

**T**his is not the last edition of Deddington News. A number of enthusiastic people responded to our flyer in the November issue, wanting to keep the DN alive. Jill Cheeseman and Mary Robinson have agreed to take on the editing of the DN from the March issue; it was they who nurtured the infant DN for its first five years. Charles Barker has done his first report on the Parish Council. Fay Hand has met the challenge of fitting in the 65 contributions submitted for inclusion in this issue. 2008 looks bright with them, a cover designed by the School and full support from advertisers.

There are some other roles to be filled. An information sheet telling the DN Story, describing how the whole project fits together and so where you can

help, is being prepared.

The DN now has email addresses  
<[@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:@deddingtonnews.co.uk)>.

Please in future send Letters

to <[letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk)>, Clubs to <[clubs@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:clubs@deddingtonnews.co.uk)>, Features to <[features@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:features@deddingtonnews.co.uk)>, Dates to <[diary@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:diary@deddingtonnews.co.uk)>, Adverts to <[adverts@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:adverts@deddingtonnews.co.uk)>, and use <[editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk)> to contact the Editor.

Finally the whole DN team echoes the prayer of Amanda Gray's brilliant Christmas cover to every reader and advertiser.

**CH**



## December

- Sat 1 Fire Station Charity Quiz Night at the British Legion, 7.30 pm >**p.12**  
 Mon 3 Monday Morning Club: Christmas lunch at the Holcombe Hotel, 12 for 12.30 pm  
 Wed 5 Adderbury, Deddington Photographic Society: *Framing & Mounting of Photographs*, Deddington Arms, 7.30 pm. *Visitors welcome.*  
 Thu 6 Royal British Legion, Concert by Stekpanna, in aid of Deddington Festival.  
 Sat 8 Children's Activities, Parish Church, 9.15am-1 pm.  
 Sat 8 Royal British Legion Club AGM >**p.16**  
 Sat/Sun 8/9 PTA: Santa's float >**p.3**  
 Sun 9 Choros Carol Concert, Parish Church, 6.30 pm >**p.7**  
 Tue 11 WI: Christmas meal, Unicorn >**p.16**  
 Wed 12 History Society: A 'typical' Christmas of 1942, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm >**p.16**  
 Thu 13 Monday Morning Club: Film evening, Holly Tree, 6 30 pm.  
 Sun 16 Concert by The Akeman Voices, Parish Church.  
 Mon 17 School Christmas performances, Parish Church, 2pm and 4 pm >**p.3**  
 Wed 18 School Christmas performance, Parish Church, 5pm >**p.3**  
 Wed 19 Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm.  
 Thu 20 Library: 'Night before Christmas' story time >**p.13**  
 Sat 22 Deddington Farmers Market, 9am-12.30 pm.  
 Sat 22 PTA Craft Market: Holly Tree, 9.30 am-12.30pm >**p.3**  
 Sat 22 PTA: Santa's Grotto >**p.3**  
 Mon 24 Carols in the Market Place, 6 pm

**See page 2 for January and February diaries**

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 \* Copies \*  
 \* of the DN \*  
 \* are available at \*  
 \* THE FLOWER SHOP \*  
 \* with a \*  
 \* box for donations \*  
 \* \*\*\*\*\*

## Weekly Meetings

Mon: Brownies, Windmill Centre, 6-7.30 pm.  
 Mon: Youth Club, Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm.,  
 Mon: Bellringing Practice, Parish Church  
 Tue: Craft Group, Holly Tree, 2.00 – 4.30 pm.  
 Tue: Tennis Club, Windmill Centre, 10 am  
 Tue: Deddington Guides, Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm.  
 Tue: Badminton Club, Seniors, Windmill Centre, 7-10 pm  
 Tue: Deddington Youth Group, Parish Church, 7-8.30 pm.  
 Every other Wed: Friendship Club, Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm.  
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys, Windmill Centre, 5 pm.

Wed: Boys' Brigade Juniors, Windmill Centre, 5.45 pm.  
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Company, Parish Church, 7 pm.  
 Thu: Life and Portrait Art Group, Town Hall, 10-12.30 & 1.30- 4 pm.  
 Thu: 1st Deddington Cubs, Windmill Centre, 6 – 7.30 pm.  
 Thu: 1st Deddington Scouts, Windmill Centre, 7.30–9 pm.  
 Fri: Coffee Morning in aid of Katharine House, Parish Church, 10 am-noon  
 Fri: Babies and Toddlers' Group, Windmill Centre, 9.30 – 11 am.  
 Fri: Katharine House Coffee Morning, Parish Church, 10am-noon.  
 Fri: Deddington Friendly Bridge Club, Holly Tree, 2-5 pm.

**THE DEDDINGTON NEWS** - Copy please to the relevant editor by next copy date: **19 January 2008**

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**Meeting in Hempton Church Hall - 21 November**

Present: Cllrs Squires (Chair), Alton, Anderson, Privett, Rudge, Spencer, Todd Watts, Wood, C/Clr Jelf, the Clerk and 7 members of the public.

**Open Forum:**

Hempton Pinch-point: The PC were asked to press OCC to move the white line away from the kerb to slow traffic.

Hempton Speed limit enforcement: complaint about lack of action by OCC to enforce speed limit, PC asked to consider temporary 30mph signs.

Deddington Finger posts: are in the process of being repaired and refurbished.

Chapel Square pinch point: OCC to be asked to paint solid STOP lines on road.

Parking Earls Lane & Pound Court: Health Centre seeking support from neighbours, stakeholders and OCC for increased hard standing to improve parking.

**Highways**

New Street crossing point: high estimate for the suggested "island refuge" with signs and bollards in the middle of the road near Grove Court.

School Crossing: warden still not found, post to be re-advertised.

School: to be asked to allow parking for special occasions.

Post box: the Royal Mail is to be consulted about re-siting.

Hempton signs: will be delivered in 6 weeks.

Gaveston Gardens: agreed to repair root-damaged footpaths.

Ayhno railway bridge underpass flooded again - ask Northants CC to address problem.

Fun Fair parking: operator to be warned not to park vehicles on grass.

**Environment & Recreation**

Allotments: PC to hire rotavator for a week to clear overgrown plots. Existing tenants may borrow machine - contact Parish Clerk.

Chickens may be kept on allotments, subject to conditions.

Village Nursery can hold an Easter Event including BBQ on the Castle Grounds subject to conditions.

Windmill centre play areas: bark replacement being assessed, fences being repaired, hedges pruned & spruced.

Tennis Club plan to install flood lights on two courts to prolong winter use, till 9.30 pm.

**Planning**

PC No objection: (1) 38 Gaveston Gardens: 1st floor extension. (2) Stable Cottage, Hempton Road: fell sycamore; specie of 2nd tree to be investigated. (3) Ilbury Farm: erection of farm building- with tree screen. (4) Gaslight, Earls Lane: fell tree. (5) Ash Cottage, Chapel Lane, Clifton: construction of 2 dwellings, with conditions. (6) Applewood, Castle Street: balustrade, new gateway & removal of wall. (7) Tubbs Cottage, St Thomas Street: fell tree. (8) Centrepont: change of use from office on 1st floor to residential.

CDC Approvals: (9) Hempton House, Snakehill Lane, Hempton: extend gable. (10) Castle Barns, Castle Street: new entrance, alteration to roofline. (11) Old Church Studios, Hempton: 3 velux roof lights. (12) Unicorn Inn, Deddington: smoking shelter. (13) Holly Tree Club, Horsefair: tree works. (14) Mullions, Castle Street: fell 4 trees.

