

Dunton News

Serving Dunton, Newton and Millow

Edition 5

Easter 2016

Chenisse Marie

- Korma** Mild
- Tikka Masala** Medium
- Dhansak** Medium
- Rogon** Medium
- Dopiazza** Medium
- Balti** Medium
- Jalfrezi** Medium/hot
- Madras** Hot & Spicy



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janice.tasc@outlook.com or jules_wrangles@yahoo.co.uk

Editors Janice Pritchett and Julie Hills

Editorial

Welcome to the fifth edition of the Dunton News. Yes we are in our second year. Please continue to support this local magazine by advertising with us and emailing us your local photographs and articles.

This time the photograph on the front cover was taken by Chenisse Matthews.

If you are arranging a Dunton event and you would like others to know about it, please email us details. The submission dates for the next edition are on this page.

For a little village what a lot is going on! Have a look at Dunton Community Garden's, St Mary Magdalene and event schedules. Of course we are all looking forward to the village fete on Sunday 17.7.16.

Looking forward to receiving your articles and photographs to make your village magazine even more interesting and informative to read.

Janice Pritchett and Julie Hills

<p>All copy and advertising for inclusion the June 2016 edition must be emailed to janice.tasc@outlook.com or jules_wrangles@yahoo.co.uk by 6.5.2016</p>
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Editors Reservation

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Dunton Folk 2016



The Willows
www.thewillowsband.com

The Willows
19th March

Miranda Sykes &
Rex Preston
30th April



Dave Ellis & Boo Howard
Hannah Sanders & Ben Savage
28th May

Sam Kelly Trio
25th June



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Rotary in Biggleswade

People often see posters and signage bearing the name "Rotary" and often wonder just what is Rotary? Rotary is an international organisation based in over 200 countries worldwide and all Rotarians are welcome to visit any other Rotary Club anywhere in the world and it is quite common for Clubs to work together internationally, linking countries.

The Rotary Club of Biggleswade is part of that world-wide organisation and will be celebrating its' 50th birthday in April 2016.

One of the founder members, John Burnett, still regularly attends and said, "The Rotary Organisation has been a great benefit to me during all this time, bringing friends and fellowship, broadening my interests, as well as bringing me service opportunities."

The Rotary motto "Service above Self" sums up the Rotarian aim of using our skills to help the community. Community service, both nationally and internationally, is the mainstay of any Rotary Club.

Locally, the Rotary Club of Biggleswade has helped set up sheltered accommodation for the elderly, helped hospitals and the Air Ambulance Service. The Clubs fund raising activity is a registered charity, and internationally we regularly contribute to water survival boxes and shelter boxes for people who have lost everything after disaster strikes.

The public always seem to support Rotary efforts. They trust the Rotary because it is seen as an organisation with integrity.

Our Rotary Club meets once a week at the Stratton House Hotel in Biggleswade, to which speakers are invited and they bring insight to members of a diversified range of topics, helping to broaden horizons.

Would you like to know more or come along as a guest? You will be sure of a friendly welcome. Contact Rotarian Hazel Gledhill on 01767318824 or Rotarian Frank Smith on 07909842255 or visit our website biggleswaderotary.org.uk Hazel Gledhill

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Cakes N Cake By Karen

Karen's top tips for using fondant

- ❖ Always make sure you knead your fondant so it becomes pliable and warm which will make it easier to cover your cake
- ❖ Mix 50/50 fondant and modelling paste and work it until it stretches like chewing gum so you can mould and make it into your desired creations
- ❖ You can buy good modelling paste from most hobby or craft stores a little goes a long way
- ❖ Most supermarkets stock fondant.
- ❖ Fondant is best coloured using gel colours rather than the liquid colours. Alternately you can buy most colours and mix together to get the desired shade you want.

Why not have a go and make some Easter chics, bunnies or carrots to adorn some lovely Easter cupcakes?

Chocolate Easter cupcakes

110g unsalted butter, softened
85g self-raising flour
1/2 tsp baking powder

110g caster sugar
25g cocoa powder
2 medium eggs

For the icing

150g milk chocolate
85g unsalted butter
Preheat oven to 190C/gas 5.

