

April 2020

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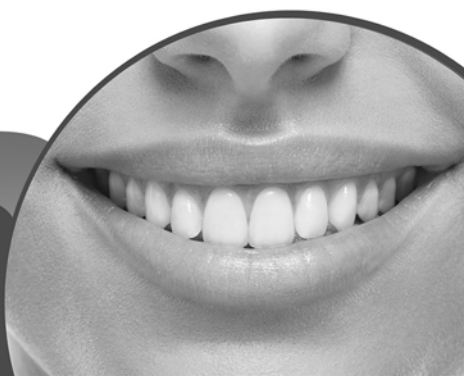
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The DEDDINGTON NEWS

This is not the usual *DN*, not least because it is shorter – largely because much of the usual copy relates to future activities. More importantly it is our first ever online only version.

The two-page special edition of 25 March, our last paper edition for the immediate future, was issued so that everyone, especially those not online or on social media could receive the community support information. Our wonderful predominantly elderly collating and delivery teams were stood down for this issue in the interest of safeguarding their health and delivery was made by zone captains. Our thanks to the volunteers who emerged so rapidly to meet this crisis.

All things being equal and our regular contributors staying well, the *DN* team intends to publish an online issue on our regular monthly schedule for as long as necessary before resuming normal print.

Let's make the best of the enforced adventure. **CD**

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BARFORD ST JOHN Helen Honour

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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Deddington Parish Church Wednesday 18 March

Present: Councillors Collins, Cox, Oldfield, Rogers (chair), Squires, Timms, Watts, plus District Councillor Williams and County Councillor Fatemian.

Open Forum

Jen Childs addressed the PC on behalf of the COVID-19 Response group. She thanked Beatrice Maloney for initiating the group. A plan of the village has been drawn up, divided into zones with a named captain of each zone and 57 people had volunteered to provide assistance to elderly and high risk residents. A similar arrangement has already been made in Hempton. A card offering assistance is being printed and should be available from 19 March. A number of local businesses have offered additional services such as home deliveries. The Co-op store is opening 9.30–10.30am for those at most risk and there is a sign on the door asking people to respect this period. If volunteers from the COVID-19 Response group collect shopping for residents they can make themselves known to the sales assistants. However, the group would like the PC's advice on how they can pay because at present the Co-op cannot take card details over the phone.

Planning Applications

No objections

Manor Farm House, Main Street, Clifton: replacement of timber windows.

End Cottage, The Stile, Deddington: tree works.

41 Mill Close, Deddington: demolition of conservatory, erection of single storey extension.

Barn Cottage, Hempton: demolition of single storey rear extension and erection of two storey extension.

8 Castle Street, Deddington: replacement of bulky roof window.

7 The Beeches, Deddington: conversion of loft over garage and insertion of rear dormer window.

Land north of Hill Farm, Hill Farm Lane, Duns Tew: installation of standalone solar PV array, associated infrastructure, access and landscaping.

Heathfield House, High Street, Deddington: tree works.

Agricultural building, Clifton Road, Deddington: demolition and erection of replacement building.

Windmill Community Centre, Hempton Road, Deddington: (retrospective) Windmill illuminated sign.

No comment

Town Hall, Market Place, Deddington: (retrospective) change of use of ground floor and first floor to art gallery.



Appeals

Land south of Home Farm for 14 new dwellings.

Land south of Home Farm for 15 new dwellings.

Bowler House, New Street, Deddington: single storey rear extension.

Finance & General Purposes

Two additional cuts of the grass on the Windmill playing field making a total of 10 for the season were agreed.

It was agreed to change the venue for the next council meeting to the parish church where there is more space so that councillors and any members of the public can sit apart.

Environment & Recreation

It was agreed to proceed with the planning application for the Hempton playground at a cost of £231.

A meeting is due to be held with Thames Water on 30 March, the venue to be arranged.

Parish councillors and local residents were thanked for turning out for the parish spring clean.

Creative Play will fix a new bearing on the roundabout in the adventure playground.

The village steward will install bird boxes and a hedgehog hotel at the Pocket Park. The picnic table is available but needs assembling.

Highways & Transport

A resident in Earl's Lane has installed an electric charging point opposite the primary school and a car is parked on double yellow lines. It was agreed to refer this to OCC, Thames Valley Police and CDC as it is a highway matter. It was also agreed to contact the primary school.

A resident has requested a 20mph limit on St Thomas Street or 'slow' road markings. A letter is to be written to OCC in support.

Complaints have been received of cars damaging grass verges and bollards having been erected in New Street near The Stile. It was agreed that the land is OCC's responsibility and they should be advised.

The VE75 Day anniversary has been postponed.

Next parish council meeting: Wednesday 15 April at 7.30pm to be held remotely.

These parish council notes are the view of our reporter, Jill Cheeseman, and not the official minutes, which are available at <http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2020.html>.

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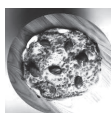
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FROM THE FIRE STATION

After a quiet and safe start to the year, the fire station had a total of 20 call-outs for this month – eleven stand bys, three fire calls, two traffic collisions, three alarm call-outs and one hazardous materials incident.

The majority of call-outs were stand bys – when we go out to provide cover for another station. Several of the stand by calls whilst covering both Banbury and Bicester stations led to 'running calls'. These are calls which come in while you are already on the road ('on the run') either to or from another station and you then divert directly to that incident.

The three fire incidents included a controlled burn of waste wood called in by a concerned bystander, an overheating domestic light switch and a severely smoking electric car battery which was dealt with by applying the positive pressure ventilation fan to both disperse the smoke and fumes and to cool the battery down.

All the alarm calls proved to be false alarms, with the systems being at fault rather than any smoke or heat sources triggering them.

The hazardous materials call-out occurred in an industrial unit in Banbury, requiring fire crews to stand



by as the chemical in question was highly flammable. The company's own personnel were able to safely clean up the accidental leak, with crews from Banbury, Deddington and Fenny Compton on hand to guard against any potential ignition.

Training of the Deddington crew continues with new recruit Ollie Malpas passing his Basic and Safe to Run training and joining as a Fire Fighter in training. He was called on his first

shout within 45 minutes of being on shift. James Greenwood has now passed his Breathing Apparatus technical test.

There have been two recent traffic collisions on the stretch of the A4260 between Deddington and Adderbury resulting in two deaths. Sobering and sad, our thoughts are naturally with the families of those that are no longer with us. Not related but equally sad was the news that a fellow Fire Fighter in the West Midlands took his own life whilst on shift – life is never guaranteed.

