

the Deddington news

THIS MONTH'S EDITOR
Mary Robinson

Next copy date:
15 AUGUST 2009

NOTE NO ISSUE IN AUGUST

Copy please to
Jill Cheeseman

Next advertising copy date:
10 AUGUST

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2009 COVER:
Sue Cave

A new floor in local stone is being laid in the Church (see p.5). It's going to look great but the timing has caused certain problems for the Festival. The school concert has been rearranged but, despite many vicissitudes, the rest of the events go ahead as planned. Might a bit better communication on the part of the Church have soothed the anxious feathers of the hard-pressed Festival Committee?

DIARY JULY

Wed	1	Photographic Society: Nik Proctor, 'Colour Management', Deddington Arms, 7.30pm
Wed	1	Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8.00–10.00pm
Sat	4	Fire Service: Open day, Fire Station, 10.00am
Sat	4	Nursery and PFSU: 'Vegas Casino' Night, Windmill Centre
Sat	4	Warriner Choral Society: 'Midsummer Medley', St Mary's Church, Bloxham, 7.30pm
Mon	6	Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30–noon
Thu	9	Monday Morning Club: Film evening, Holly Tree, 6.30pm
Thu	9	Film, <i>The Age of Stupid</i> , Memorial Hall, Charlbury, 7.30 for 8.00pm
Mon	13	Brownies: Gala Talent Night, Windmill Centre, 6.15pm
Mon	13	Friends of Castle Grounds: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.00pm
Tue	14	WI: Outing to Kew Gardens' 250th anniversary
Tue	14	DOL: Open meeting, Unicorn snug bar, 6.45pm
Mon	20	Bengal Spice: Fundraising dinner for Katharine House, 6.30 and 8.30pm
Sat	25	Farmers' Market, 9.00am–12.30pm
Sat	25	Bell Tower open to visitors, bell ringers in action, 10am–noon
S–M	26–7	DOGS: Golf Weekend at Wokefield Park (DeVere Hotel), nr Reading
Thu	30	Monday Morning Club: Trip to Stratford races, leave 1.00pm Market Place
Thu	30	Book Club Meeting: Call Sally Lambert, 338094, for venue

AUGUST

Mon	3	Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am–noon
Wed	5	Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8.00–10.00pm
Wed	5	Photographic Society: Bob Bell, 'From Light to Life to Photography', Deddington Arms, 7.30pm
Tue	11	WI: Hempton at Home, Hempton Church Hall, 7.30pm
Fri	14	DOGS: Half-day's golf and social gathering at Kirtlington Golf Club
Sat	22	Farmers' Market, 9.00am–12.30pm

SEPTEMBER

Wed	2	Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8.00–10.00pm
Wed	2	Photographic Society: Steve Bradner, 'Digital Photography', Deddington Arms, 7.30pm
Sat	5	Village Show, Parish Church

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

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting in Town Hall 17 June 2009

Present: Cllrs Flux (Chair), Anderson, Collins, Day, Ince, Privett, Rudge, Squires, Todd, Wood, Watts, OC Cllr Jelf, the Clerk, Minute Clerk and the DN correspondent.

Parish Councillors

Two people had shown an interest in being co-opted to replace Cllr Angus Alton who has resigned. Following a ballot Jim Allison was co-opted and welcomed. Cllr Dave Westbury has resigned and was thanked for all his hard work. Anyone interested in being co-opted to replace him is invited to submit an application to the Clerk (parishcouncil@deddington.net) by 15 July 2009.

(DN has invited new councillors to introduce themselves to the Parish, see p. 11 of this issue.)

Accounts

Annual accounts for the year to 31 March 2009 have been prepared, internally audited and accepted by the PC. They are to be passed to the external auditor.

Environment & Special Projects

Cemetery: Oxfordshire Conservation Volunteers are to return in autumn to do work on the hedges.

Swift conservation: Walter Meagher is to help identify sites in the Parish.

Oak tree on village green: The tree is now looking better but care needs to be maintained by OCC. OCCllr Jelf will follow up.

Planters and hanging baskets: These are now in place and have been sponsored by Nicholsons, the Red Lion and the Unicorn.

Christmas tree: Costs of provision, erection and removal were around £1,000 last year although it is unlikely to be as expensive this year. Additional sponsors are being sought.

War memorial cemetery: Consideration being given to providing an edged gravel path.

Grass cutting: Sponsorship has been received for four additional cuts of the village greens.

Planning

PC No objections: (1) Gegg's Nook, Hempton Rd, internal alterations, roof light to south; (2) Corner House, High St, replacement front door and frame, fell two trees and reduce one crown; (3) Ash Cottage, Chapel Close, Clifton, amended plans to reduce height of fence.

Approval: (4) 6 The Beeches, Deddington, single storey extension.

Other matters: Ithaca, Hopcraft Lane, work continues to be carried out without planning permission. CDC Enforcement Officer is investigating.

Finance & General Purposes

Windmill Centre: The payment agreements made by clubs are to be reviewed by the PC and the Windmill MC, as their memberships should not be subsidised too much. Concerns expressed regarding where memberships are drawn from.

Building societies: £200,000 has now been transferred from Birmingham Midshires to Alliance & Leicester (part of Santander) at 3.2%. Agreed to leave funds with West Bromwich BS but keeping under review.

Friends of Deddington Library: PC holds £1,323.81 on behalf of the group, of which £500 is ring-fenced for a special project. £904 is to be spent on refurbishing the children's section.

Highways

Car parking: Continuing working with local businesses to investigate alternative parking arrangements for employees.

Speeding: speed awareness signs are being deployed prior to the British Grand Prix meeting at Silverstone. Further consideration being given to proposed 40mph limit in Earl's Lane.

High St pedestrian crossing: Petition to be concluded and presented to OCC.

Buses: Real time display in Market Place to be replaced in next two years.

Earl's Lane pavement: PC to write to OCC regarding short stretch of pavement missing between the Health Centre and Pound Court.

Recreation

Castle Grounds: A group of Friends of Castle Grounds may be established and a meeting is to be held on Monday 13 July at 7.00pm at the Town Hall for anyone interested. The proposed fitness trail will be discussed to establish whether there is support for it. The by-law relating to Deddington Castle bans vehicles and an existing sign warns of fines for parking there. This will need to be investigated further if parking is to be provided. Consideration of whether a dog bin might be installed there.

Windmill playing fields: People who do not clear up after their dogs should be reported to the dog warden. Discussions will be held with clubs using facilities to establish extent of problem. Bags are available free of charge from the Clerk. Cricket Club to be asked to consider risk of people using nets when the Playgroup is occupied. It was suggested that Cricket Club had not consulted with the Playgroup about the installation of the nets.

**Next meeting 15 July 2009 at 7.30pm
in the Town Hall**

JC

2009 festival deddington

Update

The Festival is now underway and the committee would like to extend its thanks to all those involved, with particular mention to all those who have worked so hard in cleaning the church throughout the building work. Only the school concert has needed to be rearranged and all other events have taken place or will take place as previously announced.

On 1 July we have a guided walk along Jerusalem Lane, from the Clifton Road end at 6.00pm, with John Killick.* It would be good to have at least 10 or 12 participants.

