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JULY 2020 COPY TO

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DEDDINGTON NEWS

We all keep saying how lucky we are to be living in Deddington during the lockdown. It turns out we are not the only ones. Several papers have recently run articles on an apparent trend for city dwellers who can predominantly work from home to be considering a move to the country. On 10 May the *Sunday Times* published a double page spread selecting the most desirable retreats across the country. For those unable to shake off 'London's gravitational pull', it listed several Northamptonshire locations and then said, 'It gets a little more expensive as you head across the M40 ... although, if anything, Adderbury, Deddington, Hook Norton and the Sibfords are more blissful'!

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR DEDDINGTON HISTORY?

(Courtesy of the Deddington History Society)

- 1 Which Duke of Cumberland is commemorated by the Duke's Head in Clifton?
- 2 Who was the lucky Norman who was granted Deddington after the Conquest?
- 3 Has Deddington ever had its own MPs? If so, when?
- 4 What is the name of the famous 18th—x`vb19th century Deddington family of Quaker clockmakers?
- 5 The last pub in Hempton closed in the 1930s. What was its name?
- 6 What founder of an Oxford college was born at Leadenporch House and what college did he found?
- 7 What famous figure was seized at Castle House on 9 June 1312 and taken to be executed near Warwick?
- 8 What is the connection between Bowler House and the maker of the hat of that name?
- 9 Deddington was renowned (or infamous) for its 'pudding-pie'. What was it?
- 10 Tethering rings in walls show where Deddington's horse market was held. Where are they?
- 11 What was the dedication of the former chapel that stands on the north side of the main road in Clifton?
- 12 When was the chapel of St John in Hempton opened?
- 13 Where was the axletree factory that in 1851 employed 24 men and 4 boys and closed c1895?
- 14 Franklins high-class building and carpentry business supplied Oxford colleges and Hobart cathedral in Australia. Where was it?
- 15 What was the former name of the Deddington Arms?
- 16 Where are Deddington almshouses, and when were they built?
- 17 Where was the first Wesleyan meeting house in Deddington?
- 18 What was Baerlein House at Goose Green formerly used as?
- 19 There has been a mill at Clifton since the time of Domesday Book (1086). Where is it?
- 20 Where was the parish workhouse in Deddington?
- 21 What is the meaning of the name 'Hempton'?

Answers on page 18

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

20 May on Skype

If anyone would like to join the June PC meeting which is likely to again be held via Skype, please contact the parish clerk deddingtonparishcouncil@googlemail. com or David Rogers david@karmilla.co.uk.

Attending: Collins, Cox, Eames, Higham, Oldfield, O'Neill, Robinson, Rogers – chair, Squires, Swadling, Timms, Watts, County Councillor Fatemian, and the parish clerk.

Councillor Rogers was re-elected unopposed as chair and Councillor Oldfield was elected as vice-chair. Working groups were re-elected unchanged, with the exception of the Windmill Working Group which is awaiting election of a chairperson. The PC representatives on external bodies will remain as last year.

There is a vacancy on the PC. Please contact David Rogers or Susan Fuller, parish clerk, if you are interested in this position.

County Councillor's report

Sixty three councillors successfully met online for the first time.

His funding allocation can be used for a range of things in addition to Covid-19 although the PC's application for £250 in additional support for the parish's Covid-19 Response Team.

A suggestion by Deddington's sustainability group that local traders might carry on their business outside their premises will be raised again at next month's meeting. Considerations include its effect on car parking spaces, hours of operation and whether, on balance, it would help village businesses overall.

OCC will apply for funding from a £250m countrywide government scheme to encourage active travel, a proportion of which woud be used to widen pavements and cycle lanes. Councillor Fatemian asked for ideas and suggested widening the Deddington to Adderbury footpath to enable people to walk or cycle along it which would enable him to link two parishes with one payment.

There have been incidents of council workers being abused while filling potholes which is unacceptable.

Planning

No objection

Land to the rear of the Chestnuts, Clifton: demolition of existing buildings and erection of one detached dwelling and outbuilding. This is a redrawing of plans already passed.

Windmill Community Centre: retrospective, illuminated fascia sign.

Finance and General Purposes

It was agreed to fund Deddington Media CIC's request for £120 to cover hosting for Deddington History's Covid-19 archive for one year.

The Covid-19 group has been allocated a further grant of £1,000 to cover ongoing costs of gloves,

printing newsletters, hand sanitiser, and expenses for volunteers collecting and delivering food and prescriptions for vulnerable residents.

Two extra grass cuts will be made to enable pedestrians to pass safely on footpaths to Clifton and Hempton.

A three year Action Plan, which demonstrates the considerable extent of the Council's duties and responsibilities, was presented. It will be posted on the PC website, http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/and residents are encouraged to provide feedback on it to the parish clerk.

As it is likely that a number of external suppliers could be vulnerable to liquidation, a set of terms and conditions will be formulated for contractors.

The PC will ask the Windmill management committee to use its £25,000 CDC grant, made to help with ongoing costs and loss of revenue due to the Covid-19 crisis, as a reserve fund during the pandemic.

The current owner of the Duke of Cumberland's Head will be notified that the new application for Asset of Community Value on the pub is a continuation of the existing application, made in light of current uncertainties.

The CCTV at the Windmill should be reactivated next week. There have been recent comments on Facebook about antisocial behaviour there and it was confirmed that residents should take responsibility for reporting illegal activities to the police.

Ninety percent of the invoice for the block paving at the Windmill will be paid, with the remaining 10% retained for resolution of remaining issues.

Environment and Recreation

There has been vandalism at the adventure trail through the copse which will need to be repaired and repairs are also needed on the bearings of the roundabout. The Tennis Club proposes opening the courts on 22 May in conformity with government guidelines. The key code for entry will be given to players on application for a booking. Cricket nets may be in use once refurbishment is completed but only one net will be open at once to comply with social distancing.

The annual RoSPA inspection of all play areas in parish will be carried out before reopening.

The PC thanked those who transferred plants from the old planter to the new one at Deddington Grange and those who have volunteered to tidy the Hempton and Clifton planters.

At least 20 dog waste bags have been left on the ground at Castle Grounds and the bin at the top of the hill on Cosy Lane is overflowing. While the PC will will ask CDC for more frequent emptying, dog owners are responsible for taking waste home if bins are full. **Next meeting: 17 June at 7.30pm on Skype.**

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter, Jill Cheeseman, and not the official minutes. For those, go to http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2019.html.

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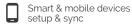
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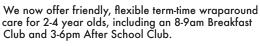
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VE DAY



The Tchure - thanks to Bryn Williams' zoom lens. He assures us social distancing was observed.

VE Day Deddington 2020

The village had big plans for the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe: A two minute silence, prayers for peace and thanksgiving on the green, a piper on the church tower, a children's tea party in the church followed by a disco, live bands and an evening of knees-up to 1945 music in the Market Place – everyone dressing for the period. All had to be cancelled.

Instead, in company with the rest of the nation, houses and shops were encouraged to decorate their windows in red, white and blue and hang out flags and bunting. The result was amazing. The whole parish entered into the spirit of the day. As a glorious sunny day dawned (just don't think about how good that would have been for the Market Place events) it was clear that VE75 was going to be very well celebrated. Some of the hundreds of photos of house decorations circulated on Facebook be can https://www.deddington.org.uk/gallery/ found index.php/VE-Day-2020 in a special album. The two minute silence was observed in our homes - panto dame Kelly Scott was seen wearing his former naval uniform on New Street - and Piper Richard Jasper, having voluntarily arranged a video of himself at our war memorial several days beforehand, was available to see and hear on the various Facebook accounts playing The Battle's O'er at 3.00pm, the mo-ment when the Armistice was signed.

Innumerable social distancing street and garden parties followed – of which there are lots more im-ages in the Gallery – at which large numbers of cream scones, sandwiches and cake were consumed.

