

# **DIPTFORD AND NORTH HUISH**

## **PARISH NEWS**

**FEBRUARY 2026** **No. 661**

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

### **Three Rivers Mission Community Sunday Services February 2026**

Date & Liturgical Colour	01.02.2026 Presentation of Christ in the Temple	08.02.2026 2nd Sunday before Lent	15.02.2026 Sunday next before Lent	22.02.2026 Lent 1
	Psalm 24 7 - end Hebrew 2.14 - end Luke 2. 22-40	Romans 8. 18 - 25 Psalm 136 Matthew 6. 25 - end	2 Peter 1. 16 - end Psalm 2 Matthew 17. 1-9	Genesis 2. 15-17 & 3. 1-7 Psalm 32 Matthew 4. 1-11
Diptford with North Huish	11am Morning Prayer 4.30pm Brick church	11am Holy Communion	11am Morning Prayer	11am Holy Communion
Ermington	11am Holy Communion	As Above or Below	11am Baptism Service with Holy Communion	As Above or Below
Ugborough	9.30am Family service	9:30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Prayer	9.30am Holy Communion 4.30pm Messy church
Halwell	9.30am Holy Communion	As Above	As Above or Below	As Above or Below
Moreleigh	As Above	As Above	As Above or Below	3.30pm Evening service
Harbertonford	As Above	As Above	9.30am Holy Communion	As above

**Further information can be found on the Mission Community website**

**[www.3rivers.org.uk](http://www.3rivers.org.uk) or at [www.achurchnearyou.com/8942](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/8942)**

**REVD PETER AMBROSE DUNCAN WILLIS**

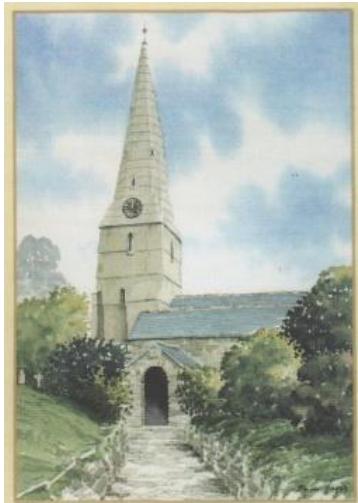
**Peter, who was a former Rector of Pembroke Tobago (1963-68);  
And former Rector of Diptford, North Huish, Harberton,  
Harbertonford, Halwell and Moreleigh sadly died on the 13th  
December 2025 after a short illness aged 91.**

**Peter is very fondly remembered by many people within Diptford with North Huish and across the Three Rivers Mission Community.**

**A Memorial Service is being held at Diptford Church on Monday 23rd February 2026 at 2.30pm and afterwards refreshments will be served at Diptford Parish Hall.**

**All are welcome**

**DIPTFORD CHURCH CLEANING**



**2026 is a very special year for our Church as it is 800 years old**

**Would you like to keep our lovely Church sparkly?**

**You will be very welcome to come along to  
St Mary's Church, Diptford From 9.30 am til 11 am  
2026**

**Saturdays January 10th February 6th March 7th  
April 4th**

**Steve Partridge is now organising our cleaning sessions [partridge.steve@btinternet.com](mailto:partridge.steve@btinternet.com)**

**SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE VILLAGE**

**Parish Council website [www.diptfordparishcouncil.org](http://www.diptfordparishcouncil.org)**

**Village Hall Bookings [www.diptfordparishhall.org.uk](http://www.diptfordparishhall.org.uk)**

**Facebook - Diptford Sustainable Community**

**WhatsApp - Diptford Support Network**

## DIPTFORD AMENITY TRUST Registered Charity Number 276979

**Account Name: Diptford Amenity Trust Sort Code: 30-98-69**

**Account Number: 00196602**

**GIFT AID REGISTERED TOO!**

**These are the details to use if you would like to donate towards the upkeep of our village Playing Field**

Diptford Amenity Trust is registered on #easyfundraising which means you can raise free funds for them as you shop online this year, at no extra cost! All the big names like John Lewis & Partners, M&S, Argos, eBay and more are ready to donate. Every donation makes a difference! Did you know that you can register on the EasyFundraising app to get a donation when you shop in-store too?

### PARISH COUNCIL OF DIPTFORD

**NEXT MEETING**

**DIPTFORD PARISH HALL TQ9 7NY**

**TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2026 at 7.30pm**

**All Parishioners welcome to attend**

**Minutes of Meetings are published on the Parish Council website  
[diptfordparishcouncil.org](http://diptfordparishcouncil.org) and on the Notice Board by School**

### DIPTFORD AREA OIL CO-OPERATIVE



If you are new to the village, you may not be aware that we have an arrangement with Heltor in Newton Abbot who are now our supplier of choice for the Oil Co-Operative. They 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. 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](http://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 07944 098174 or email [mr.sjhill@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mr.sjhill@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Business adverts as in Page 8 will be considered by the Editorial Team and are charged at £50 per advert –**

**for 12 issues of the Parish News**

**If wishing to advertise please contact the Editor Val Haddy**

**[valjohnhaddy@aol.com](mailto:valjohnhaddy@aol.com)**

## Cyber

### Scam Alert: Fake Parking Fine Messages

During recent Cybercrime awareness public engagement events across Devon and Cornwall, several attendees have reported receiving fraudulent parking fine notifications sent via text message and email.

