

We don't know who seven-year-old Bobby is. His words reached me by email from Michael Noyes in Virginia just as Amanda Gray was again designing - brilliantly - our December cover. They matched the ideas for it she already had. (How many of her trade-mark friends can you spot hiding?)

It is sad that for many the run-up to Christmas has become a burdensome debt-laden time as they try to live up to their own and others' expectations. Doubly sad for the victims of Farepak who had saved up all year to avoid going into

debt. Can we free ourselves and our children from our addiction to conspicuous over-consumption, which would need two extra planets to satisfy everyone? Good news last Christmas was that agencies offering alternative gifts, to help those who do not already have everything, were inundated with orders. shop.christianaid.org.uk, worldgifts.cafod.org.uk, and www.practicalpresents.org truly do have 'something for everyone' to share in a happy Christmas.

CAF



December

Sat	2	Christmas Bazaar: Hempton Church, 11 am-2 pm. ➡ p. 10
Mon	4	Monday Morning Club: Christmas Lunch at The Unicorn ➡ p. 12
Wed	6	Boys' Brigade: Christmas Party, Windmill Centre. ➡ p. 12
Wed	6	Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8pm.
Sat	9	Children's Christmas Activities: Parish Church, 9.15 am -1 pm. ➡ p. 5
Sat	9	Christmas party Race Night: Hempton Church, 6.00 pm. ➡ p. 10
Sun	10	<i>Carols by Candlelight</i> : Choros, Parish Church ➡ insert
Tue	12	WI: Christmas meal, The Unicorn, 7.30 pm. ➡ p. 13
Wed	13	Friendship Club: Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm.
Wed	13	Deddington History Society: Christmas special event. ➡ p. 14
Thu	14	Deddington Library & N Oxon Mobile Library Golden Jubilee celebrations. ➡ p. 5
Wed	20	Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm. ➡ p. 2
Sat	23	Deddington Farmers' Market with Santa's Grotto: 9.00 am -12.30 pm. ➡ p. 5
Sun	24	Carols in the Market Place: 6.30 pm. ➡ p. 9



January

Wed	3	Monday Morning Club: bus for <i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i> leaves Market Place at 6 pm. ➡ p. 12
Wed	3	<i>Ladies in Lavender</i> : film show, Parish Church, 7.30 pm. ➡ p. 7
Wed	3	Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8 pm.
Mon	8	Monday Morning Club: coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10.30 - noon. ➡ p. 12
Tue	9	WI: Moira Byast, <i>Working with Hearing Impaired Adults</i> , Holly Tree, 7.30 pm. ➡ p. 13
Wed	10	Friendship Club: Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm
Wed	10	History Society: Dr Adrienne Rosen, <i>Re-creating a 17thC Town: Chipping Norton</i> , Windmill, 7.30 pm. ➡ p. 14
Thu	11	<i>Love Actually</i> : film, Holly Tree Club, 6.30 pm. ➡ p. 13
Wed	17	Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm. ➡ p. 2
Thu	18	<i>The Da Vinci Code</i> : film show, Parish Church, 7.30 pm. ➡ p. 7
Thu	18	Deddington Players: <i>Count Dracula</i> , Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ p. 13
Fri	19	Deddington Players: <i>Count Dracula</i> , Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ p. 13
Sat	20	Deddington Players: <i>Count Dracula</i> , Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm. ➡ p. 13
Sat	20	<i>The Da Vinci Code</i> : talk by the Rev Robin Griffiths-Jones, Parish Church, 7.30 pm. ➡ p. 7
Wed	24	Friendship Club: Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm
Thu	25	Book Club: ring Sally Lambert for venue (338094). ➡ p. 14
Sat	27	Deddington Farmers' Market: 9.00 am -12.30 pm. ➡ p. 5
Mon	29	Deddington Festival: Quiz in The Unicorn, 7.30 pm. ➡ p. 6

Weekly Meetings ➡ p. 9

THE DEDDINGTON NEWS - Copy please to the relevant editor by next copy date: 13 JAN.

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DECEMBER COVER: Amanda Gray		DN ON LINE: http://www.deddingtonnews.co.uk	

Meeting in Hempton Church Hall, 15 Nov 2006

Present: Cllrs Squires (Chair), Alton, Collins, Flux, Ince, Privett, Rudge, Spencer, Todd, Watts, Westbury, Wood, the Clerk and 9 members of the public.

Working Groups membership

Finance and General Purposes - Wood, Todd, Flux, Alton.

Environment and Recreation - Spencer, Watts, Squires, Rollason.

Planning - Todd, Anderson, Westbury.

Highways - Collins, Rudge, Privett

Cemetery - Ince.

Traffic Calming

Speeds have been laser-measured through Hempton "frightening, 43 mph average"; in New Street "top 48 mph", police car on call 35 mph; 42+ mph past '30' sign approaching school. Further surveys planned to support action. [See Letter p.7]

Bus Shelter

The provision of a bus shelter for south-bound passengers in the Market Place, with a bicycle rack, is being explored. OCC could pay 50%. PC wants to hear from supporters. The surface of the bus lay-by needs repair.

Parking on the green

Off-roaders park on the grass opposite the Unicorn setting precedents for others. Numbers to be taken and notices put on windscreens. Posts may be needed as outside the Co-op.

Planning

PC No Objection: (1) Stable Cottage, Hempton Road, Deddington - installation of solar panels, within Conservation area; agreed by a majority. [*What needs to be conserved - townscape or planet ?! Let this encourage other applications* - Ed]. (2) Victoria House, Horse Fair, Deddington - conservatory at side and rear; shielded by wall within Conservation area.

PC Objection: (3) 35 Gaveston Gardens - extend garden into landscape area with new garden shed; change of use would set precedent to neighbours; Tree Preservation Order possible for what was planned as a 'buffer zone'.

CDC Approvals: (4) Stile House, New St, Deddington - reduce several trees and fell one. (5) Priory Dene, Hudson Street, Deddington - removal of kitchen range; fireplace and chimney to be retained for future use. (6) Old Malthouse, Church Street, Deddington - felling 2 trees and halving shrubs. (7) Holly Cottage, Tithe Lane, Clifton - underpinning; why PC not consulted ?

Questions to CDC: • Stoneleigh House, Victoria Terrace, Deddington - rendered walls to be Sandtexed; compliance ? • Name of new development off Earls Lane.

Cherwell Local Development Framework

1000 representations were received to the earlier Consultation in August. 29 further sites have been added, including in Adderbury and Barford but not Deddington. Comment is invited on this

'Supplemental Consultation', either in writing to Bodicote House or on line by **22 Dec.** www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk/files/publicationscheme/4319-779.pdf [See comment on Fire Station report. Ed]

Teen Scene

To occupy idle hands, the first proposal is to install challenging and diverting equipment by the Windmill Centre: young adults, play area specialist and crime prevention officer to be consulted before seeking grants towards possible £40k cost. Other proposals are a drop-in centre and disco.

Vandalism: Culprits' names have been passed to the police. • Leaflet village illustrating damage and costs of repair and seeking further information [*but without counter-productively increasing alienation.* Ed] • Reduce height of hedge between car-park and field to half present height as originally intended. • Police now working shifts in patrol cars. • Village Warden may be employed through Police Community Support Officer scheme.

Town Hall

Most issues with Charity Estates now resolved. Paper for final approval to be circulated before December meeting.

Shorts

- Path from Church Street to War Memorial: excavate to rediscover buried cobbles ?
- Green doggy poop bags are available - from Parish Clerk.
- Oxon Conservation Volunteers returning to lay hedges of Clifton play-area and cemetery.
- Memorial bench for John Coleman: encourage Football Club to progress.
- Deddington Colts need extra pitch for home games: return to Castle grounds ?
- Wi Fi hotspot: £200 grant is available from Oxon Broadband Partnership towards setting up a hotspot service where premises have a broadband connection.

