

September 2020

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The DEDDINGTON NEWS

We seem to have been away from print for a long time and I know many people, in spite of our entreaties to others to print a copy from the internet for their neighbours, have not seen the last four issues of *DN*. That seems a shame as there were several interesting articles to read while there was little else to do other than dig the garden.

The Deddington Covid-19 group deserves the heartfelt thanks of the whole community, not least for the speed of setting up the organisation, almost before we knew what had hit us.

I'm delighted that we are in print this month. My thanks to the Windmill Management Committee and Vaughan Jones who worked hard to prepare the centre for use again.

Many of our regular contributors are still not meeting in their usual groups for obvious reasons and some may even have managed to go on holiday, so some sections of the *DN* are still a bit thin. There is a limited number of forthcoming events, hence the absence of What's On. 'Not much', is the answer but we're getting used to creating our own entertainments.

I want to thank a few people who have had incredibly long-standing connections with *DN* but are now standing down: Buffy Heywood, who was our treasurer for many years and has continued to deliver copies to her side of New Street, is just beginning to put her feet up; likewise, Christopher and Viviane Hall who edited *DN* for seven years and have been stalwarts of the collating team for many more are now leaving it to others; Ingrid Robey writes a small contribution for Hempton and is leaving the immediate area but has spent many years delivering in her little corner, as well as more recently being quick to take over the role from Les Chappell of gathering Hempton news. It is fair to say that without the likes of these people the *DN* would not continue to survive. So my thanks to you all.

Before this starts sounding like a luvvie acceptance speech, keep safe and we shall be back next month. **JC**

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT!

The Priority Services Register is a free service provided by suppliers in relation to utility failures. Each utility supplier maintains its own register. To get on it, you need to contact your supplier. You are eligible if you: are of pensionable age; are disabled or chronically sick; have a long-term medical condition; have a hearing or visual impairment or additional communication needs; or you are in a vulnerable situation.

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Submission of any article to the *DN* carrying personal information (for example names, locations, pictures) will imply that the person submitting the article has obtained the necessary consent from the individual (or parent/guardian in the case of a minor) /company/organisation for this information to be used both in print and online. Contributors should be aware that the monthly issues are posted online and therefore any personal contact details given are there in perpetuity.

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

15 July and 19 August

15 July by Skype

Present: Councillors Collins, Eames, Higham, Oldfield, O'Neill, Robinson, Rogers – chair, Squires, Swadling, Timms and the parish clerk. District Councillor Williams and County Councillor Fatemian were also in attendance and three members of the public.

Open Forum: Jane Price spoke on behalf of herself, her husband and two neighbours about the proposed community orchard on Gaveston Green.

Mrs Price said that they had visited some local community orchards and researched others, which reinforced their opinion that Gaveston Green was not a good choice. Two differences between Gaveston Green and those they'd seen were that none could be accessed from a busy road and none had houses fronting directly onto them.

She pointed out that Gaveston Green is part of an agreement between the builders, Cherwell District Council and the PC which had unanimously backed the plan for an area of grass surrounded by trees. It is an open space protected by a restrictive covenant. The neighbours thought it wrong that a public body should break such a covenant and believe it is a breach of trust with local residents who bought a house with assurances from solicitors that there could not be a change of use.

Finance and General Purposes

It was agreed to spend: £500 on painting and maintaining the bus shelters; £3,146 was agreed for the balance of replacing flooring in the upstairs room at the Windmill Centre; £5,516.40 to the Holly Tree for recent invoices relating to drawings and tree works. Councillors Rogers and O'Neill declared an interest.

Planning

No objections

Clifton House, Main Street, Clifton: replacing conservatory.

St James Farm, Main Street, Clifton: erection of two dwellings with gardens and parking.

Stile House, New Street, Deddington: tree works.

Maunds Farmhouse, High Street, Deddington: tree works.

69 St John's Way, Hempton: two storey extension to side and single storey extension to front. Previously approved but lapsed.

Neighbourhood Plan

The planning consultant will be present at the next meeting of the group.

Environment and Recreation

Mr Norton, a resident of Hempton, asked to speak as he had been unable to access the meeting in time for the Open Forum. He requested clarification on the use of the Windmill playing fields for private football coaching as he had been told he couldn't use the ground

but believed it was provided for community use. PC to discuss with Windmill Management committee.

Faults on new equipment at all play areas to be rectified by installation contractors. The old play equipment at the rear of the Popular Chinese takeaway has more serious faults and may need to be removed.

Scout and Guide groups requested use of the Windmill playing field while they are unable to meet indoors. They were advised to follow guidance from their own organisations regarding Covid-19.

Thames Valley Police has recommended erecting a lockable gate to the Windmill Centre to deter undesirable activity and illegal camping. Cost and design to be researched.

Community Orchard It was agreed to have further conversations with Deddington Environment Network (DEN) and Councillor Eames suggested taking a list of comments from local residents. The PC agreed that DEN needs to produce a plan for the project regarding funding and maintenance for at least 5–10 years. It was also agreed that the parish should be consulted and the best place selected for a community orchard rather than assuming Gaveston Green is the only possibility. This will be reported on at the August meeting.

County Councillor Fatemian

Councillor Fatemian had been advised of the online response being largely positive for support of local businesses to utilise the car parking area to assist with their return to business after the lengthy lockdown.

There has been no application from two of the Market Place pubs for use of parking spaces for al fresco dining as yet. It was noted that several other businesses already make use of paths outside their establishments. People living nearby would be affected. Councillor Fatemian confirmed that the Red Lion has applied for outside use. Responses made via the Deddington Community Facebook site showed that many were in favour of this extension although there was some concern regarding alternative parking and potential noise. The PC agreed to ask the Covid Response Group to include a consultation with requests to contact the parish clerk.

19 August via Skype

Present: Collins, Oldfield – vice chair, O'Neill, Robinson, Swadling, Timms and the parish clerk. District Councillor Williams and County Councillor Fatemian sent their apologies as well as a number of parish councillors. One member of the public was in attendance. Councillor Oldfield expressed the council's condolences to Councillor Timms.

Continued on p11

These Parish Council notes are the view of our reporter, Jill Cheeseman, and not the official minutes. To see those, go to http://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/uploads/7/2/0/6/72062771/june_2020.pdf.



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WELL REMEMBERED

Marilyn Simons 1950–2020

Marilyn was welcomed into the world on 4 March 1950 by Percival and Edith Humphries at Neithrop Hospital, Banbury. She lived at 5 The Paddocks, Hempton Road, with her siblings Alan, Albert, Bryan and Christine.

She attended Deddington Primary School followed by Windmill Secondary. After finishing school she worked at the Co-op. She enjoyed time with friends and family and played darts at the British Legion. It was here that she met her husband of 50 years, Pete Simons. They got married in 1970 and soon started their own family, welcoming Cheryl in 1971, quickly followed by her brother Martin in 1972. Around 1976 they moved to their own home at 17 Windmill Street and this is where they stayed.

Around the time that Martin started at the Primary School, Marilyn took on the role of a dinner lady. She continued this and became the caretaker, working at the school for 40 years. She is known by many generations as Mrs Simons and one ex-pupil referred to her as 'the best dinner lady ever'.

Marilyn was pleased to become a nan, firstly to James in 1998 and then again in 2000 to Dan. She

and Pete took great pleasure in looking after them as they grew up and they had a very close and special relationship. She was a devoted nan and extremely proud of their achievements and the young men they have grown into.

