



# DUNCHURCH VILLAGE MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2024

ISSUE 25

Friends of Dunchurch Society  
Charity no 1203193  
YOU ARE INVITED TO

## Winter Wonderland

*Dunchurch Village Hall*  
*Rugby Rd*  
CV22 6PN

**December 8th, 3pm - 5pm**

Dunchurch Band  
Dunchurch Voices

Visit Santa  
Craft Stalls a Plenty  
Pantomime Tea Rooms  
Mulled Wine/Mince Pies  
Hot Dogs

**FREE ENTRY**

Welcome	2
Dunchurch Festival Group	4
Old Dunchurch	4
Dunchurch Parish Council	6
Pantomaniacs	10
VE Day celebrations	13
A story of survival	15
St Peter's strikes gold	17
Dunchurch excels	17
The Oak Line book	17
Dunchurch Voices	19
Post Office	19
Dunchurch Allotments	20
Christmas fun	22
WI	23
Forget-me-not tea room	23
Thank you OurJay	27
Halifax Bomber remembered	29
Peace poles	31
Remembrance poppies	31
Make a Difference Group	33
Aurora borealis	33
Pigot's directory	34
Dunchurch Brownies	35
Infants' Academy & Nursery	37
Together we are stronger	39
Dunchurch Band	41
St Peter's Church	42
Baptist Church	44
Directory	46

PRODUCED BY FRIENDS OF DUNCHURCH SOCIETY

[www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org](http://www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org)

Registered Charity No 1203193



## Welcome

With the season's festivities just around the corner, there is often a media focus on loneliness and we are encouraged to reach out to those in need of company. However, loneliness can strike at any time throughout the year and a recent report by the Office for National Statistics found that around a quarter of adults reported they felt lonely always, often or at least, some of the time.

For those who are not on social media, please be aware there are a range of organisations in Dunchurch that offer companionship and social interaction through a variety of events, and several hold coffee mornings where refreshments are provided at minimal cost. For example:

- **Dunchurch Baptist Church,** Route 41 Community Café every third Tuesday of the month, 9.30am – noon
- **Dunchurch Baptist Church** Cake & Craft on the third Friday of each month, from 10am – noon (although



none this December)

- **Dunchurch Social Club,** Cake & Coffee charity event every first Friday of the month, 10.30am – noon
- **Dunchurch Social Club** Live Music Memories every second Friday of the month noon – 2pm (with bar)
- **St Peter's Church,** The Beech Tree



*The village of Funchurch! Sketch by Jaine Thornton Weeks and the inspiration for a scenery backdrop for this year's village pantomime, Beauty and the Beast.*



Coffee shop, first Tuesday of every month, 9.30am – 12.30pm

And don't forget the **community library** – it's not just for borrowing books, it acts as a safe warm space where you can meet other people and maybe work on a jigsaw at the puzzle table. It's open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10am to 5pm, and Saturday mornings from 10am to noon.

At each one, you will find a warm welcome, companionship and an opportunity to make new friends and perhaps reacquaint with old ones, so do go along and give them a try.

As the New Year approaches, we are coming to the end of another busy year in which we had much to enjoy and the next couple of months will provide us with an excellent end to the year and start to 2025.

The annual outdoor nativity (4pm, 1st December outside St Peter's Church) heralds the start of the festive season and is always a great way for us all to come together to reflect and to look forward with a renewed optimism as we join in with carols around the village Christmas tree.

8th December brings us another community event, Winter Wonderland (see front cover) at which Councillor Simon Ward, the Mayor of Rugby will be an

honoured guest. And then in the New Year, our annual village panto will help to chase away those January blues and, in a first for the Pantomaniacs, you will now be able to purchase your tickets online as well as through the normal box office at Wanda Fashions. (See page 11 for details).

Whatever your plans are for the forthcoming festivities, we hope it brings you joy and contentment. The village magazine team would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

## Dunchurch Village Map

Featured in our last magazine, this fabulous map is now in situ on the noticeboard next to the traffic lights. Full credit must go to the instigators, Jaine Thornton Weeks who provided the artwork and Erica Milwain for the cartography. Both gave their time freely

to complete the project which has been funded by FODS.



*Erica left and Jaine right, creators of beautiful artistry in our village*

## Dunchurch Festival Group

By Fiona Stevenson

We are delighted to inform you, that using the money raised from our door-to-door Santa collections last December, we were able to purchase the following for the new Children's Counselling Room at Rugby Myton Hospice: books, leaflets and guides supporting children and teenagers dealing with bereavement and also, a new projector. Tracey Evans, Patient and Carer Wellbeing Services Lead at Rugby Myton Hospice, thanks Dunchurch 'for the kindness shown by all'.

Santa and his sleigh will be returning again this year on Monday 9th December (Sandford Way) and Tuesday 10th December on the east side of the village. Please do



*Just some of the children's bereavement support literature bought by the Dunchurch Festival Group*

look out for him and give what you can for another great cause. In the meantime, thank you for your support. It is much appreciated.



## Old Dunchurch

Do you know what this building is now?

Answer on page 43.



Join us at [friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com)

# merry christmas

From your local independent kitchen specialist



**THE KITCHENS INC**

WARWICKSHIRE, ENGLAND

## Dunchurch Parish Council

### The Parish Assembly

*Questions to all Dunchurch Village magazine readers from Ann Coomber, Chair of Dunchurch Parish Council:*

- Are we making best use of this ancient institution enshrined in law?
- With a population of over 4000 are there too many of us to make this work?
- Is it an effective forum for individual electors to discuss matters specific to the Parish?
- Does it provide the right opportunity for village organisations to inform other residents of their current activity and to answer questions about their future plans?

Please let me know your views after reading this article. Please write to: **annchristina.coomber@dunchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk**

The Parish Assembly is the name given to the annual gathering together of all the groups and organisations who contribute to making Dunchurch such a great place to live.

I have been amazed by the amount of volunteering that goes on in Dunchurch. Almost everyone I meet is involved in some kind of a voluntary role contributing to making Dunchurch an interesting and caring community. Everywhere I go



I find people giving freely of their time and energy to help the life of the village.

The enormous commitment of so many residents is truly wonderful and needs celebrating. One place to do this could be the Dunchurch Parish Assembly. A place to shout out loudly at least once a year: "WELL DONE DUNCHURCH"!

Volunteers in Dunchurch all have the same aim, to improve Dunchurch as a place where people live, work and play. To bring all parts of our community closer together – the Assembly meeting can be a showcase for all this but also a place for focusing opinion about anything that affects the well-being of our community and to bring it to bear on the responsible authority. It's a place to get to know your community and all it has to offer for improving quality of life and community well-being.

I've been researching the history of the Parish Assembly. I've discovered it is a tradition dating back to Anglo-Saxon times when it was that Parishes provided a means for people to come together to govern themselves. Local Parish Councils did not exist. All local decision making was carried out by meetings of the whole community taking place in any available large building. So, the annual



Parish Assembly here in Dunchurch is a legacy from the middle ages which still provides a form of direct democracy uncommon in Britain. On this one occasion only the elected Parish Councillors are themselves present as residents and are therefore of equal standing to all other electors within the meeting.

The Parish Assembly is therefore a Public Meeting required by law (Local Government Act 1972) to which all residents of the Parish are invited and is held at least once a year between 1st

March and 1st June.

In 2025 I intend to call the Assembly on the first Monday in March (3rd March). The law says it can't be held before 6pm so it has to be at a family unfriendly evening time unfortunately. But I hope to offer some refreshments and enable a social atmosphere. Information about the meeting will be available on the Parish Council website: **www.dunchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk** and on the noticeboards on The Green and on our boundary on the Coventry Road in Cawston.

### Will you join me?

**By Councillor Jan Gee-Russell**

The greatest threat to our planet is our belief that someone else will save it! Could you be that someone else to help? I've recently attended a workshop to prepare a plan so we can act together to conserve our surroundings. As a Parish Councillor and avid lover of nature, I have become very concerned about preserving where we live. I think we all feel we have no control over what happens to our neighbourhoods but this workshop showed me we do have control and we can change things.

