This month's editor MARY ROBINSON

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Apologies to groups and organisations who have found their contributions curtailed in this issue, or held over. Merry Christmas to our advertisers and contributors, collators and distributors, and may you have a peaceful 2012. We couldn't do this without you. Our thanks too to Julie Wigg for our timeless Christmas cover. Next year changes are afoot for *DN* again, and we have the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations to look forward to in June – keep on dancing!

DECEMBER DIARY

2 Baby and Toddler Group: Fundraising event, Windmill Centre Fri Sat 3 Hempton Christmas Bazaar: St John's Hempton, 11.00am Sat 3 British Legion: Club guiz night, 8.30pm 3 Scouts Christmas post boxes available, deliveries on Sat 11 and 18 December Sun 4 Choros Advent Concert: Parish Church, 6.30pm 5 Monday Morning Club: Christmas lunch, Deddington Arms, Mon 12.30pm Wed 7 Photographic Society: Tonya Fitz-Johnson, 'Police Photography', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm Thur 8 Monday Morning Club: Film evening, Holly Tree, 6.30pm Thur 8 'History of Christianity in 15 Objects': Lecture by Dr Sebastian Brock, Parish Church, 7.30pm Fri 9 Sofiakyrkan's Youth Choir: Parish Church, 2pm Sat 10 Children's activities: Parish Church, 10am-12.30pm Sat 10 British Legion Club: Bingo, 8pm Sun 11 Christingle Service: Parish Church, 4pm Mon 12 Primary School: F1 Christmas production, Parish Church, 2pm Tue 13 Primary School: KS1 Christmas production, Parish Church, 4.30pm Tue 13 WI: Christmas dinner, 7.15pm Wed 14 Parish Council meeting: Holly Tree, 7.30pm Wed 14 Carol concert and launch of The Collared Doves CD, Parish Church, 6pm Wed 14 History Society: Christmas party and Tim Porter, St Nicholas, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm Wed 14 Royal British Legion Branch and Club AGM (members only): Clubhouse, High Street, 7.30pm Thur 15 Primary School: KS2 Christmas production, Parish Church, 6pm Thur 15 Deddington Art Group: Christmas party (members only) Fri 16 Baby and Toddler Group: Christmas party, Windmill Centre Sat 17 Deddington Farmers' Market: 9am-12.30pm Sat 17 British Legion Club: Skittles and chilli baked pot supper, 9pm Sun 18 British Legion Club: Meat draw, 2pm Sat 24 Carols in the Market Square, 6pm (January Diary dates on p. 7)

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

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Hempton Church Hall 19 November 2011

clear dry evening in Hempton with no sign of the snow we had at this time last year. The meeting was chaired by Jim Flux with a good turnout of councillors and one member of the public.

Open Forum: Yngve Granne, from Crossways, Hempton, expressed frustration with the failure of the statutory authorities to control speeding traffic through Hempton. It was suggested that traffic management in South Oxfordshire was more evident than in Cherwell, although ClIr Jelf rejected the idea and said that there was no county bias.

Planning, New Applications

• 4 Hempton Rd: a single and a two-storey extension (revised application), no objection.

• Earl's Court, Earl's Lane: detached car port and garden store, rear porch, front porch with bay window, pergola and two-storey rear extension, timber cladding to part of main house, no objections but with conditions.

• Red Lion Cottage, Market Place: two fascia signs and repainting exterior paintwork, no objection but with conditions.

• End Cottage, The Stile: felling eight trees, objection by DPC because there was no justification with the application and it was thought unreasonable in a conservation area.

• Congressional Chapel, New St: change of use to domestic dwelling with internal fit out. The building is not listed and so DPC could not object, but suggested conditions regarding use of appropriate materials.

• Pumpyard House, New St: demolition of single-storey room, removal of lean-to entrance hall and removal of two dormer windows. Construction of two-storey extension and associated remodelling works. No objection by DPC to most of the work although the first floor balcony was thought to overlook neighbouring properties.

• Discussion about the new exterior paint colour of Unicorn Inn which was thought by some to be inappropriate in a conservation area. CDC investigating.

Emergency Planning

• The emergency operations team will be drawn from DPC members.

• The control centre in the case of an emergency will be the Windmill CC.

• Four new grit bins to supplement the five existing bins are to be strategically sited.

• DPC have a stockpile of 7 tonnes of rock salt.

• Volunteers are asked to come forward to help with gritting.

• Emergency equipment will be housed in the Holly Tree Club locked shed.

• The public to be encouraged to purchase snowclearing equipment.

F&GP

• First payment received from Southern Electric for $\pounds 2,436$ for electricity generated by the WCC solar panels.

• Three more tertiary grant applications received. In future all grant applications to be with Parish Clerk by 1 October in the year starting university. Grants will be limited to £50 and a total of 10 grants will be made per year.

• A budget of £1,500 has been agreed to purchase snow-clearing equipment.

• A grant of £1,500 has been agreed to help set up Deddington OnAir.

Highways & Transport

• A consultation is proposed on moving the bus stop in the north lane of New Street to outside the Manor House.

Environment & Recreation

• Max Pankhurst the steward has resigned.

• DPC is seeking further sponsorship for the Christmas tree [Any advance on £50 contributed by DN? – *Ed.*].

• An alternative power supply for Christmas tree lights is required now that power from the Town Hall is no longer available.

• Bench locations in Castle Grounds have been approved (including that for Eddie Lynch).

• It is hoped that following consultation the negative impact of the funfair on local residents and businesses will have been mitigated.

• Cricket Club Ball is to be held on 16 June 2012; complaints have been received in previous years about noise nuisance. Various measures were suggested to limit the noise impact and approval was granted.

Library : A decision about the future of the library is expected in December. [But see the Police report on on p. 5 - do they know something we don't? - Ed.]

Email contact: Email problems have been reported when trying to contact the Parish Clerk on the deddington.net address. An additional address of deddingtonparishcouncil@googlemail.com is available. [See also comment p.10 - Ed.]

Funds on deposit 19 October: £541,371 with Barclays, West Bromwich BS, Santander and Anglo-Irish Bank. **Invoices** agreed for payment £4,406.

Next Meetings: 14 December, Holly Tree, 7.30pm 18 January, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm

The notes are the view of our reporter Charles Barker (deddingtoncastle@gmail.com) and not the official minutes (see http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/pc/pcminutes).

FARMERS' MARKET

The December market will be on 17 December, early enough for you to buy food and presents for Christmas. Most of the stallholders are local, so it's worth looking them up and ordering in advance for collection. There is a list of contacts on DOL: www.deddington.org.uk/

_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/8405/Producerslist061011. pdf. Much more than just food is available from the market, it isn't all meat and vegetables! Have you tried beeswax candles, set in antler candelabra? If you're looking for crafted presents, there's a terrific range of pottery, wood and leather products, jewellery and cards. Make Christmas local this year; give a handmade gift instead of a manufactured one.

We would always be interested to hear what you think of our market. I think it's brilliant, but then I'm

biased and probably have a blinkered view. How would you improve Deddington Farmers' Market? Is there something about it that really needs to be done better? Let me know, drop me an email, or come and join in.

A Happy Christmas to all our buyers and sellers; here's hoping that this year's December market isn't as snowy as last year's!

Paul Drawmer paul@drawmer.net

Christmas Eve Carols Continue

Saturday 24 December: Carols in the Market Place at 6pm. The Boys' Brigade band (and friends) will be playing, mulled wine will be served, proceeds in aid of Katharine House. George Fenemore will compere, and Graham Wallington is the bandmaster.

Michael Liebrecht, 337628, liebrecht@1gc.com

uch progress has been made over the last month. Deddington OnAir is delighted to have received a gift of £1500 from Deddington Parish Council and we welcome their support. There are many new programmes,

including the fantastic recording of George Fenemore's 'Farm Walk' by Jake Mayo with music by Donald Lane and edited by Ian Willox. Amanda Gray

has recorded the November issue of the *Deddington News* as an audio book and each edition will be available every month. You can hear the *D*Mon Mondays at 7pm and Fridays at 1pm; it's also available through the 'Listen Again' page at any time and you can download it as a podcast. Heather Ward has voiced *Lucien's Crime* written by Theresa Bullard for the Deddington Writers' Group (see the 'Listen Again' page) and Amanda Gray has started *Alice in Wonderland, The Secret Garden* and a number of other works which will become available over the coming months.

