

April 2019

The **DEDDINGTON NEWS**



Delivered free to Deddington, Clifton and Hempton

THE TEAM

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by **13 April**

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by **10 April**

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COVER
Alison Day

The DEDDINGTON NEWS

Apparently the parish is in dire need of help. The PC needs a councillor (pg5), the Fire Station four firefighters (pg 14), the churchyard needs mowers (pg13), the football club's youth section a secretary and coaches (pg17), the Windmill a 'Friends of' group (pg12), the Festival committee more members (pg12), and the library's RhymeTime another nursery rhymers (pg13). Take your pick!

CD

WHAT'S ON April

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Mon | 1 | Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am |
| Mon | 1 | Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm |
| Wed | 3 | Photographic Society: AGM, Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm |
| Thu | 4 | Knit and Natter: Holly Tree, 7.00pm |
| Tue | 9 | WI: 'Rags, Bags and Cocktails', Julia Miles, Holly Tree, 7.30pm |
| Thu | 11 | Holly Tree Club: Film Night, <i>The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society</i> , Holly Tree, 6.30pm |
| Wed | 17 | PC Meeting: Holly Tree, 7.30pm |
| Thu | 18 | History Society: 'Oxfordshire Yeomanry', John Bridgeman, Primary School, 7.30pm |
| Wed | 24 | Friends of Daeda's Wood: AGM, Deddington Arms, 7.30pm |
| Thu | 25 | Book Group: Contact Sally Lambert, 01869 338094 for details |
| Sat | 27 | Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm |
| Mon | 29 | Royal British Legion: Social, Unicorn Inn, 6.30pm–8.00pm |

May

- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| Wed | 1 | Photographic Society: 'Stumbling Around in the Dark', Robert Harvey, Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm |
| Fri | 3 | DOGS: Studley Wood Golf Club |
| Mon | 6 | Bookworms: Library 6.30pm |
| Thu | 9 | Holly Tree Club: Film Night, Holly Tree, 6.30pm |
| Thu | 9 | Deddington Players: AGM, Deddington Arms, 7.30pm |

Continued on p 13

Cover: Back to the Hempton Loop of the Deddington Circular walk for this month's cover. Barford Mill is a listed building dating from the 18th century where corn was ground. The cows in the field behind the mill serve as a reminder that much of the route is across grazing land and you will encounter livestock on the walk.

You can download a map of the walk at www.cherwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/7931/deddington-circular-walk. See also *Walking Around Deddington* on www.deddingtonhistory.uk/guides/countryside/ralphswalks.

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Old School Room, Hempton, Wednesday 20 March

Present: Councillors Cox, Eames, Higham, Oldfield, O'Neill, Reeve, Robinson, Rogers (Chair), Squires, Swadling, Timms and Watts, District Councillor Williams and three members of the public.

There is a vacancy for parish councillor.

Open Forum

Trina Murray-Hundley and James Greenwood advised that the Deddy Car Fest would be held on Sunday 9 June from 10.00–5.00pm in the Market Place. They are requesting a road closure with displays and rides to be fenced off as last year. Parking will be available at the primary school and NFU car park. The PC agreed to fund the cost of the road closure.

District Councillor Williams reported that residents will pay an additional £5 a year for district council services, the first increase in ten years, as a consequence of the demise of Northants County Council and the joint working arrangement with South Northants District Council.

Finance and General Purposes

It was agreed to increase the charges for the cemetery by 15%. It was noted that councillors do not claim any expenses but travel expenses would be reimbursed. A charge of £720 for emptying the parish's dog bins has been paid. This cost increases over the summer.

Planning Applications

No objection

Dragon Cottage, Tays Gateway, Deddington: single storey side extension.

Hoopnins, 5 Manor Farm Barns, Hempton Road, Deddington: tree works.

Appletrees, Hopcraft Lane, Deddington: demolish rear conservatory and outbuildings and erect two storey rear extension.

Objection

Land to rear of 19 The Paddocks adjacent to Mill Close, Deddington: proposed two dwellings. CDC outline approval was previously given for one dwelling despite a number of objections. Second dwelling is overdevelopment of garden, there is no vehicular access to the site, with proposed access through an existing sewage pumping station.

Tennis Club: The CDC Environment Protection Officer investigated the light levels at a local resident's house and considers improvements necessary to light spill.

CDC Approvals

Tchure Cottage, 10 High Street, Deddington: demolition of garage and replacement with garage and studio.

Castle House Cottage, 1 Hopcraft Lane, Deddington: internal works, rooflight and replacement of rear casement windows.

Manor Farm House, Clifton: minor internal alterations. Compton Cottage, Philcote Street, Deddington: single storey extension.

Sentry House, Castle Street, Deddington: tree works. Geggs Lodge, Hempton Road, Deddington: link extension, porch and external alterations.

Ilbury Farm, Nether Worton Road, Hempton: demolition of existing dwelling, replacement dwelling, garage, access, landscaping.

Windmill Redevelopment Group

Emergency contact details are required for the site. There is no constantly monitored PC phone number so signs with the clerk's email address will be provided.

Large Scale Developments Working Group

Some interest has been shown in the land on the south side of Clifton Road, currently occupied by a large barn.

Environment and Recreation

Speedwatch: more volunteers would be welcome. Councillors worked hard to spread bark chippings on the paths at the Windmill. The Clifton bench will be repaired. Please contact the parish clerk if you would like to volunteer to maintain the Hempton planters.

Highways and Transport

As a condition of planning consent grass verges must be made good on completion of work. The developers at no 2 Chapman's Lane are required to alter the Chapman's Lane-Oxford Road access to improve left turning from the lane. Venues for future PC meetings are being reassessed in view of the loss of the room at the Duke, Clifton, and the unsuitable facilities at the primary school.

Parish Council representation on Deddington Charity Estates

It was agreed to thank DCE for their admirable work on upgrading the Almshouses. The PC would like to have representation on the DCE committee.

Next meeting: 7.30pm on Wednesday 17 April in the Holly Tree Club, Deddington.

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter, Jill Cheeseman, and not the official minutes, which are available at <http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2019.html>.



Puppy Classes

- Teach your puppy to sit, wait, walk on lead, come when called & more!
- Have a sociable & well-trained dog
- Puppy play and socialisation
- It's easy and fun for all the family
- Classes held in Deddington

info@canine-paradise.com

Tel: 07967 620 558

WINE TIME

Time to ignore the European Old World and mention two places that have embarrassed the French, Italian and Spanish old guard. The New World in wine used to mean New Zealand, Australia and South Africa. Now it includes Chile and Argentina at the top table. These two deliver some excellent wines at prices that make the Europeans blush, with plenty in the £8–20 range.

Chile, being long and thin, produces a wide variety of wines and grapes. It has focused on being safe and reliable, a positive in my view as it means good wine at sensible prices. In choosing wines, the region and the grape are a good starting point. Whites – look for Limari Valley (Chardonnay/Viognier), Casablanca Valley (Chardonnay/Sauvignon Blanc), Central Valley (Sauvignon Blanc) and Leyda Valley (Riesling/Sauvignon Blanc). Try the Cono Sur Vision Viognier or Cono Sur 20 Barrels Chardonnay (£9 and £13 respectively and widely available). Reds – go for Cabernet Sauvignon from Maipo or Colchagua and Pinot Noir from the Casablanca region. The Wine Society's Lascar wines (Merlot or Cabernet Sauvignon) are simple but value at around £6 and Con Sur has a Pinot Noir in Sainsbury's for about £8. The Coop, re-balancing last month's disappointment, has a cracking new Chilean Pinot Noir (Casablanca Valley) called 30°, balanced, fruity but light bodied with a long finish – a very good wine at below £10.

