

July 2025

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

It's all about the traffic. If you care about local speed limits, you should consider completing the OCC online survey (see p2, under Finance and General Purposes). It's only available as a public consultation until 4 July so you don't have long.

If you're attending any kind of an event at the Windmill, please consider walking if at all possible. If you need to go by car, it would be good to park considerably, preferably using the car parking available at the Windmill Centre but, if there's none available, thoughtfully in the surrounding area. Meantime enjoy the summer.

JC

What's On July

- Wed 2 Photographic Society: Smartphone Photography, Jet London, Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Sat 5 Cherwell Choral Society: A Fancy of Folk Songs, parish church, 7.30pm
- Wed 9 Deddington WI: Holly Tree Hall, 2.30pm
- Thu 10 Swift Walk: led by Chris Mason, meet at Town Hall, 6.00pm
- Sun 13 Music in Adderbury: Piano, Viola, Clarinet, Parish Church, 6.00pm
- Wed 16 Parish Council: Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Sun 20 DOGS: Abbey Hill, Redditch
- Sat 26 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Sat 26 and
- Sun 27 Cotswold Artisans: Annual Arts and Crafts Exhibition, Holly Tree Hall, 10.00am–5.00pm
- Thu 31 Deddington Library: Children's Author Event and Workshop, 2.00–3.00pm (see p21)

August

- Mon 4 Friends of Deddington Library: Calendar Photo competition deadline (see p10)
- Wed 6 Photographic Society: Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Thu 7 DOGS: Stratford Oaks Golf Club, Snitterfield
- Fri 15 VJ Day: Church bells ring to mark end WWII, 11.00am; War Memorial, 11.45am
- Wed 20 Parish Council: Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Sat 23 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Mon 25 Deddington Cricket Club: Derek Cheeseman Memorial Cricket Match, Windmill sportsfield, 11.00am onwards
- Sat 30 Deddington Parish Show: Parish Church, 2.00pm

September

- Wed 3 Photographic Society: Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Wed 3 Let's Talk Ears: Holly Tree Hall, 9.30am–4.00pm

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

held on 18 June at the Old School Room, Hempton

Present: Councillors ap Simon, Cox, Mylne, O'Neill, Robinson (chair), Smith, Snashall, Swadling, Timms and Watts, District Councillor Rogers, County Councillor Epps, three members of the public, the parish clerk, assistant clerk and the *DN* representative.

Councillor Norton has resigned. Two new councillors were coopted to the PC: Ed Palin and David Rogers.

Open Forum

A Hempton resident enquired as to whether there was any news regarding the recent OCC traffic calming trial. He was provided with some information and advised that OCC is expected to make a decision in late July.

District Council

DC Rogers continues to raise questions regarding available funds from developers for the expansion of primary care in the area.

Discussions are continuing in relation to the reorganisation of councils into unitary authorities. There are a number of public meetings to be held but most will have been and gone before *DN* publication. There is one still available to attend at Banbury Town Hall, Bridge Street, Banbury on Monday 7 July at 3.00–7.00pm. More information is available at <https://twocouncils.org/home>. There's also an online survey for anyone interested. [We should all be interested as it will mean the disappearance of CDC - *Ed*]

Finance & General Purposes

The bench near the Hempton Road bus shelter is to be repaired. There is some difficulty in getting the historic broken fingerpost from Goose Green, rescued by our local postie, repaired because of the size, weight and material but it is being investigated.

There is an online public consultation, only available until 4 July, at https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kidlingtonbanbury_a4260_speeds2025, proposing a significant number of additional speed restrictions between Oxford and Banbury. The PC is in favour of these further speed restrictions.

A replacement goal post for Castle Grounds is still being researched.

The PC is putting together a newsletter to be distributed during the next few weeks.

The benches at Welford's Piece and Wimborn Close picnic benches are to be installed, using S106 funds.

It was decided to replace the vandalised water fountain at the Windmill Centre with an outside tap near the disabled toilet.

County Council

Gutters and drains are to be cleared in our area in the late summer. The PC has requested that CDC carry out road sweeping beforehand in order to avoid refilling the gutters with debris.

There will be a new drop-off point for Banbury railway station off Tramway from late June although work is ongoing.

Planning Report

No objection:

Lottie Cottage, St Thomas Street, Deddington: tree works.

Approvals

Land adjacent to Clifton Gate, Deddington: variation of plans, three bay garage to meet client's requirements. Gaslight, Earls Lane, Deddington: demolition of porch and construction of replacement porch.

The Little House, Clifton Road, Deddington: addition of high level rooflights to rear elevation of car barn (proposed as non-material amendment).

Appeals

East of Combe Cottage and South of St John's Way, Hempton: heard on 20 May at the Council Chamber, 39 Castle Quay, Banbury. A decision has not yet been made available.

Highways & Transport

Inconsiderate parking on Hobart Way and Wimborn Close has been raised again by residents on occasions when large events are held at the Windmill. Parking is a matter for OCC and TVP, not the PC. Clubs and organisations holding these large events are to be reminded to ask their members and visitors to park considerately. It was additionally noted that Hobart Way is still a private road as it has not yet been adopted by OCC.

The overhanging hedge on St Thomas Street is now being investigated by OCC Highways.

The Community Speed Watch groups have been active, causing agitated comments on social media. The highest speed recorded in a 20mph zone was 48mph and 53mph was recorded in a 30mph area.

There are some new volunteers offering to care for the planters in Hempton and Clifton.

Environment & General Purposes

There is considerable frustration and concern regarding the ongoing grass cutting of the Hempton Road cemetery.

Quotations are being obtained for proposed work on the Lookout to create a more usable area.

Some cracks have appeared in the new equipment on Wimborn Close and Welford's Piece. Outdoor Play, the installers, are investigating.

No Mow May discussions are continuing with the contractors. Goose Green area is to be left for the summer as approximately 25 different wild flowers have been found there.

**Next meeting 16 July at 7.30pm
at the Windmill Centre.**



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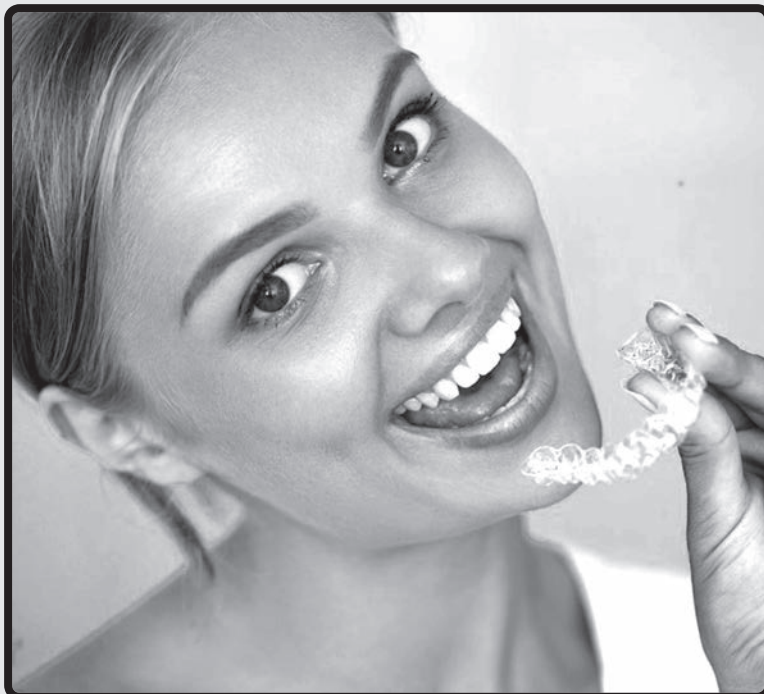
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THE LAST WORD

VIVIEN MARGARET O'DONNELL 1943–2025

The collective memory of Viv O'Donnell is of a warm, vibrant, fun-loving member of her community, a Justice of the Peace, recognised artist, charity worker and mother of four. Viv bloomed with colour and life. Just as her husband, Dr Hugh O'Donnell, dispensed medicine and cared for the community, Viv dispensed love and laughter to all.

