

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL
'Helping make Dunstable a Better Place'

TALK TOWN

Issue 63 March 2014

of the

New Event for 2014
**Around
the World**

**St George's
Celebrations**

PLUS

**New DTC Website
Skate Park News
...and more**



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

ICKNIELD 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 Holliwick Road
Dunstable LU5 4RA
01582 665377



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

NORTHFIELDS WARD



Cllr J Anklesaria
Shermaz
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



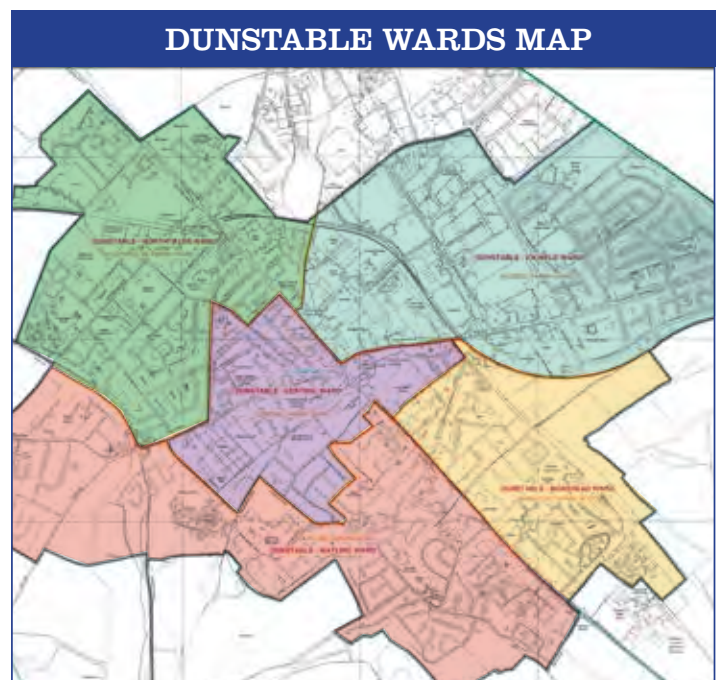
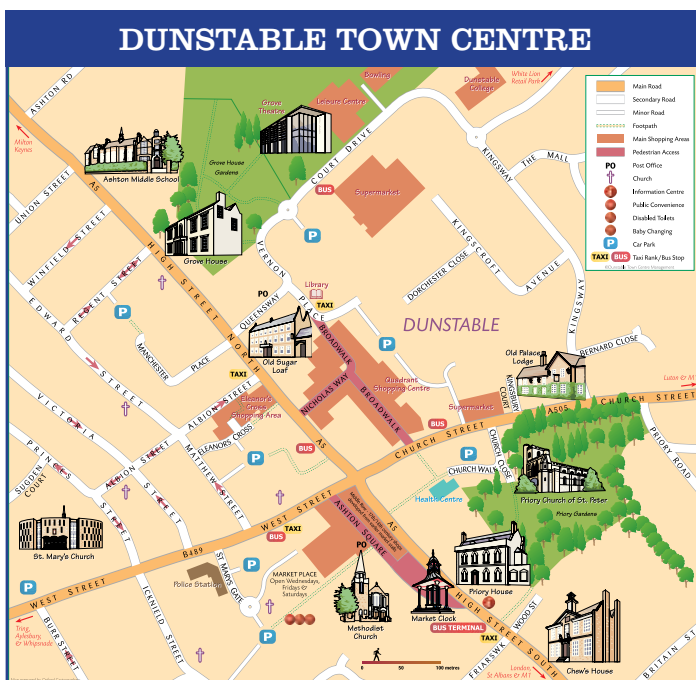
Cllr C E Meakins-Jell
11 Bernard Close
Dunstable LU5 4HL
07837 886810



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





The Mayor's Message

**Councillor
John Chatterley**

With just a few weeks left of my Mayoral year I would like to take the opportunity to look back and review some of the amazing and extremely memorable engagements I have attended during the past months.

