

the Deddington news

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2009 COVER:
Sue Cave

**DN will have new production arrangements for
our March issue as we shall be leaving the
school. See p13 for further details.**

**Our thanks to Sue Cave for designing the new
cover for 2009. Where are the artists in Clifton
or Hempton? Can we have something from
them for 2010?**

DIARY February

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Mon | 2 | Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am-noon |
| Wed | 4 | Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8.00-10.00pm |
| Tue | 10 | WI: The History of Masks, Christine Farmer, Holly Tree, 7.30pm p15 |
| Wed | 11 | Deddington Police Office: Drop-in session, 5.00-7.00pm |
| Wed | 11 | Youth Club: AGM, Windmill Centre, 7.00pm p15 |
| Wed | 11 | History Society: Michael Hodges, 'History Beneath Your Feet', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm p16 |
| Thu | 12 | Monday Morning Club: Film evening, 6.30pm |
| Wed | 18 | Photographic Society: Scott Hurd, 'Living in Namibia', Deddington Arms, 7.30pm p14 |
| Wed | 18 | Parish Council meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm p3 |
| Thu | 19 | Monday Morning Club: Film evening, Holly Tree, 6.30pm |
| Thu | 26 | Book Club: for venue call Sally Lambert on 338094 p15 |
| Sat | 28 | Deddington Farmers' Market, 9.00am-12.30pm |

March

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Mon | 2 | Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am-noon |
| Wed | 4 | Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8.00-10.00pm |
| Wed | 4 | Photographic Society: Colin Harrison, 'Ten Days in the Land of Enchantment', Deddington Arms, 7.30pm |
| Tue | 10 | WI: Annual General Meeting, Cheese and Wine, Holly Tree, 7.30pm p15 |
| Wed | 11 | Deddington Police Office: Drop-in session, 5.00-7.00pm |
| Wed | 11 | History Society: Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm p16 |
| Thu | 12 | Monday Morning Club: Film evening, 6.30pm |
| Wed | 18 | Parish Council meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm |
| Sat | 28 | Deddington Farmers' Market, 9.00am-12.30pm |
| Sat | 28 | PTA Quiz Night, Windmill Centre p5 |

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

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Town Hall 17 December 2008

Present: Cllrs Flux [Chair], Alton, Anderson, Collins, Ince, Privett, Rudge, Squires, Todd, Ward, Watts, Westbury, Wood, CC Jelf & DC O'Sullivan, the Clerk, the Minute Clerk, one member of the public and the DN correspondent.

Recreation

Allotments: Letter from PC to all allotment holders in the New Year explaining need for billing in advance. The letter will also advocate voluntary membership of the Allotment Association for an additional £5.

Castle Grounds: Most of the site is owned by PC although parts are owned by English Heritage and the Church Commissioners. Any development will need consent from the Inspector of Ancient Monuments. Improvements to access and the 'Fitness Trail' would be encouraged by English Heritage. The whereabouts of the report and archive from the last archaeological investigation at the Castle was questioned and not resolved.

Clifton play area: The area could be reopened as soon as surface has been 'power washed'. Signs to be posted warning 'Slippery when wet'.

Environment & Special Projects

Verge clearing: OCC to be asked to clear the verge opposite the fire station to the north.

Dog bins: New bins to be placed in Clifton and on the Hempton Road near WCC entrance.

Cemetery: Proposals for the future management of the cemetery are being prepared. The objective is to manage the facility more cost effectively and to comply with Health and Safety regulations and PCC burial costs.

Environmental survey: To comply with the *Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006*, PC needs to map the flora and fauna of the Parish. An ecologist is to be retained to undertake the survey, 50% of the £300 cost is to be contributed by Oxfordshire Nature Forum.

Wildflower meadows: Start is to be made in spring, when the south area of the cemetery will be seeded.

Notice boards: Attempts to be made to repair rather than replace the dilapidated notice boards.

Planters & hanging baskets: All the planters on the entrance roads to the villages have been replanted with bulbs and the Town Hall baskets have winter flowering pansies.

Town Hall wheelie bins: Person or persons unknown are abusing the Town Hall bins. Vigilance will result in the culprit being identified and shamed.

Planning

PC no objection: [1] 14 High St, demolition and reconstruction of extension. [2] The Willery, Clifton Rd, replacement windows in UPVC rather than wood. [3] Cornerways, Chapel Sq, conversion of outbuildings to living accommodation. [4] Castle Barns, Castle Street, new pier and gates for existing glazed entrance.

PC approvals: [5] 34 The Daedings, single storey rear extension. [6] The Old Vicarage, Church St, external alterations to railings and wall.

Possible non compliance: Ithaca, Hopcraft Lane, CDC is in contact with owner and a further planning application is expected to regularise work.

Other planning matters: Mill Close, tree removal request. A resident has requested removal of a tree that is blocking light. CDC has agreed tree can be removed, however removal or coppicing to be undertaken at the resident's expense.

Highways

Satin Lane: Installation of no parking signs/markings delayed by weather.

Temporary speeding signs: To be posted for a maximum of two weeks, HWG yet to decide when and where.

Southgate pinchpoint: Unsatisfactory signage and road markings to be resolved.

Earl's Lane: HWG needs to analyse traffic speed data collected by OCC. HWG needs to collect corroborative data and to be seen to be monitoring drivers' speed.

Market Place crossing: Difficult to resolve because of junctions and mandatory zig-zag road marking required.

High St traffic lights: OCC to be asked to undertake pedestrian traffic audit at a more typical time.

New Street crossing: OCC are assessing the implications of a crossing point at the southern end.

Finance & General Purposes

Financial market turmoil is putting strain on local authorities across the country and PC is particularly affected as a high proportion of income is interest on Capital Account money. The location of Parish funds in West Bromwich and Birmingham Midshires Building Societies is being monitored and is considered safe and secure. However the fall in interest rates has resulted in a loss of income. At the same time PC expenditure in this financial year is likely to be £10,000 over budget. This overspend is covered from the Revenue Reserve account which stands at £30,241. If interest rates stay at the present level for the next financial year, and they could come down further, income could be £8,000 less than in the current year and if expenditure continues at the present level, the money in the Revenue Reserve account will be exhausted. At the January meeting a decision will have to be made over future expenditure commitments and the Council income precept.

Church clock: PC's commitment to the PCC for the church clock needs to be made clear. PC will agree to be responsible for routine servicing for the next five years. PC will not make a commitment to cover repairs; nevertheless the PCC can approach PC for help and each request will be assessed on its merits at the time.

Parish Finances

Invoices passed for payment £4,129. Investments totalled £528,755 at WBrom BS, Barclays & Birmingham Midshires BS.

Next Meeting: 7.30pm 21 Wednesday January 2009 at the Town Hall.

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Town Hall January 21 2009

Present Cllrs Flux [Chair], Alton, Anderson, Collins, Ince, Rudge, Privett, Squires, Todd, Watts, Westbury, Wood, the Clerk, the Minute Clerk and DN correspondent.

Finance & General Purposes

Investments: to maintain income and security £200,000 has been transferred from the West Bromwich BS to the Anglo Irish Bank.

Precept for 2009-10: The dilemma facing the PC is that for years a higher level of service has been delivered in Deddington than surrounding parishes because of the benefit of investment income. In the year 2007-08 this income amounted to £29,384. Interest rates have declined sharply and the draft budget for 2009-10 forecasts that investment income will be reduced to £15,810. Additionally expenditure has run ahead of budget for the last two years. In the present straitened economic circumstances it is the fiscal responsibility of the council to reduce costs and increase income. The expenditure budget for 2009-10 is being reduced from £73,767 in 2007-08 to £59,174. At the same time the council is going to apply to CDC for a precept increase of 10%. The increase means that a Band D house in Deddington parish will see the parish component of Council Tax increase from £33.16 this year to £36.48 next year.

