

This month's editor
JILL CHEESEMAM

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JILL CHEESEMAM
editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk
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Next advertising copy date:
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MANAGING EDITORS:
Jill Cheeseman 338609
Mary Robinson 338272
editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk

PARISH AFFAIRS' CORRESPONDENT:
Charles Barker 337747
deddingtoncastle@gmail.com

CLUBS' EDITOR:
Alison Day 337204
clubs@deddingtonnews.co.uk

DIARY EDITOR:
Jean Flux 338153
diary@deddingtonnews.co.uk

FEATURES' EDITOR:
Molly Neild 337719
features@deddingtonnews.co.uk

CHURCH & CHAPEL EDITOR:
Frank Steiner 338264
f.steiner@btopenworld.com

LETTERS' EDITOR:
Kristin Thompson 337052
letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk

MONTHLY ADS & INSERTS:
Debbie Grimsley 336110
adverts@deddingtonnews.co.uk

ANNUAL ADS:
Nick Boisset 337715
annuals@deddingtonnews.co.uk

TREASURER:
Buffy Heywood 338212
bd.heywood@btinternet.com

PRINTING:
Ruth Johnson 338355
Pat Swash

COLLATING & DISTRIBUTION:
Pat Brittain 338685
and teams

2011 COVER:
Mark Newnham

the Deddington news

This is a special edition in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee but also contains everything you need to know about the Deddington Festival events which come hot on the heels of the celebrations on 2 June. If we have weather like this week, it will be fantastic. If we don't, go anyway – and enjoy yourselves!

Our thanks to Jim Flux who has worked hard over many years as chairman of the PC.

June

- | | | |
|-----|------|--|
| Sat | 2 | Diamond Jubilee Celebration: 4.45pm Parade from school, 5.15pm Church Street party, 7pm Church singalong |
| Sun | 3 | Songs of Praise: Castle Grounds, 6.30pm |
| Mon | 4 | Hempton Jubilee tea party: Church Hall, 2pm |
| Wed | 6 | History Society: Visit to Rycote Chapel and gardens |
| Wed | 6 | Photographic Society: Photoshoot in Adderbury, 7.30pm |
| Thu | 7 | 'The History of Christianity in Fifteen Objects': Dr W Whyte, Parish Church, 7.30pm |
| Sat | 9 | WI: Cake and plant stall under the Town Hall |
| Mon | 11 | Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am–noon |
| Mon | 11 | DOGS: Golf day at Burford Golf Club |
| Tue | 12 | WI: Alistair Lack, 'Oxfordshire Country Houses', Holly Tree, 7.30pm |
| Thu | 14 | Deddington Festival: Reception for FDF, Parish Church, 6.30pm |
| Fri | 15 | PFSU: Sports day |
| Fri | 15 | Deddington Rocks, Market Place, from 4.30pm |
| Sat | 16 | School Fête, 12.30–3.30pm |
| Sat | 16 | Deddington Cricket Club Ball, Windmill 7pm |
| Sat | 16 – | Open Gardens, Allotments and Castle Grounds, |
| Sun | 17 | 2–5.15pm |
| Sat | 16 – | Art Exhibition, Holly Tree, 10am–6pm |
| Sun | 17 | |
| Sun | 17 | Craft exhibition, Parish Church, 2–4pm |
| Sun | 17 | Church teas, 2–4pm |
| Sun | 17 | Guitar recital, Joe Newman, Parish Church, 2–4pm |
| Sun | 17 | Stekpanna Concert, Parish Church, 7.30pm |
| Tue | 19 | Art Workshop: Garden of the Old Post House, 1.30pm |
| Tue | 19 | Poetry Please: Unicorn, 7–9pm |
| Tue | 19 | Windmill AGM: 7pm, Windmill Centre |
| Wed | 20 | Clifton Farm Walk: Home Farm 6pm |
| Wed | 20 | Parish Council meeting: Holly Tree, 7.30pm |
| Thu | 21 | 60 years of Song and Dance, Parish Church, 7.30pm |
| Fri | 22 | Writers' Competition Awards: Parish Church, 6.30pm |
| Sat | 23 | Concert version of <i>The Mikado</i> , Parish Church, 7.30pm |
| Sat | 23 | Deddington Farmers' Market, 9am–12.30pm |
| Sat | 23 | Church bell tower open: 10am–noon |

(Continued on p12)

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

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL AGM

Wednesday 16 May 2012 at Hempton Church Hall

Jim Flux opened the AGM of the DPC and announced as previously indicated that he wished to stand down as chairman. Cllr Alan Collins was voted to succeed as chairman with two vice chairmen, Cllrs John Day and Brian Wood. It was also announced that Cllr Rudge would stand down. As it was the AGM it was agreed that members of the working groups, DPC representation in clubs and local interest groups would remain as at present. All existing banking, professional appointments and statutory arrangements would be maintained.

Jim Flux's contribution and long service to Deddington and the Parish Council were recognised and acknowledged.

No members of the public attended.

Planning

- 9 Hopcraft Lane, wish to reduce the height of a Leylandii, no objection.
- Rushall House, Earl's Lane, retrospective application for the demolition of a garage to be replaced by a boiler room and loggia, approved with conditions on appropriate use of materials.

This is the submission from the planning working group to the Cherwell Local Plan:

1. Deddington to remain a category 1 village, Hempton and Clifton to remain category 2* with criteria to match NSCLP 2011 (see definitions below).
2. Land close to Castle Grounds: the PC would like to consider appropriate development of a site adjacent to the Castle Grounds (on the basis that some of the land is gifted to the parish), providing car parking for up to 50 spaces and suitable changing room facilities to allow for the increased use of the Castle Grounds for local groups such as Deddington Colts who are having to play outside the County.
3. Land opposite the fire station: Under the terms of NSCLP 2011 a development of the size proposed by Pegasus would not be allowed. The PC believes that this should remain the case.

4. Any sizeable development in Deddington would require considerable investment in the following areas: increased primary school capacity, increased medical centre capacity, improvements to drainage and services, considerable improvements in road safety measures, improved public transport links to Banbury and Bicester, improvements to local footpaths, land for additional cemetery space.

5. OALC Affordable Housing: the PC believes there is a need for some additional affordable housing in the parish but any development needs to bear in mind the above concerns. Our expectation of affordable housing is that it is targeted at providing homes for local residents who wish to get on to the property ladder.

6. Piecemeal development: the PC would like to have some protection from the ability of developers to develop a site by multiple applications avoiding the need to contribute to local service needs.

*The definitions referred to are slightly more relaxed planning controls in category 2 & 3 villages.

Finance and General Purposes

Arrangements were being made to install an electric power socket in the undercroft of the Town Hall for use by the Farmers' Market and the Christmas tree lights.

Income from the Windmill Centre solar panels was £1,500 below forecast during the winter.

Invoices agreed for payment; £6,777.

Parish funds on deposit £540,513 at Anglo Irish, Barclays, NatWest, West Bromwich BS & Alliance and Leicester BS.

Next Meeting 7.30pm 20 June 2012 Holly Tree Club, Deddington

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter Charles Barker, and not the official Minutes. To see those, go to <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/pc/pcminutes>.

PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

Preparations are well under way for this year's fête. Please make sure you have the date in your diary – Saturday 6 June 12.30–3.30pm.

We have lots of exciting events and stalls planned including bingo, tombola, a kids' pamper tent, bouncy castle, face-painting, football shoot-out, plus quad bikes, Scalextric racing, our ever-popular animal tent and much, much more.

The barbecue will be ready and sizzling – just in time for lunch – and why not try one of our delicious cream teas later in the afternoon while watching one of the events in the arena? The children have been hard at work learning some new dance routines and will be

performing throughout the afternoon. Plus we will be serving tea and coffee, cakes and ice creams. And if anyone fancies a Pimms we will, of course, have our usual licensed bar.

We also have some fantastic prizes to be won, both in the raffle and on some of the stalls. So please come along and support our children. We can't guarantee the weather, but we do promise you'll have lots of fun.

We look forward to welcoming you to the fête and thank you all for your continued support.

