

June Diary

Diary for July on page 15

Sun	6	Sixtieth Anniversary of D-Day	► p.8
Mon	7	Monday Morning Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10am-noon.	► p.11
Mon	7	Deddington Colts: Committee meeting, Deddington Arms, 8.00pm.	► p.11
Tue	8	WI: Visit to Tooley's Boatyard. Departure, 7.00 pm.	► p.12
Wed	9	Babies and Toddlers: Visit to Millets Farm.	► p.10
Wed	9	History Society: Visit to Banbury Museum and Tooley's Boatyard.	► p.10
Thurs	10	European Election: polling day.	
Sun	13	Cricket Club: Family Softball Tournament, Windmill Centre.	
Sun	13	Tea@3 & Hempton Treasure Hunt, 43 St Johns Way, 2.00~5.30 pm.	► p.3
Tue	15	Windmill Thursday Club: AGM, Windmill Centre, 6.00 pm.	
Tue	15	Boys' Brigade: Oxfordshire Battalion AGM, Parish Church, 7.30 pm	► p.11
Wed	16	Parish Council Meeting: Town Hall, 7.45 pm	► p.2
Fri	18	Deddington Pre-School: Ladies' Pamper Night, Brick Court.	► p.4
Sat	19	WI: Cake Stall in Market Place.	► p.12
Sat	19	Primary School PTA: Annual Summer Fête, 2.00 ~ 5.00 pm	► insert
Sat	19	Villages Open Gardens: 2.00 ~ 6.00 pm.	► p.9
Sat	19	Deddington Colts: Annual awards, Windmill Centre, 6.45 pm.	► p.11
Sun	20	Villages Open Gardens, 2.00 ~ 6.00 pm.	► p.9
Tue	22	Copy Date for July <i>Deddington News</i> .	
Tue	22	History Society host a visit by South Newington History Society.	
Thu	24	Deddington Book Group.	► p.11
Fri	25	Deddington Festival: John Cheney 'Poetry Please', Unicorn Inn, 7.30 pm	► p.12
Sat	26	Deddington Farmers' Market: 9 am~12.30 pm.	
Sat	26	Deddington Festival: Craft & Art Exhibition, Town Hall, 11.00~4.00 pm	► p.12
Sat	26	Deddington Festival: Concert, Parish Church, 7.30 pm	► p.12
Sun	27	Deddington Festival: <i>Dido and Aeneas</i> : Purcell's Opera, Parish Church, 6.00 pm.	► p.12
Mon	28	History Society: Guided tour of Chalgrove.	► p.10
Mon	28	Deddington Colts: AGM, Deddington Arms, 8.00pm.	► p.11
Wed	30	BB/GB: annual display, Windmill Centre, 6.00pm	► p.11
Wed	30	'Iraq': Sir Andrew Green, Parish Church, 8.00 pm	► p.5

Weekly Meetings

Mondays:	Brownies: Windmill Centre, 6-7.30 pm
Mondays:	Youth Club: Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm
Tuesdays:	Deddington Guides: Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm ► p.12
Wednesdays:	Babies & Toddlers Group: Windmill Centre, 9.30-11 am ► p.10
Every other Wednesday:	Friendship Club: Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm.
Wednesdays:	Anchor Boys: Deddington School, 3.15 pm ► p.11
Wednesdays:	1st Deddington Girls' Brigade Explorers: Parish Church, 3.30 pm ► p.10
Wednesdays:	Boys Brigade: Windmill Centre, 5.30 pm. ► p.11
Thursdays:	Life & Portrait Art Group: Town Hall, 10-12.30 & 1.30-4 pm.
Thursdays:	1st Deddington Cubs: Windmill Centre, 6-7.30 pm
Thursdays:	1st Deddington Scouts: Windmill Centre, 7.30-9 pm
Fridays:	Coffee morning in aid of Katharine House: Parish Church, 10~12
Fridays:	Babies & Toddlers Group: Windmill Centre, 9.30 -11 am ► p.10
Fridays:	Deddington Friendly Bridge Club: Holly Tree, 2-5 pm.

THE DEDDINGTON NEWS - Copy please to the relevant editor by next copy date: **22 June**

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Meeting and AGM in Town Hall - 21 May 2004

PRESENT: Cllrs Flux (Chair), Alton, Ellis, Harvey, Haslam, Rollason, Squires, Swash, Todd, Watts, Westley, Wood, D/Cllr O'Sullivan, the Clerk, the Minutes Secretary and 4 members of the public.

OPPORTUNITIES TO JOIN PROJECT TEAMS**Opportunity 1 - Parking Policy**

PC to set up a project team of councillors and parishioners to develop a transport and parking policy that is socially responsible, environmentally friendly and commercially viable. Some groundwork, such as traffic surveys, has been done, and a new impetus is needed.

PARISHIONERS INTERESTED IN JOINING THIS PROJECT TEAM ARE INVITED TO CONTACT THE CLERK, GRAHAM PITTS, ON 337447.

Opportunity 2 - Village Plan

PC to set up a project team of councillors and parishioners to update the Parish Appraisals of 1994 and 2000. Objectives - a new survey of the views of all residents of Deddington, Clifton and Hempton on local issues, leading to revised priorities and a new Action Plan.

PARISHIONERS INTERESTED IN JOINING THIS PROJECT, WHICH HAS A TARGET DATE FOR COMPLETION OF MAY 2005, ARE INVITED TO CONTACT THE CLERK 337447.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Grass-cutting programme will continue to be monitored. Projected saving of £2,000 may not be realised - it depends on the weather.
- Student grants to continue as before, subject to PC compliance with financial guidelines.
- Vandalisation of Cricket Pavilion at Windmill Centre will cost £600 to repair. The pavilion is insured.

PLANNING

PC no objection

- (i) The Olive Restaurant, Market Place - retrospective application to erect 2 externally illuminated signs. (ii) Little Hardres Cottage, High Street - remove existing extension and erect new single-storey extension. (iii) Featherton House, Chapel Square - replace existing north facing window with emergency fire escape door. (iv) Dragon House, Bull Ring - erect detached double garage. (v) Tawney Cottage, High Street - conservatory to the rear.

PLANNING

CDC approvals

- (vi) Co-op Foodstore and 4 Market Place - halo illuminated fascia sign and non-illuminated Post Office sign. CDC denies having received letters of objection from PC and parishioners. D/Cllr O'Sullivan undertook to investigate. (vii) Maunds Farm House, High Street - alterations to provide office and new garage. (viii) Eaton House, New Street - single storey extension and 2.2 metre high wall. (ix) Park Farm, New Street - alterations to existing house and conversion of stables to 1 dwelling. (x) No 13 Gaveston Gardens - 2-storey extension to East end and conservatory to West. (xi) No 8 Walnut Close, Clifton - 1st floor extension over dining room and

garage. (xii) St Anne's Residential Home, Clifton - renewal of existing permission to build 12-bedroom high-dependency wing. (xiii) Land adjacent to and NE of 1 The Maunds, High Street - erection of 1 dwelling.

PLANNING

CDC refusal (xiv) Holcombe Hotel, High Street - canopy over restaurant entrance.

PC expressed concern that CDC, having invited PC comments on planning applications, never seem to take any notice. D/Cllr O'Sullivan asked to be kept informed of any applications which PC felt should be referred to CDC Planning Committee, rather than officials.