I'm prepared to put together a plan of action to avert these threats but I can't do it alone. What spurs me on is not just that we have lost half of our butterfly

population this year, or that we have lost the seven buzzards that would fly over my allotments on Coventry Road helping to control the rabbit population, but how almost every plant and every animal is at risk and nothing is being done. Driving down Ashlawn Road reduces me to tears to see that so much has been destroyed and so unnecessarily. Is this really what we are leaving for our children and grandchildren?

We cannot stop developments but preparing this plan and the information it contains, can action the Environmental Legislation 'Every planning application must submit an ecological impact



# Wanda Fashions



Wanda Fashions@TheGreenDunchurch

The Old Bank House, The Green, Dunchurch CV22 6NX  
T: 01788 522021 E: paula@wandafashions.com www.wandafashions.com

## The Green Man

Serving superb freshly cooked quality food  
at wonderful value-for-money prices



Daventry Road  
Dunchurch  
CV22 6NS

**COME AND JOIN US** Open every day from 12 noon to 11pm Easy parking to rear



### STEAK DEAL FOR 2

Two steaks and a bottle of  
house red, white or rosé  
starting from £36.90

Choose your  
steak

8oz Rump  
8oz Sirloin  
10oz Ribeye  
Mixed Grill

All supplied by butchers Joseph Morris from local farms • Quality Assured



Reserve a table 01788 810210  
facebook.com/greenmandunchurch

email: thegreenman@splendidpubgroup.co.uk  
www.thegreenmandunchurch.co.uk



report'. The first phase of this is a desk-based assessment by RBC planners. Their decisions are made on the information provided by you and me in this plan. I need help to start this large plan project and we'll only get one chance and that is now. It's too late when the trees are down and the animals are dead and we are left with a concrete jungle.

Help me put this Local Nature Action Plan together, in little bites at first, so that we may protect where we live, as far as we possibly can. Please reply to Cllr JA Gee-Russell at [jan.gee-russell@dunchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jan.gee-russell@dunchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk) if you are concerned enough to provide some support to action this plan. I would really appreciate hearing from you. Thank you.

## Dunchurch Traffic Survey

By DPC Cllr Matthew Vaughan

As a Parish Council, we are acutely aware of the concern our fellow parishioners share around the volume and speed of traffic through Dunchurch.

Changes in behaviour, along with significant residential and commercial urbanisation, has had a huge impact in terms of safety, noise and pollution. With these concerns in mind, Dunchurch Parish Council, in partnership with Warwickshire County Council, arranged for a series of traffic speed and volume surveys during September – covering Coventry Road, Daventry Road, Rugby Road, Southam Road and Northampton Lane.

We are now in receipt of the survey data and, following a period of review, will look to promote discussions with all stakeholders around our options for traffic calming measures.



Traffic Survey Locations

Tackling motorists who speed is critical, not just for our safety, but for the long-term preservation of our community. We, like you, firmly believe that being able to navigate safely through our village should be our right – not our privilege.

We look forward to providing you with further updates in due course.

[matthew.vaughan@dunchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.vaughan@dunchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## Pantomaniacs

By Barry Nicholls

**A**s musical director for the Dunchurch Pantomaniacs since 2005, I was thrilled to be asked to present a £500 donation cheque to New Directions who support our local people with all forms of disability. They have for many years supported our shows and their interaction with the performance demonstrates that disability has no boundaries and is of great inspiration to our cast of players.

I was appointed to the role of musical director (or maybe should I say 'press ganged') as a result of my lifetime passion for music and performance. This goes back to my early days of watching my mother playing stride piano style, and then primary school, when I played lead recorder and sang in the choir to overcome my very difficult speech impediment. Even when I couldn't say it, I realised I could always 'sing it' and this broke the barrier against being with-



Barry handing over a £500 cheque to delighted members from New Directions



drawn and having no confidence.

I learnt to play many instruments and have played more than five thousand public performances, including a professional thirty-year residency. I believe in passing on my skills, experience and passion to all our cast members. Music is the food of life, increasing levels of consciousness, with vibrations that generate peace, happiness and love and which I believe is the recipe for our community to survive and thrive.

The Pantomaniacs are my other family and it is exciting to see the transformation in our initially shy young performers, who subsequently blossom into confident actors, singers and dancers, with the help and support from our more experienced cast members. So, whatever your age, skill set or passion, be it music, dance, singing, sound, lighting, props, staging or admin, please come and join our wonderful family of Pantomaniacs.

Contact our director Paul, [paul.lepoidevin@btopenworld.com](mailto:paul.lepoidevin@btopenworld.com) or assistant director Sue, [sueprotheroe@gmail.com](mailto:sueprotheroe@gmail.com)

Note. A total of £3,900 was donated to other charitable organisations from profits raised from this year's January production.

Join us at [friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com)

Pantomaniacs

# Beauty and the BEAST

an original pantomime  
written by Sue Protheroe  
directed by Paul le Poidevin

## Dunchurch Village Hall

Special Performances

**Fish & Chip supper – £15**

Friday 17 January, 7:30pm

**Gala Night – £18**

Wednesday 22 January, 7:30pm

Standard Performances

**Saturday 18 January**

Matinee – 2:30pm

Evening – 7:00pm

**Sunday 19 January**

Matinee – 2:30pm

**Thursday 23 January**

Evening – 7:30pm

**Friday 24 January**

Evening – 7:30pm

**Saturday 25 January**

Evening – 6:30pm

Standard prices:

**Adult – £8.00**

**Child – £5.00**

**Senior – £7.00**

Tickets on sale at Wanda Fashions  
alternatively, visit  
[dunchurchpantomaniacs.com](http://dunchurchpantomaniacs.com)  
or scan the QR code to purchase



SCAN ME



★★★★★  
5\* Rated

**nJoyArt**  
Painting for Fun

**Blank canvas to finished painting in ~2 hours**

- Relax & enjoy some downtime, you deserve it!
- Sociable & friendly, no experience necessary
- Guided with easy step-by-step instructions
- Light-hearted, fun, group sessions for adults
- No pressure!
- *Everything provided for you*

Join us for  
**Paint & Prosecco**  
at  
**Dunchurch Social Club**

"We had so much fun, laughed the whole night, and left with a beautiful piece of art that I had no idea I could create!"  
Kate Bage ★★★★★

Visit [nJoyArt.co.uk/events-dsc](http://nJoyArt.co.uk/events-dsc)

**ART to DUNCHURCH**  
warwickshire open studios

**RUGBY ARTISTS & MAKERS**

**CENTRAL ENGLAND PRESTIGE AWARDS**  
2024 WINNER

**CENTRAL ENGLAND PRESTIGE AWARDS**  
2024 WINNER

**BRITISH AWARDS FINALIST 2024**

[nJoyArt.co.uk](http://nJoyArt.co.uk)  
01788 288855  
07307 200 868  
@nJoyArtUK



**Always a Warm Welcome**

Mon-Fri 8.00am to 4.30pm  
Sat 9.00am to 4.30pm  
Sun 10am to 3pm

**CUPPA**  
COFFEE LOUNGE

**Amokka**

**View Menu**

4 Daventry Road, Dunchurch  
[www.cuppadunchurch.co.uk](http://www.cuppadunchurch.co.uk)  
f i cuppadunchurch

## VE Day celebrations in Dunchurch – and so much more!

By Ian Grogan, Dunchurch Parish Councillor

Next year marks the 80th Anniversary of VE Day in Europe and we thought it would be a great idea to get the village together for an event to mark the occasion. The date for the diary is Saturday 10 May 2025 and we will be closing Dunchurch Square down for most of the day. Everyone is welcome and we are aiming to make it a WW2 themed event with something for everyone, especially families.

We are aiming to have WW2 tanks, jeeps and half-tracks on The Square as well as

an extensive tented area delivering food and entertainment in 1940's style. There will be themed face painting, weapons exhibitions, enactors, hot food and hog roasts, ice cream vans, maypole dancing, 1940's singing as well as a show and lots more besides.

We are delighted the Mayor of Rugby will be attending and it should be one



of the biggest events we have ever tried to put on in the centre of our lovely village. Dunchurch Parish Council are leading on the planning and delivery but we are delighted that FODS and the Festival Steering Committee have come in to join us and lend us so much help and expertise.

Look out for far more detail in the coming months as well as a running order of WW2 events on the day – it should be a great occasion.

