

September 2021

# *The* **DEDDINGTON NEWS**



Delivered free to Deddington, Clifton and Hempton

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## The DEDDINGTON NEWS

We're all about beetles and history this month. No, not the Beatles, just beetles but some interesting ones. See pp6 and 12. Less entertaining but probably more important is the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 p8. It's worth thinking about although many of us won't be around!

NHS rapid antigen test packs are available free from Deddington library.

I've been delving into the *DN* archive online and found some information that I'd almost forgotten. The PC notes from September 1976 (published in October *DN*) under the heading 'Newsletter', report that a number of letters were received expressing concern that the parish council was supporting the newsletter (that's us) as being a waste of ratepayers' money. However, favourable reaction was expressed to Mr Fuller and it was agreed to continue with their support. There's more on p11.

It shows that *DN* has been consistently reporting PC activities and we think it's important but we can't do it all on our own. We're looking for someone to take over the role. Anyone interested please give me a call.

JC

## WHAT'S ON

### September

- Wed 1 Photographic Society: Andreas Klatt, 'China', Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Sat 4 Parish Show: Parish Church, 2.00pm
- Mon 6 Holly Tree Club: Coffee Morning, Holly Tree, (weekly)10.30am
- Wed 14 DEN: Gardening for Wildlife talk, Deddington Arms, see p12
- Sun 18 Windmill Centre: Open Morning, 10.00am–1.00pm
- Mon 20 DOGS: Robin Hood Golf Club, Solihull
- Thu 30 Bookworms: Holly Tree, 6.30pm
- Sat 25 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Sat 25 Photographic Society: Annual Exhibition, Adderbury Institute, 10.00am–4.00pm

### October

- Mon 4 The Women's (Cycling) Tour 2021, see PC notes, p2
- Sat 16 DEN: Planting Day, Welford's Piece, Clifton, see p12
- Thu 21 History Society: 'What Did Granny Do in World War I?', Primary School Hall, Dan Allen, 7.30pm
- Sat 23 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Sat 23 Photographic Society: Annual Exhibition, Living Room, Parish Church, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Thu 28 Bookworms: Holly Tree, 6.30pm
- Fri 29 Royal British Legion: Poppy Appeal Evening, Parish Church

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## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Meetings held at the parish church on 21 July and 18 August

**July: Present:** Collins, Cox, Eames, Higham, Oldfield, O'Neill, Robinson, Rogers (chair), Swadling, Timms, District Councillor Williams, County Councillor Fatemi-an and the parish clerk.

#### County Council report

OCC Highways has agreed to carry out full repairs to Barford Bridge in 2022. Meantime, the weight and width limit will continue.

#### Finance and General Purposes

M40 rail freight interchange: A request is being made that traffic management ensures local villages are avoided.

#### Planning

##### No objection

Deddington Health Centre: single storey modular meeting room. Concern over lost car park spaces.

2 Tithe Lane, Clifton: loft conversion with front and rear dormers, conversion to home cinema. Applicant has agreed to Velux lights in place of dormers at request of neighbour although this is not yet visible on the planning portal. Request premises remain a single domestic residence.

#### Large Scale Development

Land west of Wimborn Close: an application was made to demolish the barn on site. No objection.

Bankside, Bodicote: There is a planning application for 825 more houses on farmland alongside Banbury Rugby Club.

#### Community Orchard

A grant of £2,000 has been made by the Trust for Oxford Environment for funding tree planting at Wellford's Piece.

#### Environment & Recreation

**Windmill:** It was agreed to demolish the old playground equipment at the Windmill behind the Chinese take-away, following RoSPA inspection deeming it has come to the end of its life.

The gate locking proposal must be agreed with the Windmill Management Committee and any closure has to be in response to threatened traveller incursion. CDC is changing garden and food waste procedure, with garden waste being additional charged-for opt-in service beginning in January 2022. Householders will be advised directly.

#### Highways & Transport

The Women's Cycling Tour: the route will take in Deddington and Hempton on Monday 4 October.

**August: Present:** Collins, Cox, Higham, Oldfield (chair), O'Neill, Robinson, Swadling, Timms, Watts, parish clerk and two members of the public

#### Planning

##### No objection

Land adjoining and west of Stonecroft House, Clifton

Road, Deddington: erection of 7 one bed and two storey age-restricted dwellings.

#### Objection

28 The Daedings: over-development, too close to boundary and balcony overlooking neighbour.

Land west of Wimborn Close: discharge of schedule 2 (affordable housing). PC objected to the planter being left and to a flower bed being placed west of it. CDC Draft Statement of Community Involvement – public consultation: objection to proposal that notices of planning applications should no longer be sent to neighbours.

#### Withdrawal

Castle House, Bull Ring: to fell 4 trees.

#### Large Scale Developments

It was agreed to suggest that the new development west of Wimborn Close be called Hobart Close or Fardon Way.

There was a request from the developers that the PC support their application to leave the top soil on site. CDC has refused. PC supports the request in principle but does not have enough information regarding CDC's refusal.

#### Highways and Transport

There was ongoing concern about the PC wheelie bins in the Market Place being used for trade refuse or people collecting parcels from the PO. This will be investigated and those involved will be contacted. Consideration should be given to moving the bins elsewhere or enclosing them in secure fencing.

The developer's sign on Hempton Road obstructed vision for vehicles exiting Mill Close. Developer was contacted and sign removed.

Dragon Framing sign at junction of Windmill Street: complaint received that it obstructed vision. OCC to be asked to investigate.

#### Environment & Recreation

Four trees have been planted by residents at the north end of Wimborn Close near the access gate. PC to advise them that this land is not owned by PC, therefore the trees could be removed by the owners. The PC anticipates running a litter pick in November as usual but if any residents wish to carry out one independently, they can contact either the parish clerk or Councillor Watts, details at <https://www.deddington-parishcouncil.org/councillors.html>.

Brambles adjacent to Gaveston Gardens and Manor Farm Barns are out of control. Agreed this is too big a job for the steward. Quote to be obtained from T Fox. Repairs have been carried out to Windmill Pocket Park and Adventure Playground.

Councillor Timms was thanked for his work in the parish, particularly removing old playground equipment.

These Parish Council notes are the view of the reporter, Jill Cheeseman, and not the official minutes. For those, go to <https://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/2021.html>

## DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

It's hard to believe that it is now almost a month since Term 6 ended when our Year 6 children left to move on to their chosen secondary schools. The final weeks were full of exciting events.

To begin with, thank you to our PTA who organised two Sundays when a large group of parents, carers and staff came into school to paint walls, fences and sheds in the playground. They also changed the position of the outdoor classroom to make it more accessible for pupils to use and enjoy at playtimes, as well as during outdoor lesson times. Hedges were trimmed and branches shredded to produce wood chippings to lay over areas of soil around the edge of the playground and planted a variety of perennials and ornamental trees and shrubs alongside the school. This voluntary work has made a difference and we are grateful to those who gave up their time and expertise to improve the school environment.

In the final week of school, we were visited by Tim Foster, an Olympic rower who won a gold medal in 2000. Tim spoke to our children during a celebration time focusing on sport. It was inspirational for us to hear how he trained and persevered to make his Olympic dream come true. This visit became possible



when our children took part in the 2021 Rafiki Challenge to raise money to enable children in Africa to go to school. Due to hard work and determination, they raised more money than other primary schools by running, swimming and cycling. They gained sponsorship from friends and family to help fund this project. It was a great achievement.

