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by 18 APRIL 2015

Next advertising copy date:  
10 APRIL 2015

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# the Deddington news

The PC has announced a spring clean of the parish on 9 May. If everyone took their litter home or used the bins provided, this wouldn't be needed. What kind of person picks up their dog poo then leaves the bag in the verge? There is rarely a day goes by when I don't pick up some litter from the footpath running from The Daedings to Hempton Road. What do visitors think of our green and pleasant land? **JC**

## APRIL

- Wed 1 Deddington Tennis Club: Adult club nights, Windmill, 6.00pm
- Wed 1 Photo Society: AGM and 'My Attempt at Abstract Photography', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.00pm
- Fri 3 Hempton Social Night: Old School Room, 7.00pm
- Mon 6 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree Club, 10.30am
- Tue 7 Hempton Ladies: Old School Room, 2.00pm
- Wed 8 History Society: Carol Anderson, 'Glove-making in Oxfordshire', Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Thu 9 Monday Morning Film Club: film title tba, Holly Tree Club, 6.30pm
- Tue 14 WI: Christopher Compston, 'His Honour', Holly Tree Club, 7.30pm
- Wed 15 Parish Council Meeting: Old School Room, Hempton, 7.30pm
- Wed 15 Photo Society: Workshop, 'Sensor Sensitivity and White Balance', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm
- Sat 18 PTA, PFSU and Nursery: Monster Race at Cornbury Park, time tba
- Sat 18 Concert: Neil Colledge, piano recital, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Thu 23 Annual Parochial Church Meeting: Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Fri 24– Neighbourhood Plan: Drop-in session, Parish Church,
- Sat 25 2pm–late Fri and 9.30am Sat
- Sat 25 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Wed 29 DN Collating: Windmill Centre, 10.00am
- Thu 30 Book Club Meeting: call Sally Lambert, 338094, for details

## MAY

- Fri 1 Hempton Social Night: Old School Room, 7.00pm
- Mon 4 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree Club, 10.30am
- Tue 5 Hempton Ladies: Old School Room, 2.00pm
- Wed 6 Photo Society: Randall Miles, 'The Maasai Mara – Animal and Landscape Prints', Cartwright Hotel, Aynho, 7.30pm

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

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## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Meeting at the Windmill Centre on Wednesday 18 March

**Present:** Cllrs Boulton, Collins (Chair), Cox, Finnegan, Flux, Oldham, O'Neill, Rogers, Squires, Watts, Williams (CDC) and Wood. County Councillor Fatemian joined the meeting at 9.10pm.

DC Bryn Williams reported that the Duke of Cumberland's Head cannot be registered as a Local Heritage Asset, as it is a listed building. Instead an application will be made to register it as a Community Asset. A well-attended meeting of residents was held at the Unicorn on 12 March to discuss the sudden closure of the pub. It was decided to lobby CDC to prevent any application for change of use and to register opposition to any planning application made without consultation with the group or community at large. The meeting also resolved to make contact with the owners to discuss their plans for the building. There was some concern about the eastern corner of the hoarding as it severely restricts the view of oncoming traffic for drivers and pedestrians trying to join Main St. It was thought that the re-shaping of the panels at this point would resolve this problem. The importance of the pub to the local community was very apparent.

Work on the Windmill St car park cannot be initiated until the budget for the new financial year are in place.

CC Arash Fatemian said that funding for the lighting on the SE corner of the Town Hall had been declined but he is working to reverse that decision. He agreed to consult OCC about the rubbish in Cosy Lane which has been revealed by cutting the hedges.

**Environment and Recreation:** Thames Water has agreed to repair the collapsed drain outside Home Farm, Clifton, in the very near future.

A parish-wide spring clean led by Cllr Watts has been arranged for Saturday 9 May. Volunteers are

welcome and should meet at the Windmill Centre at 10.00am.

It was agreed that the parish should take over the maintenance of the Elsley memorial bench in Chapman's Lane, subject to the permission of the landowner.

There was much discussion about the wheelie-bins presently sited by the Town Hall. They restrict access to the phone box and two of them are being used by local businesses for disposal of trade waste. The PC wishes to remind those concerned that this is illegal.

Hook Norton Vets will replace the planter at the junction of St Thomas St and the main road.

There was also much discussion about the damage to the grass verge by the Church. It was agreed to refer this matter to the Parochial Church Council and the Farmers' Market.

**Planning:** Johnson & Co, Chapel Square: application for a proposed new building has been withdrawn. Instead the roof of the current building will be replaced with cladding sympathetic to the conservation area.

There was much discussion about a proposed tractor and farm storage building in Earl's Lane. Concern was expressed as to the visual impact it would make. No resolution was made.

**Large scale developments and Neighbourhood Planning:** there will be a drop-in event on 24 and 25 April at the Parish Church.

There will be a vote at the next meeting of the Primary School Governors as to whether the School should expand.

**Next meeting: Wed 15 April at 7.30pm at the Old School Room, Hempton.**

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter Jean Rudge, and not the official Minutes. To see those, go to <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/pcminutes>.

## Self-employment for mothers

**Are you a mum in business,  
thinking of starting a business  
or have an idea for a business?**

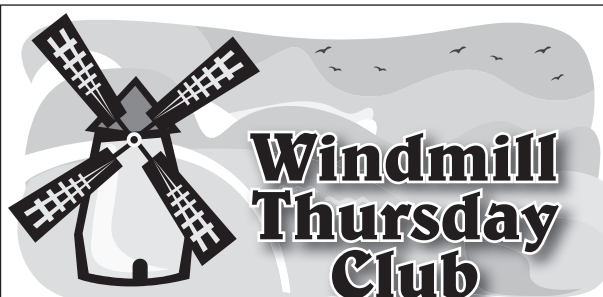
Come to our new networking group in the Windmill Centre on 14th April to find out more. We provide a service for mums who are thinking of starting a business, already running a business or have an idea for a business and don't know where to begin.

**9.30am-11.30am**

**£6 (including light refreshments)**

Tel: 01869 337720 or 07901 526855

E: [Karen@businessdevelopmentsolutions.co.uk](mailto:Karen@businessdevelopmentsolutions.co.uk)



**Fun, friendship, company and an  
excellent lunch for the over 60s**

*At the Windmill Community Centre*

**For more details, phone Jean on  
01869 338110**

## FARMERS' MARKET

### RUN RABBIT, RUN!

You need a certain amount of confidence to shop at Deddington Farmers' Market because, unlike the supermarket, you can never be sure what will be on offer and, when it comes to unfamiliar ingredients, you may not know what to do with them. You can always ask the stallholder for advice but here's a little help from *Deddington News*.

Rabbit is regularly available at the market and provides a lean delicate meat that has become rather forgotten. This is a fast and simple recipe that I got from Elizabeth Luard (I think a version may be available in her *Flavours of Andalusia*) that has not failed me over many years.

The only challenge is jointing the rabbit. A butcher will make a prettier job but I find that with a heavy knife it only takes a few minutes. I don't discard the head and only remove it at the end of the cooking process – you may be more squeamish.

#### *Cochfrito de Conejo*

Serves 3–4

- 1 wild rabbit, jointed (or 1kg rabbit joints)
- 1–2 tablespoons vinegar
- 1 teaspoon crushed peppercorns
- 150mls olive oil
- 4 cloves garlic, skinned
- salt
- 1 bay leaf

1 tablespoon paprika

Chop joints to bite size. Sprinkle pieces with vinegar and rub with crushed peppercorns. Heat oil in flameproof casserole or heavy saucepan. Turn the rabbit pieces in hot oil until they have a good colour.

Meanwhile, crush the garlic with a little salt (a fork does this very easily). Stir in a glass of water and add mixture to the rabbit. Bubble it up, lower the heat, tuck in a bay leaf and simmer gently, uncovered, for 30–40 minutes until the rabbit is tender and all the juices have evaporated – or the meat, as the Andalus say, is left in its own oils. Stir in the paprika and take the pan off the heat before it burns.

