

DUNSTABLE  
TOWN COUNCIL  
*'Helping make Dunstable  
a Better Place'*

# TALK TOWN

Issue 62 November 2013

*of the*



## illuminating Dunstable

It's Time for Christmas Lights and Festive Events

**ALSO INSIDE...**

- Photo Competition Winners
- PopUp Dunstable Launch
- 2014 Event Planner



[www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk)



DUNSTABLE  
TOWN COUNCIL

# Meet the Councillors

## CENTRAL WARD



**Cllr V Fildes**  
39 Cartmel Drive  
Dunstable LU6 3PT  
01582 663923



**Cllr P E Russell**  
44 Mayfield Road  
Dunstable LU5 4AP  
07717 192398



**Cllr P Staples**  
Priory Lodge  
Friars Walk  
Dunstable LU6 3JA  
01582 666703

## MANSHEAD WARD



**Cllr P Freeman**  
19 The Parklands  
Dunstable LU6 4GU



**Cllr R Pepworth**  
28 Great Northern Rd  
Dunstable LU5 4BP  
01582 538414



**Cllr N Reynolds**  
57 Half Moon Lane  
Dunstable LU5 4AB  
07963 377087

## ICKFIELD WARD



**Cllr T C Colbourne**  
70 Crabtree Way  
Dunstable LU6 1UR  
01582 666910



**Cllr J Kane**  
2 Ripley Road  
Luton LU4 0AT  
01582 510048



**Cllr G Martin**  
70 Crabtree Way  
Dunstable LU6 1UR  
01582 666910



**Cllr T A W Stock**  
8 Hollivick Road  
Dunstable LU5 4RA  
01582 665377



**Cllr N Warren**  
41 Lowry Drive  
Houghton Regis  
LU5 5SJ  
01582 864396

## NORTHFIELDS WARD



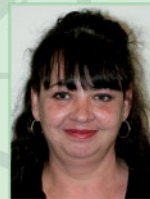
**Cllr J Anklesaria**  
Shemavaz  
12 Sunbower Avenue  
Dunstable LU6 1UQ  
01582 662974



**Cllr J A Chatterley**  
36 Roslyn Way  
Houghton Regis  
LU5 6JY  
01582 867536



**Cllr J Freeman**  
77 Hillcroft  
Dunstable  
LU6 1TT  
01582 756060



**Cllr J A Harnett**  
8 Ashcroft  
Dunstable  
LU6 1DX  
07842 791109



**Cllr J Murray**  
8 Westgate Court  
204-206 West Street  
Dunstable LU6 1NZ  
01582 690500

## WATLING WARD



**Cllr P N Hollick**  
1 Carlisle Close  
Dunstable LU6 3PH  
01582 665133



**Cllr L Jones**  
82 Jeansway  
Dunstable LU5 4PP  
01582 472044



**Cllr C E Meakins-Jell**  
11 Bernard Close  
Dunstable LU5 4HL  
07837 886810



**Cllr M J P Mullany**  
49 West Hill  
Dunstable LU6 3PN  
01582 667797

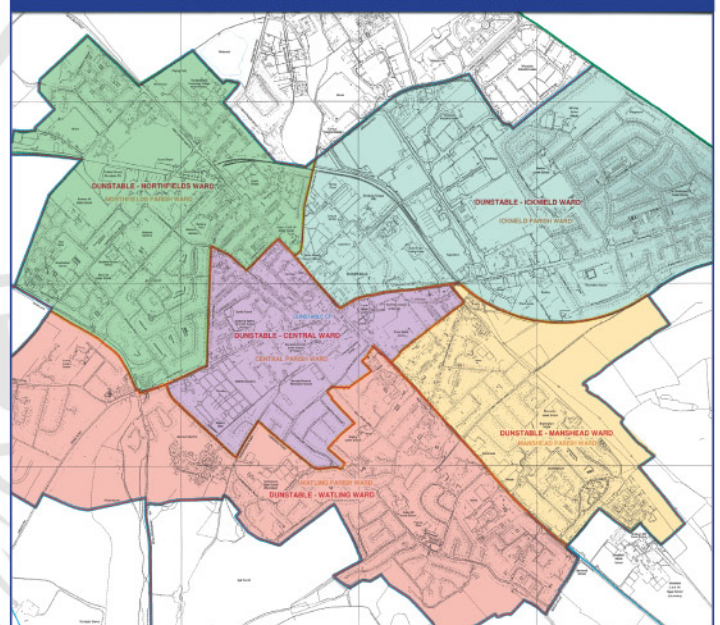


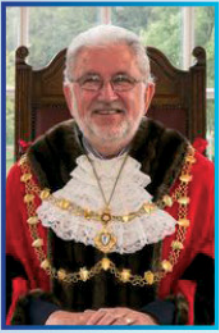
**Cllr B Whayman**  
Birch House  
32a Bull Pond Lane  
Dunstable LU6 3BJ  
07905 100932

## DUNSTABLE TOWN CENTRE



## DUNSTABLE WARDS MAP





## The Mayor's Message

Councillor  
John Chatterley

I have attended many celebratory, community and civic events since the last "Talk of the Town", as well as a number of charity events and would like to thank everyone who has either supported, or been associated with, these occasions. My wife and I have been made to feel very welcome everywhere we visited – Thank You.

I was delighted to welcome representatives from our twin towns of Porz am Rhein and Bourgoin Jallieu, who joined us for the Dedication Festival Eucharist on Friday 18 October to celebrate the 800th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Priory Church of St. Peter, followed on Sunday by a Civic Service of Celebration commemorating this historic occasion in our town. We were honoured by the presence of Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant together with many others who had come to join us on this momentous occasion. As well as the Priory Church celebrations, our twin town visitors were able to attend a medieval talk at Priory House, had a guided walk around historical Dunstable and witness a thrilling football cup game at Creasey Park. They also enjoyed a visit to Dunstable Downs and the panoramic views from the Visitor Centre.

It has been good to see the popularity of the free Saturday morning guided tours of the hidden Augustinian Priory during the summer months and my thanks to the team of guides who have volunteered their time to share this part of our heritage with you.

I would like to thank the people who have been involved in the Medieval celebrations, together with the many volunteers who have worked tirelessly to highlight and bring to the fore the medieval story of the town from 1100 to 1540.

