



DUNCHURCH VILLAGE MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2023

ISSUE 21



PRODUCED BY FRIENDS OF DUNCHURCH SOCIETY

www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org

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FRIENDS OF
DUNCURCH
SOCIETY (FODS)

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.

Village Green House, The Green, Dunchurch, CV22 6NX Telephone: 07837 182114 Email: friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com 

Welcome

The landscape surrounding our village is undergoing dramatic change and the new warehouses on the perimeter are now visible from several of the village approach roads. With still yet more to come, the building of 5000 new homes and a new relief road, the village footprint will be changed forever.

One could muse on what the Duke of Buccleuch would make of it all. For it was he, at the rise of the steam train, who refused to give access to his land which would have permitted the railroad to run right through the centre of the then market town of Dunchurch. Instead, Rugby Junction was formed and Rugby town grew, dwarfing Dunchurch where eventually, a small local station was sited a mile from the village on the Coventry Road. The station closed to passengers on 15 June 1959 and closed to freight on 2 November 1964.

Despite the fields around us shrinking and the popula-

tion growing, it is to their credit that the many organisations in Dunchurch continue to thrive and work hard to keep a village community spirit alive and next year will be no different. As well as all of our usual village events, Dunchurch has been invited by Bruno Peek, Pageantmaster, to take part in the 80-year commemorations of the D-Day Landings, and meetings will shortly begin to discuss how best we can mark this important event. We will bring you more information in our next issue in March but for now, your village magazine publishing team wish you all a very happy Christmas and a New Year filled with love, peace and joy.



Dunchurch Railway Station. Photograph courtesy of London and North Western Railway



FODS Financial Update

By Barbara Harris, Trustee

On behalf of the FODS Trustees, I am pleased to report that we are in good shape! We currently hold just over £5000 in the bank, thanks to some great fundraising and careful management of income. Our financial year runs from 1st February to 31st January so in the March issue I will be able to share the accounts.

Our fundraising year started off in April with our Spring Fair in the village hall, closely followed by the Virtual Balloon race.

We secured a Warwickshire County Council 'Councillor Grant' and completed our project in providing a new bench placed at the front of St Peter's Church.

By the time this goes to print, we will have held our Fashion Show in conjunction with Wanda Fashions and we will be looking forward to the Winter Wonderland event.

The magazine advertising has covered the cost of the printing and the distribution of the village magazine since its inception, and any surplus money raised goes to support our 'in Bloom' projects.

FODS is committed to continuing the funding of village summer and winter blooms, in particular the village gateway



planters, the hanging basket scheme and the large Freeman troughs.

More good news: 2023 saw us gain our full charity status. It seemed like a marathon task and I would like to thank our solicitor Lydia Kember for all of her help and support in helping us across the finishing line.

On behalf of the FODS Trustees, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish you all a very merry Christmas and a peaceful and happy New Year.

FODS Trustees

The FODS Trustees are Anne-Marie Robinson Gall, Barbara Harris, Claire Siddaway, Keith Brushett, Keith Protheroe, Lynne Brushett, Mark Udall, Phill Freeman, Sue Kember, Sue Turner and Tony Kember.

Photographic Competition

We are most grateful to the Dunchurch Photographic Society who took on the unenviable task of judging the entries for our September issue, photo competition. The winner was chosen by member vote and Graeme Webb of DPS informs us, 'it was not an easy decision. All entries received votes and each photograph showed a good overall skill level.' The winning entry was taken by Barrie Lambert who wins our £25 cash prize and his photograph of Dunchurch Pools at sunset, graces the front cover of this issue. Congratulations Barrie. The judges were impressed by the colours, the silhouetted bridge and the inclusion of a human figure.

As an extra prize, Barrie has been invited to join the Dunchurch Photographic Society at no cost for the remainder of this season. Subsequent club fees are £60 per year and new members are always welcome. Contact the DPS secretary@dunchurchps.com or for further information, see the website <http://dunchurchps.com/dps-wp>.