PARISH FINANCES

- Invoices passed for payment totalled £7,495.07 - including £4,174.20 for grass-cutting.
- Investments totalled £563,273.36, of which £9,340.59 Barclays @ 0.1% imprest and current account; £298,709.76 West Bromwich @ 4.45% overnight; £55,223.01 Alliance & Leicester @ 2.6% on 30 days; £200,000 Birmingham Midshires 2-year bond @ 5.13%.
- Minutes Secretary and Internal Auditor still needed.

NEXT MEETINGS

Town Hall

Wednesday 20 December - 7.45 pm

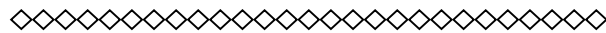
Wednesday 17 January - 7.45 pm

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

www.deddington.org.uk/pcminutes

The last month has been one of our busiest ever I think. We have taken part in two lots of fundraising for charity. The first one in October was a 'Wear it Pink day' for Breast Cancer Awareness. The children and staff all came dressed in pink and we managed to raise £230.00 which was a fantastic effort. This month we are raising money for the Myasthenia Gravis Association by planting sponsored daffodil bulbs in the school grounds.

Fireworks night was a huge success yet again thanks to our great PTA, with much fun being had by all on a beautiful crisp evening. The money raised was the best amount ever and we were delighted with the turnout. The school choir have been very busy singing in the *Children Singing for Children* concert in Banbury with other schools from the area. They sounded beautiful and we were very proud of them all. All the schools together raised £3,000 for local charities.



PTA

What a fabulous fireworks evening we all had! The weather couldn't have been better - cold (but the mulled wine and hot chocolate kept us warm!) and a clear sky. It was fantastic to see the field full of children and adults laughing and having fun. The firework display gets better each year. This year we must also thank Phosphorus - fire juggling morris men, no less, who kindly kept us entertained long after the fireworks had finished. Special thanks must go to the Co-op and Farmers' Market Committee who generously supported us. Thank you to Mark Swadling who very kindly put up some extra lighting for us so that we could see what we were doing!! Finally a huge thank you to all those who gave their time to help organise and put on the event - we are very grateful.

Christmas is rapidly approaching and, once again, we have our ever popular range of Christmas cards designed by the children. A sample of the cards is available should you wish to 'try before you buy', just contact Stella on 338769 or e-mail stella.oneill@virgin.net for a sample pack or to place an order.

Santa's Float will be winging its way from the North Pole and landing in Deddington on the weekend of 9/10 December. As usual, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please see posters around the villages for the route plan.

Santa's Magical Grotto will be in the Town Hall on Saturday 23 December during the Farmers' Market. Santa is really looking forward to meeting all the children, so please come along and help him make your Christmas special! Please see posters and advertising for further details.

The fun continues into 2007 - dates for your diary include our ever popular Quiz Night on Saturday 3 March (last year the teachers won and we're not going to let them get away with it again!!!!) and the School Fête on Saturday 16 June.

Janet Watts & Stella O'Neill



The school have just been awarded the Learning Matters Award by the County Council for all the work we have done on being a healthy school. This has been very much a team effort, so a special thank you must go to all the staff, pupils and parents who have worked so hard.

December is obviously the time when our thoughts turn to Christmas. We have three productions this year in the church. On 12 December our Partnership Foundation Stage team will be performing 'The Grumpy Sheep' at 2.00 pm and Key Stage 1 will be performing Jesus's Birthday Party at 4.30 pm. On 14 December Key Stage 2 will be performing Christingle Rock at 5.00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Judith Finsley 338430



PFSU

Our new committee was appointed at the recent AGM; many thanks to all our committee members past and present for their continued support, especially Sarah Payne who stood down as her (third) baby girl was born on 13 November.

Our topic this term is 'People who help us'. We have already had a visit from PC Morris; the children thoroughly enjoyed meeting him and hearing about his job. Many thanks to PC Morris for sparing the time to talk to the children. If you or someone you know has a job helping people and would like to visit the PFSU please contact Anna on 337484.

Our Christmas Production with the Reception Class is at 2pm in the Church on 12 December. This is always such a lovely event, please come along if you can. We are holding a joint Christmas Party with the Village Nursery on 14 December at the Windmill Centre between 1pm and 2:30pm. We are having an entertainer this year and of course Father Christmas will be making an appearance!

Emma Thompson



VILLAGE NURSERY

We have a busy schedule running up to Christmas, starting with the 'Drop and Shop Saturday' on 9 December. The children will be making Christmas cards and decorations and getting festive while the parents have a free morning! This will be held at the Village Nursery from 9:45am to 12:15pm for children aged 2 - 5 years. To book, please speak to Anna (337383), spaces are limited.

We are inviting all our Nursery children and their families to a 'Family Craft' afternoon on 13 December between 1pm and 2:30pm. Some of our children are still a bit little to appear in a carol concert so we thought we'd have fun with lots of glitter and glue instead. Our Christmas Party with the PFSU is on 14 December at the Windmill Centre between 1pm and 2:30pm.

Please contact the Village Nursery on 337383 if you are interested in booking any holiday club sessions, they will be running from Monday 18 December.

Emma Thompson

SS Peter and Paul, Deddington and St John, Hempton www.deddingtonchurch.org

You will always be very welcome at any service in Church or Chapel

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 Churchwardens,
Iain Gillespie (338367)
or Judy Ward (337187).

December

Fri 1 6.30 pm WORLD AIDS DAY Eucharist
No service at 10.30 am. Prayer Week begins - see letter on p.7.
Sun 3 4.00 pm Christingle Service
6.30 pm Advent Celebration
Wed 6 10.00 am Eucharist
Thur 7 2.00 pm Squeals and Wheels
Sun 10 10.30 am Sung Eucharist and Baptism
6.30 pm Choros Carols by candlelight
Wed 13 10.00 am Eucharist
Sun 17 10.30 am Sung Eucharist (& Healing Prayer)
6.30 pm Carol Service
Wed 20 10.00 am Eucharist
Thu 21 2.00 pm Squeals and Wheels
Sun 24 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30 am Pause before Christmas
11.30 pm CHRISTMAS EVE Midnight Mass
CHRISTMAS DAY 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30 am Family Eucharist
Tue 26 10.00 am ST STEPHEN Eucharist
Wed 27 10.00 am ST JOHN Eucharist
Thu 28 6.30 pm HOLY INNOCENTS Eucharist
Sun 31 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Mattins
11.30 pm Watch Night Service

ST JOHN HEMPTON

Suns 3 & 17 9.00 am Eucharist
Fri 22 7.30 pm Carol Service
Mon 25 9.00 am CHRISTMAS DAY Eucharist

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS: Contact Jean Welford 338539, Liz Dickinson 337050 or Iain Gillespie 338367 for dates, times & venues.

CHARITY OF THE MONTH - December: **LI TIM-OI FOUNDATION** [see next page] - please use the special envelope to put donations into the Parish Church chest. January: **THE SUNSHINE CENTRE** (Banbury Children's Carers Holidays)

WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Sunday Mornings at 10.30 am: Pastor Walton. 24 Carol Service; 31 New Year's Eve Service
9.30 am Christmas Day. Bible Study/Fellowship every Wednesday at 7.30 pm

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, New Street

Joyce Minnear 338529

Sunday morning services 10.30 am united with Wesleyan Chapel
Sunday afternoon services 3.00 pm

Dec 3 - Healing Service (Pastor Hilary Walker); 10 - Pastor Derek Walker; 17 - Carol Service;
24 - Christmas Service.

Jan 7 - Pastor Derek Walker (Communion) ; Other Services in January to be announced

R C PARISH OF HETHE WITH ADDERBURY

The Revd A J Burns 277396

Normal times of Mass: i.e. Hethe 10.00 am every day except Wednesday; Adderbury 8.30 am on Sundays and 7.00 pm on Wednesday; plus Sun 24 Hethe 11.30 pm Carols, 12.00 Midnight Mass;

Christmas Day: Adderbury 9.00 am, Hethe 10.30 am

The Feast of Epiphany, falling on Saturday January 6, is being moved to the Sunday with normal Sunday liturgy.



