

April 2023

The **DEDDINGTON NEWS**



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THE TEAM

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JILL CHEESEMAM

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by **10 APRIL**

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Adderbury, Deddington and
District Photographic Society

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

The DEDDINGTON NEWS

My apologies to anyone who received a misprinted or misnumbered copy of *DN* in March. A few copies were over-printed and may also have had the pages randomised. It just goes to show that even the professional printers aren't perfect. If you received a faulty copy, would you please return it to me?

Have you ever attended one or some of the events put on by the hard-working Festival team? The event could be no more if it's not rescued. That would be a great pity. Before Covid struck, it usually ran over at least a week, offering great variety for adults of all ages and tastes and for children. See p18 for the current situation.

JC

What's On April

- Sat 1 Spring Craft Fayre: Windmill Centre, 10.00am–1.00pm
- Sat 1 Solo Vocal Recital: Edward Button, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Sun 2 DEN: Litter Pick, Market Place, 2.30pm
- Wed 5 Photographic Society: AGM followed by 'What is it?' quiz, Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Tue 11 Deddington Festival AGM: Deddington Arms, 7.00pm
- Wed 19 Parish Council Meeting: 7.30pm
- Thu 20 History Society: The Ascott-under-Wychwood Martyrs, Jill Anderson, Primary School, 7.30pm
- Sat 22 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Mon 24 Holly Tree Club: AGM, Parish Church, 10.00am
- Tue 25 DEN: Wildflower Talk by BBOWT, Deddington Arms, 7.00pm
- Thu 27 Book Group: Contact Sally Lambert, 01869 338094, for details
- Thu 27 Bookworms: Holly Tree, 6.30pm

May

- Wed 3 Photographic Society: 'Discovery', Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Fri 5 Holly Tree Club: King's Coronation, Fizz and Afternoon Tea Party
- Sun 7 Coronation party: Parish Church, 12.30pm–3.30pm, free tickets from Hamptons, Nellie and Dove and The Flower Shop in Deddington
- Sat 13–Oxfordshire Art Weeks: Cotswold Room, Deddington Arms,
- Sun 21 10.00am–4.00pm Monday to Friday; 9.00am–4.00pm weekends
- Mon 15 DOGS: Harleston Park, Northampton
- Wed 17 Parish Council Meeting: 7.30pm
- Thu 18 History Society: The Value of Old Photographs to the Historian, Janice Kinory, Primary School, 7.30pm
- Sun 21 Four Farms Challenge: Castle Grounds, 10.30am
- Sat 27 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm

June

- Sun 11 DTFC Youth: Presentations
- Wed 14 DOGS: Badgemore Park

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.

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

15 March at the Old School Room, Hempton

Present: Councillors Collins, Ince, Oldfield (chair), O'Neill, Robinson, Snashall, Swan, Timms, Watts. County councillor Fatemian, two members of the public, the parish clerk and the *DN* representative.

Open Forum

A suggestion of traffic lights to control the pinchpoint at Hempton has apparently cropped up in some discussions since the last PC meeting and a Hempton representative indicated that this would cause significant difficulties for residents of the two houses closest to the narrow point. If necessary this will be pointed out at the meeting with OCC highways representatives.

District Council

A Band D Council Tax of £148.50 was approved. This is an increase of £5.00 compared with 2022/23. OCC's Council Tax increase is in excess of £80.00 for a Band D property.

Environment and Recreation

Positions for all the replacement waste bins in the parish have been marked; PC is awaiting the supply of bases before installation.

Further investigations are being made regarding the old play area by the tennis courts.

OCC will be planting an elm, resistant to Dutch Elm Disease, north of the traffic lights and west of the A4260.

Tennis Club is researching a suitable position for a padel court somewhere on the Windmill playing fields. The PC has reviewed and updated its Emergency Plan.

Finance & General Purposes

Following contact from a student at the primary school, the PC is to ask local businesses to increase their use of fair trade products.

One tree and roots are to be removed at the Cricket Club nets.

Planning

No objection

Hempton Gate, Deddington: amendment to site layout of plot 22. This is an amendment to the plans in that this property is now 2m wider (and a little closer to the boundary) than on the approved plans; it appears to make no material difference to the plans.

Castle View, Goose Green: replacement of garden shed with shed of similar size construction and roof.

Windmill Centre, Hempton Road: overclad existing roof with galvanised steel sheet. The new overclad roof will be 25cm higher than the existing. No neighbour comments on the public portal.

Land Adjoining and West of Stonecroft House (The Poplars), Clifton Road: erection of 5 single storey age-restricted dwellings for older people to replace the current consent for 7 units, moving them slightly

away from the neighbouring boundary to the west. No neighbour comments on the planning portal.

Objection

The Swere, Deddington: proposed installation of slimline monopole telecommunications, wrap around cabinet base and additional ancillary cabinets. This is the third application by 3, for a reduction of the monopole from 20m to 15m on a narrower pole. There are 14 neighbour objections. The PC previously asked the developer if the pole is multi-serving and why it hadn't considered the highways depot. They have not replied. Objection on grounds of safety when installing and maintaining monopole; unsightly in a residential area close to a conservation area; proximity to residential property and school; not a multi-serving pole; wrong location – much more suitable at OCC highways depot. The Swere, Deddington: proposed telecommunications installation of monopole and cabinets, as above.

Approvals

35 Gaveston Gardens: extension over garage and replacement single storey rear extension.

Jocy Fashion, 8 High Street: tree works.

Deddington Manor, New Street: alterations to fireplaces.

1 New Street, Deddington: Certificate of Lawfulness. Pure Barn, Oxford Road: use of barn for non-agri storage.

28 Gaveston Gardens: single storey flat roof extension, side extension and first floor pitched roof.

1 The Daedings: erection of one x 2 bed dwelling with parking area.

Home Farm Works, Clifton Road: change of use of land for expansion of existing B* external storage.

Denmar House. Market Place: demolition of rear modern extension, erection of part single- part two-storey extension to the rear.

Holly Tree Cottages, Earls Lane: cycle parking and biodiversity.

Rose Dene, New Street: tree works.

Archway Cottage, New Street: tree works.

Refusals

The Poundhouse, The Lane, Hempton: demolish wooden outbuilding and erect 2 storey outbuilding with garage with living accommodation above.

Land at Hempton Lodge, Snakehill Lane, Hempton: erection of a single storey self-build dwelling.

Neighbourhood Plan

An increase to 85 houses may be required with a potential change of national and local government in the foreseeable future. The Plan is to be submitted for Reg 16. There is potential for a further six weeks pause due to local elections.

Next meeting: Wednesday 19 April at 7.30pm in the Old School Room, Hempton.

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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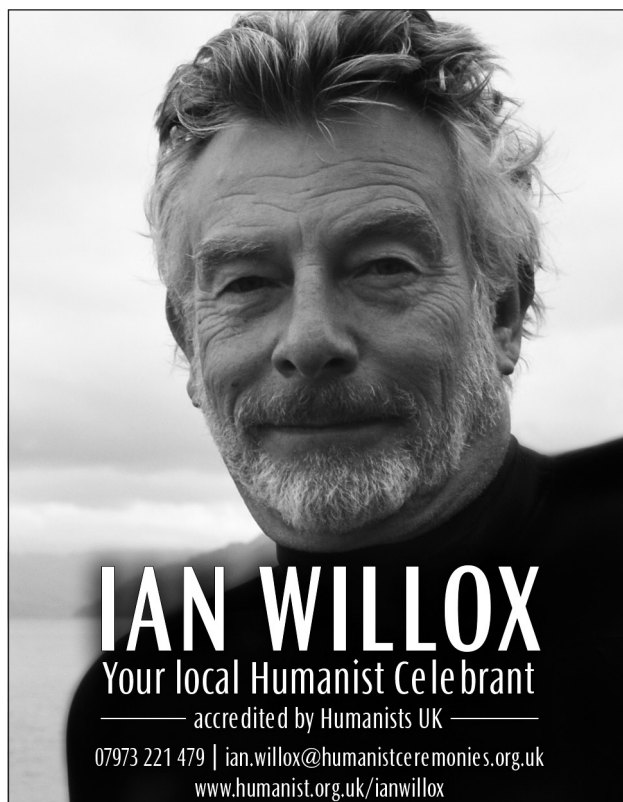
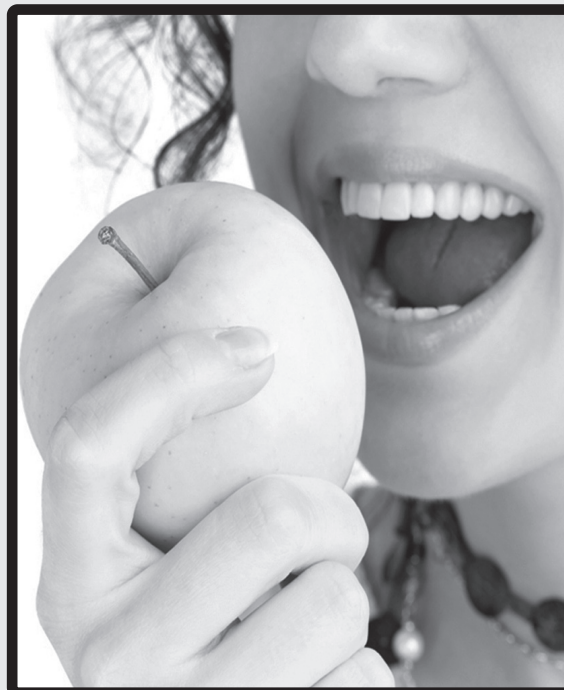
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DEDDINGTON ENVIRONMENT NETWORK