CDC Refusal: (15) The Homestead, The Lane Hempton: two storey extension and carport.

**PARISH FINANCES**

- Invoices passed for payment totalled £7232.76.
- Investments totalled £554,335 at West Bromwich BS, Barclays and Birmingham Midshires.

**NEXT MEETINGS -**

**Wednesdays 19 December & 16 January  
7.45 pm Town Hall**

Official minutes of PC meetings may be seen at the Clerk's office and the Library, on parish noticeboards and the village website:

[www.deddington.org.uk/pcminutes](http://www.deddington.org.uk/pcminutes)

**Diary****January**

- Wed 2 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8 pm.  
 Wed 2 Photographic Society: Workshop, Deddington Arms, 7.30 pm  
 Mon 7 Monday Morning Club: coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30 am- noon.  
 Tue 8 WI: *Daeda's Wood and the Woodland Trust*, Sylvie Spenceley, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm >p.16  
 Wed 9 History Society: *The Golden Age of Coaching*, Mark Way, Windmill entre, 7.30 pm >p.16  
 Wed 16 Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm.  
 Thu 17 Deddington Players: *Treasure Island, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm >p.15*  
 Fri 18 Deddington Players: *Treasure Island, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm*  
 Sat 19 Deddington Players: *Treasure Island, Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm and 7.30pm*  
 Sat 26 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9 am – 12.30 pm.  
 Thu 31 Book Group: call Sally Lambert 338094 for venue.

**February**

- Wed 6 Photographic Society: Studio Lighting Techniques, Deddington Arms, 7.30 pm.  
 Tue 12 WI: *Spring Ahead*, Heather Ward, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm.  
 Sat 23 Deddington Farmers Market, 9am-12.30 pm  
 Sat 23 PTA: Craft Market, Holly Tree, 9.30 am-12.30 pm.

The children and staff are already thinking about Christmas. Rehearsals are underway and costumes are being made. It is such a privilege to be in school at this time of year and hear the children singing their hearts out. We have had several trips out with Year 3 going to Sulgrave manor to live like Tudor people, F1 going to the post office to learn about the journey of a letter and Year 6 having a week's residential visit at a National Trust Centre enjoying the beautiful Welsh coast.

Kitty Winks from Year 6 has written a summary of the week:

*On the first day once we had been on the terribly long coach journey, Year 6 went with the Stackpole staff to go and explore Stackpole. We were then given our dormitory beds. We all thought it was really out of order when the boys were split up from the girls ... but it didn't stop us from running in each other's corridors! On the second day we went pond dipping and caught minnows. In the afternoon we did conservation in the woods and put up bird houses and made eco-piles. On the third*



*day (Hallowe'en) we went on a coastal walk and had a sand sculpture competition. In the afternoon we went rock climbing which was scary at first but fun when we got up there. In the evening we had a Hallowe'en campfire and toasted marshmallows. On the fourth day we went orienteering which was even better when we went into the woods. In the afternoon we went rock pooling and everybody got soaking! We even found a starfish! In the evening we all went swimming at the pool next door. On the last day everyone went to the sandy beach and we made chairs in the sand and we were allowed to take our shoes and socks off! Then we went on the HIDEOUS journey back home (due to the bus breaking down).*

Clearly much fun was had by all and the photos they have brought back show what a great time they had. Our Christmas productions are on at Deddington Church on Monday 17 December at 2.00pm for F1 and 4.30 for KS1. KS2 is at 5.30 on Wednesday 19 December. **Judith Tinsley 338430**

#### **Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery**

This term the children are thinking about celebrations, including Fireworks night, Diwali and of course Christmas. We are already enjoying lots of glitter! As part of our Christmas celebrations the PFSU children ( 3-4 year olds ) will be joining the Reception class for a Christmas production of 'Jesus' Birthday'. This will be held in the church on Monday 17 December from 2-3pm; all parents and friends are very welcome to join us. The PFSU/ Nursery Christmas Party will be held at the Windmill Centre on Thursday 20 December at 1.00 – 2.30pm. The staff will be undertaking 'Brain Gym' training on Monday 7 January: there are a few places available for interested parents. Speak to any of the staff if you would like to join us or find out more.

**Lucy Squires**

#### **PTA**

What a fabulous fireworks evening we all had once again (with the sorry exception of Year 6 who spent the evening at a motorway service station in Wales after their coach broke down!) The weather held out for us and we had a beautiful clear sky. It was fantastic to see the field full of children and adults laughing and having fun. Special thanks must go to the Co-op and Farmer's Market Committee who very generously supported us.

We are selling our ever popular range of Christmas cards designed by the children and also our very first school calendar with some wonderful photos of events throughout the School year and some stunning shots of the local area. Samples of the cards and calendar are available if you wish to 'try before you buy', contact Janet on 337135 or e-mail [janet@janetwatts6.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:janet@janetwatts6.wanadoo.co.uk) for a sample pack or to place an order.

Calendars can be bought from Foodies, The

Flower Shop and Deddington Post Office.

Santa's Float will be landing in Deddington on the weekend 8/9 December - your generosity is greatly appreciated. Santa's Magical Grotto will be in the Town Hall on Saturday 22 December during the Farmer's Market. That morning our carol singers will be in the Church, and also our monthly Craft Market will be at the Holly Tree. There will be no Craft Market in January but we will return on 23 February.

**Janet Watts PTA Chair**

**DEDDINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL,**  
**EARL'S LANE, DEDDINGTON,**  
**OXON. OX15 OTJ (Tel: 01869 338430)**

**Email: [office.3452@deddington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3452@deddington.oxon.sch.uk)**  
**Head teacher – Mrs. Judith Tinsley**

We are currently seeking 1 person to work for 5 hours per week (12.05-1.05pm term time only), to start after Christmas (8 Jan), as a lunch time supervisor within the school. The main purpose of this role is to ensure the safety and welfare of children at lunch-time. Applicants need to be adaptable, have experience of working with children and be able to support the school behaviour policy.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from the Head teacher, Mrs. Judith Tinsley, at the above address. A Criminal Records Bureau check will be undertaken for the successful candidates.

The starting salary will be G1: point 6  
= £6.15 p.h (pay award pending)  
Closing date: 10 December

**PARISH CHURCH OF SS PETER AND PAUL****December**

Sun	2	10.30 am	Eucharist
		4.00 pm	Christingle
		6.30 pm	Advent Celebration
Wed	5	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	6	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	9	10.30 am	Eucharist
Wed	12	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	16	10.30 am	Eucharist
Wed	19	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	20	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	23	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.30 am	Morning Worship
		6.30 pm	Carol Service
Mon	24	11.30 pm	CHRISTMAS EVE Midnight Mass
Tue	25	10.30 am	CHRISTMAS DAY Family Eucharist
Wed	26	10.00 am	ST STEPHEN Eucharist
Thur	27	6.30 pm	ST JOHN Eucharist
Fri	28	6.30pm	HOLY INNOCENTS Eucharist Sun 30
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.30 am	Mattins
Mon	31	11.30 pm	Watch Night Service

**St John Hempton**

Sun	2&16	9.00 am	Eucharist
Fri	21	7.30 pm	Carol Service
Tue	25	9.00 am	CHRISTMAS DAY Eucharist

**January**

Wed	2	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	6	10.30 am	EPIPHANY All Age Worship
		12.30 pm	Epiphany Feast
Wed	9	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	10	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	13	10.30 am	CHRIST'S BAPTISM Eucharist
Wed	16	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	17	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	20	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
Wed	23	10.00 am	Eucharist
Fri	25	6.30 pm	ST PAUL Eucharist
Sun	27	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.30 am	All-age worship

For Baptisms, Weddings,  
Funerals, hospital or home visits  
in case of illness,  
please contact the Vicar  
the Rev Dr Hugh White,  
28 Duns Tew (349869),  
the Rev John Dane (337403)  
or one of the Church wardens,  
Iain Gillespie (338367)  
or Judy Ward (337187).

