



DUNCHURCH VILLAGE MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2022

ISSUE 17



PRODUCED BY FRIENDS OF DUNCHURCH SOCIETY

www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org

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email friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

Formed by likeminded residents who love Dunchurch and its heritage and wish to protect and enhance its environment in order to make the village a better place to live in, work in and visit.



FRIENDS OF
DUNCHURCH
SOCIETY (FODS)

Welcome

Four years ago in December 2018 we issued our first Dunchurch village magazine, wondering how well it would be embraced by our community. With a colourful front cover displaying a photo of Lord Scott in Paddington Bear attire, (we wonder what those fabulous Dunchurch Elves will create for this year) it concentrated largely on the founding of FODS, the history of our village and included a few submissions from other groups. Over the years, we are delighted that it has grown in pages, increased in circulation and is now supported by many other village groups who regularly advertise their own charitable causes. We thank them all for their contributions.

Delivered quarterly and free to village households, we hope you have found the magazine an enjoyable read and a useful service for keeping up to date with all matters Dunchurch. However, it would be remiss of us not to mention that this is only possible thanks to the support of our advertisers, many of whom are from the village. These businesses are at the very heart of our community so let's support them and remember to shop locally for our gifts and other services.

Regarding businesses, we welcome Montagu's Coffee Shop to the village and wish them every success as part of our community.



*FODS Trustees
Sue Kember and
Barbara Harris
receiving an RHS
Gold award from
TV personality
Rachel de Thame*

Now read on for more village news and we will be back in March with our Spring issue. In the meantime, we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.



Heart of England, Dunchurch best in category Gold award

FODS News

Britain in Bloom We strived for gold and we are delighted to say our efforts were rewarded. Dunchurch received gold awards from both the Heart of England and the RHS Britain in Bloom judges. We received a further accolade with a 'best in category' award from the Heart of England making it official: we are the best large village in the Heart of England Seven Counties!

There were many 'stand out' comments in the judge's feedback but just to give you a flavour of how Dunchurch is perceived:

'This picturesque village (minus the traffic) was a stunning example of all things "Bloom". Magnificent and diverse florals, quirky planters and planted wheelbarrows, well maintained grass, public art and a quintessential maypole and thatched bus shelter set the scene. Underpinning all however was the efforts of the bloom team, the Friends of Dunchurch Society. It is this group and their sup-

porters, in fact almost the whole community here, who have pulled together enabling exceptional outcomes both in the environmental and community sections too. FODS are becoming legacy makers in this village and have well and truly put Dunchurch on the map, definitely a place to visit.'

We are so pleased that our efforts to make Dunchurch 'a better place to live, work in and visit' have been recognised. However, these awards are for the whole community and FODS thanks all those other village groups and individuals who helped us. Without their support, it would not have been possible to put forward such an accomplished entry. We achieved this accolade together and we are pleased to include photos here of just some of the reasons we have been so successful.

Social Gathering Following the wonderful news of our gold awards, individuals and representatives from the groups involved met at the Social Club for a relaxing evening and a celebratory drink



Dunchurch Voices entertained the judges with 'Rose of England'

will go towards next year's Dunchurch in Bloom plans.

Dunchurch in Bloom 2023

Great news. We will be entering Dunchurch into the Heart of England and Rugby in Bloom events. Planning for this starts now and if you would like to be a part of our award-winning team, please email us on friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you.



We decorated the village to celebrate Her Majesty's 70-year reign

or two. Our thanks to Social Club Manager Sandie for all her help and to the ladies of the WI for making delicious cup-cakes for all to enjoy. The raffle made £90 and this

The new lamppost baskets really elevated our floral displays



Thankyou Dunchurch

Merry Christmas



WE HOPE YOUR HOLIDAYS ARE FILLED WITH LAUGHTER & LOVE

We can't believe it's been 6 months since we took over the old corner shop on The Square.

After a 12 week renovation we finally opened our doors in the middle of September, and we couldn't be more grateful for the support we've had from the FODS, and the wider village community. Dunchurch really is our new home!

For those of you that we haven't yet met or are not aware of our business. We are an independent kitchen and bedroom design specialist.

Our first design studio was opened in Leamington Spa in 2018, and since then we have been installing beautiful kitchens and living spaces all over Warwickshire.

When the opportunity came to open a second location, we always had our heart set on Dunchurch.

Don't forget to get in touch if your looking to replace or renovate your kitchen in 2023.

Merry Christmas all,

The Kitchens Inc team.



1 The Square, Dunchurch, CV22 6NU | 01788 220 206 | thekitchensinc.co.uk



(left) Anya and Thea, just two of our history guides who impressed the judges with their knowledge of Dunchurch history,
(below) We resurrected the ancient art of dancing around the Maypole



Snails which were made from strips knitted by a dementia sufferer and left around the village for children to find and keep



We yarn-bombed
The Old Holt staddle stones



Polly and Peter Pot made a welcome return to the village

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

In our June issue, we covered the joyous occasion of the lighting of the Jubilee Beacon to mark Her Majesty's 70-year reign. How sad that we should return to the beacon on the 18th of September to mourn Her 'passing'.