Melissa Chadderton, Chair
349936

melissa@rhubarbcreative.demon.co.uk

FROM THE FIRE STATION

Since our last article we have had two house fires in Bicester, a road traffic collision (RTC) in Adderbury, RTC on the M40 involving one HGV and three cars, a lorry stuck down the embankment on the Twyford Road, a 12-pump incident at Enstone Airfield and an RTC involving two cars. With stand-by and false alarms, this brings our annual total of fire calls to 82 so far for the year. As you can see we have been very busy with fire calls.

We have also been busy with some big changes to our crew. Unfortunately we have had three of our crew leave, with Richard Day and Gary Barnet both having a change in their primary jobs and Pete Taylor who has decided to retire. He has given 15 years of commitment and service to our community, a great achievement. They will be missed by us all.

On the positive side George Williamson from Adderbury and Tom Hall from Barford have both passed their basic training and are now responding to fire calls and we hope to have another recruit from Adderbury, Emma Glover, so that will bring our numbers to ten.

But yes, I still have empty pegs at the station; five in fact, and with Gary and Pete leaving there are now only two people from Deddington who are on the crew, Martin and Rachel Freeman. Yes, Deddington with a population of 2,000 has only two on the crew. I am sure you all appreciate how lucky we are to have a fire station in Deddington and without a crew you would not have one. I am sure there must be plenty of people in Deddington who are up for the challenge to help keep our community safe, so please give me a call and be part of a team that does one the most varied, rewarding and challenging jobs possible.

Chris Fenemore
Watch Manager
Deddington Fire Station
07767835738

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

'I can see the sea – the sea sees me' was a favourite refrain of my nanny as I grew up in Bombay and it came to mind as we all saw the welcome return of a full flood plain for the last five weeks. However, with this came the anxiety over Sid and Sally and their new home and family. Sid and Sally are of course the two swans that made our little corner of heaven home to bring up a family. We watched with fondness as they built a nest well up from the Cherwell (pronounced Charwell remember) and waited for the patter of little (albeit webbed) feet. However the floods came closer and closer to the nest as Sid and Sally looked on disconsolately. Their nest was lifted and wedged against County Bridge where its contents were still closely guarded until the levels receded and the nest flowed under the bridge and away. It seems the eggs were lost, but still hopefully early enough in the year for Sid and Sally to start again. Sad? Perhaps not – just nature's way.

The Duck's Aunt Sally team just can't stop winning* when they play but were let down by a number of squad members who failed to show for the most recent game. Practice sessions on sunny Saturday afternoons have become standard – so pop along and report to Ross or Will. It really is fun!

By the time you read this Iron Man Mayo will have completed the Grand Union Canal Race for Cancer UK. The Grand Union Canal Race (GUCR) is run from the centre of Birmingham to the centre of London along the Grand Union Canal. Competitors are required to complete the 145 mile distance within 45 hours. You could support him on www.virginmoneygiving.com/KevinMayoUltra. Doug Rose will also have completed his very first triathlon, but he's doing that for fun.

Oh, and keep a look out for Sykes (see NfC *passim*) in the new Harvey advert. Well done Sue.

Martin Bryce, martindnbryce@aol.com

*A beer leg in one match and the opening leg in another.

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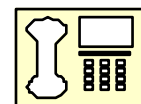
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PRIMARY SCHOOL

The summer term has got off to a really busy (though not very sunny) start. At the time of writing my Year 6s are battling their way through the SAT tests. They have worked extremely hard on the run-up to these tests and I really hope their perseverance is rewarded.

After SATs Year 6 are looking forward to joining Year 3 on a trip to Cadbury's World in Bourneville. I think the adults are looking forward to it too. F1 are also excited about their trip to Oxford Botanic Gardens as part of their mini-beasts topic and Year 5 enjoyed a successful visit to the Ashmolean Museum as an introduction to their Ancient Greece topic.

Year 4 will soon embark on their residential visit to Grendon Hall in Northamptonshire; they will be away for two nights. For many of them this will be their first time away from their families for an extended period, but they won't have time to be homesick as their teachers, Mrs Knox and Mrs Sargent, have a packed itinerary planned.

A few weeks ago the whole school was involved in raising money for Sport Relief. The children completed a mile in any way they wished – most ran but a few cart-wheeled round and many demonstrated great team work by going round tied to a friend three-legged style. The children were sponsored by friends and family. Mrs Moore, one of our many hard-working teaching assistants, had the job of counting the money and I am delighted to announce the amount raised was £2,800. Considering we have just over 200 children in the school this is an amazing amount for them to raise. A big thank you goes to all the people who supported this event and gave so generously.

Towards the end of term the school, like the rest of Deddington, is looking forward to the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. We have a large group of children working hard on the dance routine they will be performing in the Market Place during the evening of Deddington's Street Party. The dance will reflect the music of the decades during which Queen Elizabeth has been on the throne. The school has also planned its own 'street party' style celebration on the day we break up for the half-term holiday. We hope summer will have arrived by then and we shall all enjoy a sunny, warm and memorable Jubilee.

Jane Cross, Deputy Head
338430

Deddington WI
invites you to join us on a visit to
Chartwell
(Winston Churchill's family home)

Tuesday 10 July
leaving at 8.30am

Cost: £20 + £10.30 entrance

(for non National Trust Members)

Please contact Yvonne Twomey 337213
or Angela Sones 338027

Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

Our big summer event is fast approaching. 'Show your true colours – Red, White and Blue' is taking place on 7 July at the Windmill Centre and promises to be an unmissable night. Tickets at a bargain £20 include food, a welcome drink and entertainment, and will be available from various places in Deddington including the PFSU and Nursery. So grab your glad rags, invite your friends and family to a great night out and we'll see you there. If you need any further convincing, remember that every penny we raise goes to ensure that our local pre-school children can access quality care and education within their local community. You don't need to have a child with us to join in the fun.

Lucy Squires 337484

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following is an extract from Jackson's Oxford Journal for the month of June 1862:

Deddington – Police Office, 11th June **Before the Rev. W.C. Risley**

John Miller, labourer, of Deddington, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in the streets of Deddington, discharged. Prisoner then charged with damaging the cell door at the Deddington lock-up [side room at the Library] wherein he was confined, committed for 21 days.

Gross Outrage at Deddington:

Long report of Mark Lewis, Alfred Jarvis, Samuel Calow, Jas. Wilkins, Thomas Painton, James Wheeler and George Gibbs, brought up in custody, charged on 31st May with committing a violent assault on John Thorogood, to the danger of his life, the Inspector of Police who resides at the Police Station in Deddington. He was attacked at his house, stones thrown and windows broken, 150–200 people present. Wounded on side of head, 4ins. long, on arm and legs, black eye; treated by Dr. Turner. They were committed to take their trial at next Assizes.

Buffy Heywood 338212

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CHURCH AND CHAPEL

June

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Sun 3	10.30am	First Sunday Trinity Sunday Songs of Praise, Castle Grounds
	6.30pm	Evensong
Wed 6	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu 7	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun 10	10.30am	Sung Eucharist (with Healing Prayer)
Wed 13	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu 14	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun 17	10.30am	Eucharist (Baptisms)
Wed 20	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu 21	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun 24	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) St John the Baptist
	9.30am	Fourth Sunday Eucharist Followed at 10.15am by Interactive Café Church
Wed 27	10.00am	Eucharist

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 curate, Revd Dr Dan Inman (338582) curatedan@gmail.com, or one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie (338367) or George Fenemore (338203). For further information please go to www.deddingtonchurch.org.

Information on the meetings of other faith groups can be found at

<http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/church/otherfaithsandbeliefs>.

STOP PRESS – Jubilee Street Party

All the tickets for the street party have now gone. However, if you would like to be part of the celebrations, please bring your own picnic and a rug or chair to sit on – and join in the fun.

Olympic Opportunity

Cherwell District Council is calling for volunteer marshals for the Olympic Torch relay in July.

Volunteers will work along the route as it goes through Bicester, Kirtlington and Kidlington. Training will be provided. Marshals need to be 18 or over and available on 9 July. For more details email nicola.riley@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or phone 01295 221724.

