

July 2019

The **DEDDINGTON NEWS**



Delivered free to Deddington, Clifton and Hempton

THE TEAM

YOUR EDITOR THIS MONTH:
JILL CHEESEMAN

SEPTEMBER 2019 COPY TO
CATHERINE DESMOND
editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk
by **17 August**

ADVERTISING COPY
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EDITORS

Jill Cheeseman
01869 338609
Catherine Desmond
01869 336211
editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk

MONTHLY ADS & INSERTS

Debbie Grimsley
01869 336110
grimsleyhome@live.co.uk

ANNUAL ADS

Pat Sedgley
annuals@deddingtonnews.co.uk

WHAT'S ON

Alison Day
whatson@deddingtonnews.co.uk

CLUBS

Alison Day
01869 337204
clubs@deddingtonnews.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL

Jean Rudge
01869 338110
jeanrudge@gmail.com

PRINTING

Anne Hunsley
01869 338360
annehunsley@msn.com

COLLATING & DISTRIBUTION

Pat Brittain
01869 338685
and team

TREASURER

Jane Price
01869 337586
treasurer@deddingtonnews.co.uk

COVER

Alison Day

The DEDDINGTON NEWS

DN and those who enjoy reading it are fortunate to have not only people regularly come forward to volunteer their services in one role or another but also the number of advertisers. The combination of both ensures our continuity. The relatively small surplus income at the end of our financial year has allowed us to donate the following: £750 to Katharine House Hospice, £750 to Banbury and District Community Bus, and £200 to Deddington Brass.

JC

What's On

July

- Mon 1 Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
- Mon 1 Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm
- Wed 3 Photographic Society: Bob Brind-Surch, 'My Digital Workflow', Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Thu 4 Knit and Natter: Holly Tree, 7.00pm
- Sat 6 WI: A Celebration of 100 Years of the WI, Members only
- Tue 9 WI: Anyone for Croquet? An Evening of Pimms, Strawberries and High Jinks, Members only
- Thu 11 Holly Tree Club: Film Night, *The Favourite*, Holly Tree, 6.30pm
- Sat 13 Banbury Choral Society Concert: Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Wed 17 Photographic Society Workshop: Light Room Editing, Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm
- Wed 17 PC Meeting: Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Fri 19 Windmill Adventure Playground: Picnic in the Park, Windmill Centre, 4.00–8.00pm
- Sun 21 Tennis Club: Open Day, Windmill Centre, 12.30–4.30pm
- Sun 21 DOGS: Tour to Barnham Broom, Norfolk
- Sun 21 Concert: Viv McLean, Piano, Parish Church, 7.00pm
- Thu 25 Book Group: Contact 01869 338094 for details
- Thu 25 Skittles: Parish Church, 7.00–9.00pm
- Sat 27 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm

August

- Thu 1 Knit and Natter: Holly Tree, 7.00pm
- Mon 5 Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
- Mon 5 Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm
- Wed 7 Photographic Society: Viveca Koh, 'A Photographer's Perspective: My Life Through a Lens', Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm

Continued on p16

Deddington Circular Walk

This month's cover shows a disused barn on the Clifton loop. You can take a shortcut here by turning left at the barn and walking across fields towards Field Barn. If you turn right, you continue on the full walk towards Green Hedges Lane. You can download a map of the walk from Cherwell District Council's website at www.cherwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/7931/deddington-circular-walk.

Alison Day

Submission of any article to the DN carrying personal information (for example names, locations, pictures) will imply that the person submitting the article has obtained the necessary consent from the individual (or parent/guardian in the case of a minor) /company/organisation for this information to be used both in print and online. Contributors should be aware that the monthly issues are posted online and therefore any personal contact details given are there in perpetuity.

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Holly Tree Club, Deddington Wed 19 June

Present: Councillors Collins, Cox, Higham, Kent, Oldfield, O'Neill, Rogers, Squires, Swadling, Timms and Watts. Also Cllr Fatemian (OCC).

County Cllr Fatemian reported that the light in Hempton Road should be fixed by mid-July.

The white lines at Hempton pinch-point have been restored, but other white lines need to be repainted. This will be reported.

The Chairman requested that OCC inform the PC about the proposed provision of disabled parking spaces. Two have been installed recently about which the PC had no knowledge, causing some embarrassment.

Planning Applications

No objection

The Firs, St Thomas Street: Extension of existing dormer bungalow and construction of garage.

Manor Farm House, Main St, Clifton: Replacement of timber windows.

Bowler House, New St: Single storey rear extension.

Wynford House, New St: Removal of chimney, addition of glazed gable end and raised terrace.

Deddington Mill, Milton Gated Rd: Renovation of garage and potting shed with an open bay to include green oak cladding and doors, brick chimney, kitchenette and thatched roof.

Wells Yard, Hudson St: Demolition of barn, retaining east gable and part of north ironstone wall, demolition of ten lock-up garages, erection of four two-bedroom mews cottages with off-street parking. Requested that two parking spaces per house be provided.

CDC Approvals

Red Lion, Market Place: Fish and chip takeaway servery to rear.

The Willows, Chapel Close, Clifton: Single storey extension and conversion of garage.

Jaydee House, 3 Chapman's Lane: Renovation and extension of existing house and construction of double garage.

An extension is to be requested to discuss plans concerning a solar park at Duns Tew.

Large Development Working Group

Land west of Wimborne Close: Outline permission was granted for 21 dwellings.

Land south of Clifton Rd: Outline application for 15 dwellings on the northern part of this field. An objection was raised concerning poor vehicular and pedestrian access. There is no provision for a sewage pumping station or play area. There may be a natural spring on the site. If permission is granted, an archeological survey should be conducted as there may be remains of medieval buildings in this field. The PC objected on the grounds of access.

Environment and Recreation

Welford's Piece, Clifton: A grant of up to £1,000 was made to make safe or fell an ash tree.

It was agreed to support the start up of a youth group in the Old School Room, Hempton, and a play

area next to the church.

It was noted that the Football Club has not yet repaired the goalmouths at the Windmill pitches.

Review of dog ban: A general improvement in the state of the pitches has been noted but there are still several dog owners who are ignoring the signs. The PC wishes to remind them that if this continues a total ban of dogs on the whole site will be considered.

Finance and General Purposes

A tree survey is to be conducted at a cost of up to £1,500+VAT.

A water fountain is to be installed at the adventure playground. The cost of £900 will be covered by sponsorship.

Up to £500+VAT was approved for the purchase of signs for the play area and the dog route.

Highways and Transport

Complaints have been received about the benches outside the Unicorn which take up four parking places. A letter will be sent to the proprietor and OCC will be informed if this is not effective.

The PC expressed its support for two proposals at the Windmill Centre: a pop-up café in the bowls pavilion which would include craft activities for children, and a swimming facility for infants (0–4 years) to be housed in a log cabin at an agreed site. It is hoped that the proposers of both schemes will be present at the official opening of the new playground on 19 July. The ribbon will be cut at 6.00pm.

Next PC meeting: 7.30pm on Wed 17 July in the Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, Deddington.

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter, Jean Rudge, and not the official minutes. To see those, go to <http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2019.html>.



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FARMERS' MARKET

A TASTE OF SUMMER

Summer markets leave you spoilt for choice. The range of choice of produce at its best can sometimes seem overwhelming. The solution is to keep things simple.

Tomatoes are a culinary essential but at this time of year, when there should be a glut of sun-ripened fruit almost everywhere, the less you do with them the better. This recipe gets regular outings as long as our tomatoes last (sometimes until November) but is at its best in high summer when it's too hot to cook anything complicated and too hot to want to eat anywhere but in the shade.