Argentina has carved out a reputation for itself by producing amazing Malbec and now other varieties. Malbec is a grape mostly found in Cahors, France, where it rarely produces high quality wine. Not so when it's from Argentina, particularly the Mendoza region. Argentine Cabernet Sauvignon is also worth trying, preferably from Mendoza. Slurp has an interesting range at £10–15 (try Los Haroldos Reserve Malbec). Caneta Zapata produce great wines and seldom disappoint (Waitrose, Majestic, Wine Society and others) and range in price from £8 or £9. If you are looking for floral, aromatic whites try the Torrontes grape from the Cafayete region or Viognier from the San Juan region.

A special mention goes to Patagonia, a region straddling the southern parts of Chile and Argentina (for wine it is mostly Argentina). The star here is Pinot Noir. That elusive grape, which drives red Burgundy prices sky high and put New Zealand into the wine elite, has found a home in the dry, cool climates of the south of South America. An extraordinary part of the world in every way (parts of it speak Welsh), it has shown what it can do with wine. You can't find them everywhere but take advantage when you do. You can find them at M&S, Waitrose and Laithwaites among others. Most will be in the £15–20 range and well worth it if you are a Pinot Noir fan.

Charles Elvin

Charles.elvin@bopenworld.com



Invitation to Public Consultation

Duns Tew Energy Park

Friday 5th April 2019, 11:00 – 20:00

Duns Tew Village Hall, Middle Barton Road, Duns Tew, OX25 6JN

You are invited to a public consultation event to consider draft proposals seeking planning permission for a new solar farm and energy storage facility alongside the existing solar array constructed in 2016 on land at Hill Farm, Duns Tew.

Representatives of Aspen Infrastructure will be present to explain the draft proposal, answer your questions and take note of your views.

Details about the proposed energy park can be found at:
www.aspeninfrastructure.co.uk/duns-tew

FARMERS' MARKET

Lamb Three Ways

I make no apology for following last month's lamb recipe with another, such is my enthusiasm for this recipe. It all started when I bought some lamb mince from the market to try. The English tend not to be kind with their mince but this sample proved to be fantastic. This is how I cooked it from Atul Kochhar's *Indian Essence*.

Kheema Mattar (lamb mince with peas) – serves 4

500g lamb mince
6 tablespoons vegetable oil
3 cloves
2 green cardamom pods
1 bay leaf
2.5cm cassia bark or cinnamon stick
1 tsp crushed black pepper
2 medium onions, finely chopped
2 tsp ginger-garlic paste
5 green chillies, slit lengthways
1 tsp salt
3 tablespoons tomato paste
150g peas, shelled or frozen
½ tsp garam masala
coriander leaves to garnish

To make the ginger-garlic paste, peel and roughly chop equal amounts of fresh ginger and garlic cloves. Pound to a paste in a pestle and mortar or blitz in a machine with a bit of water and reserve.

Heat the oil in a deep sauté pan and sauté the whole spices, bay leaf and crushed black pepper until they crackle. Add the chopped onions and sauté until softened and light brown in colour. Add the ginger-garlic paste and cook well for 2–3 minutes, stirring to stop the paste sticking to the bottom of the pan. Add the green chillies, lamb mince and salt. Cook stirring, for 3–5 minutes until the meat is evenly coloured. You might want to do this in stages to avoid the mince stewing in the liquid it exudes.

PFSU AND VILLAGE NURSERY

We have enjoyed meeting lots of visitors this term including some interesting vehicles and several musicians. We're also enjoying our regular RhymeTimes with Annette from the library. We'd like to thank everyone who has given up their time to visit us and helped make learning even more interesting and varied for the children.

The PFSU has re-started regular outdoor learning sessions in the 'forest' area in the school grounds and enjoyed a spring scavenger hunt and lots of exploring. The Nursery will be holding an Easter Parade on 2 April for all our Nursery families. Our holiday club runs in the Easter holidays from 8–12th April. Please ask at the PFSU or Nursery if you need any more information on either of these activities.

Lucy Squires 01869 337484



Add the tomato paste and 250ml water, and bring to a simmer. Cook gently for 15–20 minutes until the lamb is cooked. Add the peas and cook for a further 5–10 minutes until they are tender. Serve sprinkled with garam masala and chopped coriander leaves. Accompany with flatbreads.

This dish is much better reheated the next day but that is not its only virtue. I'm a Scot. Mince is our national dish, traditionally in the form of mince and tatties which means mince served with peas and potatoes. It turns out that Kheema Mattar is a spicy ringer for mince and tatties, you can add cubes of potato before the peas to make it even more Scottish. The next day it makes another excellent Scottish standard, mince on toast best served with an egg on top, a sovereign remedy for a sore head (though personally I draw the line at accompanying it with Irn Bru).

The market is on Saturday 27 April from 9.00am–2.30pm. More details on the webpage, www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk. If you can't wait till then, there's the Adderbury market on the second Thursday of each month at The Institute, The Green, Adderbury, 6.00–8.00pm.

Good shopping!

Ian Willox 01869 337940
ian.willox@btconnect.com

FRESH GRIMSBY FISH

- Salmon
- Sea Bass
- Sea Bream
- Cod
- Haddock
- Plaice
- Halibut
- Prawns
- Crab
- Mackerel
- Red Bream

- LOCATION -

DEDDINGTON MARKET PLACE
EVERY THURSDAY 1:55 TO 2:30pm

Tel: 07578 195979
robhill74@me.com

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

April

Please see the enclosed Easter card for services during Holy Week and Easter Day

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Mon–Fri	8.45am	Morning Prayer (also on the first Saturday of the month)
Wed	10.00am	Holy Communion (with prayers for healing on the fourth Wednesday of the month)
Sun 7	10.30am	Family Service
	6.00pm	Sung Evensong
Sun 14	8.00am	BCP Communion
	10.30am	Palm Sunday Holy Communion
Sun 21	10.30am	Easter Day Family Holy Communion
Sun 28	10.30am	Holy Communion – Informal Said Service

Barford St Michael

Sun 7	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 21	10.30	Easter Day – Family Holy Communion
Sun 28	9.00am	Holy Communion

Barford St John

Sun 14	9.00am	Palm Sunday – Holy Communion
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Hempton

Sun 7	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 21	5.00am	Easter Day – Dawn Service
	9.00am	Easter Day – Family Holy Communion
Sun 28	6.00pm	Evening Prayer

From the Parish Register

Baptisms

24 February Harriet Alison Braddock

Weddings

15 March Laura Huggins and Samuel Rollason

Funerals

27 February Joy Drake

11 March Frank Steiner

For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the Vicar at vicar@deddingtonchurch.org or on 01869 336880. If Annie is not available, then please contact one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie 01869 338367 or Dave Hughes 01869 347294. We also have a curate, Revd Paula Smith, who can be contacted at curate@deddingtonchurch.org.

RC Parish of Hethe

Revd Robert Hughes 01295 720860

There is no longer a resident or full-time incumbent at Hethe. A non-resident priest will say one Mass on Sundays (no Latin Mass).

Mass is said at 9.00am on Sunday at SS Peter and Paul's Anglican church in King's Sutton.

The Vigil Mass at St John's Church, Banbury, is said at 4.00pm on Saturdays to allow worshippers from the villages to attend by public transport.

VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Parish Council seeks to co-opt a councillor when it meets at 7.30pm at the Holly Tree Club, Deddington, on Wednesday 17 April. This unpaid position involves working for the local community as part of a team of 14 councillors.

The Council usually meets on the evening of the third Wednesday of each month. It is organised into various working groups, such as Finance and General Purposes, Environment and Recreation, and Highways and Transport. Councillors meet informally before the monthly meetings to prepare updates on these areas. The typical commitment of a councillor, who actively contributes to the work of the Council, can be as much as 20 hours per month, including the monthly meeting.



Residents over the age of 18 and non-residents with substantial links to the parish can apply. The elections team at Cherwell District Council or Susan Fuller, the Parish Clerk, can provide further information about the eligibility criteria.

