



DUNCHURCH VILLAGE MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2020

ISSUE 9



Dunchurch Clay Model Village – Art in Dunchurch

PRODUCED BY FRIENDS OF DUNCHURCH SOCIETY

www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org

email friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

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



FRIENDS OF
DUNCHURCH
SOCIETY (FODS)

What a year!

As we approach the end of 2020, we must all be hoping for a less problematic New Year. This year has been difficult in so many ways and the usual community occasions that we all look forward to and enjoy have taken rather a ‘big hit.’ However, we have been and still continue to be inventive in looking for new ways to come together as a community whilst still adhering to the social distancing rules. One such event is our Winter Wonderland Window trail, the details of which can be found further on. This will hopefully provide fun and entertainment for old and young as well as raising money for such a good cause.

We can’t know what 2021 will bring but we have to move forward in the hope that it will be a better year and one which will enable us to resume some of

our organised community events. What we do know is that regardless, we will continue to support each other, and we will face it together with the same resilience that we have shown this year.

Increased distribution

From this month, we are increasing our magazine production to 1,700 copies to include three new estates. Although based in Cawston, the new builds in Tilia Park, Fernwood and Poets Meadow come within the parish of Dunchurch and we therefore extend a warm welcome to the residents.

‘Rocks Around the Stocks’

When we asked for your ‘Rocks Around the Stocks’, we hoped for a good response and we have not been disappointed. These individual works

IN THIS ISSUE	What a year!	2	Dunchurch Parish Council	14	Time to reflect	24
	Dunchurch Festival Group	8	Update on Model Village	17	Doctors in Dunchurch	27
	Rugby About Turn	8	History of our statue	18	School news	29
	Lockdown competition	9	Charlie takes a short cut	21	Joint message from Dunchurch churches	30
	Fred Bennett - Don't look down	10	Girlguiding	21	Church news	31
	Dunchurch Pantomaniacs	13	Living the good life	23	Holiday at home	31
					Neighbourhood watch	32
					Directory	34

of art created by people of all ages have provided colour and enjoyment to so many passers by. The rocks have now been removed and are receiving a bit of TLC to make sure they are bright and gleaming for our next Britain in Bloom entry. Thank you to everyone who took part.



Four-year old Brooklyn loved our Rocks Around the Stocks

Poppy display

Once again, our poppy display to commemorate VJ 75 and Remembrance Sunday made quite a spectacle on The Green. The eagle eyed among you might have noticed that for the latter occasion, there was no cascade of



Dunchurch remembered VJ Day

poppies on the memorial. Unfortunately, these have become rather 'tired' and the arrangement has therefore been dismantled, poppies washed, and the cascade will be reconstructed in time for next year.

Winter Wonderland Windows

It doesn't come as much of a surprise that we have been unable to repeat our Winter Wonderland event that proved so popular last year. However, at the time of writing, we are able to go ahead with our plans for Winter Wonderland Windows and we are encouraging Dunchurch residents and businesses to decorate a road-facing window with a Christmas theme for all to enjoy. Originally intended as a Britain in Bloom fundraiser, we thought instead we would support the Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group in memory of Fred Bennett (see page 10). Please text CCLG 5 FRED to 70300 to donate £5 and then email fodnews1@gmail.com with your address. We will then produce a map of participating properties and just before Christmas, this will be sent to you by email. Please submit your details by Monday 7th December and we will prepare the map in time for the Christmas holidays. Let's make this a truly magical experience for all ages and bring some extra sparkle to the village during the festive period.

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Hall Close orchard

We have been approached by Chris Worman, Manager of Rugby Borough Councils Parks and Grounds with an offer for FODS to maintain the Hall Close orchard for the benefit of the Dunchurch community. The orchard will still remain the property of RBC enabling us to call upon them for any advice and expertise as we work to improve the site and create an eco/bio wildlife area for the whole community to enjoy. If you would like to assist with this exciting new community project, please email us at friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com. We are going to need lots of help so please do join in.



Hall Close orchard: in need of some TLC

them in mind when we are doing our Christmas shopping.

Thank you Councillor Roberts

Like many charities, our fundraising efforts have been thwarted by the Covid outbreak but we remain hopeful that with the arrival of the New Year, we will have more freedom to raise much needed funds. In the meantime, we are very grateful to Rugby Borough Councillor Howard Roberts for awarding FODS with a grant of £500 towards the cost of flora for our Britain in Bloom entry. This has thrown us a 'lifeline' and we look



Cllr Howard Roberts

Thankful Thursdays

Whilst we do not normally permit business advertising on the FODS Facebook page, we did suspend this rule for the village shops and businesses during the month of October. Many of them are very supportive of village fundraising events and it is hoped that the use of our social media page will have helped to raise their profile and encourage folk to support them. We are very fortunate to have a good variety of shops on our doorstep so let's keep

forward to putting the money to good use as we work to bring home a major award in this National competition, representing the Heart of England Seven Counties in the large village category.