HEMPTON STONEPITS

After 2 years PC has still not been registered as owners of the Stonepits, though they have been collecting rents for many years. PC's solicitors are not achieving results. PC to establish the procedure for making an Official Complaint.

LIME COTTAGE

Occupant, who has 3 small children, wants damaged grass verge outside house made into official parking space. It seems she bought the house on the assurance that this would be done. Neighbours may have views. Working Group to establish facts and report back.

PLAY HARD

CDC will fund 25% of cost of improvements to all-weather hard play court at Windmill Centre, not 50%. PC to fund remaining 75% by combination of grant and interest-free loan.

PARISH FINANCES

Invoices passed for payment totalled £7,918.49, including £1,003.92 imprest, chiefly stewards' wages; £2,923.52 annual insurance premium; £2,492.19 grasscutting.

Investments totalled £579,314.19, of which £15,054.34 Barclays (£951.64 imprest + £14,102.70 current) @ 0.1%; £1,000 Bradford & Bingley @ 2.35% on 120 days; £564,259.85 West Bromwich @ 4% overnight.

Annual accounts for the year to March 2004, which are in line with PC forecasts, have been sent to the Internal Auditor.

At this point the Chairman vacated the chair and the Clerk presided over the first business of the AGM - to elect a Chairman.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Cllrs Flux, Chairman, and Squires, Vice-chairman, were re-elected unopposed.

The structure and members of PC Working Groups will remain essentially unchanged. Full details in next month's Deddington News.

NEXT PC MEETING

Wednesday 16 June, Town Hall, 7.45pm

Please note that PC meetings now start at 7.45pm.

*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*

Annual Parish Meeting, Windmill Centre, 5 May 2004

About 30 parishioners attended this meeting, at the Windmill Centre. Chairman Jim Flux reminded us that our questions, comments and suggestions would be welcome, but no executive decisions could be taken. Matters requiring further consideration would be referred to the next Parish Council meeting, for action as necessary. He then gave a short report on the year's activities, all of which had been covered in Deddington News and on the parish website.

Working Groups - Planning, Environment & Recreation, Highways, Finance & General Purposes - carried out most of the work, supported by enthusiastic volunteers on a number of occasions. Results of collaboration with County and District Councils were good on the whole, though sometimes rather slow.

The Clifton footpath is still on the County Council's programme. PC and the residents of Clifton have done their part but still await progress. Work on the Hempton footpath gap was finished, but markings and signage still need to be improved. 30mph markings have been put down at the entrances to the 3 villages of the parish, and now the County Council has to complete the promised traffic calming measures.

As a result of an open meeting arranged by PC, followed by a detailed submission to the County Council, plans to open a travellers' transit camp, on the Milton Road triangle, were put on hold pending an all-county review of the need for, and location of, such sites.

At the end of April 2004 the PC had funds of £525,000.

The policy is to keep the level of reserves above £450,000, gradually increasing the precept to achieve a balanced budget.

Points from the floor included:

- the proposed Bankside development in Banbury could affect Deddington and other villages in the area. PC should unite with Adderbury and others to exert maximum influence;
- installing CCTV cameras at the Windmill Centre complex and other places to detect/deter vandalism could be more cost-effective than repairing the damage after the event;
- Deddington Police Office, in the Market Place, is not, nor does it carry out the functions of, a Police Station;
- development of the vicarage site in Earls Lane is expected to go out to tender very soon;
- PC should secure parking facilities for the parish;
- Co-op and contractors should be officially thanked for their efficient work and helpful attitude during the months of upheaval.

David Fisher, Community Development Worker, ORCC, spoke by invitation about **Village Action Plans**, also known as Parish Appraisals, Community Health Checks etc. He cited Brightwell-cum-Sotwell as an example. That village was faced with serious problems - shop closure, pub burnt down, social unrest, vandalism, high price of housing and so on.

A steering committee was set up, the whole community consulted, ideas and aspirations developed in a 'wish list', leading to a 2-year Action Plan.

Cllr Flux referred to Deddington's Parish Appraisal of 1994, updated in 2000. PC is using this as a basis for further study and action.

D/Cllr O'Sullivan said that Deddington is seen as proactive and progressive, a potential model for other Cherwell villages.



Reg. Charity No: 297099

**Tea@3 and
Hempton Treasure Hunt**
Sunday 13th June, 2pm - 5.30pm

'Stretford End',
45 St John's Way, Hempton
(Home of Les & Sue Lane)

Admission £2, children £1
Home-made cakes, cream teas

Treasure Hunt: £1 per entry

Hospice stall and plants for sale
Lots of fun - everyone warmly welcome

All proceeds to Katharine House

AS FROM 10 MAY 2004 THE DEDDINGTON HEALTH CENTRE WILL NO LONGER BE OFFERING A ROUTINE **DISPENSARY SERVICE ON SATURDAY MORNINGS.**

NEW HOURS : MON - FRI 8.30 AM - 6.00 PM

ALSO: DELIVERING OUT OF HOURS SERVICES IN CHERWELL VALE PCT

Notice to all Patients as of 1 April 2004

Patients are kindly reminded that the Cherwell Vale PCT provides emergency out of hours medical care to the patients of doctors who belong to the service.

From 1 April 2004 if you or a family member has a medical condition that cannot wait until your surgery is open, please help us to operate a fair and efficient service for all patients by following these simple steps :

- Ring your normal surgery number.
- If your surgery is closed, your call will be either diverted or you will be given a number to ring the call centre.
- Once you are through to the call centre, the operator will ask for the following information:

The patient's name, address, date of birth and contact number - The name of the patient's doctor - Brief details of the medical condition of the patient.

- The operator will request that you hang up and wait for a doctor to ring you on the contact number you have provided.
- The doctor will advise you, and, if necessary, ask you to attend the Primary Care Centre at The Physiotherapy Department, Horton Hospital, Banbury or arrange a home visit if appropriate.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION

It hardly seems possible that we are heading with such pace towards the summer holidays. This term the children have been involved in a number of activities, both educational and social and we have welcomed a number of visitors to our school. Nine new children have joined our Reception class and they are off to a flying start.

Once again we have had the pleasure of a performance and workshop by Brass Bits. The performance was very well received by the children and the workshop certainly extended their musical knowledge and understanding. The Life Education Mobile Classroom was in residence for a week in April. All the children took part in an interactive demonstration covering various themes, such as 'Friends' and 'Safe use of Drugs'. We have welcomed the expertise of a visiting musician from a partnership primary school, who has been leading years 5 and 6 through a spine tingling performance of 'Jonah Man Jazz', during the older children's Expressive Arts Days. The children in year 4 visited Hill End in the week of 24 May, and are sure to stock up on some wonderful experiences and memories. The staff are running a number of after school clubs and it is on this note that I end with a request for help! If there are any gardeners out there with time to spare please contact Miss Sampson at the school, as we would very much like to re-start our Wildlife Garden club. It has had to be put on a back burner until suitable expertise has been recruited.

Can I take this opportunity to thank all of those who

are supporting me in my term as Acting Headteacher, the school is a hive of activity and there is no shortage of things to do. Your support is much appreciated.

