

Cuddesdon & Denton Newsletter



February 2026

❖ Church Directory ❖

Vicar: The Revd. Tom Wallis, The Rectory,
17 Southend, Garsington. Tel: 361146
therevdtomwallis@gmail.com

Churchwarden: Robert Wilson

Treasurer: Mrs Smith-Fitchett

Organist: Mr Keith Randall, 3 Butts Road,
Horspath Tel: 874587



Church Services at All Saints, Cuddesdon

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP), 1st and 3rd Sundays

9.30am Parish Communion, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays

10.00am Benefice Communion (alternating between Garsington,
Cuddesdon and Horspath), 5th Sundays



Private Prayer

St Mary's Garsington: Tuesday & Fridays, 9.30am – dusk

Monday, Saturday and Sunday, 10.30am – dusk

All Saints' Cuddesdon & St Giles' Horspath: Daily 10.00am – dusk



To book Weddings and Baptisms

And for other queries, please call: 07856 456363

or email: gchbenefice@gmail.com

Front cover: The recreation ground on a winter morning

THE TOWER LIGHT

The church tower has been lit up for a couple of months and the PCC would like to thank the eight people who have generously contributed to our funds and between them raised the sum of £390, thereby making this illumination possible. It may be that others would like to contribute and so prolong the period of illumination.

We suggest £40 for a week's illumination and £10 for a single night.

The easiest way to contribute is by bank transfer:

Account name: All Saints Parochial Church Council Cuddesdon

Account number: 30368024

Code: 20-65-21

If you donate by bank transfer, please use the account name exactly as it is above (without any further punctuation and without abbreviation) and do send me an email to let me know your donation so that I ensure that the light is kept on for the sponsored time.

We wish you a Happy New Year and hope you have enjoyed seeing the lit-up church tower on these long, dark winter nights.

Robert Wilson (churchwarden) and the All Saints' PCC



WANT TO ADVERTISE IN THE NEWSLETTER?

Sizes in mm, height x width

Quarter page upright	96 x 65	£6.00
Quarter page landscape	47 x 132	£6.00
Half page	96 x 132	£12.00
Full page	196 x 132	£24.00

Send your advert to cuddesdon.dentonnl@gmail.com as a pdf, jpg, png or doc

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Dear Parishioners

I fear it's too late to wish you a Happy New Year and Happy Valentine's doesn't feel appropriate either.... so, I'll just get on with my February update.

For those of you who haven't been to the dump recently, there's a new rule that you have to book an appointment before heading to Redbridge (or wherever you choose to go). So, make sure you get online before heading off.

Go to: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/book-recycling-centre-visit or phone OCC on 01865 519800 and ask for the Waste and Recycling team.

You'll also need to take proof of address with you and turn up in the car you registered when you booked your time slot. Plainly this is an extra obstacle to easy disposal of rubbish in our area and this is reflected in the increased incidence of fly-tipping.

To this end, having given parishioners a chance to comment over the last few months, the PC spent some time at our January meeting looking at potential cameras to install at the worst fly-tipping spots around the parish. As it's a fairly big investment, we haven't decided on anything yet, but we are trying to move towards a consensus that won't be too expensive but will be effective in capturing useable evidence against fly-tippers.

On the community website you'll be able to see the draft minutes from our meeting, but another thing we did do is to raise the precept slightly. We always do this with caution and our budget is one of the lowest in the county, but we do need to be responsible and make sure that the parish can respond if there are things to do like making trees safe or replacing playground equipment.

One of the reasons our costs are relatively low is because we have so many great people volunteering in the village. I appreciate every minute of time that parishioners give up to help the community, whether it's putting up the Christmas Tree, running the village hall, looking after the church, organising the coffee mornings, tending to the Orchard or anything else. All of it makes our parish a better place to live. Thank you.