Heart of England Britain in Bloom Certificate

We were delighted to receive a certificate and the following message from the Heart of England.

'In recognition of your work and efforts during this extraordinary year, the Heart of England in Bloom Committee are delighted to award you a "What Have You Done This Year to Make You Feel Proud" certificate. This has without doubt been a very testing and trying year for us all and the committee and all of the judges have missed visiting your entries. We are working with RHS to ensure that we do all that we can to come back even stronger next year.'

This certificate recognises the dedication of our volunteers on the Gardening Group who have throughout the pandemic, safely maintained the village



Britain in Bloom: a nostalgic look back to 2019. Fingers crossed for 2021

in its tip top 'In Bloom' winning condition. Even though socially distancing, the 'greens' have been box mowed, weeded and the flowers planted by the Parish Council watered. FODS hopes to resume our planting schedule next year.

RHS Britain in Bloom

FODS has also received two certificates from Kay Clark, Community Development Manager of the RHS.

'Through Bloom, It's Your Neighbourhood, and other community gardening activities you have laid the strong foundations that helped make your communities more resilient in these testing times. We know that people have felt closer to nature through lockdown and valued access to green space so much more, and we have heard that people are valuing your work more than ever before.'

We really have missed our opportunity to work on our Britain in Bloom project and hope next year, we will be able to 'pick up where we left off.' We would

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love others to join us in our efforts to win 'The Best Kept Village' category. All ages and abilities are most welcome and if you, or your family would like to be involved with this community project, please email us. Be assured, a warm welcome awaits you. Thank you.



to produce a diverse and informative publication and we look forward to hearing your news in 2021.

Finally

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed articles and information for our village magazine throughout the year. Your submissions have enabled us

We would also like to thank all those who have placed adverts enabling us to continue distribution of the magazine, free of charge to every household in the parish of Dunchurch. Your support is very much appreciated.

All that remains now is to wish everyone a very enjoyable Christmas and a very happy and healthy New Year.

Dunchurch Festival Group

Unsurprisingly, 2020 has been a very quiet year for the DFG and we have missed bringing you our usual 'medley' of events. However, Christmas wouldn't be the same without the Christmas tree on The Green (this is paid for by the Parish Council) and our DFG working party will be ensuring that it is in place during the first week of December. The usual trees above the businesses in the centre of the village will also be installed and illuminated for all to enjoy as they pass through the village.

Dependent on government restrictions, Santa hopes to be out and about on his musical sleigh, accompanied by an elf or two who will be collecting for charity. If you give generously, they promise not to sing!

Obviously, we are hoping that the New Year will bring us more freedom to reinstate our calendar of events but in the meantime, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Rugby About Turn

There is no doubt, the Rugby landscape is undergoing dramatic changes and with the forthcoming development of houses on the border of Dunchurch and the industrial estate near Thurlaston, the impact on our village is going to be significant. Richard Allanach of Rugby About Turn does much to demystify the plans for these developments and you can keep up to date with all of the latest news by registering for his newsletters on richardallanach@aol.com. The Rugby About Turn Facebook page is also most informative and can be viewed at <https://m.facebook.com/groups/rugbyaboutturn>

Lockdown competition!

As we go to press we are at the start of a second nationwide lockdown. We are sure, just like Alan Merrick (see page 24) we are all looking for ways to make this time more interesting. Please send us any photos, drawings or even a paragraph or two about how you have been passing the time or have been inspired to try something new. We would love to hear from folk of all ages.

The prize? We will print our favourite submissions in our next issue due out in March. In the meantime, here are just a few photos taken during the last lockdown.



We found local beauty spots



We grew giant vegetables



We supported the NHS



We still laughed



We found ways to keep fit



We started recycling for Britain in Bloom

Fred Bennett 'Don't Look Down'

Earlier this year, a bright light went out in Dunchurch and 14-year-old Fred Bennett sadly died from Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia.

As Halloween was Fred's favourite time of year, mum Louise took the opportunity to use the occasion to raise funds for the Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group and two fundraising initiatives began. The first, a 13-point plan designed by Louise, was based around Halloween games in your own home, and the second was a pumpkin trail around the village. The trail ended at Dunchurch Park Hotel where free hot chocolate was provided for the children and discounted food and drinks for the adults. Thank you to the hotel for supporting this fundraiser and to artistic genius Mark Udall for producing such a wonderful map for us all to follow. Both of these events provided great fun for adults and youngsters alike and all over Dunchurch, pumpkins



were displayed, and windows were decorated in memory of Fred.

