

the Deddington news

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The DN team wishes all our advertisers, contributors and readers a happy Christmas and peaceful 2009, and our thanks for your continuing support without which we would be lost. Our particular thanks are also extended to Suzanne Allan for designing our Christmas cover.

DIARY December

- Mon 1 Monday Morning Club, Christmas Lunch, Holcombe Hotel, 12.30 for 1pm
- Wed 3 Photographic Society: 'Faces of India', Philip Rigby, Deddington Arms, 7.30pm
- Sat 6 Royal British Legion and British Legion Club AGMs, at the Legion premises, 10am
- Sun 7 Choros Carol Concert, Parish Church, 6.30pm
- Tue 9 WI: Christmas meal at Unicorn, 7 for 7.30pm
- Wed 10 Deddington Police Office: Drop-in session, 5-7pm
- Wed 10 History Society: Sex, Drink and Death in the 17th Century, Tim Healey, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Thu 11 Monday Morning Club Film Evening, Holly Tree, 6.30pm
- Sat 13-14 PTA: Santa's Float
- Mon 15 PSFU Christmas production, Parish Church, 2pm
- Mon 15 Youth Club: Unveiling of Winter Light, Police Office 6pm
- Wed 17 School KS1 Christmas production, PChurch 4.30pm
- Wed 17 School KS2 Christmas production, Parish Church, 5pm
- Wed 17 Parish Council meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm
- Sat 20 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9-12.30pm
- Sat 20 PTA: Santa's Grotto, Town Hall
- Tue 23 Badminton Club: Last club night of 2008
- Wed 24 Carols in the Market Place, 6pm

January

- Mon 5 Mon Morning Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree 10.30-12
- Tue 6 Badminton Club restarts
- Wed 7 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8pm
- Tue 13 WI: 'Wildlife in Four Counties in Four Seasons', Graham Soden, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Wed 14 Deddington Police Office: Drop-in session, 5-7pm
- Wed 14 History Soc: David Wilson on Dialects, Windmill 7.30pm
- Wed 21 Parish Council meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm
- Wed 21 Friends of Daeda's Wood AGM, The Unicorn, 7.30pm
- Thu 22 - Deddington Players present *Captain Hook's Revenge*, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Sat 24 Deddington Players present *Captain Hook's Revenge*, Windmill Centre, 2.30pm
- Sat 24 Deddington Farmers' Market, 9am-12.30pm
- Thu 29 Book Club: for venue, phone Sally Lambert on 338094

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

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Present: Cllrs Flux [Chair], Alton, Anderson, Collins, Ince, Spencer, Squires, Todd, Ward, Watts, Westbury, Wood, CC Jelf & DC O'Sullivan, the Clerk, the Minute Clerk, three members of the public and the DN correspondent.

Open Forum

Yngve Granne from Crossways Hempton raised the inadequacy of the traffic speed controls through Hempton. Agreed that marginal movement of central white line and illuminated 30mph sign to west of village had made no difference. To be referred back to OCC.

Finance & General Purposes

Financial status of the DPC investments is being closely monitored. £200,000 with Birmingham Midshires is at 6.12% interest until June 2009; £330,000 with West Bromwich BS is now earning only 4% interest which will impact on income for the year. This rate will change in line with Bank Rate so could further reduce income next year.

Church clock: PCC have offered to pay only 25% of cost of replacing hands on south face. To be discussed further because repair appears to be PCC responsibility; DPC have previously only agreed to be responsible for servicing. DPC anxious not to set a precedent but will consider further requests on merit.

Holly Tree: have requested a fee of £70pa for the steward's hut which was agreed.

Town Hall: a redecoration schedule has been agreed with Deddington Charity Estates.

Environment, Recreation & Special Projects

[1] *Satin Lane allotments:* original rolling annual lease from 1929 was reviewed; it is terminated by 6 months' notice from either side. DPC has responsibility to clear overgrowth and thickets. An Allotment Committee [AC] constitution is in final stages of negotiation. DPC is to make a grant of £2,500 to cover construction of a shed for £1,000, allotment clearing for just under £1,000, and to extend the water system. DPC will purchase, own and insure shed. Allotment holders will sub-lease in units of one or a half chain from DPC. All rents go to DPC, paid in advance. Additional discretionary £5 per full unit [chain] to be levied to pay for the AC.

[2] *Castle Grounds fitness trail:* English Heritage to be consulted about change of use.

[3] *Clifton play area:* slippery surface is to be treated with moss remover and a new surface, possibly plastic matting, to be investigated. OPFA and RoSPA to be approached for advice. In the meantime area to be closed and locked.

[4] *A 20ft Christmas tree* has been ordered, to be paid for from the prize money from the Calor Village of the Year award.

[5] *Dog bins* near Clifton bus shelter and the Paddocks have been purchased.

[6] *Gaveston gardens clean up:* thanks to all who helped, still some clearing up to do.

[7] *Cemetery:* a new management plan, covering health & safety requirements, specifications for

headstone fixing, pricing and plot maintenance will be presented to DPC in January.

[8] *Parish Environmental Survey:* to comply with new planning and environmental guidelines a survey to be commissioned to produce map of local ecology, to incorporate existing environmental and ecological Parish research. Cost of £150 to be paid for from residue of the Calor prize money.

[9] *Windmill broadband:* Wi-fi has now been installed, the Parish Clerk holds the access code.

[10] *Planters and hanging baskets:* bulbs and pansies have been purchased.

[11] *The Market Place oak* looks better.

[12] *Fun fair:* generally agreed the event was better organised and attended than last year. Next year greater care would be taken to position attractions so as not to compromise any local trade or business.

Planning

DPC no objection: [1] 34 The Daedings, single storey rear extension, 'sun space' and front porch.

[2] 5 St John's Way, Hempton, 2 storey side extension. [3] Castle Barns, Castle St, dividing into 2 new units. [4] Orchard House, Hopcroft Lane, tree trimming. [5] Health Centre, Earls Lane, tree trimming. [6] 5 The Paddocks, roof lights, windows and sunpipe, conditional. [7] The Old Vicarage, Church St, various internal and external changes and improvements.

DPC approvals: [8] Outbuilding 3 Holly Tree Cottage, change of use to part-time clinic. [9] 19 The Paddocks, loft conversion and dormer window. [10] 14a High St, tree trimming.

Withdrawal: [11] Stoneyford, Main St, Clifton, garage and extension.

Possible non-compliance: Ithaca, Hopcroft Lane; CDC considering colour of render and changes to the façade.

CDC Approval: [12] Old Corner House, Market Place, change of use.

Other planning matters: [13] DPC has responded to the Local Development Plan [for details refer to DPC minutes at Library or Town Hall notice board] [13] The SE Regional Assembly circulated consultative paper on providing sites for travellers. Subject was approached with caution because questions and statistics were confusing and contradictory. Agreed, if there had to be provision for more spaces existing sites should be used.

Highways

Earls Lane speeding: OCC, HWG and the School all considering assessment. Parking report: to be considered at December DPC meeting. Subsidised bus service being reviewed by OCC. Speedwatch posters: suggestions for locations to HWG. Satin Lane: line painting to prevent parking across access delayed by wet road surface. Market Place: request for crossing point by Town Hall.

Parish Finances

Invoices passed for payment £11,852.

