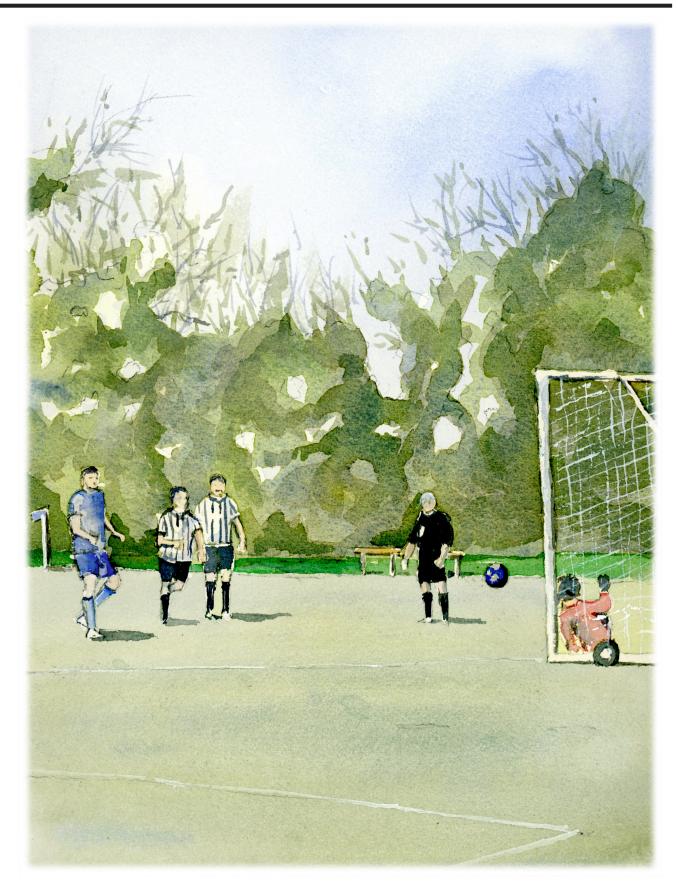
October 2024

DEDDINGTON NEWS



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THE TEAM

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NOVEMBER COPY TO

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ADVERTISING COPY by 10 OCTOBER

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www.deddington.org.uk/deddington-news/

DEDDINGTON NEWS

In spite of the fact that we're regularly highlighting pleas for more volunteers to help local groups and events, I am amazed at how many people regularly turn out to ensure a particular event goes smoothly and to keep groups going.

Witness the parish council, our monthly farmers' market, the library, speed watching in Clifton, all kinds of events at the Windmill, the annual parish show, maintaining Castle Grounds, and all the groups too numerous to reference here, not to mention the *DN*'s editorial team, our large band of deliverers and distribution group. Thank you all.

JC

What's On October

- Wed 2 Photographic Society: Andrew Buchanan, Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Sat 5 Deddington Wine Festival: Cheers to Charlie, Windmill Centre
- Tue 8- Road Closure: Horse Fair, Victoria Terrace, Market Place,
- Fri 11 Chapel Square and Castle Street
- Wed 9 WI: 'Oxfordshire's Secret Gardens', Dr Stephen Wass, Barford St Michael Village Hall, 7.30pm
- Thu 10 'Roxy' at the Holly Tree: *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, Holly Tree Hall, 1.30pm
- Thu 10 History Society: 'Life on the Home Front in WWII', Primary School, 7.30pm
- Sat 12 Deddington Players: Mini Deddington Rocks, Windmill Centre, 7.00pm
- Sat 12 Local Vocals: '6 of the Best', St Mary's Church, Banbury
- Wed 16 Parish Council: Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm
- Sat 26 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am-12.30pm
- Sun 20 Music in Adderbury: Tim Horton, piano, Deddington Church
- Thu 24 DEN: People Planet Pint, Red Lion, Deddington, 7.30pm
- Sat 26 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am-12.30pm
- Mon 28 Deddington Library: LEGO club, 3.00–5.00pm, ages 4+, all children to be accompanied by an adult
- Thu 31 Book Group: contact Sally Lambert, 01869 338094, for details
- Thu 31 Bookworms: Holly Tree Hall, 6.30pm

November

- Sat 2 Artisan Craft Fayre: Windmill Centre, 10.00am-1.00pm
- Wed 6 Photographic Society: Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Sun 10 Remembrance Parade, Bull Ring, 10.40am
- Wed 13 WI: 'An Imaginary World including Poetry', Jane Abbott, Holly Tree Club, 2.30pm
- Thu 14 'Roxy' at the Holly Tree: Fisherman's Friends One and All, Holly Tree Hall, 1.30pm
- Wed 20 Parish Council: Old School Room, Hempton, 7.30pm
- Thu 21 DEN People Planet Pint, The George, Barford St Michael, 7.30pm

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

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

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on 18 September at the Windmill Centre

Present: Councillors Cox, Fisher, Mylne, Oldfield (chair), O'Neill, Snashall, Swadling, Timms, Watts, DC Rogers, three members of the public, the parish clerk and a *DN* representative.

Vacancies

There are currently two vacancies for parish councillors which will be formally advertised on the PC noticeboards.

Open Forum

A representative of the developer applying to build 9 houses in Hempton advised the PC that their challenge to the appeal refusal was upheld and a replacement application will be made. It will be for the same number of units but the proposal will be for custom or self-build. A number of incentives are to be offered including £10,000 to the Old School Room and giving an electric vehicle to each household.

A Deddington resident spoke about the need for a designated BMX area in the parish as there are limited activity options for children who have outgrown the playground activities. He confirmed he would be happy to be involved in planning such an area.

District Council report

Information on surface flooding is being collated and all PCs are being asked to provide information to District Councillor Andrew McHugh. He would like updated information on issues at Clifton and the end of Earls Lane, plus any other areas of significance.

A site for 1,800 houses at Begbroke Science Park has been approved which would have allowed the Bucks, Oxon & Berks Primary Health Care contribution request to have been £1.55million; instead the group asked for £900,000 for the surgery at Exeter Hall.

Finance & General Purposes

Notices banning the use of motorised bikes at the Windmill and Castle Grounds are to be bought.

Lighting at the Windmill car park is to be improved with the hope that costs could be covered by S106 funding. There was some inconclusive discussion regarding a timer for turning the lights off late at night or in the early hours of the morning.

Payment for road closures for the Fair was agreed, repayable by the fair owners. A further payment for road closures for the Remembrance Day parade up to £1,500 was agreed, with the hope that County Councillor Fatemian will support an OCC grant. Individual groups will be asked to make their own decision whether to march in the event of poor weather.

It was agreed to pay up to £1,100 for the purchase and installation of a Christmas tree. It is hoped to be erected on 2 December.

More than £1,000 was raised from the PC's 'Buy a Rivet' fundraiser for the Windmill roof. Significant grants were obtained to cover the bulk of the cost.

Friends of Castle Grounds have offered £250 for repairing and staining benches at the Castle Grounds,

with PC paying £100 for materials.

Planning Applications

No objection

The Manse, Bull Ring, Deddington: tree works, recommend either suitable replacement or planting as part of a Woodland Trust scheme.

Aurigny, 2A Philcote Street, Deddington: replace rear conservatory with a new one.

9 High Street, Deddington: replacement of four windows on first and second floors. Like for like design replacement windows to improve energy efficiency and sound insulation.

Victoria House, Horse Fair, Deddington: installation of detached timber outbuilding, only electricity will be supplied so there is no likelihood of residential/letting use. Craxton, Castle End, Castle Street, Deddington: tree works.