Susan Lenihan 338430

VACANCY - Clerk to the Governors of School

This could be the role for you to support your local primary school. It involves agenda preparation, minute taking and other administrative tasks. The Governors meet between 6 to 8 times a year, mostly in the evenings. Access to a computer would be necessary. This role is currently carried out on a voluntary basis, however expenses could be considered, if required.

To find out more, please contact the current Clerk, Mrs Jackie Mahon - 338930.



Deddington Pre-School

Thank you to all those who supported us for our Annual Fashion Show, especially who gave up their time to help us set up and close down, Kristin, Ruth and John from the Church. The children who took part had a wonderful time and looked lovely in all the Wardrobe Wizard outfits chosen for them. The Co-op donated the wine for the evening.

Thanks to Peppers for hosting our Wine and Cheese tasting evening and to Foodies for the wonderful cheese. This was a very successful event for us and we will be holding another event before Christmas. Thank you to all those who supported this event.

Our next fundraiser is on Friday 18 June and will be a PAMPER NIGHT for ladies. Tickets are available from Pre-school. The evening is being hosted by Rachel O'Connell at Brick Court, with thanks to Nick Westbury for the donation of wine. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Don't forget the EIGHTIES NIGHT on Saturday 10 July at the Windmill; music to be provided by the Blue Meanies; Fish and Chip supper included in the ticket price. Tickets are £15 per head, £25 for two if bought before 1 July.

Julie Westley 338 964

Callum from the Pre-School cuts the ribbon to open the new Village Store on 14 May 2004



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

Parish Church in June

Wed	2	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	3	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sun	6	10.30 am	Morning Praise
		6.30 pm	Choral Evensong
Wed	9	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	10	6.30 pm	CORPUS CHRISTI Eucharist
Fri	11	6.30 pm	ST BARNABAS Eucharist
Sun	13	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist, Baptism & Childrens Church
Wed	16	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thu	17	2.00 pm	Squeals and Wheels
Sat	19	7.00 pm	Midsummer Wine & Cheese Party, Leadenporch Farm
Sun	20	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30 am	Songs of Praise (Brass Bits)
Wed	23	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	27	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist and Children`s Church
		6.00 pm	Purcell`s Dido and Aeneas
Wed	30	10.00 am	Eucharist



For Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, hospital or home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, the Rev. Dr Hugh White, 28 Duns Tew (349869); or one of the Churchwardens, Liz Dickinson (337050) or Iain Gillespie (338367)

St John Hempton

Sundays	6 & 20	9.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday	27		No Service

From the Parish Registers

FUNERALS: 11 May Daisy Shrewsbury
 14 May Arthur Bliss (Banbury Crematorium)

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS:

Boulderdyke House, Clifton [Jean Welford 338539] alternate Weds from 9 June, 7.30pm
 2 The Leyes, Deddington [Liz Dickinson 337050] alternate Weds from 9 June, 7.30pm

Charity of the Month - each month a charity benefits from donations in the box in the Parish Church or St John's Hempton: the use by taxpayers of the pink GiftAid envelopes is commended.

June: KARIBUNI TRUST

WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Morning services at 10.30 am

- June 6 - Pastor Isabel Walton;
- 13 - Faith Sharpe;
- 20 - Pastor Isabel Walton;
- 27 - Pastor Isabel Walton.

Bible Study/Fellowship every Wednesday at 7.30 pm

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, New Street

Joyce Minnear 338 529

Sunday morning worship jointly with Wesleyan Reform congregation at 10.30 am

Sunday evenings: Service & Fellowship at 6.00 pm :

- June 6 Pastor Isobel Walton (Communion)
- 13 Mr Harold Puttick
- 20 Mrs Jane Manley of the FISHERMEN'S MISSION
- 27 Mr Brian Loader of RELEASE INTERATIONAL

R.C. PARISH OF HETHE WITH ADDERBURY

The Revd A J Burns 277396

Hethe : Mass is said every day [except Wednesday] at 10.00 am. Confessions: Sats -5.30~6.00 pm

Adderbury : Mass is said Sundays at 8.30 am; Wednesdays at 7.00 pm; Confessions before Mass.

The Eve of Sunday Mass at St John's, South Bar, Banbury is said at 4 p.m. on Saturdays to allow Catholics from the villages to attend by bus.

June 11 is the Feast of CORPUS CHRISTI and a Holy Day of Obligation. The obligation can be fulfilled by attending Mass the previous evening

Your Churchyard needs YOU !

Please contact Iain Gillespie 338367



.....
 • Wed 30 June 8.00 pm - Parish Church
 • Sir Andrew Green will talk on
 • "IRAQ : Do we face a strategic defeat ?"
 •

DAISY SHREWSBURY (née Robbins) was born in Bishop's Itchington in 1913. At an early age she went into domestic service, initially at Sandford St. Martin. She later worked for the Rector of Exeter College in Oxford and on Jersey. She married Eldon at the beginning of the War and moved to Deddington, working over the years in many of the villages's households. A devoted mother to her four children, she was an excellent cook - a talent from which the village too benefited, since Daisy would contribute from her kitchen to the 'do's' of the many organisations of which she was an energetic member (and tea-lady extraordinaire). Despite the incapacity and discomfort of her later years, Daisy, sustained by her deep, unostentatious Christian faith, knew how to count her blessings and enjoy her memories - blessings and memories very much bound up with Deddington.

ARTHUR BLISS was born in Coventry during the First World War, the son of a plasterer, and raised in Hempton. He worked as a baker's apprentice before the Second World War and then, following service in the Army in Ireland, Italy and Germany, on local farms and eventually for the County Council's Highways Department. He served as a Special Police Officer for many years. He was a member of the British Legion and he liked to fish and to grow vegetables, managing all that he did in spite of a serious incapacity caused by a bicycle accident. Beneath his straightforward, sometimes gruff manner, Arthur was a kind and quietly generous man who took great pride and pleasure in his family.



Farewell to the "OLD POST OFFICE"

The address of the new and the old remains the same: Deddington Market Square. Already **Sheena, Ron** and **Ann** look cosy in their brand new surroundings and are the first team to begin a new era, lasting hopefully as long as that of the Post Office in the old premises. But for how many years were we served from the old

1960s **Mr Ken Garrett** became our new Postmaster, ran the shop and Post Office with the help of his wife. She made sure, with her helpers, that our mail, parcels and the many other services offered by the Post Office were diligently carried out until their retirement in 1985. **Mrs Jill Smith** then became Post Mistress and she in turn handed over to **Mr Bernard Hughes** who, as appointed



Behind glass : Sheena, Ann and Ron, ready to serve their first customer - 0904, 14 May 2004

premises? Opinions vary amongst the older folk in Deddington, so please correct me if I get it wrong. I've unearthed an advert dating back to 1879. The advert reads: '**John Whetton** General Printer, Stationer, Bookseller, Linen & Woollen Draper, supplier of Newspapers and periodicals, Agent for the Oxfordshire Chronicle, Glass & Earthenware and *Deddington Post Office*'. What a boon this business must have been to the village, but did he trade from the premises of the now Old Post Office? What is certain is that **Mr Charlie West** (José Steven's father) bought the business in the premises of the 'old Post Office' in the 1920s from a Mr Whetton, thought to be the son of the above John, and thus became the youngest Postmaster in Oxfordshire. He in turn sold the shop and the Post Office to **Mr Bolton** in the late 1930s or early 40s. When Mr Bolton died his second wife, **Lucy**, became Postmistress. She is still well remembered by many for her helpful service. In the

Postmaster, placed the postal, pension and all other services in the capable hands of his wife **Sheena**. Quite naturally we think of her as our Postmistress and I for one admit to having been rather disappointed when she told me that the Co-operative Society has worn the hat of Postmaster since it bought the business from Mr Hughes. But then I am of that certain age, when one thinks that Postmasters and Mistresses should have a human form and be in the singular! And so we take leave from our many past Postmasters and Mistresses and their helpers who served us so well for over 80 years from the old premises. We thank them all, and thank **Sheena, Ann and Ron** for guiding us step by step through the maze of the 21st century postal services. May the beautiful, spacious new premises make work a little lighter for them, and may their clientele be served from the New Post Office in Deddington for another 80 years and more.

