

THE TEAM

YOUR EDITOR THIS MONTH:
CATHERINE DESMOND

APRIL 2016 COPY TO

JILL CHEESEMAN
editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk
by **19 March**

ADVERTISING COPY
by **10 March**

EDITORS

Jill Cheeseman 01869 338609
Catherine Desmond
01869 336211
editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk

MONTHLY ADS & INSERTS

Debbie Grimsley
01869 336110
grimsleyhome@live.co.uk

ANNUAL ADS

annuals@deddingtonnews.co.uk

WHAT'S ON

Mary Robinson
diary@deddingtonnews.co.uk

CLUBS

Alison Day 01869 337204
clubs@deddingtonnews.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL

Jean Rudge 01869 338110
jeanlrudge@hotmail.com

FEATURES

Hilary Smith 01869 337812
features@deddingtonnews.co.uk

PRINTING

Ruth Johnson 01869 337166
Pat Swash

COLLATING & DISTRIBUTION

Pat Brittain 01869 338685
and teams

TREASURER

Buffy Heywood 01869 338212
bd.heywood@btinternet.com

COVER

John Price

the Deddington news

With gales and downpours so far this year, what about March? 'In like a lion, out like a lamb' as the old saying goes? It was first recorded by Thomas Fuller in his *Gnomologia* of 1732, together with several other predictions which have not survived: 'So many mists in March you see, So many frosts in May will be', and, 'March many-Weathers rain'd and blow'd, But March grass never did good', as well as, 'A Peck of March-Dust, and a Shower in May, Makes the Corn green, and the Fields gay'. In the era of climate change, however, we would be very unwise to regard the past as predictor of the future, so we'll have to see.

CD

WHAT'S ON

March

- Wed 2 Photographic Society: Presentation by Jim Muller, 'From Hummingbirds to Cake Stands: the Sublime to the Ridiculous', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
- Sat 5 Car wash: in aid of Fire Fighters Charity, Fire Station, Banbury Road, 10.00am–1.00pm
- Mon 7 WI: AGM, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Wed 9 History Society: Shaun Morley on 'Custom and Ritual in 19th Century Oxfordshire', Windmill, 7.30pm
- Thu 10 Holly Tree Club: Film Night, film tba, 6.00pm
- Sat 12 PFSU & Nursery: Jumble Sale, Windmill, 11.00am–1.00pm. Donations accepted Friday 10.00am–12.00pm and 7.00–9.00pm
- Wed 16 Photographic Society: Workshop on 'High Speed Photography, Part 1', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
- Thu 17 Friends of Castle Grounds: AGM, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Fri 18 PFSU & Nursery and FODC: Wine tasting evening with Sophie McCarthy, Windmill, 7.30–9.30pm
- Sat 19 Beeches Bowls Club: Annual skittles evening, RBL Club, 8.00pm
- Sat 19 Deddington Town Football Club: Foot Ball, Great Barn, Aynho, 7.30pm
- Mon 21 Rhyme time sessions: Library 2.30–3.00pm
- Sat 26 Farmers' Market, Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Thu 31 Book Club: call Sally Lambert, 338094, for next title

April

- Wed 6 Photographic Society: AGM, followed by members' What is it?' photographs, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
- Wed 13 History Society: Dr Don Ratcliffe 'Hook Norton Lunatic Asylums', Windmill, 7.30pm

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

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I've learned not to trust my remembrance of events deep in the past because I've so often got it wrong but on the origins of the *DN* I seem to recollect

that, apart from myself, there were three other *dramatis personae* who played a large part in its launch on the unsuspecting citizens of Deddington.

The idea itself for a village newsheet informing people of meetings and events was probably plagiarised from seeing another village's newspaper. At any rate the key personnel involved in the venture from the start were Mary Robinson who agreed to be *DN*'s first editor, Jill Cheeseman who typed all the copy on a portable typewriter and is now promoted to the editor's chair, and Mary Sullivan who chased up donations from local business advertisers to cover the costs. Yours truly rattled a few cages and twisted a few arms on that score so that the *DN* could be a free publication delivered to every household in the village.

One other name was instrumental in making a success of the enterprise and that was the vicar of the day, the Revd George Palmer, who volunteered to print around 500 copies on his Roneo duplicating machine. When the *ad hoc* distribution task became too unwieldy the Guides and Scouts took it on.

I have a feeling that the Windmill Centre Management Committee, which I chaired at the time, might have had a hand in things as the *DN* could be used to advertise its programme of adult evening classes, run under the auspices of the Oxfordshire County Council's Community Education Department.

Gerard Sullivan

DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Governors needed

Regular readers of the *DN* will be aware of how our school has been improving and strengthening links with the community over the last couple of years. The governing body and the staff are delighted with the major improvements made since

2012. We should all be proud of our local school and we feel it is well on its way to becoming an outstanding establishment.

We are now about to enter one of the most exciting phases in the school's history and need to recruit new governors to continue the improvement. There are no immediate vacancies but from September there will be positions to fill.

School governors have three main functions: holding the school to account for pupils' attainment and progress, ensuring financial stability and setting the strategic direction for the school. Our governing body is organised into three sub-committees – Teaching and Learning, Finance and Premises, and People and Community. We will need to fill gaps on all these committees in the next twelve months, due to governors' terms of office coming to an end.

If you have an interest in making a difference to your local school and would like to know more about governance, please get in touch. I am happy to explain about the roles in more detail so you can discover, without any obligation, if you might be one of the people we are looking for to join our dedicated and happy team. Please drop me a line via the contact page on the school website. Whatever your age, stage and experience, we could be looking for you.

Becky Jones, Chair of Governors

<http://www.deddingtonprimaryschool.co.uk/keyinformation/governors/contact-our-governors/>



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Contact Bethan Leach:
07817 926366
bethan.leach2012@gmail.com
www.bethanleach.co.uk



STOP PRESS: OXFORD–BANBURY ROAD CLOSURES

In order to perform structural patching work, OCC will be closing a section of the A4260, Oxford Road, from its junction with Somerton Road, North Aston Road to the junction with Fenway, Steeple Aston overnight between 8.30pm–6.00am.

Southbound closure starting 14 March and anticipated to be completed on 18 March.

Northbound closure starting 21 March and anticipated to be completed on 24 March.

Work is now expected to take less time than scheduled above but the dates are weather dependent.

Further information is available by contacting Nick Watson, OCC Highways and Transport, on 08453 101111.

FROM THE FIRE STATION

It has been a very busy month for us at the fire station. There was a van fire on farmland just outside Duns Tew. The fire had fully engulfed the van which concerned me because as I looked into the flames I could see metal pipe inside. This made us think that there could be gas cylinders involved. I briefed the BA (breathing apparatus) crew to stand back and try to put water on it from a distance. Although they did this it was a very windy day so it was difficult to get the water on the van. As they edged forward to try to position themselves to manage the water onto the van there was a small explosion in the rear of the van which confirmed our worries. I might add they retreated quite rapidly to a safe distance. This was arson which always raises our concerns at these type of incidents because in our experience the type of people that would do this sort of thing have little regard for people or property. I would like to credit the BA crew, George Williamson and Barney Alton, for their bravery at this incident. They take incidents like this in their stride and for me, being the officer in charge, I know that I can charge them with any task and they will do it without question. They are in their early twenties and when I hear people say the kids of today aren't the same as they used to be, I feel that these people do not know the same young people that I am proud to work with.

Another fire this month was in Banbury. This resulted in one man being rescued from his home where he could have easily lost his life. The man is a hoarder, which is always a very large hazard for fire crews as the fire can quickly develop and spread to neighbouring properties. Smoke alarms are an essential piece

of equipment that every home should have and should be tested on a weekly basis. They enable people to get out of their properties and get us there before the fire can get out of control. This incident could have been a lot worse if fire crews hadn't arrived as quickly as they did.

The crew have been on the M40 to road traffic crashes three times this month. Two of these were serious incidents. In one of them, sadly someone lost their life and in another a man in a Mitsubishi truck had to be cut out when he lost control of his vehicle. It was a straight forward operation for us as it was what we call a roof-off extrication and is the one crash incident we train for most.