We will once again be making use of our fabulous village maypole

See [www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org](http://www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org) for more news

# Once a head honcho, always a head honcho.

As a resident with us, if you're celebrating Christmas or having a family get-together, we've got chefs to create the menu, hosts to serve the food, and a seat at the head of the table reserved just for you.



Every moment.



Residential, nursing and dementia care.

Learn about life with us at

[hallmarkcarehomes.co.uk](https://hallmarkcarehomes.co.uk) | 01788 462 000 | Hallmark Anya Court, Rugby, CV22 6JA

## A story of survival

**T**his is June Williams, a lovely lady who is 93 years young and as bright and as cheery as the glimmer in her eyes suggests. This is not the first time June has featured in our village magazine and we covered her amazing story in our March 2024 issue. June was the little girl who survived the direct hit when the Dunchurch and Thurlaston Working Men's Club was bombed in November 1940.

To use June's words, 'I feel like a cat with nine lives. I am lucky to have survived.'

Next year, led by Dunchurch Parish Council, Dunchurch will be joining in with a national celebration of the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II and June is just one of her marvellous generation who is helping us to compile some information about the life and times of Dunchurch during those turbulent years.

If you know of someone else who lived in the village during that time and they would like to talk to us, please contact the Editor, Sue on [fodnews1@gmail.com](mailto:fodnews1@gmail.com) or, if you have some



information you think may be relevant, please do send it. We would love to hear from you.

For now, we share with you this photo that June has lent us, showing the pulling of the first pint at the newly

rebuilt Working Men's Club in 1951.

*The Mayor's wife with flowers, just behind, Harry Back, (unknown to his right), Kathleen Wilson (June's Mum), back right Wilfred Wilson (June's Dad), Tom Duffin with hand on the cask, (a regular and coal merchant) and the Mayor of Coventry pulling the first pint*





**RHYTHM TIME**

**FUN**  
music classes  
for under 5's

Rugby - Coventry - West Northants

Book your session today  
[rhythmtime.net](http://rhythmtime.net)

Trustpilot 5 stars

ICAP

## St Peter's strike Gold

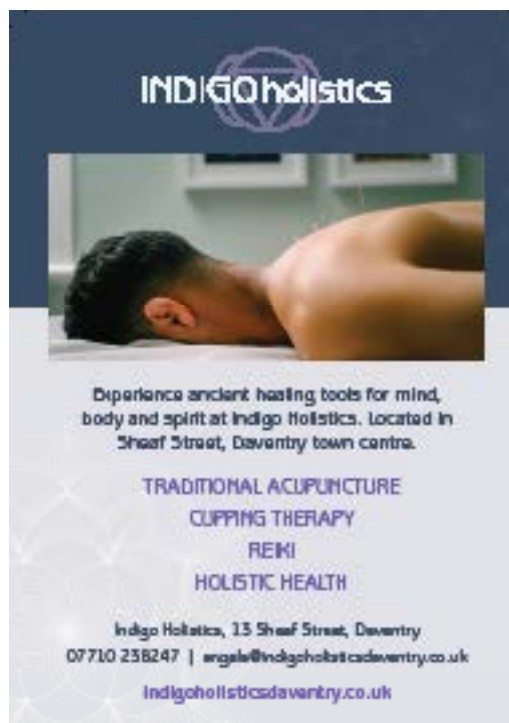
By Joan Wade

St Peter's Dunchurch blooming barrows were entered for the first time in the community category of Rugby in Bloom 2024. Much to the surprise and delight of the volunteer gardeners, we were awarded Gold and attended the Mayor's award ceremony in September along with many other worthy winners. A welcome tribute to all the team who give their time freely maintaining the churchyard for the benefit of the local community and visitors. It's also a 'hats off' to FODS for this attractive village initiative and providing all the barrows every year.



Some of the St Peter's Gold winning gardening group with Cllr Simon Ward, Mayor of Rugby

St Peter's church gardening team need more volunteers. Can you help? Please call Chris Sarson on 01926 632408



**INDIGO holistics**

Experience ancient healing tools for mind, body and spirit at Indigo Holistics. Located in Sheep Street, Coventry town centre.

TRADITIONAL ACUPUNCTURE  
CUPPING THERAPY  
REIKI  
HOLISTIC HEALTH

Indigo Holistics, 13 Sheep Street, Coventry  
07710 238247 | [enigale@indigo-holistics.co.uk](mailto:enigale@indigo-holistics.co.uk)  
[indigo-holistics.co.uk](http://indigo-holistics.co.uk)



THE RUGBY FLOOR COMPANY

DUNCHURCH SHOWROOM

open by appointment

01788 815700

PARKQUET | WOOD | KARNDEN | LAMINATE | RENOVATION

Beautiful floors for beautiful homes

3C SOUTHAM RD | DUNCHURCH | CV22 6NL

## Dunchurch excels in Rugby in Bloom

Congratulations to Libby Thompson who won first prize for best floral container and Antone Sabbaghe for his first prize in the Rugby in Bloom garden section.

Both award winners bring extra colour to our village. Libby also plants up the two wonderful wheelbarrows on Half-way Lane, and Antone the four fabulous ones that greet folk on the corner of Adkinson Avenue.

Thank you both for flying the flag for Dunchurch.

See [www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org](http://www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org) for more news

## Dunchurch Oak Line Book

This is available to view in the village library and details the planting of the Oak Line together with other significant trees in the village. It is accompanied by a comments book in which you are encouraged to share your thoughts. Do go along and take a look.



Mike Judge with the Oak Line book he created

## Dewar Close care home

Refurbished with redecorated households,  
a new café and entrance



- ✓ Caring, friendly staff available when you need them
- ✓ A warm welcome to family and friends, at any time
- ✓ A range of activities and things to get involved with
- ✓ Memory Maker minibus for trips out

**You're welcome to call in anytime:**

- 📍 Dewar Close, 5 Beech Drive, Bilton, Rugby, CV22 7LT



Josephine Rugg



Our Trusted Advisor, Josephine, is happy to answer your questions about living in a care home, whether that's a WCS care home or one outside our group better suited to your needs.

Call us on 01788 811724 and 'Press 1' to speak to Josephine.

📧 [wcs-care.co.uk](mailto:wcs-care.co.uk) 📱 [/wscare](https://www.facebook.com/wcs-care) Registered charity number 1012788

Find out more



- Company and Personal Tax
- Company Accounts
- XERO Support
- Bookkeeping
- VAT

**CUBE**  
Accounting

SERVING RUGBY AND THE NIDLANDS

Victoria Cowton | Philip Lewis | Anne Wordsworth | Sarah Watkins | Lucy Clayton | Nick Gautrey



☎ If you would like to find out how we can support your business then get in touch and we can have a chat. 📞

Anne Wordsworth

Call: 01788 815017 or 07796 445115

E: [accounts@cubeaccounting.co.uk](mailto:accounts@cubeaccounting.co.uk)

[www.cubeaccounting.co.uk](http://www.cubeaccounting.co.uk)

## Dunchurch Voices

By Barbara Davies

On Thursday 15th October a group of singers from Dunchurch Voices visited Mulberry Ward at the Hospital of St Cross, Rugby. We were invited along to entertain and hopefully raise the spirits of both patients and staff. Our programme included a range of songs that we thought would appeal to everyone, including a medley of songs associated with London and a war time 'close harmony' favourite, *Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree*.

We were well received and the audience seemed relaxed and in good spirits, with some patients singing along.



It is good to be able to give a little pleasure to those in the community who are going through difficult times.

## Dunchurch Post Office and Convenience Store

A very warm welcome to Raj who from August, became the new owner of Dunchurch Local Store and Post Office. Raj explains, 'I have always wanted to open a business of my own which benefits the local community and I am glad that I have landed in the beautiful village of Dunchurch. I want

my post office to be a welcoming environment



to all and hope to meet many new people and friends. I will try to meet the needs of the local residents based on the feedback I receive. Please do come in and say hello.'

We send our best wishes to Raj and his staff and hope, this is the start of a long, happy and fruitful association with our village.

