

October 2026

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THE TEAM

Your editor this month:
JILL CHEESEMAM

NOVEMBER copy to
CATHERINE DESMOND
editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk
by 17 October

Advertising copy
by 10 October

Editors

Jill Cheeseman
01869 338609
Catherine Desmond
01869 337657
editor@deddingtonnews.co.uk

Monthly ads & inserts

Sandie Goundrey
01869 338764
monthly@deddingtonnews.co.uk

Annual ads

Pat Sedgley
annuals@deddingtonnews.co.uk

What's on

Alison Day
whatson@deddingtonnews.co.uk

Clubs

Alison Day
07970 863255
clubs@deddingtonnews.co.uk

Parish council

Jill Cheeseman
01869 338609

Distribution

Netia Piercy and team
01869 338191

Treasurer

Jane Price
01869 337586
treasurer@deddingtonnews.co.uk

Cover:

Compilation from local gardens
opened on behalf of FoDC, see p17

Find out more

...about The Deddington News
and what's happening locally
at www.deddington.org.uk

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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 DEDDINGTON NEWS

I seem to have written regularly recently but here I go again! As you should know from the September issue, the magazine has just celebrated its 50th anniversary. This has been done on the back of a considerable number of volunteers and most of us still around celebrated at a drinks party at the Windmill recently.

However, we are still looking for someone to take over the role of annual advertising manager from Pat. It really isn't an arduous job but, to the DN, it's essential. Without our income from our advertisers, there would be no DN. It's as simple as that. We don't get any funding from other sources.

The role involves once a year sending emails from a dedicated email address to all our previous advertisers and usually some on a very short waiting-list, to invite them to place an advert for the following year. Surprisingly perhaps, they nearly all reply positively. In fact there's usually competition to take the best spots. Sometimes advertisers use the same artwork as previous years, sometimes they change it. However, and this is significant, the person in this role is not expected to do anything with the artwork when it arrives, other than send it on to one of our team who ensures that it's the correct size and quality. Then there's communicating with our treasurer, passing on contact details and advert details. Beyond that, it's just checking the email address for communications over the year. Simple.

Please call me to have a chat about it.

JC

What's on October

- Sat 3 Deddington Wine Festival, Windmill Centre, 7.00pm
- Wed 7 Photographic Society: Photography with a Difference, Sue Sibley, Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Thu 8 History Society: The Romans of Oxfordshire, Marie-Louise Kerr, Primary School, 7.30pm
- Sat 10 Windmill Film Club, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Sun 11 Music in Adderbury: Viola and Piano, Hindemith, Schumann, Brahms, Deddington Church, 6.00pm
- Wed 14 Women's Institute: The Mitfords in the Cotswolds, Dr Muriel Pilkington, Holly Tree Hall, 2.30pm
- Fri 16 Fiori Musicali: Mozart Clarinet Quintet, Hummel, Stadler, Deddington Church, 6.00pm
- Sun 18 Music in Adderbury: Novo Quartet, Mendelssohn and Nielsen, Deddington Church, 6.00pm
- Wed 21 Parish Council: Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Fri 23 Community Lunch Club: Windmill Centre, 12.30pm
- Sat 24 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Sat 24 Craft Market: Deddington Church, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Thu 29 Book Club: Call Sally Lambert, 01869 338094 for details

November

- Wed 4 Photographic Society: Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Sat 7 Windmill Film Club, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Wednesday 16 September at the Windmill

Present: Councillors Cox, Gillham, Mobbs, O'Neill, Robinson (chair), Rogers (District Councillor), Stapley Timms, Watts, County Councillor Epps, the parish clerk and a DN representative.

County Council

Councillor Epps has declared an interest on the parish EV charging points and a colleague will make the decision. CDC conservation officer has submitted a strong objection. (Apologies for my error in reporting this last month, it's not yet decided.)

OCC has objected to the proposed asylum seekers' camp near Piddington although central government has stated today that it will go ahead.

District Council

CDC's Local Plan is currently being examined to determine its ability to deliver proposals, such as the proposed 4,400 new houses to support Oxford's needs. The Local Plan is silent on the current very large planning applications. Councillor Rogers is continuing to stand against the proposed warehousing near J10.

Finance & General Purposes

PC contractors continued to cut verges in August when it wasn't needed. They are to be asked to include some variation to their cuts in order to cope with any future exceptional conditions.

The cost of stewarding the RBL remembrance parade of £1,712 quote was accepted.

A planning application has been submitted for a five-metre pyramid net at the adventure playground. It was agreed to cancel PC membership of the CPRE and to donate £100 to the Volunteer Driving Service. Investigations for the provision of a 5G mast are continuing. VM02 declined a proposal for one near the Highways depot on the grounds of cost. Other sites are being explored.

Large Scale Developments

Land north of Wimborn Close and Hobart Way, part of the Deddington estate, is now in the hands of a developer and is likely to be proposed for further housing. It's not known whether an application would go to the planning inspectorate or direct to CDC. If the former, they would have no recourse to appeal a rejection.

Although the PC has repeatedly requested the adoption of the new development north of the fire station, OCC and the developers have again rejected the request. The PC decided there was no further action they could take. Purchasers of houses on the development will be members of the management company.

Planning

No objection

Tuckers House, Market Place, Deddington: new external advertising board to replace previous (Foodies). Castle End House, Castle Street, Deddington: to fell a horse chestnut tree plus other tree works.

Jeffcoates, The Lane, Hempton: demolition of single-storey rear extension and garage, erection of replacement with associated changes to fenestrations,

new terrace and detached garage, replacement of existing oil-fired boiler with an air source heat pump. Defer to the conservation officer in this matter.

5 New Street, Deddington: installation of 12 roof-mounted solar panels, external solar battery and air source heat pump. No neighbour comments at the time although it's uncertain whether they have been advised. Defer to the conservation officer in this matter.

Tomwell Farm, Hempton: erection of 30 ground mounted solar panels for personal use.

Approvals

Nellie & Dove, Market Place, Deddington: installation of replacement non-illuminated fascia sign with raised lettering to existing retail unit.

New Neighbourhood Plan

A new steering group meeting has been arranged for 5 October in the Holly Tree Hall with 11 people currently expressing interest.

Environment & Recreation

On an inspection of play equipment and the surrounding area, most issues were considered as low risk and are being dealt with. The roundabout is an ongoing problem although deemed to be low risk.

The cemetery rules have been reviewed including the suggestion that no more memorial trees should be permitted as space is limited. Amendments are to be made requiring removal of additional decorations and time limits for pots.

7 November was proposed for a litter pick at Hempton. A date will be decided for Deddington and Clifton.

A number of Health and Safety signs were proposed for some areas of the Windmill and Castle Grounds to protect councillors and in response to criticism by parents, including banning BMX bikes in the Windmill copse and requiring children on the Pocket Park to be supervised. It was proposed to erect signs at Castle Grounds warning of uneven ground and slippery surfaces and requesting that grass cuttings should not be dumped as it is likely to block the drains.

A quotation has been received to repair the damage to the Castle Grounds stone pillar caused by a delivery van. The van company has accepted liability but rejected the cost. Further details have been requested on the quote.

Highways

Road sign cleaning has been listed for carrying out by councillors in March 2027 when it is hoped the hose-pipe ban will not be in force.

Not all salt bins are fit for purpose. There may be a cost to the PC.

Blue bins outside the Town Hall are a fire hazard and enquiries are to be made as to ownership.

A warning sign of a right-hand turn at Farndon Way is to be applied for.

**Next meeting Wednesday 21 October at 7.30pm
at the Windmill Centre.**

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



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PARISH SHOW RESULTS!

