May 2011.

Hopefully in the next *DN* I will have more information about plans for our Christmas productions and class news etc.

Jane Cross, Acting Head
338430

PTA

We hope everyone had a lovely summer break. Coming up is our AGM on Tuesday 21 September at 8.00pm in the school hall. It is so important that this meeting is well attended by parents and carers. Just to entice you along we are including a glass of wine in the proceedings!

During the last academic year we raised just under £10,500 which is a fantastic sum in this harsh economic climate and we would like to thank everyone who contributed to this. We have purchased a trolley of laptops and each class has also had some money to spend on additional resources for the various topics which have been studied.

Once again, our children will benefit greatly from your wonderful generosity and will have much fun with all the new equipment. We are looking forward to another fun-packed and successful fund-raising year and, as always, thank you for your continued support.

A note for your diaries – our firework display this year will be bigger and better than ever and will be held on Thursday 4 November.

Unfortunately we can't afford the premium to hold it on Friday 5th. Nevertheless we do hope you will come along and support us.

Janet Watts
PTA Chair
337135

From the Health Centre

A new doctor has joined the practice: Jan Barathan, a Sri Lankan by birth who has lived in the UK since she was very young. She is a GP Registrar who, as part of her training, will spend six months here. Seasonal flu vaccination clinics will start again from 18 September;

full times are available from the Health Centre. And a bike rack has been installed near the front door to encourage those who live reasonably near to cycle to the surgery.

2010 festival deddington

The Deddington Festival this year was enjoyed by a wider range of local residents than ever before and was generally acknowledged to have been the most successful in its eight-year history.

Events got underway with the much anticipated *Deddington Rocks* and the organisers were delighted to see the large numbers of young people and families enjoying the music and the atmosphere. The music appealed to all ages and it was wonderful to see everyone sharing the fun together. Up to 500 people attended the concert in the course of the evening, with local bands sharing the stage with nationally acclaimed 'Abba Magic'. Even the most unlikely village characters seemed to know all the words of the songs!

This year's Community Concert was a tribute to the Home Front and the music of the 1940s. Few present will forget the sight of Dad's Army, the Evacuees and the Land Girls, and it was good to see so many members of the community taking part. The obvious enjoyment of the audience, as they joined in enthusiastically with the singing, made for a memorable evening. Alongside the concert there was an exceptional exhibition of wartime items and the personal recollections of many local residents. Much of this can still be seen on the Deddington OnLine website.

The classical concert this year featured local residents and representatives from more than a dozen choral societies from north Oxfordshire who joined together to rehearse and perform Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* with musical director Martin Quinn. The standard of the performance was very high and many of the participants who had come from neighbouring communities commented on the quality of the concert, the excellent direction, and the warmth of the Deddington village atmosphere.

The Open Gardens event, together with 'teas in Church' and live music, saw the village come to life as locals and visitors from further afield enjoyed a peaceful stroll around many beautiful gardens in Deddington and Hempton.

Sunday evening's *Stekpanna* concert was well attended and the amazing standard of the performance, together with the relaxed and friendly atmosphere, made for another very enjoyable evening.

During the second week of the Festival several of the regular popular events took place. 'Poetry Please' was as successful as ever, a farmland walk with George Fenemore was enjoyed by around 50 people on a lovely summer's evening, and the traditional Art Exhibition in the Holly Tree and the Craft Exhibition in church were both well attended, with the addition this year of a willow weaving workshop, which attracted

much interest. Deddington artist Gillian Boyd won the 2010 Deddington Festival Art Prize for her painting 'Mountain Hare', which was voted most popular work in the exhibition by visitors. Second was Viv O'Donnell's 'Goa' and third was Brian Bond for 'Broughton Castle'. Congratulations to all.

The Writing Competition attracted a total of 335 entries from all over the country and abroad. Details of the prizewinners and extracts from their work can be read on the Festival website. The presentation evening was attended by a large number of competitors, prize-winners and members of the community with an interest in contemporary literature.

It was felt by many that this year's Festival clearly illustrated its underlying philosophy – enabling the community to join together in performance and enjoyment of the arts, offering something for all ages and tastes, and having a positive impact on village life.