**St John Hempton**

Sun	6&20	9.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	27	6.00 pm	Evensong

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS: Baptism - 14 Oct Charles Tuthill. Funeral - 8 Nov Daphne Laverick

Bible Study Groups: Contact Jean Welford 338539, or Liz Dickinson 337050 for dates, times & venues.

**Charity of the Month** - December: **Toybox**; January: **House of the Open Door** - please use the special envelope to put donations [if a taxpayer, in a GiftAid envelope] into the Parish Church chest.

**WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square****Pastor Isabel Walton 337157**

Sunday Mornings at 10.30 am: Pastor Walton

Bible Study/Fellowship every Thursday at 3.00 pm at 3 Castle Street

**CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, New Street****Joyce Minnear 338529**

Sunday morning services 10.30 am united with Wesleyan Church

Sunday afternoon services at 3.00 pm at The Chapel, arranged by Pastor Derek Walker of the Oxford Bible Church. Details to be announced from week to week

**R.C. PARISH OF HETHE WITH ADDERBURY****The Revd A J Burns 277396**

Masses at Holy Trinity, Hethe: every weekday except Wednesday at 9.30 am, and on Sundays at 10.00 am. St George's Church, Adderbury: Mass on Wednesday at 7.00 pm and on Sundays at 8.30 am. Confessions at Hethe on Saturdays 5.30 to 6.00 pm and at Adderbury before Mass.

Christmas Eve: Hethe 11.30 pm Carols; 12.00 MIDNIGHT MASS. Christmas Day: Adderbury 9.00 am Mass; Hethe 10.30 am Mass. New Year's Day: Hethe Mass 10.00 am

**WELL REMEMBERED**

Daphne Laverick was brought up in north London. She worked as a model for Hardy Amies, but finding this uncongenial moved on to work for Lillywhites, the sports outfitters, as befitted the skilled sportswoman she was; she played table tennis in the European championships and also excelled at lawn tennis. Golf and Bridge later became passions. Happily married for 46 years, Daphne's family life, nevertheless, held much sadness; of her six

children, her first two daughters died early and her two elder sons at more advanced ages. She also lost her only grandson. Her sociability helped her to deal with these and other bereavements and meant that she was greatly appreciated at Featherton House (despite the risks to the fabric posed by her rather casual manner in disposing of the cigarettes supposedly forbidden to her). She will be much missed there, as also at the Parish Church, where she regularly worshipped.

**Hugh White**



E-MAIL FROM ANNE KENT, 1st. DEDDINGTON BROWNIES

I am writing to say how proud I am of all the Brownies from 1st. Deddington who turned out for the Remembrance Sunday Parade. For me to have 20 out of 24 Brownies attend is an all-time record. Thank you also to the parents for getting the girls there. It was wonderful to have such a large group marching – you should be proud of them all.

FROM ANGELA & NORMAN STONE, MARKET PLACE, DEDDINGTON

Thank you all for your sympathy and support after the tragic death of Jeremy in his 52nd. year. Your wonderful kindness means more to us than we can ever say.

E-MAIL FROM JANE GREEN, DEDDINGTON

We raised £750 at this year's Ride and Stride in aid of the Oxford Historic Churches Trust. The additional Gift Aid has not yet been calculated or collected. Very many thanks to the four families and four ladies who rode and strode, and to their

sponsors. Let's have more riders and striders next year and take the sum raised into four figures!

E-MAIL FROM JOHN SAMPSON, HEMPTON

There has been a church on the site of St. Peter and St. Paul since the 13th. century, a focal point for village activities, and still serving that function. The Church is in use every week day evening, hosts many concerts and social occasions, is open for the Katharine House Friday coffee morning, plays a strong part in school activities and is an essential element in our highly successful Farmers' Market. And, of course, it is open on Sundays! Comments in the Visitors' Book include "A very inspiring visit... Very friendly reception... Serene and peaceful... Beautiful flowers... Joy to walk around... Loved the windows... A real family church," and many more. There are approximately 350 signatures for each year and there must be many who visit without comment. A random glance reveals visitors from Japan, USA, France, Germany, Spain, Australia, Canada, Mexico, NZ and SA. We are indeed blessed in having such a building central to our community. Let us not give in to familiarity and indifference and risk losing this essential part of village life.

E-MAIL FROM CHARLES BARKER, DEDDINGTON

As we are considering a windmill to reduce our power consumption, I have another suggestion. What would happen if we turned off some of our street lights after midnight? I am thinking particularly of The Stile, Goose Green, St. Thomas Street and I don't see why the Market Place should be a blaze of light all night. Similar trials are under

way in Milton Keynes, York and many other cities and towns both here and in The States. The advantages are that we could see the stars again and save money.

E-MAIL FROM ROB FORSYTH, DEDDINGTON ONLINE

I would like to publicise three excellent articles about Deddington, which can be seen on DOL in the history section. They are too long for the DN but deserve wide readership. Those who do not have a computer can access them through the Library terminal. Buffy Heywood has researched and written up two long pieces about The Poor and Schools in Deddington. Kristin Thompson has written a very full article about The Feoffees. Both authors (members of the DDHS) will have spent a

considerable amount of time on their research and I would like to say how grateful we are for these important additions to DOL's growing archive on historical Deddington. Further articles in the pipeline for 2008 are the history of Leadenporch House, the Church bells, old

maps of the village and Sentences of Transportation from Deddington. Any further contributions are most welcome.

E-MAIL FROM N. PIERCY IN TURKEY

Just to let you know that the DN is being thoroughly enjoyed in Bodrum, Turkey! I've just read it from cover to cover, no problems. It's extremely easy to access. Many thanks.

FROM CHRIS FENEMORE, HOME FARM, CLIFTON

After another weekend of wildlife being hunted and killed at Home Farm and Leadenporch Farm, I must ask all dog owners to be reasonable and keep their animals under control when they are walking them on the footpaths and bridleways in the parish. Of late I found two dogs dragging a deer across the farm by its throat. I had to destroy the deer due to its injuries, but the dogs got away. I am still hunting them and their owner!

DUNDEE CAKE AND DISCOURSE

Do you read the newspaper, listen to the radio, watch television and then engage in heated debate with yourself over current issues, both serious and trivial? Out of consideration for community blood pressure and the serenity of domestic pets, would it be useful to meet together, say once a month, over tea and cake, and debate these issues with each other? Aliens to lentils, moths to the Zeitgeist, via democracy and the merits of a sweeper - no topic barred (apart from gossip and family anecdote, plenty of opportunity for those elsewhere). Please contact me if the idea appeals: [Kristin.a@zen.co.uk](mailto:Kristin.a@zen.co.uk) or on 337052.