AMENDMENT

Decor by Makeover

Please note: on pD of the yellow advertisement pages

Mike's new telephone number is now
07972 057889

St John's Hempton

Sun 3	9.00am	Eucharist
Sun 17	9.00am	Eucharist
Sun 24	6.00pm	Evensong

The Barfords

Sun 3	11.30am	Service for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee (BfdStM)
Sun 10	10.30am	Family Service (BfdStM)
Sun 17	10.30am	Family Service (BfdStM)
Sun 24	10.30am	Patronal Feast Eucharist (BfdStJ)
	4.00pm	Evensong (Bfd StM)

From the Parish Registers

Service of Thanksgiving

May 22 Joan Hayward

Interment of Ashes

May 25 Joan Hayward

Baptism

May 27 Chloe Heather Linnegar

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Sunday mornings at 10.30am Pastor Isabel Walton except 24 June Wendy Manley

RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury

Fr John Burns 277396

Mass at Holy Trinity, Hethe: every weekday except Wed at 9.30am, Sun at 10.00am.

St George's Church Adderbury: Mass Wed 7.00pm and Sun 8.30am.

Confessions at Hethe Sat 5.30–6.00pm and at Adderbury before Mass.

The Eve of Sunday Mass at St John's Church, Banbury, is said at 4.00pm on Saturdays to allow worshippers from the villages to attend by public transport.

The celebration of the Feast of Corpus Christi has been transferred to the previous Sunday.

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL

SUMMER SUPPER PARTY

3 AUGUST 7.00PM

THE BYRE, POUND COURT,
EARL'S LANE

Tickets from Althea Wood
after 26 June

01869 337904 altheawood@aol.com

FRIENDS of the CASTLE GROUNDS

A difficult month for working at the Castle Grounds and the cold and rain have delayed the sowing of the wild flower seeds but we expect to get this done before the end of May. The weather has also slowed down the Community Pay Back workers and the southern banks' clearance is still to be completed. These lads have done so well and been a great help to us and we are most grateful for their efforts. Long may they continue to help us.

Now for dates for diaries:

3 June – Songs of Praise at 6.30pm at the Castle Grounds. Loads of really well-known hymns for you all to sing and enjoy. Please bring a folding seat if you wish to sit down. If the day is hot and sunny, why not bring a picnic an hour or so beforehand and enjoy the Castle Grounds (no cuckoo this year so far).

16–17 June – As part of the Open Gardens weekend Christine Blennot will be opening hers at the Old Post House. In addition to enjoying this lovely garden, scones, cakes, and strawberries and cream will make this a special afternoon.

16 November – Friends of the Castle Grounds invite you to their Quiz Evening. Full details will be available shortly, so book the date in your diaries and start to get a team together to do battle with other brains of the parish. Your support is much appreciated and will help us make this beautiful area even better.

Terry Clinch 338711

Malvern Show 'Paint a Picture' Win for Hempton Designer

Just before Easter I entered Chris Beardshaw's competition to 'Paint a Picture' in plants at the Malvern Show. With 28 days from acceptance to completion I got sponsorship from Waterperry Gardens where I've been studying my Royal Horticultural qualifications in garden design. They kindly gave me free rein of the nursery. My garden was replicating a Cézanne woodland so with acers, betulas and a multitude of small herbaceous plants I set the scene. On the day we were digging the garden, I was interviewed for 'Gardeners' Question Time' and met Pippa Greenwood. It was a fantastic four days, one highlight being James Alexander-Sinclair admiring my garden and advising me to do a show garden next year. The perfect end was that my garden was voted 'People's Choice' and we won £1,000 for Steeple Aston school which my children attend. If you were at the show and voted, many thanks for your support.

Sam Willis 0771 858 6105

Jubilee Photographs

The photographs on the following two pages form part of a larger exhibition of Deddington's celebrations of past coronations and jubilees. You can see it in the Parish Church from 26 May to 16 June, and the collection can then be seen in the Deddington OnLine gallery www.deddington.org.uk/gallery.

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Deddington's Coronation and Jubilee Celebrations in the Past

*May 1935, George V Silver
Jubilee, 'Co-op cottages',
Market Place
(courtesy Clive Sanders)*



The 1953 Coronation party for the Paddocks residents at Mr Sanders' Priory Hall (clockwise round table): Grace Cox, Peter Hancox, Bill Hunt, Mr & Mrs Green, Mrs & Mr Paginton, George Godfrey, Jockie Callow, ?, ?, Harry Harris, Horace French, Maureen Anderson, Sheila Anderson (courtesy Don Walker)



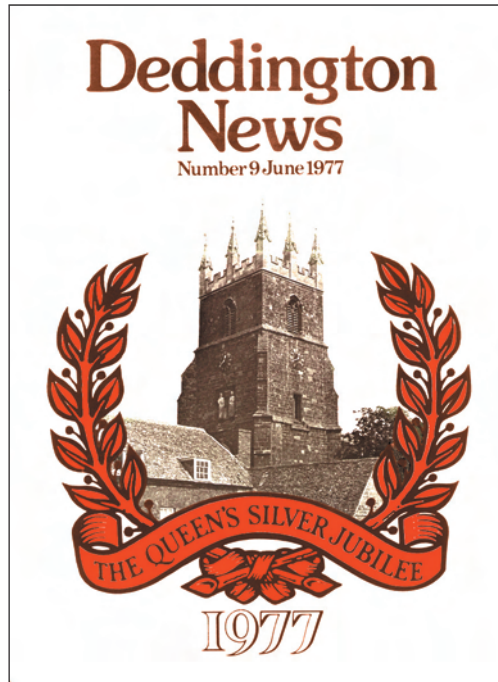
*1953 Coronation, Paddocks,
Michael Harper crowning
Queen Elizabeth Boyd
(courtesy Michael Boyd)*



*1935 Jubilee Fancy Dress
competition winner (r)
Joan Deely (courtesy late
Mary Tibbetts)*

*1953 Coronation, Paddocks (l to r) Florence Anderson, Eli Lewis,
Mrs Cox, Pat Cox, Bill Cox, Mr Davidson, Mrs Godfrey, Harry Harris
(behind) Bill Hunt (courtesy late Florence Anderson)*





Front cover designed by David Wheeler
of Wheeler & Porter

1977 Silver Jubilee:
the back cover of Deddington News,
June (clockwise from top left): Primary
School country dancing; line-up for
the title of Jubilee Queen, Debbie
Coleman, the winner (r); maypole
dancing; 'dwyle flunking'; and (c)
Wendy Daniels (Jubilee Princess) and
Debbie Coleman (Jubilee Queen)
(pics Colin Robinson)



Britannia and the Jolly Jack Tars



2002 Golden Jubilee:
children's party 2002
style with Coke, crisps
and stripey hats ...

and, of course, painted
faces ... and the
occasional pint of beer
Mark Rylands (behind),
Terry Bliss and
Mike O'Brien
(pics Barbara Bell)



ALLOTMENT

Drought, what drought? At least all our water butts are full and ready for the summer.

I was at Malvern show this year and found a fantastic stand for pop-up garden protection at very reasonable prices: www.gardenskill.co.uk. I'm hoping my purchases might keep the rabbits and the cabbage white at bay. So with my cloches and I hope the end of the frost, I'm going to plant out some of my seedlings. They've been hardened off over the last few weeks and are ready for the allotment. Any brassicas can be planted out this month and outdoor tomatoes if they've been hardened off.

Protect your strawberries from below and above: straw around the plants and put netting on top. Plant out your sweetcorn: remember to do this in a cube rather than a straight line as it aids pollination. Sow any late winter vegetables. Beetroot, French beans, carrots, kohlrabi, peas, lettuce, endive and radish should be sown at intervals throughout the summer months to provide a constant supply.

Finally I've just read that one allotment grower is planning to plant his blueberries in a bath. I know that they like ericaceous compost but didn't realise that they like marshy conditions. He is planning to sink the bath into the allotment with the sink hole as the drainage. An interesting idea and for any blueberry fans, a possibility.

Sam Willis, samantha.willis@gmail.com

News from Hempton

Many thanks to everyone who came to the first social evening held early in May. It was quite well supported and enjoyed by those who came. It is proposed to continue on the first Friday of each month, with the next one on 1 June, again from 7.30pm.

