

Do residents need incentives to make the villages tidy - working in a litter-pick team or for a free meal? This month the Parish Council invites everyone to 'pick their bit' outside their own homes, and outside neighbours' who may be less able to do their own tidying. The Parish Clerk has the equipment

to finish the job if required. Those who live here know we live in the best Oxfordshire villages. The Best Kept Village judges need the evidence of their own eyes to believe and decide that that is indeed true. *CH*



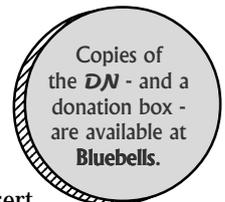
April Diary



- Sat 2 **CAMBRIAN MALE VOICE CHOIR** in concert: Parish Church., 7.30 pm. ➡ p.5
- Mon 4 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10am- noon. ➡ p.10
- Wed 6 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8 pm.
- Tue 12 Deddington Craft Group: Trip to Bath, leaves from Market Place, 9.am. ➡ p.9
- Tue 12 WI: Jan Warner, *Childhood Memories of Deddington*, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.9
- Wed 13 History Society: Tony O'Gorman, *The History of Oxfordshire's Airfields*, Windmill, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.9
- Fri 15 Babies & Toddlers' Group: Mum's Night Out, Crown & Tuns, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.11
- Tue 19 Windmill Community Centre: AGM, Windmill Centre, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.9
- Tue 19 Babies & Toddlers Group: Committee Meeting, Windmill Centre, 8 pm. ➡ p.11
- Wed 20 Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm. ➡ p.2
- Thu 21 Election of churchwardens at Annual Parish Meeting, Parish Church, 7.30 pm.
- Fri 22 Festival Fundraiser: Tutored Wine Tasting Evening, Windmill Centre, 6.30 pm. ➡ p.6
- Sat 23 Deddington Farmers' Market: 9 am ~ 12.30 pm.
- Sat 23 Deddington Beeches Bowls Club: Green opens - weather permitting. ➡ p.9
- Sat 23 **OXFORD PRO MUSICA**: concert, Parish Church, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.6
- Wed 27 Monday Morning Club: Bus for *Twelfth Night* at Stratford leaves from Market Place, 6pm. ➡ p.10
- Wed 27 Deddington Beeches Bowls Club night. ➡ p.9
- Thu 28 Book Club discusses *Middlemarch* by George Eliot. Call Sally for venue. ➡ p.10
- Fri 29 Babies & Toddlers: New-To-You Sale, Windmill Centre, 9.30-11 am. ➡ p.11

May Diary

- Mon 2 **LIVING ROOMS PROJECT**: Family Funday, Windmill Centre, from 11.30 am. ➡ p.5
- Wed 4 Deddington Ladies: Holly Tree, 8 pm.
- Sat 7 **WARRINER CHORAL SOCIETY**: Concert, Parish Church, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.4
- Sun 8 PTA: Deddington Challenge Circular Walk, Windmill Centre, 10 am ➡ p.15 & insert
- Mon 9 Monday Morning Club: Coffee morning, The Holly Tree, 10-noon. ➡ p.10
- Tue 10 WI: Resolutions meeting, followed by quiz, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm. ➡ p.9
- Wed 11 History Society: Malcolm Airs, *Heythrop, Thomas Archer & the English Baroque*, Windmill, 7.30 ➡ p.9
- Fri 13 Monday Morning Club: Visit to Malvern Spring Gardening Show. ➡ p.10
- Sat 14 Friends of Hempton Church: Cake stall, Town Hall, Deddington from 9 am. ➡ p.8
- Tue 17 Monday Morning Club: Visit to Towcester Races. ➡ p.10
- Wed 18 Parish Council: Meeting, Town Hall, 7.45 pm. ➡ p.2
- Fri 20 Deddington Pre-School: Guided Wine Tasting, Unicorn Inn. ➡ p.3
- Sat 21 Deddington Beeches Bowls Club: Cake and Plant Stall under the Town Hall, 9 am
- Sat 28 Deddington Farmers' Market: 9am ~ 12.30 pm.



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.
- 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: **19 APR**

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Meeting in Town Hall - 16 March 2005

Present: Cllrs Flux (chair), Alton, Cox, Haslam, Rollason, Squires, Todd, Watts, Westley, Wood, D/ Cllr O'Sullivan, Graham Pitts (Clerk), Sue Gibbs (Minutes Sec.) and 3 members of the public.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

No interest had been expressed in the 13-month casual vacancy; head-hunt in Clifton for co-option ?

STEWARDS

Dennis Freeman relinquishes his duties from 31/3/05.

Garry Rose to continue with amended job description and sub-contractors as necessary. [See advert.]

MAKE PARISH TIDY

To win Best-Kept Village competition all hands needed to give every street a spring clean: gloves and bags can be collected from the Clerk's office at the Windmill Centre on 13, 18 or 20 April, and filled bags left inside the gates at the Holly Tree Club, in Clifton by the Bus Shelter, or in Hempton behind the village Notice Board.

PARKING TASK FORCE

Meeting on 31/3/05 with business employers to explore relocation of 10 regular all-day parkers to liberate space for short-term customers.

FUNFAIR IN NOVEMBER ?

The offer to revive an old custom with a low-level 2-day fair for junior children in the Market Place is being explored. [See **Straw Poll** on p.12.]

HORSEFAIR CROSSING

Scheme for pelican crossing near library passed to County Council.

HIGHWAYS

- Meeting with Ralph Grant of OCC had put Clifton footpath, Hempton Road crossing and white gates at village approaches firmly onto OCC agenda.
- Uneven patching of Hempton Road considered hazardous to two-wheelers.

PLANNING & PROPERTY

PC no objection: (i) Market Group: erection of new shed at Holly Tree Club and fell 2 hazel trees. (ii) Caldicote House, Clifton - two dwellings to replace existing house [if neighbours content]. (iii) Merrybower Cottage, Philcote Street, Deddington - 2 rear dormer windows & removal of chimney [amended plan]. (iv) Featherton House, Deddington - roof light above Castle Street. (v) 43 The Daedings, Deddington - rear conservatory [if neighbours content]. (vi) Sylvan Cottage, Clifton - change to bed & breakfast with 2 storey side extension. (vii) Land adjoining Home Farm, Clifton - one detached stone house & double garage with new vehicular access [but comments about effect on proposed footpath].

[CORRECTION: Bengal Spice - application for take-away withdrawn, not refused, when original permission granted. Ed]

CDC Approvals:

- Hempton House, Hempton: re-roofing garage with pitched roof. • Home Farm Cottage, Clifton - two storey extension & erection of garage to rear & front porch. • 19 St Johns Way, Hempton - 2-storey side extension & 1-storey side & rear extension. • Orchard

Bank, Deddington - fell birch tree. • Monks Court, Castle Street, Deddington - replace roof window, new roof light, reslate roof as existing. • Clifton Mill, Clifton - restore stable as carport and workshop, re-roof outbuilding. • The Nook, Chapel Square, Deddington: permission not required for two replacement doors.

TREES

- Too many being felled: ? preservation orders needed - possible question in Parish Plan survey.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- War Memorial - PC feel that memorial should not be moved as the families of the Fallen in 1918 and 1945 wanted it where it is; 'brown sign' suggested. [See **Straw Poll** on p.12.]
- BCTA Monday bus service from Hempton to Banbury ending on 30 May.
- Windmill Centre: new security lights may include provision for cameras.
- Pavilions: maintenance to revert to the respective clubs with effect from 1/9/05.
- Grass Cutting: schedules to be reduced to save costs. Colts no longer need Castle ground, but should pay outstanding rent.

