



Dunton News

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Edition 11

Autumn 2017

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Editors Janice Pritchett and Julie Hills

Editorial

Summer has almost been and gone. Let's continue to keep our village a great place to live in.

The photograph on the front cover was taken at the Songs of Praise during Dunton's Big Weekender by Tony Walters.

If you have interesting pieces of history or photos about our village, please email them to the editors and we will do our best to publish them.

Dunton's Big Weekender, 15th to 18th July was a great success. For a report on the weekend, please read the article on pages 12 to 14. There is also a collage of photos on page 18. Dunton's Big Weekender 2018 will be held again next year. The dates are still to be decided.

Well, what a mixed bag of weather we have had this summer... not to worry it will soon be Christmas!!! Now is the perfect time to start thinking about making a lovely rich and indulgent fruit cake ready for the festivities. Karen's recipe is on page 22.

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

Janice Pritchett and Julie Hills

All copy and advertising for inclusion in the Christmas 2017 edition must be emailed to janice.pritchett@outlook.com or jules_wrangles@yahoo.co.uk by 6.11.2017

Dunton Community Garden News



What a topsy turvey season it has been. A very cold spring followed by a long dry spell and extreme temperatures has led to hard working conditions. The asparagus, raspberries and strawberries cropped well.

The blackberries, potatoes, tomatoes, apples and plums are coming on. The veggie boxes are proving a success, although numbers are down because of the difficult weather conditions. Seasonal produce will be available in the trolley outside the school.

We have been very busy through June and July with extra events. We took part in the Big Weekender and had a great turnout of support for our Ploughman's lunches. The sun shone, ice creams were eaten and it was particularly pleasing to see so many families enjoying the garden. Our Annual Plant sale was successful and raised funds for the garden. The monthly coffee mornings continue to be very popular. Refreshments, produce, jams and chutneys are available.

We continue to need volunteer gardeners to help keep on top of the seasonal work of weeding, hedging, digging and watering. To this end we held a volunteer recruitment day, which led to two new garden volunteers coming along to help. If you have a couple of hours to spare do come along to the garden and see if you can help us out. We need all the help we can get.

The garden is not only a place for work. It is a peaceful and restful place just to be. Do take advantage of the community space it offers.

Celia Walpole



Dunton Folk 2017

Jack Rutter and Greg Russell
23rd September

Kara and The Foxglove Trio
28th October

Cardboard Fox
18th November

The Churchfitters Christmas
Cracker
16th December

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Dunton Parish Council

Gypsy & Traveller Site Update

Representatives from Central Beds Council (CBC) and the contractors will be at the next Council meeting to answer any questions you may have regarding the site. Dunton Parish Council are keen to work with CBC and will be setting up a working party comprising of Councillors, representatives from the village and the site management team. If you would like to volunteer for this working party please contact the Clerk or a Councillor.

Gates

New white field gates for the entrances to the village and to Millow have been ordered. These will be assembled and installed in the Autumn.

Grass Cutting at Millow

The Council's grass cutting contractor has carried out grass cutting along the footpath from Dunton to Millow.

Draft Local Plan

The consultation for CBC's local plan ended on the 29.8.17. Dunton Parish Council raised objections in writing against Sites NLP433 and NLP324 which can be seen on the Parish Council website, www.dunton.bedsparishes.gov.uk/

Spring Bulbs

A large quantity of daffodils and crocus bulbs have been ordered for planting in the Autumn in verges around Dunton. If you would like to help with planting please contact the Clerk or a Councillor.

**Next Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday, 13.9.17,
7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Amanda Howard, Clerk to Dunton Parish Council

Festival of Britain 1951 in Dunton



The Youth Club Photo competition got us talking in the March Hare because John recognised the emblem on the village sign as 'Festival of Britain, 1951' I don't know whether you are like me but I thought that this festival only happened in London, but no this was not the case! The organisers of the 1951 Festival encouraged villages across Britain to organise their own

local celebrations. Does anyone remember or has heard tales of what we did in Dunton? If so please contact the editors. It was also hoped that the festival would leave a legacy in local communities and perhaps Dunton's legacy is this sign. The sign has been here since 1951, although I am not sure if it is the original sign. As part of the festival all if not many, as far as I am aware, Bedfordshire villages were given signs.