However, it is still not too late to donate in Fred's memory. Make your donation at <https://specialnamefunds>.



blackbaud-sites.com/fred-bennetts-dont-look-down-fund

or simply text CCLG 5 FRED to 70300 to donate £5. An amazing £3,600 has already been raised, but let's raise more!

Louise has also started a childhood bereavement blog and you may subscribe to this at <https://dontlookdown.blog/#subscribe>. In this, Louise explains so eloquently the feelings that come with every parent's nightmare – the loss of a child. We wish her every success with her fundraising and her blog which will do much to raise awareness of a parent's grief and how others may respond when offering support.





A few of the photos uploaded to FODS Facebook page



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Dunchurch Pantomaniacs

By Sue Protheroe

Since our last magazine article, the Dunchurch Pantomaniacs have made two further charitable donations using the profits raised from previous shows.

The first, a cheque for £250, has been given to the National Trust in memory of Sue Pearce who sadly passed away in August. An original songstress of our chorus, Sue and husband Les (our Technical Director), have been an ever-present part of our Panto family and we keep both of them in our thoughts.

A further donation of £250 has been made to the 'Don't Look Down' fundraiser in memory of 14-year-old Fred Bennett who sadly lost his life earlier this year to Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia. Let's hope that a cure is found soon so that no other child or family has to suffer the consequences of this terrible illness. (Text CCLG 5 FRED to 70300 to donate £5.)

Finally, for the first time in 32 years, there won't be a village pantomime to look forward to in January. For those involved in these productions, this is a great disappointment to us but one that has been a unanimous decision. Despite our best efforts, it became clear that with the uncertainties surrounding the

Covid-19 outbreak, we could not guarantee the safety of our members or our audiences and this has always been a priority. Instead, we are looking forward to 2022 when we will bring you the mad cap capers of 'The Pie-Rats of Penzance' which will be yet another original script and a 'world première!' Until then, we can't wait to shout 'it's behind you' to the problematic Covid year of 2020.



Can you solve these anagrams?

Hint: they are all related to the first one



1. A mint poem
2. Bison spouts
3. Lid cleaner
4. Knitting with cod
5. Unheated tasty babe
6. Dial Dan
7. Pa repent
8. I show newt
9. Buying a steeple
10. The African Steppe zone



Answers can be found on page 29

Dunchurch Parish Council

by Gill Peacock, Clerk



When I last submitted a piece to FODS magazine in July, I mentioned that I had been working from home during the Covid-19 pandemic, fully expecting that I would be safely ensconced back in the Parish Office when I next sent an article! Obviously though, I have not been able to do this, nor open the community library.

Despite this, I have been busy and have submitted three important consultations which will ultimately influence the potential for further development in and around Dunchurch. One is the revised Draft SW Rugby Supplementary Planning Document and can be found on www.rugby.gov.uk/swrugby. The revised draft includes amendments made following changes to the national planning policy guidance and representations received during the public consultation last year. The other two consultations concern major changes to the planning system and could potentially put pressure on rural areas once again: see www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future. Running alongside this consultation is another one looking at 'planning short-term proposals and increasing the threshold for permissions in principle' www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-current-planning-system.

Regarding planning, DPC has also reactivated the Dunchurch Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group following lockdown, and this is really, really important in respect of future development in and around Dunchurch, amongst other things. When the Plan is adopted by RBC, it is classed as a material consideration when approving planning permissions. If you would like to be involved in this friendly group, please contact me.

DPC commissioned nine vehicle activated signs in Dunchurch to be repaired and they are all now functioning properly. We are looking into possibly harvesting data from a SIM card in the signs.

A Dunchurch Community Speed Watch Group has been set up by councillors and four more people have already volunteered, making a total of twelve volunteers. If you would like to help, please get in touch with me or any councillor.

DPC has procured a defibrillator which has been installed on the wall underneath the Dunchurch Library sign.

One of the most important tasks the DPC undertakes is to respond to planning applications each month. These can usually be seen via the minutes on the DPC website and the Rugby Borough Council Planning Portal <https://planning.agileapplications.co.uk/rugby/>

search-applications.

Details of income and expenditure can be found on the council website <https://dunchurchpc.org/agendas-and-minutes.php>, together with the latest finance reports. At 30 September there was £232,446 in the current account and £26,500 in the deposit account. The website is being redeveloped, and will contain much more information and we hope, be a lot easier to navigate when it is completed.

During lockdown, DPC councillors have been working tirelessly on various tasks and projects, including commissioning a structural report to protect the thatched bus shelter and the cleaning of the war memorial and statue.

Unfortunately, Ken Knott resigned from the Parish Council in September and we would like to take the opportunity to thank him publicly for all of his hard work and commitment on behalf of the community – he will be sadly missed!