Serve with thick cut chips and a green salad.

There will be chunks of the rabbit that are less appetising, mainly bones, and of course the head which can be boiled up for stock to make an excellent basis for a soup.

For more up to date information about the Market you can visit the webpage [www.deddingtonfarmers-market.co.uk](http://www.deddingtonfarmers-market.co.uk), listen to Deddington OnAir [www.deddingtononair.org](http://www.deddingtononair.org) or BBC Radio Oxford. The Market is on Saturday 25 April from 9.00am to 12.30pm.

The Farmers' Market is about to enter its next round of donations, a little earlier than usual. If you'd like to make an application please email [gemma\\_nick@yahoo.com](mailto:gemma_nick@yahoo.com).

**Ian Willox 337940**

[ian@deddingtononair.org](mailto:ian@deddingtononair.org)

## News from Clifton

The fine band of brothers taking the field for Aunt Sally this year have gratefully signed on as the Unicorn B team. The Unicorn A team is so full of 'colourful characters' that the chance of them not being in Police custody on any match night is unlikely, so it could be down to Lower Larkrise to keep the parish 'chucky sticky' end up.

Speaking of the Unicorn, a big shout to Jonnie for lending Lower Larkrise the Unicorn's Function Room for a meeting about the demise of the Duck. This was the inaugural meeting of the Duke of Cumberland ain't Dead (DoCaD) campaign and was supported by an impressive 67 people with 19 apologies from villagers who were away. Fortunately the meeting was only publicised in the village and Lower Larkrise was safe from a rampaging A team mob as our houses stood empty and unprotected. Motions were passed and actions planned. More news to follow and many of us were touched by statements of support from Candleford residents. We will no doubt look to harness this support and other offers of support both from God (thanks Annie) and our PPC Vikki.

Making friends and priming CDC were the main campaign outputs for starters – but far more to come. It was clear there was a broad and very relevant range of skills in that room – so it will be, I believe, some campaign.

Lastly, I have finally severed my links with America so I have had to take a new tinterweb letterbox number address thingy. See below for complaints, copy or dry observations please.

Or you can mail me a Twitter on @Clifton\_on\_Sea – but I've no idea how or why.

**Martin Bryce**

[martindnbryce@gmail.com](mailto:martindnbryce@gmail.com)

### Cherwell Rolls Out Wheeled Bin Service

Residents who are embarking on the tasks of spring cleaning or DIY could benefit from a new service being offered by Cherwell District Council. The scheme allows residents to hire a large wheeled bin with a capacity of about 1,000 litres to dispose of either garden or home waste. The bins can be hired on a one, two or three week basis and provide a cheap alternative to hiring a skip.

The cost is £48 for up to three weeks and includes the loan of an additional blue recycling bin. After being dropped off at a property bins can be moved to suit residents (dependent upon the contents' weight) but will need to be returned to the original drop-off point to enable crews to collect on the agreed date. Call 01295 221916 or email [homeandgardenservice@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:homeandgardenservice@cherwell-dc.gov.uk).

## From The Fire Station

There have been some unusual call-outs this month. I have reported before about a fish tank in the middle of a room that had caught the early spring light and had magnified it and caught some clothes on fire. This time it was a glass ornament on a window sill that had done the same thing. This seems to happen more often at this time of year because the sun is low but still quite strong. Our advice is to keep any glass objects away from the windows and in the shade.

Another call was to a child that had locked himself in a car. He had been given the door fob to hold whilst he was being put in the car and when the door shut he had accidentally pushed the button and locked himself in. It is very hard to give advice on this because things like this happen to people all the time. I myself have put shopping in the car and left the keys on the seat, shutting the door and the car automatically locking itself. What is really important is to try and keep calm. The child is safe in the car and if it is hot you can cover the windows to give shade. If a second key cannot be obtained then call us and we will have the child out in less than thirty seconds.

There have been just two chimney fires this month which is two more than we would like. Luckily there were no road traffic crashes this month, which is always good.

I reported last time that Colin Smith and I were going to the Fire College at Moreton-in-Marsh to do a

one day training event. This has now been completed and I can report that the day was a real success. I was in charge of four practice incidents. One was a light aircraft that had crashed and was on fire with a person who needed to be rescued. Another was a house fire which I had to investigate and found it to be an arson attack. All the feedback we got from the day was really positive and they said that they are always very impressed with how Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue conduct their business. The College is an international training facility and they see crews from all over the country and the world so I take that as a real compliment.

Congratulations to Barney Alton who is now riding the appliance. He has got a few shouts under his belt already, his first being an alarm at Middle Barton in a sheltered housing unit where an older adult had fallen asleep and filled their home with smoke from a much burnt dinner. He also helped rescue the child from the car mentioned above. Rachel Freeman is now back on the run after having surgery on her hand. It has been a long process and I know that it has been very frustrating for her. She is one of our longest serving fire fighters and has a lot of knowledge and experience.

We hope to have seen you at our charity car wash on 21 March. I will report on how successful it was next month.

**Crew Manager Tim Parker**



# Sunday 10th May 2015

The Deddington Four Farms Challenge is a 5km and 10km run around the picturesque parish of Deddington. The event is open to all, and has something to offer experienced runners, fun runners and families alike.

### Registration is now open

visit [www.fourfarmschallenge.co.uk](http://www.fourfarmschallenge.co.uk)  
email: [info@fourfarmschallenge.co.uk](mailto:info@fourfarmschallenge.co.uk)



Raising funds for Registered Charities: Deddington Primary School PTA (1052715), Deddington Village Nursery and PFSU (1100275) and The Firefighters Charity (1093387)

## DEDDINGTON HOUSING ASSOCIATION

The Deddington Housing Association is a charity run by a small committee of local residents, responsible for the maintenance and administration of 4 small cottages in Earls Lane, Deddington.

The charity's remit is to carry on, for the benefit of the community, the business of providing housing and other associated amenities for aged and/or disabled persons in necessitous circumstances within the parish of Deddington upon terms appropriate to their needs.

**NO. 1 HOLLY TREE COTTAGES HAS BECOME VACANT AND APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE TENANCY.**

For further details and an application form contact the secretary, Jill Cheeseman on 01869 338609. The closing date for applications will be Thursday 30 April 2015.



## CHURCH AND CHAPEL

### April

#### Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Sun 12 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
 10.30am Eucharist with healing prayer  
 Wed 15 10.00am Eucharist  
 Thu 16 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels  
 Sun 19 10.30am Eucharist  
 Wed 22 10.00am Eucharist  
 Thu 23 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels  
 Sun 26 9.30am Eucharist followed by  
 10.20am Interactive Café  
 Wed 29 10.00am Eucharist  
 Thu 30 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels

#### St John's, Hempton

Sun 19 9.00am Eucharist  
 Sun 26 6.00pm Evensong

#### Barford St Michael

Sun 12 10.30am Family service  
 Sun 19 10.30am Morning Service  
 Sun 26 4.00pm Evensong

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

#### Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

**Pastor Isabel Walton 337157**

Sunday mornings at 10.30am Pastor Isabel Walton  
 26 April George Pearce

#### RC Parish of Hethe

**Fr Paul Lester**

**01295 277396**

Mass at Holy Trinity, Hethe, is said at 9.30am every weekday except Thursday. There are two Masses on Saturday, at 9.30am in the normal Ordinary Rite and 12 noon in the Latin Extraordinary Rite. There are two Masses on Sunday, the first at 10.00am in the Ordinary Rite and the second at 12.00 noon in the Extraordinary Rite.

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

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

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

#### Friends of Deddington Library

Following our meeting on 10 March, our subscribers are now up to 85 and growing at a steady pace. However, our goal remains to reach 200 in the next 12 months. Please join us to help keep this fabulous community resource fully functioning and providing a vital service to our village. Subscription forms can be found at [www.friendsofdeddingtonlibrary.org](http://www.friendsofdeddingtonlibrary.org). Completed forms can be handed in at the Library.