Ruth Johnson

FROM TERRY CLINCH, CHAIRMAN, DEDDINGTON CRICKET CLUB

Vandalism is not a subject I would choose to write about but sadly it is totally necessary. Our cricket pavilion has been repeatedly targeted by mindless individuals who appear to think it is fun and exciting to smash windows and destroy the roof tiles. They eventually left the building a wreck after an evening of destruction on 1 May.

My reason for writing is to appeal to anyone who knows who carried out this destruction to talk, in confidence, to either Graham Pitts, the Parish Clerk, or myself, so that we can have a serious talk with the parents of those concerned. This may stop further vandalism and save the individuals from the serious consequences they would sooner or later face. Please telephone Graham Pitts - 337447, or me - 338711. Thank you.

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.

OVER THE YEARS - a book by Marianne Elsley

Since Marianne Elsley came to Deddington with her husband, Ralph, in 1973, she has published two books. Copies are held in Deddington Library. They are well worth reading.

Her latest is a little gem. In 60 beautifully written pages, Marianne takes us through her life story, or rather stories. She made me laugh out loud but she also brought a lump to my throat. No wonder she was such a popular speaker at meetings of the WI, Rotary, Inner Wheel, British Legion and U3A and even, on one occasion, to an audience of 1500 at an American University. In pre-war Germany Marianne, an only child, gradually became aware of the step by step advance of the 'evil tidal wave that swept over Germany' as the Nazi grip tightened. At the beginning of 1939, she was one of 10,000 Jewish children rescued by the Kindertransports. On her way to London, as she left her loving parents behind in Berlin, she could not know that she would never see them again. Years later she learned they had died in the Holocaust, and although she has shown great courage and resilience over the years, the horrors of Auschwitz have cast a shadow over her whole existence. Which makes her ability to see the funny side of life's dramas all the more remarkable. This 'hefty school-girl' (her own phrase) an Enemy Alien (official classification) in a strange country who became first a State Registered Nurse, then an Orthopaedic Sister, also won the Best Leg (below the knee) Competition of 1941.

Over the Years is full of memorable characters and situations that any of us who were around at the time will recognise, sometimes with a smile, sometimes with a tinge of sadness. Younger people should be fascinated by these glimpses of life as it actually happened, during one of the most important periods in our history. Marianne writes from the heart.

Copies of Over the Years, price £3.50 plus postage, may be obtained from Marianne Elsley. Telephone orders only, please, on 01869 338251. *Norman Stone*

FROM SUE GODDARD, MARKET PLACE, DEDDINGTON

As someone who lives almost next door to the new Co-op store, I would like to say a big 'THANK YOU' to the staff and contractors who have been involved in the re-building project. The shop staff have done a wonderful job coping with the difficulties of working in the confined space of the old Post Office. The contractors have all been friendly and helpful, keeping neighbouring households informed of work that might cause problems. A good moment during the building work was the finding of a fossil shell which I was shown with great pride. We are very lucky to have such a 'Village Store' and I'm sure it will be well-used.

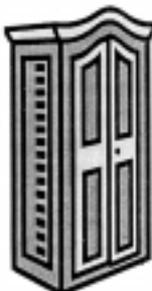
FROM RALPH ELSLEY, PHILCOTE STREET, DEDDINGTON

I was delighted to hear that, as part of the Deddington Festival, on the evening of Friday 25 June, John Cheney is reviving the *Poetry for You* evenings at the Unicorn, which, readers may recall, were such a success in the past. I think we should pay tribute to John for taking the initiative once more, and I certainly look forward to seeing and hearing him 'at home' again at the Unicorn.

FROM THELMA DOVER, GROVE COURT, DEDDINGTON

An enormous THANK YOU to all who have looked after my daily needs, to those who have telephoned with offers of help, and everyone else who have made the last few weeks easier.

COTSWOLD PINE



Antique Trade Warehouse
The Old Poultry Farm
Middle Aston OX25 5QL

Phone / Fax : 01869 340963

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Sunday 10am - 4:30pm

General Hobart

The history of Deddington's old houses never ceases to amaze me. I recently came across the following article in 'Deddington on Line' which, with the permission of its author, Jo Eames, we reproduce in this month's Deddington News. This may be just a starter for more to come? **Ruth Johnson**

During the Second World War, Leadenporch House was home to Major-General Sir Percy Cleghorn Stanley Hobart and his family. 'Hobo' was one of the most talented tank tacticians in the British army. Before the war he developed a new theory of mobile armoured warfare that found little favour with his superiors but was adopted enthusiastically by the new German Panzer commanders. In 1938 he was posted to Egypt, where he trained the 7th Armoured Division, which went on to find fame as the Desert Rats. His career then took a disastrous turn when he was placed on the retired list after falling foul of his superior officers (cavalrymen who saw his steadfast belief in the importance of the tank as 'instability'). It was during nearly a year of frustrating employment as a lance-corporal (and then area co-ordinator) in the Local Defence Volunteers that Hobart moved to Deddington before being recalled to active duty by Churchill in October 1940.

After his reinstatement Hobart raised and trained a new armoured division (the 11th, the Black Bulls) but before he could command them in action he was reassigned to raise the 79th Armoured Division. Its role was to devise and procure specialised armour to overcome the natural and man-made hazards likely to be encountered on the Normandy beaches. Hobart's 'funnies', as his swimming tanks, flame-throwers, minefield flails etc. were known, were used extensively on D-Day and subsequently on crossings of the Rhine and the Elbe. General Eisenhower later said that without them it was doubtful whether a bridgehead would ever have been established on D-Day.

Hobart retired from the Army in 1946 and became Lieutenant-Governor and Secretary of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea in 1948, when it is thought he moved away from Deddington. He died in 1957.

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the months of June and part of July 1854:

9th June - Farmer Parish from Hempton came and I agreed to take the cottage and garden at Clifton where the Sunday School is held for £4 a year from old St. Michaelmas last 1853 to ditto 1854.

11th June - A most destructive fire broke out at Bloxham about 7 o'clock this morning on a builder's premises named Barrett - 20 houses and cottages were consumed, the wind being high and carrying burning thatch in all directions.

15th June - Went to the Inauguration of the Theological Training College at Cuddesdon - 8 Bishops, including from New Zealand and Natal, together with 250-300 clergy present.