James Greenwood, FFd
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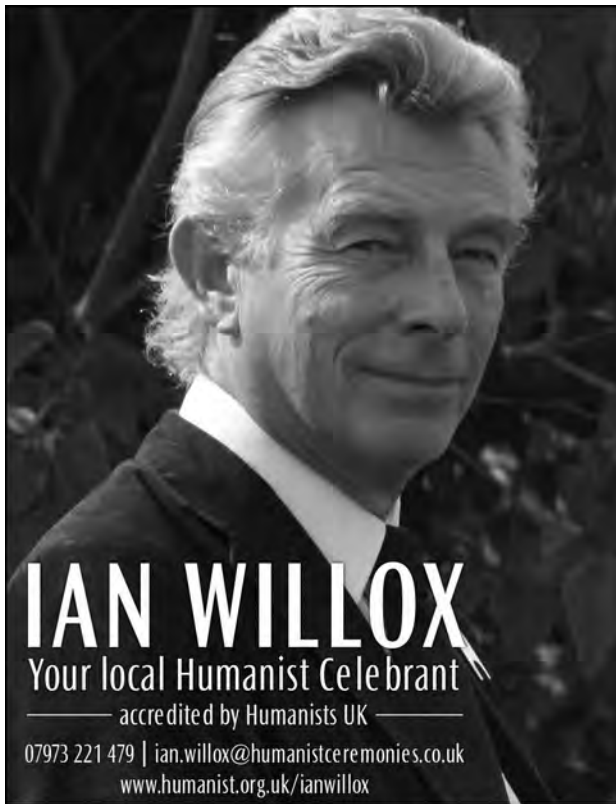
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DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM

It never rains but it pours, and it's not just the precipitation from above that has been raining down on us of late. It seems as if a small field drain that discharges into the roadside ditch has deposited a small amount of silt in it; not surprising given the rain we have had since the end of September. It has got one or two of the locals in a lather. In truth the problem was caused when, by popular demand, the grass bank outside the farm boundary was replaced by a pavement and the pavement works collapsed a 200-year old stone drain that took the road run-off water from the council-owned ditch to the river. Although we have surface water running down the village no homes have been flooded and no property damaged; just the need to put on wellingtons to get to the pub.

The real damage is to our riverside meadows caused by the run-off from the village and the many building projects taking place upriver. Our traditional, protected, wildflower meadows have been trashed and, at this moment, it is difficult to see just where next winter's feed for the sheep flock will come from. The curlews returned on time to reclaim their nesting areas but took one look at the mess and flew off into the blue yonder. The meadows are a very special area to me and are farmed in the traditional way with livestock grazing without a sniff of chemicals or manufactured fertiliser.

As I bash this out we have four hi-vis jackets from Thames Water standing around a manhole in the middle of the road suggesting they are trying to do something. The only problem is that it is the wrong drain – the foul sewer line. Perhaps I should have flushed the toilet. Prior to the visit of the yellow jackets, we received notice from the Environment Agency of intended prosecution for allowing the aforementioned small field drain to deposit silt in the roadside ditch. It



also indicated that we would be subject to a full farm inspection and review of all farm records, including livestock and crop production, going back ten years. In addition, there was to be a public meeting in the village pub. All of which has been put off for now as the young lady from the EA has caught a cold and is self-isolating.

Despite all this happening during the lambing season, the old girls in the Clifton flock have done a good job and produced a nice crop of lambs. By the time this hits the (electronic) mat the organic North Aston flock will be on the go. We have already had some lambs born at North Aston because some idiot on a bicycle left a field gate open and let the rams out. Ho, the joys of farming on the urban edge.

Due to the virus we will have some extra help with the April lambing as all the schools and colleges have been closed. We will have two vet students on placement doing their sheep module along with the Farm Student who will spend most of his time on a tractor or in a bee veil – can't allow idle hands.

Otter (Fred the Shred) my six-month old Labrador has been in the wars and spent some time in the animal hospital at Hook Norton on an IV drip. I do not know just what happened but the speed of the infection and swelling indicated a snake bite which may seem improbable in March, but, given the mild winter and recent warm weather, they have come out of hibernation: I have seen adders already on the farm. The two hotspots are the farm spinney and Bowman's Bridge. The 'little boy', having had an operation on his foot and leg, is in the care of the local vet team and making a good recovery and a good show of having his tummy tickled. Ho hum!

George Fenimore
01869 338203

CHURCH AND CHAPEL

Deddington with Barford, Clifton And Hempton

While all public worship is suspended, it is hoped that some services for the Easter season may be streamed live online. Please keep checking the church website for any further information, <http://www.deddingtonchurch.org/>. For funerals, please contact the Vicar at vicar@deddingtonchurch.org or on 01869 336880. If Annie is not available, please contact one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie on 01869 338367 or Meriel Flux on 01869 338901. Our curate, Revd Paula Smith, can be contacted at curate@deddingtonchurch.org.

RC Parish of Hethe

St John's Church in Banbury will be streaming Mass daily at at 9.30am, Mondays to Fridays; 10.00am on Saturdays and 11.15am on Sundays on <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-john-the-evangelist-banbury>. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be streamed for 30 minutes at the end of each weekday Mass.

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PENCE, DENTISTS, RUSH AND A VIRUS

The good news is that after the leader of the free world assured us last month that this Coronavirus thing is actually a hoax, he then followed up by appointing Vice President Mike Pence as the man in charge. This is the man who once wrote 'Despite the hysteria from the political class and the media, smoking doesn't kill'. As governor of Indiana, most people's lasting memories are of his lack of belief in science, combined with the evangelical beliefs which led him to ignore the threat of HIV. Perfect choice.

In fact, alongside the LFW, Pence has been calm and logical. He has continually played down the extremes from his boss, for whom hyperbole and exaggeration are the norm. One of the other constants in the daily briefings has been a wonderfully reassuring 79 year old gentleman, Dr Anthony Fauci, the head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Most days the LFW promises that he is doing a great job and anyone who wants a test can get one. Poor Fauci then has to explain that there is still a shortage of tests, without telling his boss that he is an idiot while being watched by millions on TV.

There are times when my lovely wife strains hard not to say 'I told you so'. I hate the dentist but alongside these Americans with lovely white teeth, I recognise that I look a bit unhealthy. Last month I decided I needed a new dentist, after a four-year hiatus. So I contacted a man I play tennis with. I explained if he hurt me, he would be getting tennis balls in very unfortunate places. He examined my very iffy molar and pronounced that I needed to see another guy to determine if I needed a root canal. This guy took a full CT scan, and sounded very disappointed when he told me he couldn't do it and that I needed to go and see a third guy who would take it out. \$1,500 later nothing had happened and I was saved from further torture by the Governor shutting down all non-essential services last week. And then the tooth fell apart.

In these times of stress we need to look for humour to distract us but some stories are truly worrying. I spoke earlier this week to a man who describes himself as a 'prepper'. His basement is full of food, water and guns. I just managed to choke back a laugh as he informed me that the virus was a Chinese weapon, aimed at destroying Western culture. I tried carefully to raise the question of the 3,000 dead in China but he pointed out that the death rate there was declining rapidly – 'See, they have the antidote!'. Some people do worry me.

I never realised America had an honors system. Knighthoods and MBEs always seem very odd to me in the modern world. But it is true, America has dozens



of similar devices, including the Medal of Freedom, which Trump just gave to Rush Limbaugh, a conservative radio host. The item is bestowed on 'individuals who have made 'especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors.'

Rush's contribution to concerns about the pandemic was, 'We're shutting down our country because of the cold virus? Can you imagine our enemies watching this? You think the Chinese are not laughing themselves silly over how easy this has been? On Rush's radio show this week a guest blamed the virus on 'gay people in San Francisco'. I am not sure if this is worse than Trump calling it the 'Chinese virus' and then tilting into a bizarre tirade that blamed it all on the press.