*Kristin Thompson*

**DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL**

Almost 50 Friends attended the FDF AGM in the Parish Church on 8 November. Sue Goddard (Convenor) welcomed and thanked everyone. Members contributed in so many different ways to the ongoing success of the Festival. Lesley Milroy (Memberships) reported healthy finances and, in 2007, an increased donation to Festival funds. Friends were then asked if they would participate in two planned events for 2008 – the Open Gardens Scheme and the Writing Competition. David Watt and Eddie Sinclair, two Deddington residents, outlined their plans for an all-age day of entertainment in the Market Place next year. This aims at wider participation in the Festival.

*Kristin Thompson FDF Publicity*

**Community Concert**

As part of next year's Festival and, after this year's successful and enjoyable 'Celebration of Youth', I am proposing to put on another community concert involving local people of all ages at the Windmill Centre. The date for this is Thursday 3 July, the title will be 'Celebration of England'. If you would like, or know anyone who would like, to be part of this event, please contact me as soon as possible.

*Wendy Burrows 338082*

**Open Gardens**

If you would like to open your garden or be involved in (or take over!) the planning, please contact Kristin on 337052 or [Kristin.a@zen.co.uk](mailto:Kristin.a@zen.co.uk). We hope to hold the first planning meeting in January 2008.

**Opportunities for local writers.**

For the fourth successive year the Deddington Festival will again include a chance for local writers to submit their work to the scrutiny of others. Believing that many people have a story or a poem within them which is longing to get out, the Deddington Writing Competition is now established in North Oxfordshire and is inviting writers, especially those who have not yet entered a competition or been read by an experienced author, to enter.

The Competition is open to all and offers cash prizes for the winner and runner-up in both the story and poetry sections. Additionally all whose work is shortlisted will receive a critique from the judge to help them towards more writing. The theme for the competition is 'What if...?' But authors should be sure to get full details which will be available during January.

A parallel competition is offered for those at school and is divided into two sections – Secondary for those aged 16 and under, and Junior for those aged 11 and under. Entries may be for poetry or prose (story). These too will attract a first prize and modest prizes for runners-up together with a certificate and judges' comments for all whose work is on the short list.

Write now for full details, which will be available in January and can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to *DWG Competition, 26 The Daedings, Deddington, Banbury OX15 0RT* or go to [www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk](http://www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk) in January.

**DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL 2008**

**27 June to 6 July 2008**

Proposed programme - subject to confirmation

Art, Craft and Library Exhibitions  
Historical Society Walks, Daeda's Wood Walk  
Open Gardens  
Art Workshops  
Poetry Please  
School Choir Concert  
Farmers' Market  
Opera Gala  
Gospel Choir  
Stekpanna  
Celebration of England, a Community Concert  
Event Day  
Writing Competition

Entry details available from December. Contact Hugh Marshall on 01869 337761

Email [hughm@fish.co.uk](mailto:hughm@fish.co.uk) For adult entry forms, Sylvie Spenceley 01869 338995

Email [daeda@clara.co.uk](mailto:daeda@clara.co.uk)

This is an outline of what we hope to achieve in 2008.

This year we welcome the participation of Eddie Sinclair and David Watt who will be responsible for devising and producing our Event Day.

Can you help us with the Festival?

As usual we need help with stewarding, front of house, serving of refreshments, etc.

Please contact Kristin Thompson for further information. 01869 337052

Email [kristin.a@zen.co.uk](mailto:kristin.a@zen.co.uk)

You can help by advertising in our Programme. Please contact the Secretary, Eileen Anderson, for further details. 01869 338325

Email [eileenandersonuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:eileenandersonuk@yahoo.co.uk)

Please renew your Friends of Deddington Festival subscription, or become a Friend for an annual fee of only £10 by contacting Sue Goddard on 01869 338122

Donations to Festival funds are always welcome and don't forget to ask for a Gift Aid form.

We have two fundraising events lined up. Please come and support us.

**Stekpanna** at the Royal British Legion  
7.30 pm, 6 December 2007, Tickets £5

**Quiz** from Herman Gilligan in the Upper Room, Unicorn Hotel, 7 pm 23 January, 2008, Tickets £3 (please book early – limited places)

Tickets from the Secretary for both events.

### A threat to Parish Post Offices

In May 2007 the Government announced plans to close up to 2500 post offices across the UK. Oxfordshire could be affected by the closure of up to 35-40 offices.

The claimed reasons for these closures are: -

- To improve the viability of the network, which is currently losing £4 million per week.
- Customer numbers have fallen by 4 million visits over the past 2 years.
- 1600 of the smaller offices serve fewer than 20 customers per day.

Many criteria are being used to assess which Post Offices are to be closed and we will know for certain which Post Offices are affected when the assessment is concluded in February 2008 and a 6 week public consultation takes place. Your Parish Council feels the Post Office is a fundamental part of Parish life, and will lead the fight against any proposal to close it. Based on the criteria that are being used to assess the viability of each office the local Parish Post Office is in a strong position to remain open, however there is something we can all do **now** to help the case for keeping our Post Office open. So could everyone in Deddington, Clifton and Hempton please use our local Post office as much as possible? Add your thoughts on this issue here: <http://www.deddington.org.uk/forum/index.php>

*Cllr Martin Ince*

### "Soupercooks" at the Farmers' Market.

Four teams of young people tantalised the taste buds of shoppers, as they moved between market place and church stalls on Oct 27. The smell of frying onions on the cobbles outside Foodies and Otters, stopped people in their tracks to ask what was happening. The teams had risen to my



challenge to produce "souperior" soups, using only £2 to purchase ingredients from the Market, a small outdoor stove, plus a pan or two! We had mushroom/mustard, parsnip, leek/potato and pumpkin. [The first was partnered by parmesan croutons; how "souperfine" was that?] The boys, Max, Matthew, Harry, Zac and Tom [Boys Brigade] and girls, Olivia, Beatrice, Robyn and Emily [Dragon Framing], were also challenged to market their wares; shoppers were persuaded to taste and then tick their favourite "soupcon" on the score sheet. A "souperb" time and "souper" prizes were had by all.

*Sue Shattock*



One of the aims of Deddington OnLine is to provide a home for historical information about

our village. In recent weeks 5 new articles have been added to the History section. These give a fascinating insight to how village affairs have been managed over the years. <http://www.deddington.org.uk/history/index.html>

Global Warming Warning. The debate isn't over, but no matter what actually is or isn't happening; some things are quite clear. Fuel is not going to get cheaper, the only way is up. Reducing the use of fuel will not only help the environment, but the financial savings will increase in future years. See the Green Matters here: <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/greenenergywater.html>

The final version of the long-awaited Parish Plan is now available to read on line or to download: <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/pc/ParishPlan181007.pdf>. Read comments or add your own to the forum: <http://www.deddington.org.uk/forum/index.php>

If you have anything to add, or comments to make, there's a section for you in the Forum.

*Paul Drawmer 338450*

### Not just a concert...

Each December since 1997 the chamber choir Choros has brought a concert of Advent carols and other seasonal music to our Parish Church of SS Peter & Paul. On the second Sunday in Advent the church is filled

with the warm glow of candles and tea-lights and the promise of mulled wine and mince pies during the interval. It's not just a concert in the traditional sense because the audience is invited to join in with some of the items, and often in unusual ways! The programme is always a mixture of well-known carols, favourite anthems and motets, rarer works and, since 2002, a new carol commissioned from a different composer each year especially for this event. The composer of this year's commission is Lionel Pike, recently retired as Director of Music at Royal Holloway College, University of London.