Marilyn was a family person and loved nothing more than spending time with her family. She was a kind, caring person. Her door was always open and she would be pleased to see you.

In 2013, Marilyn experienced a heart attack and the family feared the worst. They were overjoyed when she regained consciousness on Christmas Day which may have been due to Pete and Gemma singing Christmas songs to her and she just wanted them to stop singing. Marilyn and her family feel very fortunate to have been able to enjoy an extra seven years of her life, thanks to the medical professionals and quick reactions of her neighbours.

Marilyn was a daughter, sister, wife, mother, nan, auntie, and friend to many. She will be greatly missed and the love she showed to people will not be forgotten.

The Simons Family

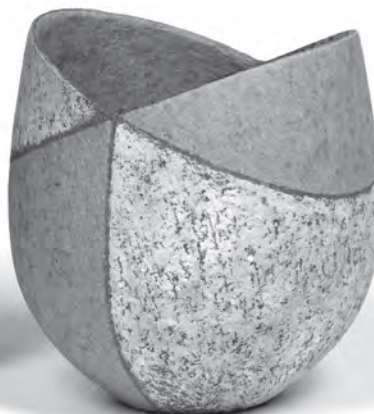
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CHURCH September

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Services are now taking place in Deddington church with a maximum capacity of 55 due to Covid-19 restrictions. Current hygiene and social distancing guidelines are being followed. Services will continue to be streamed live. Regrettably the toilets will remain closed until further notice. The church will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9.15am to 5.00pm, Wednesday from 10.45am to 5.00pm and Sunday from 11.45am to 5.00pm. All are welcome to come in to pray, to simply sit and be or to explore this wonderful building.

Mon–Fri	8.45am	Morning Prayer (also on the first Saturday of the month)
Wed	10.00am	Holy Communion (with prayers for healing on the 4th Wednesday of the month)

Sun	6	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun	13	9.00am	BCP Communion
		10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun	20	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun	27	10.30am	Holy Communion

Hempton Church remains closed until further notice.

From the Parish Register

Wedding

1 August Angela Everett and Tony Faint

For pastoral care, funerals and prayer requests please contact the Vicar, Revd Annie Goldthorp at vicar@deddingtonchurch.org or on 01869 336880, or the Curate, Revd Paula Smith on curate@deddingtonchurch.org or 01869 337884. If the clergy are unavailable, then please contact one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie 01869 338367 or Meriel Flux 01869 338901. For streamed services go to www.deddingtonchurch.org.

RC Parish of Hethe

St John's Church in Banbury will be streaming Mass daily 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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A DIFFERENT VOICE FROM AMERICA

Mike Ward's brilliant Postcard from America has become more muted in enthusiasm for the US as the voices from the White House and Trumpian followers have become more strident and divisive.

But there are other voices from North America that are softer, altruistic and more inclusive. One such is that of Phil Chenevert of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. His aim along with others is to share, free of charge, with the world audiobooks that are in the public domain in the US through LibriVox.

Chenevert describes himself as an 'old retired guy' whose 'main hobby is recording audiobooks for LibriVox'. He lends his voice to books with a rare verve and flair that brings them alive and can entice you to try books you might not otherwise listen to. But he is only one of the volunteers from across the world who read and record books, mostly in English. There are plenty in French, German, Italian and Spanish for those who want to refresh their EU language listening skills while other offerings vary from Afrikaans to Yiddish.

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Explore the website <https://librivox.org/> — you are offered the chance to contribute by volunteering, or you can browse the catalogue, search by author, title, genre, subject and even reader before downloading any of the e-books. By the nature of being in the public domain, there are few modern publications but you still have more than 14,000 titles available.

The fiction genres run from children's fiction to westerns, taking in crime, fantasy, plays and more, while the non-fiction runs from animals to writing and linguistics.

Listen to the works of Jane Austen, Aesop, Tolstoy, Elizabeth Gaskell, JM Barrie, Homer, George Eliot, William Le Queux, PG Wodehouse, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Virginia Woolf, GA Henty, Jules Verne, Kurt Vonnegut Junior, Shakespeare, Mark Twain, Wilkie Collins and John Galsworthy to mention more than a few. A woke warning, though, as that seems fashionable: the attitudes and wording of some older books may cause offence to those of too gentle a disposition and an unwillingness to understand historical context.

A search for someone such as Conan Doyle will bring up a list of recordings of books by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Alongside each title is a green Download button with the size of the download beneath it.

Click on a title, say *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, and other options become available. Scroll down to a synopsis, scroll further down and the individual sections are listed. These come with four columns: Section, Chapter, Reader and Time. A small arrow in each section gives you a chance to listen to a chapter, decide whether you like the reading style and so on.

If you have a relative or friend who relies on audiobooks for their literary intake, then the audiobook can

be copied to CDs and Librivox provides downloadable cover artwork and CD inserts with details.

Snags? None really but at first the introduction to each section of 'This is a LibriVox recording. All LibriVox recordings are in the public domain' may grate because it slows down the story but that quickly fades into the background.

Sometimes a book is recorded by multiple readers, which can jar. It can also be disconcerting when an English Victorian novel is read by an American, or an American penny dreadful is read in a pukka British accent. Pronunciation can be entertaining depending on the nationality of the reader: most recent to cause amusement was 'corps' rendered perhaps unfortunately as 'corpse'.

LibriVox is associated with the similarly altruistic but less vocal Project Gutenberg, also a volunteer effort based in the US. Here the emphasis is on free digital books with more than 60,000 free e-books. The website, <https://www.gutenberg.org/>, is not as easy to manoeuvre around and the works are also mostly older. On offer though are a variety of formats such as HTML, EPUB, PDF, MOBI and Kindle. There are also some audio books.

If you use Amazon to fuel your Kindle with reading matter, you may wonder how to download other formats and place them on your e-reader. In that case you could explore the free Calibre software.

Go to <https://calibre-ebook.com/> and watch the ten minute demo video of this excellent software that does what it says it does: 'Great for both casual users and computer experts.' It is so good that one of the most miserly of computer users known to me has made donations to its creator, Kovid Goyal, who first released it in 2006 and issues regular updates to keep improving the program to keep up with changes in technology.

In a clear and easy way it handles a range of formats and all the major e-readers on a full screen rather than through intricate menus or button-pressing. Calibre works with PCs, Macs, tablets and phones. Using Calibre on a PC, you just connect your e-reader to the computer by its USB charging lead. But you can transfer your e-books to other devices wirelessly if necessary or even take your collection on a USB stick.

Apart from the demo video, tutorials and screen shots on the Calibre website, YouTube is full of videos offering a range of advice. The software is stable and is truly easy to use.

So good listening or good reading. And thanks to America for LibriVox and Project Gutenberg and all those round the world who contribute to them.

John Price



Management Committee

After twenty-one weeks locked up in lockdown, we have reopened the Windmill and the all-weather court and extend a warm welcome to our regular users. It's a cautious reopening as we interpret the ever-changing government guidance and do our best to make the Windmill a safe place to use in these Covid times. Among other things, we have done our risk assessment, prepared guidance for users, put up helpful signs, instituted a new cleaning regimen and bought gallons of hand sanitiser. We are aware that some groups are still unsure about when and how they might resume their activities. Other groups have requested a larger space. We will do our best to accommodate everybody and ask for your understanding as some sessions may have to be rescheduled. All groups are reminded that they must send us their own risk assessments before we can allow them to reuse the facilities and must also complete an attendance register after each use for NHS Test and Trace. You know that the Windmill is run by a volunteer management committee, so please help us to keep our valuable community space as safe as it can be. We need your cooperation for this to work. 'We are all in this together', as somebody famous probably said once.