Allotment charges: Charges based on a local and national comparison of allotment fees; fees to be charged in advance or *pro rata* through the year; no refunds for surrendering allotments through the year; a one-off registration fee for new plot holders of £10; plots only to be rented in chains [22yds] or half chains; a fee increase for a full plot to £21 pa, smaller plots *pro rata*; existing smaller plots at Stonepits to be phased out over time; a separate voluntary/discretionary fee of £5 to be charged for membership by the Satin Lane Allotment Society; no concessionary rates and no further rentals to non-residents; all these terms to be reviewed annually.

Cricket Club: have applied for a grant or a loan of £4,500 to improve coaching facilities. At the moment the club is financially only breaking even. If a loan is agreed PC needs to be reassured that the improved facilities will generate sufficient incremental income to repay loan.

Town Hall: Rendering on outside is delaminating and will need to be repaired before repainting. The rent is to be increased and PC may have to consider not renewing the lease after 2010.

Stonepits: Papers relating to title and ownership of the land have been sent to the Land Registry.

Recreation

Castle Grounds: The Colts are to be asked what they want to do about the moles that have invaded the pitch. The area may have to revert to mown footpaths.

Clifton play area: The area has been spray cleaned and reopened.

Environment & Special Projects

Oxford Conservation Volunteers: A programme of works has been agreed for 2009:

the construction of a dry walkway across the boggy area on the south side of the Castle Grounds;

assess and report back to PC on the reinstatement of the pond in the Clifton play area as a wildlife habitat;

clear footpath and lay hedge at the Windmill copse.

Wildflower meadow: OCC to provide a map confirming areas of responsibility and ecologist's advice being sought.

Oxfordshire Nature Conservation Forum: publish a weekly activity newsletter which may be linked to Deddington website.

Deddington planters: Nicholson's Nursery has offered sponsorship of the north and south planters on A4260. Providing the signage is in line with guidelines, the offer is to be accepted.

Planning

PC no objection: [1] Treholford, New Street, single storey rear extension and tree felling.

Retrospective: [2] 5 The Paddocks, approval of additional roof light and sunpipe. [3] Ithaca, Hopcraft Lane, works exceeded original approval, being reviewed by CDC.

Approvals: [4] 5 St John's Way, Hempton, trees, additional windows, doors and provision of parking. [5] Castle Barns, Castle St, division into two separate dwellings. [6] The Old Vicarage, internal and external works, demolition of part of wall. [7] Orchard House, Hopcraft Lane, reduction of screen height. [8] Deddington Health Centre, Earl's Lane, tree lopping and pruning. [9] The Willery, Clifton Rd, use of UPVC in place of wooden windows. [10] Cornerways, Chapel Sq, conversion of outbuildings to living accommodation.

Other planning matters: Hempton Lodge, Hempton, fence erected on highway, being pursued by OCC.

Highways

Satin Lane: No Parking sign now in place.

Earl's Lane: OCC have not yet provided speed data they collected.

High St traffic lights: Response to OCC being prepared.

New Street crossing: OCC have responded to the suggested crossing point at the southern end, but too late to be considered at HWG meeting.

AOB Someone has been stealing milk from New St doorsteps. Be aware or someone else might be drinking it!

Parish Finances

Invoices passed for payment £203,172 [£200,000 was transferred to Anglo Irish Bank]. Investments totalled £532,612 at WBromBS, Barclays, Birmingham Midshires BS & Anglo Irish Bank.

Next Meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 18 February 2009 at the Town Hall.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 1925 – 2007

Continuing Daphne Harper's walk through the village remembering sights, places and people in the 1940s, she is now walking north on New Street, having passed Mr Course's Bakery.

'We now come to Miss Ruth Fowler's shop. She is a very good cook and sells high quality confectionery, biscuits, and my favourite, delicious cream horns! Miss Fowler owns the original recipe for Deddington Pudding Pie. [DH fears she may have taken this to her grave.] Further north is the Crown & Tuns pub run by Mr and Mrs Savage and a few steps further Mr Runicle sells anything from nails to saucepans and paraffin lamps in his ironmonger's shop. Fast approaching the entrance to Hudson Street, we pass Mr and Mrs Stockdale's chemist shop next to the Volunteer pub run by Mrs Jenner with her son Frank and his wife. On the bend into Hudson Street stands the house and business of Mr Saunders, colloquially known as "Fudgy". He sells a wonderful selection of sweets temptingly on offer from glass bowls and for the weekend reader he sells the Sunday papers. Crossing Hudson Street, we come to the Holliday's garage and shop with bikes, bike accessories, car tyres, petrol and paraffin on sale. Now, keep walking north and you will reach Lewis high class grocer shop where Mrs Lewis senior, clothed in a long black dress and white pinafore, sells her wares helped by her son and his wife. Before we reach the Magistrates' Court (now the Library)

where Mr Douglas Hopcraft, a local builder, is a Magistrate, we pass Mr Goundry's wireless, accumulator and battery shop next to the British Legion and then, walking quickly past the Magistrates' Court with its two fearsome cells, we

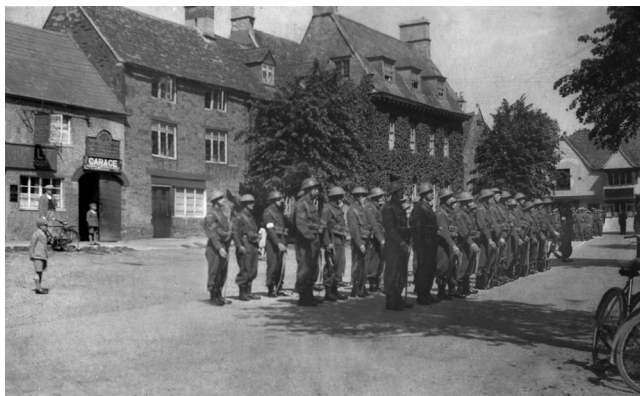
turn west into Horsefair where beckons The King's Arms run by Mr and Mrs Stanley Hall. (Mr and Mrs Hall's son Robin was killed in Malaya whilst on National Service.) Mr Hall also sells petrol, runs a local bus service with his well beloved, if not too comfortable, buses with wooden seating! In the yard behind The King's Arms the

all important local fire engine is parked ready for off when the fire alarm's wail has summoned the crew to man it.

Turning into Market Square, keeping to the right, we pass Miss French's sweet shop (now Red Lion Cottage) and, next door, the Red Lion run by Mr and Mrs James Green. We now stop awhile at The Bakehouse owned first by the Dodwells and later by Mr and Mrs Bernard Wallin, their sons Lawrence and John and their wives. They cook a very good batch loaf and their specialities are: on Mondays lardy cake, on Wednesdays jam doughnuts, and on Fridays dough cakes, and they also cook Sunday roasts for their esteemed customers.'

Daphne's account will continue in the next issue.

Ruth Johnson 338355



Local Defence Force (LDF) 'Look, Duck and Flee!'
Photo lent by the late Ernie Taylor in 1998

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SCHOOL NEWS

We have lots to look forward to as we enter February. The children are very excited about the news that this year's whole school production is to be the musical of Peter Pan. We were amazed at how many children attended the auditions, the standard as always was high and thus allocating parts was extremely difficult. We hope the show builds on the success of our two previous productions.

The children are also very excited about the staff visit to Mmabatho in South Africa this month. Mrs Tinsley and Mr Fane are travelling out initially,

followed by Miss Burn, Mrs Sargant and Mrs Knox. The focus of the visit is to gain a better understanding of the education system and to develop a unit of study for Year 4. We also wish to understand further what the specific needs of the children and their families are and therefore how we can best support them. Each class has contributed a gift box which contains donations of pencils, notebooks etc. We hope that this visit and, hopefully, further visits, will help improve the education of both our communities.