Come along on Sunday 9 December at 6.30pm and be first in the queue which begins to form around 6pm. Tickets can be reserved in advance by phone on 01869 232618 or email [info@choros.org](mailto:info@choros.org).



*Janet Lincé*



**Remembrance Sunday and the Poppy Appeal**

**R**emembrance Sunday fell on the "official" date - 11.00 am on 11 November 1918 marked the end of the First World War – and was the 89th anniversary of the Armistice. Sunday morning dawned wet and windy and for the first time in memory we anticipated holding the whole commemoration in the parish church. The weather improved, however, and the parade left the Bull Ring at 10.45 am for the Deddington Cenotaph in the lower churchyard. The turnout by village groups was excellent and parishioners of Deddington turned out in force. It was especially encouraging that many brought their youngsters along and not a sound was heard during

the 'silence' – wonderful. This year the Boys' Brigade band excelled themselves. We appreciated their services a year or two ago but this year, with their new marching piece and especially their National Anthem in the church, we

salute them and their leaders for all their hard work. Thanks also to the bugler for a truly immaculate performance.

As well as remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice we also mark the anniversary by raising money via the Poppy Appeal. We are delighted that in Deddington and the surrounding villages the response to the Poppy Appeal has been the best ever. House-to-house collections brought in over £3,500 and Deddington shops, offices etc. just under £1,000. With other monies still to come in we expect to send to the Poppy Appeal just over £4,500. Membership fees of the Deddington Royal



British Legion remitted to Head Office are almost £2,000 so from our small rural community we are contributing just under £7,000 this year - our deepest thanks to you all. Not only would none of this would happen if it were not for the generosity of you all, but also the hard work of the team that is Deddington Royal British Legion Branch and Club.

**Raymond R Morris 338143 [DeddingtonRBL@aol.com](mailto:DeddingtonRBL@aol.com)**

**Handel's Samson**

**O**n 10 November the Church was filled with Handel's wonderful music. *Samson* is an unusual piece, a mixture of oratorio and opera. The adaptation of the story line, differing from the Bible story, was well explained in the programme notes. The choruses suited the Warriner Choral Society who gave a very good account of themselves. The accomplished soloists added operatic drama and the young cellist who accompanied the soloists' many recitatives added a pleasing musicality and skill. **Margaret Arnold**

*[Was I the only one in the building to be ironically aware that the oratorio celebrates the exploit of today's equivalent of a suicide bomber fired up by his religion? Ed]*

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**W**e, a group of prisoners, had recently completed a 14-days cattle truck journey from Athens to Moosberg, near Munich, where the touring accommodation was not ideal ('40 hommes - 8 chevaux' was the sign on the outside of the wagon). Now, on 23 December, I was one of a random selection leaving Moosberg for another camp. We were told journey time would be 2 days but at the end each prisoner would have his own room ! Travel accommodation improved - a train of hard seat coaches. During the usual body search before we left I lost my issue field dressing to the "ferret". I hope the small compass hidden in it was of use to the eventual finder. Our guards for this journey were more amiable than those we had known before and I was able to buy a loaf of bread from one of them for 10 cigarettes (Red Cross, no doubt).

We arrived at our end station Lukenwalde, near Berlin, having come via Leipzig and Halle in the late evening of Christmas Day. After the usual "Raus, raus, schnell, schnell" we marched through the snow towards the lights of a camp on the horizon. The welcome we got was no different from any other prison we had so far encountered: wire, grim-looking Wehrmacht soldiers and the predictable rough-looking German Shepherd dog with handler. The inevitable body search took place again. This time all personal possessions were taken and with Teutonic efficiency were listed in detail. Toilet articles were given back and we were permitted to keep the clothes we wore. We were all issued with a palliasse cover, 2 wood pulp blankets, 1 bowl, 1 knife and 1 spoon. By now the outlook was worrying !

Next, we were moved into a long low building which contained individual cells. I now saw the truth behind the news about each officer having his own room! No explanation was given as to why or for how long one was being given such personal attention, but by now, since capture, we were becoming used to the devious methods of the "detaining power". It dawned on me that I was in solitary confinement and that this was a novel way to celebrate Christmas. There was no meal that evening but a redeeming feature was that my cell was warm. This personal hovel in which I spent the next 10 days measured 15ft. x 7ft.6 inches (5 paces by 2 1/2 paces) and contained a bed with straw palliasse, a table and a stool. The metal door had the traditional peep hole, the small window was barred and high out of reach. Twice daily, what passed for food and drink was brought into my cell by a Russian slave labourer under armed escort. It was from one of these unfortunate walking skeletons that I learned why I was incarcerated - interrogation.

As the days went slowly by, I thought a lot about my predicament and the events which led to this situation, and how only 3 years ago I was a schoolboy enjoying the freedom of my native Ireland. I sang a lot to keep my spirits up and tried to keep fit by pacing up and down my cell and running on the spot. I devised a

game by rolling up my socks into a lump and playing catch against the cell wall.

My release came during the 10th night at about 2a.m. when I was taken under escort to confront a smooth talking German officer in a brightly lit office. He spoke good English with a Canadian accent. The gist of the questioning, which was conducted in a calm conversational atmosphere, was to get confirmation of facts he already knew. I hope the answers to his questions added little to his already detailed knowledge of the events leading up to the recent operation in the Aegean, in which we had come off second best. During the interview he noted that as a citizen of a neutral country I was in the British Army - why ? Finally he suggested that I help myself to be released by agreeing to join a German Free Irish Battalion which, he said, already included some of my comrades. He did not look surprised when I declined. Later I found very little evidence that such a unit ever existed.

At the end of this very mild session I was released from solitary confinement into a barrack room where I met some of my colleagues whom I last saw on Christmas night and who had gone through a similar experience. A day or two later, when our whole group had been through the ordeal, we were escorted to a more permanent abode: Offlag VIIIF in Czechoslovakia. But that's another story. Happy Christmas !

**Ted Johnson**



**Royal Irish Fusiliers**

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**DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO**

*The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the month of December 1857 - he was 'feeling poorly' with bronchitis and a bad attack of rheumatism for the first half of the month and did not leave the house :*

21<sup>st</sup> December - Willy, John and Robert all came home for the Xmas vacations.

23<sup>rd</sup> December - Messrs. Cave and Egerton, our newly ordained assistant curates, arrived by mid-day train to lodge at Davis, the painters.

24<sup>th</sup> December - I called at Calcutt's and paid him my assessed taxes. I dined at 1 o'clock having to distribute meat, tea and money to all the widows of Deddington, Clifton and Hempton - as well as

others - which occupied me till 5 o'clock.

Wrote to Barner of Souldern Wharf to buy a boat load of coal of not less than 30 tons for the poor - and I would be responsible for payment

of the same. The late Mr. Gulliver's legacy of bread was (at last) distributed today by the two churchwardens. This is the 21<sup>st</sup> Xmas that we have passed at Deddington.

25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day. A most beautiful day throughout, with full sunshine - and a beautiful sunset. There were two services here morning and afternoon, Susan and the boys were at Church both times and at communion. I went to Clifton twice as heretofore. We dined at 6 o'clock, the Burgess's, Cave and Egerton were of our party at dinner.

