

First Sunday



Palm Sunday



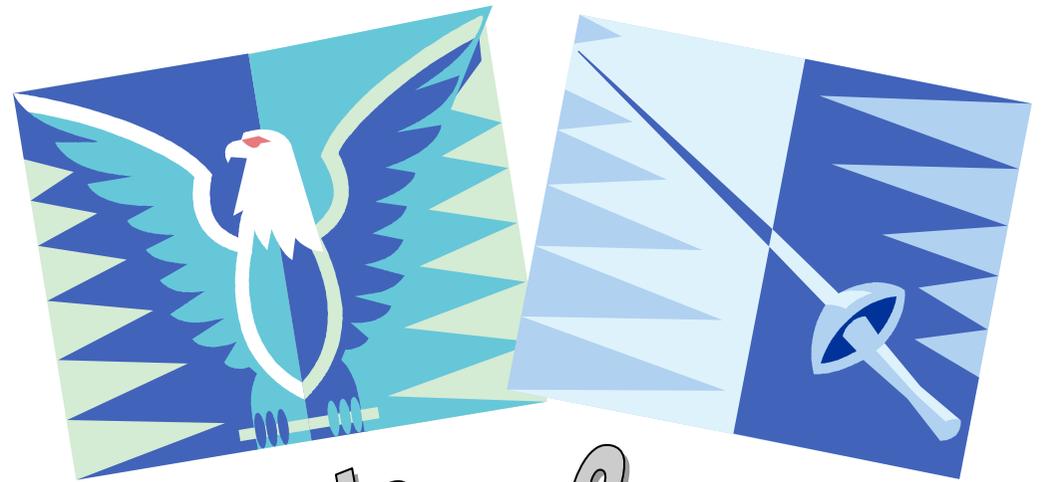
George Fenemore with the Easter Candles he made.



Epiphany Feast



Hugh's Farewell



Eagle, & Sword



Keys

A Magazine for Deddington Parish

April 2015

With Boy's Brigade I have been helping out with both the Junior and the Company sections. For more information on this, please read Jen Child's Boys' Brigade report.

At Squeals and Wheels we have had a good number of mums and toddlers coming. We have been reading different stories from the Bible and singing and dancing to some songs.

I have been helping out at Adderbury church on a Thursday. I have set up a home work club for year 7s. It is a drop in centre where the young people can come in and talk about what has been happening in school and in their lives and play some games, too.

I have also been helping to set up an Open the Book in the school in Adderbury and also confirmation classes for the young people at the church.

I have continued to help and be involved in the *First Sunday* lay-led planning group. It has been great fun and we have all had a good time planning and leading these.

I have also been helping out with the Barford Family service, with the help of some of the mums in the church. We have been doing some crafts in the service and having a lot of fun with Bible stories and music.

The fourth Sunday Café Church has a good core of people who have been helping to plan the activities. We have had three tables of crafts, including baking, which have been set around the Bible readings of the Sunday.

David Benskin



David & Alice Benskin on their Wedding Day

Eagle, Sword & Keys 2015

A Magazine for Deddington Parish

For discussion at the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting on Thursday 23rd April at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

Editor: Sue Addison

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Revd Annie and
Bishop Colin at her
induction on 12th
February 2015

Finally, we are as ever very grateful for all the spiritual support and help we receive from the church.

Jennifer Childs, Leader 1st Deddington Boys' Brigade

Youth Worker



The Monday homework club is going very well. This term we have a large number of boys come to it (mainly year 5s). They come to get help with their homework and to play some fun games. The Monday night youth club that I help out with at the Windmill Centre is also going very well. We have a steady number of around 25 where

they can come and chill out and have some fun playing games.

At the Warriner School this year I have been seeing young people in the student support department. This has involved mentoring students one to one who may need help with various situations in their lives, providing a listening ear and support.

In our School I have been doing the assemblies. After Hugh left, Rosemary Wilson and Iran these assemblies together, following in the same pattern as Hugh and having regular discussion with Libby Knox regarding themes for the students to explore. Now Annie has come, we have been doing the assemblies together.

