

November 2024

The DEDDINGTON NEWS



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The DEDDINGTON NEWS

'Please to remember the fifth of November, With gunpowder, treason and plot' – or, in this case, the fourth of November when the primary school's PTA will be hosting its traditional Fireworks Night fundraiser. Sadly, no bonfire, ashy half-cooked potatoes or parkin but great fireworks, barbecued sausages and burgers, sweets and, of course, glow toys, all in a very good cause. **CD**

WHAT'S ON November

- Sat 2 Litter pick: meet on the Green, Duns Tew Road, Hempton, 9.00am
- Sat 2 Concert: *Die Winterreise*: Simon Robinson and Sholto Kynoch, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Mon 4 PTA: Fireworks, Primary School, gates open 5.45pm, blast off 7.00pm
- Wed 6 Photographic Society: Adderbury Institute, 7.30pm
- Wed 6 Overnight road closure, Hempton, 8.00pm–6.00am
- Fri 8 Deddington Playgroup, Windmill Centre, 9.45–11.45am
- Sun 10 RBL: Remembrance Day Parade, assemble in Bull Ring, 10.40am.
- Sun 10 Music in Adderbury: Adderbury Ensemble, Deddington Parish Church, 6.00pm
- Wed 13 WI: 'An Imaginary World Including Poetry', Jane Abbott, Holly Tree Hall, 2.30pm
- Thu 14 Roxy at the Holly Tree: *Fisherman's Friends One and All*, Holly Tree Hall, 1.30pm
- Thu 14 History Society: 'Memories of Banbury Cattle Market', Brian Pile, Primary School, 7.30pm
- Sun 17 Litter pick: meet Town Hall, 2.30pm
- Sun 17 Music in Adderbury: Carducci Quartet, Haydn, Shostakovich, Debussy, Parish Church, 6.00pm
- Wed 20 Parish Council: Old School Room, Hempton, 7.30pm
- Thu 21 RBL: AGM, Deddington Arms board room, 7.00pm
- Thu 21 DEN: People Planet Pint, The George, Barford St Michael, 7.30pm
- Fri 22 Deddington Playgroup, Windmill Centre, 9.45–11.45am
- Sat 23 Farmers' Market: Market Place, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Sat 23 Banbury Symphony Orchestra: Ethel Smyth, Gershwin, Ruth Gipps, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Thu 28 Bookworms: Holly Tree Hall, 6.30pm
- Thu 28 Book Group: call Sally Lambert, 01869 338094 for details

December

- Sat 7 Cherwell Choral Society: Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, Parish Church, 7.30pm
- Wed 11 WI: Christmas craft activity, Holly Tree Hall, 2.30pm
- Thu 12 Roxy at the Holly Tree: *Miracle on 34th Street*, Holly Tree Hall, 1.30pm
- Thu 12 History Society: Launton Handbell Ringers, Primary School, 7.30pm
- Fri 13 DOGS: Tadmerton Heath Golf Club, Christmas golf and party

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on 16 October at 7.30pm at the Windmill Centre

Present: Councillors Collins, Cox, Milne, Oldfield (chair), O'Neill, Robinson, Snashall, Timms, Watts, District Councillor Rogers, County Councillor Fatemian, the parish clerk, nine members of the public, a representative of Rainier Developments Ltd and a *DN* representative.

Co-option to the PC

Nick ap Simon was co-opted to fill one vacancy on the PC. He described his long association with Deddington and his desire to give something back to the community.

There remains one vacancy on the PC.

Open Forum

A representative from Deddington Environment Network CIC asked the PC to consider using a bank other than their current one, Barclays, which has been criticised as being one of the country's worst banks for supporting the use of fossil fuels.

Several residents from Hempton spoke in relation to an appeal, due to be re-heard but not yet with a date set, for nine houses to be built in Hempton. They wanted the PC to put forward strong objections to the proposal. The group was given considerable time to express their views and made their points vociferously. Ultimately, it was pointed out that the PC as yet has no information on the appeal and would not be invited to comment on it. In an acrimonious exchange one speaker requested that the chair resign as not representing their wishes. It was put to them that the PC's responsibility is to represent the whole parish.

A Deddington resident asked questions about community assets and whether they could be de-listed. This was in relation to the allotments, owned by M&G and currently being offered for sale. The PC confirmed its responsibility to ensure listing of important assets was maintained.

County Councillor report

Following confirmation from the PC that the Remembrance Day parade would definitely happen, regardless of inclement weather, Councillor Fatemian confirmed that he would support the cost of the required road closure.

Barford bridge has reopened but contractors will need to return in May 2025 to make some adjustment, owing to its status as a listed bridge but this will not need a road closure.

OCC will investigate situations where five or more residential properties have flooded internally.

District Councillor report

Councillor Rogers had just received information on the planning appeal for Hempton, indicating that the offer of a free EV for each household has now been withdrawn. He confirmed there is no date set for the appeal.

He urged PC to keep a close eye on CDC's emerging local plan at specific dates in December and January next year.

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>

Finance and General Purposes

It was agreed to install a gate at the south end of the adventure playground to prevent BMX bikes being ridden across it and into the copse.

An application from the Photographic Society for a grant of £400 was declined.

The Windmill Management Committee does not want a timer for car parking lights to be installed.

Planning

No objection:

Maunds Farm House, High Street, Deddington: height reduction of two trees.

Home Farm Works, Clifton Road, Deddington: retrospective change of use from agricultural external parking to commercial external parking. Recommend applicants be required to improve surface water drainage and screen the site to support neighbour's concerns.

Clifton Mill, Main Street, Clifton: alterations to ancillary annexe.

Victoria House, Horse Fair, Deddington: six trees to be reduced in height.

Caris Lodge, Goose Green, Deddington: height reduction of one tree.

Bunkers, Philcote Street, Deddington: fell one Lawson cypress.

Approval:

Land adjacent to Clifton Gate development.

Environment and Recreation

Attempts to obtain contact details from the resident who offered help in BMX track discussions have failed.

Representatives of the Windmill committee and sports groups will meet on 17 October to discuss ideas for potential use of the land currently occupied by the Nursery.

It is likely that additional equipment which would appeal to older children can be installed at the adventure playground. However, until the PC is confident it will receive the S106 funds remaining from existing developments, no further decisions on expanding other play areas will be made.

Efforts to persuade the mini tennis court contractor to finish the top coat and lines have failed and other companies are being approached.

Highways and Transport

More volunteers are invited to join the speed awareness training in order to make it viable. The group is now optimistic about obtaining smiley face VAS (vehicle activated signs). The group has obtained accident data from the past four years, indicating injury accident sites are the traffic lights, Hempton pinchpoint and Deddington Hill by the layby. It has requested a 50mph limit between Adderbury and Deddington with a buffer zone near the 20mph limit.

Next meeting Wednesday 20 November at 7.30pm in the Old School Room, Hempton.

Cox's Garage

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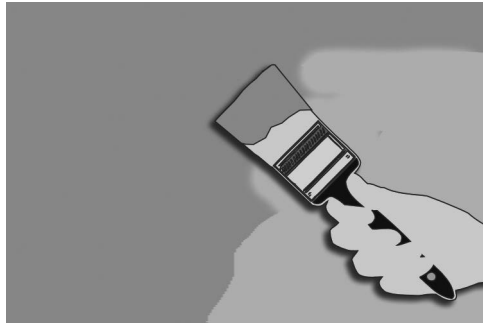
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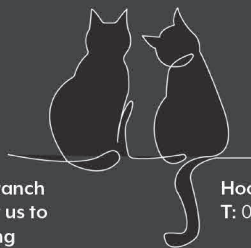
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in the air
as parachuters dropped
through the black unknown, some into swamps or
rivers
weighed down with boots and weapons, blinded by
the night.

Terror
in the sea
as teenagers toppled
into choppy water, never having learned to swim,
now wading in the dark past other youngsters' bodies.

