

July 2024

The **DEDDINGTON NEWS**



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THE TEAM

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ADVERTISING COPY
by **10 August**

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

The DEDDINGTON NEWS

The *Deddington News* team was sad to hear of Les Chappell's death in May. For more than 20 years, from September 1997 to March 2019, Les was a fixture in the *DN*, faithfully reporting the goings on in Hempton. The Old School Room, in particular, could not have had a stronger spokesman. Whatever else might have been going on, there would always be a plug for the Old School Room.

Now a plug for those with a bit of time on their hands and an interest in the community. The Deddington Housing Association needs fundraisers (p10), Brownies are looking for leaders (p17), the Fire Station is recruiting (p25), a couple more people are needed for the church mowing team (p9) and the hunt is on for walking footballers (p10).

Please note the Barford bridge closure (p2).

The *DN* will be back in September, hopefully after, at least, a taste of summer.

CD

WHAT'S ON

July

- Wed 3 Photographic Society: 'Waterscapes', Jonathan Genevaux, Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Sat 6 Cherwell Choral Society: 'Summer Moods in Shakespeare', Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Wed 10 WI: Holly Tree Club, 2.30pm
- Fri 12 DEN: Swift Walk, Market Place, 7.30pm
- Mon 15 Local Vocals: Summer Concert, Primary School, 7.30pm
- Wed 17 Parish Council: Old School Room, Hempton, 7.30pm
- Thu 25 Book Club
- Sat 27 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Sat 27– Art and Crafts Exhibition: Holly Tree Hall,
- Sun 28 10.00am–5.00pm
- Sun 28 Music in Adderbury: Adderbury Ensemble, Viv McLean, Parish Church, 6.00pm

August

- Thu 1 Library: Open Craft Day, 10.00am–4.00pm
- Wed 7 DOGS: Coventry Golf Club, Fineham
- Wed 7 Harvard Krokodiloes: Leadenporch House, 7.00pm
- Wed 7 Photographic Society: 'Abstract from Landscapes', Linda Bembridge, Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Wed 14 WI: Holly Tree Club, 2.30pm
- Wed 21 Parish Council: Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Mon 26 Derek Cheeseman Memorial Cricket Match, 3.00pm
- Sat 24 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Sat 31 Parish Show: Parish Church, 2.00–4.30pm

September

- Wed 4 Photographic Society: Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Fri 6 DOGS: Whittlebury Golf Club, Towcester
- Wed 18 Parish Council: Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm

Submission of any article to the Deddington News 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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The DN always seeks copyright permission where appropriate. Material is proof read. The editors seek to ensure the material is not scurrilous, offensive or otherwise unacceptable to the public at large. The DN team reserves the right to refuse any material on this basis.

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting 19 June at the Windmill Community Centre

Present: Cox, Fisher, Mylne, Norton, Oldfield (chair), O'Neill, Robinson, Swadling, Swan, Timms, CCouncillor Fatemian, DCouncillor Rogers, parish clerk and one member of the public.

Open Forum

Following earlier discussions a representative of the North Oxfordshire Military Vehicles Trust has discussed a memorial to Major General Percy Hobart with some residents of Hobart Way. The PC hopes to hold an event at the Windmill to unveil the memorial on 17 August.

Finance and General Purposes

The Windmill roof has been completed although there are some snagging issues. Thanks were expressed to Richard Broadbent for overseeing the project.

There are ongoing problems with the 200 year old church clock. The PC will continue to discuss support for this valued community asset with church representatives, suggesting there should be a local fundraising effort if the cost of repair is more than £1,000.

It was decided not to proceed with the installation of a costly hearing loop at the Windmill that may not suit everyone. There was agreement that consideration should be given to anyone with a hearing problem including, if necessary, providing a recording of a meeting.

Volunteers caring for the planters around the parish will be reimbursed on receipt of invoices.

It was agreed to donate £100 to the volunteer driver service and to Clean Slate, although several councillors voted against this, taking the view that this should not come out of PC funds.

County Councillor's report

Councillor Fatemian provided considerable detail on how Department of Transport funding will be spent on road improvements associated with the Croughton and Barford air bases, the bulk of which will include white lines on the sides of the roads and road signs.

OCC advised Adderbury PC that they would not be able to have 20mph limits on the A4260 road through the village. Adderbury PC was surprised to discover that Deddington had a 20mph limit, although DPC pointed out that at least they could get speed enforcement on 30mph roads.

Planning

No objections

Land adjoining and west of Stonecroft House, Clifton Road: amendments to previous application, including PV panels, minor shifting of plot 4, realignment of road, changes to bedroom windows and garages.

Castle Dene, Castle Street, Deddington: tree works. Old Stores Cottage, Main Street, Clifton: single storey rear extension and erection of new garage.

Street Record, Grove Court, Deddington: tree works. Grove House, High Street, Deddington: re-pointing of stonework using lime mortar.

Approvals

Bull Ring Cottage, Deddington: demolition of rear single storey flat roof garden room and part removal of rear walls to facilitate access with vehicle turntable. 3 Hempton Road, Deddington: single storey front porch extension and two storey rear extension.

24 St John's Way, Hempton: rear extension.

Town Hall, Market Place: insertion of antenna in telephone kiosk roof.

Refusal

The Little House, Clifton Road: variation of approved plans and materials.

Environment and General Purposes

Disappointment was expressed that the contractors had not undertaken work as requested for No Mow May/June. Footpaths between the three villages had not been cut.

It was agreed that it would be better for organisations not to arrange the same date for events at the Windmill, after complaints were received from residents of Wimborn Close about bad parking.

Highways and Transport

A blocked drain on A4260 near the traffic lights will be added to OCC's investigation programme.

Main Street, Clifton, will be closed 1–5 July, 8.00pm–6.00am.

A government contract for road improvements between the Croughton and Barford USAF bases has been agreed but it is not clear what signage will be provided. Hempton residents and the local farmer will be consulted.

Next meeting Wednesday 17 July at 7.30pm at the Old School Room, Hempton

BARFORD BRIDGE CLOSURE

OCC has published notice that work on Barford bridge is planned to begin at 7.30am on Monday 8 July and expected to last approximately 8 weeks. Bloxham Road will be closed to all vehicular traffic between Barford St Michael at the junction with Lower Street and Barford St John at the junction with Mead Road, including both overnight and weekend closures. A signed diversion route will be in place via Adderbury and Deddington. Access to properties and field gates will be maintained from the north end of the road closure only, through Barford St John.

A pedestrian and cycle route along Bloxham Road will be maintained throughout the duration of the works. On completion, the current weight and width restrictions will be lifted. To take advantage of reduced through traffic, investigation works to The Rock will be completed overnight on 9 and 10 July when The Rock will be closed between the hours of 8.00pm and 6.00am, with local traffic diverted through the village via Townsend, Church Street and Lower Street. Traffic marshalls will be present during this closure.

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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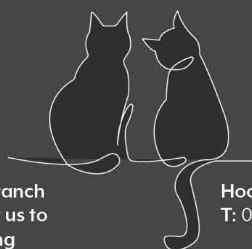
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JEAN WELFORD

1932–2024

Jean's childhood was spent with her three siblings on the Cartwright estate in the 'Apricot Village', Aynho, where her father, Philip Abernethy, farmed Home Farm. Although her early years were influenced by the Second World War, she was brought up in a loving, hard-working and extremely sociable family which saw her and her youngest sister share a room with an evacuee. Her parents always had visitors young and old, from passing tramps, the newspaper delivery man, soldiers from the camp in Aynho Park, family, friends and neighbours. Everyone was made welcome and invited to gather around Home Farm's kitchen table to eat, followed by card games, piano playing, darts, etc. On one occasion her father found two young ladies from the BBC sleeping in a hayloft on the farm so brought them home for breakfast. It was a home in which there was much teasing and when Jean's oldest sister and older brother married she kept on with tradition, age 15, endlessly winding up her younger sister, while also teaching her to ballroom dance.

