

June

- Wed 1 History Society: summer social at Heythrop. ➡ p.10
 Sat 4 WI: Cake/Plant stall under the Town Hall, 9 am. ➡ p.11
 Mon 6 Monday Morning Club: Coffee Morning, The Holly Tree, 10 am-noon ➡ p.9
 Tue 7 History Society: Guided Tour of South Newington, meet at the church, 7pm. ➡ p.8
 Sat 11 LIVING ROOMS PROJECT: Barn Dance & Ploughmans, Calcutt's Farm, Hempton, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.5
 Tue 14 WI: *Holistic Therapy Treatment*, Wesley Morgan, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm ➡ p.11
 Wed 15 Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm. ➡ p.3
 Sat 18 Friends of Daeda's Wood: Walk to the wood starting from The Windmill Centre, 6.30 pm. ➡ p.12

- Thu 23 Music Hall, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm.
 Fri 24 Organ recital and buffet lunch, Parish Church, 12.30 pm.
 Fri 24 *Poetry Please* at The Unicorn, Market Place, 7.30 pm.
 Fri 24 Art at The Holly Tree, 10am ~ 12.30 pm
 Sat 25 Deddington Farmers' Market: 9.0 am ~12.30 pm.
 Sat-Sun Art at The Holly Tree, 10 am ~ 4 pm
 Sat 25 Children's Art Workshop, Windmill Centre, 10-11.30 am & 12.30-2 pm.
 Sat 25 Choral Concert: CHOROS & local singers, *Petite Messe Solonelle*, Parish Church, 7.30 pm.
 Sat-Sun Craft Exhibition, Town Hall, 10am~4 pm.
 Sun 26 Festival Cup Cricket, Windmill Centre, 11.00 am
 Sun 26 *Carnival of the Animals, Mother Goose Suite* and *Peter and The Wolf*, Parish Church, 5.30 pm.
 Sun 26 Jazz Concert, Tim Dawes Band, Parish Church, 8.30 pm



➡ p.6

- Sat 25 British Legion: Strawberries and Champagne, 8 pm ➡ p.9
 Thu 30 Book Club: call Sally for venue. ➡ p.11

July

- Fri 1 Babies and Toddlers Group: Outing to Hatton Country World. ➡ p.9
 Sat 2 Pre-School: Dance, *A Night at The Oscars*, Windmill Centre. ➡ p.10
 Mon 4 Monday Morning Club: Coffee Morning, 10 am-noon.
 Wed 6 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8-10 pm.
 Fri 8 *Any Questions ?*: BBC Radio 4 broadcast, Windmill Centre: tickets from Clerk. ➡ p.3
 Sat 9 British Legion: 1940s evening. ➡ p.9
 Sun 10 British Legion: Barbecue and tombola. ➡ p.9
 Tue 12 WI: Sir Andrew Green, *Asylum & Immigration*, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.11
 Sat 16 South African Choir: Parish Church.
 Wed 20 Monday Morning Club: *Comedy of Errors* at Stratford, bus details later.
 Sat 23 LIVING ROOMS PROJECT: Sponsored Sky Dive at Hinton in the Hedges, Brackley. ➡ p.5 & insert
 Sat 23 History Society: Historical walk. ➡ p.10
 Fri 29 Festival Fundraiser: Jazz at The Unicorn, 7.30 pm.

Copies of
the **DN** - and a
donation box -
are available at
Bluebells.

Weekly Meetings

- Mon: Brownies: Windmill Centre, 6-7.30 pm.
 Mon: Youth Club: Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm
 Mon: Bellringing Practice: Parish Church, 7.30-9 pm.
 Tues: Craft Group: Holly Tree, 2.15-4.30 pm.
 Tues: Deddington Guides: Windmill Centre, 7-9 pm.
 Wed: Babies & Toddlers Group: Windmill, 9.30-11 am.
 Wed: Anchor Boys: Deddington School, 3.15 pm.
 Wed: Boys' Brigade: Windmill Centre, 5.30 pm.

- Every other Wed: Friendship Club: Windmill, 2.30 pm.
 Wed: Tennis Club, 6.15 pm till dark.
 Thurs: Life & Portrait Art Group: Town Hall, 10~4 pm.
 Thurs: 1st Deddington Cubs: Windmill, 6-7.30 pm.
 Thurs: 1st Deddington Scouts: Windmill, 7.30-9 pm.
 Fri: Katharine House Coffee Morning: Parish Church, 10~12.
 Fri: Babies & Toddlers' Group: Windmill, 9.30~11 am.
 Fri: Deddington Friendly Bridge Club: Holly Tree, 2-5 pm

THE DEDDINGTON NEWS - Copy please to the relevant editor by next copy date: **21 JUNE**

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Annual Parish Meeting - 4 May 2005 Windmill Centre

Present: Cllr. Jim Flux (Chairman), Graham Pitts (Clerk) and 23 members of the community, including Councillors.

Chairman's Report: Cllr. Flux welcomed everyone - numbers attending a little disappointing. Tonight's meeting is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and to make comments and suggestions, but no decisions can be made.

The full Council is Cllrs. Angus Alton, Maureen Cox, Martin Ellis, Jim Flux, Rick Haslam, David Rollason, Helen Spencer, Martin Squires (Vice Chairman), Pat Swash, Geoff Todd, Steve Westley, Jonathan Watts, Brian Wood, and Brian Putland who was co-opted to replace Kate Harvey. District Councillor is Paul O'Sullivan; County Councillor is Ray Jelf.

Graham Pitts is Parish Clerk - thanks to him for an excellent job over the year. Sue Gibbs is the Minutes Secretary and grateful thanks to her.

Once the minutes are approved they are posted on the Village web-site and on main notice boards in the three villages.

Police Constable Clive Middleton is seconded to another post as a sergeant, but we are well covered by Sgt Neville Clayton and the other rural Beat Bobbies and there is close liaison between the PC and our local police.

At the March meeting James Alcock spoke on affordable housing. Cherwell DC has fallen short of its targets. 11 Council meetings have been held during the past year. Last year a key concern was the possible travellers' site by the OCC depot. Following the open meeting OCC decided to review the whole approach to this problem. No firm plans have been made.

The PC has continued the practice of a 10-minute open forum - for parishioners to address the meeting without prior notice - parking and proposed planning issues have been key items - and a standard agenda item to allow Councillors to record any declaration of interests at the start of each meeting. There is a freedom of information policy, and a complaints policy. Rules covering the use of the cemetery have been formalised. The PC continued its approach that it would not introduce any allowances for Councillors except for authorised travel and agreed out-of-pocket expenses.

Working groups handle most of the PC's work: Planning, Environmental & Recreation, Finance & General Purpose, Highways, with two new working groups this year - Parish Plan and Parking in which members of the public are involved. Thanks to all these groups for their work over the year. The Parish Plan questionnaire is being finalised.

The Parking group have carried out research; the Market Place is nearing capacity at certain times of the day. A trial is planned to use off-street parking for long term parkers. The PC is grateful for co-operation from local businesses.

We did not win the Best Kept Village competition last year, but received a very complimentary report. Efforts to have a clean-up this year have not had much

response, but thanks to the Boys Brigade for helping. Everybody is urged to help keep things clean and tidy in the coming months, maybe mowing grass outside their homes on the roadway.

The footpath from Clifton to Deddington is still on OCC's list. Costs have escalated but it is hoped the footpath will be installed within the 30 mph limits. There is still a need to improve the markings and signs through the gap at Hempton. OCC has put down 30mph marking at the entrances to all three villages, but, despite promises, the rest of the work is still awaited. Speeding still causes concern especially on the Hempton Road. Traffic police are frequent visitors and hand out tickets. Plans for a crossing near the Windmill have been progressed.

