

October 2020

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Jane Price

The DEDDINGTON NEWS

We are here! Two consecutive months in real ink on actual paper! By dint of masks, distancing, gloves and sanitising wipes. We can only hope that the rising Covid infection rate does not banish us again to living online only.

There is a single letter this month and it is an unusually long one – longer than we would normally allow. If you read it, you will understand why we have.

CD

WHERE CAN I GET A POPPY THIS YEAR?



The Royal British Legion Deddington Branch will be at the farmers' market on 24 October with poppies and VE Day pins.



There will also be limited collection tins in a few locations in the parish.

Please make use of these opportunities as there will be no house to house collections this year due to COVID restrictions.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The November *DN* will contain details of Remembrance Sunday War Memorial and church services which will depend on Covid restrictions at the time.

Unfortunately, there will not be a Parade this year.

Martin Howard

martin.howard@btinternet.com



Cover. Last month's cheerful scarecrow, which welcomed the *DN* back to the village as a paper magazine after five months online only, garnered a lot of favourable comments from readers.

Jane Price's year long series of allotment photos, recording the growing year from irises to runner beans and cabbages, as well as all manner of sheds, moves to Hempton this month.

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. Disclaimer: The views expressed are not necessarily those of the editors or the committee. Inclusion of an advertisement or insert does not constitute any recommendation or endorsement of the organisations concerned on the part of the Deddington News. The DN takes no responsibility and gives no guarantees, warranties or representations, implied or otherwise, for the content or accuracy of these advertisements.

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held via Skype 16 September 2020

Present: Councillors Cox, Eames, Oldfield, O'Neill, Robinson, Rogers – chair, Snashall, Squires, Swadling, Timms. District Councillor Williams, one member of the public and the parish clerk also attended.

District Council

Cllr Williams indicated that there is a strong likelihood that unitary councils will be discussed again and be taken more seriously. Most councils countrywide are in deficit as a result of higher than anticipated costs resulting from the pandemic. The Review of the Cherwell local plan was passed in spite of lengthy discussion and considerable opposition, in particular from north Oxford.

Finance and General Purposes

The PC website has been reviewed with a view to ensuring its accessibility.

The PC lease with the Windmill is still being awaited from Brethertons and will need to be submitted to the Land Registry. Brethertons will be asked to complete their work and submit it at no extra charge in view of the long delays in its preparation,

A sinking fund for future replacement or refurbishment of playground equipment will be discussed at the next PC meeting.

OCC will replace the bus stop sign at the bus shelter on the east side of Banbury Road which was damaged in a car crash and £6,800 is being claimed from the insurer of the vehicle involved.

There is some difficulty in obtaining funding for electric vehicle charging points for the Windmill with the PC being asked for a VAT number although it is not VAT registered.

The Highways group will discuss a proposal by Deddington Environment Network to install electric car charging points in the Market Place.

Planning

No objection

Victoria House, Horse Fair, Deddington: conversion of attic space with dormer windows and rooflights. Additional windows do not overlook neighbours.

Land to the north of Hempton Road and west of Wimborn Close: outline application for an additional 14 two-storey houses. There was discussion regarding the play area. Requested that there should be appropriate open space within the development area.

14 Flux Drive: single storey lean-to extension to rear. Wynford House, New Street, Deddington: tree works with replacement trees requested.

2 County View, Clifton: first floor extension above garage for storage, requested contractors repair any damage to verges.

Castle Grounds: tree works to manage health of trees affected and health and safety risk. PC to look at options for replacing as many trees as possible in and

around the parish in place of these and trees removed at the Windmill.

Innisfree, St Thomas Street, Deddington: removal of cherry tree. Request applicant replace this with more appropriate tree in suitable location.

Applewood, Castle Street, Deddington: conifer hedge and overhanging beech tree to be trimmed to allow easier access to driveway.

Eaton House, New Street, Deddington: replacement of rotten windows, patio doors and main access door at front and back with flush sash uPVC windows and doors. No objection but defer to conservation officer for their opinion.

Approvals

French's Barn, Clifton Road, Deddington

Middle Yard, The Tchure, Deddington.

Stable Cottage, Hempton Road, Deddington.

69 St John's Way, Hempton.

Withdrawn

Tawny Cottage, High Street, Deddington.

Neighbourhood Plan

A review of every house has almost been completed showing building material.

PC is providing responses to the CDC Local Plan, although this will be irrelevant if changes to local planning rules are implemented. Under the Plan development will be concentrated in Banbury and Bicester to access work and infrastructure.

Environment and Recreation

Hedges at the Windmill, cemetery and Hempton allotments have been cut. Thanks were expressed to Calcutts for allowing access.

The Hatwells fair will be here from 11–15 November, if the current Covid-19 rules still apply. The PC will apply for a road closure.

Planting in the Pocket Park will be done in late September and a picnic table and animal shapeshifter will be installed with the help of several councillors.

The PC agreed to spend £1,000 for a Christmas tree in the Market Place although it is unlikely that carol singing will be possible.

Highways and Transport

As a result of ongoing discussion about LGVs speeding through Hempton the PC will request yellow backgrounds to 30mph signs for the village (although apparently not for Hempton road in Deddington).

A blue 'unsuitable for HGVs' sign is to be suggested at the entrance to Hopcraft Lane.

Any other business

DEN has indicated it is nearly ready to undertake a consultation regarding the proposed community orchard.

Next meeting at 7.30pm on 21 October by 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/uploads/7/2/0/6/72062771/august_2020.pdf

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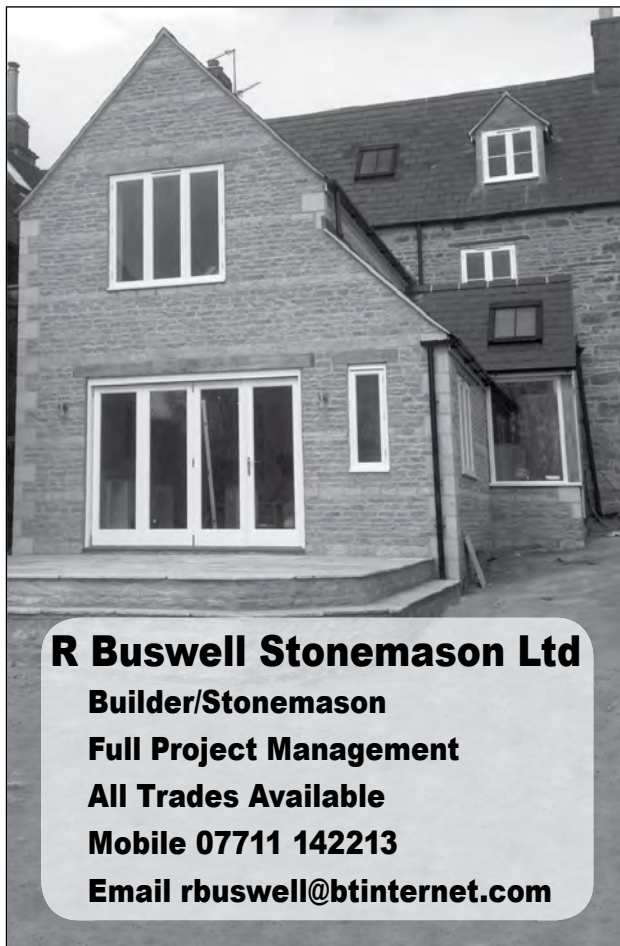
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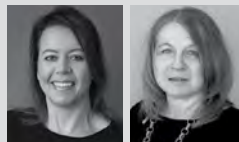
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Dealing with your own affairs and getting them in order can appear daunting. We're here to make life easier. Do pick up the phone or email us and we would be happy to have a free, no-obligation initial chat with you. We can meet on video call or in person when safe to do so.