Jean was also quite the daredevil and, aged 11, rode a large boy's bike at 45 degrees by putting her legs under the crossbar to pedal. This went wrong and she severely fractured her arm. The experience didn't put her off anything with wheels, though, and she continued to drive until she was 88!

Her early years of work were as a Sykes Dental Nurse, a Walfords Optician Nurse and at Alcan. She was also Club Secretary for the Brackley Young Farmers Club. Part of this role was to co-ordinate Club speakers, which is how she met her husband, Donald Welford, when he gave a talk there. Donald was also a tease with a mischievous sense of humour and lover of practical jokes. However, during their first few years of marriage there was a lot of heartache around having children. Ultimately their son Alastair was born and, after still more sadness, eventually a daughter, Ffio.

Together Jean and Donald created a lovely home for their family on a farm. They were both passionate about wildlife, so planted woodlands and excavated a lake. There was fishing in the river, native and rare breed ponies, a jennet, guinea pigs, rabbits, geese, peacocks, bantams, budgies, hamsters, gerbils, cats, dogs, pet lambs, a very cheeky macaw and many, many more, which Alastair and Ffio were fortunate to grow up alongside.

Music was especially important to Jean. She was a brilliant musician and an accomplished pianist, achieving Grade 8 in record time while at school. She still managed to play her beloved piano only a few weeks ago despite suffering from neuropathy. However, the piano was just one of many ways she experienced her passion, others included being a 'roadie' for Ffio. It was a big job moving Ffio's harp around in a Morris to her music lessons and various concerts. There was also the church choir and the Cherwell Choral Society in which she sang until only a year ago, when she fell during choir practice one evening and her life began to change.

Jean was an active member of Deddington church and a prolific organiser in her local community for almost 70 years. This gave rise to many activities from the aforementioned singing in the church choir and Cherwell Choral Society to flower arranging, Mothers' Union as Deanery Presiding Member, running an after-school club for children in the church, Girls' Brigade, fundraising and recruiting members for Friends of Castle Grounds, running home-baked-cake fundraising stalls in church, Parochial Church Council, Alpha, Deddington Flower Festival, Teddy Bears picnics at Broughton Castle, running the Horton Hospital trolley, cooking and delivering Meals on Wheels to the elderly, baking Christmas cakes as gifts for the lonely, organising the annual trip to the Christmas carol concert in Birmingham with coachloads of friends and family ...

Family was very important to Jean and, throughout her life, she maintained contact with relatives in Canada and Scotland, an ancestry she was proud of. She loved travelling with Donald because of their shared pleasure in exploration, spontaneous road-trips and cruises, catching up with family while making new friends en route. The welcome arrival of Alastair's and Deb's children, Chris, Jonnie and Bec, created a time of pure joy and more spontaneous activities, with impromptu teas in the garden. These were also often gate-crashed by various alternative rock bands Ffio was working with, much to the delight of the grandchildren. The arrival of her great grandchildren, Theo, Mia and Nahla, kept her spirit young and she loved to share some of her hobbies with them, from sewing, dressmaking, tapestry, to sketching, watercolour painting and pottery. She also loved gardening and, besides a beautiful garden, produced fruit and vegetables galore to both feed her family and give to friends. An excellent cook, she especially loved baking with her grandchildren and latterly even became a Manchester City supporter (great grandson Theo's team), changing loyalties from grandson Jonnie's team, Liverpool.

Dogs were a constant in her life and she bred Jack Russell terriers and Labradors, which generally went to carefully selected homes within the local community. On one occasion two young Labrador siblings aptly named, Bonnie and Clyde, seemingly went on the run. In fact, they were simply enjoying themselves too much splashing about in the river to respond to Jean's calls. In the meantime the Banbury Guardian ran a front page article, 'Bonnie and Clyde at large, not two heavily armed bank robbers but two golden Labradors ...'

Jean's life exhibited a selfless unconditional love of people in many different ways and, like us all, not always getting it right but always wanting to. That she touched so very many lives has been evident from all the wonderful messages and tributes we have received, which are so appreciated. Thank you. We will miss her. We already do.

The Welford Family

FARMERS' MARKET Maud's Marshmallows

In 2010 I read an article in *The Times* that said marshmallows were the new cupcakes and it provided a recipe. I was Cordon Bleu trained in the late '70s and always had a love of making pretty sweet things. I decorated wedding cakes. Marshmallows were my new challenge. We lived in the Scottish Borders where my husband and I were born and bred. It took a lot of experimenting with ingredients, quantities and cooking methods to achieve what I considered to be perfect.

The history of the marshmallow goes back to 2000 BCE when the Egyptians extracted the sap from the Mallow plant that grew in the marshes, hence marshmallows. They mixed it with dried fruit and honey and it was given to the pharaohs and royalty as an elixir. In the 1800s the French substituted gelatine for the mallow sap and added beaten egg whites, a process referred to as *pate de guimauve* and is the method I use. In the 1950s the Americans started to mass produce marshmallows, primarily to be toasted over bonfires by Girl Guides. These are the pink and white ones widely available now.

Back in 2010/11 I subjected my family, friends and locals to tasting my marshmallows and to giving me constructive criticism of flavours and textures. Eventually everyone suggested I should sell them. I supplied our local farm shop, village shop, garden centre and butcher. Then I created a website and sold by mail order. Nightmare! I worked day and night to fulfil the orders until my husband finally said 'no'. I continued to supply locals and made a lot of wedding favours.

Meanwhile our two children had married, produced babies and settled in the south of England. The paraphernalia now required to transport small people meant we saw less and less of them, so we upped sticks and moved south to West Oxfordshire.

For the last few years, in between helping with babies and, now, school runs, I have made marshmallows for our grandchildren's primary school fêtes and other fun occasions. A lovely girl, who lives in our village and whose daughter goes to school with our granddaughter, sells beautiful bulbs in antique china bowls at the market. She suggested I apply for a stall: I did – and was accepted. I have now been a stallholder for three months and it has been such fun. The volunteer organisers are amazing and the camaraderie between the stallholders is terrific.

Over the years I have tried making every conceivable flavour, from beer to Christmas pudding. However, the favourites are orange and chocolate, gin fizz (lemon and Cotswold Gin), coconut and vanilla and mini vanilla marshmallows for hot chocolate. Only this week, I think, have I finally cracked raspberry ones, after years of unsatisfactory attempts. To be continued.

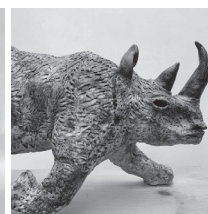
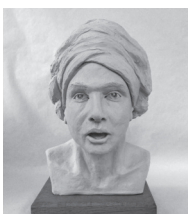
PS When we lived in Scotland, my marshmallows were called Minto Marshmallows as we lived near the village of Minto. Now they are called Maud's Marshmallows after our long-haired miniature dachshund and are as soft and fluffy as a dachshund.