Jane Cross, Deputy Head 338430

PTA

Christmas seems so long ago now but before moving on to the new year, we must stop and thank all those who supported and helped out at our events in December. Despite the economic doom and gloom, you all dug deeply and I am delighted to tell you that Santa's Float raised the fantastic sum of £980! Thank you so much to everyone who gave generously.

The Christmas cards designed by the children earlier in the term were fabulous. Our thanks to all who helped us produce (Mike Homer at Multiflow) and sell the cards.

Santa took time out from his very hectic schedule to visit our children who had eagerly queued to meet him in his Magical Grotto during the December Farmers' Market. The air of excitement and anticipation added a fantastic atmosphere to the morning. Over in the Church the PTA added to the spirit of the occasion by singing popular carols whilst Edward and Lewis did a wonderful job of keeping us in tune by accompanying us on the trumpet. Our grateful thanks go to Santa and his helpers, the Farmers' Market Committee, Hugh White and to all those who gave so generously.

We have a full calendar lined up for 2009 starting with our ever popular Quiz Night at the Windmill Centre on Saturday 28 March. So, it's time to dust off those books and start brushing up on your general knowledge. This is always very popular and tickets usually sell fast. For further details or to pre-book your place, please contact Mike on 338750 or email him at: mikew@cherwell.co.uk.

Other dates for your diary: the fifth Deddington Walk on Sunday 17 May and the School Fete on Saturday 20 June.

Finally, on behalf of the PTA, I would like to thank everyone for their continued support and wish you all a (slightly belated) Happy New Year.

**Janet Watts
PTA Chair 337135**

CHRISTMAS TREE CAROLS RAISE RECORD SUM FOR HOSPICE

A mild evening encouraged a record attendance of about 600 people at the carols around the Christmas tree in the Market Place on Christmas Eve. Geoff and Joan Todd's street organ played Christmas tunes, children played bells while adults en-

Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

We enjoyed our Christmas celebrations including a fantastic Christmas party, 'decorations days' at both settings, and our older children appearing in a production of 'It's A Cracker' with the F1 (reception) children in the church. Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas quiz. The staff were pleased not to show themselves up in front of the parents! Also thank you to the Fenemore family for the lovely Christmas trees and Deddington Guides for our pass the parcels. This term we are finding out about animals, with lots of visits from animals planned. We will also be celebrating Chinese New Year. We have started a new lending library at the PFSU for children to borrow books to take home and read with their parents (this is in addition to our weekly visits to Deddington Library). This is proving very popular and we intend to expand the service to the Nursery soon.

Lucy Squires 337484

joyed mulled wine provided by village businesses served by Chris and Yvonne Twomey, Stan and Carole Horlock and Pat Brittain. Andrew and Cindy Tansley also helped, together with Jenny and Judy Ward. The event, in aid of Katharine House Hospice, had Jim Flux as MC and raised an incredible £848 for the Adderbury-based hospice – a record amount for this annual event.

One visitor to the village remarked, 'This really started Christmas for us and many others here this evening. It was very special and something my wife and I will remember for a long time.'

The event was supported by Bengal Spice, Blend, British Legion Club, the Co-op, Crown and Tuns, Deddington Arms, Deddington Farmers' Market, Eagles Fine Foods, George and Bryony Fenemore, Foodies, May Fu 2, Otters Restaurant, Charles Wells Brewers and the Unicorn Hotel.

Geoff Todd, who organises the event, said, 'This is the fifteenth year my wife, Joan and I have played in Deddington's Market Place on Christmas Eve. We were pleased to have so much support this year and would like to thank all those who helped in making the evening a success and, of course, everybody attending for their generosity.'

Geoff Todd 338532

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

February

Sun 1 10.30am All Age Worship CANDLEMAS
6.30pm Evensong
Wed 4 10.00am Eucharist
Thu 5 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels
Sun 8 10.30am Eucharist
Wed 11 10.00am Eucharist
Sun 15 10.30am Sung Eucharist
Wed 18 10.00am Eucharist
Thu 19 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels
Sun 22 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
Wed 25 10.00am Ashing
followed by Eucharist ASH WEDNESDAY

St John's, Hempton

Suns 1 and
15 9.00am Eucharist
Sun 22 6.00pm Evensong

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Suns 10.30am

Bible Study

Thu 2.30pm at the Wesleyan Manse, 3 Castle Street, Deddington

Congregational Chapel, New Street

Sunday morning services with the Wesleyan congregation at their church in Chapel Square. In February there will be NO afternoon services at either venue.

RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury

Masses at Holy Trinity, Hethe: every weekday (except Wed) at 9.30am, Sun at 10am

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

Wed Feb 25 is Ash Wednesday so Mass with Blessing and Distribution of the Ashes will be celebrated at both venues. Hethe (exceptionally) 10.00am, Adderbury 7.00 pm 23 January 2009

Interment of Ashes

19 November 2008 Sam Keys

14 December 2008 Gwen Bond

Wedding 6 December 2008

Jon Cardy and Clare Newcombe

Baptism

21 December 2008 Matilda Emma Walsh

Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of

Mabel Godfrey

For baptisms, weddings, funerals or home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, the Rev Dr Hugh White, 28 Duns Tew (349869), the Rev John Dane (337403), or one of the church wardens, Glynne Bianchi (337743) or John Osborough (07753 802841).

The Vicar will be abroad for the three months from February to April and the Reverend John Dane will be Priest-in-Charge during that period.

Pastor I Walton 337157

Joyce Minnear 338529

Rev J Burns 277396

GREEN PIECE

As the last edition of the DN was being printed, four of us from Deddington attended a meeting at Bodicote House jointly hosted by Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire ClimateXchange. Called 'Joining the Dots', its purpose was to make local climate and energy-conscious groups aware of each other and to exchange ideas. Elspeth Cox told the meeting that 'together with the Woodland Trust, we have created a ten acre woodland [Daeda's Wood] which, in only 12 years, has become a valuable habitat'. And Jean Rudge said that our Parish Council is 'ever mindful of the necessity for ecological considerations to underpin everything that we do ... our immediate project is the creation of wildflower rivers and hotspots'. For me, *energy* is the big one, so I related the present state of play on the Windmill turbine project. This attracted some interest, even CDC representatives being most encouraging.

There was a distinct sense of frustration over getting one's fellow parishioners to own the problem of saving energy. One view from North Aston was that the authorities, from HMG down, are not taking the climate change thing anywhere near seriously enough and that it should be on a 1940s-style war footing. To say that some green alternatives are not cost-effective is missing the point; *there is an energy imperative* – we just have to find ways of generating electricity and heat other than from fossil fuels, like it or not. Meanwhile, save yourself some money and switch it off!

Back to the village green: let's hope that the one of the two new trees in the Market Place that has looked decidedly poorly of late pulls through this spring. And that Arujo, a victim of the credit crunch, makes a go of it now that they have teamed up with the organic folk at North Aston. Under our feet, the roots of the green movement are growing despite the recession. For regular updates on what's happening in north Oxfordshire, contact sue.jaiteh@hotmail.com or check out Oxfordshire ClimateXchange on <http://climatex.org>.

colin.robinson@deddington.net

2009 festival deddington!

Proposed Programme - all events subject to confirmation
PLEASE NOTE - THE FUN AND ROCKS DAY WILL NOT TAKE PLACE THIS YEAR BUT IS PLANNED FOR FESTIVAL 2010

Thursday 25 June: Community Concert

Friday 26 June: Primary School Concert, Literary Evening

Saturday 27: Farmers' Market, Classical Concert

Saturday and Sunday 27 and 28 June: Open Gardens Event

Saturday 27 June: Deddington's Green Lanes - guided country walk

Sunday 28 June: Palm Court Trio (and teas)

Other events: Art Exhibition, Art Workshop with Sue Cave, Craft Exhibition, Deddington and District History Society Event, Library Event, Poetry Please, Writing Competition

Further details will be available on our website at www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL

OPEN GARDENS AND ALLOTMENTS

I would be most interested to hear from anybody in Clifton, Deddington and Hempton who would be willing to open their garden on Saturday 27 June and Sunday 28 June from 2.00pm to 6.00pm (last visitors at 5.15 pm). Thank you.