So far during my year of office I have attended a myriad of celebratory, community, charity and civic 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 have visited; thank you.

It has been an exceptional year with the celebration of the 800th anniversary of the dedication of the Priory Church of St. Peter and the 90th anniversary of the Polish Community in Dunstable.

It was an honour to meet with two fantastic centenarians – Olive Ashley (107) and Marjorie Tingay (102) – then the invitation to the 100th Big Brownie Birthday at the 'Thinking Day' service. I have witnessed the fantastic work carried out by the Salvation Army and also had the honour of conducting their band.

The summer programme of music events in Grove House Gardens and the themed events in Priory Gardens have all been a tremendous success and I am sure were enjoyed by everyone that attended.

There have been various visits to many local schools and youth organisations and the annual torchlight carol service on The Square, with nineteen school choirs, was absolutely brilliant, as were the schools entering the 'Big Sing Off'.

The town owes so much to the many volunteers who work tirelessly in their particular area and turn out constantly to make things happen for others in the town; sometimes with very little recognition. Thank you, to you all.

During the year I have held a number of charity events, including a successful evening at the Little Theatre's production of 'Calendar Girls', then we had a fun evening at the Ivory Lounge with dinner and a 'Rat Pack' and 'Elvis' entertainer. We also had an evening at a Thai restaurant and a Scottish evening for 'Burn's Night' at Creasey Park Community Football Centre and, of course, the annual favourite 'Race Night'. Thank you to all who have supported these events.

My current term of office will finish at the Council's AGM being held on Monday 19 May, but, before then I have a coffee morning on Saturday 12 April at Grove House, a Charity Ball on Friday 2 May at Dunstable Conference Centre, and a Civic Service at Priory Church on Monday 11th May. I would be delighted if you are able to support one or both of these events. Details can be found at the new-look www.dunstable.gov.uk

Finally, I would like to wish my successor every success for the new Mayoral year starting on the 19 May 2014, but, until that date, I would be happy to attend and support any event you may be holding.

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. Dunstable Town Council is here to listen and I hope that you will continue to give feedback on the various services and activities. We are always keen to hear your views – either via email to info@dunstable.gov.uk or by using the feedback form on



David Ashlee

**Town Clerk and
Chief Executive**

Welcome to the spring edition of Talk of the Town.

This is always a very important time of year for the Council as it is the period in which the Council agrees its annual budget. This year the Council has had to make extensive cost saving efficiencies across all service areas in order to account for a significant loss of grant support from Central Bedfordshire Council that it received last year, as a result of changes to how council tax benefit is funded.

However, I am very pleased that these savings have been achieved without any significant impact on direct service provision and with only a very small increase in the Town Council element of the council tax charge.

If you live in a Band D property in Dunstable you will pay an annual charge of £171.78 to Dunstable Town Council. This reflects an increase of just under 3p per week compared with the charge made for 2013/14. An illustration of the services provided by the Council is given later in this edition of Talk of the Town.

The spring sees the launch of the Council's events programme and this year we will be kicking things off with three events in April and May.

St George's Day will be celebrated with an improved range of activities centred in Priory Gardens and the 'Around the World Day' is set to be a fantastic new attraction for the town.

The Beer and Cider Festival will be held at the end of May and will be bigger and better than ever, so please take the opportunity to sponsor a beer if you want to get involved. Details on all these events are given later in this edition.

The Council will also be staging the annual Town Meeting on 31 March at Creasey Park Community Football Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend and the meeting will include the annual Youth Achievement Awards.

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 or following us on Twitter and Facebook.

Happy reading!

David Ashlee

Dunstable Town Clerk and Chief Executive

NOTICEBOARD

Beer Sponsorship

Dunstable Town Council, along with Barworx, is once again organising their annual Beer and Cider Festival on Friday 30, Saturday 31 May and Sunday 1 June.