#### How to Spot the Scam

As a general rule, real parking fines (Penalty Charge Notices) are never issued via a text or email message.

If you receive this sort of message, please look for these Red Flags:

- ☒ **Missing Details:** The message won't include your vehicle registration number, the specific car park / location, or the exact date/time of the incident.
- ☒ **False Urgency:** They use "scare tactics," threatening that the fine will double or triple if you don't pay quickly.
- ☒ **Suspicious Links:** They will urge you to click a link to "pay now." These links lead to fake websites designed to steal your bank details.

#### What You Should Do

- ☒ **Do Not Click:** Never click links in unexpected texts or emails.
- ☒ **Verify:** If you are worried, check with your local council or the private parking firm directly using a trusted website or an independently verified phone number. NEVER call any phone numbers included in the original message.
- ☒ **Report It:**

- **Texts:** Forward the message to 7726 (it's free and alerts mobile providers).
- **Emails:** Forward to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk).
- **Fraud:** Report to [reportfraud.police.uk](http://reportfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040.

If you think you have lost money or given out sensitive financial information to scammers, immediately alert your bank / financial institution. Call them right away to inform them of the suspicious incident. You can quickly reach many UK banks' fraud departments by calling 159





### **NOTES FROM DIPTFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 2026**

A well attended Parish Council meeting was delighted to hear that a considerable amount has been awarded from the Devon Community Fund towards the installation of new play equipment in the Playing Field which, together with the Gift Aid now received, will almost cover the quotes received. Cllr Carroll is now to take this further with Council's preferred contractor.

Further fundraising will begin shortly with a view to replacing the Climbing Frame rather than spend more on further repairs when necessary as the item is nearing end of life.

Early February will see the delivery of 10 free fruit trees from Devon Wildlife Trust, to be planted in suitable places in the Playing Field. Our Tree Warden Will has suggested a white hornbeam as our Landmark Tree, which could be used to commemorate 800 years of Diptford's Parish Church.

A wheelchair accessible bench is to be provided in the Playing Field.

Bad weather planning – DCC have confirmed that the road from Avonwick to Diptford Square remains on their secondary gritting routes. Council is to request that the road from Shorter Cross on the Totnes road to Short Cross on the Kingsbridge road via Moreleigh be added to secondary gritting routes due to the amount of traffic now using the road and number of minor accidents. We can ask but no guarantees!

Councillors remain extremely concerned at the lack of resilience in the local aerials and impossibility of mobile usage in the event of power cuts.

Cllr Parker-Davidson has arranged a **presentation** on hiring by the Parish Council, and borrowing by parishioners, of a **Thermal Imaging Camera** to use in your own home and to help spot those cold areas in your house. **At the Parish Hall on Monday 16 February at 7pm.** **Entry is FREE.** This presentation will show us how to use the camera so come along and find out more – see the flyer below and please do come along to the presentation.

## Borrow a Thermal Imaging Camera & Improve your Home Comfort

**19.00 – 20.30**  
**16<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Free Entry**

Diptford Parish Hall  
Diptford  
TQ9 7NY

This event is being sponsored by Diptford Parish Council



**Cosy, Efficient and Future-Ready Homes**

Do you have concerns or want to know more about:

- Potential cost savings for a cold, damp, or expensive-to-heat home?
- Adapting to climate change?
- Choosing the right renewable solutions for your property?

Come along on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February to find out more

**Join us to learn how to use a Thermal Imaging Camera & borrow one to use in your own home. Help to spot cold areas in your house**



**Contact Us**  
0800 112 3044  
[advice@sdce.org.uk](mailto:advice@sdce.org.uk)  
<https://www.sdce.org.uk/>




**The next Diptford Parish Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday 17 February**  
Notices and Minutes will be published on the Parish Council noticeboard near School, and on the Parish Council website.  
All Parishioners are welcome to attend and can raise any item for a limited time within Open Forum at the start of the meeting.  
Parishioners are

recommended to contact [clerk@diptfordparishcouncil.org](mailto:clerk@diptfordparishcouncil.org) beforehand.