Speaking of Redbridge, I did a little experiment in January and drove to the Park and Ride. I was armed with quite a few parcels but struggled onto the bus and managed to do my errands in Oxford and return having paid £2.50, instead of the £5 Congestion Charge, plus Westgate parking. I'm undecided as to whether I'll do this very often as it took a lot longer, I cheated slightly and went in on a quiet Monday and I didn't enjoy getting caught in the rain with a clutch of parcels and bags. But it was a lot faster than using Thornhills which I've tried before. I believe that from August crossing a bus gate will incur a £70 fine, so let's hope that using our city of dreaming spires will be practical and possible once the Botley Road reopens.

Our next two Parish Council meetings are on Tuesday 3rd February at 7.30pm and then on Tuesday March 3rd – easy to remember. Please do join us. As always you can contact the Parish Council with any queries on cuddesdon.dentonpc@gmail.com or contact one of us directly.

Best wishes
Chris



Full Rewires
Extensions
Extra Sockets & Lights
Garden Lighting & Power
Electrical Vehicle Charging Points
Small jobs welcome

MSM Electrical

Contact Martin Shaw
07860 795605 / 01865 872681
msmelectrical61@gmail.com

Part P

FROM THE VICAR

Dear friends

I'm writing this on the 13th January, after saying Evening Prayer in All Saints' Church. As I look at news headlines from the United States of America, and elsewhere, the world seems to be in turmoil. ICE agents shooting dead a young woman, attacking others, smashing car windows and spraying pepper in people's faces; recent events in Venezuela; threats to invade Greenland; protests in Iran; continuing violence in Gaza, Ukraine and Sudan ... The world seems to be a dark and dangerous place.

It's easy to feel helpless, and to feel that there is little we can do to change the world. However, I believe that, when all around us seems to be in chaos; when we see evil acts going unpunished; when we feel helpless and hopeless, Christians – and people of *other* faiths, and of *no* faith – are called to pray.

I'm currently re-reading a book by John Pritchard – a former Bishop of Oxford – on *The Life and Work of a Priest*. Today, I read a section on intercessory prayer. Pritchard reminds us that part of the role of a priest (and of other Christians, too) is to bear the pain of the world, and of the parish or local community, and to pray for, and keep “vigil with a damaged world until God finally puts all the world to rights in his new creation”.

One of the many aspects of a Vicar's prayer is to pray for the people of the parish where he, or she is called to serve. As part of this call to pray, I say Morning and Evening Prayer in the churches of the Benefice, during the week. In All Saints' Church, I say Evening Prayer at 6pm most Tuesdays; and Morning Prayer at 9.15am most Wednesdays. We also have a contemplative (silent) prayer meeting at 5pm on Wednesdays, followed by a Communion Service (Book of Common Prayer) at 6pm. I would love you to join me in prayer; but please be assured that I am praying in and for the parish at these times.

As suggested in two of my favourite R.S. Thomas poems (below), it's often difficult to believe that our prayers are answered ... but I believe that prayer **does** make a difference, and that God **does** hear, and respond to, our prayers.

Folk Tale – by R.S. Thomas

Prayers like gravel
flung at the sky's
window, hoping to attract
the loved one's
attention. But without
visible plaits to let
down for the believer
to climb up,
to what purpose open
that far casement?
I would
have refrained long since
but that peering once
through my locked fingers
I thought that I detected
the movement of a curtain.

Kneeling – by R.S. Thomas

Moments of great calm,
Kneeling before an altar
Of wood in a stone church
In summer, waiting for the God
To speak; the air a staircase
For silence; the sun's light
Ringing me, as though I acted
A great rôle. And the audiences
Still; all that close throng
Of spirits waiting, as I,
For the message.

Prompt me, God;
But not yet. When I speak,
Though it be you who speak
Through me, something is lost.
The meaning is in the waiting.

Please join me in praying for our world, and for our parish, or village, of
Cuddesdon.

God bless
Tom

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CUDDESDON COFFEE MORNING

The next Coffee Morning is on Tuesday 10th February from 10.30am to 12.00pm.

As always everyone is welcome

Come along and meet up with friends. We extend a warm welcome to new members.