3rd July - Fortnum, one of the surveyors, came to speak to me about gravelling the front of our House which I said I would be glad to see done - and also the Town Pool covered over, and made properly available as a Reservoir for water in case of fire - spoke to Calcutt also about it. Mr. Brogden called and pestered me about the future distribution of the Feoffee Funds, as proposed by the Charity Commissioners and Messrs. Fearon & Claybon (Solicitors) subject to the approbation of the Attorney General. He wished me to put my name to a Remonstrance which I declined, never having had, or wished to have, anything to do with Feoffee matters.

7th July - Drove to Clifton Bridge and met with two Northamptonshire magistrates together with the Clerks of the Peace for Oxon and Northants and two Surveyors for each County, Messrs. Bowles and Hall with myself being present as Oxon magistrates, and Mr. Field, the Clerk to the Trustees of the Road. It was agreed that the Bridge be rebuilt at the joint expense of the two Counties - and that tenders for the work be advertised for immediately.

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THE FLOWER GARDEN

My May garden has gone mad. Every plant is sizes bigger than it should be and all is lush profusion. Well, let us enjoy it, it doesn't often happen. We have made up our new bed with plastic sheeting and bark chips and it looks really splendid. The chips will gradually be broken down and absorbed over the year, so by this time next year another layer of chips will be needed to top it up. In the meantime the chosen plants look pretty and healthy.

The Fatsia has put on several inches already and the contrasting shapes are exactly what we aimed at. No Thistle this year, but three years ago I was given a Cardoon. During the intervening time I flattened it twice by falling on it and on one occasion trod on it. But it survived and this year it looks super. It has reached about four foot and, though I cannot find it in any gardening book, it should have an edible piece at the end. I will report later. It is certainly a handsome plant, a real eye-fu!



Back to the weeding now, the soil is just right. And I must report that I found a little patch of the dark red Hellebore seedlings, they are not usually easy to propagate. By next month some of us will have looked at your gardens and I hope you have a fine day for this event.

Marianne Elsley

With luck we may have avoided the risk of late frosts in May. If we have, (and I hope I am not counting my chickens...) it could be a good year for fruit. Many of the blossoms have set and there are promising signs of soft fruit such as raspberries, strawberries and currants, as well as apples, pears, cherries and others on the bushes and trees. I've seen healthy looking broad beans, too, and no doubt the runner beans will be growing fast this month, ready to give those tasty meals which will always have the edge over anything that a supermarket can offer. Of course it is still early days and they could all be attacked by pests or gobbled up by birds before they fully ripen. But here's hoping.

Everything has been growing almost as you watch it - as anyone with a lawn knows only too well. Not only those which were planted or sown, but inevitably the weeds as well. It seems to have been a bumper year for dandelions whose seeds get carried by the breeze and dropped just where the ground has been prepared for other things. Down Satin Lane all that good soil which gardeners had dug and raked, was sprouting a million little seedlings when I last visited. I cannot believe that all were intended. Some of the weeds will be smothered as potatoes and artichokes get stronger and take both light and nutrient, and elsewhere it will be a question of keeping the hoe moving as much as possible. But what rewards there could be to come!

Hugh Marshall

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VILLAGES OPEN GARDENS

Saturday 19 June
Sunday 20 June

2.00 ~ 6.00 pm

in aid of the LIVING ROOMS PROJECT
£5 ticket/guide - to visit any of the 13
gardens on either day (no charge for
accompanied children under-16).

Tickets on sale from Bluebells, or
on the days at the garden gates or
in the Market Place.

Look for 'Garden Open Today'
notices.

Teas - 3.00~5.00 at selected
gardens

Deddington Girls Brigade

The Girls Brigade meets in Deddington Parish church on Wednesdays 3.30 - 4.30pm. We are a small enthusiastic group and offer opportunities for the girls to take Brigade badges. To be awarded a badge the girls have to cover four areas of experience. Spiritual, physical, education and service, so a wide choice of activities is covered.

We are thinking of splitting the Brigade so that the Explorers (4-7 year olds) would continue to meet at 3.30pm and the Juniors (8-11 year olds) would meet at 6.00pm also on Wednesdays. We would value your opinion on this. This we feel would make the Brigade more successful and enjoyable for the girls, but this will not be possible unless we have more helpers and Brigade members. We would be very glad to hear from anyone who is prepared to help at either of these sessions, and from parents whose daughters would like to become Brigade members.

Jean Welford 338539

Deddington Beeches Bowls Club

Our recent cake and plant stall was successful and may I thank those who supported us not only by buying produce, but also by donating cakes and plants for the sale. Sadly the season started on a very wet note with our first two home matches cancelled, but club nights continue to be held each Wednesday commencing at 6.00 pm.

Yvonne Twomey

Deddington Babies & Toddlers Group

The recent committee meeting discussed plans for the next 6 months. These include two outings on 9 June and 2 July, a visit from photographer Ian Taylor, and the teddy bears' picnic on 6 August. As always, we welcome new parents or those new to the area to our meetings. We're a great place for you and your children to make new friends. You'll find us at the Windmill Centre, every Wednesday and Friday from 9.30-11.30am. Just come along.

Lucy Squires 338442

Deddington & District History Society

Our May speaker was Brian Little, who spoke to us about the history of the area around Banbury Castle and about the coming of the canal there. We are now well primed for our visit to Tooley's Boatyard and Banbury Museum on 9 June.

Our busy summer programme is under way. On a glorious morning on 15 May nearly twenty of us visited the Stoke Bruerne Museum of Canal Life before enjoying one of Sue Shattock's legendary picnics, rapidly becoming one of the best reasons for joining the Society! On the evening of Wednesday 9 June we shall make our visit to Banbury, and on Monday 28 June we have arranged a guided tour of the historic village of Chalgrove, including a private visit to Chalgrove Manor, not normally open to the public. We shall try to arrange lifts for those without transport. Please let Sue Shattock know if you are interested: 338880. Finally, on Tuesday 22 June we shall entertain members of South Newington's history society. After touring Deddington we shall gather in the garden of Sue's house (The Mullions, Castle End) for light refreshments. Any of our members who are free are invited to join us there at 8.30.

Chris Day 337204

Deddington Town Football Club

1st Team Results

Sinclair Res (a)(Supplementary Cup) Lost on Penalties (1-1 after extra time)

Sinclair Res (a) Drew 1-1 Own Goal.

Chasewell Park (h) Lost 1-3 D.Clouston.

Arcott (a) Won 3-1 L.Hayward (2), B.Durrant.

The 1st team have now completed their fixtures; the victory over Arcott was not enough to claim the Runners-Up spot. Lee Hayward scored 2 goals in that match. The Supplementary Cup Semi-Final went down to the wire, however it was Sinclair who came out on top in the penalty shoot out.

The end of season presentation evening took place at the British Legion and was very well attended and a huge success. The individual awards went to the following players: -

1st Team Leading Scorer – Julian Pearce

Reserve Team Leading Scorer – Phil Kirsopp

1st Team Player's Player of the Year – Andy Shepherd

Reserve Team Player's Player of the Year – Adam Kirsopp

1st Team Manager's Player of the Year – Dave Clouston

Reserve Team Manager's Player of the Year – Aaron Bliss

At our AGM it was decided to enter two teams into



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the league for next season with Jason Timms continuing as Manager of the 1st team - his 11th year!! Marc Walker takes over from me as Reserve Team Manager.