Joan Wright

Organiser of Open Gardens and Allotments

338535 or

email joanwright@suffolkonline.net

News from Hempton

Once again this village put on a great bazaar at the end of November. There was a good mixture of stalls and hot refreshments. A sum of £1,000 was raised for the Friends of the Church who maintain the fabric of St John's. Thanks to organisers, stall holders and customers.

Another successful evening was the Carol Service with the Deddington Church Choir. Esme Calcutt sang a delightful solo and there was a congregation of about 60 with lots of children. This was followed by refreshments and it was agreed that the event was one of the best over many years. A few days later saw the Christmas Day Eucharist,

Heather Nason, Althea Wood and Elspeth Cox have very kindly agreed to join the FDF Committee this year. We shall work together during the 2009 Festival and then Sue Goddard and I will hand over the reins. Lesley Milroy continues as Membership Secretary.

More than ever this year, new Friends, new fund-raising ideas will be vital to the success of the Festival as a whole. If you have any suggestions for any aspect of the Festival, please get in touch.

Kristin Thompson FDF Publicity 337052

again well attended with a congregation of 33.

Another recent good service was the christening of Francis Roche, the youngest child of Sarah and Tony Roche of Top Thatch, and brother to Evelyn.

These days everybody is concerned with the environment and saving energy and the Parish Council is considering switching off street lighting at night possibly between the hours of 12 midnight and 5.00am. If anyone has any thoughts on this matter, please give our Parish Councillor Jonathan Watts a call on 337135.

The next committee meeting of the Friends will be on 4 February at 10.00am.

Les Chappell 338054

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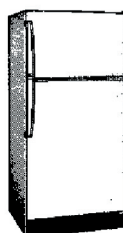
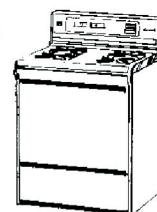
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FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

FROM NICK ALLEN, BARN END, ADDERBURY

In reference to Jill Cheeseman's article 'Here and There' and Rob Forsyth's 'Account of those Sentenced to be Transported' in December's DN: glue the two stories together and I think Mrs Cheeseman will have an answer to her query. As to The Blackboy – that is the pub in Milton that has borne that name since the middle of the eighteenth century.

Mr Forsyth reports that the men transported in the nineteenth century were all from Adderbury. They would more than likely have known The *Blackboy*, as Milton historically always has been

(and still is) a hamlet of Adderbury. Milton's present church is a daughter church of Adderbury's as its medieval chapel was a chapel to Adderbury's church. Incidentally, the Parish of Adderbury, until 1865, covered a vast acreage – consisting of East and West Adderbury, Milton, Bodicote which became an independent civil parish in 1855, and Barford St John which became an independent civil parish in 1932.

FROM CHRISTOPHER HALL, THE KNOWLE

At the 'Joining the Dots' event described in Colin Robinson's 'Green Piece' [p6], we saw the Bulb Lab, a remarkable collection of low-energy, long-life bulbs for many domestic applications. As energy- and money-wasting tungsten bulbs are now being phased out, it is very timely that the Bulb Lab will be at the Deddington Farmers' Market on Saturday 28 February, staffed by a person who can answer your questions. Don't miss it - to save your pocket, and make your contribution to saving life as we now enjoy it. And if you haven't yet seen the stunning *Earth from the Air* photographs at Oxford Castle, the free open-air exhibition has been extended until 22 February.

FROM NORMAN STONE, MARKET PLACE

KEN LANGSTAFF (see *Obituary* p13)

Many a house in Deddington has a Ken Langstaff oil painting, watercolour or print on its walls. When I first met the artist, I was impressed by his quiet, unassuming manner and his sheer professionalism. Over the years, Ken and I worked together on the Deddington News, the Millennium Map and the paperback *Discovering Deddington*. Somewhat diffidently he showed me his sketchbooks. They were crammed with drawings of people, animals, buildings, landscapes, all based on acute observation, down to the tiniest detail.

Ken's finished work was always accurate, convincing and cleanly presented. He could be relied on to keep within budget and deliver on time. Underpinning the skills of the dedicated professional was the warm enthusiasm of the true amateur. He did what he loved, and it showed.

FROM TED JOHNSON, DUNS TEW

On behalf of the Oxford Branch of the RSPCA (Charity no 205156) I wish to thank the Vicar, Church Wardens and members of the PCC for their recent very welcome donation to our charity. We receive no financial assistance from the National Society for our Branch Welfare Scheme. This Scheme helps to pay for veterinary treatment for local animals whose owners are disadvantaged. It

also covers part payment for neutering domestic companion animals and feral cats in order to reduce unwanted pregnancies and the over-population that result. In the past year (to Nov '08) the Branch has paid £15,567 for welfare veterinary treatment.

FROM SUE LANE, FUNDRAISING MANAGER, KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE

Once again we were delighted to be the beneficiary of Deddington Carols in the Market Place on Christmas Eve. A best-ever sum of £844 was raised, bringing the total donated since 2003 to over £3,000!

It is heartening to witness the continuing support for the Hospice in the Deddington Parish. Throughout 2008 so many of you supported us, attending events, contributing to our collection tins, sending donations, purchasing Christmas cards, our weekly lottery and so on. We are very grateful, as it enables our specialist nursing and medical teams to continue their work here.

2009 is an exciting year. We complete an ambitious building project to improve and extend our Day Hospice. We received a significant grant from the government, but we will be furnishing the building from donations, so your continuing support is vital. I am pleased to report that donations remained buoyant throughout 2008 despite the economic downturn, but we shall be monitoring the situation closely over the coming months.

On behalf of our patients, their families, our staff and volunteers, thank you.

FROM ROB FORSYTH, THE STILE HOUSE

I would like to provide feedback on Deddington OnLine's recent project to transpose our old website software into a Content Managed System (CMS). Our sincere thanks to those who so generously responded to our appeal. As a consequence we were able to complete the project some months ago, ahead of time and to budget. The revamped site is up and running and attracting lots of good comments.

We are now carrying out induction training for those who wish to edit their own parts of the site. Sections on the environment, history, clubs and societies, the Market and Parish Church, to name a few, already have nominated sub-editors and we hope that more people interested in sub-editing their own sections will do likewise. [Cont p9]

FOR MARCH POSTBAG ONLY

Please send all letters to the Managing Editors, Jill Cheeseman and Mary Robinson, at:
editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk

IT'S ALL GROW

On the Farm

As there was no January issue of the Deddington News may I wish you all a belated happy new year.

At this time of the year life down on the farm revolves around the livestock. The sheep flock was finally pushed off its grazing by the Clifton sea in mid-December. However they were very content to come into their winter housing, where they will stay until they return to the river valley with their lambs. The last of the 2008 lamb crop have now left the farm, as has about 50% of the last harvest, with the rest contracted to go out by mid-March just before the lambing season gets into full swing. Most of the fieldwork is up to date and the late drilled oil seed rape seems to have survived the recent spell of very cold weather which managed to reach -9°C for five days in a row. But as I pen this it is back to the mud and water that over the last few years we have come to associate with winters in the age of global warming.

In mid-January Hilary Benn, head mandarin of Defra, made a pro-farming speech to the assembled delegates at the annual Oxford Farming Conference, in which he announced to a stunned audience that he wanted British farmers to produce as much food as possible, and that the future of the world would literally depend on farming, a considerable U-turn given his usual reticence on all things agricultural. But sadly, in the light of recent



developments in the High Court and the European Parliament, he seems to be using a different hymn sheet to the rest of our masters. If the High Court ruling on the protection of the public from crop spray exposure is upheld on appeal, it will be almost impossible to grow any crops on land adjacent to housing, which would mean the land we farm behind the Grove and Gaveston Gardens may well have to be left to become derelict. Also the recent vote in the European Parliament to ban the use within the EU of a large number of the most widely used crop protection products will have the effect of reducing crop yields: grain crops by 40%, potatoes 50%, carrots 100% etc.