Recording has started on a reworked version of *Scrooge*. Aaron Bliss has written an excellent script and a team of enthusiastic readers are hard at work preparing the play.

We have been in discussion with Deddington Primary School about broadcasting the school nativity performances and hope to bring you all three live from Deddington Church; more details nearer the time.

Deddington OnAir is planning to broadcast a number of church services and events in the run-up to Christmas on top of our regular live broadcasts. We are also delighted that we have teamed up with Oxford and Cherwell Valley College to allow their Level 2 students to record and play a series of documentaries as part of their course work. We hope that this is the start of a number of collaborations giving media students a chance to gain experience of planning, recording, editing and broadcasting. More information soon.

Deddington OnAir



Our programme line-up has grown again; the schedule now includes:

- Matt & Jake's hour of rock
- Ben & James' variety performance
- David Macey, blues and jazz show
- Aaron Bliss and Mikey Large host
- 'Late Night Large'
- Deborah Labuschagne presents 'Me, Myself and My Music'
- 'Deddington Discussions', Hilary Smith
- interviews Frank Steiner, Steve
- Kershaw and Daniel Inman
 - 'Performed Locally', local authors, performances, concerts and plays

We also have nine weekly music shows covering different genres, a weekly science show and a monthly technology programme, all of which are available from www.deddingtononair.org.

With the assistance of the Farmers' Market, work has started on the 'Listen Again' archive and we hope to have the entire catalogue online before the New Year.

Our programme schedule has been updated since it was produced last month in *DN* and the updated schedule reflecting these additions can be found on the 'Schedule' page of our website.

The Friends of Deddington OnAir has gained many more members and you are welcome to join if you haven't already: it costs £10 per year to become a Friend. The application form can also be downloaded from www.deddingtononair.org or contact us at studio@deddingtononair.org.

Would you like to have a go? We would welcome anyone who'd like to be a reporter for Deddington OnAir, no experience necessary, all training and equipment provided free. If you would like to be involved in community radio we'd love to hear from you. Come and make a show for us, become an interviewer, host your own show, become a Friend and please become a listener.

David Rogers, Chair david@deddingtononair.org

PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

hat a fabulous fireworks evening we had. The weather held out (almost!) and it was lovely not to have freezing cold feet for once. Mulled wine and hot chocolate warmed our tummies, while the barbecue did a roaring trade with delicious sausages and burgers. It was fantastic to see the field full of children and adults laughing and having fun – we sincerely hope you enjoyed the evening. The spectacular sum of £1,430 was raised. Special thanks must go to the Co-op and Farmers' Market Committee who very generously supported us. Indeed a huge thank you to all those who gave their time to help put on and support the event – we couldn't do it without you.

Christmas is rapidly approaching and our next event is a disco for the children on Thursday 8December in the school hall. Our very own dynamic DJ Kelly Scott will be on the decks, so get the children's party clothes out. The disco will be in two sessions: years 1 to 3 from 5–6pm and Years 4 to 6 from 6.15–7.30pm. Your child should already have received a letter to buy tickets by the time you read this, if not please contact me at melissa@rhubarbcreative.demon.co.uk.

Once again we have our wonderful range of Christmas cards designed by the children. Samples of the cards are available if you would like to look at them. Please contact Melissa on 349936 or by email for a sample pack or to place an order. The cards can also be viewed on the school PTA notice board. Santa's Float will be winging its way from the North Pole and landing in Deddington on the weekend of 10 and 11 December. As usual, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please see posters around the villages for the route plan and the advert in this issue of DN.

Come and meet Santa at the Farmers' Market on Saturday 17 December. He's bored of sitting in his grotto all morning and is going walkabout with his elves in the Parish Church and the Market Place, and is really looking forward to meeting the children. Rumour has it the elves will have sacks of lucky dip presents, so please come along and help them make your Christmas special. A huge thank you to Revd Hugh White and the PCC for allowing us to use the Church.

Our dedicated carol singers will, once again, be singing in the Church during the morning of the December Farmers' Market. Do come along and listen to the spirit of Christmas or, better still, join in!

The fun continues next year. Dates for your diary include our fantastic Quiz Night on Saturday 10 March, Deddington Walk on Sunday 19 May and the School Fête on Saturday 16 June.

In the meantime, on behalf of the PTA, I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

> Melissa Chadderton PTA Chair melissa@rhubarbcreative.demon.co.uk





Sarah Boss 338536 Liz Coppin 338721 Carly Prasher 337252

Additional forms at the Church To guarantee a place, applications in by Wednesday 7 December please

Richard Miller

PC Richard Miller passed his Sergeant's exams earlier in the year and has been appointed Acting Sergeant at Bicester Police Station. This is due to last 3–6 months.PC Duncan Vale has settled into the team and is expected to be joined by another officer on attachment to support him while Richard is away.

Move to Library Building

Preparations are underway to relocate the Banbury Rural Neighbourhood Police Office in Deddington to its new home in Deddington Library. The team is hoping

the move will take place before Christmas and encourage the community to continue to use the facility. The Police Office move means that both services will be able to continue as before, securing the future of village neighbourhood policing and library service. Opening hours are likely to remain as before but any changes will be publicised in *DN*.

The Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) has opted to focus on just two priorities: reducing rural crime and reducing theft from motor vehicles. Sam West Sam.West@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Alan Collins has been elected Chair of the Banbury NAG that meets with the Rural Police Force and oversees and directs their efforts.



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File and polish after treatment £12.00

To make a booking please contact The Retreat on 01869 337988 or email us at relax@theretreat-dayspa.com

Police News



PC Duncan Vale

Break-ins

The Antiques Centre in the Market Place was broken into just after midnight on 8 November 2011 by three persons wearing balaclavas. They used a vehicle to break through the outer door and then a sledge hammer to smash through the internal door before leaving with approximately £30,000 worth of antiques. I would ask all Deddington residents to be extra vigilant around the Antiques Centre and report any noises or suspicious activity to the police.

In September there was a burglary at

the Deddington Arms. Three men got behind the bar and stole the cash till; they were arrested and are currently on police bail. There was a similar incident at the Deddington Arms on 4 October when two men again stole the cash drawer. This incident is not believed to be connected with the first.

Between 21 and 22 September on the Milton gated road, bridal tack was stolen from horse stables; enquiries are still going on to identify the offenders. Also in September, scrap in a rear yard of a compound on the Clifton Road was set on fire. Arson is suspected right now, and we are still examining CCTV to identify witnesses.

Duncan Vale, Neighbourhood Specialist Officer 08458 505 505



Deddington C of E Primary School Clerk to the Governors

Unfortunately our existing clerk is about to retire from the position, and we need a new and enthusiastic person to take on the role in March 2012.

The job entails providing a minuting and clerking service to the Governors. It requires a quick mind, and an ability to work with many different types of people.

The expected workload is around 12 hours per month, 11 months per annum, with much of this in the evenings. The salary is ± 10.50 per hour, paid monthly.

For further details, or to apply, please email me (Mike Ward) on mikew@cherwell.co.uk or leave me a message at the school on 01869 338430. Applications close on 23 December, and interviews will be in January.

News from Hempton

Please remember the church bazaar on Saturday, 3 December, from 11.00am: lots of stalls including games for children, and hot food. Bring the family along and help raise money for the Friends of the Church. In addition to the normal services in December there will be a Carol Service on Friday 23rd at 6.30pm, with the Deddington Church choir and Yuletide refreshments. On Wednesday 29 December at 4.00pm there will be a Christmas party in the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome, please bring soft drinks and a plate of food.

£201 was raised by three families who rode for the Chuch on Ride and Stride day; half goes to our Church and half to the Oxon Historic Churches.

Edith Garrett of St John's Way was in the news recently when she appeared on BBC Oxford on Friday 11 November talking with others about her wartime experiences. She is also mentioned in the local book *A Parish at War*.

Most people enjoy the farmers' market. Is there anyone in our village who would be willing to join the team to help set up and take down the stalls on occasions? If so, please ring Geoff Todd on 338532.

On the weekend of Saturday 2 June the Diamond Jubilee celebrations will mark 60 years of the Queen's Coronation. Deddington will be holding a party that day and I think there are ideas to have one in our village on perhaps the 3rd or 4th. More news next year.

Les Chappell 338054



December Allotment

If you are considering buying an apple tree there are two things to consider: what size do you want, and when do you want to pick your fruit?