On a cool but clear night and in a joint venture with Dunchurch Parish Council, a few hundred residents gathered at 7.30pm as the sounds of Pipe Major Vincent Deery's lament could be heard echoing across the green. Rev Pat Townshend led in prayer and regaled a wonderful story of meeting Her Majesty as a child in South Africa. At 8pm, the congregation joined in an impeccably observed, national two minute silence followed by Dunchurch Voices who led the singing of the National Anthem. Chair of DPC Tracey Price concluded with three cheers for Her Majesty ending a sombre but respectful event to honour a life of service. God Bless you Ma'am.

Tree of Light Following last year's success, we will again have a Tree of Light for your messages and memorials to much missed loved ones. It will be on the memorial green opposite the Alms Houses from December.

Winter Wonderland At last, following a two-year Covid break, we will be holding our second Winter Wonderland event on the Stocks Green. Turn to page



A sad return to the beacon to remember Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

13 for full details. We hope you will come along and join in with the festive fun.

Facebook Finally, don't wait for the next magazine to find out about village events. Instead, join our Friends of Dunchurch Society Facebook group to keep right up to date with Dunchurch news. Businesses who advertise in this magazine are also able to advertise on our Facebook page on Thankful Thursdays. Full details of our very reasonable advertising rates may be found on page 37.

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We provide first class residential care
for elderly residents within a homely
and relaxed atmosphere.



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as a new resident of Thurlaston Meadows Care Home.

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www.thurlastonmeadows.com

Dunchurch Festival Group

By Rob Collings

The fun and splendour of the Dunchurch Fete is now a distant memory and the DFG is looking toward another season. In October we held a Kids Halloween Disco where copious amounts of free sweets were handed out – I do hope the children calmed down by the time they got home! There were some good costumes and prizes were awarded to the best ones.

The DFG would like to give a cheer to FODS for their efforts in achieving gold in the Britain in Bloom competitions and we are glad that we helped a little with funding.

Christmas is coming and the DFG volunteers will be putting the village tree up on the 3rd December. Following this is our cheque presentation where the money we raised throughout the year is awarded to the groups in the village that were successful in their applications. The recipients include the Churches, Scouts, Guides and the allotment association amongst others. The money will be handed out by the group's Youth Ambassador Sophie Thomas and she will be assisted by Santa who will be calling in to help.



'Headmaster' Rob Collings, Chair of the DFG, supporting our Britain in Bloom campaign on judging day

DUNCHURCH



Dunchurch Festival Group are volunteers that come together to run the Dunchurch Fete and other social events in the Village. We have been organising events for over 30 years and all the money raised goes towards local good causes.

If you have a few hours to spare once a month please come to our meetings, you will meet new people, make new friends and just a few hours now and then could make a huge difference. If we do not have more willing people there is a risk that the group could end and all the benefits the village receives will be lost. For more information contact email Rob at mashedspud1@gmail.com

On Sunday 4th December, the Nativity Play in the village will take place and several DFG volunteers will be helping out by setting up the lights and sound system. Sophie will be on hand again to switch on the tree lights at the allotted time.

The Dunchurch Festival Group is desperate for willing people to give a few hours of their time, that will make such a huge difference to the groups and charities in the village. If you would like to volunteer, meet new people, make new friends, or would like to know more, email the chair Rob at mashedspud1@gmail.com

This Christmas
Stuff & Nonsense Theatre Company Presents



11 - 23 December 2022

Macready Theatre, Rugby

Suitable for ages 3+

This Christmas, prepare to meet the bravest biscuit of all time!

Run, run as fast as you can to see the adventure of the deliciously smelling Gingerbread Man as he sets off on an epic journey of a lifetime!

Stuff and Nonsense present a brilliant mix of puppetry, live action, great music, humour and a stunning staging of this well-loved classic tale.

For tickets and more info
visit macreadytheatre.co.uk



Dunchurch celebrates Gold Award in RHS Britain in Bloom Finals 2022

Following a public meeting, called by Ann and Stewart Wright and Sue and Tony Kember at the Dunchurch WI Hall in September 2018, it was agreed by a show of villagers' hands that a new organisation would be formed to address the neglected condition and maintenance of our village. Our mission statement was to 'make Dunchurch a better place to live in, work in and visit'.

After consultation, it was agreed the group would be called 'The Friends of Dunchurch Society' (FODS) and would enter the annual RHS Heart of England in Bloom event in the Large Village category as Dunchurch in Bloom. This was not to win prizes but to set standards for improving our village environment focusing on the village horticulture, community and the environment.

Since then FODS has been recruiting and building a team of village volunteers to design, plan and plant each entry in Rugby in Bloom and RHS Heart of England in Bloom. There was much to do but undeterred, volunteers organised working groups, and Dunchurch has now won Gold awards in every Heart of England and Rugby in Bloom event since 2019.

Winning gold awards in the RHS Heart of England in Bloom and as a category

winner in these events, Dunchurch was invited by the RHS in 2022 to represent the seven counties of RHS Heart of England region (Warwickshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, West Midlands, Staffordshire and Worcestershire) in the RHS Britain in Bloom 2022 national finals – a great honour for our village and a remarkable achievement for our community. I am delighted to confirm that we have now been awarded a gold in these Britain in Bloom national finals.

A big thank you is due to all of those in the community who have worked so hard and contributed so much to make Dunchurch a better place to live in, work in and visit.