Terror
on the land
as defenders in their bunkers
were shelled and strafed and bombed from the air
and ocean
along with nameless families sheltering in their homes.

Tranquillity
as we stroll
past rows of gleaming columns
safeguarding the names of allied soldiers lost
to their homes and families and all their unlive days.

Tranquillity
as we gaze
over light-filled gardens
striving to imagine the blood-drenched sand and mud
the bits of broken bodies strewn through jagged
wrecks.

Tranquillity
as we move
through our gifted years
uncalled-upon to test our own courage and resolve
unmindful of the price paid by so many for this calm.

Remember all of them.

Celia Hawkesworth, 2024

PFSU AND NURSERY

Both the Nursery and Pre-school focus turns to celebrations this month. Pre-school will be celebrating and learning about Diwali, Fireworks night and Christmas and the Nursery will be celebrating Diwali, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Hal- lowe'en trail last month. Keep an eye on our social media for our next fundraiser, the Christmas raffle which goes live on 2 December.

Charlotte Witka
charlotte@deddingtonnurseryandpfsu.co.uk

IRON DOWN SCULPTURE STUDIO

Iron Down Sculpture Studio is nearly a year old. It emerged from Bicester Sculpture Group, housed originally in the studio of stained-glass artist George Muller in Bicester. When we had to move from there we were lucky to find the old calf barn at Iron Down Farm. It was crazily busy, settling in, establishing our resources and launching straight into Oxfordshire Art Weeks in May. The feedback was amazing and resulted in two new members and our starting to give workshops.

Iron Down Sculpture Studio is an art makers' space, where any art form is welcome. Current members work in paint, clay, wire, metals and mixed media. Our purpose is to have a place away from home to do our art: we were fed up with doing it on the dining table, wishing for space and being able to walk away without tidying up for dinner.

At the moment, there are six of us, paying a share of the monthly rent. Membership offers great value if you want to do art two or more days a week: it gives you the flexibility to use the studio whenever you want. It offers a range of tools, space, help, and mentorship if wanted. We are a collective, a community and friends. A chat and coffee go a long way to promoting creativity.

If you are interested in becoming a member or in a clay workshop or simply want to come and see us, do get in touch.

Wendy Edmunds
wendyedmundson@hotmail.com
Instagram: iron_down_sculpture_studio

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DEDDINGTON WINE FESTIVAL Cheers to Charlie!



Deddington wine tasters

Many of you will know that we held the inaugural Deddington Wine Festival at the Windmill on Saturday 5 October. It was a total sell-out and brought together a varied cross section of wine-lovers from our community and further afield. One happy attendee commented 'the best event ever at the Windmill' and, while we're not quite sure how high that sets the bar, one thing we can confirm is that feedback was enthusiastically positive. People loved tasting over 30 different wines, learning more about them, enjoying a fun-filled evening and in the process, raising a huge sum of money for Prostate Cancer UK.

But why 'Cheers to Charlie'? Why a wine festival and why Prostate Cancer UK? Here is Alex Elvin, Charlie's wife, with the heart-rending back story to this event and the reason we were all so motivated to make it a success.

Charles Lionel Elvin – Charlie to his friends – was born in Glasgow on Christmas Eve 1967. He moved down to Oxfordshire with his dad and older brother in the early 1970s. He spent many holidays at his grandparent's house in Cambridge where he and his beloved grandfather, Lionel, would spend hours philosophising about life. Lionel was well travelled and one place he stayed was a little cottage in the vineyards of Chateau de Batailley in France. A picture of that very cottage is on the label of the wine it produces (or at least that's what Lionel told Charlie). Charlie was allowed to try the wine on his tenth birthday and there began his journey as a life-long oenophile (wine lover – I had to look it up).

Another thing Charlie shared with his grandfather was a love of conversation and a very cheeky sense of humour, full of inuendo. On a more serious note, Charlie would declare that his passion for fairness and equity across class, gender and race boundaries, particularly in education – where he spent most of his career – were also learned in heart-to-hearts with his grandfather.

When we moved to Deddington in 2010, Charlie threw himself into village life, supporting our two boys through primary school, helping at PTA events and serving as a parent governor for four years. Also, as an enthusiastic pub-goer, he would claim that he was doing his bit to support the 'local economy'. Charlie started to set up his own wine business just as he was diagnosed as terminally ill and he tragically died of prostate cancer on 2 February 2022.

He would have absolutely loved this first Deddington Wine Festival. Seeing a room full of people trying different wines and talking about them all evening would, for him, have been a dream come true. Thank you to everyone who came, to everyone who donated and to his friends for the making of it.

While the final figure is not yet confirmed, we know for sure that we have easily surpassed our fund-raising target of £10,000. In fact, there is a strong chance that we may have doubled it. Incredible! And it's not too late to donate. Our JustGiving page is still live and we welcome any final contributions. Tap in [justgiving.com/page/nick-smith](https://www.justgiving.com/page/nick-smith).

Cheers to Charlie!

Vaughan Jones
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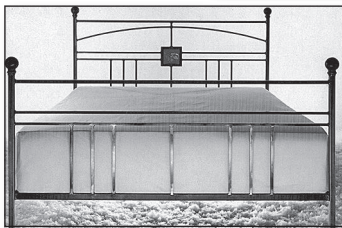
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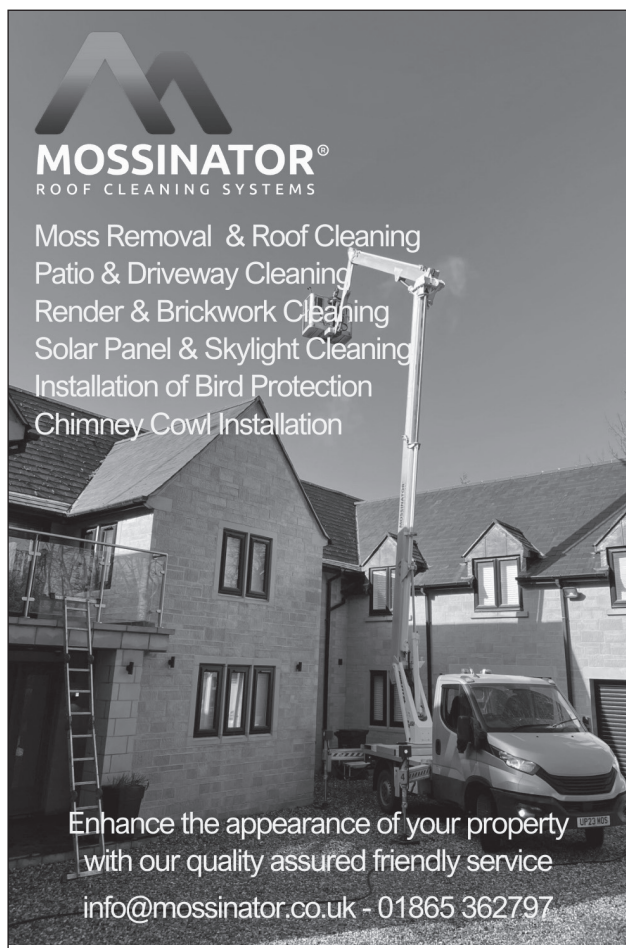
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For baptisms and weddings, funerals and home visits in case of illness, please contact the vicar on 01869 934794 or at vicar@deddingtonchurch.org, or one of the church wardens; Deddington: Stan Nelson, on 01869 337883 or wardens@deddingtonchurch.org; Barfords: Sue Addison on 07484 718791, Sally Barber on 07776 241218, or barfordchurches234@gmail.com. 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.