The really good news is that Trump is now promising a cure 'within weeks', 'it will be great'. Now I am not a professional in this field but those who are tell me it will probably take a year. The sooner we have a jab for it the better, but if he manages it there will be another side effect; he will win the election in November.

We are in lockdown with a daft dog and I'm happily watching reruns of the magic Leicester City of 2016. Sometimes my wife is right, but, unless I don't make it, don't tell her I said that. Let's hope we all survive with our lives and our marriages, despite the inadequacies of our politicians.

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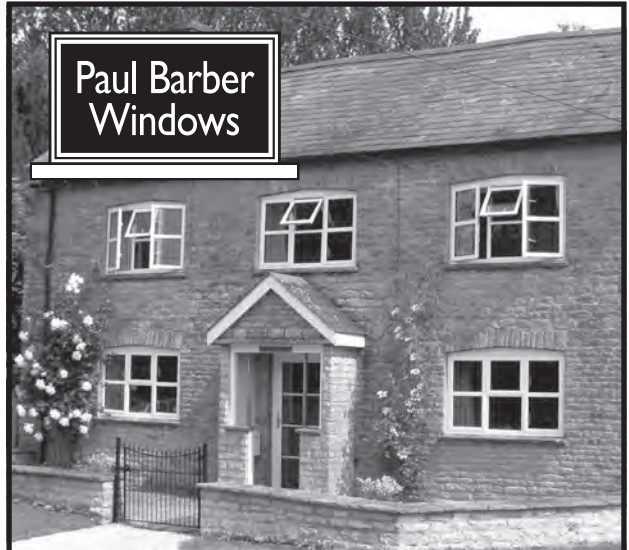
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NOTES FROM A SMALL GARDEN

Only a couple of weeks ago it was as if there were two parallel universes, one out there where something called coronavirus was going on and one where life continued as normal. I was shopping, visiting and meeting friends as usual.

And now? I'm one of the over-70s endangered species, so having to adjust to the new reality of self-isolation for 12 weeks and a different daily life.

How to organise shopping for food and medications? I've used trusty online Ocado for grocery deliveries for years – but try getting a delivery slot now! Instead, our fantastic local Covid-19 support group, with its zone captains and volunteers, is doing a grand job of making sure everyone who is self-isolating has food and meds, and our local shops and pubs are stepping up too. At times like this we realise how fortunate we are to have such a strong community.

How to keep in touch with family and friends? I'm lucky in that I can do email and social media to keep in touch with my family. I'm all WhatsApped and Zoomed up, and I've had more Skype chats with my grandchildren than ever in their collective lives. They'll soon get fed up of talking to Granny so I must talk to them one at a time.

How to keep busy? Instead of clearing out the sock drawer again, I'm getting to know the Green Goddess – no, not George's old tractor – the 1980s exercise guru now on YouTube. Until our supreme leader says otherwise, I go for a walk in the gorgeous sunshine and hear bird song and no traffic. The Castle Grounds are on our doorstep and perfect for a walk without going near anyone else. The days are lengthening, the sun is shining, spring bulbs are everywhere, and bursting buds on the trees are a sign that life goes on.

Most of us have gardens, however small. I've sowed honeywort, cosmos, scabious and nicotiana seeds to blast my tiny patch in the summer with colour and scent. I've started listening – really listening – to music, instead of having background audio wallpaper.

I can take only so much of the daily depressing news, so how to keep entertained? I was looking forward to a trip to Berlin but online virtual tours of art galleries and museums and a shelf full of music CDs and DVDs are a good substitute. I was never a fan of cruises but do you fancy a trip on the *Coronavirus Princess*? (Oops, sorry, bad taste!)

I confess that I had become an idle cook, relying on ready meals and instant convenient shopping. Now everything is precious and I'm back cooking meals for my tiny freezer. I had a thought while working out how many meals I could prepare without doing any shopping: do I really need five sorts of salad dressings in the fridge? And do supermarkets really sell 60 lines of sausages? Seen from Mars, it sounds mad.

We've had 75 years of peace and growing prosperity and we think it's our right to have just what we want, right now. Is this a wake-up call from Gaia telling us to stop our selfish over-consumption and live a simpler lifestyle? Maybe it's the only way the planet will survive.

One thing has got me stumped: how am I going to cut my own hair for the next 12 weeks? Answers, please, on a postcard – through my letterbox.

And a funny to leave you with: a 'Mother's Day and Gift Card in One' from my son: 'Two hours of non-judgemental technical support, extended to unlimited virtual – after all you taught me how to use a spoon'. 'Nuff said, and I can't wait to give them all a hug.

Mary Robinson

robimary@gmail.com

TALES FROM THE PUMP

Although the closure of our pubs and loss of livelihoods for hospitality workers is top of the mind for us pub landlords it does not compare with the stress, illness and loss of life caused by this terrible epidemic. Usually when disaster strikes in this country the pub is the place to go and keep up our spirits and often forms the hub from which support is given. But when social interaction is hastening the spread of the coronavirus then pubs, football and rugby matches, theatres, and festivals all go by the board in the effort to slow down the spread of the disease so that, hopefully, the NHS can cope.

At the time of writing the government is trying to help hospitality businesses with the availability of loans as well as the removal of business rates. Whilst the latter is welcome it is unlikely that pub landlords will want to borrow to cover the lack of cash coming in.



Loans have to be repaid and the future is very uncertain. The biggest cost in the hospitality business is labour and the government must guarantee workers significantly more than statutory sick pay or basic redundancy pay. I hope that by the time you read this something will have been done.

By the end of February Brits had paid as much beer duty as the Germans will in the whole of 2020 – despite the Germans drinking about double the amount. Beer duty is 11 times higher in the UK than in Spain. The take in taxes from pubs has been massive over the years – now is the time to show that the country values our workers in the hospitality business – it's payback time!

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NEWS FROM CLIFTON

I thought it would be great to write an entire NfC without mentioning the current difficulties we are all facing. Then I realised how difficult, if not downright impossible and largely missing the point of this column if I did so – but more of that later.

Quizzes at the Duck continued, with honours being spread around democratically as previous winners enjoy a barren patch but fun being had and good, interesting food abounding. Glad to say Quizmeister David has yet to be seen after his self-isolation following a Northern Italy skiing trip following the last one.

Thames Water had arranged a community meeting with curious (and bloomin' angry) residents hopefully to explain to us all what they were going to do to make the drains work as designed. However this may be wishful thinking as they could just turn up and say it's all the fault of Climate Change and George. That would certainly be, if not fun, a meeting to remember as many of us are ready to go to bat and put them straight.

Sadly this group activity, like so many, has fallen by the Covid-19 wayside. (I prefer the nomenclature Covid-19 for a number of reasons: it's less typing than Corona Virus and it reminds us there could be a Covid 20, 21, 22.) So what we're learning now we need to hold on to. Someone commented it's as if the Earth, Mother Nature has sent us to our rooms to think about what we have done.

In this vein a big shout out to Tei for distributing the leaflet offering support to our vulnerable and self-isolating as part of the magnificent effort starting in Candleford. This correspondent had already been in contact with the vulnerable known to him but this wider reach is a great show. The virus has halted the entertainment promised by the Thames Water meeting mentioned above and Una Stubbs' early April season start with handicapped cup competitions must surely be under threat, although I suspect they are taking their lead from the IOC and Japan's Olympic committee.