It seemed Viv was always a part of her beloved Deddington but in fact she came from much further away.

In the late 1930s, as the war clouds darkened across the world, Viv's Bristolian father, Peter Rich, headed to Egypt to procure ingredients for the Fry's Chocolate factory. He met Hilda Paris, a sophisticated young Maltese woman, educated by Italians and part of Egyptian society. Hilda and Peter married. The storm finally broke in 1939 and war was declared. In Egypt, Peter joined the RAF providing logistical support for the North African campaign. He crash landed in the desert near Basra but survived and rose to the rank of Wing Commander.

In 1943, Vivien Margaret Rich was born in a military hospital on Gazira, an island in the middle of the Nile in the heart of Cairo. Later they lived in Port Said and Alexandria.

The family moved regularly. One of her father's later posts was as Commanding Officer of a customs embarkation unit in Singapore. In 1947 their son, Alan, was born and survives Vivien.

Later the family lived in Hong Kong before settling back in the UK, in south west London, where Vivien attended a grammar school and passed the 11+. Aged 14, whilst performing in a collaborative school play, Vivien met a compelling 14 year-old called Hugh O'Donnell from a large London Irish family.

He carried her books home, they chatted, he wooed her and later they kissed under the stage. A life-long love affair began. Fun and fire lasted decades until Hugh died three years ago. Viv missed him every day and said so every day.

Whilst living in Wimbledon, Vivien secured a place at RADA. The power of conventional postwar Britain was such that Viv did not take up her place at RADA and trained as a secretary instead. Such was her exuberant personality and quick wit, she became PA to the general manager of The Ritz hotel.

Hugh and Viv married in 1967 in Kingston Vale. Moving from hospital to hospital, Daniel (1969) and Matthew (1971) were born. In 1972 the family of four moved to Barford. Philippa (1974) was born at the John Radcliffe and, finally, in 1976 her youngest daughter Harriett arrived. All survive.

Mum naturally took her place as a much-loved member of the Oxfordshire community. There were good times making homes and friends in Barford,

South Newington and, ultimately, Deddington where she will stay forever.

Vivien's predominant talent was for art. In fact, not pursuing drama spurred her into painting, drawing, sculpting and her favourite medium, pastels. Vivien put on many exhibitions, from a multitude of shows around Oxfordshire to the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford, and Edith Grove, Chelsea. Laughter filled the gallery at all her shows, flutes of fizz with her trademark lipstick stamped on the rim, and framed pictures by VOD were regularly dotted with the red 'sold' stickers. Dozens of walls in Deddington and beyond are adorned with Vivien's vibrant sense of colour and her unrestrained depictions of the movement, humour and energy she saw in everyday life.

Vivien played tennis competitively in ladies' tournaments at the West Ad-derbury Tennis Club. She later trained as a magistrate and served in the Oxford Court. Here she brought much valued empathy and compassion and her impish humour, to the serious role of listening to, and sanctioning, those

most in need of the State's formal attention. Once this attention was offered in the opposite direction: a renowned car thief was temporarily released from his cell to use his skills to retrieve Vivien's car keys, which she accidentally locked inside her Morris Minor. Justice was served.

Vivien's compassionate nature compelled her to take up any work that would help others: Sue Ryder, Katharine House, Oxfam and many other good causes. The last picture Vivien created was a commission for 'Driving Ukraine' – a Deddington based support group spear-headed by the mighty Fynn Watt. The auction of this picture will be a posthumous act of compassion to help those less fortunate than herself. If you are interested in supporting Driving Ukraine by acquiring the picture (a beachscape that invokes the flag of Ukraine), contact Jenny Soddy (See p21)

Vivien was just as cosmopolitan as her mother and helped run the Deddington French Club but, more than this, Vivien could speak everybody's language. She listened to and understood everyone. She spoke to others as if it were they who were the most engaging person in the room; it was they who had made people laugh; it was they who widened everyone's outlook and it was their joie de vivre that lifted everyone when, in fact, it was always Vivien.

This is perhaps the abiding reason why Viv will be loved and remembered for as long as the living memory of her friends persists and in pictures and photographs thereafter.

Her spirit lives on in her friends, her art and her family.

Dan O'Donnell



*Viv as PA to the general manager
at The Ritz*

Let's Talk Ears: Local Duo Launches Free Hearing Wellness Day in Deddington

Deddington's own esteemed audiologist, Sarah-Jane of SJB Hearing, is joining forces with local resident, Alex of Sense Progress Ltd. Together they are set to highlight the vital yet often overlooked aspect of our health: hearing.

Alex, who has lived in the village for many years, lives with hearing loss and is passionate about creating a more inclusive world for others in the same boat. She and Sarah-Jane have known each other for 15 years and recently chatted about how many people in Deddington and Banbury area aren't getting their hearing checked.

They've both heard countless stories from families and colleagues frustrated by loved ones or friends who clearly struggle to hear but won't admit it or seek help. It made them wonder: is fear holding people back, or is it simply that they don't know where to start?

So they've decided to do something about it.

Together, Sarah-Jane and Alex are hosting a free Hearing Wellness Open Day, offering a warm welcome to anyone curious about their hearing health. Whether you've noticed some changes or just want to learn more, it's a friendly, no-pressure opportunity to explore.

Visitors can see what happens in a hearing check, look inside their own ears, try on the latest discreet hearing aids (they're nothing like the bulky models of old).

Additionally, we are delighted to have a guest speaker, Susi Barber, psychologist, who will talk about tinnitus* and strategies to help, including hypnotherapy.

The day is all about taking the fear out of the unknown and encouraging people to look after their hearing. So, whether you're concerned about your hearing or just a bit curious, come along and have a cuppa. Your ears will thank you!

When? 3 September.

Where? Holly Tree Hall, Horsefair, Deddington.

Time? Any time between 9.30am and 4.00pm.

www.senseprogress.com

Hearing Aids, SJB Hearing Company

**Tinnitus is the perception of ringing or buzzing in the ears.*

The Friends of Deddington Library

Parish Calendar PHOTO COMPETITION

The 2026 Deddington Parish Calendar will showcase scenes from Deddington, Hempton, Clifton and the surrounding countryside.

Open for entries now!
Closing Date: Monday 4th August 2025

Images should be in landscape format, minimum 5Mb, 300 Dpi & saved as a high quality .jpg

Please send your entries to Bryn Williams:
abw@brynwilliams.com

Full Details and previous calendar images
can be viewed on our website
<https://www.friendsofdeddingtonlibrary.org>

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CHURCH JULY

We are still buzzing from the launch of our new monthly family service on 1 June. So many new faces – children, families, young and old alike came along to enjoy breakfast, crafts and a chat, before moving into the new all ages service. We enjoyed a blended mix of modern worship songs and uplifting hymns, led by some very talented singers. Everyone enjoyed the whole experience and we will continue to tweak things to make the experience even better, so please come along, just as you are on the first Sundays each month to be part of the new journey.

Our traditional services have been equally uplifting, from amazing choral evensong (6.00pm on the first Sunday each month), through to our special services for Ascension Day (Hempton, 29 May) and Pentecost (Deddington, 8 June), where we celebrated God's gift of the Holy Spirit. Our choir and music team are exceptional and I give thanks that we are blessed to be able to offer such a broad range of worship styles to help everyone connect with God in the way that works best for them. So please come and try us out, whichever style takes your fancy. You will always be assured of a warm and welcoming home here in the churches across our benefice.

The Rev Nick Fielden is Vicar of Deddington with Hempton and the Barfords. Mondays are his usual day off, so if you need to contact a member of the clergy urgently on a Monday, please contact one of the wardens. Barford St Michael's church is open every day between 10.00am and 3.00pm. Deddington church is open from 9.00am–4.00pm for anyone wishing to visit, pray, meditate or simply be. Deddington church services are streamed live. Please see the church website or Facebook page for updates, www.deddingtonchurch.org and <https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonChurch>.