As we approach the festive season, it's an exciting time in Dunstable. There are many great things happening, with opportunities all around us and we hope that you will be able to take advantage of some of our forthcoming events and activities. The Christmas Torchlight Procession and Carol Service will be held on Friday 6 December in Ashton Square. This annual event marks the start of the Christmas season in Dunstable. On Saturday 14 December the Christmas Cracker will be held at Priory House, an event for all the family. I am holding a social evening at Grove House on Friday 13 December in aid of my charities and hope you may be able to join me.

Whilst we have a number of challenges to overcome, I can assure you that the Members, Officers and staff at Dunstable Town Council will continue to maximise efforts to continually add value to a great Dunstable community.

I hope that you will continue to give feedback on the various services and activities as we are always keen to hear your views – either via email to [info@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:info@dunstable.gov.uk) or by using the feedback form.

May I wish you all a Joyous Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.



## Welcome

### to the winter edition of Talk of the Town

There is no doubt that this edition has a Christmas feel to it and I hope that everyone will remember to shop local this Christmas and use the town centre and Dunstable Market to buy as many Christmas items as you can.

This edition heavily features Priory House. Not only can you visit Priory House to buy those unusual gifts that make Christmas special, you can also visit the House for a real Christmas treat at our award winning tea rooms.

Readers will also note that Creasey Park Community Football Centre is still going from strength to strength. Our partnership with Central Bedfordshire College is featured, as is the increasingly popular mums and toddlers group. Readers may also wish to be aware that Creasey Park Community Football Centre is the ideal venue for your Christmas party!

For those of you that visit or live near Katherine Drive and have wondered how an old shrub bed has been transformed into a wonderful vegetable garden, the 'Incredible Edible' project is featured. This is a fantastic project that has been instigated, led and managed by the local community with support from both Dunstable Town Council and Central Bedfordshire Council. I encourage everyone to take a trip to the Katherine Drive shops to have a look for yourselves.

Finally, for those of you who visit Priory Gardens, you may have noticed that work has started on the renovations required to protect and preserve the historic Priory Gardens Gateway. More information is given in a special article.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Talk of the Town and please feel free to comment on any of the Council's services using the comment form at the back of this edition or by visiting our website [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk).

Happy reading!

*David Ashlee*  
Dunstable Town Clerk and Chief Executive

# NOTICEBOARD

News and updates from your Council, keeping you abreast of the latest local information...

**Creasey Park Over 55s Lunch Club** will hold their Christmas lunch on **Thursday 19 December**.

The club will be **closed** on **Thursday 26 December** and reopen on **Thursday 2 January 2014**

The Good Companions Club will hold their Christmas lunch on **Monday 23 December**.

The club will be closed on **Monday 30 December** and reopen on **Monday 6 January 2014**

**LOO**  
OF THE YEAR  
*Awards*  
**2013**

**Award-Winning Loos**  
...and You Don't Have to Spend a Penny to Visit!

Dunstable Town Council is pleased to announce that Dunstable's public toilets in Ashton Square have been awarded a Platinum rating in the Loo of the Year Awards 2013. Platinum is only awarded to exceptional toilets, proving that Dunstable Town Council provides another quality service.

## Social Media Links

You can follow Dunstable Town Council on Twitter and Facebook using the details below:

'Like' us on Facebook:



Facebook/dunstablecouncil  
Facebook/grovecomerdunstable

Follow us on Twitter:



@dunstabletc @dunstableevents  
@dunstabletown @creaseypark  
@prioryhouse

## Are you an entertainer?

Singers/musicians or comedians, who could entertain people aged 55 and over at lunch clubs?

If so, then please contact **Sandy Coyle** on **01582 891408** or email **sandy.coyle@dunstable.gov.uk** with your details.

## Contact Your Town Council

### Address

Grove House  
76 High Street North  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 1NF

### Telephone

01582 513000  
01582 890606

### Fax

info@dunstable.gov.uk  
www.dunstable.gov.uk

### Email

### Website

### Opening Hours

9.00 am - 5.00 pm  
Monday to Friday



Visit the Dunstable Town Council website using your smartphone. Simply download a 2D barcode reading app and hover your phone over the pattern to the left.

# Counselling for Young People

Trustees and Office Volunteers Needed

If you are a child or young person (up to the age of 25 years old) and would like to speak to someone about your problems, please call us in confidence on 01582 891435.

Sorted Counselling Services is a charity providing free and confidential counselling services for young people aged from 5 to 25 years centred on the Dunstable and Houghton Regis area. We also work in partnership with Relate at the Tokko Youth Space in Luton. Counselling can be accessed by a young person contacting us directly or through parents or a professional such as a teacher, doctor or social worker. In counselling the young person can talk about and explore whatever difficulties they are experiencing, such as family or relationship issues; anxiety, depression or anger; eating problems or self-harm; or simply a feeling of not coping with life. Through counselling they can address specific issues, find ways of coping better, make decisions as to what they want to do next and begin to feel more in control of their lives.

Sorted also offers complementary services such as counselling and play therapy in schools and support for children who have witnessed domestic violence - and support for their mums too. At Sorted, we greatly value the support we get from local people, both financially and from the volunteers who are the backbone of our service. As we expand, we are always looking for additional support, for example in the role of trustee or offering a few hours a week to help keep the service running. If you are interested in the welfare of children and young people and feel you have something to offer the service, please contact us on 01582 891435 or [admin@sortedbedfordshire.org.uk](mailto:admin@sortedbedfordshire.org.uk).

We would love to hear from you!



GroveCornerDunstable

## Shake Off the Winter Blues

What a wonderful summer it was with day to day sunshine and warm balmy evenings to enjoy outdoors with friends. But with dark nights and winter chills it doesn't mean you have to hibernate, you can still enjoy the company of friends indoors!

Grove Corner is bright and warm, with good music, computers with internet access and pool and football table all FREE. A great place to meet, chill with friends and make some new ones too.

Senior drop-ins, for 13 to 18 year olds, run Monday and Wednesday evenings 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm and Fridays 8.00 pm to 9.30 pm. Junior Youth Club for 10 to 13 year olds runs Friday evenings 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. Pokémon Club, for 8 to 16 year olds runs Tuesday evenings 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm (school term times only).