Training has been full on as well. The Brigade has invested in new radio coms for the BA teams which means that they can communicate with the support teams outside more effectively. Everyone at Deddington has now had their yearly BA refresher and have all passed with flying colours. This is a first for us as it is a very difficult thing to achieve because the criteria at training school are very stringent so a huge well done to all.

We are holding a charity car wash on 5 March to help raise money for the Fire Fighters Charity. This will be held at the station between 10.00am and 1.00pm and we ask for your support in this event. Without your support for fund raisers like this, the Charity would not survive. All the proceeds help fire fighters and their families who have either lost their lives or been injured, helping to make our lives safer.

Crew Manager Tim Parker

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

So far I've written mainly about patronymics – names based on a father's name. Some English surnames originated as patronymics and, in one country, where they don't normally have surnames, patronymics are still usual. That country is Iceland. As it happens, there are some Icelanders now in Britain – mainly professional footballers. So, in a team list, amongst surnames like Smith, Brown and Drogba, you may encounter an Icelandic name like Sigurdsson. However, that name doesn't tell you who the player is: it tells you literally who his father is. It's a patronymic. So the list of footballers is actually saying "Smith, Jones, Sigurdur's little boy, Drogba, Ronaldo ...". This Icelandic's name is actually Gylfi, his first name.

Now, it's obvious that although many English surnames originated as patronymics, not all of them did. So let's go back a few centuries and work out what might have happened. Let's say there was a man called Tom, and of course he had to be distinguished from other men called Tom. So, as his father was called Jack, he could be called Tom Jackson. But, as it happened, he lived near a wood, so sometimes they called him Tom Wood. The village he lived in or near

was called Milton, so sometimes they called him Tom Milton. Tom was a big man, so they might also have called him Tom Mitchell (Old English *mycel*: 'big'), and as he was a miller by trade, he was also Tom Miller. There were no surnames then, but one or other of these by-names would in time become a surname – a name that is passed down through the generations, and which becomes an indicator of family identity, no longer descriptive of the person who bears the name. The odd thing about surnames is that, in a sense, they have lost 'meaning'. In Deddington there is someone called Steve Miller, who is definitely not a miller of grain: he owns a hairdressing salon. We don't see anything odd about this because we no longer expect a surname to *mean* anything, so Tom Jackson's father could be named Barnaby or Peregrine or Stanislaus, Tom Milton may come from Oswestry or Bagshot, and Tom Mitchell may be of diminutive stature. Nobody's bothered. The surname is merely a family label.

At some point in the past, descriptive by-names must have become family names, and next month I'll try to suggest how and why this happened.

Jim Milroy 01869 337614

DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM



Water, water everywhere, but not a drop I would want to drink. Over the last few days the Clifton Sea has returned with a vengeance and there are sections of the river valley under water that have not been covered for many years. During the last few weeks we have seen large numbers of golden

plover and lapwing overwintering in the flood plain, but they have moved on to drier climes, as their favoured feeding and roosting sites are now under several feet of water. But it's not just the meadow land that is in a very sodden state. The crop land is also very wet and we have been unable to do any field work, with many of the hedges left untrimmed, something that under the new regulations will have to be left until next autumn.

For some years we have planted autumn sown cover crops on the land destined to go into spring barley. These green manure crops are deep-rooted, improving the soil structure and helping to prevent leaching of crop nutrients left from the previous crop. Our normal management of these crops is to mulch them off in late December or early January and plough them in, leaving the open furrows for the frost to work down. Doing it this way puts a large amount of green material into the soil and gives a very good non-chemical way of controlling grass weeds. But with the biblical deluges we have seen of late, the ground is too wet to take the tractors and, if we are to get the spring crops planted in time to get a crop, we will have to spray the crop off and go in with a minimal cultivation drill. This is a machine that cuts a slot through the surface trash to plant the seed, not a method of crop establishment I like, but needs must.

As I put finger to keyboard the first of our sheep flocks are in that 'pregnant pause' between the due date and when the first lambs appear, but by the time this has passed muster with the editor and landed on the door mat, it will be all hands to the pump with another lambing season at Home Farm under way. This will be my 58th season as an ovine midwife (42 at Clifton). I still look forward to the lambing, but, sadly, these days the euphoria of the new-born lambs taking their first steps can quickly dissipate at 2.00am on the night shift, when a recalcitrant female ovine refuses to accept the lambs she has just dropped, and is more intent on clearing the hurdle pen and disappearing into the night than mothering her offspring.

Apart from a few short cold snaps, the bees have been on the wing most days and are now, along with the rest of old Mother Nature, totally confused as to what season of the year they are in. The alder and hazel have catkins, some of the more sheltered sections of hedgerow are in bud and, in places, the blackthorn

is already in flower. Some of our farmyard birds are already staking their claims to the different nest boxes. Our small farmland birds time their breeding season to coincide with the springtime flush of caterpillars to feed their nestlings. If they kick off too soon because they think spring has sprung and winter turns out to have a sting in its tail, we could see a lot of abandoned nests and starving chicks, Ho hum, and we all know where the finger of blame will be pointed in the event of a poor farmland bird breeding season, whatever the weather gods do.

George Fenimore
01869 338203

MUSICAL NOTES

There is just one concert scheduled for this month in the church, at 7.30pm on Saturday 19 March: an exciting performance by the Banbury Symphony Orchestra of works by Mendelssohn, Brahms and Borodin, featuring local violinist and founder of Music in Adderbury, Chris Windass.

The concert will open with Mendelssohn's 1839 overture for Victor Hugo's play *Ruy Blas*. In this a Spanish grandee tries to disgrace the Queen of Spain by involving her in a love affair with his valet, Ruy Blas. 'There is spontaneity, freshness and brilliance in the orchestration, which has made this one of Mendelssohn's most popular works', wrote the conductor, Edward Downes.

The Brahms Violin concerto, dedicated to the violinist, Joachim, and first performed in 1878, follows the standard three movements with a quick, slow, quick pattern. Like many violin concertos it is in D major, but this by no means makes it any easier. The solo part is technically demanding, and thrilling to listen to. The first movement is expansive and plays homage to Beethoven, the second is a beautiful short adagio and the finale has a rollicking Gypsy flavour.

The second half looks east for Borodin's Second Symphony of 1879. Borodin was one of the famous group of Russian composers that included Rimsky-Korsakov, who, in addition to his musical activity, was a full-time professor of chemistry, which involved lecturing in the newly formed medical school for women. It is thus not surprising that it took him seven years to complete the symphony and that it included extracts from his other works, especially the opera *Prince Igor*. There is an opening allegro which has a unique mixture of melodic and heroic themes. The second movement is a Russian barcarolle scherzo. The andante slow movement is serene and mystical with opening and closing melodies on the clarinet. The symphony finishes with a boisterous patriotic dance.

Donald Lane
donald199@btinternet.com

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

April

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Weekly

Mon–Fri	8.45am	Morning Prayer
Wed	10.00am	Holy Communion (with prayers for healing on the 4th Wednesday of the month)
Thu	2.00pm	<i>Squeals & Wheels</i> parent and toddler group
Sun 6	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Service (no Communion)
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong
Sun 13	8.00am	BCP Communion
	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 20	10.30am	Holy Communion (Easter Sunday)

From the Parish Register

Funerals:

28 Jan	Adrian Greeves
9 Feb	Robert Measures
15 Feb	Tony Waller

Hempton

Sun 6	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 20	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 27	6.00pm	Evening Prayer

Barford St Michael

Sun 6	10.30am	Family Service
Sun 13	9.00am	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	<i>Messy Church</i> in the Village Hall
Sun 20	4.00pm	Evening Prayer
Sun 27	9.00am	Holy Communion

Please see the card insert for full details of all services during Holy Week

For baptisms and weddings please speak to the Vicar, the Revd Annie Goldthorp, after a service. For funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the Vicar at vicar@deddingtonchurch.org or on 01869 336880 except on Fridays, her day off, or one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie (338367) or George Fenemore (338203). For further information please go to www.deddingtonchurch.org.