We can now all have pride in our RHS award-winning village, its horticulture, community and environment. We can say that we have reached our original objective.

There is still more for us to do, including keeping Dunchurch in gold award condition.

Enjoy your village!

Tony Kember (Chair) & Trustees



Don't Look Down

Louise Dillon Bennett and friends put together another amazing Dunchurch Halloween trail to raise funds in memory of Louise's son Fred who died in 2020 aged 14 from acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. Despite some inclement weather, there was an excellent turn out and some wonderfully imaginative displays, both scary and amusing. (Special thanks to Square Coffee for their free hot chocolate offer and for their amazing *Stranger Things* homage.)



Fred's brother Arthur has set up this JustGiving fundraising page and at the time of writing, funds currently stand at £725. If you would like to donate, go to: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/halloweentrail2022





The Friends of Dunchurch Society
are happy to announce the return of

DUNCHURCH WINTER WONDERLAND

Sunday 11th December
4.00pm – 6.00pm



On the Village Green there will be Santa's Grotto,
a Chocolate Tombola, a Lucky Dip, other games for the family and
music from Dunchurch Band and Dunchurch Voices!

In Dunchurch Social Club you will be able to buy gifts from local
traders, enjoy mulled wine, mince pies, hot chocolate and a full bar
will be available.

Free Entry

Feel free to come along wearing Christmas Fancy Dress
or your best Christmas jumper!

All funds raised will go towards FODS projects making
Dunchurch a better place to live, work and visit.



Helping Hands

Chlloe and Lili are just two of the unsung heroes who quietly go about litter picking. Out with their dad Adam on the morning of Britain in Bloom judging day, they ensured that the Stocks Green was spick and span for the arrival of the judges and helped Dunchurch to achieve a Gold 'clean sweep'! Thank you to them and all the other 'litter busters' who work to keep our village tidy.



District of Dunchurch Brass

We have been approached by several people to consider establishing a daytime band to serve people in the Rugby, Daventry, Southam, Coventry and other nearby areas. We thought this was a good idea, particularly considering the success of a similar situation in the Ratby and Leicesters areas. Clearly, we would want to establish the demand in such an enterprise before proceeding further so we have set up an email address for anyone who might be interested to contact us.

If there is sufficient interest, we would be looking to have the first rehearsal in the



New Year. If you are interested, please contact us on districtofdunchurch-brassdaytime@outlook.com.

Please state instrument(s) offered, and preferred day(s) of the week and times of the day.

We look forward to hearing from you and will endeavour to keep you posted of developments.

A letter from Mike Judge MBE

I have lived in our village for over 50 years and can confidently say that it has never looked better than in the past two or three years. The reason for this transformation has been the amazing efforts of the Friends of Dunchurch Society in pursuit of demonstrating the community commitment to achieving excellence, now recognised by the Royal Horticultural Society and their Britain in Bloom programme.

From a standing start three years ago and at a time when many organisations were standing down because of the Covid Pandemic, Tony and Sue Kember have inspired and recruited an outstanding team and achieved more Gold Medals and accolades than they could ever have imagined possible.

The whole FODS Team, from the litter-pickers, the grass-cutters, the planters, waterers, the school children, the allotmenters, the planners and others have engaged, partnered and inspired so many organisations and individuals in the community to create, for instance, the Dunchurch oak line, the wheelbarrow and trough displays, roadside planting and the hanging baskets which have brought beauty and great joy to the whole village and so many visitors.

Spinning off from Britain in Bloom and all that FODS does, the Village Magazine



*Mike Judge
who received
his MBE*

for services to charity and the Dunchurch community, and The Platinum Express, his contribution to the Britain in Bloom troughs



merits a special mention at this point, filling an information void about the village that had existed for many years with interesting, up-to-date, entertaining news and views about our neighbours and friends, events and activities. The standards of the magazine are exemplary and a credit to all involved.

A much more positive relationship with the Parish and Borough has brought mutual benefits; witness two of the largest gatherings since the Millennium, at the beacon on The Heath and the awards from Rugby Borough.

In times of real social difficulty and the sadness at the passing of Her Majesty, the village spirits have been lifted by our involvement and success with the whole Britain in Bloom project. To all those involved many, many thanks and 'Take a bow!'

Government Homes for Ukraine Scheme

This first-hand account by a Ukrainian mother brings home the harsh reality of the Russian invasion of the Ukraine and also shows the positive impact that local residents Sarah and Mark have had on her family's lives. In a contrasting article, Sarah and Mark tell us how hosting this young family has enriched their own lives.

By Olesya

I am a Ukrainian mother with two beautiful children, Ostep seven years old and Anna four. Unfortunately, due to the aggression of Russia, many Ukrainians have died or been taken away and women with children forced to flee Ukraine to save lives, leaving husbands and families to protect our land.

The war originally began in 2014 and we did our best to help the military and people who came from the war zone. But it was on February 24th 2022 that the full-scale war changed the lives of all Ukrainians when military planes came and tanks and explosions began to fly.

I never cried so much in my life, the first few days crying without a stop. Then, together with others, I took up work. Blankets for the military, prepared dinners for people who arrived from the hot spots of our country to the stations. We were looking for everything that is necessary for our military to quickly overcome the 'invaders'. When the men took up night 'patrol' of the city, every minute we worried – will they return home?