3 tbsp milk
125g icing sugar

Method

1. Line a 12 hole muffin tin with paper cases.
2. Whisk the butter, sugar, flour, cocoa, baking powder and eggs in a bowl until smooth and blended.
3. Spoon the mixture into the cases.
4. Bake in the oven for 15 minutes until well risen and firm to the touch.
5. Transfer to a wire rack and leave to cool.
6. For the icing, put the chocolate, milk and butter in a heatproof bowl set over a pan of simmering water until melted. Stir until mixed.
7. Remove from the heat and allow to cool slightly.
8. Sift in the icing sugar and beat until smooth.
9. Allow to cool
10. Beat again until the mixture has a fudgy texture.
11. Pipe or spoon onto cupcakes and decorate with your fondant creations.

Happy Baking

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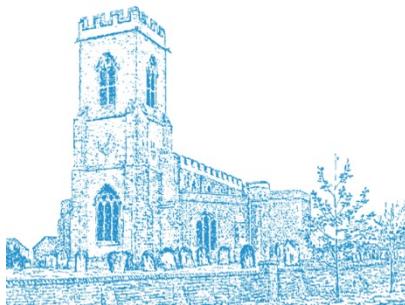
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WEEKLY SERVICES

1st. Sunday	9.30 am Parish Eucharist
2nd Sunday	8.00 am Sunday Praise Followed by continental breakfast
3rd Sunday	9.30 am Parish Eucharist
4th Sunday	9.30 am All Age Praise
5th Sunday	10.30 am Benefice Service See notices or website for which Church

FUTURE EVENTS @ ST. MARY'S

Sunday Club - Every 3rd. Sunday 2.00 – 4.00 pm For details contact Stan Short 01767 315777
Lent Lunches – Home Made Soup and Roll, Hot Cross Buns in Church 12.00 – 1.30 pm, Saturday, 20 th , 27 th February, 5 th , 12 th & 19 th March 2016
Palm Sunday Pilgrimage – Wrestlingworth – Eyeworth - Dunton Details from website or Shirley Tant 01767 316948
Summer Fair – from 11.30 am, Sunday 3 rd July

Full Details in Parish Newsletter and Biggleswade Chronicle

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Wednesday (Term time only) 7.30 pm to 8.30pm, **Village Hall**. Please wear clean indoor shoes, bring water and a towel.

Sunday 8.30 am – 9.30am, **Dunton Recreation Ground**. Gloves recommended in colder weather. Bring water. Children welcome to attend whilst you exercise, but remain your responsibility.

Small groups can be catered for by appointment. Ring to discuss requirements. Personal Training and Nordic Walking coming soon.

Contact Lorraine Bennetts

Lorrainebennetts777@btinternet.com

01767 314 991 / 07580 744 014

Dunton Village Fete, Sunday 17th July 2016, at the Recreation Ground, from 1.00 pm

Don't miss this! A group of Dunton residents are planning a great day out for the family at Dunton Recreation Ground on Sunday 17th July 2016, from 1.00 pm. There will be the craft stalls, bouncy castles, BBQ, licensed bar, real ale tent provided by the March Hare, cream teas, a raffle and other attractions.

Want a stall? There are still pitches available. Contact Heidi on heidi-herbert@hotmail.co.uk

Crockery The popular plate smashing stall returns this year but it is hungry for crockery. Any unwanted crockery, please donate to Eileen on eileen.bone@talktalk.net

Volunteers wanted on the day Can you give up an hour or two on Sunday 17.7.16 to help us set up and run the fete. If so please contact heidi-herbert@hotmail.co.uk or eileen.bone@talktalk.net

If you can **sponsor an activity or provide a prize** for the raffle please contact heidi-herbert@hotmail.co.uk. All major sponsors will be advertised through local media.

Entry **free!**

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Hare Beer Bunch

Since the previous Hare Beer Bunch article in Dunton News, we have enjoyed a couple of excellent trips out, as well as many more fantastic days and evenings in the March Hare.