During the last week of term, we were able to put on three nights of concerts which took place at the Windmill Centre. These performances were expertly put together by Alicia and Seb, to whom we are grateful. The rehearsals and performances gave the children immense joy and pride in being able to take part in them at the end of another challenging year in school. We are sure everyone who attended would have enjoyed the singing and performing by the children involved.

On the last day of term, our Year 6 service for leavers took place in church. Mr Evans led the service and Reverend Annie gave a blessing at the close. Parents were able to attend this year which was wonderful. We wish our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck as they enter the next phase of their education.

**Denise Welch**

[dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk)





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## POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

### *Road Trips, National Parks, and Covid Karma*

Officer Wilson was a nice man. It could have been difficult. Ninety-seven mph is frowned on even in Montana where the speed limit goes up to 80 but perhaps overtaking him in my lovely red Charger added to his annoyance. But, as has happened before, Heather's lovely English accent talked him down and he let me off with a warning.

The road trip is a wonderful American institution. In July we covered 2,500 miles over 11 days. This is the way to see this troubled country at its best. We went west to Utah to see some astounding dinosaur bones, then north to Jackson Hole and the Grand Tetons, a lovely range of mountains named by French explorers who thought the view reminded them of a lady's breasts. I have had hours of fun asking Americans if they get the translation; they are so prudish as a nation. The park is over 300,000 acres, a vast wilderness with many great hiking trails. As you would expect, I didn't walk on any of them, but I loved the views. Mountains and ladies.

Then we drove through Yellowstone National Park, calling in to say hello to Old Faithful. This is the geyser you can set your watch by, but it isn't the most spectacular. After waiting one-and-a-half hours for its five minute display; 2,000 people turned to each other and said 'Was that it?'

We spent some days with friends on a 200 square mile lake and then finished in the far north of Montana at Glacier National Park. Unfortunately, the smoke from the wildfires over 1,000 miles away obscured a lot of the views, but Heather was happy after spotting two bears, two moose and some lovely beavers. The

locals drive big trucks and grunt a lot but this time round we didn't see any local citizens with guns in their hands.

The main difference to the UK road trip is that you can do 50 miles in a straight line at 80mph and hardly see a soul. Wyoming has only 500,000 inhabitants in an area the size of the UK. Montana has double that population in a similar area. A fantastic experience and no-one in our car asked 'Are we there yet?' at any point.

Back in Denver, we went downtown to eat for the first time in 18 months. The air quality was declared the worst in the world that afternoon – more smoke from California. The big local sporting discussion was whether a supporter at the baseball was calling out one of the opposition with the 'N' word. After three days of headlines nationwide, it was determined that he was trying to attract the attention of Dinger, the Rockies mascot. Umm. Meanwhile there were no headlines for the poor bloke shot dead outside the stadium after the game and not much mention of the four other shootings that night in Denver.

The Delta variant continues to spread rapidly, particularly in the conservative states where the vaccination rate is appallingly low. Mississippi is running at 35%. Perhaps there is karma in the Covid death of a conservative radio host who had ridiculed the pandemic. Back from the empty spaces of beauty, the horrible reality of a deeply divided country is all too clear. Give me the national parks every time. I hope Officer Wilson had a nice day.

**Mike Ward**

[Mikew@qsoftware.com](mailto:Mikew@qsoftware.com)

## FROM THE FIRE STATION

What a month! We have been very busy at the station with 22 shouts including RTCs, rescues, standbys, barn fires and light aircraft. With temperatures creeping up into full summer heat, drilling and fire-fighting have been increasingly taxing.

We have undertaken numerous compound drills covering pumping from open water, water relays, hazard spotting, improvisation, multiple vehicle accidents and fire simulations (shops and residential flats).

The multiple vehicle RTC saw us removing several casualties from two cars, some stable and others with life-threatening injuries and needing rapid extraction. We were confronted with two cars, one under the rear of the other, with a farm telehandler's front loader through the roof of one of them. We had a spare training pump so were able to divide into two crews and concentrate on both cars at the same time.

After initial stabilisation of both the farm machinery and the vehicles, our IEC (immediate emergency care) medics were able to assess the casualties and categorise their injuries. At this stage, rapid extraction plans were put in place, in case any of the casualties rapidly declined and required immediate hospitalisation.

Practising rescue techniques was key to this exercise, as each casualty needed different extraction methods: pedal spreading, door popping, B post rip, roof fold, rear hatch removal and third door creation. Working within the team each member was able to assess, secure, expose, reveal and remove the relevant parts of the vehicles to get the casualties out on spine boards. As a rescue service, we work to the 'golden hour' principle – from the 999 call to the hospital should ideally be less than an hour, which gives any casualties the maximum chance of survival. Okay, we were using dummies that don't scream and shout, but the drill was completed in a solid 50 minutes before clear up.

Every day seems to see a record high being recorded, so in hot weather, please remember to stay hydrated at all times and, if you are barbecuing outside, ensure that all naked flames are monitored and not left unattended, smouldering coals are fully out and matches and cigarettes are not just tossed into the dry vegetation. Don't let carelessness call us out.

**James Greenwood FFD**

[james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk](mailto:james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk)

## CHURCH

### SEPTEMBER

Deddington church is open for public worship and services continue to be streamed live. Please see the church website, [www.deddingtonchurch.org](http://www.deddingtonchurch.org) or FaceBook page <https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonChurch> for updates.

#### Deddington Parish Church

Mon–Fri: 8.45am	Morning Prayer
Wed: 10.00am	Holy Communion (with prayers for healing on the fourth Wed of the month)
Thu: 9.30–10.30am	TEA & TOAST followed by Squiggles & Wiggles for mums to be, parents or childminders or children of pre-school of age.
10.30–12.00pm	
Tue 21 7.30pm	Bishop's Visitation
Sun 5 10.30am	Family Service
3.00pm	3 O'Clock service
6.00pm	Choral Evensong
Sun 12 8.00am	BCP Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion

Sun 19 10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 26 10.30am	Holy Communion Informal Said Service

#### Hempton

Sun 19 9.00am	Holy Communion
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#### Barford St Michael

Sun 12 10.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 19 10.30am	Family Service

#### Barford St John

Sun 26 9.00am	Holy Communion
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#### From the Parish Register

##### Baptisms

7 August	Parker Robert Burton
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##### Weddings

30 July	Laura Hamilton-Gould and Andrew Bliss
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For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the Vicar, Reverend Annie Goldthorp at [vicar@deddingtonchurch.org](mailto:vicar@deddingtonchurch.org) or on 01869 336880. If Annie is not available, then please contact one of the church wardens, Iain Gillespie (01869 338367) or Meriel Flux (01869 338901).

### 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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## Daeda's Wood is 25 Years Old

### Community, Fauna and Flora

**O**n an annual walk around the wood organised by the Friends someone was heard to comment that Daeda's Wood is an amenity for the whole area, not just Deddington parish. The wood has always been popular with walkers, particularly dog walkers and, over the years, younger visitors have discovered the pleasures of creating dens. They are created out of windblown branches and tangled twigs and the Woodland Trust decided that, as long as trees were not vandalised, this could be considered as part of the wood's role in the community.

The millennium was celebrated in Daeda's Wood with a family picnic and in June 2000 about a hundred people turned up, nearly half of them children; many of the picnickers took part in the tug-of-war and treasure hunt organised by the Friends. A second midsummer family picnic took place in 2002 to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee Year with prizes presented by local TV celebrity, John Craven. More celebrations in 2004 when Daeda's Wood was the setting for a Druid wedding. In 2014 Logs4Labour got together with the Friends and arranged for people to cut up and take a car boot of logs for their personal use in return for tidying the brash.