Our four very special WWII veterans – Daphne Canning (WAAF), Margery Hawes (WAAF), Stephanie Higham (WRNS) and Edna Sewell (WRNS) – should

have been our VIP guests for the day. Instead, the RBL Branch committee arranged for each of these ladies to be presented with a commemorative VE75 RBL brooch. The first two were presented by family but Edna and Margery, who live in Featherton House, received theirs from the staff as the prelude to a big VE Tea Party and singalong for the residents.

At 6.00pm, as the sun dipped below the yardarm, we raised our glasses in tribute to those who gave so much to secure the peace, in sadness for those who would not return and remembered that the war would continue in the Far East for another three long months before all hostilities ended. The evening ended at 9.00pm with the sound of singalongs echoing from open windows as we all accompanied Vera Lynn, singing, all too appropriately, 'We'll meet Again, Don't know where, Don't know when...'. So ended a day on which Deddington had pulled out all the stops and shown why it remains a very special place to live. To see activities more VE75 Day go to http:// www.deddingtonhistory.uk/covid-19pandemic2020/ vedayinlock-down.

Rob Forsyth, Chair Deddington Branch RBL robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

VE Day Erlenhof Near Reinach 1945

In the year 2020, together with my much loved British compatriots, I took a break from coronavirus news, stood segregated in distance but close in grateful thoughts for two minutes silent reflection, remembering our brave soldiers of yesteryear who liberated Europe. Afterwards, a friend, aware of my Swiss origin and my by now senior age, wanted to know how we, meaning, in particular, I, celebrated VE Day 1945 in neutral Switzerland.

Continued on p4



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VE DAY

Continued from p3

I was then a student, enrolled in a diploma course for social work run by Basel Stadt Authority and, on VE Day 1945, on a placement for practical experience in what would have then been called an approved school for teenage boys up to the age of 18. This was a quite new crisis intervention establishment, run by a very experienced head and specially chosen staff for the four distinct departments, agricultural, garden, domestic and, of course, the three Rs. It was a regimen friendly and understanding of teenage boys but firm in trying to guide them away from their youthful misconceptions of their place in the world.

Plans for VE Day celebrations had been discussed by boys, staff and the head of the establishment for some weeks. It was my job to assist the Head of Kitchen to supervise about 20 boys in charge of refreshments for an evening reception in a huge marquee to which the boys' parents and families were invited. I seem to remember helping with sandwiches, while the boys baked biscuits and, speciality of the day, jam-filled doughnuts. Being exuberant and very mischievous cooks, the 'doughnutters' soon filled some doughnuts with a small onion in order to surprise their friends in the farming and gardening departments and generally get us all into the right 'end-of-conflict-around -Swiss-frontiers' mood. Into the bubbling hot fat went the doughnuts: what the boys had not thought of was

that, after cooking, the jam and onion doughnuts all looked the same. There was no time left. They had to be served.

It worked better than I and, no doubt, the boys expected. The Head, known by all as Aetti (father) and lover par excellence of doughnuts, was among the first to bite into an onion filled one. Without batting an eyelid he took the plate out of the shocked boy server's hand and made the rounds, offering doughnuts to our guests. The boys' joy was complete.

Next was dancing to the accompaniment of a partly home, partly more professional, brass band from a nearby village. Our Master Gardener turned out to be an excellent dancer, looking for some innocent to show off his special skill, dancing a whole Viennese valse, with partner, on top of a not much more than one meter diameter table. His chosen partner? Social work student, Ruth, of course. How I had the nerve, never once losing my balance twirling round and round on such a small surface, fills me with wonder to this day, when I have to rely heavily on my mountaineering stick just to keep upright. Also to this day I remember his firm hold of me and his change from right twirl to left twirl to stop us getting giddy. Quite unforgettable throughout all my 'twirls' in years to come.

Ruth Johnson ruthli.johnson@gmail.com

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At Featherton House, we've been overwhelmed by the kindness of our local community in recent weeks, from the sight and sound of neighbours applauding our work on Thursday evenings, to the gifts and donations of treats from well-wishers – Easter eggs, home-made cakes, freshly baked bread, washbags and more.

For us, it's business as usual behind closed doors. The health and well-being of our residents remain our priority and while we're closed to visitors, we're finding more creative ways of meeting them. Since mid-March we've introduced video-calling at Featherton House so that residents can continue to chat, face-to-face, with their loved ones.

While we would ordinarily welcome entertainers into our Home, residents have been pleased to receive virtual concerts, streamed to us on Skype, so we never miss out on a singalong or opportunity to boogie. Staff have been working hard to make sure that our residents are active and entertained with arts and crafts, regular gardening and, of course, everyone enjoyed making our own rendition of *Is this the way to Amarillo!*On the 75th anniversary of VE Day we hosted our



Edna Sewell left and Margery Hawes right own indoor street party, complete with Union flags, a 1940s singalong and a big picnic and Deddington's Royal British Legion presented two of our residents with RBL VE75 brooches for their service during the Second World War.

Rachel Freeman featherton.deputy@wrenretirement.co.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Deddington Neighbourhood Plan steering group, a bit battered but still determined, has now embarked in earnest on the Neighbourhood Plan Mark 2 and hopes to complete it a great deal more quickly than Mark 1 which fell foul of the government examiner who ripped the guts out of it.

The steering group has a planning consultant on board this time and intends to be a lot more canny. To start with we're harking back to first principles. What did Deddington parishioners want from the Neighbourhood Plan from the outset – and has that changed over the intervening years? We'd like to hear from you.

Since 2013, the steering group has held drop-in sessions, carried out a major questionnaire and conducted several consultations. The essence of what we picked up went something like this:

- Almost unanimously people felt what the parish needed most was affordable starter homes for young couples and families and comfortable 'downsizer' homes for more elderly residents.
- New developments should be small and harmonise well with the existing villages of the parish and growth should be incremental.
- The rural character and tranquillity should be preserved
- Cherished views, heritage assets, in particular the Castle Grounds, and the Conservation Area were highly valued, as was the centre of Deddington village and its array of shops and pubs
- Infrastructure to cope with newcomers school, health facilities, sports pitches, adequate water supply, mobile phone connections – was a priority

There were moans too. The Windmill Centre was con-

sidered lacking and the play areas woeful. The parish council and the Windmill Management Committee have tackled these with zest and a fair bit of money. A programme of improvements is under way, including the recently opened (now sadly shuttered) adventure playground and Windmill Pocket Park. Perennial complaints about traffic congestion, speeding and lack of parking are more difficult to solve at a local level.

As we set about a new plan we think we should focus more than previously on climate change and the carbon neutral ideal. Looking across the board, do you think other objectives should change? We would love to hear from you, either by replying on the Neighbourhood Plan website, on the Deddington Facebook page or in a letter to the *Deddington News*.

The first order of business for the steering group is a Call for Sites. We'll be writing to landowners asking them what land they might have available for development and whether they would be prepared to meet our priorities: the kind of housing that's needed, the appropriate place to build it, the optimum size of the development and contributions they might make to the wellbeing of the parish.

This should not be confused with the Call for Sites that Cherwell District Council will be circulating in the early autumn, which will be more of a free-for-all, with no priorities and no parish preferences.

We're hoping you can help us create a plan that will both meet government requirements and satisfy aspirations within the parish.

Helen Oldfield helenmoldfield@yahoo.co.uk www.deddingtonneighbourhhoodplan.org



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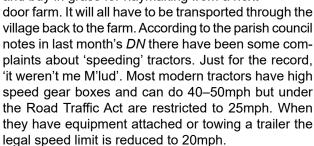
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DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM

As I sit staring at a blank screen wondering where to start, the sun is shining and the birds are singing so all is well with the (farming) world but is it? After one of the wettest autumn and winter periods for a generation, with no crops planted and the meadows devastated by winter flooding, something that has left the ewe flock short of grass, we have been obliged to graze our haymaking land and buy in grass for haymaking from a next



With no viable winter crops in the ground due to the very wet winter it has been all hands and tractors on deck. Even the Old Man's ancient John Deere has been called in to service. Most of the farm is now in spring planted crops, rather more barley than I would have liked but we need to grow a crop to pay the rent. It seems rather perverse that after the Big Wet the crops are struggling with drought. At least they are in the ground so have two chances — they will or they won't grow. The fallow ground has been cultivated with some going into short-term grass and lucerne to feed off this year's lamb crop.

