

October 2019

The **DEDDINGTON NEWS**



Delivered free to Deddington, Clifton and Hempton

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COVER

Alison Day

The DEDDINGTON NEWS

Although as I'm putting this together we are still basking in late September sunshine, people's thoughts are turning to the prospect of the winter. Volunteers (yes, more) are needed to help with the Poppy Appeal, p6, and as snow wardens, p9. The Parish Show is over for another year, p6 and DOL, Christmas fairs and bazaars are being advertised and the Library 2020 calendar is on sale.

Please support these efforts where you can.

JC

What's On

October

- Wed 2 Photographic Society: Laura Walker, 'Large Format Photography', Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm
- Thu 3 Knit and Natter: Holly Tree, 7.00pm
- Mon 7 Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
- Mon 7 Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm
- Tue 8 WI: Harvest Supper, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Tue 8 PFSU and Nursery: AGM, PFSU, 8.00pm
- Thu 10 Royal British Legion: Imperial War Museum, bus leaves town hall at 9.00am
- Thu 10 Holly Tree Club: Film Night, *The Professor and The Madman*, Holly Tree, 6.30pm
- Sun 13 Deddington Players: Pantomime Auditions, Windmill Centre, 2.00–4.00pm
- Sun 13 Adderbury Ensemble Concert: Parish Church, 7.00pm
- Wed 16 PC Meeting: Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Wed 16 Photographic Society: Photoshop Editing, Jim Muller, Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm
- Thu 17 History Society: 'The Air Transport Auxiliary', Bill King, Primary School, 7.30pm
- Thu 24 Skittles: Parish Church, 7.00pm
- Sat 26 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Sun 27 Adderbury Ensemble Concert: Parish Church, 7.00pm
- Thu 31 Book Group: Contact 01869 338094 for details

November

- Mon 4 Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, 10.30am
- Mon 4 Bookworms: Library, 6.30pm
- Wed 6 Photographic Society: Bob Bracher, Cartwright Hotel, 7.30pm
- Thu 7 Knit and Natter: Holly Tree, 7.00pm
- Sun 10 Remembrance Sunday
- Mon 11 Holly Tree Club: Outing to Millets Farm Park
- Tue 12 WI: 'Paul the Pud', Cotswold Baking, Holly Tree, 7.30pm
- Wed 13 – Funfair: Market Place
- Sat 16
- Thu 14 Holly Tree Club: Film Night, Holly Tree, 6.30pm

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Holly Tree Club Wednesday 18 September

Open Forum

Sir Frank Davies spoke in support of the work carried out by the Neighbourhood Plan group and reported by Helen Oldfield in the September issue of *DN*.

Ed Jessamine, ed@ipvflexgen.co.uk, from the Duns Tew Solar Park project spoke about their plans.

Matt Pumphrey talked about starting a local sustainability group.

Neighbourhood Plan

Following the report from the independent examiner which effectively removed the parish's wishes for a limit on the size and type of development, the PC resolved that the NP group should not proceed to referendum but make focused modifications to the plan and resubmit to Regulation 14 stage.

Finance & General Purposes

A request has been received from the parochial church council for a grant of £1,500 to go towards the cost of refurbishing the toilets in the church.

Planning

No objection

63 St John's Way, Hempton: store to side elevation, lawn to become parking area.

South Ridge, St Thomas Street: tree pollarding.

Holly Tree Club: Alterations and additions to stone barn and side addition. Tree works – lime close to

southern boundary wall, reduce height; yew close to neighbouring property, reduce canopy.

The Bakehouse, New Street: Tree works.

3 The Maunds, High Street: Remove eucalyptus. PC requested replacement with alternative species.

Caris Lodge, Goose Green: Tree works.

19 St John's Way, Hempton: First floor extension and solar panels.

Orchard View, St Thomas Street: Pave front garden for off street parking.

Large scale developments

21 houses next to Wimborne Close (plans not yet finalised); 9 houses at the Poplars, Clifton Road – comments on this proposal can be made at <https://deddingtonconsultation.com/>.

Environment and Recreation

Dog mess

Complaints have been received regarding this issue around the parish. Advice will be obtained from the dog warden and reviewed at next month's meeting.

Highways and Transport

Letters to be written to local retailers reminding them that using PC bins or public bins for their business waste disposal is an offence.

Next meeting: Wednesday 16 October at 7.30pm in the Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre.

To see the official PC minutes, go to <http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2019.html>.

WINE TIME

Wine commentators rave about Riesling as the greatest white grape variety on the planet. Wine consumers, however, through their buying habits, do not reflect that enthusiasm. Why?

Riesling is capable of producing an amazing range of flavours and aromas. Young dry Riesling gives lime, lemon and crisp green apple. As it ages you can get pineapple, apricot, honey and beeswax. It also produces a distinctive petrol-like aroma with age that I think is wonderful. Traditionally high in acid, it can be low in alcohol and maintain stunning flavours. It is not unusual to see German Riesling with a natural alcohol level of between 8% and 10%. It can also make wines ranging from bone dry to intensely sweet. So why has a grape capable of all this relatively few fans?

Too confusing? Germany is the home of some of the greatest Rieslings but the Germans can make their wines hard to understand and to pronounce. Maybe go for some of the easier to recognise producers such as Dr Loosen (Slurp in Banbury stocks three, all dry, ranging from just under £10 to £15). Or go to the New World. The Clare Valley region in Australia is home to some fabulous Rieslings – Majestic sells one for around £12 and the Co-op stocks one by Jim Barry called Lodge Hill for £11.

It can be sweet. Some of the greatest (and most

expensive) Rieslings are off dry ('Spätlese' in German on the label) and go all the way up to the very sweet. These have wonderful names such as Auslese, Beerenauslese, Trockenbeerenauslese and Eiswein. They are, in that order, increasingly sweet and rich. Prices also go up in that direction. You get rich and sweet Rieslings from Alsace and Austria which follow similar naming conventions. However, it is the reputation for being sweet (or sweetish) that puts people off. Go for the dry ones. For German wines look for the word 'Trocken' which will be dry. For others, check out the level of sweetness before buying.

Others to try? Alsace is home to wonderful Rieslings. Look for producers such as Hugel and Trimbach – The Wine Society sells them and a really good range of other Rieslings. South Africa can do it well too – try Jordon Riesling from the Oxford Wine Company for £14. It is just off dry and matches Asian food beautifully.