Dunchurch Community Library

I have been keeping in touch with the very valued library volunteers to see how they have managed during the Covid-19 pandemic. Some are raring to come back and some are naturally a little apprehensive. Protecting both volunteers and



members of the public is paramount, and the situation seems to keep changing with alarming regularity! DPC is looking at ways we can mitigate the risks, but for the time-being Dunchurch Community Library will have to remain closed, as many community managed libraries in the area are. I will let you know when the library will re-open.

Community Grants

Applications for the Parish Council community grants are invited from social organisations in Dunchurch. Applicants must be not-for-profit organisations with a constitution and a bank account, and which publish their accounts, where applicable. The grants applied for should show a benefit mainly to the residents of Dunchurch parish. Applications not conforming to these criteria will not be considered.

Please ask for an application form (explaining the criteria in more detail) from the Clerk and ensure it is received by email or post at Dunchurch Library, School Street, Dunchurch, CV22 6PA by 5pm on Friday 11 December.

DPC has been holding Zoom meetings each month since 23 June. The next full DPC Zoom meeting will be on Monday 11 January 2021, starting at 7pm.

Clerk: Gill Peacock, tel: 01926 814491 or 07474 705061. email clerk@dunchurchpc.org
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Update on Dunchurch Model Village

By *Julia Sanders*

Since our very successful first showing of the Dunchurch Model Village in July (see front cover), there has been plenty of activity and we now have 13 new buildings to add to the village including Wanda's dress shop, The Huntsman, the Village Hall and several cottages. We had hoped to have the village on show in the Village Hall in November, but sadly Covid has put a stop to this. However, as soon as the weather improves in the spring, we hope to have another outdoor showing of the models.

Many thanks to all those who have helped to make the village and if you still have a model at home, please contact us via the Dunchurch Model Village Facebook page.



Who will he be?

As Christmas approaches, our thoughts turn to what character our dear Lord John will be dressed as. We wait with bated breath but in the meantime, it seems an ideal time to start a new three-part history of the gentleman himself.

Lord John Douglas Montagu Douglas Scott – Part 1

By Freda Bennett

The Montagu family owned extensive estates, mainly in Northamptonshire, their principal seat being Boughton House near Kettering. When the Dukedom became extinct, the estate passed to a daughter, Elizabeth who, in 1767 married Henry Scott, 3rd Duke of Buccleuch. The Scotts of Buccleuch, one of the great Scottish families owned immense estates. Elizabeth outlived both her husband and her son and upon her death in 1827, she bequeathed the estates in the Dunchurch area to her grandson, Lord John Scott. At that time, these estates covered more than 4,000 acres and included Dunchurch, Cawston and Newnham Regis.

The Rt. Hon. John Douglas Montagu Douglas Scott was born in 1809, the 3rd son of the 4th Duke of Buccleuch and was only 10 years old when his father died from tuberculosis at Lisbon. After being educated at Eton and serving in the Grenadier Guards, he was elected

Conservative MP for the county of Roxburghshire and remained in parliament until 1837.

Although he had another residence, Caroline Park near Edinburgh, (one of the seats of the Duke of Buccleuch), he often resided at Cawston, becoming interested and involved in the local area and was elected one of the Trustees of Rugby School. Lord John Scott was a well known sportsman and kept a racing stable at Cawston. He was a keen angler, a yachtsman of some repute and his yacht, 'Flower of Yarrow' was one of the fastest afloat at that time in British waters.

On 16 March 1836, Lord John married Alicia Anne Spottiswoode, elder daughter of John Spottiswoode Esquire of Spottiswoode, Berwickshire. Lady John Scott, described as a noted beauty, was greatly interested in Scottish history and was a songwriter and composer, known chiefly for the tune, 'Annie Laurie', to which the



*Last year's statue – Olaf from Frozen;
(inset) as depicted in the Model Village*

words of a 17th century poet, William Douglas were set. Her motto was 'Haud, (hold) fast by the past'.

Lord John was very much associated with Rev. John Sandford's time in the village of Dunchurch and was generous with his time and funds. They were both committed to the welfare of the local people and especially the education of the children. Lord John donated land for the National School for Girls and Infants and was the chief subscriber to its building. Lord John died without issue, in his 51st year on the 31st January 1860.

To be continued





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Our new butchers and deli opening in Dunchurch village in November 2020

Onley Grounds Farm Shop will remain open as normal

Charlie takes a short cut!

Worried that social distancing was going to affect fundraising for the Macmillan Cancer Support coffee mornings, Charlie Stevenson decided to take drastic action and signed up instead for 'Brave the Shave.'

'For a long time now, I have thought about shaving my head to cross it off my bucket list but have always been too scared! Consequently, I thought this was now the perfect time to sign up to Macmillan's Brave the Shave campaign'



No going back!