Next Meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 17 December

SCHOOL NEWS

As we enter December the children are rehearsing hard for their Christmas productions. This year our Foundation classes will be acting and singing in *It's A Cracker*, Key Stage 1 are putting on a production of *Scrooge*, whilst Key Stage 2 will be performing *Hosanna Rock*. All performances will be in Deddington Church on 15, 16 and 17 December and I am sure all performances will be fantastic; the children and staff, as always, are putting in a great effort to make sure everyone enjoys the night.

Looking back over November it turned out to be a busy month. Our fireworks night was another successful event run by the PTA, the weather was good to us and it was very well supported. On 11 November Year 6 were invited to join the British Legion for a very special Remembrance Service at

Deddington Church. They felt honoured to be asked to such an event. Later that week the children raised money in school for Children in Need by paying to come to school in their pyjamas! The children (and staff) really enjoyed the day and we managed to raise over £200. Other events in November included the Fairtrade Group running a successful stall in the school hall where a range of Fairtrade products were available to buy. The school also supported Anti-Bullying day by raising awareness of issues through a variety of classroom activities.

After such a busy term all the staff and pupils are looking forward to the Christmas holidays and a chance to recharge their batteries ready for next term!

Jane Cross, Deputy Head Teacher, 338430

Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

Our activities over the last few weeks have included talking about fireworks night and making some great fireworks pictures, looking for signs of Autumn and collecting colourful Autumn leaves, and finding out about Diwali, including listening to Indian music and sampling Indian food. We also participated in the school pyjama day on 15 November, dressing up in our pyjamas for the day and raising money for Children in Need. By the time you read this we will be 'doing' Christmas!

The PFSU plan to hold two afternoons where parents can join their children to help them decorate the classroom, on Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 December from 1.30 to 3.00pm. We are also preparing for our Christmas production, *Christmas Cracker*, which will be in the church on Monday 15 December from 2pm. Our joint Nursery and PFSU Christmas party will be held at the Windmill Centre on Wednesday 17 December from 1 to 2.30pm. Merry Christmas everyone!

Lucy Squires, 337484

Deddington School PTA

Santa's Float



Saturday 13th December
from 5pm

Sunday 14th December
from 5pm

Barford St Michael
Hempton
Deddington (west of the
traffic lights, ie Hempton
Road, Gaveston Gardens,
Mill Close etc)

Clifton
Deddington (east of the
traffic lights)



Listen out for the
music and come
and say "hello" to
Father Christmas
and his helpers!

**Your generous
donations are
very welcome!**



Charity No 1052715



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Bring your children to this

A Candlelit Service
at Deddington Parish Church
on Sunday 14 December
at 4pm

And with your donations support
the Children's Society
in their care for
disadvantaged children

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

December

Mon 1 World Aids Day Service
 Wed 3 10.00am Eucharist
 Thur 4 2pm Squeals and Wheels
 Sun 7 10.30am All-Age Worship
 Wed 10 10.00am Eucharist
 Sun 14 10.30am Sung Eucharist,
 with Healing Prayer
 4.00pm Christingle
 Wed 17 10.00am Eucharist
 Thur 18 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels
 Sun 21 10.30am Eucharist, with Baptism
 6.30pm Carol Service
 Wed 24 Christmas Eve
 10.00am Eucharist
 11.30pm Midnight Mass
 Thur 25 Christmas Day
 9.00am Eucharist
 10.30am Family Eucharist
 Sun 28 9.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10.30am Morning Praise
 Wed 31 10.00am Eucharist
 11.30pm WatchNight Service

January

Thur 1 Naming and Circumcision of Jesus
 10.00am Eucharist
 No Squeals and Wheels
 Sun 4 10.30am Family Eucharist, followed by
 Epiphany Feast 12.00 for 12.30pm
 Wed 7 10.00am Eucharist
 Sun 11 Baptism of Christ
 Sung Eucharist,
 with Healing Prayer
 Wed 14 10.00am Eucharist
 Thur 15 2.00pm Squeals and Wheels
 Sun 18 10.30am Sung Eucharist
 Wed 21 10.00am Eucharist
 Sun 25 Conversion of St Paul
 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10.30am Morning Worship

St John's Hempton

December

Sun 7 9.00am Eucharist
 Fri 19 7.30pm Carol Service
 Sun 21 9.00am Eucharist
 Sun 28 6.00pm Evensong

January

Sun 4 9.00am Eucharist
 Sun 18 9.00am Eucharist
 Sun 25 6.00pm Evensong

From the Parish Registers

16 November, at St John's, Hempton
 Baptism Francis Louis Roche

For baptisms, weddings, funerals 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, Glynne Bianchi (337743) or John Osborough (07753 802841).

The Vicar will be abroad for the three months from February to April and the Reverend John Dane will be Priest-in-Charge during that period.

Wesleyan Reform Church, Chapel Sq

Pastor Isabel Walton, 337157

Sunday mornings at 10.30am: Pastor Walton

Congregational Chapel, New Street

Joyce Minnear, 338529

Sunday morning services are held at the Wesleyan Reform Church together with their congregation. Sunday afternoon services at 3.00pm at the Chapel, organised by Pastor Derek Walker of the Oxford Bible Church. The 3.00pm service on Sunday 21 December will be the annual Carol Service and on Christmas Day the congregation will join the Wesleyan Church as on Sundays.

RC Parish of Hethe with Adderbury

Fr John Burns 277396

Masses at Holy Trinity, Hethe: every weekday (except Wed) at 9.30am, Sun at 10am.
 St George's Church Adderbury: Mass Wed 7pm and Sun 8.30am. Confessions at Hethe Sat 5.30-6.00pm and at Adderbury before Mass.

Services over Christmas and the New Year:

Hethe Christmas Eve 11.30pm Carols,
 12.00am Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 10.30am Mass

Sunday 28 10.00am Mass

Epiphany Tues 6 Jan Masses at 10.00am
 and 7.30pm

Adderbury No Wednesday evening Mass on
 Christmas Eve

Christmas Day 9.00am Mass

Sunday 28 8.30am Mass

Wed 31 7.00pm Mass

Vigil Mass of Epiphany on Monday 5 Jan 7.00pm

Christmas Eve Carols in the Market Place

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

Christmas – Myth, Faith or Virtual?

Think of it how you wish, but it's a time of festival, days off, families and - hopefully - some fun for most of us. Don't let it be spoilt by remembering that for many people in the world it is very few of these things. While we drink a toast, many hardly have enough clean water to drink. While we worry about what gifts to give, or what to eat, millions may only have a choice between food today or food tomorrow. But help is at hand in the form of Gifts for Life from Traidcraft (www.traidcraftshop.co.uk), or Oxfam Unwrapped (www.oxfamunwrapped.com) and other agencies. You get to hang a gift card on the Christmas tree whilst those friends or family who already have too much, bask in the knowledge that someone much more needy will get a goat or some seed or will be a step nearer to a clean water supply. Virtual gifts are no myth, they rapidly transform lives. Of course, if you are really stuck for last-minute gifts or treats there will be a selection to choose from on the Fairtrade stall during the Farmers' Market on 20 December or direct from Hugh Marshall (337761).