Eileen Anderson, who has been secretary of the Festival since its early days, has decided to step down. The committee would like to pay tribute to her for all the excellent work which she has done in promoting the Festival, raising funds and sponsorship, and co-ordinating events. The committee would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be interested in joining them and taking on the role of secretary, publicity officer or website manager. Get involved and help us plan the programme for 2011!

Hugh O'Donnell (Chairman)
Festival Committee Contact 337238

The Beeb comes to Deddington

A BBC film crew descended on Deddington Antique Centre (which incidentally was listed in the *Independent* newspaper this year as one of the top 50 antique centres in the UK) on Tuesday 13 July, to film an episode of the popular antique programme *Antique Road Trip* which appears on BBC2.

Owner Brenda Haller who appears as a dealer on ITV's *Dickinson's Real Deal* was thrilled to have them visit as it not only gave extra exposure to the Centre but once again put Deddington on the map to the benefit of all. The crew spent the whole day filming with frequent coffee/food breaks especially to the delight of Foodies who had a bumper day.

No details are available at present regarding the scheduling of this episode by the BBC but Brenda will try and find out when it will be screened so everyone has the opportunity to see the results of the 'Beeb's day in Deddington'.

Barrie Haller
barrie_haller@yahoo.co.uk

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Photographic Society

There were two events last month. The first was an exclusive photo-shoot for members at the Ball Colgrave Floral and Agricultural Nursery in Adderbury. After a short introduction to the activities of the Nursery, members were generously allowed unrestricted access to the grounds and greenhouses, which was enhanced by some good weather that gave excellent light for photography. Some of the photographs are on a dedicated web page at www.adandd.co.uk.

The second was a presentation by our Chairman, Philip Rigby, entitled 'A visit to Istanbul with a range-finder camera'. Philip's main interest is street photography, and feeling that modern digital SLR cameras lack intimacy due to their size and sophistication, he acquired a relatively simple digital Leica M8 camera and wide-angle 15mm lens. He demonstrated his techniques for close-up photography using this camera, revealing how greater immediacy and creativity could be achieved in a variety of difficult locations. Emphasising that street photography is all about the moment, Philip showed his successes and failures, and illustrated how judicious cropping of street photographs can transform the viewer's perspective and interpretation. Philip concluded his presentation with a discussion on the Lightroom processing software, citing his preference for this product over Photoshop, as he is primarily concerned with retaining the photograph's naturalness rather than image manipulation. Overall, a fascinating and absorbing account told with frankness and candour.

On Wednesday 1 September there will be a presentation by John Hurlinger of Photospeed Limited entitled 'Printing quality images effortlessly – a digital demonstration', at 7.30pm in the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho. All are welcome, just come along to the meeting.

John Branton 01295 811071

1st Deddington Scout Group Cubs

We said goodbye at the end of term to Olly, Chris, William, Nick and Tom who will be moving into Scouts in September. Boys on the waiting list will soon fill their places. Please remember to add your child to our list; we have no available spaces until April 2011.

We've had a great camping summer, the weather being perfect. We joined Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers from Banbury and Bicester districts at Horley in July for our joint centenary celebrations. The excitement was limitless, climbing and abseiling, canoeing, quad biking, football training with Oxford United, lots of bouncy things, laser tag, scouting skills and a waterslide. The latter providing the opportunity for Jake and Alfie to show the rest of the districts just how slippery they are by coming first and second in the longest slide competition! Thanks to all the parents who helped at the camp.

Congratulations to Chris, Ben, Jake, William, Toby and Josh for gaining their Silver Awards.

Are you interested in attending a meeting about a Beaver Colony (boys and girls aged 6–8 years). If so please contact me.

Jo Churchyard CSL 338071
jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

The Scouts had their first summer camp at Phasells Wood near Hemel Hempstead in July. Yet again perfect weather – a whole season without tents to dry, fantastic! We arrived on Friday evening, tents were erected, a fire lit and birthday cake eaten. The first activity on Saturday was potholing in a series of man made tunnels with the Scouts appearing like meerkats from entrances all over the place. Climbing was next on a huge freestanding climbing wall; most of them made

COUNCIL EXCHANGE

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Nicely decorated throughout, a new kitchen is due to be fitted before the end of the year.