NOVEMBER

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

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 Wiggles
 Fri 8.45am Morning Prayer
 5.15pm Evening Prayer
 Sun 3 10.30am Holy Communion
 6.00pm All Souls Service
 Sun 10 10.45am Parade followed by Remembrance Service

Please note: there is no 3.00pm service on 10 November

Sun 17 10.30am Holy Communion
 Sun 24 10.30am Holy Communion

Hempton

Sun 7 9.00am Holy Communion

Barford St Michael

Wed 5.15pm Evening Prayer
 Thu 8.15am Morning Prayer
 Sun 3 10.30am Coffee and Chat
 4.00pm All Souls Reflection
 Sun 10 9.00am Short Remembrance Service
 Sun 17 10.30am Family Service
 Sun 24 10.30am Family Holy Communion

DECEMBER

Parish Church SS Peter and Paul

Sun 1 6.00pm Advent Carol Service

RC Parish of Hethe

St John's Church in Banbury streams 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.

DRIVING UKRAINE NEWS

Driving Ukraine – how did it all start? Deddingtonian Finn Watt, a Motorsport UK licence holder and rallycross competitor, channelled his passion for motorsport into a life-saving mission. In 2022, he founded Driving Ukraine to deliver vehicles and essential supplies to combat medic teams on Ukraine's frontline. 'At the start of the war, I couldn't just stand by and watch,' Finn explained, drawing on his family's motorsport legacy and a personal history of racing Suzuki Swifts in rallycross championships. 'Within two weeks, I was driving a van of supplies to Ukraine.'

What started as one mission to Ukraine has grown into the delivery of more than 135 vehicles in 32 convoys and raising £850,000. Every month five or six refurbished vehicles, including fully equipped ambulances, leave Deddington, many with generators, solar chargers, bleed control kits and trauma medical aid, and are driven to Ukraine by local volunteers. On arrival they are handed over to volunteer medics and paramedics, humanitarian bomb disposal teams,

combat medics, Ukrainian hospitals and many others. Every nine minutes vehicles like these attempt to evacuate the wounded.

With your help we can make sure every attempt is a success. So, let's keep this momentum going – please donate as much as you can to www.drivingukraine.org to help fund this ongoing need. I am delighted to announce that Deddington Primary School has invited us to run a stall in aid of Ukraine at their Christmas market on Friday 6 December between 3.30 and 5.00pm. There will be Christmas themed home-made cakes and festive goodies on sale, with all proceeds going towards a special fundraiser initiated by the children and teachers to equip one of the ambulances heading for Ukraine. We look forward to seeing you there.

Jenny Soddy
jennysoddy@gmail.com
 07976 922558
 01869 338298

POSTCARD FROM AMERICA

The matrix, bonfire night, hurricanes and pills

Last week for some unknown reason I was drawn to a movie you might know called *The Matrix*. It's an iconic science fiction film in which the hero is offered the choice between taking a red pill, which will lead to him learning the uncomfortable truth, or a blue pill which will leave him in his current state of ignorance. The *New York Times* analysed both candidates' rally speeches last week. Harris made six statements that were false, inaccurate or lacking context; Trump's count was 64. That's where we are right now in America, with half the electorate appearing ignorant of the real world.

November Fifth was always a good time for me in Deddington. I loved the school fireworks event. This year in America the date has a different significance for me: yes, things are going to get blown up, but it won't be Guy Fawkes or the school PTA behind it. This year I am dreading fireworks night as the US votes and it could go either way. If Trump loses he is never going to accept the result, so we are entering a very dangerous time.

I like to follow the conspiracy theories and to think I am a student of the absurdity of human nature. Right now, the Republicans are obsessed with the idea that huge numbers of non-citizens will vote in the election. The ever-reliable Elon Musk is pushing the 'replacement theory', whereby apparently the Democrats are bringing in millions of immigrants so that they will out vote the existing population. I think we should put some red pills in the water supply.

This conspiracy theory is a way of undermining

the result in the event Trump loses and it also plays well into the anti-immigration racist agenda of the right wing. One 'fact' being promoted online is that '10% to 27% of non-citizens are illegally registered to vote'. The research shows that non-citizens formed 0.0001 per cent of the votes cast in the last election. However, the resultant measures being proposed to stop this crime that no one commits include demanding a voter shows a birth certificate or passport which discriminates against black and poor people.

The most hideous conspiracy theory this month is undoubtedly around the town of Asheville in North Carolina. Hurricane Helene hit the area very badly, which is very rare for a hill town in the Appalachian Mountains. A Member of Congress is promoting a story that a proposal to build a lithium mine outside the town was turned down, so the government sent the storm there to clear the land and force the locals to accept the mine. Other nonsense that hit social media claimed that Biden was holding up relief efforts for the area and spending the money on illegals. I have a low opinion of most politicians but right now many simply want to profit from people's misery.

I am thankful that it is nearly all over. I have never been good at the blue pill route but I am deep in the thick of the great American nightmare and, with old age and a younger gorgeous wife, I now need a little blue pill to keep everyone happy.

Mike Ward

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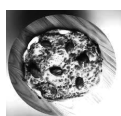
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PARISH CALENDAR LAUNCH

The red carpet was rolled out in style by the Friends of Deddington Library at the Holly Tree Hall on the evening of 27 September for the highly anticipated launch of the 2025 Deddington parish calendar, when guests galore enjoyed lively banter, nibbles and bubbly, while celebrating the launch of another wonderful fundraising calendar. Pictures of the event are displayed on our website <https://www.friendsofdeddingtonlibrary.org>.

The event was attended by our ever-supportive patron, author Linda Newbery, Gail Cripps, our library manager, along with a number of local business calendar sponsors, volunteers, FoDL committee and, of course, photo competition winning entrants, who once again produced some stunning images for consideration. All 12 calendar images were revealed by Alan Collins and presented to those



Al Collins and 1st prize winner Kevin Mayo

entrants able to attend. He also expressed our sincere thanks to all the sponsors who make the calendar possible each year.

The launch gave us the opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation to Al, our outgoing chairman, who has been our guiding light since the charity was formed in 2011. For my sins, I have now stepped in to fill his considerable shoes. Wish me luck!

The sale of the parish calendar is a major fundraising venture organised

by the Friends of Deddington Library towards providing the necessary financial support to help keep this important community asset open and thriving in our parish. By buying the calendar – or multiple copies – you will make a significant and worthwhile contribution to maintaining this major resource within our community. They are available from Nellie and Dove, Hamptons, Fenemore's Farm shop, farmers' markets and, of course, the library itself.

Stella O'Neill, Chair
stella.oneill@outlook.com

BLISSFUL THINKING

The Deddington Everglades have reached their peak early. I'm writing this piece on the seventh night of the fortnight of the Great Hempton Road Road Closure of Twenny Fo' and tension in the air weighs as thick as freshly laid tar. Murmurings from Murdock Close that The Daedings were getting preferential access had stirred up initial discontent and, within hours of an unseemly altercation at the cusp of the aptly named Piers Row, an anonymous administrator had created the Facebook group 'Access for all or none Mill Close'. By the next evening the group membership had swelled to 87 members. A raucous rival group, 'And none for all Windmill Street', was established by the morrow and allegations and counter-accusations flew between the aggrieved parties. 'The mystery of the invisible hi-vis.' 'Where am I going to park the other two?' 'I can't sleep and neither can the kids.' 'Who was paying for those Portalooos?' The District of Deddington West had not known such discord since the Windmill Stores closure of the early noughties shot down the zeppelin of post-millennial optimism forever. As a sign of the simmering community acrimony, someone tried to phone in a bomb threat at the Paddocks. Fortunately, they were plastered and ended up just talking into their wallet. I'm confident that by the time the DeDiDa (Deddo Disruption by Dark) is completed, fellow residents of the subclavian artery of Deddington will forgive this clearly untrue and highly defamatory gonzo account of events and accept me back into the fold, in the spirit of true brotherhood.