The Friends of Daeda's Wood began a formal annual check of fauna and flora in 2002. Because the wood is a developing habitat, the variety of wildflowers increases and changes as the wood matures. From spring onwards, you can expect clumps of red and white campion, ragged robin and ox-eye daisy. Later come meadow cranesbill, purple knapweed and rosebay willowherb. Later still there will be musk mallow and white or pink flowerheads of yarrow. Bluebells were planted and have taken a while to establish but the spring of 2020 revealed several clumps throughout the wood. In 2019 there was the best find so far, a common spotted orchid.

Bat boxes were fixed to trees and the last check by the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) in 2018 revealed three species of bat in the wood: Natterer's, brown long-eared and pipistrelle. A butterfly survey between 2008–09 produced a list that included brimstones, orange tips, commas, speckled wood, red admiral and painted ladies. A moth hunt over a weekend in June 2008 recorded 200 moths of over 60 species.

BBOWT chose the Swere's banks within the wood as an otter holt site in the hope of luring one from the Cherwell valley. An otter wasn't spotted swimming in the Swere until 2008. The Wood was visited by the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre armed with cameras, buckets and nets to look for evidence of otter habitation. They soon found recent spraints (fishy/jasmine tea-scented droppings) in several locations, as well as fish scales and, to their great excitement, a large half eaten fish on a flat rock at the water's edge. Otters are shy, solitary and territorial and the next reported sighting wasn't until 2019.



*A Soldier Beetle, Photo Nick Hardwick*

There is a variety of birds. In winter sizeable flocks of fieldfare settle on the surrounding fields or in the trees. Flocks of yellowhammer are ever-present; often tree sparrows or groups of long-tailed tits flit through the trees. As the trees matured, there are summer populations of warbler – whitethroat, willow warbler, chiffchaff, blackcap, garden warbler. Deddington Boys' Brigade built some bird nesting-boxes, painting them in bright acrylic paints, and more nesting-boxes were added by the Cub Scouts in 2016.

Over the years the Friends have lost major participants in the development of the Wood and 2013 was a particularly sad one. The then chair, Elspeth Cox, died in July and in September the Friends lost Colin Robinson, very active in the creation and work of Daeda's Wood. Finally, in December, it was Kristin Thompson, one of the leading members in coordinating wildlife, botanical and butterfly surveys. Sylvie Nickels, the first chair of the Friends and driving force behind the fund-raising campaign, passed away in 2020. They have left the parish a wonderful legacy.

The Friends would love to hear from anyone who has enjoyed the wood over its 25 years – walkers, nature watchers or den builders. Please send your reflections to me.

The Friends no longer perform active maintenance as the trees have become too tall for anything but simple pruning of low branches. The Woodland Trust now uses specialist contractors and the role of the Friends at present is to keep a watching brief. If you would like to become a Friend, please contact Annette Murphy at [murphyannette74@gmail.com](mailto:murphyannette74@gmail.com).

**Alison Day**  
[alisdav@gmail.com](mailto:alisdav@gmail.com)

## Tales from the Pump



I was just settling down to read the paper after a busy lunch session when Keir Starmer walked in wearing a Covid mask. 'Afternoon Sir Keir', says I. 'What can I get you?' 'Blast!', he says taking his mask off. 'I was hoping you wouldn't recognise me. I was thrown out of the last pub I was in.' 'Why was that then?' I asked. 'The landlord had taken a dislike to me and the Party for not being sufficiently decisive.'

'Anyway, what would you like to drink?' says I. 'Oh dear', he says, 'I'd like a Campari and soda, but if I'm spotted, I'd be accused of being a Champagne Socialist so I'd better have an ordinary bitter, I suppose.'

'Ordinary is not a word we can use, given the prices we have to charge to cover beer duty and VAT,' I say as I pull his pint. He ignores this and eyes the crisp display. 'What flavour would you like?' I ask. 'That's a tough one,' he says. 'I like prawn cocktail but not good for my image after Garry Neville's comments about Manchester United supporters and prawn cocktail sandwiches.' I chuck him a pack of plain.

'Now, should I stand at the bar or sit down?' he muses. 'Well, if one of my regulars comes in he is more

likely to chat to you at the bar than if you are sitting down,' I suggest. He moves to a table and nervously sips his beer and munches the crisps. I go back to my *Telegraph* which seems to make him even more nervous. As he finishes his pint, I ask, 'Anything else?' 'Not sure,' he says, 'I think I should go,' and he begins to get out of his chair. 'Excuse me, Sir Keir,' I say, 'Are you paying by card or cash?' 'Hmm ...' he says, 'now let me see.'

**Grumpy Landlord**  
[Grumpylandlord1@gmail.com](mailto:Grumpylandlord1@gmail.com)

## PFSU and Village Nursery

We look forward to welcoming our new children and families to Nursery and Pre-School in September, as well as seeing some familiar faces after the summer break.

Our focus over the first few weeks will be on helping everyone settle in and getting to know the new faces and routines. Please ask us if you have any questions or if there is anything you are unsure of.

We look forward to an enjoyable and more normal year.

**Lucy Squires**  
 01869 337484

## 2022 PARISH CALENDAR

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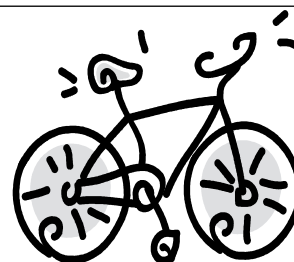
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## DEDDINGTON DEVELOPMENT WATCH

### Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and Ox-Cam Arc 2050 Consultations

#### *Oxfordshire Plan 2050*

Under the Oxfordshire 'Housing and Growth Deal', the six local authorities in the county have been incentivised by the government to commit to build 83,000 new homes up to 2050, and to accept the subordination of their Local Plans to a higher level county-wide strategic plan called the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (OP2050).

A consultation is underway about these higher level policies until 8 October. The policy document contains 5 themes and 32 policy options, many of which are sensible.

However, whilst the Office for National Statistics (ONS) projects an actual local need for 53,000 new homes across the county up to 2050, the OP2050 proposals set out 3 growth scenarios for 2020-2050:

- Standard Method 'Adjusted' – 102,000 new houses (the minimum contemplated);
- 'Business as Usual' – 123,000 new houses;
- 'Transformational' – 153,000 new houses.

The growth proposals are driven by an aspiration to create tens of thousands of new jobs in Oxfordshire, and the consequent need to provide housing for these in-comers.

The housing requirements threaten incalculable harm to our environment and rural character. For instance:

- The OP2050 provides for more houses in one of the most expensive and congested parts of the country to the detriment of the government's 'levelling-up' agenda.
- The growth proposals do not seem to recognise that there is a climate change emergency. Amongst other things, over-development will generate more unsustainable commuting.
- The scale of new infrastructure required would cause incalculable harm to the environment and local character, as well as to people's quality of life.
- The plan does little to address the chronic need for more 'affordable' homes. As ever, the proposals focus on the 'supply' rather than the 'demand' side.
- As regards housing density, there is a lack of encouragement of the efficient and sustainable use of scarce land resources.
- The six local authorities have already committed to large-scale housing development way beyond local need. The 'Transformational' growth scenario would increase the population of the county by 44% compared with ONS predictions of a 6.8% increase without OP2050.

Option 5 (Focus on supporting rural communities) is a euphemism for developing the countryside enabling growth in rural settings away from main settlements (eg Banbury, Bicester, Kidlington), and encouraging a redirection of development to more rural parts of the county provided that suitable access to the public transport network and key services and facilities is possible.

If you feel that yet more housing on this scale is unacceptable, please Have your Say. More information, including guidance on responding, can be found at <http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk>.

#### *Ox-Cam Arc 2050*

Separately, the government has launched a digital consultation until 12 October on the vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, an even higher level strategic plan covering Oxon, Bucks, Beds, Northants and Cambs.

This is presented as a 'generational plan to unlock the long-term potential of the region as a global innovation powerhouse', through a combination of very high house building rates and infrastructure provision. An initial target of building one million additional homes in the Arc of development up to 2050 has recently been dropped by the government.

The relationship between the Ox-Cam Arc Plan 2050 and the OP2050 is unclear. The OP2050 documents euphemistically put it that the former will 'be an increasingly important influence'. If you wish to comment, again there is more information on the above CPRE Oxon website.

#### *Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040*

The current 2015 Local Plan is being updated, and there is expected to be a six-week public consultation on the policy options commencing later in September.

#### **Deddington Development Watch**

<http://www.deddington.org.uk/community/deddingtondevelopmentwatch>  
[deddingtondevelopmentwatch@hotmail.com](mailto:deddingtondevelopmentwatch@hotmail.com)

## HOLLY TREE HISTORY

With the first stage of renovations at the Holly Tree completed, it's interesting to remember Cora Collin who established the Holly Tree Trust in 1964 as Charity no 244503. The charity holds the land and building in trust for the Club, which is responsible for its operation and upkeep.

Part of the land is on a 99-year lease from the Holly Tree Trust to a separate organisation, the Deddington Housing Association. The Association is a registered charity which oversees the upkeep of four bungalows and a cottage on Earl's Lane in Deddington. They were completed in the early 1970s following the donation of land from Cora Collin.

A tribute to Cora Collin by Vivien Edmonds can be found on p5 of the April 1978 issue of the *Deddington News* [http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0015/1806/DN197804.pdf](http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/1806/DN197804.pdf) and an article by Ruth Johnson at [http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/14998/Collin,Cora.pdf](http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/14998/Collin,Cora.pdf).

**Jane Price**

[treasurer@deddingtonnews.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@deddingtonnews.co.uk)

## NEWS FROM CLIFTON

I start this edition with the very sad news of the passing of Myrtle, who needs no introduction to Lower Larkrise. She was a fantastic source of village history and a great animal lover and trainer in the face of pollution caused by Thames Water. The world has become a colder place and her hidden community gardening is now clear to her neighbours.

But to warm it up a little, we welcome Steve and Sarah who, sadly, have already met the Book Club after they moved into the Chapel Close area. Steve is now well aware of Book Club protocol and we expect to see him again before you read this. While we're talking about welcomes, you may remember last month I welcomed Bob and Susan but worried I'd misspelt their names – well I did. I should have spelt them Andy and Pauline. Andy has already joined Book Club and his application has been passed by the membership secretary, Iron Man Mayo, who is fully recovered after another mad run where he covered nearly 200 miles before an unusual back problem made him retire. We also want to welcome into the heart of the old 'Club Clifton' Catherine and Tarryn who moved in late last month with youngsters, Rupert and Ailsa (black marks for mispronunciation of Ailsa), taking the place of Kelly and Neil who missed out on the return of the Banbury Park Run and the traditional trip for leavers

to the Hook Norton Brewery. However Libby, their much-missed daughter, was able to benefit from the village tradition of a class ride to her Prom as super cars were passed up in favour of an electric Porsche meeting the pervading environmental sentiment of the time. The Hook Norton trip is the usual goodbye to neighbours leaving our midst and any Book Club member is welcome when we get it planned in the next few weeks. We are confident Catherine and Tarryn will fit in well and help restore the 'Sherman' count in the village. We also welcome, somewhat belatedly, Mark Compton Hewish and his family who have moved into the southern quarter of the village (not that I have any details of said family just yet ...).

Lower Larkrise is in awe of its first knight of the realm, to the newly honoured as part of the 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours List. Sir John Kay, was rewarded for his services to economics. He resides in one of the better-known houses in the village, subject to much restoration recently. We heartily congratulate him on both his honour and lifelong achievements in his field.

All updates including introduction corrections or family additions to please.

**Martin Bryce**

[martindnbryce@gmail.com](mailto:martindnbryce@gmail.com)

# HALL



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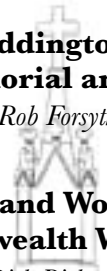
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## COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES

### An Evening in aid of the Poppy Appeal



#### Deddington's War Memorial and Crosses


*Rob Forsyth*


#### History and Work of the Commonwealth War Graves

*Dick Richards*

#### Deddington Church

29 October, 2021

More details in October DN  
and on Deddington RBL 



RBL

## NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Adding to the list of motoring antics witnessed in the village, though probably not a unique event, I was almost involved with a lady making excessively rapid progress approaching the crossroads at the head of Barford Road whilst eating an ice-cream on a stick. This is not recommended as dropping the iced confection in an attempt to avoid impending doom results in all sorts of unsavoury matter from your footwell sticking to your lolly, rendering it unpleasant to resume eating. Avoiding a head-on with the oncoming vehicle or as an alternative ploughing into my wife and me (no footpath) is also more challenging. Luckily neither choice was needed on this occasion.

Poo has featured prominently in previous news items. The canine variety is of particular concern, a potential danger to human health and unsavoury in every way, especially when plastered liberally over the sole of your shoe. It is also an offence to allow your pooch to deposit the stuff where it pleases or at least for you to leave it there.

That of feline origin has been a hot topic amongst some residents and has been drawn to my attention. Cats however exist beyond the law. They roam and deposit their waste any place they choose with total impunity. Their little gifts are potentially just as dangerous to human health as those left by their canine cousins and no less savoury. They tend to frequent neighbourhood gardens more often than dogs, exposing residents to greater risk of contamination. Deposits are often partially buried or covered over with the danger of grasping a foul mess whilst weeding. Nature lovers among us also lament the toll taken on birdlife and small mammals whose dismembered remains are discarded in their gardens.

Given the nature of the perpetrators there is realistically nothing the law or you can do to address the problem. It seems cats will be cats. Becoming a dog owner might be a solution for those afflicted, but will likely pass the problem on to a neighbour.

I raise the issue only to give voice to those afflicted by the problem.

OCC Highways seems to have developed a new and perverse practice to antagonise road users. Instead of leaving the roads to disintegrate through neglect, increasing and heavier traffic or ineffective maintenance (read patching), they now appear to be spending the budget marking the roadway to indicate where repairs are needed and then doing nothing (or at least nothing for several months). Perhaps they are all working from home.

To the motorist driving through Hempton who got a horn for Christmas and exercised his very colourful vocabulary for my benefit, apparently because I wasn't shaking my bike to bits in the gutter, I suggest he try riding on the Himalayan corrugations and tank traps that OCC Highways calls a road. Did he not realise I was concerned I might be shaken off my mount and damage his precious vehicle or impede his obviously critical progress? Perhaps I should have known. His vehicle carried a warning acronym – Bloody Mindless W...

Sorry I couldn't conjure up something more positive to witter on about this month. For a more interesting read, please refer to the article on Beetlemania in Hempton featured on p12.

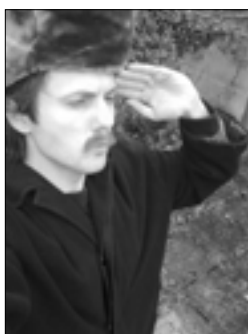
**Stuart Oldham**

[sj\\_oldham@btinternet.com](mailto:sj_oldham@btinternet.com)

## BLISSFUL THINKING

It's a curious period in the Anthropocene for many reasons. Leaving aside the shadow of looming climate catastrophe, the pandemic is slowly receding, if only in our part of the world, so optimism abounds for some.

I'm sure I'm not alone in feeling my social muscles have atrophied and feeling strangely vulnerable clambering out of my cosy hermitage, eyes squinting at the blazing sunshine as an abundance of strange figures perambulate hither and thither, happily immersed in their unique customs and quirks. Most of the rest of the summer had been spent rationing public engagements, indulging in solo pursuits and savouring the entertainment of the delayed Euros.



Didn't we almost have it all though? An early lead and the giddy prospect of actual glory, inevitable setback and Roman boots on our collective throat, then another window for success at the denouement, only for a goalpost to ruthlessly repel our collective dream. It never seemed as though it could really happen but we were actually within two successful penalties of taking home the Henri Delaunay trophy. It's the hope that kills you indeed and that hope now transfers to Christmas 2022, with our inevitable World Cup triumph in the (presumably still Covid-infected) Middle East. Bring on the bread and circuses.

**Aaron Bliss**

[aaronjbliss@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronjbliss@hotmail.com)



## A BIT OF DN HISTORY

In trawling through online copies of *DN* while checking when George Fenimore had first written copy for us, I came across one or two interesting items. What a great resource it is; if you've an hour or two to kill when it's raining, have a look: <http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/backissues>.

The piece that I spotted was from December 1996 where, beneath Buffy Heywood's (another of our previous long-standing contributors) extracts from the diaries of the Rev Cotton Risley, was a collection of items from 'Twenty Years Ago', referring to our earliest days.

Recently the *DN* editorial team has spent time reviewing our costs to seriously consider our next printing move. Because of the temporary closure of the Windmill where the *DN* is normally produced, there were several months when we were unable to print. Although we are fortunate that for many years there has been the facility to read the latest issue online, most people prefer to have a paper magazine, which of course is what it has always been. Earlier this year, we had a trial run of three months' issues commercially printed, we thought very successfully and, surprisingly cost-effectively. We have now decided that as from February 2022, the *DN* will be professionally printed and collated.

The December 1976 *DN* carries a feature on p24 by Gerard Sullivan referring to the Deddington Hall Management Committee, set up to arrange a programme of Further Education in the old Windmill Hall. He explained how, in order 'to publicise locally a programme of events provided by local organisations and the DHMC ... an informal Publications Committee [was set up] to launch *Deddington News*. Local traders have generously supported the venture with advertising and the Parish Council is making a monthly grant of £4 an issue for the first few issues. *Deddington News* will continue after a 6 months' trial period only if it can cover its costs (roughly £16 per issue) from advertising revenue and donations and if local groups and individuals keep sending in details of their activities, articles, letters and any news of general community interest.' Obviously it did and they do!

The cost of producing the *DN* is now nearly £600 per month, funded entirely by advertisers. The main reason we have made the decision to go to professional printing is particularly the feedback from some of our advertisers who saw the higher quality of print a considerable advantage. We hope none of us will be disappointed.

JC

## Thinking of selling your artwork?

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## DEDDINGTON ENVIRONMENT NETWORK

It's hard to believe we are two-thirds through this strange year but we hope you have been able to enjoy holidays, wherever you have spent them. As the weather cools, you might be tidying the garden after summer's abundance but it's worth remembering that leaving seed heads on plants can provide valuable feed for birds in the autumn and winter. You might also be planning the garden for next year. If you would like to learn how to make your space more pollinator friendly, come to our 'Gardening for Wildlife' event on 14 September at the Deddington Arms. Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) will speak about how to attract bees, other pollinators and wildlife to your garden. It will be held in the evening at a time to be confirmed but likely to be around 6.30pm. Space will be limited to 25 and will be assigned on a first-come first-served basis. A donation of £3 is suggested. Please email [debbiemacaro@gmail.com](mailto:debbiemacaro@gmail.com) or call 07724 466471 to secure a place.

A quick update on the Community Orchard: the parish council, together with DEN, has secured funding from the Trust for Oxfordshire Environment for the Welford's Piece site in Clifton. Planting day is 16 October 2021. Andy Howard is coming to help guide volunteers on how to plant and we have reserved 15 local heritage fruit trees, including a medlar, two plums, two pears and ten apple trees: a mix of cookers and eaters and, of course, a Deddington Pippin. There will also be bulbs to plant. If you would like to get involved in some way, or would like to sponsor a tree, please contact us at [info@deddingtonenvironment.net](mailto:info@deddingtonenvironment.net).

If you are thinking of switching to a green energy supplier but are confused by the options have a look at

[bigcleanswitch.org](http://bigcleanswitch.org). It is an online energy comparison site partnered by Low Carbon Oxford North, which offers a choice of eight energy suppliers and makes switching very simple.

According to the BBC, there are now approximately 320 zero-waste shops in the UK, the first one was started in only 2017 by former Manchester United footballer, Richard Eckersley, and his wife, Nicola. Our local shop-owner, Dan, at Nothing But Footprints has been able to confirm a regular, free delivery to Deddington on Thursdays. He is keen to collect people's clean takeaway boxes (which he then dishwashes) as long as they have well-fitting lids. You can leave them at the DEN stall at the farmers' market, at the shop when you are next visiting, or give them to him when he delivers.

Finally, if you are planning any rail journeys in the future, check out the Trainhugger website, [trainhugger.com](http://trainhugger.com). They plant a tree for every train ticket booked through them, and tickets cost the same as on any other online booking site. They are in partnership with the Royal Forestry Society and the Royal Scottish Forestry Society. Their mission is to plant millions of healthy, resilient trees in the UK while supporting sustainable travel and tourism. They are currently developing an app to make booking easier but, in the meantime, you can book with them through their website.

Please contact us with any comments, ideas or if you want to get involved.

**Fiona and Nick Smith**  
[info@deddingtonenvironment.net](mailto:info@deddingtonenvironment.net)

## BEETLEMANIA IN HEMPTON

### Extinct Beetles Rehomed at Stratford Butterfly Farm

Two Capricorn beetles, classified as extinct in the UK, have recently been re-homed at Stratford-upon-Avon Butterfly Farm having been discovered in timber by builder Tim Parker of Hempton. Experts at the Butterfly Farm suspect that the beetles came in on the same batch of timber imported from Central Europe. The wood had been infected with beetle grubs that had then pupated and emerged, much to the surprise and fascination of Tim. These wonderful creatures are now on display within *Minibeast Metropolis* for visitors to view. The last time the Butterfly Farm had a Capricorn beetle on display was back in 2012 when it was imported on an oak beam from Germany.

The Capricorn beetle, also known as *Cerambyx cerdo* is a long horned, woodboring beetle that has



been extinct in the UK since the early 18th century but can still be found in parts of Central Europe where they are considered rare. The beetle is one of Europe's largest species from the Longhorn family, easily recognised by their long antennae.

The beetles are increasingly rare because dead trees and rotting timber are generally 'tidied up' from woods and forests, leaving no food source for the beetles' larvae. In timber the grubs can wreak tremendous havoc as they munch through the wood, leaving large hollow chambers. They spend over two years as a larva, tunnelling through wood, before pupating and finally emerging as an adult for a brief life in which to mate and lay eggs.