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Mon 8.45am Morning Prayer

Tue 8.15am Morning Prayer
Wed 10.00am Holy Communion (with healing prayer on 4th Wednesday)
Thu 9.30am Tea+Toast and Squiggles and Wiggles (term time)
Fri 8.45am Morning Prayer
5.15 pm Evening Prayer
Sun 6 10.30am Family Communion (breakfast and crafts from 9.45am)
6.00pm Evensong

Sun 13 10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 20 10.30am Holy Communion

Sun 27 10.30am Holy Communion

Hempton

Sun 20 9.00am Holy Communion

Barford St Michael

Wed 5.15pm Evening Prayer

Sun 6 10.30am Coffee and Chat

Sun 20 10.30am Family Service

Sun 27 10.30am Family Communion

Barford St John

Tue 5.15pm Evening Prayer

Fri 8.15am Morning Prayer

Sun 13 9.00am Holy Communion

From the Parish Registers:

Funerals:

29 May Paula Kinch

31 May Diana Burton

6 June Melanie Raath

For funeral and home visits in case of illness, please contact the vicar on 01869 934794 or vicar@deddingtonchurch.org or one of the church wardens – Deddington: vacancy; Barfords: Sue Addison (07484 718791), Sally Barber (07776 241218) or barfordchurches234@gmail.com.

For baptism, wedding and general enquiries please contact the parish administrator: office@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.

Friends of the Castle Grounds

There was an impressive turnout (400 finishers) on a beautiful day for the Four Farms Challenge in May. It seems that the word is getting around about the beautiful Castle Grounds setting for the start and finish.

On the subject of things moving at pace, the brambles and nettles continue to make their merry way up the ramparts, while the Friends of the Castle Grounds make valiant efforts to keep them down below the top path.

Good news for all those who've been disappointed at the slightly dilapidated state of the benches in

the Grounds. The parish council's contractors have repaired them and the Friends will stain them, so you'll be able to enjoy a sit down to appreciate your surroundings next time you're there.

Our next FOCG meeting is on Wednesday 9 July. New members are welcome. Just drop us a line to info@friendsofcastlegrounds.co.uk. Check out our Facebook page for photos and share your own Castle Grounds pictures or news there any time: www.facebook.com/FriendsCastleGroundsDeddington.

Charlotte Holmes

RETHINKING NUCLEAR DETERRENCE

The 80th anniversary of Victory over Japan will be commemorated nationally on 15 August. Many still believe it was the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that ended the war. However, historians now question this, pointing instead to Japan's readiness to surrender due to the imminent and much-feared Soviet invasion. Terrible though the aftermath of the bombs was, it initially seemed no worse than the terrible firebombing of cities like Tokyo which killed at least 100,000. The real horrors of radiation were still unknown to the world.

The realisation that the bombings were strongly opposed by many US politicians and military leaders — and were probably more about testing these new weapons than ending the war — has been one of several factors that reshaped my thinking about nuclear weapons. In the 1970s I served as second-in-command (and occasionally in command) of a Polaris missile submarine. At the time, I accepted the concept of nuclear deterrence, believing we would only ever launch our missiles in the unlikely and extreme circumstances of the UK having first suffered a nuclear attack.

When the Cold War ended, I expected the UK's nuclear weapons to be decommissioned. Instead, the government planned to build a new fleet of Trident missile submarines. I feared the enormous cost would significantly weaken our conventional military forces — a fear now fully realised — and began researching the rationale behind the decision. I discovered that, while governments publicly implied these were 'weapons of last resort', they never ruled out conducting a pre-emptive (first) strike. Under pressure — including some of my own — the Ministry of Defence has since acknowledged this, but only if you know where to look. The fact that such a critical detail was kept from us submariners marked a turning point in my thinking. It raised serious questions about the integrity of governments of all stripes in justifying nuclear weapons and the lawfulness of a first strike. The real reason for their possession seems more about national prestige than genuine defence. This 'bigger stick' syndrome was exposed with open access to Soviet archives

during the post-Cold War Glasnost period. It is now clear that the USSR never planned a nuclear strike as part of an attack on Europe. Their buildup was purely defensive — yet it led to a massively expensive and extremely dangerous arms race.

Another key influence was Chatham House's authoritative study, *Too Close for Comfort*, which documented 14 incidents in which accidental nuclear war was only narrowly averted. A further incident occurred soon after the report was published, when a false alert in Hawaii caused widespread panic. With thousands of weapons still in existence, the statistical chance of an unchecked accident remains very high.

Other troubling issues persist. Uniquely among nuclear powers, the UK Prime Minister can authorise a nuclear launch with no third-party checks or balances — and in response to any form of attack, not just a nuclear one. Additionally, UK submarine captains receive a 'Letter of Last Resort', dictating their actions if the government has been destroyed. Legal experts argue that an order (possibly written years earlier) by a presumed dead prime minister, and without knowledge of the full situation, is not lawful.

Meanwhile, progress under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty remains stagnant. The hypocrisy of nuclear-armed nations telling others not to build such weapons, while simultaneously emphasising the value of their own, risks spreading the desire to join the nuclear club. At the same time, the enormous cost of maintaining these arsenals comes at the expense of conventional defence — ironically increasing the risk of the UK having to resort to nuclear warfare at an early stage — as a 'last resort'. Faced with these realities and the unarguable immorality of using nuclear weapons as a substitute for conventional ones, I concluded the world would be better off without them. So too have other respected figures, including a former US Secretary of Defense and a UK Chief of the Defence Staff. But until the public demands change, politicians are unlikely to act.

Rob Forsyth
www.whytrident.uk



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A big thank you to the new subscribers who have signed up since our appeal earlier in the year. It is much appreciated, whether you sign up for a monthly commitment or a one-off annual subscription, your support makes such a difference to keeping the library open.

As July approaches, we've only a month to go to our 4 August photo competition deadline, so please get your photo entries in. We've already received a

wide variety of images, with some never seen angles from in and around our parish. If you've not taken any yet, you've got the whole of the month to get out there and shoot your prize-winning entry.

As usual, pictures should be in landscape format, no less than 5Mb and in .jpg format. Please send to me at the email below. Thank you and good luck.

Bryn Williams
abw@brynwilliams.com



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FARMERS' MARKET

Honeymakers was born in 2009 but lead beekeeper, Viktor, learnt the art of keeping bees as a young child, growing up on the family farm in Ukraine. His first sting was at the tender age of two and bees have been his life ever since. He often says that no matter how much he thinks he knows, each new season the bees will teach him something new.

Today, the Honeymakers are still relatively small but are rapidly expanding and currently manage more than 1,000 colonies of the finest Buckfast bees and NUCs (nuclei/small bee colony). Viktor is the (big) head beekeeper and Lucy is the business manager, plus tea maker to the bee maker. A variety of other talented worker bees have joined the company over the years, all very different in character and with specific roles to play, but all with the same goal – to support the bees.

Although May is one of the busiest months for bees and their keepers, it is also one of the happiest as the colonies are in full expansion mode with the queens laying eggs at their maximum rate, sometimes up to 2,000 a day, and the hives are buzzing with activity. This year, the season started earlier than usual, thanks to the warm spring, and team Honeymakers has been as busy as the bees since March. They have just finished extracting this year's spring honey and, whilst Cotswold Spring Honey is well known for its purity and unique flavours, the spring '25 crop is of exceptionally high quality, with the bees having foraged on a wide variety of wildflowers, hedgerows and tree blossoms. No two seasons will ever be the same; this year's is a light, smooth, floral blend with distinctive notes of sycamore, hawthorn and wild cherry.



One of Honeymakers' most popular jars is the Cotswold Creamed Honey, a 100% pure wildflower honey harvested from its spring and summer crops in the Cotswolds. Creamy, spreadable soft set honey, perfect on toast and in tea. Also called whipped, fondant or churned, 'creamed' honey refers to the technique of thickening the honey. There is no cream added. The texture is created by carefully blending different types of honey and then whipping the mix over a period of several days to create its smoothness. Unlike liquid honey, creamed honey doesn't drip and spreads like butter at ordinary room temperature.