Tomato Pasta

Serves 4

1kg of ripest sweetest tomatoes you can get

Salt

100ml best quality virgin olive oil

2 garlic cloves, finely chopped

Juice and zest of 1 lemon

300–400g – enough pasta for 4

Basil

Parsley

Pepper – freshly ground

Chilli (optional)

Parmesan – grated

Peel the tomatoes (by dropping them for a few moments in boiling water until the skin starts to slip off,

then chilling in iced water before skinning). Core and chop roughly. As you chop the fruit add the olive oil, chopped garlic, lemon juice and zest, and some salt. If your tomatoes aren't as sweet as you would like, try adding a teaspoon of sugar to the mix. Set aside while you make the pasta according to the instructions on the packet. I favour linguine. You want the pasta fairly *al dente* because of the wetness of the sauce.

When the pasta is cooked, drain and stir through the tomato mixture. Leave to incorporate for a few minutes. Stir through some torn basil leaves and roughly chopped parsley. Check seasoning – you'll probably want to add some freshly ground pepper (white pepper often works better than black pepper with tomatoes), perhaps a little chilli and maybe some more salt.

Serve with grated parmesan and perhaps a chilled (yes, chilled) glass of red wine.

The market webpage is www.deddingtonfarmers-market.co.uk. The market is on Saturday 27 July from 9.00am–12.30pm.

If you can't wait till then, there's always the Adderbury market on the second Thursday of each month at The Institute, The Green, Adderbury, 6.00–8.00pm. More details at: www.market.adderbury.org.

Good shopping!

Ian Willox

01869 337940

ian.willox@btconnect.com



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DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM



Is it really the seventh month of the year? It seems only yesterday that the lambs were popping out all over the place, but now the ewes are in the buff and the wool is with the British Wool (previously the Wool Marketing Board). The wool cheque was always a fillip in the lean farming months of spring and summer but sadly,

due to the world price for raw wool, shearing has become an animal welfare job, with the wool value only covering the cost of the job. As my wife of 50 years (45 of them spent in Clifton) will tell you I am not the best or most imaginative at buying Christmas presents, but with a sudden rush of blood to the head I asked the youngsters to choose a garment made from British wool from British Wool's catalogue. The bill for five items came to more than double the wool cheque for 500 fleeces, ho hum.

Is the pen mightier than the sword? A few days before I started to put this together I did another article and posed the question 'When will it rain?' I should have known better because as soon as I had hit the send button June became a cold deluge. One of our target farmland birds is the grey or English partridge and we have four nesting pairs on the farm, some of which were seen on the Deddington Festival farm drive. It is sad to think that the cold wet June may have done for the young partridge chicks, as they hatch out around the tenth of June. These tiny bundles of fluff leave the nest within a few hours of hatching to feed on insects, and can fly at two days old, but will die if they get cold and wet. As they are in the crops it will not be until after harvest that I can tell just how many managed to survive.

The crop is always cut to work the wildlife to the outside headland strip. The Green Goddess is a very good wildlife viewing platform and I often get kestrels and hobbies flying a few feet from the cab ready to take any mice or dragonflies disturbed from the crop and I

have often had to stop the machine to move a fallow buck out of the way. Despite all the condemnation of modern day agricultural practices, our wildlife shows little fear of farm machinery and, once harvest is over and we start cultivating for the next season's crops, we shall see a large number of species of farmland birds, including various birds of passage who have stopped off to refuel on their way south for the winter.

Although it was a cloudy overcast evening the Festival Farm Walk – or rather drive – was well attended. This year was something of a change. Instead of the Old Man, due to ram-bashed knees, doing a walk on the wild side, it was a tractor and trailer drive around the farm with the Old Man tagging along behind in his personal farm transport. The assembled company was given an in-depth insight into the vagaries of modern farming and its regulations by the second generation, with the third generation or Farm Student driving the tractor. We were well covered for all eventualities with two first aiders on board, along with the farm health and safety officer and a priest. Although it was a cold damp June evening, a good time was had by everyone.

The tractor used for the farm drive was a vintage John Deere which I bought many years ago. Ben loves to drive it and has given up a number of his weekends from agricultural college to drive it in fundraising events for local charities. Time moves on, the Farm Student has passed his car driving test and been awarded his wheels, a small but robust 4x4 so that, if he drops it into a ditch, there shouldn't be too much damage. After all, we've all done it.

By the time I next put finger to keyboard, the Green Goddess will be strutting her stuff, all 230hp of her, a long way from the first combine I drove at the age of 13 when my father was taken seriously ill and hospitalised but the harvest still had to be got in. That machine was a Massey Harris 726 fitted with a petrol/paraffin engine and I have been driving combines ever since and will never forget the smell of TVO (tractor vaporising oil). Happy days, but I think the Green Goddess and I will end our careers together although not for some time yet.

George Fenemore 01869 338203

Diary of Daeda's Wood Revised

It is our hope to produce a revised edition of the *Diary of Daeda's Wood*, first published in 2006 to celebrate the Wood's tenth birthday. In 2021 the Wood will be celebrating its quarter century and we thought it would be appropriate to commemorate this anniversary.

The new edition will include news of events and developments that have occurred in the fifteen years since 2006, as well as changes in the evolution of its natural history.

In the latter case, we would be particularly glad to hear from anyone who is interested in the flowers, birds, insects, or any other natural history aspect of the

Wood. Kristin Thomson did the original survey of the flowers but, alas, died some years ago, so we should be happy to find someone who could expand on her account. Likewise I did a very approximate survey of the birds but am no longer in Deddington so it would make sense if someone who visits the Wood regularly could contribute.

Could anyone interested please contact either Alison Day on Alisday@gmail.com, 01869 337204, or me.

Sylvie Nickels
sylvie.nickels1@googlemail.com
 01295 259185

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Mon–Fri 8.45am Morning Prayer (also on the first Saturday of the month)

Wed 10.00am Holy Communion (with prayers for healing on the fourth Wed of the month)

Thu 10.30am–12.00pm Squiggles & Wiggles for carers of small children of pre-school of age.

July

Sun 7 10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Sung Evensong

Sun 14 8.00am BCP Communion
10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 21 10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 28 10.30am Holy Communion – Informal Said Service

Hempton

Sun 7 9.00am Holy Communion

Sun 21 9.00am Holy Communion

Sun 28 6.00pm Evening Prayer

Barford St Michael

Sun 7 10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 21 10.30am Family Service

Sun 28 9.00am Holy Communion

Barford St John

Sun 14 9.00am Holy Communion

August

Sun 4 10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Choral Evensong

Sun 11 8.00am BCP Communion
10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 18 10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 25 10.30am Holy Communion – Informal Said Service

Hempton

Sun 4 9.00am Holy Communion

Sun 18 9.00am Holy Communion

Sun 25 6.00pm Evening Prayer

Barford St Michael

Sun 4 10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 18 10.30am Family Service

Sun 25 9.00am Holy Communion

Barford St John

Sun 11 9.00am Holy Communion

For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the vicar, Reverend Annie Goldthorp at vicar@deddingtonchurch.org or on 01869 336880. If Annie is not available, then please contact one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie (01869 338367) or Meriel Flux (01869 338901). Our curate, Reverend Paula Smith, who can be contacted on curate@deddingtonchurch.org.

RC Parish of Hethe

Revd Robert Hughes

01295 720869 or 07766 711969

There is no longer a resident incumbent at Hethe. A non-resident priest will say one Mass on Sundays at 10.00am.

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

The Vigil Mass at St John's Church, Banbury, is said at 4.00pm on Saturdays to allow worshippers from the villages to attend by public transport. There are also Masses said at 8.45am and 10.45am on Sundays at St John's. Additional services at St Joseph's are on Sundays at 10.00am and 5.30pm.