PARISH FINANCES

Invoices passed for payment totalled £4129.58, including £1193.67 imprest (mostly stewards' wages); £988.33 NI/tax & Clerk's wages; £1260.54 traffic-calming signs; £222.07 swings for Clifton.

Investments: Total £540,339.45. £250,000 Alliance & Leicester @ 4.55% on 30 days; £4679.60 Barclays (£3222.12 current account + £1457.48 imprest) @ 0.1%; £1000 Bradford & Bingley @ 2.85% on 120 days; £284,659.85 West Bromwich @ 4.7% overnight.

Next MEETING Wed 20 April, Town Hall, 7.45pm - including discussion on affordable housing.

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

Village Steward

Following the retirement of Dennis Freeman and the need for Garry Rose to have a hip replacement operation, we have an immediate vacancy, lasting from four to six months, for a Village Steward, to work a flexible 20hour week - including minimal weekend duties.

Main responsibility will be to ensure that the village is kept clean and tidy although other duties will include some general maintenance.

For more information please contact
Graham Pitts, Clerk to the Council- 01869
337447 or in his absence, Jim Flux -
338153.

Spring is now here and the school grounds are beginning to show signs of green and yellow. At the end of this term we say a sad farewell to Ms Sue Lenihan our Assistant Head as she moves on to her new Headship at Bishop Carpenter School. We will all miss her very much and wish her every success in the future. Our end of term plans are extensive due to the unusual arrangements of the holiday not being arranged over the Easter weekend. The children have been working very hard to make these occasions special. The week after Easter is our Activity week, which includes Grounds Day, Community Day, Maths Challenge Day and an Expressive Arts Day. Red Nose day of course was a highly enjoyable time for the school with the children working very hard to come up with ideas to raise money for this well known cause.

We have taken part in several Warriner Partnership activities this term with great success. We hosted one of the Year 2 Singing Days where the children performed a mini musical called 'Billy No Buzz'. This was a wonderful experience, and I was very proud of the way our children performed. We were also very successful in the Cross Country event where we gained a team 2nd place for Years 3 & 4, and a team 3rd place in Years 5 & 6. Well done to all those who took part.

We have a very busy Summer term and look forward to seeing you at our Sports day and end of term events.

Judith Tinsley 338430



DEDDINGTON PRE SCHOOL

All the children at Pre-School were very busy in the run up to Easter. Our theme has been 'Easter and growing plants'. We have been asking any green-fingered volunteers to come and help us with our gardening projects this half of term. We would also be delighted to receive any plant donations for the garden. We run an 'Easter Eggstravaganza' for children and parents on Friday 1 April at Pre-School. There's face painting, the Easter bunny hunt, basket making, bran tub and much more for the children. There will be a guided wine tasting evening on Friday 20 May at the Unicorn pub in Deddington. The evening will be hosted by Brendan Du Broc from S.H.Jones in Banbury - an excellent chance to sample and stock up on some interesting summer wines. Also in the summer term we are planning a 'Yummy Mummies' car wash, Saturday 25 June - time and venue to be confirmed. Could you lend a hand and help us raise funds for Pre-School?

Finally we would like to tell you about 'A Night at the Oscars' on Saturday 2 July at the Windmill Centre. Do not miss this major event on the Deddington social calendar. The evening includes a glass of bubbly on arrival, fork buffet, dancing to live band, The Rivas, disco and lightshow, auction, licensed bar and much more. Not to be missed! Tickets will be £20 a head, or £35 for two if bought before 18 June.

Rowena Dickerson Secretary

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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 April

Sun	3	10.30 am	Morning Praise
		6.30 pm	Evensong (BCP)
Wed	6	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thu	7	2.00 pm	Squeals & Wheels
Sun	10	10.30 am	MAKEOVERTYHISTORY Eucharist & Childrens' Church
Wed	13	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sun	17	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
Wed	20	10.00 am	Eucharist
Thur	21	2.00 pm	Squeals & Wheels
Sun	24	8.00 am	Holy Commnion (BCP)
		10.30 am	Morning Service and Children's Church
Mon	25	6.30 pm	ST MARK Eucharist
Wed	26	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), John Dane (07903 478206), or one of the Churchwardens, Liz Dickinson (337050) or Iain Gillespie (338367)

St John Hempton

Suns 3&17	9.00 am	Eucharist
Sat 23	10.00 am	ST GEORGE Eucharist
Sun 24	6.00 pm	Evensong

From the Parish Registers BAPTISM: 13 March - Benjamin Sydney Cox

FUNERALS: 1 March - Hilda Field; 2 - Michael Halsey; 8 - Mollie Sanders; 15 - Ellen Cresswell

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS:

Aberford, Hopcraft Lane, Deddington [Jean Welford 338539] Weds 6 & 20 April, 7.30pm

2 The Leyes, Deddington [Liz Dickinson 337050] every other Wed from 20 April, 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. April: HOME FARM TRUST

WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square

Pastor Isabel Walton 337157

Sunday Mornings at 10.30 am Preacher - Pastor Isabel Walton; 24 April - Mr B. Taylor

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 April are Sunday: 3 (and Communion) - Pastor Isabel Walton

10 - John Neal; 17 - Mrs Elizabeth Wilson; 24 - John Hine

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.

CENTERING PRAYER at Deddington Parish Church on Saturday 9 April 2005 - 10:00 am

Centering Prayer is drawn from ancient prayer practices of the Christian contemplative heritage, notably the Fathers and Mothers of the Desert, *Lectio Divina* (praying the scriptures), The Cloud of Unknowing, St John of the Cross and St Teresa of Avila.

The introductory workshop presents a simple, four-step method of prayer called 'Centering Prayer' that introduces a practical way of preparing oneself to receive the gift of contemplation. Ample time is allowed for questions, answers and open discussion.

Cost for the day is £10. Please bring a packed lunch; tea/ coffee will be supplied. For booking and information please call: John Dane 01993 810984 or 07903478206

email: john@ausome.co.uk

Warriner Choral Society

Presents
A Night at the Opera
A selection of popular choruses
Arias and duets by
Rossini, Tchaikovsky, Verdi, Bizet
Donizetti, Wagner, and Puccini.

On May 7th 2005 at 7.30 pm
In St Peter and St Paul's Church
Deddington

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On the Door
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MALCOLM ADKINS was born in Adderbury in 1935 and, after finishing his schooling in Deddington, became a fireman on the railways, based at Banbury Station, a job he much enjoyed. He later joined County Dairies in Kidlington, where he became Transport Manager. From there he went to Dawsons on the Heyford Air Base as a part-time driver. In 1962 Malcolm met Pat and they had three children. Malcolm was a true countryman who enjoyed the open air. He loved gardening and golf. Quiet though he was, he had a gift for friendship and will be much greatly missed by the many in the village who appreciated his solid companionship, decency and his firm integrity. *JW*

ELLEN CRESSWELL moved to Deddington with her husband John in 1984 and soon became involved with village life, including Treasurer of the Mothers Union, W.I., Meals on Wheels, the Baby Clinic and most importantly the Church. Until quite recently she was still arranging Church flowers and dusting the pews. An independent lady who would never wish you to go to any trouble on her behalf, Ellen derived pleasure from small things - the inside of a flower or the perfume of sweet peas - John's favourite flower. She had a wry sense of humour and would relate stories of her childhood in the East End or time in the WAAF which included picking caterpillars off cabbages - hardly a job for an elegant lady who hated creepy-crawlies. She lived for her family and was so proud of her children Jonathan and Julie and her grandchildren who telephoned her daily with their news, which kept her forever young. Very much loved and greatly missed, Ellen will remain in our hearts. *J.M.S. & JW*