For a long time, we did not leave because I understood that I could be useful at

home but then the sirens became more frequent and my daughter was afraid of missile strikes. I realised I had to go to save the life and mental health of my child. When the sirens sounded, Anya did not sleep at all and shouted all night. Her hysterics increased day by day and I began to look for where you can go, since all the money we had was directed to purchase the necessary for the military.

I learned about the programme for Ukrainians in the UK and decided to write to the Facebook group looking for help, and I had a message from Sarah and Mark. I was not mistaken, this is a wonderful family with a big heart, who opened the doors of their house to complete strangers. We waited a long time for documents and departure. They greeted us very warmly and with love and we are grateful with all our heart for everything they do for us.

Sarah and Mark help us in everything, we have fun with them. My children fell in love with them as their grandparents and they became part of our family. With them, we feel safe. Anya ceased to be afraid, does not wake up at night with

hysterics and most importantly she loves to play with Marco. Ostop likes to play chess with Sarah and teach Sarah the Ukrainian language while Sarah teaches him English.

I will not stop thanking them for their help or people who help Ukraine in this difficult time. I hope for a quick victory of Ukraine against the aggressor of Russia.

By Sarah and Mark

We are very fortunate to be hosting a lovely young Ukrainian family under the Government 'Homes for Ukraine Scheme.' They have been with us for ten weeks now and we could not have had a better experience. They have settled in well, coping with a lot of change and upheaval and having to leave behind their whole life, husband/daddy, family and friends. They are incredibly grateful to the UK for giving them a safe place to live and bring up their children without the fear of rockets and bombs. We share cooking on alternate evenings and Olesya has cooked traditional Ukrainian food for our family and friends too, which has been lovely.

When the family arrived, they came for walks with us around the village and to the parks, really enjoying the different aspects of Dunchurch and the surround-



ing countryside. They now attend a local church on a Saturday morning and have begun to make friends with other Ukrainians living in Rugby. Anya has joined Roar, Cheer & Dance Club and Ostop is enjoying football with Long Lawford football club. Every local enterprise has been so generous with their support.

Both children have been lucky enough to be accepted

into local schools. Olesya particularly wanted a church-based school and this also allows her some independence in walking the children to and from school each day. Olesya is busy learning English online but can now attend lessons in Rugby which will also help with work opportunities.

We know hosting won't be for everybody and there are challenges; however for us it has been a great decision. The family has brought us a new perspective, they are funny, kind, loving, hardworking and really do appreciate what the UK is doing for them. We have all been suffering from bugs and Olesya insisted on a remedy of a large swig of Ukrainian Vodka with chilli and it nearly blew our socks off! However, it also left us with a warm feeling inside and that's really how we feel about hosting this family.



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Viewing strongly recommended

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Dunchurch Allotment Association

Apples trees laden
with fruit this
autumn



It's been all about the fruit this year, a bumper crop of almost everything. Apple trees groaning with the strain, soft fruits giving bountiful harvests, tomato vines drooping with copious red spheres. It's not been the same with vegetables.

For most gardeners, the very dry and exceptionally hot weather this year produced very mixed results. Crops like courgettes, runner beans and potatoes were disappointingly small or low in yield. The high temperatures impacted on a few of the usual staples; my celeriac suffered from dry and desiccated leaf tips and squash failed to develop. It was obvious that the farmer's potato harvest in the field next to the allotment plots was low,

By Paul Sanders

as many small potatoes lay on the ground failing to make the grade through the crop harvesting screens.

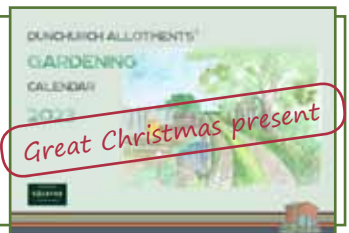
Gardeners ask themselves how to respond to the likely recurrence of hot and dry weather in future years. The mantra, 'mulch, mulch, mulch' is one of the answers suggested by experts. Biodegradable mulches like grass cuttings, leaf-mold and garden compost help retain soil moisture, reduce watering and protect plant roots from the extremes of high temperatures. In addition, they reduce weed germination, encourage beneficial soil organisms and on breaking down improve the soil's organic matter together with associated nutrients. It is interesting to see a number of allotment holders using straw and hay mulches as a ground cover, and some are collecting grass clippings which are spread on the soil in thick layers. As this trend grows, we may find that our members will start to compete over who cuts the tracks and paths, the reward being bountiful supplies of a rich grass mulch.



2023 CALENDAR – only £7

28 page A4 calendar, beautifully illustrated by local artist, and full of useful tips and information.

On sale at Solstice Cafe and Nursery,
Dunchurch Post Office, Wanda Fashions and Fosse House
Gallery, or email admin@dunchurchallotments.org.uk



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Sunday 10am to 6pm

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Dunchurch Pantomaniacs

By Sue Protheroe



By the time we get onto the village hall stage in January 2023, it will have been three long years since we were able to perform a village pantomime. However, fear not. We are back with a 'bang' or at least a 'splash' with another original and magical script that is suitable for all the family. 'The Pie-Rats of Penzance' join forces with the sea faring Frederick and Sprite Cherry Compote as they try to stop the evil Sea Witch Baggy Wrinkle from stealing the Golden Pearl of Atlantis. but will they succeed?