Aaron Bliss
aaronbliss@hotmail.com

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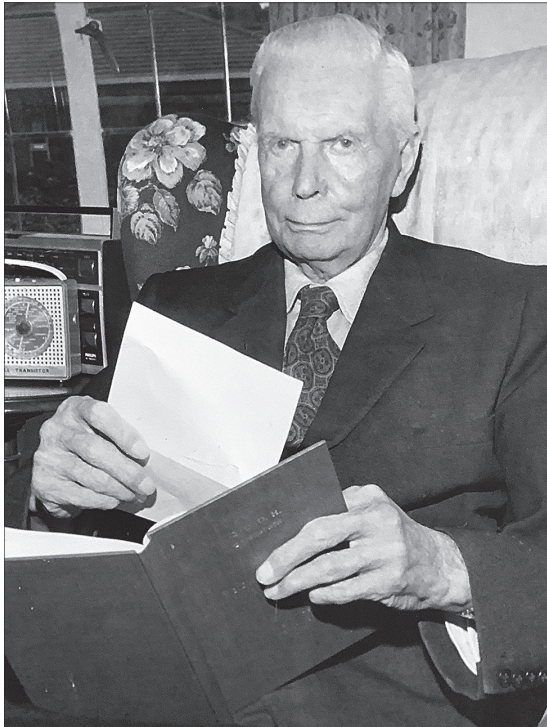
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DH History Corner

www.deddingtonhistory.uk



Maurice French holding the war diary

History Corner has been on a back burner for a couple of months while other priorities prevailed. But history still has a way of finding me. Firstly, Jean Dipper, the

History Society's secretary, put me in touch with a Megan Harris who was researching her ancestors, William Cherry (1786–1868) of Cropredy and his wife Elizabeth Blencow (1792–1843) of Deddington. She wondered if we had any parish records that might help. I could not find anything about Elizabeth and the only other Blencowe records were the burials of a Susannah Blencowe in 1823 and, sadly, the infant deaths of twins in 1839. If any reader has any information about the Blencowe family perhaps you could contact me to pass it on.

The second interesting event relates to a WWI diary kept by Philip Fleming (uncle of Ian Fleming, creator of James Bond) who was a subaltern in the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars (QOOH). A privately printed copy was given by the Fleming family to Maurice French (Deddington man and fellow QOOH) and it had remained in the family until his daughter, Joan Fisher, died in 1985. When Joan's house was being cleared, Dulcie Doggett, who had helped Joan with the house, spotted the diary lying in a skip. She quite rightly thought it should be retrieved and looked after, and has kept it safe ever since but was now wondering what to do with it. She discussed this with a gardening friend – who just happens to help with our garden also – who asked me if I could suggest a proper home for it. I am pleased to say that it has now found an appropriate home in the archives of The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum in Woodstock.

Rob Forsyth
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

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FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON CHURCH



Celebrating the new mowers' shed

Photo courtesy Richard Broadbent

In some villages the churchyard is a rarely visited space on the outskirts. Here it lies in the centre – for some a peaceful shortcut to the shops – for others, especially dog walkers, a favourite route to Castle Grounds. It is kept immaculate by a team of nine volunteers, recently joined by two new members, one of whom is the first ever woman mower.

Until recently the mowing equipment was kept in a shed built 25 years ago by Barry Clifford, then one of the mowers, who still lives nearby. That shed recently came to the end of its useful life and has now been replaced, thanks to funding provided by the Friends of Deddington Church (FODC).

Andrew Green, chairman of the Friends, handed over the keys of the shed to John Nason of the mowing team, at a simple ceremony in mid-September which included a blessing by our new vicar, the Revd Nick Fielden.

The FODC was established as a secular charity in

2022 to help preserve the fabric of our historic church and its grounds. The church, now nearly 800 years old, is used by at least 40 different groups in the course of a year and the churchyard is a valued peaceful green space in the village.

The charity's first contribution was to finance the repair of the main entrance porch of the church whose rotted beams had to be replaced. More technical repairs to the main building are in the pipeline. Most recently the Friends paid for a significant repair of the drainage system to the South West of the main entrance.

As for the future, we shall certainly stay on the case to preserve our community's historic legacy for years to come. If you share our aims and would like to become a supporter of the Friends of Deddington Church, please contact me.

Andrew Green, FODC chair
afgreen@btinternet.com.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

The term so far has been very busy. We celebrated Fairtrade Fortnight with huge enthusiasm, leaving the children having a clear understanding of what it means. We wore Fairtrade colours, each class enjoyed having a pack to work and learn from, with posters for their classrooms and stickers for the quizzes the children took part in and, after school, we held a cake sale.

Our sporting events have been many and varied. Amongst them, we have had a Tag Rugby tournament, swimming lessons and running events. The whole school took part in a cross country afternoon at the end of September. It was a wonderful session in which virtually every child took part, doing their best to



run themselves, as well as encouraging their peers to do the same.

We marked World Mental Health Day on Thursday 10 October by wearing yellow. A focused assembly made us all consider our individual resilience and how we can persevere when things are a little difficult. That week's activities were positive and uplifting for us all.

We are looking forward to Firework Night, organised by our very supportive PTA and then, of course, our plans for Christmas will be underway.

Denise Welch
dwel3954@deddington.oxon.sch.uk

A FARM THE SIZE OF PORTUGAL

We can retire from a lifetime of work in our chosen field (green technology in my case) but we can't always disengage. So it is that I still comb the news for stories that have an impact on the environment, together with my personal fascination with coping strategies deployed in the face of a changing climate. Sometimes I find stories that are, on the surface, innocuous but that trigger a cascade of related information, not unlike a pointillist painting where we cannot see the whole until all the little dots are connected.

One such story began with an account of officials in Saudi Arabia expanding work they had begun on cloud seeding to increase rainfall. Hardly surprising, given that much of the Middle East has been dry for a very long time. But there is (or was) enough groundwater there that, as recently as the 1990s, Saudi Arabia could irrigate cereal grain crops and was the world's sixth largest exporter of wheat. Amazing, then, that only 10 years ago a Saudi owned company had bought and leased thousands of acres of land in La Paz County, Arizona, to grow alfalfa, much of which was then shipped back home to feed dairy cows. Arizona was a great place to grow this crop as, with 110 days of sunshine per year, they could get a new cutting nearly every month. Great, except that La Paz County was already a water-deficient region and neighbouring wells had begun to run dry. Finally, last year, the Arizona governor announced their leases to pump irrigation water from state-owned lands would be terminated, as the quantities of water drawn were well in excess of the lease conditions. Environmental critics have called this 'the export of water by proxy'. If this was merely an anecdotal one-off story, it might easily have been forgotten. It turns out that it was a tip of the proverbial iceberg because, halfway around the world from Arizona, other regions short of water are feeding livestock at a scale that can be scarcely imagined.

But first we need to thicken the plot with some geopolitical intrigue. As a result of Western agricultural product sanctions against Russia after its invasion of Ukraine, Russia partnered with China to supply it with milk and cheese which resulted in the expansion of an already giant dairy farm, called Mudanjiang, on the Chinese-Russian border. It is now the world's largest farm and it occupies 22.5 million acres to grow feed for 100,000 cows. It's not clear why so much land has been set aside, unless there are other constraints like sufficient water. To put it in perspective, it is an area about the size of Portugal. Oh, and the world's second largest farm is also in China, although at only 11 million acres, it is merely the size of Denmark. To round out the top ten farms, the remaining eight are in Australia and collectively are only 1.5 times the size of Portugal. Dairy farming is at best water-intensive. For every litre



of milk produced, it takes a water input of 628 litres. The problem with farms the size of Portugal is the sheer scale of the enterprise and the risks of crowding that many animals together, let alone in places that are already short of water. China, for example, has 20% of the world's population but only 6% of its freshwater resources. Historically much of China's water came from glacial runoff but as its glaciers continue to retreat there is less available each year. And China is hardly alone. For the past two decades a joint venture between NASA and its German counterpart, GRACE

(Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment), has been mapping the locations of groundwater and measure losses. This involves launching two satellites, in low orbit 137 miles apart, which use a microwave beam to measure the precise distance between them. The distance varies slightly when the satellites pass over bodies of water due to differences in the pull of gravity between soil and higher density water, allowing us to measure remaining reserves in aquifers or things like the loss of ice from glaciers.