The used inkjet recycling initiative has got off to a positive start with several cartridges being deposited at the Library and Hamptons, the estate agents in the Market Place. Continuing the recycling theme we are now accepting used or unwanted mobile phones for recycling and these can be deposited at the same locations.

We will have a stall at the April Farmers' Market where ink cartridges and mobile phones can be left and subscription forms completed as we strive to reach our goal. As ever, thank you for your continued support and please keep up to date by visiting: [www.friendsofdeddingtonlibrary.org](http://www.friendsofdeddingtonlibrary.org).

**Bryn Williams**  
[abw@brynwilliams.com](mailto:abw@brynwilliams.com)

#### Friends of Daeda's Wood

The Wood continues to be as attractive to wildlife and humans as ever and a large group of the Friends went down and had a spring tidy-up in February. The *Banbury Guardian* also turned up and took photos of the Friends in action and wrote an interesting piece about the Wood's history and what the community woodland means to us.

We are holding our AGM on 22 April at 7.30pm in the Deddington Arms, so if you would like to come (and are not yet a member) please contact me. We will be reviewing past events and discussing future plans.

**Annette Murphy 336195**  
[annette-orchard@live.co.uk](mailto:annette-orchard@live.co.uk)

#### Don't Get Caught

Cherwell District Council is supporting the national We're Watching You campaign which has been launched to target people who fail to scoop the poop. The initiative, which has been launched by the environmental charity, Keep Britain Tidy, will use a variety of techniques including glow in the dark signs, monitoring and patrols to either catch people in the act or deter them from offending.

## DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM

The wanderer has returned, albeit somewhat jet-lagged and struggling to adjust to a change of time zone and a considerable drop in temperature. A good time was, as they say, had by all, the all being a group from the local Trefoil Guild (geriatric Girl Guides) on their trip to the World Guiding Centre, Samgan, in central India.

As I put finger to keyboard the first group of ewes have finished dropping their lambs and are now out in the grass paddocks to make room for the second flock who are now on with the job, so it's back on the night duty for me. This lambing season we have a new member of the team: Gemma Petty has joined us for three weeks as part of her studies at the Royal Veterinary College. Gemma is no stranger to the lambing barns at Clifton as she has spent some time with us during the school holidays, so we are delighted to have her back as a vet student to gain some hands on experience of the day-to-day life in the lambing fold, quite literally getting stuck in, right up to the elbows.

The Cotswold Lions have had a good lambing season, producing some very good conformation lambs that will form part of our show team, before being entered into the flock. Another trainee, Jake 'the hooligan', is also gaining some experience when working with the ewes and their lambs, learning that discretion is the better part of valour when it comes to moving ewes with young lambs and it is not a very good idea to put your head through the pen front to have a look.

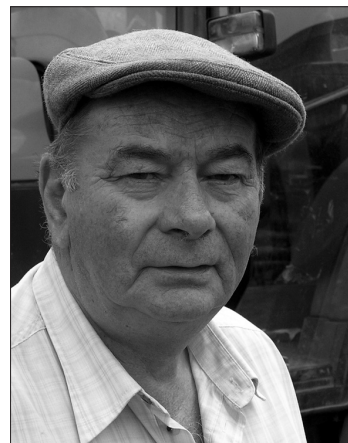
The 'open winter' has meant that the autumn planted crops are beginning to come out of their winter dormancy period and are in need of a visit from the fertiliser spreader and, once the soil temperatures start to rise, the over-winter ploughing will need working down to get the spring barley planted. I shall also need to find some time to sort out the bees. Over the last few weeks my woodwork shop has been a hive of activity making a number of new hives ready to start on this years bee breeding programme. For many years I have produced my own queens, but have decided to introduce some new blood and will buy in some Buckfast queens, a strain of honey bee produced by Brother Adam, a bee-keeping monk from Buckfast Abbey in Devon.

The bees seem to have over-wintered well this year, but as March is reckoned to be the crunch month when most hive losses occur, it is not wise to start predicting the outcome just yet.

We will also need to find some time in the farm office. Our masters in their wisdom decided to re-hash the CAP or, as it is now known, the basic payment scheme. The new system is now all electronic and everything has to be done online. We have made a start but have hit a stone wall as the new Rural Payments Agency's (RPA) computer system is still not fully up and running and we are now told that it won't be until this has hit your doormat, but we still only have until 15 May to get everything in place. The alarming thing about all this is that the RPA's old computer will be switched off at the end of March, so anyone who has not downloaded the information from previous claims will have nothing to cross reference and verify the information that will be needed to complete the new online version.

Well, it's time for another round in the maternity ward, but before I switch off a timely reminder that, with spring just around the corner and the ewes and lambs returning to the fields, please keep your dog on a lead. Many of our grazing fields are either crossed or bordered by footpaths and are very popular with the local dog walkers. There are a number who don't use a dog lead and in the past we have had problems with dogs chasing the sheep, so please do your bit in protecting the sheep and other wildlife and USE A LEAD. You all enjoy a walk on a sunny afternoon with your dog, so why spoil it by running the risk of having to return home without your pet.

**George Fenemore**  
338203



## Deddington Festival needs YOU

With just three months to go before the launch of the annual Deddington Festival, the organisers are appealing for community help to make this year's event the best yet.

For as little as £10 for individuals and £50 for businesses you can become a 'Friend of Deddington Festival' and indulge your passion for arts and for your local community. For just a little more, you can secure priority access to tickets or even an invite to our Festival launch reception.

This year's Festival will run from 12–20 June and promises to be a fun-packed ten days of music,

comedy, performing and visual arts, with something to appeal to all the family. The theme of the Festival will be 'light', in recognition of the fact that 2015 has been designated UNESCO's Year of Light.

Now in its thirteenth year, the Festival has become a much anticipated event that brings together the residents of Deddington and the surrounding villages in a celebration of local talent and culture.

If you would like to be involved, please fill in the form in this edition of the *DN*, or contact us via our website <http://www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk/>.

**Amalie Craig**

## THE TASTE BUDDIES

*We are the Taste Buddies. We lunch out every two months to assess local pubs and restaurants. We are an independent group with no connection to the Deddington News or any of the establishments visited.*

### WHERE?

The Horse & Groom Inn, The Green, Milcombe, Banbury, Oxon OX15 4RS, phone 01295 722142, [horseandgroominn@gmail.com](mailto:horseandgroominn@gmail.com).

The pub is located on the edge of this pretty village. The entrance is inviting and there is extensive seating on a terrace at the front for outside dining. Inside we found a sizeable bar and dining area, which is light and airy but has a cosy feel.

### FOOD SERVED:

7 days a week: Lunch served every day, dinner served Monday to Saturday

### AVERAGE COST:

Starters: £5–£7, mains: £9–£13 (a little more for steaks), desserts: £6. There is an extensive range of sandwiches available at around £7.

### WERE THEY PLEASED TO SEE YOU?

Our waitress greeted us warmly and showed us to an attractive table by the window. The service was quick and efficient and she returned several times to make sure we had everything we needed.

### WAS THE COOKING GOOD?

Among our starters were tempura battered king prawns with sweet chilli mayonnaise, grilled goats



cheese and red onion crouton, and fire-roasted pepper and tomato soup. These were all well cooked and presented.

Our mains were roast rump of beef with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, vegetables and rich gravy, beer-battered Cornish cod with chips and minted peas, and lentil, mushrooms and cashew bake with honey and mustard gravy.

The chef makes most dishes fresh on the premises using local named suppliers and the portions are very generous. While the roast beef was deliciously tender and cooked as requested, the minted peas and lentil dish was rather disappointing and the vegetables, on that particular day, were slightly overcooked.

The desserts were very tasty. The bread and butter pudding in particular was everything you could hope for and there was a delicious gluten-free brownie with ice cream. The wine list is acceptable and there are several choices available by the glass.

### VALUE FOR MONEY?

We paid £33 a head for three generous courses with wine and coffee which we thought was good value.