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

As you will know from June's *DN*, Les Chappell has stepped down from writing this item so I have volunteered and hope that I can do as good a job as Les has over the years.

You may be aware there is a Pub Night every second Friday in the month in the Old School Room at 7.30pm. Bring your own drinks, snacks and £1 per person to cover the costs. It's a great way of meeting new and old residents of the village.

We have a new contact for the hire of the Old School Room: Sharon Crawley 07377 811532.

There is no *DN* in August, so remember the yearly Ride and Stride will visit Hempton Church on Saturday 14 September. For more details, please contact Janet Watts on 01869 337135.

Victoria Thomas will be making our Hempton planters look beautiful as you approach the village.

Thank you to everyone who has come forward to take over the positions that Les was filling. We will make him proud.

If you have anything you want to include, please let me know by the 10th of each month. Thank you.

Ingrid Robey

Ingoflamingo16@yahoo.co.uk

07973 632448

Friends of Deddington Library

Thank you to those who've already submitted their excellent photographs for our 2020 parish calendar photo competition. I hope that July and August will provide us with more opportunities to take some stunning shots for consideration. The deadline is Friday 16 August so keep on shooting.

Pics should be high resolution landscape format, 5Mb, 300dpi JPGs. We have several shots of unidentifiable fields and trees but ideally we're looking for scenes which are identifiable as within the parish. Drop your entries with Stella at the library on a CD/DVD or send to me. Thank you.

Bryn Williams abw@brynwilliams.com

WINE TIME

In the Pink

Summer is coming and that means rosé wines hit garden tables and barbecue parties as the heavy reds are moved off the supermarket shelves to make room for the pink explosion. Another summer like last year and the surge in rosé drinking is certain to continue. Its popularity seems to be in its role as a genuine third alternative to red or white, with fresh fruity flavours that suit outdoor drinking and warm evenings.

Commercially it makes sense for wine producers to respond to the increased demand and many have introduced a rosé as part of their portfolio. It is quite straightforward to make if you produce red wines already as you don't have to plant white grapes to get into the rosé market. Rosé is made with white juice from red grapes which, when the grapes are pressed, is allowed only the amount of contact with the red skins needed to give the colour (and flavours) the winemaker is looking for. Usually this is done before fermentation. It is not permitted for anything other than the cheapest rosés to simply mix red and white wines to make them (although Champagne is a notable exception to that rule and it's the usual method for making pink Champagne). The other attraction for producers is it offers much quicker revenue than red wine as most rosé is for immediate sale and consumption – the majority of rosé doesn't improve with age, so drink it in the year of production or a year or two after.

Rosé can be made from almost any red grape variety and now comes from all over the world. In the UK we see a lot from Spain and France, Provence and Southern Rhône in particular, using the Garnacha/Grenache grape, either on its own or blended with other red varieties. It is a grape particularly suited to rosé so, if you're unsure where to start, that is a good

option. The UK makes fantastic rosé, with the likes of Camel Valley, Three Choirs and Chapel Down all producing great pink wines at around the £10 mark, widely available in places like Waitrose, Sainsbury's, Majestic, Slurp and M&S. Wines from South Africa, Italy and even Germany are also now more prominent and well worth experimenting with.

Rosé likes being chilled but similar to fragrant whites is better when not chilled too much. Fridge cold (5° or 6°) is too cold and will mask the aromas and flavours. You will probably get more from it if it is drunk at around 10°, so getting it out of the fridge ten minutes before you open it will be worth it. Rosé goes well with a wide variety of foods, although big red meat can overwhelm it and lighter rosés can struggle with chilli. Seafood, salads, pasta, fruit, chicken, pork, sausages, burgers and even sausage rolls all work well.

Ones to try? Domaine Maby (Wine Society £10) produces an outstanding rosé at a great price. Whispering Angel 2018 is iconic and shows just how good rosé from Provence can be (Slurp and Majestic but at £18 a bottle you need to be feeling rich). Similarly, Miraval Rosé 2018 (Majestic £18) is excellent and you get the stardust of it being owned by Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. From Spain Muga Rosada (Slurp £12 or Majestic £12) is a classic example of pink Rioja and well worth it. Other places that produce excellent rosés are the Loire, Bordeaux, Sancerre (Pinot Noir and often very good – Tesco Finest do one for £12) and Tavel (Southern Rhône). A mixed case of 12 different rosés as a weekend barbecue tasting game and see which ones you like best?

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Charles.elvin@btopenworld.com

Tales from the Pump



I quite like Norman. He's a bit of a know-all but I was only pulling his second pint so he was quite lucid at this point. 'Of course you realise that artificial intelligence or AI is going to cause a load of jobs to disappear', he ventured. 'Unemployment has to happen if the country is going to improve in the productivity league tables.'

'But these productivity league tables are just a simple measure of output per employee, so the lower down the productivity table versus other countries the higher we are in terms of employment,' I responded.

Our conversation was interrupted by a cheerful 'Hi' from the lovely Jane as she took a plate of sandwiches to the couple in the window seat. Even I smile back to Jane.

'And', I continued, 'if all these jobs are taken over by AI, where are the income taxes needed to compensate the unemployed?'

Norman eyed his fast emptying glass and said, 'I suppose the businesses will be so profitable with lower labour costs the government will up Corporation Tax and National Insurance to fill the gap needed to pay benefits.'

I began to pull Norman's third pint as I said, 'Well, they'll have to take a big slug of private industry profits because a load of these jobs taken by AI are going to be in the public sector. That's not a big incentive for industry to invest in AI if a large part of the increased efficiency is wiped out by taxation.'

'And, of course,' I continued, 'there are some industries that will always need people. Imagine a robot waddling over to the corner table with a plate of sandwiches instead of the cheerful Jane.'

'Good point' said Norman, 'and I don't fancy a robot pulling a perfect pint even if the alternative is a grumpy old so-and-so like you!'

The Grumpy Landlord

grumpylandlord1@gmail.com

BLUE LAMP OF DEDDINGTON

Thanks to everyone who attended the rural community forum meeting on 5 June. As a result we have speeding and parking around schools as this term's priorities. We have ordered a new speed indication device and are eagerly awaiting its arrival. We will be in contact with parishes to organise community speedwatch events once we have the new kit. PCSOs will be working with village schools to educate parents and provide a visible presence.

We have noticed a rise in the number of scams being reported to us which can come via phone calls, post or email. Please follow this advice:

- Do not give any personal information (name, address, bank details, email or phone number) to organisations or people before verifying their credentials.
- Install the latest software and app updates on all your devices. Protect your email account with a strong, separate password and enable two-factor authentication (2FA) where possible.
- Many frauds start with a phishing email. Banks and financial institutions will not send an email asking you to click on a link and confirm your bank details. Do not trust such emails even if they look genuine. You can always call your bank using the phone number from a genuine piece of correspondence, website (typed directly into the address bar) or phone book to check if you're not sure.

– Destroy and preferably shred receipts with your card details and post with your name and address on. Identity fraudsters don't need much information to be able to clone your identity.

– Be extremely wary of post, phone calls or emails offering you business deals. If an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is. Always question it.

If you think you have been a victim of fraud, please call Action Fraud on 03001 232040.

With the arrival of the warmer summer months we will be trialling a new scheme to deal with low level anti-social behaviour. The Neighbourhood Team will all carry yellow and red cards. If we come across ASB and it is the first time we have warned the individual, we will give them a yellow card. If we deal with the same individual again within six months they will get a red card. This is obviously a final warning. Parents will be informed and more formal intervention can be taken if needed.