Oh, and did I mention volunteers? We are look-



ing for one – someone to help with our marketing. Please contact me if you would like to join us. We'd love to hear from you. For further information and updates please check our website at www.thewindmilleddington.org or

look us up on Facebook. Stay well everyone.

Vaughan Jones

vaughan@englishlanguagematters.com

Friends of the Castle Grounds

It is lovely to see so many families and walkers visiting and enjoying the Castle Grounds at this time. The trees are in full leaf and the apple trees are full of fruit. I hope the squirrels will not eat all of the walnuts.

Please adhere to the no fires or barbecue policy at the Castle Grounds. This can be very dangerous, especially after the hot and dry weather we have had recently.

Thank you for using the rubbish bins on your visits. Extra bins have been provided but, if the bins are full, please take your rubbish home with you.

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Carol Garrett

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GLUTS

It's the end of the summer and we're staring autumn in the face.

It has been a long, hot and unusual season this year, but the end of summer glut of fruit and vegetables remain. As does the problem of what to do with them.

Courgettes can be a challenge. The first challenge is to pick them before they morph into marrows. The second is to think of something different to do with such an omnipresent occupant of the vegetable drawer. Here's a swift, simple and delicious way of treating young courgettes (as far as I am concerned large courgettes are just marrows in waiting – and end up in the chicken run) from Nigel Slater's *Tender* Vol 1.

Courgette Side Dish

Serves 2

400g small courgettes

2 cloves garlic

3 tablespoons olive oil

A good handful of mint leaves

A small handful of flat parsley leaves



Juice of half a lemon

Salt

Cut the courgettes in half lengthways and then into short lengths. If they are real babies you could simply halve them.

Peel and roughly chop the garlic. Warm the olive oil in a shallow pan. Add the chopped garlic, let it fry for a minute over a moderate heat, then add the courgettes. Let them cook in the oil,

turning them occasionally, until they are lightly golden and tender. Add the whole mint leaves and parsley leaves. Turn up the heat, pour in the lemon juice and let it bubble briefly. Crumble a little sea salt over it.

This is very good with grilled fish.

The September market is scheduled for Saturday 26 September. Check the market website <http://www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk/> for location and details.

Ian Willox

07869 337940

ian.willox@btconnect.com

DEDDINGTON ENVIRONMENT NETWORK

The volunteers who make up the newly formed group (DEN for short) have been busy over the last few months working on several local initiatives to help combat climate change and to incubate and support sustainability activities in a range of areas. We believe reducing our demand for and use of energy is crucial for reducing carbon emissions and our energy team is working with Cherwell District Council, Oxfordshire County Council and Low Carbon Hub to put together plans over the coming months to help us achieve this. Our aim is to adopt a net zero carbon target for DEN for 2040 – CDC and OCC have proposed dates of 2030 and 2050 respectively. We will be updating you with more details soon but, in the meantime, if you have any ideas or would like to help in whatever capacity we would love to hear from you on this or any of our projects below. Together we can make a real difference.

Repair DEN has a growing network of repairers and menders who can bring our favourite fabrics, furniture and frying pans (among other things) to new life – please let us know of anyone who we can add to the list. We are also planning to sell eco-friendly shampoos and detergents at the farmers' market with the aim of reducing the amount of plastic we throw away. You can bring your own bottles and refill them or buy one of ours. The aim is to start small and expand the production line as needed to meet demand – if you are interested in this initiative, please contact us.

Do you have items that you don't use much that you'd be happy to lend, for a small fee, to a neighbour?

Borrow DEN is hoping to set up a library of things across the community from breadmakers and disco balls to belt-sanders and wheelbarrows. One option we are looking at is to facilitate this through a website called Streetbank which already has 46 members locally – if we can get a hundred neighbours involved then we could get the scheme to take off much more quickly. We'd love to extend the idea to car sharing too so, if you are retired or a family working from home with two cars, how about making some money on one of your vehicles that might be sitting on your drive for much of the week? Half of the carbon footprint of a car comes from its production, rather than its fuel use. If we could create a network of available cars, we could have a great resource for the community and help reduce carbon emission at the same time. We are currently looking into [Turo.com](https://www.turo.com) which has an easy to use App – please contact us if you would like to be involved in either of these schemes.

Our rich variety of plants and animals is declining at an alarming rate, both globally and in the UK. Our Biodiversity group is working on plans to give our existing special habitats some TLC and to identify new sites to create havens for people and wildlife through initiatives such as planting native hedgerows, orchards, trees and creating wildflower areas. We'd love to hear from you if you would like to join us or if you have some ideas, skills or knowledge you could share.

Nick Smith and Al Kitchen

info@deddingtonenvironment.net

Pocket Park at the Windmill Centre

The glorious weather of the last few months has meant that many families have been able to enjoy the new children's play facilities at the Windmill this summer. As Covid has led to many more families staying at home this year, the park has been really well used – it's been terrific to see and it's exactly what we'd hoped for, preferably without the restrictions that the virus brought, obviously.

We're still working on finishing off the last bits: more shrubs in the quiet area of the park, removing the protective fencing from the willow tunnel now that it is established, and installing a hedgehog tunnel before the winter. We and the Mill Close resident involved are still seeking a solution for the missing piece of fencing.

It's payback time now. We need some feedback from you, the users, to give to the government department which funded the park. If you, your children or grandchildren, or children in your care, have enjoyed the park this summer, please drop me an email or leave a phone message on 01869 338272 by 4 September latest. Many thanks.

Mary Robinson
robimary@gmail.com

Deddington Primary School

Last term was different in every possible way and yet the children quickly adapted to the different environment.

In the final week of term, we were able to have half a class of children in, from each of our year groups. This was for two days per class and much deep cleaning took place to enable this to happen. It was a delight to see our pupils, many of whom we had not seen since March. Equally, the children enjoyed working together back in school.

Our final day of this academic year was dedicated to Year 6 and their leavers' service, which this year took place on our top field, due to Covid 19. The children delivered a wonderful service to their parents, even though they had not been fully together, due to the restrictions of space in school.

We are now looking forward to having all children back in school full-time in September.

Denise Welch
dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk



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Down on George's Farm



It is often said that a farmer has fifty years of harvests to get it right. Well, the clock is ticking for me with just four years to go and this won't be the year. To date it has been a 'nibbling' harvest, nibbling a bit here and a bit there, looking for a crop that would 'go'. Then the weather gods decided it would be fun to have

a party with three thunder storms gathering over the farm, providing us with a spectacular lighting display. Finally the rain came, sending the Green Goddess running for home. A normal harvest season then but, with the Old Girl back in the barn, the fields that have been cleared can be direct drilled with mustard as a green manure cover crop which will be either mulched off for the next crop or grazed with sheep.

Well, that's the theory but just what next year's crops will be is another question. One thing is certain is that after the 100% loss of last year's oil seed rape crop due to the effects of the nibbling cabbage stem flea beetle, OSR is now out of the rotation since the only effective chemical treatment has been banned from use in this country. Of course we can always import rape oil (vegetable oil) from other parts of the world, produced using the technology that the green lobby has stopped home producers from using. Sadly something of a foot-in-mouth situation for the green lobby as it has to be imported by lorry or boat using fossil fuels.