In terms of the lunch time clubs, we have on a Wednesday the boys' group and on a Thursday the girls' group. This is open to both year 5 and 6. With the girls' group we have had to split it up because we had so many wanting to attend. In the lunch club we have been watching a Simpsons' episode and having a talk about what we have seen and how the Bible fits into it, and then playing some games.

We also have pastoral groups at the School. These meet once a term in the school. This involves having two young people representatives from each year and there is an activity and discussion in groups.

1st Deddington Boys' Brigade

BB continues to operate on Wednesdays during term time and during 2014 our numbers remained steady overall but there were also be a number of comings and goings with our young people. At the start of the 2014-2015 academic year we had 31 on roll. (29 on roll at the end of the 2013-14 year.) We had considerable movement of boys within the Anchor and Junior sections due to promotions, new recruits and leavers. We opened up the session with a strong Junior section due to the number of boys moving up from Anchor section. We were concerned we'd be depleted in the Anchor section but we needn't have worried as during September 2014, more boys arrived than we were expecting and we welcomed 7 new joiners to the organisation. Numbers in the Juniors have been variable over 2014 but we consolidated at 10 by the end of the year. We've been delighted to welcome two young ladies to the Anchor section as well during 2014. I think that people often don't realise that we are registered to take girls!

At our awards evening in July 2014 we said goodbye to Olli Tindale from the Company/Senior section, who had completed 11 years service with 1st Deddington. Olli secured his place at Bath University to read Mathematics.

We have continued to take part in Battalion events with mixed success but have won a few notable events. We were delighted when the Anchors won the 5-a-side football, they looked thrilled at their efforts!

Over the year, we have regularly attended the Deddington Farmers' Market running our bookstall on alternate markets to raise funds. Funds raised during 2014 were allocated to our own general running costs, Team Stranded – Rally to Mongolia (Four local lads, one of whom was Zac Coleman, stalwart of 1st Deddington, who raised money for the Frank Wise School), and Olli Tindale in support of his trek up Kilimanjaro planned for 2015.

I'd like to say a very big thank you to everyone who is involved with BB, our leaders, young people and their parents. Special thanks as always to Tim Cooper and Annette Murphy (Anchor section), Stan Nelson and David Benskin (Junior section) and to Dave Sawyer and David Benskin who assist me in the Company/Senior section. We are also very grateful for the ongoing support that Graham and Ros Wallington provide via Deddington Brass.

Church Wardens' Report



Iain Gillespie

We have had a very busy year. At the end of May the Revd Dr Hugh White took his last service with us, after just over 14 years as our incumbent. The service was followed by a lunch party and presentation to Hugh in the Church. It was in at the deep end for us all to keep the Benefice running during the vacancy. I must thank every-



George Fenemore

one, Christopher Hall, in particular, who headed up the Clergy team; Rosemary Wilson and David Benskin who kept the lay team together; members of the congregation for your support as we ventured into the unknown. There were times when the service pattern needed to be changed to accommodate the availability of clergy but we managed to keep them on an even keel.

It took many meetings between the Benefice PCCs', and numerous revisions of the text, for much-put-upon PCC Secretary, Dan Maharry, to put together the final Job Description and Benefice Profile to be sent out to all the applicants. A heartfelt thank you, Dan.

After a number of meetings, the Archdeacon, the Area Dean, our Patrons and the Parish representatives put together a short list with the final interviews taking place in late November. Special thanks must go to Vivien Pleydell-Bouverie for allowing us free range of her home for the interviews. It was a long day starting with a service led by the Archdeacon in the church at 8.45 am, interviews, a "meet and greet" lunch in the church followed by a final discussion between the members of the selection board. Finally, a phone call was made to offer Annie the post, which she accepted, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Thank you to all who took time out to meet and greet the candidates, take them round the parishes and entertain them while they waited for their turn with the interview board.

