



Members of the editorial team (l to r: Jill Cheeseman, Mary Robinson, Christopher Hall, John Sampson, Frank Steiner, Ruth Johnson, Molly Neild, Alison Day, Buffy Heywood, Rosemary Clark) enjoy 14 bound volumes of the Deddington News, also to be found in the Library. Jill and Mary take over from Christopher Hall as co-editors from the next issue. All communications for the editor should now be emailed to [editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk)

## February

Mon	4	Monday Morning Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree 10.30 am-noon
Wed	6	Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8-10 pm
Wed	6	Photographic Society: Studio Lighting Techniques, Adderbury, The Library, 7.30 pm
Sun	10	PFSU/Nursery: Quiz Night, Holcombe Hotel, 7.30pm >p.4
Tue	12	Fire Station: Open Evening, 7pm >p.10
Tue	12	Youth Club: AGM, Windmill Centre, 7pm >p.13
Tue	12	WI: Heather Ward, <i>Spring Ahead</i> , Holly Tree, 7.30 pm >p.14
Wed	13	History Society: George Hook, <i>The History of Button Making</i> , Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm >p.14
Thu	14	Thursday Club: Windmill Centre, open all day from 1.30 pm
Wed	20	Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm >p.3
Sat	23	Deddington Farmers' Market: 9am-12.30 pm
Sat	23	PTA: Craft Market, Holly Tree, 9.30 am-12.30 pm >p.4
Sat	23	Deddington Festival: Poetic Licence in <i>Devout Coward</i> , Parish Church, 7.30pm
Tue	26	Beaver Colony meeting for interested parents, Windmill Centre, 6.30 pm
Thu	28	Book Club: for venue call Sally Lambert (338094) >p.14

## March

Sat	1	PTA: Quiz Night, Windmill Centre, 7.30 for 8 pm >p.4
Mon	3	Monday Morning Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30 am-noon
Wed	5	Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8-10 pm
Wed	5	Photographic Society: Photographic Work in the Studio, Adderbury, The Library, 7.30 pm
Tue	11	WI: AGM, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm >p.14
Wed	12	History Society: Rob Parkinson, <i>Orthodox Village Surveys</i> , Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm
Thu	13	Monday Morning Club: Film evening, Holly Tree, 6.30 pm
Sat	15	Akeman Voices: Pergolesi, Mozart & Jenkins, Parish Church, 8.00 pm
Wed	19	Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm
Sat	22	Deddington Farmers' Market: 9am-12.30 pm

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 \* THE FLOWER SHOP \*  
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 \* Box for donations \*  
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SEE PAGE 2 FOR WEEKLY MEETINGS

**THE DEDDINGTON NEWS** - Copy please to the relevant editor by next copy date: **16 Feb 2008**

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## Meeting in Town Hall - 19 December

Present Cllrs Squires [Chair] Alton, Anderson, Flux, Ince, Privett, Spencer, Todd, C/Clr Jeff, D/Clr O'Sullivan, the Clerk two members of the public.

### Open Forum:

Christmas tree: well received, traffic cones necessary to prevent cars getting too close.

Street lighting: in spite of light pollution and cost it was necessary for all street lights to be left on all night for security.

### Highways

Finger posts being repaired.

New Street: two possible crossing points are being discussed with OCC.

School Crossing: warden post still unfilled.

Postbox: re-sighting still being discussed.

Parking at school: the idea is accepted in principle providing it is on agreed days and supervised.

Clifton footpath repair: Sustrans who recently were awarded £50 million lottery funding are to be asked for support.

Hempton traffic speed is to be monitored.

Gaveston Gardens footpath: repair has been authorised.

A manhole at the Chapel Square end of the Market Place has lifted and is being repaired.

### Environment & Recreation

Windmill Centre play area is waiting for funding for repairs and refurbishment; 8 bales of bark are to be ordered.

Teen Scene 'Drop in Centre' under discussion - Cricket Club windows which are boarded up, having been vandalised, were thought unsightly. Mesh

screens were suggested, or perhaps the boards could be painted. The sight screen was damaged and needs repair.

### Special projects

Fireproof safe required for parish records

Cemetery: bulbs are being planted, unmarked graves to be designated, the damaged gates are being repaired.

Glass re-cycling bins located near the Council depot on the Milton Road are inaccessible for those without transport and although alternative sites have been investigated no better site is available. It was suggested that 'Good Neighbours' could help dispose of empty bottles for those without transport.

Budget allocation for enhanced CCTV coverage at Windmill Centre and to replace the bench in Hempton.

Conflict of Interest dispensation being sought by PC for discussion of future of Holly Tree and the Town Hall.

The Parish Plan was welcomed and copies are available at the Library.

### Planning

PC No Objections: [1] Home Farm Cottage, Clifton: extension. [2] The Mount, St Thomas St: tree trimming. [3] 38 Gaveston Gardens: extension. [4] Ash Cottage, Chapel Close, Clifton: revised submission of redevelopment.

CDC Approvals: [5] Holcombe Hotel, High St: roof lights. [6] Flats, Grove Court: replacement of windows. [7] Plough House, New St: handrails by front door. [8] Castle Barns, Castle St: replacement windows. [9] Stable Cottage, Hempton Rd: tree felling. [10] Gaslight, Earls Lane: tree felling.

CDC Refusals: [11] The Homestead, The Lane, Hempton: two story extension.

Appeal decision: 65 St Johns Way, Hempton. Inspector overturned CDC objection.

### Parish Finances

- Invoices passed for payment £10,747.
- Investments totalled £547,446 at Bromwich BS, Barclays & Birmingham Midshires

### WEEKLY MEETINGS

Mon: Brownies: Windmill Centre, 6-7.30 pm.  
 Mon: Youth Club: Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm  
 Mon: Bellringing Practice: Parish Church, 7.30-9 pm  
 Tue: Tennis Club: Windmill Centre, 10 am  
 Alternate Tues: Hempton Ladies: St Johns Hall, 2-4 pm  
 Tue: Craft Group: Holly Tree, 2.00 - 4.30 pm  
 Tue: Deddington Guides: Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm.  
 Tue: Badminton Club: Seniors, Windmill Centre, 7-10 pm  
 Tue: Deddington Youth Group: Parish Church, 7-8.30 pm  
 Alternate Wed: Friendship Club: Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm  
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys: Windmill Centre, 5 pm  
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Juniors: Windmill Centre, 5.45 pm  
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Company: Parish Church, 7 pm  
 Thu: Life and Portrait Art Group: Town Hall, 10-12.30 & 1.30-4 pm  
 Thu: 1st Deddington Cubs: Windmill Centre, 6 - 7.30 pm  
 Thu: 1st Deddington Scouts: Windmill Centre, 7.30-9 pm  
 Fri: Babies & Toddlers' Group: Windmill Centre, 9.30 - 11 am.  
 Fri: Katharine House Coffee Morning: Parish Church, 10am-noon.  
 Fri: Deddington Friendly Bridge Club: Holly Tree, 2-5 pm.