Having spent eleven months growing a number of different crops, harvest is always a difficult time with only a few days to gather the crop at its optimum, especially when the weather gods decide to party, but

this year is something different, as we have to contend with the new agricultural act which doesn't contain any mention of farming, agricultural or national food production, just greening.

Another email from the landlord's agent in response to BoJo's build, build, build demand is that all of their many different land holdings in and around Hempton and Deddington including Apple Tree and Home Farm, Clifton, have been included in the CDC call for development sites although there is no timescale on this. It will have some devastating effects on a traditional family farm.

The bees got off to a good start with a nice honey extraction in June but since then they have been in the doldrums. Our protected badger populations have been doing their bit to reduce the hive numbers and in the last few days have accounted for another six hives. It's now too late in the year to rebuild the hives as they will not be strong enough to go through the winter.

After a good lambing the sheep flock has done well and we have expanded the flock numbers that we manage on other farms but the future of these flocks, given the ramifications of our split with the EU, remains rather questionable. After all why is all of our high welfare lamb exported and our supermarkets allowed to import substandard products from around the world?

With the harvest machinery parked up for the moment due to the weather, we can get on with the never-ending list of farm jobs that need to be done before Christmas. With a break in the frenetic rush to get the harvest in and next year's crops planted, the Farm Student has gone on his induction course to become a Deddington firefighter so by the time this hits the doormat he will be on the pumps, so when the bell goes the farm staff will disappear and let me know they are out with a blast of the 'blues and twos' as they go down the road. It's good to know that they are off to help someone or something in difficulties, even if it's a cat up a tree, ho hum.

George Fenemore
01869 338203



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www.FriendsofDeddingtonLibrary.org



Thank you to everyone who has entered this year's Deddington Library photo competition. You'll be pleased to know that we've had the most entries to date. As at 15 August we've received 187 images and I hope that by our deadline of 24 August that will have topped 200; quite astounding. I could tell back in May that we were going to get a bumper crop and that the standard of the photography was also better than in past years, so thank you.

We'll be judging the entries in early September and plan to have copies of the calendar for sale at the farmer's market on 26 September, I'm sure you'll be impressed.

Our thanks to everyone involved, our sponsors, entrants and all those who support us by buying a copy.

Bryn Williams
abw@brynwilliams.com

WINE TIME

Cornwall and Devon have welcomed a large number of local escapees on their holidays this year, as have other parts of the UK. The sensible principle of drinking local when away should not necessarily be abandoned just because local is in this country. In fact, the West Country and the south coast have a lot to offer the holiday drinker and wine lover. Sadly, like so many UK wines, the prices are not always competitive with imported wines – but quality is certainly there and going to the vineyards is a great day out.

A long-standing personal favourite and one of the 'godfathers' of English wine, is Camel Valley. One of its most famous advocates, Rick Stein, serves its fizzy wines by the glass as well as the bottle in his restaurant and lists the rest of the range. As a vineyard it commands a wonderful position overlooking the Camel River, which feeds into the Atlantic at Padstow, with Cornwall providing near perfect slow, warm, ripening conditions for their grapes most years. It's available direct from the vineyard via their website. They deliver UK-wide, or from Waitrose, Majestic (sometimes) and the Oxford Wine Company. The standard fizz, Camel Valley Brut, which is very good, is about £30 a bottle and their two leading whites, Bacchus and Atlantic Dry, are excellent and can be found for about £14.

However, Camel Valley is not the only vineyard in the region. If you are on holiday and fancy a vineyard visit and tasting experience there are plenty to choose

from – check websites for how they are managing this, but most are trying to open to visitors and sales in some way. Sharpham, near Totnes in Devon, is especially worth a visit as you don't just get wine but amazing cheese at the same time. Sharpham Brie is deeply moreish and matches well with Sharpham's wines (they suggest their pinot noir which is OK, but I think it works better with their whites, such as their Bacchus or Dart Valley reserve). Whites often match better with delicate and soft cheeses than red, which can be overpowering. Some wine merchants sell it, Waitrose, Cellars and Tanners but this is mostly a destination or website purchase. They deliver wine and cheese in the UK.

Going all the way to Penzance you'll find the Polgoon Vineyard which has a good reputation for its rosé. I have not tried it recently but did some years ago and liked it, although I prefer rosé a bit drier. They make more than wine – cider and soft drinks – as well as elderflower wine for River Cottage and a curious apple and raspberry fizzy wine which might appeal to adventurous drinkers. Again, this is a destination for a day out as much as anything else. It's always good to support our local wine producers and small businesses as a significant amount of their income comes from visits and cellar door sales. So, if you're going to the South West, try their wine, you won't be disappointed.

Charles.elvin@btopenworld.com



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POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

Road Trips, Conspiracy Theories and Demos

The differences in American life creep up on you. On a road trip to Utah last month we booked into lodges in order to avoid people and I discovered that I can no longer sleep with my lovely wife in a queen bed. It is bizarre that you can get used to 6ft 7inch king beds. Yes, America is the land of excess.

Road trips are different in America. We did more than 2,000 miles in a week and never saw a traffic jam. I will never tire of visiting the National Parks. This trip began at the start of the Colorado River valley, in Canyonlands, and finished viewing the unreal spires at Bryce Canyon. Put these places on your bucket list, they are spectacular, but be warned that the weird Mormon licensing laws mean you should always travel with a crate of alcohol.

Social distancing is our life in Colorado, with drinks on our patio, and masks when out and about. What was strange five months ago is now the norm, unless you live in Texas or Florida, where they believe it is all over and are completely ignoring the escalating death toll around them. One of my Republican neighbours told me last week that it is all a hoax. She referred me to a bizarre video that explains it all, called *Plandemic*.

This epic story involves a disgraced virologist who claims that the Covid virus was a con, initially blaming

Bill Gates. But this week she has shifted her story, and now it is Dr Anthony Fauci, the administration's primary pandemic expert, who started it all. Mind you, Trump's trade minister said that Fauci was 'wrong about everything I have interacted with him on'. I know which side I believe but science and facts are not common currency right now.

While the pandemic rolls on completely out of control, the White House press secretary says 'Everything is fine' and Trump says 'It is what it is'. He is also cutting funding to the postal service, at the same time as saying 'They need that money in order to make the post office work, so it can take all of these millions of ballots'. You wouldn't believe it in a Hollywood movie but 35% of the population believe every word.

Meanwhile there are people demonstrating on the streets of all the major cities across America most weekends and last week I joined a very peaceful demo in little old Greenwood Village. To Trump these are riots and he is sending in federal officers to fire tear gas and pull people off the streets (this is Portland not sleepy GV). As in all demonstrations, there is an element of stupidity, but 99% of it is perfectly peaceful. The way the police react would make any European recoil. I do feel a lot of sympathy for police in the US. The number of guns on the streets makes the job so much more difficult. Mobile phones have changed the world. Footage of a policeman kneeling on a man's throat until he is dead is pretty conclusive.

I am now back in my routine in GV, blue skies every day, 30°C, no humidity and drinks on our patio. It's time to crawl into my king size, pull the duvet over my head and hope to wake up to find it was all a dream – the white elite doesn't really believe in lies and policemen don't want to kill black people for no reason.