Grants have been made in the last year to 6 students for books and to the Windmill for the upgraded all-weather pitch. PC has made an interest free loan to the Windmill, to be repaid over 6 years, to allow the project to be completed. The Windmill also got a grant from CDC for 25% of the cost. PC made contributions to charities.

At the end of April 2004 PC had funds of £572k; this year £552k. There are strict rules on how these funds can be spent - interest may be used for revenue items but capital can only be used for capital projects. PC confirmed its policy of maintaining reserves of at least £450k and slowly to raise the Precept to ensure we have a balanced budget. To this end the Precept was raised by a small amount again this year. The Precept for Deddington is way below that of Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington.

Vandalism at the Windmill is a problem; police include the area on nightly patrols. Dog fouling is also a problem on the Windmill grounds.

Open Forum:

The following points were raised by the meeting:

- Speed cameras.
- Housing - Need for affordable housing to enable young people in the village to stay must be proved if sites are to be 'excepted' from planning rules.
- Parking - double yellow lines round green? Unightly.
- Pedestrian crossing near The Grove or traffic island? Accident waiting to happen at end of Hudson St. OCC will not make one there - safety reasons. Hudson St. one-way? Bus companies will not accept. Flashing lights indicating speed effective. Our traffic priorities do not get priority with OCC.
- Shop fronts - some visitors criticise. PC has no planning authority unless planning regulations are broken. CDC should have protocol on such issues. Deddington has one of best local Co-op shops and Post Offices - compensation for hideous frontage.
- Grass cutting - Earls Lane verge long & dangerous on corner. 3 cuts during season for Castle Grounds and every 3 weeks for Welford Rec. in Clifton.
- Earls Lane used as race-track for small motorbikes - dangerous.
- Parish Plan - questionnaires, one for businesses, one for youth and one for adults to be distributed to every household.

- Castle Grounds tree dangerous - has been no felling of dead trees nor replanting.
- Castle not well signed from road - needs to be better known. New signs ?
- BMX track - wire fence dangerously close to track.
- Bullring parking: problem when Eagles' lorries are unloading causing no through way.
- Netball court marked on all-weather pitch? Will be done if enough interest.

Meeting in Town Hall - 18 May 2005

Present: Cllrs Flux (Chair), Alton, Cox, Ellis, Haslam, Putland, Rollason, Spencer, Squires, Swash, Todd, Watts, Wood, Graham Pitts (Clerk), Sue Gibbs (Minutes Sec.) Ray Jelf (County Cllr.)

Annual Meeting 4 May: Graham Pitts reported issues raised - *see report above*.

Development of Upper Heyford - concern about effect on Deddington Medical Centre.

PC to sponsor full school governor with voting rights - PC should be represented on School Board of Governors - funding for school important part of Parish Plan. Nominations asked for by Councillors at next meeting - does not have to be a Councillor.

Question in PP questionnaire to include explanation on PC capital expenditure - good for newcomers to village to understand.

Total receipts for financial year - £101,932 -34. Total payments - £85,759 -95. Imprest Acc. Payments 20/4/05 to 18/5/05 - £1004-25. Invoices for payment at 18/5/05 - £9999-57. Finance: CDC grant for grass cutting - 16.4 p per metre. £500 for printing Parish Plan questionnaire. Present audit unsatisfactory.

Environment & Recreation: Stonepits allotments - connection payment of £876 made to Thames Water. PC Clerk to co-ordinate trench construction with allotment group, pipework must conform to regulations.

Funfair in November: detailed proposal received from Perry Hatwell - 2 large rides to be included, all rides in Market Place, caravans in Bull Ring. Dates: Tues 15, arrive in evening, Sun 20 depart. Concern expressed over length of time, no parking in Market Place for 4 days, bus re-routing, shop deliveries, large rides. WG suggest Wed am start better - cars can be cleared from Market Place on Tues evening as for Farmers' Market.

War Memorial - more correspondence received supporting move to Market Place. Parish Plan questionnaire will now include this item for the public to indicate their views. PC minutes from 1920s, when memorial was erected, are in Oxford archives. A new, second memorial has been proposed.

Tree cutting at Castle - has been done - cost £420 (this is outside agreed budget).

Hedgerow restoration at Satin Lane - 50% grants available.

Deddington Circular Walk - new discs needed but none available.

Highways: Parking trial in Market Place has started. Cars of businesses' staff have a white sticker. If any car with white sticker is seen parked between Town

Hall & Police Station, the registration no. should be noted. Philip Allan's staff are conforming and there has been an improvement to the parking problem. Rodney Hayward has expressed concern. Clifton footpath - PC not prepared to pay increased costs and OCC will put the issue onto a list for future capital expenditure. Ray Jelf asked to pursue.

Crossing near library going ahead.

Speeding on Hempton Road - suggestion made to purchase cheap cars or vans and park them strategically each side of the road to act as chicanes. OCC supplying flashing speed lights in Adderbury and Bloxham Rd, Banbury - why not Deddington? Spokesman from OCC should be invited to speak at a PC meeting.

Planning: PC no objection:

- 1) The Vicarage, Earls Lane - demolition of existing vicarage and erection of new vicarage, 2 building plots and new access to highway (as amended by plans received 27/4/05).
- 2) Winmour Cottage, Philcote St. - insertion of 2 fully glazed doors & 3 roof lights to south elevation, insertion of 1 half glazed door and 1 fully glazed door to rear elevation - unless comments from adjoining neighbours.
- 3) 1 The Lane, Hempton - conservatory to rear.

Applications approved: The Holly Tree Club; Sylvan Cottage, Clifton; Greystone, Banbury Rd. Deddington; Merrybower Cottage, Philcote St.

Bengal Spice are trying to conform to CDC planning - insertion of ventilation has been improved and is no longer attached to neighbour's wall.

Parish Plan: the date for questionnaire distribution has been put back to September. There has been a good response to completion prizes from local restaurants & businesses.

AOB: celebrations for VJ Day - British Legion & Vicar to arrange ?

- Radio 4's 'Any Questions ?' will be recorded in Deddington at Windmill Centre on Friday 8 July. Approx 200 tickets available. 15 will be distributed to each political party. PC Councillors to host speakers for drinks etc following recording. Anyone wanting tickets should contact Graham Pitts.

- Easter crosses on Green - the 2 lying down destroy grass beneath; the one standing - ? a nuisance to grass cutters

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 15 June, Town Hall, 7.45pm.

Annual General Meeting followed the PC meeting. All the officers were re-elected. Structure of Working Groups works well; the same groups will continue. Cllr. Jelf said that many village PCs envied our efficient organisation. Brian Putland, new Cllr., will join the Highways WG. Dates of PC meetings will remain on third Wed. of each month. Grants to students - agreed to continue after check that such grants are legal. Thanks expressed to Graham Pitts for his good work. Good reports concerning the new steward, John Coleman.

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

April and May have very much been focusing on academic achievement, with most of the school undertaking assessments of one sort or another. Most of these are now over and we can get back to normality with everyone looking forward to what we hope will be a lovely summer. 1 April our Year-6 children had an exciting visit to The Horton Hospital to take part in the county injury minimisation programme. Here they learnt some basic first aid and health and safety training in the hands of professional medical staff. I am pleased to say no-one fainted this year, as I gather one or two have in the past. We welcome to the school Miss Claire Cooper from Oxford Brookes University on her final teaching practice, and already she has proved to be quite an asset.



We have had a very successful interview process to replace Miss Lenihan. I am pleased to say that Miss Jane Bellinger will be joining us in September as our new Deputy Head. Miss Bellinger is teaching in Croydon at the moment, but as a Banbury girl originally she is looking forward to returning to her roots. Her specialist curriculum areas are Maths, Art and PE.

