

## THE TEAM

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## *The* DEDDINGTON NEWS

A warm Deddington welcome to people joining our community wherever they are moving to, but in particular those arriving at The Swere. I hope that someone from this new address in our midst will step up to the plate to deliver the *DN* to their neighbours. We rely on willing volunteers.

A very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year to all our residents, contributors and advertisers and, on the whole, we look forward with interest, if not enthusiasm, to 2018 and whatever that may bring. **JC**

### What's On December

- |     |    |   |
|-----|----|---|
| Sat | 2  | Friends of Hempton Church: Christmas Bazaar, the Old School Room, Hempton, 11.00am  |
| Sat | 2  | PTA and FODC: ABBA Tribute Night, Parish Church, 7.00pm   |
| Tue | 5  | PFSU and Nursery: Christmas Fayre, Parish Church, 7.30–9.30pm   |
| Wed | 6  | Photographic Society: 'Intensity in Ten Cities' by John Credland, Christopher Rawlings School, Adderbury  |
| Sat | 9  | RBL: Bingo Night, Holly Tree Club, 8.00pm   |
| Sat | 9  | Warriner Choral Concert: Brahms German Requiem, Parish Church, 7.30pm   |
| Sun | 10 | Choros: Advent Carols by Candlelight, Parish Church, 6.30pm   |
| Mon | 11 | PFSU and F1: <i>Whoops-a-Daisy Angel</i> , Parish Church, 2.00pm  |
| Tue | 12 | Deddington Branch RBL: AGM, Holly Tree Club, 7.00pm   |
| Tue | 12 | WI: Christmas and Birthday Lunch, Otters  |
| Wed | 13 | History Society: Christmas Social, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm  |
| Thu | 14 | Holly Tree Club: <i>Miracle on 34th Street</i> , Holly Tree, 6.30pm   |
| Wed | 20 | PC Meeting: Holly Tree Club, 7.30pm   |
| Sat | 23 | Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00–12.30pm   |
| Sat | 23 | PTA: Father Christmas, Parish Church, 9.30am–12.00pm  |
| Sun | 24 | Parish Church: Don't be Alone, 1.00–4.00pm, contact 01869 336880 or <a href="mailto:vicar@deddingtonchurch.org">vicar@deddingtonchurch.org</a> for more information |
| Mon | 25 | Parish Church: Don't be Alone, 1.00–4.00pm, as above  |

### January

- |     |     |   |
|-----|-----|---|
| Tue | 9   | WI: 'The Ghosts of Oxfordshire', Moira Byast  |
| Wed | 10  | History Society: 'May Morning in Oxford', Tim Healey, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm           |
| Thu | 11  | DOGS: AGM, Deddington Arms, 7.00pm  |
| Thu | 18– |   |
| Sat | 20  | Deddington Players: <i>Cinderella</i> , Windmill Centre                                 |
| Thu | 25  | Book Club: <i>The Trouble with Goats and Sheep</i> , contact Sally Lambert 01869 338094 |

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

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## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### The Old School Room, Hempton, Wednesday 15 November

**Present:** Councillors Cox, Eames, Finnegan, Oldham, O'Neill, Reeve, Rogers (Chair), Squires, Timms, Watts and Wood, Councillor Williams (CDC) and Councillor Arash Fatemian (OCC), and several members of the public.

#### Open Forum

Steve Waterman addressed the council on the subject of car parking on farmers' market days, prompted by inconsiderate parking at the pinch point last month which caused the S4 bus to be held up. There is a sign on the main road to indicate parking areas, information on the market's website and flyers and leaflets are distributed. A TV Police officer will be present at the next market and may issue parking tickets if necessary. It is difficult to see what else can be done, except to appeal to everyone's common sense.

The new owner of the British Legion building has requested planning permission to convert it into two 3-bedroom houses.

County Councillor Arash Fatemian reported that a 'Civils' team is being created to tour north Oxfordshire to carry out minor highway repairs and maintenance. The PC is to draw up a list of possible works.

#### Planning

##### No objection

High Bank, St Thomas Street – remove four fir trees.  
Old Well House, Castle Street – remove a eucalyptus.  
36 Gaveston Gardens – erect new sunroom.  
Formerly 2 Chapmans Lane – one replacement dwelling and 2 new dwellings. This application involves no unnecessary alterations to the junction of Chapman's Lane and the main highway.

Orchard House, Chapel Close, Clifton – erect two detached dwellings and associated garages and hard standing – approval of appearance and landscaping.

##### Objection

Council Depot on land adjacent to and east of Hill Barn – OCC has proposed provision of a salt barn, wash down facility, storage tanks, loading and turning area, parking, access, drainage, lighting and landscaping. CDC objects to this proposal. DPC has seen no paperwork but would also object on the grounds of neighbouring properties being adversely affected.

Pear Tree Cottage, St Thomas St – owners are to be asked to remove pear tree which has been planted in the pavement.

Weston House, Church St – owners are to be asked to trim back overhanging hedge.

##### Refusals

Orchard End, St Thomas St – two storey extension to rear and new window to front.

#### Highways and transport

Following the visit by OCC official, the traffic island suggested as a solution for the difficulties for elderly

people crossing the main road near the junction with Hudson St is probably not feasible owing to the need to substantially widen the road. However, it is possible that signs might be erected alerting drivers to elderly persons crossing.

The signage at the junction of A4260/B4031 will be replaced when the traffic lights are up-dated between January and March 2018.

The 'slow' sign outside the school will be re-painted when the tarmac is replaced.

OCC may tarmac a narrow path outside Featherston House to facilitate access by wheelchairs.

The signage at the junction of St Thomas St and the A4260 will not be changed.

Mirrors and double yellow lines at the pinchpoint in Deddington were not considered desirable but the DPC is investigating this.

Cllr Fatemian is to follow up the issue of a dark area on the Hempton Road at The Daedings entrance. An additional lamppost may be requested.

It is hoped to acquire new Speed Awareness signs next year, following appreciation from residents where they have been erected.

Main St, Clifton, will be closed on 5 February 7.00pm–11.00pm whilst essential sewer cover replacement works are carried out.

Chapel Close, Clifton – concerned residents are advised to report any surface water problems immediately to Karen Cullen on 0800 009 3965.

30mph signs to be affixed to bins are to be distributed to properties on main routes throughout the parish.

#### Environment and Recreation

Forms regarding the registration as a public right of way of the footpath behind the Methodist chapel, Hempton, are with the working group. (Apologies for not making location clear last month – JR)

The Christmas tree will be installed on the morning of Wednesday 29 November. The steward will cordon off the area on 27 November.

The Royal British Legion wishes to provide a commemorative bench on the green in Deddington.

#### Finance and General Purposes

Various requests for grants were considered but this is limited by the Local Government Act to £7.57 per elector per annum, at present £13,164.23, so the council cannot help Deddington Nursery School whose present building is reaching the end of its feasible life. The rent of the parish shed at the Holly Tree Club has been raised from £80pa to £572pa. The PC has accepted the arrangement for one year and will then consider options.

**Next meeting: Wednesday 20 December at 7.30pm in the Holly Tree Club, Deddington.**

*Jean Rudge*

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter and not the official minutes. To see those, go to <http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2017.html>.

## An Enjoyable Cotswold Loop on Two Wheels

Before I launch into describing 18 miles of fresh air and beautiful views, a little of my background. I have always been interested in cycling, have competed in road, Criterium, XC and DH disciplines, and have run my own cycle shop for 25 years. Now I simply ride for pleasure when I have the urge (often, when the sun is shining).

My first route is quite short but falls nicely into that spare hour slot that I invariably seem to have.

The start is Hudson Street, Deddington, with a nice straight run up the B4031 through Hempton towards Chipping Norton. A short sharp downhill at Nether Worton levels out, leading you to the invariable uphill (a little longer with a small kick at the end), before some flowing sweeping bends allow you to join the A361.

Turning left towards Chipping Norton, you stay on the A361 for a mere 500 yards before taking a left towards Great Tew. Plunging downhill straight away, you will be doing 35mph plus before hitting a series of S-bends (take care), and then straight uphill skirting the village – the steepest gradient being at the end of the climb. As it levels out, you will approach a cross-roads taking the left turn past Great Tew Cricket Club (signposted Sandford and Duns Tew). Ride slowly over the summer and you can take in a game.