PTA

What a fabulous fireworks evening we had once again! The weather held out for us and we had a beautiful clear sky. Mulled wine and hot chocolate kept us warm whilst the barbacue did a roaring trade with delicious sizzling sausages and burgers. It was fantastic to see the field full of children and adults laughing and having fun. Thank you all so much for supporting this event and we sincerely hope you enjoyed the evening. We raised the spectacular sum of £2,630. Special thanks must go to the Co-op and Farmers' Market Committee who very generously supported us. Finally a huge thank you to all those who gave their time to help organise 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. Samples of the cards are available should you wish to 'try before you buy', just contact Janet on 337135 or e-mail janet@janetwatts6.wanadoo.co.uk for a sample pack or to place an order. The cards can also be viewed on the school website www.deddington.ik.org

Santa's Float will be winging its way from the North Pole and landing in Deddington on the weekend of the 13 and 14 December. As usual, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please see posters around the villages and the advert in this edition for the route plan.

Santa's Magical Grotto will be in the Town Hall on Saturday 20 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.

Our dedicated carol singers will, once again, be singing in the Church during the morning of the December Farmers' Market. Do come along and listen to the spirit of Christmas or even join in!

Those last-minute exclusive presents can be purchased from our craft market at the Royal British Legion on Saturday 20 December. There will be no craft market in January.

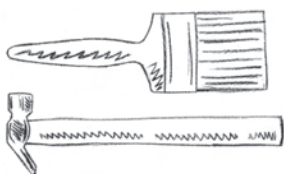
The fun continues into 2009 - dates for your diary include our ever popular Quiz Night on Saturday 28 March, the Deddington Walk on Sunday 17 May and the School Fete on Saturday 20 June.

In the meantime, on behalf of the PTA, I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

Janet Watts, PTA Chair, 337135

Ed: The Christmas cards are also available to view on DoL and there are a sample picture and ordering details on the Picture page of the DN website.

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2009 festival deddington

In October we flagged up our intention to stage the 2009 Festival in two stages and

we can now give more information for your diaries. Festival 2009 will take place on the last weekends of June and August respectively. The first weekend will include Janet Lincé's ever-popular classical concert on Saturday 27 June 2009 at 7.30 pm. This will be an orchestral concert with the Oxford Sinfonia conducted by Janet comprising Strauss, *Horn Concerto no 1*, Wagner, *Siegfried Idyll*, Mendelssohn, *'Italian' Symphony*.

The second weekend will be a Fun & Rocks day staged by David Watt and Eddie Sinclair following the enthusiastic reception given to this year's event by young and old. Detailed planning is still underway and further information will be given as it becomes available.

A range of other events including 'Poetry Please', Art Exhibition and Craft Exhibition will also be on offer together with a repeat of the successful Art Workshop conducted by Sue Cave. The popular lunchtime concert given by the primary school will be taking place and we will be discussing ways in which the History Society and the Library can contribute to the Festival.

Friends of Deddington Festival

The AGM on 6 November was well attended. Thank you to everyone who came. After a review of 2008, the meeting debated an increase in fees. The current financial downturn means that it will cost significantly more to stage next year's events, at a time of general financial belt-tightening. It was agreed that the £10 fee should remain but that members would be encouraged to make an extra donation to Festival funds.

Sue Goddard and Kristin Thompson are standing down from the FDF Committee next year and replacements are being recruited.

Kristin Thompson FDF Publicity

Open Gardens And Allotments

Saturday 27 June and Sunday 28 June 2009

If you are willing to open your garden on the above weekend, please contact me by e-mail or telephone – very many thanks.

Joan Wright, 338535

joanwright@suffolkonline.net

CONGRATULATIONS MAGGIE

Shortly after joining Guides, it soon became clear to me that our Guide leader was a very special person. Despite working full time as Matron of Wardington House nursing home, Maggie Rampley spends much of her spare time leading young girls, like me, in a very effective way, showing a fine example of community spirit and involvement. She has been serving the District for over 30

The Deddington Writers' Group Competition is now a firmly established part of the Festival with some 220 entries in 2008 and we are working with the group on ways to make the presentations evening a stand-alone event incorporating a musical performance.

We are delighted to announce plans for a repeat of this year's Open Gardens which was an enormous success in every respect, making a significant contribution to Festival funds, thanks to the generosity and hard work of so many residents and helpers.

Regular updates will be provided in the Deddington News and on our website: www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk

If you would like to become a Friend of the Festival along with almost 120 others who have already done so, please contact Sue Goddard on 338122.

Finally, we should like to take this opportunity to thank John Cheney who has decided to stand down as a director and trustee of the Festival. We shall miss his wise counsel, dispensed with his inimitable good humour, but his many friends will be reassured to know that he will continue to preside over the 'Poetry Please' evening.

Eileen Anderson, Secretary, 338325

years, and recently received an award from the Guide Association to show her achievement.

About seven months ago I noticed an article in the newspaper about nominating a person in your local area who you feel does a lot to help in your community – Maggie immediately sprang to mind. I spoke to Mrs Rachel Lawmon, the Deddington District Commissioner at a Guiding event and showed her the article. She thought it was an excellent idea and soon we started to piece together what we had to do, and which award to aim for. We sent letters of recommendation from Rachel, Mrs Pleydell-Bouverie (ex-District Commissioner who once worked closely with Maggie), me, and other guiding dignitaries to the Guiding Association in Oxford, but as we didn't get a reply for a couple of months I started to lose hope that Maggie would get the award. However, some months later I received a call from our Guide helper Marion and she told me that Maggie had got the Oxfordshire Girl Guiding Good Service Award and asked me if I would take part in the award ceremony. Naturally I was delighted and was extremely happy to attend this particular Guide meeting. I presented Maggie with a bouquet of flowers after she received the award. It was presented by Mrs Carol Dunne who is the Oxfordshire County Commissioner. Also present was Mrs Mary Brodey, the Cherwell Division Commissioner, and Mrs Rachel Lawmon. It was a really proud moment for Deddington Guides and I was pleased to have been a part of it. Well done Maggie!

Louise Davies

The Story of Deddington Mary Vane Turner, 1933

Following the notice in November's *DN*, we now have further details on the Deddington & District History Society's new edition of the very rare *The Story of Deddington* by Mary Vane Turner.* We will republish the book as a facsimile for its tenth anniversary, with an introduction by our Chairman Chris Day.

The author was then President of the Deddington WI. A note at the front of the book tells us that 'This village history was written for a competition held by the Oxfordshire Federation of Women's Institutes. Dr Marrett, Rector of Exeter College, Oxford, the Judge, awarded First prize to Shipton-under-Wychwood, Second Prize to Headington Quarry. Deddington and Churchill he bracketed together with Quarry as 'all extremely good and only a little behind the first in interest and general quality.'

Just before we were going to press we discovered a lot of new material, including the original typescript and the originals of almost all the illustrations. We thus expect the quality of reproduction to be significantly improved. We also discovered that one of the rival histories was in part written by a 'ringer' - not only a man, but a professional author and archaeologist!

We expect to have copies ready in December costing £9 and we hope that it will be an ideal Christmas gift. This will probably be the only opportunity to acquire a printed copy of *The Story of*

Deddington, but we do intend to make it available on Deddington OnLine in due course in a fully-searchable form and we will use the money raised by selling printed copies to fund doing this work.

The book will be A5 and consist of 112 pages of text and 8 plates.

To order a copy please send a cheque for £9 made out to The Deddington & District History Society to:

Mrs J Broadbent, Stonecourt, Earls Lane, Deddington OX15 0TJ. The cost of postage for copies that need mailing will be in the February *DN*, or available from me after publication.