Approvals

Castle House Cottage, Hopcraft Lane: tree works. Parlour House, Earls Lane: tree works.

Large Scale Developments

CDC has not collected the S106 money available for the library and nursery although OCC has.

Neighbourhood Plan

PC will respond to a letter from CDC Planning, indicating it will review the NP in less than five years and it would choose designated sites for future development.

Environment & Recreation

Disappointingly contractors for the mini tennis court have not returned as promised to complete the surface finish.

A litter pick has been agreed for 4–5 November.

Highways & Transport

Representatives from the HT working group met with representatives from OCC Highways in Hempton on 5 September to further progress safety measures. Several proposals have been agreed but it is not clear whether funding is available. This is now in the hands of OCC with consultation not yet available.

Proposed road closures recently allocated at Hobart Way and Fardon Way have been cancelled and information has not been provided as to whether these are postponements.

Parish Council representatives

Councillor Collins has stood down from the Friends of the Library and Bryn Williams has stepped in. The library calendar will be on sale at the next farmers' market.

DCE: the almshouses are to be reroofed.

Primary School: the headteacher has advised that the school is full and there is concern regarding new developments. There are four families unable to be accommodated.

Next meeting Wednesday 16 October at 7.30pm at the Windmill Centre.

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

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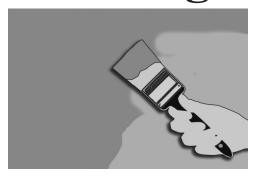
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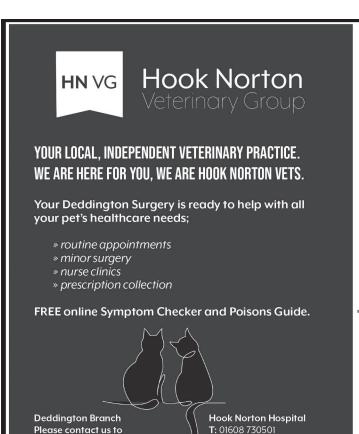
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YOUR LIBRARY NEEDS YOU!

Lee Child, the author of the international best-selling Jack Reacher novels, who was brought up in Birmingham, has recently been much in evidence on the airwaves, audibly upset by the proposed closure of several Perry Barr branch libraries, owing to the Council's budget problems. He attributes his becoming a writer categorically to the access he had throughout his childhood to his local library. Moreover, while he was the only one of his childhood friends to become an author, he maintains that the library expanded the horizons of friends who hung out with him there, making it possible for one of them to imagine becoming an engineer and another a doctor.

So far, we have been fortunate in keeping our library's doors open but only through local support. Oxfordshire County Council threatened to close many of its branch libraries in 2011/2012 but was met with such strong opposition that they proposed a compromise. Branch libraries would remain open in places where the community committed to raising funds to cover a portion of the library's operating costs and providing volunteers to work in the libraries to help with the dayto-day running of the branch, replacing part-time staff.

The parish stepped up to the plate and our community volunteers can be found shelving books, finding titles requested by other branches, helping people use the computers and a myriad other tasks to support the library manager.

The Friends of Deddington Library has the legal contractual responsibility for raising the community's share of the operating funds. This has been accomplished primarily by signing up members who regularly contribute by subscription to the Friends, with the shortfall being met by publishing a high-quality annual village calendar. This is sponsored by local businesses, meaning that 100% of the income goes directly to support your community library.

However, as with everything else in our cost-of-living crisis world, the cost of operating public services, including the library service, has gone up and, with it, the size of the community contribution.

We need your help if we are to continue stimulating the imaginations and curiosity of the parish's children, whether visiting the library with their school class or coming in with their parents; entertaining and informing our adults, including the housebound to whom we deliver books; providing online access for those who either don't have or cannot use their own electronic devices; and constituting a hub for informational material ranging from services to events.

You can provide immediate help by buying the 2025 calendar now on sale at the library, Fenemore's Farm shop, Nellie & Dove, Hamptons and at the October and November farmers' markets. The A4 calendar is £10 and the desk size A5 is just £5. Next time you are in the library ask for a subscription form and sign up as a Friend. From as little as £5 a month, you can make a huge difference.

> Catherine Desmond Trustee, Friends of Deddington Library





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NORTH ASTON FARM NEWS

hey say you've got to make hay while the sun shines and that's exactly what we did! It seems our prayers were answered after the last newsletter and we were blessed with almost perfect August weather. Plenty of sun and lots of long warm days, but also just enough rain to keep the soil moist and the grass growing.



North Aston more generally) here: https://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/oxon/vol11/pp6–21.

New Forest Eye

But while there is good news on the forage front, we again failed our TB test – although nowhere near as disastrously as last time – with just one cow out of 231 testing positive.

Everywhere you look on the farm now, there are huge stacks of silage, hay and straw and it's a relief that we are now well prepared for winter. It's come at quite a cost though, as we've had to buy most of the straw in as our own crop plantings didn't quite go to plan back in the spring – and so Robert has had his work cut out baling and carting hundreds of bales of straw to the farm from our neighbouring arable farms, often working until after dark.

Haymaking on Bestmoor

Although it can be a little stressful working within tight windows of good weather, harvesting the hay is one of the most enjoyable periods in the agricultural calendar. Bestmoor is our largest meadow and hay has been made on it almost every year for at least a thousand years (and probably much longer) – so it always feels special to be out there carrying on that tradition.

Farming is often quite a solitary job but when there is imminent rain forecast and a huge meadow full of sun-dried hay, it is essential that we gather the troops to get it brought in before it gets soaked. In the past, it was common for entire communities to come together to cut, dry, and stack the hay – a process that fostered a strong sense of community and cooperation. These days, all the machinery we use makes this a much more streamlined process but still brings the farm team together for a day or two of very satisfying work out in the hot summer sun (or in an air-conditioned tractor cab, if you're lucky!). With Bryan sadly no longer with us, this year we recruited the help of our neighbours, the Fenemores, and so had Ben loading trailers in the field, James, Chris and Nick towing trailers back and forth between the field and the farmyard, and Robert unloading and expertly stacking them in the barn. With only a moment's break to eat some North Aston ice cream, we got it all done, clocking off well past dinner time. Well done, team!

For anyone interested, there is a fascinating history of haymaking on Bestmoor over the centuries (and

However, we're now battling a fairly serious outbreak of New Forest Eye in both our beef and dairy herds. This is a highly contagious bacterial eye disease, spread by flies, that is extremely painful and irritating, and causes blindness if left untreated. The symptoms usually first noticed are eyes that are going cloudy, an abnormal discharge, and closed eyelids. Aside from the pain and irritation, it often causes cows to eat less as they have a harder time finding nutritious forage, which in turn reduces weight gains and/or milk yields. Additionally, it requires antibiotics to treat, and with every antibiotic comes a 'withdrawal period' which is the time after treatment when we can't legally sell the meat or milk produce from the treated animal and, for the most commonly used antibiotic, this is 70 days.

At this time of year, when our beef crop are almost ready to sell, not being able to sell them for a couple of months is not good news at all. Luckily, there is an alternative antibiotic with a shorter withdrawal period but it requires repeated treatments every day for five days in a row, which either means bringing the whole herd in every day to our cattle handling area, or separating the affected cows from the main herd, which is also a lot of extra work. Neither option is ideal when we are also busy with the harvest and other essential work, but the welfare of our cows must always be our top priority, even if it's inconvenient.