The Team is looking forward to attending lots of rural events over the next few months, including Picnic in the Park at the Windmill (see p18 for details), Bodfest and Fairport. If you have an event that you would like us to attend to provide crime prevention advice, please email us at BanburyRuralNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or call 101.

Lana Smith, Thames Valley Police



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01295 404040

10 High Street
Shipston-On-Stour CV36 4AJ
01608 489222

Deddington CE Primary School

This month has been extremely busy with a range of school activities. Preparations are now underway for our end of year production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Alicia Rumsby and Seb Heffer are working hard leading rehearsals and all other aspects of preparation for the show. Please come along to the Windmill Centre to see our performance on the evenings of 10–12 July. Tickets will soon be available from the school office.

In sport, the F1 children went to Oxford City Football Club for a morning of multi-skills based sporting activities, led by Ignite Sport. The class had a great time, despite the awful rain. This month a group of children from Year 3 up to Year 6 competed in the Triathlon Event at Sibford School. The biking element of the race was cancelled due to the ground being waterlogged so the participants had to swim and run further. The children did exceptionally well with a Year 5 girl coming third and a Year 6 boy being first overall. Congratulations to everyone who took part.

Fifty children from Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 are taking part in the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education annual service for headteachers and governors. We are very proud that our choir will be leading the singing during

the entire service.

Our annual summer fête took place on 15 June. We would like to thank our PTA for their hard work in organising this great afternoon. Finally, we would like to wish you all a happy and, hopefully, warm summer ahead.

Denise Welch

dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

Are you interested in finding out what your Parish Council does?

We are looking for a **Minutes Secretary** to attend monthly meetings and provide holiday cover. This is a paid position.

For further details please contact the Parish Clerk on 01869 337447

or email

deddingtonparishcouncil@googlemail.com

PFSU and Village Nursery

Somehow we have already reached the final few weeks of the school year and are busy with summer events and activities and preparing the children for their moves to pre-school or school in September.

The children are looking forward to their sports days, which will be held on 5 July at the PFSU and 10 July at the Nursery. Parents are welcome to come along and watch, and we hope you will bring a picnic to enjoy with your children after the races.

There will be a 'move-up' day on Tuesday 16 July at 1.15pm for the new children who are going to the PFSU in September. The children can be left at the PFSU for the afternoon and will have a chance to play and to get to know their new classroom and friends. This will also be the time for the PFSU children to visit their new class in the primary school. There will be an additional opportunity for parents and children joining the PFSU in September to visit us on Tuesday and Wednesday 2–3 July from 3.30–4.30pm. Come and see the classroom, meet the staff and ask any questions you may have.

End of term will be celebrated with a teddy bears picnic at the PFSU and an ugly bug ball at the Nursery.

Holiday Club will run at the PFSU from 9.00am–3.00pm on 29 July–2 August, and 5–9 August. Booking forms are available now and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. We would like to wish all the children who are moving in September every happiness and success in their new schools and settings. Enjoy the summer.

Lucy Squires 01869 337484



History Corner

www.deddingtonhistory.uk

D-Day has been very much in the news. In last month's *DN* we remembered Sergeant Bill Cowley RM. This month we can remember another Deddington man whose clever war machines got Bill onto and up the beach more safely than might otherwise have been.

General Percy Hobart was living quietly in forced retirement in 1940 at Leadenporch House because he was deemed too 'unconventional' for highest rank. However, his innovative organisation of the Home Guard in Oxfordshire attracted public attention. Churchill insisted that he be recalled to active service. In 1943 he was given the task, with sparse resources and just over a year to prepare, of creating the 79th Armoured Division to support the planned invasion of France. He master-minded the design of specialised vehicles – affectionately called 'Hobart's Funnies' – such as mine clearance machinery and bridge layers. General Eisenhower doubted the beachhead could have been established without Hobart's Funnies.

He retired at the end of the war and continued living in Leadenporch until 1948 when he became Lieutenant-Governor of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, and died in 1957. The story of his tumultuous year leading up to the D-Day landings is recounted in *Not Only the Good Boys*, a novel by Jo Eames, the current owner of Leadenporch. Copies are available direct, email jo@peachpubs.com, or from Amazon.

Rob Forsyth

robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

BLISSFUL THINKING



The day I'm writing this we've had a morning where the drains were straining, giving way to an evening where you wouldn't have known it had rained at all. It's at times like this that make one turn to eschatology.

From ancient Persia, the Zoroastrian end times mythology includes liquid metal cascading from the mountains and submerging the sinful. In our real modern world the original elemental liquid metal is mercury, as in Freddie, who by a startling coincidence was in fact a prominent Zoroastrian. He apparently also fronted a little known rock combo called Queen, the title of our monarch and head of state. And what a state we are in right now. False prophets, rampant deceit and climate breakdown make one think that perhaps this relentless summer rain has some deeper meaning.

Forget trading butter for guns; we need to trade parasols for canoes. Or arks. Happy summer.

Aaron Bliss

aaronjbliss@hotmail.com

DEDDINGTON ONLINE

www.deddington.org.uk

As trailed in last month's *DN*, as of 1 July we have gone live with our newly designed website and a new logo to go with it. All your favourite links to DOL should still work but let us know by email to editor@deddington.uk if you have any problems or just want to give us your feedback.

If you have an entry in the Directory, please check it and let us know if it needs to be updated.

One of the main motivations for the change has been to transfer it to updated software that makes editing considerably simpler. This is vital if we are to find volunteers to take over from the present editorial team who, although ageing gracefully, are thinking of retirement.

The History website is too big to recreate so its design will remain the same.'

**Rob Forsyth
and Mary Robinson**

Antiques Roadshow

The BBC Antiques Roadshow will be filming at Compton Verney Art Gallery and Park on Tuesday 2 July, 9.30am–5.00pm. For more information please visit: <https://bbc.in/2BLKjX2>.

Holly Tree Club

On 17 June, 17 members of the Holly Tree Club went to Annie's Tearooms at Thrupp. We had a lovely lunch in the garden room and then the group split up to explore. The weather was kind to us, quite an achievement after the recent deluge.

Members are looking forward to their next trip to the National Herb Centre at Warmington in August, a chance to enjoy their nature trail and gardens, as well as explore the many herbs and plants and visit their bistro for lunch en route.

On Thursday 11 July at 6.30pm the film is *The Favourite*, with Olivia Coleman and Rachel Weisz. On Thursday 8 August we will be showing the 1968 film, *Funny Girl*, starring Walter Pidgeon, Omar Sharif and Barbra Streisand, in a bittersweet musical drama.

Don't forget our Monday morning coffee club for the over 55s on the first Monday of the month at 10.30am in the Holly Tree Club. Come and join us, you would be made most welcome.

A reminder to Club users, please put tables and chairs back when you've finished so the next user can set up as they wish. And please identify any belongings; anything not taken will be disposed of. Thank you.

For Club enquiries, please contact Diana Marshall on 01869 337761 or email info@TheHollyTreeClub.org. For booking enquiries, contact Hugh Blythe on 07907 020846 or Bookings@TheHollyTreeClub.org.

Revd Annie Goldthorp



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PHOTO COMPETITION

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

All age groups and abilities are welcome.
Deadline for entries is Friday 16th August 2019.

Submit your entries by email to: asw@brynwiliams.com
or on a CD/DVD to Stella at the library
Image files minimum of 5Mb, 300dpi, saved as High-Quality JPGs.

Good Luck!



FROM THE FIRE STATION

We have had quite a busy month with just over 20 fire calls. Most of them were in Banbury, where we supported their crews. One was in Deddington, a motorbike at the back of the Windmill Centre. This appeared to be arson and the police are investigating.