Annie was inducted and installed on the 12th of February 2015. Beginning the next chapter in the history of the Deddington Benefice, she becomes the first female vicar and the first incumbent to live in the “new” Deddington vicarage.

Our Churchyard gardening team has made a start on the mammoth task of keeping our “God’s little acre” in good shape and our thanks go to the gardening team and to Andrew Green, our head gardener.

Security is always an ongoing problem and we have yet again suffered from the intrusions of those who see our church as a place to steal from rather than a place of worship and community. Electrical cleaning equipment has been taken from the chest in the north porch and some of the electronic broadcasting equipment taken from the vestry. Sadly, and even more difficult to accept, was the theft of known amounts of money in the form of donations and offerings from the chest inside the south door. The chest has now been modified to prevent this happening again. It is not just St Peter and St Paul’s that have been “hit”. St John’s, Hempton has lost two stools and St Michael’s, Barford have had two “housing benches” stolen, which were on loan from Deddington.

A full inventory report will be given at the APCM.

Rosemary Wilson, our LLM retired from her post at the end of December and is planning to move to Scotland. We wish her well and thank her for time with us.

George Fenemore & Iain Gillespie,
Church Wardens.



Deddington Fair Traders



How far do children walk to Deddington School each day? In Ethiopia I met 9-year-old Ailsa; she walked for an hour and a half - about 5 miles - to get to school by 8 each morning ... and back home again each afternoon. Arton Medd from Lancaster met the growers of Fair Trade cocoa in Ghana which goes into Divine Chocolate. He asked some of them what was their main benefit from Fairtrade. They had been able to build a village school so that children did not have to walk a long way to their lessons. The Fairtrade premium also paid for boreholes providing clean water which teenagers carry from the pump back to their homes. George Fenemore's honey is Fair Trade; 500kg of Fairtrade sugar from the Co-op Village store kept his bees fed this winter.

Last year Deddington Fairtraders turned over more than £6,000. The stall at the Farmers' Market takes on average £250 each month. Kath Morris staffs a stall at Barford's Market on the 3rd Saturday in each month. The Preview Day in October brought in £1300. The Knowle, Philcote Street [338225] is 'open all hours' for casual sales. Each year the operating profit is shared between Deddington Church and Traidcraft Exchange, Traidcraft's charitable arm devoted to improving the agricultural methods, productivity and marketing skills of its partner producers.

So thanks to Viviane Hall, the stock controller, and the marketing team of Diana Marshall, Anny Sharman and Kath Morris - and the courier ...

Christopher Hall



Church Kitchen Report

In a moment of idle reflection I thought back to year 1994 and the much delayed opening of our New Kitchen in Church. I remembered that after lengthy deliberations and hard work by our then Incumbent Ken, the Church Wardens, the PCC, the Diocesan Board, architect, builders and last but not least an interested congregation, the New Kitchen finally stood proud within beautiful oak walls, where only half a year ago was a bare Church Conference Corner, west of the South door.

By April 1994 some initial building snags had been ironed out. Our very own Church Kitchen was opened for the first cups of coffee, tea and henceforth teams of willing helpers, quaintly known as “Kitchen ladies and gents”, have passed through its hallowed, sound-proofed walls to prepare beverages for congregation, for visitors to the monthly Deddington Farmers’ Market and to Concert audiences.

Our sincere and heartfelt gratitude goes to everyone who has financed, served, cleaned, modernised, mended or equipped our much admired Kitchen over the years and has guarded it safely to April 2015, when it has truly Come of Age!

Like any other 21 year old girl “Church Kitchen” now pines for that beautifying touch of fresh “Make Up” (a lick of paint) and a bit of department treatment here and there to keep healthy in body and mind for the exciting journey into the next 21 years!

Ruth Johnson

Ruth & Ted Johnson



Deddington Parochial Church Council

Treasurer’s Report

This report is about unrestricted funds as the income and expenditure of restricted funds are controlled by the wishes of donors, and are for specific projects. They also sometimes distort the gross figures when we get large grants such as the £10,000 from the Mercers’ Company, received in one financial year but spent in the next.

