

DIPTFORD AND NORTH HUISH

PARISH NEWS

JULY 2023 No. 630

If you know anyone who would like to receive the Parish News – contact
Val Haddy 01548 821418 or email valjohnhaddy@aol.com

There are many new residents within Diptford Parish – who are all welcome to join the mailing list for the
Parish News – find out what is going on in the village and come and join in this vibrant community



We regret that no information has been received regarding the Church Rota for July as at
4 July

That information can be found on the Mission Community website www.3rivers.org.uk or at
www.achurchnearyou.com/8942

Following an uncontested election for Parish Councillors in May, there is one VACANCY ON DIPTFORD PARISH COUNCIL

If you would be interested in becoming a Parish Councillor for Diptford, please contact the Clerk, Ali Kohler, at diptfordpc@yahoo.co.uk in the first instance.

Come along to the next Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 11 July?

Councillor Dan Thomas (DCC)

To read the County Councillor's report, please see the following:

See appendix 1 <https://www.diptfordparishcouncil.org/meetings.php>

Councillors David Hancock and Guy Pannell (SHDC)

To read the District Councillor's Report, please see the following:

See appendix 2 <https://www.diptfordparishcouncil.org/meetings.php>

Parish Council

River Discharges – the Parish Council voiced concerns over river discharges in the Diptford Area. The Area is used for wild swimming, fishing, and other water activities. The Parish Council are writing to South West Water to see what can be done about these river discharges, so that the local waters can be enjoyed safely by all.

Potholes – there are currently a large number of potholes in the parish roads. This issue is to be raised with Devon County Council as to when repairs will be carried out. Everyone can help with this, by reporting potholes to Devon County Council on dedicated website page.

Litter – there has been an increase in the litter on the road verges. The Parish Council will be monitoring this and ask parishioners to pick up litter and dispose of it where possible to keep our Parish looking nice.

School building works – the new classrooms are progressing and disruptions to the village are being kept to a minimum.

Graveyard – the Parish Council have been contacted with regards to the need for paths to be mowed in the graveyard to help with access to visit graves. We have been advised that paths are now to be mowed.

Village planters – the Parish Council thanks Beverley Sudgen and the others who have worked hard planting out the village planters which are all now looking blooming.

Parish Councillor Vacancy - Should anyone wish to be co-opted onto the Parish Council to fill the vacancy, please can you contact Ali Kohler the Diptford Parish Clerk in the first instance on the following email address: diptfordpc@yahoo.co.uk.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 11th July 2023 at 7pm, Diptford Parish Hall

Full Minutes will be found on the Parish Council website – www.diptfordparishcouncil.org

All Parishioners are welcome to attend Parish Council Meetings.

If you wish to raise any matter at Council, please contact the Clerk, at diptfordpc@yahoo.co.uk

Open Forum is held at the start of each meeting, where parishioners are able to bring up any items of concern or interest to them.

July 2023 {June 2023 Nature Notes}

How surprising can Nature be? For many, many years we have driven around the district at all times of the day and night, never seeing a 'local' deer. Then, one afternoon about three o'clock driving back from Totnes past Beneknowle a Roe deer Hind steps from the river side of the of the road, pauses to watch just what the ca will do, then slowly climbs the bank through all the vegetation. One of those 'did we, or did we not just see that'? Three young Squirrels have hopped across the field to try to find a way to 'raid' the bird feeders. Then a few days later a much larger grey squirrel appeared attacking the feeders. It was not going to be put off by hand claps, whistles or bangs. Finally, when a stone was lobbed towards it, the brazen creature decided to leave. The birds then came down to continue eating the fat balls. Saw a Goldfinch eating Lemon Queen plant. Perhaps it was the very light showers of rain the covered in aphids. Ants were seen of the plants. They caress these encourage them to emit excess also protect herds of aphids from larvae, lace wings and beetles. An interesting symbiotic relationship. Snails have been picked off the trunks and boughs of fruit trees prior to the 'rain'. Thrown into the field for the rooks! They must have climbed up to get away from the dry conditions, or from the impending flood!



or rather pecking at the tips of the eating the aphids? Incidentally, after rose buds and shoot tips were carrying these 'cows' to fresher parts insects with their antennae to sugary fluid for the ants to eat. Ants their predators; Lady Birds, and their

The Rooks have done an excellent job, searching the grass for the small garden chafers. These small insects came up from the grass where they have lived for a year as larvae, to eat pollen, fly and mate to complete the cycle. Numerous Rooks have taken advantage of an easy meal. They Chafers have been out and about for about a very dry and warm week. This occurred last year and the year before, roughly the first or second week in June. Dull brown bodies with bright green iridescent heads. Legs will cling onto, hair, clothes, or washing. This is a real danger when ironing and they have not been spotted hiding in the folds!