We have had a lot of requests to attend village events which always gives us a good chance to provide some community fire safety advice (CFS) and do some recruiting, especially in the surrounding villages. We try to attend as many as possible but it depends on the crew's availability and work commitments.

James Greenwood is about to start his two-week basic training, at the end of which he will be on the run and competent in basic firefighting skills. This is just the start of his training and hopefully, in about two years, he will be a fully competent firefighter, able to wear breathing apparatus, but it doesn't end there. Once you have been assessed as competent, your training enters the maintenance phase with regular assessments by the brigade training instructors.

Most of the assessed training is at the Fire Service College near Moreton-in-Marsh. We have two days a year booked there for this. It is a purpose-built facility with a range of buildings from a three-bedroom house to a small block of flats. The buildings are all built of concrete, enabling the rooms to have a similar fire

loading and be set on fire, giving us a fantastic opportunity to demonstrate and enhance our skills.

The college does not only have buildings for fire scenarios, it also has a road traffic collisions hub, including a full size motorway, a collapsed building, plane, helicopter, ship and even an oil terminal. Obviously there aren't many oil terminals in Deddington – or Oxfordshire for that matter – but there are many other emergency organisations that use the facility.

We are still looking for some more recruits so if you fancy having a go we train every Tuesday night 7.00–9.00pm at the station so pop in and have a chat.

Chris Fenemore

Watch Manager Deddington Fire Station

07767 835738

Teas in the Church

Thank you to all who supported us during May. We had a wonderful team who baked, people who helped on the day, and those who gave generous donations. Thanks to the Gospel Bell Band who came to play on 19 May. We raised a total of £280.

Heather Nason



weston
murray
& moore

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LETTERS

FROM NORMAN DRAKE

I want to thank the people of Deddington for their generosity in supporting the charity, Invest in ME Research, which was the charity my children and I wished to support in Joy's name. The amount raised was an outstanding £1,572. Our eldest granddaughter has been suffering from ME for several years and we have witnessed the cruel way it attacks her body and leaves her completely drained and in pain.

The money raised at Joy's funeral has made a substantial contribution to Invest in ME Research and, in a letter to me, their chair, Kathleen McCall, wrote 'Many thanks. It means a great deal to us to receive such magnificent support'.

Joy would have been proud of the amount raised in her name by the people of Deddington, a village she loved so much.

FROM JANET WHITE

I would like to thank Rob Forsyth for his article last month. It was a beautiful tribute to Bill Cowley, a well-known man who spent all his life in Deddington. His rehabilitation was long and slow and, because of his injuries, life was far from easy for him. He would never speak about his experiences until a few years before he died, hence we are still not sure the extent of the horrific things he saw.

He was never allowed to drive but managed to work until he was 61. After that the garden was his passion, providing fruit and veg for the kitchen. A much loved and missed man I'm proud to call my Dad.

FROM ELLEN-JANE BIRD (aged 8)

I thought the Deddington Children's Festival was brilliant this year. I loved all the crafts and the workshops. Thank you for all the people who organised it.

FROM DEE HAILEY

What sort of person takes their dog for a walk and allows it to poop in someone's front garden which was then unfortunately trodden into the house onto new carpets.

Whoever you are, you may not mind living in filth but I do. Sadly, there are some very irresponsible and selfish dog owners amongst us (note the recently introduced rules for the Windmill playing-field). Maybe it is time to call them out.

FROM BECKY JONES

I wanted to say a public thank you to the Deddington Festival Committee. In early June our village was the venue for a huge range of events. We were so lucky to have the likes of a baroque concert, DeddyRocks, Car Fest and a gospel choir on our doorsteps all in one



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

weekend. I was at all of these events and they were amazing. I didn't go to everything – how could you? But there was something on offer for all interests and age groups. I hope everyone in the village was able to take part in something. If not, you missed out.

The festival committee is a very small group of people and it is an enormous amount of work to put on something like this.

I'm not sure if they ever get the thanks they deserve. So, on behalf of all of the people who benefited from your endeavours, thank you to those responsible, to the committee and all the volunteers who helped to make it happen. Special thanks to Elli Ince for being the driving force behind yet another successful Deddington Festival.

FROM CHRISTOPHER HALL

Thanks to the shoe leather of 33 tireless Christian Aid Week collectors and the generosity of donors, £2160.38 has been sent to Christian Aid to help build a health centre in Sierra Leone. That's a little less collected than last year, but five streets lacked collectors. Some of the envelopes delivered to those streets were returned; £54 was handed in at the Duke in Clifton. Donations can still be made online at caweek.org or to donate £5 text GIVE to 70040.) One hundred donors GiftAided £852, making £212 tax reclaimable. £150 from a local trust increased the final total. A donor in New Street generously emptied a jar of small silver into their envelope including half a dozen self-tapping screws; they wait to be retrieved from me.

FROM GEORGE FENEMORE

Having just perused the latest CDC planning applications, the proposed applications for 15 new builds is not at Home Farm Clifton as many think but Home Farm, Deddington, Clifton Road.

If we need yet more housing in the parish then so be it, but I think not. I also question the suitability of this site, given the topography of the land. It will need a considerable amount of groundwork, over land that is not in the same ownership, to access the village waste disposal plant. The next difficulty is surface water run-off which would have to be 'ditched' or piped, again over land not in the same ownership, into the Deddington brook, something that would exacerbate a difficult situation of flash-flooding in the river valley, which has already caused many problems for the river valley ground-nesting birds and insects, to say nothing of the traditional livestock farming in the valley. Although this is an outline application, there is no indication that an environmental impact assessment has been undertaken by the Environment Agency, Natural England, CDC or the PC, something that is a statutory requirement.

Deddington Beeches Bowls Club

The original of this painting is owned by Norman Drake who was given it by Monty Spencer, a former Bowls Club member. It was painted by former Deddington resident and artist, Ken Langstaff, in 1991. It depicts the club at its original location, roughly where the road into the The Beeches is now located opposite the Health Centre. The clubhouse was an old Great Western Railway carriage. Sitting on the seat is Bob Stephenson. The young lad is Bob's son, Andrew and the person standing is Fred Deely. The man delivering the bowl is as yet

unidentified. The club subsequently moved to the Windmill Centre but closed in 2016 because of lack of members.

An interesting footnote is that the treasurer's account book, containing members' names and subscriptions, had in the back a list of WWII POWs with their educational qualifications gained in captivity. How and why they were there was an interesting detective story. It can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/yxdulpyf>.

Rob Forsyth

robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com



NEWS FROM CLIFTON

So this month saw Lower Larkrise's very own 'Timber inventory' (think about it oldies ...) music event where the Duck held its inaugural beer festival featuring 17 different beers (that this correspondent had a good stab at verifying). Half Candleford was there with six local bands including the Candleford-stuffed Reset, who saw the sun go down on the festival, cheered on by 40-plus revellers as they covered George Ezra. Well, the guest beers were drunk and the Candleford revellers had a good time alongside us Lower Larkrisers as the chilly night saw a great event draw to a close for this year at least. Another very promising feature was the ladies football training session that broke out during the day showing a great future for the beautiful game in our realm.

Our Una Stubs heroes took a real step forward this month with their first leg win and beer leg win away in Adderbury at the Bell, with Cllr Collins taking over the reins from a holidaying Ronaldo. It was he who pretty much set out the stall for the first match win the following week as El Capitan made it back, sans

sleep, to make a contribution, but the difference was delivered by John Stiff, surprisingly dropped from the England World Cup team but able to deliver the telling doll to secure victory. Sadly the following week, with El Capitan firmly in control, saw a home pasting and the week after he dropped second highest scorer for a golf mate and saw the team unable to build upon Cllr Collins' career best score of eight to win nothing ... but hey ho.