Performance Dates – January 2023

Fish Supper Night (£12) Friday 20th

Gala Night (£15 with 3 course meal)
Wednesday 25th

Other evenings: Saturday 21st, Thursday 26th, Friday 27th and Saturday 28th

Matinees: Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd

Tickets £7, £6 (Senior) and £4 (up to 16 years)

Please check your ticket for start times

Tickets available from December at
Wanda Fashions of Dunchurch,
Tel 01788 522021

Welcome to Dunchurch Girlguiding



Are you looking for a way your daughter can make new friends, have fun and grow her confidence? Then look no further. With Girlguiding, she'll laugh, learn and

have adventures – all at an affordable cost. Our fantastic volunteers will be there to support her right from the start. And because our activities are designed to be for all girls, there's a place for your daughter whatever her tastes or needs.

Rainbows are the young-

est members aged 4–7 years followed by Brownies 7–10 years, Guides 10–14 years and Rangers 14–18 years. Guiding's not just for your daughter though – there's lots of ways for you to get involved too.

Join us at www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus



Just one of the floral displays planted by the Girlguiding Groups in support of Dunchurch in Bloom



NEWLY RELEASED CANALSIDE HOMES IN RUGBY

Make your move this spring to your dream home at The Moorings in Rugby. With quality townhouses situated by the Oxford Canal, you can enjoy canalside walks or simply take in the views from your Juliet balcony.

3 and 4 bedroom homes from £351,995



Dunchurch and Thurlaston WI

By Anne Gilbert

The WI is continuing to thrive in Dunchurch with a membership of 50. Our hall is constantly used by the community for Pilates, pop-mobility, keep fit, the Dunchurch Silver Band, Dunchurch Photographic, a sewing group and the National Childbirth Trust. We always welcome bookings for children/ adult parties.

We have taken part in village events – the festival, planting an oak tree for the Queen's Jubilee and supported FODS in the Best Kept Village competition. Some members belong to Dunchurch Voices and volunteer in the library.



We have a knit and natter group, a games (Mah Jong, Rummicub, Scrabble, Darts) group and Kurling.

We hope that 2023 will be as productive and can encourage more local ladies to join us on the second Thursday of each month at 2.00 pm.

Contact Anne on 01788 811837 for more information.



The WI wheelbarrow supporting the Dunchurch entry into Britain in Bloom

Rugby in Bloom Awards

Congratulations to Antone Sabbaghe and Paul Mushing who were worthy winners of Rugby in Bloom awards in the front garden sections, and Sue Smith from Butterflies Childminding Service who received a Platinum award in the nursery section. All three are

residents of Adkinson Avenue. Meanwhile, Libby Thompson, who runs the popular Rhubarb Cart, was also a very worthy winner in the same gardening category. Well done to all.



Britain in Bloom. Antone created a splash of colour with wheelbarrows at the entrance to Adkinson Ave and Libby planted up a wheelbarrow on the corner of Halfway Lane. The trough was planted by children from 'Butterflies'.

DEPARTMENT OF REINVENTION

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Doctors in Dunchurch, Part 16: 2010–2019

By Dr Ian Czerniewski, Dunchurch GP since 1991

Public health outcomes had steadily improved in every decade since meaningful records began. Better hygiene, better Health and Safety, immunisations, fewer smokers, healthier lifestyles and better medical care had all contributed to lower mortality and increased life expectancy, decade after decade. Until now.

In the decade from 2010–2019, life expectancy stopped increasing (and actually fell for some subgroups). Increasing obesity may have contributed, but was the quality of NHS care a factor too? Was the personalised patient centred NHS being replaced by a 'one-size fits all' conveyor belt approach based on algorithms? Waiting times for ambulances, queuing in A&E and waiting for routine

surgery were considered tolerable at the start of the decade. Targets to deliver care were largely met. By 2019, targets were pipedreams and the delays much longer (even before the pandemic) and no longer tolerable.

The Health and Social Care Act of 2012 set out regulations for private organisations to tender for and be commissioned to provide services. So now, a private company can cherry-pick and carry out all the easy hernia repairs for a profit, leaving the more difficult cases with longer stays, more complications and more cost for the NHS to deal with. The Act also set up Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to replace Primary Care Trusts (PCTs), announcing that it would put GPs in charge of organizing

and purchasing care for patients according to local need. The change of structure had limited effect on services, while the top-down red tape and regulation from central government constrained GPs at CCG level to such an extent that 'local' decisions were impossible. 'Bed-blocking' and



The Practice Team 2019

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consequent increases in waiting times caused by insufficient social care provision is also a major concern which Boris Johnson promised to 'fix' in 2019.

These and many other factors contributed to worsening morale in the whole NHS and to discouraging doctors from entering General Practice. In 2015, Jeremy Hunt famously announced that 5000 new GPs would be recruited by

2020. In fact, the initiative failed and the total fell slightly over that time.

Dunchurch Surgery has endeavoured to provide traditional family medicine despite these difficulties and despite a growing population as housing development continued. We could not have done this without the help of our loyal staff and the support of our patients.