What a super day again for the Annual Parish Show on Saturday 5 September. The sun shone and the atmosphere buzzed from the moment people started arriving to bring their entries for display. Despite the scorching summer, there was still a dazzling display of flowers, fruit and vegetables and the cookery section was overflowing with delicious jams, chutneys, cordials and, of course, cakes, biscuits, and bread.

It was particularly heartening to see how many children's entries there were which formed a fantastic display of their creative abilities and hard work which the judges and everyone visiting really enjoyed seeing. The photography, art section and crafts all helped to make yet another successful show.

The committee would like to thank everyone for entering as, of course, no entrants would mean no show. Thanks as well to all the helpers on the day and those who donated bottles and cakes for the stalls and refreshments.

The stewards, runners and judges excelled as usual and we were treated again to the sounds of the Deddington Brass Band who helped entertain everyone whilst they browsed the entries and enjoyed a catch up with friends.

Profits from the day will be donated to local causes and the committee will publish these soon, once we have caught our breath from the day.

The Trophy Winners

Welford Cup for Cookery

1st Valerie Moyses, 2nd Stan Nelson, 3rd Lesley Nelson

Marianne Elsley Cup for Flowers

1st Claire Yates, 2nd Andy Wheeler, 3rd Lesley Nelson and Katie Palmer

Oliver Hawes Cup for Vegetables

1st Andy Wheeler, 2nd Stan Nelson, 3rd Brian Palmer

SS Peter & Paul Cup for Fruit

1st Steve Mobbs, 2nd Andy Wheeler, 3rd Stan Nelson

John Cheney Cup for Art

1st Stephen Waterman, 2nd Amelia Bird, 3rd Virginia Dimitriou and Sarah Parrett

Stella Marmion Cup for Crafts

1st Kate Petty, 2nd Olivia Fenion, 3rd Katie Palmer

Farmers Market Cup for Photography

1st Maureen Robinson, 2nd Heather Darwall-Smith, 3rd David Cowler

Show Champion Gardeners' Cup

1st Andy Wheeler, 2nd Stan Nelson, 3rd Claire Yates

Children's winners

Pre-School

1st Flo, 2nd Vala, 3rd Laurel

5 years & under

1st Valkyrja Hallgrimsdottir White, 2nd Aurelia Tacey-Green, 3rd Ruth Fenion

6-8 years

1st Charlotte Baldwyn, 2nd Emma Francis, 3rd Lily Dowling and Arlo Naylor

9-11 years

1st Lillian Baldwyn, 2nd Thea Francis, 3rd Emilia Yates

Wendy Burrows Cup for Teenagers

1st Evelyne Fellows, 2nd Harriet Murray-Hundley, 3rd Francesca Eriksen

Maureen Forsyth Show Champion for Children's Cup

1st Charlotte Baldwyn, 2nd

Valkyrja Hallgrimsdottir White, 3rd Lillian Baldwyn.

Cheryl Wild

cherylwild52@gmail.com



Some of the children's entries and rosettes

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FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

www.FriendsofDeddingtonLibrary.org



Our core mission as a charity remains as simple as ever: to keep our village library open, thriving and accessible to everyone. Operating such a vital social, educational and digital hub from the Old Court House is something we can all be immensely proud of.

Public service budgets remain under constant pressure and, coupled with rising costs, this means our operational funding faces a shortfall each year. Bridging that financial gap is exactly why the Friends of Deddington Library exists. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our residents and local businesses, we have once again been able to rise to that challenge and continue supporting this much-valued village resource.

After several highly successful years, we decided to 'rest' the parish calendar and photo competition this year, while taking the opportunity to explore some fresh fundraising ideas. We fully intend to bring the calendar back next year with renewed enthusiasm and, we hope, plenty of new photographs and contributions from across the community.

In the meantime, our major new fundraising initiative is *George and the Library*, a children's book generously donated by local author, Jo Eames. We are in the final stages of production before committing to print and, if all goes well, hope to have the book available for the September market. We are very excited about the project and hope it will prove a popular addition to our fundraising activities.

We are extremely grateful to the Windmill Committee for choosing FoDL as its charity partner this year. Throughout the year, the committee has staged a number of fundraising events at which we have been able to run our own raffles, promote the library and talk to people about the work of FoDL. The Windmill Centre has also generously donated a percentage of its door takings to us, providing valuable additional support for which we are extremely grateful.

Our annual curry night at Bengal Spice in March was as popular and successful as ever, bringing people together for a very enjoyable evening while raising important funds for the library. Our sincere thanks go to Naz Choudhry and the whole team for their continued generosity and longstanding support of FoDL.

A special thank you must also go to our brilliant library manager, Gail, who has brought tremendous energy, warmth and momentum to the library since taking the reins. Gail's proactive approach to community engagement, combined with a host of imaginative initiatives — including an impressive fundraising tour of Oxfordshire libraries — has helped bring even more life to the library while also generating vital funds. That enthusiasm and commitment make an enormous difference and we are extremely grateful for everything Gail does.

Book sales continue to go well and subscriptions remain stable, both of which provide an important contribution to our ongoing fundraising efforts. Never-

theless, there is always more we can do, and encouraging more people to become regular subscribers will remain an important focus for us in the year ahead.

Our committee continues to provide unwavering support and works hard behind the scenes throughout the year. We are fortunate to have such dedicated people looking after the many practical aspects of FoDL's work, from administration and finances to social media, marketing and fundraising. A huge thank you goes to our secretary, treasurer, and social media and marketing members, all of whom regularly go above and beyond to make such a positive difference to FoDL's success.

Of course, we would not be nearly as effective without the valued support of our volunteers, both those working in the library and those who give their time to support us from the sidelines. Their help at events, and particularly at the farmers' market, is invaluable. We are equally grateful to our business sponsors whose generosity continues to play a significant part in what we are able to achieve. This year, that support has extended to our annual 'something to sell' initiative through the publication of *George and the Library*.

Thank you to everyone involved — committee members, volunteers, sponsors, supporters and everyone who has attended an event, bought a book or simply helped spread the word. Every contribution, large or small, helps us maintain the library as a welcoming and valuable part of village life, and we hope this community support will continue.

A special mention must also go to County Councillor Gareth Epps for supporting the return of our hanging baskets and watering installation this year. It is good to see the baskets back, bringing colour to such a prominent position. Our thanks also go to OCC for the vital refurbishment work completed this year. The improvements to the inside and outside of the building have ensured that our premises are safe, refreshed and preserved for the future. This work could hardly be more timely as we prepare to celebrate the library's 70th anniversary this December and throughout the coming year — a wonderful milestone and an opportunity to celebrate the library's long-standing place at the heart of Deddington.

Looking ahead, growing our regular subscriptions remains a top priority, alongside continuing to develop creative fundraising events and initiatives. We want to build on the tremendous goodwill that already surrounds the library, encourage more people to get involved and ensure that FoDL has the financial stability needed to continue its work. Together, these efforts will help secure the future of this invaluable village asset and ensure that Deddington Library remains open, thriving and accessible to everyone for many years to come.

Bryn Williams, Chairman
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CHURCH October

Autumn is filled with the abundant beauty and harvests of God's creation, themes which are reflected in our church calendar. September got off to a busy start as we celebrated our harvest festivals at Deddington, Hempton and the Barfords.

This month, we celebrate harvest again in Deddington at our family service on 5 October but this time we'll be exploring where our food comes from and who produces it, from local to global. All served up with a free breakfast, themed crafts and inspiring worship – do come and join in the fun. Later at 6.00pm on the 5 October, we will be moving our regular choral evensong service to Barford St Michael (please note change of venue), to help them celebrate their patronal festival of St Michael and All Angels in a special benefice service – not to be missed. Looking ahead, our All Souls Service of Remembrance will be held at 6.00pm on Sunday 1 November, so do note the date if this is a special service for you to remember loved ones no longer with us.