*A Google search shows not a single copy for sale anywhere in the world!

Colin Cohen, 337040 cohen@nehoc.co.uk

Barfords Village Market

In the Village Hall, Lower Street

3rd Saturday of each month

1000 – 12.30

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FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

FROM REVD DR HUGH WHITE

On behalf of the Parochial Church Council I should like to thank all those who made donations to the Parish Church Fabric Fund in response to our Gift Day Appeal. There were about fifty donations and, with Gift Aid enhancement, around £8,000 was raised. A single extremely generous donation produced over 75% of that sum.

We shall be installing a new sound system in the Church at the beginning of December. In January we shall renew the glazing in the Living Room (our architects will be paying for this work). We have received a Faculty from the Diocese for replacing most of the tiled floor in stone and we expect this work to be carried out next year.

FROM CHRISTINE
BLENTOFT, THE OLD POST
HOUSE, NEW STREET

Christine and Rebecca Blenntoft would like all our friends in Deddington, Clifton and Hempton to know that, as from this year, we will not be sending local Christmas cards. We will instead, give the card money to The Brooke Hospital for Animals.

FROM WALTER MEAGHER, MEXICO

I refer to the Nov issue of the DN. Elspeth Cox wrote: "*Ellen Lee (of TVERC), showed us crayfish, unfortunately the American invader..*" Invader is perhaps the wrong word as it implies many conditions absent in the expansion of a foreign species where it has been deliberately introduced by the people who live in the country where it is alien. Biologists use two words for this state of affairs: 'alien' and 'invasive'. Plants as well as animals are invasive. Most weeds in the North American prairies are European in origin. The European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) was introduced into America with the best of intentions where it is widely disliked. Being mentioned in Shakespeare (*Henry 1V Part 1*) it was thought fitting to bring it to Central Park and 60 birds were released in 1890. It is estimated that the US population is now 200 million. Paradoxically, Starlings are in decline in Europe.

To return to the crayfish: evidence of the decline of the native crayfish in the River Swere is serious and regrettable. Before publication of *Portrait of a River* (1999) in which there is a photograph of the native species up-stream, I had found, through the field work of Graham Scholey, that the Swere was well-oxygenated and lively with native White-clawed Crayfish (*Austropot-amoebius pallipes*). I quote: "*In 1999 when Keith Loban of South Newington set about repairing the sluice gate at the South Newington Mill, he found 57 White-clawed Crayfish (the native species) which the Environment Agency in Wallingford took away and relocated in the river.*" If Ellen has evidence of reduced populations of the native species, please let me know.

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

FROM DIANNE KYTE, THE LEYES,
DEDDINGTON

We are so lucky in Deddington; we have this enormous fascinating house we can visit, with plenty of places to sit, interesting and colourful windows to contemplate, wonderful singing to listen to and join in if we want and, of course, good story tellers. It's a house where we can take breath from our normally busy fast lives and really enjoy the moment. You can have coffee and biscuits too!

That's what I did on Sunday morning. I had just purchased The Times and, of course, healthy fruit for lunch from our local store, when I heard the Church bells and something strangely drew me to the service in Deddington Church. I'm still not quite sure what it was.

Delightful people welcomed me and ensured I had the necessary books for the service, to which I listened with a mixture of nostalgia and interest. I felt the warm glow of peace, friendliness and something else – it's hard to explain but I found time to think about so much, people I have lost recently, others who are having troubles and suffering around the world. Everyone was helpful, making sure that those who needed help were escorted to the altar. This house has so much to offer; peace, tranquillity, history, nostalgia, knowledge and, of course, prayers. However, there were a few times I wished the hymns and music were a little more modern. But I gather different services provide for different needs.

Will I return to this house in Deddington? Yes, I will, definitely. Perhaps not every week but when something draws me. Perhaps other may be drawn one day. I know a friendly welcome will await them.

PARISH BUTTERFLY SURVEY

The garden butterfly lists have been co-ordinated and sent to Walter Meagher in Mexico. Unfortunately 2008 was such a poor year country-wide for butterflies that both Walter and Gavin Bird of TVERC feel that it would be misleading to publish our data as representative of annual activity in the Parish. They ask us to record a second year before publishing results. Then we can see if there is an ongoing loss of species or if 2008 was atypical because of weather conditions, especially in May.

The butterfly observers are: Sally and Michael Allbrook, Janet and Brian Bond, Richard Broadbent, George Fenemore, Jean Flux, Jim Milroy, Joan and Geoff Todd, Kristin Thompson. More observers for 2009 are welcome.

Kristin Thompson, 337052



DOWN ON THE FARM

Ice in November to carry a duck, the rest of the winter will be slush and muck. This is the first entry for November in my almanac of weather lore. Although we have had some frost and the tide is yet again lapping the shores of Clifton-upon-Sea, it is unlikely that any ice which has formed to date would be able to carry the hundreds of duck that are at present fighting up and down the flooded valley. As for snow, you can make up your own predictions.



All the autumn-sown crops are now showing well in row, as are the wobbles in the drill lines as the driver filled his pipe, but it was always said that you could get more seed in a

crooked drill than a straight one - well, that's my excuse anyway.

Despite the oilseed rape being planted some four weeks later than we would have liked, it has come on well. So given an 'open winter' and the fact that, according to the RSPB, all the wood pigeons have been driven out of the countryside and into the

towns by modern agricultural methods, it might just stand a chance of surviving the winter and produce a crop for harvest. But what with the ever upward spiralling costs of establishment and growing costs, the landlord's eye-watering rent demand and the ever sinking bottom line, the jury is still out on the viability of food crop production.

The ewes should by now be safely in lamb, with the first of next year's lambs arriving in mid-March. The last of last year's lamb crop came inside at the start of November for 'finishing' on a compound ration. These will soon have to be sold on as, because of the flooding, the main ewe flock is getting short of dry grazing and will need to come in out of the rain to give the grass paddocks time to recover before the start of next year's lambing season.

The bees have all been put to bed for the winter, having made good use of the kind October weather to stock up on ivy pollen to help them through the lean months of winter. I shall be giving them extra feed in the form of sugar syrup and bee candy each month until the spring flowers come into bloom. So what with the crops all planted and the sheep in the dry, I just might find time to duck into the workshop and make a few more hives ready for next year, not forgetting (as if I would be allowed) Ruth's shelves for the Church kitchen. Then it will be time for the Pantomime - oh help!

George Fenemore, 338203

UP THE ALLOTMENT

Little is really urgent this month, though it might be wise to complete digging, clean up gardening tools, plan rotation of next year's crops and order your seeds. If presented with sunny days you may wish to give your attention to the vegetable crop still in the ground and to fruit trees.

To avoid winter rock, earth-up spring cabbages and other brassicas. Remove yellow leaves that could harbour disease. Put straw or bracken around perennials like globe artichokes to keep the worst of the frost off. If you still have main crop carrots, parsnips, turnips, swedes and beetroot in the ground, cover them now with a thick layer of straw, bracken or leaves, earth them up or put cloches over them for extra protection. They may, of course, be harvested and stored in the garden shed or in clamps. Harvest celery and leeks. After the first frost start forcing rhubarb for harvesting in January and pick sprouts regularly from the bottom up, removing any yellowing leaves as you do so. Brassicas need to be protected from birds throughout the winter. Pigeons love them!