Dunchurch Pantry

Dunchurch Pantry provides essential food for anyone in the village who is struggling with the rising cost of living and the recent reduction of benefits. Donated food may be left in the foyer of the library, and everyone is encouraged to give what they can and others, to take what they need.



What's on

Pop into the library and check the notice board to find out about local events and organisations – or ask library staff if they can publicise your not-for-profit enterprise.



Don't forget the library!

Dunchurch is lucky to have its own community library, run by volunteers.



- Friendly helpful staff
- Extended catalogue of fiction and large print books
- Take out and return books at any library in Warwickshire
- Information centre for local events and organisations
- Meet friends for a chat while browsing
- Children's corner with books for all ages
- Children's events throughout the year
- Computers, wifi, printing, scanning and photocopying
- Disabled access, customer toilet and baby changing area
- Jigsaw exchange and free books

To join our volunteers please collect a volunteer form directly from Dunchurch library. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and support your local community. New volunteers will be warmly welcomed, trained and supported.

Wombles Wheels

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No, just the beginning, because all your money is then stolen!

How can this be?

Well, you made one critical mistake. You used the same phone to contact the bank as you had to receive the original call. So what?



Well, when you thought you had hung up, you had only disconnected at your end. The original caller kept the line open, so when you phoned the bank, they took the call and pretended to be the bank!

You can avoid falling into this fiendish trap by using a different phone to contact the bank. It's as simple as that, but so easy to forget in the heat of the moment.

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Knitted Angel

Help us spread a little love at Christmas by knitting these angels and leaving them around the village for children to find – or why not leave them anonymously on the doorstep of a kindly neighbour?

You will need: double knitting wool, 4mm needles, and a small amount of stuffing for the head.

You can use fluffy white wool for the wings if you like.



Body and head

Cast on 48 stitches

1. Knit row
2. Purl row
3. Knit 2 together. Knit 10 and repeat to end of row
4. Purl row
5. Knit row
6. Purl 2 together. Purl 9 and repeat to end of row
7. Knit row
8. Purl row
9. Knit 2 together. Knit 8 and repeat to end of row
10. Purl row
11. Knit row
12. Purl 2 together. Purl 7 and repeat to end of row

13. Knit row

14. Purl row

15. Knit 2 together. Knit 6 and repeat to end of row

16. Purl row

17. Knit row

18. Purl 2 together. Purl 5 and repeat to end of row

19. Knit row

20. Purl row

21. Knit 2 together. Knit 4 and repeat to end of row (20 stitches left)

22. Purl row

23. Knit row

24. Purl row

25. Knit row

26. Purl row

27. Knit row

(you can change colour now to make head if you want)

28. Purl row

29. Knit row

30. Purl row

31. Knit row

32. Purl row

33. Knit row

34. Purl row

35. Knit 2 together until end of row

36. Purl row

37. Knit row

38. Purl 2 together until end of row

Draw yarn through remaining stitches, tighten and secure.

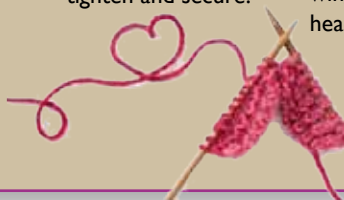
Wings

Cast on 27 stitches

1. Knit row
2. Purl row
3. Decrease at each end
4. Knit
5. Now knit 12 rows decreasing 1 stitch at each end and cast off

To make up

Sew up along the back seam. Place stuffing in the head and gather up around the neck with a thread. Attach wings just below the head. Voila!



The Transformation of Lord John Scott

By an anonymous elf

We know not where they come from
 We know not who they are
 But each year they descend upon us
 Arriving on a shooting star
 Some say it is the fairies
 Or even Santa Claus himself
 I know that it is neither
 It is the Dunchurch elves!

They spread their Christmas magic
 For all to see and to enjoy
 It brings a smile to young and old
 To every girl and boy

You cannot see them do it
 For they are covered in magic dust
 It makes them appear invisible
 But come again they must

They scurry here and scamper there
 Working at the speed of light
 You can just hear their bells tinkling
 As they work all through the night
 They transform our Lord Scott monument
 Bringing so much festive cheer
 We wait with breath abated
 To see, what he is this year!



*Lord Scott as
 Rudolph the
 Rednosed
 Reindeer*



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St Peter's Church

By Rev Pat Townshend

So much has happened since the last edition of this magazine, the most notable being the death of our late Queen. On the day after she died, St Peter's was proud to hold a service, which was very well attended. On the Sunday following, our scheduled service was in memory of her and I was privileged also to lead the prayers at the beacon on the eve of the funeral. Our bellringers did us proud, raising and lowering the flag at the required times (with all the climbing to the top of the tower that it entailed) and ringing at various stages during the time of mourning and just before the funeral. We look forward to the more joyous celebrations of the coronation next year.

St Peter's also held a concert to celebrate the organ refurbishment and the 50th anniversary of its construction. Our organist, Richard Copeland, was joined



Marking the spot of the war graves for the Britain in Bloom judges

by the Rugby Male Voice Choir, Dunchurch Voices, Espresso, Bilton Grange School and Dunchurch Junior School in an evening of rich entertainment. The organ was blessed by the Area Dean, the Rev Steve

Gold, and the Mayor drew the raffle.

