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**IN THIS ISSUE** – what fantastic news about BT selecting Deddington for its first fibre optic only phone and broadband service (see p. 3) – surely a testament to our vibrant community going places in the digital world. On the other end of the spectrum, a whinge about our Conservation Area and how it affects us. A few pointers to get you exploring the worlds of DoL and the *DN* websites, and Deddington OnAir. And more details of the events coming up this summer for your entertainment and delight. And how about turning out to support DTFC in their cup final on 14 April?

## DIARY

### APRIL

- Mon 2 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am–noon
- Wed 4 Photographic Society: AGM plus presentation by Don Byatt, 'Creative Photography', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.15pm
- Thu 5 Children's activities, Parish Church, 10am–12.30pm
- Sat 7 British Legion: 'Four Eyes', from 7.30pm
- Sun 8 British Legion: Meat Draw and Easter Tombola
- Tue 10 WI: Penny Varley, 'Life of a Studio Potter', Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Wed 11 History Society: Muriel Pilkington, 'The Mitfords in the Cotswolds', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Thu 12 Dementia Awareness Course: Parish Church Living Room, 7.30pm
- Thu 12 Monday Morning Club: Film night, 6.30pm
- Sat 14 Bowls Club: Skittles night at the British Legion
- Sat 14 Deddington Town Football Club, Final of the Eric Morris Cup, Ardley. Kick off 7.30pm
- Tues 17 Pilates: Free taster session, Windmill, 9.15–10.15am
- Wed 18 Parish Council Meeting, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Thu 19 'The History of Christianity in Fifteen Objects', Xenia Dennen, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Fri 20 Deddington Players AGM, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Sat 21 Vivaldi Singers: 25th Anniversary Concert, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Thu 26 Book club: Meeting, for details call 338094
- Fri 27 DOGS play at Studley Wood Golf Club
- Sat 28 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9am–12.30pm
- Sat 28 Piano recital by international concert pianist Valerie Tryon, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Sat 28 British Legion: Skittles night, from 7.30pm
- Mon 30 Babies and Toddlers Group: Easter egg hunt

### MAY

- Wed 2 Photographic Society: Presentation by Gordon Roberts, 'Photography in the Snow', Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm
- Wed 2 Annual Parish Meeting, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm

*May Diary continues on p. 3*

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

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## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

21 March 2012, Holly Tree Club

Only nine councillors attended the meeting chaired by Jim Flux; CC Ray Jelf was also in attendance.

### Finance & General Purposes

*Diamond Jubilee celebrations:* CDC is now not charging for road closures. PC is applying for a grant which can be used for expenses other than food.

*Playground equipment:* It was agreed to spend £4,021 on a new slide for Clifton, and to repair the roundabout at Wimborne Close for £1,280.

*Youth Club:* PC has been asked for a grant towards their costs; there are ongoing discussions as to the viability of the club.

### Highways

*Weight restrictions on B4031 Clifton:* Local residents are being asked to report breaches by HGVs to OCC on 01865 810839.

*Bus services:* A sheet of locally available travel services is being collated and will be published in *DN* as soon as it is available.

### Environment and Recreation

*Planter Banbury Road:* Thanks were given to the primary school for their work.

*Play area at the Windmill:* This is to be extended and two tables and benches provided so that parents can sit and watch their children and have picnics.

*Friends of Castle Grounds:* Wild flower seeds will be sown on the banks using money left over from the purchase of Betty Hill's bench.

*All weather pitch:* This has been resurfaced and efforts are continuing to secure the fencing.

### Planning

*Applications:* *The Mount, St Thomas St:* cut back cypress trees, no objection; *Cromwell House, Market Place:* rear single-storey extension with minor internal alterations and replacement window, no objection but ensure conservation conditions observed; *The*

*Workshop, Franklins Yard, Earl's Lane,* demolition of concrete workshop, panel garage, removal of masonry wall and timber gates, construction of three terraced two-storey stone cottages and three off-road parking spaces: objection on grounds of additional parking concerns in congested area and over-development. Recommend two cottages more appropriate; *The Old Vicarage, Church Street:* new sash window to rear, no objection; *Green Court, Earl's Lane:* application for change of approval, render over existing stone to match new houses, no objection.

**Approvals:** *Congregational Chapel, New Street:* change of use, internal and external fit out and alterations; *Crouch View, Hempton Road:* single-storey extension to front; *Deddington Manor, New Street:* three larch trees for felling.

### Conservation Area

PC were disappointed that CDC only notified them of the exhibition and presentation a week prior to the event. There were several errors in the documentation. It had been proposed that 23 further properties in the parish should be listed. All owners will be notified by CDC. [See also article on p.6]

### Castle Grounds

Friends of Castle Grounds were congratulated on the work they had done and PC is working to support them. They are trying to confirm who owns what and where responsibility for trees lies.

Jean Rudge has resigned as PC representative primary school governor.

**Funds on deposit:** £41,655 W Bromwich, £200,000 Alliance & Leicester, £200,000 Anglo Irish, £75,000 Nat West.

**Next meeting: Wednesday 18 April, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm**

**Parish meeting will be held on 2 May**

The notes are the view of our reporter, Jill Cheeseman ([editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk)) and not the official minutes (see <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/pc/pcminutes>).

## CHURCH AND CHAPEL

### APRIL SERVICES – see card enclosed

Details of church services at Deddington, Hempton and the Barfords, the Wesleyan Chapel, and RC services in Hethe and Adderbury for April are on the card enclosed with this issue.

For baptisms, weddings, funerals or home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, the Revd Dr Hugh White, 28 Duns Tew (349869) [vicarhugo@hotmail.com](mailto:vicarhugo@hotmail.com), the curate, Revd Dr Dan Inman (338582) [curatedan@gmail.com](mailto:curatedan@gmail.com), or one of the churchwardens, Iain Gillespie (338367) 338367, or George Fenemore (338203)

### Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

*Pastor Isabel Walton 337157*

### RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury

*Fr John Burns 277396*

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

### From the Parish Registers

Interment of Ashes 3 March: Angela Mackenzie

Wedding 10 March: Martin Ince and Elli Garnett

Baptisms 11 March: Chloe Heidi Sulley

Charlie Malachy McCarthy

Service of Thanksgiving 16 March: Winifred Ord

**MAY DIARY** (Contd from p. 1)

- Sat 5 'Double Take', song recital with a difference, Parish Church, 7.30pm  
 Sat 5 British Legion: Bingo from 8pm  
 Mon 7 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, 10.30am–noon  
 Tue 8 WI: Resolutions, Holly Tree, 7.30pm  
 Wed 9 History Society: Matt Armitage, 'The History of Tooley's Boatyard in Banbury', Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm  
 Thu 10 'The History of Christianity in Fifteen Objects', The Bishop of Gibraltar, Parish Church, 7.30pm  
 Thu 10 Monday Morning Club: Film evening, Holly Tree, 7.30pm  
 Sat 12 Concert: The Collared Doves, 'Music for Springtime', Parish Church, 7.30pm  
 Mon 14 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am–noon  
 Wed 16 Parish Council: Meeting, Hempton Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Sat 19 Concert: Warriner Choral Society, Parish Church, 7.00pm  
 Mon 21 British Legion: Quiz Night, from 8pm  
 Sat 26 Chipping Norton Choral Society: Parish Church, 7.30pm  
 Sat 26 Deddington Farmers' Market: 9am–12.30 pm

**More Allotments Available for Grow Your Own!**

The allotment holders have cleared more land at Satin Lane and additional allotments are now available. Please apply to the Clerk to the Parish Council, 337447, [parishcouncil@deddington.net](mailto:parishcouncil@deddington.net) for more information.

**Deddington Selected for Fibre Only Pilot!**

Deddington is set to make history by becoming the first village in the UK to have its copper telephone wires entirely replaced by fibre optic cables. As a result, ultra-fast broadband speeds of up to 300Mbps will become available as the village's phone and broadband network is transformed to the most up-to-date of anywhere in the UK.

Work will begin this spring and is being carried out by Openreach, BT's local network division, on behalf of all communication providers serving Deddington. New ultra-fast broadband speeds will be available from 2013 onwards.

Deddington was chosen as the first exchange for its long-term programme to pilot the delivery of all phone and broadband services over fibre optic cables. BT has assured the PC that there will be no degrading of the services enjoyed today and customers will be able to retain the relationship they have with their current service provider as normal. Regular updates will be provided to inform everyone of the progress made.