Riesling does not get oaked and is an ideal wine for those who go as far from oak flavours as they can. It does, however, go well with food of all kinds including spicy dishes. If you are in an adventurous mood and have not experimented with Riesling, maybe give it a go?

Charles Elvin

Charles.elvin@bopenword.com

FARMERS' MARKET

CHOWING DOWN

We're about as far from the sea as it is possible to be in the UK so fresh sea fish is not always to be counted on. But smoked haddock is a superb standby, especially as the weather turns and the appeal of something hearty and warming looms large.

Quantities are approximate because this is a very forgiving recipe.

HADDOCK CHOWDER

Fillet of smoked haddock

½ l Milk	Bay leaf
Black peppercorns	Unsalted butter
Onion, chopped	Carrot, finely diced
Potato, finely diced	1 teasp mustard seeds
1 teasp turmeric	1–2 tablesp plain flour
Sweetcorn, small tin, drained	
Parsley	

Put the haddock, skin side down, in a pan for which you have a lid. (If the fillet is big you may want to cut it in half to make it fit the pan.) Cover with milk. Add a bay leaf and a few black peppercorns. Bring to the boil, cover and set aside to infuse.

Fry the onion in butter over a low heat. Add the carrot and potato and continue frying until lightly browned – about 10 minutes.

Add the mustard seeds and the turmeric and continue cooking for another 5 minutes or so. You might

want to have a lid handy when the mustard seeds start to pop. Remove the haddock from the milk, skin it and roughly flake, removing any bones.

Scatter the plain flour (amount depends how thick you like your chowder) over the vegetables and cook for a couple of minutes, stirring the flour through the vegetables to create a roux.

Strain the milk in which you have cooked the haddock and add it to the vegetables. Cook, stirring continuously until the sauce has thickened. Check the vegetables are cooked through.

Add the flaked haddock and the drained sweetcorn and warm through. Garnish generously with chopped parsley and serve.

If you can lay your hands on a decent tomato at this time of year, a skinned, finely diced one is very impressive scattered over the dish just before serving. A swirl of double cream does no harm either. But even at its most basic, this is a lovely antidote to autumn.

The market webpage is www.deddingtonfarmers-market.co.uk. The market is on Saturday 26 October from 9.00am–12.30pm. If you can't wait, the Adderbury market is on the second Thursday of each month at The Institute, The Green, Adderbury, 6.00–8.00pm. More details at www.market.adderbury.org.

Good shopping!

Ian Willox, 01869 337940
ian.willox@btconnect.com



Hudson Street, Deddington, OX15 0SW
 (located next to the cyclogical shop)

01869 337583

oxford@delmergate.com

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WELL REMEMBERED

Molly Pamela Neild 1928–2019

Molly Neild, a long time and well-known resident of Deddington, died peacefully at home in Hudson Court, Deddington, on 30 January. She was born in London in 1928. Her father was a colonel in the Royal Army Service Corps and she was very much a daughter of empire. Molly's was a peripatetic army childhood and the family was constantly on the move including stints in Egypt and Cyprus. She learned to swim in the Suez Canal and to speak French at school in Ismailia. She moved schools 14 times, ending up during the war at St Elphin's in Derbyshire which she loved. She clearly remembered the German plane which bombed Chatsworth flying over the family house.

Molly was an only child and lived a lot of the time in her own make-believe world, writing stories, plays, and drawing things throughout her life. She would have loved to go to university to read English and her school felt she could easily have got a place but, as was the case with many women of her generation, her parents couldn't see the point of it and she was sent to a secretarial college in the Cotswolds.

Books were always her great love and in the late 1940s she went to London to work at the National Book League in Albermarle Street. She enjoyed London life and spent a lot of time at the theatre watching her idols from the 'gods'.

She married John Neild, a Cambridge-educated civil engineer, in 1951. After two years living near Southampton, John was offered a job as partner with a big engineering firm in what was then Southern Rhodesia. Despite having a small baby, Molly was excited at the prospect of starting a new life. John went ahead by flying-boat and Molly and the baby, Simon, set sail arriving three weeks later in Cape Town.

Molly and John spent 25 happy years in Southern Africa where Martin and Kate were born.

During the seventies she published two children's

books set in Africa. She also wrote a series of retellings of bible stories for the black educational market in Zimbabwe. She worked for some years in the library of the University of Zimbabwe and helped to run a legal aid clinic there.

The political winds of change began blowing fiercely in Africa. Molly and John were not political radicals but worked in their own quiet way against the white regime clinging to power, always believing that a phased introduction to majority rule was the way forward. In 1980, soon after Zimbabwean independence, the Neilds returned to England and moved to Deddington in 1981.

Molly loved life in Deddington and was an enthusiastic and active member of the community. For many years she co-wrote and co-produced the annual pantomime with Jean Flux and looked after several generations of children who were in it. She was a contributor to and great supporter of the *DN* and was the local correspondent for the *Banbury Guardian*. She was a leading member of the Deddington Writers' Group, the play reading society, the reading scheme at the primary school and many other activities. She was an avid line-dancer and enthusiastic member of the Warriner Choral Society. She worked tirelessly in support of the Home Farm Trust who looked after her daughter Kate so well in Moreton-in-Marsh and she delighted with Kate's many successes and achievements there.

John died in 2014 and life was not easy for Molly after that. She died as she had lived her life, elegantly, quietly and with no fuss, at home in Deddington. She will be remembered for her quiet intelligence, fierce loyalty, determination, generosity, love of conversation, her naughty sense of humour and her zest for life in all its quirkiness.

The Neild Family

Old Parish Ditty

The editorial in the *Deddington News* of June 2018 quoted the old ditty about Deddington as recorded in *A History of the County of Oxford*, Vol 11, 1983, part of the *Victoria County History* (VCS) series. It goes:
*Aynho on the hill, Clifton in the clay,
Dirty drunken Deddington, Hempton high way.*

This is the one recognised by most people today. However, Don Walker says the original version that he and school friends recited in the 1930s went: *Hempton on the hill, Clifton in the clay, poor old drunken Deddington, always in the way.* So, which version is correct? Research shows that the VCS was published

DL

History Corner

deddingtonhistory.uk

in 1983 using material from HM Colvin's *A History of Deddington, Oxfordshire* which was itself published in 1963, some 25 years after Don was at school;

perhaps it was this eminent historian who changed the sense of the ditty. If anyone has any other information to support either version it would be good to know.

In recounting this, Don pointed out that in his youth, in local dialect, the 'o' in Deddington was silent as in Deddint'n (no 'g' either), Hempt'n and Clift'n, and Aynho was pronounced Ayna with a long 'a'.