Hazel Pollock

hazelfpollock@gmail.com



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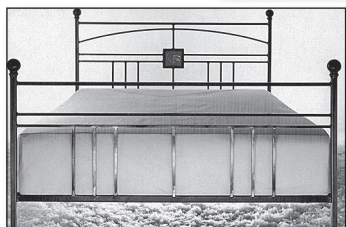
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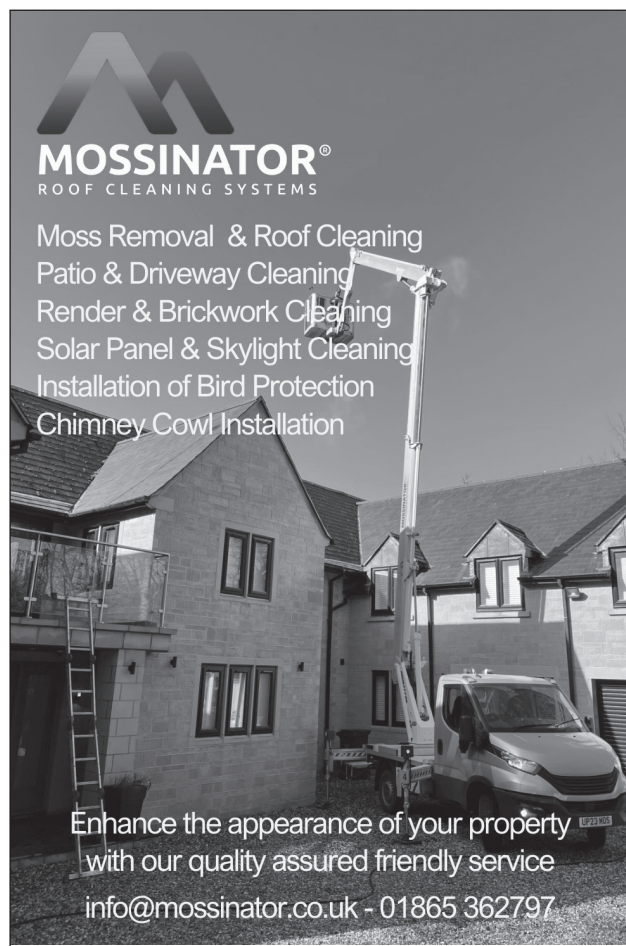
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CHURCH

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

The Revd Nick Fielden is vicar of Deddington with Clifton, Hempton and The Barfords. Please note that Monday is Nick's usual day off. If you need to contact a member of the clergy urgently on a Monday, please contact one of the wardens. Deddington church is open throughout the day for anyone wishing to visit, pray, meditate or simply be. Church services are streamed live. Please see the church website or FaceBook page for updates www.deddingtonchurch.org and <https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonChurch>.

There is a new pattern of daily prayer through the week, using Common Worship:

Deddington

| | | |
|------|---------|--|
| Tue: | 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| Wed: | 10.00am | Holy Communion (healing prayer on 4th Wednesday) |
| Thu: | 9.30am | Tea + Toast and Squiggles and Wiggles |
| Fri: | 5.15pm | Evening Prayer |

Hempton

| | | |
|------|--------|----------------|
| Wed: | 8.15am | Morning Prayer |
| Thu: | 5.15pm | Evening Prayer |

JULY

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

| | | |
|--------|---------|--------------------------|
| Sun: 7 | 10.30am | Holy Communion |
| | 3.00pm | 3 O'Clock Family Service |
| | 6.00pm | Choral Evensong |

| | | |
|---------|---------|----------------|
| Sun: 14 | 10.30am | Holy Communion |
| Sun: 21 | 10.30am | Holy Communion |
| Sun: 28 | 10.30am | Holy Communion |

Hempton

| | | |
|---------|--------|----------------|
| Sun: 21 | 9.00am | Holy Communion |
|---------|--------|----------------|

AUGUST

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

| | | |
|---------|---------|----------------|
| Sun: 4 | 10.30am | Holy Communion |
| Sun: 11 | 10.30am | Holy Communion |
| Sun: 18 | 10.30am | Holy Communion |
| Sun: 25 | 10.30am | Holy Communion |

Hempton

| | | |
|---------|--------|----------------|
| Sun: 18 | 9.00am | Holy Communion |
|---------|--------|----------------|

From the Parish Registers

Service of Thanksgiving

| | |
|--------|--------------|
| 6 June | Jean Welford |
|--------|--------------|

For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the vicar, Nick Fielden, on 01869 934794 or at vicar@deddingtonchurch.org or one of the church wardens, Stan Nelson (01869 337883), Caroline Condon (07821 259092) or email wardens@deddingtonchurch.org.

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.

FUN IN THE SUN

The churchyard mowers are looking for two more volunteers to make up our numbers for this summer's grass cutting. We aim to have four mowers for each of our two churchyards. They, in turn, are divided into sections which take, on average, about an hour. There are a couple of larger sections which an extra volunteer could help us divide up. The mowing season usually runs from April to October.

Volunteers are given an area of responsibility, usually one section which should be kept tidy and mowed in keeping with the season and prevailing weather. Holidays can be covered and mowing times are at

the mower's choice. We have a variety of mowing machines, some kindly donated by Deddington residents when our previous ones were stolen, as well as other tools. I like to think the mowing team are a friendly, social and caring group, who take pride in keeping the two churchyards tidy, which, in turn, is appreciated by the Deddington community. The riot of colour from the wildflowers in the spring are a delight to behold. If you could find about an hour or so a week to join our volunteer mowers, please call John Nason on 01869 338494 or Peter Ayles on 01869 336261.



Photo courtesy Richard Broadbent
L-R Julian Dipper, Peter Ayles, Andrew Green, John Nason, John Bracken, Steve Mobb

Peter Ayles

peterayles@aol.com

DEDDINGTON HOUSING ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Deddington Housing Association Ltd (DHA) management committee is a small group of volunteers which manages the upkeep of the five Holly Tree properties in Earls Lane. The properties are for the benefit of the 'aged and/or physically disabled persons or those in necessitous circumstances within the parish of Deddington upon terms appropriate to their means'.

The charitable trust was originally conceived in 1969 by Cora Collin of The Hermitage in the Market Place. She was a determined supporter of the elderly in the parish, a philanthropist and generous

friend to many. She donated the land, which had previously accommodated her tennis courts and orchards, to the benefit of the housing association, along with £10,000 with which to build the cottages. They became a reality in 1970 when my late father, Mike O'Neill, built the development. The first residents moved in in 1971; Miss Lillian Weaver, 84, Mrs Elizabeth Yerbury, 71, Mrs Gertrude Cowley, 81, and Mrs Dorothy Skidmore, 74, with her husband, George. As the *Banbury Guardian* article reports, they were all very excited to move into their new homes, with 'all the mod cons' of the time, at an exceptional rent of £4 per week.

Later, through very careful management of our limited income, we saved the funds to develop an underused storage and communal laundry space into a two storey cottage, which provides a fifth low cost home in the community. However, demand for our existing cottages always exceeds availability.

Unfortunately, when some parishioners can no longer manage stairs and can't move anywhere suitable in the parish, they are faced with the daunting prospect of either having to continue in accommo-

tion no longer suitable for them, or to move outside the community in which they may have lived all their lives, simply to find accommodation suitable to their

increasing needs. In 2020 we gained planning consent to build two more cottages in the existing cottage gardens.

The DHA is committed to building these new homes to help alleviate demand and to ensure that more parishioners in need can continue to enjoy living in our community, or indeed, in their community. But we need your help! We have a huge hill to climb in order to fund this project.

We need a team of enthusiastic and tenacious volunteers to help us fundraise in the community to raise the

money to build these cottages. We have plans to apply to larger trusts and funds in the future but, without community fundraising to prove the parish is behind the project, large trusts and grant giving bodies will be hard pushed to support us.

Do you have any fundraising experience? Although ideal, it's not essential; there is much more you can bring to the team. Are you proactive, energised, creative or just good at talking to people about what we're doing? Selling the dream as it were ... and asking for financial support. Can you write letters to members of the parish and local businesses to ask for support? We need you! Concerned you're being roped into an ongoing committee – not at all – unless you want to be, of course. This is simply a role for the duration of the community fundraising. No arm twisting at all... promise. Interested? Questions? I'm happy to answer them for you, either by email, phone call or in person.

Stella O'Neill
07986 141291
chair@thedha.org



Photo: Banbury Guardian.
Miss Weaver playing piano, L-R Mrs Yerbury, Mrs Cowley, Mrs Skidmore.

AGING FOOTBALLERS WANTED

Cherwell Strollers Walking Football Club, accredited by the FA, has two Over 50s teams in the Thames Valley League at Bisham Abbey, run by Bucks and Berks FA and Over 50s and Over 60s teams in the Oxon Summer League, run by Oxon FA playing at Bicester. We also enter teams into various tournaments in other counties, recently beating Torquay in the final of an Over 50s tournament in Devon.

