

DIPTFORD AND NORTH HUISH

PARISH NEWS

MAY 2023

No. 628

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



*An invitation to
celebrations in Diptford
for the coronation of
King Charles III*

Saturday, 6th May 2023, 12 noon to 4pm
at Diptford Parish Hall





You are most warmly invited to join in
Diptford's celebrations of the
Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III
on Saturday 6th May 2023
at Diptford Parish Hall
from 12 noon to 4pm



Come and celebrate – all these are free!
Barbecue (1.30pm) • Ice creams • Tea and coffee
Prosecco to toast The King (3pm)
Commemorative pen • Games • Entertainment • Crafting
Face painting • Music • Bag of goodies for all children
Bring your own alcoholic drinks

Kindly sponsored by
Diptford Social Club
diptfordvillage.co.uk



With additional support from
Diptford Parish Council
diptfordparishcouncil.org

Church Cleaning



Church Cleaning at St Mary's Diptford

SATURDAY 13 MAY

Can you spare an hour and a half each month to help clean
St. Mary's Church at Diptford?

We meet 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.

Mary (01548 821330)



**A Service
Celebrating the Coronation
of**

King Charles III

**on
Sunday 7th May at 11am**

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



All are Invited

www.3rivers.org.uk

achurchnearyou.com/8942

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



The poster is enclosed in a black rectangular border. At the top, there are three decorative elements: a cluster of three yellow daffodils on the left, a red arched logo for 'Churches Conservation Trust' in the center, and another cluster of three yellow daffodils on the right. Below these, the words 'Spring Celebration' are written in a large, green, cursive-style font. Underneath that, 'AT NORTH HUISH CHURCH' is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. This is followed by 'With Singing, Poetry & Handbells' in a bold, red, sans-serif font. The date and time, 'Sunday 14th May 2023 at 6pm', are in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below this, 'Refreshments provided' is written in a smaller, italicized, black, sans-serif font. The phrase 'All Welcome' is in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the contact information 'For further information email: northhuishchurch@hotmail.com' is in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

Spring Celebration
AT NORTH HUISH CHURCH
With Singing, Poetry & Handbells
Sunday 14th May 2023 at 6pm
Refreshments provided
All Welcome
For further information email:
northhuishchurch@hotmail.com

THANK YOU

The organisers would like to thank all those who supported the Bring & Buy Coffee morning and cake sale held on 1st April 2023.

A donation of £ 200 was made to the Churches Conservation Trust.

Diptford Parish Council Ali Kohler, Parish Clerk diptfordpc@yahoo.co.uk

Next Meeting:

Diptford Annual Parish Council Meeting - Thursday 25th May 2023 7pm Village Hall (note this date is later in the month due to the May elections)

Diptford Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 25th May 2023 following on from the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

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.

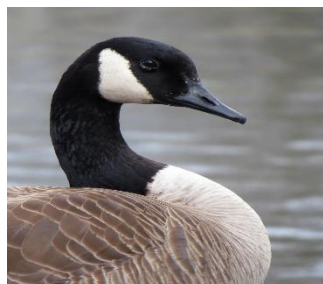
Note – No Parish Council report for May Parish News due to early deadline – Full Minutes will be found on the Parish Council website – www.diptfordparishcouncil.org

Nature Notes May Edition 2023 [Nature Notes for April 2023]

Strange weather as we seem to have had adequate rainfall since Christmas, but BBC weather report gave Roadford Lake as only 65 % full and several other lakes only just about 50%. Generally, the South West water holding nowhere as near to the expected 85%. Far more needed to ensure readiness for the summer use. In fact, there are still hosepipe bans reported in north Devon and parts of Cornwall.

The River Avon has risen to a high state on several occasions, with peat-stained water rushing past, bank full. Any early low-nesting birds will probably have nests and eggs washed downstream already. The rook colonies around the village are nesting as high as they can. Surely, they know a thing or two about the wind and rain? House Sparrows have become more and more noisy in their 'preparations' for nesting! A lot of chasing around the garden and flying headlong into the shrubbery cover! Blue Tits are extremely active, although none appear to have investigated the 'new' nest box yet.

A Fieldmouse has made good use of the peanut rack by the pear tree. It has been running from ground level up the support to the container and back again so many times it must have been dizzy. Does this mean there are young around? For such a small creature it certainly is amazingly agile and active. Pretty little animal, but very vulnerable.