It seems more than a little perverse that the same MEPs who voted to ban the use of these crop chemicals, then voted to support a report calling for greater food security within the EU, a report that expressed alarm that a ban on the use of these crop protection products would lead to a dramatic reduction in food output. So how's that for joined up thinking? The High Court ruling may very well prevent large tracts of land from being cropped and the EU legislation will cut the yield on what's left, so it's just one pantomime after another. At least the Deddington Players' production will only run to four performances and will be a lot of fun!

George Fenemore 338203

The Allotment

Recently, Tony Campion handed over the reins of his beautifully cared for allotment and I'm delighted to be taking over. However, I may struggle to maintain his military precision! I've had vegetable patches and fruit in my garden for years but this is my first allotment. I'm very much looking forward to learning from the great pool of experience around me and removing fruit and vegetables from my supermarket shopping list.

The January frosts may have delayed your bed preparation somewhat, but to warm you up, it is now time to dig in manure or lime, depending on your soil PH. Most fruit and vegetables will thrive in a soil PH of 6.5 to 7.0, so if your soil has a lower value than this liming may be required. However, to avoid a loss of nitrogen which is essential for vegetative growth, do not lime and manure in the same area.

Whilst on the subject of fresh manure, a useful note from the RHS book *Fruit and Vegetable Gardening* says that planting onions in a bed with

fresh manure is likely to cause them to grow 'soft'. So as onions are due to be planted from mid Feb to March it might be wise to dig the area well but keep it clear of manure.

Having pruned your fruit bushes you can now turn your attention to the rhubarb. To effectively force rhubarb do not cover plants younger than two years old as it will weaken them. First, clear the area around the plant and cover with dried leaves or straw to help raise the temperature of the earth. Then cover the crowns with a rhubarb forcer or upturned bucket and keep them in the dark. Leave the stems to grow as tall as the cover before harvesting them and you'll enjoy sweet juicy rhubarb.



Samantha Willis

samantha.willis@gmail.com

EDITOR'S POSTBAG [Cont]

We particularly require someone to take an interest in the Community section of the site.

While many parts already have their own sub-editors, it would be useful to have one person maintaining an overview/co-ordination role. This might appeal to someone who does not wish to

learn how to do the actual content changes, but has a strong interest in making sure that all aspects of our Parish are well represented on the site. Please contact me if you are interested in either of these roles. 338384 robert.s.forsyth@googlemail.com

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You may well have seen elsewhere information about *The Story of Deddington* by Mary Vane Turner. Now that this has been republished it has created a gap in our documentation about our Parish. There is no single

source to browse about Deddington for the period from the end of the book 1933, up to the beginning of the Deddington News in 1976. It isn't that there is no material; it's just that some extra detail is needed to fill in the gaps. If you have any pictures or documentation from just before WW2 up to the early 1970s, then we would like to use it please!

Now that the new format for DOL is working so well, many of the sub-editors are taking control of their parts of the site. In this way, many more of the pages are being kept up to date, and it is interesting to watch as the content changes under the influence of different editors. Some of the clubs and societies have kept their information more up to date than others, some sections present fresh information on a regular basis. The Green pages are well worth revisiting as there is a good flow of new information being added.

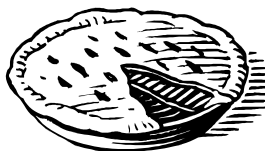
There is one section that needs a little attention, and the Chair of the editorial group has written asking for further help. See his plea for assistance on the letters page this month.

Paul Drawmer 338450
editor@deddington.org.uk

Deddington Farmers' Market

Our February market will be on the last day of the month, so although it's February, it will soon be March and that's almost spring time!

How will you be eating in Credit Crunch Britain? Will it be less of the same (one way to slim!), cheaper ready meals (what's in that?), or will it be more care over choosing your ingredients? One magazine I looked at reckoned that clever providers will be using more traditional British dishes



such as stews, pies and pot roasts. To make the best of these you don't need the most expensive cuts of meat, you can buy fantastic quality belly pork, beef shin, oxtail and mutton to make

the very best of British food. That carrot and coriander soup from the supermarket is really nice; but it is three or four times more expensive than the one you make yourself and doesn't taste any better. Canny shoppers can at the market!

Parking on market day can be a problem but there is nearly always space to park in Earl's Lane or at the school. If you have to drive, please consider dropping your passengers off and then parking further away. In December the market was visited by our PCSOs and they awarded some prizes in the form of fixed penalty notices to those who had caused the most obstruction. We don't want you to win one!

Paul Drawmer 338450

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Saturday 14th February 2009

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01869 338838 today!



Remembrance 2008: We were pleased to receive excellent support from the village at the two commemorations in November 2008.

Remembrance Sunday 9 November just escaped the wet weather and the Act of Remembrance at

the War Memorial and the Church service were well supported. As usual the parade from Horsefair to the War Memorial included all the main groups from the village plus many villagers in support. The parade was led by the band of the Deddington Boys' Brigade.

On Tuesday 11 November 2008 a special service was held in the Parish Church to mark the 90th anniversary of the end of the First World War. Again the Standard of the Deddington Branch of the Royal British Legion was paraded by our Standard Bearer Dave Keats. The service was conducted by the vicar, the Rev Dr Hugh White, with prayers led by Pastor Isabel Walton of the Wesleyan Reform Church. Our thanks to both for their contribution. The address was given by our Chairman, Albert Humphries MBE, and was directed mainly to the top class from Deddington School. We were pleased to see the children at this most important service. We would also like to thank the choir and the organist who gave their time mid-week to ensure such a memorable commemoration.

Poppy Appeal 2008: The annual Poppy Appeal took place in the period immediately prior to Remembrance Sunday in the usual form of a door-to-door collection and collecting boxes at most of the village businesses, the school and Featherton House. A collection at the Farmers' Market made an important contribution and, of course, the generosity of the local churches as always was very much appreciated. In these troubled financial times we were concerned that the final total would be down on previous years but we are delighted to report that we all but equalled last year's total. The final figure was £4,829.99 which, along with members' subscriptions, made a total this year of just under £7,000 which is magnificent from such a small population. I have retired from the post of Treasurer which I have held for 34 years and the Office of President which I have held for some 10 years. I am however continuing as Poppy Appeal Organiser for 2009 and would be pleased if any villagers would be willing to join our team. If so, please contact me on the number below before the end of September 2009.

Norman West
340368

Annual General Meetings: the meetings of the Deddington Branch of the Royal British Legion and

the Deddington Royal British Legion Club Ltd were held on Saturday 6 December at the High Street premises, under the Chairmanship of Albert Humphries who is to remain in post for a further year.

David Keats is taking over as Hon Secretary for 2008-09. The Hon Treasurer is Bill Smith. Both Dave and Bill have been active supporters of the RBL for many years. R (Ben) Brain and Michael Rennie are new members. This year we lose two officers who have given stalwart service to the Branch and Club: Ray Morris, who has been a member since coming to the village in 1991 and who played a major part in the reconstruction of the Club in 2003, has decided to stand down from the committee but has volunteered to assist in specific projects if invited; Norman West has also decided to stand down. Our thanks go to both for all they have done for Deddington RBL.

We are delighted to have a new President, Major David Hood MC (retired) who lives in the village and hopes to be able to redress the balance more towards Branch activities as the Club has, for some years, taken priority. Major Hood has already adopted a 'hands on' role for both Branch and Club and would be grateful if any ex-service personnel living in the area would make themselves known, either by post at Deddington Royal British Legion, High Street, Deddington, Oxon OX15 0SJ or DeddingtonRBL@aol.com.