At the time of writing, Charlie has 'smashed' her £500 target and raised a wonderful £2,455 and would like to thank everyone for their incredible generosity and support especially in such hard times.

Well done Charlie. We definitely think you are 'a cut above!' Donations may still be made at:

<https://bravetheshave.macmillan.org.uk/shavers/charlie-stevenson>



Ready for the cut

As can be seen from the photos, Charlie did overcome her fears and on Friday 25th September, in memory of her beloved Aunty Karen and in support of others going through cancer treatment, Charlie did indeed 'Brave the Shave' to stunning results.

Girlguiding

Dunchurch Rainbows, Brownies and Guides ... have

started meeting again! If not in a face to face meeting, then online by Zoom.

If you have a daughter who would like to join, do get in touch with us via the website: girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents



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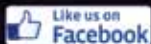


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Living the good life

By **Paul Sanders**

Next year (2021) will be the 10th anniversary of the launching of Dunchurch Allotment Association, an organisation formed by tenants on the allotments on Coventry Road. The site is believed to be the original Poor Plots and has been an allotment location for hundreds of years – the occasional discovery of the remains of clay pipe parts would confirm that. With over ninety plots and associated paths, two communal greenhouses and communal sheds, members of the Association work hard to maintain and improve the site in addition to providing services to members.

Each year the Association engages its members in projects which develop a greater sense of community, ranging from building bird boxes to publishing an allotment cookbook. The Association is also active in the local community, raising funds for the Dunchurch Festival Group, delivering excess produce to people in need and giving talks on gardening issues.

It is noticeable how the demand for allotments has increased over the last six months with requests for a plot being received almost every fortnight. In April there were two people on the waiting list; this has risen to nineteen in October. This is reflected nationally where applications for allotments in England have soared during the coronavirus pandemic as consumers seek to embrace 'the good life' and grow their own fruit and vegetables during lockdown. It is also noticeable how those enjoying an allotment have changed in the last decade; allotments are no longer the preserve of retired men but we now have a diverse community including many families who have taken on a plot to work together in an endeavor and teach their children about food, a healthy diet and lifestyle.

For more information see www.dunchurchallotments.org.uk



Time to reflect

The enforced 'lockdown' we experienced this year gave many of us more time to reflect and perhaps look at other ways of spending our time in isolation. This was certainly true of Alan Merrick who having been furloughed, used his time to re-awaken his love and passion for art.

Wandering with his family around the beautiful grounds of Dunchurch Park Hotel, Alan was so inspired by the serenity and beauty of the vista that he painted the stunning picture of the hotel you can see on the facing page. The glorious wisteria which is shown in full bloom and cascading over the ancient doorway, captures perfectly the exact time of the lockdown. So grateful was Alan to manager Stuart McNeil for allowing use of the grounds at such an unprecedented time, he has since gifted the painting to the hotel as a thank you. Stuart has since confirmed that the painting is now on display in the reception area for all to enjoy.

Surely many of us share Alan's gratitude for the opportunity to wander these beautiful grounds. As Alan explains, 'We were able to have our

first social distancing meeting with our daughter and two-year-old grandson and feel safe and comfortable but once again enjoy the space and freedom. I don't think we realised what we had on our doorstep.'

Many of us would agree with Alan's sentiments and may even go further to say that the hotel grounds are the 'jewel in the Dunchurch crown.'

Copies of Alan's painting, are available from the hotel. However, more of Alan's work, such as the amazing tiger below, may be seen on his Instagram page [a.g.merrick_arts](https://www.instagram.com/a.g.merrick_arts). To buy any of these or if you would like a bespoke painting, contact him on a.merrick61@gmail.com.

We wish Alan every success and look forward to seeing more of his paintings on display.





This painting of Wisteria in full bloom over the doorway  at Dunchurch Park Hotel during lockdown is now on display in the hotel's reception area. Take a visit to the hotel, enjoy a beautiful walk in the grounds and have a lovely coffee, afternoon tea, drink or meal – and have a look at my painting too. I hope you like it and it brings back some memories for you.

Prints of the painting can be purchased – I also welcome commissions.