If you can contribute to the work of the Council and would like to be considered for co-option please send an expression of interest in writing or by email to the Parish Clerk at the Windmill Centre, Hempton Road, Deddington, OX15 0QH, deddingtonparishcouncil@googlemail.com by the close of Friday 12 April. This should include a few lines about yourself, your links to the parish, your interests and how you feel you can contribute to the PC's work. You may be asked to address the Council at the meeting.

DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM



Having just read an article on the latest drone technology for use in agricultural crop inspection, I have decided I am getting too old for this farming game and now need to work out just how much lead I would have to give it, with a twelve bore loaded with BB buck shot. I

have always believed that the best fertiliser on a farm was the farmer's boot, so beam me up Scotty and even that dates me back the days of *Star Trek*.

By the time this hits the doormat the Clifton flock will have done their stuff and the North Aston flock will be under way. To date the Clifton flock has been hard at it both day and night so all we need now is some spring grass to turn them out on. The last of last year's lamb crop will soon be off to market with the best being kept back for the farmers' market stall. I have held a stall ever since the first market, selling honey and beeswax candles. With all the problems surrounding the 'B' word, and the retirement of two original stall holders selling meat, we have taken on a second stall selling home-produced grass-fed lamb from the Clifton river valley flower meadows.

As I put finger to keyboard, the North Aston flock are about to be brought inside for their pregnancy confinement, but we will have the very welcome help of a local vet student, Mazy Bird from Barford, a member of a well-known local family. We have worked with the Royal Veterinary College in London for many years and their students have come to us for their sheep module. They have all lambed their first sheep, with me telling them to get their sleeves rolled up and get

stuck in. I well remember the first one I lambed and I am sure they will also.

So where do we got from here? With only a few days to go before the 'B' word happens and Armageddon gets under way, the prospects for a small family tenanted farm seem a little difficult. I left home and came to Clifton because the family farm, which was about half the size we farm today, could not support three families. With the 'B' word the same situation has arisen. Ho Hum. What will be will be – after all the politicians know best.

Spring is on its way, the ewes and their lambs will soon be back in the river valley but even with the mild weather in February I have not been able to hear the ethereal call of the curlew, so I await their return. During my many trips to the Oxford Hospitals of late along the scenic route I have seen any number of brimstone butterflies and no, I was not driving. It does not bode well as they have come out of hibernation too soon. Blackbird and song thrush were serenading me in early February but soon stopped with the arrival of the first named storm of the year, an event that received an amber weather warning from the Met Office but became, like most politicians, full of wind but little content. The bees are on the move and have received another feed of sugar syrup but the Farm Student has taken over the day-to-day field management of the bees, (under supervision) with the Old Man in the honey room and woodwork shop, an arrangement that suits me fine.

With the Clifton flock now on its last 'push' we should get a few days respite to get the spring crops planted before the next flock gets under way. Ho, to be a farmer's boy!

George Fenemore 01869 338203

TALES FROM THE PUMP

'The problem with working in pubs is the anti-social hours', says this young fella I'm chatting to about the possibility of him working in my pub. 'OK', says I, 'It's Tuesday – tell me what will you be doing tonight?' 'Well most nights I play *League of Legends* – I score pretty well worldwide.'

'So 'anti-social' is standing behind the bar chatting to my customers and 'social' is sitting at home by yourself, hunched over your iPad playing *League of Legends*? And don't forget you are part of a team when you work in a pub so sociability and getting on with your mates is a must – just like footballers supporting each other in the team.'

'I do get on with people OK', says the lad, 'but maybe working in banking, IT or retail would give me more freedom.'

I'm not sure I want this lad but I'll give it one more go!



'Look, both banking and retail are going online and shopping centres are no longer 9–5 and my experience of guys working in IT is that they are on call 24/7. Do you want to be picking boxes in a warehouse or driving a white van all hours of the day? Hospitality will always need people and good guys can move up and get their own place pretty quickly. The son of a mate of mine in Deddington had his own pub in Oxford in his mid-twenties and he's now a regional manager for the group.'

The lad now looks me in the eye and says, 'All this talk about being sociable – why are you such a grumpy old so-and-so?'

Hmmm! Now I like this lad. 'Come down on Monday and we'll give it a go – see if you like the job. OK?'

grumpylandlord1@gmail.com

WELL REMEMBERED

Franz Maximilian Magdalena Michael Steiner 1922–2019

Frank was born into a well-established Viennese Catholic family of Jewish ancestry. His father was a high court judge and Frank (Franzi to his family) and his older brother, Willi, attended the outstanding Benedictine Schottengymnasium, which numbers the last Emperor of Austria among its old boys.

They were destined to become loyal and successful Viennese citizens but their world changed dramatically in 1938 when the Nazis entered Austria. Overnight, their father was banned from the bench and respect changed suddenly to hatred. His life in danger, Frank, just 16, was sent on the Kindertransport to Britain where his brother had travelled earlier in the year. He never saw his parents again; his father died en-route to Auschwitz where his mother lost her life. It was a loss that would stay with Frank forever.

Initially placed in a freezing holiday camp hut in Folkestone, Frank was offered a refugee scholarship at the Benedictine Belmont Abbey School in Hereford. A school report shows that in 1939 he came top of his class in English Language, a tribute to his Austrian education. After school, he was interned as an 'enemy alien' on the Isle of Man but was released in 1942 and joined the Civil Service. After the war, he was appointed to the International Secretariat of the OEEC (the Marshall Plan) in France.

He had completed an external economics degree which enabled him, after several other post-war posts, to get a job with stockbrokers Grieson Grant, where he remained until his retirement in 1987. In his own words: 'As the scum floats to the top of a lake, so did I rise with the growth of the firm without being specially gifted for trade. But I was good at languages and there was a need to look for clients on the continent – I developed quite a following.' As a partner, he rode all over London on his beloved Vespa scooter in perfect City attire, including bowler hat, which 'added to my reputation for eccentricity.'

He was a member of the Reform Club and became the UK correspondent of Kathpress, an agency of the Austrian Church, a role he kept for 50 years and for which he was awarded the Republic of Austria Insignia in Gold. He also joined the Catholic Union of Great Britain and for many years chaired the Parliamentary and Public Affairs Committee, for which he was awarded a Papal Knighthood in 2005.

Private happiness finally arrived in 1963 when Frank, 'met, fell for and quickly married Rosemary Oldham,' whose Aunt Vida lived in Deddington. They lived in Highgate with their two children, Rob and Claire. Following Vida's death they moved to her Field House, in Deddington in 1986 and Franzi retired a year later, finding the commute to London intolerable. A year later, Frank's world fell in: Rosemary was diagnosed with motor neurone disease and died in 1990. 'Rosemary arrived in my life too late and left too early.'

In Deddington, Frank was a well-known character. He joined the editorial board of the *Deddington News*, where his meticulous grammar was no doubt greatly valued as Letters and, later, Church and Chapel Editor. He also volunteered with Thames Valley Police and delighted in receiving his Long-Service Medal from Chief Constable Sara Thornton in 2015.

In the last years of his life, Frank had to relinquish his beloved microcar and then his mobility scooter (perhaps to the relief of pedestrians in the village). Confined to a wheelchair, he still enjoyed lunch in a pub and he lost none of his eccentricity and wit.

In 2018, after falling from his bed and fracturing his leg, Frank became increasingly unwell. Hospitalised several times, he remained professionally and intellectually active, engaging with his wonderful independent carers at home and with the excellent staff of the Horton until his peaceful death on 24 February in the presence of Claire, his daughter.

John Guy

In 1888 a 19-year old Deddington woman, Katie Hopcraft, bravely set off on her own by train heading for Moscow. Her father, Joseph, was one of several Hopcrafts who lived in Philcock (*sic*) Street in what I think are the present day Winmour and Midhill cottages. She was travelling to take up the post of governess to the youngest of Leo Tolstoy's three daughters, Alexandra Lvovna Tolstaya, who became her father's secretary and lived until 1979.