Entry is £1 to include coffee, biscuits and homemade cake. We always have an excellent raffle.

We are happy to provide transport to and from the Coffee Morning for anyone having difficulties with the journey. Contact Marion on 01865 872037 or Lynda via email lyndaware@aol.com to make arrangements.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Jean, Marion, Lynda, Melanie and Paul.

FAREWELL FROM HUMPHREY AND EMMA SOUTHERN

We have been utterly overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of so many in the community of Cuddesdon and Denton as we have prepared to leave you. The two events – in the Village Hall on 22nd November and in Church on Advent Sunday the following weekend – were moving and memorable and we have been bowled over by the magnificence of your gifts.

We shall look forward to sitting back and savouring the various products of such a talented and fertile community and village (as presented in the hamper), and to a *great* deal of reading (courtesy of the sizeable book token) in the weeks and months ahead.

Even more, we will be treasuring memories of good friends and neighbours and an immensely happy decade living in such a wonderful village.

Thank you all.
Humphrey and Emma Southern

CUDDESDON AND DENTON WI

We would be delighted to see former members, current members and new members, so do come along, bring a friend and enjoy getting to know everyone.

Visitors, including gentlemen, are very welcome to individual meetings at a charge of £5 per meeting. Refreshments are served.

We meet in the Village Hall at 6.45pm on the first Wednesday of the month.

The next meetings will be:

Wednesday 4th February	Valentine Bingo with favourite guest Caller Avril Davies
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Wednesday 4th March	AGM and 'Memories'. We will be sharing happy or amusing memories of our childhood. Bring along something you may still have that brings a smile or makes you laugh.
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SERVICES IN ALL SAINTS' CHURCH AND THE BENEFICE February

Sunday 1st February Candlemas / The Presentation in the Temple

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Parish Communion

Sunday 8th February The Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

9.30am Parish Communion
3.00pm Benefice Story-Time Church in the Forest Church
at Ripon College, Cuddesdon

Sunday 15th February The Sunday before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Parish Communion

Wednesday 18th February Ash Wednesday

6.00pm Benefice Communion at All Saints' Cuddesdon

Sunday 22nd February The First Sunday of Lent

9.30am Parish Communion

Sunday 1st March The Second Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Parish Communion

**The Benefice of Garsington,
Cuddesdon and Horspath**

invites everyone to

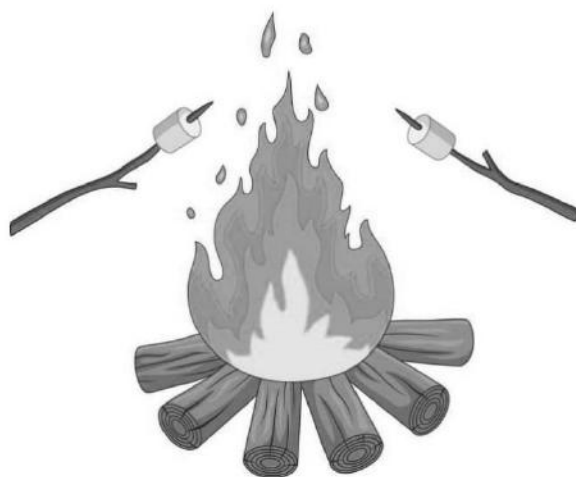
Story-time Church

Sunday 8th February 2026

3pm start

**Meet in the Forest Church area of Ripon College
Cuddesdon – from the main college car park,
look for the wooden gate heading towards the
allotments.**

All are welcome for:



**Stories and conversations round the campfire
Hot Chocolate, Marshmallows and other
refreshments**

THE MAPLE TREE

Greetings from The Maple Tree!



This term we have had a few tweaks to our schedule!