Our unrestricted income in 2014 was about £2,000 less in 2014 than in 2013, largely because of the departure of a generous donor which decreased the total Gift Aid donations significantly, with the knock-on effect of reducing the tax claimable. Also reduced from 2013 was the income from regular donations not eligible for Gift Aid, also down was Fund Raising income, probably because we did not hold a bazaar in 2014, and what are known as Sundry Donations, money put in the alms chest for instance, which is not predictable. Some of this reduction in income was offset by an increase in the loose plate collections, on which we can now claim Gift Aid under a new scheme for claiming on small donations. There was also an increase in fees the PCC receives for weddings and funerals, another unpredictable source of income.

Unrestricted expenditure increased by about £2,000 in 2014. There were relatively small increases in the cost of gas, electricity and water, and payments to the organists, and almost £1,000 spent on the churchyard as opposed to a very small sum in 2013. The costs of services and repairs were less than in 2013. The main increase was cost of making final loan repayments to those parishioners who had given the PCC interest free loans to help to pay for the photovoltaic solar panels and the screen and projector.

Despite the decrease in income and increase in expenditure income still exceeded expenditure by a healthy amount, and I will be able to give more precise figures when the annual accounts are completed.

I R Gillespie
Hon Treasurer

St John the Evangelist, Hempton



The inventory was completed in March and found to be all present and correct apart from two small stools which were stolen during October/November, and a slight discrepancy in the number of books. Books do get taken to other churches for special services at times and the same number may not always be returned.

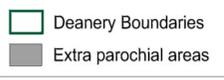
The usual pattern of services has continued with three services a month. Eucharist is celebrated on the first and third Sundays at 9.00am and Evensong (BCP) held on the fourth Sunday at 6.00pm. Other services included a Wedding in June (only the third held in Hempton during the life of the church!); Good Friday meditation followed by lunch, the Vigil and Service of Light on Easter Eve; Ascension Day and Christmas Day Eucharists. Harvest Festival was held in September and the ever popular Carol service was again held with Deddington Church Choir leading the singing and a good congregation to help them along. Refreshments and Fellowship were enjoyed after this service.

The Church took part in the Oxfordshire Historical Churches annual Ride and Stride Day in September. 97 visitors—an increase on last year— enjoyed our great hospitality. My thanks to Pam Dodd and all the helpers on the day, also to the four families who rode for us and raised a considerable sum to be shared between us and the Trust.

- **November** Hugh White gave us an illustrated presentation on the diocesan link between Oxford and Växjö which began 20 years ago. Both dioceses face similar challenges and are trying to share some theological training. They envy us our volunteer base!
- Deddington PCC brought a motion to Deanery Synod (via Rosemary) urging the use of electronic media for the elections to General Synod (due this autumn) so that the electorate has the opportunity to know who is standing and what they stand for—very necessary when such a large diocese is voting for a handful of representatives. The motion was passed, and forwarded to Diocesan Synod, we wait to hear what happens next!
- Sadly for the first time in 10 years, Deddington Deanery has not managed to pay its Parish Share in full, despite parishes supporting each other and the Deanery Share fund (which in recent years has helped us achieve our full Share). The Share provides the bulk of the money needed to pay our parochial clergy.
- Bishop Colin's £2,500 Mission and Outreach grant to the deaneries in his care has enabled many parishes to tackle projects they could not have funded on their own; working with the young, the old, the disadvantaged, schools, those on new housing estates and the 'unchurched' in villages.

Viviane Hall

Diocese of Oxford - Deddington Deanery Overview by Parish 2015



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The church was open daily throughout the summer and beyond, with several visitors signing the visitors book. Thank you to Barbara Chappell for opening & closing the Church each day. I shall continue to open the church in future, in spite of the theft of the stools, valuable items will be locked away.