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Parish Church

Sunday 3 December 4.00 pm

Support with your donations the Children's
Society's work
with needy children.

CHURCH TREASURER NEEDED

to take over at New Year from Jean Flux
after many years of loyal service.
Volunteers or suggestions to the
vicar or churchwardens.

Deddington Farmers' Market

Our Market has beaten off competition from Winchester and Stoke Newington to become the South East's top Farmers' Market in a poll sponsored by Country Life, by getting the votes out from its supporters. Edinburgh won the race for the title of 'Britain's Favourite Farmers' Market' with the other regional winners:- Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire; Moseley, Birmingham; Tavistock, Devon; and Chepstow, Wales. One of the judges, Tom Parker Bowles, said what we all know: "Deddington is a wonderful farmers' market that manages not only to celebrate all the best local produce, but has also breathed life back into an old market place. It's as much a social gathering as it is an exquisite farmers' market."



At the November Market its founder, Charles Newey, was not forgotten. The Market Group had nominated him posthumously for FARMA's 'Community Spirit Award'. This Award for 2006 was presented to his partner Linda Davies, who is now the Market treasurer.

The next market will be on Saturday 23 December, from 9.00 am~12.30 pm. Please note this change of date. This will be your final opportunity to buy last minute Christmas gifts! Don't forget, we now have our jute market bags for sale. They are strong, reusable and recycleable - and cost only £2.50! Ideal as a Christmas gift! Available from the Information Desk at the Farmers' Market. January's market will be on Saturday 27th. Please make a note in your diary!

In the meantime, if you are fit and strong (!), and are interested in assisting the construction crew with setting up and dismantling the market stalls, your help would be greatly appreciated. For more details, please contact Kevin Mayo on 07816 847088 or email kevinM@mayo-family.co.uk

Cindy Tansley

FAIR TRADE to the LAST MINUTE!

Christmas cards, gifts, stocking fillers, wrapping paper and much more from the Fairtrade stall will be on sale right up to the last minute! Although the usual stall (with many seasonal specials) will be open in the Church as usual during the Farmers' Market on Saturday 23 December, there is also a range of products available on request or by order from the catalogue. Try the Coffee Lover's Gift Set with mugs and coffee in a box, or a similar box of tea-pot, cup and teabags; a range of jewellery at various prices, fairly traded 'gold' coins filled with chocolate, or fair-trade tea-towels for those kind people next door. Alternatively, ring Hugh Marshall on 337761 for last minute cards, a box of chocolates, bags of sweets or something special. Make it a Fair Trade Christmas!



Traidcraft

H.M

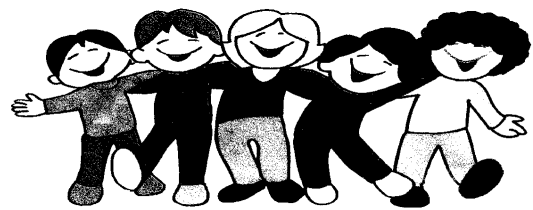
- At Adderbury's Christmas Market on Sunday 3 December, 11.00 am - 4.00 pm, there will be Fair Trade soup and a Fair Trade stall in the Institute.

Deddington Library's 50th Anniversary

Thursday 14 December 2006 will mark the 50th Anniversary of the opening of Deddington Library by the author of "The Hobbit" and "Lord of the Rings", J.R.R. Tolkien. The Friends of Deddington Library and library staff have arranged a special programme of events. 10.30~noon: Coffee morning with Anne Granger; 15.30~16.30: Story time for 4~8-year-olds; 17.00~1900: Reception with wine and celebratory cake. The occasion will also mark fifty years of the mobile library service in North Oxfordshire, which will visit the School and be parked in the lay-by. Some events may be by ticket. See posters. **Geoff Todd (Chairman FCDL) 338532**

Charity of the Month

What would you do if you lived in a male-dominated culture where HIV/AIDS, domestic abuse, and female circumcision were common, and even child sacrifice persists? How would you empower women to change such a culture? The **Li Tim-Oi FOUNDATION** is based in Deddington, and gives grants to train Anglican women worldwide to be agents of change. Li Tim-Oi changed the male-dominated Anglican church as its first Anglican woman priest. She was trained in Canton by Geoffrey Allen, for whom Deddington was home for his last 13 years. If you would like to make a Christmas gift to support this work, there are GiftAid envelopes in the parish church this month. Visit www.litim-oi.org to find out more. *CH*



**Preparing For Christmas Activities
For Primary School Aged Children**

5-11 years

Deddington Parish Church

Saturday 9th December, 10am until 12.30pm

Come and prepare for Christmas!

Cooking, making presents & decorations, chess and other games

Cost £1.50 per child

Application forms & general enquiries to: Kate Petty 338425
Sarah Liebrecht 337628
Sally Haslam 338216

Additional application forms are available from Deddington Primary School Office and the Church. Places are limited so please complete an application form and return it to Jane Green, Weston House, Church Street (337837). Kate, Sarah, Sally or the School office by Monday 4th December.

We would be grateful to hear from anyone ready to help. Please contact Jane Green on 337837.



Quiz at the Unicorn

Monday 29 January 2007
at 7.30pm. Tickets from the
Secretary, 338325.

**Proposed programme****June/July - subject to confirmation**

Saturday 23 : Deddington Rocks - evening

Sunday 24 : Festival Songs of Praise

Thursday 28 : Poetry Please and Writing Group
Competition Results; Traditional Jazz

Friday 29 : Children's Choir - lunchtime; Celebration
of Youth - evening

Saturday 30 : Choral Concert - see Letter on next page

Sunday 1 July : African Children's Choir

Saturday 7 July : Reading Male Voice Choir

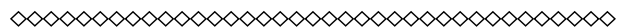
Art Exhibition and workshops for all ages; Craft
Exhibition - to be confirmed; History Society Guided
Walks; Tim Dawes; Brian Kay's One Man Show.

This is the basic outline of what we hope to achieve
for 2007; we need your help. If you are willing to give
your time, can sponsor an event, or help us with the
programme by taking out advertising space, please
contact us. We welcome your ideas and suggestions.

Currently there are over 100 Friends of Deddington
Festival. Their commitment and fundraising activities are
greatly appreciated. Why not join them for an annual
subscription of £10 ? Contact Sue Goddard, 338122

Eileen Anderson, 338325

<eileenandersonuk@yahoo.co.uk>

**WARRINER CHORAL SOCIETY'S CONCERT**

The Warriner Choral Society's performance of Karl
Jenkins' 'The Armed Man' and Carl Orff's 'Carmina
Burana' was a real treat. For this concert on 18
November they were joined by the Akeman Voices,
which gave a more balanced choir - more men!

'The Armed Man' was sung with passion, sensitivity
and dramatic contrasts in volume, ably started by
young soprano soloist, Derriane Byrne, a member of
the Choral Society.

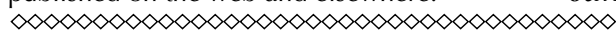
'Carmina Burana' is a challenging, stamina-testing
work for any choir with its rip-roaring pace, difficult
rhythms and interplay between pianists and percussion,
and this performance was truly magnificent and kept the
audience spellbound. The choir never flagged, urged on
by the outstanding conducting of the Musical Director,
Martin Quinn. Soloists Keren Davis (soprano), David
Wholey (counter tenor) and Robert Williams (baritone)
were very good indeed. The soprano solo 'In Trutina'
was especially beautifully sung. The pianists, David
Bamard and Michelia Connelly, provided a wonderful
accompaniment and the excellence and volume of the
Hadland Percussion Ensemble, drowning the Fair in the
Market Place, made sure no-one dozed off!

It is fairly certain that very few understood the meaning
of the words, but who cared, when it was such a thrilling
and uplifting evening for the capacity audience.