The starling families have multiplied considerably. The young in their immature drab garments squabbling over absolutely everything; food, water, space or adults' attention. They all take off as a noisy flock, flying 'follow the leader'. Up into the sky or towards leafy cover! Sparrow numbers have increased, but they are far more reserved in their movements. Three Wood Pigeons have taken to enjoying the bird bath. Because they are all so similar in dress it is difficult to tell which are male and which are female, or young from mature! Buzzards flying on rising thermals release a plaintive mew to encourage the young to join them on a high view flying trip. Blue Tits have shown no interest in the Bird nesting box. Perhaps it is not a fashionable colour being just wood! Or it is too obvious for the Magpies to see any activity and plot their take-away meals! The wise small birds have avoided the nest box being aware of the possible fate that awaits! The Pheasant calling out early morning and late evening, a regular alarm clock! Woodpecker drumming on a hollow bough in the valley. Great to sit in the evening sunshine and listen to the Swallows screeching across the sky. Not so many as last year but numbers seem to be increasing.

Hedgehog has been visiting but not as regularly as earlier in the year. Perhaps they have found it too dry for slugs and snails to be out at night? These molluscs still attacking fleshy plant leaves and stalks, toppling lupin stems like lumberjacks! Flowers have found their niche. Lasting for an allotted period of time and then gone. The season is going by so rapidly! But enjoy it whilst there.

Have a good summer, cream teas or something a little stronger.

Ham

Two tourists find themselves hopelessly lost on a long rural lane in Devon, without a map and no signal for the satnav.

They spot a farmer leaning on the gate to an adjacent field and they ask him "Does it matter which way we go from here to get to Newton Abbot?"

The farmer stares at them for a moment and replies, before walking away back to work "Not to me, it don't!"

GREGORY STEWARD

Professional Tenor

presents

An evening of Classical

favourites and

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Les Miserables

Carousel

South Pacific

St Mary the Virgin Church, Diptford TQ9 7NY

Thursday July 13th 2023 at 7 p.m.

Tickets £12 - Refreshments available for a donation in the interval

Tickets available from Diptford Post Office

Or email diptfordwithnorthhuish@btinternet.com

Or Telephone 01548 821330 Or Pay On The Door

Under 18s Free

NORTH HUISH COMMUNITY GROUP

INVITE YOU TO A

CREAM TEA



3.00 - 4.30PM

SATURDAY 15TH JULY

AT

NORTH HUISH CHURCH

IN SUPPORT OF

THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST

For Further details, email: northhuishchurch@hotmail.com

DIPTFORD PARISH LANDS ELEEMOSYNARY CHARITY


Diptford Parish Lands Eleemosynary Charity

We would like to make you aware that there are funds available for people living in the parish of Diptford to access in times of need.

Confidentiality Guaranteed

Contact: John Foster : 01548 821654

DIPTFORD AREA OIL CO-OPERATIVE

An advertisement for Heltor Heating Oil & Fuel Specialists. It features a yellow and blue oil tanker truck. The text includes: 'Competitive Prices & Reliable Service', 'heltor Heating Oil & Fuel Specialists', 'CALL TODAY FOR LATEST HEATING OIL & AGRICULTURAL FUEL PRICES', 'Specialists in domestic, agricultural & commercial fuel deliveries, replacement of tanks, lubricants, AdBlue, haulage and distribution.', a list of services (Fuel, AdBlue and lubricants at competitive prices; Reliable and efficient service; Friendly and professional service; We supply kerosene and gas oil additives; Next day and same day deliveries available, where possible; Local staff in depots, not call centres; Family run business; Tanks and fuel points available.), and contact information for Newton Abbot and Hailton Head Offices. Logos for Castrol and AdBlue are at the bottom.

Heltor in Newton Abbot are now our supplier of choice for the Oil Co-Operative and are proving to be reliable and better matching the original brief we had with Watsons. They are prepared to support the group need for regular top up or fixed amount deliveries at competitive pricing. Basically the arrangement we originally had with Watsons.