We are taking part in the Great British Spring Clean again this year. Join us for the next community litter pick on Sunday 2 April at 2.30pm in the Market Place. We'll have some kit available, supplied by the council, but please bring your own if you have some.

HEDGEHOGS – If you came to the farmers' market last month, you might have bumped into the Scouts who are asking lots of questions about hedgehogs. If you have seen a hedgehog recently and plotted it on the Scouts map, you might now be the proud owner of one of their hedgehog fridge magnets.

Hedgehogs are distant relatives of shrews and, amazingly, have changed little in 15 million years. They are equipped with some 6,000 spines as excellent deterrents to predators. When they are born their spines are concealed below a layer of skin and are revealed shortly after birth. Badgers are their main predators but, occasionally, an owl will take one.

The number of hedgehogs in the UK has declined by a third since 2000. One of the major problems they face is the loss of biodiversity and traditional habitats like hedgerows and woodland edges. Hedgehogs are nomadic and may travel up to two miles each night looking for food or a mate which means it's likely they will have to cross a road. It's estimated that around 150,000 hedgehogs die on the roads each year.

We have been inspired by our neighbours in Kirtlington to get involved in the hedgehogstreet.org campaign. Wouldn't it be wonderful if Deddington could become a hedgehog-friendly zone? As well as

providing feeding stations and homes in which they can hibernate, the idea is to create safe routes for hedgehogs to travel between our gardens. Have a look at Hedgehog.street.org or the Kirtlington Wildlife and Conservation Society (KWACS) page on the Kirtlington Village website, <https://kirtlingtonvillage.co.uk/kwacs>, for ideas of how we can connect outdoor spaces. The Scouts would love to hear from you with any sightings so they can be plotted on a map. This is a great first step to working out the optimum routes for hedgehog highways. Email them on deddingtonsl@gmail.com.

We can make our gardens more hedgehog friendly by providing food for them in autumn and winter to supplement their natural diet. Hedgehogs are lactose intolerant, so save your milk for your cereal. They mainly eat invertebrates including beetles, worms, caterpillars and slugs. We can replicate their diet with special hedgehog food or meat-based cat or dog food. Unfortunately, if we use slug pellets in our gardens, even so-called wildlife friendly ones, but especially the ones containing metaldehyde, hedgehogs will ingest the poisons meant for the slugs and suffer too. We can provide havens from fallen leaves and logs for them to hibernate and take care when lighting any bonfires or strimming or cutting long grass.

For more ideas have a look at Countryfile's nine simple steps: <https://www.countryfile.com/wildlife/mammals/our-guide-to-hedgehogs-where-to-see-and-how-to-help-hedgehogs-in-your-garden/>.

Fiona Smith

info@deddingtonenvironment.net



Friends of Deddington Library

PHOTO COMPETITION

Winning entries will be featured in the 2024 Deddington Parish Calendar!

Once again, we are inviting you to enter your photos celebrating Deddington, Clifton and Hempton.

All ages and abilities welcome!
Images must be landscape format, files must be minimum 5Mb, 300dpi and saved as high quality JPGs.

Deadline for entries is Friday 4th August 2023
Submit your entries by email to abw@brynwilliams.com

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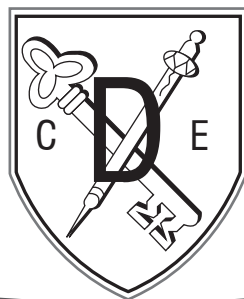
DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term 3 seemed to fly by and now we are in the midst of Term 4.

We had a wonderful day celebrating World Book Day in early March. The children dressed as their favourite book characters, brought in their favourite books and read to each other. It was a brilliant day with so much to celebrate about reading and our favourite authors.

We had the Scholastic Book Fair in school. Thanks to all of you who supported the Fair by coming into school and purchasing books for the children. There was great excitement as the children browsed and chose their books. We will be spending the money raised on books for the school.

We have had several trips over the past few weeks. Year 5 had a science day at Tudor Hall School and Years 3 and 4 visited Windsor Castle, having a magnificent time. The children were shown where the late Queen Elizabeth II lies in St George's Chapel, as well as seeing the resting place of Henry VIII. They saw many fascinating parts of the castle, including the dolls'



house which belonged to Queen Mary. I'm sure the children will remember many of these scenes forever.

Year 4 also visited Kingswood Residential and Outdoor Activity Centre on Friday 3 March. They had a fantastic time, using the zip wires and working on team activities.

The school took part in the 'Eat them to defeat them' campaign, designed to encourage children to eat more vegetables. Our thanks to parents/carers

and our 'Fresh Start' lunchtime staff who helped to organise this.

Year 1 put on an art, design and technology exhibition for their families, showing their work during Terms 3 and 4. The exhibition took place after school one afternoon in the Year 1 classroom. The children were very proud of themselves for being able to show off their achievements. It was a very successful event.

Denise Welch

dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

Friends of the Castle Grounds

The AGM took place on 8 March. All the officers and committee members were re-elected, apart from George Gibbs, who offered his resignation. We thanked him for his time on the committee and past chairman. Wildflower seeds have now been scattered and the fallen tree removed from the moat. We are delighted to hear that the Castle Grounds is to be used for a Shakespeare evening in July. What a spectacular setting.

The war against the saplings continues. The wheelie bins are going to be moved to the entrance and screened by willow fencing. Walking in the Grounds there is a good display of crocuses this year but it is still very muddy, especially in the moat by the badger setts where the path is eroding, so please take care. Discussions are still being held with English Heritage to try to provide a solution to the problem.

The Four Farms challenge is to take place on Sunday 21 May. We welcome all the runners and visitors to the Castle Grounds. We will have a stall which will have information about the history of the Grounds and the future plans. If anyone has any information or photos please contact me. Thank you to James (chairman) and Mike (treasurer) for their continued work on clearing and removing debris from the banks and other major tasks around the Grounds. With lighter nights and better weather, come and enjoy the Castle Grounds. We are privileged to have this special site.

Carol Garrett

cgarrett@btinternet.com

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

The 'Not the Book Club' trip to Lynmouth saw five men and a dog learning some interesting facts. Firstly, North Devon is very hilly as the first eight mile walk proved. Secondly, there are downhill stages that are more difficult to walk than the uphill stages. And, if you drop your wallet on the trail, there are people who will drive many miles out of their way to return it to you after they have phoned your employer to let you know.

You can easily spend 5% of your budget on public transport where the funicular railway is all you went on. A funicular railway means 'joined' as the two cars are joined by a cable strung around a cable where water poured into a tank under the top car drags up the car at the bottom. We also learned how easy it is to spend 25 hours over three days sitting in a pub. Many activity apps recorded record weeks achieved and fun was had by all. More travellers next time might make it better.