To complement the much-loved artisan Cotswold honey range, Lucy, along with a group of hard-working artisans, has introduced Hive Inspired skincare. Her vision is to create a natural luxury skincare line, based on the products of the hive, as propolis, pollen, royal jelly, beeswax and even bee venom all have healing properties that can be incorporated into skin care.

As May bows out and June, the crucial month for beekeepers, arrives, all hands are now on deck preparing for the summer honey flow. Viktor and the team ensure that each hive has ample space for growth, often adding extra 'super' boxes in anticipation of the sweet golden honey flow to come.

Recently the pair have started working on a new product line. At a recent Deddington market, we were able to sample two different flavoured meads which tasted nothing like the traditional very sweet drink. These were light and gently sweet, a bit like a white vermouth. We can see it being very drinkable on a hot summer's day and look forward to being able to buy a bottle.

Lucy Zaichenko

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

We have all enjoyed both the traffic calming effects of a road closure and the smugness of seeing cars drive down to Aynho shortly before seeing them return. However, we are not pleased with the resultant surface. While many parts of the parish are enjoying the smooth and very quiet stoned mastic asphalt as part of the memorial US funded road improvements [*surely guilt money?* – Ed], we have had to slum it with the cheaper granite dressed bitumen. Our disappointment is only partly redressed by seeing this in many other parts of the county, not least the Adderbury–Bloxxham road.

We are, however, delighted to see Ryan's Armco, more correctly called Heras security fencing, to protect Ryan's family from any more automotive incursions into his front garden where his children play. Even the disappointment of one of our neighbours will no doubt abate.

This neighbour was especially disappointed by the postponement of the Clifton Book Club's latest away day tour of the banks of the Thames that due to falling numbers has been postponed. Anyone fancying a

historic tour of the banks of the Thames and the 'one or two' watering holes should get in touch. Late August is the new date being pencilled in.

I'm sure his disappointment was exceeded though by our disappointment that he failed to be a member of the Lower Larkrise team at the Aunt Sally tournament, held in aid of the Fire Fighters Charity that we most certainly all wished to support at the Unicorn, reprising our Una Stubbs talent for all to laugh at.

An HGV embargo is being sought on a Kidlington business that has no right to divert their cement carrying vehicles through our village and we await the results of dash cam video supplied, via the TVP portal, of the nutter overtaking one of our community in the 20mph zone and recorded reaching speeds of 45mph+ in the village. Witnesses are being sought by TVP.

STOP PRESS ... On copy date, Iron Man Mayo got his Allen scythe to work on Welford's Piece, with able assistance from Mark who tidied up the grass really nicely. Next job is the footpath to Candleford.

Martin Bryce
martndnbryce@aol.com

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Hempton's VE Day party

The Hempton VE day party was held in the gardens of the church on Sunday 11 May. There was food and drink galore, plus party games and a VE day quiz. Around 35 Hemptonians came to join in and some brought their own cakes and drinks to share with fellow villagers, in the spirit of that great day eighty years ago when the west celebrated the defeat of Nazi Germany and a long hoped for end to World War II. The weather played ball by being warm and sunny, allowing all those who turned up to chat and catch up with news, local and exotic. Well done to Basil Churchyard for winning the quiz with flying colours.

Thanks to all those who brought their own contributions, savouries, cakes and refreshing drinks. A particular thank you to all the Friends of Hempton Church and Old School Room who helped to organise, set up the party and, inevitably, clean up afterwards. We look forward to the next event, whatever that may be. All Hemptonians are welcome to join us for these events so please come along next time and show your support for the village community.

Andrew Crawley

We await the outcome of the appeal against rejection by CDC of the application for outline planning permission for nine new homes in Hempton. Residents have put a great deal of effort into making a case for rejecting the proposal and having their views heard in planning meetings. One of their concerns is the loss of productive agricultural land and associated flora and fauna.

The land in question, including adjoining land suspected to be on the developer's wish list for future exploitation, has probably been in productive agricultural use for more than one thousand years. The land has long produced arable crops, including grain and oil seeds. Grain, including wheat, barley and oats, are staple crops in the UK with wheat representing about 31% of daily energy intake. Cereals contribute significantly to the consumption of protein, B vitamins and iron. The UK gets a considerable amount of its micronutrients from fortified breakfast cereals and bread. Government dietary advice recommends that higher fibre and wholegrain starchy foods, such as wholegrain pasta and brown rice, should make up just over a third of the food we eat. Grain is an efficient form of production in terms of calories per hectare. The arable sector also provides products for animal feed.

The UK produces most of its own cereals – wheat, oats, barley, rye, triticale and mixed corn. Triticale is a multi-purpose crop that can be grazed and harvested for grain or cut for silage. When harvested for grain, triticale offers an alternative animal feed source and has a growing potential in the human food market.

Production has continuously met more than 80% of consumption for indigenous crops, ie crops suited to the UK climate and soils, over the last 20 years and increased from 86% in 2021 to 93% in 2023. Cereal production varies year on year, due to weather conditions and planted acreage.

Production of other foodstuffs is less secure; overall domestic production of vegetables for consumption was 53% in 2023 and 16% for fruit, due to climate, seasonality, and consumer and producer choices. In 2023 the UK imported 2,490 thousand tonnes of exotic and citrus fruits. The UK is largely dependent on a few key countries for its fresh fruits and vegetables, creating supply risks, such as extreme weather events. Spain is the prime example of our high risk suppliers. Supply sources of fresh fruits and vegetables are shaped by the seasonality of production.

Farmers have always worked hard to boost their crop yields. It has been estimated that farmers in Italy during the Roman Empire managed to harvest an average of 540 kilograms (1,190 pounds) of wheat per hectare (2.5 acres) in the first century CE. By the 16th century, farmers in England had nearly doubled annual yields to just over a metric ton of wheat per hectare, rising in 1800 to an average 1.5 metric tons and to nearly 4 metric tons per hectare in 1965. Grain yields rose in the 20th century with hybridisation, the synthesis of nitrogen fertiliser, improved pest and weed controls and the development of genetically enhanced crops. Crop-breeding breakthroughs ushered a green revolution in the 1960s and 1970s.

In 2018, British farmers harvested about eight metric tons of wheat per hectare. That year also saw a record breaking individual harvest in British wheat at 16.79 metric tons.

Stuart Oldham

sj_oldham@btinternet.com

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PARISH SHOW

Our vibrant flyer, included in your *DN*, aims to capture your attention for this year's big event.

Programmes are available online and throughout the village. Note there are some new categories such as bread rolls and gluten-free brownies. We have included an apple cake recipe for 9–11 year olds. We've also introduced some interesting new art and photographic topics. For poetry lovers, try your luck with a limerick, starting 'Our Vicar ...'

Come and have a chat with us in July and August on our market stall. We welcome new and innovative ideas.

As ever, huge thanks go to all the local businesses who donate very generous raffle prizes. Let's pull together and keep a great village tradition alive.

Stan, Sue, Cheryl, Terry, Angela and Maureen

THE PERFECT PUB MENU

Closures of village pubs aren't slowing down. In fact, they are accelerating. So I am becoming increasingly personally challenged to find an answer for those villages with just one pub. It's a privilege knowing lots about pubs but I just can't help believing there's a better way.

I am therefore building an imaginary perfect small village pub. There are quite a few issues to solve. I hate to bore you with pub economics first but the village needs to spend £300–400k in the pub. It's a lot and we need to get the rent right. And the publican needs to be awesome. So this pub needs to be good, it needs to be so good most villagers find themselves spending time there.

It needs to be meeting the needs of a modern community in an Oxfordshire village. It must be a pub, a café, an accessible centre for pensioners, to serve good food that's affordable, with a drinks range that appeals to all types. Oh, and the pubby types (I include myself) need to really enjoy a Friday night and Jo can enjoy the wine and ... and ... and ...

I start writing this perfect menu and drinks list quite often, aiming at 20 menu items, 20 drinks, not forgetting one has to make it deliverable and profitable-ish, and realistic to run for three years. I haven't got it right yet.

If I ever get there, I'll let you know. All contributions welcome.

In the meantime, the Hospitality Hub news is the DA has a new general manager: welcome Stephen. The Red Lion, I know nothing. Foodies is on for a September launch. And love live summer nights in the Unicorn.