A very successful Deddy Car Fest saw a good effort from Lower Larkrise, with David in the organising van and John with his big red 'Stang giving rides. Many others from Candleford deserve credit too – especially the marshal who sent Welsh Clinky packing off home.

The local authorities are trying to get to grips with a malfunctioning street light but some are happy not to have it shining into their bedrooms and Clifton Sur Mer has made an unseasonal return – but it's good for the crops – eh George?

Martin Bryce

martindnbryce@gmail.com

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Photographic Society

In June, Birmingham-based Verity Milligan gave a presentation entitled 'Light on the Landscape'. Peppered with amusing anecdotes, she spoke of how she got into photography and her techniques.

She has worked as a commercial photographer and taught digital storytelling to undergraduates. For the last six years, she concentrated on the urban landscapes of Birmingham which brought her national recognition. Verity likes to use telephoto and wide-angle lenses and relies on her intuition to compose her photographs. Often her first shots work best, frequently from the car. She said she always falls back on her trusty Canon for reliability and keeps all her photos so as to look back to earlier ones to see how to improve them. Verity's screened shots included the dawn blue hour in Buttermere, misty autumn golden colours on Derwentwater, the moodiness of Devoke Water, canal shots using a circular polariser, Birmingham at night, and urban landscapes of Birmingham and Edinburgh. She continues to evolve her love of photography and travels widely to photograph whatever interests her. The presentation was interesting and informative, not to mention inspirational, and was much enjoyed by everyone.

The next club night will bring us Bob Brind-Surch whose presentation will be 'My Digital Workflow' on Wednesday 3 July at 7.30pm at the Adderbury Institute. Everyone is welcome. Please note the change of venue.

Wendy Meagher
wmeagher@gmail.com

Royal British Legion Branch

Our June pub social evening in the Red Lion attracted ten members and a visitor from the Upper Heyford Branch. The evenings are now paused for the summer and will resume on Tuesday 24 September at 7.00pm in the Deddington Arms. There is no agenda other than to chat and have a social drink or two.

The Branch outing to the Imperial War Museum will be on 9 October departing at 9.00am. Non-members are very welcome. If we have as many on the bus as visited the National Memorial Arboretum the cost will be in the order of £15–17. There is no charge for visiting the museum. However, we need to book the date with both bus and museum so please respond now if you think you wish to be on the trip. A final call for confirmation and payment will be made at the beginning of September.

One member has retired from the Branch, one joined and two whose membership had lapsed have re-joined. A list of names of the current 69 members will be emailed on 1 July.

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

Women's Institute

On 11 June we listened with interest and some great surprise to James O'Neill telling us about the life of a First Responder. The First Response volunteers are rather like lifeboat crews. They are all volunteers and have day jobs. Their role is to get to a casualty rapidly, usually before the ambulance. They treat any casualties and stay with them until the ambulance arrives. James is with the South Warwickshire organisation, our local one is South Central.

The surprise was that this vital, lifesaving service is entirely paid for by donations, no NHS money is involved. Like lifeboat crews, First Responders are not paid but claim necessary expenses. The whole meeting was shocked by this. It was very thought provoking.

Maira Byast

Deddington Bookworms

This month, Deddington Bookworms read *The Secret Life of Bletchley Park* by Sinclair McKay, a story of the WWII code breaking centre and the men and women who worked there. The focus of the book is that of the stories of those who worked at Bletchley during and after the war and centres on the breaking of the Enigma codes. The book follows chronologically the order of events from the inception and setting up of the Bletchley Park operation, previously based in London on a much smaller scale. Whilst rather long-winded, it uses a lot of interview material from former workers and discusses the working hours, unbelievable secrecy and variety of backgrounds and personality clashes that occurred. Many of us felt it wasn't a page turner but it did portray exactly what all those involved went through and their inner turmoil, keeping their work secret from both family and friends – and anguish in the early 70s when the first Bletchley Park book came out, F Winterbotham's *Ultra*.

The book has inspired at least one Bookworm to make a visit to Bletchley Park in the near future.

Our next book is *The Trouble with Goats and Sheep* by Joanna Cannon.

Deddington Library
 01869 338391

Local Vocals – Community Choir

We meet on Mondays at 7.30pm during term time at Deddington Primary School hall.

It's been a funny term with all the bank holidays but we are now making good progress with our new repertoire and have even been given a new song to learn. Our last choir session will be on 15 July when we break for the summer. If you have thought about joining a choir but are not sure, we'd love to see you when we start again in September. Just look out for the posters around the villages for the exact date. There's no obligation to join – just pop in one Monday to see if it's for you. The cost is £4 for each taster session for

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Continued from p13

up to three sessions. Each 90-minute session starts with a warm up and you can sing in whichever part you like. There is no audition or need to be able to read music as we learn by ear. We end with refreshments, the chance to get to know others in the choir and we leave with big smiles. All adults wishing to spend time in a relaxed group singing away the cares of the day are welcome. For more details contact me.

Alison Grieve
alisongrmail@gmail.com

Book Club

Our May book was *Behind the Scenes at the Museum* by Kate Atkinson. The main protagonist, Ruby Lennox, tells the story of her family, from her great-grandmother, Alice, at the end of the nineteenth century, through to the events of her own childhood and later life. There are very funny moments and sad moments, but even the momentous and mundane events are made to sound amusing. A criticism is that the story hops about a lot from past to future and you sometimes have to remind yourself what generation you are in, which is confusing, but it is well written, witty and absorbing.

Our book for July is *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles and the next meeting is on 25 July.

Sally Lambert
 01869 338094

Deddington and District History Society

Our May speaker was David Hood, a local resident for more than 30 years and president of the local Royal British Legion.

In 1956 David, a Desert Rats Liaison Officer, volunteered for a three year assignment in Malaya where an insurgency had been running since 1948, led mainly by Chinese communists. David probably did not realise what he had volunteered for as, at that time, Malaya, was 80% jungle with humidity over 90% and 150 inches of rain a year.

David's talk was an insight into the trials and tribulations of daily life in a difficult environment. The insurgency, whilst only numbering around 6,000 combatants, had caught the British army unawares as they had received a welcome from the Malay population after the end of WWII and many Malays fought side-by-side with the British against the insurgents.

The army created base camps from which intensive patrols were sent out. Base camps were basic with regular visits from snakes, monkeys, mosquitoes and vicious red ants.

David described his tour as very hard work which seems an understatement, with the need for constant alertness, impenetrable terrain and hardly tolerable conditions. Even rations were hardly comforts from home. The cigarettes so were bad their best use was in removing leeches.

He described an ambush in which he participated that was conducted in utmost secrecy and in the dead of night. He finished his talk by reading a moving poem in memory of his colleagues who gave their lives in this and other campaigns. Although not mentioned in his talk, David received a Military Cross for bravery during this campaign.

Barrie Smith 01869 337813

SPORT

Deddington Original Golf Society – DOGS

Twenty-six golfers braved the rain to play at Olton Golf Club, near Solihull on Monday 10 June. The course was in beautiful condition with greens as fast as Augusta. The worthy winner on the day was Barry Pawley (handicap 5) with 34 points, just pipping Tony Lowe with the same points but fewer on the back nine holes. In third place was Phil Goodman with 33 points. The DOGS next event is the July Jolly to Barnham Broom for which we are fully subscribed, followed by a visit on 23 August to Cotswold Golf Club (Chipping Norton) with barbecue in Deddington afterwards.