Local businesses, organisations or even individuals – as a treat for a birthday or anniversary, perhaps – can get involved and sponsor an ale. For details of the packages available visit www.dunstable.gov.uk or call Lisa Vincent on 01582 891406.



WWI Events

Dunstable Town Council is hosting a selection of WWI commemorative events throughout the summer to acknowledge the start of and remember the effects of WWI 100 years ago.

Part of these events will be an exhibition at Priory House, and we are seeking items to display as part of the exhibition.

If you would like to exhibit any items please contact Lisa Vincent on 01582 891406.

Contact Your Town Council

Address

Grove House
76 High Street North
Dunstable
Bedfordshire
LU6 1NF

Telephone

01582 513000

Fax

01582 890606

Email

info@dunstable.gov.uk

Website

www.dunstable.gov.uk

Opening Hours

9.00 am to 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.

Come and support the Dunstable Team Challenge 24-hour endurance challenge to travel 416 miles to Porz, Germany. All on an exercise bike and rowing machine stationed at Creasey Park Community Football Centre! The event will be raising money for Sport Relief and the Town Mayor's charities. The 'Send-off Party' is on Friday 28 March, 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm and the 'Finishing Party' will take place on Saturday 29 March 6.00 pm to midnight, which will be a German themed party, with German beers in steins, frankfurters, music and much fun to be had.



Social Media Links

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

'Like' us on Facebook:



Facebook/dunstablecouncil
Facebook/grovecornerdunstable

Follow us on Twitter:



@dunstabletc @dunstableevents
@dunstabletown @creaseypark
@prioryhouse

DUNSTABLE TOWN MEETING

Monday 31 March 2014, 7.30 pm

Creasey Park Community Football Centre,
Creasey Park Drive
(Off Brewers Hill Road), Dunstable

All electors for the town of Dunstable are entitled to attend the Town Meeting and speak on any town affair.

The meeting will feature the Youth Achievement Awards.



DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

Dunstable to finally get a Skate Park

They say all good things come to those who wait and for the members of Dunstable Board Riders this certainly is the case. This group of individuals has been patient, but has never lost hope and now their dreams of a skate park for Dunstable are finally coming true. Whilst for many of the original members their teenage years are long gone their passion for boarding is still there, an interest that they want to pass on to future generations.

Members of Dunstable Board Riders recall meetings as far back as 1993 to discuss the possibility of a skate park. During this time, many skate parks were visited to formulate ideas, temporary skate parks were run and petitions signed but still the idea of a skate park seemed a dream. A dream though which was shared by Dunstable Town Council and more recently Central Bedfordshire Council, who were committed to making it happen. The skate park will be of a design and build standard that will make it recognisable nationally amongst the boarding community. Attracting people from across the country, this will also bring much needed shoppers and visitors to Dunstable.

Over the last two years both Councils have worked hard to secure the land and funding necessary to build a skate park and Dunstable Town Council took the decision to run and manage the project and the facility upon completion.

Cllr Liz Jones, Chair of Community Services "Dunstable Town Council is delighted to be in a position to lead on this exciting project. Over the years Town Council officers have worked with Dunstable Board Riders on the idea of having a skate park in Dunstable, so it's wonderful news that we are soon to have a new top class recreational facility."

Central Bedfordshire Council, Cllr Nigel Young, Executive member for Regeneration said "Central Bedfordshire are proud to be working in partnership with Dunstable Town Council on this very much needed skate park. For years I and colleagues have worked hard to secure the necessary Section 106 money which is required to build a skate park of a size and design that is worth having. I am very pleased that Central Bedfordshire Council has been able to play a key role in making Dunstable's skate park happen."

The wait is nearly over, the tender process is nearly complete with the winning tender to build a £248,000 skate park for Dunstable, to be located behind Go-Bowling, soon to be announced. The park will be completed this year, although timescales are yet to be confirmed. The design is still to be finalised and anyone interested in being involved in this should contact Becky Wisbey at becky.wisbey@dunstable.gov.uk or phone 01582 891412.