Mike Ward

Mikew@qsoftware.com

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Well, what a weird few months it's been and doesn't look like it's going to change for a while yet. Thank you to everyone involved in the Covid-19 Team. This is when you appreciate what a lovely village you live in and how everyone pulls together in a crisis. I must say we couldn't have done it without you, Janet Watts, you really are the making of the village so thank you.

The yearly Ride and Stride will visit Hempton Church on Saturday 12 September. Please be sure to name St John's Church, Hempton, so they can receive 50% of the sponsorship money. There won't be any refreshments, so make sure you have your own food and drink. Forms are available or you can download from www.ohct.org.uk/ride-stride. For more details, please contact Janet Watts on 07825 172600.

Would anybody be interested in logging speeding vehicles through the village, as unfortunately this doesn't seem to be improving? If you are, please contact Jonathan Watts on 07818 697752.

I'm leaving the village and looking for someone to take over the write-up for the *DN*. If this interests you, please contact me. Jo Belcher has kindly offered to take over my delivery round.

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

Ingrid Robey

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Did the Atom Bombs Really Cause Japan to Surrender?

Seventy-five years ago two atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima (uranium core) and Nagasaki (plutonium core). No one really knows how many died but conservative estimates say upwards of 200,000. The accepted wisdom has always been that this was justified because it brought an abrupt end to the war and so saved countless allied lives. Historical facts relate a somewhat different story.

Following the surrender of Germany, the Soviet Union declared war on Japan and moved 1.5 million Soviet troops from west to east to launch an attack in Manchuria. The Japanese War Council at a meeting with the Emperor, a full six weeks before Hiroshima, agreed that they had to do a deal with the Americans or suffer invasion and occupation by the Soviets with the certain elimination of the Japanese ruling class and the Emperor. The death of their Emperor God was not something the Japanese nation could contemplate under any circumstance.

The Americans did not want to see Japan occupied by the Soviets and, crucially to Japan, were prepared to accept the continuation of the Emperor as head of state as a surrender condition.

When the bombs were dropped on 6 and 9 August, the Japanese War Cabinet minutes barely mention them. They were engrossed in discussions about the Soviet invasion when the bomb fell on Nagasaki. The minutes record that a messenger ran in and said 'Sir, we've lost Nagasaki, it's been destroyed by a new special bomb' ... and the chairman responded 'Thank you'.

One has to understand that a city-destroying weapon wasn't particularly shocking or new to a country that had already suffered fire bombings of more than 60 cities, including a massive attack in March 1945 on Tokyo that easily matched Hiroshima or Nagasaki by burning to death 100,000 men, women, and children in one night. Of course, the Japanese cabinet had no idea of the long term effects of radiation which would eventually at least double the number killed by the initial blast.

The decision to surrender was made not because of the bombs, the true extent of whose effects were

still not fully appreciated by anyone, but because the Soviets had completed their invasion and occupation of the South Sakhalin and Kurile Islands (still in Russian hands) and were now preparing to invade mainland Japan.

This version of events is supported by a number of recorded statements:

- In Volume VI of his *History of WWII* Churchill wrote 'It would be a mistake to suppose that the fate of Japan was settled by the atomic bomb. Her defeat was certain before the first bomb fell.'
- USN Admiral William D Leahy, Chief of Staff to President Truman, said: 'The use of this barbarous weapon at Hiroshima and Nagasaki was of no material assistance in our war against Japan. The Japanese were already defeated and ready to surrender'.
- Professor JK Galbraith, the official US investigator in Japan in 1945, said: 'The bombs fell after the decision had been taken by the Japanese government to surrender.'

So why did the US drop the bombs when surrender was already on the table? There were two reasons. Firstly, General MacArthur was determined to test the bombs for real – several contemporary scientific accounts refer to the bombings as experiments – and he had absolutely no moral compunction in doing so. In the later Korean War he was to advocate dropping over 30 nuclear bombs on North Korea, a recommendation thankfully not fulfilled, and he was relieved of his command for suggesting such extreme measures. Secondly, the US Government was concerned to demonstrate that they were a technical step ahead of the Soviets. As US Secretary of War, Henry Stimson, said, the bombs were used 'to gain political advantage over the Soviet Union in the post-war situation'. It then suited Cold War politics and nuclear deterrence to create the myth that the bombs were why Japan surrendered – and history is written by the victors.

Rob Forsyth

robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

PFSU and Village Nursery

We are looking forward to seeing all our children back at preschool and nursery at the start of September and we welcome all the children and families joining us for the first time. Some things will be a little different from usual but we will make every effort to give the children the fun and learning you would expect.

In our first few weeks we will concentrate on settling the children in to the activities and routines at their new settings and on getting to know one another. Please ask us if you have any questions and we will do our best to help.

Lucy Squires

01869 337484

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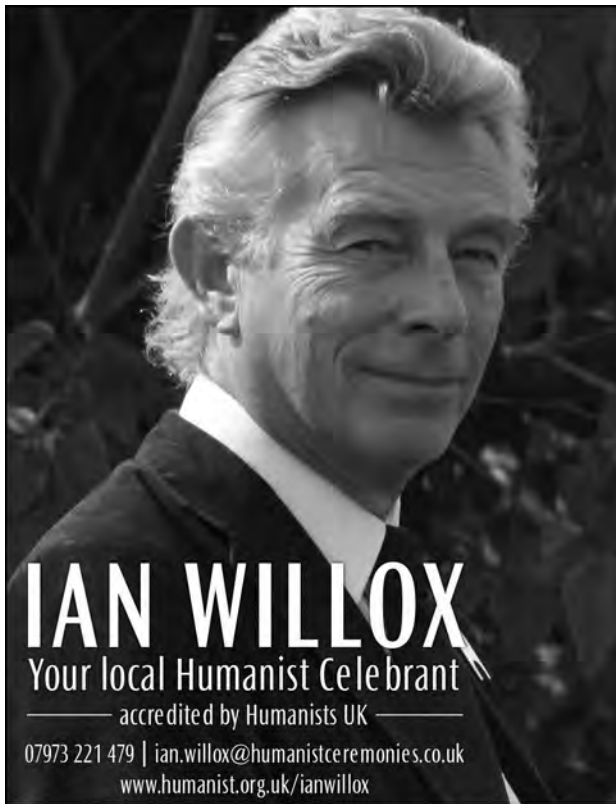
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CALLING ALL CLUBS

Photographic Society

Each month we have a club night when we have a presentation, currently by Zoom, and a club-only look at our own images taken throughout the last month.

Our August club night meeting took us close up and personal into the world of macro photography with Robert Harvey in his presentation entitled 'Small is Beautiful'. He shared his collection of images of butterflies, bugs and orchids that were outstanding, as well as sharing what camera settings he used and how he took them to encourage us to have a go. Robert was able to give other technical advice including on composition and lighting. He demonstrated that finding subjects to photograph and then taking images of their life cycle and behaviour in their own habitat could produce some amazing images which can be seen on his website, www.naturalworldphotography.net.

Our next club night is on Zoom on Wednesday 2 September at 7:30pm when we will have a presentation by Astrid McGechan on landscape photography entitled 'Feed the Land'. If you'd like to join in, please contact the Society through our website.

The monthly topic for our own photographs is 'Garden Wildlife' when we get together on Zoom on Wednesday 16 September and share these images, when we chat about what we created, offering praise, advice and suggestions. After the meeting, the images are uploaded to our website www.addphoto.co.uk for everyone to see.