The Revd Nick Fielden is Vicar of Deddington with Clifton, Hempton and the Barfords. Mondays are Nick's 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 Wriggles (term time)
Fri	8.45am	Morning Prayer
	5.15 pm	Evening Prayer
Sun 4	10.30am	Family Communion (breakfast and crafts from 9.45am)
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
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Barford St Michael

Wed	5.15pm	Evening Prayer
Sun 4	10.30am	Coffee and Chat
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong for St Michael and All Angels Patronal Festival
Sun 18	10.30am	Family Service
Sun 25	10.30am	Holy Communion

Barford St John

Sun 11	9.00am	Holy Communion
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From the Parish Registers

Wedding

20 August	Katie Gardner and Lewis Wallington
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Funeral

10 September	Betty Wyatt
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For funeral and home visits in case of illness please contact the vicar, Nick Fielden on 01869 934794 or vicar@deddingtonchurch.org, or one of the church wardens – Deddington: Caroline Condon (07821 259092) or wardens@deddingtonchurch.org; 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.

DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

The end of the summer term was memorable. In July, the children enjoyed taking part in an outstanding production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. Their enthusiasm, confidence and talent made it a wonderful celebration for the whole school community.

We said sad farewells to Mr Cameron, Mrs Usher, Mrs Gilkes and Mrs Boreham, thanking them for everything they had contributed to school life. At the same time, I was delighted to appoint Miss Schilling as our new Year 3 teacher and warmly welcomed her to the Deddington family.

The children ended the year well. A particularly



moving occasion was our Year 6 Leavers' Service in the church. Each child took a pebble from our pebble jar as a lasting reminder of the Christian values that have guided them during their time at Deddington.

After a busy and successful year, which included an Ofsted inspection and a Church School SIAMS inspection, the children enjoyed a well-earned summer break.

They have now returned to school in an impressive manner, full of enthusiasm and ready to 'let their light shine' throughout another year at the school.

C Evans, Headteacher

CEvans@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE PARISH ARCHIVE

Up to the Windmill Centre today to delve into the latest contributions to be registered into the Parish Archive (PA) residing in its own atmosphere-controlled room in what used to be the Football Club's locker room.

Deddington Town Football Club

So it is appropriate that, first on my list, is to take a large sepia photograph of the team that won all its 1905-07 competitions to Dragon Framing. It will be hung in our work room.

Apletree family

Next up is a 161-page draft of a book about this family that lived in the parish from the 12th to the 18th centuries. It has been donated by Alison Day, along with a number of other items her late husband, Chris, accumulated in his study over the years. After scanning the pages, I upload them as a single pdf onto the History website.

The Castle and its Grounds

Chris's lecture notes about the biggest historical artifact in the parish are probably the most concise record of its history that we have. They also are uploaded to the website. His collection includes documents relating to the parish council purchase of the Grounds in 1945 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and the 1956 trust set up to adopt the sum of £762.7s.5d (old money) accrued from the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Funds to build a pavilion in The Castle Grounds. (In the event, the football club used their own money to purchase a used cricket pavilion from Tetbury CC in 1967 for under £100 and transported it here themselves.) The Pavilion Fund grew to £3,875 by 1986 and helped pay for the Windmill Centre.

Stanley Hall buses

Cecil Kerridge's father drove the buses back in the 1940s. He has donated a picture of named drivers standing beside their vehicles and also donated some postcards and an Oxford newspaper article about the 1938 Fair held in the gardens of Deddington Manor to raise money for a Coronation Village Hall. (WWII paused the initiative; the donor of the site, Dr Jones, died and the hall was never built. The monies were adopted into the Pavilion Fund in 1956).

250 photographic negatives have been donated by Peter Garrett whose family ran the Post Office and Stores, now Eagles, from 1965-85. They are all of parish clubs, societies and activities – eg parachuting into the Market Place. I will pass them to the Photographic Society with a request to print contact sheet prints so we can see the images. Another donation by Peter proves of even greater interest. It contains a card advertisement for Arthur Whetton's photographic business in 1881. But it is the newspaper report of Arthur's tragic death in 1900 in a cycling accident by the old brickworks that grabs my attention. It holds a wealth of detail of Deddington folk and will need to be scanned and put on the History website. (I subsequently used AI to transpose an image of the original

page into text. This worked well and saved me hours of keyboard transcription).

More items for another time

A box file of the former Deddington Society's papers; a CD about church bells in the North Oxford area; 12 shirt buttons inscribed HS Chislett from the 19th century shop in the Market Place; an original copy of the 1807 Inclosure Act and notes about the Deddington Museum that never happened. Who says History is boring? All of these items can be found in the online Parish Archive Register and some are linked from the History Home Page under New Articles. If anyone wishes to view original documents, please contact me.

Post script – Deddington Castle

After this very busy day in the archives, much of it occupied with the Castle Grounds on which Bishop Odo's original wooden castle was built, I happened across the Bayeux Museum's excellent online panoramic image of the tapestry which one can scroll along. Doing so, I came across this image which depicts the prefabricated wooden castle that the invaders brought with them to support their highly successful amphibious landing. Our castle would have looked very similar. The link to the panorama can be found at <https://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/deddingtoncastle>.

Rob Forsyth

robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com





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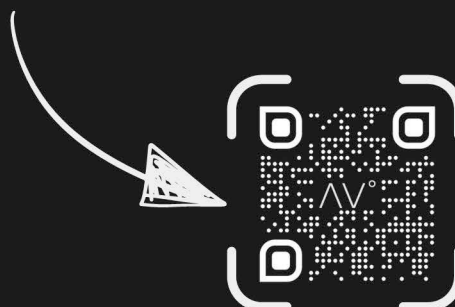
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Deddington's successful farmers' market is a culmination of vision, commitment and hard work. In its 25 year history there has been only five chairs: Althea Wood, Geoff Todd, Stephen Waterman, Claire Thwaite and me, Tei. I've been on the management group and construction crew for more than 15 years and I've seen it grow into the award-winning market it is. The stallholders say that it is the best organised and happiest market they attend. The public votes with its feet. Often more than two thousand people attend which shows we must be doing something right.

It's been a privilege to be part of a great team of people over the years and an honour to lead the team as chair for the last three years. Now it's time to stand down, although I will remain as part of the management team until December.

I am delighted to say we have appointed a new chair ... step forward Mark Gandy, who many of you will already know has lived in Deddington for the past five years. We are delighted that he's agreed to lead the team. He has a wealth of business experience and



is a thoroughly lovely human being.

Mark is ready to immerse himself in his new role. 'I'm excited to join the team as chair and build on Tei's great stewardship. Our monthly market, celebrating its 25th year this year, has achieved so much. Not just being voted Oxfordshire's Farmers' Market of the Year for six years running but also the special place it occupies in our community.

It's a real focus where we can all come together and, as such, I'll be looking to build on this and make it even more of a hub and meeting point than it is already. Thank you to the team for inviting me to join and I hope to repay that flattering confidence.'

I will be sad to leave as I've had a lot of fun, learnt a great deal and met some truly fabulous people but travel and other pursuits beckon quite strongly. A big thank you to everyone who has helped me along the way. I know Deddington and our market community will welcome Mark and a new era for the market.

Tei Willox

teiwillox@gmail.com

HELP ...

The market needs a team player to join the management group and take over its social media. It's not an onerous job: just a few hours a month including a monthly meeting. There are perks ... annual September lunch and management dinner ... not forgetting the free polo shirt, sweatshirt and fleece – oh, and product

tastings, friendship and laughs. You don't need to be a social media professional just someone who knows how to post on Facebook.

More information from chairman@deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk.