Or come along to an evening with author, Veronica Stallwood at the Library on 2 July at 7.30pm. Please ring the Library for availability, as space is limited.

John Cheney is presenting his ever popular 'Poetry Please' evening in the Unicorn Inn on 3 July at 7.00pm. There is a chance to take a guided walk around Daeda's Wood on 4 July at 2.30pm, as well as the opportunity to join Sue Cave's Art Workshop, from 10.00am to 4.00pm in one of Deddington's fine gardens. Early booking is essential for this event as only 12 places are available.

We round off Saturday 4 July with a jazz concert from Stekpanna, featuring local musician, Steve Kershaw. The band is offering a full line-up, with musicians from Sweden, Denmark and Russia, as well as Steve from far-flung New Street. This concert has been kindly sponsored by GC International Consulting Group.

Throughout the final weekend of the festival you will also be able to take the opportunity to see our Art Exhibition in the Holly Tree. Local artists will be exhibiting and some of the work is for sale.

Just a public note of thanks to all our valued sponsors (see June DN for a complete list).

Check the Festival website for updates and remaining event information: at www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk. Please do come and join us. We appreciate your support.

Eileen Anderson, Secretary, 338325
eileenandersonuk@yahoo.co.uk

* John is one of Oxfordshire's most distinguished botanists and is the premier author of the *Flora of Oxfordshire*, the first update since 1927. This is a hugely important publication, especially in light of current countryside concerns. A booklet on the 'Historic Green Lanes' (a chapter from the *Natural History of Deddington Parish*, due out at the end of November) is being brought out to accompany the Festival Jerusalem Lane Walk – an opportunity for those interested to see Deddington's green lanes at their best. The booklet costs £1.00, and is available from the author on 336216.

WM

FDF REPORT

The May fundraising lunch was a success story. The happy lunchers moved from Lesley Nelson to Jane Green to Sue Goddard, ate a course at each house or garden, in perfect weather, and chatted the afternoon away. Very many thanks to everyone, including Elspeth Cox, who organised the event.

The FDF Reception in the Church on 11 June saw over 70 people enjoying themselves. Hugh O'Donnell (Festival Chair) welcomed festival-related guests and thanked the Friends for their continuing support. As usual, much of the evening's success depended on the ministrations of Ruth Johnson, Pat Brittain and Josie Stephens.

We are now all primed for the Festival itself which offers concerts, art and craftwork, the pleasures of writing, poetry, Library events, local historical documents, country walking, garden viewing and the taking of tea in the Church to the accompaniment of a Palm Court Trio (with palms).

Kristin Thompson, FDF Committee, 337052

STOP PRESS!

Deddington Craft Group

Because of the work in the Church, the Craft Group exhibition in the Living Room has been curtailed to Saturday 27 June (10.00am–4.00pm) and Sunday 28 June (1.00–4.00pm).

Delphine Sampson, 338739

Vacancies

Treasurer for the Festival Committee

Is there anybody out there?

No pay, no thanks, but plenty of work and the chance to become part of the marvellous festival committee

Contact Eileen Anderson, 338325
eileenandersonuk@yahoo.co.uk



Children's Activities

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

Crafts, cooking, music, chess and outdoor games

Thursday 6, 13, 20 and 27 August
Cost £1.50 per session

Application forms and enquiries to:
Caroline Tindall 337962
Janet Watts 337135
Sarah Boss 338536

Additional forms at School Office and Church

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

July

Wed 1	10.00am	Eucharist
Thur 2	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun 5	10.30am	All Age Worship
	6.30pm	Confirmation Service with Bishop Colin
Wed 8	10.00am	Eucharist
Sun 12	10.30am	Sung Eucharist (with Healing Prayer)
Wed 15	10.00am	Eucharist
Thur 16	2.00pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun 19	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
Wed 22	10.00am	Eucharist (Mary Magdalene)
Sat 25	10.00am	Eucharist (St James)
Sun 26	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.30am	Morning Worship
Wed 29	10.00am	Eucharist (with Healing Prayer)

August

Sun 2	10.30am	All Age Worship
	6.30pm	Evensong
Wed 5	10.00am	Eucharist

Sun 9	10.30am	Sung Eucharist (with Healing Prayer)
Wed 12	10.00am	Eucharist
Sat 15	10.00 am	Eucharist (BVM)
Sun 16	10.30am	Sung Eucharist with Baptism
Wed 19	10.00am	Eucharist
Sun 23	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.30am	Eucharist
Mon 24	6.30pm	Eucharist (St Bartholomew)
Wed 26	10.00am	Eucharist (with Healing Prayer)
Sun 30	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Matins

St John's Hempton

July

Sun 5	9.00am	Eucharist
Sun 19	9.00am	Eucharist
Sun 26	6.00pm	Evensong

August

Sun 2	9.00am	Eucharist
Sun 16	9.00am	Eucharist
Sun 23	6.00pm	Evensong

For baptisms, weddings, funerals or home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, the Rev. Dr Hugh White, 28 Duns Tew (349869), or one of the church wardens, Glynne Bianchi (337743) or John Osborough (07753 802841)

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Sunday mornings at 10.30am: Pastor Isabel Walton

Congregational Chapel, New Street

Joyce Minnear 338529

Sunday morning services are held at the Wesleyan Reform Church together with their congregation

Sunday afternoon services at the Chapel at 3.00pm organised by Pastor Derek Walker of the Oxford Bible Church

RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury

Fr John Burns 277396

Holy Trinity, Hethe: Mass every weekday except Wed at 9.30am, Sun at 10.00am

St George's Church Adderbury: Mass Wed 7.00pm and Sun 8.30am

Confessions at Hethe Sat 5.30–6.00pm and at Adderbury before Mass

The Eve of Sunday Mass at St John's Church, Banbury, is said at 4.00pm on Saturdays to allow worshippers to attend by public transport

Celebration of the Feast of the Assumption has been transferred to the following Sunday. Saturday 15 August will therefore not be a Holy Day of Obligation

From the Parish Registers

Funerals: 24 June, Ivy Sykes; 26 June, Edith Monaghan

From the Fire Station

We had a very busy month in which we received 24 calls. The fires attended include three cars, a house fire in Banbury, a grill pan, a washing machine, a stable block in Croughton, a thatched roof leading to a house fire in Chastleton, and a bathroom fire. Several false alarms to controlled burning or bonfires, a false alarm caused by an electrical short-circuit in the shop at a petrol station and multiple calls to stand by were received.

We attended the M40 following a fatal collision, and also to a collision on the A4260 south of Deddington, where two young men had a very lucky escape as their car left the road and landed on its roof in the ditch (see note of our Open Day, p. 5).

Anne Waters, Watch Manager, 338281

Planning Futures

The Planning and Affordable Housing Policy Team at Cherwell DC have published their first quarterly newsletter, 'Planning Futures'. This provides an update on the preparation of the Local Development Framework, which will guide all future development within the district; and also carries the latest information on conservation areas across the district. It is available now on the CDC website at www.cherwell.gov.uk/localdevelopmentframework.

If anyone would like to receive the newsletter and notification of any consultations on the LDF, please register on the online consultation portal at <http://consult.cherwell.gov.uk/portal/ldf/> or send their details to Charlotte Morbey at CDC (charlotte.morbey@cherwell-dc.gov.uk).