Wendy Burrows

Deddington Writers Group

The Writers Group is promoting its third annual
Writing Competition in 2007, in association with the
Festival. The competition is open to anyone who lives in
Oxfordshire - especially those who have not previously
had their writing published. If you can write a poem or
prose piece (story, article, reminiscence etc.), check out
the details which will be published early in 2007, on
www.deddington.org.uk/arts/writing.html or write to
DWG Competition, 7 The Daedings, Deddington, OX15
0RT for the competition leaflet. The open competition
will be themed in relation to 'OXFORDSHIRE 2007', and
there will be separate categories for young people in
secondary or primary education within the county. Prizes
of £50 and £20 will be awarded and the winning entries
published on the web and elsewhere. *JM*

**FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL**

The first Friends' AGM was held in the Parish Church
on 7 November. Sue Goddard (Convenor) thanked
everyone for their support, especially Pamela Ward,
the previous Membership Secretary, who has now left
Deddington, and introduced Lesley Milroy, co-opted
in Pamela's place. The 2005/6 financial statement was
presented. The current committee was returned *nem.*
con. Gift Aiding membership fees may be possible.
Memberships are due for renewal and while most
members have renewed, some have yet to do so. Their
fees provide well over £1,000, a vital contribution to
the costs of each year's Festival. *KJ*

HOOK NORTON VETERINARY SURGEONS



New Deddington Surgery

Open Monday to Friday
8.00am-12.00 midday
3.00pm-7.00pm

Consultations by Appointment
8.00am-9.30am
5.00pm-6.30pm

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE



Heritage House, St Thomas Street, Deddington

Tel: 01869 337732

Fax: 01869 337776

www.hooknortonvets.co.uk

FROM JAMES & STELLA MARMION, CASTLE STREET, DEDDINGTON

We will be leaving Deddington in early December to live in North Devon, which is Stella's home county and to which we are called by family commitments. It is very difficult to make this decision after living for twenty three years in the BEST village in England – the place that is endowed with so many interests and wonderful people. You will appreciate that it is difficult to say personal farewells to everyone and we can only close by thanking you all for your friendship and help over more than two decades. We wish you a happy Christmas and God's blessing.

Please address all letters to:
KRISTIN THOMPSON,
5 THE LEYES, DEDDINGTON
e-mail: op@kristin.demon.co.uk
and include your name and address,
even if they are not for publication.

FROM JOHN CHENEY, GROVE COURT, DEDDINGTON

Moses lifted up his staff and the Red Sea divided. Bully for Moses. I try the same trick on the main road with my geristick and no one pays the slightest notice. Car drivers stare fixedly ahead, in case they might see someone hoping to cross the road. Only, sometimes, heavily moustached French lorry drivers in red "Norberts" or sprucely green-clad drivers in "Eddies" will hiss to a standstill and wave you over. For nearly everyone else, we are no-hopers. I'm not as spry as I used to be and really don't want to hobble up to the traffic lights. I have no desire to be swept into eternity or flattened like a tardy hedgehog. How about a crossing of some sort from The Grove to Hudson Street?

The longer we live the more council tax we pay.

[I endorse John's suggestion. There is no safe place to cross High/New St, unless you are a top Olympic sprinter. KT]

E-MAIL FROM REVD. DR. HUGH WHITE, DUNS FEW

Readers of the DN might like to know about forthcoming occasions in the Parish Church. We have booked some films through CDC's Leisure Services Dept. On Wed 3 Jan the film is *Ladies in Lavender*, and on Thurs 18 Jan *The Da Vinci Code*. On Sat 20 Jan Robin Griffith-Jones, Master of the Temple in London, and an authority on the *Code*, will speak on the book and the film. All these occasions start at 7.30pm. and refreshments will be served. There will be further film shows on 15 Feb and 15 March. N.B. The temperature will be more planet-friendly than that of most cinemas!



Deddington homes have hosted students from overseas at Christmas for many years past. **HOST UK** celebrates its 20th Anniversary next year, arranging for students to stay with households who volunteer to share their homes and show them the delights of Britain. Such has been students' appreciation of the welcome they have received that the word has spread in colleges and universities so that the 485 applications in September this year were nearly five times those in the same month last year. It is not just at this time in the year that visits are arranged. One couple has hosted 36 students this year. Visit www.hostuk.org, phone 0207 254 3039 or email caro.hart@hostuk.org.

Before all this, Christmas. The services of all Deddington's Churches over Advent and the Christmas period are listed in the Christmas card enclosed with this issue. Advent is a time for self-examination, penitence and spiritual preparation. A way of entering into the spirit of Advent would be to take part in the 24/7 Prayer

Week in the Parish Church from Sun 3 Dec to Sat 9 Dec. Our Youth Group is setting up a series of 'Stations' in the Church at which different kinds of prayer can be practised. Do give it a try. And don't be alarmed if you see lights in the Church in the early hours

during that week!

FROM DOROTHY WHITE, GAVESTON GARDENS, DEDDINGTON

Deddington's part in September's Oxfordshire Historic Churches Ride or Stride raised £1,139. Of this, half will go to the Parish Church. Many thanks to all those who rode, strode or welcomed, and to all who so generously sponsored them.

E-MAIL FROM EILEEN ANDERSON, CHAPMANS LANE, DEDDINGTON

Conductor, Janet Lincé is inviting experienced singers to take part in a performance of Fauré's *Requiem* on Sat. June 30, as part of the 2007 Deddington Festival. There will be a full rehearsal on the afternoon of the concert: other rehearsals to be announced later. All voices welcome. If you are interested in taking part, please contact me, 338325.

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Anna Justice on 01869 337383

On the Farm

Well it's almost Christmas again. Twelve months ago I was wondering if the meadows would ever flood again, after a dry winter, spring and early summer in which hosepipe bans were imposed. We had a wet end to the harvest and a difficult planting time. After re-ploughing the remaining fields to get them to dry out and fitting the tractors with flotation tyres to stop them from sinking, we stuffed in the last of the crops in early November, some 3 weeks late. Despite the wet conditions the mild temperatures have allowed the late-planted crops to make some good progress without the need to use slug pellets. They should be well established before their winter dormancy period sets in.

The meadows have been flooded since late October, reducing the grazing, so the remainder of last year's lamb crop has been sorted out and sold on for finishing and the ewe flock will soon be brought in to their winter housing and won't go out again until after lambing.

Christmas is coming and the goose is getting fat. We all know the old rhyme but in these days of mass food imports perhaps we should add 'but I know not from where it came.' Yet again, despite all the welfare and production controls that are continually being heaped onto the British farmers by the supermarkets and the government, the safety of our food and food supplies is making front page news again. Our dairy industry has been decimated by the pricing structure imposed by the milk processing companies, which came into being when the government scrapped its Milk Marketing

Board, so that we will soon need to import milk. However that is not the end of the story - a cow needs to produce a calf each year in order to produce milk. Some of these calves were kept as herd replacements and the rest went into beef production. Fewer British dairy cows will mean less British beef and yet more beef imports from parts of the world well known for their use of growth enhancing drugs, something that our own welfare regulations banned many years ago. The knock-on effect of a shrinking dairy herd is that less grain will be needed to feed them, so more grain will need to be exported. So despite all the rhetoric from the supermarkets about food miles and the sourcing of locally-produced food, their controlling hand in the gradual strangulation of our dairy herd and British agriculture in general can only add to the effects of global warming.

George Fenimore 338203

The Flower Garden

The flowers in my garden don't quite know what to make of conditions around them. Mild and soggy one day, frosty the next. But we have decided to do the winter thing and dig up the beds. After that we hope for a good frost to clear the weeds.

I was touched and delighted when Viviane Hall appeared on our doorstep with the first *Iris Stylosa*. It so reminded me of Madeline Allen and the *Iris* race we used to have. Hers always came out first.

So now for the Christmas decorations, the holly and all that. It is not too late to put in a few bulbs but the low ones for pots are getting scarce. *Marianne Elsley*

Dear Garden,

Another year has almost gone and yet you are still growing and giving lots of pleasure and colour. It is what you have been doing for many months in spite of - though in some cases because of - the long hot summer. Once again you have put up with being taken for granted. I didn't always manage to cut the grass when it needed it, and the beans and sweet peas often had to put up with washing-up water or worse in the very dry weeks. Now that it is cooler, but not too cold, your roses are still giving lots of colour and even geraniums and fuchsias have flowers showing through the leaves which at last are falling off the trees.