### WOULD YOU GO BACK?

Yes. This pub is worth a visit.

the Deddington news

## A PLACE IN THE TEAM

The **Deddington News** is brought to you by a team of enthusiastic volunteers. But we couldn't do it without the advertisers — for their fees make it possible to produce the monthly newsletter, distribute it free to every home in Clifton, Deddington and Hempton, and enable us to make donations to neighbourhood charities.

Some 70 local businesses advertise annually, many every year.

To fill the 18-plus pages of adverts on a first-come first-served basis, between September and November we contact regular and potential advertisers.

We are looking for an **Annual Advertisement Manager** to do that.

- ☒ Are you well-organised
- ☒ With standard computer skills
- ☒ And able to do basic page layout?

If your answer is 'Yes', then you could be the person we are looking for to join our team of volunteers.

Your tasks would include:

- ✱ Contacting regular and potential advertisers in September
- ✱ Keeping in touch with the clients to ensure that adverts are in on time
- ✱ Liaising with team members to ensure adverts are the right size and in the right format
- ✱ Arranging the adverts on pages
- ✱ Sending a proof to each advertiser
- ✱ Dispatching the finished pages to the printer
- ✱ Minor updating each July

You would not be working on your own: advice and support is available, particularly on the production side.

If you would like to join the Deddington News, contact Jill Cheeseman at [editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk) or phone **01869 338609**



## Second Drop-in, Second Thoughts

The next big event in the Neighbourhood Plan's calendar is the second round of drop-in sessions. These are to be held in the Living Room in the Church at the weekend coinciding with the April Farmers' Market, on Friday 24 April from 2pm until late, and Saturday morning.

The steering group has by now more or less got to grips with the responses to the parish questionnaire and is drawing up the goals and objectives which will form the basis of the final neighbourhood plan. These will be displayed on boards at the drop-ins and will be the first opportunity for those who completed the questionnaire – and those who didn't – to assess our interpretation of the dozens of tick-box answers and the thousands of additional comments.

We'll be looking to the drop-in sessions for guidance on the more contentious issues, such as parking and the criteria for where new development should be located in the parish – and to iron out conclusions where the results are a little fuzzy, or contradictory, for instance, concerning Castle Grounds.

Then, if we're hoping for improvements in the parish, we'd like to know which are the residents' priorities. The shopping list thrown up by the questionnaire is enormous – and the potential cost pretty high.

Nowhere is this clearer than in proposals for better sports facilities. A fair level of satisfaction with the existing facilities was expressed in the tick-box questions: tennis comes top with a 61% rating of 'good' or 'reasonable'; football and cricket comes next, in the mid fifties, followed by bowls with 41% satisfaction. Badminton has the lowest score with only a 35% satisfaction rating.

Badminton crops up quite a lot across the questionnaire. On the one hand, there's a smattering of non-players who reckon badminton occupies too much time and space at the Windmill, on the other a strong contingent of players pitch in with a plea for a second court or a bigger hall.

Tennis provoked plenty of comment too, some people wanting more courts and floodlights, others bidding for more public access to the courts, preferably without charge.

Unsurprisingly, since there are 12 Deddington football teams across the age groups, the biggest response concerns football, and virtually unanimously the cry is for more pitches, several pointing out that some of the junior teams have to play outside the village because there's no room for them at the Windmill. And not just more pitches, a full-size 3G (artificial turf) all-weather court is a popular demand. Where could these extra grass pitches be located – on additionally purchased land at the Windmill, at Castle Grounds, at Welford's Piece in Clifton?

The wish list goes on: a gym, a cycling track, a fitness trail, netball and squash courts, that old perennial, a swimming pool and – would you believe? – a croquet lawn.

What is less clear is how these improvements would be paid for – especially since a majority 'voted' that the Parish Council should hang on to its near half million pound reserve fund and continue using the interest to reduce the Council Tax demand.

One place to look for funds is contributions from developers, but these may be quite small if the parish has its way, expressed in the questionnaire, and no more than 50 new homes are built between now and 2031. ~~Another source of grants is the various funding bodies such as Sport England and the lottery.~~ Of course there are various other non-sports contenders for that as well, including for instance the Nursery and the Pre-school, the Windmill Centre, the playgrounds.

So that is one of the things we'd like to hear from you at the drop-in sessions: which are dreams and which are serious requirements? We're hoping even more will attend, Post-its at the ready, than came to the previous drop-ins last November. See you there?

**Helen Oldfield**

[helenmoldfield@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:helenmoldfield@yahoo.co.uk)

[www.deddingtonneighbourhoodplan.org](http://www.deddingtonneighbourhoodplan.org)

## Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

With the approach of spring our thoughts have turned to the outdoors and some special celebrations. The Nursery children invited their mums to celebrate Mother's Day with a special breakfast, and the PFSU children spent a creative week making their mums cupcake cards and paper flowers. We hope the lucky recipients enjoyed them.

Easter will bring some chocolate cooking, Easter egg hunts around the garden and all the fun of our Holiday Club. We have been watching the bulbs we planted last autumn grow and flower and have been busy planting seeds for some summer colour. The PFSU children spent a sunny morning at Castle Grounds looking for signs of spring.

Thank you to the parents who have brought in vehicles for us to see – a large blue tractor and a motorbike were much enjoyed.

Thank you also to everyone who supported our recent quiz night and the jumble sale. Our next fund-raising event is our spring hamper raffle, which will take place at Deddington Farmers' Market on 25 April. Please buy some tickets when you see us there.

We have an intrepid team entering the 10k Muddy Run at Cornbury Park on Saturday 18 April, raising funds for the PFSU, Nursery and Primary School PTA. We welcome your Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers at PFSU or Nursery. Lastly we are delighted to welcome Janet Bird and Charlotte Witka onto the staff team.

**Lucy Squires 337484**



## Postcard from America Toilets and St Patty's Day

I am sorry, but what kind of country can't even call a lavatory by its proper name, it is a toilet isn't it?

You are probably aware that the Americans call the dunny a 'rest room'. Now, I have been known to take some time doing my business, but I wouldn't say it was ever particularly restful. And worse still, when I first went shopping in the supermarket (King Sooper – what a great name) looking for toilet tissue I couldn't find it. What a surprise, they call it 'bath tissue'. What?

America can be very crude. Las Vegas is as blatant in the selling of sex as you can get anywhere in the world, but middle America is very restrained and really quite prudish, and strange things happen that just wouldn't work in Europe. For instance, last week I was in a golf clubhouse. I have to stress this was nothing to do with golf, I was merely rocking on down at a party. For a lovely English girl who just became American. Why you ask? But I digress.

Advertised proudly alongside the extortionate club membership was their next big event, a father and daughter ball. Now, I don't know about anyone else, but I have two daughters, and neither of them would be seen dead with me at a ball. Just far too creepy, or perhaps it is me. Please let me know.

The big issue coming up on both sides of the pond are the elections and the contrasts will be very enter-

taining. Put it this way, the US presidential election will cost around \$2bn; you can draw your own conclusions on the efficacy of the result. Money talks in America like nowhere else, and most people around me certainly don't see a problem with that.

But I might be better off. It is coming up to the time of the patron saint of Ireland and I need to prepare my costume. Now, as some of you are aware, I like a party and see no reason to avoid any suspect reason for a drink. Even if they insist on dying the beer green. But out here they are crazy for St Patty's Day.

St Patty, can't they spell? Oh dear, now I am ranting again. I do love America, honestly I do.

**Mike Ward**

[Mikew@qsoftware.com](mailto:Mikew@qsoftware.com)

## We are Listening

We have received some feedback about the difficulty of reading the Deddington Data on the back cover of *DN*, particularly in the current orange. Copies of the Contacts List are still available at the Library and the information is also available on <http://www.deddingtonnews.co.uk/contacts> and this can be printed off. We have decided that next year, all our back covers will be printed black on white.