The first Deddington Walk, organised by our wonderful PTA was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part, although one or two of us were a little stiff the next day! The weather was just perfect for a walk and it was lovely for everyone to enjoy the beautiful scenery that surrounds Deddington.

We have at long last received the building plans for the new Early Years Unit. I have put them up in the entrance hall at school. With the costings in we are trying to raise the last few thousand to complete the project (planning permission permitting). We have had a fantastic offer from the Deddington Trusts Estates to help us fund the outdoor play area, which is so important to our youngest children. Many thanks to them for all their support.

Judith Tinsley 338430

Teaching Assistant Vacancies

We are currently recruiting for 2 posts to work with two of our Special Needs children at our school, to start 5 September 2005.

Post 1. This is for 16 hours a week 5 mornings plus a short afternoon to work with a pupil in year 3 with emotional and behavioural difficulties. Most of this support would be within the class. We are willing to consider this as a job-share post.

Post 2. This post is for 10 hours per week 9.30-11.30 every day, to support a pupil in year 4 who has difficulties with literacy and numeracy. This would entail individual work and in class support.

(Application forms and further details can be obtained from the Headteacher, Mrs Judith Tinsley. Please state in which post you would be interested.)

The starting salary will be G3: Point 10 (£6.36 per hour), term time only. Closing date: Friday 10 June 2005

PTA

Our first annual Deddington Walk was a fantastic success! In all we had 222 entrants, most of whom completed the Hempton loop, with some continuing to complete the Clifton loop as well. The weather was very kind to us too, so the BBQ and ploughman's lunch went down very well 'picnic' style outside on the grass!

The smallest children enjoyed the 'little' walk of 2 miles to Daeda's Wood and found lots of interesting things on the way. We are extremely grateful to all those who gave up so much of their time and put so much effort into making this event one to remember. We are looking forward to organising the 2006 Deddington Challenge and hope that we have started something really special.

As you will see by the advertisement, the School Summer Fête will be held on Saturday 18 June this year, with lots of new ideas for attractions, side stalls and games this year, as well as keeping some of our old favourites. Look out for the Quad Bikes in their Bouncy Arena too! Come along and enjoy a traditional Summer Fête and support the Early Years Unit at the school.

Get your 'glad rags' on for a very special Oscars Night which is being held on Saturday 2 July - a joint venture with Deddington Pre-School in aid of the Early Years Unit. Tickets are available from Sian on 337457 priced at £20.00 each, or 2 for £35.00 before 18 June. Your support is very much appreciated, this promises to be a fantastic night out. *Stella O'Neill* PTA Chair 338769

Deddington Primary School
Annual Summer Fete
 Saturday 18th June 2005 from 2 – 5pm



*****Stop Press - NEW ATTRACTION FOR 2005!*****
******Quad Bikes in a Bouncy Arena!******



Hook A Duck!





Crazy Golf



Bouncy Castle



Music & Dancing



Entrance at the School Gate

£2 Adults
 £1 Children
 £5 Family Ticket
 £1 OAPS
 Under 5's Free

Mouth watering afternoon teas, with cake and scones, or a delicious variety of ice creams!

Organised by Deddington Primary School PTA
 Reg Charity 1052715
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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 1 10.00 am Eucharist
 Thur 2 2.00 pm Squeals & Wheels
 Sun 5 10.30 am Morning Praise
 6.30 pm Evensong
 Wed 8 10.00 am Eucharist
 Sat 11 10.00 am ST BARNABAS Eucharist
 Sun 12 10.30 am Sung Eucharist and Childrens Church
 Wed 15 10.00 am Eucharist
 Thur 16 2.00 pm Squeals and Wheels
 Sun 19 10.30 am Sung Eucharist
 Wed 22 10.00 am Eucharist
 Sun 26 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10.30 am Songs of Praise and Childrens Church
 Wed 29 10.00 am SS PETER & PAUL Eucharist
 6.30 pm 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),
 John Dane (07903 478206),
 or one of the Churchwardens,
 Iain Gillespie (338367)
 or Judy Ward (337187).

St John, Hempton in June

Sun 5 & 19 9.00 am Eucharist
 Fri 24 6.30 pm SS PETER & PAUL Eucharist

From the Parish Registers BAPTISMS :

May 8 - Isabel Eve Flintham, Thomas Arthur Fenemore, Florence Tuthill

FUNERAL : May 20 - Bethany Gwynne

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS:

Aberford, Hopcraft Lane, Deddington [Jean Welford 338539] Weds 1 & 15 June, 7.30pm

2 The Leyes, Deddington [Liz Dickinson 337050] Weds 1 & 15 June, 7.30pm

Charity of the Month - please use the special envelope to put donations [if a taxpayer, in a pink *GiftAid* envelope] into the Parish Church chest. June: WATER AID

WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Sunday Mornings at 10.30 am Preacher - Pastor Isabel Walton; 26 June - David Goode

Bible Study/Fellowship every Wednesday at 7.30 pm

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, New Street

Joyce Minnear 338 529

Sunday *morning* services are held together with the Wesleyan Reform Church. Sunday evening services are held at the Chapel at 6.00 pm with Communion on the first Sunday of the month.

Speakers for June are Sunday: 5 - Pastor Isabel Walton (and communion)

12 - Andrew Cotton; 19 & 26 *to be announced*

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 Saturday evening Mass at St John's Banbury is said at 4.00 pm to allow Catholics from the villages to attend before the last bus leaves town.

Saturday 11 June

The Woodpecker Band

Barn Dance & Ploughmans

Windmill Centre

7.30 - 11.30 pm

Fabulous

Fun Filled

Foot tapping Evening

Bar available.

Price £10.00/ticket



Saturday 23 July at Hinton-on-the Hedges

Five intrepid Sky Divers are putting their lives

into the hands of others and NEED Sponsors

Please phone your pledges to

Tony, Catherine & Jonathan Elvidge

- 338214

Sally Haslam - 338216

Glynnis Eastwood - 331021

- or it may later be possible to donate (with *Giftaid*) by card on line.

Thanks to the generosity of sponsors and donors, the support of advertisers, and the unsparing efforts of many volunteers and Friends, this year's Festival will be bigger and more varied than ever.

The following events are free: Art Exhibition at the Holly Tree; Organ Recital in the parish church; 'Poetry Please' at the Unicorn Inn; Craft Exhibition in the Town Hall; the Children's Creative Art Workshop at the Windmill Centre.

Tickets for events where we have to make a charge - Music Hall, Festival Cup Cricket, Orchestral Concert, Choral Concert, Jazz - will be on sale, along with Souvenir Programmes, at the Farmers' Market on 28 May, and afterwards from Bluebells, Deddington Market Place: One-Man-Band, White Lion Walk, Banbury: Eileen Anderson 338325: and on the door. Remember, it's your Festival. See the Diary on page 1 for dates, times and places. Come and enjoy Deddington Festival - 23-26 June!

Norman Stone 338019

Festival Writing Competition

Here's the Competition short-list. These entries were passed on to Judith Paskin, Features Editor at BBC Radio Oxford for the final judging. Regrettably quite a number of entries were disqualified as they did not meet some of the conditions, chief of which was their irrelevance to the theme of Festival.

- a) Fiction: *Mission Festival*, Sadie Densham, Duns Tew; *A Spirit of Summer Love*, Joanna Vale, Sibford Ferris; *Benjamin's Birthday*, M.J. Charika, Didcot; *Befitting a Feast Day*, Maureen Dew, Deddington
- b) Non-Fiction: *Well Dressing*, Winifred Spray, Oxford; *Festival of Id in Fez*, Jenny Selby-Green, Chipping Norton.
- c) Poetry (adult): *Festival*, Jo Barton, Duns Tew; *Flirting with Tradition*, Rosemary Walker, Bicester; *Deddington Festival*, John Cheney, Deddington; *Whitsun Festival Walk*, Maureen Dew, Deddington. John Cheney's poem made the short list on merit, but as no Trustee/Director of Deddington Festival may profit from the Festival, he could not have been awarded a prize.