For more information contact [Jacqui.groom-tully@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:Jacqui.groom-tully@dunstable.gov.uk) or visit [facebook.com/grovecornerdunstable](https://www.facebook.com/grovecornerdunstable)



# Young DUNSTABLE

News for the young in our community



## Sad Farewells and New Beginnings

Long term Dunstable Town Council volunteer Allison Dilley packed up her cards in September when she stood down as leader of Dunstable's Pokémon Club.

Allison started the club five years ago so her son Cameron, who has Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, which causes chronic fatigue, could enjoy a social activity with others who shared his passion for the game.

Cameron has had great success in the game, winning two national tournaments and competing in two World Championships held in Florida and California but the time is now right for him to move on to pastures new.

Allison said she was sad to leave but delighted to hand the reigns over to Marian Sanderson whose son attends the club. Marian said "Allison will be greatly missed and it will be hard to fill her shoes but I am not alone as I have the help of some other wonderful volunteers and the support of Dunstable Town Council, and we are looking forward to continuing this much needed activity".

Pokémon is a strategic game which helps to stretch the mind but is also a social activity and lots of fun. Over the years many young people have enjoyed the weekly club which meets at Grove Corner on Tuesday evenings 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. (school term times only).

If you would like more information about the Pokémon Club please contact [mariansanderson@ntlworld.com](mailto:mariansanderson@ntlworld.com) or [sandy.coyle@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:sandy.coyle@dunstable.gov.uk)

## Grove Corner Christmas Opening Hours

Monday 23 Dec 2013	Open
Wednesday 25 Dec 2013	Closed
Friday 27 Dec 2013	Closed
Monday 30 Dec 2013	Closed
Wednesday 1 Jan 2014	Closed
Friday 3 Jan 2014	Open





DUNSTABLE  
TOWN COUNCIL

# DESTINATION DUNSTABLE

Keeping you abreast of town centre news, initiatives and developments



John Lewis



## PopUp Dunstable Launched

PopUp Britain, the retail arm of national enterprise campaign StartUp Britain, together with Dunstable Town Council, has opened PopUp Dunstable at 3 Ashton Square. This is the first shop of its kind in Beds, Herts and Bucks and we are looking for your support to help make this a success! The PopUp shop will run until 24 December 2013 and new start-up retailers will regularly share the space for a period of two weeks. The shop reflects the trend that more than 70% of businesses are now started and run from home by people with a passion for what they do. Our first four traders had their first high street retail experience at the beginning of November with Bespoke Pop Poms, Riri Roo (jewelry, T-shirts and bags) Transparent Images (kiln formed glass) and Asonmic Soaps (handmade cosmetics) all taking their turn in the outlet. Don't worry if you missed them though, because for the next six weeks there will be a host of other independent traders waiting to sell their wares to you.

**Thursday 14 to Wednesday 25 November**

Bedfordshire Artist Network

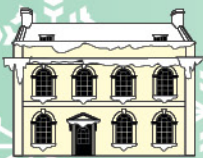
**Thursday 26 November to Wednesday 11 December**

Central Bedfordshire College Students

**Thursday 12 to Tuesday 24 December**

Knots and Folds (ties), Sweet Lilly Sparkles (jewelry), Funky Little Monkeyz (kid's items) and Real Cashmere (Cashmere clothing)

So calling all Dunstable residents, please support these small traders who have chosen to test their business on your high street. PopUp Dunstable will be a great place to find a unique Christmas present and with changing products every two weeks don't forget to keep popping in and making PopUp Dunstable part of your shopping routine. Shop local! The day-to-day running of the shop is the responsibility of Dunstable Town Council. Cllr Terry Colbourne Vice Chairman of Dunstable Joint Committee stated: "PopUp Dunstable is an exciting opportunity for small businesses that don't have a presence on Dunstable's High Street to give it a go at minimum cost and risk, and Dunstable Town Council is proud to be leading on this. For further information contact Dunstable Town Council on 01582 513000, email [info@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:info@dunstable.gov.uk) or visit!



PRIORY HOUSE

## Priory House Christmas Cracker



Saturday 14 December  
10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Priory Church Girls Choir  
12noon to 2.00 pm

Santa's Workshop  
£2.50 per visit with gift

Christmas Crafts  
Children's craft workshop - £1.50 per child

Christmas Shop  
Local crafts and special Christmas gift display  
in the Priory House Shop

Christmas Menu  
in the Priory House Tea Rooms



Priory House, 33 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 3RZ  
Tel: 01582 891420 Email: [prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk)  
[www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk)



# Illuminating Dunstable

The Christmas lighting scheme is an important part of Dunstable Town Council's role, helping to encourage residents and visitors alike to visit our town centre in the pre and post Christmas period. In addition, this year the Dunstable Joint Committee has funded five new decorations to extend the scheme into the Ashton Square area.

The 2013 lighting scheme will be illuminating Dunstable from the week commencing 25 November 2013. Furthermore, the giant town Christmas tree will be back in pride of place on The Square providing a delightful traditional centrepiece for the town and the venue for the Dunstable Torchlight Procession and Carol Service.

## Christmas Entertainment

The ever popular Torchlight Procession event takes place on Friday 6 December 2013. The carol service will feature the massed choirs of local schools and choral

groups who congregate in Priory Church before processing through Priory Gardens and onto The Square for the carol service which involves traditional carols and Christmas songs. Come and join in with this Dunstable town tradition.

There will be Christmas entertainment every week from the end of November right through until Christmas Eve, details as shown below.

For that unique feel of Dunstable make sure you visit Dunstable Market, this market provides the traditional shopping experience. The Market operates every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday throughout the year, except on Wednesday 25 December 2013 and Wednesday 1 January 2014.

There will be an additional Trader Market on 24 December from 8.00 am to 3.00 pm, featuring some of your favourite regular traders.

Dunstable Joint Committee will be providing FREE town centre parking on Saturday 7 & 14 December. The car parks included in the initiative are as follows: Ashton Square, (Wilkinson) Church Street, St Mary's Gate (West Street), Matthew Street, (Eleanor's Cross).

For that sale shopping, FREE parking will also be provided in these car parks on 18 January 2014.