Apart from that excitement, Lower Larkrise has been refreshingly quiet. There have been quizzes, new menus, 'rising sea levels' and we have been able to welcome a lot of 'outsiders' walking the footpaths in our environs and seeing the white deer which still eludes an 'up close' portrait.

Looking forward, we have a quiz that doesn't clash with a parish council meeting, so a team of that particular set of individuals looks likely, better weather and lighter evenings for more walkers and joggers, and the run up to the start of the cricket season, with outdoor nets and ground-keeping duties to keep parishioners busy. Any news I would like to know.

Martin Bryce

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CHURCH

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

April

Deddington church is open throughout the day for anyone wishing to visit, pray, meditate or simply be. Parish 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

Easter Services

Sun 2 10.30am Holy Communion
3.00pm 3 O'Clock Family Service
6.00pm Choral Evensong
Mon 3 6.00pm Compline
Tue 4 6.00pm Compline
Wed 5 10.00am Holy Communion
6.00pm Compline
Thu 6 7.00pm Liturgy of Maundy Thursday with Washing of Feet, Stripping of the Altars and Vigil until 9.00pm
Fri 7 9.30am Family Service followed by Hot Cross Buns
12.00-3.00 The Three Hours

Sat 8 7.30pm Vigil, Service of Light and Renewal of Baptism Vows, followed by refreshments
Sun 9 8.00am BCP Communion Easter Sunday
10.30am Holy Communion
Sun 16 10.30am Holy Communion
Sun 23 10.30am Holy Communion
Sun 30 10.30am Holy Communion

Hempton

Sun 9 9.00am Holy Communion Easter Sunday
Sun 16 9.00am Holy Communion

Barfords

Sun 9 9.00am Holy Communion, followed by Easter Egg hunt, BStMichael
Sun 16 10.30am Family Service, BStMichael
Sun 23 9.00am Holy Communion, BStJohn

From the Parish Registers

Funerals:

21 February Elizabeth Parkhurst
2 March Clifford Smith.

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 Stan Nelson, 01869 337883.

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.

DEDDINGTON PARISH SHOW 2023

The Deddington Parish Show will take place on 2 September 2023 in the parish church.

We need setters-up on Friday 1 September and on Saturday we need stewards and stall minders, as well as cake-makers for teas and the cake stall and, of course lots of people entering all classes.

Please contact me if you would like to be involved. Programmes will be available in the local shops and pubs throughout July and August.

Sue Shelley 01869 338893
sue.shelley@yahoo.co.uk

DH History Corner

www.deddingtonhistory.uk

In a recent post on Deddington Community Facebook, Deborah Hill shared a nice moment: 'We were putting flowers on my parents' grave today in Deddington and the bells were ringing as it was time for the service. When they stopped, I said to my husband, they will ring again in a minute, just one bell continuous, as my Mum used to say it was for people who were late. I believe it was called the 'Ting Tang'. It was lovely to hear.'

Deborah was correct. The Ting Tang bell – more formally called the Sanctus bell – was cast and hung in 1649. It has been providing a last minute call to worshippers ever since. It was also known as 'the

Pooden bell' in the 1930s, according to Lily Hill in a 1988 *DN* article in which she recounts that in her youth, families put their Sunday dinner in the baker's, Bill Course, oven for a few pence. On the last stroke of the Ting Tang he would shut the oven door. The church bells have a long and well documented history which can be found at:

<https://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/deddington-church,stpeterandstpaul/bells>

Rob Forsyth
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Plan

We're so nearly there. We have a plan, we have policies, we have an allocated site for housing and much-needed benefits. But, at the time of going to press, the Neighbourhood Plan steering group has not had the opportunity to put the Submission Plan before the parish council for approval. If that hurdle is cleared at the 15 March meeting, the plan, the responses to the Regulation 14 consultation and various other plan-related bits and pieces should all be uploaded to the parish council and the neighbourhood plan websites, <https://www.deddingtonparishcouncil.org/> and <http://www.deddingtonneighbourhoodplan.org> by the time this reaches you.

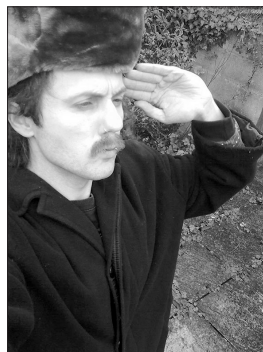
Plenty of reading

Even that is not the end of the story. We then submit the Neighbourhood Plan to Cherwell District Council to look over before arranging a Regulation 16 consultation. Then it goes to a government examiner and, finally, to a referendum of the parish.

Even at this submission stage, the Plan should have some standing and we hope it will be borne in mind when CDC's planning committee considers planning applications for other developments on Deddington sites that we have not allocated.

Helen Oldfield
helenmoldfield@yahoo.co.uk

BLISSFUL THINKING



Artificial Intelligence sounds like what a teenage prodigy's internal monologue would respond when a parent or relative called them smart, but it's real and it's here. Whether or not it really will replace all human artists and writers is doubted by the more sceptical among us, though you'd be a fool to write off the machine's capacity for disposing

of people when robots will do the job cheaper.

Like shiny new technological leaps of the past, we seem to be at the innocent and playful stage now, which I for one am savouring. Remember when Facebook was just about photos, self-indulgent musings and addictive games you bombarded (and angered) friends with endless invites for? I'd already been using AI-generated art on Deep Dream Generator as writing prompts on Instagram, (alternate_timeline_albums, if you're interested), when a friend recommended the AI chatbot ChatGPT for travel itineraries. Instead I barrelled in and began asking for prompts for Blissful Thinking theme inspiration, and got some interesting suggestions. Tune in next month for some of the thrilling responses.

Aaron Bliss
aaronjbliss@hotmail.com



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LETTERS

FROM CLIFF SMITH'S FAMILY,
DEDDINGTON

The family would like to express their gratitude to everyone who attended the church service on Thursday 2 March and sent cards of condolence.

Our thanks also go to the Revd Annie and Gary and Julie at the Red Lion for helping to give Cliff a good send-off.



Please address all letters to:
JILL CHEESEMAN
37 THE DAEDINGS, DEDDINGTON
editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk
and include your name and address
even if they are not for publication

Community Observatory at Hanwell. If you don't know about this gem of a place, you can find out more at: Hanwell Community Observatory, hanwell-observatory.org.uk.

Run by a group of amateur astronomers and volunteers promoting astronomy in the community, the site is home to a set of permanently mounted telescopes, all designed to be weatherproof and entirely used in the open

air with no observatory building.

These astronomers, acting as 'skyguides', enabled our group to view the moon and nearer planets using 'small' telescopes. We then moved to the large 'McIver Paton' 12.5 inch reflector, which gave an even more amazing view of our moon, Jupiter, Venus and Mars. With adjustments made, we were then able to view a number of stars including the Pleiades, the 'star nursery' which makes up Orion's sword, and Sirius. We were also given explanations about what we were looking at, and just enough scientific information, by the very knowledgeable and passionate astronomers.

Ranging in age from 6 to 56, this was something everyone in the group could appreciate and enjoy. The magnificence of the night sky, the wonder of how it all works, and the ingenuity of humans in figuring out how to observe and study the heavens above were awe-inspiring. All this within 10 miles of Deddington.

FROM CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Voter ID requirement

This is a reminder about the new government requirement for voters to show an accepted form of photo ID when they vote at the polling station.

This will apply for the first time when the local council elections happen on Thursday 4 May. Postal voters will not be affected and will continue to receive their postal vote pack in the usual way. If you want to register for a postal vote, the deadline for the May 2023 Local Elections is 5.00pm Tuesday 18 April which is also the deadline for making changes to existing postal or proxy voter arrangements.

FROM FIONA GILLESPIE,
DEDDINGTON

Visit to the Hanwell Observatory

Last month a group of friends and I went to our local

FARMERS' MARKET

If you have a sweet tooth, you'll probably have visited Tess' Brilliant Bakes at the market. You'll easily spot the stall as it is piled high with tray bakes created by Lisa who, I am convinced, can create a greater variety of cakes with chocolate than anyone else on the planet.

The business started in 2017 in her family kitchen in Adderbury. She named the business after her daughter, Tess, who told her she should try to sell her cookies at the local farmers' market. After she sold out she realised she might be on to something.