## inside out therapy

energy for health

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- Emotrance/EFT • Counselling /coaching
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## Meeting in Town Hall 16 January

Present Cllrs Squires [Chairman] Alton, Anderson, Collins, Flux, Ince, Privett, Rollason, Rudge, Todd, Watts, Westbury, Wood, C/Cllr Jeff, D/Cllr O'Sullivan, the Clerk, the Minutes Clerk and your correspondent.

### Highways

Reduction of street lights for economy and environment: OCC advice being sought.

Clifton Footpath: Sustrans have been contacted and have detailed requirements.

Hempton Pinch Point: OCC have agreed to move centre white line subject to resident consultation.

Bus Concessions: details to be posted on Town Hall notice board.

Flooding in Clifton: Cllr Collins preparing a letter/report with photographs.

School Crossing: conversations between Highways Group, School Governors & OCC Travel Plan Liaison Team are continuing and various initiatives are being considered.

A4260 South: remedial work to improve safety, including SLOW road markings, buff coloured high friction surface on dangerous sections, improved road studs and signage in the hands of contractors. Further consultation to discuss action for A4260 North required with OCC.

A4260 crossing points: OCC undertaking survey.

Finger-posts: have not been stolen but removed for repair (*picture right*).

Parking: The 2001 survey to be revisited and reviewed with Environment & Recreation group.

### Finance & General Purposes

Precept 2008/09: PC decided to restrict precept application to 3.5%. Exact expenditure forecast not fully agreed for next year but in spite of rising costs the PC decided to hold precept at similar level to last year because budget is cushioned by investment income.

Members' allowances: CDC have issued notification about members' allowances but not relevant to Deddington PC because members do not take allowance.

Johnson & Gaunt have informed PC that they are holding unspecified Deddington deeds.

### Environment & Recreation

Teen Scene: £20,000 grant approved, contracts about to be placed.

Youth Drop in Centre: projects in Banbury and Bicester to be visited to gain operational advice. Location needs to be agreed and a consultation with 14–18 year-old target group to understand facilities required.

Allotments: interest in setting up a group to run the allotments.

Friends of Daeda's Wood: application for support for pruning event and update of the photographic display declined. A request for a brown direction sign on the A4260 referred to OCC.

Castle Grounds: working group recommended pruning and cutting back around entrance. English Heritage need to replace info boards.

Christmas Eve: concern about the amount of broken glass after the festivities; hostellers to be encouraged to only use plastic glasses at such times.

Windmill Centre: the missing CCTV signs to be replaced.

Blood Service: consultation to assess interest and possible site for donation service to make regular visit (*see insert*).

### Planning

PC no objections [1] Clydesdale, Market Place: repair roof. [2] 1 Murdoch Close, two storey extension. [3] Old Bakery, Market Place: change fascia. [4] Town Hall: pigeon defences. [5] Castle End, Castle St: tree pruning.

CDC approvals [6] Ilbury Farm, Hempton: farm building with conditions. [7] Ash Cottage, Clifton: development with conditions. [8] Applewood, Castle Street: part approved, part referred to Secretary of State, [9] Centrepont, Chapel Square: change of use. [10] Tubbs Cottage, St Thomas Street.

### Parish Finances

- Invoices passed for payment £2,351
- Investments totalled £539,475 at W Brom BS, Barclays & Birmingham Midshires BS.
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### NEXT MEETING -

Wednesday 20 February

7.45 pm Town Hall

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

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



**W**et and windy January is here with a vengeance and the delights of Christmas performances seem such a long time ago now. The children really did themselves proud. We have some lovely photographs to help remember them on our photographic digital photo frame in the school entrance hall. If you have time, do pop in and have a look.



This term is always a time of hard work especially for our older children as they prepare for their SAT exams. The other classes also focus on the core teaching and learning with lots of trips and visitors.

This month has lots of very different things happening. Year 5 visited the Victoria and Albert Museum in London recently as part of their Victorians topic. The children as always were

extremely well behaved and loved the different galleries e.g. architecture, artwork, silverware and glassware. Year 6 are going to be attending Junior Citizen workshops again this year, looking at First Aid and emergency responses. Our Foundation class have several mini trips organised. They are going to be visiting the vets and the Chinese Restaurant in Deddington.

The auditions for *Oliver!* are now complete and the cast are ready to start the first rehearsal. The children are very excited and the quality of the singing was so good it was very difficult to cast the roles. The performances will be on 2 & 3 April at Deddington Church; as soon as we have details for tickets I will let everyone know.

**Judith Tinsley 338430**

## PTA

Thank you so much to everyone who dug deep and gave generously to Santa and his elves. We managed to break all records by raising the fantastic sum of £1133! The Christmas cards designed by the children earlier in the term were fabulous along with our 2008 calendar. Our thanks to all who helped us produce, market and sell the cards and calendars. Santa took time out from his very hectic schedule to visit our children who had eagerly queued to meet him in his Magical Grotto during the December Farmers' Market. The air of excitement and anticipation added a fantastic atmosphere to the morning. Over in the Church the

PTA added to the spirit of the occasion by singing popular carols whilst Edward, Lewis and Daniel did a wonderful job of keeping us in tune by accompanying us on the trumpet!

We have a full calendar lined up for 2008 starting with our ever popular Quiz Night at the Windmill Centre on Saturday 1 March. It's time to dust off those books and start brushing up on your general knowledge! This is always very popular and tickets usually sell fast. For further details or to book your place, please contact Mike on 338750 or at [mikew@cherwell.co.uk](mailto:mikew@cherwell.co.uk)

Dates for your diary: The 4th Deddington Walk, Sunday 18 May; School Fête, Saturday 14 June

**Janet Watts, PTA Chair**

## PFSU and Village Nursery

**T**he new term has begun well with the happy news of the arrival of Jodie's baby boy, George, on 8 January. We welcome six new children to the nursery and say a sad good-bye to some of our PFSU children who have moved on to full-time school.

This term we are learning about animals with the children enjoying visits from a puppy and other pets. During February we are also planning a story afternoon when our 3-4 year olds will be presented with their Bookstart Treasure Chests and enjoy fun story activities. The committee are planning a number of fund-raising events, including an Easter event on 22 March; more details next month.

We thank Jason Clitherow and John Black who repaired the nursery after vandalism last summer, and all the parents who have helped us out over the last term.