Also to support sporadic urgent requests that sometimes arise with group members, without ridiculous spot charges/prices.

Please see flyer attached or website www.heltor.co.uk for more details. I am monitoring and agree prices, as previously, to ensure we retain the lowest possible pricing.

If you are interested in joining the Diptford Oil Co-Operative please contact Steve Hill on 01548 821272 or email

mr.sjhill@yahoo.co.uk

Have you seen the NEW Diptford Village website yet?

www.diptfordvillage.co.uk

July 2023

How has the garden survived the June 2023 drought? Hose watering ban and much effort carrying gallons of water has been frustrating but 'essential'! Has there been a sudden rush of flowers and vegetables? Keep picking to encourage and prolong the succession of flowers, fruit and vegetables. Excess produce can always be given away to friends and neighbours, as such gifts are always welcome. The middle of the year has gone by, almost unexpected.

How about a bit of work for the month?

- Keep control of those pests & weeds. Treat as necessary.
- Watch out for disease
- Use late-sown annuals to fill gaps
- Hanging baskets & containers require much water & feed
- Deadhead regularly & cut back straggly plants
- Plant autumn-flowering bulbs
- Order next year's bulbs!
- Pick soft fruit as it ripens, for freezing, or jams, or even bottling.
- Have you tried thinning tree fruit to leave a few but potentially bigger fruit?
- Remove 'canes' that have finished fruiting, then tie in new canes.
- Cut off 'tired' leaves & remove mulch from strawberries that have finished fruiting.
- Summer prune soft fruit
- Make sure the Greenhouse is adequately shaded, ventilated, & dampened down. This is especially necessary in hot weather to it cool & humid.
- Are you pinching out & tying in the tomatoes, & cucumbers?
- Water at least once a day, preferably early morning or late evening!
- If the greenhouse is not in use for growing crops then thoroughly clean & disinfect it.
- When the weather is dry try raising the mowing height & mow less frequently. If mowing is just tipping-off the grass then leave the cuttings to rot down on the grass to provide a mulch.
- If the weather conditions are suitable give a light application of fertilizer, the grass will delight in a feed!
- Have you tried taking cuttings [Pipings] of Carnations or Pinks?
- Cut plants such as oriental poppies to the ground when flowering is over & leaves turn brown.
- Keep beds weed free, & apply a mulch once the ground is wet [after rain!].
- Check that ties & stakes are loose, you don't want to strangle the trees or shrubs.
- Plant container-grown trees & shrubs. Keep well-watered.
- After flowering, prune shrubs that flower on old wood.
- Lightly cut hedges, especially if the overhang public paths & walkways. Lightly trim topiary!
- Make last successional sowings of vegetables & salad crops.
- Lift & dry onions & shallots as the leaves dry back.
- Harvest & dry vegetables as they are ready.
- Keep beds weed free. Have you thought about sowing a 'green' manure winter crop?
- Have you started digging up potatoes for 'dry' storage?

Enjoy the month. Don't forget to sit back and relax with a cream tea, extra cup of tea or something stronger! Zephyrus

DIPTFORD W I JUNE REPORT

A very well attended meeting, lured by the attraction of Jo Moore, The Farmer Florist. Jo treated us to a wonderful demonstration, filled with advice and inspiration and told us of her career with flowers, leading to her ethos of sustainability.

Following a break for coffee (of course) the 'business' part of the meeting was held.

A letter of thanks from the Birch and Bracken Trust accompanying their receipt for our cheque was read out.

DFWI invitation to join in a visit on Thursday 27th July to meet the alpacas at Coombe near Buckfastleigh was discussed.

FUTURE EVENTS:

Members were asked if anyone else wanted to join the trips to the Gun Room (GR) on 19th June and the willow weaving (WW) on 12th July.

Several members are interested in meeting at the Station House for coffee and cake, on Wednesday 26th July. Lifts can be arranged. More details at meeting on 10th July. NB 26th July is Yealmpton Show day, just in case a reminder is needed!

Cream tea in the parish hall in August, details later.

Members were asked to think of ideas for a participatory event in the hall, in August.

Twelve members expressed interest in a visit to Glass Fusion at Brushford, Diptford. Juli to enquire about dates available for September.

Several members are interested in a trip to China Blue for lunch and ceramics painting in September. Enquiries to be made.