Royal British Legion – Welfare: May we remind villagers that the Royal British Legion is here to give assistance to all ex-service personnel and/or their dependants in times of need. There is no requirement for such beneficiaries to be members past or present of the Royal British Legion. If you know of anyone who would benefit, please contact Dave Keats, either on 337641 or via the Club on 338449.

David Keats
Hon Secretary 337641
DeddingtonRBL@aol.com

Deddington Writing Competition

The 2009 competition will be announced this month when leaflets giving full details will be available in local libraries, on the Festival website, www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk, or direct from DWG Competition, 7 The Daedings, Deddington. Writers who like to prepare early for their story or poem will want to know that the theme for the Open Competition will be 'Journey', whilst Juniors (age 16 and under, or 11 and under) will need to write on 'The Secret'. It is important to read the competition rules carefully as entries that are late, too long or in other ways do not conform to the conditions of this competition will be disqualified. Watch also for announcements about the prizes on offer, the names of the distinguished judges and especially the 'literary evening' on Friday 26 June when winners will be announced and prizes awarded.

Hugh Marshall 337761

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

After a break of two months when he was unwell, the Rev Cotton Risley re-starts his diaries in February 1859, of which the following are some extracts:

13th February, Sunday - today I went to Clifton twice as usual, last Sunday evening the Church was lighted with gas for the first time – it was very satisfactory to the congregation which was a large one.

16th February - A woman named Rymill from Clifton came to report the accidental death of one of her sons working at Swerford, who was killed by a blacksmith's anvil falling upon him which he had boastfully attempted to lift as high or over his head, in doing which he fell backwards and the anvil fell upon him. He lived a day and a half after the accident – his skull was crushed and injured – I am to bury him tomorrow.

I had a long chat with Mr Kinch about impending Evils – the Vicar's return etc.

20th February - Mr Faulkener went to Oxford yesterday and delivered a petition to the Bishop, against Mr Brogden's notified intention of immediately returning into residence (by giving Mr Burgess and the other two curates notice to quit the

Curacy) – signed by more than 100 inhabitants, it was said 130.

21st February - I went to Oxford to attend the Annual Meeting of the three Diocesan Societies, the Bishop was in the Chair. I had some talk with him about Mr Brogden's contemplated return here – which cannot be prevented, after a given time, i.e. his going back into the Parsonage House.

22nd February - I heard from Willy and from John at Alexandria, a most satisfactory letter – God be thanked. Susan and I went up to the Schools and were present at the examination of the 1st and 2nd class of boys by Mr Murray, the examination was satisfactory and showed progress amongst the scholars Mr Murray came here to look at our old original font.

28th February - A man named Thomas Nicolls of Hempton came for a summons against Policeman Agnew – which I refused to grant, he having suffered 3 weeks to elapse before making any complaint against the man – for assaulting him and beating him without sufficient reason. The Policeman had previously obtained a summons against Nicolls and others for being drunk and disorderly.

Buffy Heywood

From the Fire Station

We have had 15 call outs in the last month, a thatched roof fire, three chimney fires, two false alarms, one car fire, one computer fire and several calls to stand by on the M40 and at Banbury and Bicester stations.

Over the past year we had a total of 216 fire calls, one of the busiest years for a long time. Mainly due to the commitment the crew has given, we have been able to respond to emergency calls for 98% of the year; for a station that has only a crew of nine this is quite a feat and proves how committed we are to protecting our community.

The start of the year will see some changes at the Deddington Fire Station with Fire Fighter Steven Potter moving to Banbury. He has been at Deddington for two years but the bright lights of the town (and house prices) have drawn him away. All is not lost, however, as he will be joining our colleagues at Banbury Fire Station, so we wish him well. Hopefully we have some potential new recruits from Adderbury in the pipeline, so Steve's peg will not be empty for long, although there are still four empty ones that need filling!

As with the seasons of the year, in the fire service we have our own, and at the moment the chimney fire season is in full swing! We recommend that you have your chimney swept at least twice a year especially if you have a wood burner. Thatched roofs are also very vulnerable.

If you would like some more advice on chimneys and protecting thatched roofs or any other fire safety issues, please give the station a call (338281) and have a chat with our community fire safety team.

Acting Watch Manager Chris Fenemore

Kevin Mayo

Many of you will already be aware that Kevin is going off to do the MDS Ultra race in March this year. Please check out www.kevinmayoultra.co.uk for full details - this is being updated continuously so do keep looking. Nearer the event, it will give you his race number etc, so he can be tracked out in the desert.

He is doing this as a personal challenge but also to raise money for charities that mean a lot to us.

He is running in the Yorkshire Cancer Research Team and we will be making a personal donation to them. Their work benefits all cancer patients throughout the country.

He is also raising funds for TOFS and the Horton Children's Ward at Banbury Hospital. Both charities continue to give us huge support, and don't always benefit as much as the better-known organisations. More information about these, and our connection with them, can also be found on Kevin's website.

If you would like to make a donation, please go to the Justgiving pages on the website (via the link in the menu on the left). We had hoped that the sponsorship money could be split evenly, but Justgiving are unable to divide two charities on one link. Unless you have a definite preference, it would be great if you could do half your donation to each charity – you would need to click on each page in turn.

We appreciate that these are difficult economic times, but any sum you feel able to give would be very gratefully received.

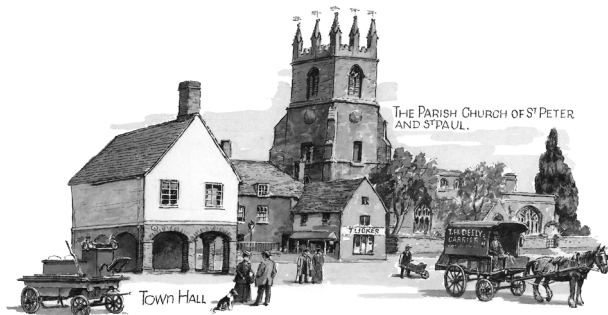
Fiona Mayo 337284

WELL REMEMBERED

KENNETH LANGSTAFF 1918 - 2008

We were saddened to learn of the death on Christmas Eve of Kenneth Langstaff at the age of 90, but glad that we had him living in Deddington for 18 years.

Ken was a very unworldly man, a man of faith, softly spoken with a quiet humour; a lover of music, books and, of course, the arts. We all remember his artistic skills, particularly many of his covers of the Deddington News.



Ken and Helen moved to Deddington in 1982 and lived at The Nook in Chapel Square. Most of their married life was lived in East Barnet, Ken working as a graphic artist for a studio in London. He met Helen in 1943 and married the following year. He served in the army during the war in mili-

tary intelligence using his skill as an artist, at one time sketching the terrain in North Africa in advance of a tank regiment; he recalled sitting in the sand with rockets and bullets whistling over his head as he sketched the landscape.

After the war he returned to his wife and home and an 18-month old son that he had not seen, to pick up the threads of a job in a studio but he always longed to be free to paint for himself. He was made redundant at 59 and then fought a battle with bowel cancer. However, he came through surgery and recovered and in one sense was liberated to fulfil his dream of painting for himself. He had paintings hung in the Royal Academy and as many of us know he continued to paint prolifically.

After Helen's death, Ken moved to Wales to live with his son Michael and continued his painting of all things rural and those around him. Following serious illness in 2006 he needed more continuous care and moved to a small care home. With his books, music and painting he was placidly content and in the last two years he held four exhibitions of his work. As in Deddington, he built up many friends who loved him and his art. He finished and signed off his last painting just two days before he died.