At times it was too hot and soon we might be thinking it is not cold enough. But these are modern times! Rest while you can so that the Spring will burst later on with joy and freshness once again. Thank you for being here and giving so much.

In the meantime, after four years or so of musing about it in the DN, I am laying down my pen and giving up the pretence that I have anything worthwhile to write about gardening, particularly about vegetables and fruit. Some kind readers have fondly believed the myth that I actually worked an allotment garden, but this has never been fact. Possibly I shall use the spare time that will follow from less writing, to improve the home garden - it needs it. Thank you for reading. *Hugh Marshall*
[...and many thanks to you for writing, Hugh. Ed]

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Poultry keeping has become one of the UK's fastest growing hobbies, with little or no experience the world of hen keeping will quickly become part

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FRED THE DONKEY MAN 1908 - 1982

Do you remember 'Police House' in Deddington? It was to Police House that PC Alan Rampley and his family moved in the 1970s and as soon as Deddingtonians discovered how seriously Alan took his community policing duties, it was to Police House they came for advice or help. Alan remembers that soon after his arrival in the area he received many enquiries about Fred Abel the Donkey Man. Enquiries about his whereabouts, enquiries about his well being, anxious and concerned enquiries from people who had not seen Fred for a while. And so Fred became an item, writ large, on Alan's beat. Alan is now retired from policing but has kindly taken time and trouble to jot down some of his memories of Fred, his menagerie, his primitive abodes on wheels and his beloved animals. He writes:

"Fred and his travelling circus were a familiar sight in stopping places along the Oxford/Banbury road where he regularly set up camp, sometimes just north of Deddington other times near the Hopcroft Holt Hotel Steeple Aston or near the Shipton on Cherwell turn.

When I first met him he was very friendly, but always refused stubbornly to give me just the tiniest clue why he had chosen a life on the road. He became even more withdrawn when asked about his own home background. Sadly, because of his eccentricity, his noble raggedness and his defencelessness he drew the attention of trouble makers upon himself who convinced themselves that he must be a rich old fool who just might have a lot of money hidden in his cart. There were several incidents where someone entered and searched his van while he was away. Because of these attacks on his property he became very suspicious of people and even more reluctant to seek help. Even his dogs seemed to become bad tempered.

As he grew older he no longer moved very far from Deddington where he maintained his old trusted friendships with various families who welcomed him, gave him the odd meal, or even succeeded in coaxing him into having a bath. Passers-by dropped off clothes and food or left these for him at Police House. Fred never threw anything away and, as can be imagined, the inside of his caravan became less and less sweet smelling! Poor Fred, with his health and spirits broken old age spelt big trouble. I made sure I stopped by on my beat to keep an eye on him, as much as he and his dogs would allow me the approach.

Disaster must have struck suddenly. On that day I was unable to get sight of Fred but suspected that he must be inside his caravan. After the RSPCA Inspector had managed to remove his guard dogs, the ambulance

Christmas Eve Carols in the Market place

Once again Christmas Carols will be sung around the Christmas tree in Deddington Market Place at 6 o'clock on Christmas Eve. All are invited to our traditional gathering which, as usual, features music from a street organ, accompanied by mulled wine provided by village businesses.

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the month of December 1856:-

1st December - We killed our first Bacon Pig for the season.

4th December - The policeman came and laid information against Shiner Gibbs for poaching on certain lands in Deddington belonging to Mr. Stilgoe, tenanted by W. & J. Whetton. He had set 5 snares and 2 steel traps. Finch came on business and I paid him for filling the Ice House.

5th December - Reached home at 20 past 10 o'clock p.m., Deddington time. *(In the 19th century the time varied across the country, with large towns having their own "times". Apparently Deddington had their's. This custom ended with the coming of the railways, though services at Christ Church Cathedral still start at 5 past GMT/BST - what was Oxford time.)*

14th December (Sunday) - I took the Duty here twice - the Bishop and Mr. Davenport having forgotten or neglected to send someone to officiate under the present unfortunate state of things here - Mr. Brogden being absent in London with the Bishop's cognizance and the Living under sequestration. The congregation in the evening here was larger than had been known for very many months - all the old singers were present in their places and Miss Faulkener presided at the organ. They had not appeared for two years in the gallery. The stoves were lighted in the evening for the first time this season - and there was a fire in the Vestry Room.

There are no more entries in the diaries until July 1857 - he states "15 or 16 weeks' absence from Clifton Church due to a broken leg".

Buffy Heywood

crew who stood by were able to examine him. Fred had suffered a major stroke which left him unable to move or speak. He was taken to the Horton Hospital, where doctors soon realised that he would need to live out his life, not on the open road, but in the care of kind medical staff. I was ordered to search through and clear out his caravan. What a distressful, and very smelly job that became and all to no avail. I found none of his personal papers nor information of next of kin. Regular road users did miss him, the man they had called "The Gentleman of the Road".

Ruth Johnson

Weekly Meetings

Mon: Brownies: Windmill, 6-7.30 pm.
 Mon: Youth Club: Windmill, 7-9 pm
 Mon: Bellringing Practice: Parish Church, 7.30-9 pm.
 Tues: Craft Group: Holly Tree, 2.15-4.30 pm.
 Tues: Deddington Guides: Windmill, 7-9 pm.
 Tues: Badminton Club: Seniors, Windmill, 7-10 pm
 Every other Wed: Friendship Club: Windmill, 2.30 pm.
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys: Windmill, 5 pm.
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Juniors: Windmill, 5.45 pm.
 Wed: Boys' Brigade Company: Parish Church, 7 pm
 Thu: Life & Portrait Art Group: Town Hall, 10-4 pm.
 Thu: 1st Deddington Cubs: Windmill, 6-7.30 pm.
 Thu: 1st Deddington Scouts: Windmill, 7.30-9 pm.
 Fri: Babies & Toddlers Group: Windmill, 9.30-11 am.
 Fri: Katharine House Coffee Morning: Parish Church,

Bird Talk

Watching the Green Woodpecker dealing with an ant's nest on the lawn this afternoon makes me appreciate yet again how fortunate we are in the number of species of birds in our village. At the last count we have 22 species visiting our garden. We tend to ignore the Crows, Jackdaws, Magpies, Starlings, and Pigeons, which do have an important role in nature but we delight in the others, many of whom have their own characteristics, and even body language.

Our favourites must be the families of Long-tailed Tits who are so polite to each other and the Great Tits, Blue Tits, Coal Tits, Chaffinches, Green Finches, Gold Finches, Blackbirds, Robins, the occasional Bull finch and Nuthatch, and Collared Doves. How do the Blackbirds know to appear on the patio after lunch to snap up the chopped apple core, and does the Robin need to appear on the kitchen windowsill when the morning food delivery is slightly delayed?

Last year a baby Blackbird appeared with a feather protruding from the top of her head and a glazed expression in her eyes. She was obviously a little simple and insisted on coming to the open kitchen window to say good morning each day. Unfortunately she disappeared after several weeks, presumably after trying to make friends with one of the neighbourhood cats.

In mid year we were visited by a cock Pheasant. with his hen and two young. The cock tapped on the patio window and squawked, presumably, to draw our attention to the lack of food. On taking food out to them. he actually fed from my hand. He has a very hard, sharp, stabbing beak ... Excuse me if I close now, but I think I hear a tapping on the patio window. *James Marmion*

[We're all so sorry this is your Swan Song, James. Ed]

**News from Clifton**

I'd like to say a huge thank you to all the residents of Clifton, who played a part in Hallowe'en and gave so generously to the children. The treats were all gratefully received and should last us until next year! It was a great evening as I've heard from others and experienced myself by taking part. Well done to all the children who went to so much trouble with their scary costumes!