The business was originally started for extra money for a family holiday, but it soon grew so much that she was able give up her day job and throw herself into it completely. After almost a year of working from her small kitchen at home, she realised the next step was to move into a larger space. She moved into a small unit on a farm which provided the perfect location for her needs. Within six months, Paul, her partner in crime, gave up his day job so they could work together. Then lockdown hit.

They got through lockdown by offering home deliv-

eries and postal boxes and were so busy they could barely cope with the demand. They will be ever grateful to those loyal customers who supported them during that time; without them, the business may have folded.

Cut to now, and you will find Lisa, her husband and four employees at work in a much larger unit in Wroxton, near Banbury. This great team of talented bakers now produces thousands of cakes each week.

Tess' Brilliant Bakes are all hand-made, using the highest quality ingredients, such as real Belgian chocolate and good British butter. If you have sampled one of their delicious products, you will know that they do not scrim on ingredients.

Lisa and Paul are very proud that Tess' Brilliant Bakes continues to go from strength to strength, supplying many local markets in and around Oxfordshire, and to some lovely cafes. A recent innovation is online sales so you do not even have to leave your house to sample their delights: <https://tessbrilliantbakes.co.uk>.

Tei Willox, teiwilcox@gmail.com

From The Fire Station

It's grey and wintry at the moment, but we all carry on as best we can. The Fire Station received 15 call-outs this month, the majority being fires and road traffic accidents. Station manager, Gary Crone, has been concentrating on RTC skill sessions, allowing the crew to hone their casualty extraction skills within the controlled environment of the fire station compound.

As I write this, snow and freezing temperatures are forecast so please be careful when driving and ensure that all windows and screens are clear before you set off on any journey.

James Greenwood FFD
james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk

Deddington Ukraine Update

It has been exactly a year since Fynn Watt and Jono Mullard took the first van full of provisions to Ukraine to help local communities in their desperate effort to survive in their war-torn country. Since then, and over the last year, so much has been achieved by so many: from early days of delivering basic provisions and medical supplies to procuring fleets of 4x4 vehicles and recommissioned ambulances to the latest project to supply a 6x6 armoured ambulance to be used to evacuate wounded soldiers under fire on the front line.

So what are the plans for year 2? Hopefully, at the time of reading this, a convoy of 4 or more vehicles, driven by local volunteers, will be on their way to the front line to be put straight to work providing supplies to the Ukrainian people and help with the evacuation of the wounded.

Thank you all for your ongoing generosity; one year on, the needs of the Ukrainian people have changed and therefore the focus of the campaign has changed, putting more emphasis on providing and supporting vehicles. These vehicles will continue to take food and medical supplies of course but, due to space and weight limitations, there is no longer the

need for clothes. Rather, now the most pressing need is for money to cover the cost of fuel and the running of the vehicles. This money will also be used by our local drivers to purchase food and supplies in cheaper markets such as Poland en route to Ukraine.

£5.00 in Poland buys a lot more than £5.00 in Oxfordshire; it also saves fuel and transport costs.

Why not sell your unwanted clothing via 'Vinted' and donate the proceeds through Fynn's Just Giving page? <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/fynn-ukraine>.

Please continue to give and leave donations of food and medical supplies in the church, no matter how large or small. All donations are gratefully received and continue to make a difference to the people of Ukraine. Larger items such as saws or axes for cutting wood, batteries, generators and portable gas cookers would also be brilliant. Please contact me to arrange collection.

Jenny Soddy

01869 338298

jennysoddy@gmail.com

New Lease of Life for Wesleyan Chapel

As the owner of a local business, founded and based in Deddington in 2010, it hadn't escaped my notice that the Wesleyan Chapel had been used less and less in recent years. So when the trustees of the Wesleyan church decided it was time for a new chapter for the building, I was delighted to take on the restoration and bring new purpose and life to the Chapel.

I obtained a change of use and set about converting the building to an office. All the services to the building required an update and there was a lot of damp to banish, but the beautiful vaulted timber roof and bones of the building were sound. There were a few surprises along the way: a full-size baptism pool outside the back door and no floor underneath the raised altar. The traditional column radiators were carefully restored to retain the charm and character of the original building, but a modern energy efficient boiler and new pipework were added.

The building now has a buzz of daily activity and is home to Auteur, which distributes eco-friendly

homewares products, and Grow People, an executive coaching facility. It's wonderful to have witnessed the change from an empty building to a hive of activity providing local employment.

The purchase took much longer than expected, as the building pre-dated the Land Registry. Rob Forsyth of Deddington History was a great help in resolving the record of ownership. The chapel was built in 1851 under a Deed of Trust. It became the centre of a thriving Wesleyan community which also acquired the Mission Hall in Church Street following the bankruptcy of its previous owner, Joseph Malings. The Chapel was extensively remodelled in 1996 but, with dwindling congregations, it closed in autumn 2018 and was put up for sale in 2020 by the board of trustees of the

Wesleyan Church. Today, as a nod to history, I have named it Chapel Hall.

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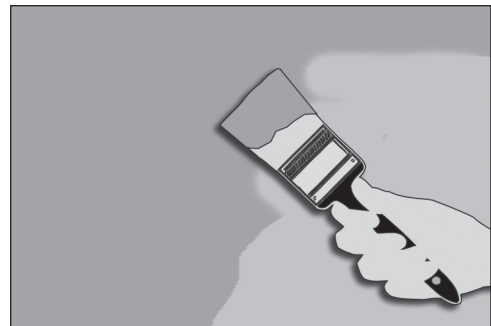
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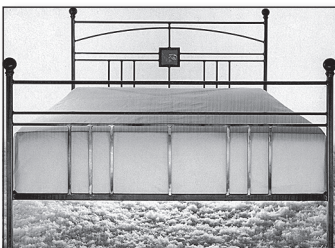

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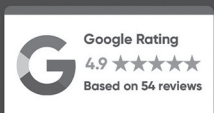
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John Cheney Beginnings

In December 2021 we started reproducing John Cheney's unfinished autobiography. This is the final part. With thanks to Nick Allen of Adderbury.

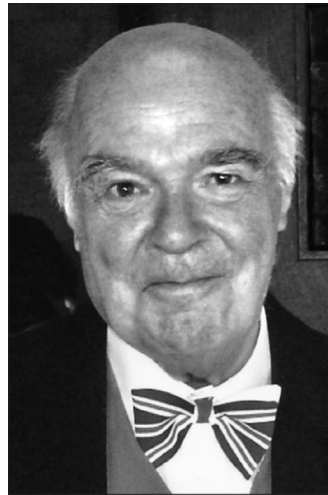
Chapter Five Sundays: Church

Sunday morning meant church and church meant St Mary's, Banbury. We would hear the bells ringing at home and, during the walk down West Bar, but it was only coming round the corner into Horsefair by the County Garage (now Cox and Robinson) that one was assailed by that great riot of sound, the joyful glory of the bells beautifully and accurately rung. I still love to hear it. Some people object but, as Dorothy Sayers writes in the foreword of her book, *The Nine Tailors*, it seems odd that (my paraphrase) people brought up to the jazz band, pop music, endless amplification and deafening discos should object to 'the one great noise made to the Glory of God'.

So here we are (mother and three children) crossing Horsefair into the gloomy recesses of St Mary's church, which I never did like and still don't. It is highly decorated with coloured pillars, rather indifferent stained glass, and paintings in a sort of Pre-Raphaelite style. No, I do not like it. It is glum.

And there in pew 7 was Granny Cheney. Pew 7 was our family pew and we sat in it with Granny Cheney on the end, then us and mother. The bells would stop, the choir would file in and the service would start. It was Morning Prayer as laid down in the Book of Common Prayer. I love it now (when we are allowed it once a month), but I found it hard going in 1935. The only good thing about it was the phrase 'miserable offenders' in the General Confession which my sister Christine and I always giggled at because we thought it referred to the fenders that were put in front of the fire to prevent coal falling out on to the carpet. There is also the phrase in the General Confession about leading 'a godly, righteous and sober life'. These days I miss out the 'sober'.

I never got on well with Granny Cheney. She was always on about education with the unspoken implication that everyone was cleverer than me. Probably, nay almost certainly, true, but nevertheless irritating. The vicar was ALE Williams (known to those who ought to have known better as 'Beery Bill'). He radiated unctuous goodness and preached, to my ears, incredibly



John Cheney in his prime

long, dull and tedious sermons.