We thought it was confined to the beef herd until last week when we noticed a few of our dairy milking cows showing symptoms and, most recently, their calves too. While they are being treated, their milk can't go in the tank for bottling – and if it continues to spread, it might be that we can't put any of the milk in the tank and will have to put the whole dairy operation on hold for a while and throw enormous amounts of milk down the drain. Fingers crossed it doesn't come to that

Nick Miller and the North Aston Dairy Team

'Roxy' at the Holly Tree Hall

The next film shown by Age UK will be on Thursday 10 October.

The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

Check in again for more love and laughter as new arrival, Richard Gere, joins an all-star cast of Tamsin Greig, John Madden, Dev Patel, Judi Dench, Peter Czernin, Maggie Smith, Celia Imrie, Penelope Wilton, Diana Hardcastle, Graham Broadbent, Ronald Pickup and Bill Nighy, returning for this heart-warming sequel.

Now that his first venture has proved successful, ever-confident Sonny is busy juggling plans for a sec-

ond resort as well as his own wedding, but his efforts are constantly hampered by hilarious complications and, in order to pull it all together, he'll need a little help and encouragement from his resident friends.

The film starts at 1.30pm, with refreshments from 1.00pm. It is open to anyone over 50; no booking required.

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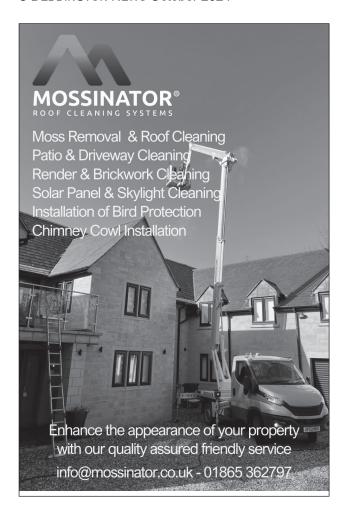
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CHURCH

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

It was wonderful to celebrate our Harvest Festival service in September, which was a special opportunity to give thanks for the hard work of our farmers, both locally and globally, as well as all who work so hard to get our food from farm to fork. It was also a time to reflect on our own responsibilities to help those who do not have enough out of our own abundance. All donations from our harvest services are going towards the Banbury Foodbank, so thank you to all who have donated.

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

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Mon	8.45am	Morning Prayer
Tue	8.15am	Morning Prayer
Wed	10.00am	Holy Communion (healing
		prayer on 4th Wednesday)
Thu	9.30am–	Tea + Toast and Squiggles and
	noon	Wiggles
Fri	8.45am	Morning Prayer
	5.15pm	Evening Prayer

Sun 6	10.30am	Holy Communion		
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong		
Sun 13	10.30am	Holy Communion		
	3.00pm	3 O'Clock Family Service		
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		
Thu 8	8.15am	Morning Prayer		
Sun 6	10.30am	Coffee and Chat		
Sun 13	9.00am	Communion		
Sun 20	10.30am	Family Service		
Sun 27	10.30am	Family Holy Communion		

From the Parish Registers

Weddings:

14 September Victoria Minnear and Christopher Allen

Funerals:

23 August John Shrewsbury

13 September Brenda Small (memorial and

interment)

For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness please contact the Vicar – Nick Fielden on 01869 934794 or at vicar@deddington-church.org one of the Church Wardens; Deddington: Stan Nelson (01869 337883) Caroline Condon (07821 259092) or wardens@deddingtonchurch.org. Barfords: Sue Addison (07484 718791) or Sally Barber (07776 241218) or barfordchurches234@gmail.com.

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. Tel: 01295 720860 or 07766 711984.

Friends of Deddington Library

Our 2025 Deddington Parish Calendar is GO, GO, GO, available to buy at Fenemore's Farm Shop, Hamptons, Nellie & Dove, Deddington Library and, of course, at each farmers' market until Christmas.

The calendar was launched at a gathering on Friday 27 September at the Holly Tree Hall where the winning finalists were revealed and presented with a complimentary calendar. The top three, as chosen by the FoDL committee, were presented with a canvas of their work. The eminent photographers are: Jen Toll, Helen Spencer, Tony Pain, Stefan Wathan, Alison Day, Heidi Fardell, Kevin Mayo, Mike Higgins, Chris Rose, Maureen Robinson and Christopher Darkins. Our thanks go to all entrants who shared their stunning work with us. Entries were again impressive, even though the weather hasn't been too kind to us this year.

The calendar would not be possible, of course, without the continued and valued support of our sponsors. Therefore, a sincere thank you to Cox's Garage, Holly Tree Hall, Cherry Lets, Hamptons, Wellness at New Street, House Calmer, RC Spencer, the Cyclogical Shop, Deddington Farmers' Market, Deddington Dental, Bengal Spice and Nellie & Dove.

Please buy a calendar to support your community library. The production costs are covered by the generosity of local businesses, so 100% of the sales proceeds go directly towards meeting the Friends' legal obligations under our contract with OCC to contribute to the costs of keeping our wonderful library open, stocked and staffed in our community.

Bryn Williams abw@brynwilliams.com

THE DEDDINGTON PORK PIE CHRONICLES

Completing the form for the Parish Show, I noticed that Section 17 was for 'Men's Only Cake (no help!)'. I'm not sure about the grammar but the intention is clear. I also noticed that the instructions included 'Please write on a card the type of cake entered'. A picture came into my mind of last year's judging and the look of bewilderment in the judges' eyes as they struggled to categorise what they were tasting. So this year at least the judges would know what the man with no help thought he was cooking.

Anyway, I digress. My year as Pork Pie Champion has been a round of fête openings and advertising indigestion remedies, and culminated in my face being on the front page of the Pig Fanciers Monthly, Christmas edition.

Nevertheless, I faced this year's competition with trepidation. I became aware of a growing undercurrent of resentment about my success. 'You're not bothering to enter a pie this year, are you?' was followed by silence descending when I entered the DA at the last meeting of the Deddington Pork Pie Appreciation Society. I began to feel like a pieriah [sic].

Then I heard that my fellow pie-makers from last year had recruited two other pie-makers. When I found out that these two new entrants were in fact the founders of the Deddington Pork Pie Appreciation Society, I realised there was a conspiracy afoot to ensure I did not win. Suddenly I found myself sympathetic with ex-president Donald Trump or should it be Donald Duck, after the assassination attempt on his right ear?

My fears were realised as I discovered that the other entrants had introduced an external professional to conduct the judging. Obviously, they felt that the regular judges may not produce a satisfactory result in

their favour. In the interest of fairness, I must point out that a number of those regular judges were unavailable. They had also judged Section 17 last year and one or two were still receiving treatment at the John Radcliffe Gastroenterology Department.

Looking to make improvements, I sought advice from a pie-maker in the remote valleys of Tibet. (The Dalai Lama likes a bit of pork pie with his pint of Lhasa Pride at the Gong Ringers Arms). I decided that what was good enough for a yak pie must be good enough for a pork pie, so I made one or two squeaks to my recipe.

'Was it enough?' I hear you ask. Well friends, as I said last year: 'Winners are grinners'. I received a red card. Not a sending off but one with First Place written on it. So, champion for another year.

Now, I am the last person to cause marital strife, but the founders of the Deddington Pork Pie Appreciation Society are romantically involved. They each entered a pork pie (his with no help) but, in the effort to usurp me from my rightful position, one of them forgot the main principle of marriage: 'Happy wife, happy life'. His pie was ranked above his lady's pie. Yes, gentlemen, I can hear the drawing in of collective breaths. I look forward to the next meeting of the Society. However, it may be delayed for some time as he is walking with a limp at the moment.