See [www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org](http://www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org) for more news

## Dunchurch Allotments

By Paul Sanders, Secretary

Dunchurch Allotment Association exists to support the allotment community and was formed in 2011. Since its inception, the role of the Association has developed and expanded, but its core mission remains to support members in their passion for gardening. This includes providing gardening supplies and services, as well as maintaining

and improving the site. In recent years, the Association has also engaged with the local community by organizing fun and engaging activities for families, such as the scarecrow festivals, acorn houses and Wildlife Wander events.

The allotment site is owned by the Dunchurch and Thurlaston Community Trust, to which plot holders sign a lease and pay their annual rent. Increasingly, the Association has taken on the responsibility of managing the site with the support of the Trust. This includes tasks such as maintaining boundary hedges, improving pathways, and clearing rubbish from untended plots. The issue of untended plots presents the biggest challenge to the Association.

When tenants take on a plot, they sign a tenancy agreement, one condition of which states that plots must be 'kept clean, in a good state of fertility and cultivation, and free from noxious weeds.' However, some plots inevitably become neglected and overgrown, for reasons such as ill health, family breakup, work pressures, personal circumstances, or loss of interest.

The challenge for both the Trust and the Association is determining when

action should be taken to request that a tenant relinquish their plot. Some allotment sites are strict in their inspection and enforcement procedures; for instance, one local site requires that 80% of a plot be under cultivation.

At Dunchurch Allotments, inspections are carried out jointly by the Trust and the Association, with both parties agreeing on the actions that should be taken regarding unkept and uncultivated plots. The specific circumstances of plot holders are always considered. Initially, contact is made to suggest that the plot needs attention, and in some cases, tenants are encouraged to downsize to a smaller plot. The tone of the communication becomes progressively more direct, and if no action is taken by the plot holder, termination of the tenancy is enacted.

Both the Trust and the Association aim to take a sympathetic and lenient approach to inspections, balancing this with the obligations that plot holders agree to.



Take a walk on the wild side – two of the overgrown plots



### IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT ILLUSTRATED CALENDAR FOR 2025

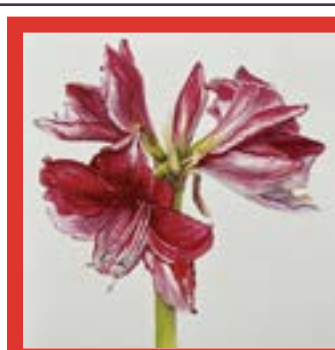


Dunchurch Allotment Association's gardening calendar is back for 2025!

On sale for just £7 at the Library, Cuppa, the Post Office, Wanda's, Anne-Marie's Florist, Mops, Patrick Ryan, The Kitchens Inc, Rugby Road Newsagents and Truly Scrumptious

**Or buy your copy at Winter Wonderland on 8 December**

You can also order a copy by emailing [dunchurchallotments.org.uk](mailto:dunchurchallotments.org.uk)



### Jane Archer - Artist

Original watercolours, prints, cards and gifts

**SEASONS GREETINGS**  
To customers old and new

Find me at my studio in Toft Lane - visits welcome by appointment.

[janearcher8@gmail.com](mailto:janearcher8@gmail.com) [Jane Archer Artist](https://www.facebook.com/JaneArcherArtist)  
[@janearcherartist](https://www.instagram.com/janearcherartist) [www.janearcherart.co.uk](http://www.janearcherart.co.uk)

**NEW WEBSITE COMING IN THE NEW YEAR**



Don't miss the Christmas fun this year



## Dunchurch & Thurlaston WI

By Anne Gilbert

We would like to invite you to a complimentary visit to our next meeting at the WI Hall on the Southam Road on Thursday, 9th January, 2025 at 2.00pm.

If you are looking for friendship, just moved to the village or a bit lonely, the WI is for you. We provide women with fun, the chance to learn new skills, get involved within the community and take part in a wide range of activities.

Besides the monthly meetings we run a weekly games afternoons where you can play Mah Jong, Rumikub, Scrabble or

darts, a monthly knit & natter, walking and book club groups and play Kurling every other week.

We have interesting speakers booked for 2025, craft workshops and a fashion show by Wanda in June.

Email us at [marion.gordon@btconnect.com](mailto:marion.gordon@btconnect.com) phone 07813 973772 or just turn up at this or any of our future meetings which are held on the second Thursday of the month. You're always welcome and we'd be delighted to see you!



## Forget-me-not tea room

In October, a fundraising 'tea room' for the Arden Cancer Research Centre was held at the village hall and organis-

ers had hoped to raise in the region of £250. However, thanks to the

generosity of those who baked and donated cakes, all those who came along to buy them and Tesco Rugby who donated the necessities for liquid refreshments, the target was 'smashed' and a wonderful £600 was raised.

Thank you everyone for your support.

Organisers Sue, Shelley and Laura with UHCW charity worker Julie



# Thurlaston Meadows Care Home

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



## You too can be part of "The Meadows Family"

Thurlaston Meadows Care Home is an award winning family run Care Home set in 7.5 acres of beautiful grounds in the peaceful & tranquil village of Thurlaston Nr Dunchurch, Rugby.

We provide care for the elderly in a Home from Home environment where every room is unique and individual.

While our surroundings are peaceful and relaxing the home is full of life and everyone is part of "The Meadows Family"



Call our Home Manager to arrange your visit  
Tel: **01788 522405**  
**www.thurlastonmeadows.com**

# Thurlaston Meadows Care Home

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



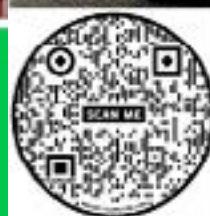
WE  
NOW PROVIDE A  
**DAY CARE CLUB**  
IN OUR COSY LOUNGES

Lonely? Need someone to talk to? Does your regular Carer need a break?

We provide Elderly Day Care 7 days a week including

- Home cooked hot meal
- Snacks & refreshments
- Activities & entertainment
- Also transport can be provided, see below -

Arrive in style  
in our electric Taxi



Tel: **01788 522405**  
**www.thurlastonmeadows.com**



# Revel Funeral Care

## "One family caring for another"

**Independent Family Funeral Directors**  
Serving the Community of Rugby & Surrounding Areas.

- Professional and caring team under the supervision of Jaime Hailstone.
- Available 24 hours a day.
- Home visits by appointment.
- Private arranging suite & Chapel of Rest.

**Revel Funeral Care,**  
63 Overslade Lane, Rugby, CV22 6ED.  
**01788 519577**  
info@revelfuneralcare.co.uk  
www.revelfuneralcare.co.uk



**Dunchurch Sportsfield & Village Hall**  
For Hire

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:

- Capacity in Main Hall - 160 Theatre Style or 130 seated at tables
- Main Hall has permanent stage, adjustable lighting, fully equipped sound system with hearing loop
- Separate meeting room and a lounge, club annexe & sportsfield including changing rooms
- Modern kitchen/bar licence available
- Main Hall air-conditioned. Other rooms centrally heated
- Disabled facilities & double door access for loading
- Set in landscaped grounds with 70 car parking spaces, including disabled

For further details please contact us or visit the website:  
Tel: 01788 522444  
Email: bookings@dunchurchsportsandvillagehall.co.uk  
Web: www.dunchurchsportsandvillagehall.co.uk  
Rugby Road, Dunchurch CV22 6PN

### Rheams (Plumbing and Heating) Limited

Tel. 01926 428752

*FAMILY RUN BUSINESS ESTABLISHED IN 1967*

- GAS SAFE REGISTERED ENGINEERS
- 24 HOUR CALL OUT SERVICE, 7 DAYS A WEEK
- RUGBY BASED ENGINEERS
- FREE INFORMATIVE CONSULTATIONS
- LARGE/SMALL SCALE RENOVATION
- NEW BUILDS
- BOILER REPLACEMENTS/REPAIRS (natural gas, LPG and commercial)
- LANDLORDS' CHECKS
- POWERFLUSH SERVICE
- BATHROOM INSTALLATIONS
- ALL GENERAL PLUMBING

email: info@rheams.co.uk

## Thank you OurJay

Dunchurch has the honour of housing the 200th Defibrillator, installed by the amazing OurJay Foundation, which was founded in 2022 in

memory of 18-year-old Jamie Rees. Mum Naomi explains, 'We couldn't have hoped for a better location than The Kitchens Inc for number 200. Stefan was our first charity sponsor in February 2022 and he has now donated enough for over six OurJay accessible defibs, including another huge donation yesterday.'