Lower Larkrise has to my sure knowledge one GP-diagnosed case, leaving local luxury car makers and health providers reeling from the absence of the two co-habitees from work. Social distancing has been much in evidence with various conversations being held from the road to first floor windows and from across the street. The Clifton Book Club took social distancing to a new virtual height being on Zoom (a much more reasonable alternative to the money grabbing Skype for video conferencing platform) although one contributor not quite getting the point did walk to his nearest hostelry before joining in, but this last visit did elicit a reward as the premises was seeking to offload some 'produce' likely to be out of date when it next opened. This largesse is now available to neighbours when the host's garage is open then negating the need to meet each other when grabbing a pint. Anyone who knows the host's full name and favourite sports team is welcome to bring a container and join in.

As usual if you have more news then send it to me, at Martindnbryce@gmail.com, saving me the bother of making this all up – which I'm happy to do if it entertains anyone for five minutes of the loneliness of self isolation.

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DOL History Corner
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Great things were planned for the 8 May VE Bank Holiday in Deddington but sadly had to be postponed

until perhaps 15 August for VJ Day. A piper playing on the church tower before a Union Flag ceremony at 3.00pm, a children's tea party and an evening 'knees up' for all the family in the Market Place were all on the agenda. Don Walker, who was 11, remembers tears in 1945; tears of relief that it was all over in Europe and tears for the families of the 13 men who would not return. The DOL Gallery has the sole photographic record of the day. Clifton folk held a fancy dress parade led by a young drummer boy and Britannia with a host of other characters in her train. See the DOL Gallery, WW2 Album, [VE Day 1945 – Clifton Residents](#). Let us be optimistic and look forward to celebrating in August.

Rob Forsyth
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com



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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

On The Road Again – Neighbourhood Plan Mark 2

In our last dispatch in *DN* we explained that the government-appointed examiner had ripped the guts out of the neighbourhood plan which we had taken several years and numerous consultations with the parish to produce. This left the steering group in a quandary. Should we hold our noses and put the plan as rewritten by the examiner to a referendum? Should we abandon it completely? Or should we have another go and produce a new plan that might meet the wishes of parishioners *and* pass muster with a new examiner?

With the backing of the parish council, we decided on the third option – try again. To this end we have appointed a planning consultant with an impressive record of seeing neighbourhood plans through to the finishing line and we have secured more funds from the Locality Agency to help fund it all. Our consultant has started work already, advising us how we might remodel the policies that fell foul of the examiner while still retaining their original intention.

The biggest change from the previous plan is the likely decision to allocate sites for development. This is a delicate business since most residents will have a cherished vista or neighbouring field that they'll want

to preserve and no two people from different ends of the village are likely to agree. Here the consultant will be a great help, dispassionately basing selections on planning considerations, sustainability, environmental and landscape priorities, and whether the landowner is ready to fall in with community wishes and needs – in short the kind of evidence examiners would find it difficult to ignore.

Next, we consult the parish again on the new direction the plan is taking, in particular on the draft allocation of sites. This time we'll aim to work hand in glove with CDC so that our neighbourhood plan will be in harmony with CDC's projected Local Plan part 2 and in the hope that we can look to them for support in making our case to the new examiner.

With luck we hope to have a plan ready for submission in March next year. That might be optimistic in light of the current crisis. In fact all of this may seem a bit academic at the moment but we have to be confident that it is worthwhile planning for the best possible future for Deddington.

Helen Oldfield

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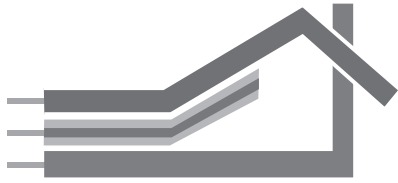
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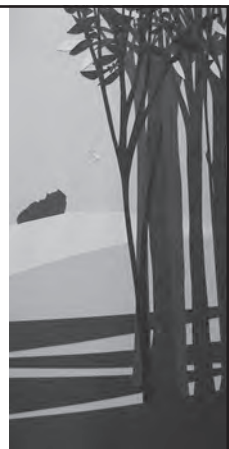
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WINE TIME

'I'm an ABC drinker – anything but chardonnay!' There was a time when what is probably the world's most famous white grape variety was subjected to this sort of abuse in pubs and restaurants. Wine drinkers side-stepped this fabulous grape and moved to other varieties. Pinot Grigio benefited, as did the ubiquitous Sauvignon Blanc.

Sadly, many never went back and have shunned Chardonnay completely. It is still not uncommon to hear 'I love Chablis, but not Chardonnay' from those who are not aware that the crisp, clean citrus and floral flavours of Chablis come from Chardonnay.

It was the Australians and the Americans who pushed the trend for rich vanilla, over-oaked, cream flavoured Chardonnay which, although it has its place (with a curry or Thai meal), put people off. This style went out of fashion some time ago, but the damage was done and the grape's reputation was forever tarnished.

It's time to persuade those who abandoned it to try it again. The glory of this grape is its versatility and ability to produce varied, but fabulous, wines in multiple different regions and climates. It is the backbone for Champagne, the star of white Burgundy and also produces complex and different wines in South Africa, Argentina, New Zealand, Chile, Australia, the UK – in fact, virtually everywhere white wine grapes are grown.

If you are looking at the very top end of white wines you are going to pay a fortune and will probably be buying white burgundy. For wines like Bonneau du Martray's Corton-Charlemagne, Jean-Noel Gag-



nard's Bâtard-Montrachet or Lafon's Meursault-Charmes you will be paying between £50 and £250 a bottle depending on the year. They are extraordinary but prohibitively expensive. If you are interested try old school wine merchants like Berry Brothers, Justerini & Brooks or Corney and Barrow.

As you go into more acceptable price levels, while staying in France, Chardonnays from the Mâconnais region are often the best value for money. The

Wine Society's own label white Burgundy at £10 is very good indeed. Also try Louis Jadot from Tesco at £10, or Waitrose Macon-Village Lugny at £12.

Moving to the New World, a good, rich but not over-oaked Chardonnay is Villa Maria Chardonnay from New Zealand at about £12 and available in a lot of places. Jordon Unoaked Chardonnay from Stellenbosch in South Africa, from Slurp at £12, mimics Chablis with lime, lemon, and apricot flavours. For a slightly richer, but fruity, wine go for Dark Horse Chardonnay at around £9 (Waitrose, Tesco, Sainsbury's, and Ocado). Chile is another good source of lightly oaked and excellent Chardonnay – most supermarkets stock a version at the £8 to £10 range and they are well worth exploring.

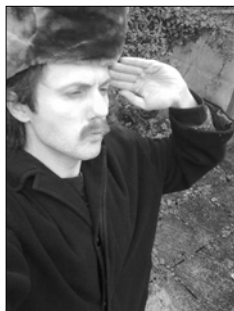
There is, literally, a world of wonderful Chardonnay wines out there. If you are one of those who abandoned Chardonnay, when it seemed to personify too much vanilla and cream from the overuse of oak in its production, then try it again. Forgive it the sins of the past and search out the lighter styles and you will not be disappointed.