Dunton Women's Institute Needs You!



So far this year we have had some fabulous speakers, enjoying learning about the lost men of Shackleton and the Evil Barron of Bedford (who knew!). We have also enjoyed our annual summer trip which this year was to Woburn. We had a tour of both the house and parklands. However, we as ever would like to expand our membership so we can continue providing an excellent programme for the village. So Dunton WI needs you! What would you like to see on the programme or would you be interested in attending regular craft mornings or a WI walk? We would be grateful to hear from you as without our members old and new we cannot continue to run. Please get in touch with Lorrainebennetts777@btinternet.com. The next meeting is our taster evening and quiz on 11.9.17. *Lorraine Bennetts*



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Happy Birthday to Geoff Jeeves who will be 90 on the 21st September 2017, Dunton's oldest resident, born in Baker's Row cottages, Cambridge Road, Dunton. Geoff has lived in Dunton for 9 decades and has witnessed many changes to the village.



A Big Thank You from Dunton Youth Club

Dunton Youth Club would like to thank everyone for their support with the events held during Dunton's Big Weekender which helped raise money for the Youth Club.

This includes being part of the Village Hall's race night by providing games for the evening.

Of course we must thank everyone that made and provided cakes for our coffee morning and the volunteers who helped on the day.

At Dunton Recreation Association fete, we provided the bouncy castle and inflatables, where children had a wonderful time. Voneus sponsored the bouncy castle and inflatables, which enabled Dunton Youth Club to raise more funds.

Lastly we would like to thank everyone for buying photo quizzes, donating money and prizes for the raffle.

Dunton Youth Club is a voluntary run club with no funding so raising money at events like these is vital to our survival.

Dunton's Big Weekender Co-ordination Group and event holders worked hard to deliver this event for the village and will be meeting again on Monday the 25th September at the March Hare at 8.00 pm to set up Dunton's Big Weekender 2018. If you can spare the time, do come and join us.

We have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the activities and we are looking forward to next year.

Dunton Youth Club Team

St. Mary Magdalene
The Church at the heart of the Village
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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	Benefice Eucharist *
4th Sunday	9.30 am Sunday Praise
5th Sunday	Benefice Eucharist *

* Benefice Eucharist services are held at one of the Churches in the Benefice

If the service is at Dunton or Eyeworth it will be at 9.30 am and 11.00 am at Wrestlingworth. Full details are always in the Church Noticeboard, Parish Newsletter, Biggleswade Chronicle and Church Website

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Dunton's Big Weekender

Bringing the Dunton Community closer together
Thursday 15.6.17 to Sunday 18.6.17

Dunton's first Big Weekender was held in the village between the 15.6.17 and the 18.6.17, with a packed programme of events finishing with a quiz in the March Hare.

Each event raised money for their organisation. Quiz night, car treasure hunt and the raffle all raised money towards Dunton's Big Weekender 2018.

Raffle prizes donated by Beautiful Bespoke Balloons, Pink Gingham Bunting, Ellie's Art, Sabina's Cakes, Sparcle Corner, Up & Away Balloons, Jordans Mill, On The Wire Clothing, Waresley Garden Centre, Café Mocha, Saxon Pool, Blu, Beauty Cabin, Crème Catering, Shepreth Wildlife Park, La Vida Hairdressing, 360 Play, The Vintage Cosmetic Co, Paradise Wild Life Park, Sabinas Cakes, Lauren's Wax and Warmers, Jade Garden, Liebherr and Pedals.

Dunton organisations who donated prizes included The March Hare, The Village Hall, Youth Club, Dunton Recreation Association, Dunton Community Gardens and St Mary Magdalene Church.