The old Schoolroom was used quite regularly by different organisations, some on a regular basis and others for special events. The room has had a complete makeover and looks really nice.

Once again the Christmas Bazaar was the most popular social event with good attendance and around £1300 raised towards the ongoing maintenance of the building. The Church, in my opinion, is in a relatively good condition but we are due for the Quinquennial inspection later in 2015.

As I conclude this report I would like to review my position at the Church. I have been involved as Deputy Churchwarden of Deddington with responsibility for St John's for 25 years, not a record but a long stint. I have been on the PCC for most of that time. I have no plans to step down from this role at present but will do so within the next few years. A volunteer is needed to be in place before then while I am available to advise and show what needs to be done. The work is not hard but there is a lot to think about to ensure that the church is ready for services and other events that arise.

Our new vicar provides a new beginning in this Benefice. I am sure she will have new ideas to encourage a much needed influx of younger people to join the congregation at St John's (95% of our congregation are Senior citizens). With this in mind, I feel that someone younger will be more suitable to take on my role.

Les Chappell
Deputy Churchwarden

Choir Report

The choir has continued to serve faithfully and to play a regular part in worship and in marking the special events of the church year.

Our special contribution to Easter was a Good Friday meditation in words and music, and then on Remembrance Sunday we sang a new work by Malcolm Archer, a setting for choir, organ and trumpet of Laurence Binyon's words: *'They shall not grow old'*, much enhanced by Ed Liebrecht on trumpet. We enjoyed singing selections from the Verdi Requiem on All Souls Day in November, and then it was the usual busy time of Advent and Christmas, with Carol Services at both Hempton and Deddington.

In an attempt to cater for all tastes our choice of weekly anthems has ranged from Tallis and Purcell to Stanford and Rutter. The Eucharist setting which we have used for most of this year was written by former organist John Cullen and we are now preparing a new setting which can be learnt and sung by the congregation.

Thanks must go to the Rev'd Dr Hugh White for his support and appreciation of the choir over the years and for his suggestions of music to increase our repertoire. And thanks also to all those who covered for the organist when she broke her wrist. It is good to know that there are several members of the choir who can very capably take over at short notice.

There have been a number of funerals this year where we have been asked to play a part, and it was with particular sadness that we sang at the memorial service for Ken Smith and the funeral of John Hodges, both much valued former members of the choir.

We were delighted to welcome our new Vicar in February and were pleased to play a part in the induction service by singing the very appropriate *Clare Benediction* by John Rutter:

*May the Lord show his mercy upon you,
May the light of his presence be your guide,
May he guard you and uphold you,
May his spirit be ever by your side.*

We look forward to working with Annie as we continue to contribute to worship and to the musical life of the church.

Elsa Williams

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Deddington Deanery Synod Report

A year of change in Diocese, Archdeaconry, Deanery and parish! Bishop John retired in October and while we wait and pray for his successor, our Bishop Colin holds the Episcopal fort. After a long vacancy, Judy French from Charlbury has become 'our' Archdeacon (of Dorchester). Lindsay Mills has regained her health so well that she agreed to be re-elected as Deanery Synod Lay chair, and in order to take some of the pressure off her, she now has an Assistant Lay Chair. Here in Deddington, Hugh White has moved to another post in the Deanery and is succeeded as our vicar by Annie Goldthorp.

Hugh White was the inspiration behind a Petertide Pilgrimage from Banbury St Francis to St Peter Hanwell, which was a great success on a lovely summer's evening. Many people from this Deanery were involved in the Grand Day Out—the culmination of Bishop John's Living Faith project and also his official Farewell to the Diocese. Despite the weather, it really was a Grand Day Out!

Deanery Synod itself met four times during the year as usual. Rosemary Wilson left us at the end of the year and Pauline Cattle and I were elected to Synod in April. All of us have in fact been to all the meetings, since the February meeting was an informative 'taster' session to encourage new people to stand for Synod.