CHANGES AT THE CHURCH

The replacement of the tile flooring of the Parish Church should be completed in July. The tiling in the chancel will remain. We are sorry for the inconvenience caused by the building work, but it will be good not to have to worry about the safety problems occasioned by the numerous broken tiles, and the new Hornton stone paving will respond very sympathetically to the other stonework in the Church. It is worth noting that the floor of the Church was paved in stone before the tiles were introduced in the 19th century. The pews we have been removing (we may retain a few) are likewise of a relatively recent date.

The new chairs will permit greater flexibility for both community and Church. Some will mourn the loss of the Church's Victorian aspect, but others are already finding the new flooring and the chairs visually pleasing.



Pic: Colin Robinson

We will experiment with various configurations of the chairs and remaining pews to see what arrangements work, whether we should provide additional seating and what kind of seating that should be.

Our Curate John Dane has been appointed Chaplain of Chichester University after five years of invaluable service in our Benefice. His final service on 12 July at 10.30am will be followed by a farewell buffet lunch. This will be a ticketed occasion, so if you would like to come to say goodbye to John and his family, please ask the Vicar (349869) or one of the Churchwardens, Glynne Bianchi (337743) or George Fenemore (338203), for a (free) ticket.

Hugh White, 349869

[More pics of the church floor, chairs, and the Katharine House coffee morning on <http://www.deddingtonnews.co.uk/pics.html>]

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

I start with the disturbing news that properties in the village have been targeted by burglars. Personal items have been stolen. Please keep all doors, windows and gates locked at all times. Thieves spot any opportunity they can, even smashing their way in on occasions.

It will soon be time to think about the Oxfordshire 'Ride and Stride' day, which this year is on Saturday 12 September.

St John's will be open as usual and volunteers are required to be at the Church between 10.00am and 6.00pm to welcome people and offer refreshments. Our Church also needs people to ride or stride on that day, so if you would like to participate, please give me a ring and I will let you have the forms. St John's has recently had a grant of £1000 so it is good to give something back.

Well done to Josie Sokol, who recently completed the Race for Life for Cancer Research in memory of Linda Rolfe. She would like to thank everyone who supported and sponsored her. The total raised currently stands at £150.

Having begun with disturbing news I now finish on a happy note. Atar Shafighian of 'Stonewalls', Hempton, will be marrying Kate Pogson of Bloxham in St Mary's Church, Bloxham on 25 July at 2.00pm. A reception in the grounds of 'Stonewalls' will follow. Our best wishes for the couple's future happiness.

Les Chappell, 338054

Les has lived in Hempton for many years and over that time, ably supported by Barbara, has been a mainstay of both village life and St John's. Hempton villagers would like to say congratulations on your 70th birthday and thanks!

Street Party, St John's Way, Hempton

On Sunday 12 July 2009 the residents of St John's Way, Hempton, are holding a street party. The event has been organised to help people living in St John's Way to get to know one another. Between 3.00pm and 7.00pm a section of the road will be closed to enable residents to gather and have an afternoon tea party and picnic.

Resident, Robin Gardner writes: 'This all came about following a chance meeting I had in the fields at the back of our house. I was walking the dog and met a gentleman who was using a metal detector in the field. We got talking and he told me about his search for Roman artefacts. I enquired where he lived and he told me St John's Way. He went on to say that he had lived there since the road was built. Well I have lived in the road for 15 years and had never met him! I told my neighbours this story a couple of years ago and we all said, street party! So this year we are going for it'.

If anyone would like more details of this event, please contact me.

Robin Gardner, 07969 264811

Open Day at the Fire Station

You are invited to join us from 10.00am on 4 July for an Open Day at the Fire Station. At 12.00 and 2.00pm we will have live demonstrations of the cutting gear that we use to release people from cars. There will be refreshments and children's games. As well as our own fire engine, the specialist rescue tender from Kidlington will be in attendance, and our crews will be on hand to give advice on staying safe, both on the road and at home – all welcome!

Anne Waters, Watch Manager, 338281

FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

EMAIL FROM ALAN COLLINS,
WALNUT CLOSE, CLIFTON

The PC has received complaints from a number of parishioners about the hazardous nature of the traffic flow in St Thomas Street, especially following the new development by Satin Lane on Orchard Bank. This seems to have increased the number of parked cars. Before, parishioners tell us, there were passing places, but following the new development and increased parking, the whole of St Thomas Street has become almost a single carriageway – in the direction of the bravest (or most selfish) driver. Are there any signage or traffic control measures that can alleviate the frustration felt by road users?

(This letter was addressed to OCC Highways and parishioners are asked to contact OCC about the dangerous traffic situation in St Thomas Street – Ed.)

EMAIL FROM FRANKIE COX, CORNWALL
(Former PCC member for 18 years and Church Warden for 8)

It was great being back in Deddington in May for a flying visit, staying with Bryony and George, and good to see a few of my old mates. It was also good to attend the Sunday Church service, taken by the Revd Christopher Hall. But it was upsetting to see what is being done to the inside of such a beautiful Church. Modern chairs are fine in a crematorium or modern places of worship, but sadly not very fitting in Deddington Church.

My main concerns are two-fold. What is happening to the kneelers that were made by such great past members of the Church? Also, how do people (especially older members of the congregation) kneel for prayer? Most people need a prop to get back on their feet – I'm sure they used to use the solid pews for support. If they now use the chairs in front of them when no one is sitting on them, they will tip and this could lead to a nasty accident. I hope the Church still has good liability insurance.



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

EMAIL FROM ROB FORSYTH,
THE STILE HOUSE, NEW
STREET

I am looking for memories about the Home Guard and Royal Observer Corps during WWII in Deddington. If anyone has memories or anecdotes of their own or second-hand, I would very much like them to get in contact with me (338384 or robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com). In

particular, I would like to find out more about where the ROC observation post was (somewhere near the Windmill). Whilst photographs from that period are extremely rare – film was officially unobtainable – it is just possible that some were taken using pre-war film and those would be extremely interesting. Any material gathered will be placed in the history section of DOL to complement the extensive article now on the website about the recollections of an 11-year-old boy who was evacuated from London to the village in 1939.

(See <http://www.deddington.org.uk/history/articles/recollectionsofthe1940s>; see also p.11 of this issue – Ed.)

EMAIL FROM TED WHEELER, AUSTRALIA

I have just discovered your website whilst browsing the net. I live in Australia but have a great attachment to Deddington as my grandparents, Albert Amos Wheeler and Fanny Elizabeth Wheeler, née Satchel, lived there. They lived in Chapel Square if I remember correctly, diagonally across the road from a butcher's shop and the Wesleyan Chapel, which Grandma attended. During the war my brother and I were evacuated from Coventry and attended Deddington School. We were also at Clifton for a while, as my aunty, Mabel Jennings, had the post office there. I spent many happy times in the holidays exploring the local countryside and fishing in the Cherwell and the canal. I believe my grandparents, as well as my father, are buried at Deddington Church and was wondering if I could get some information on their grave sites.

[If anyone can help with information, please contact Ted on janted@tsn.cc – Ed.]