Our Hospitality Hub messages will change to forwarded posts by the pubs and restaurants from now on. Remember to save to your homepage the brilliant Deddington Events Listing which contains all events, including pub ones, www.deddington.org, if you want to be added to Whatsapp or email.

Hamish and the Hubbers

BLISSFUL THINKING

It pains me to report that there are more than ten spiders for every person in the UK. Fortunately most are very small and keep themselves to themselves outside.

There is also a dog for every six people in the UK. These tend to be a lot larger, louder, and I'd imagine the vast majority of these will be indoors. I hear they will be considerably more likely to eat your dinner and befoul your furnishings too. Who would have thought when that first wolf compromised independence for security that its predecessors would have been bred to these kinds of numbers and in such a cornucopia of flavours.

The number of dogs in the UK in 1970 was estimated at five million; just over eleven people per dog. Conversely, the estimated number of breeding birds settled in the UK has gone from over eleven birds per person in 1970 to under two and a half per person today. We don't do bird spotting as much as dog spotting in 2025, particularly in the parish. In fact, you can't even spell Deddington without a 'dog' in there somewhere.

Aaron Bliss

aaronjbliss@hotmail.com

DAEDA'S WOOD

This is a report from Lyndon Tipping (Reg) who monitors the bat boxes in Daeda's Wood.

We were excited last year:

17.9.24 12 Natterers and one Leisler's (seldom encountered in this area). Moved four boxes from ash to oak trees.

29.4.25 18 Natterers. Moved more boxes from ash to oak trees. Removed two boxes for repair.

28.5.25 Moved one box from ash to an oak tree. Removed one box for repair. Replaced two boxes.

It has taken time to remove boxes from ash trees because we cannot move them with bats or birds in them.

Wind blown trees knocked one box down. Squirrels have played havoc by chewing big holes in the boxes.

Annette Murphy

murphyannette74@gmail.com

Deddington Nursery and PFSU

The summer term is in full swing.

We have had lots of fun with sports day in both settings, our Father's day breakfast at Nursery and our open afternoon and transition days at Pre-school. Our caterpillars transformed into butterflies too and we enjoyed watching them fly away. We look forward to our final events of the year – the Nursery graduation and teddy bears picnic at Pre-school.

We hope all the children have a wonderful summer and we look forward to welcoming our new starters in September.

Shrene Saleh-Gillett

info@deddingtonnurseryandpfsu.co.uk

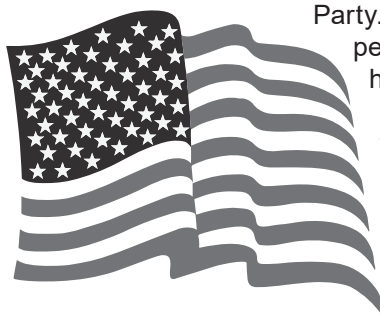
POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

Kings, Rich Rulers, Demos and Spin

There is a very funny passage in the musical, *Hamilton*, where the King (that is George III, the last king of America) sings 'You'll be back'. It is the tale of how America managed to rid themselves of remote rule from an uncaring king. This weekend the autocrat back in the White House had a \$40m military parade in Washington, including \$15m to repair the roads after the tanks trashed them. At my tennis game, I said to my three partners, 'I thought it was only dictators in tinpot banana republics that did these things.' 'Exactly', was the unanimous reply.

There is a long history of authoritarian leaders exaggerating crises in order to send in the troops. It often runs alongside blaming groups of people who are different in some way. It's easier to get people wound up by pointing at a group and saying your life is being ruined by that lot. Trump sent the Marines into Los Angeles and so his popularity with the MAGA crowd increased. Hitler is just one of many to use this model. We have already seen the book burning.

This weekend I went to my first anti-Trump rally. Heather was away so I needed some excitement. I am not sure how wise it is, since my green card will need to be renewed before the end of the Trump era. When I went for my first green card interview, I had to swear I had never been a member of the Communist



Party. In three years, will they be making people swear that Trump is a wonderful human being?

Going through a box of old rubbish this week I found my union membership card from 1977. I was a member of ASTMS, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs. I have always enjoyed informing Americans that this is in my background.

Most seem to think that it means I was actually a communist or, even worse, a socialist. Most Americans believe that the American Dream means that anyone can succeed if they work hard enough; family history and deprivation are irrelevant. That dream is now officially dead, alongside the diversity initiatives of most American corporations.

I have been trying to get a view from people about how this is all going to end. I keep suggesting that the disdain and cruelty of the current administration will turn people away from them but there is a feeling of despair amongst my friends and the Trump supporters still express glee. They are prepared to ignore the lunacy in order to receive tax breaks and images of brown people being deported. Right now they are ignoring the blatant corruption of Trump and the Tech Bros. They were fed up with being ignored; their lives have not improved over the last 20 years and, so, they voted for change. But they aren't looking in the right direction. The people in real control in America are the 800 families who are worth more than the bottom half of the US population put together.

My tennis partner praised the amount of 'English' I applied to the ball. I can no longer hit the ball hard and so I have to resort to spinning the ball. Being English means my cynicism and sarcasm puts a different spin on things that Americans either find amusing or insulting. But the tens of thousands at the demonstration today filled me with some much needed positivity. Perhaps this time the king can be removed without violence.

Mike Ward

mike@mikeaward.com

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Dr Mike d'Souza Retirement

After 22 years as a partner at Deddington Health Centre, Dr Mike D'Souza will be retiring at the end of July and heading to sunnier climes on the south coast.

He has worked tirelessly for his patients and colleagues over the years and we're sure you'll want to join us in thanking him for all his hard work and wish him all the best for the future.

He plans to continue doing some clinical and management work for the practice so you may still see his name pop up from time to time.

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LETTERS

FROM MAGGIE RAMPLEY,
DEDDINGTON GUIDES

Please could all Windmill users respect the sign on our camp store door and not park in front of it. We need access to get our equipment in and out.

Thank you.

FROM SARAH BANES,
DEDDINGTON

The counting is done and there is a final total. Thank you to everyone who donated so generously to the Deddington Christian Aid Group fundraising for Christian Aid week this year. Through the online envelope, the church collection and donations through Hampsons, we were able to send £1,768.25 (including Gift Aid) to Christian Aid's partner in Guatemala. They are working with indigenous farming communities who are battling record high temperatures, unpredictable weather and reduced availability of water caused by climate change. Training in agricultural methods helps the farmers plant resilient crops, conserve water and make fertiliser. Every donation, large or small, helps, so it's marvellous that we were able to join together



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FROM LIZ STEVENS,
BANBURY YOUNG HOMELESS
PROJECT

Each year BYHP, <https://byhp.org.uk>, helps more than 400 young people around the Cherwell area with mental health, family conflict and engagement with education. The

charity is powered by committed people who believe in making a difference and we are currently looking for local people to support the small hardworking team.

We are keen to find a new trustee or two, especially if you have experience in youth services or homelessness, but also if you simply have a strong desire to help young people. Alternatively, we are setting up a volunteers group to help out, for example, at fundraising events. Both offer rewarding opportunities to make a real impact on the lives of young people in our community. If this sparks your interest, please contact me by email at enquiries@byhp.org.uk to start getting involved. Thank you.

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

BREAKING NEWS ... Rhymetime is back in the library, starting on Monday 8 September at 2.15–2.45pm, aimed at 0–4 year olds and will be held in term time only. I'm looking forward to seeing you all and please pass the news to your friends.

Lego club will continue through the holidays and is held on Mondays at 3.30–4.30pm, for ages four-and-a-half upwards, with all children to be accompanied by an adult.

On 31 July between 2.00–3.00pm, there is a children's author event here in the library with Sue Palmes talking on science and space and there will also be a workshop for children to have a go. This looks like great fun.

Reading Challenge: Story Garden starts on Saturday 5 July, looking at nature, fantasy and the great outdoors and exploring your imagination through reading and storytelling. Come and see our backyard and the ongoing development to help us understand what we can do for nature.