The Jubilee celebrations are in hand and it is proposed to have a picnic party from 3.00pm in the Church grounds on Monday 4 June. Flyers have already been circulated round the village. So bring along the family and a picnic and make it a day to remember. Note: in-doors if wet! I hope to ring the church bell at 3.00pm to coincide with many other churches over that weekend.

The Table Tennis team finished one from the bottom in Division 3 of the Banbury League and will be hoping for better fortunes next season. They were not helped by injuries to players this time.

Congratulations to Angela and Mark Conlan from Duns Tew on the birth of a daughter, Imogen, a sister for Dylan and Ava.

Many thanks to everyone who sent me cards and best wishes and visited me following my recent hip operation. I am recovering well and should be back in circulation by June. Also many thanks to all who have been looking after the Church in my absence.

Les Chappell
338054

(Pleased to hear you are progressing well Les – Ed)

Deddington Primary School

Annual Summer Fete

Saturday 16th June 2012
from 12.30pm to 3.30pm



Entrance at the School Field Gate

£2 Adults £1 Children

£5 Family Ticket

£1 OAPs Under 5s Free

Exotic animals, reptiles and more!!!

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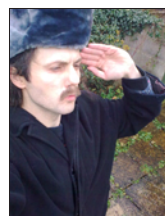


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BLISSFUL THINKING



Atop our mighty peak we stare down imperiously at the drowners and scoff. Or perhaps not. Deddington, of course, sits cosily on top of a hill, shielding us from the prospect of serious flooding and/or scurrilous invasion by legions of rats or phalanxes of Frenchmen. Thus while the spring

has seen relentless rainfall, we smile smugly, thinking ourselves unaffected, until reminded that, like the Innuits' many expressions for snow, there is a 'wrong' type of rain, which will not prevent a hosepipe ban this summer. Water butts and car washes aside, this seems to present a couple of glaring admissions: that water treatment should never be run for profit, if you'll forgive the subtle pun, and perhaps we all use water too frivolously. The planet's resources, after all, do not multiply depending on the spending power of the user.

Aaron Bliss
aaronjbliss@hotmail.com

CORRECTION

The email address for Lee Mullins on p1 of the advertisement pages is incorrect.

Our apologies – it should be
lee@mullinsdecor.co.uk

DOWN ON THE FARM



Water, water everywhere but apparently not much to drink. Although the experts are telling us the recent precipitation was the wrong sort to ease the declared drought, it was still very wet. The April monsoon brought the Clifton sea crashing back to its shoreline. We went from a March dust bowl to an April mud pool. The new Banbury flood defence

scheme has been declared a success in the way it coped with the situation, but it should be remembered that we have just experienced a prolonged period of low rainfall and the river was well below its normal springtime flow rate. Had the April deluge coincided with a more normal river level, it would have been a different story. Even so, the waterworks at Banbury and the Spiceball car parks which are below the flood defence scheme were flooded. To ease this situation the 'powers that be' lifted the sluice gates and sent a surge of water down the river which flooded hundreds of acres of farmland down stream. All of our spring grazing was under three feet of water with the ewes and lambs being pulled back into the paddocks that had been shut off for haymaking.

But it wasn't just the sheep that got flooded off: the Clifton swans which had built their nest on the mill pond put up a spirited fight to reinforce their nest of reed stems against the rising tide but the surge of water released defeated them and they lost their eggs. It was not only the swans that came to grief: three pairs of curlew, one pair of redshank, two pairs of snipe and five pairs of mallard also lost their eggs. The redshank have moved on but the others are still around so with any luck they will try again. To me the curlew is an iconic bird as it was the call of the curlew that greeted me when I viewed the farm as a prospective tenant 40 years ago. Their return to the valley each spring is always a special event.

The wet weather has also made life difficult for the bees. The shirt-sleeve weather in March got them off to a flying start with the queens expanding their brood nests very fast, then the onset of a colder than usual

blackthorn winter and the April monsoon sent them scuttling back into the hives and struggling to collect enough pollen and nectar to feed the growing brood. Although some of the stronger hives have been able to put some surplus honey in the supers, I have not as yet taken any off, as another prolonged spell of cool weather could see them short of food. But as the oil seed rape is still in flower and the winter beans are just coming into flower I hope to get the extractors spinning before the end of May.

Although the crops have now had a good soaking, we need a rise in the temperature to get them going. It seems more than a little ironic that March brought us a shortage of grass due to drought and April/May gave us a shortage of grass due to flooding. As I write the sheep have been moved back on to the river meadows but the ground is still very wet and the grass has had much of its feed value washed out. But needs must; if the sheep had stayed in the paddocks any longer we would be faced with another season of reduced hay crop. As it is we may well be trying to make the hay and start the harvest at the same time.

The cold wet spring has given the wildlife on the farm a difficult time. Insect activity has been slow and many of the farmland birds that started the rites of spring during March have found it difficult to feed their young. The swallows that returned in early April have only just started on their first broods, the swifts and martins arrived late at the end of April and the cuckoo didn't show up until the beginning of May. The moths coming to the light traps have so far been few and far between. Apart from a few brimstone and tortoiseshell, the butterflies have been conspicuous by their absence, but it should be remembered that most of our butterfly species do not start to emerge until mid to late May in a more normal year so there is still time for them to get going. But we shall need some better weather before they do.

We can only hope that summer will start before the Festival Farm Walk (a walk on the wild side) which will take place on Wednesday 20 June whatever the weather and, if my knee is still playing up, you may see a farmer on a bike after all – a quad bike, that is.

George Fenemore

338203

RECITAL RAISES £5,250 FOR WARKWORTH CHURCH ROOF APPEAL

A recital by Valerie Tryon raised £5,250 towards a new metal roof for the beautiful 14th century St Mary's Church at Warkworth, after thieves stole £100,000 worth of lead last year.

An audience of 300 were at Deddington Parish Church for the performance by the former Banbury Grammar School pupil, who made her debut in Oxfordshire at the age of 14 and became one of the youngest students at the Royal Academy of Music.

She played music from her favourite romantic repertoire, with works by Scarlatti, Beethoven, Chopin,

Debussy and Liszt. She gave her time free of charge after learning of the church's plight. The event was jointly sponsored by Bicester-based CMS Financial Management and chartered accountants Ellacotts LLP, in Banbury.

A total of £30,000 is needed for the new roof for the Grade II* Warkworth Church, placing it among the top eight per cent of listed buildings in England.

For more details, please contact Dave Carter on 01869 345 588.

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 KEVIN MAYO, CLIFTON

As some of the local community may already know, on 2 June I will be taking part in Britain's longest non-stop running race – starting at the Gas Works in Birmingham and running the whole length of the Grand Union Canal to London, a total of 145 miles. The event will take between 30 and 40 hours and is deep into new territory for me as I have never run over 90

miles non-stop before. To add to the pain, the event is being held on my wedding anniversary. I shall be raising money for Cancer Research UK and my charity page is on <http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/> – from there just search for my name.

FROM TONY BROWN, DARTFORD, KENT

(First sent to the Forum)

I have only recently discovered that I have ancestors from Deddington so am hoping that someone may pick up this query as having Wilkins ancestors from the village.

From searching online I find that my 3 x great-grandmother, Mary Wilkins, was born in Deddington c1804. She married Joseph Ball in 1827 at St Nicholas, Deptford, Kent (now south-east London). I have information on her family going forward but I haven't yet uncovered her baptism or her parents' marriage. I only know of the relevance of Deddington from findings on the censuses for Mary Ball (née Wilkins). The 1851 census says she was born in Oxfordshire and the 1861 census states born in Deddington. There are two possibilities for the baptism of Mary (Ann) Wilkins: (i) Mary Wilkins, born 27 December 1803 and christened 1 April 1804 at St Peter & St Paul, Deddington, a daughter of Wlm and Mary Wilkins; (ii) Mary Ann Wilkins, born or baptised 20 March 1805 at Deddington, a daughter of John and Ann Wilkins.