Young DUNSTABLE

News for the
young in our
community

FREE Family Fun

Easter can be an expensive time and not just on chocolate! Keeping the kids entertained for two whole weeks can be a drain on the family finances. If you are looking for fun and free activities to do with your children then why not come along to one or all of Dunstable Town Council's FREE family fun arts and crafts sessions.

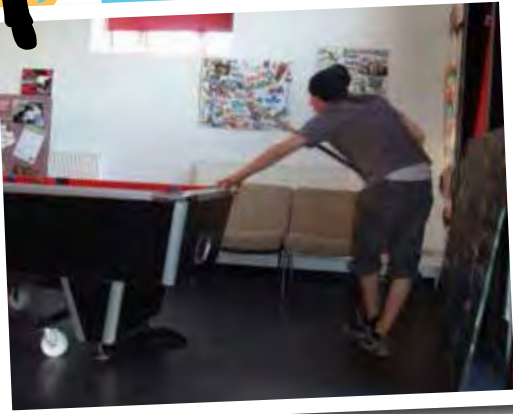
Tuesday 8 April, The Mayfield Centre

Friday 11 April, Creasey Park CFC

Tuesday 15 April, The Mayfield Centre

All sessions will run from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm. There is no need to book, just turn up and start creating.

Please note activities are suitable for the over 5s. Younger children are welcome but must be supervised by a parent/carer at all times. If there are any enquiries please contact Sandy Coyle on 01582 891408 or email sandy.coyle@dunstable.gov.uk



Drop-in for some chilled-out fun

If you want space to hang out with friends, have a game of pool or try your hand at table football then Grove Corner could be just the place for you.

Grove Corner is open Monday and Wednesday evenings 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm and Friday evening 8.00 pm to 9.30 pm for 13 to 18 year olds.

The music is good and the company even better. There are six computers with free internet access and you can buy drinks and snacks from the café area. There is plenty of information available if you need any and if it isn't there we will find it! So if your social diary is not already full then drop in and give it a try.

Not old enough for the drop-in? Don't worry, if you are aged 10 to 13 then Junior Youth Club could be just the thing. You can still chill out with friends and do all of the above, but you can also do other things too such as arts and crafts, play board games and take part in special events. Junior Youth Club is open Fridays 6.00 pm to 7.45 pm. Hope to see you there!

If there are any enquiries, please contact Jacqui Groom-Tully at jacqui.groom-tully@dunstable.gov.uk or telephone on 01582 891434.

GC

Find us on Facebook
GroveCornerDunstable



Summer Activities

Are you counting the days to the school summer holidays? Or are you wondering how to keep the kids entertained without breaking the bank?

Well, planning for this year's four-week summer activities programme is now underway.

The dates are set starting Monday 28 July and finishing Friday 22 August.

We have already booked in some favourites, such as Football Fridays, T-shirt art and photography, but if you are aged between 5 and 18, or have children in this age range, we would welcome suggestions on what you would like in the programme.

There is a small charge for most activities, but we do try to provide a few free family events, such as story telling and arts and crafts.

Please email: sandy.coyle@dunstable.gov.uk with all your ideas and suggestions and visit www.dunstable.gov.uk for information on what's happening in Dunstable.

The summer activities programme will be on the website from June and updated as and when new activities are confirmed. Keep looking and book early to avoid disappointment!

Dunstable Town Council's New Website

Dunstable Town Council is very excited to announce its brand new website is now live. You will be able to access the new website which has improved navigation and functionality throughout. The new look is sleek and stylish and is full of new features, new imagery and refreshed copy to make the site more user-friendly and encourage user interaction.

The exciting new Dunstable Town Council website is bursting with information and features to help people find what they need quickly and easily.

Resident feedback was used to help design the new site which has been organised around the most frequent enquiries that the Council receives so that people will be able to find the information they need faster. The site will continue to evolve using this approach to better meet the needs of residents and other visitors.