The best thing about St Mary's was the organist, Mr Charles R Palmer, who liked playing loudly, with frequent use of the trumpet stop on the organ. The organ was rebuilt in the Thirties and the new organ gave Charles R Palmer full rein for his considerable talent. He was a nice man. His wife had a little Austin 7 and she and my mother used to go to Oxford in it weekly to rehearse in the Oxford Bach Choir. I still have the music, tickets and programmes of their concerts. Among other alumni was a certain Edward Heath, later to become Prime Minister.

Mattins at St Mary's droned to a standstill and we all trooped up to 15 West Bar, me hoping that Grandpa Cheney would be there. I was lucky with my Grandpas – Cheney and Anson. More about Grandpa Anson later on, but let me write a gentle appreciation about Grandpa Cheney. A short man, a fine printer and a good musician. If he was home he would take us up the garden, across a little lane into his vegetable garden. There were gooseberry bushes and blackcurrants. Grandpa Cheney would give us the gooseberries (don't tell your Granny) and an occasional new laid egg. He had a little beard and he didn't mind when we pulled it. Then home to lunch. My father used to visit a friend late on Sunday mornings and they would partake of a few glasses of sherry blended with gin, a lethal mixture as I was to later discover. Father ran off a short fuse and could sometimes be 'difficult'. I was in awe of him and Sunday lunch did not always find him at his best.

The roast joint, from Rathbones, was always first class. Occasionally, as a special treat, we had roast chicken, before the war considered a delicacy (and even more so during it!). When it was roast beef's turn the Yorkshire pudding was always done under the meat which gave it a superb flavor, not like the individual balloon-like flavourless Yorkshires today, with notable exceptions which I am not prepared to disclose. Pork had superb crunchy crackling. And the lamb, known as mutton in those days, was always good.

A diversion, while I remember it. There was a butcher in Banbury (at the top of Parsons Street I think) who specialised in first-class mutton and lamb. His name was Mr Jelfs. He sadly died and mother and father went to the funeral. Father arrived home chuckling most irreverently 'Know what Charles R Palmer played at the end of the service? Sheep may safely graze.'

John himself has, I'm afraid, now retired permanently from writing any more of his charming 'memoire'. May he rest peacefully somewhere in those Elysian Fields of his childhood. Goodbye old friend – it has been a real pleasure typing up your memoire as I was born the year before you were born and have similar memories of a gentler life pre-war. Nick Allen, March 2014

PFSU AND NURSERY

We are excited to be part of Deddington Four Farms Challenge on Sunday 21 May.

We will be running lots of children's activities including a fun run, word scramble, outdoor yoga, woodland medal making and face painting. Some activities have limited spaces and require booking so, for more information, please contact info@deddingtonnursery-andpfsu.co.uk.

Charlotte Witka, Deputy Manager

POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

Dog Operation, Guns and Weather

March in the Ward household in Greenwood Village has brought more leg operations, but the good news is that this time it is the dog that has had fixes for a torn meniscus and a ruptured cruciate ligament. He is sitting at my feet in his 'cone of shame', feeling very sorry for himself. He ought to be grateful, my suggested cure was a lot more terminal and a lot cheaper.

When we flew to the US 10 years ago, I told Heather that I needed to change three things. No more road rage; you never know if the idiot who can't drive has a gun in his truck. In fact, he almost certainly does. Secondly, there were to be no more arguments about religion. There are so many people here who take God very seriously indeed. Many of them do not seem very Christian in their approach and they certainly don't understand my atheism. One nice gentleman that worked for me thought I was a devil worshipper.

And swearing: but, the good news this week is that the great organ called the *National Geographic* declared that 'Science says that swearing is good for you'. Middle Americans do not swear; they don't even use that word, it is called cursing. When I took one of my American employees to see a football game at the home of mediocre football, the KP Stadium, he couldn't get over the language. He didn't stop talking about it to people back home for weeks.

Colorado is a relatively liberal state but it does contain all the contradictions that exist elsewhere in the US. In a hearing in the elected assembly, a gun supporter advocated removing black males from statistics on gun deaths amongst children since this would

yield a 'true picture of the situation'. This comes as the Center for Disease Control reported that firearms have become the leading cause of death of children. This is the largest democracy in the world and they can't even control their citizens' desire to shoot each other.

The weather across America has been extreme over the past few weeks, leading to the warmest spring in the East and the wettest that California has ever seen. The weather forecasters are always under pressure; in today's society we expect 100% accuracy, which clearly isn't realistic. When Trump entered the White House, one of his finest hours was when he told his staff to scrap the National Weather Service because he thought the Fox News service was great. They told him that Fox gets their weather information from the government run service but, later on, he even altered a weather map with a felt tip pen in order to prove his assertion about the movements of a hurricane: the definition of the triumph of ignorance over intelligence.

The disturbing news from Denver this month is that our airport ranks seventh in the US for the amount of firearms found in carry-on luggage. Security agents found 156 firearms last year, around one every other day. In the security queue next month, as we head to Europe, I will be examining the passengers around me trying to decide which ones are the idiots. There are no enormous trucks in the airport so it's not so easy to identify them. Perhaps I should start cursing and they will pull their guns out to persuade me that there really is a deity. God save America.

Mike Ward

mike@mikeaward.com

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

A reminder, as the evenings grow lighter, that Deddington library is open on Monday evenings from 2.00pm–7.00pm, in addition to the daytime sessions, all of which are noted on the back cover of the *Deddington News*.

We continue to regularly receive new stock and can access other material from across the Oxfordshire County Council collection. If this sounds interesting to you, please ask a member of staff or volunteer. These resources can also be accessed digitally from home using an active membership and pin number. This will give you access to our catalogue and a wealth of digital material for all ages and interests, including homework and research resources.

Ancestry and Find My Past, including the 1921 census, remain popular so if you have ever been tempted to explore your family history, the library may be an excellent place to start and, if you need a bit of help, we have two digital helpers who can offer guidance.

Digital helper sessions can be booked in advance.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

Louise Willis

Louise.Willis@Oxfordshire.gov.uk



The Deddington Festival is a charity with the mission statement of: 'Promoting a festival, or festivals, of the arts and culture for the benefit of the inhabitants of Deddington, Clifton and Hempton'.

The existing committee has, after many years of voluntary work, decided to step down. An annual general meeting will be held on 11 April at 7.00pm in the lower conference room of the Deddington Arms.

The meeting is open to anyone who is interested in reforming a new committee to carry the festival forward. Should this not be possible, the trustees will agree a plan to close the festival and disperse its assets.

Martin Ince

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FROM THE DEDDINGTON NEWS ARCHIVE

The DN team has decided to offer occasional items from our archive that people may find of interest. Here's the first:

Deddington News April 1980

Nature Notes

*What is this life, if full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare?*

W.H. Davies

A friend of mine was standing and staring under a tree not far from Deddington last week, when he heard a great rustling above him and down from the tree from some ten feet above him fell a fox. It ran away none the worse for its adventure. You never know what you may see if you are quiet and observant. A little muntjac deer ran across this same friend's path a week or so before the fox incident. Muntjac deer are not natives of this country but escapees from a deer park, probably Woburn (sic), where they were introduced from Java in the last century. They are small and jump very high for their height, and are successful at living free in woods and parks of the Midlands and the Southern part of England.

Bishop and Mrs Allen have been lucky in seeing the great spotted or pied woodpecker, feeding on bacon fat put out for tits in their garden. Several other people

have reported that they have had a visit from this bird in their gardens. There would appear to be quite a few about, although it may be the same one which enjoys food in the gardens of central Deddington.

Coltsfoot, that yellow dandelion like flower, is one of the first harbingers of spring. The flowers appear on a stout, scaly, purplish stem very early and before its heart-shaped leaves appear. It has exceedingly long roots and is very difficult to get rid of if it gets a hold in the vegetable garden. But it flourishes best on waste ground. Early bees can be seen on a sunny day gathering pollen from the flowers. The Latin name for this flower is *Tussilago farfara*; tussis is the Latin for a cough and cough medicine was made from this plant.