We also had our annual blessing of the animals service where we blessed each animal brought. Unfortunately, this year we did not have some of the more unusual species we have had in previous years!

We look forward to restarting Junior Church (a fatality of Covid) and developing our new parents and baby group which meets in the Vicarage on the third Friday of each month (10:30 for 11:00). This is a service we are providing for parents with new babies, whatever their religious affiliation (or none), aimed at bringing support and companionship during what can be a difficult and lonely time.

As Christmas approaches, I am pleased to confirm our upcoming services:

6 November	3:00pm	Annual commemoration service
13 November	10:50am	Dunchurch Remembrance Day service
	3:00pm	Thurlaston Remembrance Day service
20 November	6:30pm	St Edmund's Patronal Festival
17 December	6:30pm	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Edmund's
18 December	6:30pm	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Peter's
24 December	4:00pm	Crib service
24 December	11:00pm	Midnight Holy Communion
25 December	9:00am	Holy Communion at St Edmund's
	10:30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's

The PCC of St Peter's is examining ways to reach Net Zero and anyone who can help us in any way will be warmly welcomed.



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Heart of England in Bloom Gold winners 2019-2021

Finalists in Britain in Bloom 2022

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The Square 01788 811748

Cinnamon Lounge – Indian Restaurant
The Square 01788 812855

Malancha – Indian Restaurant
Daventry Road 01788 819141

Dunchurch Pizza Place – Takeaway
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Dunchurch Baptist Church

By Sarah Coulon and Eleanor Holdsworth

We've now settled into our new building and we've been thrilled to share it with the village and beyond. So far, we've got four community groups using the room on a regular basis; many other groups hiring rooms on a one-off basis; and there's room for more. We even hosted a Christian theatre group overnight, who were performing at Rye Hill prison. We knew we had a shower installed for a reason!

Get in touch with Chris Tabor (ctabor28@aol.com) if you're interested in hiring a space.

As well as that, we've restarted our Noah's Ark toddler group on Mondays and Thursdays, and now have a Cake and Craft group meeting every third Friday of the month at 10am. All are welcome!

The new building has given

Wheelbarrow planted by members of Dunchurch Baptist Church

us the fantastic chance to welcome more and more people at our Sunday morning service at 10.30am and to start a fortnightly youth group, 'Connect', on Sunday afternoons.



Dates for your diary

Saturday 3rd December, 10.30am–12.30pm:

Messy Church (crafts, celebration and lunch for families of all ages)

Sunday 4th December, 4pm:

Open air Nativity in the village

Sunday 11th December, 10.30am:

All age Christmas service

Sunday 18th December, 5pm:

Carols by Candlelight

Saturday 24th December, 9.30pm:

'Midnight in Bethlehem' Christmas Eve Communion

Sunday 25th December, 10.30am:

Christmas Day all age service



**FRIENDS OF
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Village Green House, The Green, Dunchurch, CV22 9BA Telephone: 07837 182114 Email: friends@dunchurch.org.uk

Do you read the Dunchurch Village Magazine?

Do you have some time to spare to join our expanding, existing publishing team?

We are looking for one, or maybe two, volunteers who could spare some time to help take bookings and receive advertiser copy.

Most of our advertisers are repeat or regular customers.

The magazine raises funds for FODS' award-winning Dunchurch in Bloom projects.

Our graphics designer, editor and advertising sales person are all volunteers!

Our magazine is a quarterly publication – so we will need your help for four issues a year.

An interesting volunteering role which can be achieved from anywhere from a smartphone!

Email Barbara Harris info@vghrugby.co.uk
or call me for a chat 07837 182114



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Digital advertising included free of charge: advertisers can have, if required, a post on FODS Facebook Group page once a week on 'Thankful Thursday' – a useful update message for you and an effective opportunity to advertise for staff vacancies etc locally at no cost.

Size	Dimensions	Price
Full page	137mm x 197mm	£100
Half page landscape	137mm x 97mm	£50
Half page portrait	66mm x 197mm	£50
Quarter page	66mm x 97mm	£25