## Christmas Entertainment Schedule

### Christmas Penguins

Sat 30 Nov, 11.00 am to 3.00 pm  
Quadrant Shopping Centre

### Ashton Middle School Band

Wed 4 Dec, 12 noon to 2 pm  
Quadrant Shopping Centre

### Christmas Tree Carols and Torchlight Procession

Fri 6 Dec, From 7 pm  
The Square

### Salvation Army Band

Sat 7 Dec, 9.30 am to 1.00 pm  
Quadrant Shopping Centre

### Craft Workshop & Meet and Greet Costumed Characters

Sat 7 Dec, 11.00 am to 3.00 pm  
Venue to be confirmed

### Queensbury School Band

Wed 11 Dec, 12 noon to 2 pm  
Quadrant Shopping Centre

### Christmas Cracker

Sat 14 Dec, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm  
Priory House

### Christmas Wrapping, Music & Entertainment (Dunstable Community Church)

Sat 14 Dec, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm  
Quadrant Shopping Centre

### Gliding Reindeer

Sat 14 Dec, 11.00 am to 3.00 pm  
Dunstable Market

### Salvation Army Band

Sat 21 Dec, 9.30 am to 1.00 pm  
Dunstable Market

### Juke Box Jenny

Sat 21 Dec, 11.00 am to 3.00 pm  
Quadrant Shopping Centre

### Salvation Army Band

Tue 24 Dec, 9.30 am to 12.00 pm  
Quadrant Shopping Centre

## Prepare for bad winter weather and win a FREE Home Emergency Kit



What would you do if faced with natural disasters like a severe snowstorm or heavy rain? Or unnatural emergencies like a power cut or industrial accident? Helping you deal with major disasters locally is BLLRF (the Bedfordshire and Luton Local Resilience Forum) made up of the emergency services, local councils, hospitals and health agencies and a whole host of local voluntary groups working together.

BLLRF co-ordinates everyone who tackles emergencies, planning for the unthinkable to ensure they are ready to react swiftly and effectively to protect you, your family and home.

BLLRF's website – [www.blrf.org.uk](http://www.blrf.org.uk) – is packed with help and advice so you prepare and protect yourself before winter sets in.

If you do need further information or help they offer advice and spokespeople on a range of potential disasters and emergencies.

BLLRF is now giving you the chance to win a free Home Emergency Kit that contains some essential things you'll need if there's an emergency like a power cut or severe snowfall.

To enter our FREE prize draw just follow @what\_would on Twitter, like us on [facebook.com/whatwouldyoudoif](https://www.facebook.com/whatwouldyoudoif) or enter using the website's contact page on the website. Entry closes at midnight, 2 February 2014.

# 2014 DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL'S EVENTS YEAR PLANNER

	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU	M	T	W
<b>January</b>			1 Bank Holiday	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>February</b>						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>March</b>						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>April</b>		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>May</b>				1	2	3	4	5 Bank Holiday	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>June</b>							1 	2	3	4	5	6	7 4	8	9	10	11
<b>July</b>		1	2	3	4	5	6 8 	7	8	9	10	11	12	13 DUNSTABLE CLASSIC MOTOR RALLY 9 	14	15	16
<b>August</b>					1	2	3 13 	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>September</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>October</b>			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>November</b>						1	2	3	4	5 	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>December</b>	1	2	3	4	5 20	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14 	15	16	17

- 1 St Georges Day**  
 Priory House Gardens  
 Saturday 19 April  
 10 am to 4 pm  
 Free St. George's Day event with entertainment for all of the family!
- 2 Around the World Day**  
 Priory House Gardens  
 Saturday 17 May  
 10 am to 4 pm  
 'Around The World' themed with dances, music and entertainment from different continents.
- 3 Dunstable Beer Festival**  
 Grove House Gardens  
 Friday 30 May. 4pm to 11pm  
 Saturday 31 May. 12noon to 11pm  
 Sunday 1 June. 12 noon to 5 pm  
 Three day Beer Festival set in a closed off marquee in Grove House Gardens with entertainment. No under 18's allowed in bar area.

- 4 DUNSTABLE CLASSIC MOTOR RALLY**  
**Motor Rally**  
 Priory House Gardens  
 Saturday 7 June  
 10 am to 4 pm  
 Every year, Priory House hosts the motor rally where people get the chance to look at vintage cars and bikes along with some business and charity stalls.
- 5 Family Cycling Festival**  
 Grove House Gardens  
 Saturday 14 June  
 11 am to 5 pm  
 Dunstable's Cycling Festival returns bigger than ever, promoting health and wellbeing for all ages, with loads of fun attractions to help everyone to get active. Organised by Sustrans for Central Bedfordshire Council

**6 DUNSTABLE Live!**  
**Dunstable Live**  
 Grove House Gardens  
 Saturday 21 June  
 3 pm to 8 pm  
 Five hours of the best tribute acts.

- 7 Band Concerts**  
 Grove House Gardens  
 Sunday 29 June  
 3 pm to 4.30 pm  
 Traditional band concerts in the park.
- 8 Band Concerts**  
 Grove House Gardens  
 Sunday 6 July  
 3 pm to 4.30 pm  
 Traditional band concerts in the park.
- 9 Band Concerts**  
 Grove House Gardens  
 Sunday 13 July  
 3 pm to 4.30 pm  
 Traditional band concerts in the park.

**10 Party in the Park**  
 Grove House Gardens  
 Saturday 19 July  
 12 noon to 8 pm  
 Eight hour family fun event including music, stalls and entertainment.



Keep up to date with  
Dunstable Town Council  
news and events...

follow us on  
twitter

@DunstableEvents  
@DunstableTC  
@DunstableTown  
@CreaseyPark  
@PrioryHouse

Find us on  Like  
Facebook

TH	F	S	SU	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU	M	T
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
17	18 Good Friday	19 1	20 Easter Sunday	21 Easter Monday	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						
15	16	17 2	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Bank Holiday	27	28	29	30 3	31 4			
12	13	14 5	15	16	17	18	19	20	21 6	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
17	18	19 10	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28 11	29	30	31 12					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25 16	26	27	28	29	30	31 17		
18	19	20 18	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31						

**11 Band Concerts**  
Grove House Gardens  
Sunday 27 July  
3 pm to 4.30 pm  
Traditional band concerts in the park.

**12 Summer Activities**  
Starts Monday 28 July  
Ends Friday 22 August  
A series of great events to keep the children entertained throughout the summer break.