**Lucy Squires**



### A Subsidiary of Deddington PFSU

- Stimulating environment for 2-3 year olds
- Large outdoor play area
- Early drop-off and lunch club available
- Opening hours:  
9.00-11.45am and 12.30-3.00pm

**For more details please contact  
Jodie Aldridge on 01869 337383**

**PARISH CHURCH OF SS PETER & PAUL****February**

Sun	3	10.30 am	PRESENTATION OF CHRIST All Age Worship
		6.30 pm	Combined Choral Evensong
Wed	6	10.00 am	ASH WEDNESDAY Eucharist
Thur	7	2.00 pm	Squeals & Wheels
Sun	10	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
Wed	13	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	17	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist (with Healing Prayer)
Wed	20	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	21	2.00 pm	Squeals & Wheels
Sun	24	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30 am	Morning Worship

**St John Hempton**

Suns	3&17	9.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	24	6.00 pm	Evensong

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

**FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS:****Wedding:** 24 Nov Clifford Harper & Janet Simpson.**Funeral:** 28 Dec Betty Coates**Bible Study Groups:** Contact Jean Welford 338539, or Liz Dickinson 337050 for dates, times & venues.**Charity of the Month** - February: **Li Tim-Oi Foundation** - please use the special envelope to put donations into the Parish Church chest.**WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square****Pastor Isabel Walton 337157**

Sunday Mornings at 10.30 am: Pastor Walton, except 17 Feb - Andy Wilcox; 24 Feb - John Goulder

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

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

Sunday morning services 10.30 am united with Wesleyan Church

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

**R.C. PARISH OF HETHE WITH ADDERBURY****The Revd A J Burns 277396**Masses at Holy Trinity, Hethe: every weekday except Wednesday at 9.30 am, and on Sundays at 10.00 am. St George's Church, Adderbury: Mass on Wednesday at 7.00 pm and on Sundays at 8.30 am.

Confessions at Hethe on Saturdays 5.30 to 6.00 pm and at Adderbury before Mass. 6 February is Ash Wednesday, a day of both Fasting and Abstinence: healthy adults should take only one meal and two light collations; all the faithful should abstain from meat and meat dishes. Mass will be said at Hethe at 9.30 am and at Adderbury at 7.00 pm. The Ashes will be distributed before both Masses.

**TRAIDCRAFT**

Fighting poverty through trade

**A fair year for  
Fair Trade**

2007 was a good year for small-scale producers in developing countries as sales of fairly traded products grew in the UK. In Deddington the Fair Traders stall in the Church during the monthly Farmers' Market showed a 20% increase in turnover compared with the previous year. This was in part due to increased Christmas sales and to some extent thanks to being able to supply several people in nearby villages who sold Traidcraft goods at school, church or community events.

A new Traidcraft catalogue of fashions, crafts, toys and foods will be published early this month with copies available on the stall, or direct from 337761 - order any item, postage free. Thank you Deddington, for this increased support and so for fighting poverty through trade.

**Hugh Marshall**

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

**Make a mother's day.**

**M**othering Sunday is on 2 March. The Mothers' Union offers an ethical gift to support projects in many parts of the world.

If you order before 18 February, they will send you a card to give to your mother telling her of the Thank-You-Mum gift you have made. Details in a leaflet in Deddington Church or go to <http://www.makeamothersday.org/>.

What better way to celebrate our own mothers?



**Harvest to Hallowe'en**

This ambitious amalgam of spoken word, music and visuals was presented in Deddington Parish Church on 27 October to raise funds for the Deddington Festival. It celebrated the season of autumn with poems, songs and piano solos, all matched with evocative pictures projected onto screens on either side of the chancel. The complex production required split second timing from the disciplined and clearly well-rehearsed group of speakers, singers, musicians, and computer geeks, to say nothing of the wardrobe mistress-cum-dresser. This was not the first such evening from Donald Lane's fertile imagination: he devised the whole entertainment, composing much of the music himself, and oversaw its presentation with meticulous attention to detail without losing sight of the overall effect.

*Elsbeth Cox***Poetic Licence present Devout Coward**Saturday, 23 February, Parish Church, 7.30 pm

A captivating evening of typically witty words and music celebrating the talents of Noel Coward, a man who combined the talents of playwright, poet, actor, singer and songwriter. Coward was an icon of his times, and the story of his life is the background to extracts from his plays and many of his songs, together with numerous fond quotes about this extraordinary man. When being introduced to someone who wished to make his acquaintance, he

would politely shake hands and remark "How delighted you must be to meet me!" This evening we can all meet him again.

*Eileen Anderson***Open Gardens**

Is there anyone else who would like to open his/her garden during the second weekend (5 & 6 July) of this year's Festival? There is a preliminary meeting at 5 The Lyes, Deddington on Monday 4 Feb at 2pm. If interested, please ring me on 337052.

*Kristin Thompson***Time to start writing**

Is there a story or a poem lurking in your head waiting to be written? If so take a look at the Writing Competition, now in its fourth year and part of Deddington Festival. Your poem or story on the theme of "What if...." could qualify for a cash prize, publication in a local magazine, and constructive comments from an experienced writer. Younger writers have a separate competition with sections for those aged up to 16 years and those 11 & under, who are invited to write on "The Marvellous Machine..." Full details of both competitions are available at the library, on [www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk](http://www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk), phone 337761/338995 or send an sae to DWG competition, 7 The Daedings, Deddington OX15 0RT.

**DEDDINGTON VILLAGE SHOW - SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2008****DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES**

We are attempting to resurrect the Village Show, which some years ago was a popular event, so we are working towards the above date. It will be held in the Parish Church with four main sections - something for everyone including children. We need your support and entries to make this a success. Get planting as soon as the weather warms up - even if you only do pots and window boxes. Here are the possibilities ...

Produce: jar of jam, any variety; Victoria sponge; fairy cakes (under 10s); shortbread (under 16s); jar of marmalade; jar of chutney.

Flowers: a specimen rose; miniature rose in pot; 4 different roses; sweet peas; 5 different perennials; bunch of annuals (under 10s); 7 different flowers; 2 sprays of fuchsias; 3 cactus dahlias; 3 pompom dahlias; foliage plant in pot; pelargonium (geranium) in pot; biggest sunflower (under 12s); miniature garden on a dinner plate (under 10s).

Vegetables & fruit: animal made out of vegetables (under 10s); oddest shaped vegetable; 3 onions; longest carrot; longest runner bean; largest marrow; 4 tomatoes; 6 plums; bowl of cress (under 10s); 5 runner beans; 6 cherry tomatoes; bunch of spinach; 3 courgettes; 4 leeks.