Anna Burnside PARTNER
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POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

My life is a series of online meetings, but I never know whether to switch on the video or not. I keep a 'dress shirt', as the Yanks call them, hanging on my office door just in case I need to dress up rapidly for a client. And there is one very English thing that I delight in almost every day—I start most calls by talking about the weather.

In Colorado earlier this month the temperature fell by 30C in 24 hours. Then 48 hours later we were back to blue skies and 20C degrees. It is bizarre but we love it. Then the smoke rolled in from a huge fire 50 miles north of us and also from California, 1,100 miles to the west. The air quality in Eugene, Oregon, where one of my colleagues lives is the worst in the world right now. He hasn't gone outside for two weeks but he was very grateful that his President finally turned up and told them all it was only a problem with brushing up the dead leaves and they shouldn't worry about the climate: 'Believe me, it's going to get colder.'

Trump, of course, knows best about everything. On a Q&A session on networked TV last week he spent 30 minutes simply making it all up. There were five downright lies that you could check out in two minutes online and another 15 statements that many outlets described as wildly inaccurate. His favoured station, Fox, said afterwards that he had been 'ambushed'. If they mean that a professional reporter asked him hard questions, yes indeed, that is true. The following day he called his diseases expert 'confused' because he had said masks were the most important way of containing Covid.

English friends ask me what is going to happen in the election on 3 November. With my track record I avoid the crucial question of whether the largest democracy in the world will choose a man who has made false or misleading statements 20,000 times in the last four years over sleepy Joe. If you are not aware, Biden is 77. This is the best they could find?

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Jonathan says thank you to those who volunteered for the local speed watch. Unfortunately everything is on hold due to Covid-19. We need to keep on top of this with the police, so please contact Jonathan on Wattsfamily1997@gmail.com for information on how to send them your emails.

Stuart from St John's Way has very kindly offered to take over doing the reporting for the *Deddington News*, so a big thank you to Stuart.

I will be doing the last report next month and then you'll need to email Stuart on sj_oldham@btinternet.com.

If you have anything you want to put in the Hempton report, please let me, and subsequently, Stuart know by the 10th of each month. Thank you.

Ingrid Robey 07973 632448
Ingoflamingo16@yahoo.co.uk

An amazing lady, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, has just died. She was a Supreme Court judge and so we will again go into the appalling pantomime that is the public selection process. Effectively, the President chooses the replacement for the Congress to confirm and thus the judiciary is not independent of the politicians. Naively I always thought that the highest court in the land should judge on the law but, no, the US Supreme Court is divided on party lines.

This issue is significant now because perhaps ten percent of the population will vote for Trump to ensure that the Supreme Court stays Republican and thus that one law in particular is reversed making abortion illegal. But the election probably hangs on the people who hate Trump and all he stands for, and say, today, that they won't vote for him. When the time comes, however, many of them will not be able to make themselves vote for a 'socialist' agenda. There is very little I would call by that name in the current Biden plan but bear in mind that the billionaires in America have increased their wealth by a third during the pandemic. Turkeys don't vote for Christmas.

Let's face it, if Trump wins I will be seeing you soon in the Deddy Arms. I'll be the idiot in the corner in a Kamala Harris t-shirt, crying into my lovely warm English beer.

Mike Ward

mikew@qsoftware.com

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WELL REMEMBERED

Jennifer Rose Timms 1947–2020

Jennifer was born in Deddington in 1947, daughter of Mabel and George (Togo) Godfrey, and had one sister, Helen (Bolton). Her very happy childhood was spent at The Paddocks with her many friends. She liked to spend time with her grandmother, Mrs Gilkes, and other relatives – the Doggetts and the Golders. She enjoyed regular visits to Clifton to see Granny Godfrey, Aunt Sarah and Uncle Jimmy Dewhurst.

Jenny attended Deddington Primary School, later the Windmill, and then Banbury Technical College. After leaving school she worked at the Co-op for several years, largely in Deddington but sometimes in other branches such as Banbury, Adderbury and Bodicote. Later she became a very popular dinner lady at the Primary School, which she loved.

She met Terry Timms from Adderbury whilst he was working at Castle Farm and, after they married in 1967, they lived at Field Barn, in one of the farm cottages.

During this time their two sons, Jason and then Garry, were born. They moved to Earls Lane where they had a huge garden and became avid gardeners, although Jenny's role was largely supervisory. They then bought their house in Windmill Street where Jenny contentedly created a loving family home. She really loved her life as wife and mother and felt little desire to leave her beloved village.

Jenny and Terry were very sociable in their early

years together and loved dances and bingo at the Legion. They were members of the Windmill Youth Club and enjoyed many outings with the Young Farmers Club of which Terry was a member, often travelling to Birmingham for ice skating and ten pin bowling. Jenny later joined the Deddington Ladies, again having good times with them on many of their outings and social events. They were regular revellers in the Market Place seeing in the New Year and could often be spotted in the Unicorn, enjoying a drink and a catch up with other locals.

Jenny was a skilled and prolific knitter, providing the family with an endless supply of cosy sweaters and was particularly fond of knitting baby clothes. Sadly some 12 years ago she was diagnosed with the illness which she bore with great fortitude and courage, retiring somewhat to the safety and comfort of her own home, apart from the endless trips on the well-trod road to the Churchill at Oxford. During this time Jenny and Terry were able to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary, an occasion Jenny always looked back on fondly and for which she was very grateful she had been able to enjoy.

Jenny will be sadly missed by many who are left with great memories to treasure and lasting love for a wonderful wife, mother, sister and friend.

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CHURCH

Saints Peter and Paul

Services are taking place in Deddington church with a reduced capacity due to Covid-19 restrictions. Current hygiene and social distancing guidelines are being followed. Services will continue to be streamed live. Regretfully the lavatories will remain closed until further notice.

The church will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9.15am–5.00pm, Wednesday from 10.45am–5.00pm and Sunday from 11.45am–5.00pm. All are welcome to come in to pray, to simply sit and be, or to explore this wonderful building.

9–15 October is Baby Loss Awareness Week which will be observed in Deddington church. For more details please see the church noticeboard.

For pastoral care, funerals and prayer requests please contact the Vicar, Reverend Annie Goldthorp at vicar@deddingtonchurch.org or on 01869 336880. If the vicar is unavailable, then please contact one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie 01869 338367 or Meriel Flux 01869 338901.

October Services

Mon-Fri	8.45am	Morning Prayer
Wed	10.00am	Holy Communion
Sun 4	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 11	9.00am	BCP Communion
	10.30am	Holy Communion and Harvest Celebration followed by APCM
Sun 18	10.30am	Holy Communion – Celebration of St Luke
Sun 25	10.30am	Holy Communion

From the Parish Register

Funerals

14 August	David Hunsley
19 August	Robert Golder
4 September	Margaret White
10 September	Debbie Spengler

RC Parish of Hethe

St John's Church in Banbury will be streaming Mass daily at 9.30am, Mondays to Fridays; at 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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DOWN ON GEORGE'S FARM

All is safely gathered in. The 2020 harvest came to an end during the first days of September, not a harvest to write home about but nevertheless we gathered a crop, much of it on its way to a boat to feed other parts of the world.

The work to get next year's crop in the ground is well under way. With oil seed rape now out of the rotation, due to the fact that the environmentalist lobby has persuaded the government to ban the use of all effective crop treatment products, making it a difficult crop to grow in this neck of the woods, it will be a straight split between autumn and spring-planted cereal crops with as little input as possible, so sorry for the rather ripe countryside smells (chicken manure) but it is making use of a natural product, instead of drenching the land with expensive chemical fertiliser.

There will be a marked effect on the bees and other pollinating insects on the farm with no nectar producing crops grown as oilseed rape is eliminated from the rotation.