The annual Advent Fair is expected to be on Saturday 25th November. Availability of date to be confirmed. The setting up will be on the Friday evening as last year. After enjoying themselves so much last year, Nancy and Ann have asked to be cooking in the big kitchen again this year! Offer gratefully accepted by Juli!

Christmas lunch at the Avon Inn w/c 11th December. This will not necessarily be on a Monday.

Speakers for the meetings through until November are:

July - Les the Fez, see Next Meeting

August – No meeting

September – Chris and Sara Bellworthy from the Air Ambulance service

October – Charlie on her experience with the Cirque du Soleil

November – Les (the Fez) this time as Dartmouth Town Crier.

AOB

There was a great deal of interest in the forming of a new group next year to continue the friendship benefits we enjoy as DWI. Ideas for a name were discussed and suggestions are to be posted on the WhatsApp chat list. Early as this seems we need a name asap, to set up a bank account and for other admin purposes, so that we are ready to roll as soon as we leave the WI.

BOOK CLUB

Meeting at 11am 14th June at the Station House. Books for this meeting are Conclave by Robert Harris and Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus.

TREASURE BOX

Birthday Girl Maggie had the winning ticket

COMPETITION

Vase	1 st Tracey	2 nd Rowena	3 rd Maggie
Best Bloom	1 st Auriol	2 nd Juli	3 rd Pat

NEXT MEETING - 10th July 7.30pm

Speaker Les the Fez local magician and member of the Magic Circle. With balloon modelling!

Competition – a favourite sun hat or a pair of sunglasses and best bloom.

SAVE THE DATE!

Diptford 10th Advent Fair

Saturday November 25th

Only a month before Christmas so come and get your Christmas shopping.

Proceeds in aid of Totnes Hospital League of Friends.

If you wish to have a table contact Pat Sampford on 01548821419 or email
patsampford@hotmail.co.uk.

PEEP AT THE PAST

TOTNES TIMES 1 JUNE 2023 100 years ago

By kind permission of Mr Ken Prout and the Editor of the Totnes Times

"At the Castle Hotel, Totnes on Friday, Messrs Rendell and Sawdye disposed of three South Devon farms by auction. There was a large attendance. On behalf of Mr J Codd, Lower Larcombe, Diptford. 44a Or 9p with stone and slated house and buildings was submitted, possession to be given at Michaelmas. The tithe is £7.4s and land tax 9.5d in the £. The opening bid was £1,500 and Mr J Raymont, East Moor, Harberton became the owner at £2,400. W Beer (Kingsbridge) were the solicitors named"

For more local interest – Mr J Raymont was the father of Eva (of Lower Larcombe) who married William Stone from East Prawle. Eva was the sister of Daisy who married into the Steer family. Eva remained at Lower Larcombe until her death, and was survived by Bill who was a legend in the area, passing away at the age of almost 102.

WILLIAM RICHARD STONE Tribute by Rev Peter Willis at the time of Bill's death

13 November 1904 – 22 April 2006

So William, our oldest Parishioner, has completed his life here on earth. I wonder if you all know that he was not born here but walked in from the coast, driving his parents' stock, aged 18. His parents were moving to Thorn Farm. Later he was to meet Eva, marry in 1935, and to live and farm at Lower Larcombe. Some fifty nine years ago, Les Weekes came from Torbay to become one of the family. Les was eleven years old. So Bill and Eva became Auntie and Uncle all of their lives and, as for Les, he was more than a son to them. Eva died some twenty one years ago. Les then became the person to run the household, aided when possible by Mrs Mary Daniels, and also to take over the complete responsibility for farming and producing the vegetables for the weekly Friday market in Totnes. This was as Bill lost his sight.

I have known Bill for some 35 years and, as so many of you know, he was a 'real character'. You could say he was eccentric in many ways and had a wry sense of fun and humour. He laughed with you and laughed much at himself. His was always Open House, and he especially enjoyed entertaining the hunt, when the whisky especially flowed like water. I have known him to offer me a whisky before 10am on many occasions! He was certainly what is nowadays called 'old fashioned' which is a compliment. He enjoyed a joke and always said first of all when we met "You haven't got me yet, Rector". I always said "I didn't want him, and could he think of anything good about him if the occasion occurred?" He would laugh. I never saw Bill make a cup of tea or do any cooking. He was also well known for not being very mechanical. There was the instance when he turned the tractor over on to himself, and I well remember going into the operating theatre with unconscious Bill. He was in hospital for several weeks.