Charles Elvin Charles.elvin@bopenworld.com

BLISSFUL THINKING

Stay healthy and respectful of others at all times and we can emerge from this crisis wiser and stronger than ever. I write this plea to you perching atop my mighty toilet roll temple sanctuary like a stir-crazy Donkey Kong, periodically emerging only to scavenge for food, not, of course, before marinating myself top to toe in an alcohol-based sanitising gel. Should I have to leave the homestead entirely, I contemplate whether to rock the Hazmat suit today or the rather more fetching trench coat and beaked plague mask filled with Class A – I mean, aromatic spices.

Whilst looking out for each other, we also need some acclimatising to this strange new state of affairs. Social isolation will feel almost physically painful to some of us so we need some stimulation if we can't let off steam in pubs, clubs, cafés or gyms. Although



you may not have to resort to building a scale model of the Tower of Babel out of lollipop sticks after all. Rather than asking 'What the heck am I going to do at home for months?' you need to ask 'What am I always saying I'm too busy to fit in?'

The internet can teach us how to paint watercolours, meditate, rebuild a car engine or send explicit memes to our boss under a liquor cloud; let's not waste its unlimited potential in our many hours of coming need.

We can use this unexpected downtime to become the people we'd always hoped we'd be and build a better world together when the world returns to some semblance of normality again. Of course if the Wi-Fi's down it's game over.

Aaron Bliss
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LETTERS

FROM CHRISTOPHER HALL,
DEDDINGTON

The May Fu 2 restaurant closed on Saturday 29 February. After 30 years it was a sad day for Michael Lim and his staff, and the countless customers who have come to rely on them for takeaway dishes, as well as eat-in meals, particularly the eat-as-much-as-you-like Sunday buffet lunches. (For one man at least the takeaways were his fall-back when it was his turn to cook). Where else in Deddington could you phone through your choice from a menu of 100 full-of-taste dishes, and walk round within 15 minutes to collect your ready-to-eat hot meal? Unbeatable fast food! The complimentary prawn crackers were as good as any anywhere.

Sixty-six reviewers on Tripadvisor gave May Fu 2 an average 80% approval. Chinese restaurants can be judged by whether they are patronised by Chinese diners. May Fu 2 was the venue our Chinese friends chose to celebrate family reunions, even Chinese New Year, enjoying discussing with Michael the extra special dishes he could serve.

'A Very British History' on TV in February told the story of how Chinese chefs enlivened the culinary scene as Britain emerged from the plain fare of post-war austerity. Michael is recovering from major surgery. May Fu 2 customers may like to say thank you by donating to Cancer Research UK <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org>.

FROM PETER GARRETT, CORNWALL

The Late Edith Garrett Of Hempton

We would like to thank all the people of Deddington, Hempton, Clifton, the Barfords and beyond who attended the funeral of our wonderful mother, Edith Gar-



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rett. We feel very humble and at the same time proud that Mum was so liked, respected and remembered.

She was an amazing lady and mother who lived independently to the great age of 95. It was also a great comfort to us that the Revd Paula made the service so special.

Thank you also for all the cards and words of support that we received. We are sorry not to have

been able to thank you all individually on the day but time went so quickly.

Mum will be very sadly missed but we have many lovely memories of her.

Peter, Andrew, Caroline and Jackie

FROM BEN WILLIAMS, CHAIR OF GOVERNORS,
DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

At the time of writing, Coronavirus is building up but the primary school is still open and supporting Deddington's children.

I would just like to ask the Deddington community to recognise the extraordinary work that Clive Evans and his team has put in to ensure that Deddington's children have been able to continue with their education in a safe and welcoming school while all this has been going on.

The entire school team, from Mr Evans through the teachers, teaching assistants, and volunteer helpers, have got behind the work to keep the school doors open, and they've shown great professionalism and commitment in really difficult circumstances. Regardless of how the Coronavirus outbreak develops while the *DN* goes to print, this community is lucky to have such a dedicated team and we owe them our thanks.

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

We just get over all the issues with Brexit and now we have Covid-19. While this awful virus is going on, please make sure you look out for any elderly or vulnerable neighbours that might need help with shopping, picking up of prescriptions or just a cup of tea and a chat. You can also contact the Hempton WhatsApp Group on 07818 697752 to get any messages to people who can help.

Friday's monthly Pub Night and Sunday's 'Eat, Pray, Live!' are cancelled although some church services will be online – visit www.deddingtonchurch.org and follow the 'Church TV' link.

If you have anything you would like to put into the *Deddington News*, please let me know before the 10th of each month. It would be nice to have a few more things added to the column. Thank you.

Ingrid Robey

Ingoflamingo16@yahoo.co.uk

07973 632448

PFSU AND NURSERY

It has been a busy term. The PFSU children loved exploring the camper van that came to visit, and spent a spring morning enjoying the Castle Grounds. Nursery has welcomed a number of new children who have been having fun learning about minibeasts by observing worms and caterpillars.

Sadly, due to current circumstances, the PFSU and Nursery are closed until further notice, with the exception of our children with parents designated as key workers. We thank everyone for their support and hope to see you all again very soon.

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WELL REMEMBERED

Edith Garrett 1925–2020

Edith, a Derbyshire lass, was born in 1925 in Chesterfield, the only daughter of Elizabeth (Lizzie) and Forbes Minty, a policeman. She had two siblings, an older half-brother, Syd, and a younger brother, George. Edith left school at 14 in the summer of 1939 and went to work as an apprentice seamstress for John Turner's department store in Chesterfield.

Aged 17 Edith had to make a big decision between compulsory military service or war work. Her mother would certainly have reminded Edith that war work would probably mean working 12-hour shifts at the local Robinson's cotton mill where hundreds of girls, each in charge of mending broken threads on three weaving machines, turned out miles of bandages. In the summer the mill shed doors would be open and the noise from the machines was overwhelming to those walking by. The girls couldn't chat – they used sign language.

Edith chose military service in the Womens Auxiliary Air Force whose members were known as WAAFs. After training she was posted to a bomber airfield on the east coast which would have been in the restricted coastal zone of Lincolnshire. It was during this time that she met Ken and they were made for each other.

When Edith was interviewed on TV for the local news in the parish church some ten years ago she wore Ken's medals as she spoke about her time in the WAAF and Ken's time in the RAF. She also spoke about the great sadness of how many aircraft, having fought bravely on their missions and returning damaged to the airfield, would crash on landing and how sad was he loss of so many lives, often of the very young.

Ken returned from his missions safely and, after the war ended, Edith and Ken married on 15 February 1947 in the parish church of St Mary and All Saints in

Chesterfield, Derbyshire, (the church with the famous crooked spire) during the winter of very heavy snow!

They came to live in Aynho as Ken was a signalman on the Great Western Railway at Aynho Junction, and family life started with Peter born in 1948. A few years later they moved to 1 Castle Street in Deddington and in 1953 Andrew was born.

In 1961, Ken bought the news agency from the Franklins and in 1965 the family moved to the Post Office with Ken as sub postmaster and Edith as sub postmistress. The whole family was involved and Sundays were particularly long and busy as all the newspapers had to be delivered round the outlying villages. The family has happy memories of this time and Edith loved the children coming to choose their sweets from the vast range of jars lining the counter and wall.