Size is dependent on the rootstock. Here are a few types for smaller gardens:

	Rootstock	Width	Height
M27	Very dwarfing	1.0m	1.0m (3ft)
M9	Dwarfing	1.8m	1.6m (5ft)
M26	Semi-dwarfing	1.8m	1.8m (6ft)
MM106	Semi-vigorous	3.6m	3.0m (10ft)

You then need to consider when you want to eat your fruit. If you're away most of the summer you don't want pollination group 1 as the fruit will be ripe when you're not around.

Most apples and pears are diploids which mean they need another tree nearby to pollinate. If you don't have space for two trees you could have a cordon or an espalier against the wall to pollinate your main tree, or a 'family tree' which has a number of different varieties grafted on to one rootstock.

Fruit trees can be bought from a local nursery or even a supermarket, but if you're looking for something a little rarer then try a specialist supplier.

Any apple tree is an asset to a garden, providing spring colour and baubles of fruit. I have a tree variety 'Scrumptious': the red balls were a delight to behold and even better to eat – they live up to their name.

Sam Willis, samantha.willis@gmail.com



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CHURCH AND CHAPEL

Details of church services at SS Peter and Paul, Deddington, Hempton and the Barfords, the Wesleyan Chapel, and RC services in Hethe and Adderbury in Deddington in December and up to 8 January, are on the card enclosed with this issue.

For baptisms, weddings, funerals or home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, the Revd Dr Hugh White, 28 Duns Tew (349869), or one of the churchwardens, Iain Gillespie (338367) or George Fenemore (338203)

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157 Sundays at 10.30am: Pastor Isabel Walton

RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury *Fr John Burns* 277396

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

Huge Success at Fire Walk and Church Winter Fair

Deddington Church would like to say a massive thank you to all who took part and supported our Blaze Fire Walk Challenge, including: the Blaze team for putting on the amazing spectacle; Saskia Knights and her team at the Unicorn Inn for their support and allowing the Blaze team to fill up their water buckets; George Fenemore for the use of his trailer to take the (extinguished and fully compostable) coals away after the event; those living in the vicinity for putting up with the noise for a short while; everyone who came to watch; everyone who sponsored someone. As I write, we are still collecting sponsorship money, but we estimate the total raised to be over £2,000 and will confirm actual figures in the next edition of *DN*.

We would also like to thank everyone who supported our Winter Fair, including those who donated very generous raffle prizes: Deddington Arms for Sunday lunch for two; Fairport Convention for four tickets to their winter tour concert in Learnington Spa; Foodies for £15 of vouchers: Steve Miller for a free cut and blow dry at his Hair Workshop; Geoff Todd and the Farmers' Market for a bag and £20 of Market vouchers; Flower Shop for a beautiful flower; Eagles for some lovely chocolates. Many individuals donated prizes including: Buffy Heywood, Kristin Thompson, Jane Green, Trevor and Moira Byast, Sue Brown, Chris Farman and Hugh Marshall, and very many of you donated beautiful cakes for Jean's cake stall. Thanks also to Jim and Jean Flux for managing the raffle throughout the two events. Last but not least I would like to thank Jean Welford and Anita Deane for helping to organise the event, which was a huge success. We are pleased to say that we raised over £1,500.

Olivia Fenion 01295 273126

On Solar Panels and Collared Doves

Deddington Parochial Church Council has decided to seek the necessary permissions to install photovoltaic panels on the roof of the south aisle of the church. Informal consultations with the permission-granting bodies strongly suggest we shall be able to proceed. We should like this to be a community project for the reduction of carbon emissions and so we invite contributions towards the cost of the installation from Deddingtonians. Some might like to sponsor a single panel at a cost of £700; gifts of any amount, however, would be most gratefully received. If you are interested in supporting the project, please contact me Hugh White (vicarhugo@hotmail.com; 349869), or the Treasurer, Iain Gillespie (iainrgillespie@btinternet. com; 338367).

The Church is producing a CD of Christmas music by the Collared Doves, a vocal quartet consisting of the Vicar of Bodicote, the Vicar and Curate of Deddington and a Deddington Church Choir soprano. The Deddington Church organist provides the accompaniment. The CD will be launched at a free concert in the Church on Wednesday 14 December at 6.00pm (mulled wine and mince pies). A piece by Deddington composer Donald Lane will be performed at the concert and recorded for the CD. It will cost £5 – an ideal stocking filler! Proceeds shared between the Deddington Church photovoltaic project, Bodicote Church and BYHP (Banbury Young Homeless Project). **Hugh White, Vicar**

JANUARY DIARY DATES Tue 3 British Legion Club: Quiz night, 8.30pm Wed 4 Photographic Society: Roger Crocombe LRPS, 'From Brief to Image, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm Tue 10 WI: 'Ask me Another', Ronald Speirs, 7.30pm Wed 11 History Society: Alan Ashmole, 'Oman: Sand, Oil and Dollars', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm Thur 12 Monday Morning Club: Film evening, Holly Tree, 6.30pm Sat 14 Copy date for February DN Mon 16 'History of Christianity in 15 Objects', Parish Church, 7.30pm Wed 18 Parish Council meeting, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm Thur 19 DeddiMedia quarterly meeting: Unicorn, 6.45pm Thur 19– Deddington Players 'There's no Fri 20 Place like Rome', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm Sat 21 Deddington Players 'There's no Place like Rome', Windmill Centre, 2.30pm & 7.30pm Thur 26 Book Club meeting, for venue ring 338094

Business Success Story for Local Mums

Auteur is a Deddington-based company run by local mums with children at the primary and pre-school. They received a top accolade recently by winning the Excellence in Housewares Award 2011 at the Progressive Housewares ceremony in London. MD Vivienne Cudahy also won the New Business award at the Banbury Women In Business Awards 2011.

Auteur is the exclusive UK distributor of bobble (www. waterbobble.com), a patented water bottle that filters water as you drink. It removes chlorine and organic

contaminants from tap water and offers clean portable water without the environmental and monetary costs of plastic water bottles. Bottled water has been one of the fastest-growing sectors in the beverage indus-

Celebrity Chef James Martin presenting the award to Jenny Dahlman (Auteur) and Vivienne Cudahy (Auteur) and Pam Plant from the International Housewares Association.

try, with Britons spending over £1.5 billion every year, Most plastic bottles end up in landfill and only 10% are recycled. Bobble, made in the US from recycled plastic is reusable.

Viv Cudahy, a former fashion buyer for Harrods, set up the company from her home in St Thomas Street in July 2010. She now employs Jenny Dahlman, Angela Conlan and Lisa Glynn. After launching in Harvey Nichols, bobble is now sold across the UK in retailers such as Boots, John Lewis, Marks & Spencer, and

Waitrose among others. Auteur has moved to bigger premises in Centrepoint where the ordering, account management, sales and marketing, PR and finance all take place.

Fire Service

Since our last article much has been going on at the station. At the beginning of October we welcomed a new station manager, Brian Butler; we also welcomed Jan and her mobile library. Jan now has our old watch room as her office, and we have moved upstairs into what was the ladies' shower/ changing room (but don't worry, the shower has been removed).

We also have two new recruits, Marcus Hardingham from Barford and George Williamson from Adderbury. This will bring us up to a crew of 12, our full complement of fire fighters. This has been made possible by an extension in our mobilising time by two minutes, and being able to recruit from outside Deddington. In fact only four of the crew are from Deddington (Pete Taylor, Martin and Rachel Freeman and Gary Barnet), while one is from Hempton (Tim Parker), three from Barford (Graham Harding, Richard Day and Marcus Hardingham), two from Adderbury (Sharon Wilson and George Williamson) and two from Clifton (Adam Franklin and me).

As far as fire calls go, October and November were fairly quite with most of our shouts supporting the Banbury crews. These included a house fire that started from a garden shed and speared into the roof space, and a chemical incident at a factory that released cyanide gas. Two of our crew were tasked to enter the premises in gas-tight suits and contain the leak.

If you have been looking at our notice board you will have seen our latest performance figures, and one of the areas where we are underperforming is road traffic accidents. I am sure most of you are aware that over the past six months we have had a number of serious incidents involving local people. Statistically you are more likely to have an accident within a mile and a half of your home. It is very easy for concentration to wander when you are nearly home and starting to relax on familiar roads, but weather conditions, speed, and a lapse in concentration can have devastating effects. So please stay alert and focused until you pull up on your drive.