With the backyard in mind, I am still looking for a few more sun loving flowers suitable for pots. And I

need some paint – white masonry paint, acrylics and spray paints of all colours. If you have a can left, that is great. We can get the wall decorated and lead us on to a competition.

Competition Time ... We're looking for your drawings and ideas of characters, animals, monsters from your favourite books and scenery. This is open to everyone and all ages. The closing date is Saturday 2 August at midday. The winning pictures will be included on a mural. Be brave and have ago.

Finally, a special thank you to Linda Newbery, our patron, for organising two author events here with guest speakers, Mary Hoffman and Jane Rogers, in conjunction with Art Weeks and the Big Green Event. We had a lovely turn out and lots of questions were asked. Their books are available in the library for you to borrow.

A massive thank you to all my readers, volunteers and friends of the library for your continuing support.

Gail Cripps, Manager
Gail.Cripps@oxfordshire.gov.uk
01865 816010

UKRAINE UPDATE

224 vehicles delivered, 44 convoys, £1.5 million raised – thank you all so much for your generosity. If you would like to donate, please visit the website, DrivingUkraine.org, and help deliver life-saving vehicles to Ukraine's frontlines. Every donation brings heroes home and saves lives in the field. Make a single donation or set up a monthly subscription, choose where and how your money is being spent by ticking

your preferred item, perhaps a tourniquet or a field medic pack or become part of a convoy and join the next group of volunteers to deliver vehicles to Ukraine.

Recognising the heroism and dedication to Ukraine, the BBC documentary of *Hell Jumper* with Chris Parry won two awards at the Rocky awards in Banff, Canada – Best Picture and Social Issues and

Continued on p22

Ukraine Update

Continued from p21

Current Affairs. Chris's family are great supporters of DrivingUkraine. We join them in celebrating this tremendous recognition of their son.

Local Deddington man and world-class musician, Steve Kershaw, along with other jazz musicians from Oxfordshire and Berkshire formed the Ukraine Solidarity Jazz Band in 2023. The Band's mission is to stand with Ukrainian people, to fundraise for Ukraine related projects, to help people stay connected during these difficult times and to bring a message of love and to celebrate camaraderie between British and Ukrainian people through music. Our good fortune is that the band has expressed a wish to play in Deddington church to help raise money for DrivingUkraine. The date will be confirmed in the coming weeks for a concert in the autumn so expect to see more information in September's *DN* and notices around the villages.

Viv's legacy

As most of you will know, the much loved Viv O'Donnell died on Monday 9 June. Viv was a huge supporter of Ukraine and a regular contributor to DrivingUkraine.

It is such a fitting tribute therefore that the last picture she painted was a beautiful landscape of Ukraine. It was her last wish that this painting should be used to help raise funds for DrivingUkraine. The picture will be displayed in the church for July with details on how you can place your offer for this iconic painting.

Jenny Soddy

Jennysoddy@gmail.com

07976 922558

WALKING WITH PURPOSE

'What on earth shall I do when I retire?'

I had spent my career behind a desk as a lawyer but had always enjoyed the outdoors.

A few months into my retirement, I received a phone call from a friend who had seen an advert seeking volunteers to join Lowland Search & Rescue. I had heard of Mountain Search & Rescue, but hadn't realised that there were equivalent groups covering the lowland areas of England.

I was living in Bishop's Stortford at that time (before I moved to Deddington) and my local group was Mid-shires Search & Rescue which covered the counties of Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire. I decided to give them a try and train as a Search Technician.

Each group is linked to the police force in their county or metropolitan area and it is they who call on the group to assist in a search for missing persons. Every search is different, depending on the time of day, the character of the terrain (for example woodland, water based, hilly, dense shrubland, urban) and the missing person (elderly, suicidal, dementia sufferer, medical issues, child).

All volunteers are trained in search techniques, navigation, radio communications, first aid and the use of stretchers. Further training is available for those undertaking water-based searches and flood rescue. Many groups can also deploy search dogs and have the capacity to use drones.

The fact that a search may result in the discovery of a body or badly injured person is also dealt with in training and counselling is available for those volunteers who need to talk through their experiences. There is the possibility that the missing person may have been the victim of a crime so the preservation of the scene of discovery is also taught to the volunteers.

The reality is that many searches are inconclusive or stood down because the missing person has been located by other means. However, the reward for the volunteers, in the case of finding a missing person, is the knowledge that you bring certainty to the relatives and friends of the deceased or you can share the joy when they are found alive. I will never forget the relief on the faces of the parents of a six year old child found at three in the morning in autumn, sleeping by the slip road to the M1 from Newport Pagnell Service Station. He had become separated from a school party many hours earlier.

Lowland Search & Rescue is entirely self funded and the volunteers are unpaid. A lot of time is, therefore, spent raising funds for the motor vehicles and equipment required to keep the groups functioning.

Any reader who is interested in finding out more can visit <https://www.lowlandrescueoxfordshire.org.uk/> where further information is available.

Andrew Cork



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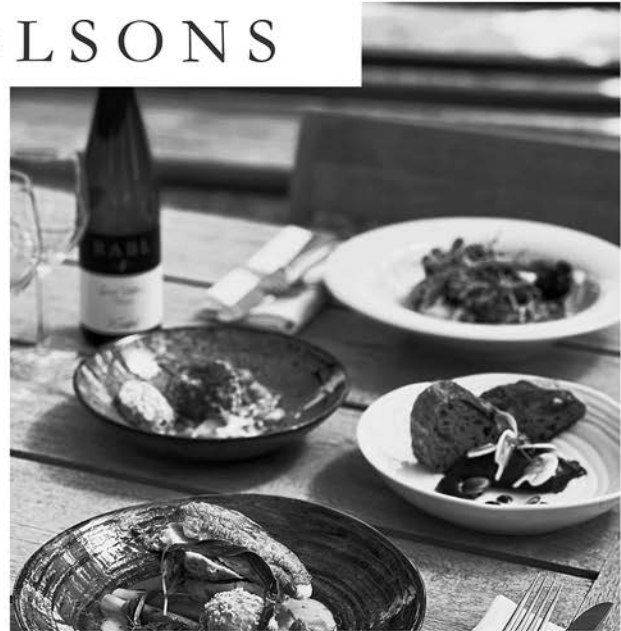
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DEDDINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

It's the summer. Yay! Up at the Windmill it's all going on outside. We are truly blessed to have such a beautiful six acre site for everyone to enjoy. On the playing fields, cricket has taken over from football, although the five-a-side teams are still honing their skills on our all-weather court. The Tennis Club seems to be in rude health with the main courts in constant

use. No doubt the membership has enjoyed another boost after the recent tennis open day. It is particularly heartening to see the mini-tennis courts being used so frequently – what a good idea that was. The adventure playground and the pocket park for toddlers are also increasingly popular, with people visiting from miles around, bringing picnics, enjoying a bit of family time together. Dog walkers are also welcome, except for the really selfish ones, that is – the ones who let their dogs loose on the playing fields and don't pick up. Those people are definitely NOT welcome. Grrr.

The Windmill building itself is getting much needed attention as the exterior woodwork is repaired and painted during July – please take extra care while these works are in progress. By the time you read this, our newly refurbished kitchenette upstairs will be complete and ready for use. It will help turn the upstairs studio into an excellent venue for kids' parties – particularly first birthdays. It's also great for larger meetings or talks. You can fit around 50–60 chairs in there in rows.

Many of you will be visiting the Windmill in the second week of July for the school production which is always a fantastically popular event. This year, I believe it's *Oliver* and I'm sure it will be amazing. It will be even more amazing if you choose to walk or cycle to the Windmill rather than use your car ... please.

Last, but not least, I was recently interviewed by Radio Horton (hospital radio) about the Windmill and how activities there support health and well-being in our community. I even managed to convince myself that we really do have a lot to offer. If you want to find out, you could listen to the interview at <https://radiohorton.co.uk>, or just visit our website www.thewindmilledddington.org. If you'd like to view our facilities in person, please contact Julie on enquiries@thewindmilledddington.org or call 07720 834006. We look forward to hearing from you.