**JC**

## Bloxham Table Tennis Club



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



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

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

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

### Bloxham Table Tennis Club offers:

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

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

**Contact us: Bob Dunkin 07779 734390**

**Andrew Wilson 07747 774707**

**Wayne Gubbins 07788 287245**

## News from Hempton

The Ladies' Tuesday Club which was formed in the year of the Millennium recently celebrated their 15th anniversary with a nice meal at Otters in Deddington. The Club started with about 24 members but is now down to about eight who meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 2.00pm in the Old School Room for a friendly chat and a cup of tea.

Our new vicar, the Revd Annie Goldthorp, is introducing new books, an extra reading and new ideas. St John's would welcome new younger members to the congregation as 95% of us are senior citizens. Services are at 9.00am on the first and third Sundays of the month and 6.00pm on the fourth. Information on Easter services are in the card with this issue of *DN*.

The Old School Room looks really nice with a modern outlook and is being used quite regularly by different groups. The Parish Council will be holding its monthly meeting there on Wednesday 15 April at 7.30pm. If you have any questions for them, go along at the start of the meeting.

As I reported last month, the snowdrops and crocuses in the grass verges are now beginning to fade and are being replaced by lots of daffodils and, along with the planters, keep a lot of the village looking nice. Please remember, if you have any news for me, give me a call or drop me a note in to 4 The Lane.

**Les Chappell**  
**338054**

## DEDDINGTON ENTREPRENEURS' NETWORK

**W**hat makes a great small business website? Here's an update from the latest meeting of the Deddington Entrepreneurs' Network.

The DENs met to discuss 'all things web-related' on 25 February in the Unicorn. It was a night full of fascinating discussions about making your website work for your business. Our panel was made up of network members who have built, designed and project managed websites both for themselves and their clients. Each panel member gave us up to three top tips – so if you've ever wondered about websites, read on ...

**Know what you want** your website to do for your business. From a shop window to a placeholder to something which actually drives ecommerce, you need to know what your website is actually going to be needed for before you think about putting it together.

**Reflect your brand.** If your business is very corporate, make the working and design corporate. If you are more 'business-to-consumer', make the design something appealing to your customers.

**Make it mobile friendly.** Most websites are viewed on smartphones or tablets. Fifty-five per cent of eBay trade is now on a mobile device. Your website needs to look great and function well on a small and big screen.

**Don't just focus on the home page.** People will land on your website on many different pages. Your focus should be on the part of your site that is most closely related to how your business makes money. This is the content that matters the most.

**Use social media to listen as well as speak.** To have a voice on something like Twitter, you need to

know what your target market is already talking about and sharing. The best way to start tweeting is to read tweets and then join the discussion.

**Pick your own style for content writing.** There's no such thing as the 'right' way to communicate on a website. Pick the authentic way you communicate with customers – it's a lot easier than being someone you're not.

**Watch out for SEO myths.** SEO (Search Engine Optimisation) is often cited as the only way to drive traffic to your site and people will charge you to get you on the first page on Google. It can work but it's not the only answer. You need to know what you want customers to find you for – very specific 'search terms' (what someone types into Google) may not be searched for very often.

**Don't pay for a custom 'shopping cart'.** If you are an ecommerce business (you sell things via your site directly), there are lots of free things out there that can be worked into your website and customised to suit you.

**Look at what and where else your products or services are selling online.** In other words, know your market and your competition. Ebay has a feature where you can find a product and see how much it has sold recently. This will help you judge what's popular.

Hope you enjoyed our tips. If you have any questions about them, or to join our mailing list and find out about future meetings, please email Ed Toll on [ed@onefiftynine.com](mailto:ed@onefiftynine.com) or Jen Toll on [jen@practical-lypositive.com](mailto:jen@practical-lypositive.com).

## OUR TOWN HALL The Final Phase

The Town Hall will be encased in scaffolding during the last week of April. Many of you will have noticed that the street lamps, wiring and electric boxes disfiguring the elevations have been removed; a re-siting on to the brickwork of the mains electrical inlet on the north-west corner is due to be undertaken. Oxfordshire County Council has installed a new and visually pleasing street lamp on the same corner and at some stage a further street lamp will be placed at the south-east corner. The Trustees only own the footprint of the building, thus the positioning of these lamps is not under our control. The coat of arms will be removed temporarily for repainting and current advice is that it can be restored to its existing position without future damage to the new render.

The time estimated for the work involved is three months, not only for re-rendering the elevations but to allow for repairs to any structural damage that may be exposed. Additionally the Deddington Charity Estates committee elected to include re-pointing all the brickwork with the correct lime and mortar mix. At present close examination shows areas of clumsy cement

patching which impacts on a clean and untarnished appearance that the building deserves. The windows will also be repainted since scaffolding provides an opportune moment. Cherwell District Council heritage inspectors will confirm a finished colour acceptable and in keeping with the character of the surrounding properties.

Lime and mortar rendering must be applied in the warmer months to reduce the potential deleterious effect of damp and frost and there is a possibility of overrun on the timescale should further degradation be revealed, particularly if listed approval has to be sought regarding reconstruction.

With regret residents, businesses, the Farmers' Market and parking will suffer some inconvenience and we can only tender our apologies but would seek your tolerance and understanding. We do hope that questions have been answered regarding the future state of the Town Hall. The feoffees remain confident that the finished result will be a worthy and fitting tribute and stand proud in our beautiful and historic village.

**John Sampson 338739**

## FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

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

### FROM SIR FRANK DAVIES, CASTLE STREET, DEDDINGTON **WHO CARES ABOUT THE NEIGH- BOURHOOD PLAN ANYWAY?**

Well I certainly I do and so do all those giving many hours to produce it. I am just a foot soldier, being a Street Captain and a member of one of the Topic Groups. The national project which brought this about was called 'localism'. That is the objective, for each community to influence its own development.

Four things emerge. Deddington has a considerably older population than the average. There is no great desire for fundamental change although there are some suggestions for adjustments. There is real interest in down-sizing and it should be easier for young people to stay in the village.

The very real need for more housing confuses the planning issues. The national annual target is for about 190,000 new houses. Deddington is about one 27,000th of the population of England so our share is about seven houses each year. The Prudential will be disappointed if they cannot sell at least that from School Ground. Eight-five houses accounts for 12 of the 16 years of the planning period and the additional 28 over 16 years shouldn't be a problem. So let's have no feeling of guilt that we are not doing our bit.

That does not deal with the problem of ageing and down-sizing. We should build smaller houses. Let us not confuse the issue by introducing the technical term 'affordable' which applies to subsidised houses. Half the population lives in owned houses and the rest in rented accommodation. It is all affordable or we wouldn't be there long. We have all at times found it hard to afford our homes but somehow we do. So these new down-sized homes need not be the very cheapest possible. Down-sizers do not want to lower the standard they enjoy, they just want a smaller house. But somehow we must ensure these new smaller homes are reserved for Deddingtonians. The nation will benefit by taking up the vacated houses.

The young people forced to leave the village must be looked after in the same way. We do not need to solve the housing problems of Budapest, Bucharest or even Banbury. We must fight for our own. The 2012 Housing Needs Survey report identified 17 Deddington respondents who have a proven need for affordable housing, well within the number of affordable houses we must build. But astonishingly 14 were not on the Cherwell Housing List. I do not believe in intrusive interference but we should make clear to such families that they will not get a house unless they are. We should go further and provide advice to them that if



Please address all letters to:  
JILL CHEESEMAN  
37 THE DAEDINGS, DEDDINGTON  
[letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk)  
and include your name and address  
even if they are not for publication

they have a local claim they will get preference. Every help should be available in presenting their local case. Would it be acceptable for a Parish Councillor to be appointed to give publicity to those aspirants and to ensure they receive every assistance?

To give local people the opportunity to stay in Deddington will not be easy. This will be a battle but all must join it. This includes our Councillors – Parish, District and County. I know that there is not a simple legal way but we must be organised and make such a fuss that we get our way. We must emphasise our ageing population, identify the deserving, and help them to make their case. Only then will we meet the four issues that have emerged in the questionnaires.