Content on the site has been rewritten, reorganized and an improved navigation system has also been added. Council publications like Talk of the Town are now more accessible, whether reading them on screen or printing them.

The new look website showcases Dunstable at its best and has been built using modern technology so that it can be accessed from any digital device – PC, laptop, tablet or smart TV.

The Chairman of the Community Services Committee Councillor Liz Jones said: "I am delighted with the new Dunstable Town Council website. It showcases Dunstable at its best. The redesign of the website is centred on the needs of our residents and the information they wanted to obtain at the touch of a button. Once they have visited the new website, I am convinced that residents will agree it was worth the wait."

Browse the new Dunstable Town Council website now at www.dunstable.gov.uk

Dunstable Rep presents...

Out of Order



By Ray Cooney
directed by Joe Butcher

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

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



14th to 22nd March 2014* 7.45pm

Box office opens Monday 3rd March

Box office 07940 105864 or dunstableboxoffice@gmail.com

*Please note that there will be no performance on Sunday 16th March

Forthcoming Events in Dunstable for 2014

St George's Day

Priory House Gardens

Saturday 19 April

10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Free St. George's Day event with entertainment for all of the family!

Around the World Day

Priory House Gardens

Saturday 17 May

10.00 am to 4.00 pm

'Around The World' themed with dances, music and entertainment from different continents. FREE.



Band Concerts

Grove House Gardens

Sunday 29 June to Sunday 24 August

3.00 pm to 4.30 pm

Traditional band concerts in the park.



Party in the Park

Grove House Gardens

Saturday 19 July

12 noon to 8.00 pm

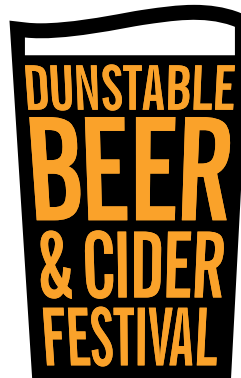
Eight hour family fun event including music, stalls and entertainment. FREE

Summer Activities

Starts Monday 28 July

Ends Friday 22 August

A series of great events to keep the children entertained throughout the summer break. Prices vary per activity



Dunstable Beer Festival

Grove House Gardens

Friday 30 May 4.00 pm to 11.00 pm

Saturday 31 May 12 noon to 11.00 pm

Sunday 1 June 12 noon to 5.00 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. Entry prices: £3.50 Friday and Saturday, £3 on Sunday



Dunstable Rocks

Grove House Gardens

Saturday 30 August

12 noon to 10.00 pm

Ten hours of non-stop local music with a main headline act. There will also be food stalls and a bar to enjoy. FREE

WWI Educational Day

Priory House & Gardens

Saturday 20 September

10.00 am to 4.00 pm FREE

Fireworks

Creasey Park Community

Football Centre

Wednesday 5 November

From 6.00 pm

Large fireworks display at Creasey Park with food and funfair.

£2 per child, £4 per adult, £10 family ticket.

Torchlight Procession & Carol Service

Ashton Square

Friday 5 December

From 7.00 pm

Torchlight procession through Priory Gardens and carol service. FREE

Christmas Cracker

Priory House & Gardens

Saturday 13 December

10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Come down and meet Santa and enjoy some Christmas crafts. FREE

FREE

Dates correct at time of going to print. Events are subject to change.



Motor Rally

Priory House Gardens

Saturday 7 June

10.00 am to 4.00 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. FREE

Go Dunstable! Festival

Organised by Sustrans for Central Bedfordshire Council

Grove House Gardens

Saturday 14 June

11.00 am to 5.00 pm

A fun filled free family event showcasing the opportunities available locally to get active and lead a healthy lifestyle.



Dunstable Live

Grove House Gardens

Saturday 21 June

3.00 pm to 8.00 pm

Five hours of the best tribute acts. FREE

FREE

FRIENDS OF
PRIORY HOUSE
AND GARDENS
DUNSTABLE



PUT THAT IN YOUR PIPE AND SMOKE IT!