Community First Responders

Do you want to make a difference and give something back to the people in your local community when they need you the most? You could make a difference by providing emergency life-saving skills to a member of your community until an emergency ambulance arrives.

Community First Responders are volunteers trained and equipped by the ambulance service to answer certain types of medical emergencies in their local communities while the ambulance is on its way.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is the UK's single biggest killer. On average, 150,000 people suffer

a SCA every year. Every minute that passes after someone has suffered SCA the chance of a successful resuscitation reduces by about 10%. The UK national average chance of survival is 4%. In areas where there is an active Community First Responder scheme, this increases to 20%.

We are currently looking for volunteers throughout Oxfordshire, but especially in Deddington and the surrounding villages. If you would to help in this literally life-saving and very rewarding project please email david.england@scas.nhs.uk for an information pack or call David England, the local liaison and training officer on 07970 490 519.

PRINTING TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS

'That what we have we prize not to the worth, Whiles we enjoy it; but being lack'd and lost, Why, then we rack [exaggerate] the value'.

Monday 1 June: No truer word written by William Shakespeare! Our Risograph printing machine is on the blink. The DN has to be printed before Wednesday when the collating team puts it together. Pat and I struggle to rectify the fault. We peer inside the printer's complex bowels, we switch off, then on again, that sometimes does the trick. We clean its reachable innards, we exchange the master roll. We turn off again, give it a loving word, pat and rest, then turn it on again. Not a thing – the master unit has given up the ghost. We ring the engineers who talk us through all the possible moves to set it in motion. Nothing. We ring editor Mary, in charge of this June edition. She arranges for the firm to loan us a second-hand machine.

Tuesday 2 June, 9.30am: Having missed our usual printing slot in the Windmill yesterday, Joyce kindly lets us use the committee room. I push our old printer into the corridor because the upstairs room is booked. I still hope that its malady can be diagnosed. An engineer has now arrived with a heavy replacement machine



Ruth with our new higher quality Risograph printer (Pic. Colin Robinson)

which he manages to slide on to a trolley but neither of us is strong enough to heave it from trolley to base. Fortune smiles on us: Max, the steward arrives and with his strong-armed help the printer is in position. Work can begin? Not just yet, our engineer has to programme it and as it is an updated model we have

to learn the ropes, and our ink cartridges do not fit. Luckily the engineer has brought replacements. We ply him with tea and cake to have him stay until we get the hang of it all.

Now on our own, we finish the printing of 16 x 1050 sides! It is lunchtime, a heavenly smell of cooking wafts through. The play-group has gone and we can move the old computer out of the corridor. I needn't have bothered to push it there, as it is beyond repair. We carry the stacks of loose pages up the stairs ready for the collators. Easier said than done: no, we didn't drop our precious loads climbing the stairs, it was a swooping bat that nearly made us drop the lot! A kind gentleman eventually persuaded the frightened little black devil to leave via the open window. I do hope our readers enjoyed the June issue which, thanks to our editor's quick thinking, Joyce's help with alternative printing accommodation and Max's willing help did see the light of day on Wednesday 3 June.

RJ





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JULY ON THE ALLOTMENT ...

As everything warms up, the battle to keep plants healthy and pest free continues. I have planted nasturtiums to give an early warning for cabbage white butterfly, the caterpillar of which attacks brassicas. If there are now eggs under the nasturtium leaves you need to make sure your brassicas are well protected. Netting should be enough.

Summer cauliflowers may need shading to prevent the curds scorching and turning brown in bright sun. One way to protect them is to bend the leaves over.

If the leaves on your onions, shallots and garlic start to turn yellow, it is time to lift them. You can then leave them in the sun to dry; however, if we have wet weather bring them into a light airy place to continue to dry. The bulbs must be completely dry or they could rot when stored and there is nothing more frustrating than soggy onions when the time comes for winter casseroles!

Now is the time to sow overwintering maincrop turnips, parsnips and carrots. Also plant out artichokes

that were previously sown under cover and your spring broccoli and spring cabbages should be going into the ground in July.

Runner beans sometimes fail to set and one cause could be lack of water. Misting the plants in the evening can help the plants set.

One thing I'm going to try this season is nettle manure. This is an organic plant/soil feed and as all you need are nettles and water it's free – a word gardeners love! To make it, fill a container with the cut, bruised or crushed nettles then add enough water to just cover.

The manure is ready for use in 3–4 weeks and looks like tea.

Apparently 'roses, tomatoes, root vegetables, legumes and almost any other plant seem to benefit from its application – colour, plant growth, flavour and texture all seem to improve'. I've also read that the nettle manure acts as an insect repellent. No sooner had I researched this than the *Telegraph* gardening supplement had an article about it.

Sam Willis, samantha.willis@gmail.com



Swifts

If you have been following 'Spring-watch', you may recall Chris Packham demonstrating a swift nesting brick being incorporated into some new buildings. In common with many of our birds, swift numbers are in decline; one of the causes is loss of habitat, as new and restored buildings leave no gap in the roof space for them to use. Special swift nestboxes are also available which could be used on older properties. We are lucky to have a colony of swifts in Deddington (Clifton and Hempton?) and it would be fantastic if we could encourage them to expand. Swifts traditionally return to the same nest site each year, but young birds need to find their own place and they can apparently be attracted to new sites by recordings of swift sounds; I am researching the availability of these CDs.

The ideal place for a swift box is out of direct sunlight, under deep eaves or on walls that do not receive much sun; in undisturbed areas; away from potential attack by squirrels and rats; at least 5 metres above ground level; and with uncluttered adjacent airspace.

Summer would be unthinkable without the overhead acrobatics and screaming of this charismatic bird. Apparently, the sound is so good at arousing the 'feel good factor' that it was recently used in a film adaptation of a Jane Austen novel to help create the right ambience for a happy couple emerging from church – even though the wedding was in December! Nestboxes are available free (you pay only p&p) from london-swifts.org.uk, which is also a mine of information about the birds and their conservation.

Jean Rudge, jeanrudge@hotmail.com

GREEN PIECE

There is an old adage that asserts that 'free advice is worth what you pay for it'. For the internet this could be expanded to say that free information is worth what you pay for it. Part of the problem with looking things up online is that there is just so much information it is difficult to know who is telling the truth, and identify who is only bending it. However there are some gems to be found. Those sites really are worth something, yet give up their assets for free.

I like to think that DOL is one of these: really good facts within the main site, and a free space for local clubs and societies. How would your group like free web space, devoid of advertising, not owned by a particular member who might leave and take the keys with him? And have content control which can be distributed across several bodies to maintain continuity? This must sound too good to be true; but it is true and it's free. And here's my free advice: increase your club or society's visibility by creating its own space within DOL. Why go to the trouble and expense of setting up your own website when you can do it for free with us?

Come and talk to us in the Unicorn on Tuesday 14 July at 6.45pm.

Paul Drawmer, 338450, paul@drawmer.net



The Age of Stupid

The film, *The Age of Stupid* will be shown again at the Memorial Hall, Charlbury, on Thursday 9 July, 7.30 for 8.00pm. Pete Postlethwaite stars as a man living alone in the devastated world of 2055, looking at old footage from 2008 and asking: why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?