From letters held by her relatives, one of whom, Nick Heath, contacted me recently, we know Katie enjoyed the four years she lived in Moscow and Ysanaya



History Corner
www.deddingtonhistory.uk

Polyana, the Tolstoy's country estate. She became fluent in Russian and thought the 'Count

was a very pleasant man'.

Katie's mother, Emma Wilkins, had died when Katie was seven and her father remarried Mary Walford. Katie was not the only female traveller in the family. Emma's niece, daughter of William Minchin, travelled to China as the wife of a Hook Norton postmaster and had an exciting trip back just before the Russian Revolution. For more about Katie see 'What's New' on the History home page

Rob Forsyth
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

WELL REMEMBERED

Helen Leslie Joy Drake 1943–2019

Joy was kind, loving, empathetic and had a great sense of humour; she was also courageous and feisty with a passion for justice, never letting something wrong stand unchallenged

Joy was born in Bombay, her father being director of Boots, the chemist, in the Far East. Holidays were spent in England so Joy and her sister travelled on long-haul flights as if it were the most natural thing. When Joy was nine, she moved to England to attend Clare Park School for young ladies where her love of drama, directing and writing plays was encouraged by the Scutt sisters who ran the school and treated Joy and her sister like daughters. She regarded these six years of school as some of the most exciting of her life and made lifelong friends there.

Following her GCEs, she returned to her parents in Singapore where, in 1960, she met Norman doing his National Service in the Army Education Corps. Shortly thereafter Norman whisked her off to Tonypandy in South Wales to get married and be welcomed into Norman's family. Helen and Ashley soon arrived. For the next three years they lived in Great Haywood, Staffordshire, where Ruth and Joanna were born, before moving to Oxfordshire, where they spent three happy years in Banbury and then in 1972 moved to Deddington.

Joy threw herself into village life, helping with the Guides, the school PTA and the playgroup. She loved reading with the children in Deddington school, involved herself in the Windmill project and worked tirelessly for the Deddington Festival in the early 80s. In the late 70s she and Maggie Rampley helped start the

Christmas Eve carol singing tradition, having cajoled Percy Walker to conduct, standing on a beer crate under the Town Hall. She still made time to pursue her hobbies: she was a skilled dressmaker and knitter and made jewellery and was an excellent cook.

In 1980 she and Norman opened the Market House Tearooms where her shortbread, chocolate fudge cakes and flapjacks became legendary. The Tearooms got into the Egon Ronay *Just a Bite Guide* for three years running. They also started the very popular Pudding and Pie evenings on Fridays and Saturdays. Joy continued working, firstly as a secretary for Mr Marshall, based near the old Russell Hotel, and then for Philip Allan. In 1988 with Norman front-of-house and Joy driving the back office they ran their own publishing business for several years until they retired.

Joy's charity work typified the caring person she was. She never shouted from the rooftops about what she did. She knitted balaclavas for the troops in Syria and Afghanistan, helped fill containers with school desks, chairs and computers to take to Africa, knitted teddy bears for Katharine House and blankets for the orphans in Romania. She took time to visit elderly people in the village, sat with them, read to them and gave them the time they so wanted.

Joy said that her greatest achievement was her children, followed by her grandchildren, who will remember, as will all her friends, a wonderful person who touched many people's lives with her love, her loyalty and generosity of spirit.

**Jenny Soddy on behalf of
Norman and the Drake Family**

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

All a bit quiet down here. Molegate has seen some resolution with the deployment of electric vibrators and ultrasonic disruptors (*don't you mean dispersal to other gardens? Ed*) but is still a hot topic of conversation at Book Club in between final preparations for the next cultural trip to Winston's grave and the Oxford Light Infantry's museum in Woodstock. Ten brave souls are signed up but there is room for more for this 30th of the month activity. Hopefully they'll be home before the clocks go back, with Mother's Day plans all firmed up.

A changing of the guard happened recently as another excellent quiz at the Duck saw the unbeaten 'Walnut's and Weepers' getting stuffed by a team from Candleford that didn't include the Major. Well done Cheryl, Susan et al. Revision is clearly needed. The vegetarian option was greatly enjoyed alongside a creditable chicken curry. A big shout out to quiz Master Darst is in order, although some didn't like the golf questions. The highest mountain in Canada certainly had most stumped. Another quiz in April will be interesting.

We are counting the days until the repairs are complete to the Lower Larkrise cesspit. Two or three tankers a day taking care of our 'business' is disrupting the usual tranquil nature of Drovers Lane but once the work is complete the usual three collections a week will see normal service resumed. This will all be alien to you Candleford folk with your mains sewers luxury, but for us in the borders it's the way life is.

Lastly we are hopeful the PC can assist us in the repairs of the Ronald Colley Memorial bench, a facility much appreciated by the school bus parental community. Fingers crossed.

Send me any news please or you'll get more rubbish like this.

STOP PRESS. Lower Larkrise residents enjoyed the delivery of Six Nations daffodils from 'Land of my Mother' Welshman and cyclist Clinky. A useful distraction from Mr Mole I feel.

Martin Bryce
martindnbryce@gmail.com

REVD WILLIAM COTTON RISLEY 1794–1869 (AND 1988–2019)

After serving a curacy in Souldern, the Revd Cotton Risley was appointed vicar of Deddington in 1836. Rather than moving into the vicarage, he first rented and subsequently bought what is now the Manor House in Deddington. Following his only daughter's death from consumption in 1848 he resigned as vicar but continued living in the house until his death twenty-one years later. Deddington, unlike most English villages, had no single great resident landowner. Ownership was shared by various Oxford colleges and the Cartwright family of Aynho. Consequently there was no resident squire, a position the Revd Cotton Risley took upon himself to fill, earning him the sarcastic title of the 'Squarson'.

In this role he administered justice as a magistrate, meted out charity, took an active role in the school, oversaw festivities including the annual children's Christmas party and more sophisticated revelries in the rather grand Cricket Pavilion in the Castle Grounds, socialised with the area's landowners, as well as maintaining a fractious relationship with his successor as vicar. He also kept a diary recording the details of his life in the village, forty volumes of which are held at the Bodleian Library in Oxford. Selections from the diary have been published by the Banbury Historical Society with the title *Early Victorian Squarson: the diaries of William Cotton Risley, Vicar of Deddington, Oxfordshire*.

In 1979 Group Captain Denys Heywood and his wife, Buffy, bought Risley's house. Buffy, an enthusiastic amateur historian who, as a member of the Map Group, helped map the villages' fields for the Millenium project and took part in the Wills Group, translating old village wills into modern English, was intrigued to learn of the Squarson and his diaries from the house's previous owner. To learn more Buffy acquired a reader's ticket for the Bodleian, and began making three or four a year to copy out selections of the more interesting entries from amongst the mundane weather records. And so, in April 1988, began the *DN*'s monthly snippet from the Revd Cotton Risley's diaries, reflecting life in Deddington 150 years ago that month.

In 1869 Risley was involved in a serious traffic accident in Buckingham when the driver of his wagonette 'drove full gallop and the Vehicle upset with a crash ... I fell on my Head with a new Hat on luckily ... which was cut and bled and suppurated but the shock to my Nervous System was and has been a most violent one. ... I have not been the same Person since and probably never shall be again'. On 20 February he notes that he 'Could not touch the Jelly Cook had made'. On the first of June he died and is buried in the family vault in Adderbury. So this month we end his thirty year sojourn in the *DN* with thanks to Buffy for her curiosity and perseverance.

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PHOTO COMPETITION

FoDL invite entries of photos of Deddington, Clifton, Hempton and the surrounding countryside. The winning entries will be included in the new and exciting 2020 Parish Calendar

All age groups and abilities are welcome.

Image files minimum of 5Mb, 300dpi saved as High-Quality JPGs.

Deadline for entries Friday, August 16th, 2019.



