

**C**hristopher Hall's act will be a hard one to follow. He has done sterling work during his tenure and I thank him. See p7. This may be a time when my IT skills improve considerably, but it will certainly be interesting and possibly challenging from time to time. You may detect some subtle changes but I hope it doesn't all fall about our ears.

JC

**DIARY****March**

- Sat 1 PTA Quiz Night, Windmill Centre, 7.30 for 8.00 pm >p.3  
 Mon 3 Monday Morning Club, Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30 am – noon  
 Wed 5 Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8.00 – 10.00 pm  
 Wed 5 Photographic Society: Work in the Studio, Adderbury, The Library, 7.30 – 11.00 pm  
 Tue 11 WI: AGM, wine and cheese, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm >p.14  
 Wed 12 History Society: *Orthodox Village Surveys*, Rob Parkinson, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm >p.14  
 Thu 13 Monday Morning Club: Film evening, Holly Tree, 6.30 pm  
 Sat 15 Concert by the Akeman Voices, Pergolesi, Mozart and Jenkins, Parish Church, 8.00 pm  
 Wed 19 Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30 pm  
 Thu 20 Story Time 3.30 pm Library >p.11  
 Sat 22 Deddington Farmer's Market, 9.00 am – 12.30 pm  
 Sat 22 Children's Exhibition Decorated Easter Eggs, Town Hall 9.00 am – 12.30 pm  
 Sat 22 PTA: Craft Stalls, The British Legion, 9.30 – 12.30 pm  
 Sat 22 Easter Funday, Castle Grounds from 12.00 pm >p.3  
 Thu 27 Book Group: Phone Sally Lambert for venue. (338094) >p.14  
 Sat 29 Deddington Colts: Race Night, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. for 8.00 pm >p.13  
 Sat 29 Sofia Church choir, Deddington Church 7.30 pm

Copies  
of the DN  
are available at  
THE FLOWER SHOP  
with a  
Box for donations

**April**

- Wed 2 *Oliver*, performed by Deddington Primary School, Parish Church  
 Wed 2 Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8.00 pm  
 Wed 2 Photographic Society: AGM, The Deddington Arms, 7.30 pm  
 Thu 3 *Oliver*, performed by Deddington Primary School, Parish Church  
 Sat 5 Katharine House Hospice Spring Sale, Adderbury Institute 10.30 am – 1.30 pm  
 Mon 7 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30 am – noon  
 Tue 8 WI: *Life of a Housekeeper in a Tudor Manor*, J Sarton, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm  
 Wed 9 History Society, *The archaeology of Oxford Castle*, A Norton, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm  
 Wed 16 Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm  
 Thu 17 Monday Morning Club: Film Evening, Holly Tree, 6.30 pm  
 Sat 19 Choros workshop, Parish Church  
 Sat 26 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9.00 am – 12.30 pm  
 Sat 26 PTA: Craft Stalls, The British Legion, 9.30 – 12.30 pm >p.3  
 Sat 26 Art at the Holly Tree Exhibition, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm  
 Sat 26 Choros Concert, Mozart and Vaughan Williams, Parish Church, 7.30 pm  
 Sun 27 Art at the Holly Tree Exhibition, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

**Weekly Meetings**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Mon: Brownies: Windmill Centre, 6-7.30pm            | Wed: Tennis Club: 6.15pm till dark                        |
| Mon: Youth Club: Windmill Centre, 7-9pm             | Wed: Boys' Brigade Company: Parish Church, 7pm            |
| Mon: Bellringing Practice: Parish Church, 7.30-9pm  | Thu: Life & Portrait Art Group: Town Hall, 10-4pm         |
| Tues: Craft Group: Holly Tree, 2.15-4.30pm          | Thu: 1st Deddington Cubs: Windmill, 6-7.30pm              |
| Tues: DYG, Parish Church, 6.45-8pm                  | Thu: 1st Deddington Scouts: Windmill, 7.30-9pm            |
| Tues: Guides: Windmill Centre, 7-9pm                | Fri: Babies & Toddlers Group: Windmill, 9.30-11am         |
| Alt Wed: Friendship Club: Windmill, 2.30pm          | Fri: Katharine House Coffee Morning: Parish Church, 10-12 |
| Wed: Boys Brigade Anchor Boys: Windmill Centre, 5pm | Fri: FriendlyBridgeClub:HollyTree, 2 - 5pm                |
| Wed: Boys Brigade Juniors: Windmill Centre, 5.45pm  |   |

**THE DEDDINGTON NEWS** - Copy please to the relevant editor by next copy date: 15 March 2008

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## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Meeting in Town Hall - 20 February

*Present* Cllrs Squires (Chairman), Alton, Anderson, Collins, Flux, Privett, Rudge, Spencer, Todd, Watts, Westbury, Wood, the Clerk, Minute Clerk, three members of the public and DN correspondent.

#### Open Forum

Mary Robinson presented the case for generating 20k of windmill power for the Windmill Centre. The goal is to reduce electricity costs and the carbon footprint, and to make a contribution to the national energy saving initiative. Two alternative windmill technologies were being considered: one conventional horizontal axis 18m mast or four 8m vertical axis masts. Final decisions had not been made about the alternative technologies or about exact site but they would be towards the SW of the area as far away from houses as possible. The PC was being asked to support the planning application to CDC. Although in open forum, after some procedural rearrangements, a debate took place. The PC recognised the merits of the case but would not commit an opinion until the next PC meeting when the Windmill Group would be asked to supply more information about the environmental impact. The decision may be delayed until after residents' opinions have been solicited and the subject may be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Donald McGovern asked if the Clifton footpath could be extended as far as the canal or even to Aynho, as part of the Sustrans funding application. Considered to be a good idea possibly by a joint application with NCC.

#### Finance & General Purposes

Cash flow forecast and budget was accepted. Although Deddington has the advantage of invested funds generating income, as a general principal it was suggested that annual expenditure should balance with precept income.