Sow early crops of lettuce, summer cabbage, and radishes, round varieties of carrots, spinach, salad

onions and turnips. They don't need a high temperature - 13C (55F) is enough. If started on a window sill in good light or in the greenhouse they can be set outside under cloches or fleece in early February.

Winter-prune apples, pears, gooseberries and currants on non-frosty days. It might be useful to spread a layer of compost or well-rotted manure around fruit bushes and trees.

There shouldn't be too much to worry about in December - one advantage of the cold weather. However, you should continue to watch for slugs and snails which can be found lurking in the cold frame or greenhouse. Keep an eye out for canker on apples and pears.

Don't forget to feed the birds and to leave any berried plants uncut for them to feast on.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Christmas and good gardening in 2009.

Tony Campion, 337113

Ed: DN says farewell to Tony as he passes the garden fork to a neighbour. We thank him for his interesting and informative contributions and wish him well.

A Maltese gentleman has moved into Featherton House and, although his English is perfect, he would like occasionally to converse in his native language. We would be grateful if anyone knows of Maltese-speaking people in the area who could help. If so, please contact Lyn MacDougall, Manager, Featherton House, 01869 338259.

Eric Turburfield

News from Clifton

Well done to Linda and Pat who collected £135 from door-to-door collections from the residents of Clifton for the Royal British Legion Poppy Day. A good effort. The night air was rent with song and music for the party of the decade this month as Robert Huntingdon 'was at home' to celebrate his 30th year. Many of the village were there to cheer him on. (Funny how smug some of us are watching the young celebrate hitting the oil slick that was our 30th year as we all skid uncontrollably to our dotage!) There were live acts and marquees, songs and merriment well into the not so early hours. Well done Robert who promises our very own beer by the time you read this.

Some of the village anoraks (and their young children) turned out on Aynho Bridge to watch a double-headed steam engine steam down the line in the afternoon and more impressively up again in the evening. The silhouette of firemen bent over open fire boxes was, my mother thought, very evocative of a bygone era and a fine feature of a view dominated by the re-emergence of the flood plains that enhance our spectacular views.

Martin Bryce, 338031

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 1925 – 2007

In amongst the Institute's *Book of Memories* nestles a beautifully printed home-bound tale, written in 1993 and submitted to the judges of that year's writers' competition run by the Oxfordshire Federation of WIs. I could find no mention of a possible prize received by the author but think that her recollections of the 1940s are of interest to us all.

A Reminiscent Walk around Deddington by Daphne Harper

Let us start at the top end of the village outside the Holcombe Hotel (previously Bolton's the Butchers). We walk down this side of the main road to just opposite Hudson Street where Compton's, fruiterer and fishmonger, offer their ware. A few doors down is the Congregational Church next to the garage run by Mr Horace Tibbits who is also the village blacksmith and shoes many local horses at the rear of his premises. (In later years the garage was taken over by Mr and Mrs Len Plumbe who did servicing on local cars as well as selling petrol and paraffin.)

Further down the road we reach Park Farm run by Mr John Bletsoe. He trains horses for steeple-chasing and flat racing, polo ponies and hunters. He also keeps ponies to give riding lessons to children and young people. Mr Stockford was head groom for many years, assisted by his son Dick and others, including at one time my father. Next door to Mr Bletsoe's farm is the Manor House, owned by Mr Roberts. This house has an interesting history, having its own ice house and dovecote. The grounds are used annually for the Conservative Party fête. We now reach Mrs Hore's farm.

News from Hempton

Well done to the five families who rode for St John's Church in aid of the Oxfordshire Historic Churches 'Ride or Stride' day. Between them they raised £658, half of which comes back to the Church. Thanks also to the people who sat in Church to welcome striders and to our organiser Pam Dodd and all who contributed to the refreshments.

Christmas is nearly here and services at St John's will be as follows: Eucharist services as usual on 7 and 21 December at 9.00am and also on Christmas Day at 9.00am. The Carol Service will be on Friday 19 December at 7.30pm with the Deddington Parish Church choir. This service will be followed by mulled wine, mince pies and sausage rolls. Let us hope for a good congregation with children taking part in some of the service. There will be no Evensong in December.

The Table Tennis team is now into the season. Once again they are playing in Division 2 of the Banbury and District League. Their record so far is disappointing with one League win from five games. They have however reached the second round of the cup with a close victory over Blessed George Napier.

Don't forget the Christmas Bazaar this weekend, Saturday 29 November from 11.00am. There will be all the usual stalls plus hot refreshments for people to enjoy. Please make this a family occasion. At 8.0pm after the Bazaar there will be a hat party and all you need is to bring a bottle and wear a hat!

As it is the end of the year, my thanks go to our regular team of distributors and to the people who helped when regulars were away.

Les Chappell, 338054

She sells milk and butter. Some people collect their milk (available twice daily) to enjoy a chat with Elsie Hore, others have their milk delivered by wooden truck. (This business was later taken over by Elsie's niece, Mrs Ivy Rainbow.) Let us cross the main road and make our way back to The Style where Mr Course the Baker has his shop and ovens. He very kindly allows villagers to bring their Sunday roasts to be cooked in his oven! Mr Course bakes good cottage loaves and stocks Oliver & Gurden's cakes made in Oxford, a great favourite with young and old.

The next instalment of Daphne's reminiscence will follow in the February 2009 issue. Daphne has lived all her life in Deddington. She was born in a cottage off St Thomas' Street which, together with another three or four, was demolished years ago. Two of these cottages faced the street just above Satin Lane, the others were built on ground now known as the Allotments. I wonder if a kind reader, in possession of a photograph of this long forgotten village quarter, would let us copy it to enhance Daphne's trip down memory lane in the next issue?

Ruth Johnson, 338355

WELL REMEMBERED**Sam Keys**

Sam was born in 1921 in Steeple Aston, one of six children, and attended Dr Radcliffe's School in the village. During the War he served in the Far East, later becoming a proud member of the Burma Star Association. Following the end of his first marriage Sam, who had a job on the railways, met Dot who was a working in the canteen at Oxford Station. They moved back from Oxford to Steeple Aston and married in 1954. They had three children, William, John and Pam. Sam worked as a local postman for getting on for 30 years, then in maintenance at the Heyford Base and finally for the Highways Department of the County Council. He and Dot came to Deddington at the end of the seventies and were among the earliest members of the Windmill Club. In his youth Sam was an able footballer; he enjoyed Aunt Sally and later on he became a keen bowls player. He went to whist drives; he played dominoes and bingo. He gardened and was a fine cook. And he cared for Dot in her ill-health with exemplary devotion.

HW**DEDDINGTON FARMERS' MARKET**

In March 2003 Deddington Farmers' Market became the first farmers' market in the county to be awarded Certified Farmers' Market status. The award reflects the high standard of the local produce on offer, the knowledge of those selling it and the management of the market. In October inspectors visited it once again to check whether this recognition should be continued. The Market Management Group is pleased to say that the market passed with flying colours and the Certified Farmers' Market emblem denoting this level of excellence can still be used. The inspectors' report stated what a vibrant market Deddington is.