The History of Clay Pipe Smoking -
a talk by Dr Susie White
Editor of the Society for Clay Pipe Research



PRIORY HOUSE
EXHIBITION AREA
HIGH ST SOUTH
DUNSTABLE LU6 3RZ

FRIDAY 2nd MAY
7.00pm

Tickets: £5
(Friends £4)

Contact: 01582 608318
secretary@friendsofprioryhouse.co.uk

For Dunstable & Saint George

St George's Day starts off the events in Dunstable for 2014! On Saturday 19 April, Dunstable Town Council are holding their annual St George's Day event at Priory Gardens from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Throughout the day, audiences can enjoy performances from Punch & Judy, participate in a Maypole dancing workshop and create their own knight's sword and helmet and more at the craft stall. For those who want to go on a quest, there are dragons hidden around the town centre that knights and princesses will have to look for, earning themselves a prize if they find them all! Finally, if all of that tires you out, there will be an outdoor TV screen in Priory Gardens for everyone to watch and enjoy featuring the popular 'How To Train Your Dragon' and Disney's classic 'Pete's Dragon'. Don't forget to look out for the stilt walking knight and dragon walking about! Make sure you do not miss your chance to celebrate St George's Day!

For more information, visit our website www.dunstable.gov.uk, or contact Lisa Vincent on lisa.vincent@dunstable.gov.uk or 01582 891406.



You have all heard of 'Around The World in 80 days', but how about 'Around The World in One day'? On Saturday 17 May, keen little explorers and those of you who are interested in other cultures can do just that! Dunstable Town Council is hosting a free 'Around The World' event in Priory Gardens for one day only, giving you all the chance to discover different areas of the world and learn about their cultures.



You will be able to walk from continent to continent with ease, no passport required. A different array of dances feature everything from the tango to Irish dancing, to a traditional Chinese lion dance. There will also be a chance to interact with multiple themed stalls specific to all seven continents of the world, including martial art and African drumming taster sessions, to watching Bollywood dancing.

The 'Around The World' event also gives you the chance to listen to different music that the world has to offer. You will be able to enjoy eclectic tastes ranging from the sound of French violins to the joy of a German Oompah band.

Whether you are interested in learning about different areas of the world or you just want a chance to travel the world for free, there is something here for everyone!

The event is from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm so don't forget to pack everything you need!

For more information, visit our website www.dunstable.gov.uk, or contact Lisa Vincent on lisa.vincent@dunstable.gov.uk or 01582 891406.



PRIORY HOUSE
HERITAGE CENTRE



Treat your mum at Priory House this Mothers' Day

This year why not show your mum how special she is by treating her to afternoon tea at one of the top tea rooms in the country?

Priory House Tea Rooms with its award for excellence issued by the Tea Guild is the perfect place to experience a traditional afternoon tea with all the trimmings and a professional service that will make it an afternoon to remember.

Priory House Tea Rooms will be open until 6.00 pm on Saturday 29 March and between 1.00 pm and 4.30 pm on Sunday 30 March. Afternoon Tea at Priory House Tea Rooms however is served daily and gift vouchers are available.

For that extra special touch, why not add a sparkling glass of Prosecco or a speciality G and Tea cocktail?

For more details visit www.dunstable.gov.uk, email prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk or phone 01582 891420 for all enquiries.