Our thanks to everyone who took time to submit an entry. Here are a few of the other fabulous submissions. The photographers of 1 and 2 will also receive a £10 cash prize.



Photograph 1: A striking contrast of colour. Ladybird on foliage by Bron Turton



Photograph 2: Fly fishing at Draycote Water and a beautiful sunset over Thurlaston by Mark Hurst



Photograph 3: A mother's love. Another stunner by Barrie Lambert



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Dunchurch Photographic Society



By Graeme Webb

As Dunchurch Photographic Society's season settles in, we, as of the end of October, have already had three competitions, two highly entertaining guest speakers, and three 'members' evenings, one of which involved club members sharing their experiences and photographic knowledge. We have also squeezed in judging the Friends of Dunchurch photography competition which was decided by DPS members.

The talks by our guests included some stunning underwater images by Ian Johnston, who also displayed the specialist equipment needed.

Martin Tierney, who once was a police photographer, came along in mid October to show us some of his police images and to entertain us with his more recent passion, portraiture.

Our competitions so far have been the

'Summer Challenge', 'Best Colour Print' and 'Best Nature Print'. Some of the winning images are shown below.

We meet at the Dunchurch WI Hall on every Wednesday at 19:45 during its operating season which is from September to April. DPS caters for all levels of photographer within the greater Rugby area, but if you are willing to travel from afar we will not discourage you!

For more information, contact secretary@dunchurchps.com



Simon Coates won the 'Best Colour Print' with 'Eliminated', while the 'Summer Challenge' was won by Ian Andrew with 'Canalside Evening'

Dunchurch Remembers 1

Each year, on the second Sunday in November, the Act of Remembrance brings us together to reflect and to mourn those lost in armed conflict. All three of our village war memorials are decorated with poppies, and next year we will be adding even more. If you would like to help by knitting or crocheting poppies, please email fodnews1@gmail.com. More pictures on page 31.



DUNCHURCH Panto-maniacs ARE PRIDE TO PRESENT

First Sunday Night (13th)
Friday 19th January
Gala Night (17th with 2 more shows)
Wednesday 14th January

Children's Matinee
Saturday 10th, Thursday 19th
Friday 17th and Saturday 17th
Matinee Saturday 10th
and Sunday 12th

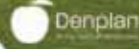
Treasure Island

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By Lincolne Scripts

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Pantomaniacs

By Sue Protheroe

We have 'lifted anchor' on our January production of Treasure Island and tickets are now on sale in Wanda Fashions – see the poster on the opposite page for details.

Written by Limelight Scripts, this is a fun for all the family show and just the tonic to chase away those January blues. This year, we are particularly delighted that our younger members of the cast will be leading the way and our two leading roles of Principle Boy (Jim) and Principle Girl (Maggie) will be played by 14-year-old Anna who joined us last year and Daisy who has been with us since she was four. Come and join them as they sail away on the good ship The Hispaniola to find fame and fortune. But beware of Long John Silver. There are evil pirates and bad deeds afoot!

Kate Vaughan

Sadly, we recently lost a much loved member of our Panto family, and part of the money we raise from this production will be donated in her memory to the Arden Cancer Research Centre,



The cast/crew of Treasure Island!

Coventry and Myton Hospice. Kate was the outstanding, artistic talent behind many of our stage backdrops as well as a talented member of our cast. A thoroughly lovely person who will be greatly missed by us all.

*Happy times.
Kate as
Cook Netty
Chunderbox in
Dame of Thrones*





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Dunchurch Allotments

By Paul Sanders

What is a group of owls called?
How far can squirrels jump?
What can't frogs do when eating?

These were just some of the questions that families were asked as they explored Dunchurch Allotments 'Wildlife Wander' in August this year. Painted plaques of animals created by allotment holders were displayed around the plots, the creatures ranged from mammals and birds, amphibians and reptiles to a selection of insects and an arachnid. Next to each picture was information about the creature which would help the Wildlife Wanderers with the answer to questions posed.