Jim Flux, Chairman of Deddington PC said: 'We are excited to be the first community in the UK to be piloting this latest innovation in telecommunications. Not only will our residents and businesses be able to take advantage of ultra-fast broadband speeds but Deddington is also helping pave the way for the services of the future'.

**FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL**

A date for your diaries

**SUMMER SUPPER PARTY**

3 AUGUST 2012, 7.00pm

THE BYRE, POUND COURT, EARLS LANE

**Open Morning at New Police Office**

PCs Craig O'Leary and Duncan Vale outside the new Police Office at Deddington Library at their recent open morning. Visitors to the Library did a double take at being greeted by a couple of strapping coppers.

The police post is run by a team of volunteers with the following opening hours:

Mon and Tues: 12.00–16.00  
 Wed 10.00–13.00  
 Sat 9.00–12.00  
 (Closed Thursday, Friday and Sunday)

The volunteers are available for crime prevention advice, lost property enquiries, crime/incident reporting and to offer support to members of the community. PCs Vale and



Pic Colin Robinson

O'Leary, and the PCSOs visit the office on a regular basis and appointments to see them can be booked by visiting or calling the office.

Local checks carried out recently on cars parked in Deddington showed seven were found unlocked and valuables left on show including a laptop and charity collection tins. You really couldn't make it up!

The rural team is still distributing anti-theft number plate screws at all their 'Have Your Say' meetings. These are offered with installation advice and further crime reduction packs.

**Alan Collins**

[alanrcollins@aol.com](mailto:alanrcollins@aol.com)

## Farmers' Market

The next Deddington Market will be on 28 April. Easter may move around, but for reliability choose Deddington Farmers' Market; always on the 4th Saturday in April, May, June ...

I say this every year, but I make no apology for saying it again: April market is when the first asparagus appears. I only buy asparagus in season and from local growers. With the wonders of airfreight, it's available in your local shop all year round. But it *never* tastes as good as fresh and local. Green asparagus is high in antioxidants and vitamin C, and it is low in calories. Just over 20% of the population can detect the malodorous effect that eating asparagus has on urine.

Origami is the Japanese art of paperfolding. It has nothing whatsoever to do with the Deddingtonian skill of cover folding, also known as helping the market 'take down'. The stall covers are folded in a way that gathers the material in a controlled manner even in high winds, and allows the same cover to go back on a stall next market without engulfing several helpers at once. Lessons in folding are free to applicants, who also receive the satisfaction that they are helping their community market. Applications are invited for new folders from all sections of the community; we are an equal opportunities organisation. Please only apply to the information point at the market if you want to join in, have fun, and be part of the team.

**Paul Drawmer** [paul@drawmer.net](mailto:paul@drawmer.net)

## WELL REMEMBERED

### Winifred Ord 1918–2012

'Little Winnie', as her father would call her, was born to Charlotte and John Davies on 20 February 1918. She was to be the fourth youngest in a family of nine children. She spent her childhood and early years in the suburbs of Birmingham where she met and married Leslie Ord in 1939. Win spent the war years in London whilst Les was serving with the Army in Europe. She returned to Birmingham in 1943 to be with her family at the time of the arrival of her first daughter, Ann.

After the war Les started a career with the Civil Service whilst Win was happily working as a telephonist for Birmingham City Council, a job she relished for 30 years. At the age of 55 Win was widowed and she spent the remaining 39 years alone – but never lonely.

The union of Win and Lesley had given rise to two daughters, five grandchildren and five great grandchildren and she was much loved by them all. Win spent her last nine years in Hudson Court to be close to her second daughter, Jennifer, and she was surrounded by family, friends and the good neighbours of Deddington.

What Winnie lacked in terms of physical stature she made up for in every other aspect. She was a huge character who made a massive impression on many people's lives and will be sorely missed by us all.

**Peter Soddy**



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# Music for Springtime

## Concerts in Deddington Church

Saturdays at 7.30pm

**21 April**

### Vivaldi Singers 25th Anniversary Concert

Bach 'O Praise the Lord'    Handel 'Zadok the Priest'  
Vivaldi 'Gloria'    R V Williams, 'Old Hundredth'

Jacqueline Protheroe, Director    James Brown, Organist

In aid of Deddington Church

**28 April**

### Internationally Renowned Pianist Valerie Tryon

Beethoven 'Pathétique Sonata'    Chopin 'Etudes Ballades'  
Debussy 'Clair de Lune'    Liszt 'Hungarian Rhapsody'

In aid of Warkworth Church

**TICKETS AT THE DOOR**

*Look out for two more concerts on 5 May and 12 May*

# Coming Up this Summer in Deddington

## April Deadlines for Festival Writers

Writers are resourceful people and not easily put off by unforeseen problems. A number of authors have wanted to know details of this year's Deddington Writing Competition and might have been put off by only being able to access last year's competition on the festival website. There have been problems rebuilding the Festival website and it has not been possible to post details of the 2012 competition.

However, thanks to *DN*, many other local village newssheets and writers' magazines and listings, requests for information have been arriving. Details are also in Deddington Library and copies have been sent to local schools for the Junior Competition, as well as to many of last year's entrants. Last date for entries in the Open Competition is 16 April and the Junior Competition 30 April.

**Hugh Marshall, 33761, [hughm34@btinternet.com](mailto:hughm34@btinternet.com)**

## 'Come and Sing' *Mikado*, 23 June

Deddington Festival is again organising a 'come and sing' event. Following the success of *Carmina Burana* in 2010 and *The Armed Man* in 2011, local musical director Martin Quinn will again be leading workshops during the day, and conducting a concert performance in the evening, this year of G&S's popular *Mikado*.

Members of choirs from all over north Oxfordshire and beyond will be joining local residents to rehearse in the morning at the Windmill Centre, then in the Church in the afternoon. For the evening performance they will be accompanied by a professional band, and soloists from the Akeman Voices chamber choir will take the lead vocal parts. Anyone who has some experience of choral singing and some ability to read music is welcome to be part of the chorus. The cost for the day's workshops will be £15, to include the hire of music. Audience tickets for the evening performance will be £10.

For more information and a registration form, please contact [elsawilliams@btinternet.com](mailto:elsawilliams@btinternet.com).

## THE QUEEN AND I – TIME TO WRITE

Many of you have been in touch about your encounters with the Queen and other members of her family, and many of you still have vivid memories of the Coronation in 1953. There is some fascinating material here, both formal and informal. However, very few of you have, so far, put finger to keyboard or pen to paper. Please send in your short accounts as soon as possible to: [letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk) or 5, The Leyes, Deddington. Deadline is 30 April.

**Kristin Thompson, 337052**  
[letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk)

**AND** do you have photos of Deddington's celebrations of earlier coronations and jubilees? If so, please contact Mary Robinson ([editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk), 338272).

## Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, Saturday 2 June

By the time you read this, our Jubilee celebrations will be only eight weeks away, but the plans are going well, greatly helped by volunteers agreeing to prepare sandwiches, Coronation Chicken, salads, cakes, jellies, etc. for the street party.

So that the caterers know numbers coming to the meal, free tickets will be available from the Flower Shop from the second week in May. Please collect one ticket for each person coming to the street party by Tuesday 29 May. We are hoping that 300 people of all ages will be there.

The organising committee is delighted to hear that the school is going to play a large part in the day. Each class will sing a song from one of the six decades of the Queen's reign and this will start off the Song and Dance evening in the church following the children's Fancy Dress Parade (Kings, Queens, Princes or Princesses). The programme is:



- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 4.00pm | Church bells ring   |
| 4.15pm | Parade assembles in the school car park   |
| 4.45pm | Parade marches to and around Market Place while Boys' Brigade band plays under the Town Hall                          |
| 5.15pm | Street party along top part of Church Street (in church if wet)   |
| 6.15pm | Children's Fancy Dress parade and judging   |
| 7.00pm | Songs and dancing in the church to favourite music from the six decades, children's songs and Deddington Men's Chorus |
| 8.45pm | Patriotic songs to end the day, ending around 9.00pm  |

**Wendy Burrows 338082**

## Parish Show, 1 September

The yellow insert in this issue of the *DN*, listing the classes for this year's Show, is a gentle reminder to start planning your exhibits, whether edible, grown or artistic. You will see that the committee has made several changes, especially in the children's older age group. The fruit section has been separated from the vegetables, the photographs from the Arts and Crafts and there are new classes to challenge different skills. Last year 108 adults and 47 children entered one or more classes. Can we beat that this year?