FODC Floodlight Sponsor: 1–7 Feb Mrs Winnifred Holt in memory of her husband and sons

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Sunday mornings at 10.30am Pastor Isabel Walton
Sun 13 John Williams
Sun 27 Geoff Suanders

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

RC Parish of Hethe

Fr Paul Lester 01869 277630

Mass at Holy Trinity, Hethe, is said at 9.30am every weekday except Thursday. There are two Masses on Saturday, at 9.30am in the Ordinary Rite and at noon in the Latin Extraordinary Rite. There are two Masses on Sunday, at 10.00am in the Ordinary Rite and at noon in the Extraordinary Rite. Mass is said at 9.00am on Sunday at SS Peter and Paul's Anglican church in King's Sutton. The Vigil 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. Confessions are heard at Hethe during the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday between 5.00–6.00pm.

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

HELP FOR THE BUSLESS

Given the recent cuts in rural bus services, the good news is that Banbury and District Dial-a-Ride has secured funding to operate a daily service in the area. It operates between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday and bookings can be made the day before the journey is required.

Registration is completely free but a registration form must be completed before using the service which

is available to people with mobility problems, whether age- or disability-related or who find it difficult to use conventional public transport. It is also available to those who have little or no bus service to their village.

If you or anyone in your community would benefit from the service please contact Dial-a-Ride on 01295 257715 or Kevyn Powell, the district coordinator, on his mobile, 07798 922712.

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

I started my last piece of twaddle thus, 'Since we last went to press we've had floods, roadworks, holes in the ground, traffic calming and heroes.' Well this month *No More Heroes* (as Hugh Cornwell has said before) but plenty of floods – the worst I can recall in nearly 20 years. There will be more road digging – or more flooding. Main Street was completely flooded and an aquaplaning threat to some muppets who didn't slow down, and Chapel Close looked like an Olympic Canoeing course. Drovers Lane was impassable. Not bad for a village on a Cliff (Clifton – geddit?).

By the time you read this the Book Club will have had their Blue Plaque tour of Oxford. I have been allocated John Boyd Dunlop, Roberts Boyle and Hooke, the Oxfordshire Yeomanry, and Edmund Halley. I am currently preparing my presentation to the membership that will include who they are, what they have done and what link they have to the seat of our county. If you don't know, then Book Club's for you, and if you don't know anything about the Roberts, I'd demand your money back from your schooling if I were you. There are only six official public houses on the tour and a final Chinese meal. What fun it will be.

Early February marked the first anniversary of our pub closing and, while always a big fan of this publication, it did get its account of the January Parish Council

meeting slightly skewed. It's not surprising as they can be very dull and following what's going on from the outside is a challenge. The pub is not back on the open market, but the opportunity for the community to tender an offer is now past, not that was ever the plan; it was change of use protection the community sought. Cllr Collins asked me to make this clear but he knew no one in Clifton was at all concerned or else they would have contacted him for a clarification – wouldn't they?

The evenings are getting lighter and soon we will all see more of our neighbours. It's only 'old man's five-a-side' where some of us see each other during the height of the winter months as organised by Clifton's very own José, Tim Sydenham, who, while gliding his son's Colts team to victory, helps some old people play a competitive (and full-fat running) game of footy. Thanks Tim, the community needs this type of thing.

Do you have any other news as frankly some of this is thinner than Cllr Collins 'top thatch'? If so please send it in. I am aware that we have one or two new residents. Why not drop me a line so we can say hello and get you invites to the Book Club, Memsahibs Sports Club or the nefarious other excuses for 'taking a sniffer' your neighbours seem to find.

Martin Bryce

martinbryce@gmail.com



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A DISRUPTION OF FAMILIAR PATTERNS

They are wired into our brains. Patterns, that is. So if we imagine a time when we saw the sun rising in a clear blue sky (and imagination has been necessary lately) there is no literal image stored there but instead a set of neurons connected to form a pattern and that creates the image. If our senses provide an experience that recurs on some regular basis, then we are not only confident in our memory but have an expectation that there will be another recurrence. Thus winter is followed by spring and we have a clear notion of what these seasonal cycles are like.

Of course there are winters mild or frigid, wet or dry and our experience tells us that there can be certain variations that become the boundaries for these broadly familiar patterns. If there are extreme weather events that surpass our own lifetime experience, our meteorologists cite historic records and we learn that there was a '100 or 500 year record flood' which presumably offers some assurance that we would not likely see one again for another 100-500 years. But if, as recently, we encounter weather extremes that set new historic records and more than once in a single month, then there is no pattern to give us a frame of reference.

Understandably, the usual crop of pundits and politicians are concerned and likely perplexed when this happens but feel compelled to provide some authoritative comment and so we learn new and lame expressions like the 'new normal'. The possibility has not occurred to them that there is no new norm, but instead structural disruptions of familiar weather patterns that have yet to find a boundary. And if this is the case, we hear a spectrum of explanations as to the cause thereof ranging from the predictable to the irrelevant, such as El Niño and sunspots.

Let's start and end with my favorite topic, climate change. I have observed previously in this column that the planet's climate will change repeatedly over geological time and that human history is a derivative of civilisation being permitted to flower in an optimal climate. For decades now we have been arguing whether or not climate change can be caused by human activity and what will be the consequences for life on earth if climate boundaries are driven by higher average annual temperatures. Not unlike an argument over whether or not the loss of a ship at sea was due to a bad storm or poor seamanship, the owners take one position and the insurers another. Lost in these disputes is the irrefutable reality that the ship is sunk.

There is really no time left to persuade climate change deniers that they are wrong. The critical threshold has been crossed and if we all stopped us-



ing fossil fuels tomorrow, the climate would still change in ways that are disruptive to patterns of life for hundreds of years into the future.

What remains is what proportion of our fellow global citizens will act to limit the severity of changes that we will encounter. Also, we should have a zero tolerance for those dim bulbs who say that some kind of limit should be imposed on renewable energy development lest it damage the economy.

The late US senator and founder of Earth Day, Gaylord Nelson, saw this argument for what it was when he said 'the economy is a wholly owned subsidiary of the environment, not the other way around'.

Finally, we need to work harder to broaden the base for environmental advocacy. As it is, climate change sceptics and some others in our society still look upon environmentalists as a lot of hand-wringing, politically correct, quasi-anarchists. It is a view both quaint and tiresome. If we really want to gain the attention and support of the business community and their supporters among the political class, we need to talk more about the concept of hedging bets. Weather catastrophes may be covered by insurance, but what happens to the actuarial basis for insurance when the norm is catastrophic? If insurance fails, would investment banking survive? Or, to what extent the refugee flood into Europe has its origins first in drought and the collapse of agriculture and only later in an ensuing political upheaval? These and many other serious business and policy questions should come to the fore and we can still hug trees in our off-hours. We are coming into an era where familiar patterns may no longer hold. Human history tells us that if nothing else, we are adaptable and resilient. It also tells us that we are rather poor at anticipating our own future. Just for once, I hope that isn't the case.

Dan Desmond
dessr@gmail.com

DEDDINGTON GRANGE?

You might have seen that signs have gone up outside the new development site on the Banbury Road. The developer, David Wilson Homes, is suggesting that it be known as Deddington Grange. What do you think? Do you have other suggestions?

The Parish Council has been invited to meet the developers and, whether we do or not it, would be useful to know your views or suggestions on the name of the site. Do please do let me know.

Alan Collins, Chair, Deddington PC
alanraycollins@gmail.com

OPERATION WATERTIGHT

In creating a neighbourhood plan for Deddington, we on the steering group have often looked to the example of Hook Norton who started early with their plan and seem to have made a thoroughly professional job of it. The Hooky plan was approved by a stunning 97% majority when put to a referendum last September and, now that it has been ratified by Cherwell District Council, forms an official part of the planning process.

Very encouraging – so who would have thought that just a few months later Hook Norton's pioneering effort would also serve as a horrible warning of what can happen when a plan falls into the hands of the government's inspectorate.