CH

... AND DOWN ON THE FARM

The longest day has come and gone, so harvest is just a few short weeks away. The green goddess has had her annual visit from the John Deere service engineer and now needs just a good clean down to be all ready for the off. We never clean the combine down until just before the start of the next harvest as it is not a very good idea to leave the machine with water standing inside the threshing mechanism over winter. The dripping June has brought the crops on well and we now have some very good stands of oil seed rape.

As I write, the spring beans are well in flower with the bottom flower sets coming into pod and the bees have done a good job with the pollination and produced a nice crop of bean honey. I have now established apiaries in two of the fields we farm close to the village. This year these fields have been planted with beans but this may well be the last year that we attempt to grow combinable crops on them, due to the difficulties of access with farm machinery and crop damage. So we have decided to return the land to environmental set-aside, and planting pollen and nectar crops for honey production from up to 100 hives of bees for the remainder of our contract with the landlords. What happens after that only time will tell.

It seems rather sad in the face of world food shortages that good food-producing land is taken out of production because of the difficulties of farming 'on the urban edge'. But the difficulties of knocking on doors at 5am to get cars moved out of the way, complaints of tractor mud and the need to get the equipment in and the job done before the Deddington 'rat run' starts is only part of the equation. Due to a High Court case brought by a pesticides campaigner, Georgina Downs,

we may well face the prospect of having to give 24 hours' notice to all neighbours of an intention to spray a crop. If there were to be regulations on the application of crop sprays adjacent to housing or any other public space it would set off direct action and legal cases against farmers, as any illness would be seen as a direct result of the crop spraying.

So what with the effects of the EC ban on the use of a large number of crop protection ingredients and the possibility of regulations after the 'bystander' case has been decided, it will become impossible effectively to farm any land adjacent to human habitation. Arable cropping would be out because the sight of a crop sprayer would, in this American-style litigation society of ours, send anyone with a headache reaching for the phone to contact one of the ever-growing number of 'ambulance chasing' solicitors. If the land was put down to grass for livestock there would be the usual problems of trespass and dog worrying. It can only be hoped that some of these anti-farming lobbyists will one day wake up to the fact that the human race is totally reliant on the land and those who farm it for their daily food, and that food-producing land is a finite resource that is not being made any more. **George Fenemore, 338203**



Illus: Ken Langstaff

BARFORD SUMMER CONCERTS 2009

The remaining concerts to be held in St Michael's Church, Barford St Michael, Oxon, starting at 7.30pm, are: 4 July 'Some Enchanted Evening'; 18 July 'Clair de Lune'; and 1 August 'Singing at Lughnasa'. Tickets £5, available from Barbara Alt at Barford St Michael Shop/PO 338207 or by email from susan.addison@virgin.net.

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DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the month of July 1859:

1st July – Some mischievous person injured the stone effigy lying in an arch on the south side of the Church wall – with a mason's hammer, whilst the men were at dinner it was thought.

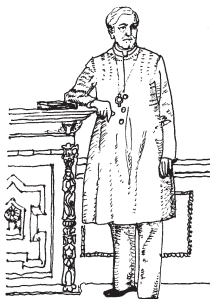
2nd July – I walked to the Church and saw the boy who had mutilated the recumbent figure under the wall of the south aisle, who had confessed that he had done it – without any particular reason but for mere mischief.

6th July – Our dear son John returned from Egypt and the Red Sea after having been mercifully preserved with 200 others from death – the ship in which they were, the *Alma* (mail boat) having been wrecked on a large coral rock, and they having lost their all save the clothes they had on, owing to a shameful neglect of duty on the part of the officer on watch. The cargo consisted of silks valued at £200,000 and other valuables. They were rescued by the crew of the ship *Cyclops* luckily hailed, after having been nearly 4 days without water and very scanty provisions. John looked thin and as if he had just recovered from a severe illness, God be thanked for his safe return to us.

12th July – The finest and hottest day yet – the summer quite an old fashioned one. We heard of a

large fire which was raging at Banbury best part of the day – said to have broken out at Hunt's Brewery or near it and that as many as 20 houses were consumed.

14th July – Holford and I started by the mid-day train to Oxford to attend the Assizes. I attended the Crown Court, the most serious case being two men named Picket (or Pricket) and Benson for having maliciously shot and wounded in the leg Mr. Strickland's keeper. They were convicted on very clear evidence of an intent to do grievous bodily harm and were (being old offenders) sentenced to 14 years penal servitude.



21st July – I went to the Police Station and heard a vagrancy case against a worthless character of this place, John Pritchett, for leaving his infant chargeable to the Parish, 5 months old only. His wife had been buried only two days previously. He had taken himself away some miles, but was captured and brought before me and the Inspector of Police. The Relieving Officer stated the case against him and I committed him to the House of Correction for 2 months with hard labour.

24th July – Mr. Brogden crossed over the street to speak to me as I was going to Church. He looked much aged and ill – and said he had been suffering from asiatic cholera.

Buffy Heywood, 338212



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ROYAL OBSERVER CORPS

‘What was the Royal Observer Corps?’ I hear you cry. I would hazard a guess that there is hardly anyone alive in Deddington who could really answer that question. Started way back in 1925, the ROC, then just Observer Corps, was formed to report on enemy aircraft movements in time of war. When the Second World War actually broke out, the plan was immediately put into operation and observation posts were put in all over Great Britain. These were manned by two men in shifts 24 hours a day, seven days a week, all unpaid volunteers. Mostly over 50 years of age and too old for active service (although there was one volunteer aged 15), they wore Royal Air Force blue battledress, a black beret with a silver badge and carried a military gas mask. Their task was to report on position and speed of German aircraft, then this information would be transferred to a fighter pilot allowing him to proceed directly to his foe and pick it up in a short space of time.



‘What about radar detection?’, you might ask. In the 1940s radar was still in its infancy and could not pick up low-flying aircraft; nor could it detect height or speed, or if it was friend or foe. Deddington had its own observation post in the middle of the allotments which were then up the Hempton Road. There is no record of how many enemy aircraft they called, but they would have reported on planes going to and fro on the devastating attack on Coventry, and on the two unexploded bombs which fell into a field south of the village. Some volunteers with above average spotting ability were transferred to an elite section known as ‘Seaborne Ops’ and were put aboard ships lying off the French coast two days after D-Day to help the gunners avoid friendly fire on the numerous allied aircraft in the air at the time. The ROC was stood down in 1995, when aircraft flew too fast and too high to be seen with the naked eye. There is no doubt that all ROC volunteers were a great asset to the war effort and helped save a number of lives, as well as helping win the war. I take my hat off to all of you.

Derrick Robbins
Sarasota, Florida

IN BRIEF ...

Changes to Stagecoach Bus Service between Deddington, Banbury and Oxford

With effect from 31 May: on Sundays and Bank Holidays, one 59 bus shuttles between Banbury and Oxford leaving Deddington for Oxford at 08.51, 11.21, 14.21 and 16.51, and leaves Deddington for Banbury at 10.31, 13.01, 16.01 and 18.31. Also the first bus into Banbury on weekdays leaves Deddington at 07.39.