In a speech of thanks at the unveiling on 24th October, Naomi listed all the companies who had given so much of their time to make the OurJay Foundation such a success. There was also a special



There was a good turnout for the unveiling of the 200th defibrillator

thanks to Square Coffee who stayed open late to provide coffee and cakes.

Since starting the foundation, the OurJay defibrillators have saved 12 lives. A remarkable achievement and in summing up, Naomi spoke movingly, 'As a family and our precious boys foundation, we are all so unbelievably proud of Jamie. His constant inspiration and guidance is really the only thing that has continued to carry us through each day, trying to navigate a world that isn't fortunate enough to still hold our darling son/

brother/grandson/nephew/friend. Missing Jamie is hell, loving him is everything.

To donate, visit [www.ourjay.org.uk](http://www.ourjay.org.uk)

Left to right Chelsie Giles, bronze olympic judo medallist, Cllr Simon Ward, Mayor of Rugby, Stefan, Kitchen's Inc and Naomi, OurJay Foundation



**MAKE SURE YOUR TEETH ARE HAPPY THIS YEAR.**



If there's one New Years resolution you should definitely keep this year, it's to treat your teeth to a check up. At Courtyard Family Dental Practice we work hard to get to know your teeth personally and help keep them in tip top condition. So why not book an appointment today and help ensure your teeth have the very best chance of ringing in the changes for many more years to come.



**COURTYARD**  
FAMILY DENTAL PRACTICE  
WE KNOW YOUR TEETH PERSONALLY

01788 519 831 [www.courtyard-dental.co.uk](http://www.courtyard-dental.co.uk) r/o 4 Daventry Rd, Dunchurch, Warwks. CV22 6NS

**Anne-Marie's Florist**



**Holly wreath workshop 30th November.**  
**Festive table decoration workshops 10th & 12th December - limited spaces.**  
Order early ready-made wreaths and table decorations.  
The shop will close midday Christmas Eve & reopen 2nd January 2025

Established for 38 years and situated in the heart of Dunchurch village

Email: [amflorist1@outlook.com](mailto:amflorist1@outlook.com)  
[www.facebook.com/AnneMarieFlorist](https://www.facebook.com/AnneMarieFlorist)  
[am\\_florist\\_dunchurch](https://www.instagram.com/am_florist_dunchurch)

**01788 521 881**  
[www.amflorist1.wixsite.com/website](http://www.amflorist1.wixsite.com/website)

61 The Square | Dunchurch | Rugby | Warwickshire | CV22 6NU

## Halifax Bomber – a tragedy remembered

By Theo Classen

On the 14th of October, it was exactly 80 years to the minute since Halifax MZ920 lost its battle with fire and flight and at 11 am on that day this year, we commemorated this with a crowd in attendance that made me feel quite emotional.

A brief 20-minute service was conducted by vicar Malcolm Garratt during which he led in prayers and church warden Veronica read the poem *High Flight* by John Gillespie Magee. Malcolm also quoted Royal Canadian Air Force Chaplain John Phillip Lardie from a 1944 speech to two RCAF squadrons at RAF Middleton St George in North Yorkshire. It was a very poignant speech and I want to share this with you:

'Three thousand miles across a hunted ocean they came, wearing on the shoulder of their tunics the treasured name, "Canada," telling the world their origin. Young men and women they were, some still in their teens, fashioned by their Maker to love, not to kill, but proud and earnest in their mission to stand, and if it had to be, to die,



for their country and for freedom.

One day, when the history of the twentieth century is finally written, it will be recorded that when human society stood at the crossroads and civilization itself was under siege,

the Royal Canadian Air Force was there to fill the breach and help give humanity the victory. And all those who had a part in it will have left to posterity a legacy of honour, of courage, and of valour that time can never despoil.'

My thanks, also on behalf of the Ewing, Wood and George families, goes to Malcolm and Veronica for making the service special and to FODS and those people who came out to support us and be a part of this remembrance.

**EXCLUSIVE PRIVATE HIRE**  
**Providing a service for Dunchurch**



**WOMBLES WHEELS**

*Available to take you on your holidays in England*

R. Woerner Trading as Wombles Wheels, specialises in long distance work but short trips can be accommodated.

**07979 032 068 or 01788 811 723 (9am - 5pm)**

*wishes all its customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

10 YEARS EXPERIENCE • CRB CHECKED Email: [robin.woerner@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:robin.woerner@hotmail.co.uk)

Christmas and New Year Appointments



Book Now Online  
[www.anewaesthetics.co.uk](http://www.anewaesthetics.co.uk)  
 Beauty Treatments - Vouchers - Gift Sets

**PEST CONTROL**  
**IAN GALL PEST CONTROL**  
*Local & Independent*

Home and Large Scale control of:

- Moles
- Rabbits
- Wasps
- Fleas
- Ants
- Bed Bugs
- Rats
- Mice



Telephone: **07764 407749**  
**f Facebook/iangallpestcontrol**  
[www.iangallpestcontrol.co.uk](http://www.iangallpestcontrol.co.uk)

## Peace Poles

By Jane Stainsby

Contrary to popular superstition, Friday 13th September proved to be very lucky for Southam 2000 Rotary fundraisers and all who attended the very enjoyable charity cheese & wine evening held at the home of Rotarian Phillip Stainsby and his wife in Toft, Dunchurch.

Thanks to the 30 attendees and some kind donations, plus a raffle, a total of almost £500 was raised. This will go towards providing Rotary Peace Poles for local schools, a worldwide initiative by Rotary.

These poles carry a message of peace and can be inscribed in up to eight different languages that can be individually tailored to each school's requirements. The idea is that these then become the focal point of a garden of reflection, a quiet space where children can feel calm in times of heightened anxiety or distress. The news, both from home and abroad, can be difficult to understand for everyone at times, and particularly for children. These quiet areas, and the message that they carry, can lead to worthwhile discussion that can help to calm fears.

Thanks again to everyone who supported the event and to our generous sponsors – Co-Op Southam, Tesco Southam and Cheese on the Green in Bilton.



Left to right. Rotarians Len Taylor, Phillip Stainsby and current President Southam 2000, Sally Kelley

## Remembrance poppies



A bright, new poppy drape for the memorial. Thank you to everyone who knitted and donated them



## LITTLE GRANGE

### NURSERY

*Quality care and education on our idyllic 90-acre site*

Outdoor classrooms  
& Forest School

Free-flow access to  
gardens & play areas

Multi-sensory baby spaces

Nurturing & safe  
environment

Pathway to Bilton Grange  
or to local primary school

Outstanding provision for  
ages six months to five years



[littlegrangenursery.news/dunchurch](http://littlegrangenursery.news/dunchurch)

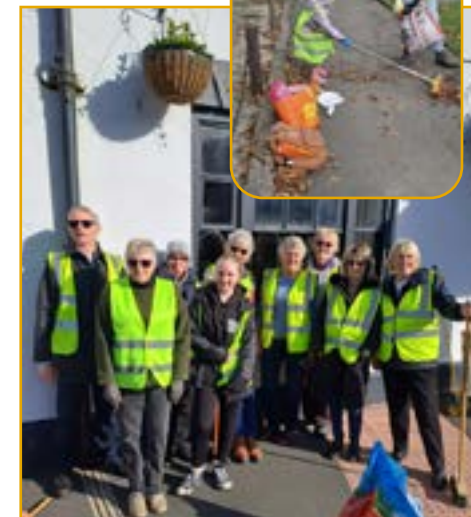
## FODS Make a Difference Group

By Sue Turner

You may have seen the FODS MaD group working in the centre of the village. We recently welcomed Gareth, Esme and Jan who joined our volunteers. I'm always amazed when I see these fabulous folk turn up on a Sunday morning, always so keen to Make a Difference and I would like to thank them for showing such commitment.

Our work doesn't just help to keep the centre of the village tidy. It's free exercise in the fresh air while connecting with like-minded people! If you would like to get involved please email [pastures68@gmail.com](mailto:pastures68@gmail.com) Thank you.