Have seen skeins of Geese flying down river honking their way towards Turtly Mill Lake. Hope they are good customers! Especially if food is deliberately left out for them! They make an impressive display on their travels. Originally these were ornamental and introduced on various ponds and lakes. Now their numbers have increased and they have become quite wild, being considered having resident status. All this in less than one hundred years.

The visiting hedgehog has left a calling card for a number of consecutive nights! With luck it is making inroads into the snail and slug population and dining on earthworms too. At least we have a regular active visitor to the back garden. Hopefully, the sleeping arrangements are to its liking and it will be encouraged to stay for a while. It may even decide to invest more than just time in the garden!



We are in need of biological control of the Lily Beetles that seem to have had a particularly easy winter, as there are massive numbers on the Lilies.

They festoon the Lily Leaves and are so easy to spot being such a bright colour. Left alone they will quickly decimate the Lily leaves and flower buds. If you try to gently take them off the leaves they drop off at the slightest movement and go to ground. The only way is to spray them, to reduce their numbers. But they will be back later in July and next year.

There is activity in the pond at last. Two 'black' goldfish have come through winter. They are feeding well and competing well. No spawn is apparent, at the moment! Insect life on the pond's surface is increasing rapidly: skaters, boatmen and others flit across the surface to investigate any movement. Future looks bright, and the water is so clear. Will have to remove some of the weed to make space for all the activity.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF CONCERT IN ST MARY'S DIPTFORD

GREGORY STEWARD
Professional Tenor
presents

*An evening of Classical
favourites and
'Songs from the Shows'*

*Les Miserables
Carousel
South Pacific*

St Mary the Virgin Church, Diptford TQ9 7NY
Thursday July 13th 2023 at 7 p.m.

Booking contact and entry details will follow

but put the date in your diaries now

Garden Notes May 2023

Have you managed to sow anything in the vegetable beds yet? Don't worry or be lulled into a false sense of security. Nature is quite capable of delivering a neat blow below the belt. Frosts can suddenly appear at any time this month when least expected, especially in the early first half of the month. Be prepared to cover those young shoots of tender plants with newspaper, hessian sacking or fleece.

Weeding should of course be carried out throughout the year, but remember weeds are growing at their fastest around now. Ephemeral weeds, those that germinate, grow, and seed several times in a year are very active now. One year seeding gives seven years weeding! Hoe when dry and sunny, even if you cannot see germinating weed seed. The wind and sun will desiccate the seed before it sends out shoots if you disturb the soil around them. When weeding wear gloves as there a bound to be stinging nettle shoots hiding amongst other weed shoots just waiting to give you a nasty 'nip'. Although small the stinging power is there!

Are you ready, planned for the season? How about a bit of work then?

- Watch out for pests, disease and take appropriate action, sooner rather than later.
- Harden off tender annuals in protection.
- Plant out tender annuals & perennials once frosts are over.
- Harden off hanging baskets & containers.
- Support annual climbers & perennials so plants can grow through the supports.
- Plant out dahlias after frosts are over.
- Cut grass around naturalized bulbs once foliage dies down.
- Continue to mow lawns regularly, slowly reducing height cut.
- Apply selective feed and weed and moss killer.
- Apply nitrogenous feed later in the month.
- Prune and tie in fan trained fruit trees.
- Place a straw mulch under strawberry foliage.
- Allow plenty of ventilation in the greenhouse.
- IT may be necessary to apply shade to the greenhouse.
- Water at least twice daily, in early morning and late evening.
- Keep on potting up and hardening off annuals.
- Control pests and disease if necessary before it becomes a problem.
- Prune shrubs that have flowered in early spring.
- Clip hedges if necessary.
- Take soft wood cuttings.
- Tie in new growth.
- Continual successional sowings of hardy vegetables, little and often.
- Plant out pre-sown vegetables, after last frosts.
- Have you earthed up early potatoes?
- Sow biennials [wallflowers and sweet Williams].

Enjoy the season

Zephyrus

Kew fells 1,000 ash trees to beat disease: The Royal botanic Garden Kew has been forced to temporarily close a 150-acre nature reserve at its Wakehurst site while it fells as many as 1,000 trees to combat ash dieback. The closure of the reserve, in the Loder Valley, follows research that found more than 90% of its ash trees were affected by the fungal pathogen, *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*, which leads trees to suffer leaf loss and crown dieback. It's hoped the felling will prevent the disease from spreading further, while Kew scientists study the genetic make-up of more resilient species to find a long-term solution.

See: kew.org for more information.