The story begins in May 2014 when Gladman Developments applied for permission to build 54 dwellings on a site on the east side of Sibford Road, Hook Norton. The site happens to be alongside a dairy farm, a stone's throw from the farm's fairly smelly slurry pit. In September 2014, Cherwell District Council refused the application. Gladman appealed the decision and a public enquiry was held in January and March 2015. The inspector allowed the appeal – which was 'called in' by the Secretary of State at the Department for Communities and Local Government, who gave his decision in December 2015. He supported the inspector, granting permission to build the 54 dwellings.

The decision turned on the supposedly ambiguous wording of one of Hook Norton's housing policies which, by the way, resembles one of Deddington's neighbourhood plan's draft housing policies. Namely the Hook Norton policy states that 'proposals for up to 20 dwellings may be permitted where this does not result in more than 20 dwellings being built in any location at any time'.

Perversely, as many have argued, the inspector and the Secretary of State took this to mean that although only 20 dwellings might be built at any one time, more homes could be built incrementally on the same site at, say, five-year intervals. Hence they okayed the 54 dwellings. This outraged the Hook Norton neighbourhood planners and caused the Deddington neighbourhood plan steering group some heart-searching over our plan if the intended meaning could be so easily overridden.

Then, in January, Cherwell District Council decided to mount a legal challenge to the Secretary of State's decision – and there the matter stands as we await the decision of the statutory review. Encouraged by this clear evidence that CDC is prepared to defend neighbourhood plans – and put their money and their legal expertise where their mouth is – Deddington's neighbourhood plan is back under way. But the steering group is taking another very careful look at our emerging policies to ensure that the wording is absolutely watertight.

We had already been considering how the policies need modifying in light of the comments made by pa-

rishioners at the third drop-in sessions at the Windmill Centre in November – and the views of stakeholders who have been in touch with us since then.

The emerging policies – clearly quite a way from being finalised – are on the neighbourhood plan website (www.deddingtonneighbourhoodplan.org) and we would welcome comments on them or any other aspect of the plan process from anyone with an interest in the future of the parish. You will find the draft policies on the Home page if you follow the link 'here' in Alan Collins's message of thanks to people who attended the drop-in sessions.

We were very pleased with the turn-out at the November drop-in sessions which seem a long time ago. A lot has happened since, including the purchase of the School Field north of Gaveston Gardens by David Wilson Homes and their planning application for 95 homes on the site, ten more than in the previous application).

In case you're wondering at the numbers (way over the 20-home limit mentioned in our policies), the original application was granted on appeal before the cut-off date laid down in Cherwell District Council's Local Plan, so our neighbourhood plan may not apply to the David Wilson application. We'll see. And what about the name the developers have posted on their sign on the Banbury Road – 'Deddington Grange'?

Helen Oldfield helenmoldfield@yahoo.co.uk

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FARMERS' MARKET

Easter

This piece is written five weeks ahead of time so I've no idea what the weather will have been nor what the market will be offering at this most variable time of year.

It also happens to be Easter. There are bound to be hot cross buns, Easter eggs, perhaps Simnel cake and possibly Easter lamb. Quite enough seasonal hula-laloo without me adding to it.

I prefer to turn my face to something that has nothing to do with Easter and is almost certainly going to be for sale at the market and at its very best – rhubarb. This recipe is a simple and elegant way to finish a more formal dinner – hence the quantities. It even works for people who hate rhubarb.

Rhubarb and Ginger Syllabub – serves 6–8

700g rhubarb, cut into small chunks

75g sugar

600ml double cream

1 sherry glass of ginger wine

8 pieces of preserved ginger, drained of syrup

Put the rhubarb in the saucepan with the sugar. Cover the pan with a lid and cook slowly over a gentle heat for about 30 minutes until the rhubarb is soft. Cool.



Purée in a blender. Whip the cream and the ginger wine together. Cut the preserved ginger into slivers and fold into the whipped cream. Fold together the ginger cream and the rhubarb purée and divide into glasses. Keep cool until time to serve.

Goes very well with shortbread.

From *Seasonal Cooking* by Claire Macdonald of Macdonald.

I would personally serve this with a dram of a good malt whisky.

For more up to date information about the Market you can visit the market webpage www.deddington-farmersmarket.co.uk, listen to Deddington OnAir www.deddingtononair.org or BBC Radio Oxford.

The Market is on Saturday 26 March from 9.00am to 12.30pm. If you can't wait till then, there's always the Adderbury market on the second Thursday of each month at The Institute, The Green, Adderbury, 6.00–8.00pm. More details at: www.market.adderbury.org.

Good shopping!

Ian Willox

01869 337940

ian@deddingtononair.org

Charity Wine Tasting Event

THE (ALTERNATIVE) 6 NATIONS:

Snapshot of what Europe has to offer beyond the oval ball

Sip, Taste, & Mingle

With Sophie McCarthy; a regular judge for the IWSC & IWC, and WSET qualified trainer, in an informal environment (with no retail pressure!) to give your vinous confidence a boost

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The Windmill
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Tickets
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JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 12th March
11am - 1pm

Windmill Centre, Deddington



**FREE
ENTRY!**

Toys and Games
Kids Clothes
Bric-a-Brac
Adult Clothes

Cake Stall
Toy Tombola
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Books



Come and grab a bargain!

Jumble donations gratefully received.
These can be left on Friday 11th March
10am-12pm or 7-9pm at the Windmill Centre.

Deddington Village Nursery Charity No 1117963 and PFSU Charity No 1100275

Find us on www.deddington.uk

Follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/deddingtononline and Twitter @DeddiOnLine

POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

I guess there can be no more iconic event in the United States of America, than the annual festival that is the Super Bowl. Not only is this the biggest sporting event of the year, it is also the biggest TV event, the most expensive, and specialist TV slots are eagerly awaited by non-sports watchers. There was a programme on every night of the previous week entitled, the Best Super Bowl Adverts. That in many ways defines what the US is, the largest consumer society in the world. And the whole one hour of football playing time took four hours!

To many, the half time show is more important than the game. Can you imagine them wheeling a stage out at the cup final at Wembley (with a set up time allowance of 7.5 minutes), Coldplay, Bruno Mars and Beyoncé then playing a 20 minute set accompanied by several hundred dancers? What would the groundsman say?

If you hadn't heard, it was all particularly crazy here in Denver, because the local team, the Broncos, won. Two days later a million people turned out to welcome the team home, and please don't tell dear Mrs Tinsley, but we let Ben play truant and join the throng. A once in a lifetime event I guess.

The vast nature of consumerism in this country is interesting. Before we left England in 2012, I would never be seen dead in Lidl or Costco, I admit to being that sort of snob. But in the US there is no such thing as a 'one stop shop' for groceries. We go to Costco for bulk stuff, King Soopers for everyday items, and Whole Foods when we feel rich. Some items are three times as much in one place than the other, but that is the variety they have here.

My big consumer adventure of late has been trying to buy a car. I must admit to being a very peculiar man, because I hate buying cars. Heather bought the two we acquired when we arrived. Even when I bought my last UK car (the eponymous Thong Dropper according to the Clifton elite), I spent less than an hour on the task. First of all I tried to buy a Japanese car, an Infiniti. The reason for this was that on the first morning after we arrived here, all four of us had a giggle in the car park at the school district enrolment centre, because there was an Infiniti with Mike Ward on the number plate. Yes, my name sake is the local Infiniti dealer.

Having duly met the fine rich man, I had a strange request for the salesman. I wanted any colour but white, black, or silver. They only had 150 cars in the lot and none of them was suitable. But yes, a red one was available to be fetched for me, with lovely faux-leather seats. I had four sales guys around me trying to convince me that this meant that it had leather seats. Very bizarre people. I wasn't sure whether they were conmen or really believed that this strange use of a French term was actually correct.

So I bought a dodgy car, an American car, and the salesman was fine but the purchase process took two weeks and a total of five hours in the garage doing credit checks, and endless forms. I am very happy with the car but suspect it is about to go wrong because now I have again failed the credit financing with the bank, even though I have had the car for two weeks. Very strange place America; they like selling things, but don't seem to want the cash. Perhaps I will have to get myself a Bronco instead. You have to love the USA, as long as you want to spend money.