In October some 25 members and guests visited St Albans for a well organised (by Rick Moulder) tour of six pubs, on a route starting at The Boot in the city centre and working our way westwards, eventually finding ourselves at The Six Bells, from where we picked up our bus back home. In January a slightly smaller group made the annual visit to the Straw Bear Festival in Whittlesey (see photo). This is a unique fenland event, involving a parade of the straw bear, several dozen morris, molly and other traditional dancing sides, and of course plenty of real ale – it's not to be missed and we will definitely be returning next year. All of our outings finish at the March Hare, where we can relax with a final pint or two and regale anyone who will listen with details of our exploits of the day!

In Dunton, John and Janice have kindly hosted a number of events for us including our annual Christmas family buffet and get together; and several other themed food evenings, either prepared by Janice, or arranged via one of our favourite local takeaways. We all, of course, enjoyed supporting the fourth annual winter beer festival at the March Hare and look forward to a beer related quiz at the pub (12th March). Our next outing will be to Oakham, and the Grainstore Brewery, which we are visiting on the monthly market day, 16th April – if you are interested in joining this trip, details will be available in the March Hare.

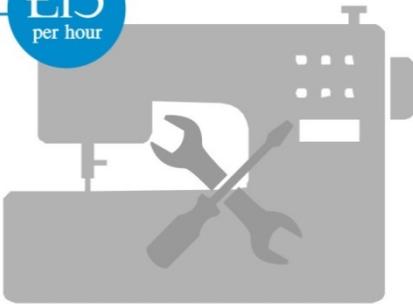
Finally, for new readers, I should explain that the Hare Beer Bunch is a very informal group of real ale and pub enthusiasts that drink together in Dunton. We meet at 8.00 pm on the second Monday of each month (and several other times in between) at the March Hare. New members are always welcome, there is no membership fee, and no proper agenda either – just beer, beer talk, and quite a bit of laughter.

Nigel Coomber

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East Beds CAMRA Branch Pub of the Year 2015

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Central Beds plans for a Traveller site next to Dunton

You'll remember a couple of months back I highlighted concerns that Central Beds Council were still planning a Gypsy/Traveller site for Dunton.

You can read what I wrote then by going to this link:

<http://tinyurl.com/hn4owsl> or going to my facebook page and reading my post of 12th October 2015.

The attached map shows how close the site is to Dunton.



You will remember I have already highlighted why the Independent inspector raised concerns about a site in this area in 2014.

The council put in a planning application on 8th March and there will then be a public consultation.

It's really important everyone tells the council what they think as the more people who comment the harder it is for the council to ignore them.

The next step is the council's planning officers will make a recommendation (I'd be amazed if they didn't approve it) and then the final decision will be made by a committee of councillors, the Development Management Committee. They will deliberate on it publicly and you can attend the meeting where they make the decision and have your say. We don't know for certain but my best guess on a date for this meeting will be 25th May.

Assuming it is approved by committee, at this stage the council will hope that they can press ahead with development in the autumn of this year.

However, there is one more thing we can do and that is to call for a Judicial Review whereby a judge will review Central Beds' decision.

This is not cheap but those pursuing it would only be liable for £5,000 of their own costs if the council won. The costs of legal support for those pursuing a judicial review would depend on who sought support from. If the judicial review was successful, £35,000 in legal fees could be claimed back from Central Bedfordshire Council.

You can see the details of the application by going to <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/portal/index.asp> and typing in the application number: CB/16/00860

To have your say on the application, email planning@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk quoting the application number CB/16/00860

Keep an eye on my facebook/twitter pages for further updates. I will keep you informed.

Adam Zerny

Central Beds Councillor for Potton ward

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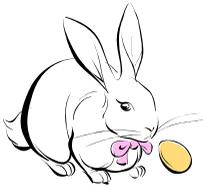
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Easter Eggs



The giving of eggs at Easter celebrates new life. The original eggs given at Easter were birds' eggs painted in bright colours.

A Saxon legend explains how the goddess Eostre found a wounded bird and changed it into a hare so that it could live through the winter. This hare could lay eggs and so it decorated them each spring for the goddess.

In 1290, King Edward 1 ordered 450 eggs to be painted, including gold leaf as Easter gifts.

In northern counties, Pace Eggs are hard boiled eggs with patterned shells. Not wild bird's eggs! Chicken eggs instead.