Miggy Wild

www.addphoto.co.uk

Bookworms

The Lido by Libby Page was a welcome read after the long months of lockdown. It is a book to pick up and enjoy and, although not a page turner it has that feel good factor.

The lido of the title is threatened with closure and the plot follows the impact this threat has on the regular users and the local community. The two main characters, Kate and Rosemary, are at different stages of their lives and their paths would probably not have crossed if it hadn't been for the lido. However, they learn from each other and become strong opponents to the proposals being considered by the local council.

The description of the loneliness and isolation felt by Kate whilst living and working in London was particularly well written, as was the description of the huge gap left in Rosemary's life after losing her beloved husband. With both humorous and sad parts, the book is a gentle and easy read.

The Bookworms recommend it.

Bookworms, Deddington Library

Book Group

We've read and enjoyed two books recently, both thrill-

ers but with very different subject matter.

The Girl on the Landing by Paul Torday is an intriguing mix of ghostly sightings, psychiatric illness and menace. Michael and Elizabeth are a well-off couple in a very dull marriage. However, Michael experiences several mysterious episodes which coincide with a significant change in his personality and in the couple's relationship. The narrative unfolds through chapters written alternately by the two protagonists and as we gradually learn more about Michael's mental state and history, the tension mounts to a dramatic conclusion.

An Officer and a Spy by Robert Harris is a fictionalised account of a true story. In 1894 Alfred Dreyfus, a French army officer, was found guilty of spying and imprisoned for life. Georges Picquart, also an army officer, subsequently discovered that the evidence against Dreyfus was false and fought valiantly to win his release. Dreyfus was Jewish and his case remains a notorious miscarriage of justice and a chilling demonstration of anti-semitism. The novel is very well written with impressive detail and great characterisation. Despite the outcome of the Dreyfus affair being well-known, Robert Harris has succeeded in producing a fascinating page turner.

Our book for September is *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson. Please contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for more details.

Sian Waterman

Royal British Legion

Despite the restrictions of Covid-19 which prohibited a large organised event, the 75th anniversary of VJ



Day and the end of WWII on 15 August 1945 was marked in Deddington in an informal but very moving manner. Prior to 11.00am Piper Richard Jasper played the *Battle's O'er* standing among the Commonwealth War Graves. As the church clock struck 11.00am Lewis Wallington sounded the *Last Post* and the piper played a lament before 25 or so people observed the national two-

minute silence. After *Reveille* the Branch President recited the *Kohima Epitaph* and the Revd Annie said prayers for peace and remembrance. The piper then led the way to the Market Place where he took up position beside 'Archie', the soldier, and played *Highland Cathedral* and other airs. Video clips are on the History website Home page and linked from the branch website.

Rob Forsyth, Branch Chairman

robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

SPORT

Deddington Original Golf Society – DOGS

Each year DOGS puts together a programme of golf days out and social events to offer our members a varied mix of courses to play and enjoy some great company. Unfortunately, as with all clubs this year, our plans have gone astray (a bit like my golf balls) and we have managed only one event at the Cotswold Golf Club on 28 August followed by socially distanced prize giving with supper at the Deddington Arms.

We hope to return to normality next year with a full programme of visits and a weekend away. The society has more than 90 paid-up members, over a quarter of whom are women, and we always seem to get a warm welcome from the clubs we visit – probably because the golf is second to the social get-together. Please email me if you would like to join us.

Nigel Oddy, Secretary
nigeloddy@yahoo.com

Deddington Cricket Club

After the government allowed nets to restart in June, community cricket match-play was eventually given the go ahead from 18 July, with a host of new regulations and hygiene requirements, but players were just happy to be able to play again, after thinking that there may have been no club cricket at all this year.

With a shortened season and new rules to comply with, the full league programme was not possible, so a seven week season, with a combined team in a rejigged cup competition started on 25 July. We have been on the wrong side of the result in the first few games, but the standard is high and Deddington often come good later in the season. A little more consistency is all that is needed.

The women's team has a shortened fixture list going through to early September in a reorganised Home Counties League and the Club is organising a few friendly fixtures to accommodate everyone who wants a game.

Nets are being held at 6.00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Windmill and new players are welcome to come along or contact Joe Roberts on 07720 089804 for more details.

The refurbished nets are getting lots of use by the teams and casual village users which is great and we have had a number of new or returning players keen to get some game-time in. Anyone interested in joining either section, should contact Joe Roberts on 07720 089804 or email him at joeroberts01@btinternet.com.

Thinking ahead to next season and a better 2021 for us all, we are looking for someone who might be interested in umpiring for the Club. Full training is available and if you enjoy your cricket and want to be involved but are not up to playing, we would love to have a chat with you about umpiring. You get at least £40 a game, a chance to visit some of the most picturesque grounds in the county and socialise with some

great people. Again, if you are interested in discussing further, please contact Joe Roberts.

Simon Oldfield

Deddington Town FC Youth

After the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, the club has put in new systems to provide football coaching in a safe environment for the season ahead. Players, parents and coaches all have a role to ensure that football is played in a safe setting. The new season starts on 5 and 6 September. This season we will have six teams playing in the Witney and District Youth Football League. The under 7s and under 6s have training sessions on Saturday mornings. The under 8 team play 5-a-side matches, the under 9s and under 10s play 7-a-side matches; and the under 11s and under 12s teams play 9-a-side. At 11-a-side, we have an under 14 team. It is a great achievement for a village club to have so many players participating in football every week from under 6s to the adult and veteran teams.

Working in partnership with local schools

We are very pleased to be working in partnership with Wykham Park Academy, the Warriner School, Christopher Rawlins Primary School in Adderbury, Deddington Primary School, Fritwell Primary School, and the Windmill Centre who provide the training and match venues for our teams. Thank you in advance for your continued support for the season ahead.

New kit sponsor for under 8s

Thank you to Deddington Dental which is the new shirt sponsor for the under 8 team for the next two to three seasons. The club and team are very grateful for their kind and generous support.

25 years of Deddington Town FC youth football

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Continued on p16



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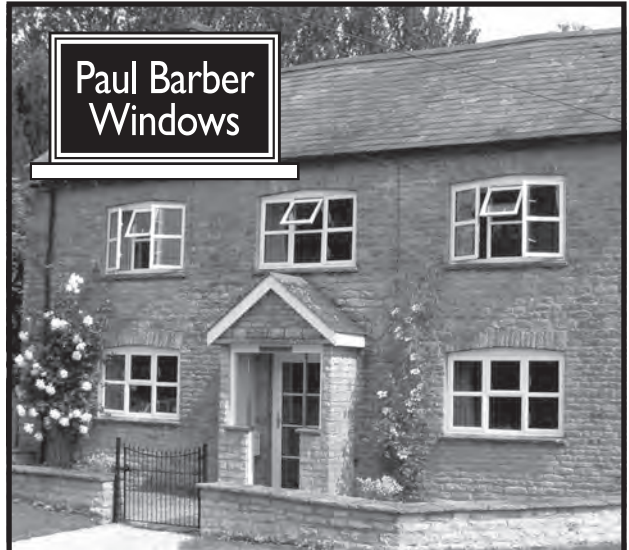
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Deddington Partnership Foundation Stage Unit
Earls Lane, Deddington, OX15 0TJ

Company No: 4874588, Ofsted No: EY330043
Charity No: 1100275



SPORT ————— *Continued from p15*

youth football at Deddington Town Football Club. We are planning for an event in the summer 2021. If you are a past player or coach and want to get involved, please email me.