Sadly there were very few entries from the under-16s: indeed, only four, two of which were sent for a category that did not exist!. As an encouragement for their enterprise, we have decided to award each a modest token. Winners will be notified by mid-June.

Sylvie Spenceley

Deddington Festival Committee: *Hugh O'Donnell (Chairman), *Sarah Robertson (Treasurer), *Eileen Anderson (Secretary), *John Cheney, *Donald Lane, Janet Lincé, *Norman Stone, Kristin Thompson, *Hugh White, Eva Williams. * Starred names are Trustees of Deddington Festivals Ltd, a non-profit Company limited by guarantee.

*The *s were lost in e-transmission last month. Ed*

Music for a Spring Evening

OXFORD PRO MUSICA SINGERS - Saturday 23 April

Although the evening was perhaps not as spring-like as one would have liked, the concert given by the accomplished Pro Musica Singers was entertaining and technically impressive. The choir is famed for the diversity of its repertoire, and we enjoyed everything from the Renaissance to the Twenty-First Century, with two world premiere performances.

The choir produces a perfectly balanced sound and their breath control and phrasing appear effortless. Their range of dynamics moves from a full, very powerful and vibrant 'fortissimo' to a focussed and well-controlled 'pianissimo'. Particularly enjoyable was their rendition of Parry's *My Soul There is a Country*, and their interpretation of two works by another British composer, Gerald Finzi. The fascinating *e-Motion*, by Alexander L'Estrange to words by Joanna Forbes, which was a mixture of rhythmical speaking and singing, punctuated by a variety of vocal effects, was a witty tribute to the joys and frustrations of the world of computers.

The highlight of the evening was the first performance of *Between Hush and Hush* by local composer Donald Lane. The musical phrases and rhythms captured the essence of C Day-Lewis's haunting poem and the piece was remarkable for the sonority of the part-writing and the aptness of the word setting.

There were two Organ Interludes: Richard Goodall demonstrated the wonderful tonal variety and mellow sound quality of the Deddington Church organ which was particularly evident in Thalben-Ball's *Elegy*. The energetic, meticulous conducting of Michael Smedley ensured that both choir and audience were totally engaged and everyone felt that they had been treated to a first-class concert of professional quality.

Elsa Williams



FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL

The Souvenir Programme for Deddington Festival 2005 goes on sale at the Farmers' Market on 28 May 28th. Friends will be able to pick up their free copy. As Sue Goddard, FDF Committee Convenor, wrote in the first Friends Newsletter, there is something for everyone in this year's programme.

We look forward to seeing as many Friends as possible at the Reception in the Parish Church on 8 June. Its exciting but also a little unnerving to be setting up an entirely new body and we hope that Friends will use 8 June to let us know how they feel the organisation is developing. We know that goodwill abounds. Equally, we are sure that there are things we should have done but haven't. So please give us your ideas for further developments, improvements etc.

Finally, choosing from among all the much appreciated offers of help, may we particularly thank Ruth Johnson and the Ladies of the Church Kitchen, who give unstinting (almost unceasing) help when it comes to keeping Friends and Festival participants fed and watered.

Kristin Thompson

FROM MRS A. JAMES, THE BEECHES, DEDDINGTON

I moved into the area in 1957 and into Deddington itself in 2000. Not being a church-goer or attending Remembrance Day Parades, I never knew there was a War Memorial. So I took myself through the churchyard to find it.

For those who are still interested, it is in a separate section (of the churchyard) near the Clifton Road. It is attractive, graves well-kept, but no flowers anywhere, either on the Memorial or on any of the nearby graves (Yes, I know this is a woman's thing, but women fought and died in wars, too). This leads me to believe that although there may still be relatives around, they are of an age not actually to have known the men mentioned on the Memorial, or are unable to reach the site without difficulty. There is a narrow access path and no great number can be accommodated without trampling on other graves. No one is buried under the Memorial itself, so what is the problem in moving it? I understand the Parish Council has funds and that the Royal British Legion is prepared to help with any relocation. Surely it would be more of a tribute to those who gave their lives for our benefit in the '14-18 and subsequent wars, to have the Memorial in the open for all to see and for Deddington to be proud of.

FROM RAYMOND MORRIS, CHAIRMAN, DEDDINGTON BRANCH, ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

We put forward proposals (for the removal of the Memorial from the Churchyard to the Market Place) and offered help in contacting the War Memorials Trust and the Royal British Legion. It seems that help, both financial and advisory, is available from both these sources. Approval in principle for the relocation would be needed from the Church and the Parish Council before further progress could be made. We have received a number of letters and telephone calls and it has been suggested that some form of petition should be organised to ascertain the strength of village opinion.

It is appreciated that people were invited to post opinions on the website, but many callers have commented that they don't have internet access. If anyone wishes to register an opinion or offer practical help, they are welcome to telephone me either during the daytime or early evening - 338143. Or write to Deddington Royal British Legion, High Street, Deddington OX15 OSJ.

FROM ROB FORSYTH, NEW STREET, DEDDINGTON

The DOL Editorial group, which I chair, fully supports David Hood's letter to the *DN* last month, in which he recommends that people make their views about moving the War Memorial clearly known to the Parish Council. However, we would like to take this opportunity to respond to his doubts that very few villagers may have the facility to use our website. Based on our own experience, we know that a large proportion of Deddington parishioners now have a computer and regular access to the internet. The recent arrival of broadband in the village has made the internet even more accessible, cheaper and easier to use. Should anyone without a computer wish to use the internet facility in the Library, they will not have to queue because there are now four terminals available, free of charge courtesy of the Oxfordshire Library Services and

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the DOL team.

Deddington now has one of the best and largest village websites in the UK. It is visited hundreds of times a day and so, as the *DN* itself is now available on the internet, it is entirely possible that descendants of the names on the War Memorial will be reading this letter page in places as far-flung as Tasmania or North America. If this is the case, we very much hope that they will respond to the War Memorial topic. Church news and School news are likewise disseminated on the internet via their own websites. The addresses for both DOL and the *DN* are to be found at the foot of each page of the *DN*.

The opinion poll that the *DN* asked DOL to run last month had eight serious replies and these will be passed on to the Parish Council as are all letters on any subject addressed to DOL's Forum discussion pages. For instance, traffic and parking problems in the village have generated a considerable amount of discussion! We would therefore encourage even more people to use Deddington OnLine as a convenient and effective way to express views and opinions which complement but in no way replace the more traditional Letters to the *DN*.

E-MAIL FROM HUGH MARSHALL, (Deddington Fair Traders)
THE DAEDINGS, DEDDINGTON

I enjoy reading George Fenemore's monthly column, though sometimes he writes more to provoke than to inform. Last month his column did both! His local experience underlines the pressure that UK farmers are under from the decisions of those in power. *DN* readers will have much sympathy with George and Chris when they hear the NFU President predicting on a national scale what George wrote about last month from the local perspective - the demise of the traditional family farm. No-one wants to increase the number of suicidal callers to the Farm Crisis Network, but the pressure is not only here. Last year 2,115 farmers took their own lives in the Indian State of Andhra Pradesh alone. It is because the pressure is world-wide that the Campaign for Trade Justice supports all primary producers.