My mate Keith came second and cannot wait for next year's competition. I have to say I tasted his pie and I think I might change to Section 17 Men's Only Cake (no help!). Off the record, on the QT and very, very hush hush.

Mike O'Brien

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

CAST has been very active ... In 11 hours' worth of sessions, they have recorded on the Community Speed Watch website the details of 427 cars out of more than 1,172 that have exceeded 24mph going through our village, ignoring the democratically established rules. Thirty-four of them were at more than 40mph and will get a visit from Thames Valley Police, (that will need an interesting explanation for their children). Three were over 50mph and two happily overtook cars WHILE THE SPEED WATCHERS WERE WATCHING! We have photos and would be keen to chat to the young blonde woman driving a blue Mercedes.

However, one incident witnessed by our Speed Watch team was something this correspondent has never seen in his 60+ years on this planet, with 10 years of that time as a motorcyclist. We saw a 'vintage' 1970s Kawasaki motorcycle just ride into the car of one of our neighbours, removing a large piece of side trim but, more seriously, damaging the rear offside wheel and puncturing the tyre, thus disabling Dave's car. When we spoke to the '50-something' very embarrassed rider a bit later, we were regaled with tales of a swooping bird 'that distracted me'. The fact that

the rider seemed quite a decent person didn't prepare us for the realisation that his bike had no road tax nor insurance, this correspondent is reliably told.

Pizzas have been on sale at the Duck recently from Wednesday to Sunday with drinks supplied (Friday – Sunday) via an Airstream converted into a bar by James, who is trying to reopen the pub. The pizzas are good, I must say, and a pleasant evening has been had with friends and neighbours joining in.

Book Club is planning a Port Meadow visit in October. I'm sure its status as an SSSI, the fact that it's considered to be Oxford's oldest monument and its rich history, were the reasons this was chosen and not the seven pubs in walking distance – but we will see. All are welcome – just ask.

A recent visit to the Wharf saw a few villagers making the hike to see a Britannia class 4-6-2 locomotive steam going by north to Llandudno. Many images were captured, I'm sure.

Remember, any comments, questions, queries or news to me.

Martin Bryce martinDNbryce@gmail.com

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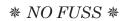


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There is probably still time for you to get tickets for our inaugural event this Saturday evening, 5 October: The Deddington Wine Festival 2024. This year we are raising money for Prostate Cancer UK in memory of Charlie Elvin, a much-loved member of our community and massive wine enthusiast. I've always thought Deddington needed a wine festival and we very much hope it will become a popular annual fixture — something for everyone to look forward to as the nights draw in and we start the long run-up to Christmas. Get your tickets at: https://www.tickettailor.com/events/cheersforcharlie/1332374. And thank you for all your support.

October is a busy time at the Windmill and on Saturday 12 October, a week after the Deddington Wine Festival, the Deddington Players are hosting a mini Deddy Rocks, featuring local bands such as The Village Beats, Whiff of Horse, BackRow and Nexus. This mini festival will raise money for Katharine House and Breast Cancer Now. You can get tickets at: https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/deddington-players.

In fact, at this time of year the Players basically take up residence at the Windmill with their weekly rehearsals for the village panto. This year it's *Rapunzel* and the shows will take place on 16, 17 and 18 January 2025. As one happy member of the audience commented last year, 'It's the standout event in the village that brings every single generation who lives here together, on stage and off it.' Ticket information will be available soon.

Finally, I should announce that the next Deddington Artisan Fayre is on Saturday 2 November at 10.00am 'til 1.00pm. Established by local artist, Jo Cross, these fayres are a showcase for lots of local artisans with creations from handcrafted silver jewellery to photography to cake. Jo raises money to provide rehab activity packs for stroke survivors. There is more information on Facebook.

One little request. Before you attend any of the events above or turn up at the Windmill to play football, tennis or badminton or do yoga, pilates or dog training, or anything at all ... just ask yourself, 'Do I really need to take the car?' Much obliged.

Find out more about what's happening at the Windmill or find out how to book it for one of your own events by visiting our website, www.thewindmilldeddington. org, our Facebook page or by calling our bookings secretary Julie on 07720 834006.

Vaughan Jones chair@thewindmilldeddington.org



NEWS FROM HEMPTON

I've often wondered where the squirrels that like to secrete their winter food stash under the thatch of moss and weeds that masquerade as my lawn source their nuts, the husks of which they discard liberally about the garden. Part of the conundrum was resolved when I noticed the heavily laden walnut tree in the hedgerow opposite Mount Pleasant. The tree must have resided in this plainly visible spot for some years and I don't recall noticing it before. I probably mistook the fruits for crab apples, a not unusual sight in hedgerows in the area. Perhaps I was distracted by the entertaining antics of motorists negotiating the adjacent pinch point or engaging in exchange of opinions on who had right of way often expressed by liberal use of the horn.

The Persian or English walnut originates from Iran and has a surprising range of uses. The kernel is often recommended as healthy source of nutrition and is claimed to help reduce cholesterol and lower blood pressure, though this is not convincingly supported by research. A common culinary ingredient, it is used raw, pickled and roasted or as extracted oil in salad dressings.

The husks have been used to produce inks thought to have been used by Leonardo da Vinci and Rembrandt and brown fabric dye used in classical Rome and medieval Europe as a hair dye. The fine, straight-grained wood of the black walnut is highly valued for furniture, wall panelling, automobile interiors, and gunstocks.

The US Army once used ground walnut shells for blasting aircraft parts clean because of low cost and low abrasive qualities. However, an investigation of a fatal Boeing CH-47 Chinook helicopter crash (11 September 1982, in Mannheim, Germany) revealed that walnut shell grit had clogged an oil port, leading to the accident and the discontinuation of walnut shells as a cleaning agent.

Cat litter from ground walnut shells is claimed to be more environmentally sustainable compared to clay based litter, using what would otherwise be a waste product with superior natural biodegradability and odour control.

The driver of the souped-up Golf that sped through the village, exiting the pinch point at an estimated 40–50mph and accelerating, has lost his pole position. Currently in pole for the accolade of most egregious disregard of the Highway Code and respect for other road users goes to an impatient motor cyclist. Sitting in the queue waiting for the temporary traffic lights to change, allowing him on his way though the works installing the traffic chicane opposite the Windmill Centre, his patience ran out before the admittedly long interval between red and green lights elapsed. Swinging round the six vehicles patiently waiting for the green light and gunning through the roadworks was not enough to display the extent of his impatience; he lifted his front wheel and wheelied the whole length of the traffic control.

I thought it unlikely he imagined himself as the Lone Ranger astride his steed – Silver, reared up on hind legs as was his wont, shouting his familiar refrain, 'Hi-Ho, Silver – Away'. This thought was for baby boomers or older only; those born later probably haven't a clue what I'm talking about. But then he wasn't wearing a mask or spurs and his bike wasn't white. If he'd punched the air with his right fist per usual practice his wheelie would immediately collapse as the throttle is located on the right of the handle bar.

Maybe he had Steve McQueen in mind, escaping the restraints of the dastardly legislators. Not very convincing though, he made no attempt to jump the safety barriers. Actually, neither did Steve McQueen, although he performed his own motorcycle stunts, his stunt double, Bud Etkins, performed the final jump of the six-foot barbed wire fence.

More likely it was *Easy Rider* and anarchic rebellion. Unlike Peter Fonda, he wasn't riding a custom Dan Haggarty Harley Davison but an electric bike, all the easier to wheelie thanks to instant torque.