HILDA FIELD came to Featherton House from Bloxham, having spent most of her life in Coventry and Kenilworth. It was in Coventry that she met her husband, Roy, when they were both working at the General Electric Company. They married in 1939 and had a son, Christopher. When the family moved to Kenilworth, Hilda, besides her gardening, embroidery and knitting, found herself involved in Christopher's motor rallying, her particular role being to feed the support team as it worked on the car. Following Roy's death just short of their diamond wedding anniversary, Hilda came to Bloxham, where she enjoyed the life of St. Mary's Church and the view of its spire. *JW*

VIOLET PALMER (née Smith) came from a large family in Battersea. She married her childhood acquaintance, Ron Palmer, in 1955 and they had four children. The family moved to Bretch Hill in 1964 and in 1982 Vi and Ron came with their son Mick to Deddington. Vi was a great support to all her children; she liked nothing better than a day out with one of her daughters and much enjoyed family holidays. Vi was greatly distressed by Mick's premature death in 2003, but her concern for others meant she tried to create a happy atmosphere whatever difficulties came. She faced her own dying bravely, able to laugh and joke to the end. *JW*

MOLLIE SANDERS' long life began in 1903 at Harwell near Northampton, where her parents farmed. Pauline 'Mollie' Wickins enjoyed life on the farm and she also developed an enduring passion for the piano. When the family moved to Ilbury farm, Mollie met Walter Sanders, a Deddingtonian, whom she married in 1930. The couple lived first at Duns Tew, where their two daughters were born. They moved to Deddington in 1935 and later bought the Priory in Hudson Street. There they started a shop, continuing, among their other enterprises, Walter's parents' confectionery business. Mollie, calm and quietly-spoken, became an institution at the Priory; into her eighties she helped to run the ice-cream parlour which the shop had become, and she died in the room where her son Clive had been born. *JW*



Cambrian Male Voice Choir, Saturday

2 April, Parish Church, 7.30 pm

Family Fun Day Bank Holiday Monday

2 May from 11.30 am. Come and join us; competitions, games, food and much more. All the fun of the fair at the Windmill Centre!

Barn Dance and Barbecue -- This will now take place at the Windmill Centre on Saturday 11 June. More details next month.

(The planned Brass Bits Oompah Night has been postponed from 23 April until later in the year.)

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Can you sing? Do you want to sing alongside Choros in the Festival performance of Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*? It's on Saturday

25 June in the Parish Church. Janet Lincé tells us that there will be rehearsals on the Friday evening and Saturday afternoon preceding the concert. A fee of £8 covers the cost of music hire, tuition etc. If you are under 16, there is no charge. Rehearsal CDs and tapes are available to hire £4 - or buy the CD for £10 or tape for £8. If you want to sign up - and sing up - you must be prepared to learn the music in advance.

Janet also asks us to point out that she is running an all-day workshop ("nothing to do with the Festival", she says) on Saturday 14 May, as an introduction to the *Petite Messe*. Attendance at this is optional, but highly desirable for those who want to sing in the Festival performance on 25 June. Information about all this from Janet Lincé Tel: 01869 232618, email info@choros.org

PS Don't forget the tutored Wine Tasting, with Doug Reid of S H Jones, at the Windmill Centre on Friday 22 April, 6.30-8.30pm. Tickets £10 from Eileen Anderson, 01869 338325.

Norman Stone 338019

OXFORD PRO MUSICA SINGERS ...

One of England's premier choirs, were founded in 1977 and have a reputation for giving stylish and exciting performances. They have notched up successes in many competitions, and performed in many venues from the Queen Elizabeth Hall to village churches ... and now in Deddington Parish church at 7.30 pm on Sat 23 April. Their programme will include a wide range of music from the 16th century onwards, as well as two premieres, one by local composer Donald Lane. Tickets £8 and £6 (concessions) at the door or from Donald Lane, Wesley Place, Church Street, Deddington, 01869 337199.



WE ALL WENT TO THE MUSIC HALL

"Let's all go to the Music Hall" they sang, and we all did, and my word, missus, how tickled we were. "A cleverly constructed cacophony", promised our Master of Ceremonies, "carefully contrived to captivate the connoisseur". And he was right. We were indeed captivated from that first rousing song, through a sparkling series of scintillating solos and delightful duets, to the mellifluous murmuration of our own, our very own, humming chorus. A Perfect Day.

If I had the space, I would enumerate and eulogise the 40 people of this parish - onstage, backstage and front of house - who put on a performance that entertained and entranced an audience of some 350. Alas, I can only say that the ladies looked and sounded lovely, while the gentlemen were manly and amusing. You'll allow me, I'm sure, to single out those stellar stunners, the choir of Deddington School, whose heartrending rendition of *Daddy Wouldn't Buy Me a Bow Wow* was plaintive, plangent and very pleasing. In truth, everybody involved deserved - and got - our applause for an enchanting evening, and none more so than Wendy Burrows. She 'organised everything and everybody' and raised £1944 for furnishing the Living Room.

We look forward to another treat on Thursday 23 June, when Wendy joins forces with the Deddington Players in the Festival Edition of the Edwardian Old-Time Music Hall, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm. An event not to be missed. All together, now, let's all go to the Music Hall. See you there.

Norman Stone 338019

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON FESTIVAL

Before joining the FDF, a potential Friend first asked why Deddington needed a Festival and what was the point? Good questions. But look at any edition of the *DN*. Not many villages produce a magazine showing so much energy and involvement. For some reason talent and commitment thrive here. This surely is something to celebrate and foster, a reason for a festival and a reason for that festival to embrace more than excellent professional musicians happy to perform in a beautiful church. Look at the Festival programme flier, enclosed with this edition of the *DN*. In only its third year the Festival is offering something of interest to everyone at prices everyone can afford.

Peggy Baker's Bring and Buy Sale at The Holly Tree, in support of the Friends, raised £174 net and was an extremely enjoyable occasion. Peggy would like to thank everyone involved, including Bluebells who provided the flowers.

This month Gill Cozens gives two lunches in support of the Friends (sorry, all places have been taken!) and in May we hope to produce a Friends Newsletter. Further events are planned. Copies of the official Festival Programme will be free for Friends.

Many of us are already enjoying Festival-related activities, but the more people who are involved the better. Your support and ideas are needed. Come and join us.

Kristin Thompson FDF Committee

E-MAIL FROM SYLVIE SPENCELEY, THE DAEDINGS, DEDDINGTON

Entries for the Deddington Writers Group Competition (part of the 2005 Deddington Festival) have been arriving from various points of the Oxon compass. But what's happened to Deddington's scribes? There are only days to go now before our deadline of **April 16th**. The theme of the Competition is Festival, with five categories. The entrance fee is £2 (under 16s free); prize: £20. Full details and entry form from the Library, from me (daeda@clara.co.uk) or downloaded from: www.deddington.org.uk/arts/writing.html

E-MAIL FROM CHARLES NEWAY, EARLS LANE, DEDDINGTON

Many of you will recall that in the early 1990s there were plans to convert the Town Hall into a local museum. The project foundered and is most unlikely to be resurrected. When I took over from Bill Hunt as Clerk to Deddington Charity Estates, which owns the Town Hall, I 'inherited' various artefacts that people had contributed as possible exhibits. In most cases I don't know who gave them. If possible I would like to return them to their original owners or, at least, find them a good home. I have arranged the items for viewing and if you would like to see them please phone me (338282). Perhaps I should point out that there is nothing of significant value.