It was recognised that the Youth Club would need further financial support.

It was agreed that DoL should be supported and £100 was to be contributed towards the new Content Management System to improve public access and to support the PC dedicated section.

#### Highways

A4260 south: OCC checking on status of remedial work

Possibility of mobile speed camera to be sited in village

Earls Lane parking: OCC asked for contribution

School crossing point: OCC to check on status

Hempton pinch point: public consultation results to be sent to OCC

Clifton Flooding: camera survey of drains and investigation of field run-off

Storm drain Market Place has been repaired

Post box to be repositioned on Church Street verge at Market Place end by the telegraph pole and waste bin

Lighting at night: PC to arrange public consultation, possibly at the Annual Parish Meeting

NCC asked to check status of warning signs and barriers on Aynho - Souldern road at the dangerous dip at The Firs.

#### Environment & Recreation/ Special Projects

Teen Scene Development: Contracts signed; hope to open Easter holidays

Youth Drop-In Centre: location needed and consultation with users

Spring Clean: to be focused on Windmill Centre

Funfair; booked for Nov 13-15 with dodgems

CCTV: Upgrade at Windmill Centre to cost £1500 will provide internet feed

Cemetery Gates have been repaired

#### Planning

*PC no objections* (1) Castle Dene Castle Street, replace windows. (2) Old Bakery, Mkt Pl, internal works. (3) Peartree Cott St Thomas St, internal works. (4) 5 Philcote St replace windows and gutter. (5) SS Peter & Paul Church, tree trimming. (6) Applewood, Castle St conservatory.

*CDC approvals:* (7) Home Fm Clifton extension & garage. (8) 38 Gaveston Gdns extension. (9) Old Bakery Mkt Pl new sign. (10) Town Hall, pigeon protection. (11) Castle End, Castle St tree trimming. (12) Mount St Thomas St tree trimming.

*Planning issues* complaint about car valeting in Earls lane. St Thomas St trees should have been planted in first growing season

#### Parish Finances

- Invoices passed for payment £6,265
- Investments totalled £545,939 at W Brom BS, Barclays & Birmingham Midshires BS

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 19 March 2008**



**Erratum:** Old Toms email address should read: [marymlloyd@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marymlloyd@hotmail.co.uk).  
DN apologises for this mistake

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

**T**his term we have had great fun learning about animals. The children have had visits from a cat, two guinea pigs, two hens, a puppy and a trainee Dog for the Disabled. Thank you to all our friends who have brought along their animals. What a great learning experience for the children.

We have also been busy celebrating Shrove Tuesday (pancake races in the school hall caused great hilarity), Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day. The committee organised a Valentine's Disco for the children which was a great success. Another enjoyable fund-raiser was the Quiz Night at the Holcombe Hotel on 10 February. Thanks to Steve Coppin for organising the event and donating the prizes, and to the Holcombe Hotel for their hospitality.

On 12 February we organised a family story afternoon during which the children were presented with their Bookstart Treasure Chests. Children and parents enjoyed stories, getting their hands gluey making a large collage, and going on a treasure hunt.

We have had some work done at the nursery this term and wish to say thanks to Edmundson's Electrical Wholesalers for their donation of four heaters, Jason Clitherow for fitting them and Annabelle Clitherow for organising it. On the same note we would also like to thank the Deddington Players for their kind donation and the Fenemore family for the lovely Christmas tree.

Next term we will be thinking about transport and journeys. We will be journeying around the village, finding out about local landmarks and people, as well as learning about different kinds of transport. As always we would love to hear from you if you have anything exciting and relevant you could bring along to show the children (helicopter anyone?), but my car has already volunteered itself for the children's car wash! We will be holding an Easter Funday at Castle Grounds on Saturday 22 March from 12pm. This will be a great village family day out (open to all) which will include a treasure hunt, egg rolling, a bouncy castle, face painting and a barbecue. Family tickets will be available. For more information please phone the PFSU on 01869 337484.

*Lucy Squires*

### PTA

Our annual Quiz Night takes place on Saturday 1 March. This is always a night of great fun and, as usual, tickets have sold very fast. Who will be the new champions?

These last few days of bright sunshine and clear skies have shown that spring is on its way and many of you will be turning your minds to the annual Spring Clean! Once again, on Tuesday 11 March, we will be collecting unwanted clothing and textiles. We can accept good quality clothing and shoes,

belts, handbags, bedding, curtains and soft toys. The more we are able to collect, the more our school benefits as we are paid by weight. Sorry, but we can't take bric-a-brac or books. If you would like us to collect any bagged donations please call Hazel Neal on 337822 or bring them along to the school playground between 8.00 am and 9.00 am on 11 March only. There will be two further collection dates this year - 1 July and 11 November.

Our craft market returned in February at our new venue - The Royal British Legion. We are grateful to Deddington British Legion for allowing us to use their premises and hope that many of you will make time to come along and see the fantastic selection of gifts and crafts available each Farmers' Market Day between 9.30 am and 12.30 pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Arrangements are gathering pace for the fourth annual Deddington Walk which will be held on Sunday 18 May. We have a new route, new theme, lots of entertainment laid on and it is sure to be a fabulous day - make sure you make a note of the date and encourage your friends and family to join in. Further details next month or see [www.deddingtonwalk.co.uk](http://www.deddingtonwalk.co.uk)

Finally, our summer fete will be held on Saturday 14 June - new attractions are planned so don't miss it!

Thank you once again for your continued support.