The road soon straightens out and you pass down a magnificent walled avenue of the Great Tew estate. Here the road quality suffers – no potholes but the

tarmac is broken up so a bit of buzz will be felt through the handlebars. You are also likely to encounter the odd horse rider so remember not to sneak up on them silently.

At the T-junction, take a right to Sandford St Martin, another long straight that is slightly downhill allowing a good turn of speed. Straight through picturesque Sandford and a short climb brings you into the back end of Steeple Barton and Middle Barton. Through the village and up towards Hopcrofts Holt will take you past the hidden Barton Abbey and cricket ground. At the traffic lights, you will join the busy A4260 – turn left towards Deddington and Adderbury. Here, you have the option of several different routes back to Deddington or you can extend your route but as I had an hour I chose the direct route back.

Down the dual carriageway, past the turn to North Aston takes you down Dane Hill before a small but always annoying short climb back into Deddington.

The ride is 18 miles long and should take a fast rider 55 minutes, medium paced one hour ten minutes, or the leisure rider one hour 25 minutes. Overall this is an enjoyable ride with two good meaty climbs and several smaller ones, plus a couple of quick downhill sections. Views are great and the wind will not be in your face all the way round. Enjoy the ride.

**James Greenwood**

[james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk](mailto:james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk)

### WYCHWOOD ART GALLERY



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## THE FIRE STATION

**T**he crew has been called out 50 times over the past few months with a wide range of incidents: two road traffic collisions; 10 accidental fires, including one involving three lorries at a depot in Banbury; three chimney fires, with one involving a thatched cottage (fortunately the fire was confined to the chimney and did not spread); one transformer and pole at the back of the Grove in Deddington (the fire was started by a squirrel shorting out the transformer - unfortunately we were unable to revive the squirrel!); eight false alarms; one call to help the ambulance services gain access to a property where an elderly lady had collapsed; and 25 calls to cover at other fire stations.

We have been to a number of chimney fires already this year. Luckily they weren't too serious. Chimney fires can result in serious structural damage to a property, so please have your chimney swept before you light it. We recommend that if you are having fires regularly you have it swept at least once during the winter.

There have been quite a few changes with the crew. We said goodbye to Tim Parker, who joined us ten years ago and worked hard to become a Crew Manager. We also said goodbye to Martin Freeman who has given 20 years' to the Fire Service and our community. It was a very proud moment for the station when ACO Grahame Mitchell presented Martin with his 20 years long service and good conduct medal. We will miss them both and the support they have given the station and protecting our community.

We have welcomed two new members to the crew, Adam Perry from Clifton and Andy Hayward. Some of

you might remember Andy. He was at Deddington ten years ago but due to the high house prices he had to move to Banbury. My other Crew Manager, Lewis Mahony, also found himself in the same position and was having to consider moving to Banbury or Oxford. This would have had a big impact on our station's availability. I am very pleased to report that he has been able to buy a house in The Swere under the affordable housing association scheme. Both Andy and Adam have completed their basic training and are on the run.

George Williamson and Nicky Isted have both passed their technical exam in incident command. This is the first stage to becoming incident commanders. This is a hard exam to pass so very well done.

Our main training focus this quarter is Road Traffic Collisions. On all RTCs, our initial actions are to make the scene safe and deal with any immediate life threatening issues. With all our crew now having enhanced first aid training, they can immediately administer life-

saving first aid. The next stage is casualty extrication. We now have a compound where we can practise our cutting, space creation and casualty extrication techniques on scrap cars at the station.

As we approach Christmas, we always get a few calls to fires involving Christmas decorations. These are invariably started by candles. Always make sure that candles are used in suitable holders, make sure they are not lit close to decorations and never leave lit candles unattended.

We all hope you have a happy and safe Christmas.

**Chris Fenemore, Watch Manager**



*Martin Freeman and ACO Grahame Mitchell*

## Deddington PFSU and Nursery

Christmas is always a busy and enjoyable season at the PFSU and Nursery and this year promises to be no exception. We kick off with two 'decorations afternoons' when PFSU children are invited to bring their families for a creative afternoon to make our pre-school look really festive. These will take place on Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 December from 1.30 to 3.00pm.

The PFSU children will be presenting their Christmas production, *Whoops-a-Daisy Angel*, with the F1 class on Monday 11 December at 2.00pm in the parish church. The Nursery Christmas production will be on Friday 15 December. The Nursery Christmas party

will be held on Tuesday 19 December and the PFSU party will be on Monday 18 December.

Our Christmas Fayre will be held in Deddington Church on Tuesday 5 December. Everyone is welcome from 7.30–9.30pm to enjoy mulled wine, mince pies, carols from Deddington Brass and stalls selling unique Christmas gifts.

As there is no DN in January may we remind our PFSU families that applications for primary school need to be made by 15 January. It just remains for me to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

**Lucy Squires 01869 337484**

## CHURCH AND CHAPEL

### January

Please see the enclosed Christmas card for all of December services in the Benefice

#### Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Mon–Fri:	8.45am	Morning Prayer (also on the first Saturday of the month)
Wed:	10.00am	Holy Communion (with prayers for healing on the fourth Wednesday of the month)
Thu:	2.00pm	Bumps & Bundles and tiny tots – a great place to meet for parents, carers and babies, from bump to 3yrs.
Sun 7	10.30am	Family Service – A lively service for all ages
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong
Sun 14	8.00am	BCP Communion
	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 21	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 28	10.30am	Holy Communion (said service)

For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the Vicar, Reverend Annie Goldthorp at [vicar@deddingtonchurch.org](mailto:vicar@deddingtonchurch.org) or on 01869 336880. If Annie is not available, then please contact one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie (338367) or George Fenemore (338203). We also have a Curate, Reverend Paula Smith who can be contacted on [curate@deddingtonchurch.org](mailto:curate@deddingtonchurch.org).

#### Hempton

Sun 7	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 21	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 28	6.00pm	Evening Prayer

#### Barford St Michael

Sun 7	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 21	10.30am	Family Service – A lively service for all ages
	4.00pm	Evening Prayer
Sun 28	9.00am	Holy Communion

#### Barford St John

Sun 14	9.00am	Holy Communion
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#### From the Parish Register

##### Weddings

26 October Oliver Laslett and Margaret Guyton

##### Funerals

28 October Brian Putland

8 November Celia Clark

#### Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Sunday mornings at 10.30am Pastor Isabel Walton

**Pastor Isabel Walton 01869 337157**

#### RC Parish of Hethe

**Father 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. Confessions are heard at Hethe during the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday between 5.00-6.00pm.

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.

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

## Snow Wardens

Community-minded volunteers who will help their neighbours during snowy or harsh conditions in Deddington, Clifton and Hempton are being sought in case of a bad winter. The Snow Warden scheme sees volunteers organise the gritting of roads and pavements in the areas where they live. Around 20 wardens have previously volunteered but have rarely been called into action because of mild winters. Some have dropped out of the scheme and, because this year might see the return of snow and ice, more are needed.

The aim is to help keep our roads, pavements and footpaths safer for everyone throughout the winter,

particularly for elderly and vulnerable residents who may need to have their front paths cleared in the event of heavy snowfall.

The parish council has a limited supply of equipment and reserves of salt. OCC will grit the major routes in the community; anything in addition to that will require a community effort.

For more information, if you would like to volunteer or are vulnerable and need help yourself, please contact me.

**David Rogers**

**01869 337065**

**[david@blueskyday.biz](mailto:david@blueskyday.biz)**

## DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM



**H**o hum, that's another one done, although the start of the farming year is October when the next year's crops are planted and the rams go out on the ram-page. The 2017 calendar year has only a few weeks to run but will not go down in history with any great affection.

The lambing season started off bad, with the usual problems of a few still-births and difficult deliveries, but ended up good, with shirtsleeve weather. The bees got off to a flying start with the oil seed rape coming into flower early and our farmyard visitors arriving back safely with eleven pairs of swallows taking up residence. The spring weather was warming up nicely with the pundits predicting a good summer but the weather gods were not of the same mind and the predicted 'flaming June' became a damp squib. The haymaking season was very difficult but we managed to get it into the barn even if some of it was a little weathered but, as the old boys from my childhood home would say, 'Never mind boss, it will look good in February with six inches of snow on the ground'. In those days all the livestock except the dairy herd were wintered out, receiving daily rations of hay, rolled oats, barley and mangles. These were a yellow-fleshed root crop grown on the farm for winter feeding and, during the school holidays, it was my job to drive the horse and cart while one of the farm men forked out the feed. They are not grown now as they tended to produce an orange tinge to the milk and a yellow fat on the meat, something that modern day consumers dislike.