- Mondays:** Messy Monday (back by popular demand) at 10:00-11:30am and Twins' Club at 2:00-4:00pm
- Tuesdays:** Smart Start at 9:30-11:30am
- Wednesdays:** Maple Babies at 9:30am-12:00pm
- Thursdays:** Time to Rhyme at 9:30-11:30am and The Maple Tree at Forest Hill Village Hall from 10:30am-12:00pm
- Fridays:** Little Learners at 10:00-11:30am
- Saturdays:** Family Fun at 10:00-11:30am
on February 21st, March 14th and April 18th

We will be open every morning during the February half-term and most days during the Easter holiday – please check our website or social media for details. We have another Emergency Paediatric First Aid for parents and carers coming up in February too!

Here is an additional date for your diary:

22nd March – our fabulous **Daffodil Day 2026** with Forest Hill's St Nicolas Church will start at 2:00pm. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Laura at the email below.

We need volunteers for all sorts of roles during the event, from ticket collectors to refreshments servers to parking attendants. Beforehand, we will need lots of bakers and some people to set up traffic signs. We also need muscles to set up and later to take down gazebos and tables and chairs. It is a lot of fun in a beautiful setting, and it is satisfying to raise much-needed money for these two worthy charities.

Do consider joining us as a volunteer or just come to enjoy the ambiance, the stunning setting, and of course the daffodils!

Wish List:

A volunteer on Monday for our Twins' Club sessions from 2:00-4:00pm
A fundraising-loving trustee!
A finance, number-adoring trustee!

We are here to help if you need advice or support: 01865 236700.

email: info@mapletree.org.uk

Website: www.mapletree.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley

Instagram: [@themapletreecentre](https://www.instagram.com/themapletreecentre)

Laura Spencer

The Maple Tree Centre Manager

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Cuddesdon and Denton Newsletter welcomes contributions and adverts from everyone in the Parish, and from businesses and organisations serving the area. News and reports from village organisations are particularly welcome.

Please send any contributions to cuddesdon.dentonnl@gmail.com

Contentious issues, articles promoting personal causes, or content which is offensive or discriminatory will not be included.

The Editor reserves the right not to include items and to edit items submitted for publication.

Every effort is made to ensure that content is accurate. Any errors will be corrected in future editions.

The views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor.

MORLAND HOUSE SURGERY



Morland House Surgery, Morland Close, Wheatley OX33 1DP

The usual surgery opening hours are

Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.30pm.

Saturday mornings (excluding Bank Holiday weekends)

8.00am to 10.30am, for prebooked consultations only.

Enhanced access hours are offered outside these times, please speak to one of the reception team on 01865 872448 for more information.

When the surgery is closed, please contact the Out of Hours service by phoning 111

A **Morland House Surgery Facebook Page** has been created. This is to keep patients up to date with surgery news and health issues. Please like and follow.

Ordering Repeat Prescriptions: Please use the NHS App or log into your account on the NHS website. For more information on ordering, visit the 'prescriptions' page on our website.

Medicine waste costs the NHS around £300 million/year. Only order the medicines you need. Once medicine leaves a pharmacy it can no longer be re-used even if unopened.

Winter vaccinations are still available from local pharmacies to protect against serious illnesses like flu and COVID-19. For information, to check eligibility and to book, visit www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/keep-warm-keep-well . Also contact MHS for chicken pox vaccine for toddlers and RSV vaccine for older adults and pregnant women.

Care Messages: The NHS App is now being used by MHS and other health providers to send you simple, secure messages on your phone about your care, for example appointments, test results and reminders. It is much quicker than waiting for a letter or phone call. See the MHS

website to find out how to turn on notifications in the NHS App and receive Care Messages.

Scam NHS cold calls: Beware of fake calls from “receptionists” or “doctors” asking you to update your GP records or risk being removed from the surgery.

You and Your General Practice This new NHS guide can be downloaded from the MHS website. It is a great resource for all NHS patients, full of useful tips and helpful information.