If anyone would like to try us out and play as a guest at Chippy, please contact me.

Nigel Oddy, Secretary
nigeloddy@yahoo.com

Deddington Tennis Club

On Sunday 21 July we are holding our annual open day from 12.30–4.30pm. Players of all levels of ability are welcome, so please join us at the tennis club for

this fun-packed event. It's a great afternoon for all the family with free coaching taster sessions for all ages, cardio tennis taster sessions, games and activities, a barbecue and refreshments, as well as competitions and prizes. You can book for any of these sessions by visiting www.lta.org.uk/gbtw and signing up for the activities you're interested in. For more information on the club and to find out what we have going on throughout the year, please visit our website www.deddingtontennis.com or email me. We look forward to meeting you at our open day, if not before. And don't forget, you don't have to be a member to play at the club, our courts are available to book through the Cyclogical Shop on Hudson Street by anyone who would like to use them.

Ed Toll, Chair
chairman@deddingtontennis.com

Deddington Town Football Club

The summer has arrived, bringing with it the Women's World Cup and a bronze medal for the national men's

SPORT*Continued from p14*

team in the inaugural European Nations League. Meanwhile, DTFC have been showering accolades on those who distinguished themselves in service of the Humbugs this season:

First Team Awards

Most improved player: Joe Thornton
 Young Player of Year: Joe Morris
 Managers' Player of Year: Mark Cook
 Players' Player of Year: Tim Atherton
 Top goalscorer: Simon Hall

Reserve Awards

Most improved player: Jae Loveridge
 Young Player of Year: Kyle Moss
 Managers' Player of Year: Craig Smith
 Players' Player of Year: Joe Caulfield
 Top goalscorer: Joe Caulfield

We hope you will get used to seeing some of these names writing themselves into Deddington Town folklore with some silverware-laden exploits to come.

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

Deddington Town Youth*Presentation Day 2019*

Once again, we had a sunny afternoon on 9 June to celebrate the success of our youth teams. It shows how well we are run as a club by our hard-working managers and coaches, together with the officers who set the direction for the club, and with the continuing coaching support from Adam Bradley to all our teams. This means our players progress and develop, and this is all helped by the support from parents. And

a big thank you to Marten Sealby for designing the presentation day programme and to all our sponsors. This year the chairman's award went to Steve Taylor, our Under 14 Manager for his outstanding contribution to the club over many years.

Most Improved Player

U8 Toby Bellinger, U9 Max Hawtin, U10 Sebastian Burt, U11 Tobias Precious, U12 Ben Jones, U14 Jake Lindley, U15 Euan McRobie.

Sportsperson

U8 Daragh Cassidy, U9 Leo Cubley, U10 Adam Forshaw, U11 Max Fuller, U12 Joseph Fisher, U14 Lewis Harding, U15 Elliot Stockford.

Players' Player

U8 Bryn Zajac, U9 Toby Brock, U10 Theo Flint and Oliver Martin, U11 Tommy McArdle, U12 Leo Sansom, U14 Brodie Hammond, U15 Grant Hall.

Managers' Player

U8 Zac Godfrey and Vinnie Holliday, U9 Joseph Eccles, U10 Thomas Pilbeam, U11 Charlie Moore, U12 Charlie Sydenham, U14 Charlie Haselgrove, U15 Harry Ware.

Fair Play award in memory of Frank McCusker

For the second year, the club gave an award at the U7 age group for fair play. This was in memory of Frank McCusker. Frank died suddenly in 2017 and coached for several years. This year it was awarded to Sammy Jones.

Put the date in your diary for next year – Sunday 7 June at 2.00pm at the Windmill Centre.

Roger Sykes

Development Officer and U7/U6 Coach

01869 337034

YOUTH**1st Deddington Scout Group***Cubs*

This year's District Cub Camp held at Horley was a small but nevertheless enjoyable event. Only four packs attended but the ten Deddington Cubs had a great time rescuing a casualty by making their own stretchers from coats, rope-making and taking a very challenging obstacle course which took them down the sides of an embankment by ladders. Of course, the best part of the weekend is allowing the Cubs to run feral in the woods – it all gets a bit *Lord of the Flies*. The weather was quite kind though, with only a few sturdy showers and our tents came down dry – yeah!

Jo Churchyard

deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts

The Scouts have been contributing to their Navigator Badge by studying natural navigation, the way the wind affects trees, moss and algae and even the position of satellite dishes. They helped put up the tents for Cub camp – we have just bought some lovely new three-man tents and we are looking forward to using them

at our troop weekend at Rough Close Campsite near Coventry. Caving, shooting and metal detecting are all on the menu, including a lot of charging around in the woods. We hope the weather will allow open fire cooking and the chance to sleep in our hammocks.

Peter Churchyard

deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

Explorers

As promised, the update on our quizzing. Well, we didn't win, and the Explorers proved that they knew a lot about all sorts of things and the leaders needed to concentrate more on recent music releases. The Guides were great hosts and our contribution helped towards their Jamboree expenses. We followed this by taking a meditative look at our lives and having a yoga session which may be of help to those doing their exams at the moment.

The newly appointed District Youth Commissioner came and ran a really successful evening getting the Explorers to think about what they would have for a camp with unlimited resources. The two groups decided on either a challenging camp to use all experi-

YOUTH*Continued from p15*

ences or a Eurovision-themed one.

Next project – outdoor cooking. Hopefully the rain will have stopped. If you are interested in joining the unit, contact any of the leaders.

Janet Duxbury 01608 737959
spartansexplorers@gmail.com

The Girl Guide Association*1st Deddington Brownies*

Sadly, the bug hotel we built last month was demolished by some thoughtless individuals. We plan to rebuild again once the weather improves, using more secure methods this time. Aside from this, we had an exciting overnight stay at Youlbury activity centre where the girls got to try zip-wires, crate-stacking and, for a few very adventurous ones, an aerial trek. A good time was had by all, though there were some very tired Brownies (and Owls) by the Sunday.

Fern Stringer
deddingtonbrownies@gmail.com

1st Deddington Guides

Camp was our highlight of the last month. We had a wonderful time over half-term. There were showers but not enough to stop the fun. We were in beautiful surroundings on a farm in Shutford. We had a bit of a spy theme going and some of the disguises were hilarious. The Guides completed many challenges including codes and trying to smuggle the elixir of life across the site. We also had water games and a hike to Epwell. We got up at 4.00am to climb a hill to watch the sunrise – a spectacular show followed by bacon butties, and back to bed for some.

The Guides learnt many camp skills and shared and looked out for each other. We cook everything on open fires – every meal including sweet and sour chicken, tagine, spaghetti bolognaise, chocolate steamed pudding and eggy bread are amongst the favourites. We put on our own entertainment in the evenings – mostly highly amusing – we have some stars in the making and, if there is a problem finding the next prime minister, look no further. We had some amazing presentations by the girls, setting out why they should have the role. We are convinced.

Our other meetings included a lovely hike from Steeple Aston to Heyford, following trails in the woods, shelter building at Horley and a fascinating session learning how to program mini-robots. We had these mischievous little things dashing all around the hall. There will be many more outdoor activities to come.

Lastly, eight Guides joined with other units in Banbury for a large camp at Horley. A thunderstorm on the first night caused some excitement but eventually the sun came out so the girls could enjoy the activities.

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

Marian Trinder 01869 340806

Tilly Neal 07557 095681

Deddington Library

We're gearing up to our 2019 Summer Reading Challenge – Space Chase! Get ready to blast off with the Rocket family for an epic reading challenge at Deddington library this summer. The mission is to track down mischievous aliens, collect stickers and solve clues while reading six library books of your choice. Finish the challenge to get your medal and certificate. From 13 July–14 September children across Oxfordshire can join Space Chase at their local library. It's fun! It's free! It's local!