I have two children who need separate rooms, so I am looking for a

3-bed house anywhere in Deddington

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CALLING MORE CLUBS

it to the top with a little guidance from the instructors. We finished the day on the zip-wire.

Although the Scouts cooked for themselves we took advantage of the on-site café for dinner.

Sunday: up early, light the fire and cook breakfast then rifle-shooting and, best of all, the cresta run – plastic trolleys down a wooden ramp, huge fun!

The boys prepared Sunday dinner of chilli and pork, and then we broke camp at 7pm, tired but very contented.

Pete Churchyard SL 338071
pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

Deddington Players

Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM in July. We have agreed to produce a pantomime this winter and the dates for your diaries are 20–22 January 2011. We are seeking the following help. In particular we are looking for people who could join the costume team to help design, make or adapt costumes for our cast. We would also welcome some assistance with the music to rehearse our singers or to accompany them on the piano. Our valued Musical Director will be abroad during January and we need one or several people to cover her role just for this year. We would also welcome anyone who would like to help out with lighting or sound. Please contact any member or me if you would like to get involved. We plan to hold auditions and a drama workshop in October. Watch this space for details next month and please come along if you would like to be part of the cast. Let's make the show better than ever this year!

Lucy Squires 338442

Youth Club

We will be welcoming everyone back to Youth Club after the summer break on 20 September at the usual time of 7pm until 9pm. It will be great to see all our old members plus any new ones: if you live in the parish and are aged 10–14 please come along and join us. There are lots of new activities planned plus all the usual fun, creations and games.

Our members will also be at the next Farmers' Market making Deddington a much brighter place with our fabulous face-painting bus, so come and visit us as all. Money raised will go towards much needed new equipment for Youth Club.

Thanks again to all our staff and volunteers – you are all very much appreciated!

Jill Radini 336133
jillmunson250@hotmail.com

Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

The DOGS have had a busy summer. In July we held our annual get-away, this year to Tewkesbury. Over the two days and two rounds of golf our first round winner was Lorna Brown with 39 points. The second

round winner was Peter Blackburn with 37 points. The evening dinner consisted of 'fines', a quiz and raffle to raise a donation to the Katharine House Hospice. We collected £235! As usual, all the DOGS were exceedingly generous! Full details are on Deddington OnLine.

In August we held our mid-summer golf day and evening social gathering. The golf was very well attended with 37 avid DOGS and nine guests competing for some fabulous prizes. The overall winner was Chris Hughes with 41 points. In the evening we all came together (75 to be exact) for a sumptuous barbeque at Sue and Nigel Oddy's pad in Deddington. Although there was a light drizzle, the canvas coverings protected us all. As an aside, we also celebrated the 80th birthday of one of our founding and original DOGS, Arthur Kennedy.

I don't know where the summer has gone as our next and final event is the autumn classic, this year at Copt Heath Golf Club on 15 October 2010.

David Darst 338589

Book Club

At our July meeting we discussed *Stet* by Diana Athill. The first part of this book is a candid account of the author's more than 50 years in publishing, ending in her retirement in 1993 at the age of 75. The second part, which many of us found more interesting, focuses on her relationship with some of her writers, notably Jean Rhys, VS Naipaul and Brian Moore, giving fascinating portraits of their lives and foibles. Her rather convoluted style of writing is chatty but straight talking and unemotional. A very readable book which was enjoyed by most of the group.

We are always happy to welcome new members, so please call if you think you might be interested in joining our group.

The next book is *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck and the next meeting 30 September.

Sally Lambert 338094

Deddington Royal British Legion Club

August has been a quiet month – there is no doubt that the current economic climate is having its effect. Our new skittles alley has continued to be popular especially with families. Our new front windows are due to be installed on 13 September.

We are very much looking forward to hosting a Help for Heroes charity night on Saturday 25 September. Please see page 2 for details. For information on other functions see the information board on our front gate.

Raymond R Morris, Chairman 338143

Deddington Town Football Club

Demoralised by the pitiful excuse for a World Cup campaign? Like a Buddhist monk, perhaps it is time to turn your back on the superficial glamour and obscene wealth of the modern game and go back to grass roots.