When the first pair of GRACE satellites completed their mission 10 years ago, they found that, of the planet's 37 largest aquifers, human activity had depleted a third of them beyond the tipping point at which they could be replenished. A more recent set of GRACE satellites is measuring freshwater depletion with even greater accuracy and, aside from scientists and a few environmental organisations, practically no one is paying attention. Here is a great illustrative irony of the information age: one would think that the planet running short of fresh water would be regarded as among the most important stories in human history but as GRACE sails by overhead, the implications of what it has found sails by also, and apparently well over the heads of most world leaders. One notable exception is US Vice President Kamala Harris who, in the midst of a prolonged California drought and speaking at a water treatment site, said 'For years there were wars fought over oil; in a short time there will be wars fought over water'.

Of course, it's been raining here of late like Noah's flood and it is all too easy to lose perspective and see only the dots, not the larger pointillist picture. At best, all these giant faraway farms are an uneasy reminder of our interdependent world. It is early morning as I write this and I must admit that I am interdependent on my trusty Dutch coffee maker brewing some American brand coffee to near perfection, then made perfect by a generous splash of milk from our nearby English dairy. With only 16 sustainably managed cows I can only wish them well ... very well indeed.

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LETTERS

FROM MOIRA BYAST, HEMPTON

What a lovely time we few had on Thursday afternoon at the AgeUK over 50s film club at the Holly Tree Hall. For £2 you have a feature length film plus a cuppa and a biscuit – a bargain. This week's offering, *The Second Best Marigold Hotel*, was a riot of song and colour with many old friends, Judy Dench, Bill Nighy, Ronald Pickup and Penelope Wilton, to name but a few.

Unfortunately, so few people came. It needs to be better supported to continue. So, what have you got to do at 1pm on the second Thursday of November that beats watching *Fisherman's Friends* with your own friends. We will come again and I hope that more people will.

I hope to see you there.

FROM THE FIRE STATION

September has been a very busy month with us attending 41 incidents. These included fires (with FF Harber having her first operational Breathing Apparatus wear), multiple road traffic collisions), animal rescues, assisting the police, lots of flooding and, of course, the usual standbys and automatic fire alarms.

On one such standby, at Banbury fire station, a call came in from the police station down the road, asking if we could come round as they had a prisoner stuck in a pair of handcuffs. We arrived at the police station to find some embarrassed looking police officers who explained they had snapped the key off inside a set of handcuffs while they were removing them from a prisoner. Thankfully the prisoner was calm and found the situation fairly amusing. We tried cutting the handcuffs off but that wasn't going to work so we set about taking them apart and managed to remove the broken key. A new one was then inserted and the prisoner released!

One morning we, along with crews from Bicester and the Rescue Tender (a specialist fire engine that carries specially trained crew and specialist equipment to carry out complicated rescues) and the 4X4 from Kidlington, were mobilised to reports of a horse stuck in a river. We got as close to the location as we could in the fire engines and then proceeded on foot for about a mile until we found it. The horse was standing on the river bed up to its stomach but was unable to get out due to the steepness of the bank. A plan was formulated and a route worked out for the 4X4 to reach the horse. The animal rescue equipment was loaded onto the 4X4 and brought over to us. The rescue tender crew entered the water, wearing dry suits and flotation devices, put a headcollar on the horse and led it out of the river further up where the bank was lower. Then it was time for a long walk back to the fire engine.

As you may have noticed there was a lot of rain in September, some places receiving neatly 140mm in 24 hours. This caused a lot of issues with flooding across the county. We dealt with incidents in Adderbury and Kidlington, where we spent most of the day assisting and advising residents on what to do with their flooded houses. Due to the scale of the flooding, there was not always much that we could do apart from give advice or help vulnerable residents to move belongings to a higher point in the house.

We attended a lot of road traffic collisions in September and would just like to remind you of the Fatal Four – using your phone while driving, drink/drug driving, speeding and not wearing a seatbelt. As the

days are getting shorter and the weather conditions getting poorer, please remember to drive, taking road conditions into account and leaving extra time for your journeys.

Thank you to everyone who attended our car wash for the Firefighters Charity. We raised around £1,000 which was an amazing result.

We are now recruiting new firefighters so, if you like the sound of what we get up to and live or work within five minutes of the station, why don't you come to the station for a chat on a Tuesday between 7.00 and 9.00pm when we will be training? Or you can get more information on our website, <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/council/working-oxfordshire-county-council/fire-service-recruitment/on-call-firefighters>.

Ben Fenemore, Acting Crew Manager
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NEWS FROM HEMPTON

Well done, Lydia Watts, who pedalled up just under £200 in sponsorship for her ride on the annual Ride & Stride. The proceeds will be divided equally between St Johns' and Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust. Supported by The National Churches Trust and run by churches trusts across the UK, Ride & Stride raises well over £1 million every year to help repair churches, chapels and meeting houses.

Your church and the Old School Room need your support. The Hempton Christmas fête will be held in the Old School Room on Saturday 14 December from 11.30am until 2.30pm. There will be all the usual favourites, including bacon buns and soup washed down with tea and coffee, tombola, guess the weight of the cake, raffle, cake stall and memorial baubles for the village Christmas tree. Volunteers are most welcome both on the day and to help set-up and clear away. Donations to fund prizes and cakes would also be welcomed. Please email fohchempton@gmail.com or call Janet on 07825 172 600 if you are able to help. All proceeds will go towards keeping Hempton's only public amenity open.

Hempton has long had issues with mains water supply, especially for those living in the older and more westerly suburbs. Low and no pressure are frequently reported by the village WhatsApp group. When I first moved to Hempton, my early morning shower would frequently revert from warm to suddenly freezing when my neighbour turning on his hosepipe to water the garden resulted in an instant pressure drop. When challenged, he saw no reason to change his early morning aquatic habits and offered the opinion that I should get up earlier. What water does find its way out of the tap is not the best drinking water available. We, friends and relatives, find the drinking water distasteful when compared to water in other parts of the country.

Our monopoly water supplier is mired in widely reported financial issues; I doubt this had any influence on the latest billing error on my water account. The latest biannual statement quoted a meter reading suggesting my water usage had doubled in comparison with previous biannual volumes and my charges would be doubled in consequence. A check of the meter revealed that this was fiction and my usage had been in line with previous billing periods. This is the second time an incorrect 'actual' reading by the supplier has doubled my water usage. They helpfully suggested I check for leaks and running taps as a potential cause of my apparent increased usage. I helpfully pointed out that their meter readers may need an eye test, glasses or new glasses or perhaps stop working from home.

We, in common with the rest of the country, received our share and more of the wet stuff for September. We might not have been deluged to the same extent as South Newington at 183mm (quoted amounts vary) on 25 September; the second highest average rainfall on record in the southern region. We must have been close to this record, much of it flowing down the Swere to the Barfords and on to the Cherwell.

This was supplied gratis by the weather system without having to prop up pension or sovereign wealth funds or venture capitalists and foreign owners.

The local flooding put a temporary hold on the Barford Bridge works. Although the bridge and road work appeared to be finished, the concrete footpath was incomplete with water several feet deep running through a gap, preventing pedestrian or cycle passage. The usual overflow left only the hump back of the newly restored bridge like an island sticking out of the water. Had the road been open only 4x4s would find it passable. In previous floods of similar intensity, hapless motorists have found themselves floating uncontrollably off the road into the ditch on attempting a passage. As global warming progresses there may come a time when a ferry crossing is required.

By the time you receive this edition of the *DN*, work on resurfacing the B4031 should have begun. Hopefully our nocturnal incarceration should not inconvenience residents to a great extent. Deddington Dental practice and local garage services may be adversely affected by the work, though road users should benefit from not having their dentures/teeth (as appropriate) or suspension rattled and jolted to destruction. Someone must have put in an aerial photograph or a video of the road onto FixMyStreet or has an MP or party donor moved into the parish? Maybe it's just acknowledging the increased traffic the road is planned to carry.