Although not a wet year, the ewes never really had a dry back but there was plenty of grass in the valley for them to go at. The harvest became a 'grab it when you can' season with the grain dryer doing overtime. Not that we had a wet harvest, just a damp and dismal one with little sunshine when we needed it, but we did have a harvest which came in on time. The harvest weather affected the grain quality but the yield was well above our five-year average, so not a bad season, just a frustrating one but there is always next year.

So far the autumn-planted crops are in fine form. The oilseed rape went in on time during the last week of August into good firm seed beds and has now gone into its winter dormancy period. The cool weather conditions kept the cabbage stem flea beetle at bay without the need for any insecticide spray, the wheat went into the ground during October, again into 'kind' seed beds, and the lack of an Indian summer kept the slugs out of the way and the slug pellets in the chemical store, so it all now depends on just what the winter has

in store for us. One thing that can be forecast is that a very cold, frosty Westminster wind will be blowing through the countryside for some time to come.

Now that the bees are safely tucked up in bed we can dig out the chainsaws and log up a rather large lightning-struck oak tree that had been dead for some time and came down on one of the apiaries during our 'hurricane' season. It had to be left where it fell as the bees get very excited with the buzz of the chainsaw, something that can be rather painful as the chainsaw safety kit is not bee proof.

Now that our summer visitors are long gone, the winter ones have started to arrive in good numbers, albeit a little late: redwings and fieldfare (northern thrushes) are tucking into the hedgerow berries but we still await the golden plovers. The farmland birds are well into the feed strips and it will soon be time to put up their feeding stations to tide them over the winter once the strips have been exhausted. The only problem is that these feed stations become a target for the local sparrowhawk population. An added bonus for the finch population is a failed attempt to grow a small area of sunflowers and millet with the idea of harvesting them for use on the feed stations but the weather was against us and we left them for the birds to help themselves. It seems the local roe deer have also developed a taste for sunflowers and millet, so a good end to a difficult farming year.

By the time I next tickle the keyboard the lambing season will be fast approaching, a very good prelude to spring. So a happy Christmas to you all and see you around the Market Place Christmas tree on 24 December for mulled wine and carols with the Deddington Brass band, a truly Deddington Christmas tradition.

**George Fenemore**  
**01869 338203**

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## DEDDINGTON FARMERS' MARKET

### THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY?

The Christmas market is the highlight of the year, every stall groaning with Dickensian excess – and perhaps a dusting of snow. But you would be wise to order ahead to avoid disappointment. What groans on the market stall may not be groaning for you. The contact details for stallholders is available on the Deddington Farmers' Market website (URL below). This market is just one shopping day away from Christmas giving you very little time for alternatives.

Christmas is supposed to be about good will to all men and all that. The reality is usually a deal more stressful. The solution to day after day of excessive indulgence in the company of family and friends not seen since last Christmas – and the concomitant washing up? Alcohol, but not just any alcohol.

This recipe, from Simon Hopkinson, contains things that are good for you as well as things that might make the festive season more bearable. It's a reliable reviver that can be drunk from breakfast time onwards, unless you intend operating heavy machinery like a dishwasher.

### Bloody Mary

150mls tomato juice	Ice cubes
75mls vodka	25mls dry sherry
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce	1tsp Tabasco
Juice of ½ a small lime	
Pinch of celery salt, twist of black pepper	

Put all the ingredients in a cocktail shaker and shake vigorously. Decant into tall glasses, garnish with a stick of celery, and consume slowly, preferably with something salty to nibble. Feel better.

For more up to date information about the market (and contact details for all the stallholders) you can visit the market webpage [www.deddingtonfarmers-market.co.uk](http://www.deddingtonfarmers-market.co.uk).

The market is on Saturday 23 December from 9.00am to 12.30pm. If you can't wait till then, Adderbury market is on the second Thursday of each month at The Institute, The Green, Adderbury, 6.00pm-8.00pm. More details at: [www.market.adderbury.org](http://www.market.adderbury.org).

Good shopping and Merry Christmas!

**Ian Willox 01869 337 940**  
[ian.willox@btconnect.com](mailto:ian.willox@btconnect.com)

## Alex Soddy Conducts

Following a performance of Puccini's *La Bohème* at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York last month, a full house (3,800) gave a standing ovation to the lead singers and to their special guest, conductor Alex Soddy.

Alex grew up in Deddington and so a small team of family friends had travelled to New York to see him. At the early age of 35, to perform in front of the very knowledgeable, and no doubt equally critical, opera cognoscenti of New York, was quite an achievement. We were overawed by the occasion even if he was not.

From the first bar Alex was clearly the maestro that opera requires to bring the very best from such established performers as Angel Blue (Mimi - soprano) and Russell Thomas (Rodolfo - tenor). Whilst the singing was sublime and the sets by Franco Zeffirelli were stunning, it was Alex who stole the show for us.

To sit as close to him as we did was to experience the sheer power of his presence, overcoming the

challenge of a particularly large stage with complex sets which might have daunted a lesser man. Large in stature, gesture and personality, Alex's baton carried orchestra, cast and audience magnificently as one through to the opera's haunting conclusion of the death of Mimi, followed by a moment of silence and then the standing ovation. He is clearly a conductor to watch and not just because he is a Deddington man but because he has shown that he is now established on the world stage.

For those who don't wish to travel to far flung places across the world to see Alex or to Mannheim in Germany where he is the resident conductor, there will be an opportunity to see him as guest conductor at the English National Opera in London in March next year for performances of Benjamin Britten's *A Midsummer's Night Dream*.

**Rob and Maureen Forsyth**  
[robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com](mailto:robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com)

## Friends of Daeda's Wood

The recent high winds brought down some trees but the Woodland Trust's preference is not to remove them unless they are obstructing the rides. Leaving them contributes to the sustainability of the Wood ... for example by providing bug homes and fungi gardens.

Now that a degree of maturity has been reached there is little that the Friends of the Wood need to do ... just as well as since we too are maturing and can no longer easily swing an axe!

Users of the Wood usually treat it with respect leaving no litter.

The Woodland Trust intends to repair the information board and will, in due course, install a new bench in the wildflower meadow.



**Annette Murphy, Chair**  
[annette-orchard@live.co.uk](mailto:annette-orchard@live.co.uk)



## POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

### CULTURE, RUTTING AND BEER

I know a lot of Europeans laugh at the idea of culture in America, some would call it an oxymoron. And so an exchange visit from the old country seemed like a good idea.

We held a party to welcome Mr Martin Bryce. He seemed familiar but there was something odd about his face. We live in a neighborhood of lovely old folks and they seemed very taken with him. His description of the stupidity of US hire car centres seemed a bit extreme. The signs say 'not this way', and 'your tires will be shredded' - I get the point they are making. Martin seemed to think there was a cultural issue here. He is English, therefore has some rights over the language. I am not sure some of the old folks have managed to dry their underwear out since.

We took a trip into the mountains. Heather mentioned that the elk were rutting and so we had to go and find them. The Rocky Mountain State Park is a truly great drive along the highest road in North America, and there we found a field with more than 250 elk in the distance.

The intrepid Mr Bryce screwed on his long lens and proceeded to stalk them, at what he thought was a safe 100 yard distance. Luckily the elk behind the tree he lent on to steady his camera was quite pleased to pose for pictures. Thankfully it was female, else there would be no more News from Clifton.

Culture is in the eye of the beholder and I do believe there is culture in the Land of the Free, one just needs to stop being condescending (yes, I know) and understand the vast variations in these lands and the very diverse peoples. Unfortunately, the culture left from the original natives is not too great. The European settlers murdered most of them. Estimates vary from 10 million upwards.