The sheep have had a good season and we have managed to send to market a number of fat lambs with the remainder going off the farm by the new year, to allow the dust to settle out from the machinations of a 'no deal' exit from the EU. When I came to the parish some 45 years ago every farm was a mixed farm with livestock, cattle and sheep, and some arable. Today there are no resident cattle herds and we have the only



sheep flocks. Just how long the delightful rites of the spring lambing season and the pleasures of seeing lambs playing in the river valley will last, is questionable. If the anti-meat lobby gets its way, the ewe flock will be in the pet food can and the wildflower meadows under the plough. After all, even the green lobby needs to eat.

Winter visitors are starting to arrive as I sit and bash this out, the trees are still full of leaf and we have a good crop of

hedgerow fruits. It will soon be time to take a tour of the hedge lines and dig up a number of self-set oak and ash trees. These will be grown on in large pots and then planted out in the hedgerows inside protective tubes to keep the deer, rabbits and brown hare at bay. These are natural predators which we have to contend with every year, unlike the political buffoons with their own agendas to appease the USA.

Still, in this hungry world we can always import our food needs, or can we? I do not often go into a supermarket, or any other shop for that matter, but just compare the thinly stocked shelves with five years ago and take a look at where it was produced. Ho well, I am going back to the honey room to prepare honey for the next market. At least I can guarantee that it is home produced and not a blend of non-European honeys – take a look at the label.

George Fenemore
01869 338203

It almost looks as though things are back to normal at the Windmill but appearances can be deceptive. Cricket matches with no cricket teas; football games with no changing room banter; and many of our regular hirers

– Zumba, Pilates, yoga etc – wandering around the building in masks furiously cleaning door handles and light switches with Cillit Bang spray. Still, it's better than lockdown and we are grateful to all our users who are following our Covid-19 guidelines and keeping the facilities safe for each other.

On many occasions I've cycled up to the Windmill and the place is absolutely chocka which is wonderful. However, it can sometimes lead to parking issues which brings me to my first plea. If you live in the village, do you really need to drive to the Windmill? Secondly, a few people have started leaving their vehicles in the Windmill car park overnight. Please don't. The Windmill is private property and not overspill parking for the village. My final plea is to dog-owners



and you know what it's about. My lad plays football for the U14s and we haven't been able to start a match yet this season without picking up two or three 'deposits' from the pitch. Ugh! Disgusting!

To end on a more positive

note, I'd like to congratulate local lad, Alfie Barbeary, England U20 Rugby, who, along with local equestrian star, Millie Scott, opened the new Windmill adventure playground for us last July. Alfie made his full debut for Wasps versus Leicester Tigers recently and scored a hat trick – only the second player in the history of the Premiership to do so. And to think that he threw his first rugby ball on the Windmill playing fields – I'm not sure if that last bit is true, but we're claiming it.

As always, for further information and updates on what is or isn't going on at the Windmill, please check our website at www.thewindmilledddington.org or look us up on Facebook. Stay well everyone.

Vaughan Jones
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DID THE ATOMIC BOMBING OF JAPAN CAUSE IT TO SURRENDER? A REPLY

I was interested to read the piece by Rob Forsyth regarding the dropping of nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki (*DN*, September 2020). As a former captain of a nuclear armed submarine, his views command particular respect and are widely shared.

In support of his contention that the bombing was unnecessary and did not contribute to Japan's capitulation, he cites three sources:

In volume VI of his *The Second World War* 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.' This was undoubtedly true, but it has no bearing on the nature and timing of the Japanese surrender. Was the Japanese government willing to surrender unconditionally, as the Americans demanded, or were they prepared to fight to the bitter end?

Admiral Leahy stated that '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.' This opinion does not throw much light on the question of an actual surrender.

J K Galbraith stated: 'The bombs fell after the decision had been taken by the Japanese government to surrender.' However, this statement is not supported by the facts.

The bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on 6 and 9 August 1945 respectively. It appears that Emperor Hirohito was much impressed by their almost unimaginable power and he questioned his military advisers closely on their impact. At an Imperial Conference held late in the evening of 9 August following the Nagasaki bombing, prime minister Suzuki requested the Emperor to make a final decision regarding a Japanese surrender. The Emperor reluctantly confirmed that he was in favour.

Plots and intrigue were swirling around Tokyo at this time. Most members of the Cabinet were in favour of a surrender of some sort, but many in the military High Command were implacably opposed. Though they knew the war was lost, they were in favour of a fight to the finish, regardless of the cost to the Japanese population.

Following a meeting of the Supreme War Council and the Japanese Cabinet on 13 August, Admiral Togo reported to the Emperor that the 'peace' and 'war' parties were deadlocked. It was incumbent upon the Emperor to make an irrevocable and public announcement imposing a surrender on the Imperial forces. The Emperor still hedged and hesitated, clearly fearing that the stigma of surrender would cling solely to the Royal House. However, early on the morning of 15 August a previously recorded statement by the Emperor was relayed on Japanese radio, confirming that Japan would accept an unconditional surrender to the Americans of all Japan's Imperial forces. This was the first time that the mass of the Japanese people

had heard the Emperor's voice. In a convoluted monologue, full of self-justification, the Emperor stated that Japan would surrender.

This decision was still bitterly opposed by many of the senior military commanders, who were unwilling to accept the ignominy of a surrender. Nonetheless, perhaps surprisingly, most accepted the Emperor's decision and there was little opposition. Most of the fanatical leaders of the 'war' party subsequently committed suicide.

The precise terms of the surrender were still not settled, particularly regarding the future of the Emperor and the Royal Family; but it was finally accepted that American control over all aspects of Japanese life would, in the immediate future, be absolute.

The surrender document was signed by representatives of the Japanese and American governments aboard the *USS Missouri* on 2 September 1945, bringing the Second World War officially to a close.

President Truman was well aware of the moral dilemma concerning the use of nuclear weapons. It is likely that at least three factors influenced his decision to authorise the dropping of the bombs.

Firstly, although the Russians had been actively involved in the fight against Japan for only a few days, Stalin insisted that control of the conquered country should be shared between American and Russian authorities. The Americans angrily rejected this demand. Nonetheless, Truman and his advisers were fearful that a sudden surprise attack by the Russians might lead to the capture of Tokyo, resulting in a situation similar to that pertaining in Berlin. America could not accept such an extension of Soviet control.

Secondly, the extreme brutality of the Japanese subjugation and enslavement of large populations in Manchuria, China, Korea, Burma and elsewhere was well documented. It is difficult now for us to comprehend the excessive cruelty and degradation visited upon these unfortunate people by Japanese troops. Many millions had already died and certainly, if the war was not ended soon, millions more would perish.

Thirdly, most people in the Western world were thoroughly fed up with the war and wanted it ended quickly, by whatever means necessary and whatever the cost to the enemy. Such public pressure, combined with the opportunity to spare the lives of many military personnel, must have counted for much in the mind of a democratically elected leader.

The debate about the rights and wrongs of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki has raged for many years and will no doubt continue for years to come. It is something of a paradox, however, that the passage of time, rather than moderating public opinion on the decision, has instead polarised it.

The life-and-death decisions facing leaders in major conflicts are usually bitter and unpalatable. We should hesitate to pass judgement.

Philip Allan philip@philipallan.net

WELL REMEMBERED

Sylvie Nickels 1930–2020

Sylvie lived life to the full. What follows can only be a flavour of a remarkable life that spanned almost 90 years. I'm ably assisted in this by Sylvie herself who wrote a memoir of her life and that of her late husband, George Spenceley.