75 Club Winners: 23/4/04 R.Berry £100; 30/4/04 V.Reason £50; 7/5/04 J.Bliss £50; 14/5/04 J.Plumbe £50

Steve Plumble 01295 278258.

Monday Morning Club

Unfortunately, we couldn't muster enough support to fill a bus for the proposed outing to Kenwood House, so it has been deferred. Two of us have been to see several of the Spanish plays currently being acted at The Swan, and we so enjoyed 'The Dog In The Manger' that we have booked twelve seats for the club on Monday 23 August. Tickets and information are available at the coffee morning on 7 June, or by telephone.

Jean Flux 338153

Deddington Colts

Congratulations to all the players, coaches, parents and those who have worked behind the scenes to make the 2003/4 season such a success. The Colts fielded 8 teams in the age groups Under 7 to Under 15 with the U7s and U8s making very good progress in their first season and the other teams maintaining or improving upon last season's final league positions.

The Awards Evening at the Windmill Centre on Saturday 19 June commences at 6.45pm with music provided by a talented group of young musicians.

The Annual General Meeting is in the Deddington Arms on Monday 28 June at 8.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and to vote for the new Management Committee as they are at the monthly Management Committee meetings that normally take place in the Deddington Arms at 8pm on the first Monday of the month: next meeting is 7 June.

Preparation for the 2004/5 season is under way; with players being sought for next season's U7s, U11s and U12s. These are children who will be in years 1, 2, 6

and 7 in the next school year. If you are interested please contact Martin Hovard 337810, Rachael Teare 337077 or Peter Robinson 07939 528831.

The growing number of teams puts pressure on playing space. To overcome the pitch shortage, the U15s plan to play their 'home' games at Drayton School.

David Rollason 337351

Book Group

At a very successful first meeting last month we decided on a general format for running the group. We have 16 enthusiastic members and have agreed to read a wide range of books including contemporary fiction, some non-fiction, classics and poetry.

This month we have been reading 'Star of the Sea' by Joseph O'Connor; a stunning novel centred on the Irish potato famine. Our book for June is 'Atonement', Ian McEwan's latest work, in which a family becomes victim to the youngest sibling's imagination.

Our next meeting is 24 June. Please contact me for details of time and place.

Sally Lambert 338094

1st Deddington Boys Brigade

On 16 May a contingent of 6 Juniors, 6 Anchors and 3 officers represented the company at the Oxfordshire Battalion Church Parade in Kings Sutton.

Our bugle players gave their first public performance in May when they provided a fanfare as part of a music workshop at the School. Look out for their next performance that is scheduled for the School Fete on 19th June! The band (drums and bugles) is open to boys in BB Juniors - all boys aged 8 and over. The section meets at The Windmill Centre from 5.15pm every Wednesday. Other activities include sports, badge work

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Edwin Rye,
following his 'Garden Delights' evening here in April, invites us to visit his garden in Wendover on

Friday 2 July

*** NB - CHANGED DATE ***

His garden includes many of the features that were in his winning **Gardener of Year 2002** entry at Birmingham and promises to be a pleasant evening visit. Cars will be leaving Deddington between 6.00 and 6.30 pm.

Contact Hugh Marshall - 337761 - by Sunday 14 June if you want to come.

and figure marching. There is an annual camp (this year at Cromer in Norfolk) for boys aged 10 and over.

On 15 June Deddington Parish Church hosts the BB Oxfordshire Battalion Annual General Meeting from 7.30 pm and on 30 June at 6 pm the BB/GB hold their annual display at The Windmill Centre. There will be demonstrations of brigade work in Deddington together with a presentation of awards. All are welcome.

Brian Bushell 338715

WI

On 11 May we discussed and voted upon the three resolutions that will be put to the AGM at Sheffield in June. They were: (a) the curtailing of sowing GM crops until more is known of the long term effects; (b) the trafficking of adults and young people for various purposes (in fact, legislation is either about to go through, or is already in place to increase awareness of the problem) and (c) that more funding should be made available to support the Air Ambulance Service. The first two were not easy to vote upon, but eventually we voted against, abstain and for.

Next meeting, 8 June, is an evening visit to Tooley's Boatyard. Reminder: 19 August trip to RHS Wisley Gardens £10 plus entrance fee. Ring Yvonne Twomey, 337213.

Rene Mahony 338438

Deddington Guides

Our spring Blue Peter sale and entertainment evening raised £111 – an exceptional effort on the part of the guides. Thank you for all support.

What have we been up to this term? A smart turnout for St. George's Day in Banbury – well done to Jenny Hovard who represented us so well as colour bearer; senior guides training – working on leadership skills; planning summer activities and team building exercises.

Thank you to Vivien and Simon Pleydell-Bouverie for allowing us to use their garden for a memorable promise ceremony to welcome Stephanie Bolduc and for the first cook-out of the year. Thanks also go to Janet and Brian Bond for hosting our outdoor "Ready, Steady, Cook" – we all enjoyed a two-course meal on a fine sunny evening in lovely surroundings.

Division camp was attended by almost the entire unit – 15 guides camped on rather a wet weekend at Horley.

This term is about being out as much as possible: walking in the grounds of Wroxton College late one evening whilst bat-watching with local experts was very special. We saw an amazing amount of wildlife and with bat detectors learnt to identify different kinds of bats. Watch this space for more adventures.

Maggie Rampley, Guider 01295 810069

WINDMILL CENTRE

Following the AGM of the Windmill Management Committee on 20 May, Michael Liebrecht has been appointed trustee to join Richard Broadbent and Mary Robinson. He replaces Mark Ryland who has resigned due to business commitments.

The Windmill Committee urgently needs a Secretary! Would anyone interested in taking on this not onerous and very rewarding role, please contact Roy Hart ?

Roy Hart 338871



'Poetry Please'
presented by John Cheney
Friday 25 June - 7.30 pm
Unicorn Inn

Craft & Art Exhibition
Saturday 26 June 11.00am ~ 4.00 pm
Town Hall

Festival Concert
Beethoven, Vaughan Williams &
Dvorak
with Choros & Oxford Sinfonia
Saturday 26 June - 7.30 pm
Parish Church

Dido & Aeneas
Opera by Purcell
Sunday 27 June - 6.00 pm
Parish Church

*Make me feel safe
If you could realise how I feel
Then would you put your arms around me?
And make me feel safe in your arms
Of steel.
Would you whisper softly that I love you?
Could you squeeze my hand, tightly?
As to me you mean the world
Too.
These words will not explain my love.
I wish one minute with you would last for eternity
As you make my heart
Flutter like an elegant dove.
Each time I think of you I am dreaming
Your face is looking at me
At me you're smiling
Laughing.
If you ever had a care or worry
Don't be alone, when I can be there
If you're in trouble,
I will be there in a hurry. *Amy Herbert**

ON THE FARM

I start on a very sad note. I have in the past mentioned Sumo and his harem, my small flock of black Indian game poultry, a rare breed of rare breeds. Sumo and the girls were all killed one evening by a fox who broke through the wire netting. After his killing spree, which included 3 that were sitting on 30 eggs with 10 days to go before hatching, he left, leaving the remains as they were. In other words he was just killing for the sake of it. We are left with a very distressed grandson who went with me each day to collect the eggs for his tea - a hard lesson in the ways of country life for one so young. After clearing up the mess I set a 'live trap' in the now empty hen house using Sumo's body as the bait. Clever Mr Fox returned for another look at his handiwork and sprang the trap. I did not offer him a blindfold or a last cigarette. I was very angry, but not surprised, to find that he was a starving urban fox, which had been treated for mange. *[and then very likely released in the countryside by some well-meaning animal protection group. Ed]*



Last month I was complaining about the lack of rain.

