DIPTFORD AND NORTH HUISH PARISH NEWS OCTOBER 2023

No. 633

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

St. Mary the Virgin Church **Diptford TQ9 7NY**

Harvest Festival Family Service

Sunday 8th October at 11am



Donations of tinned and packaged food for the local foodbank are welcomed The Church will be open during the week if you wish to leave food donations at the back of the Church A cash collection will be taken for the **Farming Community Network**

Diptford Parish Council September 2023

Councillor Dan Thomas (DCC)

There was no written report from Cllr Thomas this month

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

THE PLAYPARK HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY CLOSED DUE TO UNSAFE TREES and UNSAFE CONDITION OF TENNIS COURT NETTING. IT WILL RE-OPEN ONCE THE NECESSARY WORKS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

School – The new classrooms were opened on 22nd September and the school fete was held afterwards. The school opened its doors to the parishioners to come and have a look around the new classrooms

Ploughing of the Lanes – the parish council is currently looking into the Community Payback Scheme to enable extra manpower to enable the works to be completed.

Graveyard – There are continued complaints from parishioners on the condition of the graveyard grounds. Complaints have been forwarded to the secretary of the PCC.

Dog Waste Bins – Another dog waste bin is needed, the Parish Council is looking into this.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 10th October 2023 at 7pm, Diptford Parish Hall

Hedge Management with Sasha Georgiades

Diptford Parish Hall TQ9 7NU 7 - 9pm 3rd October 2023.

We are asking for £5 per person to help us cover the costs and any proceeds will be given to Friends of Diptford School . Please spread the word. Any queries please message me on

mail@commonflora.co.uk # 😩 🏶 🤻 😵 🛚

A course facilitator on the Devon Hedge Year Course and at visiting lecturer Schumacher College, Sasha will present her knowledge on how to manage our hedges for wildlife.

This is what will be covered: Brief history of hedges

Ecological importance of hedges
Hedges as important aspects of agricultural systems
Proper management techniques from a hedgelayer's perspective
Different hedgelaying styles
There will be time for questions.

Jane Acton
Ethnobotanist

07716588749

I @commonfloradays T @CommonFlora FB @CommonFlora

















Don Key

FOR DIPTFORD ANNUAL QUIZ

FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2023

AT DIPTFORD PARISH HALL 7.15pm PROMPT START

TEAMS OF FOUR \$6 ENTRY PER TEAM

Please bring your own nibbles and drinks and a prize for the raffle

Contact: Ham on 01548 821419

Would YOU like to add a contribution to the monthly Parish News? If so, contact Val Haddy on valjohnhaddy@aol.com or Sue Franklin on sue@jassy.org.uk

DIPTFORD W I REPORT

Fewer than usual at our September meeting to hear our speakers Chris and Sara, who volunteer on behalf of the Devon Air Ambulance. They hail from Tiverton and started to volunteer after themselves being airlifted from an accident. In 2015 only 7% of patients shared their stories with the Trust but this number is now much higher due to changes in the organisation. Chris and Sara gave a most interesting presentation, using the video equipment installed in the Hall, from the beginnings of the Air Ambulance, right through to the present day. They covered the lease of the first helicopters to the purchase of the most modern and bespoke ones which allow better patient care and access. The Trust is completely independent by choice and received its Air Operating certificate in 2014. They were able to expand their service to night flying, and a number of local communities have a local landing pad with remotely controlled lights. Did you know there is one in Moreleigh? They now have over 700

volunteers and in 2022 attended to 1829 incidents. One of the most shocking statistics was that 55% of cardiac patients were aged 18 to 69. Another reminder to Diptford residents that we have two Defibrillators in the parish, one outside School and the other at Curtisknowle.

Nancy went on to chair the meeting after coffee.

Lots of events are planned including another Willow Weaving session, help with the Village Boundary Walk refreshments, a visit to the new Strawberry Fields shop at Buckfastleigh, a rearranged date to visit Alpacas, a visit to China Blue with optional lunch, and a visit to Owens Coffee Roaster at Ivybridge. Our 'Advent Fair' in the Hall is Saturday 25 November, and tables can be booked now. A plea went out for raffle and tombola prizes in advance. Our Christmas meal, the last as Diptford W I, will be held in December and looking into the New Year, on 24 February, there will be an Open to All event in the Hall for Soup and Sandwiches.

Some members will be renewing their Food Hygiene Certificates.

When we cease to be the WI, we will become the LADYBIRDS and plans are progressing well for this. Our first event as the Ladybirds will be on 13 May – a talk and cheese tasting from Cheese Queens, formerly Ticklemore Cheese Shop.