Alex Jardine 337235

**Friends of Daeda's Wood**

Loren Eldred, the new Woodland Trust Woodland Officer for Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and

Oxfordshire arrived in late October 2006. He introduces himself:

"I have just come from working for the National Trails Office where I was involved with managing the maintenance work on the Thames Path and The Ridgeway. I have also worked for the Chiltern Woodlands Project, the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust (in Wales) and a countryside management project in Kent. I was fortunate to have been a partner with a European project called TWIG during my time with the Chiltern Woodlands Project and got to see for myself the woodland management by our partners in Germany and Greece.

Although I have only visited Daeda's Wood once so far, it is encouraging to see the young trees doing so well. Perhaps it's the rich, fertile soils near the river but equally it could be plenty of TLC by the Friends Of Daeda's Wood when the trees were planted back in 1996! It is great to know that Daeda's Wood is being looked after by such a dedicated group as well as being such a popular spot to wander through at any time of year."

Sylvie Spenceley 338995

**News from Hempton**

Congratulations to Tim Parker on passing his medical and exams enabling him to become part of the retained Fire Service at Deddington. Tim has lived in the village for about two years, having bought The Homestead in the Lane. Tim, Tracy and young William have supported whatever goes on in the village. The Fire Service urgently needs more staff and Tim will, I'm sure, be a great asset to them.

On Saturday 9 December Sean Parsons will be holding a Christmas party Race Night in the Church Hall. This type of entertainment will be a first for the village. Racing will start at 6.00pm. Refreshments will be served during the evening. Cost of tickets is £8.00, and of course you will need money to bet on the horses. Let Sean know on 337427 if you wish to join in.

The Carol Service this year will be on Friday 22 December at 7.00 pm. and will be a congregational service, which means that the Deddington Choir will not be participating. There will be Christmas refreshments after the service. On Christmas Day the service will be Eucharist at 9.0 am. There will be no Evensong in December.

The Bazaar will be on 2 December from 11.00 am in Hempton Church and Hall - all the usual stalls, plus something for children, also hot snacks, which proved very popular last year. Prizes and gifts suitable for a Christmas Bazaar would be appreciated.

As it is the end of the year I would like to thank Sue Montague, Barbara Chappell, Mavis and Bernard Barton for delivering the magazine in Hempton.

Les Chappell 338054

From the Police

As the festive season is fast approaching us I feel that it is appropriate that I write to you regarding crime that occurs around Christmas time.

Burglars and thieves alike are aware that valuable gifts and consumables are stored in houses in the run up to the holiday season. They will take any opportunity to enter a home and relieve you of your property if it is not left secure. So please be aware of this fact and ensure that doors, windows, garages and outbuildings are left locked and secured. On your Christmas shopping trips please remember not to leave any valuables on view in your cars while out shopping, a car back seat full of recently bought presents is exactly the opportunity that a thief is looking for.

Most importantly, do NOT drink and drive!!!

PC 1698 Phil Morris.

- As a result of a burglary in Hopcraft Lane the police have the names of door-to-door fish salesmen who have criminal records.
- Trading Standards Office are making people aware of the following scam: A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0306 6611911 (a premium rate number). DO NOT call this number, as this scam originates from Belize. If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message, you will already have been billed £15 for the phone call. If you do receive a card with these details then please contact Royal Mail Fraud, or ICSTIS (the premium rate service regulator) or your local trading standards office 0845 051 0845. This is a real scam and is under investigation by ICSTIS.

Deddington OnLine Members of the DOL editorial group have seen an increase in spam, with dubious attachments and

more seriously emails bounced back to them that they have never sent. This means that their email identities have been stolen. We scrupulously keep our anti-virus and firewall software up to date. We have spam filtering software and subscribe to Internet providers who also filter spam.

Our technical advisers tell us that even if we take these simple precautions we are still at risk if those folks receiving our emails do not take precautions. We have anecdotal evidence of some parishioners not having any anti-virus and firewall protection on their computers. It is like having your neighbours looking after your house whilst you are on holiday but them leaving the front door open and standing in the Market Square announcing that you are away. There is no need to get over anxious; however we do owe a duty to each other to look after our online security. As a voluntary body DOL cannot offer technical advice or recommend a particular product. If however, you really cannot find help elsewhere we will act as a signpost for further information.

From the Fire Station

Incidents: We have attended 17 shouts since my last report, this brings the total for the year so far to 162, an average of 3.5 shouts per week. These included a cooker fire, a chimney, a second chimney fire that spread to become a fully developed house fire, a further house fire, a bedroom fire caused by a magnifying glass in the window, a van, a barn and a shed fire.

False Alarms: In addition to the above, we had 4 false alarms with good intent, an impending aircraft crash (aerobatics over Fritwell) a flat fire (neighbour's burnt toast) a bonfire party and an automatic alarm system fault. Please don't ever worry about calling out the Fire Service, if you are in any doubt – call us out. Better safe than sorry.



Fire Safety: Last Christmas we attended a house fire caused by a table decoration. A very elaborate centrepiece with a candle which when it burnt down set fire to the surrounding decorations, then the tablecloth, etc. Fortunately the occupiers were alerted by the smoke detector before the fire spread too far. The Christmas message from the Fire Station is "Please check your smoke alarms are working and buy them new batteries for Christmas. Ensure that the candles you buy are safe, i.e. that there is no material that can catch fire when it burns down and it is in a suitable fireproof holder, and please do not leave candles unattended."

Crewing: As we approach the season of Glad Tidings, I am very pleased to report that I do have some good news at last. We have a new recruit, Tim Parker of Hempton, he is starting his Basic Training on 4 December, and hopefully will be on the run by Christmas. Tim is very keen and enthusiastic and we look forward to welcoming him on board. the Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service will be running a recruitment campaign in Deddington on 10~12 January.

Stay safe over Christmas.

Anne Waters 338281

- Anne has encouraged me to point out that there are still four empty pegs at Deddington Fire station. Residents resist extra house building for fear that it will affect the value of their homes, thus suppressing supply and putting homes beyond the pockets of potential recruits. What will the value of our houses be if they burn down for lack of local firefighters? Recruits, male or female, need to have quick access to the station. This also means that, as they are not full-time firefighters, they need to have other employment opportunities within easy reach. Thus not only affordable housing, but also job opportunities need to be part of the Cherwell Local Development Framework here. Ed

DOL is holding a public meeting on the evening of Thursday 15 February 2007. All parishioners are welcome. We want to offer an opportunity to account for our work, receive feedback and suggestions on improvements and recruit new members, (the only qualification is to be enthusiastic).

Colin Clark 338064 or Colin.Clark@deddington.net

Deddington Branch Royal British Legion

Support for the annual Remembrance Weekend was greater than any time on record. Remembrance Sunday dawned bright and clear and the parade from the Bull Ring to the War Memorial exceeded all expectations with all age groups taking part. The Church service that followed the Act of Remembrance was almost a 'full house'. Financial support of the Poppy Appeal is needed more now than at any time in the past, and again this has been a record from Deddington and surrounding villages. The final figure being sent to Head Office is expected to exceed £4000.

We thank: the Vicar the Rev Dr Hugh White, the Rev John Dane and all who supported them at the War Memorial and the Church service; the Church and all who gave generously and attended the Remembrance services, who joined the parade, including the Boys' Brigade Band leading us admirably, and the various organisations who were well represented; the parade marshalls, the door-to-door collectors, the shops and offices who sold poppies at their premises, and not forgetting all those who helped with duties such as constructing the Market Place memorial garden, raising and lowering the flag each day, distributing and collecting poppy boxes to and from the shops, counting and banking the takings, and the supply and installation of the sound system at the War Memorial. Without the help of all these people it would not be possible to make such a magnificent contribution to the Poppy Appeal Fund.

Raymond Morris 338143. DeddingtonRBL@aol.com

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1st Deddington Boys' Brigade Company

During November we welcomed Nathan into the Company Section, Ollie B and Chris into the Anchors and we congratulated Felix as he moved up from Anchors to Juniors. On 10 November a team from our Company Section were runners-up in the BB Oxfordshire Battalion Master Team Competition. Our brass band led the Remembrance Day parade in Deddington and then a large BB contingent gathered with other village organisations for the act of remembrance. William L read the final part of the ode and Ashley placed a wreath on behalf of the BB at the War Memorial. Our brass band played during the church service before leading the march past through the Market Square. Our bandmaster, Graham Wallington, played the Last Post at the act of remembrance held in the Barfords.