E-MAIL FROM FRANKIE COX, CORNWALL

I value my *DN*, sent to me each month by Susie Richardson (née Rainbow) and also the telephone calls from my great friend, Josie Stevens. A great friendship is also sustained with Bryony and George Fenemore.

Karen Evans wrote (Feb *DN*) that a light had gone out in Deddington with the premature death of Pat Bliss. I totally agree. Many a good night I spent with her, Nina Fairns and Ann Barlow in the Red Lion when Rita and Gordon Coop owned it. Many more lights have gone out - John Spencer, times with Eric at the British Legion Sunday lunch, dear Jim Morris, larger than life and a great buddy, and one of the greatest, Bob Stevens. In all my time in Deddington Bob was always the same, smiling and interested in what I was doing, even when I moved to Cornwall. And now dear Malc Adkins. I am glad to have known these special people.

The Revd Richard Hannah was Vicar of Deddington for many of my years in Deddington and he has also passed away. I was very privileged to be asked to be his Churchwarden, unheard of for a female those many years ago. Sir Brian Kellett was also a great support to me during those years. We all know there is no going back and we should be thankful for what we had. God bless you all.

FROM CLIVE SANDERS, HUDSON STREET, DEDDINGTON

I would like to thank all the many Deddingtonians who sent cards of condolence and sympathy to me on the very great loss of my mother, Mollie Sanders, on February 24 2005, at the age of 102. It is such a comfort to know that so many people have sent me love and

support. They have also told me of the warm affection in which my mother was held and of the great respect they had for her. Mother, Mollie, rest in eternal peace.

FROM TERRY, AARON & MATTHEW BLISS, DEDDINGTON

We are writing to thank the people of the village for their thoughtful comfort and support following the tragic death of Pat, both in attending her funeral and in the sympathetic words, cards and letters we have received since. They have provided, and continue to provide, solace to us in these dark days, and prove that "Little Pat" affected everyone

in a positive way, as they did her. Her ashes lie in Deddington Cemetery next to the Windmill Centre and we are sure her incredible spirit will watch over the village, and make her many acquaintances smile at their happy memories of her.

FROM DERRICK WINCER, THE DAEDINGS, DEDDINGTON

In case anyone tried to contact me about the bargains I have at 12 The Daedings, the mobile phone number given (*see March Postbag*) had one digit missing. It should have read: 07979310813. Apologies to anyone who may have failed to contact me.

(And apologies from us. KT)

E-MAIL FROM REVD DR HUGH WHITE, DUNS TEW

Some distress has been caused to people, recently bereaved, by dog mess left near interments. Would those who walk their dogs in the Churchyard please be good enough to remove any mess made by their animals?

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.

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RELOCATING THE WAR MEMORIALFROM KEN HART, HOPCRAFT LANE, DEDDINGTON

I refer to David Hood's letter and the subsequent *DN* correspondence and support most strongly the suggestion that the War Memorial should be re-located. The names of the men and women from the village and its surrounds who made the supreme sacrifice for freedom and the love of their country should be more prominent. The War Memorial, sited in the centre of the village, would achieve this.

The present location is far from satisfactory, being isolated and unsuitable for ceremonial attendance. It would be pleasing if something could be accomplished in the 60th anniversary year of VE Day.

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

(Here are extracts from Raymond Morris' letter. His letter, in full, has already been sent to the Parish Council.)

Further to correspondence in the *DN*, I would like to put on record the position of the Deddington Branch, Royal British Legion on the matter of re-positioning the War Memorial in the Market Place.

This matter was explored thoroughly in 1993 when there was some objection to relocation – I believe from the families of those whose names are on the Memorial. But I believe it was resolved that the Memorial could be moved. We were certainly in favour and are on record as such. Our position has not changed.

Obviously the biggest obstacle is cost. If the job were done properly, the Memorial would have to be

dismantled, cleaned and then re-erected on a prepared base. There may be grants available and I am happy to approach the RBL in this connection.

The most important justification for moving the Memorial is that with the increasing size of the village and the higher profile generally of Remembrance, more people attend the Service each year, with the result that large numbers of people, some of whom are elderly, have to stand on or walk over graves. This is very unsatisfactory and somewhat dangerous. This year is the 80th birthday of the Deddington RBL as well as the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and the 'relocation project' is something with which we would like to be associated during this special year.

[See **Straw Poll** on p. 12.]

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

Cycling Along The Nile Sponsorship: Tony Gaitskell, Office Manager of St. Anne's Care Home has returned from Egypt after volunteering to cycle some 400km along the eastern and western banks of the Nile. In fact, Tony cycled 415km, braving language problems, smog, and temperatures that soared to 42°C in the shade. All of this notwithstanding, this challenging expedition to distant lands proved a great success as Tony raised £2400 for the 'Age Concern' charity. He wishes to thank everyone for their help, support and generous sponsorship. Special thanks go to Robert Oxborough from Elexus Consulting, to Jan Walsh, the staff, residents' families and everyone associated with St. Anne's for their donations and encouragement.

Footpath to Deddington: Now that spring is upon us this issue becomes, once again, of the essence. Meetings were held last month between Ralph Grant, Steve Bowden (OCC) and Rick Haslam (PC - Highways). We await, with great interest, the outcome of these meetings.

Parish Council: Clifton has not been represented on the Parish Council for some time now. Who is up for co-option? *Carol Drawmer, Eleonore Bruyere*

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

After many years of fund-raising, the Church repairs are now finally going ahead. Some of the interior walls and roof have been done and a new drainage system is being put in at the end of the Church Hall. Some exterior repairs will be dealt with next. Many thanks to everyone who has supported the fund raising events over the years to make all this possible. The Ladies' Tuesday Club recently celebrated their 5th anniversary by having a lunch at the Mason's Arms, which everyone enjoyed. They meet every other Tuesday in the Church Hall.

The Friends of the Church will be having a cake stall under the Town Hall in Deddington on Saturday 14 May from 9.00am.

The Table Tennis teams are bottom of Division One of the Banbury & District League. They did manage to draw with Bloxham this week. With 4 games to go, relegation looks a strong possibility. In my report last month I said that subscriptions for members of the Friends was £5 per individual and £3 per family. This should have read the other way. My apologies. *Les Chappell 338054*



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Deddington Youth Club

We held our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 8th February and are able to report a good year with a steady turnout of thirty-five to forty each club meeting.

Four of our very long serving committee members feel it is time to stand down. Altogether they have given thirty-five years of commitment and hard work to the Youth Club and so a very big thank you to Gay Brewer, Joyce Minnear, Pat Swash and Molly Neild. We are delighted to welcome on to the committee Dave Sullivan, a parent, and Brian Wood, Parish Council representative. Saskia Knights recently joined us as an assistant leader. We now look forward to another good year.

Maureen Forsyth Chairman

Deddington Craft Group

Would you like to join us on a day trip to Bath on Tuesday 12 April? We are leaving Deddington Market Place at 9 am returning between 6 & 6.30 pm and the cost is £12. An afternoon visit to the American Museum is optional. Contact T. Allen on 337676.

Deddington Beeches Bowls Club

Thank you to all our sponsors, horse owners and race goers who came along to our recent Race Night, which proved to be a very enjoyable and successful evening. Weather permitting we hope to open the green on Saturday 23 April, with our first club night on Wednesday 27 April when we will be delighted to welcome any prospective new bowlers.

Yvonne Twomey 337213

WINDMILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

At the monthly meeting on Tuesday 15 March, it was reported that the security work on the back staircase is complete and that the extra lighting for the Cricket Pavilion is under way. The Treasurer presented the audited accounts for the centre to the meeting, copies of which will be available at the AGM to be held at the Windmill Community Centre on Tuesday 19 April at 7.30pm. The AGM is open to all and everyone is invited to attend.

There is one committee vacancy to be filled, as I am not seeking re-election, which also means that a new Chairman is required. So come on all of you users and critics of the Centre, now is a good time for you to give some time and effort to a valuable village asset.

Roy Hart Chair WMC

Deddington and District History Society

Our March speaker, Deborah Hayter, gave a lively and informative explanation of the medieval landscape feature known as ridge-and-furrow. The audience included a contractor who wanted to know exactly what it is that he is being told to plough out!

On Wednesday 13 April Tony O'Gorman will speak on the history of Oxfordshire's airfields, especially during the Second World War. Please note that in the last issue of the society's newsletter, 224, we mistakenly gave the date as 6 instead of 13 April. Many apologies for any inconvenience.

On 11 May the architectural historian Professor

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Malcolm Airs will give a fascinating illustrated talk on 'Heythrop, Thomas Archer and the English Baroque', in preparation for our visit to Heythrop on 8 June, which will also be our summer social. Full details of that visit will follow but, to whet your appetites, the refreshments will have an asparagus theme, expertly orchestrated as usual by Sue Shattock. It will be a lovely social occasion and an opportunity to raise funds for charity and for the society. You won't want to miss this one, so do join us!

Chris Day 337204

WI

Our March meeting was our Annual Meeting at which members heard that we have had a good, interesting year and that we are financially solvent. Maureen Cox resigned as President and the Vice President agreed to stand. The committee were re-elected en bloc and Beryl Suckling was welcomed on to the Committee. After the business meeting, an auction of goods took place, ably conducted by Ann Neal, followed by cheese and wine, making a pleasant and relaxed evening. On April 12 Speaker our speaker is Jan Walker on 'Childhood Memories of Deddington in 1940s'.

Rene Mahony 338438

Deddington Royal British Legion Branch & Club

March was a quiet month, although the Club bar has been very busy and we were pleased to host the Bowls Club for their Race Night. Our April committee meeting will plan for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and the 80th birthday of the formation of the Deddington Club. More

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details of these later.

After almost 20 years the Club has at last adopted a more up-to-date set of rules - copies of these will be mailed to all members shortly. The new Licensing Act has been the subject of much deliberation; our President and Chairman attended a Royal British Legion conference on the subject.

New members are always welcome. The subscription is £15 per annum for joint membership of the Royal British Legion and the Deddington Royal British Legion Club. We are open Friday evenings and from lunchtime Saturdays and Sundays. Members (who must be over 18) are welcome to bring partners - further details from the Club during opening hours on 338449 or from ...

Raymond Morris Chairman 338143

Deddington Cricket Club

Deddington Cricket Club has joined the Brackley and District Midweek League that plays on Wednesday evenings. We start in May. Could anyone who would like to play, whether the whole season or the odd game, let Hugh White know on 01869 349869 or vicarhugo@hotmail.com ?

Deddington Town Football Club

1st Team Results: -

Bishops Itchington (h) Drew 1-1 B.Durrant.

Souldern (a)(Benevolent Cup) Won 5-4 on Penalties / 0-0 aet

Heyford Ath (h) Won 5-0 K.Laird, D.Clouston, R.Waddelow, S.Flemming (2).

The 1st team have once again had an excellent month; a penalty shootout win over Souldern put the team through to the final of the Benevolent Cup. The final is on 7th May at Easington Sports ground, please come along and cheer the team on to victory. The league form continues to be good, Ben Durrant scored in the competitive draw with Bishops. Two goals from Steve Flemming helped the team to a comprehensive 5-0 thrashing of the division's whipping boys, Heyford. These results leave the team in second place and still in with a chance of claiming the title. There are two mid-week home games coming up - Tuesday 5th and Tuesday 19th April - both 6pm kick-off. Your support would be very much appreciated.

Reserve Team Results: -

Decoma Sybex (h) Won 4-2 D.Keys (2), J.Flemming, D.Gibbs.

Drayton Village (a) Drew 2-2 D.Keys, J.Flemming.

The Reserve side have also enjoyed an excellent month and are running into some good end of season form. Danny Keys has been on target in both the recent games, including 2 goals in the victory over Sybex. John Flemming hit the back of the net in the draw against Drayton Village. These results have lifted the team off the bottom of division 1 and if victories are achieved in the final two league matches a respectable league position will be realised.

75 Club Winners: 25/2/05 P.Rudge £50; 4/3/05 P.Trinder £100; 11/3/05 P.Chard £50; 18/3/05 D.Keys £50

Steve Plumble 01295 278258

Book Club

For those of you who missed the last meeting here is a summary of our opinions and discussions about 'One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich' by Alexandr Solzhenitsyn: 'The Characters were well developed, which enabled the reader to see beyond the depressing situation in which the book is set. We noted how the prisoners were determined to maintain their dignity and how they protected and supported one another within their groups. We were impressed by their satisfaction in doing a good days work even in a forced labour environment.'

For March, by way of a change, there was a poetry evening and we were very grateful to Eleanore Bruyere for putting together such a wonderful package of poems and information. In April we shall be reading 'Middlemarch' by George Eliot for discussion on 28 April. Please call me for venue. *Sally Lambert* 338094

Monday Morning Club

Our coffee morning will take place as usual on the first Monday of the month, 4 April, 10 am - noon, at the Holly Tree. The bus for *Twelfth Night* on 27 April at Stratford will leave the Town Hall at 6 pm. I still have three tickets for that outing - transport and stall seats inclusive for £32. At this late stage, non-members may also take advantage of this opportunity. Phone 338153 if you are interested. We're hoping to arrange an evening visit to Towcester Races on 17 May. Get in touch with Terry Clinch 338711 if that tempts you. We hope to fill a small 29-seater coach for the Malvern Spring Garden Show on 13 May, so let Wendy Burrows (338082) know if you would like to join us.

Jean Flux 338153

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1st Deddington Boys' Brigade Company

This term we welcomed Josh, Felix and Jack D as new Anchors. After Easter we expect several Anchor boys to move up to Juniors and are, therefore, pleased to offer a few spaces for new recruits (aged 5 and over)

We have launched a training band for younger boys wishing to learn music, with a view to joining our Brass Band. The training band is open to boys aged 8 and over and it meets at the Congregational Church at 6.15 pm each Monday.

On 5 March our Juniors retained their county figure marching and county team games trophies in Witney and on 6 March our Brass Band led the company from the Windmill Centre to the Mothering Sunday Service in the Church.

Our next band-led parade is on 1 May when the boys of the 1st Woodley (Reading) Boys' Brigade, who are camping in Deddington over that weekend, join us.

After the Easter holidays we plan to offer Cricket as an additional activity to our 25 boys who are aged 8 and over. We have already recruited a couple of helpers for this activity, but would appreciate further help if possible.

Brian Bushell 338715

Deddington Badminton Club

Tuesday 5 April is our last club night of the season. Overall a good season for the club with many new senior and junior members and good results for our teams in the Banbury Town League. Our AGM is in early May. Come and join us when we start up again in September.

Mark Tyler

1st Deddington Scout Group

This term we have gained three new Cubs - Lewis, Daniel and Chloe - and Robby, who transferred from Adderbury; we hope they enjoy their time with us. The Cubs have been looking at the natural world, we've made feeders for the birds and joined in the RSPB Garden Bird Watch, grown and studied a variety of plants from cress to runner beans and constructed volcanoes, which erupted in a very satisfying way. These, together with investigating conductivity, testing a pressure vessel and trying out some chemical reactions should earn them their scientist badge. The work was rounded off with a trip to Think Tank in Birmingham. To gain their Home Help badge the Cubs have learned to clean windows, sew, iron, clean shoes and make a proper cup of tea. Three Cubs entered the district Supercub competition coming a very close second, well done Jordan, James and Daniel. Three of our 'Sixers' went with others from the district to Hastings to visit the lifeboat and the fisherman and shipwreck museums as well as dicing with death on the cliff railway!

The Scout Troop has grown to 11, the most we've had for years thanks to Edward, Mark, Adam and Ben taking the great leap from Cubs. So far this term they've dropped eggs out of windows in the name of science (all survived), made egg timers (very innovative), spent an evening at the panto and begun work on an environmental campaign, which we hope to launch on the parish in due course. Plans are being made for the

county camp in June - a weekend of water-sports at Standlake. The group is working towards the Hikers Badge, so don't worry if you spot them stumbling around in the dark, it's all good practice.

Jo & Peter Churchyard 338071

Deddington Babies and Toddlers Group

April promises to be an active month. As usual we will meet all through the school holidays. There will be a New to You sale at our session on Friday 29 April. The committee will meet at Sharon's on Tuesday 19 April at 8pm, and if you would like to join us speak to any existing committee member: all we ask is you attend two meetings a year and help on the 'opening up' rota. Mums get their own night out on Friday 15 April. We will be at the Crown and Tuns from 7.30pm. See you there when you can get away!

Lucy Squires 338442

Deddington Housing Association

The AGM was on 17 February. Each of the 4 cottages in Earls Lane is currently occupied. They continue to be maintained in a good state of repair, thanks to the small committee for their time and energy. Each member of the committee has agreed to remain in place; however our Treasurer, John Lee has stated that he would like to stand down after many years of excellent service. If any one feels they would like to step into this role, and could spare a small amount of time to help maintain this excellent facility for the parish, would they contact me or the secretary Iain Gillespie 338367.

Phil Plant Chairman 338965

**VOLUNTEER NEEDED IN DEDDINGTON!**

In December 2004, a much needed basic footcare service, Sole Mates, started for Deddington Day Centre

clients, provided by **AGE CONCERN OXFORDSHIRE**.

It is a common sense approach to help maintain and improve the independence and mobility of older people in our community. Why is it so important? The service has proved invaluable because, as we get older, we can be faced with a number of conditions that make it almost impossible to carry out basic footcare, such as poor eyesight, arthritis, and an inability to bend and move freely.

A volunteer from Deddington area is needed to continue this service. **Could it be you ?**

What would you be expected to do? You would go to the Windmill Centre for one morning every two months. The wonderful treatment you would give as a volunteer is to soak the client's feet in a lovely warm footbath with lavender then to trim and file the toenails and finish the treat with the most relaxing foot massage! Training and ongoing support is provided

AGE CONCERN OXFORDSHIRE look forward to hearing from you on 01235 849400. Please ask for Amy.

THE FLOWER GARDEN

We have had an unusually cold spring this year, but the plants take very little notice of this and go on growing at their own pace. I really like to do the perennials beds in the autumn. That gives the divided stuff a better chance to settle in before growth begins, but this year the end of the season never came and some plants were still in flower at Christmas. So, here we go, quick, quick to get some order into the beds. Most perennials like being divided and do much better for it. Geraniums can be cut into three clumps at least. That would give them a little more breathing space, and they would appreciate a handful of fertiliser. The spare bits can be given away. I have a friend who is a keen and knowledgeable gardener. When she comes to visit, she nearly always brings, as a present, a paper carrier full of plants. Each one is carefully wrapped in newspaper and labelled. And to me this is the interesting bit: she refuses to hear any progress report concerning these gifts. "Don't tell me that the --- shrub has not taken, I don't want to know." I have come to realise that this is a very sensible attitude. It saves one from feeling guilty and inadequate. Moreover if you don't like what's on offer, you can dump it on the compost heap and think no more about it. This year I will try a few Geranium plugs and see what happens, just enough for the containers. Half a dozen would do for me, but the nurseries offer them in tens. Whatever do you do with fifty plants? Well, we shall see, and in the meantime enjoy your garden.

Marianne Elsley

EASTER was early this year – but then so was Spring. March has been a dry month with frost early on to break up the ground, followed by all those exciting shoots springing up to give gardeners a promise of good things to come. With the sun come the insects and it was good to see a number of ladybirds on a recent warm day. I hope they will be there later on to feast on the aphids, before the aphids themselves feast on the succulent seedlings and shoots in the garden. We are all part of nature's food-chain and will do all we can to

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protect our crops from predators, so it is pointless getting sentimental about the 'poor little snails' cracked open by the thrushes, for given half a chance they will crawl off and chew up the lettuces. Not quite so easy with the ever-present slugs, though a quick trawl through the internet suggests that amongst others, owls, seagulls and grass-snakes enjoy a tasty slug, but so do frogs, toads, birds and hedgehogs. I think I will settle for the latter, but I wonder why there are still so many slugs in *my* garden. Come on you birds and hedgehogs, supper's ready!

Hugh Marshall

DOLL
 Deddington OnLine
<http://www.deddington.org.uk>

DOL welcomes the *DN* website to the family of community sites in the Parish. How many Parishes the size of us can boast five community websites? As well as DOL and the *DN*, the School, Health Centre and Parish Church have their own sites. One link from DOL <http://www.deddington.org.uk/communitywebsites> links to all of these sites.

There were 100 visitors a day recently to the DOL Picture Gallery pages. Do pay a visit to these old photographs of the Parish. We hope that somebody will help us to complete the captions.

Colin Clark 338064 or Colin.Clark@deddington.net

NEW - Straw Poll

There is now an opportunity to vote and to comment on current local issues on the DOL website. Go to www.deddington.org.uk/dnpolls. Remember anyone can use the computers in the Library to do so.

Such straw polls may help, but will not bind, those who have to make the decisions. The results of each poll will be published on DOL and in the *DN*. Those who wish are also invited to express their views on the DOL Forum page or to the *DN* Letters Editor.

1. FUN FAIR

The Parish Council has been approached about reviving an old tradition of holding a Fun Fair in the Market Place for two days in November.

"Would you welcome a Fun Fair catering for Primary School children?"

2. WAR MEMORIAL

Letters in the *DN* have renewed the suggestion that the War Memorial should be moved to a more prominent location in the Market Square where Remembrance Sunday could be more conveniently observed. The cost would be an estimated £12,000. The Parish Council takes the view that the memorial should not be moved as the families of the Fallen in 1918 and 1945 wanted it where it is.

"Should the War Memorial be moved to a more prominent location?"

ON THE FARM

With the vernal equinox (20 March) behind us winter is officially over, but as with so many things official, old Mother Nature has other ideas. Apart from 10 days or so at the beginning of March, we seem to have jumped from autumn straight into the spring. But it is not only officialdom that the changing weather patterns have confused. The blackthorn came into flower at the start of March some 6 weeks early, so we may yet see another cold spell towards the end of April when the blackthorn is normally in flower and we get a 'blackthorn winter'.

Not all of the harbingers of spring are related to the weather or the natural comings and goings of the birds and bees. For more years than I care to remember, spring in the farm office has been heralded by a loud thump as the official forms and the explanatory booklets arrive through the letter box. Maybe the explanation as to why we seem to have had such a short winter has nothing to do with global warming after all - more to do with the fact that we have had a constant stream of explanatory booklets and updates on the new CAP regulations ever since last autumn, with the final lot for the moment arriving in mid-March. This included a hefty form which must now be filled in and returned by 16 May and we are warned that if it is late or there are any mistakes we will incur financial penalties. But before I can fill in the form I must first get them to correct their mistakes. The new form, which has been pre-populated (one of their new words) with information about the farm taken from last year's IACS forms and is held on a central DEFRA data base, has somehow managed to delete 3 fields of arable land from the farm. I don't expect it will be too difficult to amend the form if I can ever get through to the new help line.