- **May** Nicholas King from Campion Hall has spent 13 years translating the entire Bible, and explained some of the challenges involved. Do you go back to the earliest sources and translate as accurately as possible in the language of that time or do you translate into the language of today for the church of today?
- **September** We heard about Spiritual Care for older People (SCOP) and Age UK. The Green Pastures Nursing Home in Banbury, with its Christian Mission 'to show mercy and compassion', was established 27 years ago and now needs new and improved premises. Age UK provides information and support for the over-55s, and seeks to share good practice with churches. Our 'Soul Mates' service here in Deddington Church is one example.

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Children's Holiday Activities

The fun-packed sessions in the church for children aged 5 – 11 again took place at Easter, during the summer and at Christmas. About 25 children enjoyed making crafts with a religious and/or seasonal theme. We are very fortunate in that (with a bit of gentle arm-twisting) we seem to have a good number of adult helpers. Moreover, some of the teenagers who once came as "littl'uns" now come as excellent helpers. We still need **adult** helpers in order to achieve the correct ratio of responsible adults to children – so are always needing adult help.

Some of the people who had joined us for the first time were very pleasantly surprised at how enjoyable the whole morning was: well-mannered and cheerful children and a warm relaxed atmosphere in which time could be made to have a nice chat with an adult whom, perhaps, you had only just met. A social event for all! It would be great if a few adults were to come on the organising committee – not a great deal to do, just a bit of thinking when we choose the activities and crafts. Most of the "leg work" (posters, collecting entry forms, etc) is done by energetic Liz Coppin and her friends: many thanks. David Ben-skin is also very valuable in keeping the lively boys under control!

I would like to say a huge "thank you" to Wendy Burrows who extremely ably managed the Christmas event during my absence.

Annette Murphy (01869 336195
email: annette-orchard@live.co.uk)



Sacristan's Report

I am very happy to perform the role of Sacristan, along with serving at the altar and administering the chalice during services. I would like to take this opportunity to thank George Fenemore for providing his beeswax candles for use on the High and Nave Altars and the beautiful Easter candle.



Jenny Ward & Rev'd Annie

Sadly, Rosemary Wilson, a valued member of our chalice administrator team, left us on the 31st December 2014. She is intending to move from the area in the not too distant future. We thank Rosemary for her loyal and faithful service in this role and many other roles within our worship and church and wish her every happiness for her future ministry.

Kieran Power-Lydon our junior server has decided to step down from this role for the time being. John Osborough a server and chalice administrator has also decided to step down due to ill health problems. We thank them both for their loyal and faithful service and wish them every happiness for their future ministry.

Judy Ward is very happy to continue to be a server and chalice administrator when required. Our other chalice administrators are Pauline Cattle, Christine Gillespie, Andrew Green, Vanessa Loach, Diana Marshall, and Jean Welford.

Our regular presenters of the elements at Sunday Eucharists are Bob and Pauline Cattle, Winifred Holt, Diana Marshall, John Osborough, Delphine Sampson, Judy Ward, and Kenneth Wilkinson. Other members of the congregation have kindly carried out this role when needed.

All the above mentioned tasks are important and the efforts of those who carry them out have been greatly appreciated. Many thanks to you all. God bless each and everyone of you for your faithful service and all the help and support given to the church and to me, personally.

I would also like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome the Reverend Annie Goldthorp, who became our new vicar on the 12th February 2015.

Friends of Deddington Church

In last year's issue of this magazine, we reported that at the time of FODC's first AGM in October 2013 we had raised £1850 for Church funds, and this sum was augmented by Gift Aid contributions. As we all know, fundraising is not easy, and we considered this to be a reasonable achievement for our first year. However, I am happy to report that at the time of last year's AGM (October 21, 2014), we were able to hand over £2881 to the Church.

One innovation last year was our Floodlight Sponsorship Scheme. Julie Goodman volunteered to manage the scheme, but reports some disappointment at the small number of sponsors coming forward. The scheme did however raise £300 in the course of 2013/14. We thank Deddington Parish Council for their long-standing contribution of half the cost of Church floodlighting. Details of the scheme can be found in the Church porch, and on our webpage (www.fodc.org.uk).