America is a land full of diverse and interesting peoples. The problem is that there is a small percentage of the population that has little perception of history, or the cultures in the rest of the world. And they can be the noisy ones. On a plane last year, I was cornered by a Texan who wanted to tell me that the rest of the world needed America and it was to follow the American way. These people are actually rare. They are, however, often rich and some of them end up as the President. Money wins in America, not culture or education.

I hope Mr Bryce made it home OK. I haven't heard from him since. He seemed particularly taken with the local craft beer industry. However, I will say that leaving it to the barman to surprise you with your next beer can be an iffy pursuit. He got Bud Light at one bar and I was given a pint of mild last week. The barman didn't understand my comments that in the UK, when I was young, a pint of mild contained all the slops. That's culture for you, fortunately it doesn't travel.

**Mike Ward, [mikew@qsoftware.com](mailto:mikew@qsoftware.com)**

## NEWS FROM CLIFTON

This month I found myself reprising my diplomatic career as I was visiting the colonies on a parish initiative to monitor the progress of retired Parish Councillors who have left the neighbourhood. This required me to travel to Greenwood Village, Colorado, and the home of Mrs Ward who was an active councillor, especially key in maintaining the future of our library and sports facilities for our 'yoof'. I can happily report that the ex-councillor is thriving in the US, working in the software industry while still raising her family and caring for an elderly relative who also writes for this august organ. At one of my welfare visits I was engaged in conversation with key business leaders in this community who firmly suggested twinning Candleford and the Larkrises with Greenwood Village. With Greenwood's impressive soccer facilities, park lands, fitness trails and other sporting facilities as well as a vibrant business community and 330 blue sky days a year, there is a lot to commend this plan. I will fully report my findings to Cllr Collins who can feed this to council.

Due to generous cake donations (Jill Norton won star baker), and a steady crowd eating cake and drinking coffee, we raised £275 for Macmillan Cancer Support in our recent coffee morning at the Duck.

Lower Larkrise, on the Eve of All Hallows, held a pumpkin carving competition with as many entries as

loops on a hangman's noose. The spectacular entries were judged by Cllr Collins, wrongly attributing competitive parental blade work to a pumpkin carved by 12-year old James. There were futuristic pumpkins, pumpkins marking the religious significance of the day, one with a chilling hair bow and one eating another. They were all fabulous and the prizes went to (first) Emma Perry, (second) Kylie Hendrikse, and (third) James Rose after a stewards enquiry.

Next day saw the All Saints Day quiz at the Duck. Many a costume liberated from the yoof the night before saw Candleford folk walk down to Lower Larkrise [then why was the car park rammed? Ed] to join many a Larkriser keen to show their mettle. Ex-cricketer Mark won the Dame of the Night award dressed as Dorothy's nemesis and looked fabulous. With a curry at half-time what was not to like? An evening of horror-related questions saw the best (and worst) of parishioners' intellect laid bare. The usual winners nicked it by knowing Bobby Boris Pickett, and the Crypt Kickers recorded Monster Mash, chased by Chapel Close Clangers with The Other Team third. It was great to see the podium dominated by Lower Larkrise with some starting the long walk back early.

**Martin Bryce  
[martinbryce@gmail.com](mailto:martinbryce@gmail.com)**



## Deddington Branch RBL

As usual, there was a large turnout for the Remembrance Sunday Parade and even more people joined us for the traditional Service of Remembrance at the War Memorial and in church. We have not completed counting the money from poppy sales but, if last year's £5,000+ is matched, we will know we continue to have a very generous village. From all this one would imagine that the Deddington Branch is doing well.

However, the facts are sadly somewhat different. The Club has closed and our building has been sold because of its very low usage and lack of funds to carry out expensive repairs. Our long-standing chairman and secretary, Ray and Jean Morris, both died last year within a short space of time. They were replaced from within the small remaining committee (just four of us left) but now we are sorry to say that Nina Fairns, secretary and in charge of social matters) is not at all well and needs to be replaced. Lastly, our long-standing treasurer of more than 40 years, Norman West, would like to retire gracefully if we can find a replacement. We also need a standby Standard Bearer in case our present one, as happened this year, is unable to parade. The Branch president and chairman are not spring chickens either so some succession planning would be wise.

Without being over-dramatic, the future of the Branch is in doubt. We can find somewhere for our occasional meetings and any future fundraising – apart from poppy sales this has badly declined over the last years with the ageing membership – but we need new and younger blood to carry the RBL forward in Deddington as members of the committee prepared to do some of the (not very onerous) work. If anyone feels able to join our committee and help us to continue to support the aims of the Royal British Legion, then please 'take one step to the front' and contact me.

**Rob Forsyth, 01869 338384**  
[robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com](mailto:robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com)

## Deddington Library

The year is drawing to a close and, as usual, I become reflective but more grateful for the blessings that living in this wonderful parish brings me. Our library continues to thrive although we have to work harder to find ways to meet the constantly evolving needs of our community; but the challenge is part of the fun.

We are, as always, grateful to our community volunteers who turn up every week to support the running of the library; they have become absolute stalwarts over the last three years. Thank you all for your support (and your amazing tea-making skills). I really don't know how I'd manage without you.

Likewise, huge thanks to our Home Library Service volunteers who take books to the elderly and housebound in our parish and the wider community; to our Rhymetime volunteers who deliver weekly sessions of rhymes, music and movement to under-fives, and to our Friends group who are incredibly supportive of me and the library and work tirelessly to raise funds to maintain the service. And thanks to the myriad of volunteers and helpers who support us in different ways. We are incredibly lucky to have you all.

I'm excited to welcome Paul and Andrew to the team as our Digital Helpers; they will offer support getting people online. So, if you're struggling with setting up an email account, can't find your way around your iPad, or simply want to learn how to do your supermarket shopping online, contact us and we will arrange sessions at the library, either on our free to use public network PCs or your own device.

Our last Rhymetime session before Christmas will be at 2.30pm on Monday 11 December, so come and join in with our lively Christmas themed session. We recommence on Monday 8 January at the usual time.

On behalf of me and the library's volunteers, a very merry Christmas and a happy healthy New Year.

**Stella O'Neill, Library Manager, 01869 338391**  
[deddington.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:deddington.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

FRAN'S BAKES FRAN'S BAKES FRAN'S BAKES FRAN'S BAKES FRAN'S BAKES

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ingredients

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- Have a sociable & well-trained dog
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- It's easy and fun for all the family
- Classes held in Deddington

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**Tel: 07967 620 558**

## DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Time seems to have flown by since the last newsletter. We have had our usual busy time in school, with lots of exciting events taking place.

Our fireworks display took place on Friday 3 November, and a sparkling and exciting time was had by all who attended. Thank you to the PTA for organising this great evening again this year.

In the first week of November some KS2 children took part in the annual Children Singing for Children concert at St Mary's Church in Banbury. Our two special songs were sung last in the concert, after six other schools had already performed on their own. There is no doubt that our performance was seen to be extraordinarily good, with many adults congratulating us on our outstanding singing and performing. We enjoyed every minute of this concert and all of us are already looking forward to the event next year.

The School Council held a competition in early November when they asked everyone to design and make suitable parking posters to put up around school. The purpose of this was to help make our school safer at the beginning and end of each school day. We had



more than 90 entries. After collecting the designs, the School Councillors then had the difficult job of picking the winners but, after much deliberation and support from Mr Evans initially, and then a school governor, one winner was chosen from each class in school. The winners were presented with a certificate and prize for their hard work and creativity. Well done to everyone who entered this most worthwhile competition.

Some KS1 children took part in a partnership cross country event at the Warriner school and did extremely well, showing great perseverance and sportsmanship. We were all very proud of their achievements. Our KS2 children will be competing in their cross country event at Sibford School later this month.

We are now looking forward to our Christmas performances and 'Christmas Jumper Day' in aid of the charity, Save the Children, on Friday 15 December.