The Group has received lots of letters from the recipients of the donations we handed out in September. It has been interesting to hear of the many different uses to which the money is being put. No

Ian Pauling

Ian was a member of a Chipping Norton farming family which came to Ilbury Farm, Hempton in the early forties. Ian went to Barford Junior School and then to the old Windmill School in Deddington, where he became heavily involved in the school farm, looking after pigs and sheep and growing vegetables. In 1959 Ian married Ann, daughter of the landlord of the George, Barford. They had two children, Linda and Stephen, and grandchildren followed in due course. Ian worked hard at Ilbury; there were tough times, but a difficult parcel of land was turned into a fine farm. Country sports offered relaxation. In his younger days Ian enjoyed fishing and entered competitions. He did some shooting, though what he liked particularly was beating, which gave him a good chance to observe the wildlife and in particular where foxes might be. Hunting was his great love. He rode to hounds as a child, but in later life preferred to work with the terriers. Hunts were invited to Ilbury and there was also a regular shoot there. Representing a traditional way of life rooted in the land, Ian commanded the respect and affection of his neighbours in the country community, as the large numbers attending his funeral made clear.

HW

doubt villagers will hear of their exploits and activities through the Deddington News in due course.

Don't forget that our market in December will be held a week earlier than usual on Saturday 20 December. It promises to be a very busy one with lots of extra stalls. Of course children will not need reminding that Father Christmas will be making his usual visit to the Town Hall that morning. Also present on the green, if the weather is kind, will be Owls Galore making a last visit before winter sets in.

**Geoff Todd, 338532****Warriner Choral Society**

unlocks

A BOX OF DELIGHTSfull of the joy, magic and mystery
of Christmas**Saturday 13th December 2008****St Mary's Church****Bloxham****7.30 pm**

Tickets £8.00 (£7.00 concessions) from
Hamptons International Deddington
One Man Band Banbury Bloxham Post Office
Jenny on 01295 721224 or on the door

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Market Place, Deddington,
Oxon, OX15 0SE

T/f: 01869 338832 M: 07789714776

E: amanda@theflowershopdeddington.com

Christmas baskets, table arrangements, wreaths, and hostesses are available to order. All our decorations, charity cards, toys, gifts and jewellery are now in stock for Christmas!

AN ACCOUNT OF THOSE SENTENCED TO BE TRANSPORTED FROM DEDDINGTON TO THE COLONIES

This is a further extract from Rob Forsyth's article, the full version of which can be found on Deddington OnLine at <http://www.deddington.org.uk/history/articles>.

1838 9th July. Thomas DEELEY (18), William FLINT (18) and John SPICER (21). The Rev Cotton Risley's diary records that he attended the Assizes at Oxford where he 'had 8 prisoners for trial, 5 were convicted and 3 acquitted; 4 of them were transported for 15 years, 3 for highway robbery on the person of Mr. Merry of Deddington Mill and stealing from him in notes, gold and silver upwards of £200. They were young men from 18-21 years of age, all of Adderbury East.' They were Thomas Deeley, William Flint and John Spicer. All three were charged with assaulting William Merry and taking £220 – a huge amount of money in those days. Deeley and Flint were sent to Hobart for 15 years where both seem to have been trouble-makers. Deeley's final fate is not known. Flint died in 1845 (cause unknown) still serving his sentence.

The Rev Cotton Risley's diary tells us that the other (fourth) prisoner was convicted of sheep stealing but we don't know his name or punishment.

Diary entries relating to these events, by courtesy of Buffy Heywood, follow:

12th July 'a charge of embezzlement against D.C. Newton, our policeman, who had appropriated to his own use £40 belonging to Mrs. Merry of Deddington Mill being part of the money stolen. He was discharged.'

14th July 'Man from Adderbury came with petition for mitigation of sentence of 15 years transportation on his son - was obliged from a painful sense of duty to withhold my signature, the petition not having embodied in it a true statement of facts.' We do not know who this was but it will have been one of those sentenced on 9 July from Adderbury.

16th July 'attended a meeting at the Town Hall to appoint a new policeman.'

Rob Forsyth, 338384

FAREWELL

On behalf of the community, DN sends our good wishes to

Carol, Joy and Brian Putland of the Unicorn as they move on to new pastures.

They have been enthusiastic contributors to the life of the parish and we thank them for their commitment.

GREEN PIECE

Budget airlines increased air travel. Expensive oil and the

credit crunch have curbed it. Airlines claim that their carbon emissions are a small part of the total, ignoring the effect of high level radiative forcing which does probably three times more damage to the atmosphere than carbon emissions. Short-haul flights are the most damaging. Eleven per cent of the population make 50% of all flights. Airline research shows that 75% of cheap flights are made by those in A and B income groups. Parliament has agreed to increase the UK's emissions reduction target from 60% to 80% by 2050, with a commitment to



'have regard to' the contributions of aviation and shipping to UK emissions, yet air travel on current trends is doubling every 15 years. If the 80% emissions target is to be

met, reduced air travel is essential. The LowFly-Zone <http://www.lowflyzone.org/> suggests pledges for individuals to reduce flights as well as alternative leisure options.

Christopher Hall, 338225

Deddington Youth Group

Advent Window Installation
as part of Oxford Inspires 'Winter Light 2008'
at Deddington Police Station, Deddington
15 December at 6pm onwards

For more information, visit
www.oxfordinspires.org/Listings/events2008.html

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CALLING ALL CLUBS

1st Deddington Guides

Never have so much popcorn and so many crisps and chocolate biscuits been consumed in so short a space of time as at our recent cinema evening. For once junior and senior guides parted company to enjoy different films – a great success all round. We saw some amazing costumes for our Hallowe'en evening and had a lot of fun bobbing for apples and so on.

Maisie gave a talk about Fairtrade producers and entertained the other Guides with a quiz. The prize, shared by many with the correct answers, was, you guessed, Fairtrade chocolate.

Captain Ted Johnson visited again at the invitation of the Guides. He talked about his experiences in the War, which intrigued the Guides and helped them understand a little more about what life was like at that time. It also helps us focus on the true significance of Poppy Day. Ted was inundated with questions afterwards and well deserved his tea and biscuits. Thank you Ted.

Maggie Rampley, 01295 810068

Marian Trinder, 01869 340806

1st Deddington Brownies

Five new Brownies were enrolled during the last month. We welcome them to the pack and hope they enjoy their time with us. The Brownies marched and attended the church service on Remembrance Sunday looking very smart and doing the pack and themselves credit. They made poppies at the previous Brownie meeting and talked about the meaning of the occasion, so they all understood why it was important to be there.

On an entirely different note, the girls made pumpkin lanterns for Hallowe'en and some very sticky orange biscuits, which they much enjoyed. Thank you to everyone who supported our fund-raising for the Hearing Dogs in the summer. £60 was raised.

Lucy Squires, 338442

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

We have three new Cubs - Harry, Nick and Alfie - who replace those who have moved on to Scouts.

We have been very busy; we took our 'guys' to the last market day and collected (with gusto) £185 that has been sent to Farm Africa. Next year we may base the guys on local characters!

Six of the boys achieved their Silver Award and one went to the ceremony to receive his certificate and special woggle: well done to all of them. As a topic for Remembrance Day the Cubs became evacuees for the evening. We looked at rations, spotted enemy aircraft, played games with cigarette cards and watched part of the Battle of Britain; all this while diving into the shelter when the siren went off.

Chrissie's Owls from Woodstock visited and

brought three of their rescued owls; it was a very enjoyable evening especially as she allowed the beautiful birds to fly around the room.