*Buffy Heywood*

**Friends of Daeda's Wood**

It's been a quietish summer, apart from prodigious new

growth, but things have started stirring recently. Earlier this month a small group from U3A in Banbury came to visit the Wood, after which we all had tea at The Unicorn. The main event of the winter, however, will take place in the New Year, when David Rees, Project Manager of the Oxford County Council's Woodland Project, will be leading a workshop in woodland management on 23 January 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The aim is to encourage us to become more 'hands-on'. We shall learn how to prune and coppice, and all our questions will be answered. Tools will be provided, but if you have spare secateurs, loppers or pruning saw, do bring them. If you are interested in taking part and contributing to the future management of Daeda's Wood, please let Elspeth Cox know on 337635.

Another new project now under way is the collecting of data on all natural history aspects of the Wood. We already have good botanical and lepidoptery records, and plan to improve our bird and mammal records. If you have any interesting observations, please send them to [elspethcox@waitrose.com](mailto:elspethcox@waitrose.com). Gavin Bird, Manager of the Thames Valley Environmental Records Office has shown interest in these data and our records will be made available to him.

*Sylvie Spenceley 338995*

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### On the Farm

When will it end ? The onset of winter has, for the time being, sent the Blue Tongue midge to bed but it is only a matter of time, despite all the lines drawn on maps denoting protection zones, before the disease has established itself across the whole country. The coming of winter has once again brought bird flu to our shores. In their usual measured response to a disease, which is carried and spread by wild life and for which as yet there is no effective cure, the mandarins of DEFRA have started to draw lines on maps again, making life even more difficult for the livestock sector of this country. But for some at least the foot-and-mouth problems seem to be coming to an end. I say for some, because our masters from the EEC have decided that exports of meat from this country can restart, providing that none of the meat comes from within 150km radius of Pirbright. So in other words it's back to lines on maps; we are in it right up to our necks yet again. All of last spring's lambs and 50% of the ewe flock have now left the farm, albeit at a very derisory price. The remaining ewes will come in to their winter housing as normal and drop their lambs in March, but what happens after that is a matter for some considerable debate.

On a more positive note, the open autumn and early winter have given the crops a good start with only one field of oilseed rape being subject to a wait-and-see order. For once the annual battle with slugs seems to have gone our way.

The bee situation is much the same: they are all safely tucked up in bed. As soon as I can finish off some of the outstanding work on the environmental projects, I shall start to replace the hives we lost in



the Foul Brood outbreak, and refit the honey-processing and storage rooms with stainless steel work surfaces and cupboards which I bought from the old Cheshire Home when they moved into Banbury.

The prolonged Indian summer weather has been very welcome, but it has also given us and the wildlife on the farm a number of problems brought about by the crass stupidity of some members of the local dog-walking fraternity. Over the last few weeks our sheep and other wild life, namely hares and red deer, have been often chased and hunted by dogs which have either been left to roam or allowed to run free off the lead. On two occasions roe deer have been pulled down and killed by free roaming Lurchers from Deddington; on another two Beagles hunted a group of 5 deer across the Clifton road with a near miss by oncoming traffic. The most recent was when Lurchers were allowed to hunt the hedgerows off the lead, but

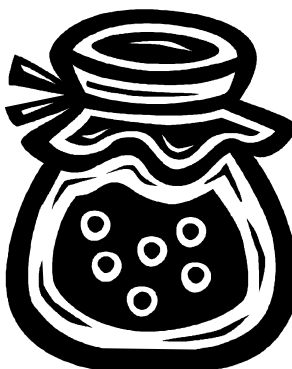
they were stopped before any damage was done. Dog owners should be reminded that under the Hunting With Dogs Act it is a criminal offence to allow dogs to hunt deer and hare. Sheep worrying is an ever increasing problem and one that often ends up in tears, either for the shepherd or the dog owner, so I ask you, when you take your dog for a walk in the countryside, please keep your pet safe by using a lead. Then you may get to see some of the wildlife on the farm, instead of risking a heart attack chasing your pet as it disappears over the hill in hot pursuit, or, worse still, returning home with an empty collar.

**George Fenemore 338203**

### The Allotment

**L**ittle is really urgent this month in the vegetable plot. It might be worthwhile to complete digging of heavy soil before the year ends: in the New Year it will be harder work with fewer opportunities. Time to relax and do some armchair gardening. Browse the catalogues and plan any changes you may wish to incorporate in the plot next year.

Enjoy the vegetables from your bulging larder - the result of the year's hard work, not forgetting your bountiful store of chutneys, jams and fruit pies. General maintenance: move plants that are in the wrong place when the soil is not frozen or waterlogged taking as much soil as possible with the root ball; check existing stakes and ties for security; clean and oil garden tools and clean flower pots and seed trays to get rid of pests and disease; inspect apples



and pears for canker; feed the birds and continue to provide water for them.

Care should be taken not to cut back ornamental plants such as honeysuckle and cotoneaster that provide a natural food source for our feathered friends. Remove pond pumps to be cleaned of any debris and maintained ready for the coming year. On mild days open up cold frames and greenhouses to let the air circulate for an hour or two. Continue to watch for slugs and snails as they may be lurking in the cold frame or greenhouse.

At the request of other Stone Pits plot holders I would like to thank Derek Parker who has worked tirelessly keeping our hedges and edges in trim, not to mention the recently installed compost containers he provided and all free of charge.

**Tony Campion**



### News from Clifton

**W**ell done Fiona Mayo who held a Coffee Morning to raise money for the families of sufferers of Tracheo Oesophageal Fistula (a condition where the patients are born with the bottom end of the oesophagus joined to their wind pipe, causing stomach acid to pass into the lungs and air to pass into the food pipe). Fi's eldest son Jake has this condition and she raised £250. Jake is a smashing lad and just refuses to let his condition, which will afflict him all his life, stop him crashing towards being a typical teenager.

Andrea Barnett and Ingrid Robey would like to thank everyone who helped the MacMillan coffee morning raise £192.00. Clifton has had another



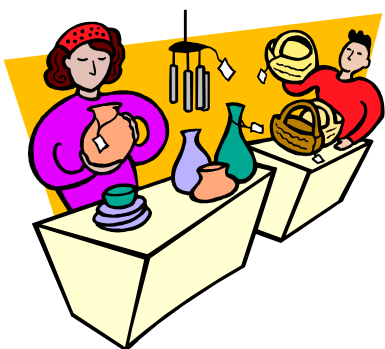
wedding of the decade: Michelle Mader married Lee Bligh. Michelle used to work in the Deddington Co-Op before she joined the RAF as an electrical engineer and has just returned from a tour in Iraq. The happy couple have moved to RAF Odiham. The reception was held at a newly refurbished Duke of Cumberland's Head.

The younger girls and boys of Clifton would like to thank all those residents who either lit a pumpkin or decorated their house on Hallowe'en so we knew to call. To those we did call on, thank you for not looking completely shocked at the number of witches, wizards and little devils that stood on your doorstep trick and treating! They all arrived home safely with their buckets full of enough goodies to last a lifetime.

**Martine Bryce**

### News from Hempton

Don't forget this Saturday is the Church Christmas Bazaar from 11 am. Lots of stalls: tombola, lucky dip, children's games, Grand Draw, cakes, crafts, gifts, pew of pennies and the very popular hot lunches. All the money raised goes to the Friends of the Church who pay for the maintenance and upkeep of St. John's Church. Other events in December include the Carol Service on Friday 21 at



7.30pm with the Deddington Church Choir, followed by refreshments. No evensong in December but a Christmas Day Eucharist at 9.00am. On New Year's Eve, Sean and Regine Parsons will be

holding a party in the Church Hall from 7.30pm - Adults £5 and children free. Food supplied but please bring a bottle. Ring Sean or Regine as soon as possible on 337427 if you would like to go.