On arriving back at base, a selection of refreshments was on offer with the cakes inspired by allotment produce, including classic carrot cake, delectable courgette loaf and irresistible beetroot and chocolate cake. For the more discerning kids

there were a selection of cupcakes with toppings featuring insects, the favourite being ladybirds.

While celebrating and enjoying the creatures that gardeners live alongside on the allotments, we also have a love-hate relationship with some of them. The beasties that nibble our young seedlings like snails and caterpillars are a regular topic of conversation on the plots. The blackbirds that love to strip our cherry trees of the unripe fruit makes us fume at being too slow to get the netting up.



(Above) A table laden with cakes, savouries and drinks – a welcome sight after wandering around the allotments

(Below) Three of the painted wooden plaques



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Wood pigeons descend from the sky onto newly germinated peas and brassica shoots leaving tiny stalks with tattered leaves. The destruction can come from underground as well. In some years mole hills dot the allotment landscape as these furry creatures tunnel the worm rich soil and disturb our plants, and mice with the occasional rat love to feast on newly sown beans or scurrying up the maize stalks for a bountiful blow-out on sweetcorn kernels.

Gardeners have to learn how to avoid the worst ravages of crop attack without resorting to the wholesale use of poisonous chemicals and tolerate a certain amount of crop destruction.

In a recent discussion with a wildlife caring allotment holder, I was told that they had in

the past resorted to live trapping a rat on their plot which they took to the far side of Warwickshire to release only to find out later that this was against the law. Vermin such as the black rat (*Rattus rattus*) and grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) should not be moved to other areas but humanely killed.

The allotment site continues to be a haven for wildlife as numerous bird and bat boxes have been installed and a number of allotment holders have put in ponds which team with tadpoles in the spring. Nocturnal creatures like hedgehogs and

foxes are occasionally seen and evidence has shown we are visited by badgers and muntjac deer – and this year for the first time red kites have been seen circling above the allotments.



Dunchurch Community Garden

Community gardens encourage residents to become more socially and physically active whilst at the same time, providing produce for the local community.

Situated outside the village library, the Dunchurch Community Garden has been up and running for three years and provides a wonderful opportunity for people of all ages to enjoy

the experience of growing and harvesting their own produce.

We are looking for an enthusiastic volunteer to take on this rewarding project for 2024. If you are interested or know anyone that is, please do get in touch. Contact Tigs – email victoriaputt@gmail.com

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Make A Difference!

By Sue Turner, FODS Trustee

The Make A Difference, (MAD) group, have been out in the centre of Dunchurch planting for autumn, winter and spring. We hope you agree, the bright yellow violas and pansies are bringing a sunny glow to the village this winter.

Next year, the Freeman Troughs, made by Phill, will need a lick of paint to refresh them. There's 20 of them placed around the centre of the village, so, if you feel that you would like to help, please get in touch with me on 07983 345381. Your help will be very welcome.

The fabulous FODS team always needs volunteers. If we had a bigger team, we could advance out of the centre of the village, spreading our MAD ways as we go! Do you



Thank you to Matt Randall for this fabulous photo of the King Charles III Express which was published by the Rugby Advertiser

fancy joining us in making a difference to other parts of Dunchurch? We meet nearly every Sunday

for about an hour and a half, then we go for a coffee and a catch up. Some of the jobs include sweeping, weeding, edging, cleaning, dead-heading and watering.

Over the years, we've been making new friends, joining other village groups, enjoying being outdoors with likeminded people, taking pride in Dunchurch and the achievements of the group as well as planning our events and discussing ideas. It's all very sociable! If you're interested, please call me on the above number.

I'm so proud of this team of volunteers, they are a

hardworking group and I'm always amazed when they turn out on a Sunday (or any other day when asked). Thank you to you all.

Have a Happy and Healthy Christmas.