I have to report the mysterious death of a local thief. Whilst inspecting the larger than usual number of holes burrowed into my lawn, I came across the decomposing body of an adult grey squirrel. Whilst perhaps not singularly responsible for scoffing my beetroot crop, it is a likely accomplice. There was no apparent cause of death. Possibly it fell foul of a local cat, fox or hawk. Maybe he was found pilfering the nuts hidden away by other squirrels; I'm not familiar with squirrel criminal law or their attitude to capital punishment. Execution seems a bit harsh for a few nuts but then it could be a matter of life and death when the larder is empty. RIP.

The larger than usual number of hiding places this year may be a sign that the Squirrel Met Office is anticipating a harsh winter.

Stuart Oldham
sj_oldham@btinternet.com

CLIFTON ROAD CLOSURE

Oxfordshire County Council has given notice that Main Street, Clifton, will be closed from 8.00pm on 6 November to 6.00am on 7 November for full width resurfacing. 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 Stuart Bowler, Oxfordshire County Council on 0345 310 1111, quoting T14583.

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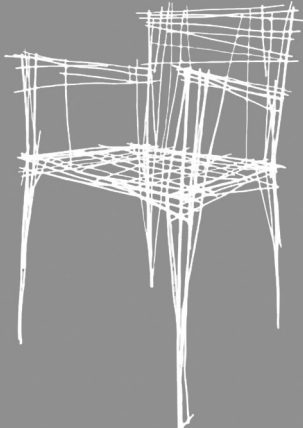
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info@deddingtonnurseryandpfsu.co.uk
www.deddingtonnurseryandpfsu.co.uk

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Company No: 5560259 Ofsted No: EY330247
Charity No: 1117963

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



CALLING ALL CLUBS

Local Vocals Community Choir

Our choir member, Cathy Lawday, has summed us up pretty well in a poem called 'Choir Practice'.

Every Monday evening, I go to practice with the choir I sing with all the altos because I can't get any higher.

The sopranos reach the high notes and manage not to shriek.

They're lucky, 'cos they have the tune almost every week.

The altos rarely have the tune; they sing the bass line without protest

And after singing eight bars on one note they have 7 bars of rest.

The men, known as 'the baritones', make a sound that's deep and low

And whenever they get lost, or bored they sing along with altos.

At our end of term concerts, we dress all alike in maroon

We hope folk will see how smart we look and not notice we've strayed off the tune.

So why not come and join us? Come and have a go If you mime your way through a few tricky bars, no-one will ever know.

None of us are brilliant; we'd never dare sing on our own

We're way beyond the help of even nice Gareth Malone.

But it keeps us off the streets, saves us from petty crime.

And every Monday evening we have a rocking good time.

Alison Grieve
alisongrmail@gmail.com

Photographic Society

For October's meeting, we were treated to a fantastic talk and practical workshop by Andrew Buchanan. Andrew first picked up a camera at a young age and despite his secondary school report stating, 'no artistic talent, go do geography', he persevered and went on to dabble with photographing the members of his school play. He later joined the Army where he found plenty of opportunity to take landscape, sports and a variety of travel photos, often foregoing taking out a rifle to taking out his camera. His travels with the Army took him to Belfast during the IRA days in the early '70s and was fortunate enough not to get caught taking photos, despite wearing civilian clothes.

He also travelled to Sierra Leone and enjoyed taking pictures of the eclectic markets and local villagers. Having ventured into portrait photography he was invited to photograph various military events for his

regiment which later appeared in military publications. He spent a lot of his life living in the beautiful south of France where he loved photographing the French Alps, taking his camera with him when out hiking.

Andrew recently discovered HDR (High Dynamic Range) imaging where he transforms basic flower photos into colourful images. He admits his passion is still flowers and enjoys the composition side, spending his time pressing flowers and photographing them on his tabletop lightbox.

We had one visitor and one new member join us and we hope that they felt welcome enough to return for our November meeting on Wednesday 6th at 7.30pm.

Courtney Killpack
www.addphoto.co.uk

Deddington Bookworms

Sandi Toksvig's memoir, *Between the Stops: The View of My Life from the Top of the Number 12 Bus*, is an eclectic journey through her life, viewed through the lens of her regular bus route, the number 12, in London. The stops along the route are jumping-off points for everything from her childhood in Denmark, her early career in British comedy and her time on television and radio, to more serious discussions about feminism, LGBTQ+ rights, and social justice. Her observations about other passengers on the bus, the architecture of the city or even the randomness of daily life is infused with both humour and insight. Some of the Bookworms know the bus route very well and so particularly enjoyed this aspect of the book. For those not so familiar, it instilled a curiosity which could well result in a trip on the number 12 bus.

While much of the book is light-hearted and filled with funny stories, there's also a serious side to Toksvig's reflections, especially regarding her activism. Some Bookworms felt this aspect was slightly overplayed, particularly towards the end of the book but overall, the Bookworms felt that *Between the Stops* is an engaging memoir that reflects Sandi Toksvig's vibrant personality.

DeddingtonBookworms@gmail.com

WI

Deddington WI meets at 2.30pm every second Wednesday at the Holly Tree Hall.

Our speaker for the November meeting is Jane Abbott talking about 'An Imaginary World, including Poetry'. If you would like to know more, please contact me at jennynashall@gmail.com.

Jenny Snashall

Deddington Playgroup

It's great to be back after the summer break and see the little ones having lots of fun again. The children are really enjoying recent toy donations, including a Paw Patrol pop-up tent and a lovely wooden railway set. Thank you to those who have donated them.

In October we were joined by Jo from Little Owls

CALLING ALL CLUBS

Continued from p25

Bookshop who had a pop-up stall giving the grown-ups a chance to do some shopping while the little ones played. Jo also brought a brilliant magic painting activity for the children.

We are open on Friday 8 and Friday 22 November from 9.45–11.45am at the Windmill Centre. There is no pressure to stay for the full two hours, so please feel free to arrive and leave whenever suits you. Admission is £4 per family – there is no need to book, just turn up and you can pay with card or cash. See you there.

Helen Carpenter
deddingtonbabyandtoddler@gmail.com

Deddington Players

Rehearsals have begun for this year's Deddington Players' pantomime, *Rapunzel*, and we're all excited to get started. This year we've welcomed some new members joining us both on stage and backstage, along with our regular members. It's great to see new faces as well as the old hands. Rehearsals continue throughout the autumn with songs to learn, dances to choreograph, special effects to coordinate and plenty of (over) acting to direct. It's going to be a lot of fun.

If you haven't already got the performance dates in your diary, add them now; 16–18 January 2025 at the Windmill. Follow our Deddington Players Facebook page for all the behind-the-scenes rehearsals silliness and a taste of what's to come when it's showtime.

Suzie Upson
suzieupson@mac.com

Royal British Legion

The unique way that Deddington Branch marked D-Day 80 Anniversary was deemed sufficiently interesting to be reported in this month's RBL Magazine. Members should turn to p13 to read the article. Dates for diaries: the parade on Remembrance Sunday, 10 November, will march off at 10.40am led by Piper Stewart Carnegie for a short Service of Remembrance and two-minute silence at the war memorial. This will be followed by a service in the church and then the parade will march back through the Market Place. Major David Hood will take the salute at the flagpole on Little Green. Branch officers will observe a two-minute silence at the war memorial in the lower churchyard on Armistice Day, 11 November. Members of the public are welcome to join us.

The Branch AGM will be held in the boardroom at the Deddington Arms at 7.00pm on Thursday 21 November. The public are welcome to attend and to join us afterwards for a meal at Bengal Spice on New Street.