The full Show programme with entry forms will be available at the end of June for the Farmers' Market in July.

**Wendy Burrows, Hon.Secretary, 338082**

## More Properties Proposed for Conservation Area

**H**ands up all those who knew there was an exhibition and public meeting recently in Deddington Arms on the re-appraisal of Deddington's Conservation Area. It was held on 29 February, advertised by a few posters in the village pinned up only a few days earlier, and giving a consultation period of just three weeks. But it appears our Parish Council had been notified by letter dated 15 February – and somehow it had passed them – and so *DN* – by! So at the public meeting the five attendees were nearly outnumbered by the four CDC officials. After I protested at the lack of consultation time, the final date for comments has now been extended to 30 March and a leaflet has been sent to owners of listed buildings and those who will be affected by the proposed changes. The full appraisal document can be seen at: [www.cherwell.gov.uk/media/pdf/o/q/Deddington\\_Draft\\_conservation\\_area\\_appraisal\\_2012.pdf](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/media/pdf/o/q/Deddington_Draft_conservation_area_appraisal_2012.pdf).

A bit of background: Deddington is one of the largest villages in Cherwell. It has the feel of a small traditional market town, with a street pattern little altered since the Middle Ages. Deddington Conservation Area, which was first designated in 1988 and revised in 1997, covers the main core of the historic village. Now the council wants to hear views on the content of the draft appraisal, and the additional buildings proposed for inclusion on the 'Local List'.

So what changes are proposed? First, the boundary stays the same, but an additional 14 properties are suggested for inclusion. These are: Old Manor Farmhouse, High Street; Trek House and Wychway House, Bullring; Stoneleigh and 1–5 Victoria Terrace; The Cart House, Pound Court, Earl's Lane; Rushall House, Earl's Lane; The Old Well House, Castle Street; 1–3 Castle Street; Wesleyan Chapel; 4–8 St Thomas Street; The Barracks, New Street; Congregational Chapel; Grove Barn, The Grove, High Street; British Legion Club; Deddington Library.

What is the local listing? Claire Sutton-Abbott, our local Conservation Officer (CO), explains that it is 'a recognition by the local authority that an area, building, structure or group of these is of local, but not national, significance ... the significance can be historical, architectural, social or artistic'.

I queried the inclusion of the Barracks and the British Legion Club: 'the historical interest of the Barracks and the British Legion Club is the main motivator for adding them to our local list, as neither could be described as great works of architectural merit, and neither has sustained sympathetic modification over the years. However, the local designation means that if planning permission is sought for works on these properties, their local interest will be referred to in the decision-making process.' (Shades of John Lennon's council house?).

This led me to muse, what is the point of the Conservation Area? The CDC view is: 'to preserve or enhance the special architectural and historic charac-

ter of Deddington. The designation of a conservation area is *not intended to prevent new development*; it is *to inform and manage planning decisions*' [emphasis added]. So it can't stop new development or alterations to a property; it can only feed into the planning process, and it can be superseded by an outside planning inspector who may have other priorities. An additional input – a 'nice to have' – in other words. So does it benefit the owner who might want to make a change to suit their lifestyle in the light of present imperatives? In the CO's view, 'the ideal is betterment – but this is betterment for the building, not necessarily for the inhabitant'. What does 'betterment' mean? Surely a value judgement if ever I saw one!

Take the need for energy conservation in the 21st century. Our CO disapproves of double glazing, promoting secondary glazing on aesthetic grounds instead – but surely secondary is just as visible from the outside as double glazing? She questions the cost-effectiveness of solar panels: 'they have a limited life and use a vast amount of energy in their production and destruction, an amount which has not yet been proven to outweigh the amount of energy they save for the consumer ... the first and largest weapon any person has in the fight for energy conservation is the modification of their own behaviour. Use less, and you spend less, both economically and environmentally ... micro-generation should be the last step in energy conservation – there are many smaller and cheaper ways to save energy before production should be considered.'

So not much joy there from our local Conservation Officer. West Oxfordshire has a much more sympathetic approach to energy conservation and micro-generation. But if you want to continue to live in Deddington's lovely Conservation Area – you'll have to put up with it, or be prepared to fight your case!

**MR**

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# What's on the Web

An occasional listing to draw your attention to the wonderful world of the *Deddington News* and Deddington OnLine websites, Deddington OnAir, and our community Facebook page and Twitter posts

## Clifton Past and Present



A 'new' history of Clifton has just been posted on Deddington OnLine. Written in 1955 by Laura Gardner, it has been illustrated with archive pictures of old Clifton. You'll find it in the History section of DoL – go to [www.deddington.org.uk/history](http://www.deddington.org.uk/history)

## The TV series that came to Deddington and wrecked a home



Catch up with the story — and the pictures. Just go online and find Deddington News or Deddington OnLine websites, then search for 'Blott'. The full web addresses are at the bottom of this page

## Deddington Clifton Hempton



Keep up to date with what's happening in your village . . . go to the Deddington News website and click on the Facebook or Twitter symbols



This winter we've enjoyed the mild climate, but we are now threatened with a hosepipe ban coming into effect on 5 April, so here are a few tips to survive in the garden. The first one I have to mention is a water butt. If you don't have a butt, do get one.

**Lawn:** Spike and feed your lawn before the summer, ensuring the roots are oxygenated and the plant grows healthily. If there is a dry summer let your grass grow slightly longer. It may brown but it will recover quickly when the weather turns colder.

**Pots:** Plant into bigger pots and perhaps change your planting ideas this year. If you have clay pots remember they will absorb the moisture so interline them with plastic. Mix the compost with water-saving granules to absorb the water and slowly release it. Place pots together for a micro-climate and avoid southerly aspects, thereby avoiding the full heat of the day. To retain water, mulch the top of your pot with decorative glass, vermiculite or other products, so choose what you like.

**Vegetable patch:** Put your plants in a little dip in the ground so any water will be captured rather than soak away. Mulch your ground with grass cuttings, compost

## APRIL IN THE GARDEN



or bark as this will retain moisture. You can also get a shade cover: this will provide shelter from the hot sun and therefore prevent water loss. It can be used for seeds and larger plants – just adjust the height accordingly. I know I go on about this, but hoe to remove any weeds that will steal your much-needed water. Also try to avoid digging if the ground becomes very dry as more moisture will be lost.

**Borders:** If you have large shrubs and well established plants you should not need to water them, as their roots will have dug deep and they should survive the summer. If you do think they need some help give them one long soak a week in the cool of the day. Also consider mulching this area for moisture retention.

Finally there are grasses, and plants that will survive in drought conditions: these are called xerophytic plants (they cope with drought), so if you need to buy plants think about their location, but remember xerophytics will probably not like to be in the shade. Think of the rule 'right plant, right place'. Finally Beth Chatto has written an excellent book, *The Dry Garden*, where you may find inspiration.

**Sam Willis**  
[samantha.willis@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.willis@gmail.com)

## Sir Henry Samman and the Deddington Steam Ship Company

**D**eddington is about as far from the sea as you can get in England, so how was it that, at the end of the 19th century, it had its own Steam Ship Company and its very own steam ships, *SS Deddington* and *Clifton*? It was all due to Henry Samman, born in the village in 1849, who founded the company which owned the ships.

Samman, and its variants, is an old Deddington name but Henry's parents do not seem to have had any links to the village. His father Alban was born in Walton Grounds, Kings Sutton, and his mother, Sarah Fallower, in Hammersmith.

In 1844, aged 26, Alban Samman opened a draper's shop in the Market Place. In later life he also became a valuer and selling agent of drapery businesses, and an agent for insurance companies, and the Birmingham-made Patent Airtight Metallic Coffin. Clearly a successful businessman, when he died in 1888, by then living in New Street, he left an estate worth over £8000. It's not recorded whether he was buried in a metal coffin.

Henry apparently started out as an apprentice on a tea clipper or, even more romantically, a 'cabin boy'. What is certain is that, on the 1871 census, he is shown as a seaman, aged 21, visiting his aunt in London.

Henry married Elizabeth Sanders of Kiddington in 1877. The following year, as captain of the *Bonnie Kate*, he was engaged by the Admiralty to carry explosives to the Mediterranean. The 1881 census shows the Samman family living in Hull, Henry, aged 32, already a 'Steam ship owner and broker'. In the 1880s he owned the *Knight Templar*, *Elf*, and *Oxon*, but it was not until the *Deddington*, *Clifton* and *Somerton* were built, all in 1889, that there is any reference to the Deddington Steam Ship Company.

### Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

Spring is springing! The PFSU children have been growing things indoors and out, observing tadpoles, and finding out about vehicles. The Nursery children have been learning about the weather, seasons and the alphabet. We have also made Mother's Day cards and hunted for Easter eggs. It has been a good month for fund-raising. Thank you to everyone who supported our jumble sale, by helping, donating or buying. You helped us to raise a whopping £1700! The Go-Karting event at Formula Fast in Banbury has raised £1000 so far. Thank you to everyone who joined in and to Neil Skinner for doing most of the organising. A date for your diary – our summer fund-raising party is on Saturday 7 July.

**Lucy Squires 337484**

According to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the Deddington was 'a fine steel steamship of 2145 tons gross weight ... her principal dimensions are: length 230ft; beam 39ft. 2in.; depth of hold 18ft. 8in. The engines are on the triple expansion principle ... the indicated horsepower is 209'. While owned by the DSSC she spent much of her time in the Far East transporting coal from Australia to Batavia and carrying wool back to England.

Henry foresaw a slump in shipping at the end of WWI so sold all his ships and involved himself in charitable works. He built a seaman's institute and church, gifted his former offices, Deddington Chambers, to the Hull Chamber of Commerce and Shipping and erected a magnificent council chamber for them. He founded the Henry Samman Endowment Fund, still active, providing bursaries for students to travel abroad to study business or foreign languages. Sir Henry was made a baronet in 1921 and died in 1928 leaving an estate of £428,575 1s. 9d.



*The former SS Deddington, later County of Cardigan*

Not bad for a draper's son from Deddington.

The *SS Deddington* was sold in 1899 and renamed *Fredericksborg*, then *Sirius*, sinking in 1944 while carrying coal in Scandinavia. A second *SS Deddington* was launched in 1903 and sold in 1918. Renamed the *County of Cardigan*, she sank in 1925 close by Cape Finisterre in northern Spain. The *Somerton* ran aground at the mouth of the Seine in a storm in 1896 and was wrecked. The *Clifton* sank in 1903 in the Baltic Sea.

More about Sir Henry Samman and the DSSC can be found on DoL. Read tales of shipwrecks, intrigue, alleged blackmail, buying honours, illegitimate children and 200 stowaway turkeys.

**Jon Malings** [jon\\_malings@hotmail.com](mailto:jon_malings@hotmail.com)

### More DN Team Members Needed!

Two of our long-standing team members are stepping down after many years of involvement with *DN*. So, to replace Jean Flux from September onwards, we are looking for someone to look after the monthly print and online Diaries, and also to check the annual Contacts List (published annually in the autumn).

We also need a Features Editor to replace Molly Neild. Neither job is very onerous or time-consuming, so if you are interested, please contact Jill Cheeseman ([editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk)).

We are very grateful to Jean and Molly for their long years with *DN*. The production really is a team effort, but we need newer and younger members to keep it going!



## FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

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

FROM REVD DR HUGH WHITE  
Deddingtonians may like to know that the Parish Church is now a power station. Despite the uncertainties arising from government legal action on feed-in tariffs, an array of 40 photovoltaic panels with a maximum output of just under 10 kilowatts was installed on the roof of the south aisle by Steve Munday of SMC and electricity is now being satisfactorily generated during daylight hours. The output meets the daytime electricity requirements of the Church with the surplus being fed into the National Grid. This is a significant contribution to the greening of Deddington and many thanks to all who have made financial contributions to the project. If anyone else wishes to contribute, it is still possible to do so. Such contributions will enable the church to pay back loans more quickly and to receive sooner the full financial benefits of the installation (currently the feed-in tariff and actual payment for what goes to the grid amount to 39.3 pence per kilowatt hour generated). If you can help, please contact the Church Treasurer, Iain Gillespie, [iaingillespie@btinternet.com](mailto:iaingillespie@btinternet.com), 338367.

FROM REVD HUGH MARSHALL, THE DAEDINGS  
If you still think of Fairtrade as being mainly chocolate, coffee and tea, take look through the Traidcraft catalogue (free to pick up from the Church porch) which shows a wide selection of toys, clothing, household goods and innovative helps for the gardener. Using coconut husks that were formerly discarded, workers in Sri Lanka have produced environmentally friendly, sustainable fair trade compost that is compressed into easy to handle 650g bricks. When soaked in water the brick turns into nine litres of compost. This is ideal for potting, mulching and enriching soil, so is well worth trying and probably no more costly than the heavy bags from garden centres. Another popular innovation are the cut and puncture-resistant gardening gloves, made from certified Fairtrade rubber and cotton also from Sri Lanka, and now available in large and medium sizes. Look out for these and many other gardening products on the Fairtrade stall in the Church during each Farmers' Market or call Hugh Marshall on 337761 for information or to place an order.

FROM CLAIR STEVENS, 12 THE DAEDINGS  
I would like to thank everyone who attended my birthday party at the Windmill on 17 March. Thanks to your generosity we raised approximately £1500 for ROSY (Respite for Oxfordshire's Sick Youngsters). Particular thanks must go to Kelly and Steve for giving up their time to provide the music and Stella for her generous



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

donation from the bar. We are blessed to be living in a community that is so willing to give and share ... thank you one and all.

FROM HELEN SPENCER,  
CASTLE DENE  
On 20 May this year, Richard Spencer and Peter Deeley are starting a huge bike ride – 350 miles in just 5 days visiting the

WWI and WWII battlefields in northern France, to raise funds for Help for Heroes.

To put the 'fun' into fund raising, a number of great raffle prizes have been donated. Tickets are £10 each. A maximum of 400 tickets have been produced (thanks to Mike Homer) and the prizes are: a week in a beautiful five-bed, Devon riverside cottage; a home decorator for five days (within 30m of Deddington); two bottles of Dom Perignon 1999 champagne (one bottle per prize winner); 30 minute helicopter flight over Oxford spires and Blenheim Palace for four people.

Richard hopes to be training on his static bike at the Farmers' Market on 21 April. We'll be selling remaining tickets there too. You can follow their progress at [www.bmycharity.com/peterthefarmerandrichardthebuilder](http://www.bmycharity.com/peterthefarmerandrichardthebuilder).

If you would like to buy a ticket, please contact [helen@spencerbuilders.co.uk](mailto:helen@spencerbuilders.co.uk) and we'll post or arrange to come to you. Cash or cheques made payable to 'Help for Heroes' please.

### Be One in a Million ...

Join us and help collect for British Red Cross Appeals Week, 6–12 May. Last year Banbury and the surrounding villages achieved its best ever total. Can you help? Please call Maggie Palin on 01295 730592. Combining with village collections, local schools are being encouraged to 'Dress in Red' on Friday 11 May.

### – and Help Needed for People Needing Help

The Christian Aid Week appeal, 13–19 May, invites everyone to support the world's most needy people as they try to escape from poverty or the effects of natural disaster. In Deddington we aim to call at every home to invite a contribution. Inevitably some of last year's collectors are unable to take part this year and so we looking for a dozen or so new volunteers. If you can help to collect, please speak soon to Pat Brittain (338685) or Diana or Hugh Marshall (337761).

### CORRECTION

The email address for Lee Mullins on p.1 of the advertisement pages is incorrect. Our apologies – it should be [lee.j.mullins@gmail.com](mailto:lee.j.mullins@gmail.com)

We are the Taste Buddies. We lunch out every two months to assess local pubs and restaurants within a 20m radius of Deddington. We are independent, with no connection to the *DN* or any of the establishments visited. We hope you will find our observations useful.

## The Taste Buddies



For starters we had: pâté with pickled figs and oatcakes: the pâté was fatty with little flavour; the figs had no distinct pickly taste. Smoked trout and prawns with Marie Rose sauce: the prawns were replaced with rather large chunks of smoked salmon. Moules marinières: a thin sauce with far too much seasoning.

Mains were: Lasagne with pesto on top served with two wedges of bread. The lasagne was dry and would have benefitted from more cream sauce. Fish and chips: batter was soggy and chips a bit dry. A mayonnaise and caper sauce was served instead of tartare. Salad of tomatoes, parsnips, butternut squash, spinach and sunflower seeds: the vegetables were over cooked and greasy, with no sunflower seeds.

We felt disappointed by the starters and mains so did not try any desserts. With our coffee we were served a chocolate truffle with an odd soapy taste. The wine list had a reasonable selection with a choice of wine by the glass.