The Freeman troughs will be given a lick of paint ready for the summer planting



Lord John troughs



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Dunchurch Oak Line update

By Mike Judge

As the scorching heat of August began to decline and twilight descended, a shadowy figure armed with secateurs and a small saw flittered from tree to tree. As promised earlier in the season, he snipped here and there and occasionally sawed to heighten the canopy. Yes, it was our very good friend and arborist, Gavin Callard, from Onley who has also very kindly supplied and installed a depth of mulch around each tree to help retain moisture. Meanwhile, Rob Collings in particular, armed with his watering cans, supplements what the Good Lord provides in the form of rain, ensuring our trees develop appropriately. Gavin's report is encouraging and the

trees all seem to be making good progress, albeit at slightly different rates according to their slightly different ages and structures.

Many thanks to Gavin, Mark, Rob, Phill and Keith B for all their help on keeping 'The Dunchurch Oak Line' in such tip top condition.



Planted in an arc on The Heath Green, the sapling trees continue to thrive

The King Charles III Oak

Thirty dark blue 'Remembrance' crocuses, donated by an anonymous supporter, have been planted around the base of the King Charles III Oak. This was deemed a lovely way to remember Betty Green, a very dear lady and a supporter of many of the groups in the village. The crocuses should be visible by early spring

Mike Judge and Betty's daughter Sue plant 'remembrance' crocuses around the base of The King Charles III Oak



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Dunchurch Band

By Louise Balsom

Dunchurch Band rehearses on Tuesday evenings at the WI Hall, Southam Road, Dunchurch from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. We welcome new members and would love to hear from brass players interested in joining. There is also an exciting opportunity in our percussion section with an opening for a drum kit player to join us in the New Year.

Looking for a New Year's Resolution? Why not learn to play a brass instrument! Dunchurch Band can provide both tuition and instruments. Please contact us for more information and to register your interest.

An event not to be missed is our Christmas concert – see the poster for details. Tickets available at Wanda Fashions, Dunchurch or Eventbrite (follow the link on our Facebook page).



For more information about Dunchurch Band or to contact us please visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/dunchurchband or contact Louise, email: dunchurch.band100@yahoo.com or tel: 07548 276993



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FODS Social

In September, it was great to gather together with other group representatives and individuals at Dunchurch Social Club to reflect on the successes of the past year and to formerly thank and honour all those folk who had helped to make Dunchurch Bloom.

Prior to the event, Roger Bache of Heart of England in Bloom, a great friend and mentor of FODS, visited to give an impartial opinion for the best Blooming Barrows and Tantalising Troughs. Roger has followed with interest our journey since bestowing Dunchurch with the accolade of being the best large village in the Seven Heart of England Counties.

Roger felt worthy winners in the Tantalising Trough section were Eliza, Bob and Joyce for their colourful blooms; they received a miniature, hand crafted trough as their prize. Runners up were Rosie and Poppy for their artistic and colourful artwork, each receiving a certificate.

In the Blooming Barrow section, Dunchurch Guide Unit scooped first



Eliza, Bob and Joyce with their certificate and wooden trough prize

prize for their 'Bee Friendly' planting and leader Sue was delighted to receive their wooden, crafted wheelbarrow on behalf of the group. Runners up were St Peter's Church who produced three amazing wheelbar-

rows, which at the time of writing are still in fabulous bloom. A bit of divine intervention perhaps?

Two extra awards were presented – to Phill Freeman for his complete transformation of a trough into a galleon, and The Pantomaniacs for their barrow which celebrated the 200 year anniversary of the game of Rugby.

The evening concluded with a raffle which raised a further £65 towards next year's village blooms.

FODS would again like to thank all of the other village groups and individuals who created such eye-catching displays for all to enjoy. A final thank you to Phill Freeman who crafted the unique miniature wooden prizes for the winners.

1st Dunchurch Guide Unit were thrilled to be awarded best Blooming Barrow



*Wooden 'Blooming Barrow' prize.
Handcrafted by Phill*



Dunchurch Junior C of E Academy

By Tracy Miller, Headteacher

It has been a busy start to the academic year at the Junior Academy. We have joined the Coventry Diocese Multi Academy Trust and are gradually getting used to their systems and procedures. It is great to have their support.