**Denise Welch**

**01869 338430**

[dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk)



### Christmas Fayre and raffle

**TUESDAY, 5th DEC, 7.30pm- 9.30pm**

**St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, Deddington**

Pick up a  
unique gift  
from our  
festive local  
stalls

**Entry  
Only  
£3**

Grab a drink  
then sit down  
and enjoy the  
live Christmas  
music

Jewellery \* Cards \* Craft \* Gifts \* Toys  
Food & Drink \* Clothes \* Flowers  
Mince pies \* Mulled Wine  
\* Manicures \*

**Get into the Christmas Spirit!**

In support of Deddington Village Nursery & Pre-School (PFSU) Charity No 1100275/1117963

 follow us on facebook: Deddington Village Nursery and PFSU



### Come and meet Santa and his Elves!

**Saturday, 23rd December**  
**St Peter & St Paul's Church, Deddington**  
**9.30am - 12.30pm**

### Join the Festive Fun!!

**Donations to Deddington Primary School PTA**  
**Register Charity number 1052715**

## LETTERS

FROM JANE GREEN, LOCAL OHCT CO-ORDINATOR, CHURCH STREET  
The Ride and Stride event in September raised £900 to be shared between the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and Deddington parish church for the maintenance of our historic churches. We are most grateful to the ten teams who rode or strode and to their very generous sponsors.



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

FROM THE WELFORD FAMILY, LEADENPORCH FARM  
The Leadenporch Farm family was delighted to be awarded the first prize cup for conservation in this, our final year at the farm. The Welford family owes much to the Wells and Bond families who have worked for us for many years. Their loyalty and dedication to the farm and us, we believe, is why we have won this and many other cups in various categories over the years as members of Banbury Farming Club. It could not have been done without all their hard work and skill.

It has always been a pleasure to meet the many people who have enjoyed the foot and bridle paths through the farm and been able to share and appreciate the local countryside and wildlife with us. We hope they will continue to do so as the new owners, the Deeley family from Souldern, take on the challenge

of farming this beautiful Oxfordshire valley.

We will miss Leadenporch, Deddington and Clifton. It's the end of an era but we feel that it is time to move on.

Alastair and Debbie are not retiring. Far from it, but as the charity, Nicodemus, that we started nearly six years ago, is growing at a very fast pace we

felt we would like to put our time into developing it for future sustainability. If you are interested then please take a look at the website, [www.nicodemuscharity.org.uk](http://www.nicodemuscharity.org.uk) to find out what we will be doing with our time. You may wish to support our Christmas appeal, 'Please don't forget me this Christmas', where we are appealing for help to give young adults and children a Christmas dinner.

We are moving to Oxhill, Warwickshire, not far, and will of course still be visiting the head of the family, Jean, in Deddington, and may well see some of you at the same time. We feel very blessed and privileged to have been able to live and work in a beautiful part of God's creation at Leadenporch, but we are on to another area to continue the next part of our lives. We are excited for the future and very thankful for the many past memories.



Our Fabulous  
**2018 PARISH CALENDAR**  
on Sale!

at **Deddington Farmers' Market**  
and **Deddington Library**  
from **Saturday 23 September**

Top-quality photography and local pictures  
make this the 'must-have' gift!

Order yours for Christmas gifts,  
home and abroad

Limited number, so be sure to get yours –  
advance orders taken at the Library  
Only £10.00

Proceeds to Friends of Deddington Library  
Charity No. 1164811

# POST



**Your local Christmas cards**



For delivery in  
**Deddington, Hempton, Clifton  
& The Barfords**



**BY THE SCOUTS  
& GUIDES**

**Collection boxes in**

**Eagles Butchers &  
Barford Post Office**



**From December 2nd  
Last collection Sat Dec 16th**

## WINDMILL PLANS APPROACH FIRST MILESTONE

The equipment for the play area and woodland trail has been decided, and we're talking to potential suppliers about whether it matches our budget and the site. It will go on the old bowling green and the copse at the southern end. The estimated cost is £100,000 and will be funded by a very generous private donation, matched in principle by the Parish Council.

We expect that there will be a new 10m x 20m Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), fenced in, with a tarmac surface and open to all users. We've one last loop to go round before we decide on its final position in relation to the play equipment. The estimated cost is again around £100,000 and funding for this will be \$106 money coming from the new housing development. The existing AWC should be refurbished to a much higher standard with stronger fencing, better lights and storage for equipment for both the sports field and the training pitch. These plans are well advanced and we hope work will be able to start in 2018.

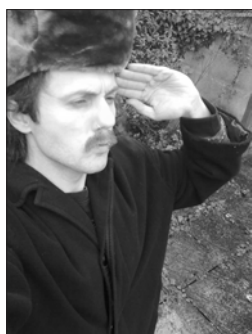
We're now talking to architects about plans for the Centre building, set in the wider context of the whole site. It's early days, but we've made a start.

As stressed earlier, these plans are not carved in stone. As soon as we have some ideas for the hall, we'll put plans on show for you to comment on. All the proposals will be put to the Parish Council for approval and then we go the rounds of environmental appraisal, CDC planning permission, and going out to tender. Any one of these may cause plans to change.

Residents in Mill Close should look out for the flyer we've recently delivered to explain in more detail what's being planned, and inviting them, as nearest residents, to talk to us about any concerns or raise any questions they may have. In the meantime please email us with any comments.

**Mary Robinson, Chair**  
[development@windmillcentre.org](mailto:development@windmillcentre.org)

## BLISSFUL THINKING



I bring you this month's stream of consciousness while deeply entrenched in the squalid throes of pestilence, so we know that winter is finally announcing itself in all its malignancy.

In between the bouts of febrile hysteria, I caught that banking advert where an on-line fraudster poaches personal information from an oblivious young woman purely by browsing her social media accounts. I think I remember writing about the surrender of our initiative to technology last month, but what about our privacy?

People make their relationships, children's photos, workplace and hometown publicly available for strangers to browse with possibly nefarious motives on social media and photography platforms. Intimate photos sent to someone you once trusted or even

stored in the cloud can become a weapon. You can be located using your smartphone. Anyone who has had the misfortune of installing Windows 10 will know the time it takes to laboriously opt out of every default option that tracks and stores your browsing habits. On social media and platforms like YouTube we sometimes provide intimate details about our mental health, lifestyle and world view to potentially billions of strangers. Long-forgotten and ill-judged comments online can be dug up and used to ruin future careers.

The Adam Curtis documentary series *All Watched Over by Machines of Loving Grace* (which I highly recommend) talks about the wider theory that robots and computers would eventually inevitably solve all of mankind's problems, when in fact they seem to have exacerbated some, and created some we couldn't even foresee at the time. You've heard of being wary of surrendering too much liberty in exchange for security, but how much privacy do you surrender for convenience?

**Aaron Bliss**  
[aaronjbliss@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronjbliss@hotmail.com)

## Friends of Deddington Library

The committee met on 13 November to review calendar sales and explore new and exciting fundraising events planned for 2018. We are attending more events in order to reach a wider audience ahead of Christmas. By the time you read this we will have been to the November Barford and Deddington markets, as well as the Christmas Bazaar in the church. We'll also be at the Hempton and Nicholson's Christmas Fairs on 2 December so please come along if you've still not bought a copy of the calendar, the perfect Christmas present.

We are ahead of last year's sales and this year's target, but please don't leave it too late. All the funds go to keep Deddington library open and operational, with the volunteers doing a great job of supporting Stella and her team. We would like to thank everyone who's supported the library over the last 12 months in various ways and wish you and your families the very best for Christmas and a happy, prosperous and healthy New Year to all. Thank you.

**Bryn Williams**  
[abw@brynwilliams.com](mailto:abw@brynwilliams.com)



## FRIENDS OF CASTLE GROUNDS

We held a membership stall at the farmers' market which was very successful with quite a few new members signing up plus membership renewals for the year, and we also had a lot of interest in what we do and plans for the future.

Please be careful over the new few months. It is very muddy and slippery and the fallen leaves can hide roots which can cause a trip hazard.

Most of the benches have now been repaired and stained.

Come and visit the Castle Grounds over the Christmas holidays and enjoy this wonderful site.

I would like to remind all dog walkers to clean up after their dogs to continue to keep this area a clean and safe area for visitors.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous new year.

Thank you for all of your support during 2017 and we look forward to a positive and productive 2018.

**Carol Garrett**  
[cgarret@btinternet.com](mailto:cgarret@btinternet.com)

## News from Hempton

Please remember the Christmas Bazaar this Saturday, 2 December from 11.00am at St John's Church and the Old School Room. There will be lots of attractions to suit everyone, from adults to small children, with Santa's Grotto back after the success of last year. Hot lunches will once again be available – it should be a great family occasion.