The fields of sunflowers adjacent to Summer Ley and south of the Swere seem a unique crop in this area. I don't recall seeing them in any previous years. They seem rather diminutive compared to the densely packed 10-foot Triffids with dinner plate sized heads cultivated in Provence. Perhaps they are a dwarf variety. No sign of any artists, with or without the full complement of ears or red hair.

Stuart Oldham sj oldham@btinternet.com

ROAD CLOSURE

Temporary Road Closure/No Waiting at Horse Fair, Victoria Terrace, Market Place, Chapel Square, Castle Street, Deddington

In the interests of public safety, it will be necessary for Oxfordshire County Council to close the above roads as detailed in order to facilitate resurfacing and civil maintenance works comprising drainage repairs and verge works.

A temporary Notice is being made to implement the temporary closure and will operate from 8 October with anticipated completion 11 October. A Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice is being made to implement the closure and restriction and will operate on the dates shown above.

Access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles and for those frontages within the closure area, subject to the progress of the works and liaison with the works supervisor.

Further information regarding the works may be obtained by contacting Stafford Strange, Oxfordshire County Council on 0345 3101111.



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POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

Debate, Economy, Mexico

Someone just said to me 'It will be Christmas soon', but it is still 30°C here in Greenwood Village and there are pumpkins everywhere and pumpkin lattes at Starbucks. I simply don't understand the obsession with this strange fruit. It tastes awful.

My lovely wife and I watched the presidential debate with our bingo cards, crossing off all the predicta-

ble phrases, like Ukraine and fake news. Strangely enough, I didn't predict the exchange occupying the internet is immigrants eating pet dogs in Springfield, Ohio. I'm not sure what one should expect from politicians appearing on the TV but the tone was set by an angry old man driven by grievance, who is intent on talking about a nation in decline. It is a place that I don't recognise.

The thing that worries me is that the MAGA folk, who probably make up 25% of the adult population, haven't blinked. These folks are so pissed off with the system that he is still their saviour. The US economy is in a vastly better position than anywhere in Europe, unemployment is at a much lower level, and inflation is down below 3%. The Biden administration has pumped \$3 trillion into the economy, much of which went into people's pockets, but inflation and rampant price gouging has had a huge effect on many working people who are worse off now than in pre-Covid times.

The sense of community and belonging to the greatest nation on earth that used to hold this country

together has fractured and many people want change. Can they see Harris as the change candidate or will they follow Trump, the great disrupter?

We just got back from a week in Mexico. Some of my neighbours will not venture into what they see as gangland, but I love it. We went to a lovely quiet resort on the Pacific coast 1000 miles due south of San Diego. The fresh food was excellent and the

staff were lovely. One told me that a recent American visitor wanted them to remove all the noisy birds. I assured them we Brits understand that the animals were there before we humans disturbed them.

The area was full of that most un-American feature, the roundabout. I was amazed at their driving manners. Once they get on to a roundabout they stopped to let more cars enter. It reminded me of when the French used to create the same bizarre traffic chaos around the Arc de Triomphe. It was a typically illogical French traffic law. The Mexicans appear much more relaxed and happy than that.

Next weekend we are having an end of summer pool party. Please don't tell anyone but I am going to make a rabbit stew. I am an immigrant and I don't think there are too many pet rabbits around here but, the way this country is going, I could have a herd of lunatics on my case any time soon.

Mike Ward mike@mikeaward.com

From The Fire Station

I have not put this statistic up for a while, but twen-

ty-one shouts this month has meant we have been out and about a lot more. Stand-bys, after dropping off in frequency, have come back into our remit – but fires and alarms are still our most frequent turnout.

A more unusual one came in earlier, with a fire in an autoclave, a pressurised oven used for the manufacture of carbon fibre parts for the automotive industry. The autoclave has an automatic vent valve that had activated but this vented to the outside above a propane fuel tank.

Due to pressurisation, the autoclave could not be directly opened, so the fire was allowed to burn itself out whilst a covering jet was cooling any venting gases to prevent any damage to the propane tank.

After two gruelling hours of work, the oven had

cooled and no further hot gases were venting. On re-inspection later in the evening, the autoclave had been cleaned out, all burnt parts removed and bagged, and fumes and gases removed from the building. All rooms were gas monitor-checked for CO levels – the building was cleared for use and the grateful owners were confident of re-establishing production within the week.

In other news, Stephen Baker has started his training for conversion to a whole-time position and

James Greenwood received his 5-year service award.

FF James Greenwood james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk

ANNUAL PARISH SHOW - THE RESULTS



Valkyrja Hallsgrimdottir-White receiving her trophy

The Annual Parish Show took place in Deddington church on Saturday 31 August – a lovely sunny day. It was a hive of activity during the morning with people bringing and displaying their entries, followed by the judging and soon the doors were opened to the public for them to admire and be inspired for next year.

The committee was delighted with the number of entries, after a slow start in the run-up to the day. Although the Vegetables and Fruit sections were somewhat depleted due to the mixed weather in the growing season, the Cookery section and Flowers were as busy as usual and the crafts, including Art and Photography gave a splendid show. As usual, the children excelled themselves and showed their artistic flair in all categories.

The committee would like to express their sincere gratitude to everyone who helped in setting up the previous day, throughout the show day and of course the task of taking everything down at the end and getting the Church ready for Sunday Service. The Show literally couldn't happen without the support of the village – both in people participating and those who run the bottle and cake stalls, raffle, tea and cakes, the runners, stewards, judges and of course we were treated to the fantastic Brass Band playing throughout the show. Special thanks to Vicar Nick and his wife Vicky for presenting the trophies and raffle prizes. We are very grateful to our sponsors and local businesses for providing the wonderful array of raffle prizes.

Profits from the day will be donated to local causes as usual.

The Trophy winners were:

Welford Cup for Cookery - V Moyses, 2nd Cecilia White, 3rd Lesley Nelson

Marianne Elsey Cup for Flowers – Terence Timms, 2nd Lesley Nelson, 3rd Wendy Burrows

Oliver Hawes Cup for Vegetables – Stanley Nelson, 2nd Peter Ayles, 3rd Maureen Dew, Claire Yates

SS Peter and Paul Cup for Fruit – Sarah Liebrecht, 2nd Maureen Dew, Kate Petty, Stanley Nelson, 3rd V Moyses, Rebecca Deeley

John Cheney Art Cup – Steve Waterman, 2nd Jane Emery, 3rd Ken Wilkinson

Stella Marmion Craft Cup – Janet Macey and Jane Emery, 2nd Kate Petty, 3rd Sally Allbrook

Farmers' Market Cup for Photography – Melanie Warren, 2nd Richard Betteridge, 3rd Sarah Parrett, Christine Parrett, Jane Emery

Show Champion Gardeners' Cup - V Moyses, 2nd Stanley Nelson, 3rd Jane Emery

Children's Trophies:

5 years and under – Valkyrja Hallsgrimdottir-White, 2nd Aurelia Tacey-Green, 3rd Maggie Mason

6–8 years – Elliott Warren, 2nd Daisy Naylor, 3rd Charlotte Baldwyn

9–11 years – Leila Yates, 2nd Lillian Baldwyn
 Wendy Burrows Cup for Teenagers – Miller Yates
 Show Champion Maureen Forsyth Cup – Leila Yates,
 2nd Elliott Warren, 3rd Valkyrja Hallgrimsdottir-White
 See you next year!