*Janet Watts, Chair 337135*



### A Subsidiary of Deddington PFSU

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9.00-11.45am and 12.30-3.00pm

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## CHURCH AND CHAPEL

### CHURCH AND CHAPEL

#### Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

##### March

Sun	2	10.30 am	MOTHERING SUNDAY Eucharist
		6.30 pm	Evensong
Wed	5	10.00 am	Eucharist
		7.30 pm	Lent Talk 'Pakistan' at Hempton
Thur	6	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	9	10.30 am	Eucharist
Wed	12	10.00 am	Eucharist
		7.30 pm	Lent Talk 'South America' at Hempton
Sun	16	10.30 am	PALM SUNDAY Eucharist with Healing Prayer
		3.30 pm	<i>Free Spirit at Windmill Centre</i>
		7.30 pm	Vigil 24/5 until Good Friday
Mon-Wed		9.00 pm	Night Prayer
Wed	19	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	20	2.00 pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY Squeals and Wheels
		7.00 pm	Passover Meal (in Wesleyan Church) followed by Eucharist and Washing of the Feet, and Vigil until Midnight
Fri	21	9.30 pm	Hot Cross Bun Service
		10.30-3.00 pm	Seven Last Words Walk from Barford St John to Deddington
		7.30 pm	Vigil
Sun	23	10.30 am	EASTER DAY Family Eucharist
Wed	26	10.00 am	Eucharist with Healing Prayer
Sun	30	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30 am	Morning Service with Swedish Choir
Mon	31	6.30 pm	ANNUNCIATION Eucharist

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).

#### St John Hempton

Sun	2 & 16	9.00 am	Eucharist
Sat	22	8.30 pm	Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter

#### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

**Funeral:** 28 January Maurice Gilkes

**Charity of the month** - March: **Beacon Centre/Banbury District Housing Coalition** - please use the special envelope to put donations (if a tax payer, in a Gift Aid envelope) into the Parish Church chest.

#### Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Square

**Pastor Isabel Walton 337157**

Sunday mornings including Easter at 10.30 am: Pastor Walton. 7.00 pm Good Friday Passover Meal, Devotions. Sun 30 Faith Sharpe

#### Congregational Chapel, New Street

**Mrs J Minnear 338529**

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

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

Sun	23	3.00 pm	Easter Day Service Pastor Hilary Walker
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#### RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury

**Rev John Burns 277396**

Masses at Holy Trinity, *Hethe*: every weekday except Wed at 9.30 am, Sun at 10.00 am. St George's Church, *Adderbury*: Mass Wed 7.00 pm and Sun 8.30 am. Confessions at Hethe Sat 5.30 – 6.00 pm and at Adderbury before Mass.

Sun	16	8.30 and 10.00 am	Blessing and Distribution of Palms before the Sunday Masses
Thur	20	7.30 pm	HETHE Eucharist of the Lord's Supper and Watching at the Altar of Repose
Fri	21	3.00 pm	HETHE Service of the Passion
		7.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat	22	8.30 pm	HETHE Vigil and First Mass of Easter
Sun	23	8.30 am	ADDERBURY Mass
		10.00 am	HETHE Mass

## Well Remembered

**Hugh Spottiswoode** was born in Edinburgh, and lived as a child in Shrewsbury, Felixstowe and Southsea. He was educated at Temple Grove School, Rugby School and Pembroke College Cambridge. In WW2 Hugh saw active service in Burma as a transport officer, and was Mentioned in Despatches. Having qualified as a chartered accountant, Hugh spent 33 years with Lucas Industries, first helping to develop the overseas side of the business, and his final 12 years as Group Company Secretary.

In retirement, Hugh derived much pleasure from golf (achieving a hole in one), bridge and fishing. He was an enthusiastic member of several groups including the Compton Club and the Burma Star Association. After ten years of retirement in Hornton, he moved to Deddington in 1993. Hugh and Elaine were happily married for 58 years, and had three children and seven grandchildren.

**David Spottiswoode**

**Maurice Gilkes** - Modge as he came to be known - was born in Banbury in 1926, one of a family of 13 children. He left St Mary's School in Banbury at the age of 14 to go into the family building firm as a bricklayer, like his father. Having completed National Service in Egypt with the King's Royal regiment, in 1949 Modge began a long and happy marriage to Pam Doggett.

They lived first in Clifton with Pam's parents, but eventually moved to Deddington with daughter Lorraine, living first in the Tchure and then in Mackley Close. When the Gilkes firm was sold, Modge became caretaker at the Windmill Centre. Modge had a great love and knowledge of sport and a talent for drawing, but his greatest satisfaction lay in his family and friends, and in offering a helping hand to anyone who might need it.

**HW**

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## DoL is Moving with the Times

Ten years ago, when DoL was founded, the only website technology available required 'techie' skills. This limited the editing to a very small team; we are now victims of our own success in that we have so many entries on DoL keeping it up-to-date is a real problem.

Fortunately help is at hand – new software is available that will allow many more people to do the editing, provided they are reasonably competent on a computer. This opens up the possibility of clubs, societies and organisations on DoL taking on the editing of their own sections if they wish.

To create the new format and transfer the 600 or so files of text and pictures will take about three months' work and cost some £2,500 (a very reduced cost thanks to our website host, Granary Publications). As DoL has no income at all – we are entirely voluntary – we are appealing to all clubs, societies and organisations to help with this one-off fund-raising effort.

We would like to say a big thank you to those who have responded already, and look forward to hearing from others in due course. For more information (or donations!) contact Rob Forsyth, Chairman on 01869 338384 and see [www.deddington.org.uk/forum](http://www.deddington.org.uk/forum).



## Solid Oak Furniture

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## DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL



Local artist Sue Cave will be offering an Adult Art Workshop, for persons aged 17 and over, which will take

place in one of Deddington's lovely gardens. The workshop will run from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm, with an hour's break for lunch. The cost will be £15, concessions £13, with all proceeds going to the Festival funds. Places will be limited to 12 so early booking is advised by contacting the Secretary on 338325. Sue Cave's work can be seen at [www.artwrights.com](http://www.artwrights.com).

On 5 July, a Carnival Day is being organised by David Watt and Eddie Sinclair and this will complement the traditional events staged by the Festival and extend its appeal to the wider community. Further details will follow as plans take shape-watch out for further news on [www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk](http://www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk).

