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APRIL 2015 copy to
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by 12 MARCH 2015

Next advertising copy date:
10 MARCH 2015

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the Deddington news

At press time it is grey and wet, the Duke of Cumberland's Head is boarded up, and vandals have been damaging the Windmill Centre. However, bulbs are coming through, George is in the lambing shed, the parish has a new vicar, and on 29 March we spring forward one hour into British Summer Time.

MARCH

- Mon 2 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
- Tue 3 Hempton Ladies: Old School Room, 2.00pm
- Wed 4 Photographic Society: Alan Fretten, 'So Long and Thanks for the Fish', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
- Fri 6 Hempton Social Night: Old School Room, 7.00pm
- Tue 10 WI: AGM, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Wed 11 History Society: Paul Sargent, 'Dinosaurs of Oxfordshire', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Thu 12 Monday Morning Film Club: Film title tba, Holly Tree, 6.30pm
- Sat 14 Friends of Daeda's Wood: Working party, 10.00am
- Sat 14 PFSU and Nursery: Jumble sale, Windmill Centre, 11.00am
- Sat 14 RBL: Cash Prize Bingo, RBL Hall, 8.00pm
- Wed 18 Parish Council Meeting: Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Wed 18 Photographic Society: Workshop, 'Exposure Modes', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
- Thu 19 Friends of Castle Grounds: AGM, Holly Tree Club, 7.30pm
- Sat 21 Concert: Banbury Symphony Orchestra, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Wed 25 DN Collating: Windmill Centre, 10.00am
- Thu 26 PTA: Uniform and Easter cake sale, Primary School, 3.00pm
- Thu 26 Book Club meeting: call Sally Lambert, 338094
- Sat 28 Farmers' Market, Market Place, 9.00am-12.30pm
- Sat 28 Concert: Warriner Choral Society, Parish Church, 7.30pm

APRIL

- Wed 1 Deddington Tennis Club: Adult club nights start, Windmill Centre, 6.00pm
- Wed 1 Photographic Society: AGM, followed 'My Attempt at Abstract Photography', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.00pm
- Fri 3 Hempton Social Night: Old School Room, 7.00pm
- Mon 6 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
- Tue 7 Hempton Ladies: Old School Room, 2.00pm
- Wed 8 History Society: Carol Anderson, 'Glove Making in Oxfordshire', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Thu 9 Monday Morning Film Club: Film title tba, Holly Tree, 6.30pm

Continued on page 16

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

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**Meeting at the Holly Tree Club, Deddington, Wed 18 February**

District Councillor Bryn Williams reported that the CDC has revised district boundaries, leaving three councillors per ward, elected annually. The status of the Duke of Cumberland's Head, which suddenly ceased trading on 2 February, is unclear. OCC has requested removal of the hoarding round the building but CDC has still not responded to the application for its listing as a Local Heritage Asset.

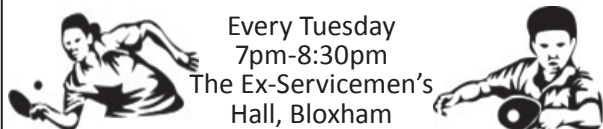
Highways and Transport: The Working Group will seek quotes for installing posts in the grass outside the School and on the verge by the bus stop in New Street to deter inconsiderate parking. A resident has complained about parking on the hatching at the junction of Chapel Square and Philcote Street. Such obstructions should be reported using the 101 telephone number and a police officer will attend.

Environment and Recreation: Thames Water has acknowledged that it needs to repair the collapsed drain outside Home Farm, Clifton. Photographs of flooding here would be appreciated.

Details on siting and fixing memorial benches are available from the PC which does not accept ownership, maintenance responsibility or liability for benches.

Next meeting: Wed 18 March, 7.30pm in the Windmill Centre, Deddington

These notes are the view of our reporter Jean Rudge. For the official Minutes go to <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/pc/pcminutes>.

Bloxham Table Tennis Club

Every Tuesday
7pm-8:30pm
The Ex-Servicemen's
Hall, Bloxham

Bloxham Table Tennis Club invites new and existing villagers to come and play table tennis.

We are particularly interested in juniors who wish to learn to play the sport and are offering a 6-week table tennis course for 11-16 year olds

If you are in this age group and wish to participate, please come along and introduce yourself at our Tuesday club night or contact Bob Dunkin for further information

Bloxham Table Tennis Club offers:

- A friendly and welcoming atmosphere
- Great facilities with three new table tennis tables
- An experienced ETTA coach
- Opportunities to play competitively in the local league

Our aim is to encourage a new generation of players to come and join us, and to improve our club standard

Contact us: Bob Dunkin 07779 734390

Andrew Wilson 07747 774707

Wayne Gubbins 07788 287245

EASTER FARMERS' MARKET

Easter can be an optimistic chink of hope after a long, cold, dark winter, as can Deddington Farmers' Market, just the week before Easter.

This is the month that marks the return of the stallholders who've taken a winter break. This is the month when polytunnels start producing again. This is the month to cheer up.

There will be hot cross buns naturally, but also a great deal more for those with a sweet tooth – from tablet (the dentist's friend) to high end patisserie (my friend). For the carnivores, there should be spring lamb and possibly goat – the supplies can be a bit erratic.

And as for the rest – it's all in the lap of the gods. There may be new stallholders with exciting never-before-seen produce. There may be spectacular bargains – or just the return of a stall you've missed since Christmas. You'll have to mooch around the Market to find out. The specials board might help guide you but half the fun is the exploration.

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

The Market is on Saturday 28 March from 9.00am to 12.30pm, a little hint of the spring to come.

Good shopping!

Ian Willox 337940 ian@deddingtononair.org

PARK FARM: 22 HECTARES

Another episode from Jason Maloney and Beatrice Bathe in which they share some observations on the competitive world of horse breeding and showing:

The dream of Peggy Pacey, the farm's former owner, was one shared by all National Hunt breeders: to breed a winner at the Cheltenham or Aintree Festivals. For Peggy this dream became a reality with her 1983 Arkle Challenge Trophy winner, Ryeman, ridden by Alan Brown. This win, beside other successes at the same festival, led to Peggy being crowned Champion Breeder.

The 2014 foals that villagers may have seen in the paddock behind the Grove were sold in January: one in a private sale and two others by public auction. These racehorse auctions are a unique experience, full of vendors hoping their stock will catch the eye of the industry experts alongside buyers seeking future Gold Cup or Grand National winners.

Potential buyers will be studying the joint angles, straightness, symmetry and proportions of the animals. In addition (if so far satisfied) they will hope to see a ground covering, flowing walk which is often indicative of the other four-beat gait, the gallop. Such a walk is only possible in an animal alert to, but 'game' for, the challenge of the unfamiliar surroundings in which he finds himself. His demeanor will be a necessary attribute for any successful career on the track.

The most prolific buyers are often not dressed according to the English stereotype of a country gent, and why would they be, with the Irish and French accents prominent amongst the hubbub? The man in a muddy boiler suit smoking under the shelter of a massive 'no smoking' sign may easily spend a six-figure sum.

At this year's auction day our two foals were purchased by Irish buyers – talk about selling coal to miners. We wonder whether they, or the foals due to be born this spring, will one day make our dreams come true as Ryeman did for Peggy.

Beatrice Bathe parkfarmstud@gmail.com

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MUSICAL NOTES

Welcome back to *Musical Notes*. To satisfy your longing for outstanding classical music, there are two important large-scale concerts in Deddington Church in March.