On Easter Sunday in County Durham you can play Egg Tapping, a bit like conkers, where you tap your opponent's hard boiled egg until it breaks. The winner enters the next round.

In some parts of England, egg rolling is an Easter Monday sport with hard boiled egg that rolls the farthest or even survives the most rolls!

		Dunton Community Garden Events 2016 
March	Saturday 19 th	Coffee morning from 10.30am
April	Saturday 16 th	Coffee morning from 10.30am
	Thursday 21 st	AGM, 7.30 pm, in the church
May	Sunday 15 th	Quiz at The March Hare 7.30pm in aid of Dunton Community Garden.
	Friday 20 th	Plant sale & coffee morning from 10.30am
	Saturday 21 st	Coffee morning from 10.30am
June	Sunday 5 th	The Big Lunch (National event)
	Saturday 18 th	Coffee morning from 10.30am
July	Saturday 16 th	Coffee morning from 10.30am
	Sunday 17 th	Stall at Dunton Recreation Association Summer Fete
August	Weekend of 12/13/14 th	Camping out at the garden
	Saturday 20 th	Coffee morning from 10.30am
September	Saturday 17 th	Coffee morning from 10.30am
October	Saturday 15 th	Coffee morning from 10.30am
	Sunday 30 th	Halloween event
November	Saturday 19 th	Coffee morning from 10.30am
December	Sunday 11 th	Stall at Dunton Church Xmas Fair
January 2017	Saturday 7 th	Dunton Wassail

Currently bundles of willow for sale, £5.00 per bundle of 25 rods

Dunton Community Garden

Firstly, a big thank you to those of you who have supported Dunton Community Garden fundraising efforts over the past year.

It has been a time of many changes since the decision to continue the work of the garden on a purely voluntary basis and a challenge to ensure that we have sufficient funds to cover running costs. With the help of a practical and creative fundraising team we have developed a varied schedule of community events for 2016.

The trolley will be our regular presence in the village to post garden notices as well as sell produce provided it can withstand the winter gales which have forced it back to the garden for repair twice already!

It has been lovely to welcome new people to the garden, some of whom have been interested in volunteering, others in coming for a chat and trying the cakes, jams and chutneys. Both are fine! If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, we would love to hear from you. There are so many different skills that can be used or learned. Not just gardening and grass cutting but DIY (we have to maintain gates, fences, buildings, tools, computers and electrical items), admin, cake baking, publicity or occasional help at events. We can also accommodate the Duke of Edinburgh award charity volunteering.

Joy Osborn

Dunton Lower School Parents and Friends Association

We would like to thank the whole community for their support with our Christmas raffle, Christmas cake sale and supporting our stall at the Church Christmas Fayre. Between the three events we raised an amazing £705.55. This money is used to fund transport for school trips, sports and playground equipment, purchase of knex motors for science and technology sessions.

We have also recently received our quarterly cheque for funds raised from the clothing bank which was an amazing £133.20 - thank you once again for your ongoing support!

Our upcoming events include Mother's Day breakfasts, an Easter arts and crafts show, Easter egg hunts and we have of course already begun planning our big school summer Fayre. The school Summer Fayre will be on Friday 15th July, 3:30-5pm, everyone is welcome to attend.

Once again, thank you all for your ongoing support.
Emma Cassidy-Gray



Wassail, Wassail All Over The Land

On the 2nd of January 2016 we held the fifth annual Dunton Wassail at Church Farm, Dunton. Sponsored by Franklins Cider and Dunton Folk as a way of combining the two passions of Simon Bailes (folk music and cider making) this year we were joined by the Dunton Community Garden, who provided hot dogs and soup, and by Singtastic, Dunton's very own ladies choir who sang a wassail song for us in the orchard. It was a great evening – even the weather was reasonably kind to us – and we had the best turnout for this event yet.

As ever we were joined by Letchworth Morris Men and Redbornstoke Morris Men who performed a number of dances in the farmyard and later by the Brafront Guizers who performed their traditional mummers play in the March Hare pub. After all of this excitement the evening was finished off in the pub with a music session.