Sylvie and George moved to Deddington in 1992 and Sylvie soon became involved in village life. She edited the *Deddington News* from 1994 to 1997 and was the driving force behind the establishment of Daeda's Wood. In 1996 she was contacted by the Woodland Trust which wanted to create a woodland near Deddington, as part of their Woods on your Doorstep project for the millennium. Daeda's Wood was the first to be created. Sylvie organised public meetings and with other enthusiasts raised the £9,000 needed to buy the land. A community planting day led to the planting of 3,500 trees and a grant from Oxfordshire Rural Community Council enabled planting of more trees and wildflowers. Sylvie chaired the Friends of Daeda's Wood until 2007.

Sylvie's life revolved around writing and travelling: 'My Swiss mother and British father met on a ship travelling to New Zealand so my profound interest in travel was probably predestined. Indeed, we spent all our school summer holidays in Switzerland until WWII began. It was during the war that I began writing – nearly eighty years ago. My Swiss grandfather wrote books and poetry so perhaps my writing was predestined too.'

Sylvie's career was spent as a travel writer for national newspapers, magazines and guidebooks. One speciality was the former Yugoslavia, another was Finland. In 1955 a short assignment in Finland 'marked a turning point in my life'. She continued to visit the country throughout the 1960s. She fell in love with Lapland and in her late twenties spent almost a year in that remote place. In 1961 Sylvie visited what was then Yugoslavia, a country she returned to over a period of 40 years. She made many friends in both countries.

The 1960s also saw some life changes for Sylvie. In 1960 she met George Spenceley, photographer and lecturer, after he wrote to her asking for advice on Lapland as he was preparing a lecture on northern Scandinavia. They married in 1977. Never one to shy away from the truth, Sylvie acknowledged her growing dependence on alcohol that insidiously crept up on her. She won the battle for sobriety and went on to support and mentor others.

A few years after they were married George, always the adventurer, proposed a long canoe trip, the length of the Danube. At 2,588km it passes through seven countries. George calculated that they could cover 25km a day, camping wild along the route. Another mammoth canoeing trip followed. This time George chose the Mississippi – over 4,000km and passing through or alongside ten states. It took two years just

to organise and during the planning period Sylvie experienced a return of the depression that would affect her on and off for the rest of her life.

In 1984 they set out on their Mississippi journey in an 18ft open canoe. It took them four months. Paddling through the headwaters of the river they had to negotiate several beaver dams but this was as nothing compared to the river traffic and locks they encountered further down. They attained celebrity status during the trip and when they neared the end of their epic journey in Louisiana they were greeted with 'a voice, god-like, from the sky: "Are y'all the British guys we've bin waitin' for? We bid y'all welcome"'. Sylvie's 1992 book, *The Big Muddy*, tells the story of their journey. More travelling followed, their swansong being a world tour to celebrate Sylvie's 70th and George's 80th birthdays and the start of a new millennium.

After that tour and a visit to Bosnia and Serbia in 2001 Sylvie began her first novel, using the conflict of the former Yugoslavia as a backdrop. She self-published *Another Kind of Loving* and went on to write two more novels continuing the story of Jasminka, a Bosnian refugee fostered by a British couple. More self-published books followed including *So, What Next?* a memoir of her and George's lives.

Sylvie maintained links with her family in Australia after her sister, Sinette, and brother-in-law, Len, moved there in the early 1990s to be closer to their children, Nick and Claire. Sinette died in 2011 and Sylvie lost her 'great mate' George in 2013. Sylvie travelled to Australia to celebrate her 85th birthday with Nick and Claire and she was planning to go there to celebrate her 90th. It may have been premonition that led her to bring forward the visit to 2019.

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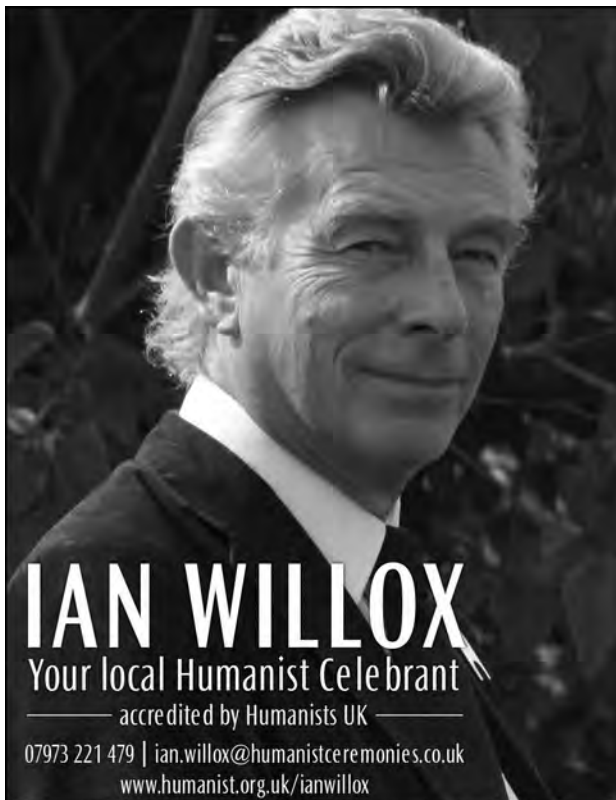
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BLISSFUL THINKING

We've heard a lot of slogans in recent years, particularly popular in three word format, like the concluding line of a haiku. As an ultra-contemporary interpretation, we might say that slogans are 'non-visual memes', with a duty to convey far more information and insinuation than their truncated character count would normally be expected to imbue. Classics of the genre tend to be memorable and concise, while expressing potentially a multitude of associations. In advertising, we all know what does what it says on the tin, what makes you worth it and what inevitably follows having a break, but what about public information slogans? 'Keep Calm and Carry On' has become near-mythical in its cherished national status but some other classics include: 'Careless Talk Costs Lives', 'Coughs and Sneezes Spread Diseases' and the drive for seatbelt awareness: 'Clunk-Click'. Political campaign taglines are generally cringeworthy, but sometimes can be hilariously effective. In 1964 for instance, US Republican Presidential hopeful Barry Goldwater's 'In Your Heart, You Know He's Right' was subverted with a superbly juvenile (and successful) riposte from the Democratic Party machine of 'In Your Guts, You Know He's Nuts'. In preparation for the next wave of slogans to get us all in order, I suggest three-word slogans on the Deddington boundary signs to let people know what they're in for while inside our borders (other than the immortal 'Please Die Carefully'). In honour of our legendary taverns, and using only letters within the name itself,

I proclaim that all signs now read 'Deddington – 3D Gin Tone'.

Aaron Bliss aaronjbloss@hotmail.com

FROM THE FIRE STATION

Exceptionally quiet is the best way to describe this last month, with only four shouts at the station, the first not arriving until the 17th. There was one standby, one fire stand-down and one RTC stand-down – turned around before we arrived at the incident as no longer required and one support role at an RTC, resulting unfortunately in a fatality.

We are busy cleaning as Covid precautions have meant that all equipment, especially breathing apparatus, requires double cleaning and all surfaces and equipment need wiping down. Training has found us concentrating on ladders, pumping and RTC casualty extraction techniques.

Andy Hayward has passed the first stage of his ICS exam and Ben Fenemore is now partway through his basic firefighter training and will have passed by the time this goes to print.

Crewing numbers are still lower than we would like so look out for the recruitment posters and the truck which will be trying to tempt all those who read this. If you fancy finding out more, come up to the fire station on a Tuesday between 7.00–9.00.

James Greenwood FFD,
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WINE TIME

Looking for something a little different in both white and red wine? Have you tried Austrian wines yet? Yes, many years ago there was a small scandal but that is very much in the past and don't let that put you off. Most bottles have the distinctive red and white striped caps, making them easy to identify. Unfortunately for us, like the Germans, the Austrians have a habit of keeping a lot of their best wines in their own country and drinking them. So, if you find yourself in Austria the quality and range will be significantly beyond what you get here.