At the first, on Saturday 21 March at 7.30pm, the Banbury Symphony Orchestra brings us an intriguing collection of four late 19th century orchestral pieces written by European composers within a span of just five years. The evening starts with Czech composer, Dvorak's, *Hussite Overture* of 1883, based on 15th century Bohemian struggles, and is followed by music of 1885 from France in Massenet's ballet *Le Cid*, based on struggles in Spain. The geography moves to Rome next, though the composer is Russian, the redoubtable Tchaikovsky and his popular *Capriccio Italian*, a fantasy for orchestra dating from 1880. The second half of the programme takes us to Germany and features Brahms' outstanding Symphony no 3 written in 1883. In keeping with the others, he spent much of his life away from his homeland: this time it was in Vienna.

At the beginning of Holy week, on 28 March, the Warriner Choral Society will be performing Bach's *St John Passion*. Please note that this at 8.00pm, not the usual time of 7.30pm. This version of the Passion is sometimes considered a lesser work than Bach's great *St Matthew Passion*. Certainly it is shorter, but it has an immediacy and dramatic drive that give it a greater appeal, and have led to its being staged with great effect. Do come to hear this masterpiece.

There will be further monthly 'Musical Notes' throughout 2015, so look through your *DN* and *DOL* to find out what is going on.

Donald Lane

Donald199@btinternet

TROUBLE AT T'(WIND)MILL

Girls arriving for and leaving the Ballet School have been hassled and intimidated by three teenage boys making sexual comments to them. A piece of wood was jammed through the handles of the inner door, and tables and chairs stacked in front of the door so nobody could enter or leave. The incident has been handed over to the Police who have identified the culprits and are pursuing the matter.

Toilet windows have been broken twice recently by vandals. On the second occasion the incident was caught on CCTV camera and evidence given to the Police who identified the culprits and spoke to the parents. The parents agreed to share the £133 repair cost. A window in the door to the hall was also broken, this time by the Youth Club. They have paid the £109.50 cost of repair.

We must keep the Windmill safe for users, and trouble-makers and vandals will be caught on CCTV cameras, identified, and matters handed over to the police who routinely do patrol sweeps of the area.

Mary Robinson 338272

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON LIBRARY



Photo courtesy Maureen Dew

Author Linda Newbery and librarian Stella O'Neill

The Friends of Deddington Library have been busy this past month. The volunteers are now fully trained and the Library has moved to a 'live schedule' with the volunteers supporting Monday, Thursday and Saturday opening hours each week.

We continue to build up our subscriber numbers and are now up to 75. However, we urgently need more subscribers to reach our target of the 200 needed to maintain the current Library opening hours. Please join us to help keep this fabulous community resource fully functioning and providing a vital service to our locality. Subscription forms can be found at www.friendsofdeddingtonlibrary.org. Please drop off completed forms at the Library.

We are delighted to announce that renowned local author, Linda Newbery, has agreed to become our patron. Linda is already an enthusiastic supporter of the Friends of Deddington Library and we thank her for her continued support. Linda and Stella, our Library Manager, organised a 'Love your Library' event at the library on 7 February which was well attended and a most enjoyable morning. Tea, coffee and cakes were on offer, along with the obligatory raffle, which raised £67.00 to add to our fundraising; we'd like to thank all those who attended, those who kindly donated raffle prizes, and those who gave their valuable time to make the event such a success.

Used Inkjet cartridges? As an ongoing fundraising initiative Deddington Library is now collecting spent ink cartridges for re-cycling, an eco-friendly way to dispose of your used cartridges which helps us raise funds. So if you have any spent cartridges you need to dispose of, please drop them off at the Library. They will be very gratefully received.

As ever, thank you for your continued support and please keep up to date by visiting: www.friendsofdeddingtonlibrary.org.

Bryn Williams
abw@brynwilliams.com

WHAT'S NEW ON DOL?

Several new articles have gone up at the start of this year:

The *Curious Case of the Deddington Bowls Club Accounts Ledger*: why does this book contain the names of more than 250 WW2 prisoners of war? The answer is an interesting detective trail with a happy ending.

The *Churchills of Deddington*: since this article was first published, Maj Gen Tom and Lt Colonel Jack Churchill have been added to *The Parish at War* site. Find out more about these two brave Commando Brigade leaders. Jack went to war with a bow and arrows and a sword – and used them!

Peggy Pacey (1918–2013) was a well-known and redoubtable character around the parish until illness confined her to her bed in her final years, whence she continued to run her farm, ably assisted by Jason. DOL brings together a series of articles about her life as a well-known breeder of horses interrupted for a few years whilst she rode a motorcycle in the WAAF during WW2. There are two photograph albums in the Gallery devoted to Peggy – as a horse lover and in the WAAF.

Deddington Carnival 1981: thanks to Nipper Clark, who had kept a copy of the video made by Ian Fergusson at this event, we can re-visit this great occasion. The link takes you to a page on which you will find a further link to the video itself (on Vimeo) and a Time Line Index of the various activities on the video, including parachuting into the Market Place.

To read them go online at <http://www.deddington.org.uk> and click on the blue links.

Rob Forsyth
338384

2015 PARISH SHOW

The Show this year is on Saturday 5 September in the Parish Church as usual.

The new Show programme with entry form to download can be found on Deddington OnLine.

For those who prefer a paper copy, these will be available from June in the Church porch, the Flower Shop, the Library, the vets, as well as the July Farmers' Market.

As thoughts for the many gardeners in the villages turn to getting the vegetable crops and flowers going, March is a good month to remind everyone about the Show, but as well as the large vegetable, fruit and flowers sections, there are Cookery, Art, Crafts and Photography sections, in addition to all the children's sections to challenge creativity.

Last year's Show was the best ever with wonderful exhibits in all sections, so see you there this time to make 2015 as good, if not better!

Wendy Burrows, Hon Secretary
338082

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

MARCH

SS Peter & Paul

Sun	1	10.30am	First Sunday
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong
Wed	4	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu	5	2.00pm	Squeals & Wheels
Sun	8	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30am	Eucharist
Wed	11	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu	12	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	16	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Eucharist
Wed	18	10.00am	Eucharist:
Thu	19	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	22	9.30am	4th Sunday: Eucharist
		10.20am	Café Church
Wed	25	10.00am	Eucharist
Thu	26	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	29	10.15am	Palm Sunday
Mon	30	8.00pm	Night Prayer
Tue	31	8.00pm	Night Prayer

Friends of Deddington Church Floodlight Sponsor

12–26 February

Anonymous donor in honour of the Induction of Revd Annie Goldthorp as Vicar.

St John's Hempton

Sun	1	9.00am	Eucharist
Sun	16	9.00am	Eucharist
Sun	22	6.00pm	Evensong

The Barfords

Sun	1	10.30am	Eucharist
Sun	8	10.30am	Family Service
Sun	16	10.30am	Mothering Sunday
Sun	22	4.00pm	Evensong
Sun	29	10.30am	Palm Sunday

For baptisms, weddings, funerals or home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, the Revd Annie Goldthorp, The Vicarage, 1 Earls Close, Deddington (336880) reverendannie@hotmail.com, except on Fridays, her day off, or one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie (338367) or George Fenemore (338203). For further information please go to www.deddingtonchurch.org.