Unfortunately George over-eggs his case by claiming that 'the ever-increasing imports of sheep meat from unregulated Third World countries in South America and Africa' are putting his own flock at risk. Figures from Custom and Excise show that no sheep meat has been imported from Africa since 2000, and only 1200kg. in the past ten years - hardly a major threat. But George's legitimate concern for British food security will be shared by many farmers in the developing world who have been put out of business by subsidised imports which equally imperil their own countries' food security.

The website www.farmerslink.org.uk/lfw.htm illustrates the solidarity between farmers worldwide. Ed

FROM JANE PLUMMER, BULLRING, DEDDINGTON

I am a regular user of the Castle Grounds and Heritage Site, taking my children and dog there several times a week. People from babies to the elderly enjoy this area of outstanding beauty and it is an asset to the Parish. It now saddens me to see the neglect.

- Trees are not managed effectively, with deadwood being left and no replanting taking place.
- Pathways around the edge are not maintained or cleared, making it hard to use these walkways.
- Fallen trees are left in a dangerous state, one having fallen onto a parishioner. This was reported to the PC but nothing was done. This must be a duty of care to the Parish.
- Previously the grass was cut every fortnight. Now increased weed growth and clots of mown grass lie around making it difficult for children to play and adults to walk.

I am sure the PC is aware of the concern within the Parish. The Precept has reached its highest level and yet we are not benefiting from these additional monies. I am not privy to the maintenance contract details between English Heritage and the Deddington Parish Council but question whether that contract is being adhered to. May I invite all Parish Councillors to visit the Castle Grounds and judge for themselves?

FROM DEE HAILEY, 7, HUDSON STREET, DEDDINGTON

Now that I've got my breath back and can walk normally again, I would like to thank all the people in the village who sponsored my run for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust in the Flora London Marathon on 17 April. Thanks to your generosity, I have just about hit my four-figure target.

It was a lovely sunny day, maybe a little warm, but I enjoyed my trot around! Now all I have to do is collect the sponsorship. Please feel free to drop it through my letterbox (cheques made out to the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, not to me). Thank you again.

E-MAIL FROM REGINE PARSONS, HEMPTON

I recently commented when one of my colleagues wrote a cheque for £6.01. She wrote the following words: six pounds and one pence. I firmly believe it should have been 'one penny' as penny is the singular of pence. I asked other colleagues and, so far, to my amazement, 80% believe, through some illogical thought process, that one says the word, penny but writes the word, pence. Would you be able to print some proof in your next edition to settle the debate?

(Régine Parsons was born in France. K.T.)



New parish businesses are always being added to our village website. A number of these have taken up the option of an expanded commercial entry. This idea was originally suggested by one of our local businesses. Existing businesses may also be interested in expanding their text entry and include a picture at a modest cost. Further details and a template can be found at www.deddington.org.uk/expentry

All basic entries remain free of charge. The charge for the expanded business entry covers our costs only. This is good value if it attracts greater attention from potential customers. We remain strictly a non-profit making website and our prime purpose remains to be of a service to all in the Parish.

Colin Clark 338064 or colin.clark@deddington.net

WINDMILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

At our last committee meeting we agreed to remind users and members of the general public that dog walkers are welcome only if they ensure that any 'deposits' are cleaned up and put in the bins provided. We are fortunate to have a wonderful facility, which is sometimes marred by unthinking people. We have arranged for the Dog Warden to make more frequent visits to monitor the area. We remind people also that playing GOLF is not allowed, as it is a potential danger to others using the area. *Jim Flux* for the Committee

Tennis

The Open Day on 8 May was well attended: welcome to all new players. We used a dinky gadget on that day to measure speed of service - Cheryl and Belinda were the fastest women, serving aces at over 60 mph.

Deddington has 3 teams playing in the Banbury summer league. The A team has yet to win, but the B team beat Hook Norton and the C team won against Harbury - once they found it. We hope to report on some junior matches soon.

We are now fully affiliated to the LTA, which means we can get tickets for Wimbledon. The draw takes place any day now.

Club meetings are on Wednesdays from 6 pm 'til dusk and, for a few more weeks, on Sunday mornings. From 19 June we will play on Sunday afternoons instead starting at 2.30 pm. This is a trial for the summer and we kick it off with an American Tournament and picnic.

Thank you to Cyclogical, Hudson Street for looking after the key. Non-members can hire courts from them.

Katie McGovern 338771

1st Deddington Boys' Brigade Company

On 1 May the 1st Woodley BB Company joined us for a Church Parade led by our Brass Band. Around 20 boys from the 1st Woodley spent that weekend camping out at the Windmill; we understand all had a great time.

In May, Lewis, Marcus, Max B, Tobo, James M, Jack W, Harry and Thomas S were promoted from Anchors to Juniors, whilst Tom W, Josh, Ben and Mark were promoted from Juniors to our new Company section and we welcomed Conor into the Anchors.

Our Brass Band led a special VE remembrance parade held by the Royal British Legion in Middle Barton on 8 May. A contingent of 15 boys and 2 officers from Deddington took part in the Oxfordshire Battalion Church parade in Witney on 15 May, and on 20 May our Juniors took part in the Battalion sports competition held at Kings Sutton. At our annual display and awards evening on 25 May our guest of honour was Walter Mullis, Oxfordshire Battalion President.

The BB has spaces for new members in the Anchors (ages 5, 6 and 7) and the Company (ages 11, 12 and 14). For more information - *Brian Bushell* 338715

Deddington Royal British Legion Branch & Club

April and May were very busy months for both the Branch and the RBL Club. We are making plans to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second

World War. 9/10 July are the anniversary dates of VE and VJ days and we have added to that the 80th birthday celebration of the Royal British Legion in Deddington.

On Saturday 9 July there is a '40s evening at the club - fancy dress optional - and on Sunday 10 July a barbecue and tombola in the afternoon. Full details of our 60th anniversary events are posted on the Club door and on village notice boards. Everyone is welcome, as they are to a fund-raising Strawberries and Champagne evening on 25 June, which starts at 8 pm.

Our numbers continue to grow and the Club has been well supported throughout the year. Membership of the Branch and Club is open to all aged over 18. The fee is £15 per annum and members may be accompanied by their partners and, at certain times, children under 18. The Club is open on Friday from 6pm and on Saturday and Sunday from noon. A Meat Draw raffle is held every Sunday at 1.30 pm.

Ray Morris

Deddington Babies and Toddlers Group

The toddlers are looking forward to the summer ! There is an outing to Hatton Country World near Warwick on Friday 1 July, where we can enjoy farm animals, indoor and outdoor play areas and tractor rides. Please note that we will not meet at the Windmill on that day. On Friday 5 August we have a Teddy Bears' Picnic at the Windmill - always lots of fun ! Put both dates in your diary and watch out at toddlers for more details.

Lucy Squires 338442

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Deddington Pre-School

There is lots going on at Pre-School at the moment. We were delighted to be awarded a grant from the Co-op. Our chair, Jane Privett, has been presented with a cheque, ably assisted by Sophie and Victoria.

We welcome Kate Medway who joins us this term as a nursery nurse. Kate is a great addition to the Pre-School as she comes to us with lots and lots of experience and great ideas.

We will be talking about birthdays this half of term and will be inviting children to come in party dress for all sessions in the week before half term.

A great big thank you to all those who helped out on the 'Daddy DIY' weekend and thanks to Colin Payne who co-ordinated the day and got all the helpers working so hard! Thanks also to those who donated plants for our garden. Don't forget to put 'A Night at the Oscars' in your diaries - Saturday 2 July at the Windmill Centre. Tickets will be £20 a head or £35 for two if bought before 18 June. We will be selling tickets at Deddington Farmers' Market on 28 May and at the fête on 18 June.