Submit your entries ASAP

by email to abw@brynwilliams.com, or on a CD/DVD to Stella at the library

For more details, visit the FoDL website www.FriendsofDeddingtonLibrary.org

Good Luck!

POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

A letter arrived from the University of Colorado asking me to send a 'care package' to our dear son. Apparently, this would help him get through his year-end exams in May, and they only wanted \$75. I get a call every week from Tulane where Jake went and multiple emails from both institutions, begging for cash. This all blew up this week with the exposure of rich parents who have been bribing universities to gain entry for their kids. These are not just centres of educational excellence, they are huge money-making machines.

Discussing this in the pub last night, my American friends were just waiting for my usual rant. 'You can get into college on a cheer leading scholarship?' It is true. And they wonder why the US is falling behind in education compared with many places in Asia.


My rants will be changing very shortly. It's March, which means it is time for March Madness, or as I call it, 'kids playing basketball'. Many Americans see it as the sporting event of the year; they confuse education and sport, and end up letting the sons of millionaires, who can't even run, onto the Yale track team.

We are flying off to Vegas for the weekend to see a certain Robbie Williams playing his swing set at a residency at the Wynn hotel. The response from everyone around us has been – 'who?' The boy wonder has never broken America, but Heather amazes people when she explains she first saw him along with a quarter million of her closest friends at Knebworth.

Following a rather special Turbs rant on Facebook about a pitch invasion in the Birmingham derby, I did have to explain to a few people the history of English football violence. The US is a much more violent country on almost any level. The murder rate is over four times higher. T2wrying to explain the passions involved in a local football derby is hard work. Some US sports teams have a few fanatical supporters, but fighting is rare and pitch invasions just don't happen. I guess the fact there are very few away fans alters the atmosphere, but Americans are basically much more polite on the surface. We did once witness a spectator scrap at an ice hockey game and even the players stopped to watch, it was so rare – unlike on the ice, where fighting is part of the entertainment.


I was personally very pleased to see some folks in Sandy Hook, where 20 seven year-old school kids where shot six years ago, are winning a battle to sue the manufacturer of the AR-15 automatic rifle. I know people who believe this whole dreadful affair was a hoax, but, more importantly, I also remember how the UK reacted to the Dunblane school shooting. The difference in the reactions says everything about the state of the two worlds in which I live. I will never forget British passion and support for each other, long may it last. This needs to be remembered now more than ever.


Mike Ward mikew@qsoftware.com



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LETTERS

FROM BARRIE AND HILARY SMITH, DEDDINGTON

We were very sad to read Albert Humphries' letter in last month's *DN* about Mike Ward's 'Postcard from America'.

Having lived abroad for over 20 years we believe that the experience not only helped us understand another culture but also enabled us to see our native one with new perspectives. We find that Mike Ward's observations help us to reflect on what is valuable in our English culture and what we believe needs to change, as well as giving us insights into what is happening in one of the world's most powerful countries.

We expect that the French couple who wrote in the same *DN* issue used their experience in Deddington to reflect on life in Corsica.

We were also disappointed that Mr Humphries had to use a generalisation to support his views, ie a 'lot of people have said'. Out of a population of more than 2,000 how many are 'the lot' who apparently have similar opinions?

Perhaps we have been drawn to those Deddington residents whose residents whose outlook is closer to our own but we feel lucky to live in such an outward looking village.

Well done to last month's *DN* editor for printing the French couple's letter and for her comments on page one.

FROM LESLEY MILROY, DEDDINGTON

Like Albert Humphries, I have always appreciated the *DN*'s coverage of local news, organisations and



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

events, and when we first arrived here we found the practical information in every issue particularly valuable. I'm sure similar sentiments would be expressed by the many other new Deddingtonians who have received a warm welcome in the village. But I can't agree that Mike Ward's monthly letter is taking up too much space simply because it doesn't deal with local issues.

As last month's postcard on American attitudes to gun control shows, people who live and work in a country provide close-up information on hot topics which is simply not available in the mainstream media. Indeed, there are other controversies in the US which affect us quite directly. George Fenemore's regular *DN* feature deals with local farming issues, and he is justifiably anxious at the prospect post-Brexit of meat imports from the US and elsewhere arriving here without the guarantee of the high standards we have become used to under EU regulations. This is a serious issue for local farmers and for British agriculture generally. A couple of weeks ago the US Ambassador was on the news telling us fairly aggressively that worries about chlorine-washed chicken and hormone-fed beef were misguided. Well, having lived and worked in the US for many years, I learnt from direct experience to be very careful of where I bought meat for my family. We judged both of those products undesirable and, when we returned here 14 years ago, the availability of excellent meat was a treat for us.

I have no idea whether Mike has views on US agricultural practices, but if he does I'm sure plenty of *DN* readers would like to hear them.

THE BLUE LAMP OF DEDDINGTON

This past month has been a busy time for Banbury Neighbourhood Prevention Team. I am in the process of arranging a crime prevention talk; the target audience will be elderly members of the community, although anyone is welcome to attend. A date and venue are still being organised but I will update you once I receive confirmation.

As a neighbourhood team, we try to engage different members of the community, from the elderly to the very young. Parents will often tell their children when they see the police, 'You'd better behave or they will take you away,' or something to this effect. We, as police, get very annoyed when we hear this as we want children who are in trouble or lost to come to us for help. To break down these barriers we often arrange visits to Banbury Police Station to illustrate this point and reinforce the message.

As part of Op Rural, we have engaged in bike and tool marking. Approximately £35,000 worth of equip-

ment and tools were marked throughout rural Banburyshire between 5–19 March with updates posted via Twitter and TV Alerts. Additionally, a number of pubs, restaurants and other establishments have been drug swabbed. This allows us to detect if any illegal substances have been used within the premises.

I must take the opportunity to say a thank you to everyone who has replied to my previous article.

You can contact me via my work email.

PCSO Harry Roberts

harry.roberts@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Teas in Church

Please come and support
Teas in Church for the month of May
Homemade cakes, tea, coffee and chat
Every Sunday afternoon from 3.00pm–5.00pm

More Good News

The big news of the month is that our application for £24,970 in government money to upgrade the Under-6 play area was successful.

Our scheme was one of only two applications in the Cherwell area to receive funding under the Pocket Park initiative. It means that, with 30% matched funding from the Parish Council, we have a budget of £33,000 to create a natural play area on the existing site at the back of the Windmill Centre. The faded plastic equipment which is nearing the end of its life will be replaced by a timber multi-play piece. Other ideas are new springies, sensory boards, MagPosts (terrific for examining leaves and creepy crawlies), and possibly a willow tunnel. More shrubs will create a quiet sensory area at the south end of the site. It's not an expansion of the present area, rather a much-needed improvement.

We have to start work on it quickly, and local supplier Trevor Stewart has just been appointed contractor. You'll see quite a bit of publicity in the local press, and we're really excited to be part of the national Pocket Parks scheme.

On the down side, we were very unhappy about the condition the main play area was left in when the contractors went off site. They will be back to reinstate the ground, sow grass seed, and see to the snagging list before the site is handed over. Trevor Stewart is starting on his timber multi-play piece end of March, and the buffer zone planting still has to be done.

We're working towards an official opening at the end of May or beginning of June when three local youngsters who all compete at national level in their chosen sport will be doing the honours.

The new regulations – dogs only on leads anywhere on the Windmill site, and no dogs at all on the playing fields or children's play areas – seem to be working much better. Lots more bark has been spread through the copse and on the dog-walking path to make them more usable and attractive.

Mary Robinson
Chair, Windmill Development Group
development@windmillcentre.org

Management Committee

New beginning, birds singing, what a difference a month makes. As we enter spring, we're all getting used to the new look Windmill with the hedges cut back, the adventure playground taking shape and the nature trail through the copse opening up. The place seems twice as big. We're looking forward to a grand opening scheduled for the May half-term.