To place an order call Barbara on 07837 182114
or email info@vghrugby.co.uk

Deadline for March 2023 issue: 30 January

Dunchurch community directory

Badminton Group	Dunchurch Village Hall, Monday 7.30pm	judge.patricia@googlemail.com Pat Judge 01788 810253
Beavers	Boys and girls aged 5¾ – 8 Mondays & Tuesdays, Scout hut, Done Cerce Close	www.dunscout.org.uk join@dunscout.org.uk
Cubs	Boys and girls aged 8 – 10½ Wednesdays at the Scout hut, Done Cerce Close.	www.dunscout.org.uk join@dunscout.org.uk
District of Dunchurch Brass	Wednesdays 7.45–10pm, Band Room, 15 Rugby Road, CV22 6GP	Lorraine Goodacre 07963 144704 Gary Smallwood 07876 688210 www.districtofdunchurchbrass2006-web.info
Dunchurch Allotment Association	Situated on Coventry Rd	www.dunchurchallotments.org.uk admin@dunchurchallotments.org.uk Secretary Paul Sanders 01788 811744
Dunchurch Bellringers	St. Peter's Church. Sunday Service ringing 9.50-10.30am, Practice, Wed 7.45-9pm	Mike Bennett, Tower Captain, 01788 814304 mbennettmss@gmail.com
Dunchurch and Bilton Cricket Club	Based as Dunchurch Village Hall Rugby Rd.	https://dunchurchbilton.play-cricket.com
Dunchurch and Thurlaston WI	Meetings 2nd Thursday of each month, 2pm, WI Hall, Southam Rd.	Anne Gilbert 01788 811837 annegilbert1@hotmail.com
Dunchurch Band	Senior and training band	www.dunchurchband.co.uk dunchurch.band100@yahoo.com
Dunchurch Baptist Church	Baptist Church, Coventry Road.	www.dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk Elders, Chris Tabor 07899 841279, Katie Wederell 01788 842736, 07515 472578, Katie.w@dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk church secretary Sarah Coulon Sarah.c@ dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk
Dunchurch Boughton C of E (VA) Junior School	Primary education situated in Dew Close	www.dunchurchjuniorschool.org.uk admin3391@welearn365.com 01788 811028
Dunchurch Community Library	School Street Open Tues, Thur, Fri 10am - 5pm	www.warwickshire.gov.uk/dunchurchlibrary dunchurchcommunitylibrary@btconnect.com 01788 811355
Dunchurch Festival Group	Organise fete and other events. Meetings third Monday of each month 7.30pm at the village hall	www.dunchurchevents.org Rob Collings 01788 817307 mashedspud1@gmail.com
Dunchurch Health Walks	Tuesday 2pm, Friday 10.30am Meet at war memorial	
Dunchurch Infant School and Nursery	Nursery children are taken from aged 2yrs 9months. Other year groups, Reception, year 1 and 2	www.dunchurchinfantschoolandnursery. co.uk office@dunchurchinfants.co.uk 01788 810292

Dunchurch Pantomaniacs	Organise and perform village panto in January. Rehearsals begin October.	paul.lepoidevin@btinternet.com sueprotheroe@ymail.com
Dunchurch Parish Council	PC office based in the Library. Open Tuesday and Thursdays 10am – 1.00pm	clerk@dunchurchpc.org 01788 817550 or 07474 705061
Dunchurch Photographic Society	Meetings held at WI Hall, Southam Road	www.dunchurchps.com secretary@dunchurchps.com
Dunchurch Surgery	Dunsmore Heath (off Rugby Rd)	www.dunchurchsurgery.warwickshire.nhs.uk 01788 522448
Dunchurch Village Hall	Rugby Road	bookings@dunchurchsportsandvhall.co.uk 01788 522444
Dunchurch Voices	Ladies choir meet Wednesdays, 7.30pm at the infant school.	Barbara Davies 07890 659857
First Dunchurch Scout Group	Fun, challenge and adventure for boys and girls aged 10½–14. Done Cerce Close on Thursdays	www.dunscout.org.uk join@dunscout.org.uk
Dunchurch Girlguiding including: 1st Rainbows 3rd Brownies 1st Guides	GirlGuiding girls have fun, adventure and space to discover their potential Age 5 – 7 yrs. Wed 3.45 – 4.45 pm Age 7 – 10 yrs. Wed 5.00 – 6.30pm Age 10 - 14 yrs. Wed 6.45 – 8.15pm	www.girlguiding.org.uk is where parents/ carers may express their daughters' interest in joining. Adult volunteers welcomed.
Friends of Dunchurch Society	Organises Britain in Bloom and Winter Wonderland Produces the village magazine	info@vghrugby.co.uk 07837 182114 fodnews1@gmail.com
Knowing Stillness Meditation	Dunchurch Library 10am Wednesday	Jim Hesketh 01788 891066
Rugby About Turn	Newsletters on local development	richardallanach@aol.com
Rugby Village Bridge Club	EBU Affiliated. Four pairs sessions and three practice sessions weekly Courses/ teams occasionally. Held in club room, Dunchurch Village Hall.	www.rugbyvillagebridge.co.uk rugbyvillagebridge@gmail.co.uk 07710 467023
St Peter's Church	Vicar: Reverend Patricia Townshend revptownshend@gmail.com, 01788 461987 Churchwardens: Celia Jones 01788 314564 / 07712 936355 Kathryn Fowler: 07780 116024 / 01788 311118 Thurlaston Deputy Churchwarden: Brian Bowsher: 01788 812094 churchwarden@stpeters-dunchurch.org	

To make any amendments or to add your Dunchurch-based, non-commercial club or organisation, please email
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- Diabetic foot care
- Verrucae
- Ingrown toenails
- Nail reconstruction
- Warm wax massage for hands and feet
- Fungal infections

Richard has carried out extensive training and specialises in the following:

- Nail surgery for ingrown nails
- Steroid/ hyaluronic acid injections
- Gait analysis/ biomechanical assessment
- Bespoke insoles created using the latest 3d laser scanning technology



2023 Interesting news

In February 2023 we will be able to offer ear syringing options including at home visits, please let us know if you would like more information.

New opening hours

We are very happy to announce we now can offer Wednesday evening appointments from 5pm till 8pm.



New Partnership

Contented Soles has also now partnered with Fyous to be able to offer Custom made trainers to order with a scan of your feet in Clinic, feel free to drop us an email or nip in to find more out.