Growing support for the Festival has enabled it to stage, in a variety of local settings, amateur and professional performances of a high standard which benefits the community and makes a useful contribution to the various venues used. Moreover,

in furtherance of its charitable remit, the Festival has provided funds to facilitate arts projects and workshops in the local primary school. Last but not least, it has joined forces with the school and the Church to purchase much-needed staging equipment which will make performances more enjoyable for participants and their audiences. The committee thanks all those whose support has made such a valuable contribution to our community and looks forward to a successful festival in 2008.

**Don Anderson.** [anderson100@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:anderson100@yahoo.co.uk)

## FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL

This year's Festival sees a revival of the 2004 Open Gardens event. This is an exciting addition to the programme but it needs (wo)man power. If you would like to help steward on the afternoons of 5 and 6 July or bake cakes for tea in the Church on both afternoons, please contact me (337052 or [kristin.a@zen.co.uk](mailto:kristin.a@zen.co.uk)) or Dorothy White (337530) who is co-ordinating refreshments. Young people's help would be much appreciated.

More news of the Festival programme will be in our April Newsletter for which members' comments are always welcome.

**Kristin Thompson FDF Publicity**



### Easter Eggs at the March Farmers' Market

The artistic skills  
of pupils at  
D e d d i n g t o n

Primary C of E School will be to the fore in the days leading up to the village's Easter Farmers' Market as they decorate eggs in aid of Katharine House Hospice.

For a donation to the hospice they will be given a hard boiled egg to decorate in time for the Farmers' Market to be held on Easter Saturday, 22 March.

The eggs are being donated by stallholder/producer Tom Scott who has sold eggs at the market from his free range chickens for over six years. The necessary 250 eggs will be prepared by local chef, Nick Porter, from the Deddington Arms Hotel.

After judging, all the eggs will be on display in the Town Hall on market day. Six winners will receive book token prizes sponsored by the Deddington Farmers' Market organisers and Waterstone's Book Shop, Banbury.

BBC Countryfile presenter, John Craven, has agreed to visit the market to view the entries and present prizes.

**Geoff Todd 338532**



**P.M. Munson**

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Energy of course is the big issue. Some say that, at the rate we're going, Britain will soon be short by a third of our electricity needs. Demand is expected to overtake supply somewhere between 2012 and 2015; that's not far off is it?

At home, we can turn off lights, television and stereo, phone chargers and anything that we're not actually using. That saves money. We can now get a limited range of low energy bulbs in our local Co-op and there are many other suppliers, even for odd fittings and sizes. Yes they cost more, but you'd save the outlay in the twelve months - and they last for years.

There's lots of advice on hand to help get your home insulated, double glazed, and in other ways improve its energy efficiency. More green stuff soon; meanwhile, check out the green pages on Deddington OnLine.

**Colin Robinson**

[colinrobinson@deddington.net](mailto:colinrobinson@deddington.net)

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## Thanks

**C**hristopher Hall was the right editor at the right time, and brought the *Deddington News* into the 21st century. He understood the need for technological change and had the skills to bring it about.

Using newly available computer and scanning facilities, he brought flexibility to the DN page layout, incorporating both photos and graphics. He established the DN's website and linked the magazine with Deddington OnLine. He was instrumental in seeing that all the editions of the magazine going back to 1976 were bound and available in Deddington's Library - a valuable contribution to local history.

Through the website the DN has become available to a much wider readership, some reading and commenting on the month's news from far-flung corners of the world. Christopher took on the additional task of Parish Affairs correspondent and also represented the magazine in the Parish Plan consultations. He was the innovator of the special Christmas covers incorporating more than one colour, with the co-operation of Eagle Press. Editorial committee meetings were always light-hearted, although serious work was done because Christopher managed to hold us (sometimes reluctantly) to the agenda and keep us all in order for six tough, productive years.

He was ever patient with those of us who struggled with a lack of computer skills. An important person in Christopher's life is Viviane who not only served us refreshments at each meeting, but did the proof-reading of the DN, an exacting task. We hope he will miss us a little, but we wish him happiness in his new freedom. One thing we do know is that he will not be idle.

**KT and MN**

## CROATIA, SICILY and GRAND CANYON

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## FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

### FROM THE HIPKISS FAMILY, RUGELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE

We are trying to trace relatives associated with Deddington in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, namely JAMES TAYLOR and HARRIOTT HOREWOOD. James is believed to have been born in Ledwell and died in Deddington in 1892. If you can help with any information, please contact: **Mrs C Hipkiss, 71 Lower Lodge, Rugeley, Staffs WS15 4AY**

### FROM SUE LANE, FUNDRAISING CO-ORDINATOR, KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE

Having lived in the Parish for 21 years I finally found time to attend the hugely enjoyable carols in the Market Place on Christmas Eve. This raised the marvellous sum of £648 for Katharine House, which helps us to achieve our target of £1.3 million, the sum we need to raise this year to fund our services.

All our fundraising events are featured weekly in the *Around the Cross* section of the *Banbury Guardian* and in our half-yearly newsletter, received by over 250 residents in the Parish. Ring Sarah in Fundraising on 01295 812161 if you would like a copy.

Fundraisers coming up: Spring Sale Sat 5 April, Institute, Adderbury. Masses of original bargains, gifts. Admission free. Wardington Manor gardens, Sun 18 May 2 – 5 pm. Midnight Walk, Sat 28 June. In the meantime, our thanks to all in Deddington parish for your support which is highly valued.

### TOWN HALL DOVES

#### FROM SYLVIE SPENCELEY, THE DAEDINGS, DEDDINGTON

I write in support of Jean Rudge and the fantail doves. In parts of the village we have lost those wonderful summer aerial ballets of house martins ever since house owners put up obstacles to prevent them from nesting. What next? Away with the jackdaws in the church tower, the sparrows and blackbirds in the garden, and, for goodness sake, no more robins on our Christmas cards.