Photography, Arts & Crafts: photo of a garden;

photo of a plant; photo of an animal (under 16s); holiday snap (under 16s); holiday snap (adults); design for a Christmas card (under 7s); flower/s design for a birthday card (under 12s); watercolour of a landscape; item of embroidery; decorated terracotta flower pot, max 6" diam (under 10s); hand knitted article.

More details with entry forms later. *Wendy Burrows*

**Treasure Island, the Panto**

This Deddington Players' production put most of our well-known and versatile local actors on the stage as well as some promising young newcomers. There was no gazing at an empty stage wondering when something was going to happen, it was

a competently directed and smartly paced production. The Dame (our DBE) was cheeky and feisty; the two 'funny men' were hilarious; Long John Silver glowered and threatened realistically; the young lovers looked and

sounded sweet. Everyone on the stage had fun and thus so did the audience. The music and the stage sets were professional and delightful, adding to the general enjoyment. I cannot resist adding that George has worn those elegantly polished riding boots in all but one of our seventeen pantomimes!

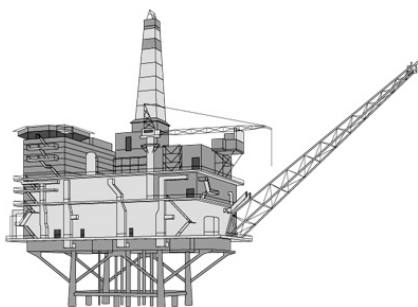
*MN*

## Fuel crisis? What fuel crisis?

**H**ow do you feel about paying well over £1 a litre for your car fuel? And does the thought of paying 15% more for your heating and lighting make you angry?

This is just the start, so read on ...

Back in November a couple of hundred people – including three from Deddington – met in Oxford to hear Rob Hopkins talk about his ideas for Transition Towns (TT). He starts from the now familiar message that, not only do we face the challenge of global warming, with its need to reduce carbon

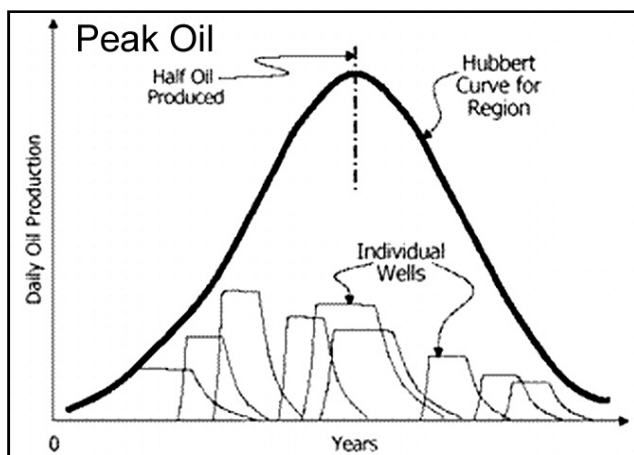


emissions, but also that oil and gas production have peaked already. From now on, fuel prices are going up and up as it becomes more difficult and expensive to

extract oil. You will pay more at the petrol pump and more to heat and light your home. In the UK we have the third problem of meeting demand for electricity in the short term while the government gets its act together over power stations in time to replace those that are fast clapping out. But already in Oxfordshire, TT ideas are taking shape in Abingdon, Wallingford, Wantage, Wolvercote and Yarnton as well as Oxford City where local people are making a start on finding ways to reduce their demand for energy. Around here only half-a-dozen people have put their heads above the parapet so far despite media exposure of the most serious challenge to face us in all our lifetimes. Are you up to helping to organise things locally? What can you do meanwhile? Go to <http://climatex.org/articles/lo-carb-communities/report-first-transition-towns-oxford-event/>

to follow up the Oxford meeting or check out Deddington OnLine: <http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/greenenergywater.html>.

**Colin Robinson** [colin.robinson@deddington.net](mailto:colin.robinson@deddington.net)



## WIND AT THE WINDMILL – UPDATE

Plans for a wind turbine at the Windmill are gathering speed. We are looking at two options: either a single, horizontal 20kW Westwind turbine on an 18m tower on the far side of the playing field (see *DN* November '07); or four 8m high vertical 5kW Helix Wind turbines between the bowling green and the all-weather court.

We are aware that horizontal wind turbines can be noisy. That is why we would propose to install one at the far side of the playing field, much further away from houses than the recommended minimum distance. Vertical axis turbines are very quiet, and can therefore be much nearer to houses without being noticed; in fact they are often attached to buildings. But they are very new on the market and their output needs to be verified.

We will be inviting residents in Mill, Murdoch and Wimborn Close, and the houses on Hempton Road near to the Windmill, to a meeting to discuss the project when we are in a position to make a decision.

The views of environmental bodies such as the RSPB, Thames Valley Environmental Records, and also Oxford Airport have been sought, and no adverse comment has been received.

An exploratory planning application will shortly be submitted to Cherwell DC. In the meantime, if you think the project is a good idea and will benefit Deddington, please write to us at the Windmill. Letters of support from local residents and user groups will greatly help further our case with Cherwell.

**Mary Robinson**

### does your business need a modern website to attract new customers?



As a small local business I understand your need to keep all business costs to a minimum. I can offer you a creative, modern website at prices from as low as £250, with flexible payment terms if required.

Please feel free to contact me for an informal discussion.

domain registration | hosting | content management  
databases | update of existing sites

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01295 738298

**CONGRATULATIONS ...**

... to **Jim Flux** on his MBE in the New Year Honours for services to the community in 'Banburyshire'. The list of his local involvements in 'retirement' is impressive: founding the N&W Oxon Carers Centre supporting the many people looking after dependent relatives, also founding the Thursday Windmill Club which provides a day out for the frail and elderly in the area; the Banbury & District Council for Voluntary Service; the Alzheimers Society in N



Oxon; chair for 12 years of N Oxon Further Education College; the Banbury Volunteer Bureau, running inter alia a furniture recycling centre for families in need; Deddington Parish Council since 1994, and chair for seven years and now

Vice-Chair; chair and then treasurer of the Windmill Centre Management Committee since 1994; trustee of the Holly Tree Club; a church bell ringer; compère of the Christmas Eve carols ... and where would the Deddington Players be without a pantomime dame? In 2006 and 2007 he led the Deddington bid for Village of the Year, winning prizes which have funded the watering system for the Town Hall hanging baskets, and the much appreciated new Christmas tree lights.

... to **John Scott** on his marriage in Findhorn last September to Sheila, who composed music for their wedding. While John was living in Philcote Street, he was Deddington's unassuming Tree Man.