Rob Forsyth

robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

October

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 of the month)
Thu	10.30–Noon	Squiggles & Wiggles for mums-to-be, parents or child minders of children of pre-school of age.
Sun 6	10.30am	Family Service – Harvest Festival
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong
Sun 13	8.00am	BCP Communion
	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 20	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 27	10.30am	Holy Communion – Informal Said Service

Hempton

Sun 6	9.00am	Holy Communion – Harvest Festival
Sun 20	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 27	5.00pm	Eat, Pray, Live

Barford St Michael

Sun 6	10.30am	Harvest Festival
Sun 20	10.30am	Family Service
Sun 27	9.00am	Holy Communion

Barford St John

Sun 13	9.00am	Holy Communion
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For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the Vicar, Reverend Annie Goldthorp at 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). We also have a Curate, Reverend Paula Smith who can be contacted on curate@deddingtonchurch.org.

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 11.15am on Sundays at St John's. Additional services at St Joseph's are on Sundays at 10.00am and 5.30pm.

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

The Duck is feeling proud and more than a little sad as five of its beautiful ducklings have grown up and flown the nest this month. Imy, Alice, Holly, George and Olivia, who have all been at the pub since its re-birth two-and-a-bit years ago, have all passed their exams with flying colours and have flown to new pastures in Swansea, Cardiff, Oxford and Leicester. There is one bit of good news: Lauryn, who is commuting to college in Oxford, is staying on. We wish them all the best for their new adventure and thank them for their hard work – they have left very big boots to fill.

The power of the press must be celebrated in these pages as the campaign to get the Clifton Santas involved in the Candleford Library charity calendar has yielded some result. The chair of the judging committee, not wanting to incur the wrath of the Clifton Ladies Sports Club, has agreed to feature the Santas in a creative way. To see the results you can buy a calendar or two from that noisy windbag Collins at Deddington

farmers' market or buy one in a more restrained way at the library from Stella.

The Una Stubbs season drew to a close with the team's highest leg score, highest match score and a 3–0 win plus free beer in a delayed fixture at Cropredy. All this excitement happened while our skipper was wrestling with some proper ill health and we are all glad this win, dedicated to Essex boy Ronaldo, lifted his spirits. The season finished with our very own Sherman quizmaster, Dave D, being top doll, chased hard by Collins, and John C having the best strike rate but playing far fewer legs to preserve the season's goal of not getting promoted but beating the Unicorn.

And some of us are girding ourselves for the Chances Festival raising money for young stroke victims organised by our very own heroic Jo. There will be a full report next month but many thanks to everyone who has helped to get this event ready.

Martin Bryce

martinbryce@gmail.com

DEDDINGTON PARISH SHOW SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

Report and Main Results

As usual, the team of judges for the Show classes had a very difficult task. The exhibits were of a high standard, showing the exhibitors' talents for cooking, gardening, art, crafts and photography.

Especially worth mentioning are Stephen Chessum's huge carrots and onions, Sarah Liebrecht's beautiful dahlias, Barrie Clifford's lovely turned wooden bowls, Suzy Stathers' amazing knitted cottage and garden, and Peter Condon's superb drawing of a child (his grandson). I could go on ...

The Show committee is always delighted at the support for this annual event, both from the many exhibitors and those who come to look and admire, enjoy teas and stalls.

This year the school played a valuable part by having 5, 6, 7 and 8 year-olds' art sessions to produce pictures, so we had lots of 'Under the Sea', 'Hand Print Pictures', 'Scarecrows' and 'Colourful Snakes'. They all made quite an impact and helped to make the event really special and well worth all the time and effort needed to put it on.

Thanks so much to all our helpers in whatever capacity they contributed to make it possible.

Thanks, too, to Annie, our vicar, who returned early from her holiday to be there to present the trophies and for allowing this event to be in the church.

Also thanks to David Rogers for announcing the winners and winning raffle numbers.

Trophy winners:

Cookery 1 Sue Ayles & Julie Ward, 2 Katie Palmer, 3 Jenny

Jefferies, Anne Bishop, Pat Jones, V Moyses, Lesley Nelson

Flowers 1 Val Bird, 2 Stephen Chessum & Diana Marshall, 3 Stan Nelson

Vegetables 1 Stan Nelson, 2 Bev and Mark Ryland, 3 Brian Palmer

Fruit 1 Bev and Mark Ryland, 2 Wendy Burrows, 3 Sue Ayles and V Moyses

Art 1 Steve Waterman and Ken Wilkinson, 2 Cheryl Baldwin, 3 Peter Condon, Janet Bird and Wendy Burrows

Crafts 1 Rosie Phillips, 2 Angela Everett, 3 Joan Wright and Susie Stathers

Photography 1 Lucy Squires, 2 Bill Jeffries, 3 Sue Ward, Linda Tustain, Tony Pain, Melanie Warren

Show Champion 1 Stan Nelson, 2 Bev and Mark Ryland, 3 Brian Palmer, Stephen Chessum, Sue Ayles

Children's:

5 years and under

1 Constance Broadwood, Thomas Celeste-Wathan, Joshua Odell, Harriet Murray-Hundley

6 to 8 years

1 Connie Honess and Jay Cox, 2 Archie Honess, 3 Charlie McCarthy, Caleb Lake

9 to 11 years

1 Polly Banks, 2 Evie Maharry and Izzy Blair, 3 Hannah Nicholson

12 to 15 years 1 Becky Skinner, 2 Fred Davison, 3 Jemima Banks

Junior Show Champion 1 Becky Skinner, 2 Polly Banks, 3 Jay Cox, Connie Honess

Full results may be found on Deddington on Line at <https://tinyurl.com/y5xknynt>.

Wendy Burrows, Hon Secretary
on behalf of Joan, Stan, Sue, Terry, Bev and Angela



Revd Annie presenting the St Peter & Paul Cup for fruit to Bev and Mark Ryland

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Needs a Few Hours of Your Time

The Royal British Legion provides lifelong support to serving and ex-serving military personnel and their families. Every year the Legion leads the nation in remembering those who have lost their lives on active service in all conflicts right up to the present day. Over 40 million poppies are distributed for this act of remembrance, raising nearly £50 million to help provide lifelong support to serving and ex-serving members of the armed forces community and their families.

The Deddington Branch of the Royal British Legion raised £10,000 last year as part of the national total, a

magnificent effort that we will be hard pressed to beat. The Deddington parish is growing with new housing popping up all over the place so we are looking for volunteers and new members to help boost our fundraising efforts.