Rob Forsyth
robert.s.forsyth@gmail.com

Deddington and District History Society

The History Society's 2024/25 season opened with a lively and interesting talk by Karen and Brett Wiles on 'Life on the Home Front in World War II' illustrated with

a superb collection of photographs and accompanied by music and songs of the time. The Wiles are WWII Home Front historians specialising in the wartime stories of women and children. Massive changes to the lives of women occurred. Before the war very few women were registered as working and they often had to stop work upon marriage. Preparations in 1938 for the forthcoming hostilities included the establishment of the Women's Voluntary Service in June with nearly 33,000 members by the end of the year. When war was declared the Women's Institute took a strong anti-war stance but helped in practical ways such as food production (5,000,000 jars of jam from 1940–41), making camouflage netting and running 'make do and mend' groups. The formation of the Air Transport Auxiliary, the WAAF and WRNS, along with the Bletchley Park establishment, the Auxiliary Territorial Service, the Land Army, the Women's Timber Corps and munitions workers, created many new occupations for women. Everyone played their part including children, many of whom joined Cogs groups which collected scrap material for recycling, the various women's groups and the five million men who were in the 300 categories of reserved occupations. The 'Housewives Service' aided those affected by bomb damage by helping to house the homeless, sweeping glass off the streets and making sandbags. A wealth of interesting facts peppered the talk and all those present learnt something new.

On Thursday 14 November Brian Pile, a retired local auctioneer, will tell us about his involvement with Banbury cattle market. It was the largest in the UK and one of the largest in Europe. It has a history dating back 1,000 years and was mentioned in the Domesday Book so join us to hear more about this local history.

Jean Dipper
jean.dipper28@gmail.com


Book Group

Trespases is the first novel by Irish author, Louise Kennedy. Set on the outskirts of Belfast during the 1970s, it is a multi-layered illustration of divisions and loyalties during the Troubles. A secret, passionate affair between Cushla, a young Catholic teacher, and Michael, a married Protestant barrister, brings other stories into focus. Cushla's attempts to help a young pupil whose family are under attack, the influence of the Church, relationships with various people in both Cushla's and Michael's lives, are all underlined by the ever-present danger in crossing boundaries. We agreed the novel was well written. However, most of the group had not enjoyed it, finding the two main characters unsympathetic and the plot occasionally unconvincing.

The Book Group



Iron Down Sculpture Studio

It's been a few months since we wrote last, and since then we have a new member who paints in oils and is a great wordsmith too. We welcome anyone interested



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CALLING ALL CLUBS

Continued from p26

in the creative arts whether hobbyist (like me) or professional. We have members who were professional and, though now retired, cannot give it up, it's in the blood. We offer a whole range of support to settle in and a very competitive fee to use the studio and resources 24/7.

The other great news is that we finally said yes to a request to run workshops. The first in August – hares – and the second in October – angels. If you are interested in joining one or have a small group who would like to do a workshop, please contact me.

It's lovely in our creative space on the farm now,

as the weather gets colder, the heat is on, and we are locking down doing our work with chats and hot drinks along the way. I'm attempting a polar bear pushing into the snowy wind, Louise is making beautiful horses, David has just finished an arctic fox and is looking to warmer places with a koala bear. Chris is looking to military dress, movement and dignity and Geoff has a fantastic warm fruit collection to finish.

If you would like to know more, do contact me.

Wendy Edmundson
wendyedmundson@hotmail.com

SPORT

Deddington Town FC

First Team results:

14.9.2 Tysoe Utd(h)(CUP) W 8–2 Leney (2), Thornton J, O'Carroll, Perring, Whitrow, Radcliffe, Brooks
5.10.24 Swis 313 FC (h) (CUP) D 0–0 (won 4–3 on pens)

Reserve Team results:

14.9.24 Bodicote Spts Res (a) W 5–1 Newton (CUP) (2), Marrett, Jones, B. Jones, L.
21.9.24 Elmsbrook Jacks (h) W 4–1 Hinkson (2), Henn, Worth
28.9.24 Chesterton MBLs (h) L 1–5 Marrett

Well, this correspondent is at a loss to fathom exactly what is going on in the Banbury District and Lord Jersey Premier Division, so if anyone can help then feel free to drop me a line. The impressive seven goal demolition of Bishops Itchington in September has apparently been purged from the record books, meaning the Humbugs and the Itch are the only teams in the division with no record at all. This means all those magnificent and inappropriate puns I wedged into last month's piece are rendered meaningless. I've had to look in the mirror and remind myself that no words spoken or written will be remembered by anyone in a few millennia and get back to the task in hand. The Humbugs decided to repeat the trick in the cup by giving Tysoe a thorough beating and followed up with a resolute win on penalties against Word Number Salad FC. Meanwhile the Latics have played like their crush is watching, with two thumpings dished out in cup and league, before suffering a backlash against Chesterton. Nonetheless, an excellent opening period for our cherished Reserve team promises much in the gloomy months to come.

Aaron Bliss 07909 642882

Deddington Town FC Youth

The Under 16s had a 4–0 away defeat at Charlbury, and 1–1 home draw with Kidlington Youth. They also had a 4–2 away defeat at Bicester Town Colts in the cup. The Under 15s playing in the B League had a 4–0 home win over Garden City, followed by three defeats,

3–1 at Dynamo Tekkers, 4–1 at Kingston Colts, and 9–1 at Barton Rovers. The Under 14 playing in the C League had a 2–4 win at Watlington Town, 0–3 win at Chesterton in the county cup, and 1–2 win at Oxford Blackbirds. The Under 13s playing in the A League had a 0–8 home defeat to Ducklington, followed by a 2–9 away win at Grendon Rangers, a 2–2 home draw with Banbury Irish, and 5–2 away defeat at Chadlington. The Under 12s playing in the C League had a 7–4 defeat at Banbury Irish. In the cup, after drawing 2–2 with Adderbury Park, they were defeated on penalties.

Get involved in volunteering

Now is the time to volunteer! If you want to volunteer with the club think about whether you can help as a coach to work with the Under 7s and Under 6s. We are also looking for help in continuing to improve the pitches at the Windmill as well as look to work in partnership with Deddington School to improve their school field. If you want to get involved in our pitch improvement work, please get in touch with me for a chat about how you can help.

Roger Sykes
07899 914425

Deddington Original Golf Society

Just a reminder that our end of season Christmas party is scheduled for Friday 13 December. Details to follow shortly but it will, weather permitting, include a 9-hole Texas Scramble followed by traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. Please put the date in your diary.

Tony Lowe, Secretary 07710 477000
dogsgolf23@gmail.com

YOUTH

1st Deddington Guides

With the term well under way, it's been great to welcome some new members. We have also reformed our patrols and the Guides held elections for their own Patrol leaders. Congratulations to those who were successful. Plans are afoot for upcoming Patrol activities and our Young Leaders have lots of ideas and plans for the rest of the term.

We began the term making the best of the light left, toasting marshmallows and playing a wide variety of

YOUTH

Continued from p29

our old favourite games and we tried new ones too. Our caged pets joined us one evening, which was great fun and gave everyone a chance to handle and learn about the care of different animals. The Guides also designed their own cafés, creating tasty snacks and dishes, complete with menus and heeding all the necessary rules of hygiene and food safety as well as giving a presentation to tempt new customers. We had some wonderful creations.

Maggie Rample
07957 600755

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

This month the Cubs have been continuing work on their chef badge. We have learnt about the different food groups along with safety and hygiene in the kitchen.

Before the evenings became too dark, we enjoyed a great visit to the allotments where many cucumbers,

carrots, tomatoes and blackberries were picked, dug and consumed. We also enjoyed a very competitive and exciting game of conkers.

Tracy Tong
deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts

In our first meeting we learned about risk assessing, something we do all the time as leaders. The Scouts studied a variety of incidents and discussed the level of risk each of them posed, with very interesting results as, of course, many of them fell into more than one category. With this in mind, our next activity was designing and building a crazy golf course – crazier than golf! A study of gender in sport came next, again with interesting views put forward.