In the summer we said goodbye to Linda Beech and Woody her dog. Linda is now enjoying a well-deserved retirement after many years of hard work at both the village schools. Linda now volunteers with Woody on a Wednesday afternoon for Woody's Buddy Club. Woody is a good boy and listens while the children read to him!

We are delighted that we have a very active PTA, which this year is led by Jodie Jackson. We have a great team and they have already organised hot chocolate sales and lots of fun activities leading up to Christmas. They have purchased some great new play equipment for lunch times and I thank them for their support.

The children have had many great opportunities already this year. Year 3 and 4 visited the Macready Theatre at Rugby School and Year 5 and 6 met an author in school. Year 3 have also visited the Roald Dahl Museum and Year 6 visited



Blists Hill. Year 5 visited Stratford-Upon-Avon in November and are busy learning and performing a Shakespeare play.

We are currently looking for Midday Supervisor staff. If anyone is interested, please contact me on 01788 811028. This does not need to be every day of the week.

After a very close family bereavement, I have made the difficult decision to retire at Christmas. I want to thank all the staff that I have worked with over the last 21 years. They have been very supportive and loyal. I have loved being part of the village community and would like to thank the Dunchurch Boughton Trust, the Festival Committee and FODS for always supporting the school. I would also like to thank the families that I have worked with.

Finally, I could not have done this job without two very special people, who have done so much voluntary work for the school for more than 25 years. Phil Freeman and John Mills have supported us with such commitment and enthusiasm. I am in awe of them and hope to follow in their footsteps as I support the school in the future by volunteering. They are Legends!





Dunchurch Boughton C of E Infant Academy and Nursery

By Suzanne Marson, Headteacher

This academic year, the school has become part of the Diocese of Coventry Multi-Academy Trust and is now known as above. The addition of Boughton recognises the historical origins of the academy, which was previously known as Boughton Endowed School. There has also been a change in the leadership team within the academy. Since the start of the autumn term, the local community has shown the new team a great deal of warmth and support, which we are all very grateful for.

The first term of the academic year is well underway, with plenty of exciting opportunities for the children. The children have been embracing new leadership opportunities such as eco-monitors, health and safety monitors and worship leaders, along with roles such as school councilors and play leaders. Year two children have already been on their first school trip – a visit to St John's Museum, where they experienced a day as a Victorian school child as part of their learning about life in the past. Year one children enjoyed a visit from the fire service, learning important skills regarding how to avoid a fire and what to do if one should break out. Reception and nursery children have all settled well

into their new year groups and are enthusiastically enjoying all the learning experiences that the school environment has to offer.

As always in an infant school, we just love an excuse to dress up! Just before the summer holiday, we held a rockstar day with the aim of raising £300 toward the purchase of some new glockenspiels to be used in music lessons. The costumes were very impressive and we surpassed our target, enabling us to purchase a full class set of instruments. This half term, we held our first vocabulary day, where children came to school dressed as an ambitious word. The vocabulary choices certainly were ambitious, with words such as prehistoric, extraterrestrial, onomatopoeia and illuminate represented. We look forward to this becoming an annual event!

We are grateful for the support we continue to receive from the local community and look forward to taking an active part in the local build-up to Christmas by supporting church services, the Christmas lights switch on and holding a carol concert and plays within school.



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Doctors in Dunchurch, Part 20: After the pandemic and the future

By Dr Ian Czerniewski, Dunchurch GP since 1991

To those of you who have read these articles over the last five years, thank you for sticking to the story. We began with “The Medical and Vaccination Officer for Dunchurch District”, Dr Thomas Ellis in the 1830s through the utilisation of X-Rays, the advent of the motor car, and the discovery of penicillin. Then there was the wartime bombing of the doctor’s home, the formation of the NHS, the medical information revolution of the Internet, the many changes in General Practice, the horrible pandemic of the 2020s and so to the present day.

Much has changed, medical capability has improved beyond recognition and the shape of primary health care has constantly evolved. Yet the fundamental principle of the patient-doctor relationship hasn’t changed. It



depends upon mutual understanding and trust and of course the continuity of care, with the long-term knowledge of patients, their families and their circumstances which helps to determine the most appropriate course of clinical management.

