

News from Fifield

Once again we thrilled to the age-old enchantment of seeing carollers singing in a circle of golden lamplight against the darkness, when more than 20 of us, accompanied by Tom and Dave's music, walked and sang round the village and heralded Christmas Season. Afterwards the singers and more friends met up in the Hall for mulled wine, mince pies and more singing.

Thanks go to Lucy Maitland-Smith who organises the church flower rota and to all who provided the beautiful seasonal floral displays, which delight the eye throughout the year in St John Baptist church.

Date for your Diary

Fifield and Idbury Fete will be held on

May 24th 2008 in Fifield Recreation Ground. A nucleus committee is already starting work under Vicky Orr-Ewing's chairmanship. Please contact Vicky on: 01993 830305 or me, Catherine Hitchens on: 01993 831881 if you would like to offer your help.

Thanks to so Many

To keep a small community like Fifield running smoothly we are reliant on so many individual volunteers. Not wishing to miss anyone out I will just say that we thank all who, week after week, keep the Parish wheels turning. Thanks too, to everyone who helps their neighbours and to all who make Fifield a lively, living community.

Catherine Hitchens

Opportunities for local Writers

What IF...?

For the fourth successive year the **Deddington Festival** will again include a chance for local writers to submit their work to the scrutiny of others. Believing that many people have a story or a poem within them which is longing to get out, the **Deddington Writing Competition** is now established in North Oxfordshire and is inviting writers, especially those who have not yet entered a competition or been read by an experienced author, to enter.

The Competition is open to all and offers a cash prize for the winner and runner-up in both the story and poetry sections. Additionally all whose work is short-listed will receive a critique from the judge to help them towards more effective writing. The theme for the

competition is '**What if....?**' But authors should be sure to get full details which will be available during January.

A parallel competition is offered for those at school and is divided into two sections, Secondary for those aged 16 and under, and Junior for those aged 11 and under. Entries may be for poetry or prose (story). These too will attract a first prize and modest prizes for runners-up together with a certificate and judges comments for all whose work is on the short- list.

Write now for full details, available in January, by sending a stamped addressed envelope to *DWG Competition, 26 The Daedings, Deddington, Banbury OX15 0RT* or go to www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk