

September 2019

# *The* **DEDDINGTON NEWS**



Delivered free to Deddington, Clifton and Hempton



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Alison Day

## The DEDDINGTON NEWS

The Neighbourhood Plan has been 'examined' and its housing provisions savaged. An expansion of the Duns Tew solar farm is proposed. Both issues, of significant importance to the parish, will be discussed at the PC's 18 September meeting in the Holly Tree Club. Details of the solar expansion can be found on page 4 and the Neighbourhood Plan on page 7. CD

### WHAT'S ON

#### September

- Mon 2 Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
- Mon 2 Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm
- Tue 3 Police Community Forum: Fire Station, 6.30pm
- Wed 4 Photographic Society: Rod Bird, 'Image Organisation', Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm
- Thu 5 Knit and Natter: Holly Tree, 7.00pm
- Sat 7 Parish Show: Parish Church, 2.00pm–4.00pm
- Wed 11 WI: Outing to Whichford Pottery
- Thu 12 Happy Movers: Windmill Centre, 1.00pm
- Thu 12 Holly Tree Club: Film Night, Holly Tree, 6.30pm
- Sat 14 Historic Churches Trust: Ride and Stride, 10.00am–6.00pm
- Sat 14 CHANCES Festival: Windmill Centre, 2.00pm–1.00am
- Mon 16 Local Vocals: Primary School, 7.30pm
- Wed 18 PC Meeting: Holly Tree Club, 7.30pm
- Wed 18 Photographic Society: Light Room Editing, Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm
- Tue 24 RBL: Pub Social, Deddington Arms, 7.00pm
- Tue 24 Nellie & Dove & MR: Seasonal Charity Fashion Show, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Thu 26 Book Group: Call 01869 338094 for details
- Thu 26 Skittles: Parish Church, 7.00pm
- Sat 28 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Sat 28 Friends of Daeda's Wood: Tool Sale, Farmers' Market
- Sat 28 Concert: A440 Chamber Orchestra, Parish Church, 7.30pm

#### October

- Mon 7 Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
- Mon 7 Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm
- Wed 2 Photographic Society: Laura Walker, 'Large Format Photography', Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm
- Thu 3 Knit and Natter: Holly Tree, 7.00pm

### Deddington Circular Walk

This month's cover shows the end of Green Hedges Lane looking towards Adderbury Grounds Farm. See [www.cherwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/7931/deddington-circular-walk](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/7931/deddington-circular-walk) for a map of the walk and also *Walking Around Deddington* on [www.deddingtonhistory.uk/guides/countryside/ralphswalks](http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/guides/countryside/ralphswalks).

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## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Windmill Centre 7.30pm Wednesday 17 July

Present: Councillors Collins, Eames, Higham, Oldfield, Robinson, Rogers (Chair), Squires, Swadling, Timms and Cllr Williams (CDC)

#### Planning Applications:

##### *No objection*

Victoria House, Horse Fair, Deddington: Tree works.  
Quinque House, New Street, Deddington: Widening vehicular access previously approved. Internal alterations to create space in loft area.

Castle Barns, Castle Street, Deddington: Tree works.  
St Peter's and St Paul's Church: Resin bonded pathway along the southern boundary of the churchyard.  
Hill Farm, Duns Tew: Extension of existing solar park to 40 years. (PC objected to original planning application.)

##### *Objection*

Dragon Cottage, Tays Gateway, Deddington: Single storey side extension and amendments to existing garage. Window overlooking neighbouring property.

##### *CDC approval*

The Firs, St Thomas Street, Deddington: (Resubmission) Extension and re-planning of existing dormer bungalow and construction of new oak-framed, timber-clad garage.

##### *CDC refusal*

Manor Farm House, Main Street, Clifton: Replacement of timber windows – insufficient information on replacement materials.

#### Environment and Recreation

The volunteers who helped spread bark at the Windmill Centre adventure playground and at Deddy Car Fest for their work on planters at Clifton and the fire station were thanked. Funds were agreed for extending the Windmill Centre's CCTV system, cutting grass at the war memorial cemetery, repairing the gate, and for planting wildflowers and sowing more grass seed at the adventure playground. The site recommended for the proposed Aquabeans swimming cabin is north of the cricket pavilion.

#### Finance and General Purposes

Cllr Oldfield was thanked for her work on the new Windmill lease. A cart with pneumatic wheels is to be bought for use by the stewards.

#### Highways and Transport

Thanks to the Parish Clerk's persistence the vehicle abandoned in the Market Place has been removed. Traffic sign regulations prevent installation of a stop sign at the Hempton pinchpoint. The Comet bus service now operates only from 9.00am–12.00 noon.

### Old School Room, Hempton, 7.30pm Wednesday 21 August

**Present:** Councillors Collins, Cox, Eames, Oldfield (Chair), O'Neill, Reeve, Robinson, Swadling, Timms and Watts and OCC Cllr Fatemian for part.

#### Planning Applications

##### *No objection*

Deddington Housing Association, Holly Tree Cottages, Earls Lane: erection of two affordable 2-bed cottages.  
South Ridge, St Thomas Street: semi-pollard Portuguese laurel.

The Stile House, New Street: reduce lime tree canopy.

##### *Objection*

Worton Farm, Cassington Road (between Ilbury Farm and Worton Grounds Farm: installation of above ground electric line. Due to lack of information.

##### *Approved by CDC*

Quinque House, New Street: internal alterations to create loft space.

Castle Barns, Castle Street: tree works.

Deddington Mill, Milton Gated Road: renovation of timber garage and potting shed.

Victoria House, Horse Fair: tree works.

##### *Refused by CDC*

Clifton Rd. Deddington: residential development of 15 dwellings.

Bowler House, New Street: single storey rear extension.

##### *Withdrawn:*

Wells Yard, Hudson Street: demolition of barn and

garages and erection of four 2-bedroom cottages.

##### *Correspondence:*

Chapman's Lane: tree preservation order placed on Western red cedar, willow and oak.

#### Environment and Recreation

The mower, strimmer and hedge cutter have been stolen from the stewards' shed. There will be no change in allotment rents. The owner of the wall in Satin Lane leading to the allotments will be contacted about its possibly dangerous state.

#### Finance and General Purposes

The new Windmill lease has been signed.

#### Highways and Transport

The PC will request CDC to take no further action on the Neighbourhood Plan until after the next PC meeting on 18 September. Residents can read the examiner's negative report on the CDC website from 3 September. (See article on page 7). S4 buses will now run every one and a half hours on Sundays.

Double yellow lines are to be installed at the Chapel Square pinch point to deter parking which causes significant traffic jams. Thames Valley Police have been notified about a vehicle regularly parked there and about three motorcycles speeding through Clifton daily at 8.15am.

**Next PC meeting: 7.30pm, Wednesday 18 September in the Holly Tree Club.**

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter, Jean Rudge, and not the official minutes, which are available at <http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2018.html>.

## ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

There was supposed to be a Picnic in the Park on 19 July to celebrate the grand opening of our great new children's play park but torrential rain put paid to that. The kids didn't care – they had an excellent time dashing round trying out all the play pieces and following up treasure hunt clues. The rain stopped long enough for our local youngsters, Alfie Barbeary (England U20 and Wasps rugby) and Millie Scott (equestrian eventer), to cut the ribbon. Since then it's been fantastic to see so many children and families enjoying our new play park. The pop-up café in the pavilion was a great success, but plans for more opening times in the summer holidays have had to be put on hold. Here's James Fuller's *Amazing Adventures*:

'Today I was a monkey, swinging from the bars  
Then my alien saucer went spinning through the stars  
I steered my pirate ship through obstacles galore  
And nearly touched the moon as I bounced forever  
Then I was superman, ziplining through the blue  
A knight, tilting at windmills, as if it must be true,

I swang or swung, I'm not sure which, but who cares it was fun

And more adventures will be had, tomorrow in Deddington'.

More work is needed: extra grass seed on the bald patches, a wildflower patch in the southwest corner behind the multi-play piece, and a water fountain near the pavilion to help cut down on single-use plastic bottles. We're working urgently to solve the soil erosion on the slide mound.

Please, no dogs in the play park, even on leads. Dogs should be walked, on leads only, along the way-marked dog-walking path.

The Pocket Park next door is well under way, with the multi-play structure and shelter nearing completion. Hopefully the park will be open for use once it's had a safety inspection and before the next round of work on trees and shrubs in late autumn.

**Mary Robinson**  
**Chair, Windmill Development Group**  
[development@windmillcentre.org](mailto:development@windmillcentre.org)

## DO YOU REMEMBER?

### *Local Names for Certain Areas of Deddington*

**The Plantation** This was the area from the top of Oxford Hill on the west side to the bottom where there was a cottage lived in by Miss Millar, the nursery school teacher at Deddington School, and her sister.

**Brickyard Hill** Down the Oxford Road on the right hand side at the crown of the hill was a bungalow facing the road adjacent to Plundon Lane. Behind the bungalow were the remnants of the old brickyard.

**The Beeches** A very short stretch of pavement from the crossroads to Earls Lane. Large beech trees in the garden of what are now the Holly Tree bungalows overhung the pavement, dropping hundreds of beech nuts which the children would collect on their way to school, take the outer case off and eat. On this pavement there was a large tree trunk used with a wheel on the end to pull across the road as a barrier which was supposed to delay an invasion in WWII.

**Back Lane** Now called Earls Lane, which brings you to the Health Centre, but always known as Council Yard. Here was a partially underground air raid shelter formed with reinforced concrete. Evidence of this can still be seen on the north wall of the car park. It was supposed to be for the dignitaries of Deddington, whoever they may be.

**Beeches Bowls Club** This was over the road from the Council Yard, privately owned by Mr Maurice French, a retired farmer. Members who played here were known as the Upper Tens. He also had a tennis court laid for his daughter.

**The Chicken Run** This area was from the crossroads staying on the pavement going south to Hudson Street, turning left to the Market Square, left again past the

Unicorn up to the Hermitage, left once again to the crossroads. In the evening when Dad came home from work he would say 'Do you want to go round the chicken run', my brother Roy in his pedal car and me on my old trike.

**Don Walker**  
[roodon@btinternet.com](mailto:roodon@btinternet.com)

## History Corner

[www.deddingtonhistory.uk](http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk)

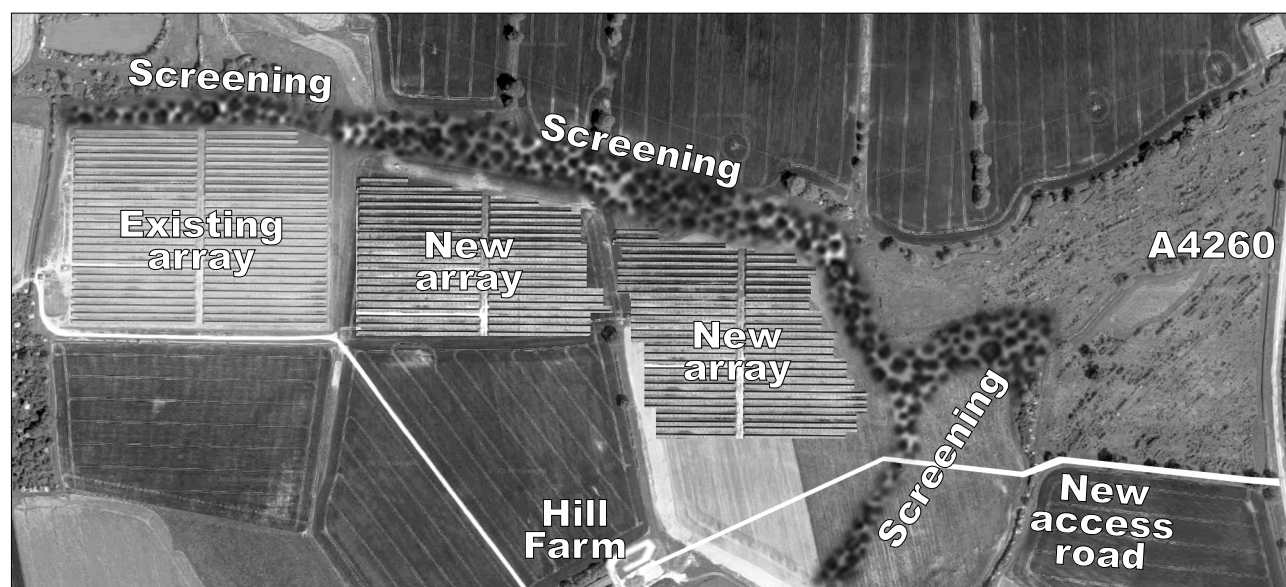
Don's paternal grandfather, Eli, was the manager at Cold Harbour Farm, North Aston, until he bought the Plough Inn on New Street in 1931 and converted it into a butchers and poulterers. His maternal grandfather, Fred, was the blacksmith who made the weather vanes on the church. Don's father, Percy, worked for Hopcrafts, the builders, and then Frewin builders in Banbury. He was a skilled stonewaller much in demand around the parish. (Our wall running down the Stile is still in good repair after 40 years.) Percy had an excellent voice and instigated the Christmas carolling in the Market Place by singing there on Christmas Eve when a few people would join him. Don and his brother Roy both worked for Hinkins and Frewin. Don was their site agent in Oxford, restoring colleges, renovating the hospitals and refurbishing Chippinghurst Manor for Princess Margaretha of Sweden.

Other of Don's memories, including two published in *A Parish at War*, can be found on [www.deddington-history.uk/people](http://www.deddington-history.uk/people).

**Rob Forsyth** [robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com](mailto:robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com)



## PROPOSED EXPANSION OF DUNS TEW SOLAR PARK



*This article is published before developers of a potential expansion of the Duns Tew Solar Park make a presentation to the Parish Council at its meeting on 18 September, prior to applying for planning permission. Interested residents can attend the PC meeting at 7.30 pm at the Holly Tree or may send written comments to the Parish Clerk, Windmill Centre, Hempton Rd, OX15 0QH.*

CD

We are all becoming more aware of the climate change crisis and see regularly on the news the impacts this brings. Weather extremes are becoming more frequent and affect many communities around the globe, including some closer to home where extreme rainfall and flash flooding are becoming the norm.

Mainstream news reports have made us more aware of our electricity use and generation, both nationally and locally. The government's commitment to a net zero-carbon target by 2050 shows a clear path of travel for the UK that will see increased low-carbon decentralised generation such as the proposed extended energy park.

Finding access points to the local network with availability for additional capacity is not easy. The connection to the grid at the current park has sufficient capacity to take the proposed power generated.

The site is most likely to have the least visual impact within a 3km radius. Distant views can be protected and, with appropriate screening, views from the A4260 can be mitigated. Access will be from the road about 1km north of the North Aston turn, with temporary signage to route construction traffic.

Lengthy consultation has taken place with the nearest landowner and considerable effort been made to accommodate their concerns and design the extension to have the least possible visual impact. Extra planting at the neighbour's property will help screen views.

New woodland extending along Deddington Brook and up towards Hill Farm will over time screen the A4260 fully. In the early years, screening will be pro-

vided by existing hedgerows managed at 4m high.

Four acres have been set aside for fallow grassland around the park to encourage native plant species and provide wildlife habitat. Eleven acres of new wet woodland along Deddington Brook will create a wildlife corridor, also contributing to carbon reduction. The park will be protected by deer fencing and grazed by sheep, and bees will be kept within the solar array.

A planning application will be submitted this autumn and, if granted, construction will begin in spring 2020. If it is performing as promised after two years, Oxford Low Carbon Hub, Oxfordshire's Community Energy Co-operative, plans to purchase the site.

This article is based on information supplied by the developers; a fuller version is available at [www.deddington.org.uk](http://www.deddington.org.uk).

**Matt Pumfrey** [matt.pumfrey@gmail.com](mailto:matt.pumfrey@gmail.com)

## FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

Thank you to everyone who entered our parish photo competition, not only did we receive record entries this year but I can safely say we've received the best selections to date with some stunning images of the parish. We are now ploughing our way through, with the winners being announced at a calendar launch ahead of September's farmers' market where the 2020 parish calendar will be on sale. We are extremely grateful for your contributions.

**Bryn Williams** [abw@brynwilliams.com](mailto:abw@brynwilliams.com)

## ADVERTISING ALERT

An invitation for annual advertisements in the *DN* will be sent out in early October to current advertisers and those who have indicated a potential interest. Please note that space will be reserved on a first come first served basis so a prompt response to the invitation is strongly advised.

## CHURCH AND CHAPEL

### September

#### Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Mon–Fri: 8.45am Morning Prayer (also on the first Saturday of the month)

Wed: 10.00am Holy Communion (with prayers for healing on the fourth Wednesday)

Thu: 10.30–12.00pm Squiggles & Wiggles – for mums to be, parents or minders of pre-school children

Sun 1 10.30am Family Service  
6.00pm Choral Evensong

Sun 8 8.00am BCP Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 15 10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 22 10.30am Holy Communion – Informal Said Service

Sun 29 10.30am Holy Communion – St Michael and All Angels

For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the Vicar at [vicar@deddingtonchurch.org](mailto:vicar@deddingtonchurch.org) or on 01869 336880. If Annie is not available, then please contact one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie (01869 338367) or Meriel Flux (01869 338901). Our curate, Revd Paula Smith, can be contacted at [curate@deddingtonchurch.org](mailto:curate@deddingtonchurch.org).

#### Hempton

Sun 1 9.00am Holy Communion

Sun 15 9.00am Holy Communion

Sun 22 5.00pm Eat, Pray, Live

#### Barford St Michael

Sun 1 10.30am Prayer and Praise

Sun 15 10.30am Family Service

Sun 22 9.00am Holy Communion

Sun 29 9.00am Holy Communion – St Michael and All Angels

#### Barford St John

Sun 8 9.00am Holy Communion

#### From the Parish Register

##### Baptisms

23 June Grace Annabelle O'Leary and Isabella Alice O'Leary

##### Weddings

22 June Alexandra Sarah Jayne Claire Keating and Robindra Nathan Gogoi

##### Funerals

25 June Bette Terry

#### RC Parish of Hethe

**Revd Robert Hughes**

**01295 720869 or 07766 711969**

There is no longer a resident or full-time incumbent at Hethe. A non-resident priest will say one Mass on Sundays at 10.00am.

Mass is said at 9.00am on Sunday at SS Peter and Paul's Anglican church in King's Sutton.

The Vigil Mass at St John's Church, Banbury, is said at 4.00pm on Saturdays to allow worshippers from the villages to attend by public transport. There are also Masses said at 8.45am and 10.45am on Sundays at St John's. There are also services at St Joseph's on Sundays at 10.00am and 5.30pm.

## DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

We have had a great summer in the library. The Summer Reading Challenge, 'Space Chase', has been very well supported. The closing date for the challenge is Saturday 14 September, so there is still plenty of time to finish. The Adults Summer Reading Challenge, Oxfordshire Reads, has been well supported too, so get your book recommendation postcards back to the library by Saturday 7 September for your chance to enter the prize draw.

Rhymetime for under 5s and families will start again after the summer break on Monday 9 September at 2.30pm. We look forward to getting back into singing along on Monday afternoons with the little ones.

Our Home Library Service goes from strength to strength. This extremely valuable to service delivering reading material to the vulnerable and socially isolated in their own homes, not only enables them to continue reading for pleasure but having regular contact with

their HLS volunteer. We welcome Jill to the team this summer and she is now delivering to the King Sutton area. The team also delivers to many other villages. Whether you're temporarily indisposed due to accident or illness or permanently housebound, we can provide a delivery service to meet your needs. Call me for more information. If you'd like to sign up as a Home Library Service volunteer get in touch for more details or go online at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/leisure-and-culture/libraries/volunteering-oxfordshire-libraries/home-library-service-volunteer>.

Finally, don't forget to give the library a call when you see a new neighbour move into the village. We have welcome packs waiting for delivery, giving them all the essential information to help them integrate into our wonderful community.

**Stella O'Neill 01869 338391**

**[Deddington.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Deddington.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk)**

## DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM

What a difference! As I bash this out the Green Goddess is parked up after an inch and a half of rain. This time last year it was dust all the way. Although the Green Goddess was given a full pre-season going over, she still threw a tantrum and blew out an oil seal so I lost all power to the thrashing drum which took the boys about two hours to strip out and replace while I went home for a cup of tea.



Our small plastic tunnel that we use to grow plants for the new micro farm shop has blown away, but the free range hens are laying well. They are kept in a grass paddock with an electric netted fenced to keep the local fox population at bay. We clip the hens' wings but there are still a few escapees which are quickly mopped up. At the moment the score is about even: my .270 rifle makes a lovely job out to about 400 yards.

After a good lambing season, we have started drawing lambs for market. Although trade is back on last year, we aim to sell as many lambs as possible before the end of October and Armageddon. A no deal Brexit will make our stock worthless, as the export tariffs will take us out of the market. It is rather a strange situation when you consider the latest government proposals to take high welfare British-produced meat off the market and pay our own producers a Defra-set compensation in the event of a no deal, but allow the import of New Zealand and South American lamb and Irish beef, chugged in from various parts of the world. While our learned politicians mither on about climate change and global warming and enjoy their summer holidays, surely we should only be importing what we need to make up our own production shortfall. Ho Hum.

After what can only be called a miserable summer, both weather-wise and politically, we have ended up with a 'bachelors harvest' (get it when you can), dodging the rain and using large amounts of gas to dry the grain down to a safe storage level. If it will go through the combine that's where it's going, no matter what. While opening up a field of bread-making wheat beside the old drover's road, a 'gentleman' clad in his Lycra was standing giving me a two-fingered salute and shaking his fist at me. I stopped the Green Goddess and asked him what the problem was: I was making too much noise and dust which was spoiling his morning run. I pointed out that this wheat crop was part of the nation's food supply, but the reply was that he was a vegan and bought his food from a supermarket. Ho bong, silly me.

By the time this hits the doormat I will have made my views known about saving the curlew in the Cherwell River valley. For my birthday (which for the past 60 years has been spent gathering the harvest but not this year), I was given a book by Mary Colwell, *Curlew Moon*. Mary will be giving a talk to the local ornithological society at the beginning of September to which I, although not a member, I have been invited. I was born

in the Cherwell valley and have farmed in it for the last 60 years. I met my first curlew at the age of seven in the 'wilderness,' an area of land that had been the site of the Banbury 1914–18 munitions factory. (It should have been a wildlife site but the council worthies slapped a motorway through it, with the local market town of Banbury becoming just another industrialised motorway junction.)

Fast forward to March 1974 and I was moving ewes and lambs onto the Clifton meadows, serenaded by the ethereal call of the four pairs of curlew. Forward again to spring 2019 when just one pair turned up but did not stay around long, not because of modern agricultural methods which have not changed in the river valley for 2,000 years – the official Defra definition of the Clifton meadows is a 'grazing marsh'. The reason the birds did not stay long was that twice during April the 'marsh land' was flash flooded, not through 'modern farming methods', – we had had a dry summer and winter with no land drains running – but because of run-off from the many building sites along the river valley escarpment. We were able to 'swim off' the ewes and lambs but I could not do anything to help the curlew, snipe or skylarks that nest in the traditional flower-hay meadows. We have nine of the 23 different types of wild bees on the farm, all of which are ground nesting. They were also washed out.

Our farmyard swallows, house martins, and swifts have had a good summer with eleven pairs of swallows nesting in the old farm buildings. After the poor weather most have left to seek the African sun although we have three pairs with their second broods but they too will soon be gone, leaving me to await their hoped for return. I wish them well and a safe journey.

**George Fenimore**  
01869 338203



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## DEDDINGTON'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – GUTTED?

**F**inally, the moment the Neighbourhood Plan steering group has been avidly awaiting is here: the independent examiner has delivered his report on our plan. It is a bombshell. The report will be published on Cherwell District Council's website on 3 September, about the same time this *Deddington News* reaches you, and I urge you to read it.

Essentially the examiner has ripped up our housing policies and turned that section of the plan into a developer-friendly prospectus which perhaps, for all the talk of neighbourhoods deciding their own destiny, is what the government intended all along. Other policies in our plan concerning the environment and preserving the heritage assets of the parish have fared better and the report is quite helpful concerning the design of new development.

What becomes apparent, reading the examiner's report, is that he does not regard the wishes of the community as evidence. For example, the first housing policy, based on the clear demand of the parish, called for a cap of 50 new dwellings in Deddington parish within the plan period (up to 2031) and a limit of 20 on any one site. This was discarded by the examiner on the grounds that it was not 'evidence-based'. Instead, in the supposed interests of clarity and precision, the examiner has substituted a wording requiring that proposed developments be of a 'proportionate' size.

What is proportionate in the context of a village of around 690 houses? As each new development adds to the number of houses, so the proportion that is 'proportionate' becomes bigger and bigger – leading incrementally to potentially limitless development. This is far from what Cherwell District Council envisaged in its Local Plan. The overall strategy was to expand Banbury and Bicester where there is employment and public transport while retaining the rural quality of the North Oxfordshire villages with limited development.

A clear finding in the parish questionnaire was that the type of housing most needed in the parish is homes for first-time buyers and dwellings for older people looking to downsize – and a policy was formed accordingly. This has been weakened by the examiner to state that developments that contain 'any' of the desired housing types would be particularly supported. This would mean we, the parish, according to our plan, would support a development made up entirely of five-bedroom houses with just one two-bedroom starter home.

There was a lot of discussion during development of the Plan as to whether we should allocate sites where development would be acceptable. Finally it was decided to go with a criteria-led plan, laying out the ground rules for where development might best be located. That might have been fine but the examiner has abandoned the criteria wholesale.

What are our options? First, we could accept the examiner's recommendations, subject to CDC's decision, and proceed to a referendum. There are

advantages to this – some elements of the examiner's report are actually helpful. If the Plan is approved by a referendum and 'made', it will mean the parish may have a larger share in the monies made available by developers to improve infrastructure and facilities in the area.

A second option would be to persuade CDC, who have the final say on the Plan, to modify the policies as adapted by the examiner. This would require new evidence, in particular a housing needs assessment. Candidly, I think this housing needs assessment (HNA) requirement is a lot of hooey and smoke and mirrors. The official toolkit for carrying out an HNA states that 'housing needs assessment at neighbourhood level is best thought of as a review of existing data already freely available'. Existing data includes the Local Plan, the CDC-sponsored report on the strategic housing market, the council housing waiting list, and the most recent census. All of these were taken into account in the creation of our plan, we carried out our own housing needs survey in the questionnaire and we collected evidence on the ground from the new Deddington Grange estate. In short, we have already provided a superior set of evidence. Supposing we did go through the new evidence hoops and CDC modified the policies in the Plan, a six-week consultation of stakeholders and parishioners would need then to be staged. The resulting document would probably have to go to a new examiner.

The third option is simply to withdraw the Neighbourhood Plan – a fairly momentous decision after six years' work on it by the steering group, many other volunteers and the community at large.

The steering group will be considering options and making recommendations in September and the parish council will need to reach a decision about next steps at its 18 September meeting. We would welcome comments from parishioners which you can send online via the Contact section of either the parish council website or the Neighbourhood Plan website. Or you can send comments to the parish clerk (see page 4) or attend the 18 September PC meeting and speak up.

I should like to stress that whatever we decide about a referendum, the Neighbourhood Plan has been an very useful exercise, not least as a means of discovering, thanks to the huge response to our questionnaire, what matters to parishioners and what can be improved. The PC is already well on its way to upgrading play areas and the Windmill Centre.

Writing this has been a bit of a scramble and I haven't had time to consult other steering group members, so the views expressed above may or may not match theirs. However, we did not want to make a serious decision at the September parish council meeting without the parish knowing what was happening and having the opportunity to comment.

**Helen Oldfield** [helenmoldfield@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:helenmoldfield@yahoo.co.uk)  
[www.deddingtonneighbourhoodplan.org](http://www.deddingtonneighbourhoodplan.org)



## FROM THE FIRE STATION

Watch Manager Chris Fenemore thought it might be interesting to hear about one new firefighter's journey to the station, so here goes.

Last December, I turned up one Tuesday evening to drill night and had a chat with Chris about what it took to become an 'on call' firefighter and duly applied. Over the coming months, I passed a series of online verbal and numeric psychometric tests, fitness tests, interviews and a full medical, together with an assessment day at Didcot where I met the 24 other hopefuls who, against the clock, performed a ladder climb and leg lock, body drag, confined space crawl wearing dummy breathing apparatus, ladder lift, hand strength tests, equipment assembly and disassembly while wearing our training kit. Imagine doing intense physical exercise in a tog 15 double duvet and you will get close. Two people decided to leave halfway through but the rest of the group thoroughly enjoyed themselves. After further interviews and tests we met again in late April to have our kit delivered, having been warned not to come on public transport or a motorbike as our kit box was as big as the boot it was going into.

In May and down to 20, dressed smartly in our navy blue uniforms, we were inducted. I was now signed up to payroll for Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue, ready for the basic FF course – three pre-course induction evenings and a two-week intensive training course at the end of June. Our group comprised ten, from Deddington, Hooky, Chipsey, Bicester, Bampton, Woodstock and Charlbury, with three instructors who would be with us for the duration of the course, covering hoses, pumps, ladders, water rescue, road traffic collisions, knots and lines. The drill yard was a serious area and you would be amazed how hard it is to count to seven when you are nervous – seven, as the group had lost three more.

Day one was the dreaded '6 in 8' hose-rolling, built up to be a hellish Monday – rolling out and making up 6 x 25m lengths of hose in eight minutes. We all survived, didn't melt into jelly whilst cocooned in our personal protection equipment and gelled into the Magnificent Seven. Yes, at times we received a right bashing and morale crashed through the floor but we brought ourselves back up and carried on trying as hard as we could. The water rescue day was a highlight – full dry suits, wading along the Windrush trying to rescue our instructors, manually inflating life jackets whilst swimming and shooting down a sluice run flat on your back.

After two weeks of hard graft and fabulous lunches, back to Didcot and 17 newbies all became Firefighters in front of Oxfordshire's Chief Fire Officer, Simon Furlonger. The Magnificent Seven of Tash, Chris, Lee, Tony, Lewis, Arnie and James were Mr or Miss no longer.

I have now been 'on call' for three days, but the alerter has been frustratingly silent. So think of me on my first shout and hopefully I will not be seeing too

many of you whilst on duty.

PS My first shout came on the following Thursday morning – 35 minutes after midnight – to be on standby at Banbury Fire Station as both their pumps were dealing with a fire on Salt Way.

**James Greenwood**

[james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk](mailto:james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk)

*(An 'on-call' firefighter has a regular job but is on call to respond as a professional firefighter when needed. CD)*

## Diary of Daeda's Wood REVISED

We had a welcome response to our appeal for help in the July issue for our planned revision of the *Diary* for its quarter-century anniversary in 2021. Now we are asking for more. One of the features of the *Diary* is a survey of the wildlife of Daeda's Wood. Of those who prepared the original surveys, some have died or moved. We would be grateful if those of you who regularly visit the wood in the coming months and have an interest in natural history could send in your observations of wild flowers, birds, animals, insects, or even a glimpse of our elusive otter. An accompanying photograph would help enormously. As before please send them to Alison Day on [alisdag@gmail.com](mailto:alisdag@gmail.com).

**Sylvie Nickels 01295 259185**

[Sylvie.nickels@goolemail.com](mailto:Sylvie.nickels@goolemail.com)

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## WINE TIME

'An organic, vegan, natural, orange wine.' What would you think if you saw that on a wine bottle? Deciphering the blurb on wine lists and bottles remains a challenge for wine lovers. These four terms are appearing more and more and it is worth knowing what they mean.

Vegan wine is, as the name says, wine made without any animal products or derivatives. Since wine is made from grapes it appears odd that all wine is not vegan. However, a number of animal products can be used in the production process, leaving no trace. Egg whites, gelatine (from meat by-products), and isinglass (from fish bladders) are all commonly used for clarifying wines but can now be replaced with vegetable-derived alternatives.

Wine is not subject to the labelling laws that cover foodstuffs. Only exceptional companies such as the Co-op list the ingredients and substances used in production – check out a bottle of Co-op own label wine. So, if you are a vegetarian or vegan who likes wine, it's important that the wine label tells you. Hence the sensible new fashion for putting 'vegan' or 'suitable for vegetarians' on wine labels.

Definitions of 'organic' vary. In the UK organic wine is made from certified organically grown grapes. It does not mean the wine is free of preservatives or additives used during production.

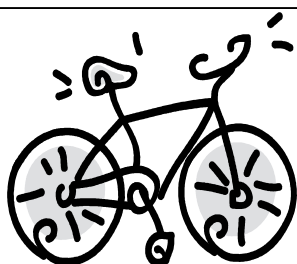
There is no universally accepted definition of or certification process for 'natural wine'. It is more a

philosophy of wine making, seeking to minimise anything seen as artificial. They are made with few or no additives, sometimes using only naturally occurring yeast rather than yeast cultures for the fermentation and there is no or very little use of sulphur dioxide to protect the grapes and wine from oxidation and bacterial spoilage which can cause problems with quality. 'Natural' wine making has improved greatly and there are good ones out there. However, there is a higher risk of their being faulty. I have tasted a large number that are, frankly, horrid and one or two that are very good.

'Orange' wines are white wines fermented with their grape skins and pips like a red wine, rather than just being made from the pressed juice. There is evidence that wines used to be made this way in many places in Eastern Europe. Modern producers frequently have a strong link to the natural wine movement. They are officially classified as white wines although darker than normal whites and often called 'amber' wines. They are tannic, unusual for whites, with very distinctive flavours, quite different from regular white wines. I have liked a number of these for their richness and complexity of flavour but they are not for everyone.

It's your choice to experiment with these wines but it helps to know a little about what you are buying. You can find many wines that are all four of the above and, sometimes, also very enjoyable.

**Charles Elvin** [charles.elvin@btopenworld.com](mailto:charles.elvin@btopenworld.com)



## RIDE AND STRIDE 2019

in aid of  
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**Deddington**  
Health Centre

**STAYWELL  
THISWINTER**

### 2019 FLU CLINICS

**Saturday morning flu clinic dates:**  
**5<sup>th</sup> October, 12<sup>th</sup> October, 19<sup>th</sup> October**  
**and 16<sup>th</sup> November**

**Weekday clinics** will also be held from  
late September.

**Those who are eligible for flu vaccination are:**

- Children aged 2 or 3 on 31.8.19.
- Anyone aged 65 years or over (including those becoming aged 65 by 31.3.20).
- Anyone with a long term condition: Asthma (if on a steroid inhaler), COPD, Diabetes, Heart Disease, Chronic Kidney or Liver Disease, Neurological Disease.
- Anyone who has an organ transplant or is on immunosuppression drugs.
- Anyone on chemotherapy.
- Anyone who has had a stroke.
- Pregnant women.
- Carers.
- Anyone with a BMI of 40+.

Please phone for an appointment on **01869 338611**  
or for Patient Access users please book online at  
<https://www.patientaccess.com/>

## NEWS FROM CLIFTON

It was a very happy birthday to Alan Holmes who hosted the party of the year (so far – eh?) to celebrate his 75th birthday. We all know he doesn't look it but I can report the pool finished the night unvisited which had been a real possibility as the drink flowed.

The people of Lower Larkrise would like to thank the PC publicly for the skilful repair and coating of the Ron Colley memorial bench. We hope the school bus crew appreciate it as much as this correspondent does since this is a useful facility and we're happy it won't fall into disrepair and disuse.

After at least 20 years without a food shop, Lower Larkrise now has two, thanks to the efforts of Chris (well, Naomi probably) and Pippa. Home Farm will sell you seasonal produce as and when available, including fresh free range eggs, beeswax candles and their delicious honey. Pippa at the Duck will sell you home-baked cakes, barbecue and breakfast-meat packs, pastries to order, groceries and fresh local bread. Just ask.

Our Una Stubbs captain made an appeal to record the recent successes of the team, with two good wins just before losing 3–0 and drawing the beer leg. However, with team selection back to normal, though sadly missing Iron Man Mayo for a few as he was otherwise disposed, the team re-established the season's goals by winning on average at least one leg and the beer leg. This means the team don't get promoted – but don't finish last, while getting free booze.

Deddy Car Fest raised well over £2,000 net of all deductions. While this might look very good for a day's work it obviously took far longer for many – so well done them, Candlefordians and Larkrisers et al.

Sadness will prevail when it becomes known that the chair of the library photo competition judging panel thought Di's entry of a medley of Lower Larkrise's Santas was deemed 'not calendar material'. Many of us thought it perfect for December – the equal of Jerry's excellent robin.

**Martin Bryce**

[martinbryce@gmail.com](mailto:martinbryce@gmail.com)

## FOOTIE ANYONE?


Deddington Town Football Club, founded in the late 1800s has always been a successful village football club. We field two teams in the Banbury District and Lord Jersey men's league, playing on Saturday afternoons. Our veterans team plays once a month on Sunday mornings during the season, and has very close links with the Deddington Town Colts youth teams. We are looking some new blood for our men's squad for the 2019–20 season – goalkeepers and outfield players are all welcome. If you are new to the village and want to join a friendly club that enjoys on-field and social activities please contact me.

**Martin Hovard 07801 700340**


[martin.hovard@btinternet.com](mailto:martin.hovard@btinternet.com)

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## LETTERS

FROM RODNEY HAYWARD

After reading Rob Forsyth's article about the Deddington Bowls Club benches, I thought I could fill in a bit of their history.

My grandfather, James Hayward, bowled for Deddington for some considerable years and when my father, Walter, passed away in 2000 we found my grandfather's woods with his initials on and, not knowing what to do with them, donated them to the Bowls Club via Geoff Todd, to be cut and made into trophies.

When the Club had to move from its home of many years in Earls Lane, I was contacted by the late Cynthia Garvey (Fred Deeley's daughter) to see if I would like two of the benches as my late grandfather had been such an active member of the Bowls Club and myself being a Deddingtonian.

FROM DAVID MURRAY-HUNDLEY

Recently my wife and I took our two young daughters up to see the new playground area at the Windmill Centre.

Having seen it from the old play area during the winter months, I hadn't expected it to be as fantastic as it is. It's really well thought through, loads of space and I love the forest area.

I wanted to say thank you to the team who did all this. This just adds to an already great village.

FROM DAVID ROGERS, CHAIR,  
DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Well done to all those who braved the weather for the grand opening of the adventure playground. Despite the rain, the event had a tremendous atmosphere and much goodwill was evident.

Mercifully, the PA didn't have the range for me to bore you with a lengthy speech so the verbiage was cut short and the ribbon cutting was brilliantly performed by Millie Scott and Alfie Barbeary – great job!

This project would not have happened without a generous donation from within the parish and a grant from the County Council. Thank you.

The Parish Council set up a working group in March 2017 to look at the Windmill site and a possible extension of the building. This group had been masterfully chaired by Mary Robinson and, without the time and effort that she and the rest of the team have committed, none of the improvements would have happened so thank you to her and to everyone else involved.

Finally, many people have volunteered at the Windmill Centre over the years and I'd like to ensure that everyone who has contributed towards this brilliant asset knows that they have my gratitude. Deddington is a better place for all your efforts.

FROM ELLI AND MARTIN INCE

We entered the beautiful church of St Peter and St Paul early one Monday morning to pick up the remaining



items from an event the previous evening. Thinking we would be alone we were surprised to find a group of volunteers (mostly of retirement age) dusting, vacuuming, mopping and cleaning the church with an efficiency borne of much practice. We had no idea that they did this.

We wish to thank these generous people for keeping our magnificent church spick and span. We'd also like to thank all the volunteers in the parish who quietly, almost invisibly, give so much of their time to keep many of the village activities and charities running. What fantastic community spirit there is! Should you wish to volunteer in the parish please go to <https://www.deddington.org.uk/directory/> where you'll find all the contacts you need. You'll be welcomed with open arms.

FROM GRACE SWADLING

Thank you for putting my piece about my trip with Camps International and the Warriner School in the DN last year. I have just returned from the best month of my life in Peru where I trekked for five days to Machu Picchu and worked with local communities to build guinea pig huts, toilet blocks, community centres and women's health centres. The residents were very thankful for the work the generous donations allowed me to do.

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**Email [vince@motion-aid.com](mailto:vince@motion-aid.com)**

## TALES FROM THE PUMP

Ernie is one of my favourite customers – he has lived in Deddington all his life and loves two things – Hooky bitter and a good moan. ‘People think I don’t like the fact that Deddington’s population has doubled over the last 40 years’, he said as I pulled his second pint, ‘but they’re wrong. The more the merrier I say. At least we have kept most of our pubs open unlike many villages’.

I waited for the ‘but’ to prove he hadn’t lost his grumpy touch. He didn’t let me down, ‘But the one thing this place has to sort out is the Market Place. The Market Place is for people to meet and chat, to shop and visit the pubs – it’s not supposed to be a big car-park’. ‘But Ernie’, I cut in, ‘you’ve lived here many years and you know this is not a new problem. Remember the public meeting a few years ago when double yellow lines had been suggested – biggest turnout ever and 100% against.’

‘Yellow lines are not the answer. What we need to do is redress the balance’, he said, giving me a triumphant look. Of course I hadn’t a clue what he was talking about and said so. ‘What balance?’ ‘Socialising versus carpark’, he said. ‘For a start you guys need to work with Highways and Cherwell Council to develop the areas in front of your pubs and restaurants into piazzas with tables and umbrellas like you see all over Europe. The planning, levelling and building costs would be all yours, of course, but in return you wouldn’t be asked to pay any rent for the space for a good while. Okay, there would still be car parking, particularly for people living on the square but the whole ambience would be more sociable and less metal.’ He probably expected my grumpy response, ‘That would cost me a fortune. Are you ready for another pint?’

**The Grumpy Landlord**  
[grumpylandlord1@gmail.com](mailto:grumpylandlord1@gmail.com)

## NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Hempton has been quiet again this month but we still have the problem of cars speeding through our village.

Pub Night is on Friday 13 September in the Old School Room at 7.30pm. Bring your own drinks, snacks and £1 per person to cover the costs of the Old School Room. It’s a great way of meeting village residents.

The yearly Ride and Stride will again visit Hempton Church on Saturday 14 September. If anyone would like to make a cake or savouries, they would be gratefully received from 10.00am. If you are taking part, please use the following link and make sure you state ‘Hempton Church’ so it receives the sponsor money: <https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/take-part/>.