Mike Ward

mikew@qsoftware.com

PTA

We enjoyed a great quiz night at the Legion at the end of January. We had a full house, over 60 people, competing for the prestigious prize of a bottle of bubbly, all in aid of the PTA and PFSU. We raised £422 which will be divided equally between the two charities. Thank you to our quizmasters, Julia Jackson and Sally Barber, to Cat Onions for stepping in with a quick-fire round of heads and tails and to the rest of the organising team.

Last term the PTA was delighted to contribute to the travel costs for Year 3's trip to the Space Centre and we will also be contributing to Years 3 and 4 Viking workshop.

We would like to thank everyone who completed the PTA survey which will enable us to prioritise donating our funds towards the school causes that you feel are most important.

I would like to take the opportunity on behalf of the committee and the school to thank you all for your continued support.

Alex Elvin, Chair

deddingtonpta@gmail.com

PFSU AND VILLAGE NURSERY

This term the PFSU children have had great fun finding out about animals. We entertained a number of pet visitors including dogs and cats, guinea pigs, a hen and even a duck. Thank you to everyone who brought their pets in to meet us.

We also wrote to the vet inviting her to visit us and were delighted when Juliet from Hook Norton Vets came in to tell us all about her job and to answer our many questions. Thank you Juliet.

During the last week of term we celebrated Chinese New Year, making lanterns and money envelopes, doing lion dances, listening to Chinese music, and enjoying a visit to the May Fu II restaurant to see their New Year decorations and sample some Chinese food. Thank you to the May Fu II for welcoming us once again – we all really enjoyed our Chinese lunch.

Lucy Squires

01869 337484

LETTERS

FROM DAN MAHARRY, ST JOHN'S WAY, HEMPTON

Calling all Magic The Gathering card players!

Are there any Magic The Gathering players in Deddington? I'd like to dig out my old cards and start playing again and would be happy to play, or teach to play, anyone who'd like a quiet game in a pub, kitchen or elsewhere.

Please contact Dan via email, danmaharry@yahoo.co.uk, and we'll try and sort something out. Who knows – maybe you could end up winning big prizes in next year's Pro Tour events.



Please address all letters to:
JILL CHEESEMAM
37 THE DAEDINGS, DEDDINGTON
letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk
and include your name and address
even if they are not for publication

four streets: Goose Green, Philcote Street, St Thomas Street and The Leyes. The British Red Cross is an important and caring organisation, therefore it would be great to have more support – whatever you can do will be much appreciated.

Any questions please call me or call Susan directly on 07977 567570 or email susanheathfowler@red-cross.org.uk.

Joan Wright 01869 338535
joanwright985@btinternet.com

FROM JOAN WRIGHT, GOOSE GREEN, DEDDINGTON

The British Red Cross Week this year runs from 8 – 14 May. The organiser is Susan Heath-Fowler, chair of the North Oxfordshire Fundraising Group, who has emailed me asking for volunteers to help out. So what is involved? Susan will deliver a box(s) to your home address, also collecting on return, and for you to go around your street or nearby at your convenience. I should perhaps mention Susan told me, which I was very surprised to learn, that I am the only person in Deddington who does this task – I do

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

A quiet month in the village. My first thoughts were what could I write about.

I see from the Parish Council notes that the Old School Room has been classified as a Non-Designated Heritage Asset, which is nice for the village. This time of the year always reminds me of the late Mr Dennis Washington when I see all the spring flowers coming up in the grass verges which he and other residents on the Duns Tew road had planted many years ago.

Little else to say except many senior residents will be sad to hear of the death of Tony Waller from The Lane. I hope to print a full obituary about him in the April issue of this paper. Our condolences to his family and friends.

Les Chappell
01869 338054



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DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Revd Cotton Risley for the month of March 1886:

15th December – Returned from Brighton by train.

13th March – A fine day on the whole, two snow storms fell. Holford drove to Woodstock and walked back. He heard a larceny case at the Town Hall against a man named Robinson for stealing divers tools from his employer, Hitchcock, a blacksmith here.

19th March – The Vicar asked me to bury a child from Clifton tomorrow upon whom an inquest had been held, 5 months old. The mother, a stranger, sent into lodgings there by Mr Creswell, a medical man at Steeple Aston, 3 months ago, she has two other children but no husband. Said I would do so, the child died in a fit.

29th March – I walked to Clifton and back – 8 persons at church. I called at E Bennett's and ordered some hot cross buns for tomorrow. The masons began the buttress against the south wall of the Church.

30th March – Good Friday – two full services at Clifton – a very full Church in the morning.

Buffy Heywood

BETTY'S BOX

Deddington Castle Recreation Ground.

RURAL FETE AND PICNIC,

Tuesday, July 24th, 1900.

Programme.

2-0 p.m. GROUNDS OPEN.

2-4-0. CRICKET MATCH (Ladies v. Gentlemen).

2-4-30. Vocal and Instrumental MUSIC at Intervals.

4-30. PICNIC TEA.

5-30. EGG AND SPOON BICYCLE RACE.

5-40. LIVING WHEELBARROW RACE.

5-50. SACK RACE.

6-0. SACK TOURNAMENT.

6-15. TANDEM OBSTACLE RACE (each Gentleman to be blindfolded and driven by a Lady).

6-30. HAT TRIMMING COMPETITION, for Gentlemen.

6-45. TUG OF WAR—Teams of 8—(Married v. Single).
(No Entrance Fee).

7-0. BOBBING FOR ROLLS (No Entrance Fee).

Entrance Fee for each Event, 3d., to be made to Messrs. G. O. White or R. Bennett, on or before Saturday, July 21st.

THE GREASY POLE
May be climbed any time during the Afternoon and Evening.

ELECTRIC PENNIES will be GIVEN away.

7-30. PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

There will also be Roundabouts,
Swing Boats, Shooting Saloons, Cocoa Nuts, &c.

8-10. DANCING ON THE LAWN.

To encourage the winter-weary that there really is, or at least used to be, a summer, here is a little item from the box of fascinating old papers about Deddington found in Betty Hill's house after her death in 2010 at the age of 82. It is these we publish at intervals; we hope you find them interesting.

For new readers, Betty was born in 1928 and studied architecture at Liverpool University, graduating in 1950. She practised as an architect for many years, working with the Oxford Regional Health Authority. Two of her projects included the plans for the Horton Maternity Unit and a new ward for Bicester Hospital. She became senior lecturer at the Oxford School of Architecture and was a prominent member of its founding institution, the Doric Club.

In 1965 she moved to Deddington to Leadenporch House in New Street and subsequently to Earl's Lane. She was a tireless parish councillor, bringing her special expertise to various village projects ranging from the maintenance of the Town Hall and design of the Holly Tree cottages to the painting of scenery for the village pantomime. Throwing parties, especially fancy dress ones, was another special talent. She was quite a character according to those who knew her.

This month's item shows the programme from what was most likely a millennium celebration in July 1900. Was this energetic and engaging event one of many

held in towns and villages across the country that year, much like what happened in 2000?

Reading it, what is striking – for this writer – is the humour. The participants were willing to swop gender roles and make fun of themselves in ways that do not fit our present day stereotype of the Victorians.

Keeping to such a tight schedule might have been the biggest challenge of the day. Did events run to time or might participants have collapsed with laughter, unable to carry on?

How about resurrecting a tandem obstacle race?

Hilary Smith

PARISH SHOW

Deddington Flower Show, to give the Parish Show its former name, has a long pedigree. First held as early as 1838 in the Town Hall upper room, it then moved to the Manor and later to the Castle Grounds. You only have to look at the pictures of the 1920s and 30s in the [DOL Flower Shows](#) Gallery to see it was a major event, as much Gala Day as flower show: an occasion to dress up in your best hat, cheer on the sack football match, have a go on the hoopla stall, listen to the brass band and enter the hat trimming competition. Interestingly the photos show the funfair side of the show and the visitors, not the produce from what must have been flourishing local gardens.

The organising committees were formed of the great and the good in local society: the Vicar, the incumbent of Deddington Manor, the local schoolmaster – and were exclusively male. Flower Shows under the old format lasted until 1963. Why did they fall out of fashion? Maybe no more reason than changing times.