### 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 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**

## **DIPTFORD PARISH ELEEMOSYNARY CHARITY TRUST**

**Grants for teenagers in Diptford going on to higher or further education** are available from a historic local charity that was originally created last century to benefit rural apprentices. The current Trustees now wish to broaden the eligibility and invite applications from a wider group of young people, who are resident in Diptford Parish and need financial assistance with equipment/books to support their university courses or further education including technical courses and apprenticeships.

Applications are also invited from any local parishioner who is undergoing or preparing for higher education or a further training scheme that provides a suitable life skill or employment qualification. Regular University course and accommodation costs do not qualify, but other supplementary one-off costs could be considered. Successful applicants will need to show evidence of the benefit and grant expenditure.

Applications to The Eleemosynary Charity Trust should cover the following headings:

- Full name: and name of parent for applications from children under 16.
- Address: (applications can only be accepted by residents of Diptford Parish).
- Email & Telephone:
- Reason for the application providing any evidence of need, the benefit, and details of what the grant will be expended on:
- A proposed breakdown of grant expenditure with associated cost evidence.

The merit of all applications will be assessed by trustees of the Eleemosynary Charity Trust on the individual's financial need and their personal benefit from a grant.

Applications should be sent by email to the Chairman of the Eleemosynary Charity Trust by 30th April each year (Revd P David Sayle, Rector of The Three Rivers Mission Community, [parish\\_sayle@me.com](mailto:parish_sayle@me.com)).

Applications of special merit and immediate need may be made at short notice using the above application

## **FRIENDS OF DIPTFORD SCHOOL (FODS)**



FODS are pleased to say that the desks and stools to set up the Diptford ICT Suite have arrived - huge thanks to Ange Fisher for leading this project.

Very few small schools have a dedicated ICT room so this is a real plus for Diptford. It means the laptops will be set up permanently allowing children to use the space for research helping their skills develop.

We have also just funded £350 for a whole school trip to Buckfast Abbey at Easter and £600 towards the whole school Summer trip!

Thank you to all our supporters - you are making a huge difference to the enrichment of the Children.

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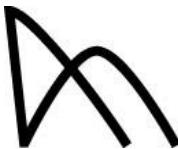


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for service and installation of oil appliances  
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## Andrew Heimann



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## SEASONED LOGS FOR SALE

Available in nets or dumpy bags

**£5/ net or £110/ dumpy bag**

**Free delivery to Diptford**

**Call Graham on 07813 169035**

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

### **DIPTFORD PARISH HALL**

#### **BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS**

#### **TO MAKE A BOOKING FOR DIPTFORD PARISH HALL**

Diptford Parish Hall has a website!

[www.diptfordparishhall.org.uk](http://www.diptfordparishhall.org.uk)

Please use the online Calendar & Booking System.

Also, there is a facility to 'Add an Entry' if your group /organisation would like to add any local events or organisations.

Please feel free to share this amongst your groups & friends.

I hope you find the website useful & helpful in your interactions with the Hall.

Feedback welcomed.

Steve.

*Chair of Trustees Diptford Parish Hall.*

[DiptfordPH@yahoo.com](mailto:DiptfordPH@yahoo.com) 07944 098174

### **Diptford Parish Councillors**

The Parish Council Councillors now have dedicated email addresses and if you wish to contact any of the Councillors directly, please use the email addresses listed below or alternatively contact the Parish Clerk on [clerk@diptfordparishcouncil.org](mailto:clerk@diptfordparishcouncil.org)

Cllr S Franklin (Chair) – [sue.franklin@diptfordparishcouncil.org](mailto:sue.franklin@diptfordparishcouncil.org)

Cllr S Parker-Davidson (Vice Chair) – [steven.parker.davidson@diptfordparishcouncil.org](mailto:steven.parker.davidson@diptfordparishcouncil.org)

Cllr C Peach – [chris.peach@diptfordparishcouncil.org](mailto:chris.peach@diptfordparishcouncil.org)

Cllr T Crocker – [trevor.crocker@diptfordparishcouncil.org](mailto:trevor.crocker@diptfordparishcouncil.org)

Cllr L Lethbridge – [louise.lethbridge@diptfordparishcouncil.org](mailto:louise.lethbridge@diptfordparishcouncil.org)

Cllr L Carrol – [lucy.carrol@diptfordparishcouncil.org](mailto:lucy.carrol@diptfordparishcouncil.org)

Cllr G Paterson – [gavin.paterson@diptfordparishcouncil.org](mailto:gavin.paterson@diptfordparishcouncil.org)

Cllr D Dugdall - [debbie.dugdall@diptfordparishcouncil.org](mailto:debbie.dugdall@diptfordparishcouncil.org)

### **HIGHWAYS CONTACTS**

To report any Highways problem, either report direct on Devon County Council website – [devon.gov.uk](http://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](mailto:valjohnhaddy@aol.com)

Contributions subject to change due to availability of space

Views expressed within the Parish News are those of the contributors and no endorsement can be given by the PCC to views expressed.

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.