Edith and Ken retired in 1985 and moved to Hempton, where Ken sadly died in 1991. Edith managed to settle into life on her own and enjoyed the garden which Ken had helped to get sorted. Over the years she took much pleasure in going to WI meetings and out on their day trips, continuing to make many friends.

Edith enjoyed eating out locally and visits from the family brought her much joy, including the annual holidays in St Ives where she stayed with her son Peter and his wife Caroline. Andrew would drive halfway down with Edith, meeting for lunch with Peter, and Edith would continue the journey with him, reversing this arrangement two weeks later.

Edith kept as active as she could and only a few days before she died she was smiling as she made her way down the stairlift that had just been installed.

Edith lived a long and happy life and she will be very sadly missed by family and friends.

DEDDINGTON FARMERS MARKET

Interesting Times

We're all going to be spending a lot more time at home. So this month's recipe is designed for homestyle comfort.

Ham and Kale Colcannon - from Nigel Slater's *Eat*

Serves 3-4

500g large floury potatoes

250g leeks

2 handfuls of kale

150ml hot milk

Thick slice of butter

250g thick-cut cooked ham

Peel the potatoes, cut into large chunks and cook in boiling water. Slice the leeks and fry in butter until soft but not coloured. Steam the kale and drain. When the potatoes are soft enough to mash, drain, then beat to a fluff either with a potato masher and a wooden



spoon or in a food mixer. Beat in the hot milk and the butter. Tear up the ham, chop the kale and fold them into the potato, together with the cooked leeks. Season with salt and black pepper and serve.

If you have any leftovers you can pat the mixture into small cakes. Toss them lightly in flour, then fry in butter and oil until a crisp crust has appeared underneath. Turn them tenderly and cook the other side. Serve on their own or with a fried egg on top.

Obviously we don't know when the next market will be so stay in touch through the market webpage, www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk.

Ian Willox 01869 337940
ian.willox@btconnect.com

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DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have had a busy month here at the Primary School, much of it focused on reading and books. On 5 March we celebrated World Book Day by bringing in our favourite stories and books to share with friends and teachers. We love reading and always make the most of every opportunity to celebrate books. Our Scholastic Book Fair took place during World Book Day week when we sold books to the amazing value of almost £1,000. Sixty percent of the money raised will come back to us to buy books for classrooms and our much-loved Secret Reading Garden. Our Sponsored Read event was equally successful and our love of stories, adventures, information, poetry continues to grow day by day.

It seems appropriate at this point to thank our lovely Pets-As-Therapy dog, Copper, and his owner for their continued support in hearing readers every week. We would also like to thank our dedicated volunteer readers who give their time on a weekly basis to hear children read.

Year 2 had a fascinating trip to St John's House Museum in Warwick, taking part in immersive workshops to deepen and enrich their knowledge of the Victorian era. The children loved the Victorian classroom and



hands-on experience in the laundry. Year 5 experienced a Tudor day, which culminated in a banquet of bread, cheese and Tudor Jumbles (rosewater biscuits). It was led by a person from 'History off the Page' and was made possible by a generous class donation from our wonderful PTA.

In sport years 5 and 6 children took part in a hockey tournament.

Early in March we had a visitor who led a Fairtrade Assembly for the whole school. She talked about her life in Africa to increase our understanding of the meaning of Fairtrade. Children made cakes at home and brought them into school to sell at the end of the day raising slightly more than £200 in aid of Fairtrade. Thank you to everyone who supported this event, either by making cakes or by buying them to take home.

Now we are preparing for Easter. During our Key Stage assemblies we celebrated Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. We have also been creating prayer stations in church to prepare for Easter during this important period of Lent.

We would like to wish you all a very happy Easter.

Denise Welch

dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk



NEW TELEPHONE SUPPORT SERVICE FOR OLDER PEOPLE



A new telephone support service has been launched by **Age UK Oxfordshire**, offering advice and assistance to older people concerned during this time.

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Our annual curry night on 25 February went well with a good turnout and great food and service from Mr Chaudhry and his team at Bengal Spice. We would like to thank everyone who came and also those who didn't but were still kind enough to donate to the cause. As ever it wouldn't have been possible without Mr Chaudhry's generosity and we would like to thank him and his staff at Bengal Spice who are so supportive of our community. We hope that the current Coronavirus crisis will not affect our village businesses too adversely and appeal to everyone to continue

supporting them as Deddington is lucky to have such thriving community.

We'll be running our photo competition again this year with the winning entries making it into our 2021 Deddington parish calendar. So take time to go through your recent pictures and let us hope you are able to start taking new ones this summer. As before please send high res pics of the parish at 300dpi, at least 5Mb files, in landscape format to abw@brynwilliams.com or drop your entries off on a CD/DVD at the library. Thank you.

Bryn Williams

STILL FIGHTING POVERTY THROUGH TRADE

Deddington has supported Traidcraft strongly since 1993, when Elizabeth Tothill hosted a monthly sale in her house in High Street until she left for Malta in 2000.

In March 2002 Canon Hugh Marshall started Deddington Fairtraders with an open day at their home. In September that year he set up the first Traidcraft stall in the church during the farmers' market. The stall has been there every month since then until February this year, taking on average £200 in 200 minutes. In 2009 Hugh held the first pre-Christmas Traidcraft open day in church, and that was kept going each year until 2018. For this the Fairtraders laid out £1,000 buying 100 sample crafts from the Traidcraft catalogue, and offering 10% discount, attracted orders worth well over £1,000 on the day.

With the unflagging help of Diana the stock was kept in the Marshall's garage, sharing the space with all the other things which fill garages. As Hugh's health failed, the stock was moved to a small garage at The Knowle, where Viviane Hall became the stock controller, as well as book-keeper, with Christopher as porter and publicist. The monthly market stall was staffed by Viviane, Diana Marshall, Kath Morris and Anny Sharman; for many years Kath also staffed a

stall each month at the Barford market. Between the monthly markets, Viviane has filled a steady flow of individual orders, benefitting from Traidcraft's 'Top Fairtrader' status.

Sadly the market stall has now been surrendered as no-one with the energy, strength and time needed had volunteered who could make the monthly commitment.

In the 18 years since 2002 Deddington Fairtraders has turned over nearly £107,000. From this over £3,000 has been paid to the church (in lieu of rent), and nearly £6,000 to Traidcraft Exchange, the charity which helps Traidcraft's producers increase their income.

Even though the Traidcraft stall will no longer be at the market, Viviane is happy to continue to take orders for the wide range of Fairtrade foods, crafts and domestic products available from Traidcraft, saving individual customers the postage payable when placing online orders. Catalogues are available from her at The Knowle, Philcote Street, Deddington, Banbury OX15 OTB - 01869 338225 - email: vmhall1990@gmail.com.

Christopher Hall
achall@globalnet.co.uk

WHAT DO YOU MISS?

During this period of minimal social contact or, in some instances, total isolation, apart from the obvious things such as separation from family and friends and the suspension of normal life, what are the surprising and silly little things that you miss? Panic over not being able to get a haircut? The usual sounds of a busy village? Not enough chocolate?

Let us know what odd or unexpected things you miss. Email to editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk.

STAGECOACH TIMETABLE CHANGES

Following the government and public health advice to stay at home and only travel if your journey is essential, Stagecoach has made temporary revisions to services and timetables which are now in operation for key workers.