Why not come along to our next meeting — Monday 9 October — in the Hall starting at 7.30, when our speaker will be Charlie (well known to lots in the village) with her tales of Cirque du Soleil.

Sue Franklin Press Secretary

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: Cllr Peach, Cllr Crocker & Cllr Hill

<u>DIPTFORD AREA OIL CO-OPERATIVE</u>



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

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.

Gardening October 2023.

Autumn is beginning to make itself felt; mists, dews and spiders' webs. Trees changing colour, yellows, reds and browns predominating. Have you prepared for a possible early frost? You may not even be aware of early morning light frost, but those Dahlias will react, leaves turning brown! Are those tender plants protected, or lifted and stored?

Are you cleaning those tools as you finish using them? Clean off mud and dirt, then wipe them over with an oily rag, or spray with WD40, any other rust inhibitor will be appropriate! Although you may be tired after working in the garden, if you 'store' dirty tools away when they are next used you will be in for a rusty surprise!

How about a bit of work in the garden?

- ➤ It would be a good idea to start collecting fallen leaves, store in a black sack, puncture with a fork and pile up so that valuable leaf mould can be made, ideas for lime intolerant plants, or you own potting compost.
- > Shred & compost all clean herbaceous material. Layer it in the compost heap, four of 'green' then one of 'brown'.
- ➤ Have you taken stock of successes and less successful attempts. Then you can plan for next year!
- ➤ Replant containers or baskets with winter displays.
- Finish planting out biennials such as wallflowers & sweet Williams. A handful of lime to the square yard, forked in will help!
- It might be convenient to remove the remains of this year's bedding plants!
- Are you ready to lift & store those tender perennials?
- ➤ Start preparing beds, fork or dig over the beds, or simply remove weeds & deep mulch. Noticed some allotments all prepared with cardboard boxes flat laid out over the soil & weighed down with bricks. Anything to stop weeds from growing & to protect the soil from heavy winter rains.
- Time to sow sweet peas under glass, this month & November.
- > Plant Lilies, & you could plant tulips towards the end of the month.
- Lift & store Dahlia tubers, especially after a frost. Pick them over to remove any slugs or snails, dry off, & keep in the dark away from frost!
- ➤ Have you removed the old fruiting canes from Blackberries, Raspberries & other cane fruit?
- > Tie in the new cane shoots.
- ➤ Put sticky grease bands round trunks and lower branches of fruit trees. Rub off any loose material so the 'pests' cannot bypass the band by going down the trunk underneath the 'band'. Remember to put new bands on in spring to prevent the creatures from climbing back up the trunks in Spring.
- ➤ Have you tried taking pencil sized hardwood cuttings from currants & gooseberries?
- ➤ Have you remembered to clean out the greenhouse & disinfect it?
- ➤ Also, containers & pots can be soaked in a bath of disinfectant then dried in the sun to be stored later.
- ➤ Have you had the heater in the greenhouse serviced? It will be necessary this year over winter.
- ➤ Check the stakes & ties, adjust as necessary. Renew & renovate borders & beds.
- Rake the lawn to remove the thatch build-up. Give the grass an autumn feed, it has worked hard this year. Like you it needs & deserves a reward.

Get a warm cup of tea or something stronger with a scone, cream & jam. Sit down & enjoy it.

Enjoy the season 2023.

Zephyrus.

Nature Notes September 2023 [For October 2023 Edition]

Sat typing these notes with the window open listening to the Robin in full song as it sat on a branch in the warm sunlight. A gentle breeze caressing the changing view as autumnal tints colouring the landscape. So many butterflies visiting the bright flowers. 'Whites' are in clouds of fluttering activity, alighting on the nectar-rich treats. A few Admirals, Peacocks and Meadow Browns join the constantly moving community.

In the warmth of a late evening, just as the sun was setting, dark shapes flittered around the garden over the tops of the flowers. Some bats out hunting insects criss-crossed the garden in the darkening light. Then they were gone, to return for just two more evenings. Little Pipistrelles coincided with the last Swallows, high in the sky. Both creatures taking meals of winged insects.

Nightly visits by hedgehogs snacking on snails. There were the broken remnants of snail shells on the steps by containers, and the Hedgehog's 'calling card'! These helpful friends seem to be visiting most nights, but we never actually see them in action. A thrush has been heard working on its stone anvil during the day. More snails must are removed with the bird's activity. Hedgehog and thrush are feeding well and controlling the snail numbers.