There will be a Macmillan Coffee Day on Saturday 21 September from 10.00am–5.00pm at 26 St John’s Way. It’s a great cause and everyone is welcome.

If you have anything you want to put in our write up, please let me know by the 10th of each month.

**Ingrid Robey 07973 632448**  
[Ingoflamingo16@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Ingoflamingo16@yahoo.co.uk)

## DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

It is hard to believe that we are about to start a new academic year. We are looking forward to the term ahead when the children start a fresh school year with a new class teacher.

Over the summer holidays, a new outdoor play/working area has been built on our lower field. It looks amazing and we are certain the children will have hours of pleasure in this area. Pupils will also be able to shelter here in the summer when the weather is sunny and hot.

We would like to thank the PTA for the massive amount of hard work they put into raising money for the school again last year. We benefit in so many ways from the fundraising activities and events they organise. We would all also like to thank Alicia Rumsby and Seb Heffer for their wonderful production of *Joseph* back in July. Every year our children demonstrate their talent with exceptional singing, dancing and acting, stemming from the inspiration and motivation created by Alicia and Seb, and the great energy and hard work put in by both the children and adults involved. We are sure you will agree on the success of our performance this year, if you were fortunate enough to see the show. Finally, we would like to wish last year’s Year 6 pupils the very best of luck and happiness in the future, as they move on to their chosen secondary schools.

**Denise Welch**  
[dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk)

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## POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

### Shootings, Lies, Politicians, Racism

Seven years ago I left the peaceful village of Deddington and got on an aeroplane to America. On the way I made some commitments to poor Heather. I was going to stop swearing, never discuss religion again, and certainly not shout at stupid drivers who cut me up. In America you never know if the reaction is going to involve a gun.

Following the latest shooting in a Walmart store in El Paso, I watched a policeman on TV discussing the difficulties they face when approaching an incident like this. How do you decide who is a domestic terrorist and who is a Good Man with a Gun? In Texas you can take your gun with you when you go shopping for your cornflakes. The number of people killed by gun violence in the US has now passed 80,000 in the last five years. Over 16,000 teenagers have been killed or injured. And they do nothing. Unless you count the usual American mantra, 'thoughts and prayers'.

This particular shooter professed a desire to kill Latino immigrants. I personally have experienced very little racism in America but the country has a different and very dark history, which some states do not want to educate their children about. Britain imported slavery to the US 400 years ago this year, but it was only 51 years ago that civil rights were conferred to any significant degree on Blacks in America. Immigrants of all colours have built this country. Very shortly the white population will no longer be a majority and English will not be the most commonly spoken language. In some communities the result is genuine fear which is

being used by the President as a weapon to build his re-election campaign.

I can't imagine a leader in the UK calling a city 'rat infested' or telling a black MP to leave the country of their birth. Or is civility and reason declining everywhere? I just checked on the fact-checking sites and the latest figures are that Trump's statements are false or 'pants on fire' 49% of the time and mainly true 16% of the time. The *Washington Post*, a liberal leaning paper, reckons he has lied 10,796 times since he was elected.

Exaggeration has always been part of political life, but these are very different times. In 2018 \$3.8bn was spent in lobbying – companies and interest groups making sure they are protected by the political elite. This is perhaps not lying, just a way in which the billionaires maintain control, but it is certainly very bad for the majority of the population.

I am pleased to say that my commitments from seven years ago are still well entrenched – most of the time. I was playing tennis last week when my doubles partner started getting at me, in the end complaining loudly that I was lobbing the ball so badly that the opposition were going to kill him with a smash. Before the game he had been telling me that he loved Trump and hated Obama, but criticising my tennis took it a step too far.

I'm going out to buy some cornflakes at King Soopers and shout at a few stupid drivers. Don't tell Heather.

**Mike Ward**

[mikew@qsoftware.com](mailto:mikew@qsoftware.com)

## BLUE LIGHT OF DEDDINGTON

There have been a number of reports of lambs being stolen and illegally butchered in Northamptonshire and Warwickshire and we have previously received reports of this in the south Banbury area. Many farms cover large areas, often in remote locations, so as a community we need to keep an eye out for suspicious behaviour and report it on 999/101.

If you own livestock or live near fields with livestock in please be extra vigilant and report any concerns or suspicious vehicles to police. Where possible graze livestock in fields away from roads and, if down a quiet track, consider parking a vehicle to block access. Padlock field gates and ensure gates and boundaries are in good order. We suggest considering checking your sheep on clear nights, in the early hours of the morning, joining the Rural Watch scheme, setting up a WhatsApp group to share information, and grazing other animals with sheep to deter offenders. But please put your safety first and dial 999 if you believe an incident is in progress.

The team has visited a number of residents who have been scammed. It is worth reminding yourselves of the different scams: here is a reminder.

**Mail fraud:** con artists use fake lotteries and prize draws, get-rich-quick schemes, bogus health cures

and pyramid selling to get money from their victims. **Investment fraud:** the victim is offered investment opportunities in land, fine wines, share sales or carbon credits which have little or no value.

**Romance fraud:** the fraudster meets someone on a dating site and gains their trust. They tell their victim they need money for a family emergency or flights to see them.

**Courier fraud:** fraudsters trick the victim into handing cards and PIN numbers to a courier on their doorstep. **Fraud recovery:** when fraudsters approach the victim again under a different guise, such as Trading Standards or court officials, demanding money up front in order to finance court action to recoup some of the losses from the original crime.

Never give personal information and if you think you have been scammed please report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

The next rural community forum is on Tuesday 3 September at 6.30pm at Deddington fire station. Please come to discuss local issues of importance to the community and ways to tackle them.

**PCSO Lana Smith**

[lane.smith@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:lane.smith@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)



## BLISSFUL THINKING

I'd like to write about a personal neurosis I call 'chooser's remorse'. We make so many banal decisions every day: what breakfast to eat, what clothes to wear, or how much whiskey is appropriate in the morning latte for instance. Sensible types, I presume, will only lament the decisions that have significant consequences: a lost job, an angry spouse, Montezuma's Revenge or worse. Imagine, though, repenting relatively inconsequential selections like the sandwich filling you picked from the Coop that didn't quite tease the palate you way you'd anticipated, or the fact that you'd pre-emptively assumed a question on the phone and so answered with the stock 'you too' in response to 'Have a great time at your sister's wedding this weekend!'

My biggest bugbear when it comes to the burden of choice is usually the selection of tonight's movie. The prior hours of the day I might have whiled away reading BuzzFeed listicles rather than working, mindlessly scrolling through social media at lunch and other reserved recreations, but as the night draws in and my energy levels drop, the final two waking hours of an unremarkable day are afforded a sacrosanct eminence more befitting the exchange of matrimonial vows: get this period of time wrong and you've soiled the rest of your experiences since sunrise. The pressure is real. A good narrative should pull you along, and, in exceptional circumstances, right into it. You can't get this wrong.

(My lawyer instructs me to confirm I have deployed comic licence above and would clarify that I do not actually spend my entire workday reading BuzzFeed listicles.)

**Aaron Bliss** [aaronjbliss@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronjbliss@hotmail.com)

## DEDDINGTON DAY CENTRE

Thanks to hard work from the team and generous support from individuals, parish councils and organisations, we are still going strong after more than 20 years. However, the business of fundraising is on-going.

Our new co-ordinator is Emma Giles and her new deputy, Debbie Russell. We owe many thanks to Kathy Willcock for stepping in to fill the gaps. We are grateful to 'Our Bus Bartons', which brings our Middle Barton clients since our minibus gave up the ghost, and to the Unicorn which now provides our lunches.

We offer a day of friendship and conviviality, with a variety of entertainment and activities as well as a hot two-course meal to the elderly. Our sights will soon be set on the Parish Show, where we have had some success in the past with baking, photographs, artwork and flower arrangements. We can cater for 15 clients and presently have a couple of spaces. Visitors are welcome by prior arrangement. We would also be very pleased to meet new volunteers to help us provide this much-valued service.

You can now visit us on our new Facebook page.

**Jean Rudge 01869 338110**

## RETURN OF THE KROKS

Harvard University's a capella singing group, the Krokodiloes, returned on 8 August during their 37th world tour which has taken them to 16 countries. However, Deddington remains on their favourites' list because of the audience's enthusiasm and their host families' welcome.

The Kroks' largest Deddington audience so far was wowed by the quality of the voices, harmonies and choreography, in the beautiful grounds of Buffy Heywood's house. There were new songs, old favourites newly arranged and typical Krok humour. Some of the audience could not get enough and adjourned with the Kroks to the Red Lion for encores.