In a world of instant information and the often impersonal nature of medical consultation, the practice at Dunchurch has tried to maintain the traditional model of continuity of care, so well established by our long serving predecessors. It helps of course to work in a practice which is not too big, in a community where the population is stable and not transient and where so many of our patients are respectful, understanding and realistic. We hope to maintain these traditions despite the possible threats of AI and GP-bots! We, the doctors all appreciate and value our loyal and long-suffering staff and you, the wonderful community within which we work. Here’s to the next 190 years at Dunchurch Surgery!

Dunchurch Surgery Website

The Surgery website has recently been updated and overhauled. It has the usual useful information about the practice, prescriptions, appointments, and staff. In addition, it has information for patients on how to access several services promptly and directly.

Please visit www.dunchurchsurgery.warwickshire.nhs.uk

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We need volunteers for many varied roles. If you are interested please email join@dunscout.org.uk



Chairperson

Trustee Board Vacancies

Do you like managing projects?

Are you good at coordinating a group of likeminded people?

Are you happy to be a trustee of a small charity?

If the answer to these is yes, then would you consider the role of Chairperson of 1st Dunchurch Scouts?

Group secretary

Trustee Board Vacancies

Do you enjoy supporting in the background?

Do you have a competency in using a word processing package?

Would you be willing to be a trustee of a small charity?

If the answer is yes, would you consider supporting 1st Dunchurch Scouts as their Secretary?

Grant finder

Friends of 1st Dunchurch

We are looking for a team of adults to help support the group with fundraising & applying for grants.

Are you happy to find community grants that we could apply for?

Are you happy to coordinate the submission of grant applications?

If so, would you be willing to give some time as one of our Fundraising Champions?

Treasurer team

Trustee Board Vacancies

Do you have a head for numbers?

Are you happy using a spreadsheet to track cash flows and to perform other small financial planning tasks?

Would you be willing to be a trustee of a small charity?

If your answer is yes, would you be willing to join the 1st Dunchurch Trustee Board and be part of our Treasurer Team?

Do you love our community?

Friends of 1st Dunchurch

Do you have contacts within the Dunchurch community?

Do you enjoy linking people together?

Are you willing to search out community initiatives & projects going on in our community?

If the answer to these is yes, then please consider being one of our Community Champions.

Money maker

Friends of 1st Dunchurch

We are looking for a team of adults to help support the group with fundraising.

Would you be willing to help organise fundraising events & initiatives to raise funds for the group?

If so, please consider being one of our Fundraising Champions

Girlguiding

Rainbows welcomes all girls from four to seven years old for play, learning and tons of fun in a safe space. She'll laugh, sing and make a happy mess (and help clear it up!) as she chooses her way through our programme of activities. She'll have plenty of magic moments: she might become a time traveller, an animal tracker, a pop singer, a stargazer. It's a wonderful world of adventure, week after week, just for her.

Brownies welcomes all girls from seven to ten years old for nonstop fun, learning and adventure.

It's full of firsts: she might grow her first plant, cook her first cake, put up (and take down) her first tent, light her first fire, go on her first fun-packed weekend away with guiding friends. With a help-

ful hand from our encouraging volunteers, she'll explore her creative side, get out into the great outdoors, and start learning to look after herself, others and the world we live in. There's something for every girl at Brownies, and plenty of moments she'll never forget.

Guides is a relaxed, welcoming space where you can have fun, learn and be yourself with good friends from 10 to 14 years old. A place where you can explore the things you love and do stuff you've never done before. Where else can you think up a new sport, make a new perfume, cook over a campfire, design an advertising campaign, have a mocktail party, raise money for a charity you believe in? At Guides, you can do all of this and loads more.