Pat Hannah

(Pat Hannah was the wife of the incumbent vicar, the Revd Richard Hannah.)



The poster features a silhouette logo at the top showing a sun, three runners, and a church spire. Below the logo, the text reads: **DEDDINGTON FOUR FARMS CHALLENGE — 2023 — SUNDAY MAY 21ST**. Further down, it says: **A 5K AND 10K RUN AROUND THE PICTURESQUE PARISH OF DEDDINGTON. THE EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL AND HAS SOMETHING TO OFFER EXPERIENCED RUNNERS, FUN RUNNERS AND FAMILIES.** Below this is the call to action: **REGISTER NOW** followed by the website **WWW.FOURFARMSCHALLENGE.RUN** and **RAISING FUNDS FOR**. At the bottom, three charities are listed: **DEDDINGTON PRIMARY PTA (105271)**, **DEDDINGTON VILLAGE NURSERY & PFSU (1100275)**, and **THE FIREFIGHTERS CHARITY (109387)**. A QR code is located on the right side of the poster.

NOT NECESSARILY JUST HEMPTON

If members of the parish council had any doubt about the extent and strength of feeling amongst parishioners concerning the proposed development of nine properties south of St John's Way, they were disabused when Hempton Against Inappropriate Development turned out, en masse, to the February parish council meeting.

The application involves perhaps one quarter of the available parcel of land and the nine properties only cover half of the proposed development site. The application appears to have been scoped to limbo just below the threshold for the level of scrutiny and public involvement afforded by review at planning committee level. I believe the magic number is less than 10. This does fuel suspicions about future intentions.

The findings of the geophysical survey of the site suggest a glimpse into the history of the village could be unearthed as a condition of approval. There are no structures on the original Ordnance Survey map of 1880 or on the map of the closure awards of 1808 in the location of subterranean rectangular remains directly opposite the entry to St John's Way, suggesting remains would precede those dates.

As far as I am aware, Hempton has not yet been designated as a refuse collection centre, although you might be forgiven for forming that impression from certain aspects of the village. There may have been an extremely unusual accident, or fly-tippers thought the Barford road a suitably secluded location to off-load unwanted car tyres. I counted nine tyres dumped along the length of the verge on the valley side of the road.

Councils recorded 1.09 million incidents of illegal dumping in 2021–22, an average of more than 2,700 a day. I have noticed two other locations in the area where car tyres have been dumped on the verge or in hedgerows. CDC and OCC charge £5 per tyre for non commercial disposal. Since 2006, it has been illegal to send tyres to landfill sites in the UK. Under the Landfill Regulations 2002, whole tyres were banned

from landfill sites in 2003, followed by end-of-life or shredded tyres in 2006, in accordance with the 2006 EU Landfill Directive. Commercial rates may be lower than domestic rates but are usually charged at a minimum weight per collection. QED – dump 'em.

The fly-tippers saved themselves £45. I bet it will cost CDC more to collect and dispose of the tyres, financed by the ratepayer. Fly-tippers illegally dumping tyres can face five years in prison, unlimited fines and confiscation of profits. There were only 1,798 fines issued in 2021–22 and 20 custodial sentences handed down for fly-tipping.

In my March *DN* waffle I remarked that the rural Oxfordshire accent was, to my mind, similar to a West Country twang. A reader opined that a more appropriate usage would have been: 'to my ear'. Being no slouch when it comes to pedantism, I would point out that I was referring to the perception of sound in the physiological as opposed to the physical sense. The latter is all about the properties of pressure waves. The former concerns how we perceive of sound physiologically.

The philosophical thought experiment, 'If a tree falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?' raises questions regarding observation and perception. It certainly makes pressure waves in the atmosphere that can be experienced as sound but without the physiological kit to receive and process them into electrical impulses for processing into the conscious perception of some creature, it's just pressure waves. The answer can be both yes and no, depending on whether you are using the physical or psychophysical definition. Bluntly, ears don't perceive accents, brains do.

If you wish to see less tangential wittering in this column, please forward some real news to the address below.

Stuart Oldham
sj_oldham@btinternet.com



I tried to start a comedy club in outer space once, but sadly there was no atmosphere. Ba-dum ching! Fortunately for you, it won't be me telling the jokes at our first charity comedy night on Wednesday 5 April at the Windmill. It'll be Mike Gunn (Michael McIntyre's Roadshow), Lindsey Santoro (Comedy Central) and MC Andrew Bird (The Russell Howard Hour). The Lone Wolf Comedy Club is organising the event in aid of Nai's House, a suicide prevention and mental health support charity based in Bicester.

A licensed bar and food will be available and you

can get your tickets online at <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/573540> or on the door (if there are any left). Please come and support the event. If it's successful, there's a chance that comedy nights at the Windmill might become a regular fixture.

In fact, this type of large-scale event reminds me that in pre-Covid times, charity fundraisers, big birthday parties and even the occasional wedding reception were much more common at the Windmill. I am pleased to report that we are beginning to see a gradual upturn of bookings like this, which is a good sign. Might you, your organisation or your company be organising the next big thing at the Windmill? You would be very welcome. It's your community centre. Use it. Just email enquiries@thewindmillededdington.org or call us on 07720 834006.

Vaughan Jones
vaughan@englishlanguagematters.com



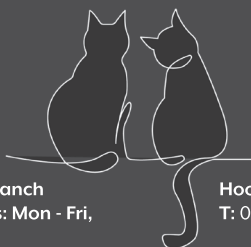
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LAST WORD

Clifford Smith 1937–2023

Cliff was born on 22 October 1937, the youngest and only son of four children. The family lived in a small terraced cottage in Hockley Heath, Birmingham, later moving to nearby Lapworth, Warwickshire.

Cliff passed the 11+ and got a scholarship at Leamington College for Boys. He left school early, aged 15, after the death of his father, becoming the man of the house, supporting his Mum by doing gardening jobs in the village. Later he started work at Warwickshire County Council in the Clerks' Department, during which time he did his national service. He met Christine and they married in 1964. For three years he worked for the road construction unit at Leamington Spa, being involved with the planning process for Spaghetti Junction. The family lived in Warwick where they had two sons, Matthew and Gareth. Cliff got a job with Oxfordshire County Council and the family moved to Deddington in 1972. In 1993 Cliff took early retirement but kept busy working as a voluntary ambulance driver for many years.

Cliff loved sport. He was an Aston Villa supporter, played cricket and football for Warwickshire County Council and, on moving to Deddington, opened the batting for North Aston, enjoyed Aunt Sally, and played football for Deddington Town Football Club. He was club secretary for over 20 years and regularly helped out with home matches, running the line, making teas for the players and cleaning the changing rooms after games. He also represented the football club on the Windmill Committee in the early stages of forming a community centre.

The family enjoyed many happy walking holidays in the Lakes and Yorkshire but fell in love with Pembroke-shire and more especially Newport, nestling below Carningli or the Mountain of the Angels. In 2017 the

family spent a week in Newport to celebrate Cliff's 80th birthday and, together with 5 year old Poppy, reached the top of the Mountain, with the help of flapjacks. The family plans to return to Newport to scatter Cliff's ashes on Carningli.

In 2018 Cliff was diagnosed with vascular dementia and in March 2019 he suffered a severe stroke, leaving him paralysed down the right side and non verbal. After three months in hospital and rehab, Cliff came home and slowly came to terms with his disability, having to receive help from carers and Christine. He always enjoyed jazz, visiting clubs in Digbeth and Ronnie Scott's, an 80th birthday present from his sons, and would listen to many of his jazz CDs at home. He always had a smile for everyone who visited him: friends, carers, nurses. He went from two carers four times a day until April 2020 when he had one carer, Donna, who came in every day to shower and dress him and then Christine took over his care. Donna was a great carer, understanding Cliff and supporting Christine, helping her keep Cliff at home.

Gareth was a great support, visiting his Dad most days, doing the family shopping, taking his parents out in the mobility car for lunch or a walk plus much more. Matthew too was a great help telephoning every day to talk to his Dad and visited when he could with the grandchildren who he loved to see.

Unfortunately, at the end of September, Cliff went downhill and was taken to hospital, then transferred to Chacombe Nursing Home in October where he died peacefully with his family by his side.