#### FROM LESLEY GREEN, CHAPMANS LANE, DEDDINGTON

With regard to the doves under the Town Hall, since turning 60 in 2006 I have used my bus pass a great deal. However it's often difficult to find a clean wooden seat to sit on in my best clothes. When I stand up the birds are flying round my head and I'm lucky not to get a dropping on my clothes. If there was a wet dropping on the ground a small child or OAP could slip! At the end of the day it's Deddington's Town Hall and bus shelter and not a place for doves to be breeding.

### FROM PAMELA WARD (late D. Market Management Committee)

I first saw a grey nesting pigeon under the Town Hall about four years ago. It, and then its large grey child, sat above the market cake stalls: down, droppings and pests were a concern. Next season white ones arrived opposite, having frequented the Hermitage for a while. If the latter are fantails and desirable, could not Ms Rudge investigate installation of dovecot-type boxes on commercial premises (householders need neither attractions nor mess) or pub yards, subject to Listing etc?

I'm sure it's right to banish them from the Town Hall, where residents and visitors shelter, often with food and drink – which might also be part of the problem.

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

### FROM ROB FORSYTH

**Deddington ancestors?** I have been doing some research into various aspects of family histories in Deddington with the family names of Carter, Chance,

Cowley, Gardiner, Gibbs, Godfree, Lewis, Hirons, Nicholson, Pritchett, Smith, Vincent, Waite and Wheeler. I would like to have spoken to any family descendants before publishing my information in the DN and on DoL. If you think you had any ancestors of those names who could have been living in Deddington, Clifton or Hempton between 1820 and 1870 I would be very pleased for you to contact me - Rob Forsyth on 01869 338384 or email [robert.s.forsyth@googlemail.com](mailto:robert.s.forsyth@googlemail.com).

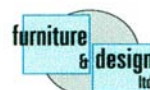
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## IT'S ALL GROW

### On the Farm

**W**ell, we're off! The spring has started with a shiver and a bleat, albeit a little earlier than planned. The first of this year's lambs have put in an appearance with all the usual excitement that accompanies the new arrivals. But, having spent every spring for the last 48 years - 34 of them here at Home Farm - playing midwife to a flock of demented ovines, the excitement is short-lived and replaced with thoughts of long days and even longer nights. You would have thought that after all these years I could truly say that I have seen it all before, but no two seasons are the same. The female of the ovine species is ingenious at devising ways of dispatching itself and its young, leaving me to comment, 'How the ----- did you do that?' As to the early start, I know how that happened. One of last year's lambs who was, shall we say, a little more complete than he should have been, found his way back to the ewe flock and made hay while the sun shone while our attentions were focused on getting next harvest's crops planted.

Despite all the weather-related problems of last year, the crops look as well as I have ever seen



them at this stage. Even the oil seed rape seems as if it will, for once, produce half a crop, providing we can keep the pigeons off. So what with an early start to the lambing, all the crops in need of a visit from the fertiliser spreader, and the grain merchant wanting to load out all of last harvest's wheat in one go, things look like being a little busy down on the farm.

The bee front has had another setback as the farm's population of badgers has taken a liking to the contents of some of our remaining beehives. So it's back to the drawing board, to lift the hive platforms higher out of harm's way, because if we lose any more it will be difficult to provide enough nucleus colonies for the planned re-start in the spring. But the up side is that all the replacement woodwork has been made and now just needs a coat of paint. Come the spring and the all clear from the bee inspector, the surviving queens, and the new ones that we manage to breed and buy in, will each have a new home complete with high rise stands and all mod cons. Can't be bad, but I expect there will be some complaints driven home with a sharp point.

**George Fenemore 338203**

### The Allotment

**L**ost to the sun over the festive season in Spain and returning to those miserable wet conditions in January I failed to remember last month's copy date and offer my regrets.

Don't be deceived by the lovely sunny days we experienced last month, as the weather is most likely to be difficult for the gardener for many weeks to come. Soft fruits will need your attention with a little time spent removing old deadwood and preserving early buds from frost. A good feed about this time will prove most rewarding with particular attention to fruit bushes and asparagus beds. You may want to prepare your bean bed by digging in some organic manure.

Derek suggests planting some potatoes early in the month. However, remember to protect them during cold frosty periods. Where the young broad bean is 3 to 4 inches high and strong winds are with us, watch out for rain traps in the form of inverted cones that will create damage to the root and stalk. (Mould them up says Lionel.)



When purchasing seedlings, vegetable or flower, remember to support the UK market. To provide a welcome for wildlife the essentials are food, water and shelter. Bird boxes should already be positioned; however, better late than never.

The Horticultural Society records the slug and snail as the most troublesome pest throughout 2007, a direct result of heavy rainfall. The most successful method of preventing slug damage to plants is to pick them off by hand after a downpour when they are most active, especially in the evenings. They tend to do most damage during spring and autumn. You will remember from previous contributions that slugs produce around 500 offspring every season with the majority of eggs laid during summer into autumn. Slug patrol should ideally start in spring. Encourage hedgehogs, frogs and toads into your garden. Remove plant debris where slugs congregate and turn the soil over regularly exposing them to predators.

**Tony Champion**

## DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for parts of the month of February and March 1858:

**23rd February** - Committed Phoebe Bolton, now in London, to prison for a month for an act of vagrancy in leaving her two illegitimate children chargeable to Middle Aston Parish for the last 4 year.

**26th February** - Mr Churchill came to get my signature to a proposal to the Poor Law Board in London asking to have a small additional Union erected here in consequence of our present distance from Woodstock and other circumstances.

**9th March** - The man at the Turnpike came to apologise for taking more Toll off us yesterday (by 4d.) than he was authorised by Act of Parliament to do. He was a stranger and a novice at his post.