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Many thanks to everyone who made cakes for the Friends of Hempton Church stall in Deddington on 8 May. Despite the rain, it did very well. The proceeds will go towards repairs to St. John's Church. The Table Tennis team finished the season in second place. They played in Division 2 of the Banbury & District League. After a poor start to the season where they lost 3 of the first 4 games they only lost 2 more all season. They will receive their runners-up trophies at the Annual Meeting on 25 May. It's nice to see most of the allotments taken on the Duns Tew Road, and doing really well, a credit to the people who are tending them - but they URGENTLY need water laid on for them as it's difficult getting it from home. As last year, Sue and Les Lane will be organising a Katharine House Fundraiser. It will take place at their home, 45 St. John's Way, on Sunday 13 June from 2.00pm to 5.30pm and will comprise a Treasure Hunt around Hempton followed by tea at 3.00pm. as part of the Hospice's Yellow Week celebrations. If you do not fancy the Treasure Hunt, just enjoy a delicious tea in the garden. There will not be an evening service in Hempton Church on 27 June, as Dido & Aeneas is being performed in Deddington Parish Church at 6.00pm [see insert]. *Les Chappell* 338054

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

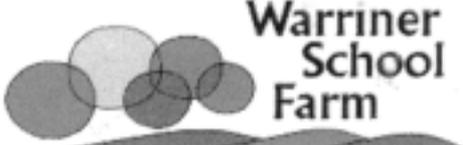
On Saturday 22 May, Ronald Cordin of Sylvan, Clifton, and Eleonore Bruyere, of Montreal, were married at Bicester Registry Office. They then celebrated at the Duke of Cumberland's Head with their families. Eleonore says she really loves it here and how beautiful the English villages are in May and June, especially in Oxfordshire. We wish the couple every happiness together. Thanks are due to Briony Fenemore for the lovely wedding cake and to Bluebells for the gorgeous flowers.

Carol Drawmer

Since then the rain gauge has filled up nicely, which has brought on the crops very well. By the time this gets put through the letter box the wheat will be coming into 'boot' (the ears of grain beginning to fill out in the main stem). The oil-seed rape is looking very well but the dry planting conditions last autumn gave rise to a very uneven germination. It did all eventually come up but we now have a situation where some parts of the crop are at 90% petal fall and some are just coming into flower. Although the bees are enjoying the extended flowering season it will make for a difficult harvest, as some parts of the crop will be ready for harvest before others. If we cut when the majority is ready we could get immature or 'red seed' in the sample and the merchants will throw it up, but, if we wait, losses could be high as the pods on the over-ripe parts of the crop will shatter as they are cut by the combine.

On 16 May we hosted the Parish Rogation service in one of the barns, an enjoyable occasion during which the Vicar blessed the crops, livestock and farm equipment. After the service he led the congregation on a walk around some of the fields round the village. Some asked what was oil-seed rape used for and was it a native plant. Oil-seed rape is a member of the brassica family and is grown in many parts of the world. It has very many uses. We all use it. or products made from it. on a daily basis - as an oil for cooking and baking, cosmetics, plastics, medicine, the manufacture of machine tools and as a fuel oil for diesel engines. It is also regarded as a 'green crop' as it takes up more carbon from the atmosphere as the crop grows than it releases when it is burnt.

George Fenemore 338203


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2004
& Farm Fayre**



**July 3rd & 4th
10am to 4pm**

**Horse Whisperer
& animal training demonstrations**

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farm produce, traditional games, ferret racing,
crafts and plants, barbeque, pig roast, teas

Adults £2.50, Children & Concessions £1.50
Family Ticket £7.00 (2 adults & 3 children)

Signposted from the A361 at the North end of Bloxham.

DEDDINGTON ROW THE CHANNEL CHALLENGE

This event took place on the Market Place, on Saturday 24 April (Market Day). The sun came out as did the crowds, so thanks to those who came to cheer on the teams and for your donations, which resulted in £377 being collected that morning. As everyone who took part is collecting their own sponsor money, it looks like at least £2000 will be raised for the British Heart Foundation.

The Police [*with imported help! ED*] completed the distance first (35,400 metres) in 2 hours 28 minutes, followed by the Fire-fighters at 2 hours 34 minutes with the Health Centre not far behind at 2 hours 35 minutes, only 43 seconds behind the Fire-fighters. At the conclusion, all the teams retired to the Crown and Tuns, for a well deserved drink and a pie lunch. The challenge cup was also presented to the winning team.

On behalf of all the teams, I would like to thank every individual and the local companies who supported the event with sponsorship: Anton and Cathy at the Crown and Tuns, New Street, for the Challenge cup; Co-op Stores, Deddington, for bottled water and fruit juice for all the competitors; Global Scaffolding for the staging; Moss Construction (contractors for the Village Store) for hardboard to cover the platform. **Bob Donahue** 338 444



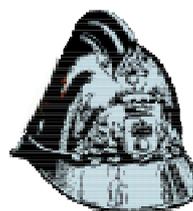
The Windmill Centre has yet again been subject to what can only be described as mindless vandalism. On this occasion the persons concerned not only smashed the windows to the cricket pavilion, but also the roofing tiles and guttering. Someone must have seen something. The estimate to repair to the pavilion will be in the region of £1000. Not only is there the financial aspect to consider, there is also the inconvenience to the Windmill committee and also to those now deprived of the use of the facility. It is very disappointing that such an incident should occur. I urge anyone with information as to the identity of those responsible to get in touch with me. Any information will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

On a lighter note, crime in the Deddington area continues to remain at a low level. A recent spate of burglaries in nearby Bodicote village has seen an offender arrested for these offences. Another person responsible for the theft of a tractor from Deddington has since been charged with the theft and bailed to court.

Remember, crime prevention is the key to success. Look after your property and eliminate temptation and opportunity. **Clive Middleton** Police Constable 2348

FIRE SERVICE

A quiet month so far with 12 calls: 6 calls to stand by at other stations, 1 Tyre Centre, 1 barn fire, 2 house fires, 1 gas leak and 1 call to public toilets on fire. Total for the year 79. Now that the nice weather is here, please take extra care with your barbecues - we like them as much as you do but we prefer them at home! We recently attended a house fire which started when the occupiers were out, so we had to force entry. After everything was under control we found a smoke alarm with battery fitted on the window sill. This device should have been fitted to the ceiling of the landing. Well done to all three services



who took part in the 'Row The Channel' challenge in the Farmers' Market in April. I was exhausted and I was only watching. Recruitment : next month we have 2 people attending a selection day in Oxford. We wish them well and hope they pass. If you want more information about the Fire Service or would like to join, come and see us at the School fete on 19 June or come on Tuesday nights 7 - 9pm or phone the number below.

