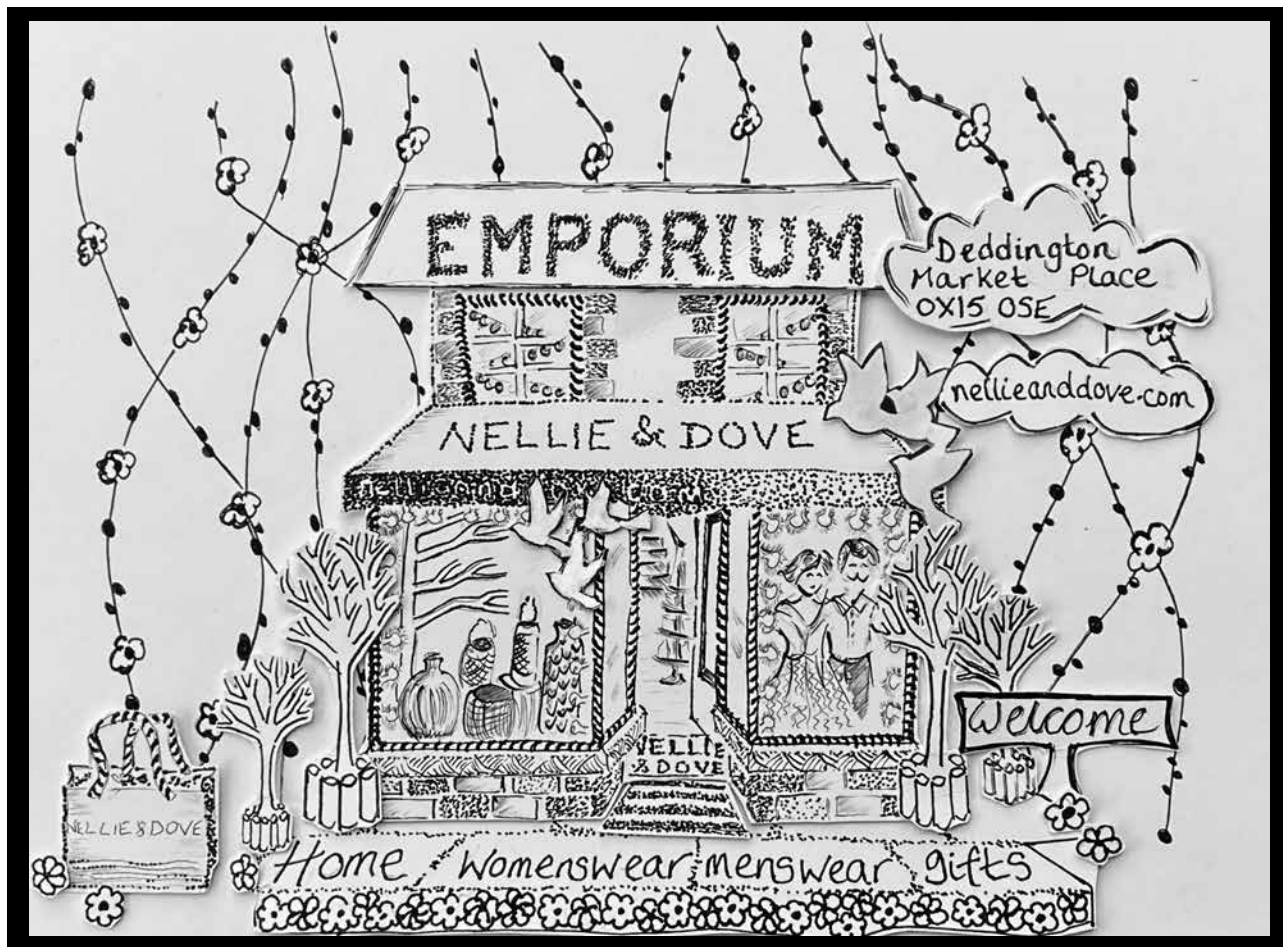


April 2022

The **DEDDINGTON NEWS**



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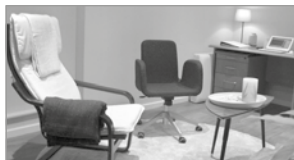
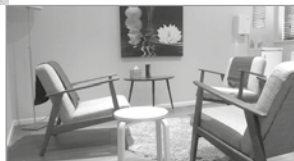
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THE TEAM

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by **10 April**

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Find out more about
The Deddington News at:
www.deddington.org.uk/deddington-news/

The DEDDINGTON NEWS

If you're interested in standing for the parish council – generally it's interesting and you can learn a lot about local democracy – there is a very tight window of opportunity and you need to jump through a few hoops. See p2, PC notes for further details.

Congratulations to Deddington Players for getting their show back on the road – and, if you missed it, you missed a trick. And well done for great community cooperation by other groups for giving up their space to allow for re-rehearsals.

Advertisers, please remember, especially now that life is returning to Deddington, to book your space in *DN* as soon as you know your date(s). Space really does get taken up very quickly and, once space is gone, it's gone.

JC

What's on April

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Tue | 5 | Local elections: deadline for nomination papers, 4.00pm |
| Wed | 6 | Photographic Society: AGM, Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm |
| Sat | 9 | Cherwell Choral Society: Passiontide Concert, Parish Church, 7.30pm |
| Sun | 10 | Matt Platt Revival Concert: Parish Church, 7.30pm |
| Wed | 20 | Parish Council Meeting: Hempton Old School Room, 7.30pm |
| Thu | 21 | History Society: 'Scandal in Oxfordshire High Society', Primary School, 7.30pm |
| Sat | 23 | Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm |
| Tue | 26 | DEN: film night, <i>Kiss the Ground</i> , Holly Tree. 7.00pm |
| Wed | 27 | Annual Parish Meeting: Windmill Hempton Lounge, 7.30pm |
| Thu | 28 | Book Group: Contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for details |
| Thu | 28 | Bookworms: Holly Tree Club, 6.30pm |

May

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Wed | 4 | Photographic Society: Steve Wilkins, Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm |
| Fri | 6 | Karen Sharp Jazz Quartet: Parish Church, 7.00pm |
| Wed | 11 | DOGS: Frilford Heath |
| Wed | 18 | Parish Council Meeting: Windmill Hempton Lounge, 7.30pm |
| Thu | 19 | History Society: 'The Treatment of Conscientious Objectors in Oxfordshire in World War I', Primary School, 7.30pm |
| Sat | 21 | Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm |
| Sun | 22 | Four Farms Challenge: Family Fun Run, Castle Grounds, 10.30am |
| Thu | 26 | Book Group: Contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for details |
| Thu | 26 | Bookworms: Holly Tree Club, 6.30pm |
| Sat | 28 | Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm |

June

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Wed | 1 | Holly Tree Club: Jubilee Celebration Party |
| Sun | 12 | Deddington Youth Football: Presentation Day, Windmill Centre, from 1.30pm |

Submission of any article to the DN carrying personal information (for example names, locations, pictures) will imply that the person submitting the article has obtained the necessary consent from the individual (or parent / guardian in the case of a minor) / company / organisation for this information to be used both in print and online.

Contributors should be aware that the monthly issues are posted online and therefore any personal contact details given are there in perpetuity.

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

16 March in the Parish Church

Present: Cllrs Collins, Cox, Eames, Oldfield, O'Neill, Robinson, Rogers (chair), Snashall, Squires, Timms, Watts, Cherwell District Cllr Williams, the parish clerk, minutes clerk and three members of the public.

District Councillor's report

DC Williams reported that from the end of March, all county Covid testing sites will be decommissioned and returned to their owners.

CDC has agreed to provide temporary road closures and temporary event notices free of charge and provide grants to parish councils to help with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, 5–8 June.

Planning Applications

No objection

Land North of Hempton Road and West of Wimborn Close, Deddington: discharge of conditions – travel information pack, water efficiency detail and electric vehicle charging, but PC to request that all properties are provided with at least 32 amp EV charging points. Folly Cottage, The Lane, Hempton: removal of double glazing and erection of single storey glazed rear extension with 'green' planted roof.

Deddington Health Centre, Earls Lane, Deddington: tree works

Land South of Home Farm House, Clifton Road, Deddington: modification to S106 to allow commuted sum, but PC to request that S106 funds either be spent in Deddington or be gifted to Deddington Housing Association towards the cost of building two new bungalows. Land South Home Farm House, Clifton Road, Deddington: discharge of condition – water efficiency and electric vehicle charging plan, but PC to request that all properties are provided with at least 32 amp EV charging points.