Walking football or, to be more accurate, non-running football, has grown enormously since Cherwell Strollers started in 2014 and, at representative level, is very competitive and challenging. The standard of teams has improved considerably over the years and the level of skill displayed by some of the players

is outstanding, with some also playing Vets football. As a number of our players are getting older, we are seeking to recruit experienced players with a view to representing the club in various competitions. We are particularly short of players in the 50–60 age range but welcome players of all ages.

We train at the Dewey Sports Centre in Bloxham on Tuesdays at 7.00pm, changing to Tuesdays, and Sunday mornings in the autumn. If you are interested, please contact me at stan@thehorlocks.com, 07889 315069 or at www.cherwellstrollers.co.uk

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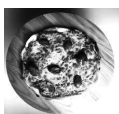
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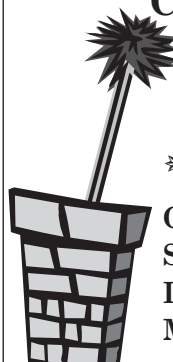
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NEWS FROM CLIFTON

This correspondent owes both you, my readers, and Kev 'Iron Man' Mayo, an apology. I should have reported in April that Iron Man did one of his silly runs. There is a disused railway tunnel near Bath that is opened for a run once a year. The tunnel is two miles long, so running up and down makes a lap. There is some electric light that gets turned off at night, the walls have a hundred years of steam engine soot on them and, of course, there is no view. Running this 25 times before 24 hours is up allows you to run another 25 laps before the 55 hour stop time. Kev did this 'Under' race and finished third. You might have seen him and this race on the BBC's *The One Show*.

Not content with this madness, in May he ran the 'Over' race along the M48's original River Severn suspension bridge. Same lap distance, same time cut offs – but in daylight – until the sun goes down. There is also a 100 mile and 40 mile race. Well, Kev not only came second in this race, he became the only person ever to finish both the Under and Over races in the same year. Stories of his hallucinations in the tunnel were funny, tales of hallucinations in the daylight were plainly bizarre. This is surely world class ultra running and we are scratching our heads for suitable recognition. Iron Man attended Book Club four days later but was still far from recovered.

Book Club on Tour continues to enjoy away days down t'mill and now in the bespoke grounds of Stoneyford House, after its substantial ground works and construction. The throng is well set in the interim.

Great thanks to Jonathan and the Oak Leaves while we anticipate an 80th birthday party for our most senior member. A Book Club 'grand day out' is being planned.

In an appeal to helpful neighbours, can we update you all with Book Club's strategy for resolving the Main Street flooding issue. When it rains more than just a shower, the first south side manhole cover on the west side of Larkrise spouts water. This will often raise the 20kg man hole cover and leave it akimbo. We then take it in turns to report this on Fix My Street as a major trip safety hazard. Now you all need to be aware of this if you travel this way, but can we ask helpful people not to replace it when it happens. OCC will get so bored with dealing with the issue that they might finally fix the drainage problem causing it. *Stop press*: it seems this strategy might have succeeded as a road closure for Main Street has been announced starting 5 July.

Finally, a huge thank you to the neighbour who cuts the grass verge leading down to Larkrise. We will take responsibility for this very soon, as soon as we get our vintage Allen scythe fixed, but its owner has been doing a bit of jogging recently. CAST has to report that TVP has no stocks of the equipment that our coiled spring of trained speed observers need for doing their duty. Letters have been written. We eagerly await.

Remember, any news to me.

Martin Bryce
martinDNbryce@gmail.com

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LATEST NEWS FROM DRIVING UKRAINE



Driving Ukraine has just launched an exciting new initiative, '1000 Lives'. The June convoy of vehicles going to Ukraine, ambulances and 4x4s, was driven by seven of the Watt family, including Deddington's Finn, his dad, brother and uncle – the Brothers in Arms. Their aim is to raise £120,000 which will buy 1,000 Individual First Aid Kits (IFAKs) to save '1000 lives', if and when a life-threatening injury occurs.

Around 85% of preventable frontline deaths are from bleeding out and around 10% are from a collapsed lung. Having a well-stocked IFAK and knowing how to use it saves lives. Life-threatening trauma injuries and catastrophic bleeding are a daily occurrence on the frontline in Ukraine, the injured have only seconds or minutes to take action. Every man and woman on the frontline are risking their lives in Ukraine. They all should have an IFAK but often they don't. Let's put that right! Please donate to '1000' lives to help change this visit: www.drivingukraine.org/1000Lives.

gukraine.org/1000Lives.

The '1000 Lives' initiative was launched on 15 June at the primary school fête where one of the ambulances going on the convoy was on show, to the delight of the children. There was great interest from the teachers and staff at the school, as well as parents and children, who gave their full backing to this latest development. We are hoping to collaborate on Ukraine projects with the children in the coming months.

The June convoy, delivering ambulances and 4x4s to the Ukrainian frontline, left on 25 June. We are so grateful to those who give generously to this and other campaigns and urge you to visit the website where you will find more information about the charity and how you can get involved.

Jenny Soddy

jennysoddy@gmail.com

01869 338298 or 07976 922558

PFSU AND NURSERY

We can't believe it is the end of the academic year. This term we are preparing for our sports days and will be holding teddy bears' picnics to celebrate. At the same time, we are preparing our older children for the transition to their new schools and settings.

We would like to say thank you for all your support with our fundraising this year. It makes a huge difference to Nursery and Preschool.

Charlotte Witka

Charlotte@deddingtonnurseryandpfsu.co.uk

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POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

I have to admit that there are times when living in America seems like existing in some kind of dream. Actually, a nightmare! Things happen that seem a long way away from a dreamy summer afternoon, sitting outside the pub in the village square. Today someone pointed out to me that an elected member of the local Denver council left his gun in the public toilets at the council offices. Now I know Councillor Collins is prone to forgetfulness but he certainly wouldn't leave anything behind in the chamber. Apart from his drum maybe.

Our crazed need to witness live music took us to Vegas for a few days to see Pearl Jam and Adele. You will understand they were not performing together, but, in their very different ways, they were both excellent. Las Vegas annoys me no end. The hotel wanted to charge Heather \$250 to reserve a lounge by the swimming pool. There was no charge for my seat at the bar but I was always surrounded by a huge hoard of diverse and noisy humanity. We did experience Gordon Ramsey's fine Beef Wellington at Hell's Kitchen. The food was good but the place was absurdly noisy. It's not a restaurant, it's a tourist attraction. It was a joy to get back to some peace in Colorado.

In Washington State last week, a 17-year old was shot dead while taking a faulty replica gun back to a sports store. It was an air pistol, but an off-duty security guard stopped him in the car park outside and then shot him. The kid was called Rohani. They say the lunatic who shot him will be locked up. However, this is not an isolated incident; 42,967 people died from gun-related injuries in the United States in 2023, including 1,663 children and, yesterday, the Supreme Court overturned the only small measure of gun control to be put in place over the last few years.

One of the strangest things for an Englishman living in America is the continuous drum beat of problems with the Supreme Court. None of us Brits can name a UK Supreme Court judge, but most people here know them all. As I explained this morning to a lovely American during our vicious game of pickleball, UK judges are independently appointed, based on experience and quality. In the US they are political appointees and their political and cultural biases are clear, even down to a judge's wife flying flags in favour of one side of the political spectrum. I like to think that a UK judge obtaining free trips and gifts from political donors would be removed immediately.

This obvious corruption could really explode later in the year as many aspects of Trump's legal fate will rest with this court, which has demonstrated a complete lack of political independence. It is quite likely they will also play an important role in deciding the election result.