Our sponsor for the bouncy castle at the fete was Voneus. VNR Autocare Ltd sponsored a race at the race night and also the car treasure hunt. Henlow Building Supplies sponsored a race at the race night.

Thanks to the event sponsors and organisations that donated raffle prizes. Thanks to our photographers Leigh Somerville, Chenisse Matthews and Tony Walters.



The winner of the photo quiz took 'selfies' of himself and his children at each clue!

Crib and backgammon night was a successful start to Dunton's Big Weekender. Individuals new to backgammon and crib were taught by the March Hare 'professionals'. At the March

Hare, the loyal bunch of real ale drinkers, appeared to enjoy pulling

an occasional pint on the stillage, even though one or two were rather frothy.



tri cast card helping raise some funds for the Youth Club.

The weather on Saturday and Sunday was fantastic which contributed to everyone having fun.

Visitors to St Mary Magdalene Church learnt a great deal about the church during the walk and talk.



On Saturday morning, tea and cakes in the Village Hall was hosted by Dunton Youth Club and successfully raised some money for them.

Dunton Community Garden had a great day with lots of people enjoying a ploughman's as well as families having picnics. Thank goodness for Maynard's ice cream, which went down a treat particularly with the volunteers. People were just enjoying a break in peaceful surroundings.

Dunton Folk introduced Tim Edey at St Mary Magdalene Church where the acoustics are wonderful for folk music. Tim is now a name on the world stage and is rated by many to be one of the world's finest ever melodeon and guitar players in the folk and contemporary scene today.



On Sunday morning the Car Treasure Hunt was enjoyed by 11 families. The car treasure hunt took entrants on a 23 mile journey around Dunton's surrounding villages, following the clues and looking for answers.

Finishing the Car Treasure Hunt in

time for the fete, ready to enjoy the rest of the day at the fete on the recreation ground. The sun was shining and it was great to see everyone socialising. For the children there were bouncy castles, children's races and ice-creams. The Hare Beer Bunch from the March Hare ran the real ale tent and the BBQ.



Songs of Praise in St Mary Magdalene



Church was well attended and visitors to this service enjoyed songs from Dunton's own 'Singtastic'.

The quiz at the March Hare was also well attended and raised money for the next Dunton's Big Weekender.



Huge thank you to everyone that supported Dunton's Big Weekender!

Watch this space for information on Dunton's Big Weekender 2018 and how to get involved as a volunteer!

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Crib and Backgammon at the March Hare

As part of Dunton's Big Weekender a crib and backgammon night was held at the March Hare, with quite a number of people attending to learn how to play these traditional games.

Crib, or cribbage, is a card game in which players use a peg board to record their scores – the first to 121 wins. Scoring takes place as players take turns to play their cards, and then by totalling up the score held in each hand. It seems quite complex to the uninitiated, but it can be picked up fairly quickly and it's a very sociable game.

Backgammon is a board game, where 2 players roll dice in turn to move their counters around the table, in the opposite direction to their opponent. The player who is able to 'bear off' all of their counters first, wins. Its simple to learn, but as players gain experience they learn more of the tactics required to be a good player of the game.

Both games are played regularly at the March Hare, and new players or those wishing to learn are always welcome.

The crib team meet every Thursday evening from 8.00 pm, and play in a local league from mid September to mid April.

Backgammon is played on the third Monday of each month, again from 8.00 pm.

New players can come along to any of these sessions or can meet with one of the backgammon 'club' or crib team on another night at the March Hare – there is often one of us around!