If you would like to help please contact me.

Martin Hovard
Local Poppy Appeal Organiser
07801 700340
martin.hovard@btinternet.com

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

We have had a quiet month again, apart from an opportunistic theft of a handbag from a car unfortunately left open. Please be vigilant and report anything you think looks suspicious.

Hempton has its own WhatsApp Group so if you would like to join, contact Jonathan Watts on 07818 697752. Jonathan will also be organising Speed Watch sessions. Please contact him if you would like to volunteer your much-needed time for this.

Pub Night is every second Friday in the month in the Old School Room at 7.30pm. Bring your own drinks, snacks and a £1 per person to cover the costs of the Old School Room. It's a great way of meeting new and old residents of the village.

We welcome a new addition to the village – Rosalie, a sister to Belle and Wren. Hopefully Mum and Dad won't be having too many sleepless nights.

The planters into the village are looking beautiful, so thank you Victoria for giving up your time to make them look so lovely.

The Hempton Bazaar will soon be upon us (see below), another good fundraiser for the church. There will also be a Candlelit Dinner in the church in February 2020 so keep an eye out for details. If you have anything you want to put in our write-up, please let me know by the 10th of each month. Thank you.

Ingrid Robey 07973 632448
Ingoflamingo16@yahoo.co.uk

PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are enjoying our fresh start back at school and would like to warmly welcome our new F1 class. The children are settling in well and enjoying school life so far. These children are a wonderful addition to Deddington Primary School.



The weather to date has been kind which has meant we have still been able to use all parts of our school grounds. Over the holiday much of our playground has been cleared of bushes and trees, making more space for children to play in.

Our outdoor classroom is already proving to be a great success. The children love learning and playing in it. The chalk boards are very popular with all year groups.

We also now have some incredible new gym equipment on our top field, which is made specifically for primary children to use and enjoy. Many of our pupils have been lining up during playtimes to take a turn on it.

Denise Welch
dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

Summer is over and Christmas is coming

Make a date in your diary NOW!



**Saturday
7 December**

Don't miss the best Christmas Bazaar in North Oxfordshire at the Old School Room, Hempton

Join us from 11am for bargains galore, a bite to eat and, more than anything, a welcoming start to the Christmas season



More details next month – look out for the insert

2020 PARISH CALENDAR

ON SALE NOW!

Fabulous local photography & excellent quality, the 2020 Deddington Parish Calendar is the 'must-have gift'

BUY YOUR COPY WHILE STOCKS LAST

**Deddington Library
Deddington Farmers' Market
NELLIE & DOVE**

Hugely popular A4 calendar, only
£10.00

**NEW for 2020: A5 desktop calendar, just
£7.50**



All proceeds go to Friends of Deddington Library
Registered Charity No. 1164811

POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

Healthcare, Fairness and Welfare

I was reminded recently of my other life back in Deddington. I was listening to a podcast by Michael Lewis which I thoroughly recommend to anyone who wants to try and understand American life. He has written the two best books I know about American sport, *Moneyball* (baseball), *Blind Side* (football), and a number of funny tragedies about real life. You may have seen the film of his great book, *The Big Short*. He really does turn something very complex and boring, in this case the 2008 crash, into a human and funny story.

His podcast is about referees in society, and how the American way is destroying fairness. He is obviously very anti-Trump. One point that astounded me was that US college debt is now second only to housing debt, currently running at \$1.5 trillion. These debts are at high interest rates, administered by private companies who are motivated to increase the liabilities, rather than help the debtors. For instance, there is a programme to forgive debt for those who go into public service jobs but, of 41,000 applicants to the programme last year, only 206 received any debt relief.

It is 14 months until the next Presidential election and so the Democrats have started the vastly long and expensive process of selecting someone who will have the privilege of being insulted continuously by the Donald prior to the final vote. We are now down to 20 candidates. We have just had the third debate live on TV and they were actually very polite to each other. The vast majority of the candidates agreed on two key issues: restructuring healthcare and gun control.

In overall terms healthcare costs twice as much here as it does in most European countries. The service we get is considerably better than an underfunded NHS can possibly deliver but the cost is unbelievable. Our family health insurance is \$2,300 per month but we still pay for prescriptions, and doctor visits cost between \$40 and \$80.

The US of A is a country based on the premise that if you try, then you will succeed – the land of the free, the land of opportunity. That is the American way. The problem is that if you don't have a start in life and live in poverty, you have very little chance to get out of it. There are safety net social programmes but they vary immensely. In Alaska a single parent with two children on the basic welfare programme would get around \$640 per month; the amount in Mississippi is \$150. There are additional programmes, 78 of them. It's complex. Just over 50% of the population gets some kind of benefit.

Back in my old life in the parish, I was an occasional football referee. The highlight was undoubtedly sending someone off one afternoon in an under 11s game. Unfortunately, it was one of the parents (all names withheld). He was swearing at his son who was having a bit of a 'mare. I held up the game until he left the field. I believe in fairness but I'm not sure it figures in much of USA. They believe in the American Way. Fight for yourself, no referees.

Mike Ward

mikew@qsoftware.com

Tales from the Pump

I could see that Giles was incensed and I just hoped the beer was okay. He took a big swig of the Hooky so I knew it was fine and then launched forth. 'Did you know Grumpy, that Public Health England (PHE) is a quango with an annual budget of £3.3 billion? The director here in Oxfordshire gets paid £207,000pa. By the way, his equivalent in Gateshead, she gets £95,000 – a good example of Government gender pay equality.'

Now Giles knows I have my gripes about PHE – a fine example of the nanny state dreaming up ridiculous guidelines like no more than 14 units of alcohol a week without any published evidential data to base it on.

'The problem,' Giles went on 'is that PHE has redefined public health to move it beyond protecting society from mass population diseases such as measles, mumps, and rubella into reducing risks arising out of lifestyle factors, in other words to eat the right food and drink less alcohol or if possible none at all.'



He saw me pale at the thought and passed his glass over to cheer me up. 'Nice pint, Grumpy, pour me another.'

He took an appreciative swallow of his new pint and delivered his coup de grace. 'Listen to this – recently PHE announced that confectionary shouldn't contain more than 50% sugar, so virtually banning boiled sweets. In the same week the UK lost its status as a measles-free nation. This year we've seen an outbreak of measles with dozens of cases turning into hundreds and now thousands.'