From the Parish Registers

Funerals

Tue	9	Dorothy Faint
Fri	13	Michael Baker

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Sunday mornings at 10.30am Pastor Isabel Walton
March 22 Margery Richley

Pastor Isabel Walton

337157

RC Parish of Hethe

Fr Paul Lester 01869 277630

Mass at Holy Trinity, Hethe, is said at 9.30am every weekday except Thursday, and on Saturday. There are two Masses on Sunday, the first at 10.00am in the normal, 'ordinary', Rite and the second at 12.00 noon in the Latin, 'extraordinary', Rite.

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.

Mass at SS Peter and Paul Anglican Church, Kings Sutton, is said at 9.00am on Sundays.

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

FRIENDS OF CASTLE GROUNDS

The AGM will be held on Thursday 19 March at the Holly Tree Club at 7.30pm. Please come along and hear about the work we have done this year and our plans for 2015. Become a member or join the Committee – we would be delighted to see you.

We are currently gathering information about the Castle Grounds for our website. If you have any old photographs, information, memories, or anecdotes that you would be happy for us to use, please contact me.

Carol Horlock, Secretary

338935 carol.horlock@hotmail.co.uk

DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM

They're off! But this time it's not only the old dears in the barns that have made a start to the rites of spring, as I sit and bash this out on the copy deadline date. Another, rather special, old dear is, according to my Heathrow flight monitor, heading out over the channel at 30,000 feet on her way to a three week stay in India with a group of local members of the Trefoil Guild (geriatric Girl Guides). So here I am, all on my own, sob, sob, with detailed instructions on how to use the microwave, chip fryer, cooker, dishwasher, washing-machine, vacuum cleaner and a complete route map of the contents of a very well stocked freezer. If I don't make considerable inroads into the said contents over the next three weeks, there could be some difficult questions to answer on the memsahib's return.

What a difference a year makes. This time last year the flood valley had been under three feet of water since well before Christmas, with the ewe flock being inside by mid-November. This time around, the flock came in in the middle of January to get them settled down for lambing, rather than because of the need to get them out of the mud and water.

So here we go again. This year's first lambs arrived on 11 February and we will be on the job until April. It is well over 50 years since I first started this lambing game, and there have been many changes to the way things are done. When I first started, lambing was done outside in late March and early April with a few willow and hazel hurdles set up in the corner of the lambing paddock, along with the iron-wheeled, barrel-topped shepherd's hut fitted out with a pot bellied stove and a bunk bed. The old boys referred to the short sharp storms of hail or snow that often came with the onset of the 'blackthorn winter' as lambing storms. Today we lamb inside and use a lot of modern veterinary and animal welfare technology, but, despite all the advances in animal handling equipment, there is still one



item of the shepherd's tool kit that has been around for centuries which I find invaluable in the lambing shed – the shepherd's crook or leg iron. It was regarded as an unforgivable crime to use another man's crook and mine was made for me by Mr Wilf Grant, the local blacksmith, when I left school, and I still use it to catch any ewe that is in need of help when I am on night duty.

A topic that seems to come up every few years is the subject of lorries coming through the village of Clifton, a subject that, if the most recently published discussions of the Parish Council have not been subjected to 'imaginative interpretation', is on the agenda yet again. This time around we are being told to report any sightings directly to the OCC. What our rose-spectacled guardians of the 'Larkrise' rural idyll seem to have overlooked is the fact that Clifton is not a no-go area for lorries, nor for that matter is any part of Deddington. What we have is a weight limit of seven and a half tons on the county bridge over the river. Even then, vehicles over that weight, delivering to or collecting from the village, have right of access. Down on the farm we do, from time to time, have the need for deliveries of animal feed and other farming requisites and collection of our crops. Most of the time we route the vehicles along Earls Lane but it's not always possible to do that. It's not just vehicles visiting the village businesses. As we have no gas main, all of the heating fuel has to come via a lorry. Our fire and rescue appliance, when fully 'booted and suited' comes out at over 18 tons. Should that be reported to OCC? And what about the bin lorry, to say nothing of the humble tractor and trailer. That's not classed as a lorry, but would still go over the seven and a half ton limit! Ho hum, it's 3.00am and time for another round in the lambing shed.

George Fenemore
338203

DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL YOUNG WRITERS' COMPETITION

The Deddington Festival invites school age children and young people in Deddington and the local area to 'light up their imaginations' and submit a story or poem to the annual writing competition.

This year the Festival celebrates the Unesco International Year of Light, and light is the key theme for the 2015 writing competition. Judged by a prestigious panel of professional writers, this is a chance to create a special story or poem, receive feedback from published authors and win prizes. This year our judges are three fantastic local ambassadors for creative writing – Jo Eames, Deddington-based author of *The Faithless Wife*, Sophie Hetherington, writer for hit children's TV programmes *Tree Fu Tom*, *Dinopaws*

and *Bob the Builder*, and Jason Hewitt, playwright, actor and best-selling author of *The Dynamite Room*.

The competition is open to primary and secondary school age children in Years 3–11 or equivalent (this includes home educated students). Young writers can submit short stories of up to 500 words, and poems of up to 50 words.

Full details, story starters and online entry form are available at <http://www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk/writing-competition/>. The deadline is 25 March.

Good luck!

Anne O'Brien
anne.robrien@yahoo.co.uk

AMERICAN POSTCARD

Big Cultural Differences

A quick trip to the UK on business led me to thinking about the big differences from America. These days my wife has persuaded me, after nearly two and a half years in the land of the free, that ranting about gun control, nationalism, and the American desire to invade countries that they can't find on a map, is really a waste of time.

In passing, I heard a report on the BBC that the emergency wait time target in the NHS is 95% within four hours. The one down the road from us in Colorado has the wait time on an electronic sign outside and they claim it is less than five minutes. The difference of course is cost. I spend nearly \$30,000 per annum to get access to this service, a sum that 25% of Americans simply can't afford.

But forget these minor glitches, what does America do well? Steak will come close to the top of my list of what I will miss when I finally retire back to England's green and pleasant land. I didn't eat any steaks while I was back in the UK, they just wouldn't compare well to an American prime rib. I don't like to ask what chemicals they feed the cows on in the American West, but the quality is infinitely better.

Washing-machines are in a different class. Yes, I do know what a washing-machine is: I do the laundry in our house. Because American houses are so much

bigger, appliances don't need to fit under a work surface, and the result is equipment that can wash all your smalls in one load. And lovely dryers that dry the sheets in 20 minutes.

What Americans can't do is drive properly. Middle-class America is a bizarrely polite place. They are all very pleasant to each other, although less polite to me for obvious reasons. But put the local ladies behind the wheel of their huge sports utility vehicle and they act like Genghis Khan. Try and filter in to their lane and they will speed up in order to stop you. And why they put indicators on cars in the West I really don't know because they seldom use them, and changing lane without looking is obviously a local sport.

What else? The light and power switches go the wrong way, the petrol pumps have the colours the wrong way round, and they don't use the English language properly. I am working hard on educating them, I'll let you know how I get on. It will probably be useful that the emergency waiting times are so short. They don't seem to like my confidence that there is a 'u' in colour, and that Ukraine is a country in Europe that they don't need to invade.

Even if they don't love me, I love America.

Mike Ward

mikew@qsoftware.com



Single & sociable?

Join Single File, a friendly social group for the unattached aged 45-70.

We meet in Chipping Norton and the surrounding area, and have a full programme of activities.