I have been unable, so far, to find a marriage for Mary Wilkins. Perhaps someone reading this may have an interest in the Wilkins family. My wife and I are planning a visit to Deddington for the Open Gardens weekend in the middle of June and hope to visit the Oxfordshire Record Office. Any help will be gratefully received.

FROM LORRAINE WATLING, PARISH CLERK

The Parish Council is concerned that a number of parishioners appear to be unaware that their dogs are leaving mess which is causing concern to other parishioners. This is a particular problem at the Castle Grounds and the Windmill Centre which are



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

recreational areas used by people of all ages. The PC has received complaints from several residents and clubs that use these facilities and would like to remind dog owners that it is an offence to let their animals foul an area without cleaning up the resulting mess. Please can we remind residents that doggy 'poo bags' are available free of charge from the PC office at the Windmill Centre, which

is open 5.30–7.30pm Mondays, 1–5pm Wednesdays, 9am–1pm Thursdays and 9.30am–1pm on Saturdays.

Dogs are welcome to accompany their owners when collecting these bags and I usually have a supply of 'gravy bones' in the office for my four-legged visitors. The PC would welcome other suggestions for locations where 'poo bags' could be made available.

FROM JULIANNE HATTON and SARAH ROCHE

When my friend Sarah and I were chatting recently about going for a new 'hair do' we thought, why waste it on the hairdresser's floor when we could donate it and at the same time raise funds for a worthy cause. We looked into the Little Princess Trust and were impressed and touched by the invaluable services they offer to both boys and girls from the age of 2 to 18 years, across the UK and Ireland, suffering hair loss due to cancer treatment, alopecia or other illnesses. The Little Princess Trust provides these children with real hair wigs, totally free of charge.

So on Friday 29 June, Phil and Emma from the Steve Miller Hair Workshop, are cutting at least seven inches off our hair. This will be donated to the charity and will go towards making a real hair wig. If you would like to sponsor our fundraising event, please visit www.justgiving.com/deddingtonhairappeal. For further information about the charity please visit www.littleprincesses.org.uk. Thank you.

FROM JANE PARKINSON, ADMIN SUPPORT TO NEIGHBOURHOOD RETURN PROJECT

The next stage in the development of the new service, Neighbourhood Return, is being set up in conjunction with Neighbourhood Watch, to help find someone with dementia if they get lost. We had a successful public meeting at the start of the month and recruited some local volunteers to help us trial the systems. These are taking place on Friday 8 June (morning in Deddington – afternoon Deddington/Adderbury) and will involve a volunteer acting as a lost person and other volunteers being part of a search co-ordinated by the national call centre (testing their systems).

(Continued on p12)

POSTBAG *(Continued from p11)*

Although we have some volunteers, we still need a few more, so if you could join us for any part of the day (even helping search for 30 minutes would be a realistic test for an actual search) we'd be really pleased to hear from you. Alternatively if you know anyone who may be interested in supporting the project, then please forward this to them.

Our website is now up and running: www.ourturn.org.uk if you would like to know more about the Neighbourhood Return service.

DIARY *(Continued)*

- Sun 24 Deddington Colts FC: Presentation day, Windmill Centre, 3–5pm
 Thu 28 'History of Christianity in Fifteen Objects', Prof G Pattison, Parish Church, 7.30pm

July

- Mon 2 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am–noon
 Wed 4 Photographic Society: Presentation of photos, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
 Sat 7 PFSU Sports day
 Sat 7 Village Nursery: Summer dance, 'Red, White and Blue', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
 Sat 7 Piano Recital: George Hopkins, Parish Church, 7.45pm
 Tue 10 WI: Outing to Chartwell, leave 8.30am
 Sat 14 Concert: Corona Strings, Parish Church, 7.30pm
 Wed 18 Parish Council meeting: Duke of Cumberland's Head, Clifton, 7.30pm
 Wed 25 History Society: Chris Skidmore MP, 'Death and the Virgin Queen Elizabeth and the Mysterious Fate of Amy Robsart', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
 Thu 26 Book Club meeting: Call 338094 for details
 Sat 28 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9am–12.30pm

Banbury Rural Neighbourhood

PC Jolene Hurst has been appointed as the new Rural Neighbourhood Officer for the Banbury Rural Neighbourhood Team. She replaces PC Duncan Vale from 4 June when he moves to join the town centre, Grimsbury, Cherwell Heights and Easington neighbourhood team.

Rural Thefts

Rural thefts are now a Thames Valley Force priority and we would ask all members of the community to contact the police immediately with any suspicious vehicles or people driving slowly through the villages looking for or collecting scrap metal. If the vehicle registration number, description of the vehicle and persons can be obtained and passed to Thames Valley Police by calling 101, officers will be dispatched to stop the vehicle and deal with any offences identified.

FIBRE OPTIC BROADBAND PROGRESS

A lot has been happening since the end of March when BT announced Deddington has been chosen for the UK's first fibre-only pilot. The project will see every home and business in Deddington connected to fibre optic cables capable of delivering blistering broadband speeds of up to 300Mbps. The news has been warmly welcomed, especially as BT is upgrading the whole of the Deddington exchange area, including Barford St Michael, Aynho Wharf, Hempton and Clifton.

You may already have seen the project team from Openreach, BT's local network division, in and around Deddington. They're carrying out planning work to survey the existing telecoms network and find the best and least disruptive way of laying the new fibre optic cables.

But first the fibre optic cable needs to be 'fed' into the area from the telephone exchange in Banbury. A team of three local engineers from Banbury will spend the next 13 weeks laying fibre-optic cable along the 14km route between Banbury and Deddington. This cable is called the 'fibre spine' because it will provide the backbone for service to the village.

Engineers from Openreach will feed new fibre optic cable through the existing sub-ducting – better described as plastic tubing – that runs underground from Banbury to Deddington to do their best to avoid digging up the roads. Should you happen to see them do say hello, although they will be working through the night to minimise disruption to your daily routine.

Wendy Sycamore

**Senior PR Manager, Next Generation Broadband
BT Group**

Crime News

On 3 April approximately 1000 litres of heating oil was stolen from a property in the main road in Clifton to an approximate value of £400.

On 18 April Bloxham CofE school reported approximately 25 metres of lead had been stolen from their roof. This was during the heavy rain and no exact time for the offence is known. No forensic evidence has been left at the scene and CCTV enquiries have proved negative.

Roadworks are currently being undertaken on Bloxham High Street and on two separate occasions this month, trailer dolly wheels have been stolen from the generator trailers at the site. This is a fairly busy road during most of the day and anyone who may have witnessed any of these offences is asked to contact the police with any information.

Have Your Say Online

Should you have any problems or concerns please phone the Thames Valley Police non-emergency number on 101 or email BanburyRuralNHPT@thames-valley.pnn.police.uk. Please allow some time for a response as the mail box is checked at certain times of the day. In an emergency please dial 999.

CALLING ALL CLUBS

1st Deddington Guides

We've made a cracking start to the summer term. Various groups of Guides are working on badges such as Active Response and Traditions of Guiding. We've been learning fire-lighting skills and putting these into practice with our first cookout of the year. Aaah, the smell of wood smoke – we had a fine evening and cooked our sausages and beans to perfection.

The annual St George's Day parade was partially affected by the gales. It was not possible to parade through Banbury which was very disappointing for the youngsters, especially those in the colour party. However, undaunted, there was a terrific turn out in St Mary's Church. The flag bearers had their proud moment as they first processed around the church and then presented their colours to the Division Commissioner. Well done Elen and Sophie T, we were very proud of you. Well done to the other Guides who attended looking very smart.

By the time this goes to press we hope to have hiked, honed our camping skills and enjoyed a presentation from representatives of the ambulance service.

We are also looking ahead to all the outdoor activities we have planned this term. We are usually very lucky with the weather on a Tuesday evening – so we travel hopefully.

Maggie Rampley, Guider
01295 810069

Photographic Society

At the first of two recent meetings, member Simon Lutter led a workshop on the use of Adobe Photoshop software to enhance photographs in the post-production process prior to printing. Introducing the tools palette, Simon showed how the more popular tools are used in conjunction with layers and layer masks, substitution and deletion, cropping, cloning, colour saturation, contrast adjustment, sharpening and photo-stitching. Overall, an excellent interactive and step-by-step demonstration of the basic techniques used to improve photographs.