**10th March** - The Bishop came and the Confirmation took place and passed off most satisfactorily. There were about 120 catechusmers from Deddington and the Hamlets, 22 from Clifton.

**15th March** - All the world were on the look out for the Annular Eclipse of the sun, but the sky became overcast and it was all but invisible - certainly the annular front. We caught a glimpse of the sun for a second or two through a cloud, with a portion of its force obscured like a half moon - but nothing more. The sky became dark to a considerable extent between one and two o'clock pm - as dark as at 4 o'clock in a winter's afternoon - but it soon became lighter and the whole thing passed off - to the disappointment I should say and fear of the whole kingdom.



**27th March** - The annual Boat Race between the two Universities took place at Putney as usual - our lad Robert being foremost in the Exeter Boat. Young Wheeler was sent away from his post here as boot and shoe and knife cleaner - he having constantly neglected his work and not coming to it till half past 8 o'clock in the morning. He had been spoken to repeatedly.

**Buffy Heywood**

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 1925 – 2007

***'I admit women are foolish, but they were made to match men'***

(Homily atop WI meeting programme 10 October 1939)

We are now entering the WWII years. A resume preceding the minutes of those years states: 'Several items present the mood of these war years but throughout a sense of education, generosity to good causes and much needed light entertainment prevailed.' By 1941 coupon free wool was only obtainable by those whose friends or relatives were serving in the Forces. Members of Deddington and North Aston WI gathered 131 lbs of rose hips for syrup production and, more ominously, by October 1941, following a request from their HQ, they were bid to take it in turn to listen in at wireless broadcasts every Monday evening! Cloak and dagger stuff, I wondered. Not at all, the subject was all about the importance of government plans for post war years. Although Mrs Stanley was the first on listening duty, we hear nothing more of these plans until Deddington supported a proposition to be aired at the annual meeting at the Royal Albert Hall in 1942 'that homes for the aged should be built after the war', to which Deddington members added the rider 'that the Public Assistance Institution might be improved'.

By 1943 our ladies agreed wholeheartedly with government advice to feed their families on an increased potato diet to save flour for bread, but refused stubbornly to follow their own HQ's advice

not to send funds on request by charities but concentrate on financial aid for their own Institute. Minutes for the duration of the war record funds being sent to organisations in support of Prisoners of War, the forces in foreign lands, displaced people on the continent and many local charities. They knitted, made slippers, baked meat pies for agricultural workers, collected horse chestnuts (for what is not explained) and, curiously, were allocated pink wool to knit garments for babies in occupied Europe. No mention of blue for boys!



The terrible destruction by a flying bomb of Poplar in the East End of London in spring 1945 moved members to collect surplus household goods to send to the stricken community. Generally, minutes of weekly meetings now express a looking forward to more peaceful times with just one sour note. Fund raising by multiplying a shilling by skill seemed a great idea until one member scandalised the meeting by asking if she might bet with it.

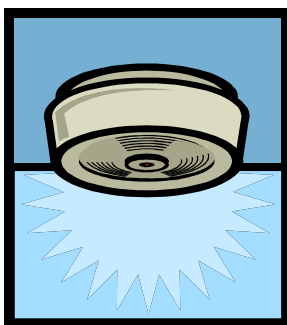
Celebrations for Victory Day Europe meant that the first monthly meeting was postponed for one week. On 20 August, having at long last managed to get a petrol allocation for a visit to Stratford, 33 members and friends found shops and tearooms closed in celebration of Victory over Japan. No-one was downhearted. The minutes of the day proclaim: 'It was an enjoyable day ending with the play Much Ado About Nothing in the Memorial Theatre.'

**Ruth Johnson**

## From the Fire Station

The year so far has been a busy one. We have received 20 call outs in the last month, including one serious house fire, a kitchen fire, a washing machine fire, an electrical fire, a pub chimney fire, a shop with a fire in the motor room and a restaurant fire. One special service call was received to assist undertakers with moving the body of a deceased male. We also attended three road traffic accidents, all with persons trapped, and one van fire.

We spent last Saturday knocking on doors in the parish, seeking new recruits! I'm pleased to say that six people attended our open evening, three of whom may proceed to apply to join us, and we have another two possible recruits in the pipeline. It's not too late though, if you couldn't make it but are still interested, please call 0800 5 870 870 for an information pack, or come and visit us at the station on Tuesdays at 7.00 pm. The next selection day will be in April.



We met and spoke to a lot of residents on Saturday: if we failed in recruiting, then we switched our tactics to home safety. It was quite alarming (excuse the pun) to find many homes with only one smoke detector, sited on the ground floor. This is insufficient because if there is a fire upstairs; the downstairs alarm may not alert you until the upstairs is completely smoke logged. The fire service recommends at least one smoke detector per floor. If you need advice, or assistance to fit smoke detectors, please give us a call. The service is free of charge.

**Anne Waters, Watch Manager**  
Deddington Fire Station 07929 607363

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## Deddington Library

We are holding an Easter story time on Thursday 20 March at 3.30 pm, followed by an Easter Egg hunt around the library; this was hugely popular last year so do please pop into the library and pick up a ticket as numbers are limited.

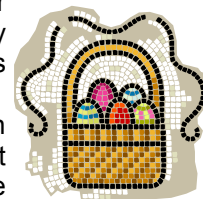
Local crime author, Adrian Magson, has kindly agreed to visit the library on 26 June as part of the Deddington Festival events. Adrian will talk about his books and his life as an author. This promises to be a very interesting evening, followed by light refreshments and 'book signing'; more details later....

New public network terminals are to be installed in March, the updated PCs will have larger screens as well as allowing faster access to all of your favourite websites! Use of the people's network is free, so please pop along and make the most of this excellent local resource.

The WRVS 'books on wheels' run a very valuable service for our community from Deddington Library; so whether you are housebound or just temporarily 'out of order', maybe convalescing after illness, Pauline and Margery will be happy to help. If you think this service may be of use to you at any time, please give me a call and I can put you in touch with them.