Rowena Dickerson

Deddington and District History Society

On 11 May Malcolm Airs gave a highly illuminating talk on 'Heythrop and English Baroque architecture', making a complex subject approachable and readily understandable. When we visit Heythrop Park (6.30 on 1 June), those who attended the talk will be readily identifiable, standing around, drink in hand, discussing the finer points of inverted pediments and decorated window aprons. The cost of the visit is £6, to include refreshments. If you have not already booked a place please contact me, or Moira Byast (338637), or Sue Shattock (338880).

On 7 June we visit South Newington for a guided tour of the village. We meet at S.Newington church at 7.00. Moira Byast is organising another of her very enjoyable historical walks for the afternoon of Saturday

23 July: please contact Moira for details.

The Society's family history research group has got off to an encouraging start. If you are interested in your family history, why not join the group and get friendly advice and support from fellow researchers? Moira Byast is again the person to contact.

Chris Day 337204

Deddington Players

We are performing two sketches - *The Master and the Maid* and *The Code of the West* - at the Music Hall at the Windmill on 23 June. Please come and support us in this event. Members of the Deddington Players are invited to a garden party at Ron and Pet's in Aynho on Sunday 10 July at 12 noon. This is always a lovely afternoon and has been timed this year to avoid the school holidays.

Lucy Squires 338442

Deddington Town Football Club

1st Team Results: -

Croprey (a) Won 6-1 B.Durrant (4), S.Flemming, own goal.
The Toad (a) Won 7-0 B.Durrant (3), S.Flemming (2), M.Rouse, A.Shepherd.

Hethe (Benevolent Cup Final) Lost 4-5 M.Hewitt, B.Durrant, S.Flemming (2).

The 1st team finished their league season in style, winning both matches in emphatic fashion. Leading goal scorer Ben Durrant scored hat tricks in both games. These results helped the team to an impressive 4th place in the Premier League, the players should be proud of their achievement. The Benevolent Cup final did not go according to plan and Deddington came out on the wrong side of an exciting 9-goal thriller, losing 4-5.

At our AGM at the beginning of May, the decision was taken to enter 2 teams in the Banbury and District/Lord Jersey League. Jason Timms will manage the 1st team and Marc Walker will manage the Reserve side. Training for next season commences at the start of July.

The following players received awards at our presentation night: 1st Team Awards: Players' Player of the Year - Roan Waddelow & Ben Durrant (Shared). Manager's Player of the Year - Keith Laird. Leading Goal Scorer - Ben Durrant. Supporters' Player of the Year - Andy Shepherd. Reserve Team Awards: Players' Player of the Year - Phil Gallant. Manager's Player of the Year - Andy Pearce. Leading Goal Scorer - Phil Kirsopp. Supporters' Player of the Year - Matthew Gibbs. Thank you to the British Legion for hosting a very successful evening.

75 Club Winners 22/4/05 Mrs A. Franklin £100; 29/4/05 G.Reason £50; 6/5/05 H.Olubaji £50; 13/5/05 H.Morris £50.

Steve Plumble 01295 278258

Deddington Badminton Club

We ended our season on a high! Both men's teams won promotion by topping their respective leagues! With this in mind we hope to field a third team next year to include many of our past and present Junior players. Our 2 mixed teams achieved mid-table position and our ladies team managed 2 wins more than last season. Another remarkable achievement is our Men's A team winning the Dave Thompson Memorial Trophy - a first for Deddington. It is awarded to the team that gain the most points in a season against the number of

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games played. We now have a well-deserved summer break and our season starts again Tuesday 6 September! For more information on the Banbury league, team results and tables see www.btbl.org.uk website.

Mark Tyler 338056

Book Club

In May we read *The Reader* by Bernhard Schlink, which is a powerful novel exploring collective guilt in post-war Germany. As a complete contrast, our book for June is *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon. This is a quirky mystery told from the view of a mathematically brilliant autistic teenager. Our next meeting is 30 June. Please call for venue.

Sally Lambert 338094

WI

At our Resolutions meeting (when we vote upon the two that are put to the AGM in early June), we discussed the low price paid to farmers for milk, with the inevitable result of fewer milking herds, and the further recycling of waste. It appears that Cherwell comes out rather well with the latter. Beryl Suckling and Barbara Upton went to meetings where these Resolutions were discussed. These points were put to the meeting, whereupon the members voted that our delegate should vote 'for' on both counts. A 'senses' quiz followed organised by Beryl and Maureen Cox.

At our next meeting on 14 June, Wesley Morgan

speaks on Holistic Therapy Treatment There is a trip to Bournemouth on 9 August at a cost of £14: families and friends welcomed. Contact Angela Sones, 338027 or myself.

Rene Mahony 338438

Deddington Guides

We had a very successful evening watching bats in the beautiful grounds of Wroxton Abbey guided by an expert team under the leadership of Reg Tipping. The bats defied the cold to swoop above our heads in the woods and dip across the lake in large numbers. The little bat detector gadgets picked up their calls as they hunted. The guides were captivated.

We've concentrated on the out-of-doors lately and had a lively evening putting up different kinds of tents ready for camp. Our first cook-out was partly washed out and we retreated to the hall and cooked our sausages on mini barbecues. The smell made the local fire brigade – who gave us an impromptu display of fire fighting practices - feel very hungry and sent them rushing home for tea after their training session.

We've learnt about 'backwoodsman' cooking, that is, without equipment or pots and pans. Baked egg in a hollowed-out orange was very successful as were our foil parcels of food. We are now expert at lighting fires and putting them out!

Maggie Rampley Guider 01295 810069

Glynnis Eastwood 337021

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THE FLOWER GARDEN

One of the most satisfying things to do in the garden is pruning. All you need is a mild day, a sharp pair of secateurs and perhaps a pair of gardening gloves. The latter are optional. I find that I start the job carefully gloved but after a short time when I wrap my bleeding finger in a bit of paper, I wonder what happened to the glove. The trouble is, I think, that to be useful, gardening gloves have to be strong and tough, and that means that the natural touch is lost. The question of when and how much arises. I was taught to prune roses by a really knowledgeable friend, but even she would have trouble now. It used to be "The last week in March and the third bud facing outwards", not a day earlier, but look what happened to that. The warmer climate has meant that roses hardly shed their leaves, they just grow longer and more spindly shoots. You might just as well clip them back whenever you feel so inclined. My own rule of thumb refers to the flowering time. A



shrub which flowers very early in the season, like the Forsythia, has plenty of time to grow new shoots, so there is no need to attack it at once. For me, one of the most difficult to sort out is the Clematis family. There seems to be a different rule for each variety, but I reckon you can't do much harm to a Montana or a Jackman.

I have recently discovered a new fun thing: topiary. For that you need a pair of sharp scissors, or very small secateurs, and you snip away happily. I started with a little Yew tree, and have now graduated to a Box tree, which John Cresswell gave me years ago. The Box has a head and a body, but I am not yet sure if it will turn into a cat, or rabbit. You see, one ear has disappeared over the winter months, and it will take ages to grow another.

Marianne Elsley

Geoff Townsend

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In my little unheated glasshouse the runner beans have been growing at a fantastic pace. They took a couple of weeks to germinate and then pushed up through the soil with enormous vigour. By the end of May they are likely to be more than ready to plant out in a nice sunny spot in the garden, after all risk of frost has passed. Being a bit of a romantic, I have marvelled at the way in which a small bean has so quickly transformed itself into a thriving plant nearly a foot high, reaching up to ever greater heights. It is certainly not down to any skill or green fingers of mine, and I trust that my handling of them in the next stage will not harm them or risk their growth into fruitful plants climbing up the trellis which awaits them. Gardening is some sort of a partnership between us and nature – and I try never to forget that nature is the senior partner. I see my role to be to work with weather, soil and seed so that a reasonable crop can be produced. This means being patient when things seem slow, ready when warmth or water or feed is appropriate, and not to expect more than the conditions and the plants can reasonably produce. When things go wrong it is almost invariably my fault. But that's what happens in a partnership.