Pete Taylor Sub Officer 338281

In our Ads Quiz, how far did you get ?

Among our regular advertisers :

- 35 have an 01869 number.
- There are 2 choices for clothing.
- 7 offer Food.
- G&M Lawrence claim 'The best seat in the House'.
- 4 offer improvements in Personal Appearance.
- 10 include a website address.
- 2.5-year-olds start at these schools.
- 4 offer Garden Improvements.
- 15 have mobile phone numbers.
- Catch a **Vet** with rod and line.
- 14 offer Home Improvements.
- 2 offer help for carers.
- 2 sell houses.
- Sheila** excels in Word.
- 2 Freephone (0800) numbers.
- 5 sparklers (diamonds) make a Bed and Breakfast.
- 14 have an E/mail address.
- There are 3 driving forces.
- 6 offer an improvement in Inner Health.
- There were 13 adverts in boxes on the White pages in April.

No one claimed the prize. Was the quiz too difficult, or the prize too small ? Ed

DOL

Deddington OnLine

<http://www.deddington.org.uk>

We are reviewing the accessibility of the website to ensure that it is user friendly for people of all abilities. We would welcome suggestions for improvements to both format and content. You can give us feedback to the e-mail address below or leave a message on the DOL Forum.

Broadband should be with us by the time you read this! **Colin Clark** 338064 Colin.Clark@deddington.net



Auction in the Windmill Centre - Saturday 25 September

Lay waste to the loft! Clear the cupboards! The perfect occasion to unload those quality items that are too good to throw away! Mallams, who will conduct the auction, will not sell for less than the estimated value so china, furniture, paintings, silver jewellery in reasonable condition can be put up for auction with the donor receiving half the selling price and **THE LIVING ROOMS PROJECT** benefiting from the other half. Contact John Sampson on 338739 for further details.

July Diary

- Fri 2 Visit to Edwin Rye's Garden in Wendover, leave 6-6.30 pm ➡ p.11
- Mon 5 Monday Morning Club: Coffee Morning, 10 am-noon ➡ p.11
- Wed 7 Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8-10 pm
- Sat 10 Deddington Pre-School: Eighties Night, Windmill Centre ➡ p.4
- Tue 13 WI: Holly Tree, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.12
- Sat 17 Evening Stroll to Daeda's Wood with Neil Chamberlain, from Windmill Centre at 6.30 pm. ➡ p.16
- Wed 21 Parish Council Meeting: Town Hall, 7.45 pm ➡ p.2

No Deddington News in August. Copy Date for September Deddington News - Tuesday 24 August.

THE LIVING ROOM in Mmabatho on the edge of the Kalahari desert will house the Mpepungwana ["Caring for Children"] Project. Tom Moffatt from Thatcham visited it recently, and on 19 May showed photos of it to supporters of the Project in Deddington. At present 20 children, infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS, receive day care in an inadequate building on an insecure lease. An abandoned baby is also being cared for by a team of volunteers. The Anglican congregation is putting up the shell of a new church - corrugated roof supported by steel girders - adding to it as funds become available. The cost will be about £10,000. When that is completed, the Caring for Children project will move into the extra space of their present worship centre.



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OUR COUNTY FLOWER

May I quote Alison McDonald's note to me about the newly elected county flower †:

'My two favourites were meadow clary (*Salvia pratensis*) and fritillary (*Fritillaria meleagris*). I love the way meadow clary stands up tall in the grassland and the bright blue flowers are a gorgeous colour. Equally, the fritillary has its own charm with its nodding heads, with or without a chequerboard colouring over a rich dark pink, to pale pink or white. They top the grasses in spring and are only challenged by the bright yellow of accompanying dandelions, some of which are very rare species. Not surprisingly I am delighted that fritillary was chosen for Oxfordshire. It represents the national importance of our Thames-side meadows for bio-diversity.'

The fritillary has been chosen as the flower of Oxfordshire. Now every county in the United Kingdom has its emblematic flower: a complete list is given on www.plantlife.org.uk. Glasgow chose broom; the Isle of Man elected a plant that has such visibility as actually defines the isle - *fuchsia*.

Plant Life managed the election, wanting people to become more aware of the national floral heritage through the activity of choosing county flowers. Many species are endangered, many will become extinct in our lifetime.

Choosing a parish flower is a spur to countryside awareness, but how can the fritillary, which is generally scarce to rare (its habitat: damp alluvial meadows) represent Oxfordshire? The best known, perhaps the only local site, is by the river meadows of Magdalen College, where it is watched over as if it were a child protected from sickness by guardian angels.



The bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) was so universally popular, that it had to be disqualified from standing for election. There are wild bluebells in our parish, but no fritillaries, unless in a private garden. To this extent, the election result for the county is unrepresentative of our flora.

Plants are utterly ignorant of parish and county boundaries; they rely more on physical features of land, on soil and water properties, and temperature regimes in determining their distribution. On the other hand, counties do differ in those qualities: Devon has such a greater degree of atmospheric moisture, for example, that its lanes are ferneries, while ours are not.

In a recent study of plant habitats along the River Swere, flowering plants (including trees, shrubs, grasses, sedges, and herbs) numbered 316 species. Many of these occur in Deddington, but plants conspicuous in our parish grow on roadside verges. Let me mention four of these: cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), great willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*), hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*) and meadow crane's-bill (*Geranium pratense*).

If, on the basis of some ineffable combination of plenty and beauty I had to choose one of these to represent Deddington, I would choose great willowherb. But you may not. Let us have our own election! Send your nominee flowering plant with its common and Latin names, if possible, along with information on its location (OS map number) and habitat ('dry grassland roadside', 'shady wood', etc.) to the *DN*. *Walter Meagher*

† Dr Alison McDonald is President of the Ashmolean Natural History Society and editor of its learned journal. Alison has written the fullest botanical study of the flora of Port Meadow and is a reviewer and friend of the Deddington Flora project. Ed



Friends of Daeda's Wood

There's a bridal look about Daeda's Wood as I write, with the hawthorn bushes drenched in white blossom. In the wildflower meadow, the cowslips have faded, making way for the first ragged robin and a bright scattering of buttercups. The wealth and variety of foliage bode well for a fine floral display within the next month.

The first grass cut has taken place, tidying up the rides and making the first onslaught on the creeping thistle. Except in one or two areas, where the thistle will be left for the benefit of butterflies and finches, there will be two more attacks this summer on open areas where this invasive plant is taking over. Neil Chamberlain, our Woodland Officer, warns it may take a year or two to make any impression on it, but hopefully in due course

the way will open for re-colonisation by the wild flowers planted earlier.

Around mid-June, a small horde of four- and five-year-olds (suitably accompanied) will be visiting Daeda's Wood on a nature study day. It would be good if dog walkers could be especially careful to clear up dog faeces in their interests.

And a date for your diary: Saturday 17 July. This is the evening we plan to foregather at the Windmill Centre at 6.30 p.m. for an evening stroll down to the wood. Neil will be there to field questions and FoDW members might talk briefly about the birds and the bees. You're invited to bring your own refreshments.

Sylvie Spenceley - 338995

Sandford St Martin Old Vicarage Open Garden
Sunday 13 June - 2.00 ~ 5.00pm
Teas, produce, plants for sale
in aid of church funds