I look forward to seeing you in the library over the coming weeks!

**Stella O'Neill Library Manager**



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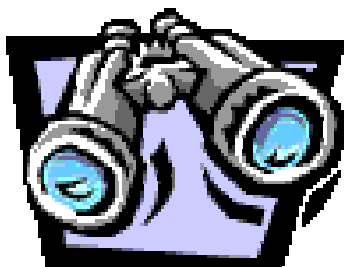
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## Local Birds

Imagine that several people in the parish will have taken part in the RSPB's garden bird watch on 26 - 27 January.

It might be useful to collate these, and do the same in future years, to give an indication of local trends. It could also be interesting to see if there are variations in the different areas of the parish.

Once I have worked out how, I would be happy to tabulate these over time. Does anyone still have their list? If you would like to pass it on to me, preferably by email, I will pass on the overall results in due course.

**Richard Broadbent**  
[RBBroad@aol.com](mailto:RBBroad@aol.com)



## Friends of Daeda's Wood

On a windy but dry January day a group of Daeda's devotees met in the wood for a practical workshop in woodland management. Our tutor was David Rees, director of OCC's Woodland Project, accompanied by Loren Eldred, our Woodland Trust Officer.

First we learned how much more environmentally friendly a managed (as opposed to unmanaged) wood can be. Pruning makes straighter trees, provides less obstructed passage for wildlife, and 'managed' new habitat for insects and small mammals.

With relatively gentle management, we also learned that Daeda could provide firewood, osiers, and eventually timber for a variety of products. After that we got down to putting knowledge into practice with the aid of a range of secateurs and pruning saws. Of course we have not become instant experts and another pruning session is planned.

**Sylvie Spenceley 338995**

## News from Clifton

OCC tell me that the B4031 will be closed on Sunday 9 March between Chapel Close and Home Farm, or it might not - depending on drainage problems, but be warned.

The Clifton Flying Club was very keen to raise funds for a Blue Plaque to be placed on the old house of Captain Biggles - the hero of Heathrow who used to live in our midst. The plaque was to commemorate his efforts in the Boeing 777 that was thought to have saved many lives recently. However the plan had to be abandoned when Squadron Leader India Victor Oscar Romeo (another veteran pilot who lives in the house now) said 'Over my dead body, it's the Coward who deserves it and he didn't live here!'

Also the sexuality of the village's men was brought into question when, despite a good turn out to the first Six Nations match at the local venue, the crowd for the game against Italy was 66% women. Even Mario (our resident Italian) was not present to see our brave boys crush the opposition without mercy.

And finally, an apology to Jean and Jerry who have moved into Christmas Cottage. More sensitive people than I had suggested that my last news might have indicated they didn't want visitors. Due to my inadequate command of English this came out wrongly - so sorry and, again, welcome.

**Martin Bryce**

## News from Hempton

Use of the Church Hall increased slightly recently. In addition to the Ladies' Tuesday Club and the Table Tennis team, the Boys' Brigade met there twice during February and a party was also held.

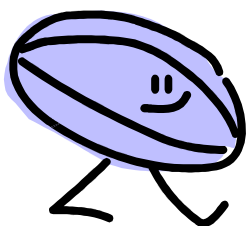
During March St John's Church will be holding two of the Lent Course meetings on Wednesday 5 and Wednesday 12, both starting at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome. The Easter service this year will be the Vigil and First Eucharist on Easter Eve, Saturday 22 March at 8.30pm.

The table tennis team defeated Bodicote 'C' in the third round of the Handicap Cup by 321 - 384 pts. They are now in the semi-finals so good luck to them for their match. The Parish Council has budgeted to replace the bench outside St John's Church which is in very poor condition.

It is nice to see all the snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils coming up in the grass verges around the village. Many of these were planted by the late Dennis Washington and some on Duns Tew Road by residents there. They really enhance the look of the village.

I produce this column 10 times a year but some months I am struggling for news. I know of things that happen in and around the church but I am sure there is other news that I could report on if I heard about it. Please give me a ring or drop a note to 4 The Lane if you have anything of interest to report.

**Les Chappell 338054**



## CALLING ALL CLUBS

### 1st Deddington Boys Brigade Company

#### Anchor Boys

Since Christmas we have welcomed Rhys and Kieran into the section. On 2 February our Anchor Boys took part in the Oxfordshire BB 5-a-side competition and, although they didn't win the tournament, they finished above local rivals 1st Bloxham!

#### Juniors

The Juniors are working on their BB125 project, a video diary recording the life of a BB boy in the 21st century. The video will be premiered on 13 April at a special celebration at St Peter's College, Oxford (former home of the 1st Oxford BB Co, founded in November 1887). The Juniors won the Oxfordshire BB 5-a-side football competition held at The Warriner School, Bloxham.

#### Company

It is a busy time for the boys in the Company section. They won the Oxfordshire BB 5-a-side football competition on 4 February and over the next few weeks they have table tennis, drill and first aid competitions to look forward to.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our bookstall at Deddington Farmers' Market. Several hundred pounds has been raised by the boys already, which will be invested into the extension of the work of the BB in Oxfordshire. Sergeant Ben Howard-Buck, on reaching 18, was promoted to Warrant Officer and becomes the first BB boy to become an officer in the company.

For more information on the work of the BB in Deddington, contact **Chris Mitchell 338010**

### Deddington Colts FC

Some of the younger squads have completed their league games. There are still matches outstanding for the older squads due to postponements caused by poor weather and home pitch congestion! As we approach the summer there are additional cup matches and many tournaments to enter.



The club is looking forward to a day out on Saturday 8 March. This will be hosted by Oxford United and will include some special training, lunch and an opportunity to watch a match at the Kassam stadium.