Have noticed an absence of sparrows during the first fortnight of September. There were very few if none around. Have they gone into 'another' moult, which usually takes place in mid-August? Is this another climate change adaptation? Or is it mere coincidence? Notice a fem, very timid Sparrows coming back to the feeders in the third week. They appeared to be exceedingly wary, flying back to cover at the slightest movement. Blue Tits and other small birds have also been absent. Is there something preying on small birds in the garden? The patrolling Sparrowhawk does not usually have this effect on the birds. After it has flown by, they hide away for an hour or so, then venture out to continue feeding.





What had happened to frighten these birds? Before the end of August they would alight in the garden to feed, even wait for food to be thrown onto the grass, then fly down to eat within two yards of us sitting down on the bench. Now they are completely absent or so timid as to not venture down at all. No Wrens in the garden, and they were always making their

presence noticed with such loud singing. The only small bird making any impression is the Robin sing loudly at any time of the day. Has anyone else been aware of the absence of small birds?

Recently notice the regular visits by European Hornets. They flew into the garden either solitary or a couple at a time, during the day, making frequent visits to the Pear bush, and the flowers. They do not seem aggressive or even bothered by our presence, flying within two feet of us, around the flowers. The loud droning flight noise announces their flight path. Have noticed them in the evenings making a late visit.

Went to see a friend who showed us the Hornets going in and out of the nest site under the soffit board, by the guttering. He had to close the windows on that side of the house especially at night. They cluster in groups of ten to twenty trying to find a way into the kitchen or other rooms. Spraying the windows with insect killer did not seem to deter them, so its has to be sensible action and close the windows. Having gone outside to see just what could be done he was stung on his back. This was quite a shock, as he had a reasonably thick coat on at the time. The swelling came up over three days, and he visited A & E to monitor the effect and to see what treatment was necessary. Having been stung on the shoulder the 'venom' effect moved to cover from top of his shoulder to the waist and from armpit to the spine. Over the next few days the effect receded. The whole incident took over a week to settle down! Quite a salutary experience. He is not usually allergic to stings or bites!

The September 'Indian Summer' broke and the necessary rain came to soak the parched ground. It will take a long time for the groundwater to fill up to normal levels. The river Avon has not been significantly high for most of the summer. In fact, there has been barely sufficient to keep the river

flowing at all. This shows just how much rain will be needed to replenish the moisture lost during the long hot period earlier in the year. It will be quite some time before the hose-pipe ban is lifted!

Many trees are showing autumnal colours already, and leaves are already falling. It promises to be a spectacular autumn especially if daytime temperatures are warm and night-times are cooler. Enjoy the season.

ST MARY'S CHURCH DIPTFORD



Diptford Church has a happy band of volunteers to help decorate the Church with floral arrangements.

We would like a few more people to call on.

If you would like to help – no experience necessary, you would be most welcome.

It does not have to be on a regular basis, just as and when you are able.

Please get in touch with Mary Sams if you are able to assist. 01364 72435

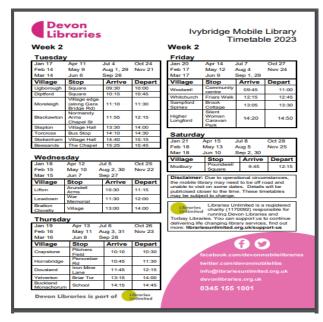
Diptford St Mary's Church Bells 2023.

Be prepared for some 'noise' on Friday evenings! The Church Bells will ring out again! Please come along and contribute to the heavy metal 'music'. Watch this space for dates and times.

Cheers.

Ham Sampford (01548 821419) [Captain]

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE



Devon County Council has made a decision to 'call in' the decision to stop the mobile library service. This we think means that the decision is now being scrutinised to make sure that the right decision was made.

There will be a second cabinet meeting on October 11th where a final decision will be made.

This means that the mobile library will continue to visit all stops until that time.

We urge you to continue to use the service – see Week 2 Tuesday dates for Diptford stops between 10.15 am and 10.45 am

NOTE - NO OCTOBER CALL as van off the

road for maintenance.