Mary Valentine

News from Clifton

Kevin Mayo, our very own Iron Man, won (yet again) the Tour de Trigs in December, posting a record time. Kev also arranged generous Clifton sponsorship for two other 'virgin' parishioners who didn't do quite so well. He is clearly benefiting from his training for the Marquis De Sade [*don't you mean the Marathon Des Sables? Ed*] that has now accepted him as an entrant. This is a race across the Sahara desert running a marathon each day for six days! So I hope his efforts are remembered when he passes the charity tin round for an important local cause as he undertakes this madness in March. Take a look at <http://www.kevinmayoultra.co.uk> for more details.

A big Clifton welcome to Stuart and Richard who have moved into County View, and are thinking of joining the book club. They among others enjoyed the Clifton Christmas Fayre that was, I'm told, a great success, raising £114 for Katharine House Hospice and giving Pat Brittain and Dot Tagg their

most enjoyable fund-raiser of the year. Antiques and chutneys, books and mulled wine were all sold by Marcus and Robert but the highlight was some cakes made by Cindy Tansley whose leftovers somehow made it on to the menu later that weekend! Oh, and the Prince Rupert ale is on – and jolly fine it is too.

Happy birthday to Anna McGovern who celebrated her 18th with a good bash in the pub and 'Posh' Penny and 'Rough' Dom Clarke (late of the parish – so they'll never read this) bussed in revelers a day later to celebrate their popularity with many 'Candleford' residents risking a trip to the edge of the county for a free drink.

And finally, it was good to see Sam Colley's triumphant return to the village after gaining his 'desmond' from Leeds University. He is now travelling around South America for six months with his charming girlfriend. Any news of other children of the village would be welcome.

Martin Bryce 338031

EDITORIAL

Some of you will have heard that DN has to find another home for its production, after many years at the primary school. We thank the school for hosting us for such a long time. We hope to transfer to the Windmill Centre in time for the March issue (we are currently 'in talks') although the Windmill Community Centre presents several problems for us. We hope that we can retain everyone in our fantastic reliable collating team but inevitably some will be reluctant to walk to the centre and

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may not have transport. We shall also need to move the printing machine to its new home so will need one or two strong men.

On the positive side, we are optimistic that the move will provide an opportunity for some new people to join us and it will leave the school with uninterrupted use of the hall for after-school clubs and drama rehearsals. Please contact Pat (338685), Jill or Mary if you are able to help us.

JC

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Deddington Art Group

The Art Group is more than a painting club: this is my theme to keep the group together. Frank Palmer has been busy painting around the Tews. Some of his paintings are in the USA.

We had a bring-and-share party with a Spanish flavour and there was a huge spread with a lovely red cloth.

I will be looking at exhibitions, as I want to be up there this year selling. We started up again on 8 January.

Ken Wilkinson 337256

Windmill Tuesday/Thursday Club

In September we had two trips on the canal – the weather was rather wet to say the least (in fact, it absolutely poured on one day), but everyone said they enjoyed the outing and the picnic on board. Some of us saw kingfishers and crocodiles! In early December we visited the Wyevale Garden Centre in Bicester for lunch and some Christmas shopping. We were very well looked after and had a good time. For those who were unable to take part a similar trip is planned for the New Year. Diana and Dave, who sang many old favourites, have entertained us. We have kept the circulation going in the cold weather by doing our armchair exercises, which is always a source of much amusement. The new proprietors of the Unicorn cooked our Christmas dinner. We would like to welcome them as our regular caterers and say a big thank you to previous owners Joy and Carol and their team for keeping us so well fed over the years.

Sadly we have said a final farewell to three of our members in recent months, but we have also welcomed new ones and still have room for more. For more information call Debbie (07737 892745), Ann (337144) or Jean (338110).

Jean Rudge 338110

Photographic Society

In November the Society enjoyed a photographic presentation on 'How to Succeed at Sports Photography' by Gordon Roberts. An accomplished professional photographer, Gordon gave many insights into his craft, and particularly how to capture the split-second images that separate sports from landscape photography. His presentation covered a wide range of sports activities from athletics, cricket, horse racing, skiing and ice skating through to eventing, windsurfing and air ballooning. Emphasising the need for patience and perseverance, as well as the need to learn from mistakes, Gordon demonstrated how success could eventually be achieved.

In December the Society's Chairman, Philip Rigby, gave an audio-visual presentation on 'The Faces of India'. He gave a very personal insight into life in southern India, concentrating primarily on people's faces wherever possible. Philip showed the results of his travels, which embraced

a whole spectrum of communal life ranging from covered markets, temples, railway stations and school playgrounds through to crop pickers in the fields and the whole panoply of Indian life along the river banks. A highly colourful, although sometimes harrowing, presentation but nevertheless completely absorbing.

John Branton 01295 811071

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

We have two new Cubs, Elliot and Barney, welcome to both.

Before Christmas the Cubs gained their Communicator badge; we tried Morse code, semaphore, secret writing (the lemon juice was rather messy), sign language and many other forms of communication. We also learnt some knots: reef, clovehitch, bowline and sheetbend that will help with the pioneering we shall be trying in the summer.

This term we'll be tackling the Home Help badge, joining in with the RSPB garden birdwatch and joining the other district Cubs at the Supercub competition.

Jo Churchyard 338071

jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

George has moved up to join us from Cubs; he'll fit in very well. The Scouts spent the end of last term knotting, lashing and pioneering that culminated in an attempt to build a bridge. We needed a better design as it was a bit rickety to say the least, but that's how you learn.

This term we are concentrating on the core challenges, starting with Fitness and Global. We also have several hikes planned; the first is round the Banbury circular walk, stopping halfway to cook lunch.

Thanks to everyone who used the Christmas post. We raised £206, which means we delivered over 1,000 cards. We had a few tricky ones this year; please check your label printers. Also many thanks to Eagles and Barford Post Office for siting the boxes, as we couldn't do it without you.

Pete Churchyard 338071

1st Deddington Guides

Some Guides helped with the Christmas party at Wardington House Nursing Home. They helped with activities and serving tea, assisting those residents who were unable to feed themselves, as well as singing carols. The residents enjoyed having them about and the Guides rose to the challenge of this visit very well. Well done and thank you Maisie, Jasmine, Frankie, Natalie, Emma and Tilly.

This term has only just begun but we have lots of plans afoot. All girls 10 and over are very welcome!

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

Marian Trinder 01869 340806

CALLING MORE CLUBS

Book Club

At our November meeting we discussed *Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafón and here is our review: An intricate mystery set in a dark, shadowy, post-civil war Barcelona. Well written, atmospheric and entertaining but ultimately overly long and a little predictable. A good plot, but after so much skilful stage setting the unravelling of the mystery at the end is too rushed, which removes much of the suspense. Well translated by Lucia Graves, though we felt that some of the dialogue was not quite in keeping with the time. A good holiday read, but for us it did not live up to its hype.

In honour of the inauguration of the new American President our next book is *Dreams from my Father* by Barack Obama.

Next meeting 26 February.

Sally Lambert 338094

Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

The AGM was held at the Deddington Arms on Wednesday 14 January when 22 members turned out on a cold night. Perhaps the lure of complementary wine assisted in their decision to attend. A very productive meeting was started and closed in 30 minutes - a record! Mike O'Brien was on a mission and proposed and seconded every motion. He just didn't pay attention when he was proposed and seconded to serve as Social Secretary. He will learn. The committee elected for 2009 comprises: Chairman Mike Roberts; Secretary David Darst; Treasurer Ralph Stewart; Social Secretary Mike O'Brien.