Nigel Coomber

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Cakes N Cake By Karen

Christmas Fruit Cake

Ingredients

You will need an 8" deep cake tin lined twice with greased paper (I always use butter)
175g currants
175g sultanas
110g glacé cherries, halved
3 tablespoons dark rum
150g room temperature butter
150g soft brown sugar
3 large eggs at room temperature
225g plain flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
2 tablespoons ground almonds
Grated rind from 1 lemon and 1 orange

Method

1. You need to begin this the night before you intend to bake.
2. Weigh out all the fruit and peel and put in a bowl, then pour the rum into the bowl and give a good mix, cover with film and leave for a good 12 hours.
3. Pre-heat your oven....170 c, gas mark 3, 325 f.
4. Put the butter, sugar, flour, baking powder and eggs into a mixer and beat until pale and fluffy. Do not worry if the mixture curdles slightly. Once mixed add the ground almonds. Once combined fold in the soaked fruits.
5. Spoon the mixture into your tin. Cut two small circles of greased paper to fit on top of the cake whilst cooking.
6. Place your cake in the centre of the oven and bake for 2 to 2.5 hours. All ovens will vary. If you are unsure get a skewer and stab down the centre of the cake and if it comes out clean your cake is cooked.
7. Leave your cake to cool in the tin for 30 minutes before turning out onto a wired rack. Place a clean, dry tea towel over your cake whilst it cools.

8. Once cold, wrap your cake in grease proof paper and then wrap in foil and store in an air tight container. If you like, you can feed your cake fortnightly with more rum.

The cake is delicious with or without a fondant covering. Why not try a slice with some lush Christmassy custard? These generally start appearing in the shops at the beginning of December or you can get some nice boozy creams or just eat with ice cream.

Karen Younger

Dunton's Big Weekender Comment Board at St Mary Magdalene Church

WE HAVE MORE IN COMMON THAN THAT WHICH DIVIDES US

In Support of Jo Cox's campaign to combat loneliness the 'What I Love About Dunton Comment Board' was written on by visitors to St Mary Magdalene church during Dunton's Big Weekender:-

- It is a community that cares
- Feels like part of a big lovely family
- Very peaceful, lovely people (and nice cider)
- The March Hare, Dunton Community Garden, Folk nights
- Me too!
- I don't live here but the church is my spiritual home- the friendliest I've ever known
- Nice church, lovely vicar
- The friendly people
- Because there is always someone there
- People who care - a lovely community
- The peace and tranquillity feeds the soul
- Fantastic community, great people, superb folk music
- Great welcoming community and a sense of belonging
- My friend!!!
- Lovely people who care
- Lovely people
- We must all be doing something great for the Dunton Community - witness this great weekend. I've lived here 40 (odd) years and it gets better
- It's where I belong!



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 Join us Dunton Village Memorial Hall

Dunton Lower School



It was a complete surprise to learn that Central Bedfordshire Council were going to replace the 'temporary' classrooms which only those with longest memories can remember being put in place over 20 years ago. During the last 6 months Mrs Sheehan and the staff have been involved in a huge amount of extra work, considering bids,

analysing plans and consulting. The timetable was originally to be work starting after Easter, and completion by the beginning of September.

Once the contract for a brick building was awarded to Savoys, there was a small delay when the council insisted that a full dig of the footprint of the building was dug to ensure that there were no archaeological sites underneath. None were found, however, there was a well about a foot under the playground. This then flooded the whole area and a pump had to be rapidly brought in to pump it all out. As a church school, you might say that this was reminiscent of Noah's Flood. Then a mains cable was discovered and had to be checked out. These both led to a delay in the start of the works, by a couple of weeks.

It has had a huge impact on the life of the school and it has been due to the efforts of Mrs Sheehan and the staff that school life has been able to continue running smoothly. In large schools, a project like this would be managed by the school business manager but in a small school like Dunton it falls completely on the staff and they have responded magnificently. The children have continued to achieve wonderfully as the local School Improvement Partner commented during her recent visit

The site manager Christine has been extremely helpful in keeping a window open in the screen so the children can see what is happening.

Lynne Monck, Chair of Governors



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East Beds CAMRA Pub of the Year 2013

The Dunton Dawdle

The Friends of Dunton Church held their first Dunton Dawdle on 21st June 1992. Over 100 tickets were sold and it was such a success that it became an annual event until 2004 only missing 2001 which was cancelled due to Foot and Mouth restrictions. Early routes were about 6 miles long.