To make sure you have the most up to date information, please check their website for service updates. <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/about/oxfordshire>. They encourage passengers to use contactless cards for paying to reduce the need for contact.

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CALLING ALL CLUBS

Photographic Society

The renowned portrait photographer Donald MacLellan spoke about his life and work. Hailing from the West Highlands, a move to London set him on a career path in the area of medical photography but he used day release educational opportunities to focus on portraiture. Hard work and persistence enabled him to secure images in the *Evening Standard* and *Marie Claire*.

Donald's first solo exhibition, *Black Power*, for the National Portrait Gallery in 1998 was a look at role models for young black people in politics, the arts and science. The two-year project included stunning portraits of Sir Lenny Henry, Sir Trevor Phillips and Bill Morris and began to redress the lack of diversity represented in the Gallery. His next studio-based commission, *Tartan Army*, was for *Empire* magazine, focusing on Scottish actors including Tilda Swinton, Ewan Macgregor and Robert Carlyle. The UK Film Council's *Want to See More of Me?* exhibition, photographed in colour, gave a cross section of well-established black actors and those at the beginning of their careers, highlighting the range of talent in the field but questioning the availability of roles for black British actors.

Bringing his work up to date Donald's latest project, *My Class @ 50*, retraced his classmates and photographed them at work – shots of a shepherdess appeared alongside a fisherman in the Mallaig Heritage Centre. The fascinating end to the evening was a look at members' portraiture efforts with Donald suggesting simple lighting and composition enhancements.

Future meetings will depend on government advice, but dates will be posted on www.addphoto.co.uk.

Anne Hunsley

Women's Institute

On Tuesday 10 March, Deddington WI met for its AGM. The Committee was re-elected for the coming year, followed by a cheese and wine break, for which we thank the organising committee, and a quiz aimed at getting to know each other better. We had each supplied a fact about ourselves and these, without names attached, were distributed. The intent was to identify the source of each fact by asking questions. Some were intriguing, some plain factual and some were already known. It was a very enjoyable way to get to know more about our friends.

Meetings are cancelled for the time being and we will review the situation again at the beginning of June.

Moira Byast

RBL Branch Report

The planned VE Day events have been cancelled. The lone piper may still play *The Battle's O'er* on the church tower at 3.00pm but even this may be cancelled in the end. It is hoped that there will be a joint VE and VJ day celebration in August.

The 30 May Commonwealth War Graves Com-

mission talk in the church has also been postponed.

Rob Forsyth 01869 338384
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Deddington Bookworms

Our latest book, *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* is the 2017 debut novel by Gail Honeyman and winner of the 2017 Costa Debut Novel Award. The central character, Eleanor, instantly feels real. She leads a simple life, wears the same clothes to work every day, eats the same meal-deal for lunch every day and buys the same two bottles of vodka to drink and pizza to eat every weekend. Eleanor's entire existence is clear, orderly – and completely empty.

One simple act of kindness starts to shatter the walls Eleanor has built around herself. Now she must learn how to navigate the world everyone else seems to take for granted, while searching for the courage to face the dark corners she's avoided all her life.

We all enjoyed the book and would definitely recommend adding it to your 'books to read' list. Bookworms will not be meeting until further notice.

Deddington Library 01869 338391

Deddington Environment Group

The fledgling Deddington Environment Group has continued to meet (virtually). We are postponing our launch and 'Open Day' and we will share details of this when we have a firm plan. Thinking positively, there are still things that we can do. With schools closing and children being at home there are great biodiversity projects that we can enjoy and learn from – wildflower sowing, bird houses, bug hotels. We'll post more ideas on the Deddington Community Facebook group and we'd love you to share what you are doing (pictures please). We are all considering how we work, travel, consume and live our lives. Time to do things differently?

Al Kitchen alkitchen@live.co.uk

Local Vocals Community Choir

Until mid-March we had been learning the new songs we would be singing in the Oxford flash mob, re-visiting past favourites with the added complication of signing at the same time as singing, and polishing this term's ballad. Monday evenings just won't be the same but thankfully our choir leader Cat McGill has set up a virtual choir we can sing along to instead. You can join in by going to www.facebook.com/groups/560884704783731/?ref=share on a pay-what-you-can basis. To find out more about our choir and to contact us please go to our website www.localvocalscc.co.uk

Alison Grieve

Book Group

The Mozart Conspiracy by Scott Mariani is the second in a series of thrillers featuring Ben Hope, a former British SAS officer. This time Ben investigates the sup-



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CALLING ALL CLUBS Continued from p14

posed suicide of a friend who had been researching a book based on the death of Mozart. Ben finds a link to members of a sinister cult and the tension escalates.

The book fits very much into the James Bond/Jason Bourne tradition and it is easy to imagine it as a successful film. While most of the characters are not finely drawn, there are passages which develop Ben's personality as a troubled hero. The many car chases, shoot-outs and explosions are accompanied by frequent brutal killings and the twists and turns of the plot take place in settings ranging from Oxfordshire to France, Austria and Italy.

Members who are fans of fast-paced thrillers really liked this book, while for others it held no appeal at all. The rest of us had some reservations but, nevertheless, found it an enjoyable page-turner.

There will be no book group meetings until future notice.

Sian Waterman

Deddington and District History Society

With great regret, in the context of the Coronavirus crisis the History Society, like many of our fellow societies, must cancel our monthly meetings until further notice. We will be in touch with members about your fees.

We look forward to seeing you all again in due course. In the meantime, please take good care of yourselves.

Enquiries to Barrie Smith, Chairman, smithinsight@btinternet.com 01869 337813.

Chris Day

SPORT

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team results:

22.02.20 Hardwick Sports Club	(h)	L 0–1
29.02.20 Charlton (CUP)	(a)	L 3–6
07 03 20 Bicester Hallions	(h)	L 1–3
14 03 20 Sinclair Utd	(h)	W 8–0

Reserve Team results:

07 03 20 B Itchington Res (CUP)	(a)	L 1–5
14 03 20 Hardwick Sports Res	(a)	L 1–4

The last month of action we're likely to see for some time saw one thumping win for the First Team but this was the only reprieve from a full house of defeats for both teams. I may be speculating, but I can't see a way that the season can possibly be completed now, as the football team only has permission to use the pitch until the end of April I believe. The cricket team will most likely see massive disruption to their coming season too, but it's obviously secondary to keeping as many people as healthy as possible. Stay safe DTFC fans, and see you on the other side of this.

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

Deddington Town Youth Teams

On 16 March, in light of the coronavirus situation, the Football Association suspended all grassroots football (training, matches and tournaments) for the foreseeable future. The club hopes all players, coaches and supporters stay fit and well for when we return later in the year. So, for all our 150 players and many coaches and volunteers the season has ended early.

Before games were postponed, the Under 16s had a 6–2 defeat at Tower Hill, followed by 1–9 home defeat to Banbury Irish. The Under 13s had a 2–1 win over Bicester Town Colts, followed by a 6–1 win at Bloxham with two goals for Ben Jones. The Under 12s had a 1–1 draw with Chadlington followed by a 4–3 win over Bloxham.