Visit **Morland House Surgery Website** for a wealth of information and guidance on managing a vast number of health conditions, symptoms, and treatment: www.morland-house.co.uk . For example:

- **Medical Records and Test Results** – Guidance on how to access this information.
- **Pharmacy First Service (PFS)** – where pharmacies can directly treat seven common health conditions.
- **Online Resources** for Clinical Help via self-referrals
- **Group Consultation Clinics** – Successful group clinics are currently being offered for the menopause and hypertension
- **Breast Screening** – to detect the most common cancer in women
- **Whooping Cough** – Infections, symptoms and treatment
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SNOWFLAKES, SASS, AND SUBURBS: LIFE IN THE WINTER URBAN WILDLIFE GARDEN

When most humans retreat indoors for winter, the urban wildlife garden kicks into its real prime-time programming—an ice-cold reality show starring the city’s scruffiest, furriest, and most feathered personalities.

The Squirrels: Acrobatics, but Petty

The squirrels, who spent autumn stuffing acorns into every conceivable crevice (including the electric meter box, which the landlord still insists was “vandals”), now devote winter to *competitive bird-feeder heists*. They approach it with the intensity of Olympic athletes and the moral compass of career criminals. One squirrel—known only as “Flip” because he once did a triple somersault off the compost bin—has developed a system that involves dangling by one toenail while taunting the birds below. It works more often than it should.

The Pigeons: Neighbourhood Gossip Columnists

Pigeons, wrapped in their naturally puffy down jackets, strut around like they own the place. They hold daily conferences on the garden fence, cooing loudly about the events of the day.

- “Coo-rru? Coo-ruu!” translates loosely to: *Did you see that squirrel wipe out?*

- “Ruuu-coo!” means: *Someone dropped half a bagel near the bus stop; assemble the squad.*

If a pigeon glares at you, don’t worry—it’s probably just critiquing your footwear.

The Fox: Elegant, Aloof, Definitely Judging You

At twilight, a sleek red fox slips through the blanketed shrubs like it’s auditioning for a luxury cologne commercial you see on tv around Christmas. It pauses only to stare disdainfully at the mess the pigeons

have made of the mulch. The fox does nothing to fix the problem, of course—lead actors don't do cleanup—but its silent judgment encourages everyone to pretend they're tidier than they are.

The Mice: Winter's Tiny Real-Estate Tycoons

Under the shed lives a clan of mice engaged in nonstop home renovation. Every night, they drag in new “furnishings”—a lost mitten pom-pom, a stray Cheerio, and once, an entire dog toy they somehow rolled across the patio. Their winter lifestyle philosophy is simple: if it fits, it's décor. If it doesn't fit, you chew it until it does.

The Long Tailed Tits: The Garden's Hype Squad

They bounce through the snowy branches shouting like caffeinated motivational speakers. Their energy alone melts frost. If squirrels and pigeons ran the place, chaos would reign; Long Tailed Tits keep morale high, even when the windchill is personally insulting.

Final Verdict

While humans grumble through winter, the urban garden throws its liveliest seasonal party. Just remember: you're not sweeping the patio—you're clearing the dance floor for the wildest neighbours you'll ever have.

Happy Gardening

Stuart Mabbutt
Wildlife Gardening Specialist
01865 747243
www.wildmaninspires.co.uk

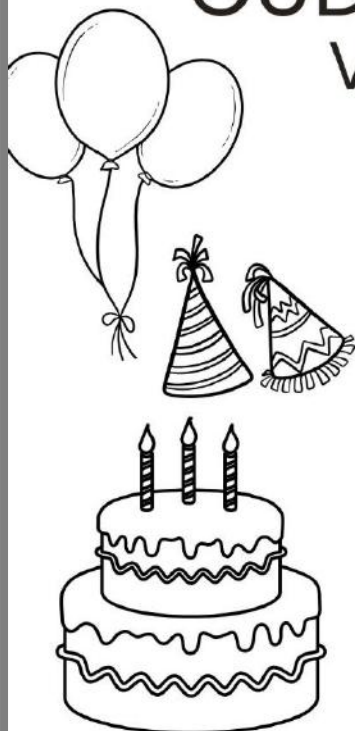
**CUDDESDON DENTON COWLEY OXFORD
BUS SERVICE 49
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY**