We are still hoping to create two more junior pitches at the Castle Grounds and are continuing to raise money to help fund this project. To this end, readers of the DN are warmly invited to form a 'syndicate' of any size and join us for race night 2008. Stewarded by Deddington Colts FC on Saturday 29 March at The Windmill Centre, entrance is £2.50 per person (over 18s only) and the paddock and Bar Open at 7.30 pm with the first race at 8.00 pm. Tickets available from Rachel on 01869 337077.

### Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

At the AGM Mike Roberts, Chairman, reported an increase in new members for the year as DOGS goes from strength to strength. The golf events in 2007 were very successful, with the summer weekend at Breadsall Priory being popular. Ron Colley was thanked for organising this and for all the social events. Early events scheduled for 2008: 2 May Cotswold Hills Golf Club; 16 June Burford Golf Club. We welcome new golfers and encourage them by having short golf lessons, on course experience



and advice from the course professional. Anyone interested can contact a committee member for further details.

**David Darst**

### Deddington Art Group

Artists reflect their inner feelings and the group close to them - Francis Bacon and his tortured feelings, for example, and Burne-Jones with angelic and pretty females. There will be exhibitions in Banbury Art Society's new venue with business support from The Mill. Meanwhile the Art Group gets on with drawing and painting each week.



**Ken Wilkinson**

PS 'Heroes of health care' by Barbara Davis with 19 cartoons previews at Waterstones on 12 March.

### Deddington Youth Club

This term has begun with excellent numbers 25 - 30 young people each Monday evening. We have further visits arranged with the graffiti artist and are hoping to do a project with her that will be displayed somewhere in the village. We hope to arrange some football coaching, and hair and make-up evenings.

Is there anyone out there who would like to be involved? The Chair, Treasurer and Secretary have been running the Youth Club for a good many years and feel that, as in all organisations, a change brings new ideas and enthusiasm. Anyone who feels they have time to contribute to this very worthwhile group, please contact Maureen Forsyth on 338384.

**Pam Axten**



## CALLING MORE CLUBS

### 1st Deddington Brownies

This month we have had one enrolment where Sophie, Lydia and Lauryn got enrolled. Emily, Danielle and Hannah did their hostess badge. In our pack we have been working on our Brownie



Traditions Badge. We have all learnt how to plait and tie reef knots and bows. Also for our Brownie Traditions Badge we have been talking about how the Brownie uniform has changed over the years. We also played a game on

the computer where you put the clothes in an order where the oldest fashion of uniform went at one end and the newest at the other. Some of us attended the Thinking Day activities at the Windmill Centre. We were talking about water. We did some activities about water. On the Monday before Pancake Day we made pancakes. Esme and Cicely our Head Brownies organised lots and lots of games for us which we really appreciated. We made some Valentines cards using some materials. On 15 February we were allowed to wear our uniform to school because it's going to be Thinking Day.

Elen – age 8

*Elen wrote the Brownie's contribution this month for her writer's badge.*

### Deddington Town Football Club

#### 1st Team Results

Wroxton (h) Lost 2-6  
Souldern (a) Lost 2-3  
Ruscote (h) Lost 2-3

The 1st team are currently on a poor run with all the recent games ending in defeat. These results leave the team dangerously close to the relegation zone. There are still enough games left to collect some more points and move up Division 1.

#### Reserve Team Results

Steeple Aston Res (a) Won 4-0	J.Timms, M.Garstin, K.Tustain, S.Hall.
Real Islip Res (h) Drew 1-1	S.Rollason.
Drayton Village Res (a) Won 3-1	Melange, A.Perring, M.Ayckbourn.

The Reserve side are in fine form. Jason Timms rolled back the years scoring against local rivals Steeple Aston in a 4-0 win. Leading scorer Sam Rollason struck a late and deserved equaliser against highflying Islip. Mike Ayckbourn found the net in the win at Drayton Village. Currently the team sit in a mid table position in Division 3.

#### 75 Club Winners – All Winning £50

18/1/08	P.Simons
25/1/08	J.Keys
1/2/08	P.Chard
8/2/08	J.Burden

**Steve Plumbe 01295 278258**

### Book Club

At our last meeting we discussed *Digging to America* by Anne Tyler and here is our review: Those among us who have enjoyed other books by this author felt that this was not one of her best works. Light and easy to read, but unsatisfying, and some thought not always well written. There were some interesting sections relating to Iranian culture and cuisine. Our views were summed up by one of our contributors as 'a good idea, badly handled'.



The book for March is *The Age of Kali: Travels and Encounters in India* by William Dalrymple and the next meeting is 27 March. Call for venue.

**Sally Lambert 338094**

### Deddington and District History Society

George Hook delivered one of our liveliest and most entertaining talks ever when he spoke to us about the history of the mother of pearl industry in Birmingham and especially about his own family firm, now producing specialist work for designers and artists. He generated such interest that we shall try to organise a visit to his 'factory' later in the year.

On Wednesday 12 March Rob Parkinson, Head of Conservation for West Oxfordshire, will talk on the subject of Oxfordshire Village Surveys. As always, anyone wishing to attend our meetings is assured of a warm welcome. Simply turn up at the Windmill Centre at 7.30 pm.

The Society's wills and inventories group is making progress in transcribing these important archives that provide such a fascinating insight into the lives, families and belongings of our predecessors. If anyone would like to lend a hand, please let Moira Byast know.

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

### WI

Our speaker in February, Heather Ward, gave a thought provoking and well prepared visual presentation concerning the importance of exercise and keeping active from early childhood onwards. There were many facts and statistics of how we mature and the probable consequences of failing to keep physically active, ie walking, dancing, gardening, playing golf, even housework. Heather demonstrated several simple but effective exercises to maintain a good standard of manoeuvrability and members were encouraged to take part. This was a timely reminder of the need to take this topical subject seriously in order to maintain our own well being. A vote of thanks was given and refreshments were served.

Our Annual General Meeting is on 11 March followed by a cheese and wine supper.

**Rene Mahony**