After a lapse of 45 years the Parish Show was revived in 2008, initially combined with the Church Christmas bazaar to see what the response was. Since then it has stood on its own and has proved a popular and well-supported annual parish event. More modest in scale than the earlier Gala Days, it features produce from local gardens and allotments and showcases the skills and talents of our cooks, artists and craftsmen. Profits from the event are distributed to local groups. In 2015 the school and the Windmill Thursday Lunch Club each received £250.

In 2016 there are 60 fork to fork classes: flowers, vegetables and fruit, baking, jams and preserves. And another 22 for the artistically inclined: embroidery and handicrafts, photography and painting. Classes are open to all-comers, including children, and there are also another 20 classes open just to children from 5 to 15, in four different age groups.

The [2016 programme and entry form](#) are now available on DOL to enable sowing (and sewing) to get going, and the show will be held on Saturday 3 September in the parish church. Contact Wendy Burrows, 01869 338082, wendy.burrows536@btinternet.com.

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Beeches Bowls Club

The season begins with our first home match on the evening of Tuesday 3 May against Banbury Borough, one of the biggest clubs in the area. Our Club has been in existence for over 100 years at various locations in the village but is now located at the Windmill Centre. The village is very lucky to have this facility as bowls offers not only gentle exercise but also companionship. We have a small mixed membership but are always seeking new players. If you would like to give this very enjoyable sport a try please telephone us for further details. The Club has a selection of shoes and woods for training purposes, together with the free services of a qualified coach. Why not come and meet us and find out more at our annual skittles evening on Saturday 19 March at the Royal British Legion beginning at 8.00pm? The cost of the evening is £10 per person to include a ploughman's supper. If you would like to attend please telephone Frances on 01869 338897 to book your ticket.

Chris and Yvonne Twomey
01869 337213

Women's Institute

At our January meeting we considered the selection of resolutions put forward and voted on them; after countryside voting one or two will be put forward to be discussed at the National.

We welcomed Libby Griffin from Age UK Oxfordshire who spoke on 'Love Later Life' and advised us of facilities available locally. We were given packs of useful addresses and the room thermometer cards have proved useful. We celebrated the New Year with healthy refreshments.

Our February meeting was slightly down in numbers due to illness and holidays. We welcomed a new member to the group and also two potential new members, which was heartening as some of our members are having to resign due to family or work commitments. We then had a lively talk from Russell Cherry on the Wychwood Way accompanied by some good slides – he and his wife walked all 37 miles of the Way in one day.

Our next meeting is on 8 March which is our AGM followed by cheese and wine provided by the committee. Any enquiries about joining or attending a meeting, please phone Beryl Suckling on 01869 337385.

Julia Hobbs

Deddington Original Golf Society

I'm not an expert but will global warming, whenever it arrives, improve the weather from this interminable period of wind and rain to warmer climes?

Forever the optimist, the summer will be wonderful and to remind DOGS members and any young or young-in-mind golfers who would like to join our happy

throng, our programme for 2016 includes:

6 May Broadway GC 18 holes
10 Jun Wrag Barn 18 holes
12 Aug Feldon Valley 18 holes with BBQ in the evening
30 Sep Blackwell GC 18 holes

In addition to our now traditional match against Dorchester DOGS, which this year is on 7 July (please contact Ron if you're interested in playing), our new captain, Ron Colley, is also working on some additional 'friendly' golf matches with neighbouring clubs. Watch this space.

If you're not a golfer but something of a sadist with an ambition to play the game, please feel free to contact me – as a sufferer for many decades I will do my best to dissuade you. But, if you're persistent, I will point you in the best direction and encourage you all I can.

Tony Lowe
tonylowe077@gmail.com

Deddington Tennis Club

We're a hugely welcoming club with plenty going on for all standards and all ages. As the daylight hours start to lengthen we are ready to offer a packed programme of coaching and competitions – something for everyone.

Our new Community Partnership Programme will see us partnering with local community groups, including the Youth Club, Brownies, Boys' Brigade and Primary School by running a series of 'Get into Tennis' taster sessions and coaching programmes. If you organise, or are part of, a local community group and would like to get involved please contact Ed Toll on 07901 688913.

Over the coming weeks we'll be putting together our spring and summer schedule of junior and adult coaching, club sessions and open days and would love you to come and join us. If you're interested in finding out more just email deddingtontennisclub@gmail.com and we'll keep you posted.

We hope that our summer programme of coaching and club tennis will soon extend into the autumn and winter evenings if our recent application for floodlight funding is successful.

You can find up-to-date information on these activities and more, plus full committee member contact details, on our website www.deddingtontennis.com. We are going to be at the next two farmers' markets so come and have a chat about the club face-to-face.

Alison Stevens
deddingtontennisclub@gmail.com

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team Results:

23.01.16	Bloxham (h) (CUP)	W 3–0
30.01.16	Croughton (a)	D 1–1
03.02.16	Finmere (a) (CUP)	W 1–0

CALLING MORE CLUBS

Reserve Results:

16.01.16	Banbury United Youth (a)	L 3–6
23.01.16	Wroxton Sports (a)	W 4–1
30.01.16	Sinclair Utd (h)	L 0–5
06.02.16	AFC Bicester (a)	W 5–1
10.02.16	Heyford Ath Res (h) (CUP)	L 0–2

The First Team continues to make progress in cup competitions, while treading proverbial water in the league, while the Reserves have veered wildly between wielding the paddle and dropping their own britches. The weather is surely about to improve, so there are no excuses to miss a game and lend your support. Don't forget to check out www.deddington-townfc.com for more match reports and stats.

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

Colts

The Under 15s playing in the Midland Junior Premier League had a 4–3 home win over North Birmingham Celtic followed by a 4–2 defeat at Coventry United, and 4–3 defeat at Coventry Sphinx, but still sit sixth in the league.

In the Witney and District Youth Football League the Under 15s had an 8–0 victory over Brackley Athletic in the knock-out cup, but went out of the cup in the next round after losing 3–2 to Carterton. In the League they had a 2–0 victory over Chesterton Juniors. The Under 14s lost 3–1 at Banbury Irish, followed by a 2–4 defeat at home to Charlbury Town Youth and 4–0 defeat to Yarnton Blues. The Under 13s had a 10–1 victory in the league over Brackley Athletic, followed by a 5–0 defeat to Brackley Town in the cup. The Under 12s have been on great form with four consecutive victories to now sit second in the league – a 4–2 victory at Tower Hill, a 4–3 win at home over Witney Vikings, a 1–0 win at Chesterton and a 3–2 home win over Chipping Norton.

If you want to get involved with the club as player, volunteer, sponsor or fundraiser, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Further information about the club is on our website, www.deddingtontownfc.com. Or visit us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc

Deddington Town Foot Ball

Tickets are selling well for the Foot Ball which will take place at the Great Barn in Aynho on 19 March 2016 to celebrate 20 years of Colts' football in the village. We are still looking for local companies and individuals to donate prizes for the auction. If you can support the auction please contact Vaughan on 07967 162486.

**Roger Sykes, Club Welfare Officer
01869 337034**

1st Deddington Guides

It has been great to welcome so many new girls to the unit from villages far and wide. We are continuing this term with our themed patrol activities. Each patrol has been working very well together on planning and

organising activities. They had a lot of fun making 'arm pit' fudge. It proved a great success. We put all the ingredients into a medium poly bag and literally squeezed and churned it under armpits. This made something very messy and runny, but sweet and tasty and a nice fudge sauce on ice-cream or pancakes.

In order to see us through the dark, wet and windy nights, we turned our attention to camping and hiking. We began some early preparations. First we had a go at preparing our bedding rolls and trying out our sleeping bags and outdoor wear. We cooked sausages on mini-barbecues and mini-pineapple upside down puddings on home made stoves on a very chilly evening.

Lastly we continued to practise for our campfire evening, when we plan to entertain you all to raise money for charity.

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

Marion Trinder 01869 340806

Catherine Blackburn

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

The Cubs successfully constructed Morse code keys using a simple electrical circuit made mainly from a bulb, a battery and a paperclip. They then used them to send simple messages as part of a game.

Following the theme of 'The Dark' we played glow-in-the-dark skittles, worked out how a cat's eye reflects light and decided on the best colours to wear in order to be seen at night. Armed with this information we went out for a (very muddy) hike.