We are heading over to the UK this month for a wedding and many people will ask me why I want to stay in America. Perhaps it isn't the country, perhaps I am the crazy one. I do love the weather, we have good friends and there are lovely places to visit. The wildlife is fantastic, it's just the humans that are a problem. I'm going back to my pickleball game, perhaps my innate sense of superiority is better suited to American life.

Mike Ward

mike@mikeaward.com

VOLUNTEER WITH GIRLGUIDING

We are looking for new Brownie leaders in Deddington. With Girlguiding, girls have fun, adventure and the space to discover their potential. Volunteering with Girlguiding is a brilliant way for you to try out a new role, learn new skills and get experience, all while having fun and making new friends. We have lots of support and advice available and local units to share resources too.

Brownies are girls aged 7 to 10 years. The Brownies programme is easy to follow, with clearly written programme cards to help leaders to run the activities. In unit meetings, the Brownies do fun activities, play games and earn skills builder badges, while being supported by our trained volunteers.

Please email us if you or someone you know is interested in volunteering. You don't have to have been a member of Girlguiding before to join our volunteering family today.

Mary Brodey and Mandy Skuce
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NEWS FROM HEMPTON

By the time this edition hits your letterbox you will have exercised your franchise, visiting Hempton's only community asset and placing your X, assuming you didn't forget to carry your ID. We yet again suffered the usual endless parade of party canvassers and pollsters beating a path to our doors, eager to obtain our opinions and influence our vote. Some may lament that the Monster Raving Loony party does not field a candidate in this constituency. Don't despair; I suspect they are masquerading under the guise of the mainstream parties. I sincerely hope whomever the nation passes the baton to at the current election makes positive changes to the direction so many aspects of the socio-economic and infrastructure of the nation seem to be taking.

The state of repair of our roads, although I've encountered many far worse than Hempton's, could be taken as a metaphor for the state of the country – deteriorated to the point where we cannot afford the cost of repair and, we are assured, the only way of raising the tax to do so is by achieving that elusive objective, economic growth. Is any party likely to wield power planning to change the rules that are driving ever deeper inequality and existential climate catastrophe? The rules as they exist, or are worked around, seem to do little to moderate some of the more self-seeking or lemming like aspects of human nature. To quote Private James Frazer, undertaker, (see *Dad's Army* for less chronologically challenged readers), at this rate 'We're doomed'. Or are we? Maybe not just yet, but the longer we prevaricate and are in denial of the causes the more likely Frazer will go down as the twentieth century's Nostradamus.

Meantime, my new veg patch is doing well, save for the continuing attentions of the local pigeon population. After chomping their way through my newly planted broccoli, I naively planted cabbages in their place. Within days the pigeons struck again, reducing them to chewed stalks. A bit of Google research confirmed a pigeon's passion for brassicas and netting as the solution. Netting, however, proved only a temporary solution: I installed it too close to the ground. The porky avian rats alighted on the netting, depressing it to the ground and pecking away at the plants through the holes. Elevating and stretching the netting taut seems to have curtailed their self-service dining, so far.

Talking of pigeons, repairs to our defunct street light entailed the electricity distribution company digging two large holes in my lawn in search of the power cable. The holes were duly filled in and the turf dumped back on top with grass seed scattered liberally around. Without invitation or hesitation, pigeons descended and within days there was not a seed to be seen, all replaced by a liberal coating of slimy pigeon poo.

You may think my preoccupation in these pages with pigeons a little paranoid. Maybe so. Feral pigeons actually carry the highest number of diseases in comparison to any other bird species, including bird mites. They carry more diseases than rats and can, in rare cases, cause problems in humans. Their droppings are acidic and can cause long term damage to buildings,

metal and car paintwork if not removed. They are often a cause of crop damage, being particularly keen on the leaves of brassicas (such as broccoli, sprouts, cabbages and cauliflower), cherries, lilac and peas.

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 makes it illegal to kill or injure a wild bird, which includes pigeons, unless certain licensing regulations are complied with. Culling pigeons as a form of pest control is rarely successful. Trials are under way investigating how to get contraceptives into pigeons and other invasive species including wild boar and grey squirrels. Not sure who will prescribe them or whether pigeons visit the chemist.

Stuart Oldham, sj_oldham@btinternet.com

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

Marvellous Makers is the UK's Summer Reading Challenge, running from 6 July–7 September. The idea is to encourage as many children as possible to read six books through the holidays, acquiring rewards on the way and getting a certificate and medal when they finish the sixth book. In line with the Makers theme and with your help, my aim is to turn the library into Deddington Castle. I am also holding an open Craft Day on Thursday 1 August 10.00am–4.00pm for everyone although children must be accompanied by an adult. There will be a cash only book stall with all monies going to the library funds.

I look forward to seeing you all throughout the summer.

Gail Cripps
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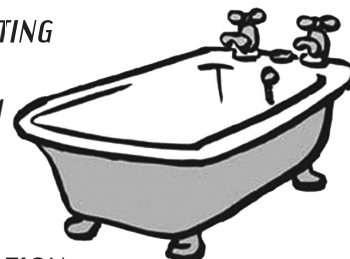
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LETTERS

FROM ROB FORSYTH, DEDDINGTON

I would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who contributed to our D-Day 80 ceremony and the more than 80 parishioners who attended. Many have commented on how poignant and appropriate it was. Deddington definitely led the day in Oxfordshire time-wise. For those who were not able to join us I have put website links to pictures, a video and a Radio Oxford interview in my RBL report in 'Calling All Clubs'. I am pleased to say that the piper will lead our Remembrance Sunday Parade on 10 November.

FROM HEALTHWATCH OXFORDSHIRE

Share your experiences of leaving hospital
Have you or an adult that you look after, stayed in hospital during the last 12 months? If so, Healthwatch Oxfordshire would like to hear from you. The county's independent health and social care watchdog would like to hear about your experience of leaving hospital and any care and support you got in the first few weeks afterwards. Healthwatch Oxfordshire would particularly like to understand what worked well and what could be improved so it can help shape the support people receive when they leave hospital.

You can share your views and experiences by

completing this anonymous survey www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/leavinghospital. The survey also includes an option to leave your contact details so that Healthwatch Oxfordshire can contact with you for a more in-depth conversation about your experience. If you would like a paper copy, would like it in another format or language, or would prefer to speak to someone about this, please contact Healthwatch Oxfordshire on 01865 520520 or at hello@healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk.

FROM CHRISTOPHER HALL, DEDDINGTON

Deep thanks to those who contributed generously to the total of £2,196 given to the Christian Aid Week appeal this year, 50% more than last year. The increase was due primarily to those who gave online using 'Deddington's Envelope' to bless themselves in giving out of their own bounty to bless those needing to push back poverty. (The envelope is still open <https://bit.ly/DtonMay24> for any who intended to give.) Thanks also to Richard Teare, the *DN* distributors and Hamptons for helping to promote the Week. Christian Aid focused this year on Burundi, the world's poorest country. Burundi's primary export to Britain are avocados which each need 320 litres of water to grow.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

It seems incredible to think we are now half-way through the final term in this academic year. Sadly, the weather certainly hasn't felt like summer and has affected our ability to use the school fields during break times and PE sessions.

The PTA once again set up a wonderful fête for us, enjoyed by pupils and parents, as well as others in the local community. It included a Fairtrade stall which helped to further promote our Rice Challenge. We would like to thank everyone in our PTA for all their time, hard work and creativity in making the fête so enjoyable and successful.

National School Sports Week took place from 17–21 June. During that week our Year 6 sports leaders organised many events and Courtney Tulloch, an inspirational gymnast visited us. We all had a great

time on our actual Sports Day on Wednesday 19 June. F1 and KS1 took part in their events during the morning and KS2 during the afternoon. We would like to thank our PE staff for the huge amount of work that went into organising the day as well as the preparation which enabled the children to perform so well in all the events. On another sporting note, at the start of June, Year 6 went to Tudor Hall to experience a new sport, lacrosse, at the school.