The Carol Service this year will be on Friday 15 December at 6.30pm, with refreshments to follow. There will not be an Evening Prayer Service on Sunday 24th but Christmas Day Holy Communion will be at 9.00am.

The final amount raised by four striders in September was £316, of which half goes to our church and the other half to the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust. Well done to everyone involved in that day.

As it is the end of the year, my thanks go to the following: Sue Montague, Ingrid Robey and Barbara Chappell for delivering this paper in the village.

**Les Chappell 01869 338054**



## History Corner

[www.dedddingtonhistory.uk](http://www.dedddingtonhistory.uk)

If anyone has any information about the shop known as Runicles early in the 1900s, please could I have details? Apart from the fact that a Johnny Runicles was at the Primary School in 1927, that is all I know.

**Rob Forsyth**  
 01869 338384  
[robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com](mailto:robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com)

## DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the months of December 1867 and January 1868:

**16th December** – Mr. Campbell from Great Tew came to examine the schools as Diocesan Inspector, he reported badly of the schools.

**20th December** – A fire broke out about 8 o'clock at Hitchcock's, the Blacksmith's premises, destroying the roof etc.

The engine was out of order, no buckets except borrowed ones to use – I was present giving directions.

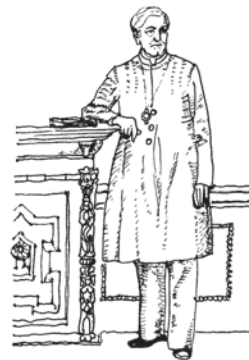
**1st January** – The Clifton farmers and singers had their usual beef and plum pudding – I excused myself from being present.

**16th January** – Cotterell came on business. He gave me some Hedge Hog ointment for deafness.

**23rd January** – the bell tolled this morning for the Sexton, Thos. French, who died yesterday afternoon.

**27th January** – Young French came about the Sexton's place – to thank me for naming him to the Vicar.

**Buffy Heywood**  
[bd.heywood@btinternet.com](mailto:bd.heywood@btinternet.com)



## CHRISTINGLE SERVICES

**Bring your children  
to a candlelit service**

at Barford St Michael Church  
on Sunday, 3 December, at 4pm,  
and

at the Crib and Christingle Service  
at Deddington Parish Church  
on Christmas Eve at 4pm

### Crib Service

at Barford St Michael Church  
on Christmas Eve at 2pm

And with your donations,  
support The Children's  
Society in its care of  
disadvantaged children



**The  
Children's  
Society**

## WELL REMEMBERED

### Celia Clark 1949–2017

Celia was born in Lambeth in 1949, although we both spent our formative years in west Kent. We moved to Kidlington in 1979 and Clifton in 1983.

After Pitman's College she worked at the Kennel Club as secretary to the registration manager where records of dog pedigrees were maintained. The job was more exciting when assisting Trading Standards and the police when dog pedigree fraud was suspected.

She was diagnosed with epilepsy a week before we got married in 1970. It was a difficult time until we moved to Kidlington and she came under care of the John Radcliffe, and her condition was better controlled.

Celia objected to being defined as an epileptic. Hilary was born, a few hours after an epileptic fit. Celia loved motherhood and subsequently being a grandmother and great aunt.

She went on a part-time university access course funded by the Laura Ashley foundation at Banbury College. She was very proud of being awarded an A level in English literature. Oxford Brookes offered her a place to study English, although she never took the place as she decided it would be too difficult to commute each day and she chose to look after us, the house and garden instead.

Celia was generous with her time and money. She supported me as a mature student and numerous

charities, many of which are still writing today. She was gregarious and made friends easily. She kept in touch by letter and later email with people that she had known for up to 65 years. In between being a homemaker and keen gardener, she volunteered for Deddington OnLine and Deddington library.

She loved reading and writing and was always open to new ideas. Her researches into family history were exhaustive and provided a good opportunity for new holiday venues and correspondents. Quite a few family myths were slain and new insights found into the lives of ordinary folk during major national historical events of the past couple of hundred years.

Celia's values were quite straightforward and based on the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount. Nothing more and nothing less.

She grew up in the Church of England and, after excursions around other denominations, she came back to it.

The last year was a miserable time with deteriorating health and frequent medical emergencies, although she was still doing crosswords in the last three weeks before she passed. She was interested in the progress of her family, particularly the young ones.

**Colin Clark and Hilary Palmer**

## Holly Tree Club

The Monday morning coffee club for the over 60s will meet on Monday 4 December for their final gathering of the year. The first meeting of the new year will be held at 10.30am on Monday 8 January 2018. All over 60s are welcome so please come and join us.

We are looking forward to our Christmas lunch at the Deddington Arms on Tuesday 5 December; I'm sure all our members will enjoy getting together with good company and a lovely meal. The committee would like to take this opportunity to thank those individuals and village businesses who have so generously donated prizes to our bumper raffle; they are all greatly appreciated.

In association with Age UK, our next film will be *Miracle on 34th Street*; if you're remotely sceptical about Santa existing, this is the film for you. It's a lovely seasonal film to get everyone in the spirit of Christmas and will be shown at 6.30pm on Thursday 14 December.

Our next film, on Thursday 11 January, is *'Churchill'*, a historical war drama to start our 2018 season of

films. Tensions mount for beleaguered Prime Minister Winston Churchill as D-Day nears in June 1944. Fearful of repeating past mistakes, Churchill is reluctant to embark on the large-scale campaign that the entire war effort hinges on.

No need to be a member or to book to see the film, just come along, all over 60s will be made very welcome. The only cost is £2.00 for refreshments on the night.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our committee for all their hard work with the Holly Tree this year. I'd also like to wish the committee, our members and supporters a very happy Christmas and a prosperous, healthy New Year.

For all Club enquiries, please contact Liz Dickinson 01869 337050 or Diana Marshall on 01869 337761. For all Holly Tree bookings, please contact Hugh Blythe on 01869 338126.

**John Finnigan, Chair  
Holly Tree Management Committee**

## Don't Miss Out – Working Parents of 3- and 4-Year Olds

Working parents of 3- and 4-year old children may be entitled to 30 hours free childcare per week. This includes those who are self-employed and some parents on zero hours contracts. To find out if you are eligible visit <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>. To

join those already benefiting, apply by the beginning of December for a January start. The Family Information Service has information about childcare providers in this area. Visit [fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk).

## CALLING ALL CLUBS

### Deddington and District Photographic Society

At our November meeting the club was pleased to welcome back Robert Harvey who gave us an excellent presentation titled 'Winter Photography'. He started by explaining why he considered winter to be the best season for serious landscape photography: the quality of light in winter is friendlier than the glare of high summer, the angle of the sun is only 14 degrees above the horizon and the direction of the sun creates sidelighting effects most photographers hope and wish for. As sunlight passes through winter's atmospheric conditions, the 'golden hours' of early morning and late evening last longer than in summer, giving more photo opportunities than any other time of year (and no small consideration is that we don't have to be out of bed at 4.00am as we have to in summer!).

Robert continued with superb illustrations of how the low angle of the winter sun emphasised the contours of mountains and hillsides with the subtle modelling effect of the light direction, using pictures of the Lake District and North Wales. The low angle of light direction also enhanced the photographs of wildlife, particularly birds in flight, removing the dark shadows beneath their wings that high summer lighting produces. Some beautifully crisp shots of Dartmoor showed the pictorial opportunities of winter frost on rock outcrops and foliage. Photographs taken in

fresh snow illustrated the sharp sparkling effects that low angle winter light produces. These brilliant snow pictures ranged from Yellowstone in the deep grip of winter to the Norwegian fjords and North Cape. The obvious benefit of long clear dark nights was demonstrated with beautiful star shots and trails. Particularly effective were the starlight pictures using Stonehenge as foreground. Robert rounded off his presentation answering questions from the audience. This hugely enjoyable presentation ended with loud applause.

Our next meeting on the 6 December is titled 'Intensity in Ten Cities' by John Credland and is in the Christopher Rawlings School, Aynho Road, Adderbury. All are welcome to attend.