Berwick House, New Street, Deddington: change living room to kitchen.

Stone Cottage, 2 High Street, Deddington: loft conversion.

4 Hempton Road, Deddington: construction of conservatory to rear of property.

Refusal

Land east of Oxford Road, Deddington.

Appeal

Land adjacent to allotments, Duns Tew Road, Hempton: detached three bedroom dwelling.

A complaint has been received regarding the purple shop front and large figures on shop front of Home Instead, Chapel Square. Agreed there was little that could be done, based on conservation area information.

Neighbourhood Development Planning

There was a protracted and somewhat tetchy discussion, most of which your correspondent couldn't follow because obviously much had preceded the PC meeting. Two local landowners who had previously offered their land for consideration for development objected

to having some of this land reserved as green space. There has been a good deal of work going on by the Neighbourhood Planning Group but, to my knowledge, little has been reported during PC meetings, therefore few questions have been asked until now. Some terms of reference have now been agreed. An informal consultation paper will be reviewed at next month's PC meeting.

Large Scale Developments

Clifton Road, Burringtons: It was agreed to ensure that there are five affordable housing units at a reduced percentage of market value, in perpetuity, available to Deddington residents and those with connections to Deddington, plus essential workers, to fulfil its affordable housing quota.

Local Elections

Nomination papers for all elections must be submitted by hand to the council offices, Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury OX15 4AA, between 10.00am and 4.00pm on weekdays between Tuesday 29 March and Tuesday 5 April. The statutory deadline to submit nomination papers for all elections is 4.00pm on 5 April. Nomination papers cannot legally be accepted after this time. Contact 01295 221534 or elections@cherwell-dc.gov.uk.

Highways and Transport

The long-standing request for cameras at the traffic lights is now urgent. Foliage has been cut back, new signs are being ordered and updated road markings are in the programme for work. These will be followed up by County Councillor Fatemian.

Environment and Recreation

No Mow May

Having been publicised, the majority of replies appeared to be in favour with only one or two objections. Requests were made for edges of greens to be trimmed back and paths and sight-lines be kept clear. There was also a suggestion that the Market Place should be kept cut. However, after some discussion, there was a split vote, with eight voting in favour of No Mow May in its entirety, two against and one abstention.

Dog Waste Bins

It was agreed to organise signs requesting dog owners to find alternative bins or take their dog waste home, rather than over-filling already full bins. CDC can be contacted at <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/193/dogs/396/dog-bins> or 01295 227001.

Next meetings:

Wed 20 April: PC, Hempton Old School Room;

Wed 27 April: Annual Parish Meeting in the Windmill Hempton Lounge;

Wed 18 May: PC, newly elected PC as of the 5 May election, Windmill Hempton Lounge; All at 7.30pm.

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



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THE MIN PINS	£155.88	£227.99	£383.87
THE DOODLE	£167.88	£224.55	£392.43
THE HOUNDBERRY	£179.88	£273.27	£453.15
THE BERNIE	£215.88	£299.15	£515.03

Prices correct as of Oct 2021

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NEWS FROM CLIFTON

Jo, 'the beauty retailer', saw her fine hound get into trouble in the nearby river while out walking and thought she needed saving. However, she's a) heavy, and b) a dog, who dragged Jo in before finding a way out. Now Jo needed saving by our retired squaddie with an Achilles heel who, after being notified via Steve Job's finest, unusually considering the signal coverage in stone clad buildings in the parish, sprinted to the site of the dunking for a heroic rescue. In reality, this could have had very serious consequences considering the coldness of the water and the time that could have been involved, so well done.

Chris and Imogen now have Aurelia Jane to disturb their sleep. Both of those closely involved are doing well and some of us look forward to Chris rejoining the ranks of Book Club while others look forward to becoming broody again ...

Our Iron Man celebrated his 60th year with a late/early lock-in, much to Diz's distress where she saw a different side to some book club members. However, the planned celebratory trip to Devon fell through due to the host's negative Covid test. The infection timeline here made a salutary analysis that should be a lesson to us all, because it was far from clear where the likely source of infection was. This outing was replaced with

an athletic trip to watch Banbury Rugby firsts beat Marlborough 67-20, after a huge breakfast at Reg's and a stroll via the Chatsworth public house (that was new to us all). However, our half Italian transport executive left our rescuer high and dry by booking a taxi with less capacity than the party. British Army training and a bus led to the team being reunited in a cheval blanc hostelry in Banbury before a trip to a nearby Thai restaurant where our abandoned friend ordered some very interesting choices.

Now the recent arrival of the Flying Scotsman to our boundaries elicited some more excitement. On the upline a few of us decided to watch it from a distance as the poetic image steams across our landscape, but the Stiffs had a great view up close from Kings Sutton station with a tour of the old bunker facilities from their current 'minder'. This close encounter encouraged Iron Man and this correspondent to trek to the pedestrian crossing of the line coming in to Kings Sutton where, with other 'buffs', got a great view of the locomotive steaming on by. This is an engine that retired the year I was born, so it's seen some stuff. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ucvh7SiMBYI> will give you a view.

The usual appeal still stands to me please.

Martin Bryce
martindnbryce@gmail.com



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John Cheney – The Beginnings

In December 2021 we began reproducing John Cheney's unfinished autobiography and the story was rather abruptly abandoned mid-sentence.

With thanks to Nick Allen of Adderbury, it continues here.

My mother was a good pianist and used to play tunes for us to dance to, round the sofa. The door had a heavy velvet curtain to keep out the draughts. There were cabinets with displays of china in them and a lovely set of ivory chessmen.

The dining-room was dark but had French windows leading into the garden. There was a massive dining-table with pull-out leaves and a hideous, almost black, wooden sideboard with a picture of great-great-Granny Esther Cheney hanging above it. I remember the dining-room always being dark because during the war it was an Air Raid Warden's Post (Charlie One) and a high brick wall of concrete blocks was built beyond the window, to protect us from bomb damage, but also excluding about nine-tenths of the available daylight.

Chapter Two – Up the Broughton Road

Across the road was a neat detached house inhabited by Mr AE Chidzey. He had a shop in Parsons Street which sold wind-up gramophones, sheet music and gramophone records. Mr Chidzey gave music lessons. *[Your editor can testify to this]*. He was quite an accomplished musician and had a small group of string players who provided background music for social functions in the town such as the Mayoress's Dinner, At Home and similar gatherings, all rather staid. They played with decorum such things as selections from the *Desert Song*, *Rose Marie*, *The White Horse Inn* and other discreet novelties. Mr Chidzey had a slight stoop and, I seem to remember, a worried look.

Music also had its place on our side of the road. West of our house was the home of Mr Arthur Deacon who was proprietor of Fox the Chemist (two shops: one in Parsons Street, one on Bridge Street). A little further up was Ena Grubb's house. Ena had a music school and lived with her father. They used to come down to our house once a week to play bridge with our parents. My sisters and I attended Miss Grubb for piano lessons *[Ed – She also came to my school and taught me too]* which led to my one and only concert appearance.

It was Miss Grubb's custom to present her students in an annual concert in Banbury's Church House, now a restaurant and wine bar, so even now, after two glasses, I seem to hear the distant tinkle of my pre-war efforts. My sister, Christine, and I were down to perform a piano duet, *The White Cockade*. Christine looked very fetching in her best white dress with a coloured sash and puff sleeves. I was in my best white shirt, tie with pin, grey flannel shorts, snake buckle belt and lace-up shoes. We played well and were rewarded with my first ever applause. This must have gone to my head as I've loved the sound of it ever since.

In my time I have written dozens of silly sketches for various amateur dramatic societies. Other people perform them and I stand at the side of the stage in a panic. The sensation when I hear laughing and applauding the absurd things I have written, beautifully

performed by my dearest friends on the stage, is so rewarding. If I could choose my own epitaph it would be 'He sought to make people laugh'.

Back to Broughton Road. Beyond Miss Grubb's home was Berrymore Road corner. On that corner was a house occupied by the Hales. Mr Hale had a cycle shop in Parsons Street which specialised in cycle repairs, so Mr Hale's sons had continuous access to bike wheels of all sizes. Using these, they constructed the most ingenious box-on-wheels vehicles which would hurtle down Broughton Road. Steering was by string and unreliable but the Hale carts, as we called them, were a delightful feature of a virtually traffic free road.

Further up Broughton Road, on the right, was (and still is) a row of terrace houses. In one of these lived the Nash family. Grace and Gladys Nash were two sweet girls who acted as sort of nursemaids to us. Life's earliest memory is of being seated in my pram and pushed up the Broughton Road by Grace (Gladys). I remember the pram being given a hefty shove up hill by Gladys (Grace) and being caught on the rebound by Grace (Gladys). Their mother was a nice lady who used to invite us to tea which was taken in the basement of their house and was always very good. In the same terrace was Mrs Gosden's. There was an area in front of her house filled with wonderful junk – a cross between Steptoe and Son and Auntie Wainwright in *Last of the Summer Wine* of happy memories. There were bedsteads and I suspect rats.

A few doors further up was Mrs Reeves. There was a Mr Reeves but we never saw anything of him but his head. He would peer round a baize curtain and say 'Ah, it's you. I'll get the missus.' Did he have a body or was he just some sort of animated head? A nice man but very shy. Mrs Reeves was lovely. She kept this superb little shop which had that indefinable smell of pre-war: a compound of paraffin, Lifebuoy soap, fly-papers, cheap sweets and ageing biscuits. It was here that the three of us spent our Saturday penny. A penny each meant six halfpennies, six items from the ha'penny tray which, as its name implies, had everything priced at a ha'penny: sherbet dab, sherbet fountain, Sharp's Eton toffee, liquorice coils, aniseed balls, gobstoppers, sweet cigarettes (five to a packet). Choosing took time but Mrs Reeves was large, calm and understanding and would serve other customers while we deliberated what to buy. I am glad I remember Mrs Reeves and her shop. They were part of our childhood that I recall with deep affection.

Our warm congratulations

to Jill and James Simmons, residents of Deddington for six years and previously of Duns Tew for 38 years, who will be celebrating their platinum wedding anniversary on 10 May.



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CHURCH

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

APRIL

For Easter services, please see the enclosed Easter card.

In addition to our services being open for public worship, Deddington church is open throughout the day for anyone wishing to visit, pray, meditate or simply be. Deddington church services are streamed live. Please see the church website or FaceBook page for updates: www.deddingtonchurch.org and <https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonChurch>.

Mon–Fri	8.45am	Morning Prayer
Wed	10.00am	Holy Communion
Thu	9.30am	Tea+Toast and Squiggles and Wiggles
Sun 3	10.30am	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	3 O’Clock Service, (informal)
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong
Sun 10	10.30am	Holy Communion Palm Sunday
Sun 24	10.30am	Holy Communion

Barfords

Sun 10	9.00am	Communion, BStM Palm Sunday
Sun 17	10.30am	Family Communion, BStM
Sun 24	9.00am	Holy Communion, BStJ
<i>Maundy Thursday</i>		
14 April	7.30pm	Liturgy of Maundy Thursday
<i>Good Friday</i>		
15 April	9.30am	Hot Cross Bun Service

From the Parish Registers

Funerals

7 March	Bernard Heaven
14 March	Jane Kellett
15 March	Mavis Gibbard
17 March	Pam Preston

For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness, please contact the Vicar, Revd Annie Goldthorp at 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.

BROUGHTON GRANGE

Our front covers this year have featured a lake at Stowe Gardens and a ford in the village of Swinbrook. This month we feature part of a stunning modern water feature at Broughton Grange Gardens, Arboretum and Plant Nursery, as we continue our tour of places to visit within 30 miles of Deddington.

The 25-acre garden and 80-acre arboretum include a walled garden, knot garden, spring walk, sunken garden, long borders and a stumpery. The contemporary garden was masterminded by landscape designer, Tom Stuart-Smith, and features pleached limes, formal beds and some of the first rare Australian Wollemi pines to be seen in Britain.

The lower terrace of the walled garden is noteworthy for its design based on the microscopic leaf structure of beech, ash and oak, giving it a 21st century twist on the traditional parterre.

The garden and nursery, in Wykham Lane, Broughton, re-open in May on Wednesdays only, though group bookings can be arranged for Tuesdays. It is also regularly open under the National Gardens Scheme.

The 350 acres of parkland were bought in 1992 by Stephen Hester, who for nine years was a trustee of the Foundation and Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Mr Hester is a former chief executive of the RBS Group.

Find out more at www.broughtongrange.com.

Deddington Festival Art Exhibition

Do you like Art? Are you feeling creative? The Deddington Art Exhibition is back on 2 July, for one day only, at the Holly Tree, and we need your work to make it a success. Even if you’ve never entered a piece in a show or even shown anyone else your work, we would like to include it in the exhibition.

So, enthusiastic beginner, talented pro or somewhere in between, get creating. Work can include sculpture, pottery or any form of 2D media. You can enter up to three pieces and the maximum size of each piece should be no larger than approximately 1m square. Entry fees are £5 per piece, £3 if you are under 18, and includes an invitation for you and up to two guests to the Private View on Friday 1 July.

You can also submit any signed, unframed, cellophane-wrapped work to go in the ‘Browser Bar’ which will not incur an entry fee. Fifteen percent of all sales will be go to the Deddington Festival.

Please contact me for more information and a copy of the entry form. All entries need to be handed in on Monday 27 June between 3.00pm and 6.30pm to Fiona Smith, Holcombe House, High Street, Deddington, 07906 771038.

Steve Waterman
srwatermanbt5@btinternet.com
01869 337461

History Corner

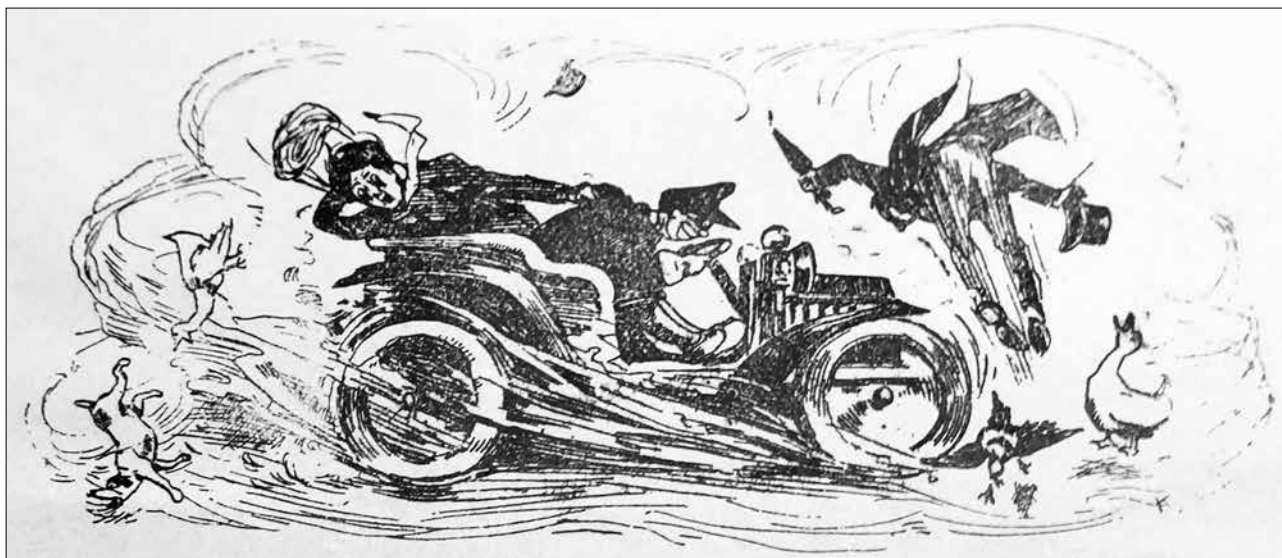
www.deddingtonhistory.uk

Speed limits have been the subject of considerable discussion since the November 2021 PC Meeting. Should we have 20mph limits and, if we do, will the police carry out any speed checks? It would seem that this is by no means a new problem. This undated (but between 1896 and 1906) transcript, courtesy of David French, from Vol 3 of George Coggins' scrapbook has this delightful and very apposite item:

children, or other wild animals, he need not stop as the Parish Authorities will bury the dead without extra charge. (Act 29, Nero, Cap. 24.)

6. Should he run into another Vehicle and make cats-meat of the Gee-Gee he has the right to claim damages from the owner, it being understood that all Vehicles should draw into the ditch when a Motor-horn is heard in the distance. (Act 14, Dick Turpin, Cap. 28.)

7. Things the Holder of this Licence may not do: (1) He may not bump up against a steam-roller, since steam-rollers have a nasty way of hitting back. (2) He may not plunge his Motor into a river or pond,



SCORCHER'S LICENCE

CONDITIONS

1. The Holder of this Licence is hereby authorised to drive a Motor Car as fast as he chooses; it being understood that the Earth was made specially for Motorists, and no other persons have a right to be on it at all. (Act 26, Napoleon, Cap. 12.)

2. He is specially permitted to leave a strong smell of Paraffin behind him wherever he goes, such smell being most grateful and comforting to the noses of the rest of mankind. (Act 31, Ananias, Cap. 14.)

3. Should he knock over an old lady on his wild career he is permitted to go on without stopping, provided that he turns round and calls out in a loud voice, "What Ho! She Bumps." (Act 14, Dan Leno, Cap. 14.)

4. He must display the registered number on the back of his Car in large white letters, but in Districts where the Police are very active he is permitted to daub the said letters over with mud so as to render them invisible. (Act 4, Artful Dodger, Cap. 2)

5. Should he run over and kill any dogs, cats, chickens,

because a Motor is more of a Paraffin Lamp than a Duck, and consequently cannot swim. (3) He may not fly up into the air and chip a piece off a star, because by so doing he may rouse the ire of a Friendly Nation. (4) And, finally, he may not permit any other person than himself to drive his Motor, with one exception only, namely: If the weather is bad, and the roads are up, and there is a lot of traffic about, and his tyres are on the point of bursting, and there is a possibility of the car skidding, then, and only then, he may let his mother-in-law go out for a spin.

NB – Meaken in 'The Orchard', holds one of these Licences.

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This extract can be seen in the History article <https://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/coggins,george1846-1920-scrapbooks>. Select 'Scrapbook No 3, 'Transcripts' and enter 'Scorcher' in your browser

Rob Forsyth

robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Friends of Deddington Library

We are already receiving a selection of historic 'celebration' images from years gone by. Most are in black and white but some more recent years are in colour. Obviously the bulk of images will be taken later this year in June when the village will, we hope, be draped in Union Jack bunting and street parties will be in full flow, but do check your own archives as there may be

some suitable pictures from past celebrations.

Please send in your digital entries to me below, if you have some great shots, even prints from previous celebrations. Take a photo of them on your phone and send in to me and I'll scan them in high resolution to see if they are suitable for inclusion.

Bryn Williams abw@brynwilliams.com




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From The Fire Station

After a frenetic last month, the fire station paused for a slight breath, accumulating 18 shouts. With a majority being stand-bys, the crew turned out to fires, rescues, RTCs, humanitarian assistance and a suspected hazmat (hazardous material) incident.

Towards the end of the month, the Deddington crew attended a new training venue at Upper Heyford, being assessed with their RTC and IEC (immediate emergency care) skills at the TVP training compound. Together with crews from Rewley Road and Banbury, scenarios were run through in the morning and afternoon. Two three-car RTCs presented themselves, the first with a car on its side and the second with a vehicle on its roof. Adding to the realism, live casualties were 'trapped' within the vehicles. Throughout both incidents, Station Commanders, Training Centre Officers and South Central Ambulance crew observed incident command decisions, RTC techniques and stage management. IEC techniques were continually monitored and helpful feedback given to all individuals.

Particular attention was paid to the six full stages of an RTC: scene assessment and safety, stabilisation and initial access, glass management and SRS (airbag restraint), space creation, full access, and casualty extraction and care.

Over and above standard drills, the vehicles used had been deliberately crushed to mimic a high-speed accident, testing everyone with their cutting, spreading and door removal techniques. The casualties were continually monitored and their vital signs taken –

some remaining stable and others deteriorating/exhibiting diverse injuries. Both incidents, from the 999 calls to the real-life casualty being extracted from the vehicle into the ambulance, came in at just over the hour, an hour being all rescue crews' notional goal.

Crewing levels have been high again this month, with a full complement of firefighters making cover easier to provide.

James Greenwood FFD
james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk

PFSU and Village Nursery

During the spring term the Nursery children learnt about the farm and the Pre-School children have been 'On the Move'. We have also been talking about Mothers' Day and making some special treats for our mums. The Pre-School children visited Castle Grounds in the sunshine and enjoyed exploring, looking for signs of spring and taking photographs of their visit.

Nursery will hold an Easter Parade on Tuesday 5 April where the children will be wearing their Easter bonnets and taking part in an Easter egg hunt. Our Holiday Club will run in the Easter Holidays from Monday 11–Thursday 14 April, 8.00am–5.00pm.

The Four Farms Challenge is on Sunday 22 May. This 5K and 10K run around Deddington parish raises funds for the PFSU and Nursery, Primary School PTA and Deddington Fire Service. For more information visit www.fourfarmschallenge.run.

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NEWS FROM HEMPTON

As far as I am aware, Cherwell DC has not designated the verges of the roads to and from Hempton as waste disposal or recycling centres. Undaunted by this omission, some anarchic individuals take the view that their convenience justifies correcting this obvious error. Donations of waste have been dumped in recent weeks on the Barford road and a mattress discarded on the Deddington road. Perhaps this was a pop-up recycling initiative. Anyone looking for a single mattress, intact though probably a little damp and grimy, is invited to help save the planet (must use own transport). No doubt avoiding the faff and expense of disposing of waste using facilities provided by the Council would be far too onerous to be justified. Clearly any expense incurred by the Council or landowners in restoring the public amenity are justified by the perpetrator's convenience.

Litter, spread liberally on the roadside suggests many of the perpetrators may be fast food junkies or alcoholics, or perhaps they are freelance advertising agents, liberally distributing branded food packaging and bottles about the verges in the hope of catching the eye of a passers-by.

Storms come and go but Hempton is still standing. To my knowledge storm Eunice failed to leave any significant damage to property in Hempton. A few fence panels or posts succumbed and maybe a tile or two adrift or flapping roof felt. Swere Paddocks did not fair so well. The old tree just to the north and west of the house broke in two and fell across the road bringing down the adjacent electricity pole and the power line onto the road. Traffic managed to bypass the obstruction by driving over the verge and footpath. The road was cleared and the power made safe on the same day but residents had to wait for a new pole and power line to be installed. Luckily there is nothing worth watching on the goggle box on a Friday night (or most other nights come to think of it).

Whoever cleared the remains of the tree from the roadway did the minimum to allow passage by road and foot, leaving those parts of the tree not actually

lying on the road or footpath where they fell, right up to the very edge of the road and footpath where it remains at time of writing. I don't expect those who cleared the road to return to remove the residual debris. The tree was in the field or in the hedgeline of the adjacent field and I assume is the property of the landowners.

Many of the fields surrounding the village display their feudal heritage particularly clearly at this time of year. These fields have remained unploughed since changes in farming practices in the 14th to 16th centuries. Ridge and furrow cultivation began around the time the Romans abandoned Britain to concentrate on matters closer to home in the fifth century CE and is typical of the open field system. Ridge and furrow topography resulted from ploughing with non-reversible ploughs on the same strip of land each year. The earth was turned to the right when ploughing in both directions, resulting in the build up of a ridge and the excavation of a furrow. In the open field system, a family typically had the use of one strip of land to sustain themselves.

Strips would traditionally be about a furlong (a 'furrow-long') in length, (220 yards), and about five yards and up to a chain wide (22 yards), giving an area from 0.25 to one acre. Advances in agricultural machinery and practice including the introduction of the reversible plough and field enclosures, gradually resulted in ridges and furrows being ploughed out. Where the land was unsuitable for arable farming, the land was turned over to sheep and the ridge and furrow remain to this day. The fields to the south-east of the village have had all vestiges of the system completely ploughed out, whilst those with more vertiginous or wet land still retain the washboard effect.

If governments et al maintain their risible response to the climate crisis and the price of food keeps heading north, we may again find ourselves mashing our ox-drawn ploughs up and down a furrow scratching out an existence.

Stuart Oldham
sj_oldham@btinternet.com

DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

This term we've already had two athletics events for children in Years 5 and 6. Some of them also took part in a hockey tournament. We are now in the finals for both. Year 3 children are having swimming lessons and are developing their water skills really well.

Everyone enjoyed World Book Day. The children were given the opportunity to dress up as a favourite book character, bring in an object as a clue to a character, or wear a mask to represent a character. They were able to use a non-fiction book for the source of their dressing-up, mask or clue. Thanks to parents, carers and relatives who supported our children on this day which is set aside for celebrating reading.

In the week following World Book Day, our PTA held a book sale to support our love of reading. Books were

sold at the end of the day, encouraging our children to read books for enjoyment, as well as raising money for the school. Thanks to the PTA for their hard work.

During Fairtrade fortnight we raised more than £200 through a raffle of Fairtrade produce, in addition to raising nearly £100 in Traidcraft sales on the day. Thank you to everyone who supported us with this.

Year 5 had a fantastic day at the Story Museum in Oxford and also experienced a taster day of science at Tudor Hall. Year 3 pupils had a visitor in school who led a 'Viking Day'. The children dressed up and learnt a lot about the Vikings, in support of our history curriculum.

Denise Welch
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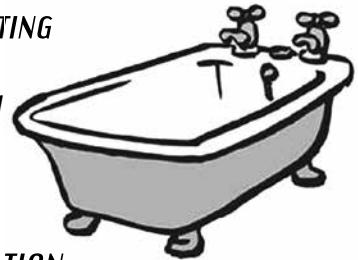
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WELL REMEMBERED

Jane Kellett 1926–2022

Lady Kellett, known to us all as Jane, was born Janet Lesly Street in Havant. Her father owned an ironmongery shop in the town centre whilst her mother spent much of her life involved with the British Red Cross Society. Jane had one elder brother, Peter.

Jane was 13 at the outbreak of the Second World War and she and Peter were evacuated to Petersfield where they lived with their Auntie Gert. Jane was very happy living with Auntie Gert and attended Petersfield High School whilst Peter went to Churcher's College. But life was not straightforward as two London schools were evacuated to Petersfield: Churcher's College had to share its buildings with Emmanuel School, whilst Petersfield High School had to share with Battersea Central School. The London pupils and teachers had to be accommodated locally and Auntie Gert took in two boys and a Latin master who helped Jane with her Latin. The local children, including Peter and Jane, had the use of the buildings in the mornings while the London schools had the afternoons.

A further complication for Jane was that she fell and broke her left arm shortly before her School Certificate exams. The school 'helpfully' suggested that Jane, a left-hander, could write her exams using her right hand. After Jane's father took issue with them, it was agreed that her exams should be postponed. But her school did not enter candidates at Christmas, so Jane had the traumatic experience of travelling alone to Guildford and staying for 10 days with complete strangers whilst attending Guildford High School to take her exams.

After leaving school Jane did secretarial training at Miss Sprules Secretarial Academy which was evacuated from Victoria, London, to Carfax in Oxford. Being wartime, the government then decided she should work for the Admiralty in Emsworth, close to Havant.

Towards the end of the war, two young men, Brian and Joe, arrived at the Streets' house, asking whether they could be accommodated. The Streets' names were on a list of people with spare rooms and, as such, they were expected to take in lodgers

if required. Jane's father told them to come back later and imagined they would not see them again; but they *did* come back and their fate was decided with the toss of a coin. As a consequence Jane met Brian and so began their relationship which led to marriage two years after the end of the war.

Throughout their nearly 47 years' marriage, Jane faithfully supported Brian as his career developed and the need arose to move house a number of times so that he could be close to his workplace, with spells in Surbiton, St Helens, Sutton Coldfield, Edgbaston, Harpenden and Hampstead. As Brian rose to the top of the TI Group, so Jane rose to the challenges expected and ably put on dinner parties for important company guests. Jane's ability in the kitchen was something which stood her in good stead for many years.

After moving to Deddington in 1978 she became heavily involved in village and church life: hosting the church fair in the garden of the Old Malt House in 1984, a stalwart of the church flower arrangers, on the sidesmen rota, baking scones and cakes for church teas and other village events. Even after Brian died in 1994, Jane continued with her generous entertaining, bringing great pleasure to friends. She helped collate the *DN*. She gave lunch parties for friends and anyone she knew of who might need a bit of TLC. She took old ladies out for a drive or lunch and visited them in Featherton House and Godswell ... but had difficulty accepting her limitations when she became one of these old ladies. She was a patron of the Adderbury Ensemble. After Brian's death, Jane sold the Old Malt House and moved into Tays House, and for the last three-and-a-half years of her life Jane lived at Featherton House.

Jane continued throughout her life to support her three daughters, Elizabeth, Hilary and Susan. She will be sorely missed by the whole family, including her six grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

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POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

Neighbours, Knee Surgery and Ukraine

I finally decided that I needed to take the plunge and get a knee replacement, so I emailed the 26 houses in our neighbourhood and received 12 recommendations for surgeons. Then I had the problem of how to choose one. One person I know interviewed five surgeons but what on earth do you ask a man who is going to carve your knee open and fit you with pieces of metal and plastic? Is it going to hurt?

There were various logistical problems with the procedure that I won't bore you with, the last one was how to get home from the Swedish Hospital. Don't ask me why the hospital is named after a Scandinavian country. The locals don't know where any of these European countries are. I realised the day before the operation that Heather picking me in my old man's sports car wouldn't work and her Mini is lovely but I wouldn't be able to get into it if I couldn't bend my knee, so we moved on to look at Ben's Subaru. I hadn't been in it for some years so opening the door was a shock. There were things living in there. Two hours with the Dyson and a disinfectant spray probably solved the main problems. The one thing the doc told me was, you don't want to get an infection in the huge hole in your leg.

The world has gone mad: the Eurovision song contest is coming to the US this week. Each state will have its own representative and hopefully the voting will show the divisions between the states. The first thing I noticed was that there are 56 contestants; a reminder that the Land of the Free has a number of colonies that don't get a vote in the national government. I had to look up the Northern Mariana Islands.

It's in the Pacific, quite close to Guam. Yes, there are obvious reasons why you would want a military base there within striking distance of China. A not so obvious reason is why the inhabitants don't get a vote but, there again, the inhabitants of the capital (Washington DC) only get partial votes.

This is all happening at the same time as a long time tradition in America, known as March Madness. This is a kids' basketball tournament where 68 teams compete to be the best 'in the world'. The estimated revenue for the organisers is more than \$1bn, the estimated income for the players is zero. For the gamblers, it is bigger than the SuperBowl and a lot of beer gets drunk.

The good news is that there is nothing of importance going on in the world, so I can focus on these quaint American traditions, apart from a madman praising a lunatic. Tucker Carlson, the conservative political commentator, called the most dangerous situation since WW2 'a border dispute' and stated that 'Ukraine is not a democracy'. Strangely enough, Russian TV has taken to showing excerpts from his daily Fox show: lies can be dangerous.

I was walking the dog one night two weeks ago. It was -12C and snowing. As I walked past a house up the road the garage door opened and I watched as the two lovely occupants drove out and parked outside a house two doors down. I love my neighbours, but they are American. Let's admit it, if someone could offer me a stair lift now to get to my bed, I would take it. Why did we buy a 'tri-level' house?

Mike Ward

mikew@qsoftware.com

Tales from the Pump

I've always appreciated the 'early doors' sessions in the pub – a good mix of blokes supping their pints and putting the world to rights at the bar, plus couples and groups of girls with their wine spread around the tables and sitting by the fire. As it's just after work, people want to relax and wind down before either going home for dinner or popping into a restaurant. A couple of nights ago Grahame at the bar took a big slug of his Hooky and pronounced, 'Right lads, I want no talk of Covid, war, petrol prices, taxation, politics, or football!' Of course, silence descended, as they all gazed into their pints trying to think of something to say. 'How about beer?' I suggested. 'You all like it and it's certainly been around a long time.' 'For about 5,000 years,' chipped in George, 'started in Mesopotamia, I think.' 'The thing about beer,' said Chris, as he wiped the froth from his mouth after a sip of his ale, 'particularly real ale, is that it has a pile of health benefits. Loads of B vitamins, fibre, antioxidants, and one of the very few ways we can ingest hops. The alcohol content in beer is not

particularly high and even that increases the good cholesterol in our bodies.' They all nodded sagely as they took a drink and felt good about themselves.

Oscar was a bit younger than the rest of the group. 'What I like about beer is the variety you get – especially these days with all these new small brewers starting up. After the blip in 2020 ('Careful, no Covid', said Grahame) the number of small brewers increased again in 2021 to almost two thousand. Great for local employment and for us to try new tastes in beer.' 'I know what I like,' said Fred, 'these new craft ales aren't for me. Too hoppy and usually a bit strong. I like a good session beer', as he started his fifth pint.

Grahame finally gave his two penn'orth. 'I just like the sociability that comes with a couple of pints of beer at the pub – what do you think, Grumpy?' I gave him my super-grumpy look and said 'Absolutely. It's your round.'

Grumpylandlord1@gmail.com





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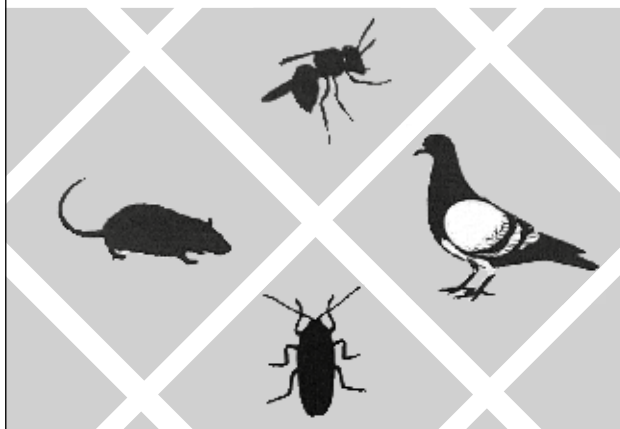
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DEDDINGTON ENVIRONMENT NETWORK

As the world is opening up, here's a look at how we might make our holidays more sustainable. This is a complex subject and we cannot possibly do it justice in the space below but here's a brief look at transport to get you started. A longer version of this article appears on our website. Let us know your top travel tips in the comments section.

Transport makes up nearly half of tourism-related global carbon emissions. Until the pandemic, tourist flights were increasing by 3-4% a year globally. Carbon offsetting, reduction or removal of carbon, in order to compensate for emissions made elsewhere, such as planting trees, was seen as one solution, but scientists are now realising that continuing to emit carbon while simply offsetting it, is just not a sustainable route. In the UK, a typical person's carbon footprint is 11 tons per year. The carbon cost of a return flight to Malaga is half a ton while New York is two tons. General advice is 'fly less, stay for longer'. Walking, cycling, sailing, trains, buses/coaches and motorbikes, in that order, are the greenest ways to travel, while cars release four times as much carbon as motorbikes. Taking the Eurostar from London to Paris compared to flying or driving works out at 15kg of carbon by train, 48kg by car and 122kg by plane.

Several reputable travel companies are trying to make it easier to navigate our way through the options. Some combine eco-friendly tourism with projects designed to help local communities and conservation in the host countries. A few of the best are www.responsibletravel.com, www.pura-adventure.com, www.originaltravel.co.uk and www.muchbetteradventures.com.

Forthcoming events: Tuesday 26 April, the film *Kiss the Ground* at the Holly Tree Club at 7.00pm. The Fenemore's Farm Tour is on 15 June at 6.00pm. This event is limited to 20 people and is not suitable for young children: please contact Debbie on 07724 466471 or debbiemacaro@gmail.com to reserve your place for either of these. The Swift Walk is scheduled for 23 June at 7.30pm: contact Tammy at tammy.marrett@gmail.com if you'd like to join us.

Can you help DEN in 2022? So far, costs for DEN activities have been covered by a small group of people. We're now inviting donations of £10 to help covers costs such as insurance, marketing and market stall costs. If you'd like to donate please visit tinyurl.com/2p99ka3h.

Fiona Smith
fionasmith1969@gmail.com



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April is always a month of change at the Windmill, moving from muddy goalmouth incidents and shouty parents on the touchline to the softer sounds of leather on willow and polite applause on the boundary. The lighter evenings means kids can go wild in the adventure playground and mums and dads can once again get their Saturday coffee fix at The Lookout, courtesy of the wonderful Bloom Coffee Roasters. And this year, some government regulation changes: no more track and trace, no more NHS QR codes and no legal requirement for people with Covid-19 to self-isolate. I suppose it's time to take all those signs down ... That said, we would, of course, advise any Windmill user with Covid symptoms to stay away and avoid contact with other people until they have taken a test. The



Good news! Having sought specialist advice from several companies, we are very pleased to let you know that we have found a solution to the acoustic issues in the hall. Soundsorba will be installing sound absorption panels on the ceiling and walls in the next month or so to rectify echo issues. We are sure your experience of using the hall will be much more enjoyable as a result.

There will be no coffee morning on Easter Monday 18 April but we will open as usual on May Day Bank Holiday Monday 2 May.

Plans for the Holly Tree Club Jubilee Celebration Afternoon Tea and Fizz Party on 1 June are coming together nicely. Mrs Tea's from Adderbury have been booked to provide the food and chilled fizz, and soft drinks will be available too. Members will be asked for a £10 contribution towards the costs of the afternoon and the HTC will cover the shortfall in costs, which we hope will ensure the afternoon is affordable to everyone. A sign-up sheet will be at coffee morning shortly and we hope you will join us on this prestigious occasion. More details to follow ... fingers firmly crossed for sunshine, but we'll have fun whatever the weather.

Julia Cork

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

PressReader is a great resource that provides access to more than 7,000 of the world's top newspapers and magazines. The range and diversity of reading is vast and, for ease, is broken down into categories that include animals and pets, entertainment and TV, art, fashion, home and garden, parenting, crafts and hobbies and many more.

Our volunteers have undertaken training and will

change that the Windmill management committee is waiting for is a brand new fully refurbished lavatory block. I know, we should get out more. Work starts on 19 April and portaloo replacement facilities will be available. Please bear with us as this much-needed improvement is carried out. I'm happy to announce that we now have a new Archive room: a small meeting room and dedicated space to house the Parish Archive. Work will soon begin on a new disabled lavatory and external loo. The next thing we have our eye on is a kitchen revamp, improvements to the stage area, including storage, and new internal doors. To help with all these plans and more, we welcome new committee members, Sian Westbury and Tom Harbottle. Thank you for stepping forward.

Information about everything that goes on at the Windmill is at www.thewindmillededdington.org or on our Facebook page. If you want to enquire about hiring a space or make a booking, email enquiries@thewindmillededdington.org or call us on 07720 834006.

Vaughan Jones

vaughan@englishlanguagematters.com

BLISSFUL THINKING



Forward planning doesn't seem to have been in vogue for at least four decades in this country or the transition from fossil fuel dependence from any and all autocracies would not be such a sensitive issue. Without speculating on the reasons for this nearsightedness, it is incumbent on us, the citizenry, to drive change, on a local level to spearhead a paradigm shift.

I see interesting initiatives all the time emanating from Deddington Environment Network but I've yet to see the one we surely all desire: our own source of entirely localised energy generation. Surely the time has come for the Windmill Centre to finally have a real, energy-generating windmill atop it. Lightning rods for additional energy potential, watchtowers and gun turrets are entirely optional, lest you imagine this suggestion is anything less than credible.

Just look around: climate change is no longer a spot over the horizon; it's lurking under the streetlight beneath our bathroom window. We've had so many storms this year we're projected to run out of alphabet letters for denomination before summer's here, so this is our chance to turn extreme weather to our advantage. Let Deddington lead the way into the new world!

Aaron Bliss

aaronjbliss@hotmail.com

be happy to show you how to find PressReader and other digital library services.

Go to the Oxfordshire Libraries website page under the heading 'International Newspapers and Magazines online'. It can be accessed in a library or, for current library members, from home. If you would like to know more, please ask when you visit us.

Louise Willis, Library Manager



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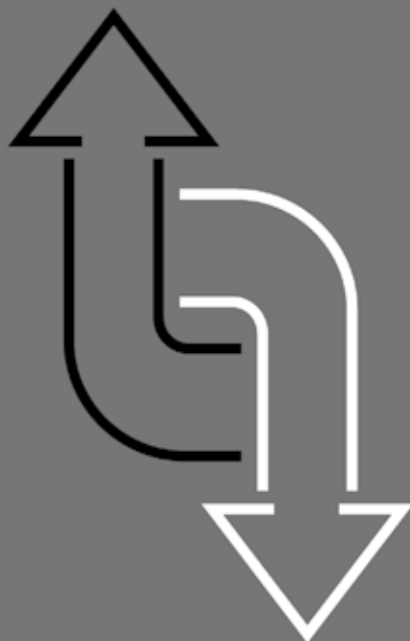
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Friends of Castle Grounds

The AGM took place on 9 March. Details of the work carried out in the last year were given and the plan for the Castle Grounds for the future. We are pleased to have two new committee members. We are always looking for new ideas.

Some heavy branches came down during the storm. We hope these will be used to shore up the path on the moat by the badger setts. The bird boxes are up. See if you can spot them when you walk around the Grounds.

We will have a stall at the Four Farms Challenge Race on Sunday 22 May, with lots of photos and information about the history of the Castle Grounds. If you have any memories or photos, please let us know.

Please dispose of your rubbish in the bins provided or take it home. Also please remove your dog waste to make this wonderful site safe for everyone to enjoy. Enjoy the sunshine and visit this special historical site.

Carol Garrett
cgarrett@btinternet.com

Daeda's Wood

Daeda's Wood has pulled through winter relatively unscathed. Although the recent very high winds caused some trees to become unsafe, the Woodland Trust has been active in felling and clearing the main rides so that we can enjoy our local Wood.

The River Swere is really swollen and almost overflowing the southern banks, so extreme care needs to be taken when taking children and dogs to the area. It is tempting for youngsters to attempt building dams but this should be discouraged on both safety and environmental grounds.

The many shelters created last year using fallen branches withstood the high winds. I look forward with interest to see how they will be developed. It would be good to have a series of photographs reflecting the seasonal changes of these structures.

The Deddington Art exhibition is coming up in July. The Wood could be a truly wonderful subject, inspiring all manner of interpretation.

Annette Murphy, Chair
murphyannette74@gmail.com

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Deddington and District History Society

On 17 February, Steve Kershaw gave us a talk on 'Boudicca's Revolt: the Ups and Downs of Roman Power in Britain'. Illustrated by a single slide showing tribal areas in Britain, Steve proved that a well-prepared talk and a ripping yarn by an expert doesn't need the help of PowerPoint.

Using the works of Roman writers, Tacitus, an historian, and Strabo, a geographer, we were given an amusing and fairly accurate Roman assessment of Britain and the Britons, and the reasons why the Romans wanted to colonise the country. The climate was mild and wet, encouraging good quality livestock, and there were mineral riches to be exploited.

The Romans pacified the southern half of the country quickly. Local chieftains soon realised that resistance led to vicious retaliation, so coming to an accommodation with the invaders seemed prudent. The exception was Caratacus, king of the Catuvellauni (south east midlands), who tried unsuccessfully to stem the advance. He managed to escape capture, heading to North Wales, where his forces were defeated forcing him to flee to the northeast where Queen Cartimandua took him prisoner and handed him over to the Romans.

Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni, posed a serious threat to Roman imperium. When her husband died, he left half his kingdom to the Romans and half to his daughters, hoping to protect his ruling line. The Romans overrode the will, publicly flogged Boudicca and raped her daughters. Furious, and taking advantage of the Roman Governor's absence, Boudicca led a revolt against the hated rulers, gaining support from other local tribes. As she swept south, her followers sacked Colchester, St Albans and London. It was touch and go whether the Romans could stop her – 40,000 of their

troops had been killed. In the end, the discipline of the legionaries proved superior to the fire and passion of the Britons.

No-one knows what happened to Boudicca, except that she was not taken to Rome in chains to be publicly killed. Her revolt shocked Rome, not just because of the destruction and carnage wrought on their forces, but because she was a woman. In a patriarchal society, she was horror personified. One thing was certain; her revolt was the last native attempt to defeat the Romans. The Britons realised that there were advantages to peace and money could be made.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 21 April when Julie Ann Goodson will speak on Scandal in Oxfordshire High Society. We meet at the primary school at 7.30pm.

Gareth Richard
Gareth.richard@btinternet.com

Photographic Society

John Lewis, the photographer not the shop, asked us to concentrate on composition in our photography, a huge complex topic. The subjective issue of taking an image for the viewer to elicit emotion and communicate an idea has many facets. A carefully composed picture will be more effective and make a stronger impression. A portrait of Igor Stravinsky by Arnold Newman demonstrated this idea; the sitter is in a corner, but the image is dominated by shapes created by the piano. Art can give many examples of composition that can be replicated by the photographer.

John felt that there must be an intense curiosity rather than a passing visual interest in a subject to ensure better composition. The subject matter can be shocking, sad, amusing, gentle or dramatic to get the

CALLING ALL CLUBS

viewer's attention. Using diagonal lines, leading lines and shapes, especially in black and white, can result in a satisfying image that gives a sense of movement. The idea of colour to create a mood generated lots of conversation. John highlighted the colour wheel as an effective tool to produce an experience that affects mood, emotion or behaviour and letting one colour dominate creates drama.

I would encourage you to look at John's website, www.johnalewis.co.uk, to see his images. We followed our talk with a look at members' images based around the topic of 'Shadows'. Our comments were more focused on the idea of composition after listening to John.

The next meeting is our AGM at the Adderbury Institute on Wednesday 6 April at 7.30pm. This will be followed by a presentation of members' favourite images from the last year. You are welcome to join us but please check the website for up-to-date information.

Anne Hunsley
www.addphoto.co.uk

Bookworms

We read *The Horseman* by Tim Pears in February, the first in a trilogy. This lyrical novel is set in 1911 on a large country estate on the Somerset-Devon border and describes rural life of the era.

The estate has several farms and the narrative centres on one family, the Sercombes, who collaboratively work the estate, and on 12-year old Leo in particular. Social issues of the day are described through Leo's family's relationships and those of the family with the lord of the manor. Young Leo has an affinity with

horses which draws him into a close friendship with Lord Prideaux's daughter, Lottie.

The writing is both unsentimental and sparing, giving the reader a strong sense of how the seasons affected the land and everyone that lived on it and by it and underscores the deprivations of a labourer's life.

Janet Macey 01869 336156

Book Group

The Island by Victoria Hislop is a bestselling historical novel set on the Cretan Island of Spinalonga where, for roughly the first half of the 20th century, Greek citizens who developed leprosy were banished. The life of this community is portrayed through the saga of a fictional Greek family affected by the terrible disease. The granddaughter of one of the victims, Sofia, has spent her adult life in England and has always been secretive about her past. When her daughter decides to visit Crete, Sofia puts her in touch with an old friend there who will reveal the love, jealousy, tragedy and courage behind the family history.

This is a well-researched book and we were fascinated by the lives of those in the leper colony and by the medical advances in treating leprosy. The family drama also led to an interesting discussion about the corrosive power of family secrets. *The Island* was Victoria Hislop's first novel and a few of us found her writing style here rather long-winded but for many it was a compelling and enjoyable read.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 28 April. Please contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for more details.

Sian Waterman

SPORT

Deddington Original Golf Society

Following the AGM in February, our events for 2022 have been finalised. On 11 May we visit Frilford Heath and play the green course; 15 June is Olton near Solihull; 11 July Ladbroke Park near Tanworth-in-Arden; on Sunday 24 July the tour visits Hill Valley in Shropshire for a one night stay and two rounds of golf; 26 August sees a nine-hole scramble at Feldon Valley, followed by a barbecue kindly hosted by Keith Spengler with master of the barbecue, Alex Moss. Our final outing is on 23 September at Wychwood Golf Club.

New members are welcome and anyone wishing to come along as a guest to any of the events is welcome.

Nigel Oddy, Secretary
nigeloddy@yahoo.com

Deddington Cricket Club

The new season will be upon us quickly and there is lots going on at the Club right now. We are delighted that the Red Lion has agreed to be our new shirt sponsor for the next three seasons. Gary Ward, the publican, is a big cricket fan and we are looking forward to celebrating our victories and drowning those, always narrow, defeats in his fine establishment.

After a busy winter of indoor cricket matches


and nets, we are about to start outdoor pre-season training at the Windmill. All-comers nets will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays starting on 6 April at 6.00pm, weather permitting. Women will train on Friday evenings starting on 9 April. Anyone wanting to join is very welcome. Just contact me.

Our first league games start in the first week of May and we hope to hold some warm-up games before then. Work is underway on getting the square ready for play. Thanks to generous support from Deddington-based financial advisors Weston, Murray and Moore, Hamptons Estate Agents and Burrington Estates, we will have some fantastic mobile cricket covers this season. Look out for the distinctive blue covers at the Windmill, although we hope we won't need them too often on match days.