**13 Band Concerts**  
Grove House Gardens  
Sunday 3 August  
3 pm to 4.30 pm  
Traditional band concerts in the park.

**14 Band Concerts**  
Grove House Gardens  
Sunday 10 August  
3 pm to 4.30 pm  
Traditional band concerts in the park.

**15 Band Concerts**  
Grove House Gardens  
Sunday 17 August  
3 pm to 4.30 pm  
Traditional band concerts in the park.

**16 Band Concerts**  
Grove House Gardens  
Sunday 24 August  
3 pm to 4.30 pm  
Traditional band concerts in the park.

**17 Dunstable Rocks!**  
Grove House Gardens  
Saturday 30 August  
12 noon to 10 pm  
Ten hours of non-stop local music with a main headline act. There will also be food stalls and a bar to enjoy.

**18 WWI Educational Day**  
Priory House & Gardens  
Saturday 20 September  
10 am to 4 pm

**19 Fireworks**  
Creasey Park Community  
Football Centre  
Wednesday 5 November  
From 6 pm  
Large fireworks display at Creasey Park with food and funfair.

**20 Torchlight Procession & Carol Service**  
Ashton Square  
Friday 5 December  
From 7 pm  
Torchlight procession through Priory Gardens and carol service.

**21 Christmas Cracker**  
Priory House & Gardens  
Saturday 18 December  
10 am to 4 pm  
Come down and meet Santa and enjoy some Christmas crafts.



To sponsor  
any of these  
events or to place  
an advert in  
Talk of the Town  
please ring  
01582 891406



For full event details call 01582 513000 or visit [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk)

DUNSTABLE  
TOWN COUNCIL



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# Prory House News



## Perfect Christmas Gifts

Prory House Gift Shop is getting ready to celebrate Christmas in style...

Want to support your local economy? The Prory House Gift Shop is the local spot for local products made by local people. We stock a wide variety of handmade items including woodwork, pottery, photographs and paintings. We also have a selection of locally produced honey, preserves and chutneys. Our large selection of glass tree ornaments and wide variety of novelty Christmas items mean you are sure to find something to jolly up your festive season. If you are looking for a gift for that hard to buy for person, why not treat them to some Dunstable Tea. The Dunstable Tea range is exclusive to Prory House and consists of over 20 different blends and infusions all named for the history and heritage of Dunstable. Available in loose leaf and tea bags, Dunstable Tea makes the ideal gift.

## Christmas Afternoon Tea

What better way to start the Christmas celebrations than to take Afternoon Tea with a festive twist in the comfort of our 13th Century Undercroft with its beautiful stone vaulting?

From Monday 25 November afternoon tea is getting a Christmas makeover. Choose from three festive packages, Holly, Ivy and Mistletoe and enjoy a selection of freshly prepared seasonal sandwiches, homemade warm savouries, homemade scones and homemade cakes. Prices start at £14.50 per person and include your choice of our speciality loose leaf teas or gourmet coffees. Booking in advance is advised although not necessary and dietary requirements can be catered for with notice. For more information contact Prory House on 01582 891420 or email [prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk). Alternatively you can visit [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk) and download one of our Christmas Afternoon Tea leaflets which will be available soon or pop into Prory House and collect one in person.



PRIORY HOUSE

# Tea with Santa

Spend the afternoon with Santa  
at  
Prory House

Saturday 21 & Monday 23 December  
2.00 pm to 4.00 pm  
£8.50 per child

Listen to stories from Santa and enjoy  
some sandwiches and cakes. You will even take  
home a present

Most suitable for children between the ages of  
4 and 8 years

Tickets must be booked in advance, call Prory House on 01582 891420  
or email [prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk)  
[www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk)



DUNSTABLE  
TOWN COUNCIL

# Award-Winning Toddler Group

The Creasey Park Toddler Group is celebrating after being named one of the best in the South Bedfordshire area by Netmums members.

The group which runs at Creasey Park Community Football Centre on Friday mornings from 9.30 am to 11.00 am term time, was voted the most popular in the prestigious competition run by Britain's largest parenting site Netmums.com

The group, which is open to children aged from birth to 4 years old, has been running since March 2013 and is a firm favorite with local mums.

Hayley and Michelle said: "The Netmums awards are the Parenting Oscars – so we are delighted to have won. It's an award for everyone involved in Creasey Park, from the staff to the parents and carers – and of course the kids. We try hard to make the group the best it can be and are so pleased to have been recognized for all our work."

Netmums founder Siobhan Freegard said: "Well done to Creasey Park Toddler Group! We had thousands of mums voting in the area – but Hayley and Michelle's group stood out. Parents love the homely atmosphere and look forward to going every week. It's people like Hayley and Michelle that local communities are all about."

For more information, please contact Hayley and Michelle at hayley006@btinternet.com or visit their facebook page Creaseyparkmumsandtots@groups.facebook.com. Creasey Park Toddler Group, every Friday 9.30 am to 11.00 am (term time) at Creasey Park Community Football Centre, Creasey Park Drive, Dunstable, LU6 1BB



# Working Better Together!

Dunstable Town Council and Central Bedfordshire College have teamed up to create the perfect partnership at Creasey Park Community Football Centre.

Central Bedfordshire College are now into the third year of their Football Development Programme, based at Creasey Park Community Football Centre.

Creasey Park has proven to be the perfect multi-use facility and learning environment for the college students to thrive. The FIFA approved 3rd generation full size artificial pitch provides the best playing surface for the students to develop their football abilities and with adjacent ample sized changing facilities to maximise coach to player tutoring. Where Creasey Park comes into its own is the fact it can also accommodate on-site, the academic elements of the programme.

Colin Sharpe, Football Development Manager at the College, said: "The programme has gone from strength to strength since the move to Creasey Park. This is one of the best facilities of its type in the county and will hopefully allow the college students to be even more successful and build upon the fantastic achievements to date, which include seven league title wins in the last five years from their three respective squads."

Colin Sharpe also commented, "What makes the partnership even more productive is the students studying within a successful well run football centre they are exposed to sport development plans and community sport in practice. Working closely with the manager of Creasey Park, James Slack, part-time job opportunities have been made available for students.