DIPTFORD W I APRIL REPORT

The Parish Hall reverberated to the sound of Japanese drumming at our April WI meeting. Damion Lee from Moor Taiko brought a variety of drums with him and set to work trying to get 12 of us to play in some sort of order and rhythm. Not an easy task but we sort of got there in the end. It is ensemble drumming for the whole community. It was certainly a lot of fun and we learned a lot during the evening. Moor Taiko promotes fun, fitness & well-being through Taiko – a thrilling combination of rhythm, movement and energy. Its lots of fun to play, is good exercise and helps develop coordination and internal rhythm.

After coffee, it was down to 'business' including correspondence from both the Devon Federation and national Federation.

A group will be visiting Lady Astor's House on Wednesday 31 May.

19 June – a return visit to the Gun Room at Ivybridge

Due to the building works at Diptford School, necessitating the School using the Parish Hall until the autumn, it has been decided to delay the Group Meeting, which it is Diptford's turn to host, until 2024, when it has been booked in for 4 March. The speaker has yet to be decided.

The Committee had received a lovely letter from the Head of Diptford School, Holly Edgington, apologising for any inconvenience caused in the meantime, accompanied by a lovely box of biscuits. What's not to like and appreciate?

Angela is investigating the setting up of an informal Book Club.

Rowena told us about a Soup Lunch for the Mothers Union on Saturday 3 June.

The next meeting of Diptford WI will be the AGM on Monday 15th May at 7.30pm at which the Committee is elected.

LOCAL ELECTIONS MAY 2023

You may have heard about important changes taking place in the upcoming local elections. This year they are being held on Thursday 4 May, for all wards in South Hams.

Voter ID

The main difference for voters is that **you will have to show photo ID when voting at a polling station - postal votes are unaffected.**

Which forms of ID can I use to vote?

You can use any of the following:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional licence)
- Blue badge
- Certain concessionary travel cards
- Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- Biometric Immigration document
- Defence identity card
- Certain national identity cards

If you don't already have an accepted form of photo ID, or you're not sure whether your photo ID still looks like you, you can [apply for a free voter ID document](#), known as a **Voter Authority Certificate**.

Don't forget to register to vote if you haven't already

Have you seen the NEW Diptford Village website yet?
www.diptfordvillage.co.uk



Friends of Diptford School (FODS)

Sharing school news with the Parish

Jo 07977219689

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

The Duck race was a great success and despite the weather we had lots of parents and children come down and support the event. It really was the perfect weather for ducks! We raised over £400 which goes towards our yurt fund.

Our next big event is the Diptford Arms and beetle drive on 15th July. We hope to see lots of you there.

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www.heltor.co.uk
admin@heltor.co.uk

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



PAINTER & DECORATOR

Rob Wild

Telephone 01548 857432

Mobile: 07811 756269

Email: wildec@outlook.com

Ian Kirton Plumbing & Heating



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12/23

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£4/net or £90/dumpy bag

Free delivery to Diptford

Call Graham 07813 169035

12/4



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**The Stables, Etheridge Farm,
Diptford TQ9 7NQ**

www.mintmassage.co.uk

mintmassage@icloud.com

07967629451

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
- access to services in rural areas
- enable disabled people
- assist families in need
- bring people together
- 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/>

**DIPTFORD,
SOUTH DEVON.**

**FREHOLD COTTAGE, GARDEN, STORE AND PREMISES, FOR SALE
WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.**

RENDELL & SYMONS
WILL
SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION,
AT THE SUN INN, DIPTFORD,
ON FRIDAY, THE 12th JULY, 1901,
AT HALF-PAST SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING, PUNCTUALLY,
(Subject to the conditions then printed).

**THE CONVENIENT
COTTAGE RESIDENCE**

SITUATE IN THE VILLAGE OF DIPTFORD, NEAR THE CHURCH,
With the GARDEN and OUTHOUSE thereto belonging.
The House contains a Sitting Room and Kitchen on the Ground Floor, and Three Bedrooms over; with a Wash-house and Offices in the rear, and adjoining is a

LARGE STORE,
(formerly a Blacksmith's Shop), facing the road.

Application to view should be made to Mrs. HEARD, at the House, on **MONDAYS** and **THURSDAYS**, between 2 and 5 o'clock in the Afternoon.
Further particulars can be obtained from the AUCTIONEERS, at Newton Abbot or Totnes; or

MESSRS. KELLOCK,
SOLICITORS, TOTNES.

Dated 1st July, 1901.
T. W. STOKES, PRINTER (SOUTH DEVON LIBRARY), 12, HIGH STREET, TOTNES.

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

May 9 June 6 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 road signs 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 21st 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.