The lambing got off to a rather difficult start but things have picked up and the first lot have now finished and seem to be happy out at grass. The second flock are due to start on 23 March with the ewe hoggs due to start in April, so with the spring work, the the form sorted out, weeks look as if they could become rather fraught. After that all we have to do is fight our way through the new cross compliance and environmental regulations and then, if I have got time, do the harvest. Many critics say that with the new single farm payments, many farmers will sit back and grow nothing, needing only to keep their land in good agricultural condition to qualify for payment. The real question is, given the time needed to comply with all the regulations covering crop assurance, animal welfare, environmental regulations etc. etc., will we ever have time to grow any crops? Oh, to be a farmer's boy!



George Fenemore 338203

[photo at Home Farm Clifton - 26/3/05]

Deddington Fire Station

Calls: Since the last report we have received 12 calls, bringing the total for the year to date to 31. This month we have attended a chimney fire, a woodstore fire, 3 false alarms with good intent, a diesel spillage, 5 calls to stand by and one call to a child with his head stuck in a gate.

Community Safety: Another busy month fitting alarms and carrying out home risk assessments. We focussed on Barford St Michael for Feb/March and have had a successful campaign. We have also given fire safety talks to the Senior Citizens Club as well as Deddington Primary School. Steeple Aston Scouts next!

Crewing: We have had 2 enquiries recently and are keeping our fingers crossed while they go through the application process. Chris Fenemore has passed his Breathing Apparatus Team Leader course, congratulations to Chris (and apologies to George for taking Chris away from the farm - I hear the Fire Service was not very popular in the lambing shed last month!)

Diary Date. On the 23 April at Deddington Farmers' Market we are holding the annual "999 Rowing Challenge", a race between the Police, the Health Service and the Fire Service to row the Channel! We are raising funds for the British Heart Foundation and Helen House Hospice, a respite centre for terminally ill young people. Please come along and support us, we will also be available to give fire safety advice, the fire engine will be at the Market, and, of course, if you are interested in joining us come along to have a chat with the crew.

Anne Waters Sub Officer 338281

DEDDINGTON POLICE OFFICE

I would like to inform you of temporary changes taking place at the Deddington Police Office and the procedures we have put in place to ensure that any impact is reduced to the minimum. In January this year I was promoted to Acting Sergeant to cover the time when Sergeant Clayton, the designated rural sergeant, was required for duties at Banbury. During this time I initially modified the boundaries of the area for the remaining officers now under my supervision. Although I would agree that you have lost the personal contract with me that we have enjoyed during the last years, I would like to stress that the commitment to Rural/Neighbourhood Policing remains as focused and committed as always. In the short term it will just mean dealing with another officer from the rural team instead of me. Sergeant Clayton has asked me to inform you that he is now 'back in the driving seat' at the Deddington Police Office and eager to develop the contacts established over the five years that the office has been running. I shall be away from the office for slightly longer than expected and will be continuing in the short term to perform duties as Acting Sergeant at another police station. I do not know how long I shall be away but I look forward to returning in the not too distant future. Please continue to report any crime or suspicious incidents on 0845 8 505505. Keep safe.

A/Sgt. *Clive Middleton*

Tales of Asia

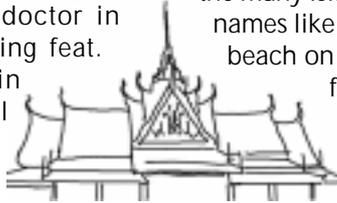
The Fleming family continue their backpacking journey around the world, starting the homeward leg through S E Asia.

Let me summarise our trip so far: miles driven - 15,000; flights taken - 8; countries visited - 6; nights away from home - 207; legs in plaster - 1.

Yes, when we arrived in Singapore, Emily - our 4 year old - had her leg in plaster, due to a serious strain and suspected fracture. She'd fallen badly on a trampoline in New Zealand, and that had resulted in our first visit to a doctor and a hospital on our trip. Considering how often we seemed to be going to the doctor in Deddington, it seemed quite an amazing feat. Fortunately, everything x-rayed OK in Singapore, and things were back to normal within 2 weeks.

After a few days adjusting to the heat, humidity and general atmosphere of Asia, we started to head north to Malaysia. After our first 7 months, we'd all got used to constant travel, and Asia added a new flavour of excitement to our trip. Transport changed too, as we moved from rental cars and campervans to packed buses and trains.

From the Chinese quarter of Malacca, to the high-rises of Kuala Lumpur, everything smelt and sounded very different to the Western countries we'd left behind. The girls were suddenly the centre of attention, because not that many backpackers follow the SE Asian trail with two young, blonde, daughters.. As a family we found a special welcome wherever we went in SE Asia, as family values are highly regarded there. Families tend to live in each other's laps, often with 3 or more generations sharing the same household, and as a result they treated us very differently to the normal backpacking groups.



Over 2 months in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand, we had some magical nature experiences, of which a trip out to Borneo to see the orang-utan at Sepilok was a highlight. They rehabilitate orang-utan that have been kept as pets, or survived deforestation, and teach them to fend for themselves in the wild. When you first enter the edge of the jungle, and see one swinging through the trees above you, it's an experience to marvel at, despite the heat, sweat, mosquitoes and leeches!

We also took the chance to spend time on some of the many islands and beaches, with unpronounceable names like Ao Thang Nai Pan Noi Beach - a beautiful beach on the tip of Koh Pa-Ngan island, where the famous full moon parties take place.

The educational opportunities were immense, with both of our girls learning much about different cultures and ways of life. Some days, visiting temples, we'd have deep conversations about the differences between Christianity and Buddhism - something that happens naturally when you're surrounded by golden temples and monks in orange robes.

Travelling wasn't easy - we were sitting through 5 hour bus journeys and overnight trains routinely - but we were all acclimatising to the idea of it. What we hadn't realised was that we were in the 'easy' stage of Asian travel - in the next 3 countries of Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam, we were going to find that an 8-hour bus trip was a short one, and that you ain't seen a bumpy road until you've seen a Cambodian one!

Ray Fleming

Next month, the last instalment, as the family travel into communist Laos and Vietnam, and two visits to Cambodia. You can read about all of their destinations on their website at www.rfleming.net

The Village Pond

Swerford village is exceptionally attractive. There are handsome period houses, but more than that, the village is off the main road; it has a sense of isolation. This quiet may be unappealing to some, to others it is a haven. One is 'in' the countryside: fields and woods, hills and valleys are a living panorama. Nearly hidden from view from the road to the village green, there is a village pond on the left. River Swere ponds, big and small, are man-made. This pond is man-made too, but it is high above the river, and full of interesting life.

Would there were clean and well-tended village ponds in every village, where boys and girls of the Primary School could catch tadpoles, where wild and tame plants would be mixed together! Greater spearwort (*Ranunculus lingua*), for example, which grows in only one other site along the Swere - in the mill pond of Deddington Mill - grows in the Swerford village pond. It is rare in the county, more handsome and much larger than all other buttercups. Yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) and bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*) - the only site of bogbean in the Swere River landscape - must have been planted too. The decorative pendulous sedge, *Carex pendula*, stands in the shallows, first among a genus of land plants that can colonize shallow water. It is an age in which the image on the screen has taken the



Matthew with Ben at the March Farmers' Market

place of seeing and touching in the out-of-doors. Think of the pond as a classroom laboratory, allowing an introduction to watery plant life and, more disturbing - but not usually for children - those fearful monsters, insects in their larval stages.