Andrew Fox, former student now studying at University said, "Having the opportunity to take a part of my football development course in a new community football centre really helped me through my studies and achieving my goal of going to university. I was lucky enough to be offered work as a football coach working for Dunstable Town Council which has really benefited me and my CV."

The next college trials to take place are on Wednesday 19 February, 12 noon to 2.00 pm – but with places expected to go fast, people are being urged to get their names down for a place as soon as possible. Email Colin Sharpe at csharpe@centralbeds.ac.uk to secure a place.



CREASEY KICKZ  
FOOTBALL PARTIES



BAR & FOOD



FUNCTION  
HIRE



CLUB  
PRESENTATIONS



PITCH HIRE



CORPORATE

## Christmas Opening Hours

Mon	23 Dec	Open as usual	Mon	30 Dec	Open 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
Tue	24 Dec	Open 9.00 am to 5.00 pm	Tue	31 Dec	Open 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
Wed	25 Dec	CLOSED	Wed	1 Jan	Open from noon
Thur	26 Dec	CLOSED	Thur	2 Jan	Open 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
Fri	27 Dec	Open 9.00 am to 5.00 pm	Fri	3 Jan	Open 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
Sat	28 Dec	Open from noon	Sat	4 Jan	Open from noon
Sun	29 Dec	CLOSED	Sun	5 Jan	Open as usual

# Photographic Competition

A massive 'thank you' to everyone that sent in their photos and who took the time to vote, the top 10 were put on our Facebook page for the public to vote, and did they vote! In total the 10 photos received a staggering 1,447 likes!

It was a close battle with the top two photos over taking each other for the lead several times, but when 12 noon struck on 22 October there was a clear winner.

Peter Ford's photo of the Incredible Edible Project by Sahira Ward received a fantastic 557 likes. Peter Ford who was thrilled at winning said: "I am not yet a member of the Incredible Edible team, but as one of my hobbies is photography, I thought I could lend a hand to help a local project in my area. It was nice to have the opportunity to meet with other local individuals willing to encourage a community spirit in creating this garden". You can read about the Incredible Edible Project on page 14.

The runner up photo was taken by Anthony McGill a stunning picture looking over Weatherby. This photo received an impressive 474 likes.

Third was a photo taken by Stephen Gatfield of a glider on the Downs which received 172 likes.



Peter Ford



Anthony McGill

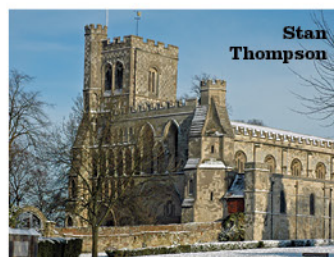


Stephen Gatfield

Here are the other seven photos in the top ten. Look out next year for another opportunity to have your photo on the front cover of an edition of Talk of the Town.



Laurence Burridge



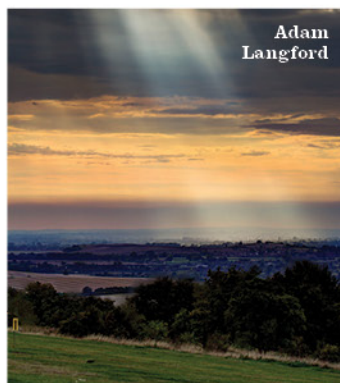
Stan Thompson



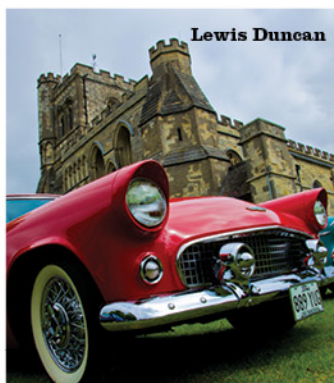
Lisa Button



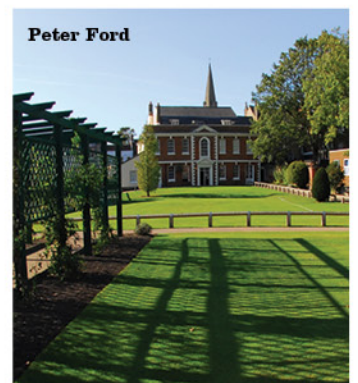
Peter Ford



Adam Langford



Lewis Duncan



Peter Ford

# Business Matters

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL



## Council and Committee Meetings

Copies of the agendas for all meetings are available for inspection three days beforehand at Grove House, Priory House (Tourist Information Centre) and Dunstable Library or via the Council's website [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk). All meetings commence at 7.00 pm and are held at Grove House, 76 High Street North, Dunstable unless otherwise stated, and all are open to the public. Members of the public are welcome to ask questions about matters being considered at the meetings. Advance notice is required by the previous working day and further information is available from the Council's Head of Finance and Support Services [rosemary.osullivan@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:rosemary.osullivan@dunstable.gov.uk).

Forthcoming meeting dates are listed below:

18/11/2013	Finance & General Purposes Cttee	23/01/2014	Accts Sub-Cttee 5.30 pm
21/11/2013	Accts Sub-Cttee 5.30 pm	23/01/2014	Personnel Sub Committee
26/11/2013	Plans Sub-Cttee	03/02/2014	COUNCIL
02/12/2013	COUNCIL	04/02/2014	Plans Sub-Cttee
05/12/2013	Dunstable Joint Committee <i>Watling House</i>	20/02/2014	Accts Sub-Cttee 5.30 pm
17/12/2013	Plans Sub-Cttee	25/02/2014	Plans Sub-Cttee
19/12/2013	Accts Sub-Cttee 5.30 pm	03/03/2014	Community Services Cttee
		10/03/2014	Grounds & Environmental Services Cttee
2014		13/03/2014	Dunstable Joint Committee <i>Watling House</i>
06/01/2014	Community Services Cttee	17/03/2014	Finance & General Purposes Cttee
13/01/2014	Grounds & Environmental Services Cttee	18/03/2014	Plans Sub-Cttee
14/01/2014	Plans Sub-Cttee	20/03/2014	Accts Sub-Cttee 5.30 pm
20/01/2014	Finance & General Purposes Cttee	31/03/2014	Town Meeting ( <i>Creasey Park Community Football Centre</i> ) 7.30 pm