Finally the crew from Station 08 would like to wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and New Year. Please remember to check your smoke alarms and don't forget to get your chimney swept if you plan on sitting in front of a log fire!

Chris Fenemore, Watch Manager Deddington Fire Station 338218, 07904387686

Do Writers Hibernate?

Some do, but others remember that by the end of January they should be thinking about entering the Deddington Writing Competition. They will be keeping an eye on www.deddingtonfestival.org.uklwhere all the details will be published. Don't wake the others, but there will again be an Open Competition and a Junior Competition, but first read the rules before you write. **Deddington Writers' Group 337761**

Hairdresser Wins Award

Apprentice hairdresser Emma Hibberd from the Steve Miller salon has been awarded the prestigious 'Apprentice of the Year Oxfordshire 2011' given by the Freemen of Oxford. Emma is the first hairdresser to win this award in its history. She beat several hundred candidates to the award, and was presented with a trophy and certificate at Oxford Town Hall on 1 November. **Steve Miller 337374**

FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

The Postbag, or parts of it, now appear on the website Forum (http://www.deddingtonnews.co.uk/ forum). This enables readers to comment without having to wait until DN appears the following month. If you would prefer your letters not to appear online, please tell us when you write. Thank you.

FROM WENDY BURROWS, MARKET PLACE

Whatever happened to 'Trick or Treat' on 31 October in this village? There was I, in all evening in my cottage at the centre of the village, armed with sweets – those fairly healthy Maltesers, no less – expecting ghoulish visitors temporarily to terrify me and set the dogs barking, but no, nothing. I was quite



disappointed. Can anyone throw some light? Has the dreaded 'Health & Safety' hit this, too?

And, whatever has happened to the Unicorn? Who has chosen battle grey with black windows? It is so out of keeping with the rest of the Market Place and is even worse than the pathetic oak tree on the green. Some are renaming it *HMS Unicorn*, some Colditz. Who gave permission for this horror? Why not cream paint, the colour of the Town Hall, which would have matched the surroundings much better?

FROM MARIANNE VAKALIS (née JOHNSON) NEW YORK

Forty years ago, I was one of the founding members of the Guides in Deddington. I remember meeting for the first time in Mrs Ward's house, forming patrols and thinking about names. I became the Patrol Leader for the Thistle Patrol. Initially all of our meetings took place at Mrs Ward's but then we moved to the Primary School. I remember decorating a box (made out of a crate given to me by my father) that stored all our patrol stuff. I have many fond memories of our various activities including earning badges, camping trips and carrying the flag on Remembrance Sunday. One of my friends was Susan Cowley who was in my patrol. My mother recently told me that Susan also remembers our days as Girl Guides. If you read this Susan, please do get in touch. I'd love to hear from you. My email address is mpv@berkeleycollege.edu.

FROM HUGH MARSHALL, THE DAEDINGS

I hesitate to suggest that any reader of the *DN* might leave Christmas preparations until the last possible moment. But should there be such people, or those who have failed to get sufficient Christmas cards, gifts, festive biscuits, chocolate tree decoration kits or even a Christmas cake or pudding, your readers might like to know that Deddington Fair Traders are here to help. Not only can we supply such needs, but in doing so the purchaser will be directly helping people in developing countries to have a better life, since all that we supply is guaranteed to be Fairtrade. In addition to our usual monthly stall in Deddington Church during the Farmers' Market and at Barford Market – this month both on 17 December – Christmas cards etc. will be available on Sundays after the 10.30am service and I am also happy to supply from our 'warehouse' (my garage) or obtain special orders from Traidcraft. Please call me on 337761 or deddingtonfairtraders@gmail.com and I will do my best to help.

FROM SUE JOHNSON, PRACTICE MANAGER DEDDINGTON HEALTH CENTRE

We are having difficulty encouraging people to have 'flu jabs this autumn, which may be to their detriment later in the winter. Vulnerable people include: those over 65 years old or suffering from diabetes, chronic heart disease, MS, Parkinson's, COPD, asthma (if you use a steroid inhaler regularly); kidney or liver disease; stroke victims; anyone with a suppressed immune system, or pregnant or a carer.

Please contact reception to book your 'flu jab. Weekday clinics are in the afternoons: Mondays 4–5pm, Thursdays 2–3pm. Or if you are attending the surgery for an appointment about something else then ask your GP to give you a 'flu jab at the same time. Please don't leave it too late.

FROM LESLEY NELSON, ROTHBURY HOUSE

Thank you to everyone who supported our exhibition of hand-painted porcelain in the Parish Church on 5 November. We were extremely pleased to be able to send off $\pounds450$ to Help for Heroes.

FROM JO EAMES, LEADENPORCH HOUSE,

I would like to thank everyone in the parish who bought a copy of my novel, *The Faithless Wife*, when it was published last year. I promised to give £1 to Cancer-ResearchUK for every copy sold and am delighted to report that I was able to send a donation of £2000 to the charity some months ago. The book received a very warm welcome in Menorca, where it is set, and has continued to sell steadily. I still have some copies, so if anyone would like one for themselves or as a Christmas present at £7.99 per copy, please contact me on 01869 338752. Happy Christmas.

EMAIL FROM SHARON W, thewellsathome@aol.com (first appeared on the Forum)

I am looking to buy a copy of *The Story of Deddington* by Mary Vane Turner. Does anyone have one they are prepared to sell or do you know where I could buy one?

News from Clifton

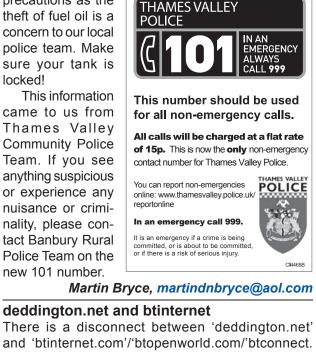
Gentlemen's health issues have been foremost in the minds of Clifton residents this month as many members of the Book Club have rented out their top lips to raise both awareness of prostate and testicular cancer and money for the research into these diseases that blight men of a certain age. I am of course speaking of Movember, as Gary, Neil, Doug, Kevin, Tim and Cllr Collins have grown moustaches for the month in the company of Jenson Button and Gary Lineker. Andre Tansley on the other hand made the huge commitment by shaving off his beard and 'tache! Hopefully he will have joined the team by the time we go to press. The hirsute sextet has so far raised £200 and are targeting £1,000, so if Cllr Collins' appearance at the Remembrance Day parade, or the magnificent growths of the other five, prompt your admiration then click on http:// mobro.co/cliftonbookclub and pledge a little cash. Thank you to those who have already done so.

A fond farewell to Linda and Louise who have left us to sample the Gateway to the Cotswold delights of Chipping Norton. They were keen to avoid tearful farewells and our best wishes go with them.

Many thanks to Ron Colley who arranged an interim heating oil order for those unable to wait until spring for the bulk order that has become the norm for many. It makes fine economic sense to buy 2,000 plus litres in the summer when the price is low, so if you want to be included let me know. However you must think

about sensible precautions as the theft of fuel oil is a concern to our local police team. Make sure your tank is locked!

This information came to us from Thames Valley **Community Police** Team. If you see anything suspicious or experience any nuisance or criminality, please contact Banbury Rural Police Team on the new 101 number.



and 'btinternet.com'/'btopenworld.com/'btconnect. com' email addresses. It seems that mail from the Deddington address is siphoned off into a spam filter and needs to be unblocked. BT seem to be unwilling or unable to offer a solution. Please let us know if you suspect you might be affected, as I am (I can receive but not send emails to BT addresses). We are trying to find a solution. MR

Parish Conservation

As promised in August, bulbs of native species

have been planted in the cemetery: native daffodils (the ones Wordsworth wrote about) round the edge of the wildflower patch, crocus, snowdrop and winter aconite under the trees and bluebells under the hedges. We hope this will extend the nectar season and help early insects. Several hundred bulbs have been planted, so it should look good next spring. A small number of bluebells and wood anemones have been introduced into the Windmill copse, which will be coppiced again next year. The tangled mess of wire on the western edge is scheduled to be removed, but it is a shame that a certain amount of rubbish has been left in the wood and I would like to suggest that it is definitely not a good idea to be lighting fires here.