The lockdown has caused many problems for the Old Man who is on the wrong side of 70 and subject to 'ageist apartheid'. Although the roads are very quiet the footfall across the farm has increased with a number of



dogs running off the lead. Please remember that sheep are very vulnerable to dog attack and that the ground nesting birds that we do so much to encourage are doing their thing at this time of the year.

The sheep flocks have had a good season so far. We had one lamb fall into the river and end up on the wrong side with the Farm Student having to cross the river via a convenient willow tree. After a long walk

he caught the lamb, tied a rope behind its shoulders and it was pulled across the river and returned to its mother where it was soon 'plugged in', wagging its tail. The lamb was the only one that got wet.

The Green Goddess has had a good going over and is now awaiting a washdown ready for the harvest. We never do it after harvest as she could stand for the winter with water in some of the bearings and auger housings. First will come the haymaking and we will need some good weather for that. There is no oilseed rape to cut as it was all taken off by the flea beetle after the only effective insecticide has been banned. Of the 120 acres of winter wheat only some 18 acres have survived the Big Wet so harvest will be late and rather hit and miss.

I have fly fished from a very young age but with lockdown and the question as to whether the journey is necessary, plus a whole new raft of regulations at the lakes (can't use the seat benches and must use hand sanitiser on all hand rails and gates) I have decided to hang up my rods. Just imagine trying to tie a small size 18 fly on to your leader with jelly on your hands.

George Fenemore 01869 338203

TALES FROM THE PUMP

As you would expect I'm pretty grumpy right now with no tales from the pump or even ales from the pump during the current lockdown. This is the first time in almost 30 years that the pub has been closed – it even stayed open during major refurbishment works. I remember our lunchtime drinkers putting beer mats on their glasses to keep out the dust from the building works. That's either great loyalty or the beer was cloudy anyway.

Importantly the stats seem to prove that the lock-down and social distancing measures have helped flatten the spike in Covid-19 cases which has been vital for our brilliant NHS workers.

At the time of writing there is a little hint of when restrictions will start to be lifted, pubs and restaurants re-opened and with what restrictions. I hope the powers-that-be realise that a pub cannot open the day after restrictions are lifted. The brewers have to begin brewing beer, putting it in casks and building stocks – say three to four weeks. The distributors then have

to deliver to the pubs and every pub in the country will have ordered at the same time – another three to four weeks. Finally the pub has to rack the beers and prepare the cellar – another week before the first pint is pulled. So it could be almost seven weeks from the decision to allow pubs to open before a pint is pulled.

Much as I want the pubs to re-open the decision must not be rushed. Social distancing is virtually impossible in a pub and the safety of our customers and staff is of paramount importance. If pubs are re-opened but customers are wary of visiting or discouraged by the government, many more will go out of business — they need volume to maintain the quality of the product, keep the staff motivated and cover their overheads.

Hopefully by our July *DN* we will have some better news of a diminishing virus and for the health of our pubs.

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LOCKDOWN FOODIE TAKEAWAYS

Like most people during lockdown I have enjoyed experimenting in the kitchen, from homemade bread to Dalgona (rocket) coffee and everything in between. At the time of writing I am seven-and-a-half weeks into lockdown and in the past month have begun to severely miss both eating out and takeaways. Luckily there is a wealth of local pubs and restaurants which have diversified to give their customers a taste of their favourite foods and, more importantly, a break from the kitchen.

Reader, for research purposes only you understand, I worked hard to sample as many of these as possible so I can give the following details. Please note: Some of these meals are served hot and need to be eaten immediately so you may want to put the oven on before you collect. Some are part cooked and will need reheating or part cooking but come with simple cooking instructions. These meals will often keep in the fridge for a night.

All takeaways are operating a strict socially distanced method for collection, by allocating specific slots to collect from an outdoor system.

The Secret Supper Society, Somerton Part-cooked meals

Normally Jules runs a 'home restaurant' in Somerton with a five course taster menu. She has adapted her offering and now has a weekly takeaway menu released on her website every Saturday. The menu typically includes three courses of which you can choose as many as you like. I've enjoyed homemade pasta, Indian style dishes and her speciality confit duck legs. Collection is the following Saturday with an allocated appointment only.

Tip: If you're keen, get in early. She has sold out for the past six weeks, www.thesecretsuppersociety.com/take-away.

The White Horse, Kings Sutton Part-cooked meals

If you've never visited Julie & Hendrik's fine dining pub then you've been missing out. It's well known for a fantastic Steak Night and a brilliant roast; Hendrik has earnt two rosettes and a Michelin plate and you can now eat his fabulous food in the safety of your own home. Offering both mid-week and weekend takeaways with specific menus, ranging from steak and chips to his delicious lamb pies. They have paired the menu with accompanying wines so you have the option to add this to your order. Rumour has it they might start offering a part-cooked Sunday roast soon. *Tip:* They are selling fast but to get first look, get on their mailing list, https://creative-painter-5074.ck.page/signup.

Bengal Spice, Deddington – Ready to eat

I must confess I have tried creating the odd curry during lockdown but nothing even came close to the flavours of a Bengal takeaway. They have closed their restaurant and cannot offer delivery at present. They are practising social distancing for all aspects to continue to serve the village with takeaway.

Tip: Wait times at the weekend are up to an hour so plan ahead. Call 01869 337733 to order.

The Pickled Ploughman, Adderbury – Ready to eat If I had a pound for every person who has messaged me asking where they can get fish and chips.... These guys can sort out your Friday night craving. They also have Burger Night Wednesday and a specific menu every other night. You can order from noon–8.00pm by phone only, 01295 810327, for a timed collection. *Tip*: They are now offering Sunday roast takeaways and they have a market stall daily from 10.00–4.00pm offering garden plants, barbecue meats and other essentials. www.pickledploughman.co.uk

The White Horse, Duns Tew - Ready to eat

Michael and his team release a new menu every night at 6.00pm. You can find it on their Facebook page or website. It is a relatively large menu with three courses on offer covering a wide range of pub-style dishes and cooked steaks. You will be allocated a time to pick up and handed your meal through a hatch.

Tip: Elli Ince says the Korean chicken wings are a must try. www.dunstewwhitehorse.co.uk

Pizza Pronto, Bodicote – Ready to eat delivery to Deddington

If like me you are missing an authentic Italian pizza then you'll be glad to know that Pizza Pronto is back open for business after an initial break due to ingredient supply issues. The menu has all the usual suspects and a few not so usual such as a Marmite and butter pizza. I'm afraid I haven't tried it as I'm a 'hate it' but I'm sure a Marmite lover would. You can order online via their website. *Tip:* Whilst delivery is fairly quick generally, they have limited staff due to social distancing so order earlier at peak times. www.pizzapronto.online.

Rachel Johnson

theoxfordshirefoodie@gmail.com

HOLLY TREE CLUB

The Holly Tree Club obviously has closed. However, we had some good news a couple of weeks ago – our plans to extend the hall to provide new kitchen and toilet facilities have been approved by CDC. This is great news for the Club. While we are in lockdown, we have asked the architect to draw up detailed plans so that, once restrictions are lifted, we will be able to get more exact costings for the work and source the necessary funding. Meanwhile we are looking at improvements to the hall in general and working to get quotes for these too, including damp proofing, roof work, tree works, heating, and decorating.

In the meantime, we hope all our members and club users are staying safe and well and look forward to seeing you all when it is safe to open the hall again – all being well, in the not too distant future.

Revd Annie Goldthorp. Chair Holly Tree Management Committee





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CHURCH AND CHAPEL

June

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

At the time of writing our churches are still closed for public worship. Annie and Paula have been streaming services from their own homes for the past seven weeks. As of 10 May a slight relaxation in the rules allows one person to enter the church to broadcast services as follows.