Rehearsals for the end of year performance of *Cats* are well underway, with Alicia Rumsby and Seb Heffer doing their usual highly professional job. Tickets will be on sale soon.

Denise Welch
dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

GET CREATIVE

Come and share your skills at the Parish Show on Sat 31 August, 2.00–4.00pm in the church. The photo competition topics this year are 'Black & White', 'Farm Animals', 'A Subject from inside a Church', 'Lazy Days' and 'Hills & Wolds'. Or what about writing a funny limerick, starting 'Our village ...' There's plenty of help online.

How about baking a cake – either to compete in one of the cookery classes or for the cake stall, to be enjoyed on the day, while serenaded by our talented brass band. Having a clear-out? Sue Ayles would appreciate bottles of everything from shampoo

to champagne for the bottle stall – please deliver to Faulkner's Cottage, Bullring, by Friday 30 August. Perhaps amuse the kids on lazy days in the summer by drawing a zoo or jungle animal, or create a 'Garden on a Plate'. There is a complete list of the classes in our programme which we are grateful to have available from Cedar Therapy, the church, Co-op, Eagles, the Flower Shop, Foodies, Hempton church, the library, Mark David and Nellie and Dove. We will also be at the farmers' market.

Maureen Robinson
01869 338746

LESLIE JOHN CHAPPELL 1939–2024

Leslie was born in Banbury in 1939. When he left school, he started an apprenticeship at Stones in Banbury as a printer but, halfway through, he was drafted into the army and posted to Germany with the Medical Corps (which he also represented on their football team).

When he returned to England, he completed his printer's apprenticeship, met and married Barbara and became stepdad to Darrel. He left Stones and joined WW Web Offset as a printer. When that company closed, he and five others became equal partners in a new company, Cherwell Valley Lithographics.

In 1986, Les and Barbara moved to Hempton, quickly

making friends and supporting the local church, where he eventually became church warden. It was during this time that he became heavily involved in a group focussed on ensuring the future of the Hempton church. Les contributed significantly to the Hempton section in the *Deddington News* for a number of years. He also volunteered to man the Deddington Police station, receiving his 10-year Volunteer Service Award in 2010. Les's health and mobility deteriorated significantly after Barbara passed away and he died in the Horton Hospital on 16 April 2024.

Darrel Wall

NOT SO BLISSFUL THINKING

It's currently a privilege to be able to express myself in any manner, as a series of unfortunate events have deprived me of most of the organs of speech, so please forgive my solipsistic meanderings. As these things often do, the narrative began with good intentions. This January I was going to begin to claw back some level of physical fitness. The early weeks of personal training took me back to my old DTFC pre-season fiascos, with me comically dashing to the latrine after the mildest cardio session. The urge to quit was strong, but for once my resolve was stronger and by March I felt like a new man.

This was when some higher force seemingly decided to repeatedly kick me in the crotch. First a nuisance crick from sleeping awkwardly bloomed into a debilitating muscle injury after a workout session; a legacy neck injury reasserting itself painfully. This prematurely ended the new fitness regime just when it had started to bear fruit. April drifted by with the injury lingering

and, just as May was arriving, my antibodies seemed to have been drinking on the job and I was hammered by back-to-back viruses. There was a constant of violent coughing and sore throat, but also a roulette of maladies, as if the body was running some kind of fire alarm test on various pain receptors to see if they were functioning effectively. After weeks of painkillers and lozenges for breakfast, the cough finally started to diminish, but had ravaged the throat to the point it was almost unusable.

This is the point at which this story reaches its current conclusion, with your weary protagonist hoping that the lovely Dr Cooper's prescription will finally see off this lingering shade. So this one goes out to all those who suffer from conditions featuring chronic pain: I don't know how you do it, but you are legends. Hope to see you on the other side.

Aaron Bliss
aaronjbliss@hotmail.com

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

We've had another busy month in the library and lots of activities are being planned for the summer. Gail is doing an excellent job bringing the summer reading challenge to life and the Friends are excited to see her plans come to fruition. The library's community volunteers continue to work hard to support the library and Gail, in particular. The volunteers are an integral part of running the library, covering a wide range of tasks from shelving books to helping you find where they've hidden them. They also help borrowers with requests, showing them how to order online while they are in the library, or finding new authors who write like your past favourites. It's a varied and interesting role and the Friends are grateful to all the volunteers who commit their time, week in week out.

Not to forget our 2025 fundraising calendar photo competition, of course! Thanks to those who have contributed so far, but we really need more photos of the villages in the parish, particularly interesting and identifiable buildings. Don't forget to take the photos

landscape format, no less than 5Mb and saved as JPEGs, please.

Bryn Williams
abw@brynwilliams.com

DEDDINGTON CHURCHYARD

This is a polite reminder to please keep dogs on leads when walking through the churchyard. This is necessary because, although the graves in the churchyard may appear old, there are still several families who come to pay their respects to relatives. Also people who have recently been cremated can still be interred there, so please be respectful of this. If your dog is not on a lead, it is hard to keep an eye on what they are 'doing', which isn't very nice for visitors or our hard working mowing team.

Thank you for your understanding.

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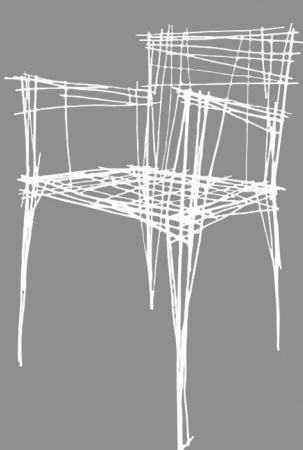
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Charity No: 1117963

Deddington Partnership Foundation Stage Unit
Earls Lane, Deddington, OX15 0TJ
Company No: 4874588, Ofsted No: EY330043
Charity No: 1100275



New roof, new kitchen, new toilets and, most recently, new mini tennis courts (nearly finished) are just some of the really big projects we – that is to say the Windmill management committee and the Parish



Council – have undertaken over the last couple of years to improve the Windmill facilities. Feedback from users has been universally positive, which is great, but we've never seen so many compliments as those we've received for a relatively small project – long overdue – that we completed recently. I'm talking about the installation of some acoustic panels. Who knew? They've been fitted in the main hall, the Clifton room and the Deddington Studio upstairs and, apparently, the effect has been transformational. Here's a message I received from one very grateful Guide leader, 'What a difference you have made to the acoustics! The noise during the meetings, with 20 youngsters being lively, has been so exhausting and stressful at times ... but, tonight, even the Guides commented on

how much better it was. The whole evening felt calmer. A most welcome improvement. Thank you!'

Pats on the back all round and, may I say, all these improvement projects – large or small – require hours and hours of time to set up, secure funding, select contractors and oversee. That's time volunteered by Windmill committee members, parish councillors and others in our community on your behalf. It's lovely to get some acknowledgement every now and again.

I'll get off my soapbox now and remind you that you can find out what is happening at the Windmill, or how to book it for one of your own events, by visiting our website www.thewindmilleddington.org or our Facebook page or by calling our bookings secretary, Julie, on 07720 834006.

Vaughan Jones
chair@thewindmilleddington.org

FROM THE FIRE STATION

This month has been busy for us at the station. Over the course of the month we have attended ten fire calls, including Automatic Fire Alarm actuations, standbys at other stations, road traffic collisions, car fires and structure fires.

The most significant fire was the roof fire in the stable block at Hook Norton Brewery. Before we had left the station, the first fire engine in attendance, Hook Norton, sent an assistance message to control stating there was 'one roof well alight' and requested that eight engines be sent to the incident. On arrival, we were faced with the building's roof significantly involved in fire. We immediately started to help the crews from Hooky and Banbury, who were already there, to set up more hose jets and put water onto the fire. The hydrant pressure was poor, so we used our Light Portable Pump to pump from the well in the brewery to give us more water. Along with eight fire engines, the Ariel Ladder Platform, Incident Command Unit and Water Carrier also attended.