Whites are more easily found in the UK and are dominated by Gruner Veltliner, which is Austria's signature white grape which is also grown successfully in Hungary and the Czech Republic. It delivers a complex range of flavours – black/white pepper, green beans, citrus, and spices – and can be very good indeed, so a must for lovers of crisp, dry whites looking for new wine experiences. Riesling production is small but often excellent, providing a slightly different style from German Rieslings. You may also see Welschriesling, a white grape variety not related to Riesling at all and which doesn't taste like it. It produces decent, drinkable, if often uninteresting, light dry whites and can make very good sweet wines. It's also used in Austrian Sekt (fizzy wine). Other varieties such as Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Weissburgunder (Pinot Blanc) are used but not in great volume but if you see them on sale, still worth a try.

The success of Austrian whites and their dominance in volume has meant that the very clean, smooth and easy drinking reds are frequently overlooked. The star of the show is Blaufrankisch. It's a grape variety that does particularly well in the Burgenland region in the south east of the country, producing fruity reds (blueberries, cherries and redcurrants). More frequently available in the UK is Zweigelt; these young, fresh, fruity wines with their cherry, spice, and pepper hint are often wonderful. St Laurent is another Austrian grape variety which produces fruity and very gluggable wines but sadly you don't see it for sale in many places in the UK. Zweigelt is, in fact, a cross between St Laurent and Blaufrankisch and was created in 1922 by a Dr Zweigelt.

Where to find them? Sometimes you see Austrian wines in the larger discount stores such as Lidl and Aldi which have bought pallets of them. If so, pick up a couple of bottles and you might be pleasantly surprised. Majestic stocks a few Gruner Veltliners, all at sensible prices (around £10-£15) and of reasonable quality. Waitrose has three Gruner Veltliners – try the Waitrose Blueprint (their own brand) at £7.99. Slurp in Banbury sells both some Gruner Veltliners (try the Allam Gruner Strass 2018 at £13.95) and a couple of top-end (but rather pricey) Rieslings. Sainsbury's has a Taste the Difference version of Gruner Veltliner at £9.00 which is worth it. The Wine Society carries a small range of both whites and, more interestingly,

reds. For the reds, and if you want to try Blaufrankisch, their own brand Society's Blaufrankisch is under £10. They also sell a number of Zweigelts and one St Laurent. Their Familie Mantler Zweigelt (£8.95) is good value for money.

Charles Elvin

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We would like to thank everyone who entered the Deddington Library calendar photo competition this year. Two hundred and fifty images were received, the most we've ever had and also the best year for quality and originality. After much deliberation we reduced the entries to an initial edit of 50, then a shortlist of 25 images. The committee then had a 'blind' vote with the entrants' names not revealed or fellow committee members' votes disclosed until the final tally.

The 12 winning entrants, who receive a complimentary calendar, are, in alphabetical order; Angela Conlan, Simon East, Nick Hardwick, Sheila Heywood, Mike Higgins, Alex Jeyes, Kevin Mayo, David Mott, Jacek Ratajczak, Helen Spencer, Lucy Squires and Will Taylor-Walsh. The top three, who each receive a canvas of their entry, are, in third place Simon East, second Helen Spencer and the overall winner was David Mott.

The calendar will be available at September's farmers' market and each subsequent one up to Christmas. All the money raised goes towards keeping our library open. We'd like to congratulate all our winners and thank everyone who entered and, of course, our loyal sponsors who continue to support our efforts each year.

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LETTERS

FROM STELLA O'NEILL,
DEDDINGTON

As you may know, I've had a difficult year with recurring illness and, while things are going well now, I'm still not 'fit for purpose'. I feel the time has come to hand over to someone better able to take our lovely library on its forward journey.

Therefore I have decided to retire as Library Manager, at the end of September.

I've been visiting Deddington library since I was three or four years old. The librarians then, Mrs Foreman and Mrs Phillips, terrified me, standing sentry behind huge, leather-topped, dark wooden desks on either side of the door. They were traditional twinset and pearls ladies, very strict, and had obviously been on the 'finger-wagging and shushing' course – they did it so very well.

I'm pleased to say, of all the courses OCC sent me on in nearly 14 years, finger wagging and shushing was never one of them. I'm afraid I made more noise than the children at times but you can't keep a good sense of humour down, even in a library. I always sought a happy atmosphere where children and adults alike would feel welcome and enjoy visiting. This may have grated on those who wanted a bit of peace while they chose their books but, hopefully, there was a reasonable balance and, if not, forgive me.

As a child I recall being fascinated with the old fashioned 'clicky thumpy' date stamper, how the date appeared as the wheels turned. It seemed like magic to a child. So much so that, at some point, perhaps while playing libraries with my sister, I decided, if ever I were to work in the village, the library would be the best place. Imagine my disappointment on my first day, realising they no longer used 'clicky thumpy' date stampers but electronic stamps that just made a 'bleep' noise and were not clever at all.

I told this to Patsy, my area manager at the time, joking that if I'd known there was no 'clicky thumpy' date stamper I wouldn't have taken the job. Patsy was amused and in my first delivery the very next week she sent me a proper old fashioned 'clicky thumpy' stamp, with a note hoping I was happy now and would I please stay. While I couldn't use it with the electronic system on books, it did date stamp many a DVD and audio book until it ran out of years in 2012 and couldn't be replaced. (I still have it but don't tell OCC.)

I've loved my time at the library. When I first started, having come from a rather pressured full-time senior position in HR and payroll for a nationwide company, it was a breath of fresh air. I absolutely loved it and would smile when I got my payslip, not because it was so much money (this is OCC after all), but because I was amazed I got paid for enjoying myself so much.

Actually, I nearly didn't get the job at all. A panel of three interviewers put questions to me. One, a manager from County library, would ask a question and



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then just stare at me (Paddington stares had nothing on Elaine) which was very unnerving, so I found myself waffling a bit (what's new for me?) to fill the void since she gave no feedback or prompts to answers, unlike the other panel members. Unsurprisingly, I later found out she didn't support my application, saying I was too

verbose. She wasn't wrong of course, but I'd like to think I've been pretty good at my job and provided the service required of me over the years, as well as being verbose.

As my tenure comes to a close, I thank you all for your kindness towards me; your support; your patience when I've spent far too long learning new systems or their just not working as they should; and of course, your continued borrowing. It's you who keep the library relevant in the community by borrowing books and using the resources we have available. Without your continued support, the library would be gone forever from our parish.

While I'm stepping down from my role as manager, I shall still be involved with the Friends fundraising activities. We must work harder than ever to support the library and, while I'm no longer running it, I'm no less passionate about its survival in our community.

I'd like to thank the Friends group which has been hugely supportive over the years. I'm very grateful. And special thanks to our staunch volunteers. You have been amazing; please keep being amazing for the new manager. I can't thank you enough for your help and support, your humour and hard work and the way in which you interpret the millions of ways I can ask for a cup of tea, without actually saying it. You may be surprised to know I've not drunk tea for well over a year now. (With my heart banging away at 140 beats per minute, while heavily medicated to slow it down, who needed caffeine?). Thank you from the bottom of my, now, normally beating heart.

Deddington is a wonderful village, a great community and a place I've been proud to call home my entire life. Managing Deddington Library has been my privilege. Thank you for allowing me to enjoy such a marvellous and personally enriching role within our community.

PFSU AND VILLAGE NURSERY

The settings reopened fully at the beginning of September, and our new children have settled in quickly. We have been gradually introducing the children to their new routines and activities and have been spending lots of time outdoors enjoying the lovely weather. We appreciate everyone's understanding that some things are a little different this term. Please ask us if there is anything that is still unclear. Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 6 October at 8.00pm via Zoom – an invitation will be sent to all our families.

Lucy Squires 01869 337484

JUST THE TICKET

Good news about the S4 service – there are now two extra late buses each way and buses to the John Radcliffe.