**N**early 500 people gathered around the Christmas tree in Deddington Market Place on Christmas Eve to sing carols. Children enthusiastically played bells while the adults enjoyed mulled wine. As usual Geoff and Joan Todd played their street organ to accompany the carols while Jim Flux acted as MC. The evening raised £683.97 for Katharine House Hospice.

As one Christmas visitor remarked: "It's the first time my wife and I have been away for Christmas and choosing Deddington has proved just right. The carols really started Christmas for us and all those villagers, families, friends and visitors here this evening. It was very special and something we will remember". Thanks to all the helpers and sponsors.

**Geoff Todd**

**WELL REMEMBERED**

**Betty Coates** was born in 1924 into the family of a retired sea captain who had become a publican. The war brought to an end a sheltered childhood; Betty became a WREN and participated in the planning of the Normandy landings. After the War she worked in Germany as a member of the Control Commission, which handled the War Trials. It was in Germany that she met her husband, Wally. They had four daughters, including two prematurely born twins, who did not survive. For many years, Betty lived in Peaslake, Surrey, where she was active socially in the WI, Young Wives, Peaslake Players, and the local Save the Children group. She also worked as a shorthand typist. These were years of socialising, of happiness and of friendship within a close community. It was a wrench for Betty to leave Peaslake when Wally's work moved to Somerset. After Wally died in 1995, Betty became a Visitor for her local church, supporting the old and infirm. She came to Featherton House three years ago and much appreciated the care and friendship she received.

**HW**

**George Hiorns** was born in Deddington in 1930, and the village was his home all his life. One of three children, he was indentured by his father to a local firm at considerable expense: his first job being to make coffins. He went on to do National Service with the Ox & Bucks in Germany, driving tank-transporters. On leaving the army he began a 57-year-marriage to Eunice, with whom he had four children. George's working life was spent mostly in

the building trade with Alcocks, Hinkins & Frewin, and others, until, following an injury to his back, he went to Bibbys as a machine operator. Outside work George enjoyed traditional country pursuits; he loved to follow the hunt, to fish and to shoot. George got on with people of all ages; he liked a good chat and to know what was going on in the Village - he was an avid DN reader. His passing deprives the village of a great character and a true countryman.

**HW**

**Dot Keyes** was born in Sunderland in 1925, the sixth of 11 children. Her childhood was difficult, her parents both dying when she was young. Eventually Dot went to London to look for work and ended up sleeping at Kings Cross Station. Thanks to the Salvation Army, she was moved on to Oxford and a job at the Railway Station canteen. Here she met Sam, a shunter at the station. They married in 1954 and had three children. Their early married life was spent in Steeple Aston with Dot working as a waitress, a cleaner and a kitchen assistant at the then new Dr Radcliffe's Primary School. In 1979 Dot and Sam moved to Deddington. Dot's later life was marked by serious illness, which she endured with extraordinary resilience and courage. Strong in spirit, she refused to be denied her pleasures entirely, enjoying craft-work and doing jigsaw puzzles. She kept in touch with what was going on in Deddington through her longstanding membership of the Windmill Club.

**HW**



FROM SYLVIE & GEORGE SPENCELEY, THE DAEDINGS

Over the last thirty years living in North Oxfordshire, we have regularly enjoyed the Oxford Canal: sometimes on it in a canoe, but mostly stretching our legs and bird watching along the tow path. Until recently we used the parking area near the old Aynho railway station and the Great Western Arms. Now signs have sprung up warning that vehicles will be clamped seven days a week and at any hour, with a fee of £117.50 charged for their release. We understand that this is at the instigation of a company in Deddington. We would like to know more. In addition, BWT (whoever they may be) threaten us with another fine of £150. Clearly it is a way of making a quick buck, but is any of it legal?

E-MAIL FROM JEAN RUDGE

I am writing to draw residents' attention to the planning application requesting permission to take measures to prevent the doves from nesting under the Town Hall. Personally, I think they are a visual asset. They are fantail doves, not feral pigeons and many villages would welcome their presence. They are attractive, bring life to the centre of the village and are a world-wide symbol of peace. I am aware that some think they are inconvenient and a health hazard. I would reply that it is a shame we feel unable to tolerate other creatures and that Max, our village steward and himself a bird lover, has pronounced his willingness to keep the Town Hall clean.

If you wish to object to the planning permission, you should write as soon as possible to: Shona King, Planning, Housing and Economy, CDC, Bodicote House, Banbury, OX15 4AA, quoting planning application number 07/02590/LB submitted by Deddington Charity Estates. You can also e-mail: [planning@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:planning@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

Please address all letters to:  
KRISTIN THOMPSON  
5 THE LEYES, DEDDINGTON  
e-mail: [letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk)  
and include your name and address,  
even if they are not for publication.

E-MAIL FROM REVD. HUGH WHITE

Some forthcoming events in the Parish Church may be of interest to the village at large. We are now offering teas on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month, 2.30-4.30pm. From time to time these occasions will incorporate a talk on a topic of general interest. On 10 Feb Commander Rob Forsyth who served 18 years in submarines – including command of two submarines and time in the Polaris missile force during the 'Cold War' – will talk about his experiences and answer questions. The talk will begin at about 3pm.

On 3 Feb there will be an Evensong for the Feast of Candlemas led by the combined choirs of the Parish Churches of Adderbury, Bloxham, Bodicote and Deddington, with music by Purcell and Eccard.

For Lent, and with an eye to the Lambeth Conference, we have arranged a series of talks on the Church in other parts of the world, given by speakers with relevant experience and expertise. The February talks on Wednesdays will consider, either South or North America (13 Feb), Australia (20 Feb) and China (27 Feb).

Finally, would anyone like to help with b&b accommodation for a Swedish Choir visiting Deddington after Easter (27-30 March)? As part of an Oxford Diocesan link programme the Choir will give a concert in the Parish Church on 29 March and lead the 10.30am service on 30 March. If you are able to help, please let me know - 349869, [vicarhugo@hotmail.com](mailto:vicarhugo@hotmail.com)

PS: TEA-TIME TALK

Will JACKIE please contact me re: *Dundee Cake and Discourse* as I have mislaid her telephone number. Apologies and thanks.  
Kristin Thompson

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## On the Farm

**H**ere we are again! The tide came back in during the first week of the New Year on the Clifton marshes. Although flooding in the Cherwell flood plain during the winter period is a normal event, what we experienced in the last 12 months is far from normal and will have far-reaching effects on the way we will be able to manage the river valley land. The meadow land on the farm is part of a nationally important breeding wader bird project. These birds need wet land, not flooded land, for over-wintering and breeding. Last season saw a record number of Curlew returning to the Clifton valley for the breeding season. We also recorded for the first time in over 30 years Lapwing nesting and despite the early summer flooding 18 chicks were able to fledge. Drumming Snipe (mating display) were seen but no evidence of breeding was found. The problem with excessive and prolonged flooding at this time of the year is that if the returning Curlew and Lapwing find their nesting sites under water they will move on and not come back to breed. Providing and managing the right breeding conditions for these endangered birds has taken a lot of time and effort and it would be very disappointing to see it all washed away.