**WHERE?** The Mason's Arms, Swerford, Nr Chipping Norton, OX7 4AP Tel: 01608 683212  
The pub is situated on the main Banbury Road in Swerford. It has a pleasing Scandinavian feel decor and magnificent views over unspoilt countryside and a pleasant garden with outdoor seating.

### FOOD SERVED

Weekdays: Lunch 11–3pm, dinner 6.30–11pm  
Sundays: Lunch 11.00–4.30pm, dinner 6.45–10.00pm

**AVERAGE COST:** Starters £6–10, mains £9–15, desserts £5–8

### WERE THEY PLEASSED TO SEE YOU?

They were very pleased to see us and extended a warm welcome.

### WAS THE COOKING GOOD?

We did not enjoy anything served to us. The presentation was poor and we felt the menu was strange and unbalanced, ranging from cod baked in olive oil with aioli potatoes to open sausage sandwiches.

### VALUE FOR MONEY?

We felt that it was not. We went to investigate the offer of a £9.00 lunch. This was for just a main course.

### WOULD YOU GO AGAIN?

Very unlikely. Perhaps we were there on an off day as we had heard reports of people having previously enjoyed a good meal there.

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## Children's Easter Activities

for Primary School children aged 5–11  
Deddington Parish Church  
10am–12.30pm

Crafts, Cooking, Chess  
and Other Games

**Thursday 5 April 2012**

**Cost £1.50**

Application forms and enquiries to:  
Sarah Boss 338536  
Liz Coppin 338721  
Carly Prasher 337252

Additional forms at the Church  
To guarantee a place,  
applications to be returned by  
Monday 2 April please

## On George's Farm



**A**fter a rather depressing start when everything that could go wrong did so, the ewes are now going great guns and producing some very good birth weight lambs. But with the Schmallenberg virus (SBV) hanging over us, every birth is awaited with bated breath. The virus arrived in this country from the

near continent, having been first identified in central Germany. There are now over 2000 infected flocks on the Continent and 200 plus in this country; it is spread by a biting midge and affects cattle, sheep and goats. At the present moment all of the affected flocks and herds in this country are along the east and south coasts, but the onset of summer will bring with it the midge season.

Chances are that, given the right weather conditions, we may not be so lucky next season. All but four of the Cotswolds have dropped their lambs, but sadly we again have a high percentage of ram lambs, so 'Big Fred' will have to be replaced in time for next season. As the Cotswold lions are now classified as an endangered breed, finding an unrelated ram is not going to be easy, but I am on the case.

Although almost every waking hour (too many of them at present) is spent in and around the lambing shed, the spring crop work has to be fitted in as well. The cereal and oil seed rape crops have been fertilised and sprayed; the grassland has also had the fertiliser spreader over it, and a run over with the grass harrow, with some of the fields being over-seeded with rye grass in the hope of improving the hay cut. Now it's the turn of the environmental strips: these must be cultivated and replanted with bird seed, and pollen and nectar mixes. The experts tell us that it is too early to plant these yet, but with the impending drought the sooner they are in the ground the better chance they will have, and if we get any April showers it will really be a case of 'April showers bring forth May flowers'.

Things are all of a buzz at the moment: the beehives have made it though the winter and will now need some sorting out, before they sort me out by doing a 'runner' (swarm). The curlew and redshank have returned to the meadows and there is frogspawn in what little water remains in the dyke that cuts across the meadowland.

It's again time to give a reminder as the ewes and lambs return to the fields and wildlife starts to produce the next generation, please keep your dogs on a lead when out for a walk. Last month I said that, due to the lack of flooding in the valley, I had not seen much on the wing. Although not strictly on the wing, we have seen a number of Chinese lanterns floating across Clifton and the farm. Although these may be great fun

to launch, they are a considerable fire risk and a big danger to grazing animals as they contain wire and/or bamboo. Horses, cattle, sheep and deer will eat them out of curiosity, and the ingested wire and bamboo will cause a slow and excruciatingly painful death. So please think twice before letting them off as your little bit of fun may well end up being the cause of a great deal of pain and misery to wildlife and farm animals, the destruction of harvest crops and the thatched house next door, not to mention your visit to the local court and a large bill for compensation.

**George Fenemore 338203**

### First Aid Unit at Chippy

Do you know there is a First Aid Unit in Chipping Norton, based at the Community Hospital? It is open Monday–Friday, 5.00–9.00pm and at weekends and on bank holidays 10.00am–9.00pm to provide a drop-in service – no appointment needed.

How to find it? Chipping Norton War Memorial Community Hospital, Outpatient Unit, Russell Way, off London Road, Chipping Norton, OX7 5FA (Tel: 01608 648 233).

For the unit to stay open long term it needs to be treating more people locally for minor injuries and illnesses rather than them using services such as A&E in Oxford or Banbury or GP out of hours. Before you go to A&E – could you use this service instead?

## DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

*Jacksons Oxford Journal, April 1862*

**Deddington: Police Office, 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Before the Rev. W.C. Risley and H.C. Risley Esq.**

Wm. Wright, 19, son of Mr. Thomas Wright, farmer of Clifton, was charged with being drunk and riotous in the streets of Deddington the preceding night. It appeared that at about 10pm the prisoner went into the Red Lion drunk, and wanted to have some beer, which the landlord refused, and requested him to leave his house; prisoner refused to leave, challenged the landlord to fight, and took up other people's beer which was on the table and drank it. The police were then sent for, and P.C. Savins went in and requested him to leave the house; prisoner still refused and the policeman then put him out. Afterwards he was desired to go home, but would not and challenged both landlord and policeman to fight; P.C. Savins then apprehended him and on the way to the Station Wright kicked the policeman violently on the legs and also struck at him. He was convicted in a fine of 5s. and 10s.6d. costs for drunkenness, or 7 days, and fined £2 and 11s. costs for the assault on the officer, or 14 days. The prisoner's mother, who was present, paid the money. Had it not been the prisoner's first offence the magistrates told him they would have committed him to prison without the option of paying a fine, as his conduct of late had been most disgraceful, and if ever he came before them again they would most certainly commit him to prison.

## News from Clifton

We've done a lot of hellos recently but now a goodbye. Our faithful postie Neil's last day doing the Clifton post run was Monday 20 February. He's brought us our post for the past seven years, and didn't want to leave but the routes have been 'restructured' and he doesn't have a choice. He has met all our needs fabulously (and perhaps not always to Post Office regulations) and we will miss him very much. Thanks Neil. He will still be doing parts of Candleford and Upper Larkrise, so we may still see him around.

*[Hear, hear, he'll be much missed in New Street, always doing the extra bit to be helpful. Cherish him! – Ed.]*

And while on hellos it struck me that our community is missing something. Sir Peter Hannay Bailey Tapsell is currently the Father of the House of Commons, the longest serving MP in the house. So that got me thinking: who is the Father or Mother of our corner of heaven. I will be seeking you out and perhaps doing a little sketch on the front runners for this prodigious title. It could be you Tractor boy (and girl – J&SS). Let me know your nominees.

As discussion of independence once again echoes in the corridors of the mover and shakers down here you should be aware that Clifton's own version of the Home Guard was on manoeuvres two weeks ago doing friendly battle with a bunch of Mancs. When the Passport for Pimlico day arrives, rest assured our borders will be protected.

**Martin Bryce** [martindnbryce@aol.com](mailto:martindnbryce@aol.com)

## News from Hempton

Dog fouling has become an unwanted spectacle in this village, particularly on the grass area between the narrow gap and St John's Way. More warning signs have been put up and several flags highlight where dogs have been. The neighbour who lives close by mows this grass to keep it nice and he threatens not to do it any longer. The Dog Warden is monitoring this area and anyone caught could be in for a hefty fine as it is now against the law. Please clean up after your dogs.

The Easter services this year are as laid out in the insert leaflet. Looking ahead to June, it is proposed to hold a Jubilee Tea Party in the Church and Hall on Bank Holiday Monday 4 June from 2.00pm.

Deddington is having a celebration for the whole area on Saturday 2 June, but it would be nice for this village to do something on the Monday. I propose to ring the church bell at 2.00pm to be followed by the party. If anyone has any ideas or wishes to help, please give me a call – more news next month.

The Table Tennis team is once again battling against relegation in Division 3 of the Banbury League. A shortage of players has not helped. Many thanks to Paul Waller for stepping in to play; with four games left, their record is P11, W2, D3, L6, pts 45.