Mon–Fri	8.45am	Morning Prayer
Wed	10.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 7	10.30am	Family Service
Sun 14	9.00am	BCP Communion
	10.30am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 28	10.30am	Holy Communion

From the Parish Register

Funerals

Norman Drake 29 April John Tattersall Brewer 14 May Isabel Mary Allan 14 May

For pastoral care, funerals and prayer requests please contact the Vicar, Reverend Annie Goldthorp at vicar@deddingtonchurch.org or on 01869 336880, or the Curate, Reverend Paula Smith on curate@deddingtonchurch.org 01869 337884. If the clergy are unavailable, then please contact one of the church wardens, lain Gillespie (01869 338367) or Meriel Flux (01869 338901).

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.

FARMERS' MARKET

Keeping Body And Soul Alive

I'm writing this six weeks ahead of the June market date and it is anybody's guess whether the market will reopen this month.

A lot of people have tried the many stallholders who are taking orders online and making deliveries, keeping them in business and food on our tables with the added advantage of weekly rather than just monthly shopping. If you haven't tried this very popular service, go to the market website for details, http://www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk/stallholders-on-line-ordering.html.

One thing that is certain is that we will be coming to the end of the asparagus season – so you might be glad of an alternative and quick way of serving the spears. It is very much a home recipe so quantities are variable.

Asparagus with Pasta - serves 2
Bunch of asparagus
Sufficient pasta of your choice
Generous handful of grated parmesan and/or pecorino
3 egg yolks
Parsley
Cook your pasta according to the packet instruc-

Cook your pasta according to the packet instructions in a large pot of boiling well salted water. While it cooks, remove the woody parts of the asparagus spears (if you bend a spear it will usually break at the woody point) then slice diagonally to get plenty of thin pieces that will cook quickly. Separate the egg yolks and place in a small heatproof mixing bowl.

Add the grated cheese (you will need more than you expect) and stir through to amalgamate with the yolks. A minute or two before the pasta is ready take off a small jug of the cooking water. Add the asparagus to the pasta and cook until the asparagus is soft (probably only the matter of a minute). Whisk a little of the cooking water into the egg and parmesan mix (if you recognise the technique for Pasta Carbonara you are right). Go carefully as you will end up with scrambled eggs if you are too generous with the hot water or too slow in whisking. Repeat this process until your egg cheese mixture is approaching a thick and probably granular cream. Drain the pasta and asparagus not too carefully and return to the pan which should be off the heat to avoid the risk of scrambling the egg. Gently and slowly add the cheese and egg mix to the pasta and asparagus, stirring vigorously so that it doesn't set. As it warms, the cheese will melt and the yolks thicken to produce a silky sauce. If it isn't thickening put the pot back on the heat briefly. If the sauce is too thick let it down with some of the reserved pasta water. Garnish with plenty of chopped parsley and black pepper and serve immediately preferably with an appropriate glass of white wine. A few batons of pancetta or guanciale lightly fried or some breadcrumbs fried in butter are good additions at the parsley stage.

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WINE TIME

Has there ever been a better time to drink those 'special' bottles you might have been hanging on to for the right time? A Bordeaux you were given for a birthday, a Sauternes you have never found the time to open because you are waiting for a perfect dessert or that big Australian Shiraz you brought back because you loved it when you were there. They all need drinking unless you intend to keep them as decorations.

Right now, we need something to cheer us up so rather than wait for a special event why not make the wine the special event? As it says in the film *Sideways* – 'to open a bottle of '61 Cheval Blanc is enough reason to open a bottle of '61 Cheval Blanc'. If you do not need to be overly concerned about getting up and out at a normal working hour, then don't even wait until the weekend. Tuesday or Wednesday can be that special night. We tend to hoard special bottles. I have several I know I need to open and drink before they are too old. Unfortunately, the gap between knowing and doing is always wide and I have sat on them for longer than I should have. All that is changing with lockdown.

One of the most frequent wine questions I get is how long should I keep a bottle? Most wine sold – and all wine sold in supermarkets unless they specifically say otherwise – is meant to be drunk immediately or within six to twelve months, although you can keep most supermarket wines for a year or two without any adverse effects if you keep them in a cool dark place which is where all wine should be stored if you can. However, keeping wines does not mean they will get any better. Wines for storing longer should be bought with that in mind, stored properly, and the dates between which they should be drunk recorded. Dates should be provided by the wine merchant or you can research them on the internet.

If you store wines, be prepared for them to be different from what you expected or how you remember them. They may even be faulty or 'go over' their prime and lose all their aromas and flavours if you leave them too long. Only recently a carefully saved bottle of Robert Chevillion's Nuits St George, Les St Georges 2005 (an excellent Burgundy), the last one of a case I bought before I had children did this to me. All the others from the case had been amazing. We had wine loving friends coming over and I had made the mistake of telling them in advance I was going to open it. Expectation was high. The joy of rich, dark, red fruits with a hint of mushroom combined with smooth gentle tannins and the almost sweet fragrances of violets awaited. I opened the bottle and the soul-destroying smell of wet, rotten cardboard hit me. It was badly corked. I had been nurturing a wine that had been doomed the day it had been bottled with a cork tainted with TCA (the cause of corking).

What special occasion bottles have I pulled out of the wine fridge? A 1996 Chateau Margeaux went down very well and was a slight surprise for my wife when it turned up on a Tuesday night with the spag bol (matched the food perfectly). A Monte Bello Ridge 2013 (a good year in California) appeared to support a slow cooked beef stew on a Sunday and stole the show – it is my new favourite wine. Meerlust's Rubicon 2015 accompanied a roast leg of lamb and showed that South Africa is up there with the world's best. However, I still have a Warre's 1994 (port) and a Chateau D'Yquem 1997 (sweet Sauternes) waiting for the right moment; hope the lockdown doesn't end before I am brave enough to open them.

Charles Elvin Charles.elvin@btopenworld.com

FAMILY LOCKDOWN

It has been the strangest of times, not without its challenges, but not without its silver linings either. We have enjoyed getting to know our community better and looked forward to seeing our neighbours on the streets every Thursday night. We have been beyond grateful to have this beautiful countryside on our doorstep and tried to make the most of our one hour of outdoor exercise per day. We feel so lucky to live here and so fortunate in so many ways during these unusual times.

The prospect of being promoted to teacher filled me with horror, especially with a one year old in tow and the older two having differing requirements. I have experience of teaching, albeit to a very different audience and in a different set of circumstances. My children did not take kindly to being treated like Army soldiers. We have also learnt that home schooling and working from home are mutually exclusive activities. The two just do not mix.

But we have found our way. The support from our local school has been outstanding. They have kept us informed every step of the way and have provided

many teaching resources. The most helpful and reassuring message was one letting us know that all activities are optional and there have been no deadlines for completion of any of the work. Maintaining realistic expectations and standards has proven the key to maintaining my sanity.

We have adapted to our new normal in many ways, learning to find satisfaction and joy in small things. The garden has become the most important space in our lives during the stunning and timely sunny weather. This opportunity to spend so much time with all three of our children together will almost certainly never be repeated. Our youngest will be bereft when the older two eventually return to regular school and I have loved having them at home. We have discovered new priorities and favourites now that the old ones have been removed. Health and happiness are paramount. We are grateful for both, when so many can't say the same.

Chloe Eriksen

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AN ANONYMOUS CONTRIBUTOR'S HORRIFIC LOCKDOWN DIARY

Day 1: It was a heck of a drive up here, but the scenery is pure Ansel Adams gold. Job interview went smoothly. There's even a dramatic backstory of a massacre by a previous caretaker. Wendy loves that kind of thing.

Day 2: Brought the family up to the hotel, where we hear about the lockdown at the end of the day. Sounds perfect to me; plenty of time to work on my novel and nobody to bother us. Time alone with just the family for a few weeks, what could go wrong?