Giles sighed and summed up: 'The focus is all wrong. Get rid of the nanny PHE, replace it with a smaller outfit responsible for protecting us from contagious diseases, and put the £3.3 billion into front-line National Health services.'

'And keep drinking the Hooky,' I added.

The Grumpy Landlord

grumpylandlord1@gmail.com

Snow Wardens – Looking Ahead to Winter

Deddington Parish Council runs a Snow Warden scheme for the parish and we are looking for more volunteers. We are seeking people who would be interested in helping keep the key pavements across the parish clear and assisting the vulnerable and elderly by clearing paths to their doors.

Oxfordshire County Council currently grits the Hempton-Clifton Road and the A4260/High Street/New Street but has no plans to clear pavements or other roads.

The Parish Council is aware that very many of you look out for your neighbours when the weather is poor but we have a list of those who would be reassured to know that there is someone who might clear their front path. Also, if we could work together to keep as many pavements as possible clear it would be a great benefit to our community.

It seems that many people believe if they clear snow or ice from outside their property or from the public footpath they could be sued if a member of the public were to slip on the area cleared. It is the view of County Council that if people clear ice or snow from a public footpath in a safe and correct manner as outlined in the government's snow code, then it is very difficult to envisage circumstances where a court would award damages against them for a slip.

By working together we can make a real difference to the safety and wellbeing of residents in our community this winter. If you are interested in joining Deddington Snow Wardens, then please contact me.

David Rogers
david@blueskyday.biz
 01869 337065

CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAIR SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER

10.30am to 3.00pm in the Parish Church

This is a great family event
with children's activities
and stalls selling Christmas gifts and cards

Refreshments will be available throughout the day

Church Social Committee

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Deddington
Health Centre



2019 FLU CLINICS

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

Down on George's Farm



Well, that's it. The 2019 harvest was in the barn by the end of August, with the Green Goddess back inside. She did throw a few tantrums, needing a call or two to the local engineer but she had the last laugh on me. While sorting out a front end blockage on the header, my hearing aid and glasses fell out of my shirt

pocket and she ate them, so they are somewhere in the middle of a twenty acre field of stubble and I can't get new ones fitted until the middle of September. So all is peaceful but sadly I have had to duck out of choir practice.

Despite a miserable summer, the harvest was good and, as I put this together to catch the deadline, the cover crops, sheep feedcrops and oil seed rape have been planted, and by the time this hits the doormat we will be on with the winter-planted cereal crops.

The ewe flock has been sorted out and replacements bought in. These are kept separate for a few weeks before joining the main flock to ensure there are no problems. The rams have been receiving extra feed to build them up before the rampage.

So where do we go from here? Along with many other farmers and food producers, we have received the attentions of the militant vegan brigade – in our case only a few comments about red meat production. What these activists seem to forget is that whatever

diet they wish to pursue, it all has to come from the land produced by a farmer somewhere in the world. As a large part of their diet is imported (rice, maize and soya), none of which is grown in this country, they are in fact adding to the problems of climate change and global warming.

In a cost-cutting exercise and an attempt to conserve soil moisture, we bought a direct drill to plant the crops. This machine goes straight into the stubble without the need for primary cultivations. The onboard computer gadgetry is well beyond the Old Man. Even the tractor pulling it has a GPS guidance system, a long way from my old Fordson Major. It's not a cultivation method that sits well with the Old Man but needs must in these days of uncertainty

The farm wildlife has had a good season and, going by the number of young house sparrows (my babes), their parents had a good go at what sparrows do. We had eleven pairs of swallows in the farm buildings and a good number of house martins using the mud pool in the yard. There were not as many swifts this year. All these birds have now gone south and sadly the curlew did not nest this summer because of an early April flash flood which also took out the snipe, skylarks and many of our ground-nesting bumble bees on the river valley meadows. So, after a dry summer and winter, where did this water come from? It came from the many building sites between Banbury and Oxford with the run-off from the sites being poured straight into the river system and we ended up having to swim the ewes and lambs out of the flood waters. Ho hum.

George Fenemore
01869 338203

Memories of Deddington School

Yes, still the same school but not just a primary. You could stay there for your school life unless you passed the eleven plus when you would go to Banbury Grammar School, then known as the County School [now Wykham Park Academy – *Ed*].

I started at Deddington CoE School at the age of three years ten months, the same day as my brother Roy who was 15 months older. My mother asked if I could go to the nursery department as I wanted to go with my brother. When I got home from my first day Mum said 'How did you like it?' I said 'I didn't like it so I won't go again'. She said 'You will because you pestered me to, so you will go every day.' Miss Miller was my first teacher, a very caring and kind person. Our classroom was the one that juts out on the south side. There was a swing hanging from the ceiling. Every afternoon we had to sleep on small camp beds.

Other Teachers

Mr Armstrong was the headmaster when I started. He lived in the house that later became an antique shop in the Market Place but to us was always known as Schoolmaster's House.

After a few years Mr George Wing came as the head. He was from Norfolk and was an excellent head. He was very strict and was not slow to dish out a good hiding. He loved to teach country dancing. The only music we had was a wind-up gramophone so we had to stop dancing every time it needed a rewind.

He kept bees in the garden behind the main school hall and a few rabbits. His wife came to teach shorthand but that was too complicated for me.

We always addressed Mr Wing as Sir. He certainly made changes. We had to wear a school uniform: a dark brown blazer and cap for boys and a beret for girls, and woe betide you if you were incorrectly dressed on your way to school.

He split the pupils into three different houses: Windsor, Tudor and York. We had competitions between each other to gain points for the house.

A school journey, as we called it, was arranged for ten days in Scotland staying at Melrose and Joppa.

Don Walker
roodon@btinternet.com

LETTERS

FROM GRACE SWADLING,
CLIFTON

I wanted to 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 the local communities to build guinea pig huts, toilet blocks, community centres and women's health centres. The locals were all very thankful for the work that the generous donations allowed me to do.

FROM EMILY ENOCK, MARKETING CAMPAIGNS
OFFICER (PUBLIC HEALTH),
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Oxfordshire residents who have been affected by suicide are urged to give their feedback to help shape a suicide prevention strategy.

Between 2016 and 2018 there was a total of 155 deaths by suicide in Oxfordshire. Of these, 126 were men which means that deaths of men outnumbered those of women by 4:1.

The Oxfordshire suicide prevention group is about



Please address all letters to:
JILL CHEESEMAN
37 THE DAEDINGS, DEDDINGTON
letters@deddingtonnews.co.uk
and include your name and address
even if they are not for publication

to revise its action plan and develop a strategy and would like to hear from people in Oxfordshire who have been affected by suicide or who may have had suicidal thoughts themselves.