Thanks to the very hard work of all the crews we were able to stop the fire from spreading further.

On our weekly training nights, we have been running drills to test FF Perry on his Incident Command skills, in the run up to his taking his level 1 incident command assessment. We also attended an exercise at Blenheim Palace to test our response to a fire there. In our role at the

exercise, we got to pump water all the way from the lake up to the main palace building.

We are now recruiting new firefighters, so if you live or work within five minutes of the station and are interested in joining our team, come to the station for a chat on a Tuesday between 7.00–9.00pm when we will be training. Or you can find more information on our website, <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/council/working-oxfordshire-county-council/fire-service-recruitment/on-call-firefighters>.

ACM Ben Fenemore

FRIENDS OF THE CASTLE GROUNDS

It was lovely to see so many families enjoying the Castle Grounds at the Four Farms Run. We had a stall with the history of the Castle, the excavation and some wonderful photographs of the old clubs that used the Castle Grounds in the past. The children and adults enjoyed the splat a rat and dressing up in the helmets and swords for a photo opportunity.

The Friends remember Jean Welford fondly. She was a large part of the group; a lovely lady who will be sadly missed.

Update on the owl boxes: there is no activity yet

but a jackdaw has taken up residence in one of the boxes. Work to be completed over the summer includes the continuing battle on brambles and saplings and repairs to the benches. The new large waste bin will be installed soon which we hope will minimise the overflow of some of the bins. The weather is still very unpredictable but hopefully better weather is to come. Rumour has it a heatwave is on the way in July so why not take a stroll around the Castle Grounds?

Carol Garrett
cgarrett@btinternet.com

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Photographic Society

In June our own esteemed member, Graham Marek, enthralled us with his pictures and history of camera obscura, showing how it evolved to become the wizardry it is today. There is evidence that artists such as da Vinci used camera obscura and Giovanni della Porta, Italian scholar, polymath and playwright, who lived in Naples at the time of the Renaissance and published four books in 1558, included how to use camera obscura. Robert Boyle and Robert Hook constructed a camera obscura that has theorists believing it could have been used in the paintings of Canaletto, Caravaggio and Vermeer. Later they were incorporated in buildings such as Oxford's Radcliffe Camera, the Clifton Observatory in Bristol and the Greenwich Observatory. A small version which fits most camera bodies can be bought in many camera shops.

Jonathan Genevaux will discuss waterscapes at our July meeting and we welcome new members to our society nights on the first Wednesday of the month. Our website is addphoto.co.uk or find us on facebook.com/add.photosoc for further information.

Courtney Killpack

Deddington Bookworms

Our latest read, *Golden Child* by Clare Adam, tells the story of the Deyalsingh family. When 13-year-old Paul disappears, his hardworking father, Clyde, is more perturbed than worried. A violent invasion of their home has destroyed the family's sense of security and his wife, Joy, wants to move to the safer but more expensive capital of Port of Spain. Paul fails to return home one afternoon. Clyde sees it as yet another example of the boy causing trouble, something he's been doing since birth.

Clyde's one consolation in a difficult life is Paul's twin, Peter. The boys are opposites – Paul has always been considered odd, while Peter, the 'golden child', is widely believed to be a genius, destined for greatness. What is most essential for Clyde, is ensuring that Peter will one day be able to leave Trinidad and build a better life for himself.

As the hours turn to days, Clyde begins to understand Paul's fate. His world slowly falls apart, leaving him facing a decision that no parent should ever have to make. We found the book a gripping read; uncomfortable at times, with much to consider – family, trust, safety and the expectations we have of each other.

Our next book is *Moving* by Jenny Eclair.

Deddingtonbookworms@gmail.com

Royal British Legion

Our D-Day 80 Ceremony was attended by more than 80 people who found it both an appropriate and moving way to mark the start of this momentous WWII event. Piper Stewart Carnegie's playing of *Hielan Laddie*, on conclusion of a two minute silence, as the Union Flag was raised was particularly poignant. I have received multiple expressions of appreciation. The flag will remain flying until 25 July, which is the

date when the allied armies broke out of Normandy and started their advance on Paris. Bill Cowley was a Deddington born man serving in 42 RM Commando. He was badly wounded fighting in Normandy in August 1944. He woke up in hospital in Bristol. Read his story at: www.deddingtonhistory.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/8957/BillCowley.pdf.

Photographs, videos and an audio clip of my interview with Radio Oxford explaining our unique connection to D-Day through General Hobart can be found on our Branch Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/groups/1824714857703182 and on the History website at: www.deddingtonhistory.uk/villagecelebrations.

Rob Forsyth, Chairman
Robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Deddington and District History Society

The findings of the 13 March 1851 'Religious Census' provided the central focus of Dr Simon Wenham's talk in May. He posed three main questions: Was religion largely a middle-class phenomenon? Was it about social control? Was the country secularising?

At that time the state church, the Church of England, dominated society while other denominations were growing in strength. The non-conformists (Methodists, Baptists, Congregationalists, Unitarians and Quakers) were a rising power helped by urbanisation and their enthusiastic worshipping. The census found that 5.2million out of 12 million people were not attending church. More than half the population was not Church of England. In Deddington the results were evenly balanced – about 500 parishioners attended the Anglican church and 500 were non-conformists.

The accuracy of the survey is difficult to corroborate as it was controversial at the time and not all-inclusive; some groups did not have a specific place of worship and some churchgoers attended more than one service a day. Many rural working people were not able to go to church because their occupations made it difficult to get there. Although there was a waning of the Anglican influence, the observance and influence of religion remained strong in Victorian and Edwardian Britain. Notable religious reformers included William Gladstone, Lord Shaftesbury, Keir Hardy and Thomas Wakley. Another was the Reverend William Cotton Risle, a friend of William Wilberforce. He was appointed vicar of Deddington in 1836 but his reforming ambitions were not always approved by the Establishment.

At about the same time, the Oxford Movement was becoming popular. It posed deep and far-reaching questions about the relationship between church and state, the Catholic heritage of the Church of England and the Church's social responsibility, especially in the new industrial society.

William Booth founded the Salvation Army in 1865. Organised on military lines with ranks, both men and women preached. Interestingly, Dr Wenham noted that the strength of Methodism at this time probably stopped Britain having a revolution. We still draw from the legacy of this era today. What the census tells us

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CLUBS

about the declining church attendance is only part of the story as church membership was increasing. Furthermore, many people's moral principles were still influenced by the church when secularism was taking hold, and this continued into the twentieth century.

Jean Dipper jean.dipper28@gmail.com

WI

Our June speaker was Mike Horth who spoke on his 'Life in Music'. His interest began when, as a 5-year-old, he found that he could produce a recognisable tune on an early keyboard. Almost entirely self-taught, he graduated to being musical director for many West End productions, via school and a degree course in music and production. He now organises and trains groups for cruises and is also developing a series of musicals for schools, one about a court case is 'What's the Crime? Mr Wolf'.

He was both enthusiastic and entertaining, even getting us to perform voice exercises. It was an extremely enjoyable afternoon.

Moira Byast

deddingtonwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

Local Vocals Community Choir

Once we have sung a song all the way through, repetition is what strengthens the connections in our brains and helps us remember what we have learned. At least that is the theory. As you can imagine, we are all working very hard to make this happen so we can be our best for our second Charity Summer Concert on Monday 15 July in the school hall. Join us from 7.30pm for an evening of some well-known toe tapping songs. Tickets are only £5 per person (including

a glass of wine or soft drink) and the money raised is going to the Holly Tree Club. Tickets can be purchased from the Deddington Arms reception desk or from a choir member. They should be purchased in advance to guarantee you a seat. There will be some standing room for tickets sold on the door. Parking at the school will be limited to those with a disabled parking permit. We look forward to seeing you there.