It is not just climatic change that is making life difficult on the meadows. The flood plain has



Curlew

traditionally been grazed by livestock. At Home Farm we run the only resident flock in the parish. Last year was a cataclysmic year for the livestock industry, with almost continuous flooding during the summer grazing season, foot and mouth, blue tongue, movement restrictions and a ban on exports. This resulted in farm gate livestock values going through the floor to give us an average return of little more than 70p a kg. for a prime fat lamb (what did you pay for lamb in the supermarket ?) The ewe flock has been reduced by 50% and has become little more than a low-cost low-carbon method of keeping the grass sward at the right height for ground nesting birds. Even the wool clip, a commodity that Deddington and many of the Cotswold towns were founded on, returned us an average of just 24p per ewe, with a shearing cost of £1.12p and the cost of packing and transport on top.

At least the arable section is showing some improvement due to adverse weather conditions around the world. But the price rise we are getting for our crops is not enough to warrant the savage price hike for food we are seeing in the shops. Most of the wheat from last year's harvest was sold before it was cut, for less than £1 a ton, so contrary to the comments I heard recently it's not those wealthy greedy farmers laughing all the way to the bank who are ripping you off.

**George Fenemore 338203**

## From the Fire Station

**INCIDENTS:** We received 24 call-outs during December & January: 7 were road traffic collisions, 4 car fires, an electrical fire in an office, 2 fires in homes (one in a kitchen & 1 caused by an electric blanket), a chimney fire, one call to a domestic dispute, where one partner set fire to the other's property (in the garden thankfully), several calls to stand by at other stations and one false alarm caused by rainwater in a fire alarm system. Our total

calls for 2007 was 139, this was 40 less than last year; perhaps all our hard work in fire safety education and home fire risk assessment is working.

Attending incidents involving fatalities at anytime is upsetting, however at Christmastime it is always worse, thinking about



the families experiencing the loss. One young man, 21 years old died just 2 days before Christmas in a road traffic collision right outside the Fire Station. On the same day there were many other collisions, entrapments, and another fatality in the area - all due to the adverse weather conditions. We are not out of the season yet, so please take greater care on the roads. Don't take any chances overtaking, and heed the advice given by the agencies on the radio and television.

**CREW:** Congratulations to Pete Taylor for passing his recent Crew Manager's assessment. At

the end of January we will be saying goodbye to Martin Millard and Steve Ward; we will be very sad to see them go, but wish them best of luck for the future & thank them for the service they have given our communities. This will leave us with a crew of 8, so we will be recruiting again! We will be leaflet dropping and door knocking in Deddington on 9 Feb, and inviting anyone interested to attend an open evening at the station on Tuesday 12 Feb at 7 pm. Please put the date in your diary.

**Anne Waters Watch Manager 07929 607 363**

**Kleeneze**

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### News from Hempton

The Christmas bazaar once again proved to be a great success. Everyone enjoyed the wide range of stalls and the lunch. £960 was raised for the Friends of the Church, who pay for maintenance and repairs to St John's. Many thanks to organisers, stallholders and customers.

The carol service on 21 December had a congregation of about 60, including the Deddington Church Choir and several children who read most of the lessons. The service was followed by refreshments.

On alternate Tuesdays, starting 5 February, Hempton Ladies meet at the Church Hall, 2~4pm for a social afternoon with tea and cakes. New members would be most welcome. Details from Dee Charles on 338490 or Pam Dodd on 338112.

The Table Tennis team has reached the halfway point in the season. After a poor start they have recovered slightly. Their record is P9-W3-D1-L5 pts 34. They have also reached the third round of the cup, defeating Ratley in a close match by 306-302 pts.

Everyone in the village should now have received a letter about the Hempton 'pinch point'. Anything to make this area safer should be considered. Please let the Parish Council have your views as soon as possible. The next Committee meeting of the Friends of the Church is 13 February at 10.00am.

**Les Chappell 338054**

### News from Clifton

Did you see the leggy blonde resident of Clifton starring in *To the Manor Born* on your TVs this Christmas? Margie was the golden Labrador at Penelope Keith's side. This is yet another star from the Stable of Myrtle at Manor Barn beautifully trained by fellow Clifton resident Jill Rudding. Oh Yes - Clifton is the home to many stars of the screen. Who hasn't seen Well'ard (the coolest name ever for a boy's dog), from *Eastenders* being walked up and down the street?

We would like to welcome Nicola (a native of the Isle of Man) & Simon (from Bristol) who have moved into the Wesleyan Chapel and have asked neighbours to pop round and say hello. We also welcome Jean and Jerry, who have moved into Christmas Cottage in Walnut Close, who haven't. Welcome one and all to our happy band.

Larkrise residents are unhappy that Candleford seems to rule out coverage of what happens at our only village meeting point, as the DN excludes copy promoting commercial premises. After 13 years Nick Huntington has handed over the licence to his son Robert, with Marcus Bond as manager. Live music by a quality trio of pianist, violinist and clarinet, the Book Club every Thursday, and Quiz Night (won on Boxing Day by The Alice Band), raise the cultural tone as well the glasses.

**Martin Bryce**



**P.M. Munson**

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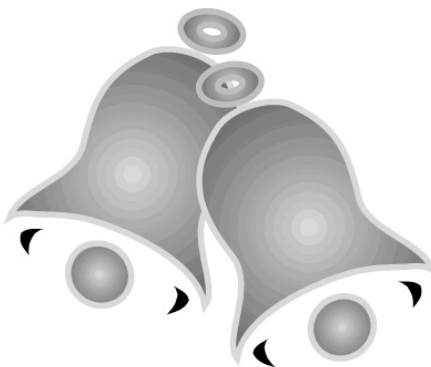
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**DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO**

*The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the month of January and part of February 1858:-*

6th January - We attended a meeting of the Church Restoration Committee, a rather disgraceful meeting took place with several people indulging in the most abominable insinuations as to doctrine etc. (not founded in truth) against Mr. Burgess (*one of the two curates*) branding him as a Puseyist and Romanist, Mr. Mitchell stating that he preached up the doctrines of regeneration and transubstantiation. More than half the time, 3 hours and above, was consumed in this manner – instead of being consumed as it ought to have been in deciding on the adoption or not of Mr. Street the Diocesan Architect's plan for the re-seating and restoration of the Parish Church, which was carried ultimately by a majority of votes of 15 to 13.