CALLING EVEN MORE CLUBS

In these times of crippling austerity it also makes sound fiscal sense to support your local club ahead of the more alluring brand names. From such small seeds grow the mighty oaks of nationwide revolution.

Changes have been rung at both levels of the football club, despite the success of last season. Local legend Andy 'Robbie Savage' Spencer will take the reins of the Reserves, while ex-Reserve manager Mikey Large forms a partnership with ex-First team manager Steve 'Freddie Mercury' Flemming at the helm of the First team – a coalition hopefully much more in tune with the people they serve than some we may mention. No unnecessarily brutal cuts will be dealt out by these two, for they realise the weaker elements serve to supplement and lay the foundations for the stronger players to prosper.

The season begins in the first week of September, so lend your throats and lungs, while flinging your passion pitchward like ticker-tape confetti. We are fortunate to have dined on glory for the past two seasons, but this can only continue with your vociferous support week-in, week-out. For you see, the best things in life really can be free, gentle recessionites.

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

WI

On 10 August Mais Appleton, our speaker, explained ACWW, its aims and the projects that Associated Countrywomen of the World had financed and encouraged. It aims to raise the standard of living through education and training, to provide practical support, to eliminate gender-based discrimination, and to give voice at international level through links with UN agencies. Many projects had been successfully undertaken, enabling women to benefit themselves and their families. Mais explained all this and members were made aware that the WI was affiliated to ACWW and actively supported their invaluable work. A vote of thanks was given and members showed their appreciation.

At our next meeting on 14 September our speaker is Adrian Williams on 'England's Inland Waterways'. On 12 October we have our harvest bring and share supper.

**Rene Mahony
3384381**

Deddington Tennis Club

During the summer holidays children attended a tennis camp at the club organised by Cherwell Council and run by the club's head coach, Steve Ashby. New rackets and balls were bought with a donation from Warburton's the bakers.

With the end of the summer holidays the regular coaching classes start again at the club. There's mini-tennis coaching for aged 3 upwards, junior coaching and adult beginners; please see the club website for details: www.deddingtontennis.com.

Please note that after the October half-term the mini-tennis coaching will move inside the Windmill Centre.

**Steve Ashby
01295 263855**

Deddington Branch Royal British Legion

The trip to Bletchley Park will leave the Royal British Legion Club on the High Street at 9.30am on Tuesday 7 September.

A reminder that anyone willing to volunteer to be a poppy collector this year should contact our Poppy Appeal Organiser, Norman West on 340368 or 0798 573 4839, who will be most pleased to hear from you.

Albert P Humphries, Chairman 338943

1st Deddington Guides

This month Guides have been to 'Party at the Palace', 'Sparkle Camp' and had a 'Ready, Steady, Cook' cookout.

At Party at the Palace we went to Blenheim. Rain-bows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Young Leaders and Leaders went. We had loads of activities to do. Then we had a packed dinner with everyone. Some of us stayed overnight and had a pig roast. Then we slept out under the stars.

At Sparkle Camp we went to Horley and slept in tents that we had to put up ourselves, we had lots of activities. On the last day we all had a water type of day, with it all involving water on most of the activities. On the last activity we had to crawl under an army net then get a soaking wet sponge then squeeze as much water out as possible. At the end of all the activities each group had to decide on a name, my group were called the jabberwockies and we won! Then at Ready, Steady, Cook cookout we had to cook our dinner.

Tilly Neal, Guide

Deddington and District History Society

Our programme starts again on Wednesday 8 September when Deborah Hayter, who has been such a great success on previous visits to the Society, will speak on 'The 17th-century Village'. Members should have received notification by post. The new meetings card (the best yet, in my opinion, and a real collector's item) has been printed and will be available at the first meeting.

Our second meeting of the season will be on Wednesday 13 October, when the main event will be a talk by Liz Young on 'Churchyards and their Monuments'.

We are always delighted to see new members. Just turn up at the Windmill Centre at 7.30pm on 8 September or on the second Wednesday of any month thereafter to be assured of a warm welcome.