Cinema and theatre trips, walks, meals out, concerts, days out

Fortnightly pub meetings

enquiries@singlefilecn.org.uk
Tel: 07765 598518

www.meetup.com/single-file-chipping-norton



**Preparing for Easter Activities
for primary schoolchildren aged 5-11
at Deddington Parish Church, 10-12.30pm**

**Crafts, cooking, chess
and other games**

Thursday, 2 April

Cost £2 per child

Application forms and inquiries to:

Liz Coppin 338721

Annette Murphy 336195

Additional forms at the Church

**To guarantee a place, applications to be
returned by Monday, 30 March**

SCROOGE – DEDDINGTON PLAYERS 2015



Photo courtesy Gemma Scott

Winter holiday pantos are quintessentially English, and perhaps a little puzzling for the occasional foreigner who may happen to see one. This year's Deddington pantomime, however, would have been at home anywhere in the Western world and especially in the US because it was sprinkled with enough trans-Atlantic pop culture to make the story, characters and music easily recognisable. Of course, people the world over know about Dickens' *Christmas Carol* and I daresay it remains as popular in America as it is here. But it is the wonderful liberties taken with the story by Limelight Scripts and the unmistakable evidence of hard work by everyone on and off stage that make this a pantomime to remember. Whereas in the original story Dickens said only that Scrooge (Chris Manley) and Marley (Martin Squires) owned a warehouse, this time it is a chocolate factory where the always misanthropic and now unscrupulous Scrooge produces an inferior chocolate, adulterated with some rather unpalatable things in order to maximise profits. In the original story Scrooge has only one employee, Bob Cratchit to mistreat but this time he has a whole factory workforce to abuse and even makes them work on Christmas Day on pain of losing their jobs.

This large cast of characters provides a good backdrop for lots of subplot dialogue, skits and songs, the first of which is a rousing and spot-on rendition by Becky Jones of Dolly Parton's hit song *9 to 5* about the plight of over-worked and underpaid employees. As it happens, Ms Jones can really sing, and her factory ghost song, *Bump in the Night*, affirmed she could easily quit her day job if ever inspired to do so. Then again, the cast was rich with good voices and the songs by Kelly Scott (*Happy and Down and Out*), Chris Manley (*Money, That's What I Want*), Jim Flux, Neil Levene, Toby Levene and Ben Fenemore (*Food, Glorious Food*), Cameron Miller and Elen Squires (*Let It Be*), Chloe Reilly (*Make You Feel My Love*), Kelly Scott, Hannah Westbury, Jemima Scott, Annie Rose Jones and James Levene (*Daydream Believer*) would

rival those in any panto anywhere. Throw in some iconic melodies like *Deck the Halls*, *Agadoo*, *Hokey Cokey*, *Ghostbusters*, *Get Me to the Church On Time*, *Celebration* and *Ding Dong the Witch is Dead* from the *Wizard of Oz*, and anyone who grew up in a place without pantos would still say 'what's not to like'? If I had to pick a star of the show, I'd say it was the kids and God bless 'em, every one. You had to be there and see the stage filled with them all in ghost costume, moving in sync with the zombie dance choreography from Michael Jackson's *Thriller* video, to appreciate just how good they were.

I enjoyed the well-crafted interplay between some of the more dramatic aspects of the story, such as the kindness and goodwill of Scrooge's nephew, Fred, or the scenes from Scrooge's youth, and then the shift to pure silliness where we were treated to a *Ghostbusters* movie character makeover with Cratchit sporting a toy plasma gun that squirts water on the audience. There were even two Tiny Tims, (Jamie Levene and a way-too-tall Vaughn Jones who is now a perennial aspirant for roles requiring diminutive stature). That was part of the fun, to be pulled back into the story with the traditional spirit visits, Ghost of Christmas Past (Anne Kent), Ghost of Christmas Present (Trina Murray-Hundley) and Ghost of Christmas Future (Jonathan Watts) and then to find oneself distracted and bemused by an entry that would surely have confused Dickens, but not us. The most outlandish and amusing point of departure was Scrooge, after repenting of his wicked ways, proposing marriage to one of the dames, Di Gestive (Neil Levene), the scullery maid daughter of the older dame (Jim Flux).

Kudos to director Martin Squires, the set and costume designers and makers, techies (seriously, a snow-making machine in a village panto?), all the behind-the-scenes folk who helped make this panto possible, and the whole cast whose names are omitted only for want of space.

Dan Desmond dessr@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS JOYCE

Some time ago the Parish Council was asked to recommend someone whose voluntary contribution had done much for the community. It was suggested that Joyce Minnear would be a worthy recipient for her long service to the Windmill Community Centre, the Friendship Club and the Congregational Church. We forwarded our recommendation and Joyce has now heard that she was successful and will receive the High Sheriff's Award in recognition of great and valuable services to the community at a ceremony in Oxford on the 2 March.

She has given 30 years of devoted service which was key to the running of the Centre. From the beginning, Joyce has been a member of the Management Committee of the Deddington Windmill Community Centre since it was built in 1985. Enlarged in 1990-91, it is a vital community facility. There is a very active Badminton Club, Youth Club, Scouts and Guides, the Windmill Thursday Club for the elderly, and ballet classes, to name a few. It is also the venue for numerous children's parties, pantomimes, concerts and comedy evenings, as well as the base for many football and cricket club matches. Joyce was responsible for all the bookings – collecting the hire fees, arranging visits for new users, ensuring the hall was opened and closed as required – as well as dealing with day to day expenditures, managing the cleaners, and ensuring that all the licences were renewed as required. These included the fire equipment checks, gas maintenance and certificate for use, electrical checks, Performing Rights Society certificate and performance licence. Joyce decided to retire in 2014 at the age of 86, but still keeps a watching brief with the cleaners.

A much loved local resident, in addition to her interest in the Community Centre, Joyce organised and ran the Deddington Friendship Club for 20 years until it closed in 2014. She was also a member of the Congregational Church which closed four years ago and a member of its council.

Jim Flux

fluxjim@btinternet.com

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

Good news first. Annie, of 'Steve and Annie' fame, is currently 'glowing' as she awaits their first child. Love and congratulations continue to fly in their direction as for once 'men' returned from book club with information the memsahibs found interesting.

Speaking of Book Club, the list is being drawn up for another season of Una Stubbs. Once only this season I will explain that, after *Till Death Do Us Part* and *Sherlock*, the British actress, Una Stubbs, is best known as Aunt Sally in the children's TV series, *Worzel Gummidge*. Of course it was on TV more than 30 years ago so it's not children's TV any more. This team list is, as usual, full of people intending to play, but those that actually do will be a small subset unfortunately, so

if you do fancy playing don't let a feared lack of talent hold you back – if you're right you'll fit right in. If you're wrong you could win MVP.

However, there is one name on the list that will need changing, and that is the team name. As nearly everyone now knows the Duck is closed, almost certainly forever. There are, we're told, rules that mean we cannot enter a team under the name The Duke of Cumberland's Dead!

The Book Club is, of course, plotting like Guido, and many campaigns are mooted, but as Cllr Collins notes with dismay, he has only been contacted by three neighbours outside Book Club, so perhaps the community doesn't have the stomach for a fight against closure. This seems a shame as there are many fronts upon which the fight could be mounted because planning law is on our side.

So in a call to licensees in Candleford we have up to 16 keen drinkers a week on offer, whose requirements are fairly modest (listed in a downloadable PDF). They are a little dull and middle-aged (except Steve the younger who still visits from the Barfords – see above), if sometimes a little boisterous. A friendly bunch at heart who would be happy to raise or supplement any Una Stubbs activities you might have. Sealed bids are welcome and will be voted upon at a future meeting of Book Club.