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LETTERS

FROM HEALTHWATCH OXFORDSHIRE

Have your say on women's health services in Oxfordshire

Healthwatch Oxfordshire would like to hear about your experiences of getting help for women's health issues, such as perimenopause, periods or cervical screening, as well as your experiences of health services more generally.

What works well and what could be better? Is there anything that makes it difficult to get the help you need? What ideas do you have to improve women's health services?

Please share your experiences and views by completing an anonymous online survey at www. smartsurvey.co.uk/s/womenshealthservices/.

The survey will be open until 31 October.

Healthwatch Oxfordshire is an independent charity for people who use health and social care services. It finds out what matters to local people and makes sure their views are heard by the people who make decisions about those services.

It will use your feedback about women's health services to help shape support and improve services.

If you would rather talk to someone about your experience, or would like a paper copy or translated survey, please contact Healthwatch Oxfordshire on 01865 520520 or at hello@healthwatchoxfordshire. co.uk.

FROM KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE

Like many hospices, we are feeling the pinch during the current economic climate. It costs more than £5.3m per year to run Katharine House Hospice. We pay Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust a grant to



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manage the clinical care at the hospice and, although we receive some funding from the government, we still need to raise more than £3m through fundraising every year to provide the hospice services. We therefore rely heavily on our local community to help us so we can go on providing vital care — completely free of charge. We have some brilliant events and opportunities to support our hospice coming up this autumn and winter.

Santa Fun Run – 1 December

What better way to kick off the Christmas season than by joining hundreds of Santas in Spiceball Park for our annual festive fun run? Our much-loved Santa Fun Run is taking place on Sunday 1 December in Banbury. Join us for the 1.5km course or the full 5km at 10am – kitted out in a stylish Santa suit or more sustainable alternative. Tickets are available to buy online now. Visit www.khh.org.uk/santa.

Lights of Love - 4 December

We will be holding our annual Lights of Love event on Thursday 7 December at St Mary's Church, Banbury. We'd love you to join us for a special gathering where we come together to remember and celebrate the lives of those we have loved and lost. Find out more at www.khh.org.uk/lights.

RC Baker Christmas Tractor Run – 14 December
The RC Baker Tractor Run will be bringing the bling
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uk/tractor.

BLISSFUL THINKING



Say what you like about the French, but they sure come up with some great terms for abstract states of mind. Esprit de l'escalier tends to be a constant feature of my personal exchanges (as are double entendres, n'est pas?), but it's always satisfying when you find a new term to define a sensation you experienced on

one otherwise unremarkable day in the distant past, but lacked the means to convey succinctly at the time. Have you ever been walking or driving a route you've traversed so often that you could draw it accurately blindfolded, but, instead of your mind being on cruise control, it cranks back to first gear? One nameless and aimless day when I was but a callow teen, I was on my merry way down the Hempton Road from the Windmill Centre field, but, as I crossed the Daedings turn, I stopped, confused. The layout of the road, the houses, the telegraph poles, and the post box suddenly made no sense. The sense of extreme acquaintance, of knowing exactly what's coming evanesced and I stood dumbfounded for a few moments until the brain rebooted itself. Where déjà vu implies a feeling of familiarity in a specific situation not known to have occurred before, jamais vu describes the sudden feeling of strangeness in an ultra-familiar setting. So the previously unfamiliar interpretation of a familiar situation now has a name, making it familiar. Mot juste.

Aaron Bliss aaronjbliss@hotmail.com

Ukraine update A plea for volunteer drivers

Incredibly up to the end of August this year, around 135 vehicles have been sourced, refurbished and transported to the front line in Ukraine to help the has been hoping that US and UK would finally lift their objections to Ukraine launching long-range strikes into Russia, not just for the liberty of Ukraine but the



people fight this abominable war with Russia. Thirty-one convoys of vehicles have made the journey, made possible by donations through Driving Ukraine. com, volunteers and the generosity of local people, especially Finn Watts and his family.

On 30 August a long term project was realised, Convoy 30. This saw MAN trucks and Motorsport UK and its members source an armoured ambulance and a MAN HX SV truck which were then transported to Ukraine. This was much needed vital support in a massive way. Since then another convoy has delivered three more evacuation vehicles driven by six brave volunteers into Ukraine. There are so many more vehicles to go to Ukraine in the next few months – if you want to get involved in future missions, please visit drivingukraine.org and register your interest. You can also donate via the website.

At the time of writing, discussions are ongoing but there is still no new pledge on Ukraine long range missiles following recent Starmer-Biden talks. Ukraine security of Europe and the West.

I would urge you to watch a documentary, *Hell Jumper* on BBC iPlayer. A frightening but profoundly human documentary. 'Hell Jumper' is the nickname given to a particular kind of overseas volunteer in Ukraine, one who specialises in driving to the front-line to pick up stranded civilians. Chris Parry, a young Cornishman addicted to adventure and compassion, was one of them until he was killed by Russian mercenaries in January 2023. He was 28. Chris Parry met with Finn in the early days of the war. Following his death a strong relationship has developed between Chris's parents, Rob and Christine and drivingukraine. They have raised huge amounts of money and were members of the team that delivered vehicles to Ukraine in January this year.

Jenny Soddy jennysoddy@gmail.com 07976 922558

PFSU AND NURSERY

Our term is in full swing and the children have settled nicely into both settings.

We are very pleased to announce that after a recent Ofsted inspection at the Nursery, we were awarded the grade of Outstanding. We encourage you to read the full report which can be found on the Ofsted website. Our very popular Hallowe'en trail is back for another year. Watch this space for dates and details on our social media.

Charlotte Witka Charlotte@deddingtonnurseryandpfsu.co.uk

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Deddington Village Nursery Hempton Rd, Deddington, OX15 OQH **Deddington Partnership Foundation Stage Unit** Earls Lane, Deddington, OX15 OTJ

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PRIMARY SCHOOL



We are now a few weeks into the first term of our new academic year. Plans are already well underway for our Harvest Festival as autumn fast approaches.

The weather has been relatively kind to us so far, so the

children have been able to play on the school field during break and lunch times. It's been wonderful having our

F1 children playing in their new outside play area. The enclosed space is safe and great fun to learn and play in. It has made such a positive difference to the F1 classroom and its outside learning environment.

All children have moved to their new classes, with new teachers and teaching assistants. Exciting work is now being embraced and the whole school is settling into fresh routines with endless learning opportunities on the horizon.

We hope you all enjoy the next few weeks of autumn and that we will have sunshine with slightly colder, crisp mornings, just as the leaves change colour and fall. The children always seem to love this time of year.

Denise Welch dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

Friends of the Castle Grounds

The children are back at school and autumn has arrived. The leaves are beginning to turn, conkers are falling fast, as will the leaves off the trees around the Grounds. If you would like to get involved with helping to preserve this wonderful site or join our committee, please email info@friendsofcastlegrounds. We have lots of work at the Grounds that needs to be done over the next few months and would welcome your help.

With the rain we have had, can we please remind all visitors to take great care if walking around the moat. The ground is very uneven and slippery.

If you find that a dog waste bin is overflowing (this applies to anywhere in the parish) please report this either by calling 01295 227007 or emailing customer. service@cherwell-dc.gov.uk.

Carol Horlock info@friendsofcastlegrounds.co.uk

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

My continuing thanks to my readers and volunteers and all supporters of the library.

I will be holding a LEGO club on Monday 28 October from 3.00–5.00pm in Deddington library. This will be for ages 4+. All children will need to be accompanied by an adult.