To see more of my work please check my Instagram page a.g.merrick_arts 

To purchase any of the paintings, or to commission a bespoke painting, please email me at a.merrick61@gmail.com or call 07828 195864

3 Course Christmas Fayre Lunch Menu

Leek & Potato Soup
Warm Bread Roll (r)

Chicken & Herb Terrine
Fruit Chutney | Toasted Bruschetta | Mixed Leaves

Smoked Maudslayi Florentine Fishcake
Sautéed Spinach | Mixed Leaves | Lemon

Turkey Pate
Cranberry | Cider | Apple | Spiced | Quince & Thyme | Roast Potatoes | Pigs in Blankets | Honey Roasted Root Veg

Pan Fried Bream
New Potatoes | Sautéed Vegetables | Potato Dressing

Topside Roast Beef
Roast Potatoes | Root Veg | Yorkshire Pudding

Root Vegetable Cranberry and Goats Cheese Nut Roast
Mixed Potatoes | Broccoli | Sage & Onion Stuffing (v)

Traditional Christmas Pudding
Brandy Sauce

Baked Creme Brulee Cheesecake
Raspberry Coulis | Strawberry

Cinnamon Poached Pear
Vanilla Ice Cream

Chocolate Sponge Cake
Vanilla Ice Cream

Selection of Teas & Coffee
Mini Mince Pies



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Monday - Fri
- throughout December
Served 12pm - 3pm



Adults £30
1-12yrs - £12

Under 3yrs - Free

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Boardroom £39pp

Lounge £47pp

Billiard Room £45pp

(Min 10 adults per room)

*Max numbers dependent on conditions of the time



Children's Menu

Salmon Fillet | Roasted Potatoes | Cauliflower with Broccoli | Homemade Biscuits with Vanilla Sauce

Roast Turkey with all the trimmings | Mince Pie | Sticky Toffee with Apple Bread | Caramel Cakes with Orange Flavour and Ice Cream

Christmas Pudding
Selection of Ice Cream
Fruit Salad



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Doctors in Dunchurch

Part 7: The 1980s

By Dr John Airlie Hunter, Dunchurch GP 1963–1998 and Dr Ian Czerniewski, Dunchurch GP since 1991

Drs Blundstone and Hunter continued to serve the growing population of Dunchurch and southern Rugby through the 1970s but as housing increased, the practice list expanded and it became apparent that a third doctor would be needed. Dunchurch doctors had hitherto been male. The first female British doctor, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, qualified in 1865 but men still dominated the profession for another century. Only 20% of medical students were women in 1950, but today women outnumber men as medical students and as GPs.

When Dr Penny Holcroft joined the practice in 1981 she became the first female GP in Dunchurch. An established local doctor with a particular interest in child health, Dr Holcroft also worked in the Community Child Health Clinic in Bilton. Paediatric Surveillance, as it came to be known, was assimilated into practices in the late 80s and continues to this day. Rather than reacting to illness, the process was intended to proactively seek out potential problems and address them early. Dr Holcroft later developed an interest and expertise in homeopathy which added a further dimension to



patient care and choice.

Another development in 1980s general practice was the introduction of computers. The potential to record (legible!) notes, produce accurate prescriptions quickly and to audit and analyse data was enormous, though the early pre-Windows systems were quite basic. Computer systems evolved rapidly and by 2004 all new GP records in Dunchurch were electronic.

The NHS and Community Care Act 1990 led to more changes, the introduction of an 'internal-market' in the NHS with a 'Purchaser/Provider split' and GPs cast as 'Fundholders' (purchasers) and hospitals as providers. This new financial market ideology would dominate health services for the next 30 years.

In Dunchurch, the premises which had seemed so generous in 1967 were once again bulging at the seams and in the late 80s the doctors invested considerable time and effort to locate and obtain a plot and make plans for a new surgery. Would they succeed?

Dunchurch Social Club



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School news

By Ian Dewes, Executive Headteacher

The last time I wrote I mentioned the unusual times we were in and the impact this had had on the day-to-day life of the village's two schools. With the pandemic still looming over us, it's hard to not write about anything else and I wonder how much longer it will be before we become used to the unusual. Certainly, the children have been their usual adaptable selves and I am grateful to my colleagues who have worked to put in place

dozens of changes to our procedures. Despite the challenges though, attendance remains nearly as high as pre-Covid levels and the children are making excellent progress in their learning. Of just as much importance is the fact that they have enjoyed settling into their new year groups and having fun with their classmates in a way that sadly wasn't possible for much of the summer term. We have also been able to utilise extra funding from the government to help children catch up from missed schooling; each school has been able to recruit an additional teacher.

An important time of the year is Christmas

This beautiful artwork hangs in the infant school and was created (pre Covid) by the children with the help of local artist Janet Watson



and we are determined to make this an enjoyable time for the pupils as well as honouring traditions we have held for many years. At the time of writing it is the October half-term, but by the time you read this we will have had children rehearsing various Christmas performances for a few weeks. These will be videoed and shared with families as halls packed with spectating parents and grandparents are not possible. Other events such as the Christmas Fun Day at Dunchurch Infants and Nursery and the Christmas Fayre at Dunchurch Boughton Juniors will still take place, but with their own modifications.