## WELL DONE YOU Our Winners - Congratulations

<b>Business of the Year</b>	Flint It
<b>Carer of the Year</b>	Simon Wright
<b>Customer Care Excellence Award</b>	Michael Swain (Beds Fitness Academy)
<b>Green Business of the Year</b>	Preen CIC
<b>Hospitality Award</b>	The White Lion
<b>New Business of the Year</b>	Belvoir Dunstable
<b>Retailer of the Year</b>	P C Help Centre
<b>Sports Achievement Award</b>	Lorna Scott
<b>Student of the Year</b>	Jessica Knott
<b>Teacher of the Year</b>	Georgina Major (Ashton St Peters Lower)
<b>Volunteer of the Year (Joint)</b>	Reg Fowler
<b>Volunteer of the Year (Joint)</b>	Dorothy Kemp
<b>Young Hero of the Year</b>	DamienCzerwiak
<b>Employee of the Year</b>	Karen Snushall (Stoten Gillam)
<b>MPs Award for Community Business</b>	Impact MH
<b>Apprentice of the Year</b>	Luca Muscella



## Our Highly Commended

<b>Business of the year</b>	Stoten Gillam	<b>Sports Achievement Award</b>	Dunstable Town FC
<b>Carer of the Year</b>	Kevin Hignell	<b>Sports Achievement Award</b>	Craig Halsey
<b>Customer Care Excellence</b>	Paul Thomas (Old Palace)	<b>Sports Achievement Award</b>	Dan Johnstone
<b>Hospitality Award</b>	Froth & Elbow	<b>Student of the Year</b>	Sarah Jane Atkins
<b>New Business of the Year</b>	Pho2u!	<b>Teacher of the Year</b>	Lisa Hubbard (Watling Forrest Club)
<b>Retailer of the Year</b>	Thompson News	<b>Teacher of the Year</b>	Samantha Roblett (Watling Lower School)

## Congratulations to all our winners from your Sponsors of the Night



## Incredible Edible Dunstable

On a rainy day in January 2013 I discovered Incredible Edible Todmorden on the internet. 'Grow food, cook food and share food and do it in public places' was the message on the web site and as I love growing fruit and veg and used to give loads of my produce away, I thought what a fantastic idea.

So with a seed of an idea in my mind to create an outdoor growing area for all local residents to use, I wrote to Dunstable Town Council about the land opposite Milehams at the Katherine Drive shops to find out if I could plant some runner beans. The Town Council suggested I attend the Dunstable in Bloom Group, organised by Promoting Dunstable, whose volunteers work tirelessly to improve the town's environment. I was encouraged to contact the landowner, Central Bedfordshire Council and with further assistance from the Town Council I got permission to clear the land and create a community growing scheme. On Sunday 2 June I had my first public meeting in The Curry Garden restaurant in Katherine Drive to encourage local people to join in, as a result most of the work we have completed has been carried out by a working party of six volunteers.

We had amazing donations from The Curry Garden of £150, a £25 donation from Stoten Gillam Accountants and £20 from Milehams. We were also donated seeds from the RHS.

Clearing the area and creating growing beds was the biggest challenge. Town Council grounds staff helped clear the old shrubs and roots and so far we have built five raised beds to create 36m sq of growing space. Barnfield College provided some good topsoil and we also collected 40 bags of manure from a local stable to kick start the soil in to growing food again. Once the beds were ready we began planting the home grown seedlings and young plants alongside a donation of plants from Rocket Gardens in Cornwall.

With phase one completed we started phase two on 5 July when we had a Mega Make Over day with help from The Perfume Shop warehouse staff. Throughout the summer we have had further work days supported by Dunstablians Rugby Club, 4YPuk Youth Group and local residents.

Being part of 'Incredible Edible Dunstable' has meant taking a pride in where I live and it has changed my life; I have a new circle of friends. Our team of incredible volunteers have helped so much in the creation of this garden and I don't think I could have asked for such a great team. However, we do need more volunteers in the general maintenance of the raised beds and help with the design of Phase Two. Help us make this garden the best it can be! Something YOU can be proud of.

It will produce fresh fruit, herbs and vegetables which everyone can come and harvest whenever they want to.

Without the help from Dunstable Town Council, Promoting Dunstable, Central Bedfordshire Council, Amey and some very generous individuals and businesses this would never have happened. I thank you all so much.

Sahira Ward, Incredible Edible Dunstable

## Priory Churchyard Gateway

Many of our readers will have seen that the Priory Churchyard Gateway has been fenced off to prevent public access. The 15th Century gateway leading into Priory Gardens has become unstable and is in need of significant repair to ensure that it is conserved for future generations to enjoy.

As the structure is Grade 1 listed and is located in a Scheduled Ancient Monument area the Town Council is working closely with Central Bedfordshire Council and English Heritage and has appointed specialist architectural consultants to help with the conservation work and secure a Heritage Lottery grant.

Some temporary repairs have been completed before the onset of winter to halt any further deterioration in the structure and make it more stable. Subject to securing external funding it is anticipated that the main conservation works can commence in late spring 2014 with a view to re opening access later in the year.



Dunstable Rep presents...

## *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice*

The Little Theatre,  
High Street South,  
Dunstable  
LU6 3SF

By Jim Cartwright  
Directed by Alan Goss



Tickets £13  
Members £9  
Members' guests £11  
Under 18s £6

22nd to 30th November 2013\*  
7.45pm

Box office opens Monday 11th November

Box office 07940 105864 or dunstablerepboxoffice@gmail.com

\*Please note that there will be no performance on Sunday 24th November

## Town Ranger Service

This month sees the first anniversary for the Town Ranger and we speak to Jamie Hodges to find out how his first year as the Town Ranger has been.



**So Jamie, you have been the Town Ranger for a full year now, are you still enjoying it?**

Yes I am, because it allows me to do such a variety of jobs and meet members of the public and you feel like you are contributing to making Dunstable a better place. I really never know what job I will be doing on a day to day basis. I certainly don't get bored.

**What types of jobs do you get the most requests for?**

I do a lot of cutting back trees and hedges to keep pathways clear and also removing graffiti. I generally do little jobs that people usually just walk past but make a big difference throughout the town.