The bubble bottles made with water, oil, a glow stick and Alka-Seltzer were a lot of fun.

Jo Churchyard jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

Scouts also started the term with a topic based on the dark. They were challenged to write a short story using a limited number of spooky words and played quarter ball with a glow-in-the-dark ball.

As part of their skills challenge, they have been circuit training and learning a number of useful life skills. Parents should now be aware they have learned to mop, iron and clean toilets and are keen to practise at home!

Problem solving and model building are ongoing.

Pete Churchyard

pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

Spartans Explorer Scout Unit

The Platinum Award is one of the highest Explorer Scout awards. Its aim is to develop community skills as well as to test physical endurance and develop new practical and academic skills in young people.

Over the last month the Deddington ESU has done a variety of activities mostly aimed at promoting a charity called Re-Cycle. The charity sends second-hand

... AND EVEN MORE CLUBS

and fully repaired bikes to African countries in need so that people can use them for agricultural, market and transport purposes with the object of helping to strengthen their economies. This is what we have done over the past month to help the charity: Bloxham Primary School sent us bikes that needed fixing. We repaired flat tyres, broken chains and a twisted wheel.

We went geocaching with a view to learning how to orienteer and work effectively as a team.

Over one meeting we devised two seminars for the Scouts on the countries, such as Kenya and Ghana, which will benefit from the Re-Cycle scheme.

Scouts isn't all hard work: two weeks ago we went ten-pin bowling for fun and relaxation.

Oli Betteridge SEU

**Contact: Janet Duxbury
01608 737959**

1st Deddington Boys' Brigade

All sections have been finding out and celebrating Chinese New Year. We've had a lot of fun working out what animal we are, depending on the year we were born. We've also had a lot of fun with pancakes; making, flipping, racing and eating. Well done to the Company section members who have put up their Lent promises on the board in church.

Well done as well to those who took part in the Battalion football competition. We came away without a trophy but a very good time was had and the standard of football was high all round. After half term we will be making some Mothering Sunday gifts, Fairtrade Fortnight and, I am sure, some chocolate-related activity will come to mind for Easter.

**Jen Childs, Leader
07774 608715**

Photographic Society

In February member Martin Chapman ARPS gave a presentation entitled 'Wildlife, Landscapes and Infrared Photography'. Having travelled widely, Martin opened his presentation with intriguing images of different wildlife species in the UK including deer, red kites, snakes, dragonflies, and other insects. He continued by discussing his approach to landscape photography, guiding his audience on pictorial journeys to the Acadia National Park in Maine, USA, the Lake District and France. Martin then ended the first part of his presentation with a discussion on infrared photography using a modified DSLR camera.

Martin then showed photographs of the landscape and wildlife in the Maasai Mara National Reserve in Kenya. The landscapes were taken mostly at sunrise, capturing the characteristically rich tapestry of orange-red hues in the early morning sky. He also showed his images of birds, giraffes, antelope, waterbuck and wildebeeste, together with predators such as the

lion, cheetah, leopard and wild dog. Martin then drew his presentation to a close by revisiting the USA, with photographs of native alligators, manatees and a wide variety of birds in Florida, and concluded by showing images of India's tigers.

Our next meeting is on 2 March when member Jim Muller will present 'From Hummingbirds to Cake Stands: the Sublime to the Ridiculous'. The Society's AGM is on 6 April and will be followed by members' photographs on the subject of 'What Is It?' A workshop is planned for 16 March on 'High Speed Photography: Part 1', on how to capture water droplets and birds in flight. All meetings are at 7.30pm in the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho. Just come along and meet us – you are assured of a warm welcome.

**Richard Broadbent 338173
www.addphoto.co.uk**

Book Club

At our last meeting we discussed *The Solitaire Mystery* by Jostein Gaarder. This was not particularly well received by the group. There are two elements running through the book, the reality and the fantasy. We enjoyed the central account of the journey taken by the young boy with his father across Europe in search of his missing mother – it is thoughtful, humorous and touching. However, the fantasy-magical element, while clever, is quite perplexing.

As a whole, the book threw up some very interesting questions, but we found it too detailed and too long.

The next book is *Sweet Caress* by William Boyd and the next meeting 31 March.

**Sally Lambert
338094**

Deddington and District History Society

On a cold February evening thoughts of lazy summer days on the water drew a large audience to hear Simon Wenham talk on 'Salter's Steamers and Leisure on the Thames'. We are all aware of Salter's of Folly Bridge, Oxford, and many of us have enjoyed their services but none realised just how significant the firm has been. Founded in 1858, it is one of Oxford's oldest businesses, it was long one of its biggest employers, and for a century it was a global exporter, remarkably, sending out steamers to serve as mission stations on the River Congo. They supplied racing boats for both Oxford and Cambridge, and for international regattas. By 1887 they had 900 boats in their fleet. Salter's was an enterprising business: you could hire one of their boats and take it on a one-way journey anywhere in Europe and Salter's would fetch it back. You could book a circular tour with the GWR that included an excursion in a Salter's boat. The interesting facts kept on coming: the rowing boat hired by Charles Dodgson for trips with Alice Liddell and her sisters was probably

one of Salter's, as was the fictional craft featured in *Three Men in a Boat*; the firm made motor torpedo boats for the Navy in both world wars, and D-Day landing craft. It was as much a history of leisure from Victorian times as it was a business history.

Our next speaker, at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9 March, is the ever-popular Dr Shaun Morley, on 'Custom and Ritual in 19th century Oxfordshire'. All are welcome.

Chris Day, Chairman 01869 337204
Moiria Byast, Secretary 01869 338637

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

The 'Love Your Library' day on Saturday 6 February was very well attended and enjoyed by many. The tea and coffee flowed, thanks to our lovely volunteers, and the Friends of Deddington Library launched the fabulous 'Peachy Raffle', the prize being a meal for four up to £160.00 in any Peach Pub, very generously donated by Peach Pubs.

Our very distinguished readers entertained us with excerpts from Markus Zusak's *The Book Thief*, Boris Johnson's *Friends Voters and Countrymen* and Roald Dahl's *Going Solo* amongst others. *The Lorax* was adroitly read especially for the children and we finished with three short poetry readings which rounded out the morning beautifully.

We are starting a Monday afternoon Rhyme-time session for babies and toddlers from 2.30 to 3.00pm. We urgently need a volunteer to help run these sessions. If you're interested, please contact me at the library. The only criteria are that, for health and safety reasons, you must not have a child in the group. If you are interested or would like more details, please contact me at the library.

We will begin the Monday evening reading group on Monday 4 April at 6.30pm in the library. All those interested please do come along and help us get your Reading Group up and running. All welcome! Contact me for more details.

The Wednesday morning reading group will not be pursued at this time due to lack of demand. The offer is still there of course, but without more initial interest it's not viable at this time. So if you want this one to start too, please let me know.

We had a very good response to our request for help with the Home Library Service. Thank you to those who got in touch. We now hope to expand the service to Hempton, Clifton and the Barfords so if you are housebound please call and see what we can offer you in terms of delivering books, audio books and DVDs. Likewise, if you are temporarily housebound while recovering from an operation or laid up for a length of time for whatever reason, we can extend the service to you too. Please contact me at the library for details.

Stella O'Neill, Library Manager,
01869 338391

CAN YOU LEND A HAND?

Volunteers are needed to help with the farmers' market stalls in the church. The pressing need is for a couple of sturdy helpers to restore the church to normal after the market, between 12.30 and 1.00pm.

We have an adequate crew for set-up on the Friday before the market, between 4.30 and 5.00pm, but would like a back-up person to lend a hand when one of the regular crew is ill or lazing around on holiday.

If you are interested in helping you would be very welcome, no experience required, just a sense of humour and a willing hand. Contact George Fenemore on 01869 338203 for more details or just turn up.

BLISSFUL THINKING



How do we place value on an action? Is it the skill level involved, the unpleasantness of the task, or just the rarity of people able to perform it that decide how it is judged and remunerated? Normally we would discuss this in terms of a salary and other perquisites, with the honourable exception of the voluntary and unpaid sector.