Please, if you have any village news, give me a call or drop it in to 4 The Lane.

**Les Chappell 338054**

## Do you know someone that needs care?

Our Deddington team offers specialist Live-in Care.

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## CALLING ALL CLUBS

### Photographic Society

There were two recent events, the first an indoor studio workshop that the Society installed at the Cartwright Hotel. Using its recently acquired continuous lighting sets and other loaned equipment, the Society converted the Apricot Room into a studio, and established two studio positions where members then tried their skills at photographing two amateur lady models. This was the first time the Society had attempted this type of studio work, and the different photographic techniques required made it an interesting and instructive experience for all concerned. The evening proved to be very popular and another studio workshop evening is planned for early in the autumn. The second event was a presentation by Terry Pollard on 'South sea adventure – the Milford Track'. Taking his audience along the Track, a long distance wilderness trail on the south island of New Zealand, Terry showed his personal photographs of some stunning scenery, together with many images of the wildlife and flora that abound in this area. He concluded with a small exhibition of his other photographic work.

The next meeting is the AGM on 4 April, which will be followed by a return visit from Don Byatt who will give a presentation on 'Creative photography'. Everyone is welcome at 7.15pm in the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho (please note the earlier start time).

**John Branton 01295 811071 [www.adandd.co.uk](http://www.adandd.co.uk)**

### Book Club

At our meeting in February, we discussed *Half of a Yellow Sun* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. The book takes its title from the emblem on the Biafran flag, and is written by a Biafran. Her perspective is influenced by her family background and drawn from her family's experiences before, during and after the Nigerian Civil War. The story follows the lives of Ugwu, age 13, who arrives to work at Professor Odenigbo's home as a houseboy, Odenigbo's beautiful mistress, Olanna, and her plainer twin sister, Kainene. The estranged twins' relationship becomes warmer as they go from plenty to poverty and experience the horrors of the conflict together. The book gives a good insight into the various ethnic groups, tribal differences and strife in Africa at that time and gives a graphic, harrowing and distressing account of the war. This topic provoked a very good discussion and we all felt that we had learned something about the region's painful history.

The next book is *Daniel* by Henning Mankell and the next meeting 26 April.

**Sally Lambert 338094**

### 1st Deddington Scout Group

#### Cubs

The Cubs completed their first stage emergency aid badge with the Sixers acting as casualties who were 'treated' by the rest of the pack. We also celebrated Founder's Day by learning about Baden Powell's life,

finishing up with cake and candles. Home Help came next, the Cubs learned to make tea (in a pot), sew on a button, iron and fold their neckerchief and wash up.

The Cubs learned about what it was like to be a Wolf Cub in 1916 as they tried some of the tests required to gain the One Star award, flags, saints, somersaults, the national anthem and much more.

Two of our teams that entered the district Scrapheap Challenge came first and third. Well done to all the boys who entered. They will now go on to represent us in the county event.

**Jo Churchyard, CSL 338071**  
[jochurchyard@hotmail.com](mailto:jochurchyard@hotmail.com)

#### Scouts

The Scouts have been working for their third stage Emergency Aid badge. This includes getting help, dealing with burns, bleeding, hypothermia, heat stroke, shock etc. and one of our district trainers visited the troop to cover CPR. We also staged some incidents with our casualties over-acting outrageously. If they can deal with them they can tackle anything!

Several of our Patrol and Assistant Patrol Leaders attended a training day to help them with all aspects of leadership. Coming up – swimming at Spiceball and an Easter hike.

**Pete Churchyard, SL 338071**  
[pete.churchyard@btinternet.com](mailto:pete.churchyard@btinternet.com)

### Deddington Royal British Legion Club

Over the next couple of months a packed programme of events promises something for everyone at the Legion.

Kicking off with the Easter weekend, on Saturday 7 April we welcome back the popular singing duo 'Four Eyes' (from 7.30pm). On Easter Sunday 8th, following the meat draw, there will be a special Easter tombola.

On Saturday 14th we're proud to be hosting the Deddington Bowls Club skittles night (the phrase 'busman's holiday' springs to mind) and the following Saturday 21st we again play host, this time for a birthday celebration. Saturday 28th is skittles night (from 7.30pm) with all welcome to come along and try their arm.

Moving into May, on the 5th it's Bingo (from 8pm), Saturday 12th we hope to have vocalist Harry Pane who comes highly recommended (see next *DN* for confirmation) and on the 21st it's another of Albert's infamous quiz nights (from 8pm).

If there's something you'd like to see happening at the Club we're always open to new ideas so please get in touch.

**Gareth Smith 337307**

### 1st Deddington Brownies

Thinking Day is always an important day in the Brownie calendar, when we think about Brownies around the world. This year some of us wore our Brownie uniforms to school, and then at the weekend we joined with other Brownies, Guides and Rainbows from around the

## ... AND MORE CLUBS ...

district to spend an afternoon thinking about Brownies in the other countries of the Commonwealth. We had lots of fun singing, dancing, doing cookery and crafts from lots of different countries. We had another busy evening when we combined *raising* money for Katharine House, and *handling* money as part of our Number Fun badges. We invited parents to join us and served coffee and cakes, held a raffle, and gave an entertainment of campfire songs. Other evenings have been devoted to yoga, and to finding out about the work of the Blue Cross. There is never a dull moment at Brownies!

**Lucy Squires 338442**

### 1st Deddington Guides

An account of three Deddington Guides' visit to Foxlease in the New Forest to attend an American-themed Baden Powell Adventure Weekend:

'Foxlease, which is a guide centre, is a very grand white house with several floors and lovely views. The rooms all had ensuite bathrooms and were named either after counties, like Oxfordshire or Essex or countries, like South Africa. All of the meals were served in the dining room and we really enjoyed them, they were very nice and well presented.

When we arrived we were asked to choose two activities to participate in from a choice of low ropes, archery, crates, abseiling and climbing. We chose low ropes and archery. Low ropes entailed following a rope course to encourage team building as you need confidence with your teammates on the ropes. We had to carry a cup of water around the course without spilling it. The whole team had to stay in the same part of the course and you weren't allowed to touch the floor. We won and ended with covering the other team with mud.

We learnt lots of techniques on the weekend including how to shoot arrows and played lots of games. The other guides came from all over the UK including Milton Keynes, Guernsey, Southampton and Portsmouth.

We felt a bit nervous before we went as we thought we would be the youngest. As soon as we arrived we felt at ease as we made friends quickly. At the end of the weekend we felt pleased that we had completed the challenge, but sad that it was over and we had to leave new friends. We would recommend it because it was a great weekend away and worth it to make new friends.'

This term has been busy – cooking and eating pancakes, enjoying lots of patrol activities planned by the Guides. We celebrated Thinking Day with Guides, Brownies and Rainbows from the whole district. We raised money for Guides overseas and learnt about the Commonwealth. We are just about ready now for our annual entertainment to raise money for charity – we hope to see you there.

**Maggie Rampley 01295 810069, Marion Trinder 340806, Catherine Blackburn 01295 258008**

### 1st Barford and Deddington Rainbows

Hina Matsuri was a success! Lots of dolls for the Japanese Festival, including Barbie, china dolls, rag dolls, Japanese dolls and Action Man. Adrienne Baba very kindly lent us an Emperor and Empress doll for the occasion, so they took pride of place. The sushi making proved popular. The Rainbows all liked making it and most of them liked eating it – some even went around looking for seconds...

We have been busy this spring and one of the highlights is a visit to Home Farm in Clifton. We were a bit earlier this year but we still saw quite a few lambs, including some very tiny newborns. Big thanks to Naomi Fenemore who shows us round each year; it's a very popular meeting.

We made pottery flower baskets for Mother's Day under the guidance of Sandi Turner. The girls chose the type of flowers and leaves they wanted to use and painted the whole thing in colours of their choice, so they look fabulous once they've been fired and are a completely unique gift. It was another meeting where we couldn't do without help, so grateful thanks to Sandi for giving up her time for us. We made teacup cards to give too, complete with teabag inside, and it was fun decorating them.

**Hazel Neal and Nikki Bruce 337822**

### Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

I hope the final breath of winter is behind us as the first golf outing is almost upon us. We will be venturing south to play Studley Wood Golf Club on Friday 27 April. Good weather is expected along with a large turn out. Anyone interested in DOGS or coming along please contact me on the number below.