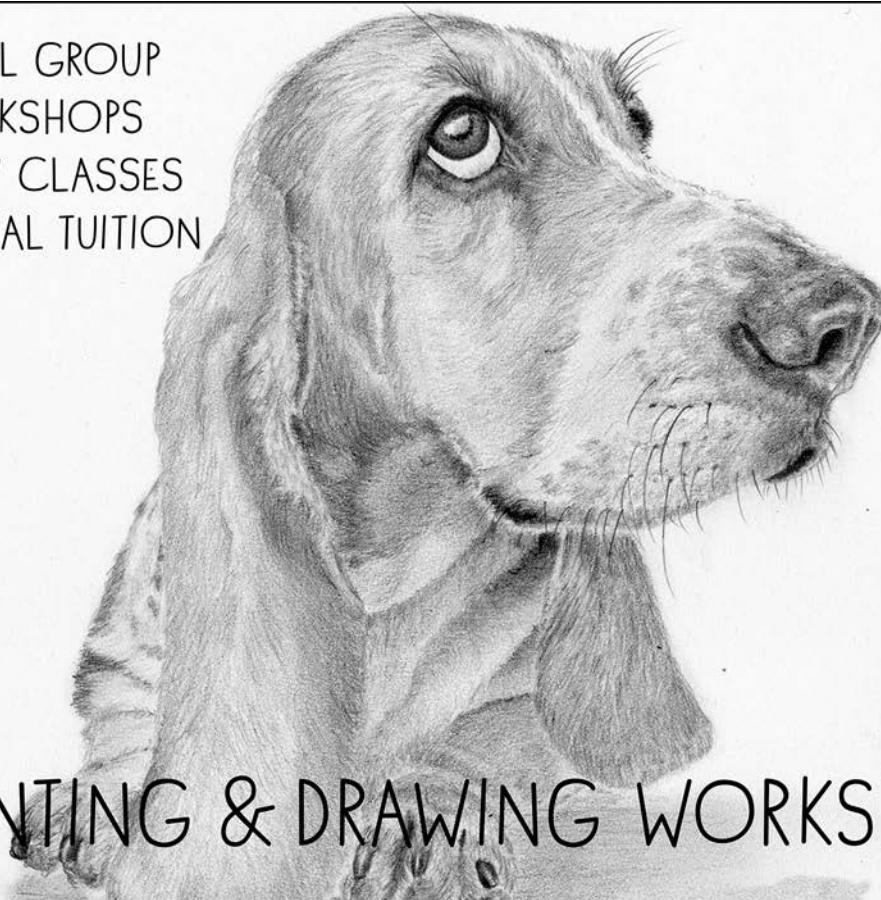
**Paul Brewerton**  
[paul.brewerton@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.brewerton@btinternet.com)

### Book Club

Our October book was *Loss of Innocence* by Richard North Patterson. Set in America in 1968, the plot develops against a wider background of political upheaval and civil unrest following the assassination of Robert Kennedy and the ongoing Vietnam War.

Young Whitney Dane has a wealthy family and a suitable fiancé. However, her feelings of unease at her undemanding and conventional future are intensified when she meets Ben, a charismatic and provoca-

SMALL GROUP  
WORKSHOPS  
WEEKLY CLASSES  
INDIVIDUAL TUITION



PAINTING & DRAWING WORKSHOPS

CATEWETHERALLARTIST.CO.UK PHONE: 07702 060113 EMAIL: CATE@WILDANDTAME.CO.UK



## CALLING ALL CLUBS

*Continued from p15*

tive young man who challenges her to question the attitudes of her class. As she does so, secrets are exposed and family dynamics change dramatically.

Most members of the group were very enthusiastic about this book. A few had reservations about the writing style and thought the characters rather stereotyped. The historical context and the social attitudes of the era struck a chord with everyone and led to a lively discussion. One issue, the complexities of combining motherhood with a career, even sparked a long exchange of emails after the meeting – a most unusual event.

There is no meeting in December. We will meet on 25 January to discuss *The Trouble with Goats and Sheep* by Joanna Cannon. Please contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for more information.

**Sian Waterman**

### Deddington Players

This season's Deddington Players' pantomime, *Cinderella*, is shaping up to be the best ever. Come along to the Windmill Centre to see Cinders, Buttons, the Ugly Sisters and all their friends on 18–20 January and join in the fun. Tickets will be available at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/deddington-players](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/deddington-players) and the Flower Shop, Deddington. Look out for posters with details or visit the Deddington Players Facebook page.

**Suzie Upson**  
[suzieupson@mac.com](mailto:suzieupson@mac.com)

### Deddington Bookworms

Written by Labour MP Alan Johnson, *This Boy* tells of his childhood growing up in London's Notting Hill, in the 1950s. The abject poverty, appalling housing and deep racial unrest are far removed from the Notting Hill of today. There is a generous mix of humour, sadness, hope and despair all rolled into one. Alan Johnson writes candidly of his very differing relationship with his mother and father through severe illness and unpleasant domestic violence respectively – his admission that his largely absent father got it right second time around being a surprise, as well as Alan's brief pop career.

Above all, it is a candid snapshot from a bygone era and paints a vivid picture of what might have been but ultimately became, the Alan Johnson of today. The whole group felt it was very well-written and a thoroughly recommended read.

The next Bookworms' read will be *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn.

**Deddington Library**  
**01869 338391**

### Women's Institute

Our meeting on 14 November was well attended and we welcomed a new member. After the business side, we welcomed a member of Thames Valley Police who

gave us a short update on the latest security precautions that can be taken in our houses. Payments were taken for our Christmas Birthday lunch at Otters in December. Our first meeting in 2018 will be on 9 January and Moira Byast will talk on the 'Ghosts of Oxfordshire'. Visitors are always welcome, ring either Beryl Suckling on 01869 337385 or Jenny Cross on 01869 337613.

**Julia Hobbs**

### Deddington and District History Society

Our November lecture featured military historian, Dan Allen, on women in the Victorian army. For a long time women were regarded simply as a nuisance. They were grudgingly credited with a usefulness as nurses, cooks and laundresses, while further out on the fringes were women sutlers, providing a sort of free enterprise NAAFI, selling drink, tobacco and clothes to troopers.

Commissioned officers' spouses were, of course, ladies; NCOs had wives and troops had women. Official lodgings for married couples comprised the curtained-off corner of a barrack room. Attitudes changed in the later 19th century, albeit glacially. In 1865 an outbreak of scarlet fever, which spread from children to soldiers persuaded the authorities to build proper married quarters, decent quality terraced houses. Marriage was looked on more tolerantly once the army decided that married men were likely to be steady, reliable and sober. But still, little provision was made for families, to the extent that a widow's pension was granted only if the husband had been killed in action.

Some women and children accompanied soldiers overseas, but only those few who were successful in a ballot. The left-behind majority had to fend for themselves. Instances of bigamy indicate the desperation of women who, with their children, might be abandoned for years. It was common for military widows to remarry soldiers, sometimes several times. They had effectively cut themselves off from their home communities. The army was now their world. Finally, Dan told us about the unstoppable officers' wives who, despite being forbidden to accompany their husbands, nevertheless did so, often with complete disdain for army regulations. They provided several of those indomitable Victorian women whose memoirs we now treasure. Army wives have come a long way from suttling to Gareth Malone.

Our next event, in the Windmill Centre at 7.30pm on Wednesday 13 December, is our Christmas Social, featuring the famous annual quiz. The theme this year will be 'How Well Do You Know Your County?' As always, the prizes on offer defy description. All are welcome, as you will be at our first lecture of the new year, on 10 January, when our favourite folklorist, Tim Healey, will speak on 'May Morning in Oxford'.

**Chris Day 01869 337204**  
**Moira Byast 01869 338637**



## SPORT

### Deddington Original Golf Society

Another year slips by on the fairway of life and, as the ball of bad fortune lips the cup, we reflect on the season's successes and near misses. Four great venues were well attended, plus the weekend tour to Dorset with prize-winners more or less evenly distributed. The DOGS committee is already working feverishly to book venues for 2018 which will probably consist of a return to some past triumphs plus a few pastures new to test our golfing skills even more.

2018 will also bring new challenges and hopefully fresh ideas, all of which can be explored at the AGM scheduled for Thursday 11 January, courtesy of Nigel Oddy and the Deddington Arms, 7.00pm tee-off.

Remember, if you drink, don't drive, don't even putt. And as President Gerald Ford once said, 'I know I'm getting better at golf, I'm hitting fewer spectators', and finally, do you know why they called it golf? Because all the other four-letter words were taken.