Just to let you know, all this thoughtfulness was interspersed with raucous games – no change there!

Pete Churchyard
deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

The recent road resurfacing work on the Hempton Road – long overdue, in my opinion – brought into sharp focus the number of Windmill users who arrive at the centre by car rather than by bicycle or on foot. Several clubs and groups

meeting later than 7.00pm had to cancel their sessions for fear of being trapped overnight in the Windmill car park – a fate you wouldn't wish on anyone. I've often used this column to gently ask the question whether those people who actually live in the village really need to drive all that way to the Windmill, but I'm not going to ask that one again. Oh ... I just did!

Joking aside, whilst for 99% of the time our parking capacity is perfectly adequate, there are a few occasions when the car park is full and people look to park in neighbouring streets. I would just hope that these people park in a considerate and respectful manner



so that local residents are not inconvenienced in any way. Thank you.

We've had a run of successful events recently at the Windmill, including Deddington Artisan Fayre, Deddy Rocks and the inaugural Deddington Wine Festival,

'Cheers to Charlie', of which more on p6. We've also been host to several private birthday parties, meetings and visits from people looking for a space to start up a club or a new activity – all of which are exactly the sort of thing a community centre should be used for. If you would like to know what's happening at the Windmill, or find out how to book it for one of your own events, just visit our website www.thewindmilleddington.org, our Facebook page or call our bookings secretary, Julie, on 07720 834006.

Vaughan Jones
chair@thewindmilleddington.org

'ROXY' AT THE HOLLY TREE HALL

The next film to be shown by Age UK on Thursday 14 November at the Holly Tree Hall will be *Fisherman's Friends: One and All*.

This second film continues the true story of the Cornish fishermen and their unexpected musical success. A year after their hit album, they are struggling with the pressures and temptations of their new found fame. The loveable group is aiming for a second album and the Pyramid Stage at Glastonbury but their journey is amusing and anything but straightforward.

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

Come and relax in a lovely local hall for an afternoon's entertainment for just £2.

Julia Cork
Julia.cork@thedha.org

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

* Terms & Conditions Apply.

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

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Address _____

email _____

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

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DEDDINGTON DATA



CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL 01295 227001
 CITIZENS ADVICE 0808 278 7906
 HEALTH CENTRE DEDDINGTON 01869 338611
 HOSPITALS:
 Churchill 0300 304 7777
 Foscote (Private) 01295 252281
 Horton General 0300 304 7777
 John Radcliffe 0300 304 7777
 Manor (Nuffield Health, Private) 01865 521405
 Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre 0300 304 7777
 Katharine House Hospice 01295 811866
 NHS Non emergency 111
 PARISH CLERK 01869 337447
 (Monday 9.00am–12.30pm, Wednesday 9.00–5.00pm,
 Thursday 9.00–12.30pm)
 POLICE (non-emergency, 24 hrs) 101
 PRIMARY SCHOOL (C of E) 01869 338430
 PFSU 01869 337484
 VILLAGE NURSERY 01869 337383

TRAVEL:

Pulham & Sons (Coaches) Ltd 01451 820369
 National Express 08717 81 8181
 National Rail Passenger Enqs 03457 48 49 50
 OurBus Bartons 01869 699699
 Oxford Bus Company 01865 785400
 Oxfordshire Comet 01865 323201
 Stagecoach Bus Company 01865 772250
 Traveline (Public Transport) 0871 200 2233

UTILITIES:

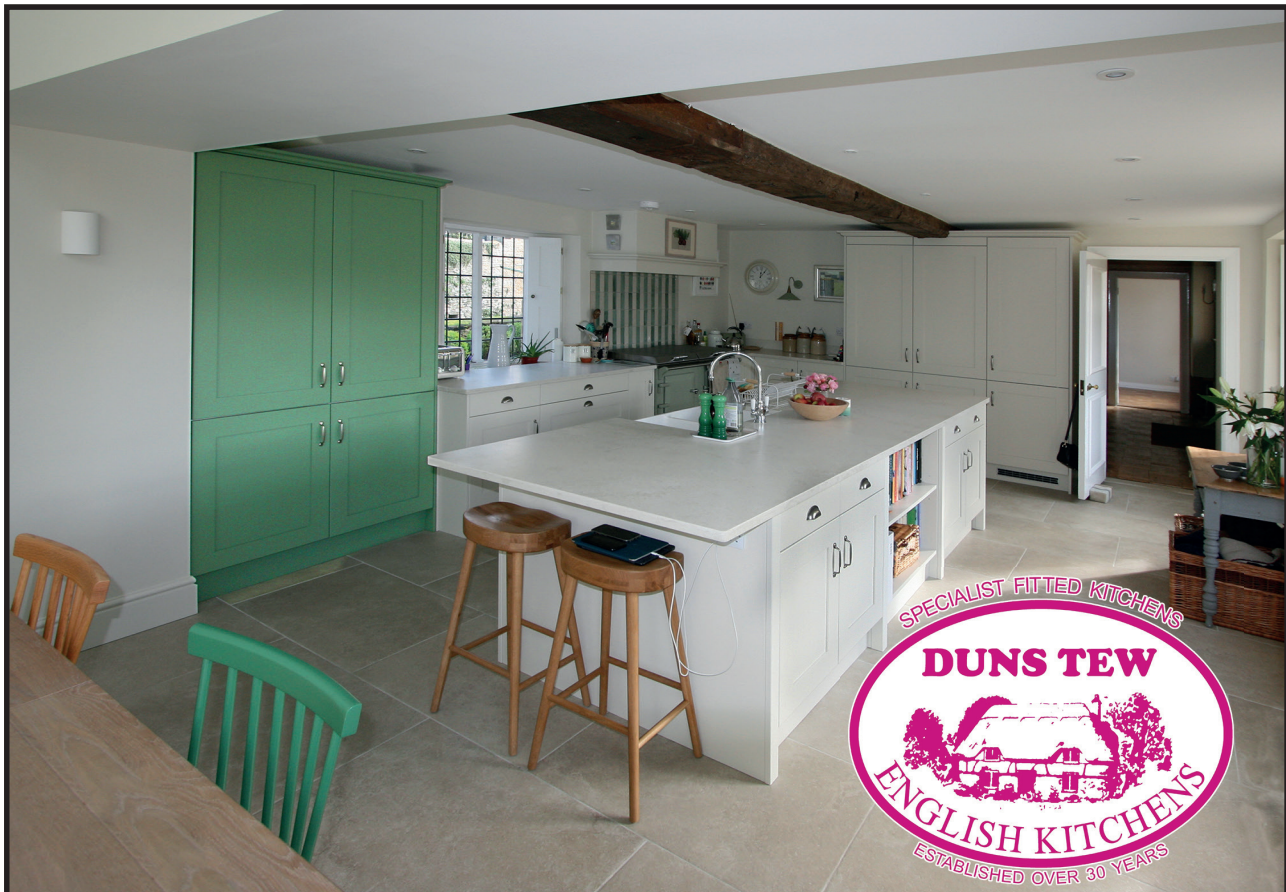
Gas Escapes (24hrs) 0800 111 999
 Electricity – any supplier 105
 Emergency/Power cut 105
 Careline (over 60s) 0800 101 3333
 Ofgem 020 7901 7295
 Thames Water (24hrs) 0800 316 9800

WARRINER SCHOOL, Bloxham 01295 720777
 WINDMILL CENTRE 07720 834006
 OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL 01865 792422

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY 01865 816010
 Monday 2.00–7.00pm
 Wednesday 9.30am–1.00pm
 Thursday 1.00–5.00pm
 Saturday 9.30am–1.00pm

DEDDINGTON CLUBS AND SOCIETIES: The full list of contacts is available from the Library and Deddington OnLine website at <http://www.deddington.org.uk/directory>.

DEDDINGTON CHURCHES See section inside



01869 340429/01908 505658 ● info@dunstewkitchens.co.uk ● www.dunstewkitchens.co.uk