Two hundred snakeshead fritillaries (fritillaria meleagris) have been planted at the edge of the damp area at Welford's Piece in Clifton. This plant is the flower emblem of Oxfordshire and I would like to extend an identification challenge to any resident of Clifton under the age of 16. There is a book prize for the first photograph I receive of a fritillary flower in Welford's Piece (which I shall, of course, verify!). You can send it electronically to my email address or as a hard copy to the PC office in Deddington. I look forward to receiving your pictures sometime in April.

Jean Rudge 338110, jeanlrudge@hotmail.com

PFSU and Village Nursery

Christmas is on its way and we have lots of fun planned: the children are busy preparing for their Christmas performances on Monday 12 December (PFSU), and Tuesday 13 December (Nursery.) Both sites will also be having Christmas parties in the final week of term. Another event we always look forward to are our Decorations Days, when we invite parents to help transform the room for Christmas. This year these will be on 5 and 6 December, 1.30–3pm. There will be lots of glue and glitter, Christmas music and stories, and a special Christmas snack to reward all our hard work. We would like to say thank you to Susannah Evans-Pollard and Martin Butler, both of whom have given their time recently to improve the PFSU garden area by decorating the shed and building a music area.

We will be at the December Farmers' Market where we will again be selling raffle tickets for our amazing Christmas hamper. This was a major fund-raiser last year and your support is appreciated. Our fund-raisers will be holding a quiz night on 26 January 2012 at the British Legion. And a reminder that if you have a child who turns four between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012, the closing date for primary school applications is 16 January 2012. Happy Christmas!

Lucy Squires 337484

A PARISH AT WAR by Michael Allbrook and Robert Forsyth

t 10.45am on 11.11.11 the Parish Church was full. Present were a notable number of older parishioners wearing medals from the First and Second World Wars. Local MP, Tony Baldry, sat with the Royal British Legion representatives, the Primary School's Year 6 was there, to read poignant war poems by C.F. Perkins and John McCrae, and a BBC TV news team had set up its equipment.

The reason for this var-

ied gathering was the short but moving Remembrance Service (seen via the internet by another 120 people) which was followed by the launch of *A Parish at Warl* – A *military record of three Oxfordshire villages Deddington – Clifton – Hempton* by Michael Allbrook and Robert Forsyth.

Michael's initial research into the names on the Deddington War Memorial led Rob Forsyth to publish this material on DOL, 'stimulating further local and international interest'. There was clearly a wealth of personal detail here to give substance

to the simple list of recorded (and in 19 cases, previously missing) names. Rob's military background and his long residence in Deddington now inspired him to join Michael and take the project further, to research and write up the lives of those in the Parish who had served in and returned from WWII, then National Service, up to the present day. The subsequent editing and shaping of this material into publishable form on Rob's pc involved an enormous amount of work and a sharp learning curve (Rob's comment – 'If I'd known, I might not have started!').

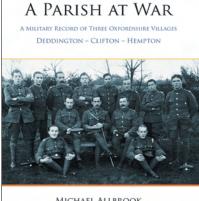
The result is a book that is a mine of information, from Matthew Bishop at the beginning of the eighteenth century, to Tim Wilson, still serving today. All branches

Winter Wrapped Up' for Elderly Residents

The Age UK 'Winter Wrapped Up' leaflet explains what you can do to get you and your home ready for winter, as well as where to go for further information and support. You can also get a 'room thermometer' to help you monitor the temperature of your home. To order your copy, call Age UK Oxfordshire's helpline on 0844 887 0005 Monday –Friday, 10am–4pm (helpline is closed between 24 December and 3 January).



Bill Cowley, joint author Rob Forsyth, Edith Garrett, Len Plumbe and Daphne Canning at the launch of A Parish at War in the Parish Church 11 November 2011 (Pic Mike Rudge)



MICHAEL ALLBROOK and Robert Forsyth

of the Armed Services are covered, there are details of each person's record and, where known, place of burial. Particularly impressive are the family lists - among them, the 'Bowler Boys', Callow, Castle, Chislett. Clarke. Davis. Garrett. Hancox, Hawkins, Hutt, Malcher, Pearson, Sykes, Tarling, Tustain, Wilson - where fathers, sons and siblings have followed one another in the defence of their country.

The World War II record

includes details of the inland waterways and local air fields (contributed by Michael), and sections on the Home Guard, ROC, Fire and Police Services (Rob). Even Deddington's evacuees are listed. The great change here, of course, is the admittance of women to the Forces. The book's final section is devoted to Personal Stories, collated by Rob. These are, in a sense, at the heart of the book, recording the human experience that underlies the often impersonal machinery of war. The text throughout is enlivened by a fascinating range of photographs.

BBC TV's coverage of the event ended with the Primary School asking six of the World War II veterans who feature in the book – Daphne Canning, Edith Garrett, Joyce Minnear, Bill Cowley, Ted Johnson and Len Plumbe – about their experiences. A fitting conclusion to the launch, as the young of this century testified to the still-living legacy of a previous generation.

Copies of the book (proceeds to RBL) will be on sale in December in the Library and at the Christmas Market. It will also be on sale at Banbury Museum and at Book & Pen in White Lion Walk. The price will remain £10 because sales have gone so well.

Kristin Thompson

More pictures from this event and others in Deddington in 2011 will shortly appear on the Pictures page of the *DN* website: http://www.deddingtonnews.co.uk/pictures, and they are already on Facebook.

INSTANT NEWS!

If you have items of community news or events that you need to publicise before the next issue of *DN* appears at the end of January 2012, please send them to Eileen Anderson (eileenandersonuk@yahoo.co.uk) to put out on Twitter and Facebook. PC – please take note!

On George's Farm



was going to start off this month's piece with a rant about the trials and tribulations of being a beekeeper in the world of the European Court of Justice and GM crops. But it went on a bit and I must keep it until next time.

It is almost two months since I put the little dears to bed for the winter, but the recent mild weather has brought

them out to play. The early spring-like temperatures have also fooled a number of plants in the none-GM flower strips into coming into bloom, and the bees are busy adding pollen and nectar from these to their winter food stocks. The down side to this unseasonal weather is that the Queens have also decided that spring has sprung and have started to lay again. They may well find themselves with an expanding brood nest when the predicted Arctic blast arrives and be very short of food come the New Year, so it's out on the sugar syrup round for me again to keep the feeders topped up.

It seems that the summer drought is set to become a winter drought. We have been very short of grass

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2012

An organising committee has been formed and plans are in progress for Deddington's celebrations for the Diamond Jubilee next year.

The event will be on **Saturday 2 June**, so please put this date in your diaries and come and support it. So far the following programme has been suggested:

• A parade of all the young groups in the village – and representatives of all the clubs, societies and groups in Deddington – led by the Boys' Brigade Band, all meeting at the school at 4pm, with a float for the Deddington Jubilee Queen and attendants

• A street party along Church Street, starting at 5.30pm: this will be a 'bring and share' 1950s style high tea for all ages, accompanied by favourite music from the six decades of the Queen's reign (if wet, this will be in the church)

• A sing-song and dancing

Community singing of patriotic songs to end the celebrations

• There will be a children's competition for the best home-made crown.

All this is subject to further detailed planning, permission from the various authorities, and funding. If anyone has any other ideas to make this day really special for everybody, please get in touch. We shall need lots of help to make it possible.

Wendy Burrows 338082

for the sheep since last spring and have had to give the lambs supplementary feed to get them away to market. The last of these are now in the barns in an attempt to get them finished before the ewes come in for lambing.

The meadows are still very dry and as yet none of our normal over-wintering waders have arrived, and without a considerable amount of rain we are unlikely to see any this year. We have also seen only very small numbers of fieldfare and redwings stopping off to refuel on hedgerow berries before moving on south. Our resident farmland birds have had a good year and are now beginning to tuck into the seed strips that were planted for them last spring. Once they have polished off the strips, we shall again be putting out the feeding stations to keep them going through the winter. For the last two years we have had a visit from a roughlegged buzzard; this year he has returned from his Scandinavian homeland with his wife and family. He is a frequent visitor to Scotland but it's unusual to see him so far south, so it's not a bad end to the year.

Well that's it for 2011, I am off to cut some logs before the winter storms begin and maybe find a drop or two of the Christmas spirit from north of the border – and that's not unusual this far south. Happy Christmas to you all. **George Fenemore 338203**

Deddington 150 Years Ago

From Jackson's Oxford Journal of December 1861:

Reading Room: The first lecture for the present season will be delivered by the Rev. J. Jordan, Vicar of Enstone, the subject being "Ghosts".