Have you got your tickets for the third Deddington Wine Festival? Hurry, hurry! There might be a few left. It's on at the Windmill this Saturday 3 October at 7.00pm and we are raising money for Katharine House Hospice. Your job will be to sample a spectacular selection of delicious wines brought to us by Grape Minds – Independent Wine Retailer of the Year 2026. You'll also have to eat some delicious finger food provided by our very own master chef, Gregg Brown. Hopefully, you won't find it all too onerous.

The last issue celebrated 50 years of the *Deddington News* and it reminded me that our beloved Windmill has also reach a significant milestone. Opened in 1986, we have now been in operation for 40 years. (*Ruby, Ruby, Ruby, Ruby* as the Kaiser Chiefs used to sing). Not the most beautiful building in Deddington and not without its fair share of problems over the years. Nevertheless, I think the Windmill has served us all well and continues to do so. It provides a safe community space for all types of activity from ballet

to badminton, panto to pilates and Girl Guides to girls' football. We recently launched a programme of our own Windmill Events and the Windmill Film Club – next screening 10 October. The current committee are also committed to a continuing programme of improvements, the latest of which is to order for some new chairs for the hall. Bums of Deddington, Hempton and Clifton rejoice.

Talking of our committee, I mentioned in the last issue that we are looking to recruit a minutes secretary. I can't say that my inbox was flooded with enquiries so, can I ask again, maybe a bit louder this time. **WOULD ANYBODY LIKE TO JOIN US?!** The minimum requirement for this voluntary role would be for you to attend the six full committee meetings we hold during the year and record the minutes. But there is always potential for you to get involved in a myriad of other ways if that appeals. Please contact me using the email below if you are interested.

As always, if you want to book the Windmill, or just see what's going on, visit our website www.thewindmilleddington.org or our Facebook page or call our bookings secretary, Julie, on 07720 834006.

Oh yeah, and did I mention the Wine Festival? Find the link on Deddington Online Events. Hope to see you there.

Vaughan Jones

chair@thewindmilleddington.org

POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

Election, \$5k, American Dream, 9/11, Water, AI

Our dear beloved President, Donald T Trump, has promised us all \$5k if his party survives in the midterm elections in November. We are all used to election promises; the most common one right now seems to be committing to get rid of those pesky immigrants who are creating all the problems. Before this \$1bn give away, the US debt passed a mind blowing \$40 trillion, the interest payments cost \$2.9bn every day. The US spends more on interest than on defence. This is the conservative Republicans; they are the ones who preach fiscal responsibility.

The American Dream is something that has been sold to the citizens for many years. The idea is that the USA is such a great country because, even if you start with nothing, you can work hard and make something of your life. For 60 years this was certainly the case for the white majority; if you worked hard in the steel plant you could own your own house and build a good life for your family. It has always been very different for poor black people in the south; getting on the first step of this ladder was always hard. Now it is difficult for everyone, particularly if you don't have a good education. Trump tapped into this discontent but his only dream was to make himself richer. The American Dream is dead and will never return.

I was in central London watching as the planes went into the twin towers 25 years ago. The UK then got dragged into an unnecessary war, but 9/11 did not affect us like it affected America. This is when the US lost its place in the world and began focusing on demonising Islam. Trump turned the memorial into being about himself by claiming he was there in the area and helping the firefighters. Not the kind of honesty and empathy that is needed to heal these wounds.

The good news in America is that there is finally

Still: A Mindful Practice for Photographers

by Paul Sanders

Paul Sanders' demanding job as photography editor for *The Times* came to an abrupt end when he experienced mental breakdown. His salvation and recovery came, slowly, through photography – and from a particular kind of photography, focusing not so much on the technical side as on the mindfulness of looking, seeing and appreciating.

Beautifully produced, *Still* is illustrated throughout, mainly in black and white but occasionally in colour, with images which will prompt you to go out with your camera, not to 'snap' but to see which images offer themselves to you. Many of his are beautiful in their simplicity: a lone reed in an expanse of water, a tree against a misty background. Included too are several exercises which urge readers to go slowly, to look and to properly see. I know there are many keen photographers in Deddington. I hope this lovely book will appeal to them and encourage others to have a go.

Linda Newbery, Patron of Deddington Library
l.newbery@btinternet.com

a discussion starting about AI security. Meaningful controls can only be put in place by the US government, but with the high level of election funding from the technology sector I can't see Trump making the proper steps. Maybe AI running the world would be less dangerous than the current administration. It would certainly be more intelligent.

This year's birthday trip was to Western Colorado where we could look to the west to where the Colorado river created this majestic landscape. From Canyonlands hundreds of canyons meander south over 300 miles to the Grand Canyon. Over 40m people rely on the river for their drinking water and millions more need the water for crop irrigation, but we are in a severe long term drought in the American West. The states compete for this precious resource but after failing to agree a reduction plan the government is now imposing cuts of 40%. And the mighty Colorado River doesn't even reach the sea before running dry.

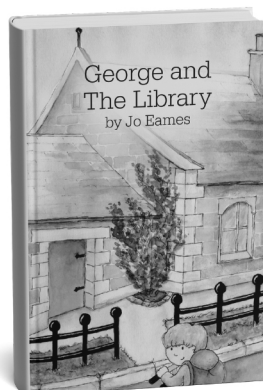
Meanwhile back in Greenwood Village, the president of our homeowner's association has made a mistake. I failed to control our irrigation company so our grass is green and we've used too much water. Hopefully the community will execute a vote of no confidence and I can get out of this job. I thought it was going to be Captain Fantastic but it turned out I was more like Captain Mainwaring.

Mike Ward

mikeatcherwell@gmail.com

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OUR FRONT COVER AND INTO THE FUTURE

The quite splendid composite cover picture was decided on as recently as the early summer, following the Friends of Deddington Church's decision to entice ten local gardeners to open their gardens as a fundraising event. The *DN* team decided to send out some of our more talented photographers to capture images of the ten gardens with the potential to use them for future covers.

In the distant past, finding interesting and suitable images for our covers has been a challenge as you will have seen if you saw our little display in the library over the past month, thanks to Gail. If you missed that, you can see most of the covers online at <https://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/backissues/deddingtonnewsarchive>. Most recently we have had some beauties from Steve Waterman, Jane Price and Stefan Wathan.

Once we came to review the photos that our team had taken we found we had a delightful assortment of potential covers, in fact probably enough for two years' worth. We particularly thought that supporting the work of FoDC was well worthwhile. The church is certainly

a venue that we all use at some time, perhaps not so much for its original intention (what a godless lot we are), but more frequently for social activities in their widest sense. The heating system is going to have to be replaced. Anyone knows how chilly the church is if there's no heating and ours has become distinctly unreliable and cannot be repaired. There are many challenges, not just to finding the kind of money that's likely to be needed but also to finding the right kind of heating for an ancient monument that's governed by the Oxford diocese.

Beyond the heating there's a long list of maintenance needs on the horizon. Think of your own home and how often something needs to be done. Get one done and inevitably it turns up another crisis. We think it's a hugely important charity to support and it has provided us with some more lovely and interesting cover images to look forward to. Please do support FoDC in their efforts on the parish's behalf.

Jill Cheeseman

An Evening in the Glade

At the end of August, the quiet woodland Glade at Heath Farm was transformed for a rather special evening of food and theatre.

Around 60 guests joined us for our first Glade Supper Theatre, combining an outdoor performance of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* with a three-course supper prepared and served between the acts. After what had been a particularly wet spell, we were incredibly fortunate to have a welcome break in the weather, allowing the whole evening to unfold beneath the trees as planned.

The production featured Casper Good, Sam Redfield, Kiya Haynes, Elsie Buttery, Macy Stasiak, Kate Samders and Antony Woodruffe, with Albert Warner who both starred and directed, bringing Wilde's wonderful comedy to life in this rather unusual yet magical woodland setting.