The S4 returned to an hourly service at the beginning of August and since 1 September Stagecoach has introduced an improved evening service Monday to Saturday. The last bus from Oxford now leaves at 11.15pm (two hours later than the previous last bus) and the last bus from Banbury leaves at 9.45pm (at least two and a half hours later than previously).

Years ago the parish council carried out a travel survey in Deddington and a good number of people wanted late buses, particularly from Oxford, to go to evening concerts and theatre in the city and be able to get home. Now they could – if it weren't for Covid.

The other change means that there are now buses direct to the JR hospital, not necessarily at convenient times for patients, but hopefully useful for hospital workers. Stagecoach has replaced the X4 express buses with two new H4 express buses between Banbury and the JR on weekdays only. The H4 leaves the Market Place at 7.40am and 3.43pm and takes less than an hour. The buses to Deddington from the JR leave at 8.45am and 4.40pm.

The S4 timetable has been changed throughout the day as well, so most of the buses run a few minutes earlier each way than previously – nicely timed for people to miss them, especially as new timetables have not yet been posted at the bus stops. The parish council is asking Stagecoach to remedy this as soon as possible but in the meantime you can see the complete timetable on the Stagecoach website at <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/routes/oxfordshire/s4/oxford-banbury/xoas004.o>.

It's an odd moment to be bumping up the bus service, but welcome all the same.

Helen Oldfield

helenmoldfield@yahoo.co.uk

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

The Book Club membership committee has been working overtime this summer as they welcome its newest member who brings in depth knowledge of the media industry, Switzerland, France and his home country of Scotland.

Noise pollution has been a topic of conversation as neighbours have been disturbed in their late-night relaxation. The cause is a cadre of our local 'yoof' developing their skills 'shooting hoops' at all hours and the host mum calling out strong words of encouragement for them to 'come back tomorrow'. As the discussion progressed however it was realised the equipment that was donated for this sporting endeavour was recycled from the very part of Lower Larkrise that was in the van complaining. Since then attitudes have mellowed and the joy of young people playing sport has won through.

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Old people playing sport, however, has meant that Cllr Collins has announced his retirement from wicket keeping due to health grounds. He's sick of his knees not working the next day and his lacklustre performance in his past showing This means of course one fewer Lower Larkrise 'blue' for Candleford with Luca Catania being our last when he turns out for Deddington FC. He will be available for selection for his batting prowess however – unlikely though that might be.

Those of us close to retirement may remember the TV DJ Max Headroom. He's 'retired' now but I think the Duck might have a job for him where he can warn campers that their vehicles will have a limit as to how much stuff you can have on your camper van before you drive under the arch to the campsite. It amused neighbours who can't get out so much these days – so there is always a bright spot. Another bright spot on the Duck's horizon is its return to food service for the beginning of October. A taster session is planned before this organ goes to print but many of us are very much looking forward to being able to give the dishwasher the night off.

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

Martin Bryce

martindnbryce@gmail.com



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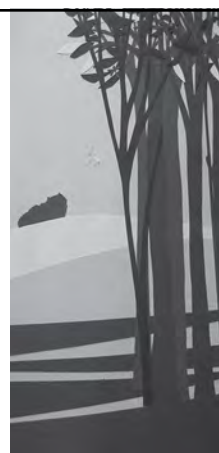
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Photographic Society

Feel the Land: Photography and Emotion, by Astrid McGechan, LRPS was our September presentation by a photographer who started off sorting her own wedding photographs and graduated to creating artistic, emotion laden images using her mobile phone before moving on to an Olympus camera. Her philosophy is to give the viewer an opportunity to ask questions about what is happening in the image. Whilst the work she displayed was a mixture of street, landscapes and people, Astrid is not afraid to push the boundaries and go against recognised techniques. By chance, she took a photograph of a decaying boat that was over exposed and, liking the result, she went on to create a series of faded images.

Another idea that impressed was her work using reflections in glass and water. She created a colourful image of the windows of Coventry cathedral using reflections, giving an abstract impression of the building. Throughout her work Astrid has been adventurous, trying different techniques either in post-production or on the camera. Adding texture or an overlay to an image can change the feeling for a viewer making it moodier or adding warmth and calm. Astrid has also experimented with camera movement to capture waves and sand to great effect. She loves skies, especially clouds and sunsets, feeling that they can portray a range of emotions from funny to moody. Her message is there are no right or wrong ideas and one should have fun and experiment.

I would recommend visiting www.astridmcgechan.com to view her work. For those inspired, www.lightandland.co.uk organises workshops in the UK and Europe. Astrid generously donated one of her prints that was raffled; the winner was Colin Lamb.

Our next presentation, by Scott Hurd, is about Namibia and wildlife on 7 October at 7.30pm. We are still meeting on Zoom. Please check the website for details if you wish to join us.

Anne Hunsley
www.addphoto.co.uk

Bookworms

We managed to meet 'in person' for the first time in months in August (outdoors, socially distanced) but due to the rule of six we are now back to our Zoom meetings. We meet on the third Thursday of each month and will review our next book on 15 October.

Our most recent book was *Little Black Lies* by Sharon Bolton. It's a thriller set in the Falklands over a period of less than a week. Told through the eyes of three people, it provides the reader with different perspectives on the search for missing children and the impact on the individual protagonists.

We found it to be a multi-layered suspenseful page-turner with twists and turns throughout. The reader learns more and more about each of the three main characters as the story progresses. Ms Bolton's

character development is masterful – gradually we get to understand the series of present events through their eyes and emotions in relation to their past experiences. It kept us guessing right until the end and the final twist was a shock to everyone. This book is a unanimous recommend.

Our book next month is *The Wonder* by Emma Donahue.

Bookworms, Deddington Library

Deddington Players

With great regret we have decided to postpone our pantomime, *Peter Pan*, to January 2022. We explored lots of options for putting on the show safely and weren't able to find a way that would make the show as enjoyable as it could (and should) be. We hope we'll be in a good position to truly shout 'it's behind you' when we finally climb back onto the stage.

We are currently discussing whether we might perform something outdoors around Christmas time with all safety considerations in place. Hopefully, if 2021 treats everyone a little more kindly than 2020 has, you'll see us put on a show during the year too. We can only wait and see. Please watch this space.

In the meantime, a reminder that we have some lockdown songs to enjoy online: search Deddington Players on YouTube or visit our Facebook page and get ready to sing along.

Suzie Upson

Book Group

Our latest book choice was *Gilead* by American writer Marilynne Robinson. It received glowing reviews on publication and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 2004.

The novel is set in the fictional town of Gilead, a backwater in 1950s Iowa. John Ames is a preacher, now in his seventies but with a much younger wife and a young son, and is dying from heart disease. In order to leave his son with greater knowledge of his father, he writes an account of his life in the form of a long letter. As well as covering the events and hardships of his own life, there are stories about his father and grandfather, both preachers, and his thoughts on questions of faith.

Most of us struggled with the first half of the book and some decided not to continue with it. There are some evocative descriptions and interesting philosophical observations but the narrative is without chapters, slow and meandering. The pace picks up in the second half and the story becomes more compelling. As well as insights into aspects of American history and the rigours of life in the Midwest, it includes an ultimately moving account of John's inner conflict regarding the actions of a family friend.

Our next book is *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce.

Sian Waterman

SPORT

Deddington Cricket Club

This has probably been the strangest season any of us have known when the ball, and even the hallowed cricket tea, were invoked as possible major vectors of disease transmission.

We got underway with matches in mid-July, having missed ten weeks of a regular season. Our League hastily arranged a shortened set of seven games with rearranged divisions into which we entered just one team. While not quite the 'bio bubble' requirements of the international games, we have still had to adapt to some new regulations, such as using hand sanitiser every six overs and bringing our own refreshments. Surprisingly, we ended up playing teams higher up the League ladder than we are used to and while we put on some strong team and individual displays against the likes of Freeland, Kidlington and Witney, we came up short.