Police – Town Hall – before the Rev.W.C. Risley: Fanny Marshall, alias Catherine Mills, charged with stealing on 12th August last, from the house of John French, beer house keeper and butcher, one pair of sheets, a pair of kid gloves and a hair brush, value 16s. It appeared that the prisoner lodged at French's for 2 nights and stole the articles from the bedroom and absconded – the property was sold at Woodstock the next day. ... She then went to Chippenham, Wilts. and committed a similar robbery. She was sent to Devizes gaol for 3 months and was arrested on leaving there. Prisoner also committed previous robbery at Neithrop – she was committed for trial at the next Sessions.

The Funeral of the Late Prince Consort [Prince Albert]: Our town was not behind in its observance of Monday last. The shops were almost entirely closed, and the minute bell tolled solemnly from eleven till two o'clock.

Coal Charity: A meeting of the Committee was held at the Town Hall when it was agreed that the Charity should commence at Deddington on the 23rd and Clifton on the 24th instant, and that the coal should be supplied at 6d. per cwt. About 170 tickets were issued to the poor of Deddington and upwards of 40 at Clifton. **Buffy Heywood, 338212**

Deddington Royal British Legion

Armistice Day: Friday 11 November

A most moving service was held in the Parish Church to mark the actual anniversary of the end of the First World War at 11.00am on 11.11.1918. Dave Keats, our



standard bearer, paraded the Deddington RBL standard. President Major David G Hood MC (Retd) recited the 'Ode to the Fallen', Chairman Albert Humphries MBE recited the Kohima Epitaph.The Vicar gave a short address and a number of the Year 6 children from Deddington Primary School gave readings. The bugler was Graham Wallington.

Remembrance Sunday: 13 November

Remembrance Sunday dawned bright and clear and the customary parade was held from the Bullring to the War Memorial. Our thanks go to the Boys' Brigade Band for leading the parade and for their accompaniment later in the Church; to the bugler, Irene Dailey; and everyone from the village who joined us at the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial and in Church. We would also like to thank the Vicar the Revd Dr Hugh White, Canon Hugh Marshall who gave the address, the clergy, choir, organist and bell ringers and also Pastor Isabel Walton of the Wesleyan Reform Church who led the prayers. Once again our thanks go to George Reason of Windmill Street who erected and maintained the Memorial Garden in the Market Place and to Richard Boss who stewarded the parade. It was a delight to see the Church almost full at both services.

Poppy Appeal 2011

At the time of writing we have only just started the count from the collections, but our Poppy Appeal Organiser Norman West says that we will certainly have exceeded last year's figure. Grateful thanks are due to our door-to-door collectors, to all the offices and shops, the primary school and Featherton House who had our poppy boxes and collecting tins and especially to all who made donations and bought poppies.

Annual General Meetings

The AGMs for both the Branch and the Club will be held at the clubhouse on Wednesday 14 December at 7.30pm (members only). Nomination sheets for election to office or committee are posted in the clubhouse. Nominations will close on Sunday 4 December at 4.00pm. Annual subscriptions are now due and can be paid at the bar: renewals are £16 reduced to £12 for pensioners (men over 65 and women over 60 on 1 October 2011).

> Jean Morris, Branch Sec 338143 DeddingtonRBL@aol.com

Photographic Society

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Last month, David McGill gave a presentation on 'The photographer's workflow – processing of images'. David started work as a 'paparazzo' before moving from London in 2000 to Hook Norton. There he began to specialise in photographs for picture libraries used by magazine editors. He now sees himself as a photographer of eclectic subjects in Oxfordshire and the surrounding counties.

David showed examples of his work from the early 1990s through to the present day. A major problem is the cataloguing and retrieval of images, and David gave a practical demonstration of achieving this using software and metadata keywords. He then demonstrated the use of Photoshop to enhance photographs, and discussed the printing of tinted monochrome photographs for the art market. A most interesting interactive presentation.

Our next meetings are on 7 December when Tonya Fitz-Johnson of the Thames Valley Police will give a presentation on 'Police photography,' and 4 January when Roger Crocombe LRPS will give an inter-active talk entitled 'From brief to image'. Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings at 7.30pm in the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho.

> John Branton, www.adandd.co.uk 01295 811071

Deddington Art Group

We are enjoying the space, heat and parking but it is the members who make a club work. We have a model every week. Our party for members is on 15 December, and we start up again at the Holly Tree on 12 January 2012. *Ken Wilkinson 337256*

1st Deddington Scout Group Cubs

We welcomed Tom to the pack, our newest member. Remember, if you have a child aged 7 who would like to join Cubs, please send me their name for the waiting list.

The collection at the market raised £255 for Shelterbox, and when added to last year's amount is enough for a box (£590). We can track our box and we'll report where it ends up. I thought the Guys were very good this year and any resemblance to persons from the village was a coincidence, honest!

As part of their Global Award Cubs have wrapped, packed and sent a number of shoeboxes to Operation Christmas Child. We will also be interested to know where these end up.

If you were out and about on the night of 28 October you may well have been terrified by a gang of ghostly (and noisy) figures drifting through the village. The white sheet walk was great fun and I'm sure we'll repeat it next year.

Jo Churchyard CSL 338071 jochurchyard@hotmail.com

... AND MORE CLUBS ...

Scouts

Tom has made the leap from Cubs to Scouts and we are very pleased to have him. This term the Scouts have gained their Guide badge by knowing about their village and its environs, and made 'trail mix' from nuts, chocolate chips, dried fruit etc, which we then made into gooey bars with melted marshmallows and toffee. Yummy – next term we'll follow that with elementary dentistry! During half term we took five scouts to Charlbury where they hiked round the circular walk looking for and finding nine 'caches'.

Thanks to all the boys who turned out for Remembrance Day Parade. Our Christmas post boxes will be out on 3 December, deliveries on 11 and 18 December. Please post lots of cards – the Scouts need the exercise.

> Pete Churchyard S.L. 338071 pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

1st Deddington Brownies

The Brownies had a busy term. Just before half term we learnt all about recycling from Major Sparkle, and we have also been out to Pets At Home to learn how to look after different types of pets. The highlight for some of the girls seemed to be spotting dead fish (don't ask!). Since half term we have continued to work on our Number Fun and Science Investigator badges (well Snowy Owl is a maths teacher), including the 'Giant Bubble Challenge' and a special evening investigating what noises we can make with homemade instruments to accompany our favourite songs. 'Ging Gang Goolie' may never sound the same again. The term will finish when some of the Guides join us to throw a party. Brown Owl (Anne Kent) has temporarily handed over running meetings to Snowy Owl (Carol Warner) and will probably return in the New Year. Thank you to Sian Westbury who has returned from Steeple Aston Brownies to help us over the next few weeks. Questions on membership should still be addressed to Anne Kent on 337917 or the1stdeddingtonowls@hotmail.co.uk.

Lucy Squires 338442

1st Deddington Guides

The Bumble Bee Patrol kept us busy at our Hallowe'en party playing traditional games, apple bobbing being a huge favourite. All the Guides made a super effort with their homemade and very imaginative costumes. We potted bulbs to give at a later date for those who live alone, and reflected on Remembrance Day and its meaning. We are really adding to our 40s challenge list to celebrate our 40th anniversary. Remember, if you were ever a Deddington Guide or know someone who was, do get in touch. It's amazing how many corners of the globe we have reached!

Guiders Maggie Rampley, 01295 810069 Marian Trinder, 340806 Catherine Blackburn, Banbury

Deddington Youth Club

When I was three or four in Islington, war was brewing. Society was very split: the 'poor' were very poor and medical services were for those who could pay. I had whooping cough and later was an evacuee in a cottage by a river, ill with chest problems. But ever since life has improved! I think gloomy forecasts should be done away with. Life is what you make it.

Happiness can be found in sponsorship to youth clubs [as DN has done recently], keeping in touching with friends and being nice to every OAP!

We will have a Christmas party, and start up after the panto in January 2012. We need more youngsters aged 10 and up. Our staff are more like an extended family. Call Hayley McDowell on 07551 595951.