Guests arrived for drinks and canapés before settling down for the opening act, with supper becoming part of the rhythm of the evening rather than simply

something served before or after the performance.

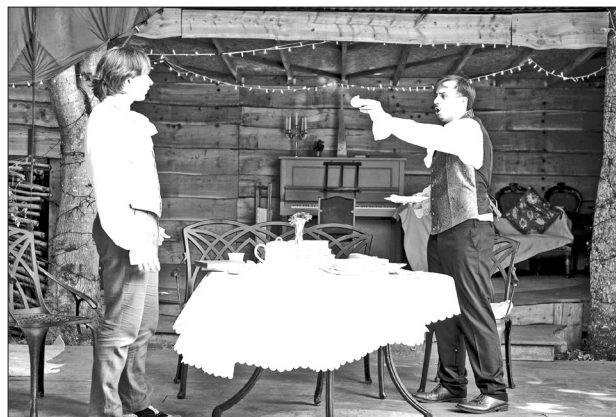
What made the event particularly special was the number of local people, producers and businesses who helped bring it together. Our thanks go to Mon Barbour, Heath Farm Holiday Cottages, Herberowe Candles, Aldens of Oxford, Oxford Food Hub, Wykham Park Farm, Herman Gilligan, Gardner & Grain, Oxford Hire Company, North Aston Organics, Andy and Louise Warner, and to Natalie, Fran, Migi, Will and Boe for being such an important part of the evening.

For CookSchool, the event was also a glimpse of what we hope to create more of at Heath Farm:

bringing together food, hospitality, education and community, and finding interesting new ways for people to gather around a table.

And judging by the laughter drifting through the trees that evening, Oscar Wilde works rather well with supper.

Gregg Brown CookSchool



Casper Good as Jack (L) and Albert Warner as Algernon (R)

PFSU AND NURSERY

What a busy first month it has been back at Nursery and Pre-school! We are incredibly proud of the children for how well they have all settled in.

At Pre-school the children are looking forward to our first book day – *Gustavo*, *the Shy Ghost* and lots of fun spooky activities.

At Nursery the children are looking forward to

Hallowe'en dress-up week.

Thank you to everyone who supported our table top sale at the end of September. Our next fundraising event is the Hallowe'en trail on Saturday 17 October. More information will be shared soon.

Shrene Saleh-Gillett

info@deddingtonnurseryandpfsu.co.uk

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WI!

In October 2025 Deddington WI celebrated its 100th birthday with a party and an exhibition portraying the 100 year existence of the WI. No birthday should go without a birthday present and so the WI commissioned a pair of planters to stand each side of a bench donated by the WI to celebrate the golden jubilee of the Oxfordshire Federation of Women's Institutes in 1969. The planters were designed, made and donated by a friend of some members who wishes to remain anonymous. Further donations provided compost and plants.



From the left seated: Mary Willis, Jenny Snashall, Jen Cox
From the left standing: Moira Byast, Dorothy Hargreaves

The planters and bench are in the grounds of the Holly Tree Hall where our monthly meetings take place. They form a pleasant spot to sit and let the world go by. The photo shows the current committee doing just that.

Moira Byast

Fly Tipping

The number of fly-tips reported to CDC for the first quarter of 2026 has increased from 396 to 772. To report fly-tipping go to: <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/7/environment/374/fly-tipping-or-fixmystreet>; large scale fly-tipping should be reported to the Environment Agency on 0800 80 70.

Deddington Funfair

18–21 November are the dates for the annual fair in the Market Place. The fair's owners will be asked to put posters around the village to advise businesses and residents. It's been at the same time of year for hundreds of years.

Litter Pick

Hempton will run a litter pick on 7 November. There will be further details in the November *DN* issue. All equipment will be provided.

ROAD CLOSURE

Victoria Terrace will be closed between midnight 9–13 November midnight.

Yet again, this is Thames Water digging their holes.

Katharine House Hospice

It has been an incredibly busy year so far for the hospice with many fundraising events raising extraordinary amounts of money. Thank you all so much: every donation helps Katharine House provide compassionate care to local people when they need it most.

Recent fundraising successes include the Rose to Remember event, where many of you dedicated a rose in memory of a loved one, bringing people together to share memories and celebrate lives. This raised almost £19,700. A day at Tadmorton Golf Club raised an impressive £11,300. I am sure many of you have enjoyed the KHH open gardens season, enjoying some truly beautiful gardens across our community; so far these events raised £7,800. Please continue to support them; without you the Hospice would not continue.

Last call. One night. Unmissable.

'Cheers to Charlie' Deddington Wine Festival 2026 will be taking place on Saturday 3 October from 7.00pm–11.00pm at the Windmill Centre. All proceeds will go to Katharine House Hospice. The inspiration for the festival is much-loved local man, Charlie Elvin, an enthusiastic wine expert, who died from prostate cancer in 2022. There is still time to buy your tickets online at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/cheers-forcharlie/2354449> or just turn up on the door. It will be an evening you won't want to miss, so see you there.

Jenny Soddy

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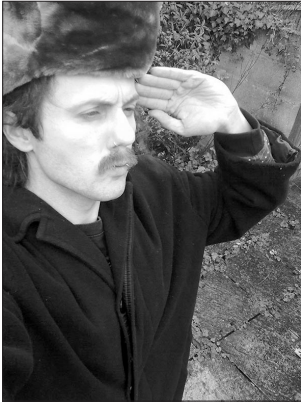
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BLISSFUL THINKING



A half-century is an impressive tenure by anyone's metric. I attended the half-century of the Warriner School a few years ago and got roaring drunk on nostalgia. For many reading this, it may be hard to picture the world fifty years ago. Petrol was about a penny a litre when the notion of a Deddington parish-centric periodical was first floated.

Just kidding – the OPEC oil shock three years earlier put paid to that.

In 1976 though, the penny itself was a mere five years old and, if you collected enough in the average Christmas-sized whisky bottle, you could buy yourself a house.

After surviving the Winter of Discontent, the *Deddington News* only went from strength to strength. Through seismic global and national changes, our parish magazine has been an eccentric town crier, parochial in only the best ways.

As a contributor since 2006, I was fortunate enough to be invited to the *Deddington News* golden jubilee, where the parish cognoscenti sprayed champagne, scoffed canapés and engaged in the kind of sordid bacchanalia that would have made Dionysus himself blush. But what happened at the celebration stays at the celebration. Whether you were there or not, be sure to raise a glass to Mary, Catherine, Jill and all of the other kingmakers responsible for founding and continuing to publish the literary testament to the greatest settlement in human history.

Aaron Bliss
aaronjbliss@hotmail.com

Friends of the Castle Grounds

Good news from the Castle. The brand spanking new drain is in situ and functioning. The old one, only 10cm diameter, was notoriously bunged up, and the new one, 30cm, or about two shaftments, as Harold Godwinson might have said. So that can obviously carry much more rainwater. There should be a big improvement.

Like everything else, the Grounds suffered during the heatwaves and, although the grass is well on the road to recovery, the extremes of weather have stressed the site a little. We've had a couple of fallen branches and we wait to see what plant life hasn't survived the summer.

Some of the old long-buried iron fence started to come to the surface on the southern path, as the dried-out earth eroded, making it quite a trip hazard, so we had to uproot three or four of the rather nasty iron posts. If you should see anything that might be a danger to people or animals, please notify the parish council.

The big story, of course, is the link between Deddington and the Bayeux Tapestry; what you might call the French Connection. Local lad, Bishop Odo, (he actually come across the Channel in a small boat when it wasn't a problem) took a shine to the area long before the Beckhams or even the Sussexes. As we know, he commissioned the famous tapestry, although we all know now that it's actually an embroidery. But never mind.