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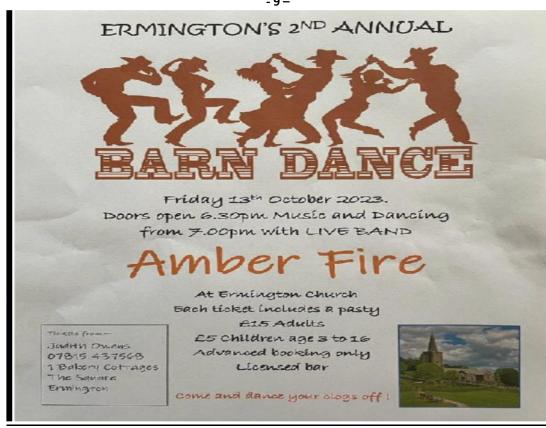
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	01.10.2023	08.10.2023	15.10.2023	22.10.2023	29.10.2023
Diptford with North Huish	11am Morning Prayer 4.30pm Brick Church	11am Harvest Festival	11am Morning Prayer	11am Holy Communion With Baptism	11am Benefice Holy Communion Service
Ermington	11am Harvest Festival	11am Matins	11am Holy Communion	11am Family Service	As Above
Harberton	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Prayer	9.30am Harvest Festival	9.30am Morning Prayer	As Above
Ugborough	9.30am Harvest Praise	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Praise	9.30am Holy Communion 4.30pm Messy Church	As Above
Halwell	As Above	3.30pm Evening Service	As Above	As Above	As Above
Harbertonford	As Above	As above	1pm Harvest Lunch and Service	As Above	As Above
Moreleigh	As Above	As above	As Above	3.30pm Holy Communion Service	As Above



JACQUELINE ANNE HAYFORD 'JACKIE'

Jackie, late of Bearscombe Farm, passed away on 29th July 2023
The funeral took place at St Mary's Diptford on 24th August
The service was conducted by the Reverend David Sayle
May Jacqueline Rest In Peace

DAVID PERKINS

David, late of Wheat Park, passed away on 22nd August 2023
The funeral took place at St Mary's Diptford on 4th September
The service was conducted by the Reverend David Sayle
May David Rest In Peace

CHARLES MARTIN RUSSELL EYSTON 'CHARLIE'

Charlie, late of Diptford Court, passed away on 20th August 2023
The funeral took place at St Mary's Diptford on 5th September
The service was officiated by the Reverend David Sayle
May Charlie Rest in Peace



CHURCH CLEANING

Would you like to keep our lovely Church sparkly?
You will be very welcome to come along to
St Mary's Church, Diptford on Saturday 2 September
From 9.30 am til 11 am
Steve Partridge is now organising our cleaning sessions

St Mary's Diptford

Help with Brass Cleaning- would you like to help and be added to the Brass Rota? Clean a piece of Brass in your time; this would be for Christmas and Easter only.

Please contact Val Haddy on 01548 821418 to be added to the rota Thank you.

Diptford with North Huish Parochial Church Council

Are looking for a Treasurer, if interested please contact Rev D. Sayle 01548 821199 for details



Friends of Diptford School (FODS) Sharing school news with the Parish

Xenia Ball Chair of FODS exball28@gmail.com

We had a very successful School Open Day on Friday 22nd September and celebrated the completion of the new classrooms, followed by our yearly Diptfest. Thanks to the wider Diptford community for your support.

Bags2school on the morning of October 5th. Bags of good quality, unwanted clothing to be dropped off at school before 9am.



Thursday 5th October



To be dropped off before 9am

Please use your own bags.

Christmas jumper swap day!

Don't forget to keep aside any outgrown Christmas clothing to swap. Date to be announced.....

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- · Jewellery
- · Lingerie Socks
- Belts Soft toys
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet
- * We reserve the right to refuse any unsuitable items

We **DO NOT** accept:

- Duvets and blankets
- · Pillows and cushions
- Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet
- · Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- · School uniforms with and without logo
- · Corporate clothing and workwear
- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

Bags2school accept the following 'good quality' items for RE-

On the 3rd November will be the school's Spooky Disco at Diptford Village Hall.













FODS 🚱 🚱 🕲 🌠 Spooky Disco

Friday 3rd November

3.20-4.45pm Diptford Village Hall

- Fancy dress optional
 - Tuck shop!

(Bring some change -All items 50p or less)

• Hot dogs- please preorder by Friday 20th October All ages welcome

Reception and preschool pupils must be accompanied by an adult.

FODS volunteers are available to escort children to the village hall for Years 1-6. Parents (years 1-6) if you require this please can you firstly liaise with another parent or FODS volunteer- then confirm with the school office who will be collecting your child from the school gate.

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. <u>DiptfordPH@yahoo.com</u> 07944 098174

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

THE NOTICE BOARD IN THE SQUARE IS FOR <u>COMMUNITY</u> 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

NOTE - NO visit in October as Library off the road
Returns on November 21

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 <u>landowners</u> 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.