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

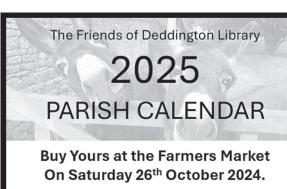
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CALLING ALL CLUBS=

Photographic Society

We were invited into Robert Harvey's world of with his presentation of 'Jaguar and Giant Tortoises' – a wildlife photographic journey in tropical South America.

He illustrated the comparisons in environments of vast flat plains, waterfalls, lowland rainforests, cloud forest and island life on the Galapagos Islands by photographing birds, reptiles and mammals, each area requiring different skills to capture the best image.

It is a continent of birds with many varieties, in size, behaviour and colour in different habitats. He gave examples of settings and equipment used when taking images, each requiring consideration of light, movement and atmosphere. Where he was unable to use flash, he was able to capture creatures by torchlight and choice of time of day to get the shot he wanted.

He captured the variety of creatures – giant anteaters eating termites from mounds in the grasslands of Cerrado and macaws, toucans, rhea owls and storks in the Pantanal – travelling by boat, light aircraft and on foot.

Far from the mainland, the individuality of the Galapagos Islands where active volcanoes change the landscape, Robert was able to be close to the wildlife and photograph the famous giant tortoises.

Recently we have been busy with our annual exhibitions in Steeple Aston and Adderbury. Thank you if you visited. The photograph that was raffled was won by someone from Tysoe.

We hope the three new visitors last Wednesday will return for our 2 October meeting at 7.30pm. Andrew Buchanan will talk about his photographic journey followed by a practical tabletop photography demonstration with audience participation.

Courtney Killpack www.addphoto.co.uk

Royal British Legion Branch

We are pleased to welcome a new committee member, Clive Wincott of Hobart Way. He will be a valuable (and younger) addition to the committee. He is ex Royal Navy.

Unfortunately, none of the committee was able to attend the unveiling of the memorial to General Hobart on Hobart Way in September but we are pleased this distinguished soldier, whose 'Funnies' were a vital part of the D-Day landings, has been publicly recognised in Deddington.

Poppy weeks will be launched at the 26 October farmers' market. Subject to good weather, the Remembrance Sunday Parade on 10 November will depart the Bull Ring at 10.40am, led by Piper Stewart Carnegie. Those marching should assemble by 10.30am at the latest. This year we will be very privileged to be joined by family descendants of the three Hancox brothers killed in WWI. The Armistice Day two-minute silence on Monday 11 November will be observed at the War Memorial by the branch committee. All are welcome to join us.

Rob Forsyth robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Local Vocals – Community Choir

Torrential rain on the evening of our charity concert night was initially a cause for concern but we really shouldn't have worried. The school hall was packed to capacity with both choir members and an enthusiastic audience, and we cannot thank people enough for venturing out on such a dreadful evening. Together we raised a whopping £817 for the Holly Tree Club and to say we were delighted is an understatement.

On 12 October we will be singing at the '6 of the Best' concert in St Mary's Church, Banbury, with other choirs from the area – another new experience for Local Vocals.

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

Alison Grieve

Book Group

We enjoyed The Second Sleep by Robert Harris, though we found it had a rather slow start. The title refers to the medieval practice of sleeping once in the evening and once in the morning. It seems at first that the novel is set in medieval times but in fact it is a dystopian world many centuries into the future. An apocalypse has destroyed the 21st century way of life and the general population has no concept of a developed world reliant on technology. Investigating the past is forbidden and this suppression of knowledge has given total control into the hands of the few. The discovery of fragments of ancient artefacts inevitably leads to a vicious battle with those who yearn to discover and rebuild the past. Some of the characters are rather stereotypical but the plot is gripping and thought-provoking. Perhaps this seemed particularly relevant in the light of the July global IT collapse.

The Book Group

Bookworms

Our latest read, *The Lamplighters* by Emma Stone, is based on a real mystery where three men working in a lighthouse go missing. The door is locked from the inside, the table is laid for two and the clocks have all stopped at the same time.

Miles off the Cornish coast sits Maiden Rock Lighthouse. Maiden Rock is what they call a tower lighthouse, meaning there is no actual property attached, just a large concrete base. In 1972, after a weather delay of several days, supplies and a relief man are brought from the mainland. However, when they arrive, there is no one there to greet them. What has happened to these men?

Twenty years later a bestselling author wants to solve the mystery. He talks to the women left behind and we hear from the men themselves. All hold different clues to what actually happened at the lighthouse.

We found this to be a very immersive, enjoyable and atmospheric read which gives an insight into how the men lived, worked and the set-up of their living



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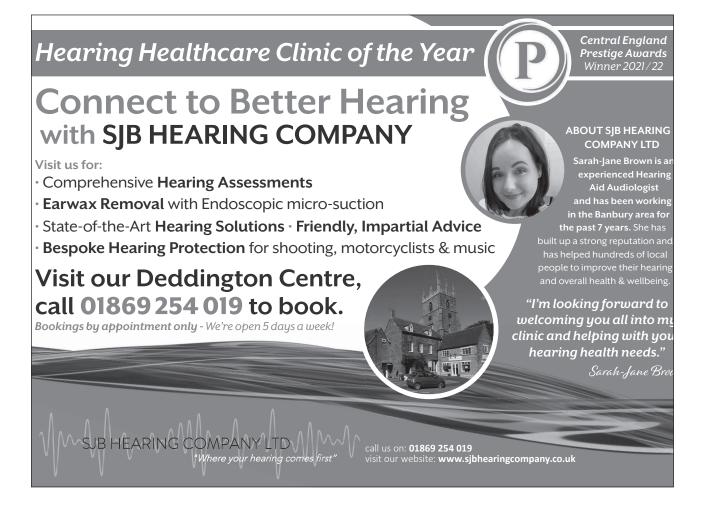






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CALLING ALL CLUBS -

Continued from p26

spaces. Our next book is *Between the Stops* by Sandi Toksvig.

Deddingtonbookworms@gmail.com

Deddington Players

Calling all live music fans! We will be running a Mini Deddington Rocks at the Windmill on Saturday 12

October from 7.00pm. Enjoy live music from four local bands: Back Row, Nexus, Whiff of Horse and Village Beats, then dance the night away with DJ Daddy Funtime. There will be a licensed bar. Tickets are £10 each with all profits going to charity. Tickets are available at www.ticketsource.co.uk/deddington-players.

Suzie Upson

SPORT-DOGS

Whittlebury Spa and Golf Club, Friday 6 September. Our penultimate event of 2024 saw 20 determined DOGS venture forth at a new venue for most of us. The worthy winners were:

Nearest the Pin: Andrew Gerrard

Longest Drive: Tony Lowe*

Team Winners: with 107 points Andrew Gerrard, Ken

Appleby, Ralph Stewart, Tony Herring

Individual prize winners:

3rd place Tony Lowe 35 points

2nd place John Stiff 36 points

1st place David Lakin 36 (on countback)

Afterwards, we held the now legendary DOGS dinner, again thanks to Janet and John Dauphin. We are most grateful for your generosity. Giuseppe, with the assistance of Henry White, provided us with a smorgasbord of Italian-themed cuisine including a vast selection of cold meats, cheeses and on-the-premises-cooked pizza, before being treated to mouth-watering apple pie and fresh cream. It wouldn't be a DOGS do if alcohol wasn't involved and the assembly made a serious dent in the beer, lager and wine. Token zero alcohol beverage was also available.