The point is that Deddington is fortunate enough to have a partial replica of the tapestry itself, actually within the Castle boundary, available to see completely free of charge during daylight hours. So say goodbye to expensive trips to London and take a trip to Deddington Castle Grounds. We're sure Bishop Odo would approve.

James Reeve
jameshreeve@outlook.com

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

Life in the orient once again boasts of a vibrant community with lots to offer.

CAST (speed watch) now has a new chair, although he/she is interim and modestly asked for their name to remain within the committee and we look forward to working with them. The funds, spectacularly raised by the team so far, are not 'resting' in anyone's account and remain in situ until a more suitable home can be found.

The Main Street sinkhole, that we have previously discussed here, has been repaired in a very interesting way that on the surface looked very thorough. This is a good advert for 'FixMyStreet' but only time will tell how thorough the repair will be. Some predict another void opening up on the current line before spring comes again.

Alex, introduced last month, hasn't moved in just yet as he is having his dodgy roof slates dealt with.

We all bow down to his attention to detail which has had many of us testing for the iron content in our current roof coverings as signs of a shared build issue. While many of us would change our tiles if the same opportunity arose, some of us will persevere with what we have and see what occurs.

Book Club is planning another beano that this time relies on Oxford's excellent bus service. We will start with a breakfast bap in the DA, then bus to the Dew Drop, and perambulate to the Rose and Crown, Royal Oak, Lamb and Flag, Wheatsheaf and finish with a galactic buffet, before returning home. This will provide sightseeing to warm us through the winter and all are welcome. Just pop along to Book Club any Thursday at 7.00pm for full details.

If you have any news or comments you want to share, please let me know.

Martin Bryce
martindnbryce@gmail.com

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Friends of Hempton Church

Ride and Stride is due to take place on 12 September. We look forward to welcoming walkers and cyclists to St John's, Hempton, where refreshments will be available. You can still sponsor Lydia Watts, who is cycling for St John's – visit www.goodhub.com/go/lydia-watts – her funding page will be open until the end of October. Any contributions will be gratefully received.

Our famous pumpkin trail returns on 31 October. From 5.30pm, visit the Old School Room, if you dare, to collect a map of the ghoulish and spooky displays around the village. To include your display on the map, email your address to fohchempton@gmail.com.

Please save the dates for our autumn litter pick on Saturday 7 November and our Christmas Fayre on 12 December. For the litter pick, meet on the green at 9.00am.

At the Allotments

The crops are coming in and it will soon be time to choose what to grow next year. For many it has been a disappointing summer as yields are small. Perhaps we need to look at more drought resistant selections. Having said that, our wildflower allotment, which was only sown this summer, is a riot of colour which, we hope, will be even better next season.

There are several empty plots of varying sizes. Contact the parish clerk if you are interested.

Book Club

Book Club is great fun, a chat about the latest book and then just a chat. Other activities are under consideration – wreath-making being one.

Community Speed watch

The group has been on patrol recently. On day one, they recorded 17 speeders – the highest was 33mph. On day two, 9 speeders were recorded with the highest speed of 38mph.

Residents are getting very upset by the intrusive drone over their gardens. Please stop.

Jo Churchyard
jochurchyard@hotmail.com

MUSINGS

Whilst clearing away the breakfast dishes one balmy Sunday morning in August, I was distracted by a disturbance outdoors and stepped into the garden to investigate. High above the village an aerial dogfight was underway. Six combatants wheeled around in circles intermittently climbing and diving in attack. There was no growl of Spitfire and Messerschmitt but a loud, high-pitched and raspy scream 'kee-eeeeee-arr'. The combatants were common buzzards, easily recognised by the short fan tail and broad upturned wings.

The Spitfire was powered by a Rolls-Royce Merlin or, later variants, a Griffon engine. Rolls named a series of piston aero engines after birds of prey, including the buzzard. The buzzard served as the direct technical precursor to the legendary Rolls-Royce R racing engine, which dominated the Schneider Trophy, set numerous speed records and was a precursor to the ubiquitous Merlin. R engines were used to achieve various air, land and water speed records by such racing personalities as Sir Henry Segrave, Sir Malcolm Campbell and his son Donald between 1929 and 1939.

I digress. The clash was most likely a dispute over territory culminating in the trespassers moving on or pushing out the incumbents.

The vanquished moved on and I returned to the breakfast dishes. As I was finishing, a feather drifted through the beaded curtain over the open doorway and alighted gently on the doormat. Surely it can't have been plucked during the skirmish I just witnessed.

Could it have fallen to earth in the time between the engagement and landing on the mat? I figure the action took place at 500 to 1,000 feet. In a vacuum the feather would descend at the same time as the ubiquitous lead balloon, accelerating to 173mph under gravity and landing in about eight seconds from 1,000 feet. Hempton does not exist in a vacuum and our feather would need to displace a few trillion molecules of atmospheric gases to make its way to earth. The resulting drag constrains the feather to reach maximum descent rate of 0.5 to 1mph within seconds and

Contd on p25



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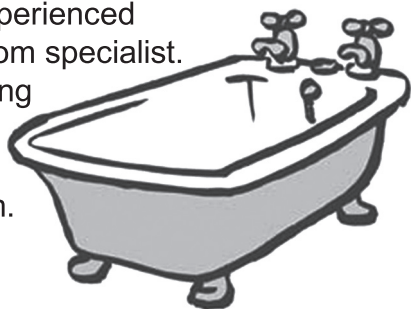
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Musings

Contd from p22

alighting in a leisurely 20 minutes. Not sure when battle commenced so, chronologically, perhaps.

The trouble is, it didn't look much like a buzzard's plumage. It was an even pale slate grey flight feather about five inches in length. Buzzards' feathers are typically dark brown with distinctive banding. It seems it was shed by one of those flying rats that take intense delight in crapping everywhere and driving you mad with their incessant coo-coo-coo, aka a wood pigeon.

Much as I despise these avian rats and am no longer entitled to assassinate them as vermin, the feather is a thing of beauty. It was a remex: a large, asymmetrical feather from the wings that generate lift and forward thrust. It has a central shaft or rachis and interlocking barbs that form a strong, flat wind-resistant surface. They are made of keratin, the same tough protein found in human hair and nails. Birds regularly shed and replace these essential feathers in a process called moulting to keep them in good fettle. It had a beautifully curvaceous complex aerofoil section.

Stuart Oldham
sj_oldham@btinternet.com

UKRAINE UPDATE

The full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia began on 24 February 2022. This followed eight years of armed conflict in eastern Ukraine, with Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014 when more than one million people lost their lives. It has caused massive displacement and destruction and at the same time it has become a wider confrontation over Ukraine's sovereignty, security and relationship with Europe and Russia. At the time of writing, the war has been going for 1,659 days. In early March 2022, 1,650 days ago, Fynn Watt with Maksym Stodolia, drove a van of supplies to Ukraine in the second week of the war. Since then, there have been 64 convoys and 800 dedicated volunteers from more than 30 countries who have stood shoulder to shoulder, delivering vital vehicles to Ukraine for evacuation and medical transport. The Driving Ukraine team, and Fynn in particular, have received many awards and have been recognised by the Ukraine Ministry of Defence and the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, for impact on the ground.

So what can we do?

1. Join a convoy

This means fundraising, personally driving and delivering a vehicle to Ukraine, handing it over directly to Ukrainian heroes.

2. Donate

Support our work every month by making a donation to increase our ability to send vehicles and supplies.

29 August was Ukraine's Day of Remembrance for Fallen Defenders. The date is particularly significant because 29 August 2014 was the day of the Ilovaik tragedy, when Ukrainian forces suffered very heavy losses while withdrawing from Ilovaik during the war in Donbas.

'When I am asked what war is, I will answer without hesitation – names.'