For those of you that haven't been to one of the wassails (and maybe even for some of you who have been but didn't know what it was all about), the origins of wassailing, like many of our traditional activities are unknown. The word 'wassail' comes from the Anglo-Saxon phrase 'waes hael', which means 'good health'. There are many forms of wassailing but they can be split simply into two. The first form is a visiting wassail where groups of adults, children, men or women go from house to house singing songs and asking for favours in the form of beer, food, money or good wishes. Generally taking place around twelfth night,

The second form is agricultural wassailing where specific crops (in our case apples but also cows, corn and pretty much anything else that you might find on a farm) are celebrated and the soil, the spirits, the gods or whoever are encouraged to bring a good crop in the following season.

The Dunton wassail involves dipping toast into cider and then hanging it in the apple trees in the orchard at Church Farm. We then gather round the largest tree and sing to it, waking it up and reminding it that we need plenty of apples the following autumn. After we have recited the wassail toast;

Wassail the trees that they may bear, You many a plum and many a pear;

For more or less fruits they will bring, As you do give them wassailing.

Here's to thee, old apple tree, That blooms well, bears well.

Hats full, caps full, three bushel bags full, And all under one tree.

Hurrah. Hurrah.

We then make as much noise as possible to ward off any malevolent spirits that may have taken up residence in the orchard. Once that is done we retire to the March Hare for a glass of something warming.

The 2017 wassail will take place on Saturday 7th January. Come and join us for a great community event. Entry is free and there is free mulled cider to keep out the cold. Simon Bailes

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Dunton Oil Group

Dunton Oil Group is a village organisation to help those of us who use oil as our main heating source to buy it more cheaply than we could as individuals. There are 3 deliveries a year - in January, April and members and we order around 50,000 litres each time. This quantity gives us a price that is usually about 5 pence a litre cheaper than would otherwise be possible. The minimum order is 500 litres so that means **a saving of about £25 or more on each order**. To join the group send an email to:-

duntonoilgroup@btinternet.com

Or phone Derek on 01767 315487

Does anyone know if Dunton Wood is the same place as Fen Wood?

Please let the editors know by email



Bees on Skep Hive, Dunton.

Beekeeping in Dunton

Very much a seasonal hobby, beekeeping follows the patterns of nature. The season begins in spring when hives are checked for stores as the bees begin to fly after their winter rest. Soon the queen begins to lay (up to 2000 eggs per day) in the wax honeycomb in the lower part of the hive – the brood chamber. Above this the beekeeper adds further boxes of comb, separated from the brood by a metal grid called a queen excluder. This has holes large enough for workers, but not the queen. Gradually, as the weather improves and flowers begin to blossom, the bees rise into these supers and start to fill them with nectar. They slowly evaporate the water, by fanning the warm air within the hive with their wings, producing honey. Bees store this for the winter period, but they nearly always collect more than required, so the beekeeper takes advantage. The most important job in the spring and early summer is to prevent swarming. Weekly checks of each hive ensure enough space for nectar and for the queen to lay. As the population increases, the effectiveness of the queen's pheromone is diluted, which leads the workers to plan an exodus. They feed Royal Jelly to some of the larvae, which begin to develop into new queens. The old queen leaves the hive taking with her all of the flying bees – a swarm. They emerge from the hive clustering on a nearby branch and can be the size of a rugby ball or bigger. Scout bees scour the area and when they have found a suitable place they leave, en masse, emigrating to their new address. This depletion has an obvious effect on honey production. If swarming is avoided, by the summer there should be surplus honey, which is removed from the bees. The wax caps are cut off and the honey is spun out of the comb using an extractor, to be filtered and stored until ready for bottling. Clearly, this is a simplification, but learning more is one of the joys of the hobby.

I have kept bees in and around Dunton for around 30 years. Dunton Honey is available at The March Hare and the Dunton Community Garden or email tim.walton@live.co.uk

Tim Walton



Dunton Directory



BUSINESS	EMAIL WEB ADDRESS TELEPHONE
ADAM ZERNY LOCAL INDEPENDENT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR	adamzerny@hotmail.co.uk www.adamzerny.co.uk .
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THE MARCH HARE FREEHOUSE	johnny.pritchett@outlook.com www.duntonvillage.org.uk 01767 448093
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