**David Darst 338589**

### WI

Our AGM contained reports from Beryl Suckling, President, and Yvonne Twomey, Treasurer, and the present Committee members were re-elected en bloc. A short business meeting was followed by cheese and wine. Barbara Upton prepared and gave a flower arranging demonstration. There were three arrangements: a spiralling one on a tall support, an upright arrangement of pink carnations and wooden sticks for dramatic effect and finally a clever arrangement using just aspidistra leaves. The three arrangements were then raffled.

The annual WI outing is to Chartwell on 10 July.

**Rene Mahoney 338438**

### Deddington Toddler and Baby Group

I would like to say a massive and heartfelt thank you to Rebecca Moss who has just stepped down as Chair and organiser of the group. Rebecca has been fundamental to our success over the past couple of years. She has given up much of her spare time to organise events, parties and crafts as well as making sure that the group actually takes place each week. We will all

## ... AND YET MORE CLUBS ...

miss her very much. Anna Haines and I have taken over responsibility for running the group and we know we have big shoes to fill! The success of the group is dependent on people volunteering to help with running it. If there are any mums, dads or carers in our group who could give a small amount of time to help with opening and setting up the group on a Friday morning as part of a rota, or making the teas, coffees and snacks whilst at the group then please speak to me or Anna – we would be very grateful for your help.

Over the next few weeks we will be busy making spring and Easter crafts. We also have our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Friday 30 April.

Finally, thank you to Carpetright in Banbury who kindly donated a piece of carpet so the group has somewhere comfy to sit for our sing song.

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

**Wendy Samways 07920 198073**

### Deddington Cricket Club

By the time you read this we shall be just over a month from the beginning of the cricket season and then it really will be spring. In the meantime, work will be carried out on the ground to try to repair the ravages of winter.

We have decided to maintain our membership fees at £40, which includes ongoing coaching opportunities, in particular for the juniors and ladies. Priority will be given to previous junior players up to 6pm on Thursday 19 April. We shall be at the Windmill for signing on at that time on a first-come, first-served basis. So if you want to ensure membership, get your cheques off now to David Webb. Nets will be open on the 19th so bring your kit. We welcome players of all ages and abilities to join us ... male and female, young and old, as well as newcomers to the game.

We now have two men's teams playing on Saturdays, a Sunday friendly team, a ladies' team, and four excellent junior teams from 5 to 15 years old. Groups are (5–7yrs), (8–9yrs), (10–11yrs), (12–13yrs) and Under 15s.

If you haven't yet got your ticket for the Summer Ball on Saturday 16 June, you need to move fast as numbers are racking up quickly. If Clair's 50th birthday party was anything to go by, it will again be a great evening, with a glass of bubbly, three-course dinner, dancing to a live band, and fund-raising for ROSY. We shall all be having a rockin' time. What will you be doing?

**Jill Cheeseman 338609**

[jill@cheeseman.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:jill@cheeseman.eclipse.co.uk)

### Deddington Town Football Club

#### First Team results:

- 18.02.12 FC Langford (a) (Cup) W 7–0  
Carter, D., Carter, R. (2), Hall,  
Thornton, L. (2), Davies
- 25.02.12 Steeple Aston (h) Steeple forfeited
- 03.03.12 Sporting Hethe (a) W 3–2 Hall (2), England
- 10.03.12 Cropredy (h) D 3–3 Carter, R., Hall, Thornton, L.
- 14.03.12 Bodicote Sports (a) (Cup) L 0–2
- 17.03.12 Cropredy (a) (Cup) W 3–1

#### Reserve Team results:

- 25.02.12 Brackley Sports (a) W 5–0  
Gibbs, L. (2), Hall, Moore, Garstin
- 10.03.12 Sinclair Utd Res (a) (Cup) W 3–2  
Gibbs, L., Lynes (2)
- 17.03.12 FC Langford W 6–4

The solar flares did not scorch us, though some solo flair has certainly flashed in front of our eyes this month, as well as the collective magnificence we have come to expect from our vanquishers of foes near and far.

Only one defeat between the two sides these past weeks, a painful cup exit for the Firsts offset by progress in two others. Ryan Carter lent his name to the scorers' chart predictably chiefly filled by Luc Thornton and Simon Hall. The league sees the Firsts just about exorcising the ghost of relegation for this term.

The Reserves go from strength to strength, holding clear second place whilst reaching the final of the Eric Morris cup, a cause for bounteous revelry no doubt. They would be delighted to see all of you on 14 April at Ardley FC, kick-off at 7.30pm. Tickets are very reasonable, and the atmosphere usually makes for a cracking night. See you there!

**Aaron Bliss 07909 642882**

### Vets Football

Just as spring breathes life into the cold and fallow land and frees us from winter's weary grip, the parish's aged footballers gather and apply Sloan's liniment and Vick's vapour rub in an attempt to reinvigorate hibernating muscles and deteriorating respiratory systems. Whilst these remedies may be more psychological than physiological, they appear to be working so far, and again Deddington Vets remain unbeaten in the 2011–12 season. The latest victory came against a formidable Sibford side, which in seasons past has proved something of a nemesis. Standout performances from the back four, and in particular Mike Nelson, formed the foundation for a fine 2–1 victory.

As a footnote, Sloan's liniment was originally invented to use on horses and only out of desperation applied to Dr Sloan's back in a bid to relieve his pain. After he found it helped, the liniment was marketed as being 'good for man and beast'. So there you go Shep, that's two things you've got in common with a horse.

**Barry O'Connell 338988**

## ... AND FINALLY ...

### Mini Football

The U-8s have had mixed fortunes with a recent win against Brackley Athletic followed by a spirited battling loss against Bure Park.

The U-9 Cobras lost to Banbury United Spencer, and drew 1–1 with Brackley Town Saints. The U-9 Sharks consolidated their position of third in the table, despite suffering a rare defeat away at runaway league leaders, Middleton Cheney. The Sharks held tight and congested the midfield for a third of the game, but eventually capitulated and lost 5–0. After two weeks of enforced cup–clash postponements, they bounced back with a 7–3 defeat of Hook Norton, which included a terrific second–half performance in which Tom Haynes completed a hat trick – the fifth player to have scored a hat trick this season. The Under 10s have lost one close match and drawn two others. In our final league game against Banbury Spencer we created many chances but couldn't convert them, resulting in our second consecutive 0–0 score line. Every member of the squad has played with commitment and with no shortage of skill.

### Junior Football

The U-11 Sharks have had three wins and a draw over the last month. This included a 2–0 win over Cumnor in quarter final of the Knockout Cup. Ace marksman Nick Dawkins is on fire at the moment, scoring eight goals in four games for the Sharks. The U-11 Cobras finally got their season going with an 8–1 win over Brackley Athletic including a Ben Haynes hat trick. A 3–3 draw against league leaders, Carterton, followed, a great team performance coming back from behind three times. The U-12 Tigers put in a great performance against Bampton who had thrashed the Tigers earlier in the season. In a close game the Tigers drew 2–2 with a last minute equaliser from Cameron Fowler. The draw felt like a victory. This was followed by defeats by Moreton and Bampton. The U-14s have carried on their good form and are still unbeaten in the league and still yet to concede a goal this calendar year after some fantastic results. They beat top of the league Garden City 5–0. They had a fantastic 2–0 win against Bampton to progress to the final of the County Cup. These results have come on the back of a fantastic team ethic. The U-16s are still going strong, losing a thrilling top of the table encounter 3–1 against Bicester but remain in second place and very much in contention for promotion to the A league. They recently made a new midfield signing of Jarvis Morley who will make his debut this week in a friendly against Cumnor. The remaining three games, which are all very tough, will determine where the team will play next season. The U-17's continue to challenge for the league title. With four games left it is all in their hands.

### Players Wanted for the 2012–13 Season

The U-12s are looking for experienced players to join

the team next season (this will be for current year 7 pupils who go into year 8 in September). If you are interested then email Roger Sykes on [carsykes@btinternet.com](mailto:carsykes@btinternet.com). The U-13s are also looking for players to join their team (this will be for current year 8 pupils who go into year 9 in September). If you are interested then email Pete Hickman on [hickmanpeter1@aol.com](mailto:hickmanpeter1@aol.com).