To all DOGS members, your committee wishes you a very merry Christmas and the happiest of New Years.

**Tony Lowe, Chairman 01869 337108**  
[tonylowe077@gmail.com](mailto:tonylowe077@gmail.com)

### Deddington Town Football Club

#### First Team results:

14.10.17	Hornton (a) (CUP)	W 4-1 Hall S (2), Stanley, Broughton
21.10.17	Sinclair Utd (h)	D 0-0
28.10.17	Chasewell Park (h)	L 2-3
11.11.17	Broughton & NN (a)	W 6-1

#### Reserve team results:

14.10.17	KEA Res (h) (CUP)	W 6-0
21.10.17	AFC Naranja (a)	D 2-2
	Kaye (Josh), Palmer	
28.10.17	Kings Sutton (a)	D 5-5
04.11.17	Magna E FC Blues (h)	D 2-2 Cook (2)
11.11.17	Banbury Sp Men's (a)	D 2-2
	Ward T, Palmer	

Long before I was involved with DTFC, prior to Deddington Colts' foundation, before even the delirious salad days of Deddington and Adderbury Cub Scouts' football team (or 'Dedderbury' as we referred to ourselves), there existed, for a tantalisingly brief period in historical record, a motley bunch of primary school-age misfits (including yours truly) fuelled only on Coke and Mars Bars. I remember scoring one or two own goals for the ages, but not much else, other than the pride taken in putting the team together, sourcing kit, taking training and encouragement from the sidelines from our manager; the inimitable Dave Keats. Although the team itself was doomed to failure, it proved something of a precursor to the Colts, which would have delighted Dave, who lived and breathed community spirit and knew a youth football team was desperately needed in the village. Following this, Dave would usually be running the bar at the Legion to cater for the adult teams' booze and junk food needs, and always offered help to

the club where he could. Although this was only a small part of Dave's contributions to Deddington's functions, it summed up his essence: a tireless communitarian who loved being involved and seeing the fruits of village events and organisations. He'll be much missed by all at DTFC and all our thoughts go to Di and the family at this very sad time.

**Aaron Bliss**  
**07909 642882**

### Youth Section

In the Witney and District Youth Football League, the Under 14s playing in the U14 B League had a 4-1 defeat at Carterton, followed by a heavy home defeat to high-flying Chipping Norton Swifts. The U13 Sharks playing in the B League had a narrow 1-0 win at Banbury Irish, followed by a narrow 5-4 defeat to Banbury United, despite a hat-trick from Felix Norman, followed by a stunning 10-2 victory over Bloxham – with Jack Ibrahim, Owyn Lucero, Felix Norman and Freddie Murfitt each scoring two goals. The U13 Sharks sit in second place in the league. The Under 13 Cobras are still looking for their first win of the season, but showing improvement and commitment as the season progresses. The U12s have suffered heavy defeats to Ducklington and Yarnton but bounced back with a 2-0 win over Wychwood.

Deddington Town FC youth section has regained its Charter Standard Development Club status with the FA. This is the accreditation scheme for grassroots clubs and leagues. It shows that we are a well-run club, retain and increase participation from children and young people, develop our players and coaches, support the wider football workforce and improve playing and training facilities. Regaining this status is due to the hard work of officers, coaches and players.

We are pleased to announce that, following a joint application from DTFC and Deddington Cricket Club, we have received a grant from Deddington farmers' market for improvements to the pavilion at the Windmill Centre. This will provide better facilities for the U7s and two U13 teams who use the Windmill Centre, as well as for the Cricket Club and wider community. If there are builders, carpenters or decorators who would like to get involved in the project, in an advisory capacity or to carry out the work, please contact me.

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/](http://www.deddingtontownfc/) or visit us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc](https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc).

**Roger Sykes 01869 337034**

### Deddington Tennis Club

#### LET THERE BE LIGHT

*'Local tennis club floodlights project receives £30k Sport England funding boost'*

Thirty-five years since it was originally founded in 1982, and nearly 20 years after its first planning application,

**SPORT***Continued from p17*

Deddington Tennis Club finally has lights on two of its three tennis courts.

Multiple planning attempts, countless funding applications and an ever-changing sports lighting landscape (lighting technology continues to evolve at a mindboggling pace) have been just some of the challenges facing the club in its pursuit for year-round tennis.

Following a successful planning application to Cherwell District Council, the installation of the lights was finally made possible by a hugely generous Sport England grant of £29,900. The club also received a kind donation from the Markham Trust, with the rest of the lighting cost being made up by the club itself.

Deddington Tennis Club chairman, Ed Toll, said: 'The money awarded by Sport England was pivotal in allowing us to install floodlights. This will significantly increase the amount of time tennis can be played at the club. We're delighted that members can now enjoy year-round play but for me the biggest winners are

our junior players. We've been working really hard to expand our junior coaching programme over the last couple of years and for them to be able to continue with their coaching after school throughout the winter months is a huge boost for them, and for the club. To get to this point has taken a lot of work and required a huge team effort, but our maintenance officer, Charles Watts, in particular has worked relentlessly throughout and continues to work closely with our lighting contractor to ensure all continues to go smoothly.'

Deddington Tennis Club is an LTA registered tennis club, at the Windmill Community Centre, Hempton Road, Deddington, with three well-maintained hard courts and a club pavilion. It has approximately 150 members consisting of players of all standards and ages who enjoy social and competitive play.

**Ed Toll**

**07901 688913**

[chairman@deddingtontennis.com](mailto:chairman@deddingtontennis.com)

**YOUTH****1st Deddington Guides**

The weeks seem to fly by. Our meetings are the usual whirl of activity. The patrols, under the guidance of newly elected patrol leaders, never cease to come up with imaginative and creative activities that they have planned and organised themselves.

We did nod in the direction of Hallowe'en and had fun dressing up and eating. Our favourite games are eating doughnuts from dangling strings, apple bobbing and the Mummy (Egyptian) game. This involves racing to wrap your 'mummy' from neck to toes in loo roll.

The following week Hannah and Connie (working towards their Baden-Powell Award) organised some fun activities connected with bonfire night and made a presentation, explaining the history and background. Well done to them.

Well done also to our participants in the Remembrance Day Parade in the village. We had a super smart turn out and particular praise goes to all those who laid wreaths on our behalf or who were in the colour parties. We were very proud of you. All sorts of plans are afoot for the remainder of the term.

**Maggie Rappley 01295 810069**

**Marian Trinder 01869 340806**

**Catherine Blackburn 01295 258008**

**Cubs**

Having made costumes and props for our Battle of Hastings topic, we decided to continue the theme and use them to dress our guys at the market. They were a sight to behold, created lots of interest, and raised £110 for CLIC Sargent.

As part of the Our World Challenge, the Cubs celebrated the Day of the Dead with pictures of relatives and pets, sugar skulls, painted faces and a chance to

try some Mexican nibbles.

Next was a super visit to Hook Norton Vets as part of the Animal Carer Badge which was very interesting (including the two-faced kitten).

**Jo Churchyard**

[jochurchyard@hotmail.com](mailto:jochurchyard@hotmail.com)

**1st Deddington Scout Group**

The Scouts have been continuing with topics for their Creative Challenge, a trolley, I Spy Guide to the camp-site at Horley and a charity photo competition. They discussed the new ideas for an improved Windmill Centre and came up with, for them, sensible suggestions. They also celebrated the Day of the Dead, making fajitas and snacks, painting ridiculous faces (some ridiculous to start with) and destroying a piñata.

They also joined the Explorers for a wide game and Children in Need activities.

**Pete Churchyard**

[pete.churchyard@gmail.com](mailto:pete.churchyard@gmail.com)

**Explorers**

Oh no! The hike, reported to be taking place last month, wasn't a total disaster but we did have a delay whilst negotiating the fields that had cows in them. No-one was harmed and we got to the chip shop.

Since then we've done a Children in Need evening on 16 November at the Jubilee Hall, Bloxham. We'll tell you in the next issue how we did. We also organised a wide game for the Scouts. We didn't lose any of them.

**Janet Duxbury 01608 737959**

[spartansexplorers@gmail.com](mailto:spartansexplorers@gmail.com)

Thanks to everyone who turned out for a very chilly Remembrance Day Parade.