For the first time the Club is going to run a junior All Stars event this summer on Friday evenings from 5.30-6.30pm. This is an eight-week fun introduction to cricket for 5-8-year olds. All participants receive a kit-bag, bat, tee-shirt and other goodies. Parents are encouraged to join in and the sessions will be supervised by fully trained activators and coaches. For details of the programme and to book places, please look



Continued on p29

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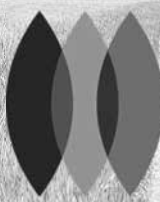
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SPORT*Continued from p26*

at ECB All Stars, <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars>.

With around 50 matches to look forward to this summer, we hope to see lots of supporters at the Windmill and some lovely weather to play in.

Simon Oldfield
simon.oldfield0@gmail.com
07771997358

Deddington Town Football Club*First Team results:*

12.02.22	Bloxham (a)	W 5-1
19.02.22	Bodicote Sports (a) (CUP)	W 3-1
	Thornton J (3)	
26.02.22	Kings Sutton (h) (CUP)	W 8-0
	Thornton J (4), Hall, Shepherd, Radcliffe (2)	
05.03.22	Wroxton Sports (a) (CUP)	D 2-2
	Thornton J, Radcliffe	
12.03.22	Hardwick Sports (a) (CUP)	L 3-6
	Catania, Hall, Radcliffe	

Reserve Team results:

12.02.22	Broughton & NN (a) (CUP)	D 0-0
26.02.22	MCheney Res (a) (CUP)	L 2-4

A productive month for Deddington Town led by goal hog, Joe Thornton, who only scored ten in five matches. Most of these were cup matches, sadly with the last lost to Hardwick. Their league position is about midway and glory may yet rear its flaxen mane to the Humbugs by season's end. Sadly, Athletic had a quiet and less encouraging time, as they drew and lost in the cup, while their league position remains precarious. Be sure to shout your lungs hoarse for the Humbugs and Latics in the coming weeks.

Aaron Bliss
07909 642882

Deddington Town Youth Teams

The Under 15s playing in the WDYFL B Spring League have had a mixed set of results – a 1-4 home defeat to Hook Norton, a 4-6 victory away at SWIS with two goals each for James Marrett and Hugh Baker, and a 2-0 defeat at Freeland. The Under 13s playing in the WDYFL in the C Spring League had a 0-6 victory at Chipping Norton with a hat-trick for Theo Flint and two goals for Fraser Honeyman, followed by a 2-0 home win over Hook Norton. The Under 12s playing in the Oxfordshire Youth Football League had a 6-2 win over Crowmarsh in the cup, followed by a 2-0 home win over Europa Titans, and a 0-6 away victory at Didcot Town.

Windmill pitch improvement programme

With funding from the Football Foundation, we are working with Deddington Cricket Club to improve the pitches for football and cricket. We would like to recruit some volunteers to help with a programme of pitch maintenance over the spring and summer. If you want to get involved, please contact me.

Presentation day

Our Youth Presentation Day that will take place at the Windmill Centre on Sunday 12 June from 1.30pm. We are looking for local companies to sponsor the event – trophies, event programme, raffle prizes, or the event overall. If you are interested, please contact me.

**Roger Sykes, Development Officer
 and U7/U6 Coach,**
carsykes@btinternet.com
07899 914425

YOUTH**1st Deddington Scout Group***Cubs*

Since I last wrote, the Cubs have been working hard to complete the requirements for their Fire Safety activity badge. This has raised their awareness about fire hazards, safety measures in the home, safe behaviour around campfires and fireworks and the work of the Fire Service.

Just before half-term we celebrated the birthday of the founder of the scouting movement, Lord Baden-Powell, with reflection on some of the key aspects of the history of Cubs and meaning of our ceremonies. We have played fun games during this time too.

Cubs are now moving on to tackling their Personal Challenge badge; we will help identify meaningful challenges that they will complete over the next several weeks.

Paul Honess
deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts

We have spent the last month sky-gazing for the Astronomy activity badge – or at least trying to. You could put money on cloudy skies from the minute we decided to do it. But we did our best. The Scouts looked at and then recreated the solar system, made planispheres and star clocks. They even had a crack at making a telescope from cardboard rolls, a magnifying glass and one lens from a pair of Poundland glasses – couldn't make the image the right way up though. Bring back Galileo.

Next, we finish our fundraising for Toilet Twinning and a Guess the Loo Roll game at the market.

Pete Churchyard
deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

The Show Must Go On

'Bye for now but, never fear, we'll all be back next year!' shouts the cast of *Robin Hood*, frantically waving goodbye to a packed audience at the Windmill Centre. In January 2020, no-one thought twice about this cheerful ending to our local pantomime. None of us could have foreseen what would happen next. And what a rollercoaster it has been. To see the impact of Covid on the arts has been devastating. While community theatre isn't quite the same as London's West End, the pandemic hasn't left us without scars.

As I write, we approach what will be our first ever spring pantomime: *Peter Pan* in March 2022. It has been a long and tumultuous time coming. We sought to keep our community entertained in lockdown ('Stayin' Inside' was a classic, I think we can all agree) – yet nothing can really replace a live event like a pantomime. We are so grateful to be back on stage.

What many readers might not know is just how many people it takes to make a show like this happen, particularly in the constantly changing environment we've all endured over the last nine months of our planning. Like all community organisations we have a hard-working committee, two of whom write the script from scratch. There have been many, many committee meetings, particularly over Christmas, where we grappled with the debate of continuing with the half-rehearsed show planned for January. Although there were no legal restrictions on us at that point, there were ever-rising cases across our company. In hindsight, I was delighted we postponed, testing positive myself only a week before our original opening night. Could we have put on *Peter Pan* without Captain Hook? I hope we'll never have to find out.

The ripple effect of the postponement was far-reaching. Rescheduling affected far beyond The Players, with the Windmill Committee and many of its users flexing their diaries to get us back on stage. We lost some cast members too due to other commitments, shuffled parts, re-versioned the script, and persuaded/begged a few Players alumni to come back and step into roles with only a few weeks rehearsal time until the show.

Then came the jigsaw that is the backstage. The list is almost endless: costumes, props, prompting, stage building and changing for each scene, make-up, choreography, live music, singing, the beautifully painted set, working out rehearsals in relation to 40 different people's availability, making sure each person gets on stage when they're meant to. And that's before the biggest job of all: pulling all the moving parts

together, bringing out the best in each performer, and directing the show. Perhaps let's not even mention that we also needed to call in a professional lighting consultant from London at the last minute to ensure our lighting desk actually controlled our lights – at one point Neverland was going to look very dull indeed. If this list sounds exhausting, reader, then you'll get a sense of the effort that goes into our production – and how we feel after some of the rehearsals.

That's not all; a week from our first night, we are furiously gathering volunteers to help things run smoothly on the night and beyond. Running our raffle for good causes, making teas and coffees, serving at the bar and tuck shop, putting out chairs and showing people to their seats. It really does take a village.

I've described what happens, as opposed to who does what, to ensure the *Deddington News* can actually fit our article in. The list of names is simply too vast to include. On behalf of us all, I want to say a massive thank you to every person who has helped us make *Peter Pan* happen. We could all do with a bit of joy at the moment, so if you are reading this having seen our show, I hope you took a moment to enjoy the pleasure of being somewhere for a couple of hours with the sole purpose of having a lovely time.

If you'd like to join in the fun on or off stage, please contact our secretary, Suzie Upson, on suzieupson@mac.com, follow our Facebook page, and keep an eye out for news of future productions in the *Deddington News*. New members are always welcome and we hope to be back to our regular January panto in 2023 – famous last words?

**Jen Toll, Chair of Deddington Players
and very grateful Captain Hook**



L-R: Tom Fenemore, Martin Squires, Elen Squires, Lucy Squires, Annette Murphy, Angela Conlan

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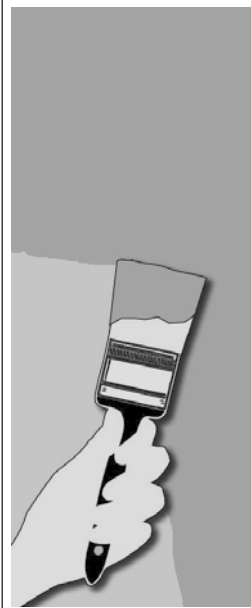
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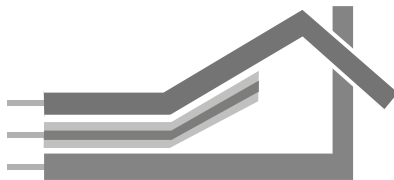
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