Deddington Town FC has been successful in a funding application to the Football Foundation for a grant to improve the Windmill sports pitches. This will provide funding in partnership with the football club for six years. We are working closely with the parish council, Windmill management committee and Deddington Cricket Club on details of the work.

The 2020/21 season will see us celebrate 25 years of youth football at Deddington Town Football Club. We are starting to plan for an event in summer 2021. If you are a past player or coach and want to get involved, please drop me an email at carsykes@btinternet.com

If you want to get involved as a player, volunteer, sponsor or fundraiser, once we resume, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Further information about the club is on our website www.deddingtontownfc.com or visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc

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

Deddington Tennis Club

The tennis club would like to share some good news at this uncertain and worrying time. On 15 March our Under 14 team became the Winter Season Oxfordshire County Champions by winning their final against North Oxford which was played at home. The team, Ben Jones, Mees Camoenie and Ben Sims had won all five of their matches against other Oxfordshire clubs, making them division winners. As all three boys had contributed to the success, they were all able to play in the final. They have played extremely well all season and the final was no different. Thanks to the club members who came down to support our players; it was much appreciated. We'd like to congratulate the boys and thank their parents for their support with matches. Special thanks are due to the team coach, Paul Taylor, who has had a huge impact on our junior teams since he came to the club three years ago.

Our adult teams have also had a successful winter season with the men's weekend team finishing the season as champions, the women's weekend team

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SPORT*Continued from p15*

due for promotion and the mixed weekend team also champions.

The club is closed until further notice. When all this is over, our members will be rushing to get back out on court. If you'd like to join us, or for current information on the tennis club's policy on coronavirus, reports on recent successes, how to book a court when we reopen or what coaching will be available, please see our website. <http://www.deddingtontennis.com/>.

YOUTH**1st Deddington Scout Group****Beavers**

March was an international month for the Beaver Colony as we celebrated St David's Day with an eisteddfod (in Welsh culture, an eisteddfod is a festival of literature, music and performance), St. Patrick's Day with limericks and traditional Irish dancing (thank you, James Gill for leading the Colony in the dancing) and Commonwealth Day with the building of a water filter to reflect upon the members of the Commonwealth who do not have access to clean water. Obviously, the programme for the rest of the spring and possibly summer has been suspended. However, there are some very good ideas coming from the Scout Association to do with remote activities which we hope to share with you all soon. Don't worry, there's still plenty of opportunity to take part in fun stuff and earn badges.

Hal Eriksen, Leader
07970 874647

Cubs

We are still striving to finish our Skills Challenge Badge and spent a great evening with Caroline from the Badminton Club. The Cubs made good progress with their racquet control and by the end of the evening most of them could manage a half decent rally. Many thanks to Caroline for her patience.

We looked at aspects of our bodies: the Cubs measured themselves, played a hectic game of food snatching (not real) and re-created the circulation of the blood with themselves as organs. Mimi was an exceptional kidney.

Jo Churchyard
deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts

After half term we ambushed the Scouts and gave them a series of life skills to try. They are now proficient at ironing and folding, window washing and toilet cleaning.

The nice people at Games Workshop have sponsored the Model Maker Badge and supplied a massive kit that allowed the Scouts to make and paint Warhammer models. Everything was included: brushes, books and dice to play the game – a very popular activity.

YOUTH*Continued from col1*

Well done to Jacob who performed in this year's gang show at Radley College.

Peter Churchyard
deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

Explorers

Sending messages with light sticks and Morse code was a challenge. Writing code for the rest of the Unit to decipher was equally difficult, but we will be able to communicate whatever happens. As a Unit that loves cooking, we couldn't miss out on making pancakes; delicious. The Pioneer Badge and Survival Skills are gradually being worked through in the form of knotting, splicing and lashings. Some were more successful than others but the marshmallow and spaghetti towers were a wonder to behold. Finally, not a ban but a positive encouragement to use mobile phones for researching which barbecue to buy with the farmers' market's donation. Two have been chosen.

Janet Duxbury
spartansexplorers@gmail.com

1st Deddington Brownies

We have suspended meetings until after Easter. We hope that our bird boxes will be making appearances around the village. Look out for them. Written on the base of each one is the name of the six that made it. After Easter we hope to do lots of outdoor activities and get plenty of healthy fresh air.

Fern Stringer
deddingtonbrownies@gmail.com

1st Deddington Guides

It's been a month of celebrations; pancakes for Shrove Tuesday with a huge array of toppings as well as our annual Thinking Day celebrations. This is when we remember the lives of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell and think about our sister Guides and Girl Scouts around the world. We met together as a district, all helping prepare something for a shared feast – food from many different countries. In our own meeting food was involved again, enjoying food specialities from all over Europe.

We have also celebrated two Young Leaders making their promise, Izzy and Vicki, a new adult leader, Charlotte, and four new Guides, Hannah, Flossy, Matilda and Rowan. A warm welcome to you all.

Apart from various games and fun activities in patrols including learning to crochet, writing plays and making slime, we have been working on our annual entertainment in aid of two charities of the Guides' choice – BARKS and a charity for young people with diabetes.

Maggie Rampley 07957 600755
Marian Trinder 01869 340806
mariantrinder@gmail.com
Tilly Neal 07557 095681com

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DEDDINGTON DATA



CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL	01295 227001
CITIZENS ADVICE	0344 411 1444
HEALTH CENTRE DEDDINGTON	01869 338611
Repeat prescriptions (Mon-Fri 10am-3pm)	338847
HOSPITALS:	
Churchill	0300 304 7777
Foscote (Private)	01295 252281
Horton General	0300 304 7777
John Radcliffe	0300 304 7777
Manor (Nuffield Health, Private)	01865 988158
Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre	0300 304 7777
Katharine House Hospice	01295 811866
NHS Non emergency	111
PARISH CLERK	01869 337447
(Monday 9.00am–12.30pm, Wednesday 9.00–5.00pm, Thursday 9.00–12.30pm)	
POLICE (non-emergency, 24 hrs)	101
Deddington & Thames Valley	
PRIMARY SCHOOL (C of E)	01869 338430
PFSU	01869 337484
VILLAGE NURSERY	01869 337383

TRAVEL:

Heyfordian Travel	01869 241500
National Express	0871 781 8181
National Rail Passenger Enqs	08457 484950
OurBus Bartons	01869 699699
Oxford Bus Company	01865 785400
Oxfordshire Comet	01865 323201
Stagecoach Bus Company	01865 772250
Traveline (Public Transport)	0114 22 11 282

UTILITIES:

Gas Escapes (24hrs)	0800 111 999
Electricity - any supplier	
Emergency/Power cut	105
Careline (over 60s)	0800 101 3333
Ofgem	0207 901 7295
Thames Water (24hrs)	0800 316 9800
Water leak	0800 714614
WARRINER SCHOOL, Bloxham	01295 720777
WINDMILL CENTRE	07720 834006

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY	01869 338391
Monday	2.00–7.00pm
Wednesday	9.30am–1.00pm
Thursday	1.00–5.00pm
Saturday	9.30am–1.00pm

DEDDINGTON CLUBS & SOCIETIES: The full list of contacts is available from the Library and Deddington OnLine website at <http://www.deddington.org.uk/directory>.

DEDDINGTON CHURCHES See section inside

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