Day 31: Suffering from serious writer's block, and Wendy doesn't help waking me up at 11.30pm. I need to get into a better routine, with no disturbances.

Day 32: Wendy's constant interruptions are breaking what little concentration I have, barging in whenever the typewriter keys are finally clacking, and her constantly sunny disposition is offending my ennui. She and I may fall out soon.

Day 36: Seems like there's been a hell of a snowstorm outside. Still struggling with the damn writing. Wish there was somewhere I could grab a cold beer and friendly ear around this dump.

Day 40: Had a horrible nightmare. I probably need to stop getting on the port at 10.00am and passing out on the desk. Wendy compounds it later by accusing me of throttling our son Danny. I catch up with my old mucker Lloyd down at the bar, who serves me a Bourbon on the rocks while I explain how wrong she is.

Suddenly Wendy accosts me just after I was relaxed for once, but this time insistent that a crazy woman in one of the rooms had strangled Danny. Gets me off the hook at least so I check it out to humour her. The least said about *that* experience, the better. Wendy is now trying to coerce me into breaking lockdown, and then I run into none other than Delbert Grady in one of the toilets. I swear he was the previous caretaker, but now he's the butler? Just how much have I had to drink today?

Day 41: Not entirely feeling myself to be honest, this social isolation seems to be getting to me now. I thought I had finally made a breakthrough when I pulled an all-nighter to finish the first draft of the novel, but Wendy thought it was a bit derivative. We had a bit of a disagreement, which escalated rapidly and culminated, would you believe, in me sleeping in the meat locker. There's a fine how-do-you-do for you! Being a man of great intuition, I had foreseen this potential treachery and pre-emptively sabotaged the snow-buggy so good luck to Wendy and Danny breaking lockdown. That damn Grady returns to haunt and taunt me, but to be fair to the guy he does spring me out of the meat house so I guess I owe him one. Now, where do they keep the axe around here?

(It is DN's policy not to publish anonymous material unless name and address are supplied. Details of provenance, however dubious, have been supplied. Ed)



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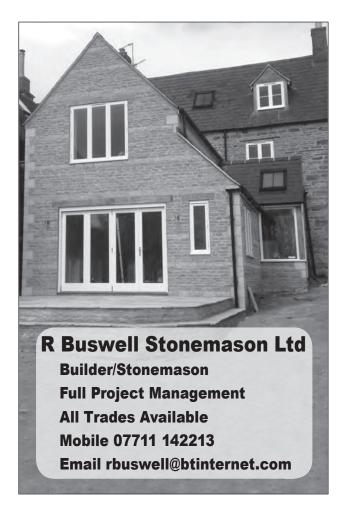
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LETTERS

FROM WENDY BURROWS, DEDDINGTON

I am sure I am not the only Deddington resident who would like to pay a public tribute to our village Co-op and to Eagles.

They are doing a fantastic job keeping us fed during this challenging time, especially with their friendly delivery service to the older, vulnerable members of our community.

They deserve our thanks and appreciation.

FROM CHRISTOPHER HALL and DIANA MARSHALL, DEDDINGTON

The Deddington Christian Aid Week team is deeply grateful to the 21 supporters who gave £860 through https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/deddingtoncaw. To this will be added £189 in GiftAid and a CAF cheque for £50. Particular thanks to Sharon Greenwood who promoted the appeal through the Deddington Community Noticeboard on Facebook, and to Pete Condon for putting up the banner. The target for donations



and include your name and address even if they are not for publication

remains £1,000. In previous years Deddington has been congratulated for keeping up our £2,000 level of giving each year, thanks to the dedication of the house-to-house collectors and the generosity of donors. The JustGiving page will remain open during June for those who would like Deddington to meet or beat the £1,000 target. Christian Aid partners in the poorer nations

sorely need our help as the pandemic spreads among their people. They lack the health service we applaud each week, many without even clean water on tap to wash their hands.

FROM JENNY SODDY, DEDDINGTON

I would just like to thank all those generous people who donated money to my Just Giving Katharine House 2.6 campaign. The money raised has helped Katharine House to keep the Hospice functioning during these unprecedented times.

Once again thank you so much for your support.

FROM THE FIRE STATION



Last month was strange, this month stranger still. Fire station practical training is on hold, Tuesday nights are spent on the computer and after any callout every surface needs to be disinfected. New PPE has arrived for rollout in June, so we have at least been able to try on some new uniform.

The quietness of the roads means road traffic accidents seem to be a thing of the past but Deddington has been busy with eight fire call outs: three stand bys for other stations (Banbury and Chipping Norton), one alarm and four fires.

The fires this month had crews working hard with a car fire at Hopcrofts Holt which completely gutted the vehicle. After George Williamson and Adam Perry successfully extinguished the fire the Deddington crew and the police cleaned up the road to prevent any contaminants entering the nearby water courses.

The domestic fires were all in the kitchen, namely grill, cooker and dishwasher. The most recent, the dishwasher, had caught fire in the early hours of the morning. Deddington was the second breathing apparatus team to enter the property. Banbury tackled the fire whilst Andy Heywood and James Greenwood actively using the positive pressure ventilation fan dispersed smoke and searched the house.

With partial lockdown still in force please remain patient and help all the emergency services do their jobs.

James Greenwood FFd

james@cyclologicalshop.co.uk

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

I'm glad to report we've had about 30 entries to our photo competition so far with some wonderful pictures. It's noticeable in these days of lockdown and the glorious weather we're having, more and more shots are being taken on walks around the parish. Many of these can be seen on Facebook and other social media. Could I appeal to those who might not have entered the calendar competition in the past to send in their pics as I've seen some stunning shots that would definitely make it into the calendar. We are also looking for snowy pictures for a potential Friends Christmas card, so could you take a look through your archives and send in a selection please? They should be sent to abw@brynwilliams.com. Thank you.

Bryn Williams

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POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

The American Dream, Suitcases and Lies

I just went and counted the number of suitcases we have in our locked down house. For those of you who don't know, we moved from Deddington to Colorado nearly eight years ago with all our belongings in our luggage. Unfortunately,



I stupidly booked flights with a change in Dallas, I still wake with nightmare memories of running around the baggage hall trying to find all sixteen bags. Yes, we missed the connection. This got me to thinking about why we came to America and why we are still here. We all need positivity in these times, I wonder if I can make it last.

The scale of this country is astounding, the landscapes and the parks are stupendous. A road trip in the UK always reminds me of traffic jams, kids being sick (thanks Jake), and very poor roadside cafés. A road trip in the US is a constant joy, huge mountains, great plains, rocky bluffs and vast canyons. The roads are wide and straight and the food is generally great. The nature is astounding; we often see deer, eagles and hummingbirds in our neighbourhood.

I've visited 43 of the 50 states and it is a constant joy to me that the people are so different. I've been to places where they speak Danish (in Wisconsin), where the 20th century hasn't happened (Ohio), and where they live in tents (that's native American tents not the hard streets of San Francisco). Generally speaking, the people are very friendly. This is a nation of immigrants, the cultures are watered down but many still retain wonderful differences.

Today I woke up with my hands around the Trumpster's throat. It happens a lot of late. It makes me sad that one person can ruin my American Dream. This problem isn't about one person, 35–40% of the population believe what he says. Even if they are prepared to ignore the extremes such as his recent suggestion that injecting disinfectant might help people, why do educated people believe things that are so obviously untrue?

In the Land of the Free there is an obsession with one thing, freedom. Historians will give you good reasons for this; go back far enough and the migrants were fleeing some kind of oppression. But freedom now means turning your back on safety regulations and turning up on the steps of the town hall with a machine gun strapped to your back. Bullying and ignorance I would call it.