**Roger Sykes, U-12 Manager and Club Welfare Officer 337034**

### Deddington and District History Society

On 14 March we had a return visit from one of our most popular speakers, Liz Woolley. She spoke to us on the common lodging-house in Victorian England. By the early 19th century common lodging-houses were well established in English market towns and cities. In the 1840s their numbers grew rapidly in response to the rising demand for cheap accommodation as more and more people travelled in search of work. Common lodging-houses had an evil reputation, certainly amongst middle-class commentators, and by the 1830s they were considered a serious social problem: overcrowded, unsanitary dens of iniquity where delinquency and dishonesty were encouraged, stolen goods were exchanged and incendiary political opinions might be spread. They were reputedly centres of sexual depravity and dreaded as sources of infection and contagious disease. They also represented the antithesis of the Victorian view of family and 'home': squalid, raucous and lacking in privacy.

Using examples from Oxfordshire, Liz investigated the truth of those claims and cast common lodging-houses in a more positive light by looking at the economic and social functions that they fulfilled in relation to the supply of industrial and agricultural labour, to patterns of migration, to retailing, to the treatment of the poor and to the provision of popular entertainment.

In April we shall change gear dramatically, with a talk by Muriel Pilkington on 'The Mitfords in the Cotswolds'. Everyone is welcome to join us at the Windmill at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11 April. On 9 May Matt Armitage, director of Tooley's in Banbury will talk about the history of the boatyard. On 6 June we have arranged a private visit to Rycote Chapel and gardens, near Thame (details at our April and May meetings).

**Chris Day (Chairman) 337204**  
**Moiria Byast (Secretary) 338637**

### Deddington Players

Our AGM will be held at the Holly Tree Club on Friday 20 April at 7.30pm. Please join us to help review the last year and plan the next. How should we celebrate the 21st pantomime? Existing and prospective members are all welcome to come along. Hope to see you there.

**Lucy Squires 338442**





## Blissful Thinking

The moving of the postbox a few yards across the road was greeted with choruses of almost equal derision and approval in the village, and to those who may view it as a triviality, one

should care to remember that all life has ever been about is transience. From the first hunter-gatherers' treks across the world, to millions of bytes shooting across miles of fibre optic cable relaying information in the blink of a solar flare; the erosion of rock-faces through millions of years of water channelling to the constant intake and ejection of fluids around and through the human body; the purchase, consumption and wasting of product packaging; the journey to and from school, work, friends or family every day, life is transit. Nothing stands still, whether it is in the course

of duty, leisure, necessity or evolution. From cradle to grave, from spawn to extinction, everything performs its cycle endlessly.

Nowhere is this better demonstrated than in a capitalist economy, where the flow of wealth must continually be passed around to keep each piston in the machinery firing. When too much is concentrated in a particular area, the machinery begins to fall apart, gradually putting more and more pressure on the functioning parts, until it all explodes. Should we simply oil the remaining parts, slap the broken parts together with duct tape, or attempt construction of a much more efficient and stable machine? The course of history would suggest progress ahead of maintaining the broken mechanics. Will standing still see an even greater disaster ahead? As the postbox may attest, the idea of movement sometimes creates far more concern than the actual move.

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

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

**A**fter a very busy term we are now looking forward to our Easter break. During the last month the school has celebrated Fairtrade fortnight, raised money for Sports Relief and enjoyed Warriner Partnership activities and trips.

Our Fairtrade Fortnight was a great success due to the hard work put in by our Fairtrade group, led by Mrs Knox. The fortnight culminated in a special celebration assembly where we welcomed a visitor from the Windward Islands, who taught us the difference between a clutch and a bunch of bananas and how to peel a banana the correct way! After the assembly the group ran stalls selling Fairtrade products, there was even face painting on offer. The event was extremely well supported by parents and all money raised went towards the charity Traidcraft Exchange.

Year 6 have had the opportunity to take part in two Warriner Partnership events recently where we did rather well. The first event was a debating morning where one of our teams came joint first, the following week a group represented the school at the Warriner's Sports Hall athletics meeting which we managed to win! Year 6 really enjoyed the challenge of both events and a good time was had by all.

At the time of writing F1 are looking forward to their visit to Gaydon Transport Museum and Year 1 are very excited about their day of dance they are going to take part in. Soon too the whole school will be limbering up and making sure they've brought their running shoes for the Sports Relief Mile, a sponsored event which raises money for projects here and abroad. Each child will be completing a mile, younger ones will be walking it whilst others will be running, and some of our older children are being a bit more adventurous and plan to complete it in a variety of ways such as three-legged and cartwheeling! Myself and Year 6 are very excited about our residential visit to Yenworthy Lodge in Exmoor. This week-long trip of climbing, walking and zip

wiring should be just what they need before they really knuckle down to work and focusing on their SATs in May. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us!

**Jane Cross, Deputy Headteacher, 338430**

## Bench in Memory of the Elsleys

Weary walkers will now have another spot to rest their bones. On 17 March, friends of the late Marianne and Ralph Elsley (former editors of *DN*) gathered to welcome a new oak bench placed at the end of Chapman's Lane, with stunning views over to North Aston.

The inscription reads 'Remembering Ralph and Marianne Elsley for their contributions to Deddington 1972–2010'. Christopher Hall read the poems *Grieve not* by Tony Wood, and Housman's *The Cherry Tree*. People then shared a glass or two to toast the bench in its setting.

The bench was supplied by Rustic Garden Furniture and sponsored by Judy Elsley in memory of her parents.



(Standing, l to r): Kate Neild, Christopher Hall, Jean Welford, Marjorie Hawes, Viviane Hall, Angela Stone, Kristin Thompson, Winifred Holt, Ruth Johnson, José Stevens, Susie Carrdus; (Seated) Kenneth Holt, Molly Neild and Jean Perrée  
(Pic Colin Robinson)

## PIERS GAVESTON AND THE NUN OF DEDDINGTON

The sixth instalment of a serial written in 1849 by Georgiana Bennet and published in the North Oxfordshire Monthly Times and Agricultural Advertiser. Loaned to us by Clive Sanders, it was given to him by the late Fred Deely. If you missed the first instalments, see them online at [www.deddington.news.co.uk](http://www.deddington.news.co.uk).

THE NORTH MONTHLY  OXFORDSHIRE TIMES,  
And Agricultural Advertiser,

At noon, Earl Pembroke departed, and in another hour Sister Margaret again stood in the prison of the Knight, or rather in the doorway, prepared at any interruption, to close the door and escape. She told the Knight that she had secured the services of a man who believed that, under Heaven, he was indebted to her for his life. On the night of the succeeding day this man would be at the outskirts of the town with two fleet horses, and would guide Sir Piers to a certain point, from when he might easily reach the place where the King had escaped with a small army.

'And you, dear Maiden,' asked Gavestone, 'will no suspicion attach to you – no vengeance fall upon you for the part you have acted?'

'There cannot,' she answered, vainly striving to conquer her emotion, 'or if there could, I would brave all for my dead brother's sake. I am the last of my race, and it matters little what becomes of me if I can serve One whom he loved so well.' Alas! She might have added that

she too loved the man who was now dependent upon her feeble power for consolation and hope. She might have told of the many thoughts given to him, of the earnest prayers breathed for his welfare, of the long struggle between hope and despair 'ere she could resolve to become a Nun; and how her heart had felt crushed and lonely in its unheeded affection. But she was happy now, for he was with her, and his eye beamed with light and animation. For an hour they continued in earnest conversation, when she again withdrew, to muse in her quiet home, upon the prisoner. She had heard the Earl of Pembroke and others speak of his vices and depravity, his haughty and overbearing manner, yet how different he appeared to her! With all a woman's enthusiasm she gave him credit for virtues he did not possess, because she had heard him accused of vices she could not discover. To her, his language and manner were devoted and respectful; his eyes might tell of a deep

and tender passion, but no word betrayed it, and she trusted him as a brother. Besides her own brother, whom she well knew to have been noble, generous and high-spirited, would not have loved Gavestone so enthusiastically, had the latter been what his enemies described him. She did not consider that years had elapsed since that brother's death, and that Gavestone might have changed. The unbounded indulgence and affection of a weak and effeminate Monarch, and the possession of great power, had intoxicated him; and he had become vain and arrogant, treating the nobles with contempt, and ridiculing their habits and pursuits. Even the Queen herself had met with contumely and insult from him, and to Edward alone did the favourite behave with respect and courtesy. But now his earlier feelings seemed to have returned – he had loved de Lincourt with all the ardour of youthful friendship, and the sister with more than 'earnest regard' – and she was now risking her life to save him.

### Joseph Newman BMus (Hons) Classical Guitarist/ Teacher

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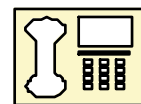
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