Martin Bryce – as keen as ever for copy to
martindnbryce@aol.com

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the month of March 1865:

2nd March – I and Holford started by the last train to attend the Assizes at Oxford.

11th March – I called at the Windmill on Jon Simons and Josh Wilkins, Mrs. Hall having called to say they had both been begging at Duns Tew. I left 2s.6d. at Wilkins's by her desire and told Simon's wife that Mr. Hall would employ her husband.

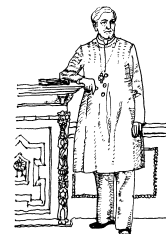
21st March – Mr. Turner, the Vicar, called to speak about Mr. Calcutt being a Guardian for this year. We dined at 6 o'clock – without the lamp – but used candles at wine and dessert.

23rd March – Went to Franklin's to inspect the work going on for the new roof at New College Hall. The examination of the children proved a failure in all matters – reading, arithmetic, dictation, etc.

28th March – Poor unfortunate Willy Henry Brogden died here this afternoon of consumption after 12 months suffering, more or less. He was from 20-21 years old.

29th March – J. Irons came, I gave some money and books as he was about to emigrate with his wife and family to America.

Buffy Heywood



A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Who do you think would be most concerned about whether there's enough for teenagers to do in Deddington? Teenagers themselves? Wrong. It's the adults who worry. Or at least that's the impression you get from the results of our Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire.

Just over half the age group responded to the youth questionnaire for 11–17 year olds, and there's a lot of interesting stuff – which schools they go to, their likes and dislikes in the parish. But it's striking that 62% seem to be satisfied that there's enough to keep them occupied here. By contrast, in the adult questionnaire, only 52% thought all ages were catered for, and no less than 70 wrote comments expressing a shared anxiety: 'Unless you are into sport or drinking, there's not much for teens or young adults'. Another respondent doubted whether any village could do any better – 'as being a teenager is all about rebellion and boundary testing'.

So what do this daredevil age group value most about Deddington? Among 'youth activities and facilities in the parish', the most highly rated is the Castle Grounds, perhaps the nearest we have to a wilderness. Next came the senior playground at the Windmill and the tennis courts.

The list of improvements teenagers suggest has a familiar ring. They'd like an upgrade at the Windmill Centre: better play areas – 'more fun stuff in the playground' – and a bigger astroturf football pitch. A respondent suggests 'a good play area in Castle [Grounds] with zip wire and bike track', which chimes with at least one respondent in the adult survey: 'Any children's play area [at the Castle Grounds] needs to be basic and wild, in keeping with the surroundings'.

Zip wires, whether at the Castle Grounds or the Windmill Centre, crop up quite often in both questionnaires, which conjures an image of Parish Council chair, Alan Collins, on an inaugural ride, stuck in the middle, hanging there, like Boris Johnson before the Olympics (but way more elegant, obviously).

The teenagers' wish list also includes a roller disco, and an arcade and video games shop. More predictably there's a demand for a swimming-pool, whether indoors or out – I lost count of how many people across both questionnaires thought this was a goer, but it was more than 20. All of these ideas might belong in the dream-on department, but they're worth considering. For instance, one teenager suggests a wider choice of DVDs (and video games?) at the Library. Not an arcade for sure, but more realistic?

There's a poignant request for a 'hangy outy place' for teenagers which mirrors exactly the adult observation, 'There is nowhere for elderly people to meet for a chat'. Likewise there are matching pleas for film shows at the Windmill – a kids club for Saturday morning movies, and a mid-week screening for oldies. Actually, I think a film club already exists at the Holly Tree.

Do the gilded youth of Deddington have their own transport – or exceptionally obliging parents? How else

to explain the youth answers to the transport questions. Only 50% had used a bus in the last month, yet nearly 80% say they have no trouble getting lifts or transport.

That's apparently true in the evenings, too. A surprisingly low number, 25%, said they'd use a late bus home from either Banbury or Oxford, disappointingly low for those who want to see the bus service improve.

Returning to the adult questionnaire: there was a note of foreboding in some of the responses which has proved to be all too well-founded with the news that the Duke of Cumberland's Head has now closed its doors, perhaps for good. 'I worry for the pub in Clifton – if we lose that we will lose the heart of Clifton', makes a sad epitaph.

The full responses to the youth and adult questionnaires can be reached via our website, www.deddingtonneighbourhoodplan.org.

Helen Oldfield

helenmoldfield@yahoo.co.uk

BLISSFUL THINKING

The current economic system requires everything to be delivered fast. The ever-demanding 'consumer' apparently wants everything at whatever time they deem convenient, and they want it in their hands right NOW. So naturally corners are cut. We have meals deep-fried and slung in cardboard buckets, online 'bite size' courses delivered to our inbox and explicit pictures sent in real-time from Whatsapp.

One consequence of this omni-bored rapid gratification culture is the truncation of information. Can you fit your day's philosophy into 140 characters or less? Then it's not worth hearing. Can't get to grips with predictive text? Just use text-speak to communicate in some esoteric gibberish we'd expect infants to communicate in before they learn the nuances of syllables.

If you despair at this dumbing down of language, why not do the polar opposite, and extend words which have become vernacular in short form? When you've put on your brassiere and retroactive clothing in the morning and strutted out into your neighbourhood, will you take the carriage or omnibus to work? Just don't make a dramaturgy out of it or lose your temperament. Cross the quadrangle, park your bicycle and get into the office, perhaps letting off steam with some choice memorandums and facsimiles. When you get to the work refrigerator, you realise the perquisites of the position are abundant, but you'd still rather be an espionage agent. Still, once you have cleared that mountain of bum-fodder from your desk and caught influenza from that thoughtful colleague, it's home time! Pick the kids up and roll that perambulator over to the public house for some serious libations. Now there's something worth expressing in full.

Aaron Bliss aaronjbliss@hotmail.com



FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

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

FROM HEATHER SHUTE, MEDICAL DETECTION DOGS

Can you help Medical Detection Dogs save lives?

The group trains dogs in the detection, by scent, of human diseases and life-threatening health conditions.

The Cancer Detection Dogs work on clinical trials with universities and health professionals in the early detection of cancer, with results published in scientific journals. Our dogs are over 90% accurate in the early detection of prostate cancer.

The Medical Alert assistance dogs partner clients with life-threatening health conditions, acting as early warning systems, for example alerting before a hypoglycaemic attack causes collapse in a brittle Type 1 Diabetic person.

We are a small group of volunteers, the Oxon and



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

Cotswold support group, supporting the charity by giving talks and running local fundraising events and street collections. We are looking for help with our fundraising.

We need: volunteers to help with street collections and events; offers to run events, such as coffee mornings or sales, good quality second-hand clothes, good quality bric-a-brac, old jewellery, used stamps, used printer cartridges, new ideas for fundraising.

If you would like to join our group, mainly based in West Oxon, or volunteer for even one event a year, please contact me on 01993 831909 or oxon.supportgrp@medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk. If you would like a speaker to come to your local group, please contact us. The charity's website is: www.medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk.

DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

As I write this, we are looking forward to the PTA, PFSU and Nursery Curry and Quiz night on Saturday 28 February in Barford Village Hall, a night not to be missed. With tickets already almost sold out, this looks set to be a fabulous, fun night with the proceeds being split equally between the two charities.

The PTA will hold an Easter cake and second-hand uniform sale at the Primary School from 3pm on Thursday 27 March. Nearer the time, we will be looking for donations of both uniform and cakes.