Once again we would like to thank everyone without whom it would not be possible to bring this world-class group here: foremost, the host families who provide such generous hospitality and care, whatever time of day or night the Kroks arrive or leave (5.30am and pouring with rain on this occasion); the team which set out the chairs, collects donations and clears up; Buffy, Sheila and Rob Heywood for the special environment of the Manor House garden; and Kelly Scott for the sound system.

For those wanting to re-live the magic or those wanting to find out what they missed, pictures of the concert are available on the DOL's Community page

**Barrie and Hilary Smith**  
[smithinsight@btinternet.com](mailto:smithinsight@btinternet.com)

## Deddington Art Group Life Drawing



At the Holly Tree Club, Deddington

We meet every Thursday  
for two sessions of life drawing

All welcome No tuition

10am to 12.30pm & 1.30pm to 4pm

Each session costs £10

Pre-booking not required

Excellent models, good facilities,  
free parking, chairs and tables provided

Bring your own paper and easels

### Contact

Ken Wilkinson on 01869 3372656

Roger Shapley on 01295 730466  
or email [rogershapley@gmail.com](mailto:rogershapley@gmail.com)

## CALLING ALL CLUBS

### Deddington Players

Auditions for this season's Deddington Players' pantomime, *Robin Hood*, are on Sunday 13 October at 2.00–4.00pm in the Windmill. If you'd like to get involved in the panto, either on stage, backstage or in the band, join us on audition day.

**Suzie Upson** [suzieupson@mac.com](mailto:suzieupson@mac.com)

### Dance to Health – Happy Movers

This weekly falls' prevention dance programme will begin again on Thursday 12 September at 1.00pm in the Windmill Centre. These enjoyable and helpful exercise sessions are for those with mobility problems and fear of falling. Why not give it a try and meet a friendly group? For more information contact me.

**Kamala Dickson** 01869338733  
[kr.dickson@virgin.net](mailto:kr.dickson@virgin.net)

### Royal British Legion Branch

Pub social evenings will resume on Tuesday 24 September at 7.00pm in the Deddington Arms. There is no agenda other than to chat and have a social drink.

Please note the date for the outing to the Imperial War Museum has been changed to Thursday 10 October, departing at 9.00am from the Town Hall. Families and non-members are welcome. The cost will be £15–17 if we have as many as visited the National Memorial Arboretum. You can sign up on the list in

the church or email either the membership secretary at [membershipsecretarybl0746@gmail.com](mailto:membershipsecretarybl0746@gmail.com) or me.

We would like to compile a list of all ex-service people in the parish with a contact email so we can circulate items of interest. It will not be made public and any communication will be by blind email copy. If you are not a Branch member and would like to be on the list, please email the membership secretary.

**Rob Forsyth, Chairman** 01969 338384  
[robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com](mailto:robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com)

### Women's Institute

It has been a busy summer. On 9 July we celebrated summer with a garden party where we were introduced to croquet and enjoyed Pimm's and strawberries. It was so enjoyable we have voted to make it a regular fixture. The other major event of July was a proper traditional tea party at the Holly Tree to celebrate 100 years of the WI in the county. Our hard-working committee delivered a gorgeous spread.

John Butterworth spoke at our August meeting. He told of being interviewed by Marje Proops to win an apprenticeship with the *Daily Mirror*, the papers he worked on and raising funds to buy a Land Rover for a leper colony which he drove out to Nepal. He also spoke of interviewing Sharon Davies, the Olympic swimmer, Sue Barker and Sir Cliff Richard.

**Moiria Byast** [magicandmischief05@gmail.com](mailto:magicandmischief05@gmail.com)



# Cedar Therapy

luxury beauty salons





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High Street  
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01608 489222

## CALLING ALL CLUBS

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### Photographic Society

July saw the welcome return of wildlife photographer Bob Brind-Surch, speaking on 'My Digital Workflow'. Digital photography encourages more images which need sorting, cataloguing, post-processing and storing. To avoid this becoming a burden and stifling creativity Bob recommends three stages: sift, reduce and back-up. Shooting in RAW, but using JPEGs if time is short, he copies his images as soon as possible to the computer and backs them up. He then sifts three times, backing up each time.

In August, we welcomed back Viveca Koh, talking about 'A Photographer's Perspective: My Life Through A Lens'. Viveca started taking photographs at the age of seven. She bought her first iPhone in April 2012 and developed a passion for iPhoneography, preferring even to use her iPhone over her Nikon. She is particularly skilled in using texture layers and overlays, and experimenting with digital double exposure and uses her iPhone's Hipstamatic app to capture impressionist-like views. Viveca prefers to shoot in square format and shoots colour before converting to black and white which dispenses with the distractions of colour. Her black and white images are processed in Photoshop Silver Efex.

Rod Bird will speak in September on 'Image Organisation' at 7.30pm in the Apricot Room, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho.

**Wendy Meagher 01869 336216**  
[www.addphoto.co.uk](http://www.addphoto.co.uk)

### Deddington Bookworms

August's book choice was the classic, *A Passage to India* by EM Forster, considered by many to be one of his finest works. Most of us were familiar with David Lean's film that is generally faithful to the text and cleverly conveys the perplexing tensions that develop causing tragic consequences for some of the characters. We agreed, however, that there was far more depth and insight in the book.

The main struggle is between the educated Indian community seeking independence and the blinkered British ruling class unable to adapt to the changing society. There were also undercurrents of other issues, including religious misunderstandings and gender expectations. The main characters held different viewpoints, some of which we found difficult to understand. The novel helped to us to see what a tight knit, all-pervasive community the British lived in where there was little room for non-conformity of any description. We highly recommend the book as it challenges us to look at our own subconscious prejudices and how we handle political and cultural change.

The next Bookworms' read is *The Good Liar* by Nicholas Searle, said to be a 'thriller in the footsteps of Le Carre'.

**Deddington Library**  
**01869 338391**

### Book Group

Damien le Bas can trace his Romany heritage back for generations but he also has non-Gypsy relatives. Unusually for one brought up in a Romany community, albeit in a settled situation, he graduated from Oxford University. Partly as a way to explore his own roots, he set off in his transit van to discover the traditional stopping places remembered by his family. The resulting account, *The Stopping Places*, is not just a travelogue but an exploration of Anglo-Romany culture and of personal identity.

The book is rich in information about the history, language and customs of the travelling community. Le Bas often writes lyrically about nature, while evoking feelings of isolation and otherness. Unfortunately, for a while after the first chapter most of us found the account rather hard going. However, our efforts were rewarded in later chapters and we particularly enjoyed the description of the Festival of the Black Madonna in the South of France and the visit to the Appleby Fair.

Our next meeting is on 27 September, when we will be discussing *The Shepherd's Hut* by Tim Winton. Please contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for more information.

**Sian Waterman**

### Local Vocals

We meet on Mondays during term time at 7.30pm in the primary school hall. Our new term starts on Monday 16 September. If you have thought about joining a choir but are not sure, come along and see what we get up to. Your first session is free and there is no obligation to join. There is no audition or need to be able to read music as we learn by ear. Each 90-minute session starts with a warm-up, you can sing whichever part you like, tops, middles or bottoms. We end with refreshments and the chance to get to know others in the choir. All adults wishing to spend time in a relaxed group singing away the cares of the day are welcome. For more details contact me.

**Alison Grieve**  
[localvocalscommunitychoir@gmail.com](mailto:localvocalscommunitychoir@gmail.com)

### History Society

The Society will begin its 2019–20 season on Thursday 17 October, when Bill King makes a welcome return to talk about 'The Air Transport Auxiliary'. During World War II the flying of planes from factories to air bases was mostly undertaken by women who were not allowed to fly in combat. After the war the important role played by those remarkable women was largely forgotten. This will be an opportunity to learn about them and about the vital but dangerous work that they undertook.

The Society provides talks and arranges occasional visits and events devoted to the history of our area and further afield. We meet in the primary school at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of each month from



## CALLING ALL CLUBS

*Continued from p16*

October to June. All are welcome. Membership costs £23pa for couples, £12.50pa for singles or £3 for a single meeting.

Enquiries to Barrie Smith, chairman, on [smithin-sight@btinternet.com](mailto:smithin-sight@btinternet.com) or 01869 337813.

**Chris Day**

## SPORT

### Deddington Original Golf Society

The DOGS visited Barnham Broom in Norfolk for the weekend of 21 July. The hotel was excellent, enjoyed by both golfers and non-golfers and the golf was won by Ron Colley with an amazing score of 80 points over the two rounds of golf off his 15 handicap – now much reduced. Our visit to Cotswold Golf Club on 23 August with a barbecue in Deddington afterwards will be completed by now and our next day will be at Kings Norton on Friday 13 September. As usual, please contact me if you would like to come along as a guest to try us out.