	Tu	Th
Holton o/s Bus Shelter	09:55	09:55
Wheatley Park Hill Roundabout (S-bound)	09:57	09:57
CUDDESDON adj Parkside	10:04	10:04
CUDDESDON The Green (SW-bound)	10:05	10:05
DENTON o/s Castle Farm	10:10	10:10
Garsington North Manor (W-bound)	10:15	10:15
Southend opp Kings Copse Caravan Park		10:20
Toot Baldon o/s The Mole Inn	10:22	
Marsh Baldon o/s Seven Stars	10:25	
Nuneham Courtenay North End (NW-bound)	10:27	
Heyford Hill Sainsburys (N-bound)	10:34	
Rose Hill Parade (o/s)	10:36	
Rose Hill adj Courtland Road	10:36	
Rose Hill opp Westbury Crescent	10:37	
Florence Park opp Rose Hill Cemetery	10:38	
Florence Park opp Beauchamp Lane	10:38	
Cowley opp Lidl		10:23
Cowley opp Car Factory Gate		10:24
Cowley Tesco Store (inside)		10:25
Cowley Garsington Road (NW-bound)		10:27
Cowley nr The Original Swan		10:29
Cowley Templars Square (Stop A)	10:40	10:30
OXFORD High Street (Stop L3)	10:55	10:45

OXFORD High Street (Stop T2)	13:00	13:00
Cowley Templars Square (Stop C)	13:15	13:15
Cowley opp The Original Swan		13:16
Cowley Garsington Road (SE-bound)		13:17
Cowley Tesco Store (inside)		13:20
Cowley o/s Car Factory Gate		13:21
Cowley adj Lidl		13:21
Florence Park o/s Rose Hill Cemetery	13:16	
Rose Hill adj Westbury Crescent	13:17	
Rose Hill Parade (opp)	13:18	
Heyford Hill Sainsburys (S-bound)	13:20	
Nuneham Courtenay North End (SE-bound)	13:27	
Marsh Baldon opp Seven Stars	13:30	
Toot Baldon, opp The Mole Inn	13:33	
Southend, o/s Kings Copse Caravan Park		13:25
Garsington, opp Village Hall	13:39	13:29
Garsington North Manor (E-bound)	13:40	13:30
DENTON opp Castle Farm	13:45	13:35
CUDDESDON opp Village Hall	13:48	13:38
CUDDESDON opp The Green	13:49	13:39
CUDDESDON opp Parkside	13:49	13:39
Wheatley o/s Lock-up	13:56	13:46
Holton opp Bus Shelter	13:59	13:49



CUDDESDON & DENTON VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE



Our Village Hall is available to hire 7 days a week for all kinds of events, whether you are celebrating a birthday, holding a workshop or remembering a loved one.

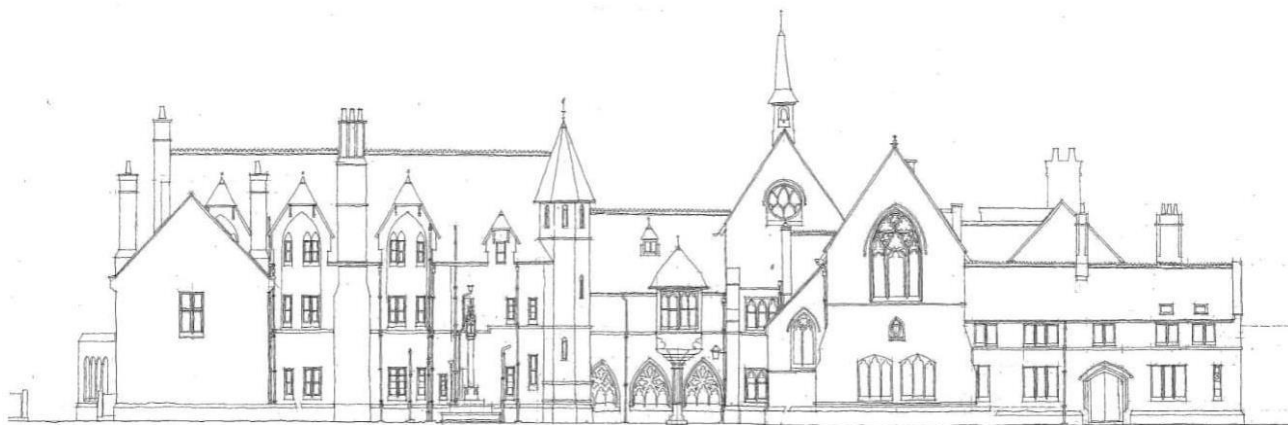
What can I book? Parties, pop-ups, classes, workshops, memorials, wakes, markets, coffee mornings, parent groups, games nights...you name it! Unless it is dangerous or politically divisive, you can (probably) hold it in our hall.