For Children in Need the Windmill hosted the Cub district event, which was an indoor campfire sing song. Sausages and cake added to the atmosphere and we raised approximately £500.

Jo Churchyard, 338071

jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

Three Cubs - Nathan, Josh and Sean - moved on to Scouts and we hope they'll have a great time.

This year the district-wide game at Horley campsite coincided with Children in Need, so the Scouts were set the task of hunting for Pudsey body parts that had been cunningly hidden around the site. The winning team was the first to reconstruct their bear; at least there was no flour this year!

For the rest of the term the Scouts will be practising core scouting skills, lots of knots, pioneering and fire-lighting as well as working on their own projects.

Thanks to everyone who came to the Remembrance Day Parade, it was a good turn out.

Pete Churchyard, 338071

1st Barford and Deddington Rainbows

The Rainbows continue to run at maximum capacity with 18 girls. We have had a busy programme and over the last year have visited lambs, alpacas, the Castle Grounds and the Fire Station and have had visits from the ambulance service and our pets.

We would like to say thank you very much to the Deddington Farmers' Market Committee for their recent generous donation. We bought red raincoats for parades and outdoor activities. We didn't need them for the Remembrance Day parade, but I'm sure it won't be long before we do!

In the last few weeks the girls have enjoyed Hedgehog's mini-Olympics (Hedgehog is our Young Leader who is also working towards her Baden Powell trefoil) and making Deddington pudding pies to coincide with the Pudding Pie Fair. Sandi Turner from Barford very kindly came to help make Christmas decorations; beautiful angels that will be returned fired and ready to display at our Christmas party. We're looking forward to making Christmas fairies with Rabbit and a cinema night at Squirrel's house, complete with popcorn, before our party on 12 December.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all the Rainbows and everyone who has helped and supported us over the year.

Hazel Neal (Squirrel), 337822

Gillian Colmer (Rabbit)

Deddington Badminton Club

We are having a mixed season so far with all teams getting some good competitive badminton.

CALLING MORE CLUBS

Our Tuesday club nights are well attended with some old and new members. We have a good number of juniors who are hopefully getting some enjoyment. Oliver Tindale and Max Watling recently played in our Men's B team at Cramic and performed really well, well done boys! Our last club night of the year is Tuesday 23 December. We start again on 6 January, pausing for the Pantomime. For latest team results see www.btbl.org.uk

Mark Tyler, 338056

Deddington and District History Society

At our November meeting Dr Joanne Bailey spoke to a large audience about expectations and experiences of marriage in Georgian England, using evidence culled from an astonishingly wide range of sources that included paintings, court cases and newspapers. There are clearly huge differences with modern expectations and experiences, but we were left feeling that in some respects human nature has changed hardly at all.

On 10 December Tim Healey, the well-known writer, broadcaster and director of the Oxford Waits is going to talk to us about 'Sex, drink and death in the 17th century', following which we shall enjoy seasonal refreshments. We will provide drinks and some food, but contributions from members will be welcome if they feel so inclined. Please let Moira Byast know if you think you will be in a position to contribute something edible, however small. This is likely to prove a very popular evening, with a well-known, lively speaker and with delicious refreshments to follow.

Our meetings take place at the Windmill Centre at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of each month from September to May. All are welcome.

Chris Day (Chairman), 337204

Moira Byast (Secretary), 338637

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team Results:

- 18.10.08 Fenny Compton (a) L 1-5 Kaye
- 25.10.08 Souldern (h) (Banbury Charity Cup)
W 11-0 Davies, Bradford, Flemming J, Laird, Kaye (4), Large (2), own goal
- 01.11.08 Cropredy Reserves (h) W 5-2
Shepherd, Waddelow, Hall (2), Large
- 08.11.08 Heyford Athletic(h) W 3-1 Laird, Davies, Flemming S
- 15.11.08 Heyford Athletic (h) Coronation Cup
W 8-1 Hewitt, own goals (2), Kaye (3), Large, Davies

Reserve Team Results:

- 18.10.08 Drayton Village Reserves (h) W 8-1 Hall (4), Rollason, Spencer, Ayckbourn (2)
- 25.10.08 Bodicote Sports Reserves (a) W 5-2
Tustain K, Rollason, Hall, Ayckbourn (2)

Overpowering the pungent aroma of Deep Heat and homoerotic sounds of wet-towel whipping this month is the smell of victory and raucous celebration!

The First Team have picked up some good habits from the Reserves and a hat trick of defeats has been followed by some superb victories. A veritable avalanche of goals for the cups was helped in some measure by atrocious Souldern and Heyford Athletic teams. Jordan Kaye is far and away the top scorer, whilst young defender Jack Davies has grabbed three goals in four games. Progress has been made in two cups and we have a mid-table position in Division One at the moment.

The Reserves have been hanging their boots up for nearly a month, due to a combination of fixture clashes and two postponements. Before this they continued their 100% winning run with two momentous second-half comebacks. After nearly an hour trailing against Drayton Village Reserves, Deddington responded with pieces of eight, Simon Hall running riot with four goals and co-manager Timmy J Spencer notching his first of the campaign. With a partisan away following against Bodicote a shocking first half was remedied brilliantly with target man Mike Ayckbourn bagging his second brace with two carbon copy chips. Sam Rollason continued his scoring form and centre-back Kevin Tustain scored from a halfway line free kick. Knocked off the top on goal difference, the Reserves have yet to drop a point.

Hopefully all attendees to our games realise the debt we owe to club sponsor Richard Spencer. A true gent who is never miserly when kits and other paraphernalia need to be purchased. Finally both teams would like to thank Club President Cliff Smith for his tea-making abilities; these go down a storm at half-time when half of the Reserves have become reluctant First Team cheerleaders! Merry Christmas!

75 Club Winners

24/10/08	J. Tustain	£100
31/10/08	M. Walker	£50
07/11/08	A. Shepherd	£50

Aaron Bliss, 07909 642882

Deddington Players

Rehearsals have begun for *Captain Hook's Revenge*. We have a cast of over 30, including lots of new faces, so this year's production promises to be better than ever. We will be on stage on 22, 23 and 24 January 2009. There is no Deddington News in January so make sure the dates are in your diary now!

Lucy Squires, 338442

Youth Club

We have had no response to our plea for a new treasurer and other committee members. We need to fill the post of treasurer as soon as possible. Please contact Maureen Forsyth on 338384 if you feel you can give a little time to this very worthwhile facility for the young people of Deddington.

In November some of our members have become involved with the Oxford Inspires 'Winter Light 2008' project, which aims to engage young people in the production of the Deddington Advent window installation. They were taught to produce images on photo-sensitive paper and then helped create an armature for, and then build, a sculpture. The unveiling of the finished work will be on Monday 15 December at 6pm at the Police Office in the Market Place. Our last meeting of the term is also on 15 December when the A team from the ActiveTen20 organisation will come, bringing, as always, exciting and challenging physical activities that will help make a fun pre-Christmas evening. We start again in the New Year after the Pantomime is over.

Happy Christmas from us all.