Our next joint fundraising event with the PFSU and Nursery is this year's muddy race, the Monster Race, at Cornbury Park on Saturday 18 April (see <http://www.monsterrace.co.uk/> for more details). As you can see, we will be tackling mud, water, obstacles, climbing walls, and more mud, with some running thrown in. We currently have 28 parents, carers, family and friends registered for the event and our team name is Deddington Mud Monsters. If you would like to join us, it's not too late. Just contact me on the email address below. If you don't want to take part but would like to sponsor us, please visit www.justgiving.com/DeddingtonMudMonsters/ to donate.

On Sunday 10 May we, together with the PFSU and Nursery and Deddington Fire Service, will be holding the second *Four Farms Challenge* event to raise funds for all three organisations. There will be a 10k, 5k and children's fun run, starting and finishing at the historic Castle Grounds, as well as a barbecue, bar, and other

stalls. Please see the website at www.fourfarmschallenge.co.uk for more information.

The final big event for the PTA this academic year will be the School Fête on Saturday 4 July. Please put this date in your diaries and look for further information about the Fête in future editions.

Thank you for your continued support.

Julia Jackman, Co-chair
deddingtonpta@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF DAEDA'S WOOD

As the weather continues to warm up, so the opportunities for cutting back and pruning in the Wood diminish for various reasons, one being that birds will be nest building and should not be disturbed, another that the trees will be putting on new spring growth.

The very successful Logs for Labour events run by the Woodland Trust during the winter have now ended and the Friends will be focussing on general tidying and maximising enjoyment and appreciation of the Wood. We will be holding our AGM in April. If you would like to get involved and become a Friend, at present £5 annually, please contact me for details.

Annette Murphy
annette-orchard@live.co.uk
336195

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Many thanks to everyone who came and brought food to the recently held Bring and Share Lunch. There was certainly plenty to eat and people enjoyed meeting others who had not been to the Old School Room before. It looks great since its refurbishment and ideally suited for gatherings of up to 30 people. Police Community Support Officer, Louise Beaumont, came and spent two hours talking to people and hearing their concerns.

Congratulations to Edith Garrett of St John's Way on her recent 90th birthday and the Ladies' Tuesday Club celebrated this with a nice tea at their recent meeting in February. Sunday 15 February saw the first service in St John's taken by the new vicar of this benefice, the Revd Annie Goldthorp. There was a congregation of just under 20 to welcome her on this special occasion. It is nice to have a new vicar in place.

There is very little else to report on this month but it is nice to see all the spring flowers coming up in the grass verges, especially the snowdrops and crocuses, with daffodils to follow shortly. This time always reminds me of the late Mr Dennis Washington who, along with other villagers, planted many of them on the Duns Tew Road. It gives you a real sense that spring is just round the corner.

Please remember I am always looking for news for this column, I can only report it if I know of it, so please give me a call if you have anything.

Les Chappell 33805

REFURBISHING THE WINDMILL

Some harsh criticism for the Windmill Centre came out of the Neighbourhood Plan: 'Soviet-style', 'desperately in need of new kitchen, loos and a makeover' and 'Trustees have done nothing'. Some of this criticism is justified but the Trustees and Management Committee are well aware of the state of the building and facilities, now open for nearly 30 years.

The Community Centre and its grounds are owned by the Parish Council and leased to the Windmill charity whose sole source of income is hiring fees. These are kept to a level that clubs can afford, and are compatible with other facilities in the area. But they only cover day-to-day running costs, not capital projects.

So we have to ask the PC for funds for major projects and, in the straitened times of the last few years, it was thought appropriate to hold back. But now the PC has allocated £40,000 for projects in 2015, and we are working on priorities for refurbishment: possibilities are double-glazing windows, updating the loos, and repainting. We'll seek grant aid where possible, as £40,000 will quickly disappear.

Stick with us and you should see an improved Windmill Centre, 'ere long. We are constantly looking for additional people to help. It's too easy to sit back and criticise – get involved. Start by giving us your input on what should be top of the priority list.

**Mary Robinson
338272**

WELL REMEMBERED

Michael George Baker 1924–2015

Michael was born on 2 November 1924, the son of Olive Groves and George Baker, both well known musicians and opera singers in their day and from whom Michael inherited his love and appreciation of music. Schooled in Kings School, Canterbury, he then joined the army and was commissioned in the latter part of the war. Following his demobilisation he studied his articles to become a solicitor and worked for the British Railways Board for 30 years, retiring in 1984 from the position of Chief Solicitor and Legal Advisor to the British Railways Board.

Michael and Peggy were married in 1952 and moved to Deddington in 1995 to be closer to their daughter, Debbie, and her family, and to continue enjoying Michael's retirement which he had fallen

into with ease; many hours were enjoyed with Art at the Holly Tree Club along with the late John Cheney, Norman Stone and Bill Dickinson, and with golf at Tadmarton Heath Golf Club.

Michael touched all who met him and will be sadly missed. He was a good friend to many in the village and also to many further afield and will be remembered by them as a man of great dignity and kindness with a tremendous sense of humour. Peggy will remember him as a loving and devoted husband of 62 years, his children as a wonderful and cherished father, his grandchildren as a hands-on grandfather with tireless energy and much love, and his great granddaughter as the bestest 'GG' (great grandfather) one could wish for.

Debbie Spengler

BLOOD DONOR RECEIVES AWARD

Recently the NHS Blood and Transplant Service recognised Geoff Todd at a presentation luncheon in Oxford with an award for giving over 100 donations of blood.

If you would like to follow his example you can register by calling 0300 1232323 (Freephone) or on line at www.blood.co.uk. Regular donor sessions are

held in Banbury and Kings Sutton, with free parking at the latter. There is always a cuppa and a biscuit to follow the donation. New donors are always welcome so why not become one of the just four percent who regularly give.

CD

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Deddington Branch Royal British Legion

Subscription renewals are now complete for this year and we are pleased with the response.

The Royal British Legion is commemorating the end of the Second World War with a national service of thanksgiving at Westminster Abbey, a wreath laying service at the Cenotaph, and a parade and reception over the period 8–10 May. We will be celebrating this event in Deddington and will keep you informed in the next *Deddington News*.

Jean Morris Branch Secretary
338143 mrsjeanmorris@gmail.com

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

We have a new member in the pack, Matthew, and welcome back Mees after his recent travels.

Since the New Year we have been busy creating and rehearsing for our forthcoming show, using shadow puppets and yoghurt pot characters in a performance of the *Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*. We hope this will be a great success as the boys have worked very hard. The evening will also include a presentation about the travels of our Commonwealth batons.

The Cubs spent a very informative evening at Pets at Home, learning about and handling some of the small animals, for the animal carer badge. The animals all behaved very well until the gecko jumped on Noah's head!

Jo Churchyard CSL
jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

Scouts have also been rehearsing for the show and, to honour our founding Scout leader, who was keen on entertaining, we will be performing a 'magic' show and our own version of *Countdown*.

For a change we took the boys bowling; a very good evening.

Some of us took part in the Winter Challenge, a nine and eighteen mile walk along the Ridgeway. Although it was a bit cold and dreary we managed nine miles. It was fun walking with a thousand other Scout members.

Explorers

The boys have been helping with the arrangements for the show and racking their brains over some tricky problem solving. They spent an evening with prospective new members from Bloxham Scouts, games, puzzles and chocolate biscuits.