Rangers is your space – where you get together with other girls from 14 to 18 to have fun, learn more, give back, hang out, and just be you. It's regular meetings with your local group, trips at home and abroad, making a difference to the things you care about. It's an open and relaxed space to talk with good friends – it's qualifications, and badges and awards. It's the freedom to be more inde-



Rainbows, Brownies and Guides make a wonderful contribution to Dunchurch in Bloom and each group received a certificate of thanks



pendent, and to do what makes you happy. Rangers is what you make of it.

To find a local Rainbow, Brownie, Guide or Ranger unit for your child, start by registering online at www.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us

Become a Volunteer There are lots of fun and flexible ways to get involved in guiding. You don't need to have been involved in guiding before or have loads

of time to make a big difference. Whatever your skills and interests, whether it's volunteering with girls directly or supporting behind the scenes, there's a role to suit you. Take a look at the ways you can get involved below and then register your interest to find out about roles near you.

www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-to-volunteer

Dunchurch Remembers – 2

Our thanks to Margaret for donating the new poppy display on the rear of the thatched bus stop – see page 8.



(Above) Thatched bus stop. A memorial to those who died during the second world war.

(left) Poppy Cascade on the First World war memorial

(right) Remembering the crew of 434 Squadron





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

DUNCHURCH WINTER WONDERLAND

Sunday 10th December
3.00pm – 5.00pm
Village Green and Dunchurch Social Club

Games and stalls and those last minute Christmas gifts.

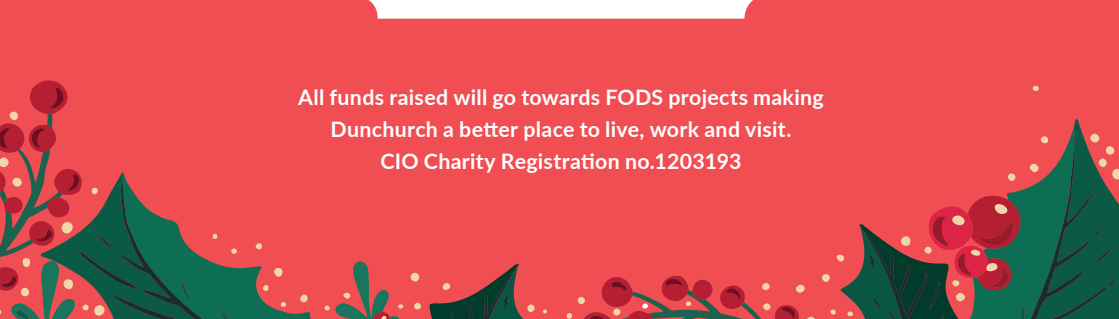
Be entertained by Dunchurch Band and
Dunchurch Voices Ladies Choir.

Mulled wine, mince pies – get into the Christmas spirit!

Visit Santa's Grotto

Free Entry

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

By Rev Pat Townshend

As we find ourselves again in the Christmas season and hear the promises of peace on earth, we may be forgiven for raising a few doubts. The world seems to be engulfed in conflict, people flee for their lives and from their homes, livelihoods and beloved ones are lost. Where is the peace and goodwill?

The obvious answer is, if as a world, we truly embraced Christ's message and example and allowed him to lead us, our priorities would change and we would regard one another differently. In the words of Isaiah, "The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fawning together, and a little child shall lead them."



Inside St Peter's Church. Photo courtesy of Alison King

But even as we know that people will continue to place power and selfish gain above love, we hear God's promise in Revelation to be with us in whatever situation we find ourselves. "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and

God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes."

In this Christmas season we are reminded about a God who cared so much that he came to be with us, sharing our joys and sorrows so that we may never feel abandoned and alone.

May the peace and joy of the Christ child be with you and may he lead you this Christmastide and always.