Last year was pretty busy, and we organized four very popular events. The first was a Burns Supper in January, the tickets for which quickly sold out, leaving quite a few disappointed would-be diners. This event was followed by a Valuation Day in March, also very successful but somewhat quieter than our first Valuation Day. In April, we presented a wonderfully enjoyable and well-attended Calypso Evening, featuring a steel band and a Caribbean supper, with lots of dancing. This was the brainchild of Wendy Burrows, to whom particular thanks are due. The final event of 2014 was a very lively and well attended jazz concert featuring the Dickie White Jazz Allstars. And as some of you will know, we repeated our Burns Supper event on Jan 25th 2015, again very successfully.

I am very appreciative of the support of all the Friends and other supporters involved in organizing our events; they are too numerous to be listed here. Particular thanks however are due to Philip Allan, who has taken over the role of Treasurer on our committee, and to Steve Miller and Bob Cattle, the other two members. Their friends and families are always reliable and able helpers at events. Special thanks also to Julie and Phil Goodman for looking after our poster and ticket design, and to Elsa Williams for designing and printing tickets for our events.

Lesley Milroy, Chair, FODC 337614; (amilroy@umich.edu)

consideration will be given in the coming months on having them replaced.

Finally

The year ended with ringing on New Year's Eve to see the old year out and the new year in.

Colin Cox.

Tower Captain

Christian Aid

Christian Aid celebrates its 70th Birthday in 2015 - 70 years of work dedicated to the relief of suffering. In 1945 many British people, who had lost not just loved ones and homes but their hopes and dreams too, were horrified when they saw the suffering and devastation that Hitler had brought upon his own people in Germany. In May 1945 the leaders of all the main churches asked that Christians should resist celebrating a victory on the Sunday after VE Day and instead donate what they could to help reconstruct Europe. More than £3 million in today's money was raised that week-end. From that beginning Christian Aid Week has become the largest British demonstration of God's Love for the poor as each year nation-wide church members and others collect donations from their neighbours.

Last year in this parish some 36 people took part in delivering the familiar red envelopes to every home in the parish and returned later in the week to call for donations. The total of £2006 was sent to Christian Aid - 6.3% more than in 2013 - possibly a Deddington record. 100 residents had signed the Gift Aid declarations on their envelope, enabling Christian Aid to claim over £216 in repaid tax. On behalf of Christian Aid and all those whom they support we say a massive "THANK YOU" - AND to Pat Brittain, Diana Marshall and Viviane.

Christopher Hall



Bell Ringers' Report 2014

Special occasions and visitors

In addition to our normal ringing on Sunday morning and practice nights on Monday, we also rang for three weddings at Deddington and one wedding at Barford St Michael during the year.

There were no visiting ringers during the year although we did arrange for a visit by the local Scouts on the evening of Thursday 3rd July to see the bells and watch them being rung. Some of the older members of the group were allowed to try their hand at ringing.

We rang the bells on the morning of 23rd April at 11.00am to commemorate St George's Day

The Banbury Branch of our Guild also rang as usual on Boxing Day morning, Friday 26th December

Membership

As part of our efforts to gain new members, a recruitment leaflet was distributed throughout the village via the Deddington News. As a result we welcome two new members.

The two younger members who joined us in 2013 are still with us and making good progress. It is pleasing to note that these two, plus one of the other new members were nominated for membership to the Ringers Guild. The nominations were accepted, making them full members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers.

Ringling

Attendance on the whole has been very good, on Sunday we have managed to ring all 8 bells on most occasions and practice nights have been well attended, with only one or two practices being cancelled.

We held a tower open morning on Saturday 28th June, a day that coincided with the Farmers' Market. It was very well attended and I think we had sixty one visitors during the morning who were allowed to see the bells, see the view from the top of the tower and watch the bells being rung. It was not easy moving three groups of people at a time around the tower, but we managed it and thanks must go to all involved. The only disappointment was that we did not manage to get anybody interested in taking it further. However it was a success to get that many people to come and have a look and we will hold a similar event this coming summer.