Our New Parish Councillors

JOHN DAY, MILL CLOSE, DEDDINGTON

I am 43, married to Sue and we moved into Deddington about 18 months ago with our cat Spot. I relocated for work from Hertford three years ago and spent the other 18 months in rented accommodation waiting to purchase a property in the village, as Deddington was where we wanted to live.

I am currently a regional manager working for Cooper Industries and previously held various management roles including a stint of eight years running a family business with my father.

I stood for the Parish Council in the hope that I can help to contribute to the village that I have chosen to make my home. I also see it as a great opportunity to get more involved with the people of the village and hopefully it will help me to make new friends along the way.

JIM ALLISON, GOOSE GREEN, DEDDINGTON

Resident in Deddington for seven years, divorced father of three and 53 years old, I live with my youngest son, Andy. Like me, he is an enthusiast for the village and a recent Satin Lane allotment holder. I was previously in Bodicote for six years and my partner, Sharon, still lives there.

I am a graduate of Manchester University in Economic History, specialising in 20th-century economics. Career-wise, I am a former senior management consultant with Coopers & Lybrand and have over 20 further years' experience as a director of, and a senior manager in, multinational businesses. I regard myself as a professional manager and a specialist manager of major change programmes.

My business career was ended by bacterial meningitis. After a prolonged recovery period, I now seek challenge and mental stimulus. In addition to an enduring obsession with business and current affairs, I am passionate about sport, especially football, rugby and cricket.

Why am I interested in Deddington Parish Council? First and foremost, I love the village. Whilst I am still constrained by the after-effects of my illness, I wish to offer some available time, and the benefits of my business experience, for the benefit of the village community.

Windmill Community Centre

Cherwell DC have granted planning permission for the erection of 56 solar panels on the south-facing roof of the Windmill Centre but, sadly, the Sita Trust have turned down our application for grant aid. So, back to the drawing board to find a source of the £55,000 funding needed to bring the plan to fruition.

MR

A report on Hugh White's sabbatical trip to Sweden will appear in a forthcoming issue of DN. Apologies for having to hold it over.

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Photographic Society

At the June meeting Frank Ash ARPS gave a presentation on his 'Journey through Landscape Photography' in which he sought to recreate the mood and atmosphere of the Dales, Kintail, Skye and Glencoe. Frank took members down a very personal journey where he emphasised the need to develop a feeling for the landscape before trying to capture its image. This, coupled with his unconventional approach, produced some remarkable landscape photographs. Frank was forthright in the analysis of his own results and members were treated to a unique critique of each photograph, where the importance of foreground, camera angle, sky, cropping and colour/monochrome in developing the mood of an image was discussed. The meeting concluded with an audio/visual presentation, after which Frank was invited to offer his comments on members' submissions for the monthly photographic topic. It was an intriguing, thoughtful and sometimes very entertaining evening from an accomplished photographer. The next meeting of the society is at 7.30pm on 1 July in the Deddington Arms, when there will be a presentation on colour management by Permajet.

John Branton, 01295 811071

Windmill Tuesday/Thursday Club

Cake-making and karaoke were on the agenda this spring. Margaret's WI training paid off in the former event – her fairy cakes looked utterly delicious and were shared with the gentlemen, whose contribution had been the preparation of the tins. I think they went home with more cakes than the ladies who had done all the hard work of beating the mixture by hand! Tom was the star of the karaoke and also of the poetry day, faultlessly reciting 'The Burial of Sir John Moore at Corunna', which he remembered from school days. Everyone made a contribution and offerings ranged from nursery rhymes to Shakespeare and anon. We plan another poetry day soon on the theme of 'water' – that should be interesting! On a more modern note, we flexed our muscles on a visiting Wii system – one of us managed to hit the audience quite frequently while playing bowls and Kathy and Debbie excelled on the boxing programme, which is a bit worrying. Any passers-by must have had a good laugh at them both punching thin air! We watched the film 'Mama Mia' on the touring cinema screen. We had a visit from a Crime Prevention Officer who distributed jingle bells to attach to our purses, there having been a spate of purse snatching in Banbury recently. They should be quite effective – it sounded like a convention of Morris men when we all tried them out!

We are still pleased to welcome both new helpers and new clients. For more information call Debbie (07737892745), Ann (337144) or Jean (338110).

Jean Rudge, 338110

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs and Scouts

At last, the long awaited county Zodiac Camp, and what fantastic weather we had. Held at Thame show-ground the camp had promised and delivered activities for all ages from 6 to 60. Over 2,500 people were fed, housed and entertained during Whitsun weekend and 30 boys from Deddington were amongst them. Ex-marines led the catering team and they performed miracles, serving the whole camp breakfast and dinner in record time.

Each group represented a sign of the Chinese zodiac. We camped with other 'Tigers' from Banbury District resplendent in bright orange T-shirts decorated with a stylised tiger. Anybody visiting us had to pass through our gateway made out of a snarling tigers mouth complete with pointy teeth, snakes and creepers.

The camp started on Friday evening with a parade, led by Banbury with our huge tiger and all the children wearing masks and carrying glow-sticks. We were joined by the other districts with their mascots and slowly made our way to the massive circus tent for the opening ceremony and an evening of entertainment.

Saturday and Sunday were chock full of activities, fairground rides, archery, shooting, laser tag, a reptile road show, climbing walls and abseiling. There were any number of crafts, which included the construction of a wall of woggles (you needed to be there) plus go-carts and quad bikes.

In the evenings there were storytellers and magicians for the younger members and bands including 'Girls not Allowed' – a favourite with the boys!

The camp closed at lunchtime on Monday and I suspect most of the boys were asleep before they left the field. Only four years until the next one.

Many thanks to the parents who came to help during the camp, hopefully you enjoyed yourselves, we couldn't have coped without you.

Jo and Pete Churchyard, 338071

Deddington WI

At our June meeting Brian Lowe gave an engrossing photographic presentation, 'Intriguing Oxford', encompassing buildings, personalities and entertaining anecdotes from Saxon times to the 20th century.

In July we undertake our long awaited visit to Kew and are pleased so many friends are joining us. In August our Hempton members are hosting us in the schoolroom; our evening will include a short talk by Moira Byast about Hempton past and present. We return to the Holly Tree room on 8 September and will welcome back Gillian Cane, to speak this time on 'My Royal Weekend'. Visitors are always welcome at our meetings.

Beryl Suckling, 337385

CALLING MORE CLUBS

Deddington Town Football Club

'In the last throes of glory, the hero raves in delirium...' Saturday 23 May saw the Deddington Town Football Club presentation evening; a night that saw man, woman and child unite to doff a proverbial silk-lined, particularly feather-laden cap to the double-winning Reserve squad. Despite some 'hilarious' heckling from a young lady who really should have known better, the night provided good-natured backslapping and mickey-taking in equal measure, as everyone reflected on the magnitude of the accomplishments. The first team held their own and showed much promise for next season's assault on honours, while the Reserves enjoyed their new status as the only recorded reserve side to win a league and cup in the same season.

Youngster 'Flash' Jordan Kaye walked away with the award for top first team scorer, defence/midfield linchpin Roan Waddelow was a popular choice, while classy young defender Rob Bradford picked up the manager's award.