For more about our choir, which meets at 7.30pm at the primary school each Monday during term time, go to our website www.localvocalscc.co.uk

Alison Grieve

Book Group

Rebecca Wait is a critically acclaimed author, brought up in Duns Tew. Last month we read her novel, *Our Fathers*, which has a daunting subject. As a young boy, Tom was the only survivor when his father shot himself and the rest of the family. Over twenty years later, still traumatised, he returns to the small Hebridean island where they had lived and attempts to understand the tragedy and find peace. Rebecca writes so delicately and skilfully that we seem to see into the minds of the characters. Complex emotions of grief, guilt, fear and the possibility of hope are explored through family history and the reactions of other residents, while men's struggle to share feelings is exemplified by the desperately hesitant communication between Tom and his uncle. The setting's stark landscape certainly added to the atmosphere. Despite our initial apprehension, we found this a compassionate and compelling book which sparked an animated discussion.

The Book Group

SPORT

Deddington Original Golf Society

Sojourn to Copt Heath GC, Solihull, 10 June. The winners were: Nearest the Pin (13th), Mike Housley; Longest Drive, Tony Herring; Team Winners with 84 points – Terry O'Sullivan, Robert Branch, Mike Housley and David Lakin.

Individual winners: 3rd Place (35 points) Robert Branch; 2nd Place (36 points) David White; overall winner (37 points) David Lakin.

The next outing is to Coventry GC on Wednesday 7 August.

Friday 6 September is a visit to Whittlebury GC, near Silverstone. This coincides with our annual evening soirée when Giuseppe and his team will again provide us with his own brand of Italian style catering, including freshly made pizza, cold meats, cheese and the odd burger. Members and guests are welcome. Thanks to John and Janet Dauphin for allowing us to use their beautiful garden. It is always a popular event so please put the date in your diary.

PS 'The older I get, the better I used to be.' –

J McEnroe

Tony Lowe, 07710 477000
dogsgolf23@gmail.com

Deddington Town FC Youth

On 9 June we had a successful presentation day at the Windmill to celebrate our season's achievements. This included a mini tournament between pairs of age groups, as well as a barbecue, bar, ice cream van and cake stall. We are an effective grassroots club, run entirely by volunteer officers and coaches. The day showed how well embedded we are in our local community and all the benefits this brings.

The award winners are: U8s Most Improved: Isaac Posey; Sportsperson: Albie Wearing; Players' Player: Gabriel de Makaren Cuna; Manager's Player: James Anthony. U9s Most Improved: Barney Jones; Sportsperson: Jacob Stamp; Players' Player: Ted Young; Managers Player: Eddie Branch. U10s Most Improved: George Doggett; Sportsperson: Alex Morris; Players' Player: Thomas Belcher; Manager's Player: Jerome Dowland. U11s Most Improved: James Walker; Sportsperson: Jack Essex; Players' Player: Oscar O'Hagan; Manager's Player: Noah Lomas. U12s Most Improved: Sebastian Walsh; Sportsperson: Eben Steward; Players' Player: George Mann; Manager's Player: Oscar Le Clercq. U13s Most Improved: Jack Jenkins; Sportsperson: Zac Godfrey; Sportsperson: Harry Belcher;

SPORT

Continued from p29

Players' Player: Vinnie Holliday; Manager's Player: Taylor Jopia. U14s – Most Improved: Harrison Hill; Sportsperson: Jack Thomas; Players' Player: Petch Williams; Manager's Player: Freddy Smith. U15s – Most Improved: Evan Charman; Sportsperson: Antony Pouyenne Daza; Players' Player: Theo Flint; Manager's Player: Kian Moggridge. The Frank McCusker Award for Fair Play for an Under 7 player went to Alfie Parke; and the Chairman's Award went to Harry Adams, Under 14s manager for his contributions to the team and the club.

We are looking for volunteers to help continue improving the Windmill pitches and the primary school field. If you are interested please call me. For more information visit www.deddingtontownfc.com or [/www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc](https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc).

Roger Sykes
07899 914425

Tennis Club

We had a very successful Open Day on Sunday 9 June, despite the not very warm or sunny afternoon and the very busy Windmill. Thanks to those who came. Everyone seemed to enjoy getting back on court or trying tennis for the first time and we have several new members as a result. If you missed it, no need to worry, you can join the club at any time and, if you're not sure but would like to try first, get in touch and we'll arrange someone to hit with you or invite you along to a club session.

Our new website is now live. Go to www.deddingtontennis.com where you can find information about: membership, court bookings, coaching for adults and juniors, social tennis sessions, Box League and the committee, with contact details.

Becky Jones
www.nick14.com/deddingtontenni

YOUTH

1st Deddington Guides

The Guides had a wonderful day at Whipsnade Zoo with others from Cherwell Division. I was unable to go but our thanks to Guiders Rachel and Julie from neighbouring villages who took them under their wing. We set off for our circular hike from Adderbury in fine rain, but it soon stopped. The scenery was amazing and thanks to Tracey for her company too. The Guides enjoyed learning British Sign Language which gave us a chance to consider the difficulties faced by people who are hard of hearing and how best we can help.

Ready Steady Cook was a challenge, especially with torrential downpour in the middle. Cream biscuits in the barn whilst we waited for the worst to pass kept up everyone's spirits. The Guides cooked a pasta meal with a choice of ingredients and pancakes afterwards on an open fire. Quite an achievement.

Our most recent meeting in the Windmill upstairs Studio, with brilliant new acoustics, gave us a chance to regroup and start our camp preparations.

Maggie Rampley 07957 600755

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs This month we have been learning about D-Day. We were up bright and early to attend the ceremony in the Market Place and have been reflecting on the significance of this historical moment. We also enjoyed

making Airfix model Spitfires and playing strategic games with a war connection. In preparation for Father's Day, we had great fun making armpit fudge and are looking forward to seeing how thrilled the dads will be with their gift.

Tracy Tong deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts The Scouts spent a few evenings planning their expedition from Deddington to Horley Campsite and back to gain the badge of the same name. After lots of map reading practice and discussions about suitable foods, plus a practice hike to Great Tew, the big day arrived. Eight of the older Scouts, with rucksacks full of Pot Noodles and jelly boarded a bus for Banbury. For many of them this was their first trip into town alone. At the bus station they followed the canal north, then joined the old ironstone railway path that eventually took them to the campsite. Tents up and noodles consumed, the rest of the evening was spent in the woods and poking a fire. After a very early breakfast (much to the consternation of the leaders) and breakfast they set off to walk the 13 miles back to Deddington, taking about four hours, arriving footsore but very satisfied.

Also, thanks to those who turned out for D-Day, it was very moving.

Pete Churchyard
deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

DEDDINGTON ENVIRONMENT NETWORK

Have you heard of the Climate and Nature bill? Formerly known as the CEE bill, it's a plan for a new UK law that addresses the full extent of the climate and nature crisis, in line with the most up-to-date science. It's a truly cross-party endeavour with support from over 1,500 organisations and people, including 132 MPs and 41 peers.

The key elements are: Providing a clear, joined-up plan — as the crises in climate and nature are deeply intertwined; reducing UK emissions in line with the Paris Agreement, for the best chance of limiting warming

to 1.5°C; halting and reversing the decline in nature — setting nature measurably on the path to recovery by 2030, as agreed at COP15; ensuring the UK takes responsibility for its overseas footprint. Before voting on the 4 July you might like to ask your prospective MP whether they support the bill. Four out of our six candidates have done so. Check here: <https://action.zerohour.uk/banbury>.

Nick Smith
thesmiths247@gmail.com

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 (Monday 9.00am–12.30pm, Wednesday 9.00–5.00pm,
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DEDDINGTON CLUBS AND SOCIETIES: The full list of
 contacts is available from the Library and Deddington
 OnLine website at <http://www.deddington.org.uk/directory>.

DEDDINGTON CHURCHES See section inside



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