Special thanks to the volunteers who turned out on 5 September to move tables and chairs from the church to Janet and John's garden and move it all back the next day. My personal gratitude to Jon Parkinson who has supervised the set-up prior to the event over many years.

And so, another season concludes, apart, that is, from our Christmas party and finale to 2024.

Friday 13 December is the date and weather permitting the day will involve a 9-hole Texas Scramble followed by traditional Christmas fair ... details later.

Tony Lowe dogsgolf23@gmail.com

Deddington Town Football Club

First Team results:

7.9.24 Bishops Itchington (a) W 7–0 Arnold, Catania, Leney (2), Thornton J (2), Whitrow

Reserve Team results:

7.9.24 Blockley FC (a) D 1–1 Marrett

The Humbugs have well and truly disgraced DTFC's proud tradition of starting seasons like tranquillised walruses by bashing Bishops Itchington for seven without riposte. Star man, Joe Thornton, bagged a brace, along with Ed Leney, as the Itch got scratched right out of sight. The Latics also bucked a long-standing trend by bagging an opening day draw with Blockley FC, a team that sounds as though it

should be filled with Minecraft avatars. So this reporter is left a little at a loss for words, as we contemplate a world where both Deddington sides begin the season, dare I say, strongly. Whether it lasts or not is another matter, but right now that silverware shelf looks ready to be festooned further come May 2025!

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

Deddington Tennis Club

On Sunday 8 September we had our Finals Day, the culmination of four months of tennis competitions. In spite of a summer of unpredictable weather, although Finals Day itself was challenged with rain delays, we managed to complete all the matches.

We had some epic finals. The men's and ladies' doubles finals were both hard fought and very close, with the ladies' doubles the longest match of the day at over two and a half hours. The singles were both done in straight sets, but there was some high level and entertaining tennis. The ladies managed to get theirs finished before the rain delay but the men had to wait quite a while for the conclusion of their match. Then we had to hang around some more for the mixed, having swept the courts and dried off all the chairs, only to watch them get wet again. And it went to three sets. Thanks to everyone for their patience and for staying to get it all finished, even when all three courts were under water.

The Results:

Men's doubles 6–4, 7–6; Winners: Jonathan Gough and Clive Hamilton-Gould, Runners up: Andy Camoenie and Bob Dunkin

Ladies' doubles 2–6, 6–4, 7–6; Winners: Sarah Hewett and Kerry Wincott, Runners up: Sian Westbury and Kath Gough

Ladies' singles 6–2, 6–2; Winner: Kathryn Hampshire Runner up: Sally Wetten

Men's singles 6–4, 6–1: Winner: Will Ward, Runner up: Andy Camoenie

Mixed doubles 6–4, 4–6, 6–2; Winners: Kath Gough and Will Ward, Runners up: Llewella Pretorius and Jonathan Gough

Putting on Finals Day was a real team effort. Particular thanks to Anne, Kate and Cheryl for setting up and clearing up, Bob and Janet for the barbecue, Nick for photos, Ed and Jonathan for umpiring, and especially Paul for umpiring the longest matches and for initiating and helping organise the whole thing.

Finally, thanks to everyone who took part. We welcome new members, so see our website www. deddingtontennis.com for information.

Becky Jones

SPORT-

■ Continued from p30

Deddington Town Football Club - Youth

The Under 16s started the season with a narrow 3–4 home defeat to Chadlington. The Under 15s playing in the B League began with a narrow 2–3 home defeat to Bicester Park. The Under 14s playing in the C League started their season with a 4–0 win over Kennington Athletic. The Under 13s playing in the A League had a 1–5 home defeat to Hook Norton to start their season off. The Under 12s playing in the C League had a narrow 3–2 defeat away at Chipping Norton Swifts, followed by a 2–5 home defeat to Ducklington.

Welcome to new Under 6 players

A special welcome to ten new Under 6 players who started their football journey on a sunny autumn morning at the Windmill for training – a warm welcome to new players, parents and coaches.

Football shirts in Uganda!

The club has recycled its former adult kit to Naguru Community Soccer Academy in Kampala, Uganda, thanks to our former coach, Matt Johnstone, now living and working there.

We want to continue improving the pitches at the Windmill, as well as work in partnership with Deddington School to improve its school field. If you want to get involved in our pitch improvement work and give a few hours back to the Club, please get in touch with me for an informal chat about how you can help.

Roger Sykes 07899 914425

Deddington Cricket Club

The summer was like our cricket, with several cancelled games due to rain and that set the tone. Attendance at training was fitful, despite the newly refurbished nets, as was availability, not helped by some

major injuries. It made things tough organising teams and we struggled to get full sides out for some matches and the women's games on Sundays. Mid-season improved, thanks to recruiting some new players, but we need to increase our squad size to have a larger core of players available for 12–15 matches a season, to avoid similar challenges next year. Despite a lack of wins, spirits remained high.

We were again over-subscribed for our All Stars programme for Key Stage 1 children, so we were unable to engage with as many as we wanted. Our thanks to everyone who helped run the sessions. We plan the same next year, but need more help to allow us to meet demand, so if you could help for an hour or so on Friday evenings in May and June, please contact me.

A positive was that a couple of U15s from the village joined the adult teams during the summer holidays. The sides were also boosted by Caleb Shepherd, Luca Catania and Luke Barton, who played junior cricket with the Club more than ten years ago and are back in the area.

A highlight of the season was our annual festival day on August Bank Holiday Monday, where good weather brought a crowd of supporters for the All Stars, Women's Super 8s match against Banbury, and the Derek Cheeseman Memorial T20 match where a Club side pitted its talents against the Club Legends side, captained by James Ransom. The Club side preserved its unbeaten record for another year and money raised was split between Chance to Shine and the Club. So, to indoor cricket in Banbury in November; something for those with a fast eye and reflexes.

Simon Oldfield 07771 997358

YOUTH-

1st Deddington Guides

We have just started to meet again after the summer break and camp. Toasting marshmallows is always a good way to begin. It's lovely to get back into the swing of things, hearing about everyone's holiday adventures, back to school experiences and planning activities ahead.

We tried our hand at making and decorating dream-catchers out of willow twigs ... and very lovely they were too. We are very pleased to welcome new members who have moved up from Brownies.

We have celebrated our 53rd birthday. Cake, of course, was required and we thought of the late Jean Ward, who started the unit in 1971 at Maunds Farmhouse, Deddington, and all the girls who have passed through over the years.

Any girls between 10 and 14 years of age are very welcome to join us – 7.00–9.00pm on Tuesday at the Windmill Centre, Deddington.

Maggie Rampley 07957 600755

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

We are enjoying being back together after our summer break. We welcomed several new members and started our first session with some team games which required everyone to work together to achieve their goals and get to know each other at the same time.

There are lots of exciting things planned which will include the Hobby and Chef activity badges.

Tracy Tong deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts

Scouts are back, with a new member replacing one who has left over the summer, so not many changes, apart from the amazing growth spurts. No wonder some of them have had to buy new shirts. What are they eating? Easy answer – everything!

Several of our older Scouts are very close to achieving their Gold Award, so we'll be concentrating on that, as well as the Creative Challenge to while away the dark evenings.

Pete Churchyard deddingtonscouts@gmail.com





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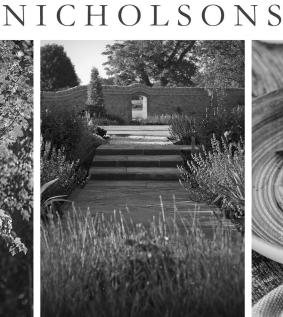
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See section inside

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