The route varied from year to year but they usually began at Millow Hall Farm and always finished at Millow Hill Farm with a cream tea and Maynards Ice Cream. Participants brought a picnic lunch which was transported to the venue by car. Depending on the route taken, lunch was held at either Eyeworth Lodge, Stratton Farm or Thistley Farm. For entertainment along the way a quiz or scavenger hunt was provided.

In 2008 it was decided to organise a Dunton Dawdle in memory of Ken Lee who had sadly passed away in 2007. A donation was made to The Primrose Unit at Bedford Hospital who had helped Ken.

Lyn Eaton

Why not include your advert in Dunton News?

Dunton News is produced in March, June, September and December and is delivered to every house and organisation in Dunton, Newton and Millow. Additional copies are available in the March Hare, Dunton and you can download a copy from the March Hare website at www.themarchharedunton.co.uk and the village website at www.duntonvillage.org.uk Please contact Janice Pritchett or Julie Hills if you wish to.

Editors Reservation

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Produced by The March Hare, Telephone 01767 600258

Email janice.pritchett@outlook.com

Central Beds proposing huge expansion of Biggleswade, Sandy, Tempsford/Everton in public consultation

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) has launched a public consultation on its draft Local Plan. The Local Plan details CBC's proposals for housing developments over the next 20 years.

The plan could see masses of new housing in our area and seems to propose a huge eastern expansion of Biggleswade joining it to the villages of Dunton and Sutton and a merging of Sandy into Tempsford.

The consultation was complex, but is now closed.

Documents to be considered by residents of Dunton are the Central Bedfordshire Draft Local Plan (July 2017) and the 'Site Assessment Forms (Housing)' for Biggleswade and Dunton where you will find the associated reports showing the sites CBC see as appropriate to pursue.

Dunton

Aside from more houses along the roadside near to the roundabout, the report mentions site NLP324 (35-50 houses) as being suitable. This site is just to the north of the village off Cambridge Road. However, this is misleading, if you have a look at the Biggleswade report it states CBC wants to pursue a huge (380 hectares) site which includes all the land between Biggleswade and Sutton/Dunton.

Biggleswade

One site alone includes all of the land north to Sutton and west to Dunton covering some 380 hectares, or to put it in another way, an area the size of 938 football pitches. The proposals mention some 6,840 houses being built there. Most of the other proposed sites are on the eastern side but in addition to this massive site, there are a further 639 houses proposed, covering an additional 30 hectares. You can see them on the map as ALP204/ALP244/ALP474/NLP271/NLP407/NLP494/NLP433. These sites would see the town doubled in size.

How do these allocations compare with the proposals for other towns and villages around Central Bedfordshire? The total of new houses proposed for Amphill, Dunstable, Flitwick, Shefford and Stotfold combined is 1,455 houses.

For more information and to see maps go to my facebook page www.facebook.com/adamzerny and read the post from 8th July or subscribe to my monthly email newsletter by emailing adamzerny@hotmail.co.uk

Adam Zerny

2017 Dunton Youth Club Photo Quiz Answers

- 1 Horse field behind village hall
- 2 Football field
- 3 Village Hall
- 4 Old school house front garden
- 5 Biggleswade Road, outside Beechcroft
- 6 Village sign
- 7 In cemetery
- 8 Pavilion carpark
- 9 Defibrillator at village hall
- 10 Garage at 12 Chapel Street
- 11 Beechcroft, Biggleswade Road
- 12 High Street, outside cemetery
- 13 Dunton lower school
- 14 Gate to Fralee, Biggleswade Road (flower seller)
- 15 Footpath beside 2 Biggleswade Road
- 16 Entrance to Old Barkery Yard
- 17 Building on corner of Chapel Street
- 18 10A Biggleswade Road
- 19 Next to village sign
- 20 22 Cambridge Road
- 21 Farm gates on Biggleswade Road
- 22 6 Cambridge Road
- 23 Old shop, opposite pub
- 24 Back garden fence of 19 Greenfield Way
- 25 6 Cambridge Road

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Dunton Directory



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