**Nigel Oddy, Secretary** [nigeloddy@yahoo.com](mailto:nigeloddy@yahoo.com)

### Deddington Town Youth

After our presentation day at the Windmill Centre on 9 June to celebrate the achievements of all our players and coaches last season, our players have been back in training during August, ready for the new season.

We have nine youth teams from U7/U6s up to U16s. The season starts for all teams on 7 September. We are looking at opportunities to put in seating on the bank overlooking the all-weather courts. We are also working with the Cricket Club to explore options for a contractor to maintain the pitches to a higher standard from mid-2020.

We are very pleased to be partnering with Wykham Park Academy, Christopher Rawlins primary school in Adderbury, Deddington primary school, Fritwell primary school, the Steeple Aston Recreation Committee and the Windmill Centre in Deddington to provide the training and match venues for our teams. Thank you for your continued support for the season ahead.

If you want to get involved with the club as player, volunteer, sponsor or fundraiser, please get in touch. Further information about the club is on our website [www.deddingtontownfc/](http://www.deddingtontownfc/) or visit us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc](https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc).

**Roger Sykes, 01869 337034**

## YOUTH

### 1st Deddington Scouts

#### Cubs

The last few weeks of the summer term were spent at Daeda's Wood doing the sort of things that Cubs and Scouts are famous for – dens, fires (using our recycled washing machine drum) and lots of energetic games. We made 'camp doughnuts' – fried and battered jam sandwiches (sounds gross but they love them) with

the Scouts, and even invested a Scout up a tree. We are looking forward to welcoming the eleven new Cubs starting in September.

**Jo Churchyard** [deddingtoncubs@gmail.com](mailto:deddingtoncubs@gmail.com)

#### Scouts

The highlight of the summer term had to be our camp at Rough Close in Coventry. It was hot but we luckily had a pitch in the trees so managed to remain relatively cool, if a bit bitten. It's a great campsite and the Scouts had a go at metal detecting (they found lots of things we hadn't buried), shooting, pedal cars (good job they weren't on the open road) and the cave bus which was very tight, very dark and very, very, hot. All food was cooked on open fires and we all went home dirty and smelly – brilliant!

**Peter Churchyard**

[deddingtonscouts@gmail.com](mailto:deddingtonscouts@gmail.com)

#### Explorers

The report back on the cooking – ooh, the Longhorn burger was so delicious and magnificently presented, along with the cake and reduced berry jus. It's amazing what can be produced over an open fire.

The following week we all managed to make woggles using paracord. Some of us took longer than others to perfect the look but, with a lot of patience on the part of the Explorers, the leaders eventually produced a woggle they could wear.

Hosting an evening of barbecue and games gave us a chance get to know the District Explorers. Finally, this month we've been on-trend by tie-dyeing. Everyone had a new neckerchief to take home. Look at the banner heading on our page on the website to see the great results, [www.deddingtonscouts.org.uk/explorers.html](http://www.deddingtonscouts.org.uk/explorers.html).

If you are interested in joining the unit contact any of the leaders at [spartansexplorers@gmail.com](mailto:spartansexplorers@gmail.com)

**Janet Duxbury**

### 1st Deddington Guides

Rounding up the news from last term ... we had to do a bit of organising because of the weather but we managed to fit all the planned events in.

Thanks to Janet and Brian Bond for welcoming us for our Ready, Steady, Cook! evening. The Guides have a variety of ingredients to choose from to cook a meal on an open fire. There were some tasty results. Everyone went for the same dessert – Eton Mess.

The 'Incident Hike' had to be foreshortened but we still enjoyed a lovely walk around the Barfords with fun activities on the way and enjoyed the comfort and space of Barford Village Hall. It was lovely to meet up with the Brownies for our sausage sizzle. It is always hectic but great fun and a pleasure to meet Guides of the future. Thanks to Bex and Tim Catlin for their hospitality. More cooking, this time backwoodsman style – no utensils, no pots and pans – requiring the

**YOUTH** ————— *Continued from p17*

Guides to use all their outdoor skills. Thanks to our host, Brian Fuller.

Lastly everyone's favourite – stream walking, huge fun on a balmy evening. Apologies to Barford residents if we disturbed your evening with squeals and screams as all the Guides got soaked. We finished the term with an evening picnic, thanks to the Wolfe family.

**Maggie Rampley 01295 810069**

**Marian Trinder 01869 340806**

**Tilly Neal 07557 095681**

**PFSU AND VILLAGE NURSERY**

At the start of the new school year we look forward to getting to know the new children and families who are joining us this term. Our numbers are at a record high this year and we are offering before and after school care for the first time. We hope everyone settles in quickly – please ask us if you have any questions or need help to find things as we gradually introduce the children to our new routines and activities. Our first topic of the year is 'All About Me'.

**Lucy Squires 01869 337484**

**HOLLY TREE CLUB**

The Holly Tree Club has been busy over the summer. Members went to the National Herb Centre at Warmington in August for lunch. The aroma of fresh mixed herbs on the return journey was lovely. Members were thrilled to attend an extra trip organised by Our Bus Bartons to Ball Colegrave's wonderful open garden event in July.

*Funny Girl*, the August film, was well attended and even afforded an intermission when it was realised the film was significantly longer than expected. We will keep an eye on running times when choosing films in future.

Continuing our 'classic' film season, our film on 12 September will be the 1951 drama/fantasy *The Man in the White Suit*, starring Alec Guinness as Sidney, a chemist who has invented a long-lasting clothing fibre, impervious to the elements. He is celebrated as a hero until clothing manufacturers realise the perfect suit is very bad for business.

We have submitted our planning application for building renovations. Our Monday morning coffee club for the over 55s meets on the first Monday of the month at 10.30am. A reminder to Club users – please put all tables and chairs back when you've finished, and please identify any items that belong to you or it will be regarded as lost property.

For all Club enquiries, please contact Diana Marshall on 01869 337761 or email [info@TheHollyTreeClub.org](mailto:info@TheHollyTreeClub.org). For booking enquiries please contact Hugh Blythe on 07907 020846 or [Bookings@TheHollyTreeClub.org](mailto:Bookings@TheHollyTreeClub.org).

**Revd Annie Goldthorp, Chair  
Holly Tree Management Committee**

**DEDDINGTON FARMERS' MARKET****Planning for Christmas**

The September market is usually brimming with produce at the peak of its summer ripeness. But then there is the pear – a glorious fruit when ripe which is usually seconds after being as solid as a rock and seconds before it starts to rot. This recipe actually requires hard pears, perfect if you have a tree full, and the result will keep well (and makes an excellent Christmas present). *Spiced Preserved Pears* (from Sarah Raven's *Garden Cookbook*) Makes 1 litre

- 350g light brown sugar
- 275ml white wine vinegar
- 275ml cider vinegar
- 3 cinnamon sticks
- ½ lemon, cut into slices
- ½ teaspoon whole cloves
- 1 level teaspoon juniper berries
- 1 level dessertspoon mixed peppercorns
- 900g firm pears (Conference are best, but any hard pear will do)

Warm up the sugar in a very low oven for about half an hour. Put all the ingredients, except the pears, into a saucepan over a low heat and bring slowly to the boil, making sure the sugar dissolves. Peel the pears, leaving the stalks on, quarter and core them, trying to keep the stalks, or leave them whole. Add them to the pan, bring to a gentle simmer and cook for about 20 minutes until just tender but not soft. Using a draining spoon, transfer the pears and slices of lemon to a warm sterilised preserving jar. Boil the syrup hard for about five minutes to reduce it and pour in enough to fill the jar to its neck and completely cover the pears. Add the spices from the pan to the jar. Cover, seal and store for a month before using. They will keep for up to a year. Delicious with prosciutto, jamon, cheese, roast duck or goose.

The market is on Saturday 28 September from 9.00am–12.30pm, [www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk](http://www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk). Good shopping!

**Ian Willox 01869 337940**  
[ian.willox@btconnect.com](mailto:ian.willox@btconnect.com)

**FRIENDS OF THE CASTLE GROUNDS**

It has been lovely to see so many people enjoying the Castle Grounds this summer but please remember that fires and barbecues are not allowed on this English Heritage site. Please also remember to clean up after your dogs to keep this area safe and clean.

We have had a visit from the Wildlife Trust which provided lots of ideas for supporting wildlife, including installing bird and bat boxes.

Come and join us and help us look after this beautiful historic site. Please contact Jean Welford on 01869 338539 or download a membership form from Deddington OnLine where there is also a link to some really lovely old pictures of the Castle Grounds.

**Carol Garrett [cgarrett@btinternet.com](mailto:cgarrett@btinternet.com)**