Our Adults Summer Reading Challenge is running again this year, with all sorts of prizes to be won. Look out for the Oxfordshire Reads postcards in the library. All you need to do is review the books you're reading – simple.

Our last Rhymetime for under 5s and families before the summer break is on Monday 22 July. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Rhymetime hosts for delivering such wonderful sessions for the children every week. It's such a pleasure to hear the children engaging with them. Thank you all and have a wonderful summer. The sessions will re-commence in September – watch out for the dates in the September *DN*.

Remember to call in if you have a new neighbour move in. We have welcome packs ready, providing all the information needed to help them integrate into our community. I look forward to seeing you all in the library over the coming weeks.

Stella O'Neill 01869 338 391

Deddington.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk

**What's On
August***Continued from p1*

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Thu 8 | Holly Tree Club: Film Night, <i>Funny Girl</i> , Holly Tree, 6.30pm |
| Tue 13 | WI: 'Hitting the Headlines as a Newspaper Editor', Holly Tree, 7.30pm |
| Wed 21 | PC Meeting: Old School Room, Hempton, 7.30pm |
| Wed 21 | Photographic Society Workshop: Light Room Editing, Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm |
| Thu 22 | Skittles: Parish Church, 7.00–9.00pm |
| Fri 23 | DOGS: Cotswold Golf Club, Chipping Norton followed by Barbecue |
| Sat 24 | Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm |
| Mon 26 | Barfords Church Fête: The Manor, Barford St Michael, 2.00pm |
| Thu 29 | Book Group: Contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for details |

POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

Math, Conspiracy Theory and Royalty

Some 45 years ago, the University of Leeds gave me a degree in mathematics. It was a close run thing. I did very little work so they seemed to think I didn't deserve honours. Preferring the proper form, I accept maths, despite the use of the plural not making much sense, but I object to the American abbreviation – what on earth is math?

The worrying trend in America right now is to discount science and mathematics as a liberal plot. Last week the President continued in his denial of climate change, apparently it is now 'extreme weather'. His administration is going further on their path to deny science. They tried to bury the extremely critical 2018 report by the US climate science community. Word is now leaking out that they want the teams who produce this analysis in future to use different criteria, for instance, worst case scenarios will be banned.

We are in a time when extreme views are gaining access to the mainstream worldwide. Conspiracy theories used to be something to laugh about. For instance, my lovely brother-in-law is convinced that we never went to the moon. But very dangerous characters like Alex Jones take this many steps further. There are court cases going forward now against Jones and others because of their attempts to deny that the Sandy Hook school shooting ever took place.

Last week I was in Canada which is always a breath of fresh air, but they do get anxious about their proximity to the madness that goes on in the US. In many ways they can be indistinguishable: the language, the TV and the sport. But call a Canadian 'American' and you have trouble on your hands.

The biggest news in Canada this week was that the Toronto Raptors won the US basketball league. This

was a huge source of national celebration – finally getting one over on their arrogant nextdoor neighbour made a lot of people very happy. I have been enjoying telling disappointed Americans that the game has gone home; it was invented by a Canadian. Americans can't stand not being the best. It's one reason why they can't embrace football (ie soccer). They suck at the men's game but women's soccer is huge and, even though their team is the favourite to retain the World Cup, it doesn't get great coverage on the male-dominated sports networks.

The one thing all the countries I have visited in the last six weeks have in common is their interest in the UK's royal family. In Ontario I drove down Queen Elizabeth Way and even the Aussies talk fondly about dear Elizabeth. An American asked me a few weeks ago if I have ever met royalty and, strangely enough, my darling wife has. My father-in-law was invited to the palace years ago to recognise his work in the law profession. Pomp and circumstance dictated that he could take as guests his wife and any unmarried daughters, as Heather was at the time. Before they drove to the palace, Heather was asked by her mother to freshen up her skirt in our washer/dryer, but unfortunately I was out. Heather knew where the machine was, but its controls were a mystery to her. Five minutes later and the mother-in-law had a very wet skirt. They drove to the palace with it hanging out of the car window, drying in the wind. You don't have to have a maths degree to use a dryer but it takes an altogether different intelligence to con your partner into being the sole operator.

Mike Ward

Mikew@qsoftware.com

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

The rainy half-term week saw two Deddington boys buck the stereotype of screen-obsessed and self-absorbed youths.

Finding themselves at a loose end and with 1p between them, Finlay (13) and Matthew (10), spontaneously decided to challenge themselves to raise money for charity.

The boys came up with a scheme to buy, sell or swap goods, aiming to trade up and increase their earnings with each transaction. It was this that led some Deddington residents to receive a knock at their door with an invitation from Finlay and Matthew to take part.



The boys explained their system: 'The first person sold us a mug for 1p which we sold to the next person for £2. With this money we bought an Echo Dot and then we sold this for £12.'

After three hours of wet and windy weather and the occasional grilling about their motivation, the boys raised £60 which they have opted to give to Cancer Research.

Marten Sealby shared, 'Although there were a few stern reminders to the boys about their personal safety, it was admirable to see them choosing to use their time, creativity and initiative to do something good, and both boys felt a great sense of achievement'.

Adventure Playground Open at Last

... and then the rains came! But at least the kids at the Football Presentation Day on 9 June got to christen it well. We'd really like some feedback from both children and parents: what works, what doesn't work, what's favourite ...

Extra grass seed has been sown in some patches still protected by hazard netting. Please keep off these and give the grass time to grow and look half decent. We know the ground is going to look rough for the first season but a combination of mowing, strimming and weed killer should see it looking better.

The last additions to the play park will be a water fountain, picnic tables and a bench coming soon, and more planting will be done in the southeast corner. By then we hope we'll have a really terrific play space for children – and adults – to enjoy.

Please, no dogs in the play park – children and dogs definitely do not mix. The Parish Council will be reviewing the situation of dogs at the Windmill this summer to see if the new regulations are working. We believe there is less dog poo on the sports pitches, and most people are being responsible and helping to make the scheme work. But there's always a few who think the rules don't apply to them and selfishly act with complete disregard for the health and safety of others. They are in danger of bringing a complete ban that bit nearer.

The Pocket Park project is due to start on 17 June and we're sorry the Under-6 play area is going to be out of action while the work is being done. We know how popular this area is and how unpopular we are going to be while it's closed. Stick with us – it will be worth it.

Mary Robinson

development@windmillcentre.org

It's open so it's party time. We'd like to invite you all to a picnic in the park from 4.00pm onwards on Friday 19 July. We're planning a fun-filled family afternoon to officially open our new adventure playground and thank all those who have worked so hard to make it happen. It's also our chance to remind you of all the many and varied activities that take place at the Windmill and how you can become involved. If you haven't been up there for a while, or you are new to the village



and you've never been, you'd be surprised. Whether you are 2 or 92 there is something for everybody at the Windmill.

We'll provide music, a licensed bar and we hope a variety of drinks, snacks and ice-creams at our new pop-up

café in the old bowls pavilion. You provide a picnic and rug, then all we need is a sunny afternoon – fingers crossed.

Look out for more information on our website www.thewindmilldeddington.org or Facebook page. One final thing – parking spaces at the Windmill are limited so it would help a lot if you could leave the car at home. Many thanks and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Vaughan Jones

vaughan@englishlanguagematters.com



Trevor Stewart's stunning Windmill-themed multi-play structure, centrepiece of the play park



RIDE AND STRIDE 2019

in aid of
Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust

SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER
10am–6pm

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