We organised some friendly matches against local teams so that all available players had some game-time and in these we were more successful, with two wins from two, with two more to play at the time of writing. We have been fortunate to have fine weather extending into September and, unusually, the adult football team have had no Saturday home fixtures, so we arranged matches right through the month. Thanks to DTFC for accommodating us.

Despite the uncertainty and delay we have welcomed some new players to the Deddington fold. Will Gilbert has become a regular despite, or because of, the birth of his second child; Paul Lazenbury, who moved into the village just before lockdown, has also bolstered our side considerably and, not quite a newcomer, 14 year-old Elliot Barton has developed into a fine prospect with bat and ball. We are saying goodbye to Dan Court at the end of the season. He has been a wholehearted player and supporter for the last two summers but he and his wife are moving to Evesham. We wish them the very best.

It has been good to see so many people attending our nets sessions and others in the village using them through the summer. They will be up until the end of September.

Our attention now moves to next year and, we hope, a return to something like normality. We would still like to hear from anyone interested in becoming an umpire for the club. For anyone who likes their cricket, visiting some lovely grounds around the county, has time available in their Saturday afternoons in the summer and is interested in earning £40 a time for their troubles, please contact either Joe Roberts on 07720 089804, or me for details.

Simon Oldfield 07771 997358

Deddington Original Golf Society – DOGS

DOGS only day out this year went ahead on Friday 28 August at the Cotswold Club, Chipping Norton, despite appalling weather. The winners for the day were: team

prize with an excellent 78 points went to Dave White, Dave Stewart and Peter Blackburn. Nearest the pin on the 3rd Mark Ryland, on the 15th Julian Dipper. In 3rd place with 35 points Steve Kirsopp, in 2nd place with 36 points Dave White, and the winner and recipient of the Chairman's Cup playing off 11 with an amazing 38 points, Phil Goodman. Many thanks to Tony Lowe and John Dauphin for managing the day and prize-giving, and Ralph Stewart for once again looking after the finances. Also, thanks to the 37 golfers playing on the day and to all members for staying with DOGS during these difficult times – let's hope for a more normal year in 2021.

Nigel Oddy, Secretary
nigeloddy@yahoo.com

Deddington Town FC Youth

Despite the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, youth football has returned with the first round of matches taking place on 12 and 13 September. We have new processes in place at training and matches to ensure football is played in a safe environment with parents and players registered with NHS Test and Trace. The Under 8s started with two games against Ducklington on a beautiful warm autumn morning at the Windmill Centre – players, coaches and parents enjoyed the experience. The Under 12s, playing in the Under 12 C League, had a convincing 6–2 win over Tower Hill Stars, with Theo Flint scoring four goals, followed by a 3–1 home defeat to Garden City Rangers. The Under 14s, playing in the Under 14s A League, had a tough 6–0 home defeat to Hook Norton in their opening game.

No dogs on the playing fields

A reminder to everyone that dog walking on the playing fields is not permitted. There are many dog owners who seem to ignore this and every week I pick up four or five dog poos on the pitches. Not great when six and seven-year-old children are playing football.

25 years of Deddington Town FC youth football

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

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

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

Deddington Tennis Club

We have newly repainted courts and are happy to be able to continue offering tennis to members and non-members alike within the Covid secure guidelines set by the LTA.



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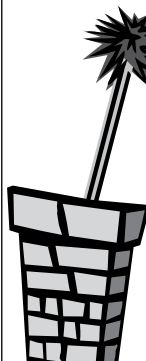
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SPORT ————— *Continued from p14*

Although we are unable to offer regular mix-in club sessions at the moment, members and non-members can book courts to play singles or doubles and we still have a range of organised activities including junior group coaching; adult group coaching; individual coaching; bi-weekly round robin 'all play' sessions and a singles ladder.

Our teams are also back in action in adult and junior local leagues, having completed the remaining matches from last year's winter league with mainly positive results.

If you would like further information about coaching, please contact Paul, our Head Coach, on paultaylor-rtennis@hotmail.co.uk. For further information about any of our other activities, to become a member or to book a court, please go to our website www.deddingtontennis.com.

We hope to see you on court, at a safe 2m distance, of course, very soon.

Becky Jones

Deddington Ladies Netball

As an 'organised sport' ladies netball is still allowed to meet, so we are playing as usual on the all-weather pitch at the Windmill at 7.15–8.15pm on Wednesdays. It's pay as you go and everyone is very welcome. New players can contact me on 07812 739978.

Sophie Cameron

YOUTH —————**1st Deddington Scout Group***Cubs and Scouts*

Well, here we are, still waiting for the opportunity to get back to face to face meetings. Risk assessments have been drawn up but the goalposts keep moving so we keep returning to the drawing board. I hope we'll still recognise the Cubs and Scouts when we get back together – some of them might have started shaving (not you though, Mimi).

Well done to all those who joined in with online activities, including the weekend camping events organised by the Scout Association – it added a few nights away to their badges.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again soon, possibly on Zoom, if not in person.

Jo Churchyard

deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Peter Churchyard

deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

Explorers

We are now moving with caution towards seeing one another face to face in limited groups.

During the period from May until the end of August we have had virtual meetings most weeks. Lots of variation in what we did, from games to discussions about Black Lives Matter, LBGTQ+ and badge work.

The Unit has gained badges for baking. I'm really looking to trying that out when we're able to, hiking and sleeping out, all be it that it was in our own back gardens.

We've said goodbye to our oldest Explorer as he turned 18 but were able to present him with his Chief Scout's Diamond Award and a message from the UK Chief Commissioner.

It's all a bit different as we move forward but we're still around. If you are interested in joining the Unit contact any of the leaders at spartansexplorers@gmail.com

Janet Duxbury

spartansexplorers@gmail.com

1st Deddington Brownies

We're back! We are only able to do outdoor meetings with small groups (weather permitting) and Zoom when the weather is bad. This month we are looking at wide games on the field and maybe some cooking on Zoom.

Fern Stringer

deddingtonbrownies@gmail.com

TALES FROM THE PUMP

I was standing outside the pub carrying out a quality control check on the Hooky when Dave the village wit and raconteur sidled over. 'Of course,' he says, 'this Covid thing has consequences on pubs that no one has even considered. For instance the demise of pub jokes involving talking at the bar such as "a guy walked to the bar with a roll of tarmac under his arm and asked the barman for a pint of bitter and one for the road", or "the swan walked up to the barman who said "I named my pub after you". "Really? Cecil's a funny name for a pub", says the swan'. I was just about to escape to the cellar when he stopped me in my tracks with, 'Of course even the bar itself might have disappeared in a year or two.' 'A pub with no bar', I said, 'don't be daft'.

'Technology', says Dave, 'is taking over the whole transaction process in pubs. The days of chatting at the bar with the grumpy barman who pulls your pint whilst moaning about the state of the world is coming to an end. In many modern pubs and restaurants we can already order and pay for drinks and food via our smartphone app for it to be delivered to the table. Who needs a bar?'

'Where's the fun in that', I grumped. 'Once this terrible pandemic is over people will be crying out for the ability to move around and chat at the bar. Even talking to me will be relief after all the social distancing and containment. Anyway, being British, we can even bring a bit of Covid humour to pubs. Like when the seven dwarfs popped in last night and I told them they had to be a six. One wasn't happy'.

Grumpy Landlord

Grumpylandlord1@gmail.com

FARMERS' MARKET

COMFORT FOOD WITH A TWIST

Dawn arrives later. Dusk arrives sooner. BST switches to GMT. So it's natural to yearn for the comfort of carbs. And flavour.

This recipe is Mumbai's version of the much-venerated bacon sarnie – and all the better for it. It comes from the Indian restaurant chain, Dishoom's, cook book of the same name.