Bells

The bells have continued to be maintained by Whites of Appleton and there have not been any mechanical problems during the year. However it must be said that they did advise us that the ropes were becoming worn in places and

Katharine House Coffee Mornings



In our 20th year of holding the Katharine House Hospice Coffee Mornings in the Church, the appreciation and gratitude of the Hospice is extended to the church and all the residents who support the work of the Hospice. We are open between 10am and 12 noon on Fridays, except Christmas Day and Good Friday. Supporters enjoy

their coffee or tea and the friendship that exists, funds are also raised with raffles, bookstalls, honey and the seasonal items—Christmas & Easter, knitted novelties that are made by supporters throughout the area.

If you have moved to Deddington, Clifton or Hempton, or have recently retired or just fancy a coffee and chat why not come along and meet fellow residents, you are assured of a warm welcome.

Pat Brittain

Aberford House Group

We have just completed what we believe to be our fifteenth year. Sadly Kenneth Holt was unable to continue with us this winter. He was one of my founder members and we very much miss him and his valuable contribution over many years.

It has been a great pleasure to welcome David Bird whose expertise in his research and leadership, has relieved my amateurish workload, and is much appreciated by the group.

This year we have been studying St John's Gospel and St John's Letters and are now trying to understand more about Revelation. Provocative and stimulating.

We meet at Aberford on Wednesday evenings and would welcome anyone who wishes to join a House Group.

Jean Welford [01869 338539]

Deddington Parish Show 2014

Last year's Show, held in the Parish Church on Saturday 6th September, the sixth one in the modern era, was the biggest yet, proving that this annual event has become an important community feature for all ages from the under 5s to the over 90s.

120 adults took part, entering 622 exhibits – some individuals entered over 30 classes and some only 1, but the support was amazing. 75 children took part and between them entered 141 exhibits, some of which were in adult classes for cookery, vegetables and fruit.

The judges, who judge at other local shows as well as ours, were very complimentary about the standard of the exhibits in all sections.



The 'Men's Cake' class is increasingly popular – well done to them, including probably a future chef, 12 year old Kieron Power-Lydon. Some of the crafts were outstanding - Judy Chard's beautiful embroidered table cloth and Rosemary Clark's lovely needle-point chair won first prizes – the vegetables, fruit and flowers were much admired – I could go on at length.

Well done to the children whose exhibits, always much appreciated, gave great delight as usual. Numbers of Under 5's entries are greatly boosted by the Pre School staff, who complete a class project for one of the classes, take the trouble to write out all the entry forms and bring all the exhibits to display on the day. Many thanks to them for getting such young members of our community, some of whom enter other classes as well, interested in the Show.

The Show committee members feel that we would like more young people to help run this Show, so if anyone is interested in becoming part of the team, please get in touch – we older members cannot go on for too many more years and it would be so sad if it had to die. The maximum number of meetings is 4 per year.

Thanks to everyone who helps on the day and the day before to set up the church.

The programme and entry form for this year's Show on 5th September is on Deddington-on-line. Paper programmes will be available from late June.

Wendy Burrows
Hon. Secretary

Ride and Stride 2014

The Ride and Stride 2014 was very successful as 10 "teams" took part and we raised £1,087 to be shared between our own church and the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust. So very many thanks to all the participators and their sponsors.

The Catling and Fawcus families and Tom Childs rode out on their bikes as did David Benskin with Toby and Jack Coppin and Sarah Banes with William. The Gillespies, the Fenions, Judy Ward, Rosemary Wilson and Jane Green strode: the Fenions outstripped us all by striding all the way from Banbury to Barford (where they had parked a car for their return!). It was great fun on a fine day so we look forward to more joining us on 13 September 2015: please note the date in your diaries now.

Jane Green



RIDE+STRIDE