These are lines from a poem by Maksym Kryvtsov (1990–2024), a Ukrainian poet, photographer and serviceman. He was killed in action on 7 January 2024, aged 33.

May those who gave their lives never be forgotten.

We remember them.

We honour them.

We stand with Ukraine.

And we hope for the day when Ukraine can finally live in peace.

Jenny Soddy
 07976 922558

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Royal British Legion

This month sees the launch of the annual Poppy Appeal. We will be present at the farmers' market on 24 October and we look forward to seeing you there. Year 6 primary school pupils will decorate the 86 crosses to be placed in the memorial garden. We are delighted to say that the Scouts, now affiliated to our Branch, will not only be putting up the street poppies but will also be helping to make up and distribute collecting tins and trays. As we cover North Aston, Duns Tew and now Adderbury, following closure of their Branch, as well as Deddington, this help is extremely welcome.

Details of the Remembrance Sunday parade and services will be in the November issue. Piper Stewart Carnegie will lead the marches in the absence of a Parade Commander; both the President and I are 'standing duties' only nowadays so we would welcome a younger, preferably ex-military, person to volunteer to take on this annual role.

Rob Forsyth
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Hempton Book Club

Stone Yard Devotional by Charlotte Wood

After spending her working life in species conservation, with a feeling of frustration that we can do nothing to save the environment, the narrator of the book (we never know her name) leaves her job and marriage to live in an enclosed order in New South Wales, near her childhood home. She finds comfort in the dull, repetitive routine of life until it is disturbed by the return of the bones of the long lost Sister Jenny, accompanied by someone from her past. Then the mouse plague arrives; the description of how they dispose of the rodents is very graphic and not to be read at tea-time. The book was atmospheric, depicting the heat and barrenness of the landscape and the emptiness of their lives.

It was an easy read but was only given 5/10 by the group who would find it hard to recommend. Comments ranged from boring to self-indulgent although one critic says, 'An absorbing meditation on grief, forgiveness and our relationship to the natural world'.

Jo Churchyard
jochurchyard@hotmail.com

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Photographic Society

Wildlife photographer, Jason Parry-Wilson, loved wildlife from an early age. His photography passion is for birds and he has visited many RSPB sites, including Arne and Corfe Castle, the Isle of Purbeck, Thursley Common and the New Forest amongst his favourites. He also loves visiting the Forest of Dean and Dartmoor for the variety of animals there. Coastal locations such as Bampton Cliffs, Skomer and Cornwall are some of his most photographed locations. Jason loves watching the grey seals in Norfolk and commented that 75% of the grey seal population lives in the UK and from November to January is great for seeing seals and photographing their pups. He suggested that your own backyard can be good and visiting local parks and gardens are great for bird and animal varieties.

Our monthly theme, vintage/old, once again inspired a wonderful range of creative interpretations from our members. The images submitted demonstrated not only technical skill and photographic excellence but also a great deal of imagination and individuality. From nostalgic scenes and treasured antiques to innovative takes on the passage of time. The results were impressive and inspiring, making for another enjoyable and highly competitive month.

At our October meeting Sue Sibley will talk about Photography with a Difference. All are welcome. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month, at 7:30pm at the Adderbury Institute.

Courtney Killpack
www.addphoto.co.uk

Local Vocals Community Choir

What a delight it is to be back singing again but, oh my goodness, how hard it is to hit those high notes after seven weeks' rest. We have got straight back into learning three new songs as well as keeping some going that we learnt last term. My favourite new tune is *Bad Guys* from Bugsy Malone where finally the baritone gets to have a good chunk of the tune. Let's hope they don't get used to it.

To find out more about our choir, which meets at 7.30pm at the primary school each Monday during term time, please see to our website www.localvocalscc.co.uk. New members are always welcome.

Alison Grieve

Windmill Film Club

The Windmill Film Club goes from strength to strength with new members joining every month. Due to a party at the Windmill, our September film was shown on 29 August. This was the bank holiday weekend, so I expected numbers to be down but we still had 30 people in the hall to watch *The Christophers*. The film met with mixed reviews but all agreed that they had an enjoyable evening out.

Our next film will be shown on 10 October by which time the nights will be drawing in and a good film will be exactly what we all need. If you are a member then the usual email asking you to choose our next

Continued from pXX

showing will be dropping into your inbox on or about 3 October. If you are not a member but would like to join the fun, email me.

Peter Hogben
events@thewindmilldeddington.org

Women's Institute

The subject of our September meeting was the history of Bletchley Park in the Second World War. The major task of Bletchley Park was to find a way to read the German messages sent using an Enigma machine that produced coded messages thought to be undecipherable. Right up until the end of the war the Germans thought that their messages were not being deciphered. This was not the truth. Due to a dedicated team of workers, recruited from some unusual sources, it became possible to translate the messages long before the Germans realised. The work on decoding these messages led to the development of the first computers and perhaps ended the war earlier than otherwise would have happened.

Deddington WI is pleased to receive new members. For further details please contact me.

Moiria Byast
07467 067883

History Society

The society meets nine times a year at 7.30 pm on the second Thursday of the month at the primary school. Our programme is varied with subjects ranging from Christmas and the Cotswolds to the naming of Oxfordshire pubs. The first meeting of our 2026-27 series takes place on 8 October with Marie-Louise Kerr talking about the Roman invasion of Britain and sites of Roman occupation in the county.

Non-members are always welcome at a cost of £5 per person, and annual membership is £20 after which all meetings are free.

If you would like to join the society or would like an email copy of our programme for this new season of meetings, please email us at deddingtonhistorysociety@gmail.com.

Pauline Heatherington

Deddington Players

Rehearsals are underway for this season's pantomime, *Alice in Wonderland*. We have an amazing all-ages cast and production crew getting ready to tell the story of Alice and her adventures. Rehearsals continue throughout October, November, and December with four performances on 21–23 January (2 matinées and evening on Saturday). Tickets will be on sale from December.

Follow all the behind-the-scenes fun on our Facebook community page, Deddington Players.

Suzie Upson

Book Group

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins begins with a violent attack on a family gathering in Acapulco. One member, Lydia, is unhurt but knows that the drug car-



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CALLING ALL CLUBS

Continued from p26

tel responsible will pursue her. Just like many other migrants, she and her young son, Luca, flee Mexico and undertake the long, dangerous journey to the Arizona border. Then they attempt to enter the US illegally. The book is a combination of a thriller and a novel describing the conditions and risks faced by the migrants – travelling on top of freight trains,

sleeping rough and hunger, to name a few. The personal stories of migrants are often harrowing. Some of our group would have preferred a less sensational approach, though others found it an emotional and gripping read.

The Book Group

SPORT

Deddington Original Golf Society

Our summer outings concluded at the Cotswold Golf Club on 11 September. Ian Spann, chairman, presented the prizes. Individual winners were Peter Mahon in second place with 38 points and Ken Appleby in first place with a very creditable 40 Stableford points. The team prize went to Keith Spengler, Ian Spann and Peter Mahon with 90 points. Nearest the pin on the sixth hole was Ian Spann, with the longest drive on the eighth hole going to Barbara Lowe. Following the golf, assorted DOGS, partners, wives and loved ones descended on Wirral House. The owner, master chef Keith Spengler, provided a veritable feast of top-class fare including Mr Lashford's pork sausages. A selection of amazing desserts followed and, in true DOGS tradition, many were laced with alcohol. The occasion was almost marred when we started to run out of much needed fluids. Thanks to the Co-op for topping us up. We were pleased to celebrate Josie Finding's birthday, a relatively new DOG, not quite a puppy, but fast becoming a stalwart of outings. Sincere thanks to all the DOGS who supported the day and particularly the evening event. For the organisers your involvement makes it all worthwhile. A huge shout out to Keith Spengler, not only for the amazing food provided, but also allowing the use of his home.