Get involved

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
carsykes@btinternet.com

DEDDINGTON HEALTH CENTRE Flu Update

At this time of year we normally advertise our flu clinics in the *Deddington News* and other village newsletters. Due to the ongoing Covid pandemic, the Health Centre will not be advertising this year. Delivering flu vaccination is slightly more challenging this year with the need to social distance. All our staff are required to wear PPE and longer appointment times are required. The government has also announced an extension to the usual cohort of patients who will be offered vaccinations this year. As some of the guidance is still to be developed and issued by government, we will be vaccinating the 50–64 year old cohort, who wouldn't ordinarily receive a flu vaccine, later in the season. Our current flu vaccine stock is limited to the patients who would have received it in previous years, ie those over 65, those aged 2 and 3 (other children will be vaccinated through the School Health Service) and those in a clinical risk group.

We are hoping to offer several Saturday flu clinics, children's flu clinics twice a week and a regular daily lunchtime flu clinic to our patients. We will keep our website, <https://www.deddingtonsurgery.co.uk/>, and Facebook page updated with any changes to this plan.

We anticipate these clinics being available from Monday 14 September for 2 and 3 year olds and those over 65. Those in a clinical risk group who are aged under 65 will be able to book an appointment from 28 September onwards.

Our current plan is to get as many as possible from the community vaccinated against flu this year. As things are still somewhat unpredictable at the moment with vaccine supply and government announcements, we would ask you to be patient whilst we do our best to get arrangements in place. Please come alone to the clinic (unless you need an escort), come at your appointment time and not earlier, and wear a face covering when attending your appointment.

Continued in next column

We will update our Facebook page and website with further information regarding 50–64 year olds when we have received guidance on availability of flu vaccines. This will be later in the flu season and is not anticipated to be before November.

Jackie Mahon
GP Services Manager
Deddington Health Centre

BLISSFUL THINKING

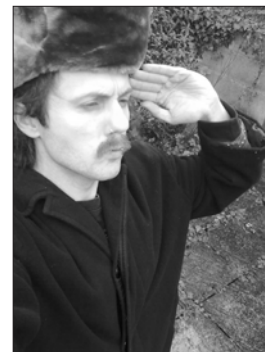
Would it be the swing, slide and climbing-frame combo, or the new board game on the block? Perhaps that comprehensive Play-Doh factory or pushing your luck with the latest video games console bundle? I'm referring, of course, to a period that defined many childhoods: flicking painstakingly through the pages of that most recent winter Argos catalogue in order to compose the ideal Christmas list to Santa.

This wasn't just about item requests; this was about the lifestyle you wished to lead as a kid. Which items would look best in your room, which items would you get the most pleasure out of and, perhaps most importantly, which presents would your friends be most jealous of?

This was the weightiest tome you would expect to consume as a pre-adolescent and the pictures contained within were like magic portals to a world of sublime gratification. It tended to help that the company gave you the impression that their stores were like Santa's very own workshop. You couldn't see any of the best items when going to the shop but when your ticket number was called they would seem to emerge from chutes and conveyor belts like something out of the *Generation Game* (prime time family viewing in 1990s).

That catalogue was more than a phone book-thick itinerary of products: it was a technicolour brochure of aspiration, a solid doorstop, and an excellent projectile to launch at an infuriating sibling. We are all losing something with its retirement. In fact, I always think nothing quite sums up the mental recalibration between childhood and adulthood like your preferred catalogue: from Argos to IKEA. Rest in Peace Argos catalogue. May the trees that survive your incessant need for pulp reflect your innocent idealism appropriately.

Aaron Bliss
aaronjbliss@hotmail.com



TALES FROM THE PUMP

I never thought I would miss standing behind the bar having a chat with my voluble customers. Since we re-opened in July we have masked faces and screens offering Covid-19 protection and the one-way system ensures my customers stay on the move with no hanging about at the bar. They must really miss my grumpy conversation – shame they can't tell me.

To be honest I've been amazed and grateful for the response to our re-opening and the compliance with all the new systems put in place to protect customers and staff. Admittedly taking the long circuitous route to the loos has taken some by surprise (unfortunately!) but most are just grateful the pubs are open again and a little bit of normality has returned.

Drinking outside has always been popular and now with easier social distancing plus the greater security offered in the fresh air, al fresco is really taking off, helped by some good weather. My parish council mate tells me there is a move afoot to get the planners to



formally allow pubs and shops in the centre of Deddington more space to trade in front of their premises. Not just the pubs with tables and colourful umbrellas but the florist's displays, clothes on show, art gallery, and the food shops displaying their wares. If this happens then at last we could see our Market Place as a vibrant social area rather than just a car park.

When 'Spreadsheet Phil' popped into the pub a year or so ago I gave him a big moan about the ridiculous levels of taxation waged on the pub trade. Unfortunately Rishi has been a bit busy to call in recently. If he did I would probably still moan about the level of tax on alcoholic drinks but I'd have to thank him for his work during the pandemic crisis with schemes to protect jobs and cash flow. Yes, I think we could have a good chat, outside of course.

Grumpy Landlord
Grumpylandlord1@gmail.com

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

An unexpected bonus of the Fenemore outreach project that includes informative and educational scripts about the crops and the farm around 'George's Loop' is the fact that it gets updated – so if you think you've read them all – read them again. Hey, who knew? Spotty, the ram, still loves his dandelion leaves, something his offspring were not convinced about.

One of the highlights down here was 4 July. We weren't commemorating one of our Empire's biggest children growing up and leaving but the fact that the pub opened again, with a tasty barbecue, all served at tables being cleaned between sittings and a fair stab at social distancing. This seemed to be well received with three separate sittings planned in the day. There was also an al fresco quiz in July with our very own tame 'Sherman' quizmaster, Double D, presenting the challenge where the Stiffs prevailed.

Book Club will have returned by the time you read this with Aric as a new member but currently 'on tour', as social distancing is mastered. No invitation is required but please contact me to discover the venue for

8.30pm each Thursday and anyone is welcome from any of the nine protected categories (you might need to Google that) because there is no discrimination here, unless you're dull, but that isn't one of the nine.

The 75th anniversary of Victory in Japan and the end of the most terrible war this planet has ever seen will have occurred. National guidelines still prohibit the modest plans some of us were working towards but many felt something needed to be done. A socially distanced gathering of fewer than 30 people attended the war memorial at 11.00am and Annie held a service on Sunday. A number of Union flags were flown but it was a much more restrained affair than VE day. It doesn't seem like five years ago that so many of the village paraded with a marching band to commemorate this historic day.

As usual if you have more news, then send it to me as it saves me the bother of making this all up which I'm happy to do if it entertains anyone for five minutes as we crawl out of these strange times.

Martin Bryce
martindnbryce@gmail.com

OVER-75s TV LICENCE

Now that over-75s are not automatically eligible for a free TV licence any longer, the only way to qualify is by claiming pension credit.

To check if you are eligible to apply for pension credit, you will need the following for yourself and your partner: National Insurance number; bank account details; information about your income, savings and investments, pensions (if any); details of housing

costs. The Age UK benefits calculator is at <https://benefitscheck.ageuk.org.uk/>

If you think you are eligible, you can apply online at www.gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim or call the pension credit claim line on 0800 99 1234. If you need help, call Age UK Oxfordshire helpline on 0345 450 1276, 10.00am–4.00pm, Mon–Fri, or the national Age UK Helpline on 0800 169 65 65, 8.00am–7.00pm daily.