There is a determination to reduce the number of deaths by suicide and we are asking residents to complete the survey www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/suicidepreventionsurvey to help achieve this understanding.

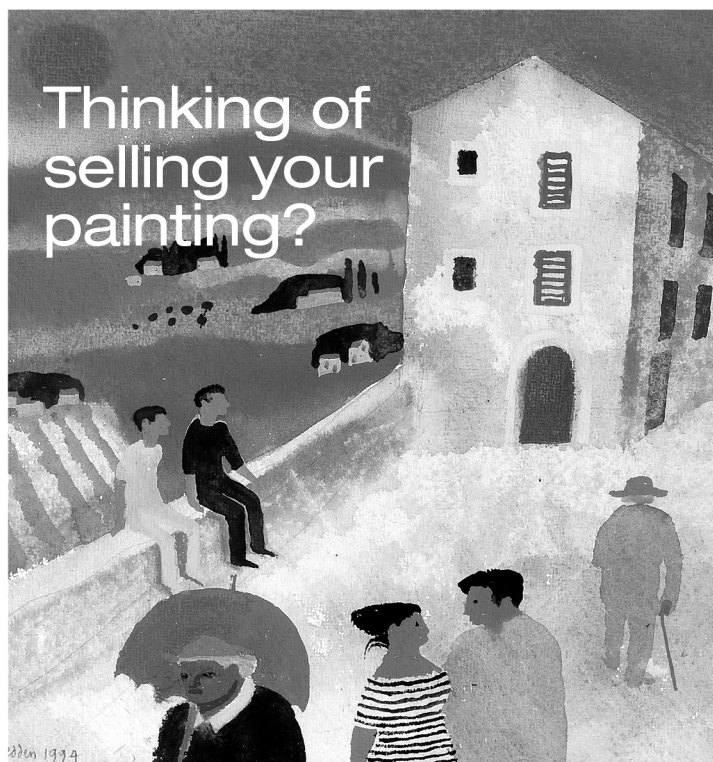
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a man's ring.

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Blissful Thinking



In the abstract metaphysical sense, we are all eternally lost, searching for direction. In the more literal linear way, we hope not to get lost on the way to that friend's house, foreign hotel or work conference, so we use technology in the form of Google Maps or a satnav, so that when we do get lost, it's not our fault.

Wi-fi, battery power and smartphones in general are not wholly reliable, but, assuming those pesky ravens haven't plucked out our eyes, we can rely on them to interpret a good old fashioned atlas or pocket map, if you will. I've always had a certain fascination with cartography, chiefly because it speaks to that primal lure of discovery. The first cartographers were literal pioneers, making artist's impressions of the new lands they bestrode. There was certainly some creative licence: who could forget the classic 'Here Be Dragons'?

Well, I'm currently packing in preparation to literally go where there be dragons: the Austrian city of Klagenfurt, where their provincial emblem is the Lindwurm, a winged dragon. I have no smartphone, so will instead be armed with maps and a compass, while trying not to look too much like a conspicuous bone-headed tourist asking to be pick-pocketed. The trip will begin and end in Vienna, as every Austrian odyssey surely must, but Klagenfurt is the place of Mother's birth, so I thought I might investigate. I'll let you know how it went, once the British embassy has airlifted me home.

Aaron Bliss
aaronbliss@hotmail.com

HOLLY TREE CLUB

September started with a busy coffee morning when we welcomed some potential new members. Our next coffee morning is on 7 October – if you are over 55 years of age, then you would be most welcome to join us.

Our September film, *The Man in the White Suit*, was very much appreciated. We had a happy evening, not only because it is a very funny classic film but also because it was only one-and-a-half hours long.

Our film for 10 October, rather different from the last two, is *The Professor and the Madman*, based on the 1998 book *The Surgeon of Crowthorne* by Simon Winchester. The film, released in 2019 (two hours long) stars Mel Gibson and Sean Penn, and is based on the true story of Professor James Murray who, as he works on compiling the first edition of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, receives 10,000 entries from one particular source, a patient at Broadmoor Asylum. The story explores the relationship between the two men and their relationship with the *Oxford English Dictionary*.

Our next outing is on Monday 11 November to Millets Farm Park and our November film on Thursday 14th is *The Imitation Game* with Benedict Cumberbatch as Alan Turing, the code breaker at Bletchley Park during WWII.

For all club enquiries, please contact Diana Marshall on 01869 337761 or email info@TheHollyTreeClub.org. For booking enquiries, please contact Hugh Blythe on 07907 020846 or Bookings@TheHollyTreeClub.org.

Revd Annie Goldthorp, Chair,
Holy Tree Management Committee

Friends of Castle Grounds

At a recent Cherwell District Council planning meeting, the chairman referred to a quote from English Heritage about Castle Grounds: 'The Castle appears to have been located remotely from the original village of Deddington and this has been perpetuated over time. Whether deliberate or not, the setting of the asset remains in open countryside except for a small section of the circuit. The Castle has illustrative value in demonstrating how the Normans dominated the surrounding landscape militarily and physically and the existing open setting contributes to that significance.' The chairman also added, 'If you haven't visited Deddington Castle, then please do to appreciate it properly.' Come and visit the Castle Grounds to enjoy this asset of the village.

Plans are in place to install bat and bird boxes under the guidance of the Wildlife Trust.

The paths around the moat are eroding so please be careful if you walk through there. Discussions are ongoing with English Heritage to repair the paths.

The bin that went missing from Betty's Bench has now been found and secured.

If you would like to join the Friends of Castle Grounds, you can download a form from <https://tinyurl.com/y49nef4x>. Come and join us to help to look after this unique and wonderful site.

Carol Garrett
cgarrett@btinternet.com

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Book Group

The choice for July was *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. In 1922, following the Russian Revolution, Count Rostov, a reposeful charming aristocrat imbued with good manners and breeding, is declared a Non-Person. He is condemned to permanent house arrest in the heart of the capital, in the Hotel Metropol which he knows well and where he is confined to an attic room and employed as the head waiter.

The story covers the years of tumultuous upheaval in USSR from 1922 to the Khrushchev era of the mid-fifties along with a back story of his privileged upbringing. This delightful gentle tale describes, with accurate historical references, his ability to survive by adapting to his new circumstances. Elegantly written, with abundant humour and an unexpected twist in the final pages, the group without exception would recommend this refreshing novel.