Our three riders on the Ride and Stride day in September raised £372 in sponsorship. Half the money raised goes to St. John's and half to the Oxfordshire Historic Churches who allocate grants for Churches needing repairs. Well done to everyone connected with that day.

I congratulate the allotment plot holders on the neat and tidy condition they are kept in - a credit to Tony, Derek Parker and everyone involved.

I would like to thank our DN distributors: Sue Montague, Mavis and Bernard Barton, Barbara Chappell, also Rene Mahony who helped when people were on holiday.

**Les Chappell 338054**

### From the Fire Station

Since my last report we have received 10 calls, these include 1 road traffic collision, with the driver sustaining serious head injuries after hitting a deer, 2 chimney fires and several minor incidents.

**Road Safety:** Be extra careful on rural roads at night, deer can appear out of nowhere and leave you very little time to take any evasive action, especially in wintry conditions. The driver of the car, in the RTC we attended, is a fire service colleague from Kidlington, she is still in the neurological ward at the John Radcliffe Hospital.

**"Please reduce your speed, you have no idea what is around the corner".**

Many thanks to all those who came along to get their cars washed last month, we raised £400 for the Fire Services National Benevolent Fund. Reminder: Don't forget the Charity Quiz in the Legion Club on Saturday 1 December.

The fire safety question for this month is **"Have you had your chimney swept?"**

Chimney fires can cause extensive structural damage and in severe cases, can lead to fully involved house fires, so if you haven't already, please get your chimney swept now!

**Anne Waters, Watch Manager, 07929 607 363.**





**POLICE REPORT**

I am pleased to announce that we now have working with us 2 Police Community Support Officers, namely Lana Smith and Kevin Lewis who you will no doubt soon see patrolling your village.

In the previous newsletter article I informed you of the Neighbourhood Action Group that we are forming to tackle problems identified by you, the residents of the Banbury Rural area. We now have the basis of an action group and are still looking for more members so please make contact with me if you are interested in working in partnership with us to solve local problems.

In order to identify the local problems, as a neighbourhood team we are currently completing surveys with members of the community around the villages. If you have not yet filled out a survey and you want to inform us of your opinions regarding local problems you can email me on [morris.philip@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:morris.philip@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk) or



telephone 0845 850 5505 and I will make sure that you receive a copy of the survey to fill out and return.\*

I work with crime reduction advisor Jayne Taylor and November and December are peak times for dwelling burglary. Jayne is advising that when you are out during the day it is best to leave a light on to make your home look as if someone is in, as burglars are targeting homes in darkness where it is obvious that the residents are away. Jayne can be contacted on 0845 850 5505 if you require any further free and independent crime reduction advice.

Neighbourhood Watch is also a good way of combating the burglar. If you are interested in starting a neighbourhood watch in your area you can contact Debbie Tonks on 0845 850 5505.

**PC 1698 Phil Morris**

*[\* I have copies of the 3-page Banbury Rural Neighbourhood survey if required. Ed]*

**Library**

It has been such a busy few months in the library! 108 children joined the summer reading challenge, 'The Big Wild Read'. They had great fun collecting their stickers and growing their packet of wild flower seeds. If you have not already done so, please pop in and collect your certificate and medal.

In October half term we held a story time with craft activities, which was well attended and much enjoyed by the children.



Adult computer 'taster sessions' ran at the end of November. These sessions are designed to show people how to access the on-line reference systems available through OCC, to 'surf the net' or to help people set up an e-mail

account. For more information on these sessions or the free public use of library computers, just pop in and ask!

We are holding a 'Night before Christmas' story time on Thursday 20 December. The children are invited to come in their dressing gown and slippers (as if ready for bed!) with teddy bear in tow, to snuggle down in the library with some milk and cookies, for this magical hour of Christmas stories. Tickets are available from the Library for this event as, unfortunately, numbers are limited!

Please note: we close at 1pm on Saturday 22 December and re-open at 9.30am on Wednesday 2 January 2008.

**Stella O'Neill Library Manager**



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**'Cevamp Mike and Me' - Jackie Williamson**, Published by Acorns Publishing. The popular image of yachting is of a hugely expensive sport dominated by crusty old men in blazers. The joy of this book is that it shows how far from the truth that image can be and illustrates, for the novice, the sheer spell of sailing. *Cevamp*, a Maurice Griffiths designed wooden sloop 26 feet in length, was built of oddments over thirty years by a skilled handyman who had never built a boat before: his acquisition of materials is a story in itself. Even the sails were run up on his wife's sewing machine.

The final cost of the boat was little over £3000. After successfully fitting an iron keel salvaged from a burnt out wreck, the triumphant launch of *Cevamp* marked the peak of Alex's involvement. Sadly, he was then becoming too old to enjoy his boat. The sailing was gradually taken over by his son, Mike. From this point on the story is of Mike's development as a sailor and, coincidentally, his growing relationship with Jackie (the book's author who used to live in Clifton) culminating in marriage, though she had never been to sea before. If you can live together in a small boat, then marriage is a doddle!

The book chronicles successive cruises in *Cevamp*. Like all sailors, they enjoy moments of great beauty and endure hardships and fear but the narrative is always lighthearted and endearing. Jackie grows in confidence at the helm from the fearful time she was unable to hold the boat's head to wind to enable Mike to shorten sail, until she takes the helm with Mike resting in the cabin. Even

shorebound readers will understand the exhilaration of sailing downwind goosewinged under Mainsail and colourful Cruising Chute and arriving at Porthmadoc harbour watched by those on shore. Passage plans became works of fiction as changes in weather or problems in navigation delayed arrival times; planned romantic cabin dinners became fish and chips ashore from a newspaper. Impressions of the places visited are all sketched in, so that the reader is tempted to get in the car (if not a boat) to see for himself and the book is just as much a travel book as a sailing logbook. This book makes ideal winter fireside reading and, who knows, might start others dreaming.

**Alan Loach**

.....  
**'Beyond the Broken Gate' by Sylvie Nicholls**

This quite long novel follows the story of Jasminka, a young Bosnian woman who was fostered as a child by a couple in an Oxfordshire village. As a young adult she is surrounded by a host of diverse characters whose convoluted relationships keep the reader intrigued. The theme of the effect of war on future generations runs strongly through the narrative. There is some slightly dizzy hopping between countries, including Australia, but the descriptions of life in Bosnia in war and peace are particularly interesting. Oxfordshire village life provides a peaceful background to the more dramatic episodes. A gripping and satisfying read.

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**1st Deddington Scout Group**

**Cubs** Welcome to Daniel and Dan who joined us this term - we hope they will enjoy their time with us - and congratulations to Mika and George who were invested. The weeks we spent making guys for display at the market really paid off as, thanks to the generosity of market users, we raised £200 to donate to Farm Africa; enough for at least 6 goats. We joined in with Road Safety Week covering various aspects, including traffic light biscuits, yummy but very sticky. A special Children in Need evening was held at The Windmill and attended by approximately 100 Cubs from the district. There were games, crafts and Pudsey biscuits, great fun. Thanks to everyone who collected Sainsbury's tokens, we have received a vast amount of games equipment, unpacked with great fervour by the cubs.

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

**Scouts**

Chloe moved from Cubs to Scouts by crawling through 'The Tunnel of Doom' going in one end in Cub uniform and emerging at the other in Scout uniform - magic. We then invested both her and Marcus.