The MaD team, (inset) Gareth and Esme – you are never too young to make a difference



## Aurora borealis

On 10th October, Dunchurch experienced the rare occurrence of the aurora borealis. Just as the aurora lit up the sky, social media lit up with photos from those lucky enough to capture it.

The photograph on the far left is courtesy of Mark Hurst and taken

from the FODS Facebook page, and the other photograph was taken from the playground area of the infant school, looking towards the bell tower.



## Excerpt from Pigot's & Co's Directory for Rugby, Warwickshire 1841/2

By **Freda Bennett**

**D**unchurch is a parish, comprising the two hamlets of Toft and Thurlaston, in the same Hundred as Rugby (Knightlow): the village is two miles s. by w. of that town; and, before the opening of the railway, was a place of considerable thoroughfare, being situated on the great north road. A court of requests is held here every three weeks, and the village is a polling station at the election of members to represent the northern division of the county. The parish church of St. Peter is a handsome and curious edifice, with a square embattled tower; the south porch has a fine Norman arch. The living is a vicarage in the patronage of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. There is a place of worship for Baptists. The charities comprise a free grammar school, founded and endowed in 1707, by Thomas Boughton; an apprenticeship fund by the same benefactor; and six alms houses, for three poor men and three poor women, founded by Thomas Newcombe in 1695. The parish contained, in 1831, 1310 inhabitants; and in 1841 a decreased number of 1078.

**POST OFFICE** – Letters from Dunchurch arrive every night at half-past nine, and are despatched every morning at six.

**POST – DUNCHURCH** Receiving-house at William Sedgley's. Letters from all parts arrive (from Rugby) every morning at half-past six, and are despatched every evening at nine.

**NOBILITY, GENTRY AND CLERGY** – Bracebridge Mr. Edward; Bunsen Rev. Henry Geo.; Hibbert Capt. Washington, Bilton Grange; Lawrence Mr. James, Coston; Sandford Rev. John; Skipworth Capt. Dunchurch Lodge; Sutton Mr. Wm. Lucas.

**ACADEMIES & SCHOOLS** – Free School, Wm. Berry, Master.

**BAKERS & FLOUR DEALERS** – Burbidge William.

**BLACKSMITHS** – Gilbert John, Whiteman Edward.

**BOOT & SHOE MAKERS** – Gilbert William.

**BUTCHERS** – Butlin William, Neville William.

**CARPENTERS & JOINERS** – Kelsey Thomas.

**FIRE, etc OFFICES & AGENTS** – Clerical & Medical (life) Bromfield William.

**GROCERS & TEA DEALERS** – Hall William.

**INNS & POSTING HOUSES** – Dun Cow, Blick William.



**LINEN & WOOL DRAPERS** – Johnson Thomas & Benjamin.

**MALTSTERS** – Blick Thomas.

**MILLERS** – Sutton Thomas.

**PLUMBERS, PAINTERS & GLAZIERS** – Friend William, Kelsey George.

**SADDLERS & HARNESS MAKERS** – Borsley Francis, Borsley William.

**SHOPKEEPERS & DEALERS IN GROCERIES & SUNDRIES** – Johnson Thomas & Benj., Wing Sarah.

**SURGEONS** – Ellis Thomas.

**TAILORS** – Doshier William, Heritage James.

**TAVERNS & PUBLIC HOUSES** – Crown, Edward Whiteman; Green Man, Richard Lock; Mother Red Cap, William Rowdon; Red Lion, Ann Blick.

**RETAILERS OF BEER** – Olerenshaw John.

**WHEELWRIGHTS** – Whiteman Samuel.

**MISCELLANEOUS** – Elkington Thomas, Farrier.

**COACHES** –

To **LONDON**, the Greyhound (from Shrewsbury) calls at the Green Man, Dunchurch, every night at a quarter past twelve; goes through Daventry, Brickhill, Dunstable, Redburn, etc.


To **SHREWSBURY**, The Greyhound (from London) calls at the Green Man, Dunchurch, every morning at half past four.

## New unit leader needed for Dunchurch Brownies



**A**t the end of December, Rhona is stepping down from running Dunchurch Brownies. With enthusiastic girls and a good meeting place, we want to keep the unit open but need someone to take it over. Girlguiding is a great organisation that has a lot to offer from working with girls in a unit to activities with other leaders – anyone interested, please contact [stephanie-guides@cantro.uk](mailto:stephanie-guides@cantro.uk) for further details. Thank you.

**Steve Roberts**



**Chimney Sweep**

- Fully insured
- NACS Trained
- Good Rates
- Open fires, log burners & stoves swept

**Call 07825 136 453**

Union Canal Carriers aims to set standards that few hire fleets can match. Because we are as enthusiastic as ever about "canaling" and have over 50 years hiring boats on the "cut" you know that you are in safe hands and can cruise with confidence.

Gift Vouchers Available

## Holiday Boat Hire

**You can hire this boat for a day**

For up to 12 people  
Ouzel II is fully equipped with a galley, sink, gas hob, toilet, seating for 12 & buoyancy aids on request.  
**Great value! Great fun!**  
No experience required, instruction given  
Choice of scenic routes  
Ideal for family or other social occasions  
Have a canalside picnic or lunch in a pub

**Monday - Friday £150.00 incl**  
**Weekends / bank holidays -**  
**£195 incl**  
**Telephone 01788 890784**

Union Canal Carriers, Braunston Pump House, Dark Lane, Braunston, Northants NN11 7HJ

Tel: **01788 890784** Email: [info@unioncanalcarriers.co.uk](mailto:info@unioncanalcarriers.co.uk) Web: [www.unioncanalcarriers.co.uk](http://www.unioncanalcarriers.co.uk)



Follow us on Facebook



Follow us on Twitter

## For All Of Your Tiling Needs...

Floors and Walls  
No Job Too Small!



For a quote, please call Steve on  
**07710 953028** or email:  
[sdtiling2005@gmail.com](mailto:sdtiling2005@gmail.com)



Fully insured and established since 2005

## Could You Be A Volunteer Driver?

Rugby Borough  
Dunchurch  
Binley Woods  
... and surrounding villages



Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity to help with the local community?

**Do You?**  
- Live locally?  
- Have a few hours to spare each week?  
- Want to help your community?

You will be trained and supported.  
We will be happy to help you.  
Give us a call on 01929 262909 and  
see how we can help  
or email [info@vasa.org.uk](mailto:info@vasa.org.uk)  
[www.vasa.org.uk](http://www.vasa.org.uk)



## Dunchurch Boughton C of E Infants Academy and Nursery

By **Suzanne Marson, Headteacher**

We had a busy first half term and at the time of writing it is October half term and looking back, it is amazing to see how much we have managed to squeeze into the past eight weeks! The children settled quickly into their new year groups and became immersed in their learning. The year groups throughout school carried out learning through the following topics: nursery and reception focused on 'Who am I?' and 'Marvellous Me', year one learnt through the topic of 'I am an artist' and year two investigated the topic of 'To infinity and beyond'. We received support from the local community with the children learning firsthand from Rugby Fire Service, The Air Ambulance Service and the Road Safety Team. We supported charities close to our hearts on World Heart Day, raising money for Birmingham Children's Hospital who have supported several of our families and Our Jay Foundation. We also wore yellow and promoted the importance of mental health on World Mental Health Day.

We have further topics and school trips planned including a whole school theatre trip to see The Smeds and the Smoos. Year two will visit St John's Museum as part of their learning about Victorians,

and year one will have the opportunity to experience what life in Pudding Lane at the time of The Great Fire of London would have been like. We are also looking forward to the sparkle of Christmas, along with learning about why this is an important festival for many people around the world. There is always a buzz of enthusiasm around school which makes the school a wonderful place to be.