Ken Wilkinson 337256

Deddington Players

Rehearsals have begun and the Players are pulling out all the stops to bring you their most hysterical (or should that be historical?) show yet. Set in 35 BC, the story takes us from the splendour of Rome to the exotic shores of Egypt and back again. Will good defeat evil and love conquer all? You guess – well this is pantomime!

Tickets will be on sale after Christmas for shows on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 January at 7.30pm, and Saturday 21 January at 2.30pm and 6.30pm. Following a sell-out afternoon performance last year we have brought forward the times of both Saturday performances to give more of our younger audience the chance to attend.

Lucy Squires 338442

Book Club

In October we read Alone in Berlin by Hans Fallada. Set in 1940s Berlin, this gives a fascinating insight into what life was like for ordinary citizens trying to live under Nazi rule and how they struggled to remain uncorrupted and decent in a time of such fear and menace. The story centres on an unremarkable couple who, after the death of their son at the front, decide to resist the Hitler regime in their own small way by writing and distributing postcards critical of the Nazis. The book is also an interesting study of the hierarchy, internal workings and intricate layers within the police force, Gestapo and SS. The writing is a little laboured in places and we found the translation a bit awkward, which made it hard to read at first, but it flows along pretty well once you have adjusted to it. It is worthwhile getting a copy with an Afterword as this helps to put everything into context at the end.

There is no meeting in December. Our next book is *Letters from my Windmill* by Alphonse Daudet and the next meeting 26 January. We always welcome new members, so if you think you might be interested in joining, please do call.

Sally Lambert 338094

... AND YET MORE CLUBS ...

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team results:

- 15.10.11 Sinclair United (h) L 2-3 England, Thornton, L.
- 22.10.11 Highfield Old Boys (a) L 2–3 Thornton, J., Thornton, L.
- 29.10.11 Heyford Athletic (h) D 0-0

05.11.11 Wroxton Sports (h)(CUP) W 11–1

12.11.11 Cropredy (a) L 2-3 Kaye, Thornton, L.

Reserve Team results:

- 15.10.11 Banbury Town (a) D 2–2 Debenham, Gibbs, L.
- 22.10.11 Highfield Old Boys Res (h) W 2-0 Hewitt, Paroussis, C.
- 29.10.11 Bodicote Sports Res (a) L 0–2
- 05.11.11 Kings Sutton Reserves (a) W 1–0 Large
- 12.11.11 Bodicote Spts Res (h) (CUP) W 3–2 Gibbs, L., Gibbs, M., Large

No moguls or oil barons keep them afloat, but still Deddington Town produce two trailblazing teams whilst running a tight financial ship, with the kind of team cohesion that the Eurozone big hitters would kill for.

The First Team have had a nightmare sequence of 3-2 reverses, sandwiched around a goalless draw and a goal avalanche against Wroxton Sports, hitting double figures and apparently bamboozling the goal scorers' panel, as all scorers failed to be confirmed at time of going to press. Unfortunately this was the Junior Shield, so goal difference was not bolstered. The two Thornton brothers continue to be among the goals, but the Reserves beat even this family affair, with the cup win against Bodicote Reserves, seeing brothers Matty and Luke Gibbs scoring against the team their remaining brother and father play for. The game was also noteworthy for seeing the larger-than-life ex-Reserve stalwart and soundbite master Mike Ayckbourn scoring for Bodicote. The only sour note was the first league defeat for the Reserves, also against Bodicote, though this does not prevent Jason Tustain's table-topping team looking down upon their chasers with consummate pride. Other scorers included ex-managers Mikey Large and Barry Debenham, while one Greek not defaulting was Chris Paroussis, outdoing his brother Josh with a goal against Highfield Reserves.

Merry Christmas and a frugal but enjoyable New Year from all at DTFC!

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

We held our annual Autumn Classic at Temple Golf Club near Henley-on-Thames. Good golf requires good weather, which we certainly had. The competition was fierce but the overall winner on the day was Steve McDowell. Tradition has it that, on the final DOGS day of the year, Top Dog for the year is announced. The Big Ears Trophy for 2011 went to Sue Oddy, a well deserved winner. All the male DOGS need to try harder! Full details (and photos) can be found on Deddington OnLine.

2011 has been a successful year. Some great golf venues, excellent turn-outs, first ever pig roast and

many new members. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all DOGS and *Deddington News* readers.

David Darst 338589

WI

Our Bring and Share supper was held on 11 November. The auction that preceded it raised money for the Remembrance Sunday poppy wreath and for a donation to the RBL. This was followed by the supper: an appetising array of food prepared by members, with a glass (or two) of wine.

On 8 November our speaker was member Moira Byast who gave a fascinating insight into the customs and legends of Christmas past. Illustrated with pictures of early Christmas cards, trees and their decorations, Moira explained how the whole festival of Christmas came about. Her talk was followed by a tasting of festive foods. Our Christmas dinner is on 13 December and on 10 January 2012 'Ask me another' with Ronald Speirs. **Rene Mahony 338438**

Deddington Tennis Club

The club teams are doing well in the Banbury and District Winter Leagues, with four teams in the floodlit league and one in the mixed weekend league. There is also a ladies team in the Thames Valley League that has seen promotion in the last two years.

The club has to hire the courts at the West End Tennis Club in Adderbury to play the evening matches, and without our own floodlights we cannot continue winter coaching for older juniors and adults. Planning consent was refused over ten years ago, but the club is looking into what options are available now and may reapply.

Coaching for children aged three and above takes place at the Windmill Centre on Tuesday and Friday evenings. As well as learning to hit a ball, the lessons help the children with co-ordination, balance and movement. Please look at the club website www.deddingtontennis.com. for details.

Steve Ashby, Head Coach, 01295 263855

Deddington and District History Society

On 9 November Bob Harris gave one of the best received talks in a long time. He spoke about Lord Nuffield, whom Bob knew when he (Bob, not Nuffield!) was an apprentice at the Cowley motor works. Bob's talk was primarily about the man himself, his background and his rise to become one of this country's great industrialists. But he also had salutary stories to tell from his experience as a manager at the works of the lamentable mismanagement and political interference that led to the collapse of the British motor industry. Motor manufacturing colleagues in other countries, with whom Bob later worked as a consultant, used to ask 'what went wrong?'

Our annual Christmas party will take place on Wednesday 14 December, following Tim Porter's talk

... AND FINALLY ...

on the man himself, St Nicholas. To cover the cost for mulled wine and refreshments we are asking for a contribution of £3 for members, £4 for non-members. We are very grateful to the Vicar, Hugh White, who has agreed to bring forward to 6.00pm a Christmas Carol performance at the Parish Church so as to allow people to attend both events.

Our meeting on 11 January will feature one of our excursions into the wider world: Alan Ashmole will talk about 'Oman: Sand, Oil and Dollars'. Alan's experience makes him well suited to talk on developments in the Middle East over the past 40 years or so.

Everyone is welcome at our meetings, which take place at the Windmill Centre at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of the month. We look forward to greeting friends old and new.

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

Mini and Junior Football

Detailed reports appear on Extra Extra on the *DN* website (http://www.deddingtonnews.co.uk/extraextra). In summary, we have several mini football teams in our midst, from the Under-7s where concentration is on the budding stars having some fun as well as developing their teamwork, communication and general social interaction skills. If you would like to join then please email Frank McCusker at frankmccusker@aol. com. In the U-8s, U-9 Sharks and Cobras, and U-10s fortunes and results are mixed, though fun is the main aim for the children and the teams are heading in the right direction.

Among the junior teams U-11 Cobras, U-11 Sharks and U-12s, U-14s, U-16s and U-17s all had mixed results, though confidence and performances are improving every week.

Roger Sykes, the Club Welfare Officer and U-12 Manager

[Our apologies for not being able to fit the detailed reports into this issue – we have 30% more reports of Deddington club activities than usual this month, and every report has had to be curtailed. But please do keep them coming! – Ed.]

Veterans

Such are the vagaries of the Vets' fixtures that we had none for the first couple of months and then, in traditional London bus fashion, two come along at once. First up was an encounter with Swalcliffe. As in previous meetings, this was an enthusiastically contested match with both teams giving no quarter. Deddington held a 2–1 lead until the last few minutes when the Swalcliffe centre forward took advantage of the referee deciding that offside was an optional extra and ran in unchallenged to make the final score 2–2.