In the meantime, we're continuing our programme of improvements to the building. This month we get three new exterior doors fitted and a new heating



system in the main hall – just in time for ... er ... summer. Next up is new signage, new lighting inside and out, new CCTV and improved WiFi. After that we will get on with installing new showers, loos and upstairs flooring. It's a long list,

but we're getting there, and are grateful to the Parish Council for their continuing help and support.

You could help too. At the moment we are a committee of six volunteer officers running the place, supported by three trustees and three part-time staff. We'd like to bring together a group of Friends of the Windmill who we can call on occasionally as we look to develop in the future. So, if you are a professional with skills in fundraising, building design and project management, or a volunteer who can spare a few hours now and again to help us with small refurbishment projects, marketing initiatives and staging events, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Roger Sykes, Windmill vice chair, on 07899 914425 or carsykes@btinternet.com.

Remember, you can find information about everything that goes on at the Windmill at www.thewindmilldeddington.org or on our Facebook page.

Vaughan Jones
vaughan@englishlanguagematters.com

DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL 2019

Now that spring has officially sprung, we are only two short months away from Deddington Festival 2019. This year's event will run from Thursday June 6 to Sunday June 9 and promises four days of fun for the whole family. The full line up of events will be revealed soon and will include old favourites such as Deddy Jazz and Deddy Rocks, as well as newer hits like the Children's Festival and Deddy Car Fest. As always, we will endeavour to introduce a couple of brand new events too.

Festival chairperson, Elli Ince, said: 'Our small committee and network of volunteers continue to inspire me year on year by putting together a wonderful festival. To see so many people in our community enjoying themselves is uplifting. Annually we donate to local and national charities that help those in our parish. We look forward to seeing you in June.'

The Festival committee is always keen to welcome new members so, if you can volunteer to help us make 2019 and future Festivals even better, we'd love to hear from you.

For all the latest news, please follow us on Facebook and Twitter and keep an eye on our website www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk.

BLISSFUL THINKING

Order! Order! It's not a command but a craving. Humans instinctively fear chaos more than almost anything and order is our panacea. It's why we can't imagine life without institutions, routines or instructions. Pareidolia is the condition that means we see faces in wallpaper, water or a heap of scrap metal: a subconscious manifestation of this deep yearning for sense and context.



strictly true. What is already true though is that quantum mechanics throws up paradoxes and threatens the established scientific principles governing almost everything. Imagine Schrodinger's cat applied to the whole universe! It would not only be both dead and alive, but also an omniscient god, amongst other things.

I thought of this related to the current weather patterns. What if climate change is really just quantum weather patterns? How else could we explain sweating profusely under the hot sun while picking the neighbour's bin off our television aerial, before inspecting the hailstone damage to our car in two feet of snow on the same day?

Aaron Bliss

aaronjbliss@hotmail.com

Science strives through empiricism to replace reactionary mythologies with ordered theories, natural laws and behaviour patterns to scratch this primal itch – except one branch of science, which was in the news this week, my favourite: quantum mechanics. The sensationalist headlines claimed that physicists had managed to reverse the flow of time, which wasn't

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

Not much news from the library this month, mostly because I've not been there. I'd like to say I was somewhere sunny and hot as I usually am for a couple of weeks in March but I have to shatter that illusion; I have been doing jury service for the last two weeks. I'm very sure Linden has been looking after you all very well in my absence and I'm sure you made her welcome to Deddington library.

We are still receiving the remainder of the new books purchased from the Brierley-Kelsey fund. They are a lovely addition to our stock and very much appreciated. By the time you read this, I will also have my 2019–20 budget from this legacy, so if you have any recommendations for books, please let me know... very happy to consider them, especially new authors.

A reminder that we hold a Health Visitor-led baby clinic on the first Wednesday of the month. This has been getting quite busy and it is lovely to see so many parents, carers and little ones using the library. The next session is 9.30–10.30am on Wednesday 3 April.

Our RhymeTime sessions for Under-5s and families on Monday afternoons, 2.30–3.00pm, during term time, continue to be popular and much enjoyed by those who attend – including the volunteers and myself. We could use another presenter, though.

Don't forget, we also have Ancestry, Find My Past and the 1939 Register free to access on the library PCs. You don't even need to be a member. Come along and 'Find your Past'.

We look forward to seeing you in the library very soon.

Stella O'Neill

01869 338391

Deddington.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk

USEFUL NUMBERS

Faulty Street Lights: Please report faulty streetlights on freephone 0800 317802, giving the exact location and the individual pole number if possible (on a little metal tag) or report it to <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

Power cuts: The new free 105 telephone number to call in the event of a power cut has now gone live.

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to keep the churchyard mown and tidy.

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If you have a couple of hours to help, please call John Nason on 01869 338494

WHAT'S ON May

Continued from p1

Mon 13	Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
Tue 14	WI: Making Fine Furniture, Graham Rayner, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
Wed 15	PC Meeting: Windmill, 7.30pm
Thu 16	History Society: 'The Malayan Campaign', David Hood, Primary School, 7.30pm
Thu 23	Book Group: Contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for details
Sat 25	Farmer's Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
Mon 27	Royal British Legion: Social, 6.30pm–8.00pm

FESTIVAL ART EXHIBITION

Entries are now being invited for the annual art exhibition which is a popular feature of Deddington Festival. It will take place on Saturday 8 June and Sunday 9 June 9.

Artists are invited to enter up to three pieces of sculpture, pottery or any form of 2D media. Each piece can be up to a square metre in size, but no bigger. The entry fee is £5 per piece and includes an invitation for you and two guests to attend the private view on Friday 7 June.

Those under 18 are invited to submit one piece, no larger than A4 in size, on the theme 'Under Water'. The entry fee is £3 for each piece. All entries will be framed and children taking part will receive a small prize on collecting their work at the end of the exhibition. They will also be invited to attend the private view, along with two guests.

Signed, unframed, cellophane-wrapped works can be entered to go in the browser bar free of charge.

All entries must be handed in by Friday 17 May. Forms are available on the Festival website, www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk or at the Flower Shop and the library. Fifteen percent of all sales go to the Deddington Festival. For more information, please contact the Deddington Festival committee at art@deddingtonfestival.org.uk.

IS FIREFIGHTING FOR YOU?



Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service is looking for On-call Firefighters to join their team.

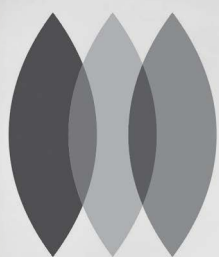
On-call Firefighters are the backbone of the fire service. Almost anyone can be one and the Service

is encouraging more women to sign up.

If you're employed full-time, a parent, out of employment, or just have some spare time, you can respond to emergency calls. You need to be over the age of 18, physically fit (this can be worked on), doesn't suffer from vertigo, claustrophobia or dislike the sight of blood. You need good common sense, to be enthusiastic, reliable and honest.

On-call Firefighters are trained and paid for their time and service and on average can expect to be called out two or three times a week for about an hour at a time. These calls can be at any time. For more information visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/oncallfirefighters.

The Deddington Fire Station currently has one person starting their training but there are still four vacancies.



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CALLING ALL CLUBS

Photographic Society

The presenter for our March club night was unable to attend and after some quick thinking on the committee's part, a diverse programme was devised. John Prentice welcomed everyone and, with the April AGM in mind, went on to outline briefly the roles and responsibilities of the committee. Then, in three groups, members brainstormed improvements that could be made to the club and how they could be implemented. Many ideas and suggestions were put forward and noted for further discussion. Next was a 'Print/Speed Meet' with each committee member showing a print for discussion – a good opportunity for newbies and oldies to interact. Two slideshows followed: one of glowing images taken by members at a sunrise photoshoot in Blenheim Park and the other a YouTube video on refraction photography, accompanied by a document called 'Globalise', detailing crystal ball photography. The eagerly awaited monthly photo topic was 'yellow' and proved popular, with images of flowers, fruit and vegetables, vehicles, clothing and machinery.