Our last outing for 2026 is the traditional fun golf, dinner and party at Tadmarton Heath Golf Club on Friday 11 December. Details will follow nearer the time.

If you're new to the area and play golf, socially or competitively, we would welcome you. For more details contact me.

Tony Lowe
dogsgolf23@gmail.com

Deddington Cricket Club

Another successful season has drawn to a close. The 1st XI finished third in their league for the second successive season, missing out on promotion by just 2 points. The 2nd XI also had a successful season. All fixtures were fulfilled and several new younger players have joined the Club and we had our first centurion for a couple of seasons in Dan Branch.

The sun even shone for us on August Bank Holiday Monday for our annual memorial game where a club legends side was narrowly defeated by a very much more youthful club side. We had a traditional cricket tea with plenty of cake and scones and a raffle. Proceeds were shared between the club and the Chance to Shine charity.

We look forward to our end of season celebrations and to the winter indoor league before we start indoor nets in the new year.

We're planning to run AllStars and Dynamos again next season and are already on the lookout for helpers to allow us to keep these sessions running. We're always on the lookout for new players, supporters, scorers, umpires and sponsors. If you'd like to get involved with us in any capacity, then we'd love to hear from you. Next summer is an Ashes summer and, as always, interest in cricket is heightened when the Australians are touring. So don't miss out, get in touch with us as soon as possible to find out how you can be part of our club.

<https://www.facebook.com/DeddingtonCricketClub>
<https://deddingtoncricket.co.uk>

Richard Munro, 07917 208190
richardmu.ssl@gmail.com

Ladies Cricket

The season began with Deddington Ladies topping the Super 8s League and ended in fourth-place in a very strong Home Counties League. They had a centurion in Kat Ward, who also scored a brace of half centuries and was the leading run scorer in the division. They successfully recruited some younger players and are looking forward to another successful season.

However, those results alone do not begin to tell the story of what has been another hugely successful year for the team.

There was some excellent cricket played on many sunny Sunday afternoons, some would say *too* sunny. There were flying catches, stumps rattling as bails flew through the air, and beautifully timed shots raced away to the boundary. The cricket itself provided plenty of memorable moments but, as always, the team's greatest success lay elsewhere.

What makes Deddington Ladies special is the spirit of cricket they embody. As a village team, they often face opponents with greater resources and larger player pools, but no team can match them for camaraderie, determination, and togetherness. It is this spirit that defines the Club and makes every season so rewarding.

The squad ranges in age from 15 to over 60 and every single player has contributed positively throughout the season. Some have been playing cricket for decades, while others picked up a cricket ball for the first time this year. For some, this season marked their first step into senior women's cricket after progressing from the junior game. Experience never mattered. What mattered was being part of the team.

SPORT

Continued from p29

The laughter and smiles around the pitch were what defined the summer. Whether it was a ball sailing ten feet over somebody's head followed by a chorus of 'Why are you so short?!' or the delight of seeing the bails on the ground after a bowler claimed their first wicket, there was always something to celebrate. Every match brought moments of joy, encouragement and friendship.

It is sad to see the end of summer and the close of another season. For the ladies, though, that simply signals the start of the winter socials: another opportunity to strengthen friendships, build team spirit, and welcome new faces into the Club before it all begins again next year.

When next season arrives, the team will once again spend their Sunday afternoons doing what they love most: playing cricket, laughing with friends, and making memories in the middle of a field. Deddington Ladies Cricket Team can't wait. Contact Sara Cox for information, coxlulu77@yahoo.co.uk.

Caz Ward

Deddington Town FC

First Team Results

29.8.26 Wallingford & Crowmarsh Dev (a)
W 2-1 Thornton (2)

Reserve Team Results

29.8.26 Grendon Rangers (a) L 0-2
5.9.26 Gtr Leys Youth Res (a) D 1-1 Jackson

The Humbugs and Latics kicked off a brand new chapter in their illustrious history in the Oxfordshire Senior Leagues with mixed results. Joe Thornton's clinical brace saw the Humbugs record a victory at the first time of asking, while the Latics have started a little more tentatively, with a single goal and point on the board against Greater Leys Youth. We can't derive too much at this early stage, but the Dedd Reckoners (a nickname I just patented) have given a decent account of themselves at this higher level so far.

Aaron Bliss
07909 642882

Deddington Town FC Youth

The new season has just started and some teams are still to play their first matches. The Under 14 playing in the B League started with a 0-1 win at Hook Norton. The Under 13s playing in the B League started the season with a heavy 6-1 away defeat at Ducklington. The Under 8s got off to a good start in their first season in the league with their first matches

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away at Yarnton and the Under 7s, playing the new 3v3 format, enjoyed their visit to Chipping Norton. The Under 6s started their football journey with their first full training session at the Windmill.

We are coming to the end of funding from the Football Foundation which started in 2020 to improve the Windmill pitches. This investment has improved the pitch conditions immeasurably and benefited footballers and cricketers, as well as the wider community. The current climate emergency has made this summer the worst for the pitches in living memory, and we will need to continue to do restorative work in the weeks ahead to improve them. If anyone wants to get involved as a volunteer to help our pitch improvement work this season, please get in touch if you can spare a few hours a month.

We encourage parents of our players, as well as visiting teams, to park responsibly at the Windmill Centre. We realise parking at the Windmill is limited so encourage players who live in the village to walk and players who come from outside to share lifts where possible.

Further information about the club is on our website www.deddingtontownfc/ or visit us on Facebook www.facebook.com/DeddingtonTownFc.

Roger Sykes, Club Development Officer
07899 914425
carsykes@btinternet.com

YOUTH

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

We welcomed new Cubs to the group and started the year with lots of games and fun. The Cubs are looking forward to the term ahead, with new skills to be learned and adventures ahead.

We currently have spaces available on our waiting list, so if any boys or girls would like to join in the near future, we would love to hear from you.

Tina Deacon
deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts

Scouts have started the new term at full throttle. On our first evening after the holidays, we played frantic, energetic ball games and they tied themselves in knots, literally. The following weekend we staged the ever popular 24-hour hike. Six of the older Scouts took the bus to Banbury, hiked to Horley Campsite, camped overnight and walked back to Deddington the next day (17km). They carried their clothes plus stoves and food. This year, considering the weather – a bit wet and a couple of diversions – they made remarkably good time. This is one of our favourite excursions; they achieve so much including their Expedition Challenge Award. Very well done.

Pete Churchyard
deddingtonscouts@gmail.com



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www.solepilates.co.uk

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✉ mvlgardendesigns@outlook.com





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www.johnsonsofdeddington.co.uk

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* Terms & Conditions Apply.

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Address _____

email _____

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DEDDINGTON DATA



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TRAVEL:

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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

01235 849410

New 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

Oxford, The Manor (Private)

01865 307777

Traveline (Public Transport)

0871 200 2233

Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre

0300 304 7777

UTILITIES:

Katharine House Hospice

01295 229940

Gas Escapes (24hrs)

0800 111 999

NHS

Non emergency

111

Electricity – any supplier

105

PARISH CLERK

01869 337447

Emergency/Power cut

(Tuesday–Friday 9.00am–2.00pm)

Careline (over 60s)

0800 833 408

POLICE (non-emergency, 24 hrs)

101

Ofgem

020 7901 7295

Thames Water (24hrs)

0800 316 9800

PRIMARY SCHOOL (C of E)

01869 338430

WARRINER SCHOOL, Bloxham

01295 720777

PFSU

01869 337484

WINDMILL CENTRE

07720 834006

VILLAGE NURSERY

01869 337383

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

01865 519800

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

Wednesday

9.30am–1.00pm

Thursday

1.00–5.00pm

Saturday

9.30am–1.00pm

DEDDINGTON CHURCHES

See section inside



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