FRIENDS OF
PRIORY HOUSE
AND GARDENS
DUNSTABLE



Around the World in Eight Wines

Wine Tasting Event with
Derek Smedley, Master of Wine*

Priory House Undercroft,
High Street South, Dunstable

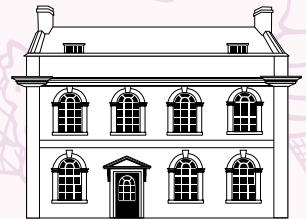
Friday 25 April, 7.00 for 7.30 pm

Tickets:
Friends £20 Guests £22
(includes refreshments)

Contact:
01582 608318
secretary@friendsofprioryhouse.co.uk



*Derek has worked in the Wine Trade for some 52 years and acts as a consultant to various City Livery Companies & other City Institutions as well as Lincoln's Inn, the Royal College of Physicians & London Clubs



PRIORY HOUSE

PRIORY PUDDING NIGHTS THURSDAY EVENINGS

at Priory House Tea Rooms

Get back in the Habit!

Returns Thursday
3 April 2014

Visit www.dunstable.gov.uk
for times, menus and other details



DUNSTABLE
TOWN COUNCIL

How Does Dunstable Town Council Spend Your Money?

The 2014/15 council tax charge made by Dunstable Town Council for an average band D property is £171.78. This equates to just £3.30 per week and ensures that the Council collects £1,984,627 for the year from the Dunstable council tax payer. But what does the Council do with this money?

Did You Know That...

In addition to the income received from the council tax charge, the Council raises an extra £760,000 per annum through various trading activities such as the Tea Rooms at Priory House and activities at Creasey Park Community Football Centre.

The Council owns and maintains 14 public parks, gardens and recreation sites that include 11 play areas, two tennis courts, one BMX track, 17 football pitches and a full sized 3G synthetic football pitch.

The Council owns and maintains two of Dunstable's most prestigious properties, Grove House and Priory House.

The Council provides over 260 allotment plots over 6 different sites and prices start from as little as £14 per annum.

The Council owns and maintains Dunstable cemetery and administers all associated burial responsibilities.

The Council holds the following awards for service excellence: Quest registration at Creasey Park Community Football Centre, Investors in People, Membership of the British Tea Guild with an associated Excellence Award for the Priory House Tea Rooms, Two Green Flags for Priory and Grove House Gardens, Gold Medals in the Anglia in Bloom competition, A Platinum Certificate of excellence for the Ashton Square public conveniences, Quality Council Status and Charter for the Bereaved status for Dunstable Cemetery.

The Council stages over 20 public events each year (most of them free) that attract over 20,000 visits as well as civic events such as the annual Mayor's Civic Service and the Remembrance Sunday Parade.

The Council holds over 60 public meetings each year in order to make decisions on the management of the Council services.

Creasey Park Community Football Centre attracts over 75,000 visits each year and stages over 500 organised football matches.

The Mayfield Centre attracts over 6,000 visits each year and the Grove Corner youth facility attracts over 3,500 visits each year.

Priory House Tea Rooms serves approximately 21,500 customers each year and the Tourist Information Centre at Priory House deals with over 8,500 face to face enquiries.

The Council's older people's lunch clubs serve over 1,600 lunches each year.

The Council has attracted over £4.5million of external funds into Dunstable over the past 7 years.

Every year the Council provides 77 column lights, the Christmas tree in Ashton Square and the festoon Christmas lights that illuminate the town centre.

The Council provides over 150 days of trading for the Market each year.

The new Town Ranger service has responded to 262 requests for assistance since September 2012.

The council provides a four-week summer activity programme over the summer holidays for 5 to 18 year olds.

Dunstable Town Council is one of the largest town councils in the country and is very proud to serve the residents and businesses of Dunstable.



Celebrate at Creasey Park



**CREASEY KICKZ
FOOTBALL PARTIES**



BAR & FOOD



**FUNCTION
HIRE**



**CLUB
PRESENTATIONS**



PITCH HIRE



CORPORATE



Creasey Park Community Football Centre is the perfect place for a celebration. Be it a landmark birthday, engagement party, wedding anniversary or company outing, Creasey Park is here for you.