**Stuart Oldham**  
[sj\\_oldham@btinternet.com](mailto:sj_oldham@btinternet.com)

## The Farmers' Market – Behind the Scenes

**Kevin Mayo – Construction Manager**

**W**hen you have visited the market, it is likely that you haven't really given a lot of thought to what happens behind the scenes for it all to come together and operate so smoothly. As you may imagine, it takes quite a lot of hard work and organisation and the man behind this mammoth operation is Kevin Mayo, construction manager.

Planning starts with a meeting the week before the market is due to take place. Positions of stalls are decided with the help of a nifty plan made of Lego blocks. Most stallholders prefer to stay in the same place month on month but considerations such as the need for shade or electricity have to be taken into account and the pandemic necessitated some quite substantial changes.

On market days, Kevin has an early start. He likes to be around by 6.30am to await the arrival of the construction teams around 7 o'clock and make sure that everything is ready for the arrival of the first stall holders. Setting up the market is something of a military operation. There are seven trolleys of equipment individually being looked after by a small team of two or three volunteers. One trolley is designated the 'training trolley' and new volunteers are allocated to this one for at least three months to ensure they know what they are doing. As well as the erection of stalls, there are also road closure signs to put into place and the information trolley to set up. Work is usually finished

by around 8 o'clock, at which point breakfast at the Deddington Arms is more than welcome. One of the biggest headaches during construction happens when cars have been left parked in the Market Place. If the owners cannot be found, stalls have to be moved to accommodate the obstruction. This doesn't please the stallholders as it may mean that their customers have difficulty finding them.

Take down starts at around 12.30pm and is usually complete soon after 1.00pm. Kevin is particularly grateful to his team of around 20 volunteers, of whom there are about 12 each market day. Surprisingly there are often more people on a rainy Saturday – perhaps because each individual thinks not many others will turn up.

September marks the 20th anniversary of the market and it will be Kevin's last as construction manager as he is retiring. He has been with the market almost since the beginning and has seen many changes in that time. The number of stalls has increased from four to around 40. The management is now much more formal and professional with issues around health and safety, PPE and training to be taken into account.

There have, of course, been challenges along the way and, apart from the pandemic, most seem to centre around the weather – snow and wind being the most troublesome – such as the time when two inches of snow fell in 30 minutes on a market morning or the times when gazebos have blown over in high winds.

Despite these difficulties Kevin has thoroughly enjoyed his time with the market and we thank him and wish him well in his retirement.

**Jenny Snashall**

[jennysnashall@gmail.com](mailto:jennysnashall@gmail.com)

## DL History Corner deddingtonhistory.uk

Forty-five years ago today the very first *DN* was published.

One of the contributors to that edition was Geoffrey Hindley. He was a professional historian and author whose books such as *Castles of Europe*, *The Medieval Establishment*, *Medieval Warfare*, *The Shaping of Europe* and *A Biography of Saladin*, which are still available through specialist bookshops.

His first story was titled *The Great Deddington Skirmish*. It, and three subsequent stories by him, can be found at: [www.deddingtonhistory.uk/talesfromthepump](http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/talesfromthepump) along with a selection of other interesting stories such as: *The Curious Case of the Deddington Jug* (Hilary Smith), *Deddington Ghost Stories* (Moirá Byast) and *The Great Fire at Deddington Timber Yard* and *A Legacy of Slave Ownership in Deddington* (myself). There is always room for more if you know of a good tale.

**Rob Forsyth**

[Robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com)

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## LETTERS

### FROM DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Thanks were expressed at the August PC meeting to farmers and parishioners who freely give their time to keep the parish beautiful. All the free-of-charge work they do helps keep this parish looking good. Fullers have been repairing potholes, Calcutts clearing ditches and cutting hedges and Fenemores cutting paths and bridleways. Several local residents beaver away doing extra jobs to help keep things tidy. These are not their responsibility and all are done at their own expense.

### FROM ANDY GREEN, MANAGING DIRECTOR, BANBURY FM

Banbury FM is your local radio station, broadcasting dedicated programmes for our area 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We provide a comprehensive local news service – more than any other broadcaster. We also promote local music and events, support local businesses and play some great music.

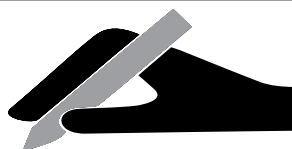
This year marks the 20th anniversary since we began the campaign for Banbury to have its own radio station. You may recall our studios set up outside Tesco Banbury in 2001 and 2002. Today technology enables you to listen to us on a smart speaker, ipRadio, your phone and via our website at [www.banburyfm.com](http://www.banburyfm.com). Very soon we hope also to be on DAB digital radio.

If you have a local news story about something you feel the wider community would be interested, please let our news team know by emailing [news@banburyfm.com](mailto:news@banburyfm.com). For anyone organising an event, why not add it to the Events Guide on our website, which is free for charitable or non-profit making organisations and will also get you mentioned on air.

### FROM ANNE REYNOLDS CHERWELL CHORAL SOCIETY

We hope to be performing in Deddington Church this autumn. After all the difficulties caused by Covid over the last year and a half, it finally looks as though arts and culture are coming back. Theatres and concert venues have been largely closed until recently, and amateur choirs in particular have been hard hit.

In January this year, we welcomed our new Musical Director, Dr Paul Hedley, who brings wide ranging experience of choral singing and conducting. A former choral scholar and lay clerk, Dr Hedley conducts several choirs and has recently been appointed to the post of Assistant Director of the Royal School of Church Music. Under his leadership, members have been



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

meeting via Zoom in a series of workshops to learn some beautiful songs by Brahms, Mendelssohn and Haydn, and during May and June we managed a few socially distanced rehearsals outside. As one member put it: 'It was really special to be able to sing properly together again after such a long time, although singing so far apart from each other was a bit of a challenge.'

Sadly we had to cancel the concert in Deddington Church planned for July, but a very enjoyable workshop and private 'performance' was held in the garden of one of the choir members.

Now the choir is hoping to be able to sing together once again indoors. From September the choir will be moving to a new rehearsal venue - Longford Park Community Centre in Bodicote – and is planning a concert in Deddington Church on 6 November. The choir will be performing Faure's *Requiem*, along with *Centuries of Meditations* by Tabakova, accompanied by the Oxford Sinfonia.

New members are always welcome (subject to any government restrictions on numbers). For more information about the choir and membership, see [www.cherwellchoral.org](http://www.cherwellchoral.org).

### FROM SUSIE CARRDUS, DEDDINGTON

As a follow-up to Mike Robinson's letter about Community Land Trust housing (*DN* July), readers might like to look at the Hook Norton Low Carbon website <https://www.hn-lc.org.uk/> to see its Homes for Hooky and several other sustainable living ideas being put into action just eight miles from here.

### FROM CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL

*Cherwell Link – your residents' new digital newsletter*  
Quarterly editions of Cherwell Link have been landing on your doormat for many years, but the magazine is now moving to a new format. The move is part of CDC's budget plans and will see the quarterly print edition replaced with a monthly e-newsletter, which is now available to people who sign up to receive it.

We will also deliver leaner paper editions of the magazine to certain community hubs once a quarter.

We hope residents will appreciate our desire to offer a more streamlined news service, allowing us to share more regular news about our services and the decisions the council makes and, over time, we hope to allow subscriptions which each person can tailor to the particular council topics that interest them.

Don't miss out on the latest news from Cherwell. Sign up to receive the digital edition of Cherwell Link at <http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/sign-up>.

## Holly Tree Club

We're very excited that we were able to open the renovated hall to our members at the end of July to re-start their Monday coffee mornings. It has been wonderful to welcome them back after such a long break. The hall was buzzing.