Cliff was a kind natured family man, loving husband, Dad, Grandpop, and will be sadly missed by all the family and those who knew him.

The Smith Family

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Deddington and District History Society

At our February meeting, Katherine Bradley took us on a whirlwind tour of the history of women acquiring the right to vote in the UK and the key role that Oxford people played in this major political decision.

The demand to give women the vote began in 1855, with the Langham Place group forming the first Women's Suffrage Committee. It's aims were wider than just suffrage and included the establishment of old age pensions, reducing the death rate through better health care and providing religious education.

It took 73 years for women to be given the vote. Like many movements for change, the suffrage movement was led initially by middle class women. Their first success came in 1894 when the Local Government Act gave women the right to be elected as parish and district councillors. To achieve their aims Suffragettes petitioned Parliament but, when this had no effect, they began to organise protest meetings and marches in major cities, the largest of which culminated in 8,000 people marching to Hyde Park. These were

spontaneous and in 1897 the Suffragettes developed a co-ordinated strategy.

In 1904, the National Association of Women was formed in Oxford. Members included students and university lecturers who demanded not only the vote but also equal opportunities in education. In 1911 the Banbury suffrage organisation was formed, supported by trades people and trade unions.

With Parliament still refusing to take notice, members began a more aggressive campaign, protesting in department stores, cutting telephone and electricity wires, destroying post-boxes and blocking roads. These activities gained national publicity.

Things did not always go the Suffragettes' way. In 1908 an anti-suffragette movement was formed by women who began to disrupt meetings and, on occasions, forced speakers to flee. Finally, in 1918, women over 30 years of age who were also property owners acquired the right to vote. Unfortunately, the first woman elected to Parliament was a member of the IRA and she was forced to resign. In 1919 Lady

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Continued from p25

Astor became the first woman MP. The floodgates opened with all women over the age of 21 acquiring the vote in 1928.

Barrie Smith
smithsinsight@btinternet.com

Adderbury, Deddington and District Photographic Society

At our March club night, we had the absolute pleasure of inviting Scarlet Page, an English photographer and daughter of Led Zeppelin guitarist, Jimmy Page.

Scarlet describes her style as very editorial but likes to keep her editing and lighting simple. Her colourful résumé includes the who's who of the rock music world including her beginnings with photographer, Ross Halfin, with whom she travelled the world as his assistant, loading film for his cameras and eventually starting to take her own photos and growing professional relationships with tour managers. Her first festival was the infamous Lolapalooza Festival in USA in 1994. By using her fisheye lens, she captured what were to become some iconic behind the scenes photos, which were eventually picked up by *Raw* and *Kerrang* magazine. She forged relationships with the likes of Stereophonics, The Verve, the Red Hot Chili Peppers and eventually went on the road with The Darkness for 12 months of their world tour.

Shortly after that, Robbie Williams' team reached out to her as they were after images for his picture biography, which was the dawn of a new style of autobiography, shortly adopted by other music stars, such as Leona Lewis and Ronan Keating. Her intimate portrait of Brian from Placebo has recently been picked up by the National Portrait Gallery, a very high accolade indeed. In 2020 she was selected as a winner of the *British Journal of Photography's* Portrait of Britain award, and she has become an active member of the Association of Photographers and its associated women's group f22. Her photos can be seen on the website.

The next meeting is on 5 April at 7:30pm at the Adderbury Institute. All welcome.

Courtney Killpack
www.addphoto.co.uk

Deddington Bookworms

Our latest book was *Old Filth* by Jane Gardam. This novel examines the life of Sir Edward Feathers, a successful lawyer and then judge, now retired, known to colleagues and friends as Old Filth (the nickname stands for 'Failed in London, Try Hong Kong').

Sir Edward was a 'Raj orphan' whose father worked in Singapore and sent him back to England for schooling when he was four years old. A Raj orphan (also known as a child of the empire) was a child whose parents worked in a colony of the British Empire and chose to send their children back to the mother country to be brought up by relatives or even strangers.

The story moves back and forth in time, revisiting his childhood and formative years as well as focusing

on his attempts to deal with the past after the death of his wife.

This is the first novel in a trilogy; the sequels look at the other characters in Sir Edward's life: his wife, Betty, and his rival (and Betty's one-time lover), Edward Veneering.

Some Bookworms felt that with so much darting back and forth, and so many characters, the narrative occasionally became confusing. However, the characters are mostly humorous and touching and the portrayal of the English stiff upper lip is especially good. Overall, it was felt that this is a well written and interesting book, particularly the references to the plight of the Raj orphans.

Our next book is *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini.

Deddingtonbookworms@gmail.com

Book Group

The Island of Missing Trees by Turkish-British novelist, Elif Shafak, explores the devastating effects of armed conflict on those involved and on future generations. Stretching from the 1974 Greek/Turkish division of Cyprus to the present, we see cruelties suffered by people on both sides and follow the difficulties besetting the relationship between two lovers, one Turkish and one Greek. As well as an insight into the history of the island, its culture and traditions, Elif Shafak develops another theme, the connection between the natural and the human worlds. She writes well but the structure of the book divided opinion. There are switches of location between Cyprus and London, and time switches between past and present. Many chapters are narrated by a fig tree, acting as a witness to events and drawing parallels between humans and nature. Although this was an interesting approach, many felt these chapters, together with the time switches, interrupted the flow of the book and made it hard work to read.

We welcome new members. Our next meeting is on Thursday 27 April. Please contact Sally Lambert on 01869 338094 for more details.

The Book Group

Royal British Legion

The County Chairman, Peter Eldridge, and Poppy Appeal Support Officer, Yanto Evans, joined us for a meeting last month. It was an opportunity to explain the difficulties that a small branch such as ours (44 members and falling) experiences in running its affairs and fundraising with a very small (4) and elderly committee. We gathered that we are not alone and the fall in membership is a matter of concern to Haig House. The continuing viability of the branch membership structure was discussed. Members' social lives have changed much in recent years and we suggested that perhaps the time has come for membership to be centralised with the benefit of much-reduced administration costs which presently generate no surplus. Nonetheless, support for the Poppy Appeal and de-

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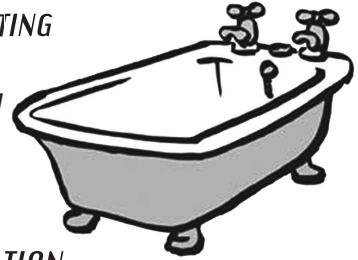
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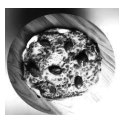
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CALLING ALL CLUBS

Continued from p26

livery of charitable support to ex-service people and families remains strong, despite Covid and rising costs of living. Deddington is recognised as consistently being a generous parish.

Rob Forsyth
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

The Holly Tree Club

The Holly Tree Club is holding its AGM on Monday 24 April at 10.00am, followed by the coffee morning as

usual. Due to the increase in membership numbers, the meeting will be in the church, thank you, Annie, as the Holly Tree Hall is not big enough to accommodate everyone as well as the committee. There will be no charge for refreshments.

Save the date: the Coronation Afternoon Tea party is on Friday 5 May. Ticket information and more details will follow soon.

Julia Cork
Julia.cork@thedha.org

SPORT

Deddington Cricket Club

Pre-season preparations are picking up pace at the Cricket Club. Indoor nets on Saturday afternoons at the Heyford Free School sports centre are proving popular and we have already welcomed some new prospective players. If anyone would like to come and either try cricket for the first time or dust off some long-hidden talents, please contact the club via our website, www.deddingtoncricket.co.uk, or our social media. Our women are also getting in some separate indoor practice as well, after competing in an indoor league pre-Christmas.

We are starting to bring the cricket square into play, which is a lengthy and gentle process after such a cold, dry winter. The weather dictates a lot of what we do and when, but some fertiliser last month and a light cut and moss control has done wonders and it is starting to look less like an unkempt field.

Outdoor training will commence in April, once the evenings are lighter, and we have a few pre-season games organised post Easter, before league games resume in May.

The club is again running the junior All Stars programme on Friday evenings in May and June. It has proved extremely popular, with the available spaces selling out within 48 hours of being released. We are seeing if we can add to the numbers we can accommodate, as it is a shame to have disappointed some attendees from last year.