**Chris Day (Chairman) 337204
Moira Byast (Secretary) 338637**

News from Hempton

It is nice to report that the planters at the entrances to the village have been re-stocked this year. Well done to those concerned.

The Mobile Library is under threat as not many people are using its service, so the saying 'use it or lose it' is very much to the fore. The van visits on alternate Mondays and parks in the Loop section of The Lane. The next visit will be on 13 September between 9.55 and 10.15am.

The Ride or Stride day is fast approaching; this year it is on 11 September between 10am and 6pm. St John's will be open as usual to welcome visitors. Volunteers are required both to staff the Church and stride for us and if anyone would like to take part, please give me a call.

The Air Ambulance was once again used in the village to take someone to hospital. This is a marvellous service and can respond to a call very quickly; they deserve all the support they can get.

A Faculty has been granted for the proposed new Church doors and our thanks go to everyone who has supported the fundraising appeal and to the Historic Churches for their generous grant. The work will be put in hand as soon as possible.

Speeding is once again an issue not only on the main road but side roads as well. There are several blind spots, particularly in The Lane, St John's Way, Duns Tew Road and the Barford road corner. Please take extra care when driving on these roads.

Three important dates for the end of the month: Saturday 25th Harvest Supper at 7.30pm, tickets £8.50 per head from me; Sunday 26th Harvest Festival at 6pm followed by auction of produce – anyone wishing to donate produce may leave it at the Church that weekend. Also Monday 27th Friends of Hempton Church AGM at 7.30pm. This meeting is open to everyone. All these events will be in the Church or hall.

Les Chappell 338054

WELL REMEMBERED

DOROTHY MITCHELL 1931–2010

Dorothy was born in 1931 in Deddington, the youngest of seven children born to Elsie and Fred Davis. She attended Deddington Primary School and the Windmill Secondary School and then went to work in Banbury for the ladies' underwear manufacturer, Kestos. In 1954 she married Bill Mitchell. She and Bill became postwoman and postman covering Deddington, Clifton, Hempton and Barford and all the outlying farms. They knew everyone in the villages and were themselves known by all.

Dorothy loved gardening and wildlife, and she enjoyed all kinds of music. She was a great singer and could be heard in song seemingly most of her waking hours; she regretted that her parents' financial circumstances meant she could not have her voice trained.

Dorothy took great pleasure in her four children and her wider family, much enjoying visits from her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Dorothy will be much missed, not only by her family, friends and neighbours, but also at large in Deddington and the neighbouring villages, communities to which she contributed so much, particularly in all those post rounds faithfully made and all the conversations that went with them.

Hugh White

ADA BLISS 1924–2010

Ada was born in Islington in 1924, the youngest of six children in the Sorrell family. She came to Deddington as an evacuee during the war. In 1946 she married Arthur Bliss, a farm worker and soon two sons, Roger and Terry, were born. For some years the family moved around the locality following Arthur's employment until in 1956 they came to the Paddocks.

Ada had a job with Banbury Buildings in Adderbury and at home enjoyed growing flowers, cooking, reading romances and being a central part of a growing extended family. She liked foreign travel though limitations were imposed on this by the difficulties that developed with her walking. Nevertheless, she coped extremely well with her ailments, maintaining the independence she valued.

Ada helped at the Cheshire Home in Twyford as a voluntary carer and, if a neighbour needed a hand, Ada was there to offer it. At the same time, she wasn't one to suffer fools gladly and could deliver a good talking to when occasion required.

Ada faced death with great dignity, courage and humour. She reckoned she had had a lovely life, and her care, her competence and her spiritedness certainly greatly enhanced the life of her wider family and of this community.

Hugh White

Deddington Writing Competition

A large number of people came to hear the winners of the Writing Competition announced at the end of the Deddington Festival. In the Children's Competition the judges spoke briefly about each as well as presenting the prizes and giving written comments on all the shortlisted entries.

Full details of winners and the text of the winning entries can be seen on www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk.

The Open Competition attracted entries from all over Britain, many of whom came to hear the winners announced. Deddington's Maureen Dew, with 'The Messenger' won the first prize for poetry and this was greeted with loud applause.

In both sections of the competition the judges commented on the high quality and good number of entries.

Hugh Marshall 337761