The second meeting was a presentation by Gordon Roberts on 'Photography in the Snow'. Explaining that, as snow is essentially a reflecting medium for the sky, its appearance could either be dull, bleached white or blue snow, depending on whether the sky is overcast, cloudy or blue. This presents the photographer with a number of difficulties. Gordon then discussed his camera techniques in a variety of snow situations, and emphasised the opportunities presented by snow and ice sports, hoarfrost, ice crystal auroras, mist/sun effects, snow-laden pine trees, shapes created by snow blizzards, snow plumes on mountain tops, and simple patterns in the snow. He concluded by showing a selection of both colour and black and white photographs which he had taken mostly in the French Alps. An unusual and very interesting presentation by an experienced and seasoned snowscape photographer.

The next activity by the Society involves a photo-shoot of Adderbury, which will take place on 6 June, meeting at 7.30pm on The Green. Everyone is welcome to participate, just come along and you will find us there.

Richard Broadbent 338173

Deddington Beeches Bowls Club

We have had a good start to the new bowling season with wins over Banbury Borough and Oxford University Press bowls clubs. Well done Deddington! But we slipped up against our next opponents, away at Kidlington, losing narrowly but, as they say, you can't win them all.

We are still looking for new members and you are all welcome to have a go (free membership this year). If you are interested, please contact one of the following.

Pat Clements/Ted Davies 338710
Chris/Yvonne Twomey 337213

1st Barford and Deddington Rainbows

Rainbows started the new term learning about maps and map reading. The girls were very good at spotting different kinds of church buildings, hills, woods and other landmarks on maps. We'll be able to use what we learnt when we go for a walk in July.

We iced cupcakes to look like the England flag for St George's Day and nine girls attended the parade in Banbury with the rest of Cherwell Division Guides and Banbury District Scouts. Unfortunately we couldn't march due to the atrocious weather but the girls were a credit, as ever, during the church service. We think we may have had the youngest member of a uniformed organisation in Lucy who had only been to two meetings before coming to the parade.

We've also had fun decorating plant pots and planting nasturtium seeds in them ready for the summer. The fact that you can eat the flowers gives them added Rainbow appeal. Next on the programme we have Morris dancing and making a scarecrow for the Open Gardens in Barford.

We currently have a waiting list of eligible girls. If you think your daughter may be interested in joining us, it's never too early to put names on the waiting list. Please contact me for further details or to put a name down. Rainbows are 5–7 year old girls and we meet in Barford St Michael on a Friday afternoon.

Hazel Neal 337822 hmkn@sky.com

1st Deddington Scout Group Cubs

We have three new Cubs: Nate, William and Matthew; may they spend many happy hours with the pack.

With St George's Day parade imminent we played some dragon games and talked about the legend and whether we thought dragons were real. Our parade in Banbury had to be cancelled due to the terrible

CALLING MORE CLUBS

weather, the first time this has ever happened. We met at St Mary's and the flags were carried around the church.

Luckily (a miracle) the weather for District Cub Camp turned out fine, if rather cold at night. We woke up the first morning to find the tents and field covered in ice, but the days were wonderfully sunny. The theme of the camp was 'Athletics' and the boys tried a variety of slightly silly games loosely based on Olympic sports; I'm looking forward to the spacehopper racing at the London games!

We hiked to Wroxton and one of our teams won the gold medal in the competition on Sunday morning. Many thanks to all the parents who helped make the camp a great success.

Jo Churchyard, CSL 338071
jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

The Scouts have been looking at the work that Shelter-box do around the world and tried to decide what they would put in their own emergency pack. My advice is, don't get stranded with any of them.

They went to Horley and erected the tents and organised the equipment for the Cub Camp, all good practice for their own expeditions.

Coming soon – natural navigation, Deddington bingo and The 24, our next camp.

We are trying to put together the history of our group, if you have any pictures of Deddington Scouts or memories of your time as a Scout or Cub, please contact us.

Pete Churchyard, SL 338071
pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

1st Deddington Brownies

As I write this the Brownies have completed the first of two cycling sessions with Haddenham Cycle Training. Successful completion of the course will entitle the Brownies to their cyclist badges. So far the girls have learnt about road safety, had their bikes checked over, and had fun cycling through cone courses and playing games. Next week they take to the roads.

Brown Owl has been recognised by Girl Guiding for achieving five years' service, both leading Deddington Brownies and supporting activities throughout the district. As well as offering her congratulations when you see her, you might like also to wish her a happy birthday. She's 21 again and will be spending her big day running a Jubilee party for the Brownies. Well done, happy birthday and thank you Brown Owl.

Lucy Squires
338442

Deddington Town Colts

Another season has come to an end. We had two teams playing in the Oxfordshire Invitation League and

eight teams in the Witney and District Youth League. Thank you to the managers and coaches for all the hours they have put in on a voluntary basis to guide the children and young people for the last nine months of the season. I would also like to thank all the parents who have helped out during the season. Finally, and most importantly, thanks to the players who have shown great commitment to turn out in all weathers and improve their game.

Our presentation day is on Sunday 24 June 2012 at 3pm at the Windmill Centre where we will be able to celebrate our success. On the same day there is a Grand Draw to raise funds for the future. Over the past two years the costs of running the team have increased: for example, higher costs for training facility and pitch hire. In addition we have had to invest capital resources for the club such as new goals and portable floodlights for training. However, the management committee decided to freeze subscription rates for players for the last two seasons to make sure that our football was accessible and affordable to as many children and young people as possible.

To make our football club sustainable we are fundraising over summer. If local businesses or individuals would like to donate prizes for our Grand Draw (cash prizes, vouchers, hampers or gift baskets, and football related products) or would like to sponsor or support the club or individual teams, eg shirt sponsors for the 2012-13 season, then please get in touch with me.

Barry Grant, Chairman and Under 16 Manager
07966 468704 bgrant@cmsindustries.com

Mini football

The Under 7s had a day out at Oxford United – training in the morning, a tour of the stadium and then watching a game. They also did a lap of honour round the pitch. The Under 9 Sharks suffered from a rearranged fixture list that saw a predominance of tough fixtures at the end of the season. Nevertheless, a run of narrow defeats in early spring were halted by a notable 2–2 draw at Banbury United Puritans; before a depleted team fought bravely but went down narrowly to a 2–0 defeat at Cup winners Brackley Town. The season looked like finishing on a victory note as they led 1–0 against Banbury United Youth but they were denied by a late equaliser. Therefore, despite having been in third place for the majority of the season, they finished fifth. However, as a first competitive season in what proved to be a very tough league, this was still a very creditable achievement. The Under 9 Cobras won their last game of the season with a 2–0 win over Brackley Town Saints.

Junior football

The Under 11 Sharks lost 3–0 in their last game of the season to Cumnor Minors to finish mid-table in the A League. The Under 12 Tigers had a fine 3–2

... AND EVEN MORE CLUBS

win over Moreton Rangers. The Tigers led 2–1 at half time with fine finishes from Rhys Crawley. Moreton drew level after the break, but William Staples scored the winning goal from the restart. The Tigers created chance after chance but could not add further goals. In their last game of the season, the Tigers were desperately unlucky to lose 2–1 to Garden City. The Tigers led for most of the game with a fine finish from William Staples, but Garden City scored two goals in the dying minutes. The Under 14s had a narrow 2–1 defeat to Garden City, hitting the woodwork twice in the second half. They lost 5–2 to Oxford Blackbird Boys in the County Cup Final held at Thame. The team can feel extremely unlucky after hitting the woodwork seven times during the first half. This was a fantastic performance for a large crowd to enjoy but lady luck was against the team. Back in the League, the team lost 3–0 to Highfield. The Under 16s season ended with a thrilling 3–2 defeat at the champions Bicester Town. This meant they finished in a very creditable fourth place. The lads showed tenacity, bravery and class throughout the season which bodes well for an assault on the B League title next season.