Pete Churchyard SL
pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

1st Deddington Boys' Brigade

The Anchors have been having lots of fun learning new team and memory games. We've welcomed back An-

nette to help with the Anchors, and they're all pleased to see her. The Juniors have been making great use of the new indoor sports nets and badminton rackets that we purchased via Active Kids. We've promoted Felix to the Juniors and Malachy to the Company section and both are settling in very well.

On 6 February Toby and Joshua put on a great display of their first aid skills and came second out of five teams entering the Battalion Company First Aid Competition. Well done to both of them as this was an intense competition and very well done to the large number of young people who took part in this competition. March sees us in action again with the Battalion drill and Company drill competitions.

We are back in the Church for March's Farmers' Market, running our book stall. Donations of good quality books (novels and autobiographies are popular) are welcome on the day of the market or give me a ring to discuss collection or drop off options.

Jen Childs, Leader
07774 608715 Jen.childs@btinternet.com

1st Deddington Guides

We had a great start to the term, welcoming five new Guides at their promise ceremony: Alona, Libby, Scarlett, Maddie and Elize.

The Guides are spending time running their own activities in their patrols, and they are getting much better at clearing up afterwards too.

We have enjoyed some activities and challenges that the senior Guides had planned and organised. They are working towards their Young Leader and Baden Powell Guide Award.

Spring is approaching fast, so we are going to help clear and tidy the campsite at Horley as a good turn. In the summer we are often able to make use of this lovely wood-enclosed Scout campsite.

Before you know it, we will be putting on our annual entertainment, planned and organised by the Guides to raise money for charity. We are rehearsing already.

Guiders Maggie Rampley 01295 810069
Marion Trinder 01869 340806
Catherine Blackburn 01295 258008

Women's Institute

We had a good turn out for our February meeting on a very cold evening. Our speaker, Pam Newell, came to us at very short notice due to the illness of Graham Soden. We had a really excellent talk on Transylvania with very good slide illustrations. We were introduced to Dracula and his castles and some interesting history of the area.

March's meeting is our AGM when we discuss, among other things, the resolutions on matters topical. This is followed by cheese and wine. For further information please contact Angela Sones on 338027.

Julia Hobbs

CALLING MORE CLUBS

Deddington Tennis Club

With the evenings getting longer and British Summer Time starting from Sunday 29 March the new tennis season is about to begin.

This season we are planning to hold some group Adult Beginners coaching to encourage more people to come along and try tennis, and Rusty Racquets coaching for those who have played before and are interested in returning to the game. Courses will be open to both members and non-members. Details will be displayed on the club website shortly – see www.deddingtontennis.com.

Adult club nights begin from Wednesday 1 April, 6.00pm, with Tuesday and Sunday club mornings continuing as usual from 10.15am. New members are always welcome.

Our coach, Wayne Ellis, will be running the next kids tennis camp from Monday 30 March to Thursday 2 April inclusive. There will be coaching, games and, hopefully, a lot of fun. The Camp is open to members and non-members but register early as places will be limited – see www.deddingtontennis.com/coaching/camp.

The Club has entered four mixed teams in the Banbury and District Summer League. These matches are played in the evenings. We have also entered one ladies' team and one men's team in the OLTA Wilson weekend league. Any members interested in playing matches please contact our Match Secretary.

Sue Watts

www.deddingtontennis.com

Deddington Original Golf Society

The DOGS are off and running and we pray the golfing weather gods will shine on us throughout 2015.

As a prelude to our 2015 golfing season the venues and formats are as follows:

1 May: Oxford Golf Club, 8 hole Stableford Competition.

5 June: Hellidon Lakes, 27 hole with the option to play 18 only in the afternoon. Format, team event in the morning. Individual afternoon competition.

14 August: Leamington and County, 18 hole competition followed by our now legendary Golf Club evening Summer Party, kindly hosted again this year by Rob and Maureen Forsyth.

16 October: Warwickshire GC, 27 hole with option to play 18 only in the afternoon. Format, team event in the morning. Individual afternoon.

To view the courses, go to Deddington OnLine and click on clubs and DOGS.

Our Captain, David Chatterton, will announce the DOGS v DOGS date and the process of team selection will be in his capable hands. We need to retain the wonderful picture of the DOG painted by local artist, Viv O'Donnell. The picture proudly hangs on a wall in the Deddington Arms. If we lose the match, the wall will have to be repainted.

Our annual weekend sojourn will probably be in July. Our Social Secretary, Ron Colley, is in charge of this event and details will be communicated via email as soon as the final arrangements have been made.

More information to follow ... please do your utmost to support our days and on behalf of your committee, have a great golfing 2015.

Tony Lowe, Chairman
337108

Deddington Town Football Club

1st Team Results

10/01/15	Cropredy (a)	L 0–1
17/01/15	Middleton Cheney (h)	W 3–0
	Haynes, Large, Smith	
07/02/15	Highfield Old Boys (a)	L 1–2

Reserves Results

10/01/15	Chesterton (h)	L 1–2	Rollason
24/01/15	Kings Sutton (h)	W 2–1	Rollason, Charles
31/01/15	Ashton Villa (a)	L 0–10	
07/02/15	Bodicote Sports (a)	L 2–4	

Sadly, it appears as if both teams gave up winning for Lent, with just two wins from seven between the two, and a full house of away defeats. Although the First Team recovered well after losing narrowly to table-topper Cropredy, they lost ground on the chasing pack with a defeat to Highfield, and are closer to the bottom than the top. It is hard to muster any current optimism for the Reserves, who struggled to beat cannon-fodder Kings Sutton, before succumbing to a ten-goal atrocity at the wittily named Ashton Villa. Conceding double figures is a reprehensible sporting crime that normally merits a public flogging, or at the very least being pelted with rotten fruit, but there is no time for recriminations. The situation is looking desperate, but this is when the Reserves have been renowned for showing their mettle, so we believe again.

Aaron Bliss
07909 642882

Deddington Town Colts

The Under 14s had a 3–1 win at Brackley, followed by a 3–0 victory over Carterton Town. This was followed by a narrow 4–3 defeat at fellow promotion contenders, Chipping Norton, but remain third in their league. Four points separate the top four teams, with six matches of the season remaining. The Under 13s had an entertaining 4–4 draw with Banbury United, after being 3–0 down at half time. They lost 4–1 at home to Eynsham and suffered a heavy defeat at home to Hook Norton. The Under 12s lost 5–1 at Brackley, had a narrow 1–0 win over Banbury Irish and had a convincing 6–2 victory at Bampton. The Under 11s had just one match – a heavy defeat away at Bicester Town Stars, but remain third in the league. The Under 10 Sharks have had an excellent first half of the of the season, winning 16 of their 24 games so far, clocking up 68

... AND EVEN MORE CLUBS

goals and conceding only 29. They've won every game in their Cup first round group stage and have only lost once so far in the league. The quality of their play has improved greatly this season, surprising many of our opposing teams.

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 with contact numbers for team managers at <http://www.deddingtontownfc.com/>

**Roger Sykes, Club Welfare Officer
337034**

Deddington and District History Society

On 11 February we were to have had a talk by Hugh Grainger on highwaymen, but unfortunately he was held up – by something much more prosaic than highway robbery: a road accident. Members who asked to be kept informed will be relieved to learn that Hugh was not seriously injured. A not very hopeful request for all those with expertise on highwaymen to step forward and fill the gap was met, astonishingly, by an offer from a visitor to do just that. It seems appropriate, given the subject, that he should remain anonymous, but he was not masked, nor did he use a pseudonym. Shamefully, I forgot to note his name. Our saviour spoke unrehearsed and unscripted, yet fascinatingly, about the infamous Burford Highwaymen, Tom, Dick and Harry (yes, really) Dunsdon of Fulbrook. The brothers were as far as can be imagined from our romantic notion of what a highwayman should be. Indeed they seem to have been a terrifying trio of psychopaths. Dick died, not before time, of injuries received during a robbery. In 1784 Tom and Harry were captured, tried and hanged at Gloucester, and their bodies were gibbeted at the side of the Burford–Shipton road.