Finally, if there are any budding umpires out there who like the idea of spending warm summer afternoons in the company of some fine men and women upholding the honour of Deddington village with bat and ball, please let us know. Training is available as well as our unalloyed appreciation.

Simon Oldfield, Chair
simon.oldfield0@gmail.com

Deddington Original Golf Society (DOGS)

Just a reminder that the venues confirmed for this year are:

15 May	Northants Harlestone Park GC
14 June	Badgemore Park GC
11 July	Stratford-upon-Avon GC
25 August	Witney Lakes GC – barbecue in the evening
September	Meeting to be confirmed

15 December Tadmarton Heath 9-hole Texas Scramble, Christmas Dinner & Party

If you haven't already responded to let your committee know which venues you're hoping to attend, we would still love to hear from you. Please email me.

Tony Lowe
dogsgolf23@gmail.com

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team results

14.1.23	Hornton (h)	D3-3
28.1.23	Chesterton (h)	W3-1
4.2.23	Hardwick Sports (a) (CUP)	L1-4
11.2.23	Kings Sutton (a)	W4-3
18.2.23	Hornton (a)	L1-2
25.2.23	Longford Park FC (h) (CUP)	W1-0
4.2.23	Wroxton Sports FC (h)	L0-7

Reserve Team results

28.1.23	Kings Sutton Res (a) (CUP)	L3-4
4.2.23	SWIS Reserves (a) (CUP)	L1-3
11.2.23	Kings Sutton Res (h)	L0-5
18.2.23	Longford Park FC Res (h)	D2-2
25.2.23	Bodicote Sports Res (a)	W4-2

Grievous apologies for missing the boat last month, but let's just say there wasn't an awful lot of positivity to report regardless. Since 2023 began, it's been an up and down period for the Humbugs, alternately winning or losing every other week, including a royal paddling from Wroxton in front of their own beautiful fanbase. Despite this, they sit just above the relegation fray, which is more than can be said for the sorry Latics, who, as much due to the implosion of the league pyramid as their own addiction to defeat, find themselves at the very foot of the division. Still, where there's a foot, there's a way. Keep on cheering folks.

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

Deddington Town Youth Team

The Under 16s, playing in the Witney and District Youth League, had a 4-2 win over Brackley Athletic with two goals for Ben Jones, followed by a 5-3 win at Carterton with a hat-trick for Edward Leney, and then a 0-4 home defeat to table-topping Tysoe. The Under 14s had a 2-0 win over Yarnton Blues, followed by a 2-4 home defeat to Brackley Athletic. The Under 13s, playing in the Oxfordshire Youth Invitation C League, had a 4-2 win over Kennington Athletic and a 7-0 win over

SPORT

Continued from p29

Europa Titans with a hat-trick for Harrison Hill, but a 1–3 home defeat to Kingston Colts in the cup. The Under 12s had a 2–0 home win over Chipping Norton Swifts, followed by a 2–2 draw in the return fixture. This means they won the C League and remained undefeated – a great achievement for the players and coaches, and all helped by fantastic support from the parents.

Presentation day 11 June

We are getting ready to celebrate all our players, coaches and parents at our annual presentation day at the Windmill on Sunday 11 June from 2.00pm. If you are a local business which would like to sponsor one of our four awards, or would like to pro-

vide a raffle prize for us, please get in touch with me.

Get involved in volunteering

If you want to get involved with the club as a volunteer, you can help in coaching, as a safeguarding volunteer, on the day match support, pitch improvement work and marketing and fundraising. If you are interested, please get in touch. Further information about the club is on our website, www.deddingtontownfc.com or visit us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc.

Roger Sykes, Development Officer and U7/U6 Coach 07899 914425

carsykes@btinternet.com



The winning U12s: Back L–R, Henry Dye, Harry Ducker, Toby Bellinger, Marcus Buckland, Vinnie Holliday. Front L–R, Jack Jenkins, Freddie Woodworth, Zac Godfrey, Harry Belcher, Luke Haynes, Oscar Hague

YOUTH

1st Deddington Brownies

Deddington Brownies have been working on their Live Smart badge. We have made fajitas and had a talk on future careers. We also hosted the district Thinking Day at the Windmill Centre and had lots of fun activities, including Indian hand painting, making Ukrainian headdresses and Australian lamingtons. Future plans are to visit Home Farm in Clifton to see the lambing and a visit to Orinoco in Banbury.

Fern Stringer 07733 075880
deddingtonbrownies@gmail.com

1st Deddington Scout Group**Cubs**

Since our last report we have had a very thoughtful time in Cubs. We have given over two sessions to learning about some of the issues and challenges faced by those with disabilities. As part of this, we tried painting with just our mouths and just our feet. As we have one Cub who faces some of these challenges, we were able to learn about this first-hand from him and his family. The major impact of this session was to learn that, with drive and energy, many of the challenges to full participation in a whole range of activities can be overcome. However, we can still do more as a community and wider society to create the right physical and social environment to facilitate participation more fully by people with disabilities.

With Baden-Powell's birthday, 22 February, we thought about the global scouting movement and the

opportunities it presents. Amongst all this thoughtfulness we, of course, still had plenty of time for some craft and games.

Paul Honess
deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts

We have finally completed our fundraising for toilet twinning and have officially twinned with five toilets in Africa. The charity sent our very nice certificates, which the Windmill Centre has kindly agreed to hang in the new toilets. It's a very worthwhile charity. Look next time you visit the facilities and twin one for yourself.

As part of the World Challenge Award, the Scouts spent an evening immersed in all things Japanese.

A quiz was followed by an origami project and a feast of Japanese food. Noodles, miso soup, green tea, sushi and mochi, all consumed with gusto and a little wasabi. We also included a game involving plastic fish and chopsticks.

Another section of the badge was covered by our visitor from the parish council, Jill Norton. From her we learned much about the workings of the council and she was bombarded by questions from the Scouts. We will use the information to form our own Scout Council. Many thanks, Jill. Heads up council members – if you're good, she gives you chocolate.

Pete Churchyard
deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

DEDDINGTON AFFORDABLE HOMES

Seven of the new homes on the Hempton Gate development, built by Burrington Estates, comprising two and three-bedroom houses alongside maisonettes, have been acquired by GreenSquare Accord, a not-

for-profit social housing business.

The new homes all have a designated parking space and some of the properties have access to a private garden.

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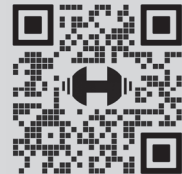
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CITIZENS ADVICE	01295 221448
HEALTH CENTRE DEDDINGTON	01869 338611
Repeat prescriptions	01869 338847
HOSPITALS:	
Churchill	0300 304 7777
Foscote (Private)	01295 252281
Horton General	0300 304 7777
John Radcliffe	0300 304 7777
Manor (Nuffield Health, Private)	01865 987292
Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre	0300 304 7777
Katharine House Hospice	01295 811866
NHS Non emergency	111
PARISH CLERK	01869 337447
(Monday 9.00am–12.30pm, Wednesday 9.00–5.00pm, Thursday 9.00–12.30pm)	
POLICE (non-emergency, 24 hrs)	101
PRIMARY SCHOOL (C of E)	01869 338430
PFSU	01869 337484
VILLAGE NURSERY	01869 337383

TRAVEL:	
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National Express	08717 818181
National Rail Passenger Enqs	03457 484950
OurBus Bartons	01869 699699
Oxford Bus Company	01865 785400
Oxfordshire Comet	01865 323201
Stagecoach Bus Company	0345 2410 8000
Traveline (Public Transport)	0871 200 21 33
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Electricity - any supplier	
Emergency/Power cut	105
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Ofgem	020 7901 7295
Thames Water (24hrs)	0800 980 8800
Water leak	0800 714 614
WARRINER SCHOOL, Bloxham	01295 720777
WINDMILL CENTRE	07720 834006
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	01865 792422
	or 01865 816000

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY	01869 338391
Monday	2.00–7.00pm
Wednesday	9.30am–1.00pm
Thursday	1.00–5.00pm
Saturday	9.30am–1.00pm

DEDDINGTON CLUBS & SOCIETIES: The full list of contacts is available on Deddington OnLine at <https://www.deddington.org.uk/directory/clubs-societies/>

DEDDINGTON CHURCHES See section inside



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