Answers from p13
1. Pantomime 2. Puss in Boots
3. Cinderella 4. Dick Whittington
5. Beauty and the Beast 6. Aladdin
7. Peter Pan 8. Snow White
9. Sleeping Beauty 10. The Pied
Piper of Hamelin
11. The Rat of Penzance

Christmas Greetings from the Churches of Dunchurch & Thurlaston



A joint message from Rev Pat Townshend and Rev Dave Woods

"For today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11)

A Christmas Message – Is Christmas Cancelled?

We may wonder – is Christmas cancelled this year? Absolutely not! Think of the effort made by those who inaugurated this annual celebration: Mary and Joseph with an uncomfortable journey while Mary was heavily pregnant; shepherds abandoning their flocks in the middle of the night; wise men travelling many miles on potentially dangerous roads; Jesus himself, born in a draughty stable with a feeding trough for his bed. Aren't we likewise going to make every effort to celebrate the birth of our Saviour despite the restrictions imposed upon us; despite the extra hardship we may be facing; despite how much we miss freely meeting together; despite, even, the sadness of missing loved ones? We may find ourselves in difficult times, but let's give thanks to the God who loved us so much that he sent his Son to die for us, and who is as close to us now as ever, wanting to give us comfort and strength. Yes, let's celebrate – if not quite in the accustomed way, at least in our hearts, thankful for God's ever-present help.

Christmas Services

St Peter's, Dunchurch & St Edmund's, Thurlaston

Christmas Eve crib service: this will not take place as before but we are looking at a way of celebrating this on-line. We will publish details on our website and on our Facebook page as soon as we have them!

Christmas Eve midnight service: 11:00pm at St Peter's. There will be no singing, but we will have Christmas music and the service will be streamed live on our Facebook page.

Christmas Day: 9:00am at St Edmund's & St Peter's; 10:30am at St Peter's, also streamed live.

27th December: 10:30 at St Peter's.

Please note that as space is limited, it is ESSENTIAL to book for these services.

Booking will open on Eventbrite mid-December.

When it is available, we will advertise the link on the church door and on social media. Because of regulations, we cannot admit more people than safely allowed. Face masks will be compulsory.

Dunchurch Baptist Church

Our weekly online services are available every Sunday from 10.30am. You can join in at service.dunchurch-baptistchurch.org.uk or go directly to www.youtube.com and search for 'DBC Digital'.

Online Christmas specials are as follows:

All-age Christmas service:
Sunday 13 December

Carol service:
Sunday 20 December

Christmas Day celebration:
Friday 25 December

News from the Churches

St Peter's Church

It's been a difficult year for everyone, but at St Peter's we have been very blessed, firstly with our Zoom services and, since July, with church services twice on Sunday, the second one being streamed on Zoom for those still unable to attend church. We have been able to continue some of our weekly groups and have expanded into 'Buddy groups' to enable people to keep track of each other more easily and our members have been mutually supportive with shopping for and encouraging those who are shielding.

As a new year comes into view, with hopes that one day there may be a return to some sort of normal, we begin to consider what we have learnt from this time and hope we can use our new-found skills to continue to encourage and reach out to one another. We look at new ways of being part of the community and reaching out and would welcome suggestions.

Dunchurch Baptist Church

Church is a gathering of people; it is relationships, community, shared stories, glories, joy and sorrow. A family. In these challenging times we've had to adapt our church activities. Our services moved online and many of our social events have moved onto Zoom. We've missed

our times meeting, singing and talking together, but we've learned to come together in new ways. We've been praying for each other throughout; continuing our house group meetings on Zoom; keeping in touch by telephone and social media and visiting each other from a safe social distance. Sometimes maybe the distance has brought us closer together. God keeps working and loving!

We are of course carrying on with our building project, steadily getting on with fitting out the inside of the new church building. There's still a way to go and still money to raise but we are hopeful that we will be in the building by September 2021. We're excited that one day in the not-too-distant future we can share our new building with the rest of the village.

Dunchurch Churches Together – Holiday at Home

By Bob Fricker

The organisers of the Holiday at Home outings and get-togethers are very sorry but obviously the Covid-19 pandemic has thwarted all our attempts to hold any events in 2020 and also, we suspect going forward into 2021. Please be assured though, as soon as permitted, and we feel that all of us would be comfortable attending, we will be organising events again.

We look forward to meeting up with you all again and pray you keep safe.



Friends of Dunchurch Society Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

In association with Rugby Borough NHW Scheme



Dunchurch Neighbourhood Watch Plus

Neighbourhood Watch is primarily involved in alerting people to crimes within Dunchurch, but neighbourly support within communities can greatly assist in the prevention of local crime.

There is a fine balance to be struck between being a supportive neighbour and being a nosey parker! The first steps involve getting to know your neighbours by chatting to them in the street or garden and by joining in any street social activities. Once trust has been built up, you can begin to look out for each other. You might consider:

- Exchanging mobile phone numbers
- Making contact via Messenger (or similar)
- Asking people to keep an eye open if you are going to be away

but **do not put such information on social media**

- Asking people to message you if they have any concerns about your property.