### FROM SIR FRANK DAVIES, CASTLE STREET

It was very gratifying that so many people sent messages to me with condolences upon the sad death of my wife last week. I would like to thank them all and say how much this meant to me and that it is very helpful at this awful time.

### FROM MOIRA BYAST, THE LANE, HEMPTON

I would like to thank all those who attended our 'Songs for Love and for Life' concert on 14 February. We have now sold the rest of the wine and paid all the bills and have paid just over £1,000 to Katharine House. I would like to thank Iain Gillespie who was so helpful in setting up and taking down the stage, seating and so on. The choir enjoyed the evening and I think the audience did as well.

### FROM CHRISTOPHER HALL, DEDDINGTON

Cherwell Community Bank has opened as a branch of the Northamptonshire Credit Union, initially for just 2–3 hours one day a week at the CAB in Banbury.

The credit union needs help in three ways: (1) Places to serve as service points, ideally with a room available for private consultations, but this is not essential; an internet connection is also desirable. (2) A group of five or six volunteers who can staff the service points. They won't have to handle cash or make decisions on loans, simply talk to the customers and help them fill in the necessary forms. Training will be provided. A sympathetic ear is the main requirement. (3) 'Ethical investors' willing to save with the credit union – savings are fully covered by the financial compensation scheme and will receive a variable dividend.

Please contact James Richards on [JAMES.RICHARDS@southnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:JAMES.RICHARDS@southnorthants.gov.uk).



## Musical Notes

Here's hoping you enjoyed the two large-scale concerts in March. Bach's *St John Passion* was particularly appropriate for Easter. Beside the two Passions comes Bach's, perhaps even better known, *B Minor Mass*. This is arguably one of the all-time greatest choral works. The work is special because Bach compiled it, not for a specific occasion, but for posterity and to the glory of God. You can hear this work, performed by Janet Lincé's Choros choir, well known to Deddington Church, but this time singing on Saturday 25 April at 7.30pm in St John the Evangelist Church, Iffley Road, Oxford.

Before this, on Saturday 18 April at 7.30pm in Deddington Church, South African born pianist Neil Hilgrove Colledge offers music-lovers a piano recital. Neil has a long association with Oxford and the Cotswolds, as well as elsewhere. His London engagements include the Royal Festival Hall, the Barbican Centre, the Commonwealth Institute, London Diplomatic Academy, Leighton House and Steinway Hall. This concert takes place on the sixtieth anniversary of the death of Albert Einstein and will open with a reading dedicated to his memory. Neil will play works by Franz Schubert, his Sonata in B flat major, and Frederick Chopin, his *Polonaises* opus 26 and 40. Do your best to come to hear this very experienced pianist performing wonderful music.

Donald Lane

[Donald199@btinternet.com](mailto:Donald199@btinternet.com)

## DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

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

**6th April** – Was busied destroying the rabbits in the plantation – Jos. Wilson came with some ferrets from Adderbury, we killed 31 young and old of all sizes. The first elm tree in the Church yard was felled today, we heard that Mr. Field had interfered to prevent the remaining five from being felled – upon what grounds did not transpire. They had previously been sold by Mr. Scroggs for the Vicar to a man named Coggins of Lower Heyford.

**10th April** – Holford returned and attended a Waywarden's Meeting at the Holt.

**11th April** – Mr. Turner, the Vicar, called to ask for something towards procuring some clothes for a child (illegitimate) named Tustin, whom he was about to send to an orphanage at Bath – gave him 10s.

**20th April** – Mr. Turner, the Vicar, came again after Susan and I had called his attention to certain things as to his conduct in the Parish ministerially as to doctrine and discipline – being totally at variance with our views of Churchmanship. I paid him our subscriptions to the Schools for this year – we parted friends, with the understanding that we must ever dissent from his views as to all Church matters – and teaching.

**28 April** – Holford and I heard a Settlement case and ordered the removal of the Pauper Ward from

## BLISSFUL THINKING

'Scandal' is an interesting concept. If you were to spot a patron of the Co-op dropping their britches and defecating in the *Cuisine de France* stand, you might well feel the need to broadcast this tawdry turn of events to your circle, yet if you'd spotted them buying cigarettes, it probably wouldn't even register. Then again, if someone the national media has defined as a young 'celebrity' were to buy cigarettes, it could make front copy in every trashy magazine and tabloid stand for the day. So the size of the scandal seems to be inversely proportional to the renown of the person involved. That's before we even consider platforms like Twitter, where the great and the loud gather to disseminate the dissemination of popular culture. If an average Joe or Josephine states the apocalypse is nigh online, people would most likely 're-tweet' it only to mock and point out what a deluded nutcase they sound like. If Kanye West tweets it, then a flurry of sharing and commenting and dissection will abound. Did he mean the pop world or the real world? Is he over-reacting to yet another award shun? Has Kim's latest publicity stunt broken the only recently repaired worldwide web?

Everything seems to be amplified in 'celebrity' culture. If a 'celebrity' makes a vacuous pronouncement, it is instantly analysed and lauded for its immaculate articulation, wit and/or insight; soon to be commodified on millions of t-shirts and key fobs the world over, marketed as 'voices of their generation'.

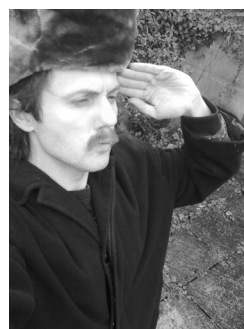
But there is of course a darker side to this hollow world. Imagine you woke up to a voyeur brandishing a long-distance lens like a sniper rifle into your front room, and later that day you logged on to find you picking your nose in your onesie plastered all over Facebook, followed by a stream of disparaging comments on your appearance or fornicatory ineptitude from strangers. Then multiply that many times, and you will feel that balmy yet sordid glow of 'celebrity'. Impropriety is definitely more fun just among friends.

Aaron Bliss

[aaronjbliss@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronjbliss@hotmail.com)

Clifton to Farthinghoe – Ward had rented a house and premises there at £11 per annum of Mr. Nash for more than 12 months. We also heard a case of cruelty towards a horse by two children – ordered them, with the consent of their parents, to receive the one 6 stripes and the other 4 by the hand of Inspector Bowen with a birch rod, or to be convicted in fine and costs to the amount of 18s.

Buffy Heywood





## CALLING ALL CLUBS

### 1st Deddington Guides

A trusty band spent a happy few hours getting muddy and working hard at the Horley Scout campsite. We often enjoy using this lovely site so thought we would say thank you by volunteering to help prepare the site for spring. We hauled fallen branches onto the tractor-trailer to clear the woods for new growth. We also pruned some of the trees on the camp field. It was great fun, getting a ride in the trailer and learning about how the tractor engine worked.

Many city children enjoy camping on the site, so we planted soft fruit bushes to enhance their experience and to learn where the fruit comes from. Planting bulbs was our last task before having a great cookout with hot dogs and marshmallows.

Thinking Day this year was celebrated with international craft activity and a taste of Chinese food by senior Guides working towards their Baden-Powell Award. We completed the evening with a candle ceremony thinking of Guides in other parts of the world and considering what we can do in our own way to promote world peace.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to our entertainment on 24 March when we will be raising money for charity.

**Maggie Rampley 01295 810069**

**Marion Trinder 340806**

**Catherine Blackburn 01295 258008**

### 1st Deddington Scout Group

#### Cubs

Two new members have joined us, Charlie and Will. Let's hope they are with us a long time.

During the half-term break the Cubs performed their puppet show, *The Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*: they were great and the show was enjoyed by a large number of parents.

We have been continuing work towards the animal carer badge, pet passports and bird feeders. We should see a lot of Cubs counting birds and walking dogs.

Dylan, Ben, Harry and Daniel represented the pack at the District Egg Race where they had to build and race a small cart to safely carry an egg. Both teams did very well.

Coming soon – trips to Crocodiles of the World, district camp and fun day.