It is part of the human condition to read 'news' that confirms your views and prejudices but this approach now has much greater significance. The United States of America, the country I love, is under fierce attack from lies and hoaxes spread by those in power. The President now completely rejects scientific advice – apparently, he has a 'knack for this stuff' and knows better than his chief advisor, Dr Fauci, who has studied

pandemics for 50 years. The states are opening up and many people are now paying little or no attention to basic distancing controls. The pandemic is now a purely political issue, because it is Trump's only route to winning the election in November. The death rates are 'overstated' and 'testing is overrated'. Now we have

'Obamagate', an evolving conspiracy theory that it is all Obama's fault and the 'deep state' is planning to steal the election. These are obviously diversion tactics to push attention away from his terrible handling of the crisis. Today it was 'they never left us any pandemic planning': a complete lie, there was a plan – they just didn't read it.

It makes me wonder if I need to pack my 16 suitcases and leave. Actually, I wouldn't need that many because none of my family would come with me. At least I have my choice of suitcases, we now have 21, including one I bought with great foresight in February.

Please don't ask me who is going to win the election in this dangerous climate, I am the worst forecaster you know.

Mike Ward mikew@qsoftware.com

BLISSFUL THINKING



So we have moved on to the next stage. Inadequate protective equipment, no mass testing and no vaccine but many people are now asked to begin to integrate back into the workforce. We lockdown furloughers wish them all the best and continue to try to make the best of the directionless days where time

has become little more than an ethereal concept to most of us, where we have to look out of the window to check if we've woken up at 9.00am or 9.00pm.

Have you become fluent in a new language yet? Me neither. I have managed to complete a couple of woodwork projects though, for the first time since secondary school. Did you wash and dress today? That's more like it. Have you tried testing your lateral thinking capacity by deliberately locking yourself out of the house and only leaving an upstairs window open a crack? Emulating Houdini by attempting to escape from seemingly impossible self-bondage within sixty seconds? Digging for treasure in the back garden? Using astral projection to visit relatives? All of these spectacular lockdown activity suggestions and more can be found at my Instagram account, featuring amusing pictorial demonstrations. Don't say I never give you anything. Onwards and upwards to the other side!

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DEDDINGTON HEALTH CENTRE AND COVID-19

When the scale of the pandemic became clear in late February we at Deddington Health Centre started planning how to manage the expected impact. In mid-March we began cancelling all planned routine work to free up capacity. Throughout the period however, we have continued to provide important services such as child immunisations, blood monitoring for drug treatments, wound care, cervical screening and contraception and it is important that patients continue to access these services.

Patients at the practice will be seen by clinicians wearing personal protective equipment (PPE). Since mid-March all initial patient contact has been either by telephone or email, with only those who cannot be safely managed that way being seen face to face at the practice.

We have found a high degree of satisfaction and acceptance of this very new way of working and have been adapting our technology to improve it. We can now do video consultations securely using patients' smart phones; we have a new online consultations platform called Engage which will replace the existing Ask Your Doctor a Question system and which patients can sign up to via the practice website (click on the Online Consultations tab); and we hope soon to be able to offer some chronic disease reviews by smart phone, allowing busy patients to have important reviews without taking time out of work while also freeing up clinician time to deal with our more complex patients and those who need to be seen face to face.

To protect staff and patients we have made changes to the practice layout so that patients arriving for face to face visits as well as those visiting the dispensary come in through the dispensary entrance whereas patients with symptoms suggestive of Covid-19 come in through the main entrance and are seen in a dedi-

cated room by clinicians appropriately dressed in PPE.

We are adhering to recommended social distancing guidance throughout the practice. Our team is taking every precaution to ensure cleanliness of the highest standard and reduce spread of the disease. In addition, if patients are vulnerable, we will try to offer them appointments at the start of sessions to minimise any possible contact with others.

As we move away from the peak of cases we hope to gradually increase the amount of 'normal' activity we can undertake but it is likely restrictions will remain in place for many months at least and some of the new ways of working are likely to become the new normal. It is likely that telephone triaging of requests for help and signposting to the most appropriate service will continue and we hope it will improve the patient healthcare journey.

The key message from the practice is that we are open and available to help with whatever health concerns you have. Please call us if you feel you need help and we will speak to you and try to help you manage your issue effectively.

It is vital patients know that although much routine work in hospital is currently suspended there has been no change to the access to help for emergencies such as heart attacks, strokes or serious injuries and you should continue to call for urgent help in the usual manner. It is also important if you have symptoms which are worrying you and might be related to cancer that you seek help as quickly as possible by calling the practice in the first instance and we can if necessary refer using rapid access systems to get tests and or treatment as always.

James McLaughlin 01869 338611

COVID-19 ARCHIVE ON DEDDINGTON ONLINE

We've set up a record in Deddington OnLine History so future generations can see how Deddington stayed safe and looked after its own during the 2020 pandemic. You'll find the first stories at http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/covid-19pandemic2020.

It's headed up by the newsletters, both general and wellbeing, sent out by the brilliant Covid Emergency Group. Other sections include how social media posts reflect what amused, entertained and concerned our people – and it will be interesting to see how those change over the coming months.

Other sections on 'Delivery services' and 'How life changed' will be updated as circumstances change, as we already sense a loosening, however slight, of the strict lockdown measures.

The Gallery now has a new album of pictures called 'Deddington under lockdown': 'Rainbows for the NHS',

'Keeping Deddington safe' and 'Empty streets'. Personal and business stories of life under lockdown are welcome too. We would like more pics, particularly as we enter this second phase. Smart phone pics are OK. They don't have to be works of art, though a couple of new and very fine photographers have emerged. Anything unusual, slightly whacky, out of the ordinary is particularly welcome.

The archive will be updated throughout the year and, when all this is over, we will look back and see how our wonderful parish coped in a time of extraordinary crisis. Take a look.

Please send pics and information to Mary Robinson at robimary@gmail.com and stories to Rob Forsyth at robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com.



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WINDMILL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Another month under lockdown and, as I write, Boris is trying to sketch out his roadmap with three proposed steps towards what I imagine will be our 'new normal', It's a confusing picture to put it mildly but, apparently we're now in Step 1 and, as far as the Windmill building, the new Pocket Park and the adventure playground are concerned, the advice remains the same: we stay shut until further notice. Sorry!

I note that Step 1 allows a slight easing of restrictions on meeting one other person from outside your household as well as on exercising outdoors. The Windmill playing fields are the perfect place to do this but, please respect the social distancing rules and remember that dog walkers should follow the signed circular walk and keep their dogs on leads. Dogs are not allowed on the playing fields at any time.

Tennis was highlighted as one of the few sports that could be reintroduced in a restricted way and Deddington Tennis Club, quick off the mark, reopened the courts on 22 May in line with the LTA guidelines and government rules. Please go to www.deddingtontennis.com for details on how they are operating.

In the meantime and wherever possible we continue with our agreed programme of repairs and improvements. These include new block paving around the back of the building – the big puddle is no more – new curtains for the Hempton Lounge and a new wooden floor upstairs in the Deddington Studio.

I know a few of the groups that use the Windmill are operating 'virtually' – good for you – but we can't wait to have you back ... maybe next month?

Vaughan Jones

vaughan@englishlanguagematters.com

CHURCH BELLS

Church bells have been used for many occasions; weddings, funerals, royal celebrations, ringing in the New Year, calling people to worship. There was one small bell known as the Ting-tang which was rung on its own five minutes before the service began to hurry worshippers as the service was about to begin.

Bells were also used to toll proclaiming a death in the village. You could tell by how it was tolled whether it was a man, woman or child who had died. I believe it was three tolls per minute for a man, two for a woman and one for a child. Of course the bells were silent during the war, only to be rung if an invasion was imminent, Thank goodness I never remember them being used for this purpose.

Deddington's tower used to house a peel of six bells until two extra smaller ones were donated by Major Morris who lived at Deddington Paper Mill. He organised the Home Guard in Deddington and gave these bells to commemorate the unit.

Don Walker roodon@btinternet.com



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The Association manages the five Holly Tree properties in Earls Lane, four bungalows and a recently added two-storey property which was converted from outbuildings in 2018. It will shortly have a fully refurbished one-bedroom bungalow to let, suitable for a single person. The properties are for the benefit of the 'aged and/or physically disabled persons in necessitous circumstances within the Parish of Deddington upon terms appropriate to their means' or those who can demonstrate very strong links to the parish of Deddington.