Our second game in November was against Sibford. Craig Milner writes: A stunning November 'spring' morning was just reward for those DUST Vets (and two Deddington youngsters) who met to play local rivals Sibford. Both sides lacked numbers, so with the transfer window closed Steve Coppin was loaned without fee to ensure both sides had 11. No linesmen and a static referee (Tom Davies forced from his usual midfield role by a bad back) yet with every ball contested not a single decision was. The game summed up all that is good about our Vets games, both sides played hard but fair, the banter was friendly and at times both teams served up some good football. Good goals from Joe Thornton and Andrew 'Silver Fox' Shepherd ensured another 2–2 draw, which was probably a just result.

Barry O'Connell 338988

Baby and Toddler Group

What a busy few weeks we have had! Our Hallowe'en party was great fun and everyone looked fantastic in their costumes – witches, pumpkins, skeletons and pirates to name but a few.

We held our AGM this month. Anna H has taken over as Treasurer and I will continue as the Chair/General Manager. Wendy S has taken over responsibility for co-ordinating events as well as continuing with marketing/promotion. Catarina will continue as our crafts co-ordinator.

We are now getting ready for Christmas and have been making Christmas crafts and decorating picture frames. Over the next few weeks we will be making Christmas cards and decorations for a Christmas goodies fundraising event on 2 December. Our Christmas party is on 16 December, with Father Christmas, lots of festive fun including music, dancing, a bouncy castle and party food.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the group this year and to those who give their time to open and close up, bake, wash up etc. We could not run the group without you. Our thanks also go to Revd Dr Hugh White and his colleagues who regularly join us to help with refreshments. We wish them and all our mums and dads a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

A big thank you to the *Deddington News*. Attendance at our group has improved dramatically since we started sending in a news update each month and if the *DN* didn't exist then we would find it much harder to reach mums and dads in the local area and to keep the group running.

Deddington Baby and Toddler group is a voluntary run group for children aged 0–5 years and their mums, dads, carers or grandparents. We meet every Friday morning from 9.30am to 11.30am at the Windmill Centre and would love you to join us. If you would like to know more or are thinking of coming along but are nervous about turning up without knowing anyone, then please give us a call on the number below or find us on Facebook. We look forward to meeting you!

Rebecca Moss 336298



Those who stand on the shoulders of giants may struggle to scale the moral high ground, while

he who uses a public phone box as a public urinal may rue the moment he is set upon and purloined of his mobile phone and money.

The serpent gazes longingly into the eyes of the rook and convinces her that the kiss they steal will burn the unforgiving world around her away and make all the suffering worthwhile. If we do not work every day at emulating the person we admire, we will most likely become the person we despise, for it is in the human condition to prefer sharing our misery with the world than our wealth. Vengeance is the libido of justice. Senescence is the cancer of influence. Sophistry is the harpsichord of politics.

I always had trouble understanding why it is that it is almost impossible to detect your own body

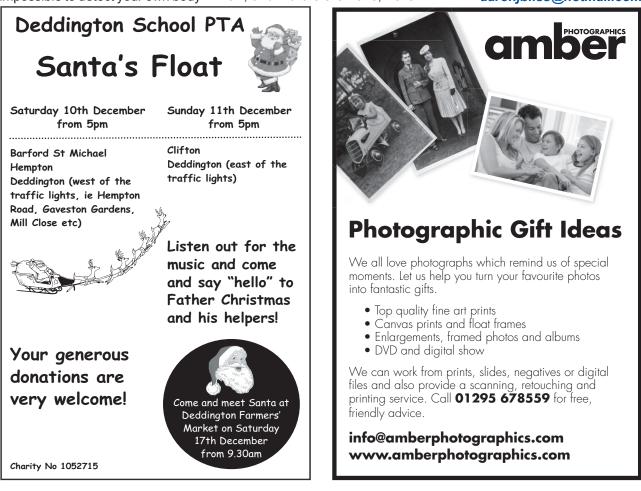
Blissful Thinking

odour, or, indeed, halitosis. We generally react with abject horror when confronted with these ugly truths by another, but is it symptomatic of other less tangible characteristics? It has almost certainly always been the case that we point out our own flaws in others. That is not to say we see perfection in reflection. But are we identifying only the superficial imperfections? Do we place undue emphasis on a certain appearance ahead of spiritual growth and accomplishment? Is this a result of media bombardment, or a natural evolution in western cultures? I can pick a bottle for hair colour, a crash diet for figure and a surgeon for cosmetic tweaking.

If I crave respect and belonging, I use threats and intimidation amid other armed cohorts. Instant self off the shelf and the street. As an employer I want qualifications and experience: I want an instant employee fitting my needs right now, and if there are none, I shall import at minimal cost and maximum convenience. The bottom line is time is money. But time is not money. Money fluctuates in value, time is always priceless. Time cannot be traded, devalued, stolen or bought. It exists autonomously and each person is potentially rich in it. Though, like money, it is wasted, used, abused and taken for granted.

We often ponder endlessly what we should use it for, until it grows short. Our most revelled times seem to be shared, but we despair that these are few and far between, with other commitments taking precedence. The older workforce are discriminated against for their advanced years, while the younger workforce are discriminated against for their inexperience, so it seems that time is valued in contrasting ways. Youth is wasted on the young and wisdom is wasted on the old. We are incessantly told we are too far in money debt, but is our true collective debt ... time?

> Aaron Bliss aaronjbliss@hotmail.com



PIERS GAVESTON AND THE NUN OF DEDDINGTON

The third instalment of a serial written in 1849 by Georgiana Bennet and published in the North Oxfordshire Monthly Times and Agricultural Advertiser. Loaned to us by Clive Sanders, it was given to him by the late Fred Deely. If you missed the first two aripping instalments. see them online at www.deddinaton.news.co.uk.

The Nuns of this sisterhood were generally of high rank, most of them orphans who,

deprived of their natural protectors by the wars of that turbulent time, had joined an Order which possessed peculiar privileges. They did not assume the garb of a Nun, but wore a high dress of black serge, and a mantle so arranged about the head that, at the pleasure of the wearer, the face could be veiled. The 'good Sister Margaret' – for by such title she was generally known, was loved by old and young, rich and poor. If any were ill, Sister Margaret was sent for, and she would tend them with the utmost care. If any were in trouble or distress, the sweet tones and gentle words of the Sister Margaret fell like balm upon their wounds; soothing the impatient and irritable warrior; or cheering the most anxious and sorrowing woman, to whom sympathy was more valuable than gold. On an errand of true mercy she was now with Lady Pembroke, whose youngest child lay at the point of death. Sister Margaret had nursed the boy through the day, and when eve drew on, and the child slumbered she accompanied the

THE NORTH MONTHLY Ø OXFORDSHIRE ☞ TIMES,

And Agricultural Advertiser,

mother to the usual sitting room of the family, where they were quietly conversing, when so rudely interrupted. The Nun drew her mantle closely round her, but not before Gavestone had caught a view of her pale and lovely face.

In other scenes and in different circumstances, Sir Piers would have offered her that flattering homage which he paid to beauty wherever he found it; and even now, despite his perilous situation, he thought less of his own danger, than of seeing such woman in such a place.

The noblemen, rude as they were, instinctively felt that Sister Margaret deserved their respect, and they bent their heads to her as they drew near. The Earl of Pembroke made a brief and whispered enquiry after his child, and then in the same mocking tone in which he had previously spoken, bade his lady prepare a feast for the noble Knight whom he had brought to visit her. The warriors then led Gavestone to a seat and stood aound him. He spoke, addressing the Earl of Pembroke: 'What do ye mean to do with me, my lord? I resigned myself into your custody on terms which you do not seem in-

clined to observe. Do ye deem me a Prisoner?'

'You will see,' coolly rejoined the Earl, and turning on his heel, he issued his orders to his retainers to guard the Castle at all points. Sister Margaret whispered a few words to the Countess, and left the room. As she passed Gavestone, she partly withdrew her mantle, and he could scarcely restrain an exclamation of surprise – so different was the expression of her face now that he found it difficult to recognise it as the one he had caught a glimpse of when he entered the apartment. It now recalled to his mind One whom he had known in early life, but had forgotten amidst the vicious pleasures of the Court. When the door was closed upon her, and his keepers ate at a separate board, hastily helping themselves to the refreshments which were placed before them, Sir Piers Gavestone left his supper untasted, though he had fasted from early morning, and remained with his head leaning on his hand in deep thought.

To be continued in February ...



Milk, eggs, and bread delivered to your door It's got local written all over it!