**Jo Churchyard CSL**

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

#### Scouts

The Scouts' contribution to the evening of entertainments was, well, unforgettable and it will take a long time before we erase the memory of Fynn as Carol Vorderman in their version of *Countdown* (Scout-down). Jack's faultless card tricks in *The Great Nate* counteracted the bloodthirsty cutting-the-Scout-in-half that followed.

A representative from Special Effects, a local charity that adapts gaming machines for disabled children, visited one evening, with some impressive equipment that the Scouts tried out.

Coming soon – aqua camp and The 24.

#### Explorers

The lads helped out with refreshments for the entertainments night and are working on fundraising ideas following the Special Effects visit.

Coming soon – county Explorer Scout activity weekend.

**Pete Churchyard SL**

**[pete.churchyard@btinternet.com](mailto:pete.churchyard@btinternet.com)**

### 1st Deddington Boys' Brigade

March saw the Company section take part in the Battalion drill competition and very well done to Tom, Kieran, Toby and Malachy for winning by one point. Congratulations to 1st Wallingford on their win in the colour drill. This month the Company section will be back in action with the Battalion ten pin bowling competition on 25 April.

Our long-awaited Enrolment Service took place on Wednesday 11 March with our new Vicar, the Reverend Annie. Thanks to all the families and members of the congregation who came to support our young people and leaders. Thanks also to Graham Wallington and the band who were able to play at this service.

The evenings are drawing out and we will be getting outside a lot more as the weather improves.

**Jen Childs, Leader**

**07774 608715**

**[Jen.childs@btinternet.com](mailto:Jen.childs@btinternet.com)**

### Anyone for tennis?

Deddington Tennis club welcomes new members. We are a friendly club with a good mixture of social and league tennis to satisfy all standards of play. The courts are at the Windmill Centre so why not call in to play? Club nights start again on Wednesday 1 April at 6.00pm. Exciting news this year is that the floodlight application has been successful so our club will soon be able to extend playing times. We have regular club nights, match nights, a junior section and junior and adults coaching. Please visit [www.deddingtontennis.com](http://www.deddingtontennis.com) for more information.

**Alison Stevens**

**[www.deddingtontennis.com](http://www.deddingtontennis.com)**

### Deddington Baby and Toddler Group

At the time of writing, Deddington Baby and Toddler Group members are looking forward to an 'egg-citing' Easter egg hunt on Friday 27 March.

But every Friday is exciting as we come together each week from 10.00am to noon to play, chat and make new friends, although we will be taking a break

## CALLING MORE CLUBS

on Good Friday (3 April). As well as a range of toys for children to play with, we enjoy doing crafts and having the occasional sing-a-long. Admission, which includes snacks and juice for little ones and tea or coffee for grown-ups, is £2 for families with one child and £2.50 for those with more.

For more information, please contact me.

**Janet Bird**  
337428

### Deddington Original Golf Society

Our first DOGS day for 2015 is the 18 hole Stableford Competition at the Oxford Golf Club on Friday 1 May. Further details and booking form to follow shortly.

If you're not a member of DOGS but are interested in joining, please email our secretary, Keith Spengler, for more information at [keith.spengler1@btinternet.com](mailto:keith.spengler1@btinternet.com).

A full list of golf clubs and venues for 2015 plus links to the clubs can be accessed via the Deddington OnLine website, [www.deddington.org.uk](http://www.deddington.org.uk).

**Tony Lowe, Chairman**  
337108

### Deddington Town Football Club

#### 1st Team Results:

28.02.15 Souldern (a) W 2–0 Gamage, Smith C  
07.03.15 B Itchington (a) L 1–3 Charles

#### Reserves Results:

14.02.15 Bloxham (a) L 3–7  
21.02.15 Diverse (h) W 4–3 Bullard (2),  
Hayward D, Waddelow  
28.02.15 Sinclair Utd (a) L 1–5 Rollason  
07.03.15 Bloxham (a) L 1–3 Catania

Oh my, sometimes embracing positivity is like keeping a tea-light flickering in the face of an approaching typhoon, but here goes: it's not over until the matronly soprano clears her pipes. A truly wretched month saw just two victories between our teams, though all may not be lost. The First Team still has silverware to chase, and the Reserves still have two games to save themselves from relegation. Highlights this month chiefly involved old-stagers Roan Waddelow and Sam Rollason bagging goals for the Reserves, who have some young prospects learning on the job in an unforgiving league. Shout your lungs out to the end!

**Aaron Bliss**  
07909 642882

### Deddington Town Colts

The Under 14s playing in the Midland Junior League had a 5-2 defeat at Pegasus in the Cup, and a 4-1 defeat at Shrewsbury DC in the League. In the Witney and District Youth League the Under 14s had a 5-1 victory over Witney Vikings and a 3-0 win over Yarnton

Blues. The team sits second in the B league, level on points with leaders, Easington. The Under 13s had a heavy defeat to Banbury United Spencer. The Under 12s had a 4-2 victory at Banbury Irish, a 5-1 victory at Chadlington, and a 3-1 victory at Carterton Town Youth. The Under 11s won their final league game of the season with a 2-0 win at Chipping Norton to finish the season third in the league.

If you want to get involved with the club as player, volunteer, sponsor or fundraiser, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Further information about the club is on our website with contact numbers for team managers, <http://www.deddingtontownfc.com/>.

**Roger Sykes**  
**Club Welfare Officer**  
337034

### Photographic Society

In March Alan Fretten returned to the Society to give a presentation entitled 'So long and thanks for the fish'. It embraced numerous photographic topics. Alan introduced his audience to a spectrum of images. He started in Mexico and Guatemala, with the landscapes of Inca ruins and some spectacular waterfalls. Next he took us to the Greek Island of Santorini, showing the influence of light on buildings, the use of monochrome to enhance the visual impact, and the unique relationship between sunset and water. An experienced athlete, Alan continued with action photographs at various field sports events, including the 2012 London Olympics, and closed the first part of his presentation with a discussion on the use of exposure bracketing to capture images of rock band artists during live performances.

After the interval Alan examined the art of studio photography. Emphasising his preference for natural light or floodlights, as opposed to the use of electronic flash, he showed still life and glamour images. Finally, Alan turned to techniques he employed for street photography, showing images taken in the Olympic Park and during his recent holidays in India. It was a most interesting presentation by an articulate and extremely competent photographer that was much appreciated by his audience.

The next meeting is the AGM at 7.00pm on 1 April, followed by a members' presentation entitled 'My Attempts at Abstract Photography'. On 15 April, there is a skills workshop on 'Sensor Sensitivity and White Balance' and, on 6 May, member Randall Miles, ARPS, AFIAP, will talk about 'The Maasai Mara – Animal and Landscape Prints'. The latter two events start at 7.30pm, at the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho. Just come along and enjoy a very warm welcome.

Take a look at our new website to get more information about the society [www.addphoto.co.uk](http://www.addphoto.co.uk).

**Richard Broadbent**  
338173

## ... AND EVEN MORE CLUBS

### Deddington Branch Royal British Legion

We are marking the 70th Anniversary of the ending of the Second World War, VE Day, during the weekend of 8–10 May: full details will be in the May *DN*, the *Banbury Guardian* and local notices in the village.

Following our very successful visit to the Submarine Museum last year, we are planning visits to Bletchley Park and the National Arboretum later in the year. These will be open to all. Anyone interested should contact me.

**Jean Morris, Branch Secretary**  
338143  
[mrsjeanmorris@gmail.com](mailto:mrsjeanmorris@gmail.com)

### Deddington Players

Deddington Players AGM will be held on Wednesday 13 May at 7.30pm at the Holly Tree.

We've just about recovered now, so on to the next one! If you'd like to attend the AGM, please come to the Holly Tree at 7.30pm on 13 May. We'll be discussing how *Scrooge* went and any suggested changes as to how things are run and done so that we keep bringing a great show to the village. If you're a non-member but would like to attend, please email me.