Application forms can be requested by email from chair@thedha.org, downloaded from our website, www.thedha.org (under Forms tab) or a hard copy can be requested from Stella O'Neill, DHA Chair, c/o College Farm Cottage, 5 Hopcraft Lane, Deddington, Oxon OX15 0TD. If requesting a paper application, please provide your name, current address, email address, phone number. All information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence under our GDPR policy as published on our website.

The closing date and time for applications is noon on Friday 7 June 2020. Those whose applications meet the charity criteria will be shortlisted and invited for interview and to view the bungalow. This will be carried out whilst complying with whatever social distancing rules are in place at the time. The safety of our existing and prospective residents is our primary concern and every measure will be taken to ensure this is maintained during the process.

As we are unable to publish this vacancy in a print issue of the *Deddington News* to ensure that every household in the parish knows about the vacancy, please share this information with relatives, friends and neighbours who may be interested in single level accommodation in Deddington.

Stella O'Neill, Chair stella.oneill@outlook.com

FRIENDS OF CASTLE GROUNDS

Obviously plans have been delayed for the maintenance and future improvement of the Castle Grounds. Hopefully we will be able to continue its upkeep very soon.

The Grounds are still being mowed which makes it easier for exercise and dog walking. It is lovely to see more people and families using the Castle Grounds for their daily exercise. Just a reminder it is the time of year for the Blandford Fly to appear, so cover up feet and lower legs and use a repellent. Unfortunately the bins are not being emptied at the moment so please take your rubbish home with you.

Come and enjoy this peaceful and relaxing area. We are really lucky to have such a wonderful site in Deddington.

Carol Garrett cgarrett@btinternet.com

DEDDINGTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



We have little change in our school circumstances but continue to support our key worker parents and their children on a weekly basis. These pupils have been making lovely rainbows using chalk on our school walls and in our Year 3 and 4 play-

ground in the hope of brightening people's days as they see them when walking or driving past the school.

Teachers continue teaching from afar and our children have continued to work extremely hard, supported by their parents and wider family members.

As I said last month, as a staff we cannot thank our parents and families enough for their time and energy in helping our pupils to work with such incredible enthusiasm. Seeing photos of our children enjoying their learning has kept us all inspired.

As we did not want the 75th VE Day anniversary to pass by unmarked by the school we celebrated in our own homes. Many children made bunting for decorating their houses and gardens.

We send our very best wishes to everyone from all of us at Deddington Primary school.

Denise Welch

dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

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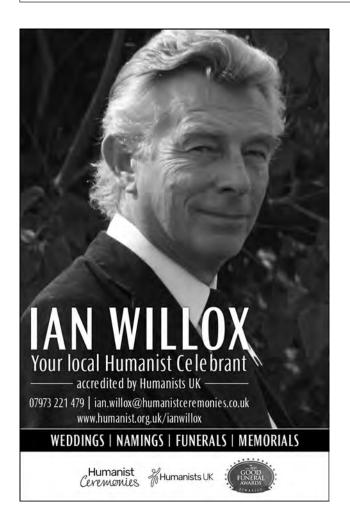
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CALLING ALL CLUBS=

Photographic Society

Our first Zoom meeting was a presentation by Anne Sutcliffe, FRPS, about having fun learning to assess your own images to find the 'wow' factor. We gathered in various settings; some members even had sunny backdrops. Much hard work had gone into preparations for the event and special thanks were extended to Neil and Maureen R for making it such a success.

The evening was split into two sections, like a normal club night, with a slideshow presentation on the main points to consider when assessing your images and then a look at Anne's photographs that she felt had the 'wow' factor. Anne thought that judging the images of others was easier than assessing your own and reviewing your images after a year was always a help in being objective. She judges competition entries at a variety of clubs and tries to be sympathetic and encouraging according to the skills of the photographers but is honest in commenting on weaknesses and always suggests improvements. She promoted the idea of competition, something that does not happen at the Society and encouraged members to enter British open and international competitions.

Moving on to her images Anne explained the story behind each photograph and how older images were often 'fashion' leaders – the techniques had not been seen before in competition. There was a great variety of genres including wildlife, a wintery North America, the Venice Carnival and a barber shop in Istanbul. The superb image of a grand but grungy toilet in Cuba came with a story about the discovery of the bathroom after a couple of Cuba Libre cocktails. In Anne's words 'images should tell a story' and this one certainly did.

The next meeting, by Zoom, is on Wednesday 3 June at 7.30pm and is on urban and street photography.

Anne Hunsley www.addphoto.co.uk

Royal British Legion

Activity has mainly been to keep in touch with members and pass on information on marking VE Day in a highly visual red, white and blue manner. Our success is reported elsewhere. In naval terms Bravo Zulu to everyone – BZ being the flag hoist code for 'well done'.

I would like publicly to record our enormous thanks to Piper Richard Jasper from Banbury. He took time out on one of our few rainy days to visit our war memorial after playing at a burial service in our cemetery. A friend filmed him playing the *Battle's O'er* so the video could be available on Facebook for 3.00pm on 8 May. I personally have committed myself to buying him a large whisky or two when we unlock.

Rob Forsyth Chairman 01869 338384 Robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Bookworms

Our latest book was *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris who lives in Australia and, before writing this book, wrote screenplays. She met Lale Sokolov and, as they became friends, Lale entrusted her to write about the extraordinary story of how he met his wife in the infamous death camp in Poland. Based on real events the story began life as a screenplay but Morris was persuaded to reshape it into her debut novel.

The treatment of the inmates of Auschwitz and Birkenau is truly shocking and the fact that both Lale and his then future wife, Gita, both survive the camp is almost unbelievable. Additional information provided at the end of the book reinforces the horrors they faced.

Overall the group felt the book was very moving and gave a further insight into the awful conditions the prisoners endured. However, the last few chapters seem to be rushed, perhaps a case of the author having so much to tell but lack of time to tell it?

Our next meeting will be on Zoom in June to discuss *The Birthday Boys* by Beryl Bainbridge.

Deddington Library

Book Group

Lockdown gave us all more spare time this month, so we had a choice of two books.

Those who had read *Gone with the Wind* years ago remembered it with great affection and those reading it for the first time found it most enjoyable. Set in the American Civil War, its 984 pages portray the initially luxurious lifestyle of the plantation owners, the terrible deaths and destruction during the war and the difficult reconstruction era. Margaret Mitchell was writing 80 years ago from the Confederate point of view, so her attitude towards slavery is disturbing for modern readers. However, there are many wonderful characters, splendid descriptions, fascinating social history and a romance. Scarlett O'Hara is beautiful, self-willed and a true survivor. Her volatile relationship with the handsome and scandalous Rhett Butler is a compelling element in a memorable novel.

To Die in Spring by Ralf Rothmann (translated from German) also has war as its theme but is a much slimmer novel at 211 pages. It follows the experiences of Walter and Friedrich, 17-year-old boys conscripted into the German army towards the end of WW2. Well written with very believable descriptions of places and characters, it is unsurprisingly a bleak story. As well as underlining the brutality of war and the breakdown of morale on the losing side, Rothmann shows the lifelong effect on the people involved. Walter seems a very sympathetic character, capable of great understanding and tenderness. Despite his apparent adjustment to ordinary life, his wartime experiences haunt him until his death. It is a poignant and meaningful book.

Sian Waterman



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YOUTH -

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs and Scouts

It's been another virtual month at Cubs and Scouts and I realise I could invent all sorts of wild and wonderful activities that we've taken part in and nobody would be any the wiser but it wouldn't come close to what they have actually achieved.

First came the Easter Camp. How did you manage that I hear you ask? Well the county organised the Easter Camp at home and lots of the Cubs and Scouts pitched up in their gardens, some for more than one night, me included. Then to coincide with the Big Night In, Scouting organised a 'Hike to the Moon' when all members were asked to walk at least one mile in any way they could. We are now on our way back with only 6,000 miles to go and having raised £328,000.