Hugh Marshall

Friends of Daeda's Wood



There'll be a summer evening walk down to the Wood on Saturday 18 June, starting from the

Windmill Centre at 6.30 p.m. in the company of our Woodland Officer, Tom Curtis. The wild flowers should be at their best, and the damselflies in evidence. All welcome. *Sylvie Spenceley* 338995

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

There was a 70% turnout for the General Election and County Council Election. The Church Hall is now used for elections so people do not have to go to Deddington. On the same evening the Ascension Day service was held in the Church with a disappointing congregation of only about 14 people.

Scaffolding has now been erected to repair stonework to the bellcote, which will complete the present stage of repairs at St. John's Church.

The cake stall under the Town Hall in Deddington made £168. Many thanks to everyone who made cakes, also to Leah Calcutt and Janet Watts who staffed the stall and to everyone who bought cakes. The Friends of the Church will be holding a Coffee Morning on 21 June between 10.00am and 12 noon in the Church Hall. This will include a Bring and Buy Stall.

The Fernhill Club at Barford is running two trips: one to Coventry Cathedral and shopping on 13 July and the second a day trip to Longleat on 7 September. If anyone is interested please contact either Pam Dodd on 338112 or Avril Green on 338381

There will be no Evensong in St. John's Church on 26 June, as that weekend is the 2005 Deddington Festival, with several events in the Parish Church, especially on Sunday evening.

Les Chappell 338054

FROM THE FIRE STATION

15 Shouts received in the last month, 1 chimney, 1 caravan fire, 1 bedroom fire, 4 standbys, 1 garage fire, 2 false alarms with good intent, 1 false alarm malicious, 1 car fire, 1 cooker fire, 1 lorry fire, and 1 bin fire.

The bedroom fire was caused by a candle left unattended, the occupier went downstairs for a few minutes, during this time the candle set fire to a dressing gown hanging on the door, this spread to the door, the carpet and other clothing. Fortunately the smoke alarm on the landing operated immediately. This alerted other adults who were sleeping; they were able to extinguish the fire with buckets of water, and to evacuate the family. The grandparents, mother and baby were treated by paramedics for smoke inhalation. Had the smoke alarm not operated this could have been a serious tragedy with fatalities. Never leave lighted candles unattended, and please, please, check your smoke alarm is in good working order - one day your lives may depend upon it.



Crewing: Martin Millard has completed his basic training and we are now looking forward to drilling with him at Deddington in preparation for his competency test. Achene Arfi is now beginning his Breathing Apparatus training and we wish him luck with his courses.

Anne Waters 338281



FROM DEDDINGTON POLICE OFFICE

Personal attack alarms are on sale to the public in the Police Office, Market Place at £5.00 each. Ultra violet pens for marking personal property with post codes as an anti-theft precaution are also obtainable from the Office - these are free.

EAST HOUSE

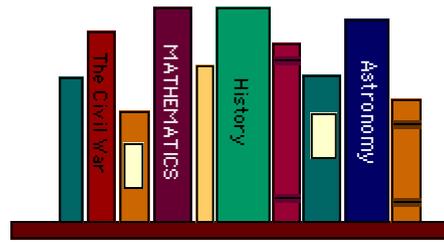
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NEW LIBRARY OPENING HOURS

Deddington Library is increasing its opening times by TWO hours per week.

Following consultation with the users of the Library the following options were chosen by the majority.

Monday	2.00 - 5.00	5.30 - 7.00
Wednesday	9.30 - 1.00	
Thursday	2.00 - 5.00	5.30 - 7.00
Saturday	9.30 - 1.00	

As Saturdays have proved to be very popular, it is hoped that the longer opening will avoid the queues !

These hours will come into force during June. Notices will be put up as the date has not been finally agreed upon.

Rosemary Arnold

The previous opening hours have already been printed on the DN's back cover for June and July. They will be corrected from the September issue. Ed

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GEORGE COGGINS - 1847-1920

Ruth Johnson has found a brief obituary notice in the Deddington Deanery Magazine for December 1920:

'George Coggins died aged 73 on November 1st 1920 and was buried in the same grave as his wife on the 5th, his wife having predeceased him by twenty one years. Among his professional duties as a solicitor in private practice, and his active interest in political affairs, he was Coroner for North Oxfordshire, Clerk to the Justices at the Magistrates' Court, and was also a Church warden and



school manager.'

The first volume of his scrapbooks has more than 300 pages with many newspaper cuttings relating to Deddington, including bankruptcy notices. There are also small and large notices and posters: for example, one announcing that Professor A. Wood (under Royal Patronage) of Oxford would conduct dancing classes in the boys' schoolroom; and notice of a Rural Fête and Picnic at the Castle Grounds in July 1900 at which there would be a Ladies' and Gentlemen's Cricket Match. There are accounts of the Football Club, details of the enrolment in 1886 of George Coggins into the Diploma of Knighthood in the Primrose League; a good deal of information on the bankruptcy of local solicitor Henry Churchill in 1870, and a list of benefactors towards the restoration of the Church tower and bells in 1893, George Coggins giving ten guineas, a substantial sum in those days. There is also a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Deddington Parish Fire Brigade for 1896.

The second scrapbook contains more than four hundred pages. It includes a small notice of 1847 giving details of 'Viggers' Omnibus service from Banbury to London, calling at Deddington at 9.00 a.m. reaching Oxford in mid morning, where passengers transferred to the Royal Blue Omnibus arriving in Holborn at the Bell & Crown at 6.00 p.m. There are details relating to Oxfordshire Rifles, Deddington Subdivision, and several items relating to a dispute in 1854 over whether or not

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DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the month of June 1855:

7th June - I drove to be present at the Ceremony of Laying the Foundation of All Saints Grammar School at Bloxham by the Bishop of the Diocese who preached a most appropriate and eloquent sermon and administered the Holy Communion to about 30 of the neighbouring Clergy and others present at Church, preparatory to the laying of the Stone. The building was designed by Mr. Street, the Diocesan Architect. The object of the School being to afford a first rate education at a very moderate cost to the sons of poor Clergymen and Laity, etc. The ultimate cost of the building it is said when completed will cost upwards of £20,000.

9th June - Our sheep shearing took place, the usual persons attending. I called at B.Mason's and Butcher Dean's to order some meat, and at the Farmhouse to see that the sheep shearers were properly fed, etc.

12th June - I drove to Spokes Mill at Kings Sutton to meet certain Northamptonshire magistrates and examine the estimates sent in for the rebuilding of Twyford Bridge, part being in Northants and part in Oxon. I went as an Oxfordshire magistrate. Only 3 estimates were tendered - that of Charles Ireson of Northampton was accepted, the amount being £245, the work to be done in two months from the signing of the contract.

26th June - A circus performance took place in a field this evening near the Town on Banbury Road I believe.

Buffy Heywood

the Deddington Pool in the Market Place should be filled.

The third scrapbook has an equally diverse collection of material including the Rules for the Deddington District Conservative Association for 1881, the accounts for the Deddington Cricket Club for 1901, and various pieces relating to the duties and responsibilities of the management by the Feoffees of the Deddington Estates in the early 1850s.