Look out for the BB at future Deddington Farmers' Markets: boys from the Company Section together with Leading Boys from our Juniors will be available to help customers carry their shopping home or to their cars.

Our final meeting of 2006 is on 6 December when all our boys meet for our Christmas party at The Windmill Centre.

The BB is open to boys aged 5 to 18 and provides a range of activities including sports, arts, crafts, badge work, band and community service. We plan to offer the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the Millennium Volunteer Scheme. We are always keen to offer new challenges to our members. There is never a shortage of boys wanting to join the BB and other youth organisations, it is adult leadership we need, to train and develop our young people. **Brian Bushell 338715**

1st Deddington Guides

We made some amazing masks to wear with our Hallowe'en outfits at our spooky meeting when we enjoyed games of an exciting and spooky nature. However, the biggest surprise was the arrival of two visitors in what we thought were very good costumes until we realised they were real policemen just checking that all was well at the Windmill Centre. They were suitably scared by our creepy costumes.

Just before Remembrance Day Captain Ted Johnson talked to us about his wartime experiences as a young officer. We were all riveted and the questions went on long into the evening. Our thanks to him for a very 'insightful' talk.

Jasmine and Freya did us proud as standard bearers at the Remembrance Day parade – well supported by Becky, Anna, Louise, Rachael and Laura. Well done to all – a smart turnout from Deddington Guides.

Maggie Rampley, Guider 01295 810069

Monday Morning Club

Our meeting on 4 December is lunch at the Unicorn at noon for 12.30 pm. The bus for *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at Stratford on 3 January will leave from the Market Place at 6 pm as usual. All the tickets have been distributed but one or two people have not yet paid their bus fares. I'd be grateful to have it all sorted before Christmas. By popular vote we have booked Love

Actually for the film on 11 January at the Holly Tree at 6.30 pm.

Jean Flux 338153

W.I.

Our speaker on 14 November was Jan Brady talking about the many benefits to health of the succulent plant Aloe Vera, which is included in the garlic, onion and asparagus species, and how and where it works. Aloe may be used to help and relieve many common problems and a very small amount taken as a daily drink aids digestion etc. and general well being. It is used to encourage the immune system, to help an earlier recovery from the common cold or 'flu, and after more serious surgery. Jan had a splendid array of products to illustrate her talk and afterwards members asked questions and this kept our attention until almost time to leave the hall. Our Christmas Dinner is on 12 December at 7.30pm at The Unicorn Inn. On 9 January 2007 Moira Byst will speak on 'Working with hearing impaired adults'.

Rene Mahony 338438

Deddington Players

It can now be revealed that the 2007 Pantomime will be ... *Dracula, The Panto!* Casting has taken place and rehearsals have begun. We welcome several new faces both on and off the stage. Put these dates in your diary - 18~20 January. See you there!

Lucy Squires 338442

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

We welcome Wilf and we hope he will enjoy his time

with us. Our congratulations to Oliver, William and Josh who received their Silver Awards in November. The visit to the RAF museum at Hendon was a great success. The 'Battle of Britain' Hall was superb but the star was the Vulcan - how did they get such a big plane inside? This laid the groundwork for our Battle of Britain re-enactment, complete with swimming goggles and cardboard wings. Timed to coincide with Remembrance Day we hope the Cubs gained a little insight into life at the sharp end in 1940. To complete their Air Activities badge the boys completed a quiz sheet and constructed a model. Coming soon, silhouettes, secret Christmas crafts and the end of term party.

Jo Churchyard Cub Scout Leader 338071

jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

The Scouts' visit to Hook Norton vets was superb and many thanks to Juliet and her assistants for the tour, they will always remember the two-faced cat! Thanks also to Martin and Chris at the fire station for the splendid evening we spent there and for letting us invest 5 new Scouts next to the fire appliance. We are very lucky to have so many people willing to give up their own time to help both the Scouts and Cubs. For the rest of the term the Scouts will be completing their Community Award (by delivering Christmas cards) and working towards the Fitness Award. Keep an eye out for Cubs and Scouts wearing the special centenary scarves after New Year.

Peter Churchyard Scout Leader 338071

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Deddington Town Football Club1st Team results

Kineton (h) Drew 1-1 L.Hayward.

Finmere (a)(Coronation Cup) Lost 2-6 A.Gray, J.Flemming.
Decoma Sybex (h)(Jersey Cup) Won 3-2 B.Durrant (2),

D.Keys.

Arncott (a) Drew 3-3 B.Durrant, D.Keys, A.Gray.

Heyford Ath (a)(Jersey Cup) Lost on Penalties – 6-6 after extra time - D.Keys (2), B.Durrant, A.Gray, M.Gibbs, J.Flemming.

Broughton & North Newington(h) Lost 1-4 J.Flemming.

The 1st team are still chasing that elusive first league win of the season, but a couple of encouraging draws were achieved. Lee Hayward scored one of his trademark long-range goals to gain a point against Kineton. Ben Durrant and Danny Keys were on target in the 3-3 draw at Arncott. That was a good result as at one stage Deddington were trailing 0-3. The same scoring combination was in the goals in the Jersey Cup win over Sybex. Heyford Athletic were the opposition in the next round of the cup and this produced an amazing score line of 6-6 after extra time. Unfortunately Deddington lost out in the penalty shootout lottery. The team are towards the bottom of the Premier Division, but a couple of wins would soon lift the side up the table.

Reserve Team Results

Ruscote Res (a)(Geoff Wilson Cup) Lost 0-5

Bishops Itchington Res (h)(Geoff Wilson Cup) Lost 2-4
A.Bliss, A.Perrin.

Cropredy 'A' (a)(Geoff Wilson Cup) Drew 3-3 J.Smith,
A.Bliss, M.Ayckbourn.

Wroxton Res (h)(Geoff Wilson Cup) Drew 3-3 A.Bliss (2),
P.Franklin.

Steeple Aston Res (h) Lost 1-2 G.Morbey.

Heyford Ath Res (a) Lost 1-2

Despite a couple of high scoring draws, progress in the Geoff Wilson Cup looks unlikely. Aaron Bliss was in the goals in the drawn cup matches. The league form has deteriorated, with the team slipping into the lower half of Division 2.

75 Club Winners: 13/10/06 M.Smith £50; 20/10/06 C.Cox £50; 27/10/06 J.Boyd £100; 3/11/06 G.Reason £50; 10/11/06 W.Gibbard £50.

Steve Plumble 01295 278258

Book Club

Last month we read 'Arthur & George' by Julian Barnes and our book for December and January is 'A Time of Gifts' by Patrick Leigh Fermor. Here is a summary of our ideas on 'The Alchemist' by Paulo Coelho: 'a symbolic fable about following your dreams. It produced very divided opinions, some enjoying it and some actively disliking it. Generally well written with some good life lessons, but the ending we felt conveyed the wrong message. A bestseller in Latin America but may have less appeal in our culture.'

New members always welcome. Please note no meeting in December. Next meeting 25 January. Call for venue.
Sally Lambert 338094

Deddington and District History Society

On 8 November Jan Warner of Bloxham spoke to us on 'Survival of the Fittest: the History of Child-rearing Since the 17th century'. Jan gave a detailed account that was in turns bizarre, funny, and moving - but always instructive. Infant mortality in this country was until relatively recently simply appalling. Ignorance, infection and bad diets could result in as many as three-quarters of infants dying in infancy. Only slowly did mortality levels fall thanks to improved health care and better education. We were fortunate to be allowed to examine a range of exhibits that form a small part of Jan's childhood museum in Bloxham. There were items of clothing, shoes, toys and various implements that helped make more real what she had told us. Many members will now go to visit the museum to see the full range of her collection.