We have been working hard to develop our nursery provision within the school. We now have a pre-school unit comprising of two rooms known as spotty and stripy owls, mirroring our approach within reception. This creates lots of opportunities for social and emotional learning and supports the children to access a larger number of learning opportunities. This has enabled us to develop a room that is specifically used for our three year olds, our owlets room, providing the children with a smaller space to develop socially and academically before moving into the pre-school room. With the expansion of the Government childcare grant, we are finding that the school nursery is becoming increasingly popular. There are a small number of



## IS PAIN HOLDING YOU BACK?

Hyaluronic acid injection to treat joint & tendon pain such as arthritis & tennis elbow

### *Benefits of Ostenil Injections:*

- Reduced pain
- Improved mobility & flexibility
- Non-surgical treatment option
- Safe & effective with minimal downtime

**Get in touch to find out more**



## OSTENIL INJECTIONS AVAILABLE

07778 022 033

info@evolution-physio.co.uk www.evolution-physio.co.uk

**Duplicate  
Pairs  
Monday  
13.30**

Members £5.00

Visitors £6.00

Members book on web site

Visitors email us in advance

Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

Heart of England Bridge  
heartofenglandbridge@gmail.com  
www.heartofenglandbridge.co.uk  
07710 467 023



**YOGA**

CLASSES  
RETREATS  
WORKSHOPS  
1:2:1  
CORPORATE

For more information or to book:  
loveyouloveyoga@gmail.com  
www.loveyouloveyoga.com

Loveyouloveyoga

spaces available for this academic year. We are currently taking bookings for any children wishing to attend our nursery from September 2025 onwards. If you would like your child to join our nursery, please contact the school office and ask to speak to the nursery manager.

Thank you to the local community for all the support that we receive. We are looking forward to attending local events

in the run up to Christmas such as the outdoor service at St Peter's and holding our own Christmas church service. The children will soon begin rehearsing for their Christmas plays and carol concerts – it is a wonderful time of year to be in school! Everyone from the school and nursery would like to wish the Dunchurch community a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

## Together we are stronger

*By Mrs Danielle Read and Mrs Lynn Lee, Co-Headteachers  
Dunchurch Boughton CofE Junior Academy*



The academic year 2024 has seen some very exciting changes at Dunchurch Boughton CofE Academy: pupils are focused, enthused to learn and flourishing. Mrs Lee and I have formed a co-headship and launched a new Christian vision – 'Encourage one another and build one another up' from 1 Thessalonians 5:11. This is lived out daily through our motto of 'Together we are stronger' which reflects what a fantastic community our school is part of and all the wonderful things we can achieve together. The vision and motto were inspired by the amazing artwork, by Lennart Segerstrale, which was

gifted to the school when it first opened 50 years ago. Jessica Hartshorn, a local author and illustrator, worked alongside every pupil to create a collaborative artwork to represent the new vision. This was kindly funded by the PTA and now takes pride of place in the entrance hall.

September also saw all our pupils put on their very own concert! We worked along iSing Pop to rehearse and then perform a range of uplifting and inspiring songs. Parents were invited to St Peter's Church to see the performance.

We have updated our curriculum for science, history, geography, art and DT, following the Primary Knowledge Curriculum. This new curriculum which is knowledge rich and designed to ensure good retention of information has seen our pupils learn about some new topics and create some amazing projects: year 6 have constructed water walls; year 5 have painted abstract art and years 4 and 3 have been sewing cushions and key rings. We are delighted by how both staff and pupils are responding to this new challenge.

With new topics being taught, we are

also reviewing our provision for trips and visitors to enhance the children's learning. Year 4 and year 6 have seen their topics of circulation and Ancient Greece come to life before their eyes, with an amazing VR workshop. Year 3 had a wondercrump time at the Roald Dahl Museum in Buckinghamshire and year 5 are planning a trip to Stratford-on-Avon to study Shakespeare.

During October we held an open morning and evening for families whose children are due to start school in September 2025. Our year 6 pupils were very proud to act as tour guides explaining all the fantastic opportunities they have at our school, including the leadership roles they take on in year 6 such as Head Pupil, Play Leader or Sports Captain to name but a few. Pupils from other year groups returned to school to demonstrate different aspects of their learning, including art, timetables rockstars and music ambassadors. If you missed out on the open days but would still like to view the school please contact the office.

We are very much looking forward to the rest of the year and beyond. We know our pupils, staff, families and wider community will work together to make a success of every opportunity and also to overcome any difficulties we may face. Together we are stronger.



**VEGETABLES**  
DIRECT FROM THE GROWER!

**Five Acre Community Farm**  
Ryton Organic Gardens, Welstan Lane,  
Ryton on Dunsmore, CV8 3LG

**WE GROW LOCAL, SEASONAL, ORGANIC FOOD ALL YEAR ROUND**

**Pay monthly & collect your produce each week**  
(from the farm or a local pickup point)

**WHY GET YOUR FOOD FROM FIVE ACRE FARM?**

- ✦ Very low food miles!
- ✦ No chemical inputs used!
- ✦ Super fresh!
- ✦ Benefits the local economy!

**CALL NOW ON 02477 360361**

<https://www.fiveacrefarm.org.uk/veg-shares>

THE FIVE ACRE COMMUNITY FARM IS A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY ORGANIC GROWERS ASSOCIATION

## Dunchurch Band

We rehearse on Tuesday evenings at the WI Hall, Southam Road, Dunchurch from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. New members are always welcome. If you play a brass instrument or have done in the past why not come along to a rehearsal? If you don't have an instrument the band has instruments you can use.

### Dunchurch Training Band

The training band was launched in September 2024. We have had a very successful first half term and the new learners have been having lots of fun learning to play as a band. This is suitable for both adults and children seven years of age and over, complete beginners and learners grade 1-4 or similar standard. The band has instruments that learners can use and can provide tuition for beginners. The band rehearse on Monday evenings from 7pm to 8pm. If you would like to learn or already play a brass instrument or percussion and would like to play in Dunchurch training band we would love to hear from you. Please contact us for more information.



**DUNCHURCH BAND**  
**BRASS TRAINING BAND**

Have fun learning brass or percussion.  
Instruments can be provided.

Suitable for everyone age 7+ beginners to grade 3/4

**MONDAY EVENINGS 7PM TO 8PM**

For more information  
Tel: 07548 276993  
email: dunchurch.band100@yahoo.com  
WE LIVE UP DUNCHURCH DURING THE HOLIDAYS

### Dunchurch Band news

Dunchurch Band had a windy afternoon performing at Abington Park in Northampton on the last Sunday in September and were delighted to perform at the Brass and Broadway Concert at the Dunchurch Baptist Church in October. It was a great evening with fantastic performances from singers Abbie Robson and Tim Sell and the pianist Jo Foote. The band enjoyed performing at the event which was to raise funds for Dunchurch Baptist Church Building.

### Christmas

As always the band will be busy in December playing carols at various village and local events including the Open Air Nativity Service, St Peter's Carol Service, the FODS Winter Wonderland and the Rugby Myton Hospice Light Up a Life Service. The band have a Christmas Concert at the Ryton on Dunsmore Village Hall on Saturday 14th December when we will be performing with Ryton Village Voices.

Contact Louise Balsom, email: [dunchurch.band100@yahoo.com](mailto:dunchurch.band100@yahoo.com), tel: 07548 276993.

## St Peter's Church

By Nicky Lowe, Joint Churchwarden

Save the date for your diaries: the wonderful quartet Espresso are back by popular demand on 14 December with their Christmas concert of tunes from the musicals, Christmas songs and of course carols (with some audience participation)! The show starts at 7.30 pm (doors open at 6.45). Tickets £12.50 with under 12s free are available by kind permission of Wanda's and Dunchurch Post Office. There will be a cash bar and raffle in aid of the church.

One of the great pleasures of working to support St Peter's is holding events in the beautiful church building (and also keeping the much-frequented churchyard tidy and welcoming to all visitors, whether churchgoers or not).

The church looked at its autumnal best for Harvest Festival on 22 September, with sunflowers a particular feature of the vivid yellow and orange flower arrangements. The generous food donations were collected for the Rugby Food Bank.

Earlier in September, we welcomed Dunchurch Boughton CofE Junior Academy, for two concerts with the Christian worship group iSingPOP which quite literally made the rafters ring. It was a very



joyful occasion. As I was asked to say a few words, I told the children that there had been a church on the site for 1000 years – which made it something like 992 years older than they were. That prompted some serious questions on whether it was the oldest church in the world (no) and had I been to the oldest church in the world (yes, I think so).

On 6 October, Revd. Hilary conducted our popular annual Animal Blessing Service with great warmth, complete with hymns and music tailored to our animal friends, including prayers for those no longer with us. The collection was for Lowhills Animal Sanctuary in Rugby and we heard a fascinating talk from Tracey on their particular mission to rescue and rehome abandoned cats. It was in fact quite a 'doggy' service though

*A furry friend in his dog collar!*



there was one brave cat called Bhageera owned by Alex.