Simon Hall finished 40 goals clear of his nearest rival for his goal scoring prize, Jack Cumming finished an outstanding campaign with some extra silver and, despite calls of a carve-up, co-manager Timmy J's deserving prize was testament to his loyal service and quality, both as player and manager. After admiring their prizes, the Reserves headed out to 'get tore up from the floor up' [sic!].

We may not have the style of the DOGS, but there's certainly some pedigree in these chums.

Ladies and gentlemen, your champions:

1st team Top Goal scorer: Jordan Kaye

1st team Players' Player: Roan Waddelow

1st team Manager's Player: Rob Bradford

Reserve Team Top Goal Scorer: Simon Hall

Reserve Team Players' Player: Jack Cumming

Reserve Team Manager's Player: Timmy J. Spencer

Aaron Bliss, 07909 642882

Youth Club

We had a fantastic year with high numbers of young people every week. Dawn and the team provided a varied programme of activities throughout the year, ranging from arts and crafts to wild games on the field. Cooking has been very popular. Many thanks from the committee to them all for organising and supervising, some giving their time voluntarily. Thanks, too, to the young people, who have made our evenings good fun. Our final meeting this term is on 13 July, when we are hoping for good weather, as there will be a barbecue. If any parents would like to come up and take part in the evening's activities, or would just like to see what we do, you are very welcome to join us.

We return after the summer break on Monday 14 September. There will be a change of personnel on the committee, but more of that next term.

Pam Axten, 337919

Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

The annual Deddington DOGS versus Dorchester DOGS took place at Kirtlington Golf Club. I must report the end result was a virtual bloodbath in favour of Dorchester DOGS! Dorchester won 4-2 and has the "honour" of retaining that wretched stuffed bulldog. They have been reminded that the RSPCA will be monitoring the proper care and attention this animal requires!

The annual procession of DOGS from Deddington to take on the course at Burford was on Monday 15 June. What a wonderful day we had! The weather behaved and all had a grand day. The overall winner was Rob Forsyth with 41 points. A full report can be found at Deddington OnLine (DOL).

Our annual weekend away is quickly approaching. The dates are 26-27 July at Wokefield Park near Reading. A feature of this event is that on Sunday evening the DOGS hold a raffle in aid of the Katharine House Hospice. Last year we raised £275! We are looking to exceed this figure, as the funds raised this year will be in Pete Milner's memory, who tragically left us in May.

David Darst, 338589

1st Deddington Brownies

The girls are hard at work preparing for their Talent Show on 13 July, from which the money raised will go towards the 'Island Café' project. Many of the Brownies attended the District Brownie Funday at the Warriner School on 16 May. This year's theme was 'Brownie Traditions' and the activities included dressing dolls in different Brownie uniforms, making pom-pom owls, knots and maypole dancing (possibly both at the same time). A warm June evening saw the 1st Deddington Brownie pack and other groups of Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section and Trefoil Guild from around the district converge on Deddington for a camp-fire. Picnics were consumed and new songs learnt and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Lucy Squires, 338442

Deddington Players

We held our AGM on Monday 15 June and made plans for the forthcoming year. We are planning to entertain you with another pantomime in January so put 21, 22, 23 January 2010 in your diaries! In the meantime we have been successful in obtaining a grant from the Oxford Community Fund, which will enable us to put a lighting/sound control platform in the Windmill Centre saving us the time-consuming task of setting up from scratch for each show. Work will be done on this in the next couple of months. Also watch out for a children's acting workshop that we hope to hold in the autumn. More details next time.

Lucy Squires, 338442

CALLING MORE CLUBS

Tennis Club

It's Wimbledon time once again, which always encourages members to see if they can play as well as their heroes. Some lucky club members have been able to buy tickets after winning the Deddington Tennis Club draw and so will be on their way to watch it live.

We will be having our own 'Fun Tournament' with smaller prizes on Sunday 12 July starting at 2.00 pm. This is a really enjoyable event for all standards so please come if you can. This will be followed by a barbecue.

Due to inclement weather and match commitments the planned refurbishment of the courts has been delayed. Weather permitting, it is now scheduled to take place on Monday 13 July. This will mean that the courts will be out of use for five days. For any changes see our website, www.deddingtontennis.com.

The annual summer camp for children will be held from Monday 3 August to Thursday 6 August from 9.30am to 1.30pm each day. Steve Ashby is the coach and Cherwell District Council organises this, so booking will be through them.

Enjoy your tennis.

Sue Watts, 01295 722229

Book Club

Our book for May was *Snobs* by Julian Fellowes. This satire on the traditions, behaviour and snobbery of upper class society was enjoyed by some, but most found it disappointing. The plot is weak and the characters for the most part superficial, but there are some good observations and it is easy to get hooked. We wondered if it would work better adapted to a film script as the author is an Oscar-winning screenwriter with an inside knowledge of aristocracy and he may have had this in mind when he wrote it.

The next book is *Hawksmoor* by Peter Ackroyd and the next meeting 30 July.

Sally Lambert, 338094

Deddington and District History Society

Please visit our exhibition of some 16th to 18th-century wills and inventories of Deddington people, set up in the Parish Church as part of the Deddington Festival. The material provides a remarkable insight into the lives (and deaths) and possessions of our predecessors here.

Our new season of talks will commence on Wednesday 9 September when Adrian Thornton will speak on 'National Parks – not ours, but ours to look after'. The programme for the 2009–10 season has been printed and will be distributed to members. Copies can also be picked up at the Wills and Inventories exhibition and at the library. To our acute embarrassment, a typo has somehow escaped every check: the card is mistakenly headed 2008–09 season instead of 2009–10. Apologies for that.

We hold our meetings at the Windmill Centre at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of each month from September to June. We very much look forward to welcoming old friends and new.

Chris Day, Chairman, 337204
Moirá Byast, Secretary, 338637

Deddington Town FC and Colts to Merge

As of 28 June 2009 Deddington Colts Football Club will be merging with Deddington Town FC. From next season Deddington Colts will be known as Deddington Town Colts and will become the youth section of Deddington Town FC. This exciting development means that from next season Deddington Town FC will offer football from minis (aged 7 and under), through to adult football in the reserve and first team. Andy Shepherd, Chair of Deddington Town FC said 'After 100 years of senior football DTFC is extremely proud to join forces with the Colts in bringing the beautiful game to a wider age group'.

The merging of the clubs has been in the making over the past couple of years. It will enable the club to move forward as a strong unit. Not only will the youth section feed into adult football, but the crossover of training and coaching expertise will enhance all sections. Robin Gardner, Chair of Deddington Colts said 'Colts is thrilled to be joining together with Deddington Town. Town has a rich history in club football and we are proud to be becoming the youth section of such a distinguished club.'

In the longer term Deddington Town would like to develop girls' football and it is currently looking at setting up a veterans' section. A new website is being opened for the new season and details of all contacts and fixtures will be available when it goes live.

Robin Gardner, 07969 264811

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PTA

One of our major fund-raising events – the Summer Fete – has just taken place. So much time and preparation went into the event and I hope everyone had a fabulous time! I'd like to thank all those who supported it in one way or another: the Market Group for the loan of the market stalls together with a superb raffle prize; and the Deddington Arms for the loan of crockery and for very kindly donating the first prize in our raffle. Many other local businesses also contributed to our raffle for which we are very grateful. It is fantastic the way the whole community comes together to support our village school. A huge thank you! Lastly, we must not forget everyone who gave up their time to help and for all the generous donations we received. It is very much appreciated.