Many of us will really miss 'old Bill' and it is a pity that there are not many country folk like him left. "

Church Cleaning



Church Cleaning at St Mary's Diptford

SATURDAY 8 JULY

Volunteers would be welcome to help keep our lovely Church sparkling
Can you spare an hour and a half each month to help clean St. Mary's Church at Diptford?

Meeting around 9.30am. until 11am

Nothing is hard and fast, just come if you can

More Volunteers always welcome!

St. Mary's is our Parish Church - let's make it Sparkle.



Friends of Diptford School (FODS)

Sharing school news with the Parish

Jo 07977219689

Our next big event is the Diptford Arms and beetle drive on 15th July.

We hope to see lots of you there

HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR A NEW YURT AT SCHOOL

ALL WELCOME!

DIPTFORD ARMS

SATURDAY 15 JULY
DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

DIPTFORD VILLAGE HALL

KIDS WELCOME UNTIL 9PM
(ACCOMPANIED AT ALL TIMES)

FOOD BY PRE-ORDER
MORE INFO TO FOLLOW

BEETLE DRIVE!
A FUN, SOCIAL DICE GAME - NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

CONTACT: JO PALMER
07977 219689



PAINTER & DECORATOR

Rob Wild

Telephone 01548 857432

Mobile: 07811 756269

Email: wildec@outlook.com

Ian Kirton Plumbing & Heating



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01548 821 847

inkirton@btinternet.com

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for service and installation of oil appliances
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bathrooms

Any plumbing jobs considered

12/23

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Seasoned Logs for Sale

**Available in nets or by dumpy bag
£4/net or £90/dumpy bag
Free delivery to Diptford**

Call Graham 07813 169035

12/4

Diptford Community Fund Programme



Grants up to £2000 are available to community groups in Diptford to tackle
deprivation and make a positive difference to the lives of local
disadvantaged people.

Funding themes include:

- training & work opportunities
- assist families in need
- access to services in rural areas
- bring people together
- enable disabled people
- Promote access to arts, culture & nature

For more information and to apply for a grant, call 01884 235887 or go to
<http://devoncf.com/apply/community-benefit-funds/>



MINT MASSAGE



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Diptford TQ9 7NQ**

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mintmassage@icloud.com

07967629451

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

DIPTFORD PARISH HALL

BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS

TO MAKE A BOOKING FOR DIPTFORD PARISH HALL
Now with NEW CHAIRS and up to date small kitchen!
contact

DiptfordPH@yahoo.com or via the village website www.diptfordvillage.co.uk

Chair of Trustees

Diptford Parish Hall. DiptfordPH@yahoo.com 07944 098174

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

THE NOTICE BOARD IN THE SQUARE IS FOR COMMUNITY NOTICES ONLY

NO COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING WILL BE ALLOWED

WE WOULD ASK ALL ORGANISATIONS NOT TO 'HOG' THE SPACE AVAILABLE

**This additional facility is as a result of the first meeting of the Diptford Sustainable Community and
has been installed by Diptford Parish Council
with funding from our County and District Councillors**

**There is a combination lock – details of which have been given to voluntary organisations within
the village**

THE MOBILE LIBRARY

VISITS DIPTFORD EVERY 4 WEEKS

TUESDAYS 10.15 – 10.45

July 4 August 1 and 29

HIGHWAYS CONTACTS

**To report any Highways problem, either report direct on Devon County
Council website – devon.gov.uk (Report a Problem) or telephone the Call
centre on 0345 155 1004**

**This applies to faulty streetlights, potholes and problems of visibility though landowners
are encouraged to keep roadsigns on their land clearly visible and to cut roadside hedges
on an annual basis out of the nesting season. There are exemptions from the timing if
there are road safety issues.**

Editor : Mrs Val Haddy, School House, Diptford Tel: 01548 821418

PLEASE NOTE THAT all copy MUST be received before the 25th of the preceding month

Contributions may be submitted by e-mail to valjohnhaddy@aol.com

Contributions subject to change due to availability of space

If you have pictures which could be used in the News – please email to sue@jassy.org.uk

**Diptford & North Huish Parish News is published monthly by Diptford Parochial Church Council. Every care is
taken in compiling the Parish News and no responsibility can be taken for any action arising from information
given therein. All information is believed to be correct at the time of publication.**