We are of course looking for a new Vicar but in the meantime, we offer huge thanks to our retired vicars in the congregation, Rosemary and Hilary; and to the Revds. Allan, Malcolm, Pam and Peter who are celebrating services with us.

### December Dates at St Peter's

1 December	Open Air Nativity 4 pm
5 December	Rotary Carol Service
11 December	Dunchurch Boughton CofE Junior Academy Carol Service
14 December	Espresso Concert 7.30 pm
15 December	St Peter's Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols 6.30 pm
16 December	Dunchurch Boughton CofE Infant Academy Visit
24 December	Crib Service 4 pm, and Midnight Eucharist 11 pm
25 December	Christmas Day Holy Communion 10.30 am
St Edmund's Thurlaston Carol Service is on 22 December 6.30 pm	

## Old Dunchurch

The photograph on page 4 shows buildings that are now occupied by Kitchens Inc and The Huntsman Carvery. Our thanks to June Williams for providing it.



We are still looking for adults and children to perform at the VE Day celebrations in Dunchurch in 2025.

Dancing and musical theatre experience desirable, but not essential.

Rehearsals to take place at Dunchurch Social Club in the New Year.

Performances to take place on Saturday 10 May 2025.



For further information, please email: [vedaydancers@outlook.com](mailto:vedaydancers@outlook.com)



# Dunchurch Baptist Church

By Reverend Alistair Jones

There are certain days throughout the year that bear significance for us. As families we celebrate birthdays and anniversaries. As a nation we remember Guy Fawkes and Armistice Day. A lot of work can go into preparing for the day of celebration, especially events like weddings and birthdays. We want the birthday party for our child to be special and the wedding to be a day to remember.

What we sometimes forget is that these special days, although important, are only entrances into the years ahead. A wedding is the gateway for a couple into spending the rest of their lives together. A birthday is the celebration of another year and the starting place into the next. The 11th November, a day to give thanks for those who have given their lives and a gateway into working for the peace they fought for. Each of our special days are just gateways into another year of what they signify. One day in 365 of living together in marriage. One day in the process of growing up. One day in our striving for peace. Therefore, it doesn't matter if our plans for that day do not match the reality of what it signifies. It is what we do with the rest of the



year that counts.

As we prepare for Christmas, there is so much that goes into the day. We want it to be perfect. Sadly, it seldom is. Something happens, or something is forgotten that stops it from fully living up to our expectations. But it is only one day in the year. A day to give thanks to God for His Son, Jesus Christ, coming into the world. One day to be together as family to celebrate. We have the other 364 days in the year to live out what Christmas represents: God with us. We need to see past the one day, and live in the reality of God present in our everyday. Emmanuel, God with us.

We wish you all a Happy Christmas, and hope the celebrations go well.

We will be holding our carols by candlelight service on December 22nd at 6.30pm. All are welcome to come and sing some carols and listen to the retelling of the Christmas story.

## CALENDAR FOR 2025

Dunchurch Allotment Association's 2025 gardening calendar is beautifully illustrated with scenes from around Dunchurch painted by a talented local artist, and features check lists of monthly gardening tasks.



Now available in local shops and at **Winter Wonderland** for just £7 or email [dunchurchallotments.org.uk](mailto:dunchurchallotments.org.uk) to order a copy.

### Magazine Pick-up Points

- |                            |                  |                         |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Extra copies available at: | • Baptist Church | • Rugby Road Newsagents |
| • Anne-Marie's Florist     | • Library        | • Village Hall          |
|                            | • Post Office    | • Wanda Fashions        |

## Advertising rates

Professionally delivered to homes and businesses in Dunchurch Village including Toft, Lime Tree Village, Dunchurch Hall and also Onley Park. Over 1400 copies distributed each quarter, with an estimated readership of 3000.

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 email [fodsads1@gmail.com](mailto:fodsads1@gmail.com)

Deadline for March 2025 issue: 31 January 2025

## Index of advertisers

Anew Aesthetics	30
Anne-Marie's Florist	28
Anya Court	14
Contented Soles	48
Courtyard Dental	28
Cube Accounting	18
Cuppa	12
Dewer Close Care Home	18
Dunchurch Sportsfield and Village Hall	26
Evolution Physio	38
Five Acre Farm	40
Heart of England Bridge Club	38
Ian Gall Pest Control	30
Indigo Holistics	16
Jane Archer – Artist	21
Loveyouloveyoga	38
nJoy Art	12
Revel Funeral Care	26
Rheams Plumbing	26
Rhythm Time	16
Rugby Floor Company	16
Rugby School Group	32
SD Tiling	36
Steve Roberts Chimney Sweep	35
The Green Man	8
The Kitchens Inc	5
Thurlaston Meadows	24
Union Canal Carriers	36
VASA`	36
Wanda Fashions	8
Wombles Wheels	30

## Dunchurch Community Directory

Badminton Group	Dunchurch Village Hall, Monday 7.30pm	judge.patricia@googlemail.com Pat Judge 01788 810253
Beavers	Boys and girls aged 5½ – 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
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 Minister: Rev Ali Jones, minister@ dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk. Church Secretary Sarah Coulon, sarah.c@ dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk
Dunchurch Boughton CofE Infant Academy & Nursery	Nursery children are taken from aged 2yrs 9months. Other year groups, Reception, year 1 and 2	office.infants@dunchurch.covmat.org 01788 810292
Dunchurch Boughton CofE Junior School	Primary education situated in Dew Close	office@dunchurchjuniorschool.org.uk 01788 811028
Dunchurch Community Library	School Street Open Tues, Thur, Fri 10am–5pm and Sat 10am–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 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.



Dunchurch Health Walks	Tuesday 2pm, Friday 10.30am Meet at war memorial	
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	https://dunchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk clerk@dunchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk 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
Friends of Dunchurch Society	Organises Britain in Bloom and Winter Wonderland Produces the village magazine	info@vghrugby.co.uk 07837 182114 fodnews1@gmail.com
Heart of England Bridge Club	EBU Affiliated. Three pairs sessions and one practice session weekly. Lessons and courses also offered. Held in club room, Dunchurch Village Hall.	www.heartofenglandbridge.co.uk heartofenglandbridge@gmail.co.uk 07710 467023
Knowing Stillness Meditation	Dunchurch Library 10am Wednesday	Jim Hesketh 07899 948551
Live Music Memories	Supporting Playlist for Life and the Alzheimer's Society	ann@annchristinacoomber.co.uk
Rugby About Turn	Newsletters on local development	richardallanach@aol.com
St Peter's Church	Churchwardens: Veronica Lowe 01788 815861 Celia Jones 01788 314564  St Edmund's Thurlaston Deputy Churchwarden: Brian Bowsher 01788 812094 dunchurchstpeters@gmail.com	

To make any amendments or to add your Dunchurch-based, non-commercial club or organisation, please email [friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com)

Podiatry clinic & Shoe Fitters for all foot types

Degree Qualified HCPC Registered Podiatrist/Chiropodist

**We are Rugby and Bilton's premiere podiatry/chiropody clinic and footwear specialists. We pride ourselves in being friendly and approachable and will only offer advice and treatment that is in your best interests to help you.**

## MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM US ALL AT CONTENTED SOLES

We will be open over the festive period to help with all your footcare needs, ear wax removal help, footwear and foot related products.

**\*Gift Vouchers Available, the ideal Xmas present\***



**General Podiatry and Chiropody services including:**

- Nail cutting
- Corns & Calluses
- Diabetic foot care
- Verrucae
- Ingrown toenails
- Nail reconstruction
- Fungal infections
- Home visits
- Heel pain/ Plantar Fasciitis



## EAR WAX REMOVAL!!!

We are pleased to offer ear cleaning options with our brand new state of the art equipment

- Ear Microsuction
- Ear Syringing/ Irrigation
- Home visits available



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
- Minor skin surgeries and biopsies



30a The Green, Bilton, CV22 7LY

[www.contentedsoles-bilton.co.uk](http://www.contentedsoles-bilton.co.uk)

01788 877575