Roger Sykes

Club Welfare Officer and U12 Manager 337034

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team results:

- 14.04.12 Sporting Hethe (h) W 5–0 Carter D, Hall, Thornton L, (3)
 18.04.12 Woodford United (a) (CUP) W 4–1 Carter R, Thornton J, Thornton L (2)
 28.04.12 Sinclair United (a) W 4–2 Thornton J, Thornton L (2), Preece
 07.05.12 KEA (CUP) W 3–2 Thornton L (2), Carter D

Reserve Team results:

- 14.04.12 Hardwick Old Boys (CUP) L 0–3
 21.04.12 Brackley Sports (h) W 5–0

When the sweet, sultry siren song of splendour came calling, Deddington Town let her in, wined and dined her, before conceiving a metaphorical child dripping in silver at season's end. The dénouement to the First Team's campaign saw four superb victories, the most famous coming in a memorable Banbury Charity Cup Final slaying KEA. A brace from Luc Thornton and one from David Carter were enough to see off the Bicester cloggers, and those black-and-whites brought home the bacon. As for the league, Andy Morris's men finished a creditable fifth, so a victory parade through the streets is not unwarranted.

The Reserves suffered a dismal defeat in the Eric Morris Cup Final, not helped by conceding a goal within thirty seconds of each half beginning. But wallow not 'neath the weeping willow, any lachrymose lamentations are not welcome, for the Reserves finished second in Division Two, just a point behind the leaders,

thus gaining promotion. For those of us experienced enough to remember the many bleak years the Reserves spent languishing in the bottom division, to see them now just one division below the First Team is unheralded, and Jason Tustain must gain much acclaim for his stewardship. He has been helped in no small part by the goal scoring exploits of Luke Gibbs, as well as some sterling displays from youngsters like Craig Lynes and Ed Preece. Be sure to acknowledge these legends' accomplishments should you see them on the street, for it is not for fame or fortune that they strive through adversity, merely the thrill of glory and the blood of Deddington coursing through every strained sinew. Happy holidays everyone.

Aaron Bliss
07909 642882

Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

Over the years the DOGS have been most fortunate with good weather but this April was extraordinary. Hosepipe restrictions must have been the last straw as nature took over and on Friday 27 April when the DOGS invaded Studley Wood Golf Club for our first event of the season, the heavens opened. We were halfway around this beautiful golf course (most DOGS were furthest from shelter) when the rain came in abundance, including some sleet and hail for added measure. Golf day abandoned. DOGS soaked. Washed out. We have been invited back on Friday 26 October to try again.

Our ever-popular golf day at Burford Golf Club is set for Monday 11 June. This venue is not only highly attended but also fiercely competitive. Set in lovely Cotswold countryside, we all have fond memories of previous golf days at Burford Golf Club. Full details of the day will be on Deddington OnLine.

David Darst
338589

Deddington Youth Club

We've had a very busy couple of terms with lots of developments and exciting changes taking place. One of the biggest changes has been the formation of a 'Friends of Deddington Youth Club'. We are very grateful for the generosity of the members of this group and also to the Parish Council for their donation of £500 towards our running costs. Thanks to this support our Youth Club is now much more secure financially and we can focus on how we can improve the service that we offer to the young people of our village. For information about the 'Friends' please contact Andrew Green on 337837 or Maureen Forsyth on 338384.

The Youth Club continues to grow and we have had lots of new children join us since September, practically doubling our numbers. We enjoy a range of activities, including sports, table tennis, pool, crafts, face-painting and cooking.

... AND FINALLY

We are looking for donations of board games and sports equipment so if you happen to have anything that you think we might be able to use, please do get in touch with either Hayley or Sarah (details below).

The young people have decided that they would also like to help raise money for the club so, at some point in the next few months, we will be going along to a car boot sale. If you have anything that we could sell at this event please let us know or drop in and see us on a Monday evening.

The Youth Club meets at the Windmill Centre on Monday evenings in term time from 7–9 pm. We welcome children aged from 9 to 15 at a cost of £2 per session. If you would like any more information please don't hesitate to contact us.

Hayley McDowell 07551 595950

Sarah Green 07757 238214

Deddington and District History Society

Our May speaker, Matt Armitage, has run Tooley's Boatyard in Banbury since 1990. The boatyard itself is somewhat older, having first opened for business 200 years previously. It was taken over by the Tooley family in the late 19th century. The oldest dry dock on the whole of Britain's inland waterways, Tooley's had appeared to be doomed when the Castle Quay development (which disastrously turned its back on the canal and its potential) went ahead. Fortunately, its forge (1788, the year that the canal reached Banbury) was listed and the yard was saved. Initially incorporated into Banbury Museum, it has been run as a private company since 2002. The forge continues to supply boat equipment, and it is also an 'artistic blacksmiths' making a range of goods and offering courses in smithy techniques. Tooley's Boatyard works on a range of craft, it recovers broken down boats, it offers boating and boat-painting courses, it houses art exhibitions, and it even operates an annual 'Theatre in the Dock'. It stands as an example of an historic business that through sheer energy and enterprise has achieved unlikely survival.

In early June we shall be enjoying a private visit to the Tudor Rycote Chapel and gardens, near Thame. Our final event of the season will be a special lecture by MP Chris Skidmore on the controversial (and convenient?) death in September 1560 of Amy Robsart, wife of Queen Elizabeth's favourite Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. All are welcome to the lecture, at the Windmill Centre at 7.30 on 25 July. Tickets, to include refreshments, are £3 for members, £5 for non-members, profits going to Katharine House Hospice. Do come along for a fascinating lecture and for the support of an important local cause. Please contact Moira Byast.

Chris Day (Chairman) 337204

Moira Byast (Secretary) 338637

Deddington Players

There will be a committee meeting at the end of June to decide the pantomime for 2013. We have already decided that we will return to a more traditional story this year – now we need your ideas and suggestions for scripts. Can you send any thoughts to me by 29 June please? We will be joining the Jubilee parade on 2 June – quite possibly in pantomime garb – look out for us. We hope to have a summer social and barbecue in early September, and will be celebrating our 21st pantomime in January – the dates for your diaries are 17–19 January 2013. We look forward to seeing you there.

Lucy Squires

338442

Book Club

In March we read *Hard Times* by Charles Dickens. This novel, set in a fictional northern industrial town, is the shortest of Dickens' novels and may be a good one to read if his lengthier works daunt you. It was chosen as appropriate for the current times and to mark Dickens' bicentenary. With a couple of exceptions, the characters are two dimensional caricatures, but they serve a purpose to enable Dickens to bang his drum about social issues, in this case education and working conditions in the factories and mills during the time of the Industrial Revolution. It is worth persevering through the first few chapters, which were quite hard going, especially with the regional accents to slow you down. A good social history, a lot of humour and, for some of us, a good yarn.

There is no meeting in June. The next book is *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett and the next meeting 26 July.

Sally Lambert

338094

Deddington Town Vets

Many feats will be recorded in 2011–12 football annals – Manchester City's dramatic late goals to win the Premiership and Chelsea becoming the first London club to be champions of Europe are just two notable examples. But spare a thought for an achievement no less worthy, no less glorious and no less deserving: Deddington Vets went through the entire season undefeated.

However, for us there are no multi-million pound contracts, no pop star girlfriends, no endorsements (unless you count the three points Shep got on his licence for speeding after he missed his lift with Jason). Are we envious? Of course we are. But putting that to one side for a minute, we don't play for fame, money or Russian billionaires. We play because we want to, because we enjoy each other's company, because, quite simply, even at our advancing years, we can.

Barry O'Connell

338988

THE QUEEN AND I

Here is the second instalment of Deddington's royal memories

MARY ROBINSON supplied this family anecdote, written by an aunt as a teenage girl:

In 1914 my Uncle Hilton Furniss was in camp with the Territorials on the East Coast of Yorkshire. He was drafted straight into the Army and was in until the end, and was awarded the Military Cross. He was always a hero and brave man to me, and when he had been to the Palace to receive his medal and I questioned him about it, what was it like, what did King George V say, etc, he replied, 'Thank, you sir, for the medal, and how's your Mary?'. 'Very well', said the King, 'and how's your Martha?' [Martha, Hilton's wife].

ROYAL ELEGANCE – Edna Sewell

In 1943 I was stationed at Westfield College, Hampstead, then a training base for the WRNS. It had, if I remember, an imposing frontage and steps up to the pillared front porch. One day 12 of us were told we were to form a guard of honour for a member of the royal family – we were not told who. The following week we lined up and learnt that our visitor was HRH the Duchess of Kent (Princess Marina of Greece), our Chief Officer. As she walked by she talked to one or two of us, unfortunately not to me. However, my chance came later when she asked to meet the 12 Wrens who had formed the guard. She stood informally with us and chatted and eventually asked me which part of the UK I was from and if I liked being in the WRNS. She was beautiful and had a gorgeous rich deep voice and lovely accent. Later, when we discussed the day, the main topic of conversation was about her shoes and the stockings she was wearing with her uniform. The stockings were of the finest black silk. One girl remarked, 'She must know a GI who brings them from the USA'. Her shoes were black court with Cuban heels, while we wore thick black lisle stockings and 'granny' shoes with laces and flat heels. But we enjoyed our special day and felt truly honoured.

MISSED OPPORTUNITY – Hugh Marshall

In 1948 I was a very 'new boy' at my boarding school when King George VI and Queen Elizabeth paid a visit. Lamp-posts, window frames and doors were repainted for the first time since before the war, class rooms and roads were scrubbed, flowers planted and everyone had a role to play. I was a member of the Scout Troop who were to make a 'camp' in the school grounds and I and another boy were to cook sausages on the campfire. The day before the visit I went down with 'flu and was confined to the sick bay. But I didn't miss everything because the Queen paid us a special visit and spoke briefly to each of us who were in bed. After she had gone I realised that she might have noticed the book lying on my locker, *The Man who Stole the Crown Jewels*, but she didn't mention it. The next week *The Scout*, a weekly magazine for Boy Scouts, carried a full-page photograph of my friend in Scout uniform, handing a sizzling sausage to His Majesty. It could have been me!

ROYAL ESCORT – Flight Sergeant Frederick James Ellis (as told to KT)

In 1952 Flt Sgt Ellis was a member of 203 Squadron, flying, among other planes, post-war adapted Lancasters. His job was that of wireless radar operator. Normally the Squadron was involved in Cold War surveillance work, keeping an eye on the Russian fishing fleet, etc. But on 6 February, they had a different mission – as part of the escort that accompanied the new Queen Elizabeth II from Kenya to the UK. Coastal Command Lancasters had escorted the Queen, first to the north coast of Africa via the Mediterranean and on to France. At this point Fred Ellis' 203 Squadron rendezvoused with the Queen's party, escorting her across the English Channel to Northolt Airbase. Once in contact with the Base the Squadron said goodbye and returned to France.

Fred (perhaps better known to Deddington as the erstwhile landlord of the Unicorn) has another memory. He took part in the huge RAF Coronation Review in 1953 at Odiham Airfield in Hampshire. The Squadron had been re-equipped with American Neptunes and these were part of the static display. Fred remembers extra accommodation marquees being erected on the airfield. The grass was long and everything was invaded by earwigs!

CORONATION DAY 2 JUNE 1953 – George Fenemore
I was a five year old in the kindergarten of Overthorpe Hall Preparatory School for boys, now the Carrdus School, and Mrs Chislett from Deddington was our teacher. I have vivid memories of the Coronation Day because the headmaster, Mr James McCloghry (old Tick-Tock), allowed all six in the kindergarten to sit on the floor of his private sitting-room and watch the Coronation on a small black and white television – this was the first time I had ever seen a television. The day was a national holiday, but as it was a boarding school, there were no lessons and the 'big boys' had a day of inter-house sports. This was followed by a sumptuous tea party with ice cream, jelly, cake, fizzy lemonade, oranges and bananas. Although none of these things are out of the ordinary today, 60 years ago there was still food rationing and they were luxuries which many of us had not tasted or seen before. After the party we had a film show with Walt Disney cartoons, then the bell went for bed and we day boys went home, clutching our commemorative blue glass beakers emblazoned with the royal crest and I still have mine. It is now 60 years since that little boy sat watching his monarch being crowned in a far-off place called London. In all that time he has visited London only twice, once to meet the landlord of Home Farm and then two years ago to meet the Archbishop at Lambeth Palace. My third visit was on 22 May, to a garden party at Buckingham Palace, so this will really be a diamond year.

(More memories of The Queen and I next month)

PIERS GAVESTON AND THE NUN OF DEDDINGTON

This is the eighth 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 have missed previous instalments, they are available online at www.deddingtonnews.co.uk.

When the Nun reached the Castle, she thought there seemed an unusual bustle in the Courtyard; and the guards appeared more numerous; but thinking that her fears might deceive her, she passed on to the apartment where lay the body of the child. The Countess was not there, and somewhat surprised the Sister took her seat and in a low tone chanted some of the hymns then sung for the dead. While thus employed, sad and foreboding fears oppressed her; she could not control her thoughts; her voice sank, her head was bowed, and the silent tears fell down her cheeks upon her clasped hands. As she sat thus a Sculptor or a Painter would have chosen her as a model for despairing grief. But minds like Sister Margaret's are never long depressed when exertion is required. The hour of nine was pealed from the Castle tower, and shortly afterwards, the silence of death seemed to have fallen on all within its walls. Where could the Countess be? How was it that not a single attendant was left with the dead? The Nun arose and looked through the latticed window – the night was dark, the clouds hung in the Heavens in thick masses that threatened tempest; two or three stars peeped at intervals through the mists that were rising, but no sound broke the awful stillness around, except the moaning of the wind which seemed to the Nun as if wailing over the dead; or at times, as if whispering warnings to herself.

She opened the door and, taking a small lamp from the table, set out for the prison of Gavestone. Her way was through unfrequented chambers and the chill seemed to strike her to the heart. As she opened

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the lower door of the secret staircase, a gust of wind extinguished the lamp.

'It matters not,' she said aloud. 'I know my way too well to lose it, and once outside the Castle he will be safe.'

She commenced ascending the stairs, carefully crossing each door as she passed through it. In a short time she stood in the chamber of Gavestone, pale, trembling and depressed. He looked earnestly at her, and then in whispered words of tenderness, he besought her to fly with him; to trust him as he trusted her; and if England contained no safe resting place for them, they would seek a foreign shore, where their hands could be joined, and where they could find a home.

'My vow,' she repeated sadly, but with firmness, 'may not be broken. We never meet again after this hour.'

Sir Piers attempted to speak, but she raised her finger and motioned him to follow her through the secret door which she carefully closed, whispering, 'Give me your hand and do not speak, as you value your life.'

They descended cautiously but rapidly, until the last door stayed their progress. There she paused, and listened attentively for some moments, then hearing no sound, led the way into the apartment. She only advanced a step ere she uttered a cry of such deep anguish that it thrilled through the heart of Gavestone like the knell of death. He pressed forward and beheld a band of armed men in array before them. A single glance showed him the Earl of Warwick at their head and he knew that his fate was sealed.

Piers Gaveston Anniversary

The night of 9–10 June 2012 is the 700th anniversary of Piers Gaveston's stay at Castle House before he was seized by his arch enemy, the Earl of Warwick, and carried off to his death.

People are naturally pre-occupied with a certain other anniversary this year, but it would be a shame to let Gaveston's go unnoticed. Interested readers can refer to the article on Gaveston in the History Society's magazine 224. The relevant issue is no. 28 (September 2006), available at:

<http://www.deddington.org.uk/history/ddhs/ddhs224>.

Chris Day

chris.day@deddington.net

DEDDINGTON CRICKET CLUB

Four of our Deddington boys have been selected for the final U11 South Northants District squad and are now on the Northamptonshire Players Pathway:

Donald Barrett, George Welch (Captain), Harry Turburfield, Ollie Wellstood.

We started off with 39 candidates who went through a five week assessment programme when they were reduced to 22. This was followed by another development stage when the final 16 were selected.

Thanks to Bengal Spice for hosting our pre-season dinner. There are regular Saturday senior matches at the Windmill, starting at 1.30pm, as well as junior matches on occasional Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

Jill Cheeseman 338609