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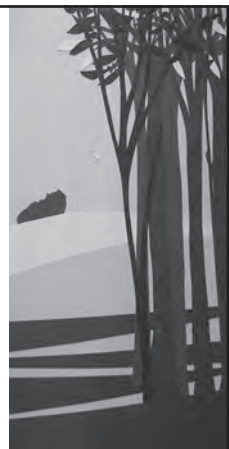
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email: mrs.barber.email@gmail.com

The Ashcroft Therapy Centre, Hudson Street, Deddington

Deddington Library

Oxfordshire County Council has reopened nineteen libraries in the city and large towns serving the largest populations. A huge amount of work is involved in reorganising everything and no two libraries are the same.

Planning is now happening with the remaining libraries, but takes time. There is no date yet for Deddington to reopen but be assured it will happen and you will be the first to know.

Library cards are valid in any other OCC library. The nearest open libraries are Banbury, Chipping Norton, Kidlington and Bicester.

The downloading service can be used for eBooks and eAudio at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ebooks> and eMagazines and eNews at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/enews>. You need to be a library member, so if you're not, please go to www.libcat.oxfordshire.gov.uk and click on 'join the library'.

Stay safe and keep reading.

Stella O'Neill, Library Manager

PARISH COUNCIL

Continued from p3

Finance and General Purposes

The Fire Station requested that overhanging branches at Castle Grounds be cut back and PC agreed to spend up to £500.

PC agreed to spend up to £300 on cutting back brambles overhanging from Gaveston Green into Manor Farm.

Fencing at the Pocket Park was discussed again. It was agreed that PC should replace the boundary for which it is responsible but it is still waiting for the resident in Mill Close whose property abuts the park to replace that part for which he is responsible.

Planning

No objection

French's Barn, Clifton Road, Deddington: variation of conditions to include car parking.

Middle Yard, The Tchure, Deddington: tree works.

Stable Cottage, Hempton Road, Deddington: tree works.

Wells Yard, Hudson Street, Deddington: demolition of barn and ten garages, erection of 3 two-bedroomed mews cottages and off-street parking and wall to northern boundary.

Barn Cottage, Hempton: variation to include a covered walkway.

Objection

Tawny Cottage, High Street, Deddington: part two storey, part single storey rear extension, similar application by previous owners was refused three years ago. PC understands that this application is being withdrawn but in the mean time PC recommends refusal as seriously affecting local neighbours.

Continued in next column

Parish Council

Continued from previous column

Environment and Recreation

It was confirmed that the sports clubs do not have exclusive use of the Windmill playing fields. As the PC owns the land and is responsible for the management, forms of agreement are being drawn up with the clubs which will have separate agreements with the Windmill Management Committee for use of the building. Notices will be erected advising of ownership and indicating that commercial use will be at PC's discretion.

Chances Festival is postponed to 11 September 2021, to be held with cooperation of the sports clubs and on condition that risk assessments are carried out and appropriate insurance is in place.

CCTV at the Windmill now covers the all weather court and MUGA.

Permission was given for installation of a memorial bench at the Windmill playing-field.

Creative Play has finally revisited the roundabout at the adventure playground but it is still not running correctly so they will need to return. They are investigating the cause of the broken rolling log. Communications are being copied to RoSPA.

It was agreed that WMC can control the hiring of the old bowls club pavilion and keep the revenues but the PC will continue to own and insure it. The PC will need to review the agreement. Water is currently being installed. The Football Club would like a hatch to be cut into the west side of the pavilion but the PC declined to contribute to its cost.

Some strong help is needed to install a number of heavy items at the Windmill.

Shrubs have been bought from Bunkers Hill for planting at the Pocket Park.

Thames Valley Police has again recommended a gate be installed at the entrance to the Windmill but WMC are opposed. This to be reviewed with WMC.

Large scale planning:

An additional fourteen houses on the land west of Wimborn Close has been proposed.

Highways and Transport

The bollard at the end of Hudson Street has been broken again, OCC has been requested to repair it.

Large vehicles using Hopcraft Lane, St Thomas Street and Philcote Street are causing structural damage and delays to traffic. Residents should report such traffic incidents to the police, preferably with photos. It was agreed this is probably a sat-nav issue and little can be done, other than possibly installing a weight restriction.

A traffic survey is to be undertaken in Hempton once schools reopen to check on large vehicles travelling at speed.

Next meeting 16 September via Skype or Microsoft Teams.

NAMES OF THE PAST

Cabbie Davis was the sexton
Digging graves out for the next'un
When folk died he tolled the bell
Man or woman we could tell.

Hedges laid down by the chain.
By George or Tom Sykes, Sykes by name
Went on bike to work each day
Wherever there was hedge to lay.

Duker often could be seen
Lived by The Stile on Goose Green
Most days he would be walking round
When children saw him off they bound.

The surgery was in Chapel Square
Those doctors seemed to really care
Drs Hodges and Holloway
Seemed to be at hand all day.

The Holcombe owned by Charlie West
Where he did welcome paying guests
An ice-cream parlour there as well
Where children ran after school bell.

Fred Gregory could be seen a-mowing
On side of road where grass was growing

Making hay to feed his horse
A master with the scythe of course.

Our school master's name was Wing
Lived with his wife in the Bull Ring
From East Anglia he came
And was mustard with the cane.

Tom Shrewsbury's bowler hat turned green
For years on his head had been
His house in Hempton road once stood
And now it's flattened gone for good.

Secretary of the football game
Albert Saunders was his name
Each Saturday two teams he'd raise
And with a flag down line would blaze.

Miss Weaver played the church organ
And many children she began
To play upon the piano
For hours of practice they would go.

I've tried so hard to reminisce
My boyhood days were really bliss
Enjoyed myself had so much fun
Among these folk at Deddington.

Don Walker

FRIENDS OF DAEDA'S WOOD

The Woodland Trust manager recently visited the wood and has removed some dead branches and most of the collapsed wooden seat on the approach to the wildflower meadow. The meadow will not be cut this year due to financial cutbacks but all the rides are clear and the Wood is generally in good shape. The tree carving exercise seems to have passed, thankfully as bark ringing kills trees. It is seen as misguided rural craft rather than vandalism. Let's hope that the perpetrators now realise the damage to living trees that this can cause.

Perhaps in September we will have a bat evening. The third Sunday at 7.30 pm, weather permitting. If you're interested please contact me and I will contact you nearer the time.

For more information about the Friends of Daeda's Wood, please contact me.

Annette Murphy, chair
murphyannette74@gmail.com

FROM THE FIRE STATION

I will put my hand up for not making last month's deadline, but I have been so busy at work I haven't had the time or energy to sit down at my computer, so am amalgamating results for the last two months.

Generally at Deddington and across Oxfordshire the Fire Service continues to be quiet. Shout-wise we have had ten over the last two months, comprising seven standbys, two road traffic collisions and one fire call-out.

At the two RTCs we played support roles only and the fire proved unfounded. There have been a few incidents we have been unable to attend as crewing levels are difficult since we have only eight firefighters currently on call, making 24/7 cover challenging. However, we have four new recruits going through their applications and initial training, which should swell our numbers during autumn.

FFd James Greenwood
james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk



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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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