How much does it cost? £12.50 per hour

Capacity: up to 150 for a standing event, 100 seated theatre-style, 80 if seated around tables.

Facilities: tables and chairs, domestic kitchen, crockery, cutlery and tea service for 30-40 people, hot water urn, children's toys, access to community play park, projector, speakers.

Contact: villagehall.cuddesdon@gmail.com for more info or to book



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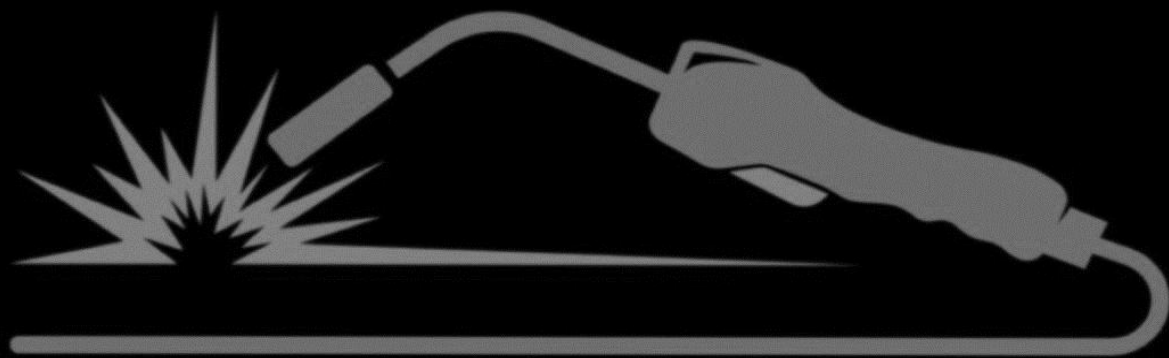
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❖ Parish Directory ❖

PARISH COUNCIL

email: cuddesdon.dentonpc@gmail.com

Evie Bennett	15 Denton Hill, Cuddesdon	
Stuart Flockton	1 Orchard View, Cuddesdon	
Chris Luke	Oak Tree Cottage, Denton	875551
Dee Murray		
Arthur Smith-Fitchett	The Orchard, Cuddesdon	876048
Philip Spinks	The Granary, 1 Dove House Lane, Cuddesdon	
Louisa Vincent	The Stables, Church Road, Cuddesdon	
Clerk:	Jo Garvey	

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

County	Tim Bearder	07789 754727
Councillor	tim.bearder@oxfordshire.gov.uk	

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

District	Sam James-Lawrie
Councillor	sam.james-lawrie@southoxon.gov.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

P. Rutt Co-ordinator	Denton	874402
R Baylie	Parkside	872340
J Bennett	Wellbourne	874582
J Cook	Cuddesdon	874416
J Luke	Denton	874440
G O'Shea	Chippinghurst	07774 700073

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

email: villagehall.cuddesdon@gmail.com

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Secretary: Jackie Redgwell	07443 519951
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SURGERY

Morland House, London Road, Wheatley	872448
Pharmacy	874047

WHEATLEY LIBRARY

The Merry Bells, High Street OX33 1XP	01865 815204
email: wheatley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk	



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