7th January - We filled the Ice House today from the ponds at Adderbury.

23rd January - I buried poor old Hatten by his own particular desire – for many years Landlord of the Kings Arms.

25th January - The bells rang in honour of the marriage of the Princess Royal with Prince Frederic William of Prussia.

9th February - Poor Finch, the gardener, much as he was last night – Susan and I both visited him – Mr. Turner (*the doctor*) considered him in a precarious state. (*He visited him 11 more times in the next month or so.*)

17th February - I heard a case against 6 young fellows from Gt.Barford for being drunk and disorderly – convicted them in 5s. fine each and costs – payable within a week or 21 days in the House of Correction

at Oxford. Mr. H. Churchill our clerk said he never remembered hearing such a noise and row in Deddington for many years. I bailed one boy to appear at the Assizes.

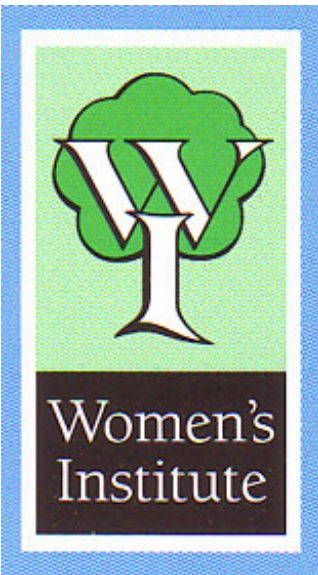
**Buffy Heywood**

**DEDDINGTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 1925~2007**

*'The foundations of national glory are set in the homes of the people'* (King George V).

So proclaims one of the homilies preceding the monthly meeting plan of the newly founded Deddington Women's Institute. Founded at the end of 1925, affiliated to the Oxfordshire Federation of Women's Institutes, it was felt to be the first social meeting place for all women in Deddington, Clifton and Hempton. It has kept its object 'For Home and Country' sacrosanct from those early days to the present. Dedicated members of our present day Institute spent hours researching and compiling a most interesting collection of programmes, snippets of minutes and photographs to fill a historic scrap book, the cover of which boldly displays in green and white the logo of the National Federation. All this work was done in celebration of their 80th anniversary in 2005.

The local Institute's first President from 1926 to 1929 was Mrs Muriel Jones. She was the daughter of Mary Vane Turner, who won joint second place in a Village History competition set by the Oxfordshire WI Federation. She published her entry *The Story of Deddington* in 1933 and dedicated it to her daughter (a copy is held in our Library). Turning the pages of the massive



Deddington WI scrap book we find a list of 27 serving Presidents from 1926~2007. Miss Loveday set a record 7 years of keeping the chair warm from 1937 to 1944. Not listed there are the Hon Treasurers and Secretaries, who are in the collection of well-preserved yearly programmes.

These were professionally printed on thin cardboard, decorated with logo, date, year and the name of President, Hon Treasurer and Secretary, whose responsibility it was to set up a programme from month to month. The sturdiness of these early programmes suggest that they could be hung at the beginning of each year in the meeting place for all members to peruse. Subjects presented varied then, as now, from serious educational to home-grown entertainment, the crafts, singing and dancing, not forgetting cookery and gardening. Summer meetings, in those early years, were held in a member's garden - if wet, in the British Legion Club on the first Tuesday of the month at 2.30. Traditionally *Jerusalem* was, and still is, sung at the opening of each meeting - except for that refreshing incident, carefully minuted in February 1945 when "in the absence of Miss Weaver, resident WI accompanist, Mrs Tucker accompanied a hearty singing of *God Save the King* as she considered the piano unworthy of *Jerusalem!*" [*to be continued*]

**Ruth Johnson**

### Windmill Community Centre – Bookings Secretary

The Windmill Management Committee is looking for a person initially to shadow Joyce Minnear in her admirable work as Bookings Clerk for the Community Centre, with a view to taking over the job. Joyce has worked in that capacity since the Windmill opened in 1986, and reluctantly acknowledges she is not as young as she was! The post receives an honorarium. If anyone is interested in taking on this invaluable work, please contact any member of the Windmill Committee.

The Windmill is almost fully booked at all times. If you have an event coming up, please book early to avoid disappointment!

**Mary Robinson**

### Deddington Art Group

We were close to tears on the Thursday trying to set up the Deddington Art Group exhibition. Everyone had to help and by Friday morning it was picture perfect by 11 am. We had an amazing lot of visitors on preview day and on Farmers' Market day too. Mr Vaughan's green van was indispensable, Mr Parkinson's skilled help and encouragement was great and thanks to Mr Bond from Banbury Art Society and all the gang at the Town Hall. The exhibition showed artwork not done in club time. Mr Frank Palmer, our leader, is an inspiring force. Thanks to the Rev Hugh White for the space and encouragement. Our group lunch at Otters had jokes, presents, fun and laughter. Then it was on to my birthday tea - 73 candles and more presents. We re-opened on 10 January.

**Ken Wilkinson**

### Deddington Youth Club

We had a great end of term party in December with the A team, who brought a fantastic new and very challenging activity. We forgot about healthy eating for one night and had a chip supper! Now we are looking forward to the lighter evenings and better weather so that those who wish to can spend more time on sports and games outside. We offer plenty of indoor activities, too. Come and join us if you are aged 10-15 years. We meet at the Windmill Centre on Mondays 7~9pm.

**Pam Axten**

### Windmill Thursday Club

2007 was a successful year for the club, and proved to be a great help for all the people who attended.

Debbie and her team have done a fine job and we thank everyone, especially the volunteers, for their help and support. The club provides a meal, companionship, and a variety of activities for elderly and frail people in the area on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

We would welcome anyone who would like to join us as we have 2-3 vacancies on both Tuesdays and Thursday. If you feel you would like to join us why not come along to our open day on Thursday 14

February from 1.30pm onwards for a cup of tea and a chat?

If you would like more information, please call Debbie on 07737892745 or Jim on 338153.

**Jim Flux Chairman**

### 1st Deddington Scout Group Cubs

We finished the Christmas term with a Viking party. The Cubs spent the previous weeks looking at various aspects of Viking life including clothing, beliefs, origins and, of course, toilets. The last brought to life by the 'scratch and sniff' cards from Jorvik - my bag still smells like a Nordic midden! They also made beautiful shields and helmets which, combined with imaginative costumes, made them look more fearsome than usual. At the party they hunted for a Viking silver hoard by solving the runic riddle, told a saga round the campfire and, after forming a shield wall, whacked each other with rolled up newspapers. Felix Dominicson (Viking name) was invested during the party, an event he won't forget for quite a while.