Everyone is welcome to the next club night, a members' evening with AGM, on 3 April, at 7.30pm in the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho.

Wendy Meagher
wmeagher@gmail.com

RBL Branch

We have just begun our pub evenings for members who wish to gather for a social drink and chat from 6.30–8.00pm on the last Monday of the month. Our inaugural session in March was held in the Deddington Arms. The next will be in the Unicorn Inn on Monday 29 April. Please join us.

Places are limited for David Hood's WWII Battlefield tour 9–12 July. If you want to join call him soon on 01869 338200. Martin Hovard is taking over from Norman West as Poppy Appeal Organiser. Many thanks Norman for your many years of hard work – so many no one can remember when he was not. At the Annual County Meeting our branch received a certificate for having the second highest increase in membership in Oxfordshire and we extend a warm welcome to new members who are still joining.

If anyone knows of a piper to play at our Burns Night dinner on 25 January next year, please contact me. In the event of finding more than one we may hold a competition on the Market Place green.

Rob Forsyth 01869 338384
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Deddington Bookworms

The Narrow Road to the Deep North by Richard Flanagan excited the group on many levels. After several below par books, this one was a cracking read and managed to shake off the curse of 'nominated for a major prize, truly dire book'. Set during and after the Second World War, it centres on Australian POWs,

under Japanese guard, enslaved to build the 'Burma Death Railway'. You need a strong stomach in places to get through this epic tale, some of the group finding the graphic horrors too much. It is a multi-layered tale that focuses on surgeon Dorrigo Evans and his personal battles with life, love, adultery and the struggle to do what is right by his men while exploring both the complicated relationships within family and society in Australia and between the POWs and their captors. The barbaric behaviour that results from situations of power is abhorrent and the post-war Australian justice almost matching the Japanese and Korean approach to the expendability of life. Many of us struggled with the brief delving into human vivisection. The author obviously gained a lot of material from his father's experiences in such a camp. The results of living through hell, and the struggle coming out the other side, is superbly portrayed for both sides and leaves one with a sense of great sadness for all concerned. A definite must read and a general eight out of ten from the group.

Our next book is *A Woman's Work* by Harriet Harman.

Deddington Library 01869 338391

Local Vocals Community Choir

What a difference a few weeks make. We are actually starting to sound like a choir. Great to see so many friendly faces at each session and having people to share the laughter with as we try to sing and clap at the same time or even venture outside to experience the clarity of our voices. If there are any men out there who are singing in the shower or humming in the car we'd love to see you. No obligation to join – Just pop in one Monday to see if it's for you.

Each 90 minute session starts with a warm up. You can sing in which ever part you like, 'tops, middles or bottoms'. There is no audition or need to be able to read music as we learn by ear. We end with refreshments, the chance to get to know others in the choir and leave with big smiles. Any adults wishing to spend time in a relaxed group, singing away the cares of the day are welcome. Monday 1 April is our last session this term, reconvening on 29 April. We meet on Mondays at 7.30pm during term time at the primary school. For more details contact Alison Grieve alisongrmail@gmail.com.

Women's Institute

The meeting of 12 March was our AGM. By tradition, we have no speaker but follow the business meeting with a cheese and wine supper, provided by the committee. We voted two resolutions to go forward, 'Support local buses' and 'Don't fear the smear'. We also had a welcome visit from our group advisor, Beryl Mann.

Our next speaker is Julia Miles, a diplomat's wife who is speaking on 'Rags, Bags and Cocktails' when

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Continued from p15

we hope to find out what Mrs Thatcher wore in bed. We meet every second Tuesday in the Holly Tree Club at 7.30pm and welcome new members. Please ring Jenny Cox on 01869 337015 or Jenny Cross on 01869 337613 if you would like to join us.

Moira Byast

Book Group

Our February book was Juliet Nicholson's *A House Full of Daughters*, a history of seven generations of women in the aristocratic and wealthy Sackville-West family. Apart from Juliet herself, the women include the Spanish flamenco dancer who was Juliet's great-great-grandmother, and Vita Sackville-West, the writer and creator of the celebrated garden at Sissinghurst.

Members of the Sackville-West family had the means, will and leisure to write about their lives. Juliet had access, therefore, to a great deal of information about her predecessors and has succeeded in weaving this into a series of beautifully written biographies. Most of us found the book fascinating and enjoyable, although one or two found the characters off-putting. The personalities involved are complex and flawed, often resulting in dysfunctional family interactions, particularly with daughters. We had a thought-provoking discussion on patterns of behaviour in mother/daughter relationships which may be carried into succeeding generations. Juliet's own story is a vivid illustration of these, written with great honesty and providing a thoughtful and moving end to the book.

Please contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for details of our next meeting.

Sian Waterman

Deddington and District History Society

Our February speaker was Deddington author, Chris Foreman, on the subject of the General Strike of 1926. Chris grabbed our attention by stating that in 1926 the country was more sharply divided than at any time until the present Brexit crisis. The strike has become iconic for the labour movement in this country. As always with such events, it can be difficult to separate myth from reality. The strike was the culmination of years of unrest triggered by the slump that followed a post-war boom.

Coalmines, not for the first or last time, were the flashpoint as struggling mine owners sought to impose wage cuts on their workforce. There was a groundswell of support for the miners and in May 1926 two million workers came out on strike. The Trades Union Congress, far from inciting the strike, was taken by surprise and emphasised moderation throughout. Contrary to what many people believe, martial law was never declared. It is widely, and wrongly, believed that the strike was non-violent: among counter-examples cited were dramatic photographs of the derailed Flying Scotsman and of scores of burnt-out buses. Yet there were unexpected moments of solidarity such as games and competitions between teams of strikers and police.

Banbury hosted joint concerts and tugs-of-war! After a week the TUC declared a halt. Some workers remained out – the miners for another six months before they were starved back to work. The strike was over, but its memory lingers to this day.

On Thursday 18 April John Bridgeman, a trustee of the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum in Woodstock, will speak on 'The Oxfordshire Yeomanry'.

Enquiries to Barrie Smith, chair, 01869 337813.

Chris Day

SPORTS

Tennis Club

If you are looking for somewhere to play tennis, why not give Deddington Tennis Club a try? We are an active, friendly bunch who are always keen to welcome new members of all abilities and ages, whether you are an experienced player looking to play league matches or prefer to play social tennis. We enter several teams in the Banbury and Oxfordshire leagues, run friendly inter-club competitions, offer three social tennis sessions per week as well as occasional fun tournaments throughout the year.

For those looking to improve their game our LTA qualified coaches offer regular adult group beginners, improvers and advanced coaching sessions as well as one to one coaching. Our coaches are also very keen to bring youngsters into the game offering a fun, active junior coaching programme.

Situated at the Windmill Centre on Hempton Road, we have three excellent all-weather courts, two of which have recently been fitted with LED lights allowing year-round play. For further details please visit our website www.deddingtontennis.com.

Ed Toll, Chair

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team Results:

16.02.19	Sinclair Utd (h)	W 4-2
23.02.19	Woodford Utd 3rd (a) (CUP)	D 2-2
	W 4-2 aet on pens	
02.03.19	Woodford Utd 3rd (a)	W 4-1
09.03.19	Bicester Hallions 1st (a) (CUP)	L 2-3

Reserve Team Results:

23.02.19	Bicester Hallions 1st (h)	L 0-13
02.03.19	Hardwick Sports Club 1st (a)	Away walkover
09.03.19	Banbury Galaxy 1st (a)	Away walkover

A gallant loss in the Jersey Cup semi-final was the only defeat, in an otherwise excellent month for the First Team, who are looking good for a top three finish. Unfortunately, this seems to be at great cost to the Reserves, who stagger from one disaster to the next. A mind-boggling 13-0 demolition by First Team nemesis Bicester Hallions was followed by two forfeits, as adequate players seem to be few and far

CALLING ALL CLUBS

between. Whether they can survive until the season's end is touch-and-go, but a recruitment drive seems to be sorely needed in the summer.