Pam Axten, 337919

Book Club

At our October meeting we discussed *Shakespeare - The World as a Stage* by Bill Bryson and here is our review. A good in-a-nutshell view of Shakespeare, which weaves together what little is known about his life into an informative account. The book also features some very good descriptions of Elizabethan and Jacobean England and of Elizabeth and James themselves. Bryson points out what a huge debt we owe to Heminges and Condell who, after Shakespeare's death, printed a folio edition of his complete works. Without their efforts, most of the plays would have been lost. We also found it interesting that we can thank Shakespeare for so many of our most common phrases today ('one fell swoop', 'foregone conclusion' and many others). The book is written in Bryson's trademark natural and sometimes droll style and forms a very readable biography.

The next book is *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak and the next meeting 29 January. Please note that there is no meeting in December.

Sally Lambert, 338094

WI

During our business meeting on 11 November President Beryl Suckling gave a short report on the laying of the poppy wreath on behalf of our WI at the parish church memorial on Sunday 9 November.

It was appropriate on our meeting's special date that our speaker, Adrian Williams, showed us his photographs of the many monuments and statues to be found in London, of which he said there were more than in any other large city. Adrian's special interest is in photographing them to their best advantage, but a little potted history with each of them created even more interest. Many commemorated war heroes and battles won (or lost) and women's efforts during these times of crisis were also depicted in sculpture. Not all were of such a serious nature and there were many more light-hearted moments. Lillian Curnow gave Adrian a vote of thanks and members applauded warmly.

Our Christmas dinner is at the Unicorn, 7pm for 7.30pm on 9 December.

On 13 January 2009 Graham Soden will speak on 'Wildlife in Four Counties in Four Seasons'.

Rene Mahony, 338438

Colts

Another month of league and cup matches for the nine junior and mini football teams. As always there have been highs and lows with the U11 'Cougars' on a great run at the moment. Mini football is now being played at the Castle Grounds and being enjoyed by all involved, so please come along on Saturday mornings to watch the stars of the future.

One request from the club is to ask all dog walkers at the Castle Grounds and the Windmill Centre to clear up their dog's mess as we have noticed that a small minority are not doing so. Please could you help us with this as it is a serious health risk to the children and spoils an otherwise enjoyable time.

Mike Watling, 337310

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Matthew Bishop of Deddington

Brian Carter, erstwhile Deddingtonian, has now written three publications with Deddington connections. His latest is *Matthew Bishop of Deddington in Oxfordshire – A forgotten voice from the 18th century*.

Matthew Bishop was born in Deddington and his autobiographical foray covers a decade of his life, from 1701 to 1711. Being 'of a rambling disposition' he joins the Navy in 1702, during the War of Spanish Succession, seeing action in Spain and Gibraltar and later proves to be a wily press gang operator in Ireland.

He marries in 1706 but deems that his Queen commands his duty and that his wife must accept neglect and off he goes to join the Army, subsequently fighting at Oudenard, 1708 and Malplaquet, 1709. His army career ends in 1711 with an expedition to New England and Canada.

Brian Carter has brought this colourful person to life with fluency and scholarship, testing the accuracy of Matthew's accounts, for the vigorous narrative is often short on historical detail and long on self-congratulation. Brian also seeks to verify the Deddington connection as Bishop is noticeably absent from other historical records. He finds a Matthew Bishop mentioned in the parochial records as being baptised on 16 September 1683 and there is a possible reference to a daughter, 1714, and son 1715, born and baptised in Deddington. After which, Bishops disappear from the parish records.

The final section of Brian's study deals with Matthew's place in the literary genre of Life and Adventures. This is a fascinating addition to Deddington's history.

Kristin Thompson

Copies available at The Flower Shop, Market Place, Deddington

HERE AND THERE

Several people locally and in Tasmania have been intrigued enough to try to discover the origins of Deddington, Tasmania. Although we spent three weeks there in September and October, I'm sorry to tell you I'm unable to enlighten you!

Some information has already been researched and published in DN (Dec 1983, May and June 1999, and March 2001) and on Deddington OnLine, so I won't repeat it here. Our daughters, Claire and Rachel (late of this parish, now living in



A wombat (approx 60 cm long) grazing in Cradle Mt NP

Auckland NZ and Perth WA respectively) joined us on our visit and Terence Talbot (our DOL contact) was our excellent local guide. Deddington covers quite an extensive rural area bounded by the River Nile on its north-western side. Although there appear to be few houses and the post

office and village hall are no longer in use, new homes have been built recently and there are some young families living in the area. The Black-boy inn (possibly named after grass trees, previously black boy trees?) burned down in 1980. The most striking thing about the area, which applies to most of Tasmania, is the quiet. There are no international flights so access is usually from Melbourne, either by domestic flight or ferry – considerably easier than the journeys made by the transportees written about by Rob Forsyth in recent months.

The Nile Chapel, Deddington was opened for worship in 1841. In Tasmanian terms, this is an old building, of which the locals are justifiably proud, as the island was only colonised in 1803–04 by the British. The chapel was built on land given by Robert Pitcairn, the owner of Nile Farm, and was built by local settlers. It was thought to have been designed by John Glover (18 Feb 1767 – 9 December 1849), a successful landscape artist who was born in Leicestershire and arrived (after a five-month journey) in 1831 at the age of 64. He had acquired a large area of land at Mills Plain, Deddington, calling it Patterdale after a farm he had owned near its namesake in the Lake District. He and his wife are buried at the chapel. More information on the chapel and Deddington, Tasmania is available on Deddington Online, <http://www.deddington.org.uk/tasmania>.

There have been a number of suggestions that John Glover was responsible for naming the area Deddington although other people researching this have found no evidence and the name seems to have been in use during the 1820s, before John Glover arrived there.

Tasmania is sometimes described as a stray piece of punctuation at the end of Australia. Now one of the seven states of Australia, it is about the size of Ireland with a population of less than half a million, so driving on the roads is a pleasure. The greatest hazard is after dusk when most of the wildlife comes out. Many of them are marsupials so are unfamiliar to us in England, the most common being wallabies and pademelons (much smaller wallabies).

We saw our first wombats in Deddington, unfortunately three of them, killed by the huge logging trucks that are the only significant traffic in the area. However, I expect that the industry also provides valuable income for some of the families living in the area.

We were surprised to discover the depth of influence of transportees on the life and culture of Tasmania. Apart from Port Arthur (on the SE of the island) which is the most visited historic site in the state and was a convict settlement from 1833 until 1877, there are several other penal settlements around the island. The most harsh was reputed to be on Sarah Island, Macquarie harbour, on the inhospitable west coast, but all over the island are bridges built by convicts (Richmond, Ross and Swansea were some we came across), and there was also a women's convict factory at Ross, now an attractive Georgian settlement. Most of the penal settlements were established to accommodate people who had been transported but had re-offended in Australia.

There are also some extremely attractive aspects of the island. Forty per cent of Tasmania is a World Heritage Site covering the whole of the south-west,

much of it being fairly inaccessible. There are extensive cool and temperate rain forests, although the east is in almost constant drought. In the areas we visited boardwalkways are laid down (some in a better state



Echidna burrowing for ants

of repair than others!) in order to protect the environment. The wildlife is abundant and in the Cradle Mountain National Park in particular we saw quite a number of (live) wombats (they have backward facing pouches for their young!) and on our way to Strahan on the wild west coast, we saw an echidna, a cousin of the platypus. Although it looks similar to our hedgehog, it is a monotreme, laying eggs and suckling its young.

Although we didn't make any progress on discovering the origins of our parish namesake, we thoroughly enjoyed our visit.

Jill Cheeseman