Our next meeting is on 31 October. Contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for further details.

John Sampson

Local Vocals Community Choir

We meet on Mondays at 7.30pm during term-time in Deddington Primary School hall.

Our new term started 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. There is no obligation to join – just pop in one Monday to see if it's for you. Each 90-minute session starts with a warm-up, you can sing in whichever part you like, there is no audition or need to be able to read music as we learn by ear. We end with refreshments, the chance to get to know others in the choir and we leave with big smiles. 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

Deddington Players

Auditions for this season's rip-roaring Deddy Players pantomime, *Robin Hood*, will be held on Sunday 13 October, 2.00–4.00pm at the Windmill. If you'd like to join the team on stage, back stage or in the band, please contact me.

Performance dates are 16–18 January 2020 – get them in your diaries today. Tickets will go on sale later in the year.

Suzie Upson

suzieupson@mac.com

Deddington Bookworms

The Good Liar is Nicholas Searle's debut novel but you would never guess it. A psychological thriller, with just the right amount of humour, this book keeps the reader hooked with twists and turns. The story begins with

Roy, a lifelong conman in his eighties, and Elizabeth, a pleasant but seemingly vulnerable widow, meeting on an internet dating site.

We soon find out that Roy is determined to carry out one final con before he 'retires' and it seems Elizabeth is ripe for the picking. However, you soon get hints that she is not as vulnerable as she first appears. Roy's past life is detailed in steps, each one delves deeper into his past but nothing, past or present, really endears the reader to this character. Elizabeth is portrayed as a much more likeable person and this creates suspense as well as intrigue. Will Roy succeed? Will Elizabeth see through him? We won't spoil the ending but would just say this book is well worth a read.

As self-confessed bookworms, we would never advocate a film over a book but interestingly *The Good Liar*, starring Ian McKellen and Helen Mirren, will be released in November.

Our next read is *Reservoir 13* by Jon McGregor.

Deddington Library
01869 338391

Deddington Royal British Legion

The next pub social evening will be on Tuesday 29 October at 7.00pm in the Unicorn.

The coach is booked for the Branch outing to the Imperial War Museum on 10 October and will depart at 9.00am from Deddington Town Hall and leave the Museum at 3.00pm. The journey takes about two hours. Currently 25 people have opted to go. The cost is capped at £20. A few more names would reduce this. If you know of anyone else who is interested in coming, please put their name on the list in the church or email me.

Our branch appeal organiser, Martin Hovard, has asked elsewhere in this edition for volunteers to help collect for the annual Poppy Appeal. If you can, please

Continued on p14



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CALLING ALL CLUBS

Continued from p13

help. Our first collection will be at the farmers' market on Saturday 26 October and will continue up to Remembrance Sunday.

Details for our Burns Supper at Banbury Masonic Hall on 23 January will be published next month.

Rob Forsyth

01869 338384

robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Photographic Society

On 4 September, members gathered to pay their respects to John Prentice, who died suddenly at his home on 2 September. Very active in the Adderbury community, John was a Society founder member in 2006 and had been chairman for the last two years. More details are posted on the Society website, including a tribute to him written by John Branton, friend and fellow founder member. JohnP, as he was fondly known, will be remembered for his wit, decisiveness and humour.

Following a minute's silence, presenter Rod Bird was warmly welcomed back to speak on 'Image Organisation'. Hailing from South Wales, Rod now lives in the Thames Valley and provides tuition to fellow photographers. This evening's talk, aimed at non-professional photographers, came about because people that he met wanted help with the organisation of their images. The more images you take, the more necessary it is to know how to store them safely on the computer. He talked about transferring images from the camera to the computer, grouping and labelling them, and how to export, share and email them. Managing disc space is very important to prevent the

computer from becoming too full. Lightroom is a secure system to manage and store files.

Rod emphasised the importance of constantly backing up all images. He suggested a lasting and beneficial way to store images is by making photobooks, a fairly recent development. Rod's talk was peppered with amusing anecdotes and it was agreed that the methods he described would be of immense use to those needing to sharpen up their organisational skills.

The next presentation, entitled 'Large Format Photography', will be given on Wednesday 2 October by Laura Walker, at 7.30pm in the Apricot Room, Cartwright Hotel, Aynho. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

Wendy Meagher

www.addphoto.co.uk

01869 336216

Deddington and District WI

Meeting of 11 September

Instead of meeting as usual in the Holly Tree Club, we met at Wychford Pottery. We had an interesting tour of the working pottery. Every item is hand-made, either on a wheel or in a traditional mould. We were shown how the clay is prepared for use and how it was moved around the pottery from storage to the wheel. We were able to watch several potters at work at the wheel and were surprised how little time, in the hands of a skilled potter, it takes for the raw clay to become an article ready for drying.

Then we adjourned to the Straw Kitchen for a very welcome 'cuppa' and a cake before travelling home. This was another enjoyable event at the WI.

Moiria Byast

SPORT

Deddington Town Football Club – Youth

The new season is under way. All our teams play in the Witney and District Youth Football League. The Under 16s had a heavy opening day defeat to Freeland and the Under 13s, who have moved up from 9-a-side to 11-a-side, had a heavy defeat at home to Tower Hill. The Under 12s were involved in an entertaining 9–5 defeat to local rivals Bloxham. It is early days in the season and plenty of time for improvement. A special mention to the Under 8s who start their journey in league football. Coaches Marten Sealby and Jason Arlett are full of confidence for the season ahead after excellent performances in summer tournaments and pre-season training.

Get involved

If you want to get involved with the club, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Further information about the club is on our website, <http://www.deddingtontownfc/> or visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc>.

Roger Sykes, Development Officer and U7/U6 Coach 01869 337034

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team results

07.09.19 Bicester Hallions (h) L 0–6

Reserve Team results

07.09.19 Bicester Hallions Reserves (a) L 1–2

The new season has blown in like the first crisp autumn leaves and the familiar slow start has repeated itself. Bicester has never been a team Deddington has enjoyed playing in any guise and curiously both teams played their respective versions of the Bicester Hallions, and both came sadly unstuck. The First Team was absolutely humiliated at home and will want to move on with no recollection, while the Reserves were narrowly seen off. I hear both teams are sorely lacking a specialist goalkeeper, so if you know anyone relatively tall who can leap around like Spiderman, talk to Matt Garstin.

Aaron Bliss

07909 642882

Continued on p15

YOUTH

1st Deddington Guides

Autumn is upon us all too quickly but we are prepared.