BACON NAAN ROLL - serves 1

1 naan or similar flatbread

4 rashers of really good bacon

1 teaspoon of full-fat cream cheese

Coriander leaves

Finely chopped green chilli (optional)

1 teaspoon of tomato chilli jam – plus extra for dipping

Grill or fry the bacon until it is to your liking (crisp works best for me). Warm the naan. Spread the cream



cheese across the flatbread and top with coriander leaves. Add the cooked bacon and scatter over the chopped green chillies. Drizzle with tomato-chilli jam, fold the naan in half to enclose the filling and eat immediately, with extra tomato chilli jam on the side for dipping.

This basic recipe can be enhanced with the addition of sausage and a fried egg which takes this dish to another level of messiness. Don't wear your best clothes while eating.

The market is scheduled for Saturday 24 October. Check the market website <http://www.deddington-farmersmarket.co.uk/> for location, details and COVID advice.

Ian Willox 01869 337940
ian.willox@btconnect.com

MEMORY LANE

Charlie Fuller had a farm
A pleasant chap, do you no harm
Round Back Lane he had a pond
Where I caught newts of which I'm fond.
Norman Coles who we called Lamey
Had a dog whose name was Sammy
With a windmill and sheep dip
And farmed Tomwell, up by the tip.
Butlin's land was up the Grove
Over Plundon Lane he strove
Monarch was his cart horse name
Cut his leg and then went lame.
Jackie Bletsoe he could ride
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Not a fault by him would pass.
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And other people's points of views.
Arthur Bliss a stoutly man

Sold his milk from a tin can
But his pace he did not hurry
And his face bore no worry.
Maurice French his land spread wide
Down the main road on each side
On the Clifton road as well
Where it ended I can't tell.
Callows for coal his name was Jack
Delivered house coal in a sack
His lorries they were always brown
But only sold to half the town.
Deeley for coal his name was Fred
Cut his wood up in a shed
At Aynho station could be seen
Loading his lorry all painted green.
Yerbury the sweep with brushes and bag
Went on his round with his trap and nag
Father and son they looked just the same
Hope you've enjoyed down memory lane.

Don Walker
roodon@btinternet.com

FRIENDS OF DAEDA'S WOOD

The Friends were saddened to hear of Sylvie Nickel's death in September from a brain tumour. She was instrumental in starting the Daeda's Wood planting project 24 years ago, having been approached by the Woodland Trust who knew of her Swiss grandfather and his dedication to tree conservation.

The second edition of the *Diary* is in preparation by Alison Day and her team and will be produced next year to celebrate the Wood's 25th anniversary. The first edition is now available online at Deddington OnLine.

As interest in having a bat walk led by a knowledgeable person was quite low the committee decided not to proceed.

The Wood is being well maintained by the Woodland Trust, although the wildflower meadow will not be

strimmed this year. The rotted bench has now been removed and will be replaced by the Woodland Trust, although possibly in a different location. Walkers, dogs, children and families continue to enjoy the seasonal changes and varied landscape of this treasure on our doorstep as evidenced by imaginatively-built dens, well-trodden paths and much used litter bins. Fixings on a few nesting boxes had given way due to natural causes and where possible the boxes have been reinstated.

For more information about the Wood please contact me.

Annette Murphy, chair
murphyannette74@gmail.com

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DEDDINGTON ENVIRONMENT NETWORK

If you found watching David Attenborough's programme, Extinction, sobering, perhaps you would like to join DEN – a group of residents working crisis at at the local level to help respond to the environmental.

We were delighted that Cherwell District Council unanimously agreed to the 8.2MW extension to the existing 5 MW solar panel installation between Deddington and Duns Tew. Below is a brief roundup of the projects we are working on. For more detailed information or to get in touch please visit DeddingtonEnvironment.net.

The Street Bank now has items listed for borrowing from roof bars to fancy dress costumes and pressure washers. Streetbank.co.uk – membership is free and most items can be borrowed free.

On the car sharing front we are trialling Turo.com which has a gathering fleet of cars in our local area. Insurance is sorted by the app and is very easy to use. We're looking for people to help test this so please contact us if you are interested.

The biodiversity team is putting together a consultation document on plans for a possible community orchard. Due to Covid-19 it is impossible to hold a live meeting but the document will be available online this autumn, with paper copies available in the library.

Our Energy team is continuing work on plans for achieving our 2040 zero carbon aim for Deddington and the surrounding area, including how to create a zero carbon home, community centre and businesses. We've also been speaking to sports and community centres, offering support with constructing new and

extended environmentally sustainable facilities. Contact John@lcm.co.uk or via the DEN website if you'd like to be part of our team.

We have teamed up with SESI to offer eco-friendly detergents in refillable bottles for sale at the farmers' market. Available products include washing-up liquid, non-bio laundry detergent and conditioner, vinegar and general purpose cleaner. We are gathering a small stock of bottles for use but please bring your own for refilling if you can. More details, including prices are on the DEN website. The Zero Waste shop in Banbury is also offering the chance to order other goods from their website <https://www.refillnotlandfill.co.uk/> and collect them from the DEN stall at the market. Over time, we may be able to offer more products and refill collection opportunities between market days if there is enough demand.

RepairDEN now has a good list of local make-do and menders on the DEN website.

Most are trades people and we'd like to include more people from the community who might help people out. Let us know if you are one of them. You'll begin to see resources on the website to help you repair, reuse, sell, or donate things that you might otherwise throw out.

The DEN team

info@deddingtonenvironment.net

DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Since returning to school on 2 September we have been celebrating how lucky we are to be together again. With all year groups and all staff back we have been enjoying our reunited school community.

We have welcomed our new F1 pupils who have been doing well during their first few days here.

With the weather being kind we have been able to use our playground and parts of the field for the year group 'bubbles' to enjoy playing on. Even though they are apart from other children, each class has loved the freedom of being outside.

We would like to thank parents/carers for their support as we continue our staggered starts and ends to the school day. We appreciate how difficult it can be to adhere to such rigid timings.

We are all looking forward to the coming weeks as we head towards autumn.

Denise Welch

dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

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DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

Little news for my final copy as manager I'm afraid. I'm unable to report when the library will reopen, though it's unlikely to be before the end of October.

While I won't be in post to report the reopening, the Friends will keep you up to date. As soon as they know when the library will re-open, you will be informed via these pages and on social media.

The volunteers are currently undergoing risk assessment in preparation for returning to volunteering at the library which is a positive step forward.

I'd like to thank David Morris and Brian Bond who have taken this opportunity to retire as volunteers. Thanks so much for all the really hard work over the last few years to support both me and the library. Your tea making skills, chaps, were second to none, though that could be said for all the vollies, to be fair. It was a strict requirement for the role.

For all the volunteers, whether RhymeTime, Home Library Service, community volunteers or any of the myriad who have supported Deddington Library over the years, thank you. The library wouldn't function without the support of the community, not only in visiting and using the library, but in helping to make it function at the frontline too. I'm immensely grateful for your support, both of me personally, and of our very special community library. I am heartened to know that the new library manager will have a strong group of volunteers to help take the library forward. I'm sure you

will be as amazing for them, as you have been for me.

Don't forget your library card is still valid in all other OCC libraries already open. The closest ones are Banbury, Chipping Norton, Kidlington and Bicester – check the Internet for opening times. Meanwhile, don't forget our downloading service for eBooks and eAudio at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ebooks> and eMagazines and eNews at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/enews>. You just need to be a library member. If you're not, please go to www.libcat.oxfordshire.gov.uk and click on 'join the library'.

And as my tenure comes to a close, stay safe and keep reading!

Stella O'Neill
Library Manager

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T&C apply. Please see Advertising on DN at <http://www.deddington.org.uk/news>



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

DEDDINGTON CLUBS & SOCIETIES: The full list of con-
 tacts 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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