The feedback on the renovated building was very positive, both in terms of updated décor and additional facilities, although some members have noticed a bit of an echo now that we didn't have before. We have had a hearing loop installed which will be useful when we hold meetings and film nights but this has no effect on the general acoustics in the building for coffee mornings, so please bear with us while we're researching a solution.

We also received comments that because of the amount of thought which had gone into the Covid risk assessment, reorganising how the coffee morning was managed and our attention to details and measures around this, they all said they felt very safe coming back, which was wonderful news.

We are holding weekly coffee mornings for a trial period instead of monthly ones, from 10.30am to midday. We are looking forward to organising our first trip for members and starting to float the idea of a Christmas lunch this year and will be seeking feedback over the coming weeks.

Meanwhile, we are also working towards re-launching our film night in the near future, with the support of Age UK. More news on all of these as we have it.

We have arranged a Welcome Back and Renovation Re-Launch afternoon tea for members and have invited all those who helped make the Phase 1 work happen. We're hoping of course for a lovely sunny afternoon on 11 September and no doubt I will report on that next month.

For all Club enquiries, email [info@TheHollyTree-Club.org](mailto:info@TheHollyTree-Club.org). For booking enquiries, please contact Hugh Blythe on 07907 020486 or [Bookings@TheHollyTree-Club.org](mailto:Bookings@TheHollyTree-Club.org).

**Revd Annie Goldthorp, Chair**

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## Daeda's Wood

The Wood continues to thrive and, in preparation for the celebration of its 25th anniversary this year, there will be a farmers' market stall in October selling garden perennials.

So ... since autumn is a good time to split clumps of well-established perennials to ensure abundant flowering, why not pot up some roots and bring them along to our fundraising stall at the October farmers' market?

**Annette Murphy**  
[murphyannette74@gmail.com](mailto:murphyannette74@gmail.com)

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## CALLING ALL CLUBS

### Royal British Legion

In this the centenary year of the RBL, we have been pleased to support the parish church project to clean the war memorial and landscape the immediate area round it. The former is complete and the latter is currently work in progress thanks to the various benefactors who responded to the appeal.

On Friday 29 October we will host a Poppy Appeal evening, 'open to all', in the church at which I will give a short talk about our war memorial and battlefield grave marker crosses (see the ¼ page notice elsewhere in this edition). The main speaker will be Mr Dick Richards from the Commonwealth War Grave Commission, talking about the Commission's history and its work worldwide today – including the five gravestones in our churchyard. Neil Skinner, who has previously created light displays in the church, has kindly agreed to provide an illumination scheme for the north wall crosses as a backdrop for the two talks. Full details will be in the next *DN* – look for our half-page notice in the October issue. Please bring your friends.

**Rob Forsyth, Chairman**  
**01869 338384**

### Photographic Society

We welcomed Peter Greenway, LRPS, in July for an interesting talk about his voluntary work for the National Trust (NT), taking photographs of local properties such as Waddesdon Manor, Ashdown House and his favourite, Chastleton House, which are often used in promotional literature. As a lover of heritage and all things historical, it is his love of objects that fascinates Peter and, of course, the teashop. Volunteering for the NT involves meeting standards, guidelines and following the law on the dreaded GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation). The advent of social media has increased the likelihood of one of Peter's photographs being viewed by a wider audience so look out for his work when you are looking through the NT handbook, website, or Instagram. He has even had an image displayed on the roadside hoarding for Waddesdon Manor.

Harry Wheeler-Brand spoke enthusiastically about the 'Magic of Long Exposure' at our August meeting. A young professional photographer, Harry runs workshops and promotes all things landscape around Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk. He published his own

## CALLING ALL CLUBS

*Continued from p15*

guidebook to photography around the East Anglian coast during lockdown. He spoke at length about his techniques, his equipment, and his love of drama in long exposed landscapes. What Harry stressed was doing homework to plan and check the location for weather, position, and composition. He also emphasised how many images he took to achieve the final shot that he was pleased with. Long exposure achieves those dreamy seascapes and cloudscapes; it can be a good foil, along with filters, to eliminate people who might wander into the shot. Harry introduced us to infrared photography that in post-production can be turned into intense black and white images. One of his tips was to buy good quality filters since expensive camera equipment deserves a quality engineered filter to maintain the image superiority. Check out [www.harrybehindthelens.com](http://www.harrybehindthelens.com) for his images.

Our next meeting is at the Adderbury Institute on 1 September at 7.30pm. Covid 19 protocols will be in place. You are welcome to join us to hear Andreas Klatt talk about his photography in China. Check the website for further details. Finally, we are celebrating the 15th anniversary of the beginning of the Society. More about our celebration next month.

**Anne Hunsley**

[www.addphoto.co.uk](http://www.addphoto.co.uk)

### Deddington Bookworms

Last month we read *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho. It is an allegorical novel about Santiago, a humble young shepherd boy from Andalucía and on the surface appears very simple, but it is rather deep and philosophical. The story follows Santiago as he follows his dreams across continents; it offers life insights for the reader such as courage, trust, faith, resilience, spirituality and using heart and mind together as explored through Santiago's experience on his trek.

The Bookworms enjoyed this and found the author's ability to say so much in so few words remarkable, with descriptions that the reader can smell and taste. There are many underlying messages in this quite short book and we commented on how it can easily be read in short bursts and revisited time and again. It is one for the bookshelf and we recommend it.

If you would like to join our meetings contact me for more information.

**Janet Macey**

**01869 336156**

### Book Group

Ann Cleeve's *The Darkest Evening* is the latest in a series of murder mysteries featuring DCI Vera Stanhope.

Those who have watched the ITV *Vera* detective dramas will be familiar with many aspects of the books. The Northumberland landscape provides a dramatic and diverse setting for violent tragedies. Vera is a complex character, a feisty, independent lady in late middle

age, whose dowdy appearance can lead strangers to underestimate her analytical mind and knowledge of human nature. She is a demanding team leader, treating her junior officers with a mixture of toughness and occasional empathy.

*The Darkest Evening* begins as Vera discovers a car abandoned by the roadside in a blizzard. Alone inside is a baby, whose mother is later found dead in the grounds of a nearby manor. The wide-ranging investigation of possible suspects and motives prompts a second murder before the dramatic denouement. A subplot involving a familial connection between Vera and the owners of the manor house throws some light onto Vera's own rather difficult past.

There was a mixed response from our group. Some felt that there were too many characters, that the plot developed rather slowly and that some developments were unlikely. While acknowledging these points, others had enjoyed the unfolding of the investigation and the portrayal of characters and relationships.

Our next book is *Here's the Story: A Memoir* by former Irish President, Mary McAleese.

**Sian Waterman**

### Local Vocals Community Choir

At the time of writing, we are making plans to start singing again at Deddington Primary School from September. Exact start date and times will be advertised on posters around the parish. As you are reading this, some members will already have had a 'getting to know you' session with our new choir leader Rachel at the Windmill Centre. After 17 months, we are incredibly grateful to be singing again. Sadly, since we last met, we have lost three friends from our choir. They will all be missed.

To find out more about our choir and contact us, please visit our website [www.localvocalscc.co.uk](http://www.localvocalscc.co.uk).

**Alison Grieve**

### Deddington and District History Society

After a very long intermission, I am pleased to let everyone know that the Deddington and District History Society is starting up again. Although the complete programme has not been finalised, we have booked speakers for October and November with several booked for 2022.