Some of our senior Guides have moved on to become Young Leaders and Rangers – so many opportunities lie ahead. A large group of Deddington Guides had an amazing trip to Switzerland – report to follow next month.

We began the term with 'smores' to make the best of the daylight. Ah, the smell of wood smoke and the taste of sticky marshmallows.

We have a full programme in the planning with the involvement of everyone: activities involving outings, animals, crafts, cooking, learning new skills to enable us to become helpful members of our communities, and worldwide issues.

Our first meeting was full of hectic fun and games as well as learning some map reading skills.

All girls over ten are welcome to join us in our adventures and make some new friends. We're at the Windmill Centre, Deddington, Tuesdays 7.00–9.00pm.

Maggie Rampley 07957 600755

Marian Trinder 01869 340806

mariantrinder@gmail.com

Tilly Neal 07557 095681

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

The new term has started with eleven new Cubs, many having transferred from Beavers, so many in fact that

we had to label them to learn their names. Games and a general introduction to Cubland was followed by a look at playground safety, with road safety, first aid and home help to follow shortly.

Jo Churchyard
deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts

We started the term looking at the scourge of plastics – what we could live without and what we really couldn't. This was followed by projects using old plastic straws and cans.

Peter Churchyard
deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

Explorers

If you are interested in joining the Unit, please contact me.

Janet Duxbury
spartansexplorers@gmail.com

Beavers

Beavers is for children between six and eight. We meet at the Windmill Centre from 5.30–6.30pm on Mondays during term time.

Laura Kiff
deddingtonbeavers@gmail.com

A New Deddington Sustainability Group

Recent discussions in the locality over the proposed extension to the Duns Tew Solar Farm have led to a group of locals coming together to develop a group focusing on sustainability for Deddington and the surrounding villages.

The climate crisis is becoming increasingly real to those who have been working in the sector for years and those who have only more recently become aware of the severity of the issue. Sitting in the garden or pub it can seem that there is little that we can do as individuals, but the effect Greta Thunberg is having on global awareness over the climate crisis shows us that even as individuals we can have an impact.

Having been brought up in a family recycling and composting all we could I have always been something of an eco-geek and I have been fortunate to have spent the last 25 years of my life working in the sustainability sector. Over the last few years the sector has expanded dramatically and more of us are now engaged, both from a work and personal perspective.

Some like-minded friends and I are exploring the opportunity to develop a Sustainable Deddington group to see if we can further enhance our beautiful

local villages and support locals who would like to develop and deliver sustainability projects in the area.

We are fortunate not to be starting from scratch as we can harness support and guidance from local groups such as Oxford's Low Carbon Hub and the Community Action Group and also learn from other successful local organisations, such as Low Carbon Hook Norton, who have delivered some very impressive local initiatives.

Deddington is fortunate to have an active community and we are starting with a blank piece of paper for this initiative. At this early stage we are keen to draw together more like-minded people who can support us and work on initiatives that they are passionate about. These could be anything from energy efficiency, recycling, reuse, car charging or anything that can provide sustainable, social or community benefit.

We have set up an email address at sustainablededdington@gmail.com. Please contact us so that we can keep you up to speed with developments. We plan to be at the farmers' market in the coming few months to gauge interest and gain support so please come along for a chat.

Matt Pumfrey and Nick Smith



Management Committee

This is the second year that we've had tepees on the playing field as the Windmill played host to CHANCES, a spectacular fund-raising music festival supporting young stroke survivors. It's a fantastic event organised by local resident, Jo Cross, and her wonderful team of volunteers. Well done to all.

Improvements to the Windmill building continue apace with new exterior signage being the most visible recent addition. Inside, all the old fluorescent tubes have been replaced by sleek LED lights, a new CCTV system has been installed, as well as a more robust WiFi system. The changing rooms have undergone a much-needed deep clean and we continue to tick things off our list of large and small projects, repairing and updating our facilities for the benefit of everybody.

All the regular clubs and societies are back after the summer and we welcome March & Twirl Majorettes and Little Olives Baby Massage as new additions to the growing list of activities available. Look out for more information on our website www.thewindmillededdington.org or Facebook page.

Lastly, as we begin to plan for a transformational, ambitious, large scale extension to the Windmill building, we'd like to hear from anyone who would like to get involved. This is a huge undertaking and we need your help and your expertise. Please contact either me or Mary Robinson. I look forward to hearing from you.

Vaughan Jones

vaughan@englishlanguagematters.com

WINDMILL DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Adventure Playground

It's the end of summer and it's been great to see the playground and woodland trail so well used over the holidays with more than 100 people enjoying the new facilities on many occasions.

There are still bits to finish off this autumn: the water fountain has been ordered and will be installed near the pavilion. More reseeding and weed-killing are needed and we're working towards the wildflower patch in the south-west corner.

The contractors are keeping us waiting for an answer to remedial work on the slide mound. But sadly the pop-up café won't be happening – back to the drawing board. Ideas on how to use the pavilion are welcome.

The rubbish bins by the new MUGA were ripped off their concrete mounts by mindless numpties. They have been repaired.

Please, no dogs in the play park, even on leads.

Children can be frightened by unfamiliar animals. Dogs should be walked on leads along the way-marked dog-walking path from the car park, past the all-weather court, into the copse and up the path back to Hempton Road. We've provided signs, bins and bags for dog poo – what more can you want? Please help us enforce this. The PC is reviewing a complete ban on dogs at the Windmill – it's coming closer. Be aware that the outside areas of the Windmill will be covered by CCTV in the near future.

Work is picking up on plans for a new extension but there's a long way to go.

Mary Robinson

development@windmillcentre.org

Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

It has been a lovely sunny start to the autumn term and the new children have settled in quickly at both settings. Our AGM will be held at the PFSU on Tuesday 8 October at 8.00pm. In order to take decisions and elect a new committee we need as many parents to attend as possible, so please be there if you can. The PFSU will be holding a parents' information evening during October, date to follow. The Nursery children are looking forward to their Hallowe'en party at the end of term. Also coming up is our ever-popular Christmas Fayre during early December. Watch this space for more information.

Lucy Squires 01869 337484



Cokethorpe SCHOOL

Independent, Co-educational Day School, for 4-18 Year Olds

Cokethorpe School offers an extensive bus service that now includes pick-ups from Deddington.

'Vibrant, dynamic and stimulating.'

The Good Schools Guide

If you would like to find out more please visit our website

cokethorpe.org