Aaron Bliss
07909 642882

Deddington Town Youth

Our teams play in the Witney and District Youth Football League. The Under-15s suffered a heavy home defeat to Brackley Athletic, followed by a heavy away defeat at Launton Athletic. The Under-14s had a 3–1 away win at Stonesfield, followed by an 8–0 defeat at Ducklington. The Under-12s had a 2–1 defeat at Eynsham Youth, followed by a handsome 7–1 win at Banbury United Puritans with four goals for Ben Jones, two for Charlie Sydenham and one for Noah Charman.
Club Secretary (Youth Section)

We are seeking a Club Secretary to be the principal administrator for the youth section of Deddington Town FC. We have eight teams for Under-7s to Under-15s. This is a key role in ensuring the club runs effectively. It involves attending meetings (club, league, Oxfordshire FA), affiliating teams to the FA and league, registering new players; and taking minutes at meetings. You will be supported by the chairman, treasurer, club welfare and development officers, as well as our coaches. It is a voluntary role and involves about two hours a week. If you are interested or want more information, please email the current post holder, Rachel Carlisle, on secretarydtfc@yahoo.com.

Get into coaching – Under-7s and Under-6s for 2019/20 season

Ever thought about getting into youth football coaching? We are looking for volunteers to help coach the Under-7s and Under-6s for the 2019-20 season starting in September. We train at the Windmill on Saturday mornings. The club will help you with your FA Level 1 in Coaching. For more information call Roger Sykes.
Presentation day

We are planning for our Youth Presentation Day at the Windmill Centre on Sunday 9 June from 2.00pm. We are looking for local companies to sponsor the event – trophies, event programme, or the event overall. If you are interested email carsykes@btinternet.com for further information. Thank you again to those businesses who supported us last year.

For further information, www.deddingtontownfc/ or www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc.

**Roger Sykes, Development Officer
and U7/U6 Coach**
01869 337024

Deddington Original Golf Society

Many thanks to our outgoing chairman, Tony Lowe, for his much-appreciated guidance over the last eight years and welcome to Lyn Pearson elected to the chair this year.

DOGS has a full programme of golfing events for 2019:

Fri	3	May	Studley Wood
Mon	10	Jun	Olton Golf Club
Sat	21	Jul–	DOGS tour to Barnham Broom,
Sun	22		Norfolk – full
Fri	23	Aug	Cotswold Golf Club, Chipping Norton followed by barbecue at Oddy's.

Fri	13	Sep	Kings Norton Golf Club
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New members are welcome (only a tanner a year) and if you would like to try us out as a guest at any of the above golf days please contact me.

Nigel Oddy, Secretary
nigeloddy@yahoo.com

YOUTH

1st Deddington Scouts

Cubs

The Cubs have been working on topics for their personal safety badge, including the dangers in and around farms and yards, staying safe when swimming and at the beach and behaving sensibly when out and about on their own. It was interesting how many of them did not know their address. We've also made some very passable shortcake biscuits – even I chanced one. Coming up next, communicator badge.

Jo Churchyard
deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts

We finished the first section of the navigator badge with a frantic game of map symbol bingo and constructed a sign post indicating the name, distance and direction of a parent's place of birth; blimey some of you have travelled. Next, we celebrate National Science Week by making wiggle robots that leapt about on three felt tips, creating a marvellous pointillist masterpiece.

Peter Churchyard
deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

Explorers

It has been interesting listening to podcasts and working out what, as a unit, might be included in any podcast we made. There were lots of items listened to, from music to comedy, quiz shows to science; a vast array of subjects that reflected the variety of young people who are in Scouting. Having made mini-torches to be able to take anywhere, the Explorers then tried to see how good they were at an *Apprentice* style evening. Those selling a rubber bath duck won. World Book Day saw costumes from Bear Grylls to BP with varieties in between. We have a district party coming up soon.

We've invested a further three young people into the unit to date this year but have room for anyone else who wants to join us.

Janet Duxbury 01608 737959
spartansexplorers@gmail.com

YOUTH ————— Continued from p17

1st Deddington Guides

We continue trying activities and challenges from the new programme and having fun in our patrols working together. We celebrated Thinking Day (the joint birthday of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell) in traditional international style, playing games and singing songs from around the world, tasting a range of fruits from around the world – thank you, Charlotte and Tilly. The Guides used their phones to find out about a range of countries and share their knowledge with each other – we had fun trying to find the countries on the world map.

Some Guides attended the District Thinking Day event and enjoyed making dishes from Australia and South America, performing the Haka, making African masks and using henna decorations from India. It was fun to celebrate with Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers from all over the district and we collected money to send to girls across the world in poorer countries.

All girls aged ten and over are welcome.

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

Marian Trinder 01869 340806

Tilly Neal

HOLLY TREE CLUB

Members are looking forward to our next outing on April 29 to Fosseyway Garden Centre in Moreton-in-Marsh which will provide not only an opportunity for a lovely lunch, but lots of shopping too, gifts, plants, homewares and clothing.

Our March film night, in association with Age UK, had to be postponed due to technical difficulties. The film, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, a romantic drama set in 1946 and starring Tom Courtenay, Michael Huisman, Lily James and Penelope Wilton, will now be shown on Thursday 11 April instead. In the aftermath of WWII a London-based writer begins exchanging letters with residents on the island of Guernsey and decides to write a book about their experiences under German occupation. There is no need to be a member or book to see the film – just come along. All over 55s are welcome. The only cost is £2 for refreshments on the night.

Don't forget our Monday morning coffee club for the over-55s is held on the first Monday of the month at 10.30am in the Holly Tree Club. A note about the May meeting: this will be held a week later than usual as the first Monday is a Bank Holiday. The meeting is our AGM at 10.30am on Monday 13 May followed by coffee and cake provided by the trustees.

For Club enquiries please contact Diana Marshall on 01869 337761 or info@TheHollyTreeClub.org and for bookings please contact Hugh Blythe on 07907 020486 or bookings@TheHollyTreeClub.org.

**Revd Annie Goldthorp, Interim Chair
Holly Tree Management Committee**

DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



The past month has been another active one. In early March we had a visit from a West End company which delivered a workshop entitled 'Bringing Books to Life'. Each class took part in a dance performance linked to Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are*. It was very enjoyable and served as a great introduction to the Scholastic Book Fair which came into school the following day. This year we raised a record amount which will enable us to buy around £600-worth of books for the school. Thank you to everyone who contributed by buying from the Book Fair. World Book Day followed on Thursday 7 March, providing another focus day on reading with the children dressed up as Wild Things.

Fairtrade Day played its usual important part in school life, was supported by a huge number of pupils, parents and families and culminated in a sale of cakes and biscuits. Thank you too for this support.

Year 3 and 4 children took part in a Dodgeball Tournament at the Warriner School and two teams of Year 6 pupils took part in a hockey tournament at Bloxham School. One of the teams is now going through to the next round. Good luck to those children.

Let's hope spring is here soon when we can enjoy spring flowers, some sunnier days and lighter nights.

Denise Welch

dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

Deadline weekend for the DN was a rather hazy affair after the celebrations of Saturday 16 March, so apologies to all you England and Ireland rugby fans out there. It was a tremendous weekend for all us Welsh and Scottish parishioners. Yay!

Anyway, back to FoDL business, we're pleased to report that we've already received our first batch of entries for this year's parish photo competition with some impressive snow, sunrise and full moon shots setting the standard.

As spring approaches, the weather improves and blossom and blooms appear, you'll have more opportunities to capture nature's beauty throughout the parish. As usual, entries are gratefully received on a CD/DVD at the library or sent as high resolution jpg's to abw@brynwilliams.com, many thanks.

Bryn Williams

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