On 21 October Dan Allen will talk on 'What Did Granny Do in World War I?'. The last time he visited, he explored the role of women connected to Victorian soldiers of all ranks. It was really revealing and Dan turned out to be an excellent raconteur and historian. Given the huge number of men away fighting around the world, who did the jobs they left behind and what happened after the war?

On 18 November, Liz Woolley will tell us about 'Child Labour in Oxfordshire'. Liz is an Oxford-based local historian who has visited us many times over



## CALLING ALL CLUBS *Continued from p16*

the last few years and her talks have always been interesting.

Other topics pencilled in include 'Drovers Roads in Oxfordshire', 'Alice in Wonderland' – a look at watery sites linked to *Alice in Wonderland*, and a look at Romano-British Britain, seeing how power shifted during the Roman occupation.

Anyone who joined for the 2019–20 season will be welcome free of charge. If you want to subscribe to the 2021–22 series the cost is £23 for couples and £12.50 for individuals. Anyone is welcome to the talks for £3.00 at the door. We meet in the school hall, where ventilation and seating make the venue safe.

We're looking forward to seeing you.

**Jean Dipper**

[jean.dipper28@gmail.com](mailto:jean.dipper28@gmail.com)

## SPORT

### Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

In July we had an enjoyable couple of days' golf at Belton Woods near Grantham. It turned out to be the hottest weekend of the year which made the golf very thirsty work. Our congratulations to our overall winner, Dave White, who is playing some great golf off his 6 handicap. By the time this is published we will have had an afternoon of fun golf followed by a barbecue at Wirral House, courtesy of Keith Spengler. Our final event of the year is on 20 September at Robin Hood Golf Club in Solihull – the way I'm playing I might be better off with bow and arrow rather than golf clubs.

**Nigel Oddy, Secretary**  
[nigeloddy@yahoo.com](mailto:nigeloddy@yahoo.com)

### Deddington Town Youth Teams

After the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, let us hope for a brighter future for youth football for the season ahead. The new season starts on 4 and 5 September. We will have six teams playing in the Witney and District Youth Football League with the Under 12s playing in the Oxfordshire Youth Football League. The Under 7s and Under 6s have training sessions on Saturday mornings – we are at capacity for the season ahead with a waiting-list for each age group.

The Under 8 team plays 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 13 and Under 15 team. This is a great achievement for a village club to have so many players participating in football every week from Under 6s up to adult and veteran teams.

#### *Working in partnership with local schools*

We are 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, Deddington, who provide the training and match venues for our teams. Thank you for your continued support for the season ahead.

#### *Get involved*

If you want to get involved with the club as player, volunteer, sponsor, or fundraiser, please do not hesitate

to contact us. Further information about the club is on our website, [www.deddingtontownfc](http://www.deddingtontownfc) or visit us on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc](https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc).

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

### Tennis Club

There has been a lot happening at the Tennis Club over the summer. Last year our annual club championship couldn't be held, but this year we have had a record number of entries. We run men's and ladies singles, doubles, and mixed doubles competitions. The rounds are in full swing now, with the deadline for semi-finals to be played by mid-September. There will be a junior championship for Under 18s at the beginning of September and the finals of all competitions will be held at the club on Sunday 26 September. We're grateful to June Ward and Nick Adams for organising and coordinating the competition.

On the subject of juniors this summer, Paul, our head coach, has run two weeks of holiday camps for children of all ages. We'd like to thank everyone who took part for their support in making them the most successful camps ever. Our popular junior coaching programmes will restart when the schools return in September. For information about times and availability of coaching, please contact Paul on [paultaylor-tennis@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:paultaylor-tennis@hotmail.co.uk).

Adult coaching is also available. We have three social tennis sessions a week, a friendly box league competition and a range of adult teams playing in mid-week and weekend leagues. If you're interested in tennis, just want to find out more about what the club has to offer or to book a court, please visit our website where you can also find information about membership. If you're not ready to join and just want to book a court, you can email [chairman@deddingtontennis.com](mailto:chairman@deddingtontennis.com).

Guidelines are still in place for playing tennis safely and we ask that players respect social distancing and use hand sanitiser before and after playing.

**Becky Jones**  
[www.deddingtontennis.com](http://www.deddingtontennis.com)

## YOUTH

### 1st Deddington Scout Group

#### Cubs

Well, we ended the oddest term I can ever remember at Cubs, with lots of traditional Scouting activities. They made water filters (personally, I wouldn't have made tea with the results), built bivis, erected tents (very well) and played socially distanced games – hide and seek in the woods being the favourite. We organised a wide game where the Cubs had to collect symbols and finished on a high, making camp doughnuts (the ever-popular fried jam sandwiches). We're looking forward to returning to indoor meetings in September.

**Jo Churchyard**

[deddingtoncubs@gmail.com](mailto:deddingtoncubs@gmail.com)

#### Scouts

We spent the last few weeks of the term revelling in all things hot and sharp: fire-lighting, cooking on

camp stoves (Trangias) and learning about using and caring for knives. The shelter-building was hilarious; the Scouts were told to hide themselves in the wood, using groundsheets and we would try to find them. Well, it was a cross between Ray Mears and a gang of ostriches – if we can't see you, you can't see us. Bring on the new term.

**Peter Churchyard**

[deddingtonscouts@gmail.com](mailto:deddingtonscouts@gmail.com)

#### Explorers

Spartans ESU have been excited to be back face to face again. We've been using The Lookout which is a really useful space. Activities have included making zip wire holders, presenting badges, playing frisbee and golf and a holding barbecue.

If you want to join the fun, contact me.

**Janet Duxbury**

[spartansexplorers@gmail.com](mailto:spartansexplorers@gmail.com)

I can tentatively announce that the Windmill is now fully re-opened and ready to take your bookings. This is re-opening number three, so I hope it's third time lucky. We have removed the Covid restrictions on numbers in each of our hireable

rooms but still ask you to exercise caution and remember the mantra: 'Hands, Face, Space' when using our facilities.

Whether you are a returning regular (welcome back), or a new group, organisation or individual looking for a space to hire for meetings, seminars, group activities, fundraisers, parties or whatever, we'd love to hear from you. This is your community asset, so



please use it. You'll find details of what we have to offer on our website [www.thewindmilleddington.org](http://www.thewindmilleddington.org). Better still, why not pop up to the Windmill on Saturday 18 September and we'll show you around? Our volunteer management committee

members will be there from 10.00am to 1.00pm to field any questions and hand out information. In fact, we'll also buy you a coffee from our resident Bloom Coffee Roasters at the Lookout. Now there's an offer you can't refuse. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Vaughan Jones**

[vaughan@englishlanguagematters.com](mailto:vaughan@englishlanguagematters.com)

## DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

I am the newly appointed, Library Manager at Deddington Library. It has been my pleasure to meet and serve visitors to Deddington library which reopened in April. Opening hours now include Saturday mornings from 9.30am–1.00pm. Full details of our opening times are on the back cover, except Mondays 2.00–5.00pm..

Many visitors have been pleased to find that stock continues to be replenished keeping shelves full of fresh and current content – but it's also worth remembering that OCC library members can borrow titles (including audio books) from any OCC library for

delivery to Deddington library. This gives our customers access to thousands of books, countywide from a diversity of genres and formats.

OCC's catalogue is available to members online. Adults will pay £1.30 to hire a book from another OCC library but children can order junior fiction at no charge. If you prefer to drop into the library, I will be happy to search our catalogue for you and help you find a good read.

I look forward to meeting you soon. We are open:

**Louise Willis**

**Deddington Community Library Manager**

<https://www.deddington.org.uk/>

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