We are starting this term with several new members -Tom, Callum and Olli - and say goodbye to Luke and Alex who are on their way to Scouts (they were great cubs and will no doubt make equally great Scouts).

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

### Scouts

The hike to Horley was shortened due to the wet weather and we walked from Bodicote instead of Deddington. Even so we slithered down banks, tramped through fields and negotiated 'lakes' in the most unlikely places. We didn't envy the participants on the Tour de Trigs which was happening the same night. On arrival at Horley we tucked into soup and sausages and spent a cosy night in the lodge.

The Scouts spent most of last term writing, rehearsing and making props for their Christmas performance called The Xmas Factor, a mixture of talent show and abusive 'put downs'. It was very funny, from the disgruntled presenter and awful fairy to the Santa with criminal tendencies!

### Beavers

We hope to start a Beaver Colony (children 6 -8 years) in the parish. Please come to a meeting in the lounge at the Windmill Centre on Tuesday 26 February, 6.30pm - 7.30pm if you are interested in your child attending.

**Pete Churchyard 338071**

### Deddington Guides

Our Christmas party also celebrated a very special anniversary for Maggie Rampley - her 30 years in Guiding! This fabulous achievement was marked by "This is your life in Guiding" organised by Marion and the guides with the help of Maggie's husband Alan and daughter Hazel. There was a letter from Jackie Stammers, one of Maggie's Assistant Guiders from the past and various Guiding

officials turned up to award Maggie with a very special badge and congratulate her. We hope Maggie enjoyed her evening, which was also a thank you for all she does for us. This is what the Guides had to say ... 'There was great party food' Maisie. 'It was fun' Arabella.

As is usual we arranged to go and help at Maggie's nursing home with their Christmas party. We sang carols to the residents and they didn't seem to mind our less than perfect voices. Maggie gave us a tour of the home which was very interesting, especially seeing the different equipment used to help care for the residents.

**Rachael Winter, Dolphin Patrol**

#### Christmas post

Thanks to everyone who supported and used the Christmas post, we collected £212 towards the Guide/Scout equipment insurance.

**Pete Churchyard & Maggie Rampley**

#### **1st Deddington Brownies**

Brownies re-started after the Christmas break with a couple of new girls joining us and others looking forward to their enrolment at the end of the month. We also welcome Sian as our new Tawny Owl. This year the girls are concentrating on two badges. The 'World Cultures' badge teaches the Brownies about different cultures around the world. Brown Owl hopes to arrange a very exciting trip to a Hindu Temple in London. By contrast, the Brownie Traditions badge focuses on the history of Brownies and what it means to be a Brownie. The girls are busy learning reef knots and the National Anthem. To add your daughter to the waiting list for Brownies please contact Brown Owl at [the1stdeddingtonowls@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:the1stdeddingtonowls@hotmail.co.uk)

#### **Deddington Town Football Club**

1st Team results:- St John's (a) Won 1-0 J.Flemming. Fenny Compton (a) Lost 0-3. St John's (h) Won 8-1 J.Flemming (3), J.Pearce (3), R.Waddelow, B.Durrant. KEA (h) Lost 2-3 M.Gibbs, S.Flemming. Heyford Utd (h) Won 7-0 S.Flemming (2), J.Pearce (2), B.Durrant(2), own goal.

The 1st team are currently in fine form and have recorded a couple of emphatic victories. John Flemming and Julian Pearce scored hat tricks in the demolition of St John's. There were two goals apiece for player manager Steve Flemming, Ben Durrant and Julian Pearce. These results have moved the team up and away from the lower reaches of Division 1.

Reserve Team results:- Heyford Ath Res (h) Lost 2-7 M.Gibbs, M.Large. Heyford Utd Res (a) Drew 2-2 S.Rollason (2). Heyford Ath Res (a) Lost 0-1. Finnere Res (a) Lost 3-4 M.Garstin, T.Spencer, S.Rollason.

The reserve side found the going tough recently. Sam Rollason scored both the goals versus Heyford Utd, which helped to earn a draw. The other games all ended in defeat, although two were very close. The Reserve team currently sit just below half way in Division 3.

#### Boxing Day Charity Match

The annual Boxing Day match was a great success. Players from past and present took part in

the game, which ended in a draw. Many thanks to Andy Shepherd for once again organising the game, and to Paul Cox for refereeing the game.

75 Club Winners: 7/12 A.Perring £50; 14/12 P.Chard £50; 21/12 Mr C.Smith £50; 28/12 C.Summers £100; 4/01 J.Keys £50; 11/01 Mr P.Simons £50.

**Steve Plumbe 01295 278258**

#### **Book Club**

At our last meeting we discussed *The Inheritance of Loss* by Kieran Desai: 'a novel set in the North Eastern Himalayas in the mid-1980s. Some powerful imagery and evocative descriptions of its location in India. Too many peripheral characters and flashbacks tend to make the story a little hard to follow and the main characters are difficult to engage with, but this book is beautifully written throughout with some wonderful phrasing, insightful reflections and a comic touch'.

The book for February is *Tulip Fever* by Deborah Moggach and the next meeting 28 February. Please call for venue.

**Sally Lambert 338094**

#### **WI**

It was a pleasure to welcome Sylvie Spenceley to our January meeting to tell us about the background to Daeda's Wood and the beginning of the project; some reservations were raised but the general vote had been given to the project. After raising funds locally with CDC the field through which the River Swere flows was purchased in 1996 and was the first site of the Woodland Trust's 'On your doorstep' project. With the help of many willing hands several suitable species were planted and over the next few years continued to thrive. It has become an important amenity to all who visit it. Many community celebrations have taken place there and birds, insects, flora and fauna have benefited greatly. After taking questions Sylvie was thanked by President Beryl Suckling and members. 12 February 'Spring Ahead' with Heather Ward.

**Rene Mahony 338438**

#### **Deddington & District History Society**

On 9 January Martin Way gave an enthusiastically received talk on *The Golden Age of Coaching*. He brought with him a remarkable collection of artefacts that included Acts of Parliament, maps, rare coins, exquisitely detailed model coaches, and a blunderbuss to ensure good order. On Wednesday 13 February George Hook will speak on *The History of Button Making*. George comes to us following a warm recommendation by our members Joan and Geoff Todd. We expect an instructive evening that will throw light on an important but little-known area of industrial and social history. On 12 March our speaker will be Rob Parkinson, on the subject of Oxfordshire Village Surveys. As always, anyone wishing to attend our meetings is assured of a warm welcome at the Windmill Centre. Just turn up at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of the month.

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