David Darst 338589

Youth Club

The club is very successful at present with Dawn Franklin and Claire and Jon Cardy working well together as leaders. Our numbers were consistently above 40 during the autumn term. We had a good end of term session before Christmas, with Mr Barnes kindly providing music. This term we hope to get some art, beauty and football sessions going, as well as the usual favourites - smoothie making, the Cherwell youth team and the A team. Please note our AGM is on Wednesday 11 February at 7.00pm at the Windmill Centre. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Pam Axten 337919

WI

On 13 January President Beryl Suckling welcomed members and guests to the meeting and after a short business meeting introduced our speaker, Graham Soden, who spoke about 'Wildlife of Four Counties in Four Seasons'. It was well presented with excellent photographs shown on to a large screen. Graham kept the interest of all throughout. Several photographs were of local interest such as the flooded meadows at Clifton, when many birds visited, and the River Cherwell at Banbury and further down. Doreen Watkins thanked Graham and

all agreed it had been a most pleasant evening. On 10 February Christine Farmer will speak on 'Masquerade - The History of Masks' and our AGM with wine and cheese is on 10 March.

Rene Mahony 338438

Deddington Cricket Club

This year could be a very special one for the club.

We are in the process of trying to arrange finance, through the lottery (Awards for All), Cherwell District Council and others, for the purpose of installing a two-lane artificial cricket net system. The total cost is in excess of £20,000 and the prognosis of a successful outcome is looking positive.

We are hoping that this new facility will improve standards and attract new members, including ladies and juniors.

This will be our second season in fielding two Saturday sides in the Oxfordshire Cricket Association League, and an Under 11 in the South Northants Junior League. Next season these juniors will progress to the Under 13s and we shall therefore be looking for younger ones to come in for the Under 11s.

Our ladies had one outing last season and we are hoping to increase their participation in the club this season.

For anyone wishing to join the club, please contact me (338609) or James Ransom (07515 333541). We are certainly on the lookout for new members.

Derek Cheeseman 338609

1st Deddington Brownies

Before Christmas the girls used their craft skills to make some fabulous Christmas decorations, and then finished the term with an enjoyable Christmas party. This term we are looking ahead to the year's fund-raising efforts for the 'Island Cafe' in Anguilla. These began with the Brownies trying out some Caribbean recipes at home and bringing them in for a tasting session. Watch out for our fund-raising events this year to discover which dishes passed the Brownie taste test! Several new Brownies have joined us recently. We welcome them to the pack and hope they enjoy their time with us.

Lucy Squires 338442

Deddington Players

As I write this the pantomime, 'Captain Hook's Revenge', is coming together and, barring snow or other disasters, it will have entertained the population of Deddington at the end of January. We have possibly a record-breaking number of people involved this year - 31 on stage and at least the same number behind it. Thank you if you supported us in any way, not least if you came to cheer (and boo) us on. Please get in touch if you've been inspired to join us!

Lucy Squires 338442

CALLING MORE CLUBS

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team Results

01/11/08 Cropredy Reserves (h) W 5-2
 08/11/08 Heyford Athletic (h) W 3-1
 15/11/08 Heyford Athletic (h) (CUP) W 8-1
 22/11/08 Heyford United (a) D 1-1
 29/11/08 Fenny Compton (h) L 1-5
 06/12/08 Bishops Itchington R (a) D 2-2
 20/12/08 Wroxton Sports (a) L 1-5
 27/12/08 Glory Farm (a) W 3-1
 03/01/09 Souldern (h) W 6-0
 17/01/09 Souldern (h) (CUP) W 3-2 (aet)

Reserve Team Results

22/11/08 Finmere (h) W 3-2
 29/11/08 Cropredy Reserves (a) (CUP) W 5-4 (aet)
 06/12/08 Kings Sutton Res (a) (CUP) W 7-1
 13/12/08 ABK Sports Res (h) W 3-2
 27/12/08 Heyford Athletic Res (h) W 6-3
 03/01/09 Heyford United Res (a) L 0-1
 17/01/09 Wroxton Sports Res (a) W 4-1

The Roman Empire, the Aztecs, the Ming Dynasty - all great feats of human endeavour come to an end, so it was inevitable, if devastating, that the Reserves winning run ended as AD2009 started. The suitably unlucky 13-game winning streak ended away to the league leaders with a questionable penalty, unbelievably the seventh conceded in five games. Highlights include a storming victory over the higher division Cropredy Reserves, lit up by a perfect hat trick from Sam Rollason, and Simon Hall reaching a peerless 30 goals in just 15 games for Deddington.

The First Team put together a well-timed run of wins just after Christmas. Jordan Kaye and Mikey Large remain among the regular scorers, whilst the pleasant habit of handsome victories in the cups continues.

The First Team are perched downwind of the leading pack, picking off carrion and building up strength to launch an attack on the dominant male, whilst the Reserves are streaking clear in second place.

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

Deddington and District History Society

Our December and January talks were tremendous successes with our members. Tim Healey gave a virtuoso performance, telling us in often graphic detail about 'Sex, Drink and Death in the 17th Century' while dressed from head to toe in costume of the period and drinking from a leather tankard when not playing on his hautboy. He joined us afterwards for Christmas refreshments provided by members. A terrific evening.

Martin Way followed Tim's hard act with aplomb at our January meeting with an enthralling history of life on the Home Front during the Second World War, illustrated by one of the finest collections of ephemera of the period that most of us have seen.

On 11 February Michael Hodges will speak on 'History Beneath your Feet'. Anyone is welcome to join us at the Windmill Centre at 7.30pm.

The Society's reprint of Mary Vane Turner's *The*

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Story of Deddington, first published in 1933, appeared in December. The book is an important source for Deddington history. All those who ordered copies in advance have now received them. We have some copies left which can be bought for £9: please contact Janet Broadbent on 338173, or buy it from Deddington Library. When the remaining copies have been sold the book will once more be out of print and a collector's item! It makes a great present.

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

1st Barford and Deddington Rainbows

We started the New Year with a visit from the Police Office at Deddington, which completes our set of emergency service visits. We also made decorations to celebrate Chinese New Year (Year of the Ox) and played games like relay races whilst holding a mini-marshmallow in chopsticks! Obviously you get to eat the marshmallows you don't drop, which is an incentive. Thinking Day is this month, when Guides, Brownies and Rainbows think about other Guides around the world. It's a good opportunity to learn about other countries and try food and games that are common in those places. We're hoping to find out about Mexico and the USA in particular.

We said goodbye to Alice, Amelia R, Molly, Sophie and Millie who have moved on after having their seventh birthdays. An end of an era as four of them were with the unit since the very beginning. Welcome to Connie, Anya, Amy, Teya and Eleanor who all started in January.

Brownies in Deddington is so popular that a big problem is finding a space at a unit for the girls to move on to. A good problem, but if anybody is interested in joining a group of parents and starting a second Brownie unit in either Deddington or Barford, please contact me. No experience is necessary and there would be plenty of support!

Hazel 337822 and Gillian

WEEKLY DIARY

Mon: Brownies, Windmill Centre, 6.00-7.30pm
 Mon: Youth Club, Windmill Centre, 7.00-9.00pm
 Mon: Bellringing Practice, Parish Church
 Tues: Craft Group, Holly Tree, 2.00-4.30pm
 Tues: Tennis Club, Windmill Centre, 10.00am
 Tues: Guides, Windmill Centre, 7.00-9.00pm
 Tues: Badminton Seniors, Windmill, 7.00-10.00pm
 Tues: Youth Group, Parish Church, 7.00-8.30pm
 Alt Tues: Hempton Ladies, St Johns Hall, 2.00-4.00pm
 Alt Wed: Friendship Club, Windmill Centre, 2.30pm
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Anchor, Windmill Centre, 5.00pm
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Juniors, Windmill Centre, 5.45 pm
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Company, Parish Church, 7.00pm
 Thu: Art Grp, Town Hall, 10.00-12.30 & 1.30-4.00pm
 Thu: Cubs, Windmill Centre, 6.00-7.30 pm
 Thu: Scouts, Windmill Centre, 7.30-9.00pm
 Fri: Coffee Morning in aid of Katharine House, Parish Church, 10.00am-noon
 Fri: Babies & Toddlers, Windmill Centre, 9.30-11.00am
 Fri: Friendly Bridge Club, Holly Tree, 2.00-5.00pm