Vaughan Jones

chair@thewindmilledddington.org

DEDDINGTON TOWN HALL

A while ago I was shown a photograph of the town hall with the undercroft bricked up. It had me wondering when this was done and why.

In the book, *Discovering Deddington*, written, designed and illustrated by a team of local volunteers and published in May 2000, it says the following about the town hall:

Rebuilt in 1806, the ground floor brick arches were open for shops and market stalls. In 1858 the arches were blocked up to provide a shelter for the fire tender. The upstairs room was formerly used for vestry meetings and as a public reading room and court house. It now hosts monthly Parish Council meetings and occasional exhibitions. The coat of arms, granted in 1994, is displayed on the south wall, and the red telephone kiosk on the north wall is the classic 1935 K6 designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott.

If you'd like to know more about the town hall's history there is a more detailed account going back to 1611 on the Deddington History website at www.deddingtonhistory.uk/buildings/townhall. Similarly, there are more photographs of the town hall on the Deddington OnLine gallery – www.deddington.org.uk/gallery/index.php/Market-Place/Town-Hall – and I am grateful to Mary Robinson for providing the photograph below.

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CALLING ALL CLUBS

Photographic Society

Our guest speaker for June was Jem Wilton, who started his career at the *Banbury Guardian* and was then lucky enough to move to the *Daily Star*, the *Sun*, and some of the other top London tabloids. These roles gave him the opportunity to photograph the likes of Liam Gallagher and Naomi Campbell.

His claim to fame is a very famous photo of the Heathrow IRA bombing — the van where the explosives were stored, taken from a local dog walker's backyard shortly before the police caught him.

He moved back to Banbury with his wife, Kate, to raise their family and took up wet plate photography almost as a tribute to the original press photography era. Jem prints onto glass or tin.

Members were intrigued by Jem's interactive talk and had plenty of questions for him, especially about his Thornton Pickard camera, which dates back to the 1880s, and his smaller MPP camera. We went outside on a mild spring evening, where Jem took a portrait style photo of one of us which he then processed in chemicals and handed to the subject, who was very pleased with the picture.

June's monthly topic was 'Documentary'.

In July, we are excited to have Jet Lendon from Let Black Squares talking about Smart Phone Photography. Everyone is welcome.

Courtney Killpack
www.addphoto.co.uk

Local Vocals – Community Choir

We took a break at the start of June for a social evening with a quiz. This is not only a great way to stretch those little grey cells but also allows members to chat to those they wouldn't normally sit near. The theme was, of course, music. How would you have got on with these questions? 1. The word 'umbrella' is an example of a glottal stop: True or False? 2. Up to how many different vocal sounds can a cat make - 50, 75 or 100? 3. What was the best-selling single of the 1970s in the UK? *Answers below.*

Our term ends on 14 July and reconvenes in September when we will start in earnest towards our December friends and family concert.

To find out more about our choir, which meets 7.30pm at Deddington Primary School each Monday during term time, please visit our website, www.local-vocalscc.co.uk. New members are welcome.

Alison Grieve

1. True 2. 100 3. Mull of Kintyre by Wings

Deddington Bookworms

During May, we read *The Letter Home* by Rachel English. Inspired by true events, the lives of three remarkable women interweave across time in an intriguing tale set in Ireland and Boston.

When Jessie, a spirited journalist, loses everything she holds dear, she travels home to Ireland and stumbles on some new revelations about her past while researching the nineteenth century for an old friend. She becomes drawn into the heartbreaking story of a brave young mother, Bridget Moloney, and her daughter, Norah.

On the other side of the ocean in Boston, Kaitlin, a successful lawyer who, after feeling discontent with life, endeavours to discover more about her family tree and uncovers an unexpected connection to Ireland during the Potato Famine. The characters are resilient and the plot sweeps the reader into a touching tale about life, family, heartbreak, tragedy and survival. We all thoroughly enjoyed the book and would recommend it.

Our next book is *All Among the Barley* by Melissa Harrison.

DeddingtonBookworms@gmail.com

Book Group

The Covenant of Water is an epic novel by American physician and author, Abraham Verghese. Set mostly in the Indian state of Kerala, it spans the years from 1900 to 1977 and portrays the lives of several generations of the Parambil family, together with stories of other characters woven into the narrative. There is also the mysterious and devastating fact that every generation of the Parambils has lost a family member through drowning.

This is a dense and varied book, encompassing complicated relationships, love, faith, tragedy, medicine, cultural, political and social issues. We all

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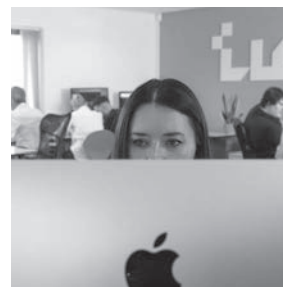


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CALLING ALL CLUBS

Continued from p226

agreed that it is splendidly written, with compassion and humour, well-developed characters and wonderful descriptions of the lush and watery landscape. That said, at 768 pages it is quite demanding time-wise and some of us felt that it could have been edited more rigorously. Others had simply been totally absorbed by the immersive storytelling.

The Book Group

Royal British Legion

With VE80 celebrations behind us, thoughts now turn to VJ Day on Friday 15 August. This will be suitably marked on the day at the war memorial. We are still waiting to hear whether there will be any national celebration to coordinate with, so timing cannot yet be promulgated but this will be posted on the RBL Facebook page, social media and a notice placed on the Co-op green in good time.

Further to the report on VE80 in June *DN* we can say that the final tally for VE80 pins was a quite amazing £650. VJ80 pins will be available at the July farmers' market.

Rob Forsyth

Robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Hempton Book Club

Our last read was *Metronome* by Tom Watson, a dystopian novel about Aina and Whitney, sentenced to twelve years detention on an island for conceiving a baby without permission. They are tethered to their small part of the island due to the need to take regular medication dispensed by 'the clock'. Why do they need to take this? Unspecified.

When their release date arrives, all contact with the outside world has ceased. Is this a test, as Whitney believes, or something more sinister? Aina decides to push the boundaries in order to search the island in the hope of finding their lost son; had he survived? Where had he been? We never find out.

As a group I can't say we enjoyed the book. It was rather grim and the characters were hard to like, but it did lead to an involved discussion so, in that sense, it was a successful read.

We're hoping for something more light-hearted in our next book.

Jo Churchyard

SPORT

Deddington Original Golf Society

Following our recent sojourn to Henley Golf Club, I can report the following winners:

Nearest the Pin – Lyn Talbot; Longest Drive – David White; Winning Team – (on count back) Lyn Talbot, Rob Ducker, Archie Kane and Andrew Finding.

Such a narrow winning margin from our DOGS captain's team of Keith Spengler, Diane Campion and Colin Campion ... there's always next time Keith.

Individual – 1st place – Chris Blackwell with 36 points and, in 2nd place, David White with 34 points.

Well done to everyone who supported the event.

Our penultimate fixture of the summer takes us to another new venue at Stratford Oaks, Snitterfield, near Stratford-Upon-Avon, on 7 August. Information will be published shortly.

Tony Lowe

Secretary, DOGS

Deddington Town FC – Youth

The culmination of our season happened on a sunny afternoon at the Windmill Centre on 8 June with a brilliant six-a-side tournament and recognition for more than 130 players with awards for their hard work and

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SPORT

Continued from p29

dedication over the season. We are a brilliant grass roots club at the heart of our community, all supported by amazing volunteer coaches and club officers.

The winners this year were:

Most Improved Player: U8 – Jack Baker, U9 – Dominic Vlasa, U10 – Harry Damm, U11 – Joshua Odell, U12 – Joshua Reeve, U13 – Aubrey Merry, U14 – Harry Kennedy, U15 – Connor Murdoch, U16 – Oscar Robertson.

Sportsperson: U8 – Alfie Parke, U9 – Javier Potter Domingo, U10 – Shayann Kularakaran, U11 – Nate Brough, U12 – Dominic Crowe, U13 – Jayden Agyei-Boateng, U14 – Connor Williams, U15 – Jack Davies, U16 – Anthony Pouyanne.