The Christmas special event (Wednesday 13 December) is almost sold out. Anyone still hoping to attend should contact Moira Byast (338637) as soon as possible.

Our first meeting of 2007 will be on 10 January at the Windmill Centre, when Dr Adrienne Rosen will speak about recent discoveries relating to Chipping Norton. Her talk is entitled on 'Re-creating a 17th-century town: the example of Chipping Norton'. **Chris Day 337204**



JEC APPLIANCES

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ASH TREES

Deddington Parish Council has been informed, by BBOWT, that it has a legal obligation to protect biodiversity, but it has not as yet been given specific guidelines in the matter.

'Biodiversity' is so wide ranging a term that no general rule can be formulated. Biologists say there are as many as 1,000,000 living organisms too small to see unaided in a teaspoon of soil - mainly bacteria and 'protists' - "the very first" organisms. Without soil fungi, the work of decomposing leafy vegetation and turning cellulose into humus would halt, and the work of decomposition cannot be completed without the life cycle of mites which live in the soil.

So let's just focus on what we can see and measure. In Deddington this will mean conserving small woodland sites and hedgerow habitats; a first step toward that goal is learning what is to be conserved. Oak trees, for example. Or ash trees. In this, and future, brief essays, I am focusing on one or two plants in the network of organisms composing the parish hedgerows. Hedges are our woodland, and ash trees are numerous in Deddington hedges.



As the festive season approaches, we express our thanks to local villagers, organisations and companies for your loyal support throughout the year. Donations to the hospice from Deddington parish have been many and varied including ongoing support from the weekly church Coffee Morning, the Farmers' Market, donations via the Boys Brigade, Brownies and several businesses including sponsorship from Bankier Sloan and donations from Bengal Spice Restaurant and Eagles Butchers, who held successful charity evenings for us. Last Christmas we were delighted to receive a generous donation from the popular Carols around the Tree, and even more villagers have joined our weekly lottery via our Autumn campaign. There

**The
Katharine
House
Hospice**

are countless other valued contributors, too numerous to mention, so we are truly grateful to all in the parish who so generously support us.

Since the Hospice opened, over 4,000 people have received care from Katharine House, and this year it will cost £1.7 million to provide our service, of which we will need to raise over £1.1 million from voluntary sources. We would like to take this opportunity through the Deddington News to wish you all every happiness and to thank you all for your selfless endeavours on our behalf which are much appreciated by the staff, volunteers, patients and their families here at Katharine House.

Sue Lane 01295 812161

Most enclosure hedges were man-made (1808). Only their initial constituents - ash, hawthorn, oak - were planted. In the rare case of hedges constructed from pre-existing woodland species, of which field maple would be one, the richness of the hedge is a key to its past.

In parish hedges, ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) occurs much more frequently than oak, probably because it submits more easily to hedgerow management. William Cobbett observed that 'Ash bears pruning better than any other tree, and its timber is one of the most beautiful'. Wooden bowls made from ash are sometimes on sale in the Deddington Farmers' Market. In some places ash forms an avenue of tall trees. For example, there are twelve large ash trees on the east side of the Duns Tew Road, and in four hedges on Ilbury Farm, adjoining the Duns Tew Road, there are eight ash and seven oak trees. Worth a visit are the eleven large ash trees at the bottom of Cosy Lane.

Ash regenerates continuously when it is cut back regularly. Once ash is no longer coppiced, new stems become trunks. In a few hedges one might see a spray of young trunks from a single rootstock. In a survey of habitat for birds on Leadenporch Farm, conducted by the RSPB in 1996-7, ash was found in 63% of all the hedges and vegetated edges. In the same survey, as a shrub laid and managed in the hedgerow, ash occurred at 38% of the sites.

The very largest ash tree in the parish reaches so high towards the sky it hurts my neck to look too long into its top. It is on a neglected verge of the A4260 just past the traffic lights, on the west side of the road towards Banbury. What is singular about this tree is that its great girth, height and grandeur are gifts of neglect. Had the verge, in this small space, been made 'useful', the tree would have been felled, but, while it was spared, it is too dangerous to visit.

Walter Meagher

ALLOTMENTS (Satin Lane)
Parish Clerk (see under Parish Council)

ART AT THE HOLLY TREE
Peggy Baker 338576

ART GROUP
Ken Wilkinson 337256

BADMINTON
Andrew Munson 337416

BABIES AND TODDLERS GROUP
Ria Betteridge 337041

BANBURY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT
Molly Neild 338521

BOOKS ON WHEELS
Margery Hawes 338029

BOWLS
Yvonne Twomey 337213

BOYS' BRIGADE ANCHOR BOYS (5-8)
Tim Cooper 338081

BOYS' BRIGADE JUNIORS
Brian Bushell 338715

BOYS BRIGADE COMPANY SECTION
Brian Bushell 338715

BROWNIES
Jo Ransome 01295 269850

CHURCHES:
- St Peter & St Paul Deddington, & St John Hempton
Rev Dr Hugh White 349869

- Bellringers
Colin Cox 337486, Yvonne Twomey 337213

- Childrens' Church
Jane Green 337837

- Mothers' Union
Jean Welford 338539

- Congregational (Village Contact)
Joyce Minnear 338529

- Wesleyan
Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

- Roman Catholic (Parish priest)
Fr John Burns 277396

CRAFT GROUP
Delphine Sampson 338739

CRICKET
Derek Cheeseman 338609

CUB SCOUTS
Jo Churchyard 338071

DEDDINGTON CHARITY ESTATES
Pat Swash 338920

DEDDINGTON CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Judith Tinsley(Head),
Vicky Stevens (Secretary) 338430

DEDDINGTON COLTS FC
Martin Hovard 337810

DEDDINGTON & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY
Moiria Byast 338637

DEDDINGTON FAIR TRADERS
Hugh Marshall 337761

DEDDINGTON FRIENDLY BRIDGE CLUB
Kenneth Holt 338154

DEDDINGTON LADIES
Mrs Franklin 338322

DEDDINGTON MAP GROUP
Jo Eames 338752

DEDDINGTON MARKET MANAGEMENT GROUP
Althea Wood 337904

DEDDINGTON NEWS
Christopher Hall 338225

DEDDINGTON ONLINE
Elizabeth Reed 337259
[<webmaster@deddington.org.uk>](mailto:webmaster@deddington.org.uk)

DEDDINGTON ORIGINAL GOLF SOCIETY
Barbara Budd 338011

DEDDINGTON PLAYERS
Lucy Squires 338442

DEDDINGTON PRE-SCHOOL (school hours only)
337383

FOOTBALL
Steve Plumbe 01295 278258

FRIENDSHIP CLUB
Joyce Minnear 338529

FRIENDS OF DAEDA'S WOOD
Sylvie Spenceley 338995

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL
Sue Goddard 338122

FRIENDS OF ST ANNE'S NURSING HOME
Molly Neild 338521

GOOD NEIGHBOUR GROUP
Molly Neild 338521

GUIDES
Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

HOLLY TREE CLUB ROOM
Jean Flux 338153

MONDAY MORNING CLUB
Jean Flux 338153

PTA (Deddington Primary School)
Stella O'Neill 338769

PARISH COUNCIL (Deddington) Parish Clerk:
Lorraine Watling 337447

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (Deddington Branch) & CLUB
Ray Morris 338143 [<Raymorris@aol.com>](mailto:Raymorris@aol.com)

SCOUTS
Peter Churchyard 338071

TENNIS
Katie McGovern 338771

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENTS
- Clifton Alexandra Jardine 337235
- Hempton Les Chappell 338054

WARRINER SCHOOL CORRESPONDENT
Angus Alton 337288

WINDMILL CENTRE BOOKINGS
Joyce Minnear 338529

WINDMILL TUESDAY/THURSDAY CLUB
Debbie Harris 07737 892745

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Beryl Suckling 337385

YOUTH CLUB
Maureen Forsyth 338384

Amendments and additions, please, to Jean Flux,
14, The Daedings, Deddington, 338153
Copies of this list are kept in Deddington and
Banbury Libraries.