Well that is nearly it for the 2008–09 fund-raising year. We have had a great time, worked extremely hard and are very pleased to have been able to raise over £10,000 which will be used to provide some additions to the adventure playground for our older children, as well as some buddy benching for the school playground, a clavivova piano and several other educational items.

Janet Watts, PTA Chair, 337135



All the fun of the fete (Pic. Alan Collins)

PFSU and Village Nursery

This term is always our busiest. We recently took part in the Barnado's Big Toddle, a half-mile sponsored walk, followed by a teddy bears' picnic. We are doing lots of preparation for Sports Day, which the two settings will hold together on the school field on 9 July. To prepare our PFSU children for the move up to School, and our Nursery children for the PFSU, we have a move-up day on 14 July when the children can visit their new classes. There will also be open afternoons for Nursery parents and children moving up to the PFSU at the PFSU on 6 and 8 July. Our major annual fund-raiser is the Vegas Casino Night at the Windmill Centre on Saturday 4 July. The fund-raising committee is hard at work to make sure this will be a night to remember. Tickets are available from the PFSU or Nursery at just £15 a head. Everyone is welcome to come along whether or not you have a connection with the settings, so why not get a group together and join us for a fun night out?

Lucy Squires, 337484

Weather in the Daily Life of Butterflies

'The summer had been cold and wet; autumn had set in with early frost and biting wind'.¹ The year was 1644. In 1648 the weather had not improved. 'The summer had been continuously and disastrously wet from the beginning of May until mid-September, [creating] anxiety about foods, crops and livestock...'.² King Charles was a prisoner of the Parliamentarians. Of 2008 Kristin Thompson wrote, using the same words as the 17th century reporter, that it was 'disastrously wet'. The Thames Valley Environmental Record Centre agreed: the Deddington Butterfly Group did not submit a record of observations for 2008. But we shall this year.

Given that butterflies probably originated in tropical climes, how do they cope with living in England? They have two ways of biding time during rainfall. Slowly delivered, as from a watering can rose, spring rain softens the earth, without enraging the rivers. During those moments, with wings folded, butterflies perch on leaves but, during torrential rainstorms, butterflies take shelter on the underside of leaves, as patiently as men and women sit under raised umbrellas at Wimbledon.

Cold days inhibit flight, for a butterfly has no way to generate heat within its body, a body that must reach a certain warmth before it can fly. If summers are wet and cold, more so than 'normal', we should expect population declines to follow the next year. Some species are bound to suffer more than others. Keeping records every year, Deddington contributes to what is now a world-wide project: the compilation of an online encyclopedia of bio-diversity.

Walter L. Meagher, 336216

¹ *The King's War 1641–1647*, C.V. Wedgwood, Collins, London, p. 378.

² *The Trial of Charles I*, C.V. Wedgwood, Collins, London, 1964, p. 47.

Farmers' Market

Our next market is on 25 July. The peak of our soft fruit season, the raspberries are really coming on well now, and I am always surprised how the combination of raspberries and strawberries is so much better than each on its own. Have your tastes changed over the years? There was a time when I didn't like broad beans, but then I discovered skinned broad beans. Strip the beans out of the pod and boil lightly without salt that will toughen the skin. They want to be only just cooked. Drain, and using your best asbestos cook's fingers, nip the end of the skin and squeeze the bright green bean out. Then season for taste and serve. Fiddly – but worth it.

The evening before a market, one of the jobs for the willing market volunteers is to ask owners of cars in the square to move their cars in time for the Saturday morning setup. The response is usually 100% which is evidence of how many people in the community pull together to help make our market so successful. Thank you to those who help us this way every month.

Paul Drawmer, 338450, paul@drawmer.net

FROM DONALD WELFORD'S FAMILY HISTORY

Donald was a well-respected local businessman, farmer, Parish Councillor and proud head of his Clifton family. In 2000 he published under the title 'Be Happy, Be Good' a history of the Welford family businesses. He died in 2002. Recently his widow, Jean, has given me permission to reproduce in DN some of Donald's historical snippets, some well researched, some passed on by word of mouth. The title of his family's history was taken from advice given to children by Donald's great-grandfather William (1838–98), a devout non-conformist and great advocate of leading a good life. 'Be happy, be good' became his great-grandson's quotation too. But let Donald himself speak to us in his well remembered way:

'My father told me that the War Office [during WWI] which was responsible for buying hay for the armed forces, once sent a very substantial cheque to the Welfords at Clifton for hay that they had not supplied. Naturally, John Henry [Donald's grandfather] wrote back explaining the error and returned the cheque. Back came another letter, along with the cheque, advising him to look at his accounts again, because the War Office was quite certain that this hay had been supplied by the Welfords. John Henry checked again and again, and was surer than ever that he had not made a mistake.

He returned the cheque yet again with a letter saying that he had checked and had found that they really did not have any record of hay supplied according to the War Office's statement of account. Back came the cheque once again, with a stiff reply saying that the War Office knew its business best, and would the Welfords please stop writing unnecessary and uncalled-for letters, and kindly present their cheque to the bank in order that the War Office's accounts could be squared. It was a very difficult situation: not only was John Henry

a strict Methodist, but he was also a magistrate sitting at the Deddington courthouse, and was therefore doubly conscious of his moral responsibilities. There was nothing for it, however, but to cash the cheque in deference to the powers-that-be!' **RJ**

News from Clifton

A big Clifton welcome to Alice, Olivier, Harriet, Sandy and Mark who have moved into our corner of heaven down Walnut Close way.

Viewers to BBC Oxford News would have seen Harry Collins (and his smug dad) interviewed prior to attempting to improve on his fifth place last year in the Brackley Soap Box Derby. Despite his father sharing a generous account of the Clifton community spirit, his shameless attempt to spread the blame for a clearly poorly made cart will do little to endear him to his neighbours as Harry crashed not once but bravely twice as the 'vehicle' swerved violently off the line. Well done Harry for trying, and shame on you dad! The Catantias, Roses and Privetts (thanks – really!) who all made the trip to support his effort seem inspired to take part themselves next year.

A reminder from Linda Davies about the Good Neighbour Group. It exists to offer help in a crisis, or with an everyday task such as collecting a prescription or doing some shopping (for those unable to get out of the village, not those who just can't be bothered!). Linda is the Clifton contact and also has some Welcome Packs to deliver to new residents. So if anybody is aware of new people moving in, then perhaps they could let her know on lindadavies322@btinternet.com or 337360 so they can receive a pack?

Lastly the parish put a team of mostly Cliftonites into the Friends of the Warriner Quiz. Thanks to some outrageous flirting by Captain Cari they came second in a really fun night that uses a different format to the Deddington PTA quiz (thankfully!) and they recommend it to everyone next year.

Martin Bryce

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Treatment available at
the Deddington Health Centre

GILL RANDALL
Grad Dip Phys MCSP

Chartered Physiotherapist
Registered with HPC

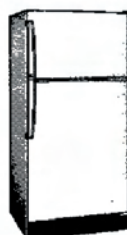
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