The district Scouts organised a 'wide game' (any game played over a wide area) one evening at Horley campsite. It involved hunting older scouts for their elastic bands while avoiding the flour bombs, luckily it didn't rain or they could have been glued together! We are now hard at work rehearsing an entertainment to be performed at a get-together for parents and old scouts on 20 December. If you know any old Deddington scouts please forward their names to us so we can invite them.

Coming soon - a night hike to Horley on 1 December - only 14 miles, phew!

**Pete Churchyard 338071**

**1st Deddington Brownies**

At meetings the Brownies have made a mural of all the activities they do every week. At Hallowe'en they iced pumpkin biscuits, made decorated drawings of pumpkins with tissue and felt, did apple bobbing and used their senses to identify various mystery substances by touch and smell. Another winning stage performance promises to be in the offing, with the girls beginning rehearsals for the Cherwell District Spectacular in April. Brownies is full at the moment but if anyone would like to put their daughter's name on the waiting list the earlier you do it the better. E-mail Brown Owl at [the1stdeddingtonowls@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:the1stdeddingtonowls@hotmail.co.uk)

**Lucy Squires**

**Deddington Guides**

To celebrate Hallowe'en, Clair's patrol organised a party, which included some very familiar guides. "Mummies" resulted in enough loo roll around the hall to make an Andrex puppy look tidy! We also enjoyed Jasmine's string maze and lots of refreshments. On a more serious note, Ted Johnson, who fought in the Second World War,

joined us at one meeting to share some of his experiences and memories with us. He was a prisoner of war and he told us about the poor food and living conditions and the difficult times he had experienced. He also told us about the German soldiers and how he is still in touch with one, despite them being the 'enemy'. It was interesting to hear about his regiment, the friends he had made and the great relief when they were finally freed. We asked lots of questions and it helped us to understand the significance of the Remembrance parade, which took place shortly after.

**Rachael Winter, Dolphin Patrol**

**Deddington Players**

Rehearsals are well underway for the 2008 pantomime, *Treasure Island*. Jim Sperinck, who also wrote last year's successful *Dracula*, has written it; an entertaining show is guaranteed! We hope to see you at the Windmill Centre on 17, 18 or 19 January. Phone 338153 for tickets.

**Lucy Squires**

**Youth Club**

Our street dance sessions are under way and the majority of our members are having a go and enjoying learning something new. In December an artist is coming to show us the correct techniques for creating graffiti designs and we are holding another healthy smoothie-making evening. Our final meeting before Christmas is 17 December, which will be our party with the A team and some great new equipment. We meet at the Windmill Centre at 7.00-9.00pm on Mondays. Everyone aged 10 to 15 years is welcome. Our first meeting of the new term will be on 21 January.

**Pam Axten, Secretary**

**Book Group**

In October we met to discuss 'English Passengers' by Matthew Kneale and here is our review: 'the group enjoyed this well written and well-researched book. The pace is a little slow, but it is worth persevering and we felt it was better read in 'chunks'. The plot is played out against the historical reality of the eradication of the Tasmanian Aboriginal people, but some of the characters are comical and exaggerated and there are some hilarious seafaring tales. The story is told and retold using multiple voices and perspectives, which made the story a little disjointed. Written by a linguist which adds some very interesting elements to the text. The hurried and contrived ending is a disappointment, but overall it gets a thumbs up from the group.' There is no meeting in December. 'Digging to America' by Anne Tyler is the book for our next meeting on 31 January. Call for venue. New members warmly welcomed.

**Sally Lambert 338094**

**Deddington Royal British Legion Club**

A reminder to all members of the Royal British Legion that the AGM of the Branch and Club takes place at 10.00 am on Saturday 8 December at the clubhouse. Any villagers who wish to join and be involved in the AGM may do so by contacting me at least 48 hours before the meeting. The fee is £16 per annum or £11 for pensioners.

**Raymond R Morris 338143 [DeddingtonRBL@aol.com](mailto:DeddingtonRBL@aol.com)**

**WI**

After some business discussion and items to note from the latest 'News and Views', we were entertained by 'Mo and Maddy' with songs and readings. Accompanying themselves on guitars we were reminded of popular songs along with some well-known folk songs, with which we were to happy to join in. Mo and Maddy are sisters with very pleasant voices from an obviously talented musical family. They read amusing verses and readings, which altogether made for a relaxing happy evening.

Our Christmas dinner is at the Unicorn Inn on 11 December. On 8 January Sylvie Spenceley will speak about Daeda's Wood and the Woodland Trust.

**Rene Mahony**

**Deddington and District History Society**

Our November speaker, Barry Davis, informed a well-attended meeting that the Christmas card has a rather shorter history than many of us had thought and that its transformation from an expensive and exclusive to a popular form of communication owed much to the transformation of postal services in the later 19th century. Barry's talk was a fascinating piece of social history.

On Wednesday 12 December we shall attempt to recreate something approaching a Christmas meal of 1942, using (I hasten to add) the best ingredients that the black market could provide. It should be great fun, and we hope everyone will enter into the spirit by digging out their medals and any costumes they still have (and can fit into!). Please contact Moira Byast to obtain a ticket.

On Wednesday 9 January at 7.30pm, Martin Way will speak on 'The Golden Age of Coaching'.

**Chris Day 337204 Moira Byast 338637**

**Deddington Town Football Club**

The 1st team had a poor month, picking up only a draw in the four games played. Leading scorer Julian Pearce was on target, earning the team a point in this tricky fixture. Unfortunately there

was another early cup exit, this time at the hands of local rivals Steeple Aston. This was a little harsh on the team as Deddington had most of the possession and most of the chances. The team currently sit just below mid way in Division 1, but do have a few games in hand.

The reserve side have been involved in some high

scoring games recently. An excellent league victory was achieved against Bodicote Res. The 'evergreen' Micky Hewitt was amongst the goal scorers. Sam Rollason continues to find the net on a regular basis, scoring against Bodicote and Islip. The team currently sit in the top half of Division 3, just behind the leading pack.

**Steve Plumbe 01295 278258**

**Deddington Colts**

The club membership has expanded to 178 members who divide into 10 squads ranging from under 8's to under 16's plus a large group of under 7's affectionately called the 'minis'. This presents quite a logistical problem for the club when we have 'home' matches scheduled and consequently we use 2 pitches at the Windmill Centre, 1 pitch at the Primary School, Fritwell and Easington. Training for the squads takes place during the week both on the astro-turf at the Windmill Centre and at Banbury School. We engage the services of a professional coach who rotates around the squads each week. As the under 7 'minis' do not play league matches they train on a Saturday morning at the Windmill Centre in an area on the edge of the pitches. All the squad coaches are enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers and undergo appropriate FA recognised coaching courses. We are also keen to further develop the club, especially by encouraging more girls to be involved.

**Rachel Teare**

**Scout and Guide Christmas postal service**

The Scout and Guide groups Christmas post boxes will be in Barford Post Office and Eagles from 1 December. We will deliver your local cards and the suggested donation is 20p per item. Please address your cards clearly. We try our best to deliver all of them but every year there are one or two that defeat us. Much needed funds are raised from the donations, which benefit both groups.

**Kleeneze.**

COLLECTING / DISTRIBUTING  
CATALOGUES

EARN £50 - £200 PER WEEK

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IN YOUR SPARE TIME

MUST BE OVER 18  
IMMEDIATE START

01491 509103 - voicemail