**In the past year can you think of any particular jobs that come to mind that were rewarding for you?**

One particular job was when I worked in partnership with Central Bedfordshire Council to clean up Dog Kennel Walk as part of the new cycle route in town. I was particularly pleased to work on this job as it has always been a hot spot for graffiti, litter and just general untidiness. It was very satisfying to see the end result and to see a wonderful transformation. I just hope that it remains the same and it is kept clean and tidy as it had taken us nearly two weeks to complete.

**Have you got any funny stories you can share?**

As I work alone I quickly got nicknamed the 'Lone Ranger' and people used to joke and ask me where I left my horse. It really caught on and as a cheeky Christmas present a member of staff bought me a cowboy hat. I thought this was quite funny and I decided to have the lone ranger ringtone on my phone which I still have, and have a giggle when it rings.

**What jobs do you enjoy doing most?**

One of the jobs that is the most satisfying is when I jet wash the street pavements. I can see what a difference it makes and I take before and after photos to show how clean the pavements are now. I get lots of comments from the public saying what a good job I am doing which is really nice to hear.

**When you're not the Town Ranger what do you like to do in your spare time?**

I am a massive Arsenal fan and try and see them as much as I can. I manage two football teams, an under 14's & under 11's in Bletchley which keeps me very occupied. I am very proud of my players and one of them has just signed for Fulham under 11's.

**Your van is very recognisable, have people started to spot you out and about?**

Yes they have, I often get the public seeing me do one job in one part of the town and then again in a different part of town. They often wonder and ask how I get about so quickly and some even toot me whilst I am working. I would like to start a 'Toot the Ranger' so when people spot me out and about on their way to work etc they give me a little toot as it is a nice way to be recognised.

**What tools and gadgets do you have to use for your jobs?**

I have a hot water pressure washer which comes with a dirt buster, a hedge cutter and strimmer. I also use a pole saw, a snow plough and brush. I can also have a paint spray gun which I particularly enjoy using, I used it to re-paint the performance area ready for the Summer of Music programme.

**Can you tell me why you think the Town Ranger is so important to this town?**

This service is great for members of the public, they can contact me personally and they can be reassured I will do the job either by myself or I will contact other agencies to ensure the job gets completed. I see the Town Ranger service in Dunstable as the first emergency service for tackling graffiti, litter and other 'grotspots' around the town. There is no-one else doing what I do for Dunstable. I am very proud of this and hope the people of Dunstable are happy with the Town Ranger service.

**If you want to report any issues or problems in your area then contact the Town Ranger who will be happy to help you. Call free 0800 01 30 350.**

**And remember if you see him out and about....give a little toot of your horn.**



# Services Dunstable Town

# Council Provides For You

## Grounds and Environmental Services

### Cemetery Management

Maintenance of grounds, grave preparation, burial and memorial arrangements  
Dunstable Cemetery, West Street, Dunstable LU6 1PD  
01582 891426 | cemetery@dunstable.gov.uk

### Parks and Open Spaces

Maintenance of grounds and pitches, litter picking, dog bins, grass cutting  
Freephone 0800 013 0350 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

### Allotments

Plot lettings and maintenance of sites  
01582 891426 | allotments@dunstable.gov.uk

### Play Areas

Maintenance, inspections and cleansing  
Freephone 0800 013 0350 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

### Town Centre Maintenance

Maintenance of raised beds, grassed areas and floral displays  
01582 513000 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

### Maintenance of Priory and Grove House Gardens

Grounds maintenance, litter picking, dog bins  
01582 891413 | john.crawley@dunstable.gov.uk

### Town Ranger

Cleaning up the public places in Dunstable  
Freephone 0800 013 0350

## Mayoral and Democratic Services

Remembrance Day Parade and Service, Mayor's Charity Events, Civic Services, Democratic Representation  
01582 891404 | michele.markus@dunstable.gov.uk

## Main Council Reception 01582 513000

## Community Services

### Town Centre Management

Economic regeneration, Christmas lights, Ashton Square public toilets and Dunstable Market (Market operates Wednesday, Friday and Saturday)  
01582 891405 | clare.brett@dunstable.gov.uk

### Events Programme including:

Dunstable Live, Fireworks, Party in the Park, Dunstable Rocks!  
01582 891406 | lisa.vincent@dunstable.gov.uk

### Priory House

Heritage Centre, Tourist Information Centre, functions, tea rooms and gift shop  
Priory House Heritage Centre, 33 High St South, Dunstable LU6 3RZ  
01582 891420 | prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk

### Grove Corner Young People's Centre

76a High Street North, Dunstable LU6 1NF  
01582 891434 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

### The Mayfield Centre

Community drop-in, learning opportunities, advice, information and guidance, homework drop-in  
Mayfield Centre, Mayfield Road, Dunstable LU5 4AP  
01582 670695 | cathy.carty@dunstable.gov.uk

### Voluntary Sector Support (grants)

01582 513000 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

### Older People's Support Service

Good Companions day care, DAN, CPCFC Lunch Club  
01582 513000 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

### Creasey Park Community Football Centre

Full size artificial and grass pitches, function room hire, licensed bar, BMX track  
Creasey Park Drive, Dunstable LU6 1BB  
01582 891433 or 07712 861618 | cpcfc@dunstable.gov.uk

For any queries relating to Council Tax, Housing Benefits, Refuse or Highways please contact Central Bedfordshire Council on 0300 300 8000 or email customer.services@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

For more information about services provided by Dunstable Town Council visit [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk)

# TALK TOWN

of the 

## Feedback Form

We would appreciate your comments on the services we provide.

Please enter your comments in the area to the right and return your slip to Grove House or fax to 01582 890606.

Return your comment slip to:  
Dunstable Town Council, Grove House,  
76 High St North, Dunstable,  
Bedfordshire LU6 1NF

Your comments:

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Please enter your details so that we may respond to your comments:

Name: .....  
Address: .....  
Telephone: .....  
Email: .....

Thank you for submitting your comments, the information will be used by Dunstable Town Council for developing services and marketing purposes and will not be sold to any other organisation. Your details are strictly confidential. The data protection act 1998 guarantees that the information you have provided will only be used for the correct purposes. If you do not want to receive any additional information from Dunstable Town Council please tick this box.



TOT123November2013

Look out for the next issue of Talk of the Town arriving at your door in March 2014