These three scrapbooks constitute a gold mine for anyone interested in the history of the period. It would seem that George Coggins was a vigilant and persevering collector of any printed material that related to Deddington, irrespective of its importance and therein lies its real value. Anyone wishing to consult these volumes is advised to set aside a substantial amount of time and make several visits to the Bodleian. The material has not been pasted in on a thematic basis, nor in chronological order, so no matter what the reader's interest all the volumes will have to be consulted, with a good deal of rechecking. It would be of great benefit if the material were to be made available on a CD rom, supposing the Bodleian gave permission, although an expensive, difficult and time-consuming operation. When consulting these scrapbooks it is tantalising to find that George Coggins did not use standard blank scrapbooks but appears to have utilised old legal copy books or similar; in one or two of the volumes one can see a partly concealed manuscript text under the pasted in item, relating to local affairs.

Brian Carter

ON THE FARM

A quote from an old weather forecasting almanac runs, "March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers". Well, we have certainly had a very mixed bag of weather during May with very cold March winds which have delayed much of the crop growth, but few of the April showers. The ground is now very dry and a number of the wheat crops are beginning to suffer from drought stress. However, the bees seem to have picked up well and have made good use of the extended Oil Seed Rape flowering season and an excellent Dandelion crop. We have been able to split down a number of the stronger hives to make up the losses during last winter, and take off some honey. I like to think that the almanac saying for June, "A dry May and dripping June bring everything into tune", will prove right this year.

The paperwork storm in the office shows no sign of abating. The Single Farm Payment forms went off in good time but it will be some time before we can be certain that every box was ticked in the prescribed manner, so we shall be sweating over that one for a while yet. At the present moment I am working on the first of the new environmental schemes which needs to be completed and sent off before the end of May and then it will be into the breach once more to sort out a new higher level environmental stewardship scheme for the flood meadows, to replace the old Upper Thames ESA (environmentally sensitive area) which comes to an end in August. In between we have somehow to fit in the bee-keeping, the sheep, haymaking and the harvest, not to mention treading the boards during the Deddington Festival. Then it will be back to the paper work to bone up on the new cross compliance regulations attached to the single farm payment scheme before we can start planting next year's crops - if, with the present level of world commodity prices, they are going to be worth planting.

George Fenimore 338203

A DANGER EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE AWARE OF

Common Ragwort (*Senecio Jacobaea*) is an obvious weed in July to August when it grows up to 3 feet tall and produces a large bright yellow composite flower head, but it is poisonous to all animals and as such is a listed weed.

1. Ragwort is easily identified. The plant produces a rosette of green jagged edge leaves in early summer and then grows up to 3 feet with a woody slightly red stalk with bright yellow flower heads.



2. Mature plants pull easily but all plants must be burnt or bagged up securely and taken to the local council land fill site.

3. Never allow animals to graze where ragwort has been sprayed until all the plants have rotted into the ground.

4. Always wear sturdy waterproof gloves, cover arms and legs to avoid contact with the plant. A facemask should be used to avoid inhalation of the ragwort pollen.

5. Remember ragwort retains its poisonous properties whether growing, sprayed or dried in food.

6. Any one who has registered with DEFRA for the single payment scheme may have their payment reduced for non-compliance of the Ragwort Bill if they allow ragwort to grow on their land.

OCC environmental services will advise on ragwort, call 01865 844300

D M Harris British Horse Society 01993 702844

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Great Trees and Wooded Edges

Wooded edges line the river bank; they are tall, like overgrown hedges, with spindly shrubs and canopy-size trees. They are useful and do many chores: they root and hold the river's bank, conceal the linnet's nest, and give perch and roost to the wood pigeon. Field maple (*Acer campestre*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*) are frequent where the river is criss-crossed with branches above Swerford village; in this same reach, hazel may grow to 6.5m where grey willow (*Salix cinerea*) is dominant and common hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and wayfaring-tree (*Viburnum lantana*) are occasional.

While great trees of the riverside are rare, like Chelsea pensioners they are cherished for their longevity: sycamores (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) planted on the motte at Swerford castle grounds, for example, are of a great age, as are the London plane trees (*Platanus x hispanica*) in the grounds of Barford Manor, and a sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) on the river edge in The Dingle.

The river edge has grown unserviceable to farmers: hazel is not harvested, willow is rarely pollarded, and tinder is uncollected. In fact, being a treed river edge is itself a sign of neglect. In some places, the Milcombe valley for example, there are trees today where in 1882, as shown on the OS map of that year, the river edge was treeless. After all, tree limbs break and fall into the water, clogging the channel, and inducing flooding of the land. After high winds in October 2002, seven of ten crack-willow trees in one stretch along the river in the Milcombe valley had their main trunks broken; they laid the foundations of a naturally constructed otter's holt and provided an aerial bridge for brave boys and girls to cross from one side of the river to the other.

An excellent wooded edge is towards Wigginton from Between Towns Road, Swerford. Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), English oak (*Quercus robur*) the largest in the north Oxfordshire uplands, field maple, red oak (*Q. rubra*), sycamore and four walnut (*Juglans regia*) trees grow on the edge. Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) 5m high, buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), common hawthorn, elder, hazel and honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) form the shrub storey; climbers include blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*), dog rose (*Rosa canina*) and field rose (*R. arvensis*). Beech, red oak and walnut trees are not self-sown. Here, as in all the places by the river, man ornaments the landscape and the trees are a combination of 'wild' and artifice.

Walter L. Meagher

Portrait of a River: The River Swere in Oxfordshire, by Walter L. Meagher and Peter Sheasby, will be published 30 May and will be available from English Landscapes, 71 Courtington Lane, Bloxham, Oxon. OX15 4HS @ £10.95 + £4.95 p&p; cheques payable to: *River Swere Project*. It will also be available from a stall at the Deddington Farmers' Market on Saturday 25 June. *Portrait of a River*, on the natural and man-made features of the riverside, is a community project sponsored by LOCAL HERITAGE INITIATIVE.

Francis Steiner - their man in England

The Pearce and Steiner clan from Chapmans Lane have returned to base, after two weeks in Austria: the first in the Alpine lake district south of Salzburg, and the second in Vienna. Papa wanted to show his daughter and her family the haunts of his childhood many years ago, and to see them again before he would be too old to travel. Moreover, in Vienna, there were other places of personal memory to see and show - and a couple of jubilees to celebrate.

Having come to England a few months before the outbreak of the last war as a child refugee from Hitler's Austria, and thereby presumably saving his life, Frank Steiner has been slightly unusual. Most refugees of his vintage either returned to their place of origin after the War, or settled so thoroughly into their new homeland that they lost what contact they might have had "at home" and more often than not lost the use of their native tongue. Frank has not done either. He has maintained his childhood contacts in Vienna and elsewhere in Austria, including childhood family friends and classmates from his primary and grammar schools. Part of this contact, keeping him in practice in writing German, has been his part time



Bishop Kapellari & Frank Steiner
- photo: Kathpress

activity as the correspondent for the British Isles of the "Kathpress", the press agency of the Austrian Bench of Catholic Bishops.

His first article for them, on *English Catholics and the General Election of 1955*, appeared in May of that year. That means May 2005 marks 50 years of uninterrupted service for the Agency. Some years ago the Austrian government recognised him as the longest serving foreign correspondent of the Austrian press and awarded him a federal decoration similar to the OBE, but this time it was the Catholic Church which decided to put on a show. The recent trip combined a reception at the Palace of the Cardinal Archbishop of Vienna and the 65th Anniversary of the graduation class of his old grammar school.

Cardinal Schoenborn, the real host of this splendid baroque palace, had better things to do - he went off to Rome to elect the new Pope. He was represented by Dr Kapellari, Bishop of Graz and "media bishop". Frank says his grandchildren, who had been dolled up for the occasion, were much admired and very good, there being no MacDonalds and only strange foreign food. If they were bored to tears with long speeches and addresses of thanks in German, they did not show it. If he can make it to 100 years of service with the Agency, Frank says that they will by then both be quite mature, and they might even have learnt German.

Eileen Anderson