**Suzie Upson**  
[suzieupson@mac.com](mailto:suzieupson@mac.com)

### Book Club

At our last meeting we discussed *Crow Lake* by Mary Lawson. The story, set in a remote farming community in Northern Canada, is narrated by the now 26-year-old Kate Morrison, looking back on her childhood. When she was seven her parents were killed in a car accident, leaving Kate, her younger sister Bo and her two older brothers, Luke and Matt, orphaned.

The author focuses on the relationships between the siblings and how the older children struggle to cope with their new responsibilities. We learn about the generous and warm-hearted local community, who, despite their own poverty, help the family to cope. There are some beautiful in-depth descriptions of everyday life in this isolated setting and some very funny moments. For most people the book was hard to put down and we would highly recommend it.

The next meeting is 30 April. Please call for information about the next book.

**Sally Lambert**  
338094

### Women's Institute

A rather small number gathered for our AGM. The minutes of the previous AGM were read and approved, and other reports were read. The committee was re-elected with hopes that someone would volunteer to take some of the heavy load our secretary has shouldered for a long time.

There is to be a special Buckingham Palace Garden Party for WI members to celebrate the centenary.

Ann Neal is going to represent us as she has been a WI member for sixty-five years.

Our next meeting will be on 14 April at 7.30pm. Visitors are always welcome. Contact Beryl Suckling on 337385.

**Julia Hobbs**

### Deddington and District History Society

For our March lecture the History Society ventured deep into pre-history when the very lively Paul Sargent held us enthralled on the subject of 'The Dinosaurs of Oxfordshire'. Few of us were aware of Oxfordshire's important role in the early years of palaeontology. A diverse range of dinosaurs flourished in this area 170–150 million years ago, when what is now Great Britain was still joined to the continental land mass and when Oxfordshire comprised a series of tropical islands on a latitude with Bermuda today (much wistful sighing from a large audience which had ventured out on a raw March evening). From the earliest recorded discovery of dinosaur remains anywhere (at Stonesfield in the 17th century: the bones were thought to be those of Biblical giants) through to pioneering Oxford scientists in the 19th and 20th centuries, the county has held a significant research position. Paul's proudest moment in many years devoted to exploring for fossils came with his discovery of the fossilised tracks of a mother and calf at Ardley Quarry in the 1990s. The overall timescale that Paul asked us to try and comprehend left us all feeling rather awed and diminished.

On Wednesday 8 April Carol Anderson, Director of the Oxfordshire Museum at Woodstock, will speak on 'Glove-making in Oxfordshire'. We meet at the Windmill Centre at 7.30pm and all are welcome.

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

### Deddington Festival 2015

*Celebrating the UNESCO Year of Light with Illuminating Events and Performances*

The 13th annual Deddington Festival will take place between Friday 12 and Saturday 20 June. Bringing a variety of arts and cultural experiences to the community, this year's Festival will be a fun-packed eight days with many new additions to the programme.

The Festival offers a range of music, comedy, performing and visual arts events to Deddington and the surrounding villages. Highlights of this year's programme include Wriggle Dance Theatre, Akeman Voices Concert, Clive and Dave Magic Act, Tam and Tea Children's Art Workshop, Cotswold Comedy Club, Deddy Jazz, and Deddy Rocks. For more information visit [www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk](http://www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk).

Please contact Emma Noon [emmanoon1@gmail.com](mailto:emmanoon1@gmail.com) for information. To become a Friend please contact Elli Ince at [elligarnett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:elligarnett@hotmail.co.uk). To find out about sponsorship please contact Suzie Upson at [suzieupson@mac.com](mailto:suzieupson@mac.com).



## WELL REMEMBERED

### LADY (SHEILA) DAVIES

Sheila, my wife, died on 5 March and leaves me devastated. We were married for 58 years, after an economically-forced long engagement. They were such very happy years as Sheila supported me through the various stages of my life. She was loved by all who knew her well. She gave us a fantastic family. Fortunately all three sons and their wonderful families live reasonably close so we always met them at least once a week. Sheila was completely devoted to the family and it to her. We are all so sad and as yet inconsolable. The family has been a great support to me over these awful days.

She leaves us so many memories of a smiling, loving, generous woman, sympathetic and understanding. We will never forget her.

She endured a life-long struggle with chronic kidney disease. Few would know she lost a kidney and much more in 1959 as she led so active a life at my side. Much of the last five years was in a wheelchair and, for the last 18 months, that or a bed, but she was always so cheerful.

It gave us some consolation that we received literally hundreds of tributes and her funeral was so well attended. I thank everyone who came or sent cards and letters. Deddington proved it is a community by how the word went around.

**Frank Davies**

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### The Duke of Cumberland's Head

Sixty-seven villagers squeezed into the Unicorn's Function Room on 12 March (thanks to the owners) to discuss a way forward to reinstate this essential community asset back into the heart of Clifton life.

It is the only pub in Clifton and it closed unexpectedly on 2 February. As well as the 67 attendees there were apologies from 20 people who were unable to attend. Eighty-seven respondents from a community of fewer than 80 homes is a clear indication of the strength of feeling this issue carries.

The group expressed their gratitude to the owners for keeping the pub going during some difficult times. The community hopes to influence and assist in the onward disposal of the pub to the mutual benefit of all while retaining its essential community role. The meeting resolved to make contact with the owners to discuss what plans and expectations they have.

With the subsequent support of the PC, the meeting resolved to write to Cherwell District Council to object to any application for change of use and to register opposition to any planning application made without consultation with the group or community at large.

Many people reflected on how they could have supported the pub more and would seek to do so in the future, and discussions turned to how potential buyers could be found.

**Alan Collins**  
[alanraycollins@gmail.com](mailto:alanraycollins@gmail.com)

## PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

We are pleased that the PTA, PFSU and Nursery curry and quiz night in Barford Village Hall was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who supported the event and to those who helped run it. Now we are looking forward to our Easter events, a raffle, cake sale and school uniform sale. These will take place at the school on Thursday 26 March.

Those of us crazy enough to be taking part in the Monster Race at Cornbury Park on Saturday 18 April (see <http://www.monsterrace.co.uk/> for more details) are training. The better weather helps, although we will be wet and muddy on the day. Anyone who would like to sponsor us please visit [www.justgiving.com/DeddingtonMudMonsters/](http://www.justgiving.com/DeddingtonMudMonsters/). You will be supporting Deddington Primary School PTA and Deddington PFSU and Nursery.

We are also looking ahead to the Four Farms Challenge on Sunday 10 May, the second year we have run this event with the PFSU and Nursery, and Deddington Fire Service. As last year, there will be the 5k, 10k and children's fun run, around Deddington Parish. It will start and finish at Castle Grounds where there will be a barbecue, bar, tombola, cakes and popcorn. To register or for more information visit [www.fourfarmschallenge.co.uk](http://www.fourfarmschallenge.co.uk).

Finally we are already busy planning the School Fête, which will be on Saturday 4 July. We would be very interested to hear from anyone with suggestions for the main attraction or sponsorship for the event. Please contact me on [deddingtonpta@gmail.com](mailto:deddingtonpta@gmail.com) if you can help.

We continue to use the funds we raise to support the school and have recently purchased team sports kits, music lessons and will be subsidising the cost of the school trip to see *The Lion King* in July.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Julia Jackman**  
Co-chair  
[deddingtonpta@gmail.com](mailto:deddingtonpta@gmail.com)

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### Friends of Castle Grounds

Oxford Conservation Volunteers will be visiting Castle Grounds to finish the repair of the dry stone wall that runs along the northern boundary. The dates of their visits are on Sundays, 17 May and 14 June. Work should commence from 10.00am. If you would like to learn how to build a dry stone wall, please come along and help. Make sure that you have some thick gloves and strong shoes. All volunteers are welcome. It is a fun day so please put the dates in your diary.

**Carol Horlock, Secretary**  
338935  
[carol.horlock@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:carol.horlock@hotmail.co.uk)