Managers Player: U8 – Aidan Vlasa, U9 – Thomas Davis, U10 – Harry Tong, U11 – Jerome Dowland, U12 – James Walker, U13 – Henry Young, U14 – Miller Round, U15 – Cairo Layne, U16 – Woody Vinci-guerra.

Player's Player: U8 – Freddie Damm, U9 – Dominic Vlasa, U10 – Eddie Branch, U11 – Thomas Belcher, U12 – Oscar O'Hagan, U13 – Aubrey Merry, U14 – Jamie Fisher, U15 – Petch Williams, U16 – Theo Flint.

The Frank McCusker award for Fair Play for an U7 player was awarded to Henry Smith. The Matty Cowley Golden Boot Award went to Petch Williams in the U15s. The Chairman's award went to Under 14 coaches, Paul Godfrey and Tom Holliday.

A special tribute went to our outstanding chairman, Andrew Charman, who has been in the role since 2015. He has been the inspirational and guiding light of Deddington Town FC Youth with his strategic, positive, understanding, resourceful and skilled way of leading the club: and, of course, the first letter of these words spell SPURS, his beloved team who won their first trophy since 2008.

Deddington Town Football Club

The open top bus tour is currently being planned. Watch this space and enjoy your summer, Humbug Heads and Latic Lovers.

Aaron Bliss
07909 642882

Deddington Cricket Club

The cricket season is in full swing, helped by the excellent early summer weather we have been having. The Women won all their Super 8 matches in May and qualified for the finals with ease. Their 30 over League matches start on 22 June.

Our All Stars Friday evenings for key stage 1 chil-

dren has another couple of weeks to run and has been well-attended by around 35 locals and their parents. We plan to extend this by adding the KS2 Dynamos programme next year.

Our Saturday First team is heading the table against their tier 7 opposition with six wins from six matches. We hope it will continue. Particular congratulations to skipper Rich Munro, who is averaging 48 and to bowlers, Rob Preston and Caleb Shepherd, who both have economy and strike rates that would make Jimmy Anderson look distinctly average.

The Second team has not fared quite so well, but has put on some strong performances with bat and ball, thanks to some newcomers, such as Alex Mobbs and Gerry and Hugh Duncan. Results have not reflected performance but spirits remain high.

A final word about our annual Derek Cheeseman Memorial Day on Monday 25 August. We will have events for children, women and a T20 game of Deddington 'Legends' v a Club side. Please join us if you can for a day of fun and entertainment.

For anyone interested in playing for or supporting the club in other ways please see contact details on the Club website.

Simon Oldfield
www.deddingtoncricket.co.uk

YOUTH

1st Deddington Guides

We are continuing with our summer plan to meet out of doors as much as possible. Our hike took us towards Bodicote and back to Adderbury, finishing after a lovely evening with a perfect sunset behind us. Building shelters in the woods, with the whole of Horley campsite to ourselves was great fun and it brought back happy memories of camp last summer. Thank you to Kate and Kerryn for their help over the last two meetings.

The Guides surprised themselves by cooking on open fires a very passable pasta meal, not easy when you have to collect all your wood first and then cook with no control over wind and weather and heat. Well done Guides.

Lastly we spent a fun evening remembering how to pitch a tent and following trails in the woods.

All girls over 10 are welcome to join us. Come along and see what we do.

Maggie Rampley
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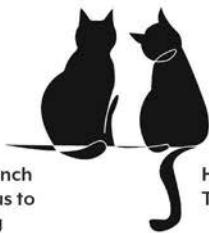
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With LCC GOLD, your pet enjoys FREE routine consultations, giving it the consistent care it needs to thrive—leading to a healthier, happier life!

ALL LIFETIME CARE CLUB BENEFITS PLUS...



FREE OF CHARGE
routine vet consultations



Annual blood & urine tests
(at 6 month health check)



20% off
out-of-hours consultations



ALL this for JUST £7 more per month



MONTHLY FEES, inc VAT	LCC	LCC GOLD
CATS		
The Alley Cat, all weights	£17	£24
DOGS		
The Doodle, 0-25kg	£21	£28
The Bernie, 25-4g	£24	£31

24-HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE PROVIDED BY OUR OWN VETERINARY NIGHT TEAM

John Dovey

—FCCA—

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- Limited companies, Partnerships & Sole traders
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- Self Assessment Tax Return completion
- MTD advice & support
- Bookkeeping services
- New business start-ups
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email: jmd@johndovey.co.uk

telephone: 01869 233003

mobile: 07801 658328

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Milk round

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HELPING THE RESIDENTS OF DEDDINGTON, HEMPTON AND CLIFTON, TO
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HALL

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We've helped hundreds of people just like you achieve what once seemed unimaginable. If you constantly feel low on energy, unhappy in your own skin, lack confidence, or simply want to build your fitness and get stronger, we're here to help!

Let this ad be your starting point to transform your health and your life.

Plus, receive £50 off as a local resident!



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Discover how today...



JOHNSONS

OF DEDDINGTON

TIMBER & BUILDERS' MERCHANT

The Timber Yard, Chapel Square, Deddington, Oxfordshire, OX15 0SG
Tel: 01869 338275
www.johnsonsofdeddington.co.uk

**10%
Discount**
Collections Only*

You may be unaware that there is a Timber and Builders' Merchant on your doorstep. We also have a hardware shop for your decorating and DIY needs.

If you bring the completed form below to us and with proof of your address you will receive 10% discount off anything you collect from our yard.*

* Terms & Conditions Apply.

JOHNSONS OF DEDDINGTON DISCOUNT FORM (DN)

This form, when completed, entitles residents of the Parish of Deddington, Clifton and Hempton to ten percent discount off all materials collected from our yard*.

Name _____

Address _____

email _____

☐

We would like to occasionally send you details on further promotions that may be of benefit to you. If you do not want to receive these offers please tick the box. We do not give your details to any third parties.

TIMBER BOARDS GUTTER HARDWARE PAVING CEMENT SAND INSULATION

Mon–Thu: 7:30am to 5pm Fri: 7:30am to 4:30pm

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DEDDINGTON DATA



CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL	01295 227001	TRAVEL:	
CITIZENS ADVICE	01295 221448	Pulham & Sons (Coaches) Ltd	01451 820369
HEALTH CENTRE DEDDINGTON	01869 338611	National Express	0371 781 8181
HOSPITALS:		National Rail Passenger Enqs	03457 48 49 50
Churchill	0300 304 7777	OurBus Bartons	01869 699699
Foscote (Private)	01295 252281	Oxford Bus Company	01865 785400
Horton General	0300 304 7777	Oxfordshire Comet	01865 323201
John Radcliffe	0300 304 7777	Stagecoach Bus Company	01865 772250
Manor (Nuffield Health, Private)	01865 521247	Traveline (Public Transport)	0871 200 2233
Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre	0300 304 7777		
Katharine House Hospice	01295 811866	UTILITIES:	
NHS Non emergency	111	Gas Escapes (24hrs)	0800 111 999
PARISH CLERK	01869 337447	Electricity – any supplier	
(Monday 9.00am–12.30pm, Wednesday 9.00–5.00pm, Thursday 9.00–12.30pm)		Emergency/Power cut	105
POLICE (non-emergency, 24 hrs)	101	Careline (over 60s)	0800 101 3333
PRIMARY SCHOOL (C of E)	01869 338430	Ofgem	020 7901 7295
PFSU	01869 337484	Thames Water (24hrs)	0800 316 9800
VILLAGE NURSERY	01869 337383	WARRINER SCHOOL, Bloxham	01295 720777
		WINDMILL CENTRE	07720 834006
		OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	01865 792422
DEDDINGTON LIBRARY	01865 816010	DEDDINGTON CLUBS & SOCIETIES: The full list of contacts is available from the Library and Deddington OnLine website at http://www.deddington.org.uk/directory .	
Monday 2.00–7.00pm		DEDDINGTON CHURCHES	See section inside
Wednesday 9.30am–1.00pm			
Thursday 1.00–5.00pm			
Saturday 9.30am–1.00pm			



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