Walter Meagher

REVD RICHARD HANNAH 1924-2005

Incumbent 5/1/79 - 9/7/89

Richard came to the parish from Holy Trinity Shenington on 5 January 1979 as Priest-in-charge of Deddington with Clifton and Hempton. He was eventually inducted as Vicar when the reorganisation of the Deanery brought the Barfords into the Benefice.

His speedy transfer to Deddington was interesting. The writer and his then fellow churchwarden Maurice Renwick, at the time of the Revd Canon George Palmer's retirement, knew that Richard was keen to come to Deddington. An audience was obtained by telephone with Canon Derek Eastman, Canon of St. George's Windsor. (The Dean and Chapter of Windsor and the Bishop of Oxford are the joint patrons). Canon Eastman had been Vicar of Banbury and knew Richard well. While entertaining two wily churchwardens over a cup of tea he quickly approved the appointment and recommended it to the Bishop of Oxford. All very simple, unlike subsequent appointments.



Richard was a Welshman born in Tredegar and was educated at Cranleigh School (where Bishop Loveday, a past Suffragan Bishop of Dorchester was Headmaster), and Oxford, where he read Philosophy and Ancient History at Corpus Christi College. He trained for the Ministry at St Michael's College Llandaff and was ordained Deacon in 1951. Prior to coming to the Diocese of Oxford as Rector of Shenington with Alkerton and Shutford, his appointments were all in his native South Wales. While at Shenington he was appointed Rural Dean of Deddington Deanery, a post he held until 1984. He retired as Vicar of Deddington with Barford, Clifton and Hempton in 1989 and returned to his beloved Wales to live at Lliswen near Brecon, where he was kept busy in the local churches. In 2000 he and his dear wife Pat moved to Bridgenorth to live nearer his daughter Mary. There he died on the 26 January 2005 having had two severe strokes.

Richard had war service as an Infantry officer with the Royal Sussex Regiment and saw active service in 4 Indian Division in Italy and Greece. He was a keen hockey player representing his School and later playing senior hockey for his Oxford College, St Michael's Llandaff and Newport Athletic Club. I was privileged to know Richard from the time he was Rural Dean of Deddington and to serve him as his PCC secretary when he came to this Parish. Nothing seemed to faze him and he brought a calmness to situations that appeared to build up to crisis levels. Those of us who knew him will remember him with love and wish to pass our sympathy to his wife Pat and children, Mary, Timothy and Tom, and their nine grandchildren. *Ted Johnson*

The PTA's 1st Annual Deddington Challenge Circular Walk on Sunday 8 May is featured on the insert in this DN, and soon on a website www.deddingtonwalk.co.uk. For details contact Heather or Mike Ward on 01869 338750

DEDDINGTON 150 YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for part of the month of March and of April 1855:

13th March - I drove to Adderbury to be present at the confirmation there, where the 8 Clifton children whom I had prepared were confirmed. It had till now been always customary to hold a confirmation here - but the existing state of things rendered it unpleasant to the Bishop to come here - 30 candidates only appeared from this place. (Coded reference to Brogden!)

22nd March - Called at Shiner Gibbs's to speak to him about catching a large rat at the timber yard.

6th April, Good Friday - I had two services at Clifton, but one sermon only, in the evening, a thing quite unintentional on my part - but whilst in Church I found I had left my sermon case at home - a circumstance never having happened to me of a like kind before - and I trust never will. [It did to me at Coventry Cathedral ! Ed]

14th April - John Dean came to get a Poor's Rate signed for this Parish of 1s.6d. in the £.

18th April - The 3 boys walked to Edge Hill and back - 28 miles - between 1/2 past 10 o'clock am. and 8 o'clock or a quarter past pm.

20th April - Mr. Drummond the Artist came from Oxford to breakfast and finish Susan's portrait.

Buffy Heywood

Deddington Map Group



We will be at the

Farmers' Market on Saturday 23 April, with the full range of our products on sale. Millennium maps, illustrated, of Deddington, Clifton,

Hempton and the Farms and Fields of the parish. In addition, there is a map showing the ages of buildings in Deddington, plus copies of the oldest known photograph of the Market Place - and, of course, the definitive book *Discovering Deddington*. See you at the Market on 23 April. *Norman Stone* 338019

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GOOD NEIGHBOUR GROUP for Deddington, Clifton and Hempton April 2005

The group offers help in a crisis, or even with an everyday task such as collecting a prescription or doing some shopping. If you are unable to reach the appropriate person listed below, please telephone Angela Waller 338970.

KEEP A NOTE OF YOUR GOOD NEIGHBOUR'S NUMBER BESIDE YOUR PHONE

DEDDINGTON -

BULL RING, HORSEFAIR, VICTORIA TERRACE:

Wendy Burrows, Market Place Cottage 338082

PHILCOTE STREET:

Molly Neild, 1 Philcote Street 338521

EARL'S LANE, BANBURY ROAD:

Janet Broadbent, Stone Court, Earl's Lane
338173

HIGH STREET, HUDSON STREET:

Joyce Minnear, 2 Holly Tree Cottages 338529

CHURCH STREET, MARKET PLACE, THE TCHURE:

Pat Swash, Foresters Cottage, The Tchure
338920

ST THOMAS STREET, CHAPMAN'S LANE, GOOSE GREEN, HOPCRAFT LANE:

John Burdon, Kempster Place, Philcote Street
338150

NEW STREET:

Angela Waller, 5 New Street 338970

THE DAEDINGS, PIERS ROW:

Helen Worrell, 18 The Daedings 338189

HEMPTON ROAD, THE PADDOCKS:

Josie Stevens, The Sycamores, Hempton Rd
338305

WINDMILL STREET, WINDMILL CLOSE, MACKLEY CLOSE:

Pat Brittain, 28 The Daedings 338685

MILL CLOSE:

Margaret Reid, 39 Mill Close 337283

GAVESTON GARDENS:

Adele Sullivan, 10 Gaveston Gardens 337485

CLIFTON ROAD, CASTLE & FIELD BARNES:

Catherine Young, w.338832, h.337140

HEMPTON

Rene Mahony, 15 St John's Way 338438

CLIFTON

Katie McGovern, Roseville, Chapel Close
338771

HELPLINES

AGE CONCERN	01295 278040
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ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE SOCIETY	01295 750622
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BANBURY FAMILY CENTRE	01295 275507
BBC OXFORD ACTION DESK	01865 889026
BRITISH RED CROSS- home from hospital	01295 229257
CARDIAC SUPPORT GROUP	01295 229373
CARERS' CENTRE	01295 264545
CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU	0870 220 0608
COUNCIL OF DISABLED PEOPLE	01865 792226
CRUSE BEREAVEMENT ADVICE	01295 768119
DIAL-A-RIDE	01295 263777
DIALABILITY	01865 791818
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, CDC	01295 252535
Pollution Control	01295 221632
for noise complaints out of office hours	01865 266000
FAMILY MEDIATION SERVICE	01865 741781
KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE	01295 811866
LIFE PREGNANCY COUNSELLING	01869 245777
LONE PARENT HELPLINE	0800 0185026
NHS DIRECT 24 Hours	08 45 46 47
NORTH OXON DRUGS AGENCY	01295 273511
PEST CONTROL	01295221937
RELATE - Marriage Guidance	01295 258141
SAMARITANS	01295 270000
SOCIAL SERVICES	01295 252421
VICTIM SUPPORT	01295 277990
VOLUNTEER BUREAU	01295 279515
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