On Wednesday 11 February Paul Sargent will speak on 'Dinosaurs of Oxfordshire' – a reference, surely, not to the Society's chairman but to the dinosaur remains discovered at Stonesfield and elsewhere in the county. We meet at the Windmill Centre at 7.30pm and all are welcome.

**Chris Day, Chairman 337204
Moira Byast, Secretary 338637**

Adderbury, Deddington and District Photographic Society

In February, Bob Brind-Surch gave a most interesting presentation on 'Macro Photography'. A retired physics teacher, Bob had been interested in photography from his youth and, on retirement, has now turned his hobby into a full-time activity with numerous commercial commissions, workshops and organised wildlife safaris to Africa and elsewhere. For his presentation, Bob concentrated on macro techniques, explaining the principles of magnification for different types of cameras, the limitations of lenses for this type of work,

and the pros and cons of close-up lenses, extension tubes and dedicated macro lenses. He then reviewed the benefits of reversing lens adapters, together with the use of various items such as clamps, ring flashes, light panels, laboratory jacks and focusing racks. Bob concluded by examining a post-production software technique known as 'focus stacking', whereby the limitations of the shallow depth of field normally associated with macro work can be completely overcome.

Bob made a technical presentation easy to understand by showing diagrams and photographs at each stage of his presentation, and by physically demonstrating the use of each item of equipment. This was an absorbing and stimulating tour de force of macro photography by someone with an intimate knowledge of his subject, and which was much appreciated by his audience.

The next meeting is on 4 March, when Alan Fretten will give a presentation entitled 'So Long and Thanks for the Fish – a Selection of Images Covering Sport, Rock Bands and Travel'. This will be followed by a workshop on 18 March about 'Camera Exposure Modes', and the AGM of the Society will be on 1 April, together with a presentation by members on 'My Attempts at Abstract Photography'. All events are at 7.30pm in the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, and everyone is welcome to attend.

**Richard Broadbent
338173**

Book Club

At our meeting in January we discussed *Dissolution* by CJ Sansom. This is the first in the *Shardlake* series of murder mysteries, each featuring a different historical event. This one focuses on the Dissolution of the Monasteries. We found the main character, Matthew Shardlake, to be a likeable and human character and the mystery was developed well enough to keep us guessing until the end. Some found the book to be overly long and the ending far-fetched, but it was generally agreed that it was an interesting historical observation on the Dissolution of the Monasteries and the break up of the Catholic Church.

Our next meeting is 26 March. Please call for details.

**Sally Lambert
338094**

Youth Club

The Deddington Youth Club continues to meet at the Windmill Centre from 7–9pm every Monday during term time. Weather permitting, the boys and girls, aged from nine years, have fun playing outside on the all-weather court with full lighting, but they can also enjoy softball and racquet games in the hall together with several computer games. A new table tennis table will be purchased soon. There is a tuck shop

open throughout the evening for refreshments. Club members pay £2 for each evening they attend, but in order to cover all costs the Club is most grateful for contributions from the Friends of Deddington Youth Club and from other sponsors. Further information can be obtained from our Youth Leader, Hayley, at hmcowell@live.co.uk.

Jane Green, Secretary
green-jane@btconnect.com

FROM THE FIRE STATION

It has been another quiet month for local incidents at Deddington but we have been mobilised to quite a few further afield. Perhaps you remember the arson attacks in Oxford where every fire appliance in Oxfordshire was called out: our appliance was mobilised to cover Oxford city centre and at one point was covering Abingdon too. Resources were stretched to the limit that day, including being called to a road traffic crash on the A34. Thankfully this was not too serious but fast roads are always a very dangerous place to be.

The crew was also mobilised to a house fire in Banbury where a person was trapped upstairs whilst a fire was developing in their lounge. He was rescued by the Breathing Apparatus (BA) crew and the fire quickly extinguished. He was alerted by the smoke alarms in his house and was very lucky. This shows again how important it is to have at least one smoke alarm on every floor in your property. They really are a life saver.

All the crew members have now finished our yearly BA refresher which is one of the things we love because it takes place at Rewley Road Fire Station which has a smoke house. This gives us a chance to work in a realistic environment. It is also one of our most demanding assessments. I always say to people that it's like your driving test. When you first learn to drive and pass your test you do everything as stated in the Highway Code, but as you drive more you pick up bad habits. BA is a lot like that. The whole crew completed the refresher with only a few minor learning points which is a really good standard and shows that the training we do throughout the rest of the year is effective and keeps us sharp.

Colin Smith and I will be attending Moreton-in-Marsh Fire Training College for another one day training event. This is another really good venue as the training is realistic and they have lots of different incidents set up. I will be training as officer-in-charge and Colin will be BA. The crews who attend these training days are from different stations and this month we are going with Banbury and Chipping Norton crews.

Congratulations to our new fire fighter, Barney Alton, who has finished his two week basic training and is now on station with us. I was putting him and the crew through their paces on the drill yard last week and was very impressed with his performance. Drills are always a good way to see how the crew works together. All the ladder pitches were near spot-on per-

fect and I also instructed them to make an improvised decontamination area which involves using loads of kit off the pump. When we have a chemical incident we have to be able to decontaminate casualties and crew. This has to be achievable with the kit we carry on our appliance just in case we cannot get the resources when at an incident. We use a large tarpaulin to collect the water runoff and make a shower from ladders and a hose reel that we tie to it. The water is warmed through the friction created by the pump. To get all this working in a very short amount of time is really good for our team. By the end of the month Barney should be going out to incidents with us.

Deddington Fire Station is holding a charity car wash day on the Saturday 21 March, between 10am and 2pm. Please come along and have your car washed and help us raise money for our fire fighter charity.

Tim Parker, Crew Manager

PFSU AND VILLAGE NURSERY

This term the PFSU children have been busy finding out about animals and the Chinese New Year. We have had visits from several pets, from the vet, and will be visiting the May Fu II restaurant after the half-term break. Thank you to Juliet the vet, to our pet owners, and to the May Fu II for their hospitality. The Nursery children have been finding out about things that melt, and feeding and caring for birds. We are collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers and would welcome any donations at either the PFSU or the Nursery. As a charity, the extra sports and cooking equipment we are able to purchase with the vouchers is much appreciated.

Coming up on Saturday 14 March is our annual jumble sale. This is at the Windmill Centre from 11am to 1pm. Come along early to grab the best bargains. We would be grateful to receive any donations at the Windmill Centre on Friday 13 March between 9am and 1pm.

Lucy Squires
337484

DIARY

Continued from page 1

- Tue 14 WI: tba
- Wed 15 Photographic Society: Workshop, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
- Wed 15 Parish Council Meeting, Old School Room, Hempton, 7.30pm
- Sat 18 PTA, PFSU and Nursery: Monster Race, Cornbury Park, time tba
- Sat 18 Concert: Piano Recital, Neil Colledge, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Sat 25 Farmers' Market, Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Wed 29 DN Collating: Windmill Centre, 10.00am
- Thu 30 Book Club meeting: call Sally Lambert, 338094