Then came VE Day celebrations and the Cubs and Scouts stepped up to produce lots of decorations, cakes and the odd scarecrow. Alongside all of this we marked St George's Day, our dragon sadly missing from the streets of Deddington, but many of us renewed our Scout Promise at home.

Jo Churchyard deddingtoncubs@gmail.com Peter Churchyard deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

Explorers

Unfortunately, still no face-to-face meetings for the foreseeable future but we are trying to keep things together and meet digitally once a week to see one another, check in that we are all coping okay and have a fun evening.

We've had a family quiz night which was quite competitive, followed by bingo, scribbl.io and, last week, 'Would I lie to you?'. Interestingly we have members of the Unit who have accidentally swum with a reef shark, had money given them by Tom Baker – Dr Who – and our international evenings will be great as we have both Slovakian and African parents.

Each Thursday a different explorer arranges flag break and we've been fortunate that two of them have been outside. We clap for the NHS and had a reflection on VE Day.

Janet Duxbury spartansexplorers@gmail.com

SPORT '

Deddington Town FC Youth Teams

We continue to plan our virtual Zoom presentation day on 7 June. Players will be awarded their prizes by age group and all primary school players will get a medal for their participation in the season. We are seeking sponsors for medals and trophies who will get a full-page advert in the souvenir programme. There are twelve groups up for grabs at £75 each.

We continue planning for next season and hope to start again on 5 September.

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 the summer of 2021. If you are a past player or coach and want to get involved please email me at carsykes@btinternet.com.

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

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

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

With the sad passing of Dave Greenfield, seen live by many of us down here, Lower Larkrise has seen the mass appearance of Rattus norvegicus (millennials will need to Google this). The source of the intruders has been much debated by neighbours with, frankly, no shortage of harassment, if not actual bullying, slander and libel (WhatsApp is libel I need to remind some) sprayed around the eastern end of paradise here. I know it should surprise no-one with farm fields adjacent to their houses but some people get a bit shirty. Neighbours had to tear down compost heaps (while wearing full PPE it has to be said - who knew these animals had Covid-19?) which did cause something of an exodus. Various traps were laid and marksmanship practised. Apart from the occasional sighting, the invasion seems to have settled down and this correspondent has seen no corpses, so they may all be safe having moved on.

The build up to VE75 Day saw many an effort at bunting down here with Union flags of various shapes and sizes on display. Bunting was out alongside Rosie the Riveter and roadside markers showing that we would remember. Cllr Collins in frankly a very Freudian gesture had a 30 foot plus flagpole with a modest flag that could be seen from George's farm but first prize went to the Catlings for their fine window display, showing great craft and imagination, which said simply '75 years. Thank you and stay safe'. Many photographs were submitted to the parish Facebook page. At 10.58am a piper who had been due to play from the church tower, blared out of speakers, playing the Battle's O'er as shown in an RBL video of the piper, calling residents to the two minute silence that seemed to be well observed.

Then off we all scuttled to bake scones for the 4:00pm socially distanced communal consumption with a nice cup of tea. Walnut Close boasted seven families where thankfully delivery drivers failed to intrude and many others down here managed likewise in their streets and cul-de-sacs. An aerial display was also enjoyed by everyone except the bedroom owner whose smalls were laid bare. The Catling's effort has latterly been replaced with depictions of the





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NEWS FROM CLIFTON Continued from pg 17

heroes of this crisis, Chris Whitty and Patrick Vallance, cantered by some blonde bloke who fathers children out of wedlock. For some of us it's high time science became cool.

The NHS clap is still pursued with relish and after seven weeks Chapel Close put on an exceptionally fine display. Sadly this didn't make Australian national TV unlike Candleford's Market Place that made many of us down here proud.

A couple of entries to the library's calendar photo competition have been submitted from here and we have no shortage of previous contributors so why not take a camera on your repeated external sojourns and see what you can do?

Finally, as this correspondent did not get a correction from new neighbour Natalie her sobriquet will continue for ever - unless she uses the email below.

As usual, if you have more news then it's 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 the current strange

Martin Bryce

FRIENDS OF DAEDA'S WOOD

Jess, a young woman shadowing me as a volunteer project for her Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award, and I collected up old tree guards last month. At the Woodland Trust's request we recycled the very large guards and the still serviceable smaller ones. Abiding by social distancing rules for the whole exercise, we also managed to remove a fallen tree that was blocking a ride and retrieved some fallen bird boxes. If it's possible to repair them they will be reinstalled in the Wood.

The two ash trees that have been stripped of their bark are still alive at present. The Woodland Trust area manager is looking into the possibility of this being some sort of investigation into ash dieback.

Some of the sticker sheets provided previously have been used by interested children and there are some wonderful shelters - some complete with curtains of grass!

To join or for more information please contact

Annette Murphy, Chair murphyannette74@gmail.com

LOCKDOWN LIBRARY

Oxfordshire County libraries are closed but eBooks and eAudio books can be downloaded to your computer or portable device free for up to three weeks with your library card. There are no late fines and a great choice of titles from both OverDrive, https:// oxfordshire.overdrive.com/, and BorrowBox, https:// fe.bolindadigital.com/wldcs_bol_fo/b2i/mainPage. html?b2bSite=4070.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR DED-**DINGTON HISTORY?**

Answers

- Which Duke of Cumberland is commemorated by the Duke's Head in Clifton? (Prince Rupert of the Rhine, d 1682)
- 2 Who was the Norman granted Deddington after the Conquest? (Odo, Bishop of
- Has Deddington ever had its own MPs? If so, when? (Yes, in 1302 and 1305)
- What is the name of the 18th-19th century Deddington family of Quaker clockmakers? (Fardon)
- 5 The last pub in Hempton closed in the 1930s. What was its name? (The Plough)
- What founder of an Oxford college was born at Leadenporch House? Name the college. (Thomas Pope, Trinity College)
- What famous figure was seized at Castle House on 9 June 1312 and taken to be executed near Warwick? (Piers Gaveston)
- What is the connection between Bowler House and the maker of the hat of that name? (The house belonged to the family of the inventor of the hat, Thomas Bowler)
- 9 Deddington was renowned (or infamous) for its 'pudding-pie'. What was it? (A plum pudding baked inside suet)
- 10 Tethering rings in walls show where Deddington's horse market was held. Where is it? (Horsefair)
- 11 What was the dedication of the former chapel that stands on the north side of the main road in Clifton? (St James the Great)
- 12 When was the chapel of St John in Hempton opened? (1851)
- 13 Where was the axletree factory that in 1851 employed 24 men and 4 boys and that closed c1895? (The former British Legion building)
- 14 Franklins high-class building and carpentry business supplied Oxford colleges and Hobart cathedral in Australia. Where was it? Johnsons builders' merchants)
- 15 What was the former name of the Deddington Arms? (King's Arms)
- 16 Where are Deddington almshouses, and when were they built? (Church Street, 1822)
- 17 Where was the first Wesleyan meeting house in Deddington? (Church Street, south of the almshouses)
- 18 What was Baerlein House at Goose Green formerly used as? (A coal store and to house the parish fire engine)
- 19 There has been a mill at Clifton since Domesday Book (1086). Where is it? (At the north-east end of the hamlet, just before the bridge)
- 20 Where was the parish workhouse in Deddington? (Quinque House in New Street)
- 21 What is the meaning of the name 'Hempton'? ('High tun', 'Tun' - 'settlement')

TO DEDDINGTON DATA

01869 337383

01869 338391

CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL	01295 227001		
CITIZENS ADVICE	0344 411 1444		
HEALTH CENTRE DEDDINGTON	01869 338611		
Repeat prescriptions (Mon-Fri 10am-3)	om) 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		

POLICE (non-emergency, 24 hrs)
Deddington & Thames Valley
PRIMARY SCHOOL (C of E)

01869 338430
PFSU
01869 337484

IIVAV LL.	
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

VILLAGE NURSERY

 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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