St Peter's, Dunchurch and St Edmund's, Thurlaston Christmas Services

3 Dec	4:00pm	Open air nativity	Dunchurch
16 Dec	6:30pm	Carol Service	St Edmund's
17 Dec	6:30pm	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols	St Peter's
24 Dec	10:30am	Holy Communion with Carols	St Peter's
	4:00pm	Crib service	St Peter's
	11:00pm	Midnight Eucharist	St Peter's
25 Dec	9:00am	Holy Communion	St Edmund's
	10:30am	Holy Communion	St Peter's



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Davenport Road
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Rowlands Pharmacy
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Ann Marie's Florist
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The Kitchens Inc
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Where to eat in Dunchurch

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Southam Rd 01788 815058

The Green Man – Public House
Daventry Rd 01788 810210

The Dun Cow – Public House
The Square 01788 810305

Huntsman Carvery – Restaurant
The Square 01788 811748

Cinnamon Lounge – Indian Restaurant
The Square 01788 812855

Malancha – Indian Restaurant
Daventry Road 01788 819141

Dunchurch Pizza Place – Takeaway
Southam Road 01788 810000

Crystal Chinese – Takeaway
Southam Road 01788 812888

Dunchurch Social Club
The Square 01788 811177

Square Coffee – Coffee Shop
The Square 07816 278409

Cuppa – Coffee Shop
Daventry Road



Dunchurch Village Hall and its facilities can be hired for a variety of events - from Community Groups, Fundraising Events & Public Meetings to Weddings, Parties and Family Functions

The facilities briefly comprise of:



- Capacity in Main Hall - 160 Theatre Style or 130 seated at tables
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For further details please contact us or visit the website:

Tel: 01788 522444

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Web: www.dunchurchsportsandvhall.co.uk

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Dunchurch Baptist Church

By Eleanor Holdsworth

The new year brings a new start and a new face to Dunchurch Baptist Church. The Rev Ali Jones will begin his role as our new minister on 1st January 2024 and he's keen to get involved in village activities. He loves walking so expect to bump into him – and his wife Gillian – around the village. We're sure everyone will make them welcome. Ali's induction service will take place on Saturday 3rd February 2024.

But before that – please do join us for one of our Christmas events as we celebrate Jesus' birth. We celebrate a God who chose to come and live among us in all our mirth and mess. He chose to be with us, to share our joys and sorrows and we'd love to share our

celebrations with you!

All the details of the Christmas services will be on the website, dunchurchbaptist.org.uk.

Open Air Nativity: Sunday 3rd December, 4pm. A Joint Churches event with Dunchurch Silver Band, in the village by the memorial

Sunday School Nativity service: Sunday 10th December, 10:30am

Carols by candlelight: Sunday 17th December, 5pm

Christmas morning: Monday 25th December, 10:30am

Our usual activities still continue too, in our building on the Coventry Road. They include:

- Route 41 community café: refreshments and chat, every third Tuesday of the month from 9:30am to noon.
- Connect: youth group

for year 5 and up, once every four weeks, Sunday 4pm to 5:30pm.

- Noah's Ark: stay and play for children aged 0–4 and their carers, Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30am to 11am.
- Cake and Craft: bring a craft project to work on and enjoy some delicious cake while you do so. Third Friday of each month, 10am to 12 noon.

And finally, we've really enjoyed getting to know many friends from Dunchurch Park Hotel who have regularly worshipped with us. We're sad to see some of them move on but are blessed to have been able to help get them established in their new homes. We look forward to welcoming more new friends in the future.

Come join us for cake and craft





Dunchurch and Thurlaston WI

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(Lord Roy Hattersley is holding his own copy in the back page photo.)



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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.

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Full page	137mm x 197mm	£100
Half page landscape	137mm x 97mm	£50
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To place an order call Barbara on 07837 182114
or email info@vghrugby.co.uk

Deadline for March 2024 issue: 1 February 2024

Dunchurch Community Directory

Badminton Group	Dunchurch Village Hall, Monday 7.30pm	judge.patricia@googlemail.com Pat Judge 01788 810253
Beavers	Boys and girls aged 5¼ – 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	Tower Captain Simon Benton, 07890 325434 simon.j.benton@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 and Sat 10am to noon	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 Chair Guy Watt gwattdfg@gmail.com Secretary Julie Peters juliepeters91@ hotmail.co.uk
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@gmail.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 meets Wednesdays, 7.30pm at the Baptist Church, Coventry Road	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
friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

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