But why would anyone do anything for free? Three possible answers may be: guilt or duty (mental coercion), exploitation (physical coercion) or genuine altruism (spiritual coercion). But what do volunteers get in return for their time? Perhaps to assist a group whose values you share, gain a paid position or showcase your work (direct reward), looking like a good person to friends, partners or networks (indirect reward), or feeling the uplift of helping others, through empathy, or to fill a spiritual void (abstract reward).

The voluntary sector is often forgotten, but where would society be without the efforts of the Samaritans, St John's Ambulance or the Woodland Trust, not to mention domestic chores, or caring for a vulnerable relative? Even this fine publication, platform for my dizzy streams of consciousness, has relied on volunteers for the forty years of its glorious existence. In a world rapidly judging everyone as mere economic units, let's celebrate the unpaid who add worth to life, in the only way it makes sense: to volunteer for something ourselves. No matter your coercion or reward, you'll feel the glow.

And make sure you check out Deddington OnAir's episodic comedy drama written and produced by yours truly: Green Belt! Episodes available to play now on the archive www.deddingtononair.org/greenbelt

Aaron Bliss
aaronjbliss@hotmail.com

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting at the Old School Room, Hempton on Wednesday 17 February

Present: Councillors Anderson, Collins (Chair), Cox, Finnegan, Flux, Oldfield, O'Neill, Rogers, Watts, Williams (CDC) and Wood. County Councillor Fatemian was present for part of the meeting.

The PC has received two anonymous letters of complaint. Its policy is to respond only to signed letters but confidence will be maintained if requested.

Councillor Williams reported that there is to be a meeting on Thursday 18 February between Steve Turner from CDC and the contractor dealing with the Windmill St car park to review the work required for completing the surface repairs.

County Councillor Fatemian reported that OCC has agreed a cross-party budget for the Council. As a result, older people's day services will receive further funding for two years and the impact of cuts on children's services will be mitigated. (Reporter's note – we have yet to receive confirmation that the Thursday Windmill Club will continue to be funded).

Planning:

No objections

Cotswold House, New St, Deddington – revised front and rear elevation drawings. Garage door to be replaced with window on front elevation, whilst door and window now to be retained on rear elevation.

18 The Daedings, Deddington – single storey rear extension.

Centrepont, Chapel Square, Deddington – change of use of rear office to one bed flat.

Castle Grounds, Castle St, Deddington – reduce one oak to high pollard (approximately 10 metres) and remove cracked limb from one horse chestnut.

St John's Way, Hempton – alterations and erection of first floor rear extension.

Withdrawn:

2 Chapman's Lane, Deddington – demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 3 detached dwellings. Withdrawn due to technical error, but will be re-submitted.

Objection:

Land north of Gaveston Gardens – residential development of 95 houses with parking, public open space, landscaping and associated infrastructure. Objection for the same reasons as on the original proposal, plus concern about the inappropriate mix of housing and future maintenance of the public open space. A meeting between members of the Parish Council and the developer is to be arranged.

S106 contributions:

In light of the new planning application for land north of Gaveston Gardens, the PC has proposed the following:

£30,000–£100,000 for day care at the nursery and PFSU, allowing for accommodation on a single site near the school.

£10,000 for day care for senior citizens to be used for installing a disabled persons' toilet at the Windmill Centre, particularly benefitting wheelchair-bound members of the Thursday Lunch Club.

£25,000 for the library for a new heating system, new book stock, enhanced staff facilities, tables and chairs and a storage shed for them, and a projector and screen to enable film shows.

£12,000 for shelters for bus stops at the new development.

£73,270 Public Transport contribution to improve the S4 service to Oxford – half-hourly buses and possibly a late night service. There may be a survey to assess need and likely use of this service.

Highways and Transport:

Installation of the VAS at Clifton is imminent.

An anonymous donor has offered funding for the continuation of the Dial-a-Ride service. Discussions are still at an early stage.

Environment and Recreation:

'Betty's bench' at Castle Grounds has been restored. Wildflower mats are to be laid at Castle Grounds and saplings strimmed.

Two wooden posts on the village green are to be replaced.

A weed control quote of £795 for two treatments has been accepted.

A battery-driven drill has been donated and a leaf-blower is to be bought for the steward's use.

Clifton flooding was reported to OCC whose staff found no standing water when they visited.

The registration of Satin Lane allotments as an asset of community value was agreed.

Windmill Centre Upgrade:

Outside painting has been completed and received favourable comments. The downpipes have been cleared, yielding seven tennis balls and one beer can. Quotes are being considered for the interior decoration, new lights in the hall and refurbishment of the toilets.

Finally, congratulations were expressed to Derek Cheeseman who is to receive an award for services to the community.

Next meeting: Wednesday 16 March at 7.30pm in the Windmill Centre lounge, Deddington.

Jean Rudge

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

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KEEP BEES?

A lot of people keep bees because they produce honey, one of the healthiest and most natural foods and a substance which has been valued by man since prehistory as a sweetener and medication. Others keep bees because they are interested in the study of bees and of their habits; bees are fascinating creatures and there is always something new to learn about them. With no means of dealing with the ubiquitous varroa mite that is now present in all UK honey bee colonies, a feral honey bee nest is unlikely to remain viable for more than a couple of seasons; it is only managed colonies that can survive to carry out the essential pollination of our food crops. Beekeeping is an enjoyable open air hobby bringing you in contact with people from all walks of life and bees can be kept by almost everyone except a very small minority who are allergic to bee stings.



In accordance with their charitable objectives of promoting and following the craft of beekeeping and advancing the education of the public in the importance of bees in the environment, Shipston Beekeepers are holding an 'Introduction to Beekeeping' course.

The session on Saturday 16 April at Stretton-on-Fosse Village Hall, GL56 9QX, will deal with the basics of beekeeping for the complete beginner or those with very limited experience of this craft. Arrive at 9.30am for coffee or tea prior to a prompt 10.00am start, pause for a light lunch and finish at approximately 3.30pm. To see if you are comfortable handling bees, a practical session will be held the next day at The Gate Apiary, Brailes OX15 5AX. A charge of £50, £80 per couple, will be made to cover the cost of running the course.

Contact Douglas Nethercleft on 07850 352905 or djn0001@aol.com to book your place. Numbers are limited.

SCHOOL PARKING

The Neighbourhood Policing Team receives daily complaints about inconsiderate and illegal parking around village schools in the area.

Children and adults are being put at risk due to lack of consideration when parking and dropping off pupils at the beginning and end of the school day.

The zig-zag lines are put in place to keep the area around the school clear of traffic. This gives children a clear view of the traffic and means they can be seen by other motorists. Parking on these lines is an offence for which you can receive a fine.

Parking within 10 metres of a junction is an offence under the Road Traffic Act, an offence for which you can also receive a fine. This follows the same principle: if you park within that distance or on a corner you obstruct the views of children and other motorists.

We all have a responsibility to keep children safe and request that anyone dropping off or collecting children from their school take time to consider where they park and to park responsibly and considerately.

Sgt Becky Fishwick

LOCAL PLAN PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Last July CDC formally adopted its Local Plan which planned for growth to meet Cherwell's needs until 2031 and provide a recognised defence against speculative development. It is now preparing the next stage of the document, known as the Local Plan Part 2, which will expand upon the first part by providing detailed policy guidance and identifying smaller sites to meet community needs and to provide for open space, recreation, employment and rural housing.

The council is now asking the public for views on this second part of the Plan and opening a six week consultation running for six weeks from Friday 29 January to Friday 11 March.

Copies of the consultation documents are available to view at public libraries, at the council's Linkpoints in Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington, at Banbury and Bicester Town Councils and CDC's main office at Bodicote House in Bodicote. Alternatively the documents can be viewed online at www.cherwell.gov.uk/policypublicconsultation

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- Check Back Issues of the Deddington News to see snapshots of the past 40 years
- Browse through more than 2,000 pictures of Deddington past and present



- Organising a village event? Check the online What's On to avoid clashes of dates
- The Fardon clock and the missing WWI veteran are the latest stories in History where you can read about the Deddington Steamship Company and much more

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