If you are unlucky enough to have neighbours you do not trust, you should be careful about what information, if any, you give them.

Other things we can all do include:

- Reporting anti-social activities. Go to www.warwickshire.police.uk and click on Report
- Noting the registration numbers of any suspicious vehicles
- Uploading to Warwickshire Police any CCTV or dashcam footage of suspicious activity. www.warwickshire.uk

police.uk

- posting details on the Friends of Dunchurch Society (FODS) Facebook page.

Try and make a note of the time of any incident and any other details such as car make, colour etc. The more details you can give the better.

If you witness a crime being committed dial 999 to report it but **never try to deal with it yourself.**

Dial 101 if you suspect that a crime has been committed previously and you wish to provide information.

Dial 0800 555 111 (Crimestoppers) if you wish to provide information anonymously.

Thank you for supporting your Dunchurch Neighbourhood Watch team.

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Half page landscape	137mm x 97mm	£50	June 1st Issue	30th April
Half page portrait	66mm x 197mm	£50	September 1st Issue	30th July
Quarter page	66mm x 97mm	£25	December 1st Christmas Issue	1st November

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



FRIENDS OF
DUNCHURCH
SOCIETY (FODS)

Telephone: 07837 182114

Village Green House, The Green, Dunchurch, Rugby, Warwickshire CV22 8NX
Email: friends@dunchurchsociety.org www.friendsofdunchurchsociety.org

Dunchurch community directory

Covid-19: Please contact the organiser for up-to-date information

Badminton Group	Dunchurch Village Hall, Monday 7.30pm	judge.patricia@googlemail.com Pat Judge 01788 810253 Carol Seager 01788 814178
Beavers	Boys and girls aged 5¾ – 8 Mondays and Tuesdays at the 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 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, 7.30pm at the 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	Currently meeting at the Dunchurch Methodist Church, Cawston Lane.	www.dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk Minister Dave Woods 01788 810132 davewoods@dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk Secretary Claire Siddaway 01788 815752 secretary@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	www.warwickshire.gov.uk/dunchurchlibrary dunchurchlibrary@btconnect.com 01788 811355
Dunchurch Festival Group	Organise fete and other events. Meetings third Monday of each month 7.30pm at the village hall.	www.dunchurchevents.org Rob Collings 01788 817307 mashedspud1@gmail.com
Dunchurch Health Walks	Tuesday 2pm, Friday 10.30, 1st Sunday of month 10.30. Meet at war memorial	Pearl Bennet 01788 810367
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 annual village panto in January. Rehearsals begin in October.	paul.lepoidevin@btinternet.com sueprotheroe@ymail.com
Dunchurch Parish Council	PC office based in the Library. Open Tuesday and Thursdays 10am – 1.00pm	clerk@dunchurchpc.org 01788 817550 or 07474 705061
Dunchurch Photographic Society	Meetings held at WI Hall, Southam Road	www.dunchurchps.com secretary@dunchurchps.com
Dunchurch Surgery	Dunsmore Heath (off Rugby Rd)	www.dunchurchsurgery.warwickshire.nhs.uk 01788 522448
Dunchurch Village Hall	Rugby Road	jane.bookings@dunchurchsportsandvhall.co.uk 01788 522444
Dunchurch Voices	Ladies choir meet Wednesdays, 7.30pm at the infant school.	Barbara Davies 07890 659857
First Dunchurch Scout Group	Fun, challenge and everyday adventure for boys and girls aged 10 ½ – 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 – 11 yrs.Wed. 5 – 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.
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 of four events occasionally. Held in the club room, Dunchurch Village Hall.	www.rugbyvillagebridge.co.uk rugbyvillagebridge@gmail.co.uk 07710 467023
Save Dunchurch Action Group	Fighting over development and for an infrastructure to protect the village from increasing traffic.	www.savedunchurch.co.uk mabjudge@hotmail.com
St Peter's Church		Vicar: Reverend Patricia Townshend revptownshend@gmail.com, 01788 461987 Churchwardens: Kathryn Fowler: 07780116024 /01788311118 Thurlaston Deputy Churchwardens: Brian Bowsher: 01788 812094 churchwarden@stpeters-dunchurch.org

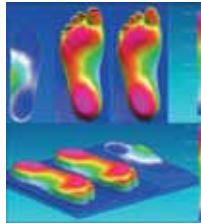
To make any amendments or to add your Dunchurch-based, non-commercial club or organisation, please email friendsofdunchurch@gmail.com

Covid-19: Please contact the organiser to check if there are any changes to advertised times

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