Creasey Park can host functions to suit any party size from 20 to 100. So why make Creasey Park your venue of choice? Creasey Park offers a fully licensed bar with a comfortable chill out area with soft mood lighting, and internal music system or the option to hire a DJ and varying room sizes to choose from, perfect for 20 to 100 people. The staff are all very friendly and welcoming and with up to 90 spaces available there is ample parking provided for all of your guests. When you book a function at Creasey Park we will consider your individual requirements to make it the function you really want. There are three buffet menus to choose from, ranging from £5 per head to £10 per head. Variations to the menus can also be catered for. **For more information on functions at Creasey Park call 01582 891433 or email cpcfc@dunstable.gov.uk**

Creasey Park Easter Egg Hunt

Do you think you'll find the special golden egg hidden at Creasey Park? Well why not come and find out!

On Good Friday 18 April pop down to the Creasey Park Community Football Centre for the Creasey Park Easter Egg Hunt. Hidden somewhere within Creasey Park are eggs just waiting to be found, so come down and have a go. Everyone's a winner but who will be 'the special one' and find that secret golden egg? While the kids are hunting, parents can enjoy a coffee or cold drink from our licensed bar then relax on our comfortable sofas. Egg hunts start from 12 midday to 3.00 pm at £1 per go. Creasey Park Community Football Centre is not a members club, all are welcome. **For further information please call 01582 891433 or email cpcfc@dunstable.gov.uk**



For further information please contact:
T: 01582 891433
F: 01582 472237
E: cpcfc@dunstable.gov.uk
W: www.dunstable.gov.uk/cpcfc



Twitter@CreaseyPark
Facebook.com/DunstableCouncil
Creasey Park Drive, Dunstable LU6 1BB

Grounds Maintenance

at Creasey Park Community Football Centre

With all the bad weather the UK has had we shine the spotlight on Rob Scott – Grounds Maintenance Assistant at Creasey Park Community Football Centre – to find out how he and the team are coping with preparing all nine pitches at the centre despite the rain.

You have been working as a Grounds Maintenance Assistant for over 5 years now. What do you enjoy the most about your job?

I enjoy looking after the main pitch, making sure it is of a good standard for the games. It can be a challenge at times, but it definitely keeps me busy. I enjoy working in the team that I am in; it can be really fun working with the rest of the guys. It is nice to take pride in my work and see the pitches looking their best.

You're based at Creasey Park Community Football Centre. What is your main day to day role?

After every game on the main pitch I have to repair divots and roll the pitch ready for the next game. It is a long process and can take quite a while. Unfortunately one of my other duties is clearing up all the litter left on the pitches after the games. It can be very frustrating at times as there are a lot of bins on site. In the summer I can spend three to four hours, twice a week cutting the grass on all nine pitches which can be quite nice in the sun. The synthetic pitch needs brushing every week to ensure that the condition is kept to the highest standard. I also look after and maintain the synthetic pitch at All Saints Academy.

With all the rain that we have had over the past few weeks, how has this affected the football pitches? What do you have to do to get them playable?

All the rain has meant that we can't get onto the pitches with any machinery to drain them. So we have to do it by hand with a fork, which can take all day. Every Monday I get a weather forecast for the week so we can plan what work might need doing in preparation for the rain, snow etc. We try very hard to get the pitches in a playable condition for the clubs that play here. The water table is so high that there is nowhere for the water to drain, so I am out in my wetsuit forking the field the best I can!

What football team do you support?

I am an avid and life time supporter of Leeds United. I have been supporting them since I was a little boy! I try and get to as many matches as I can and it helps that I have family based in Yorkshire, so I can stay with them and go and see the match. My favourite player at the moment is Ross McCormack. He



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is the leading goal scorer. One day Leeds will be back in the Premiership!

What did you do before you started at Dunstable Town Council?

While I was at school I undertook a work placement at Luton Town Football Club helping with the maintenance of the grounds. Once I left school I was hired full time as the Grounds Maintenance Assistant for the club. I loved this job as I got to see all the games for free. I then moved on to Luton Borough Council still doing grounds maintenance. I did have a stint being a painter and decorator, however, my passion has always been with grounds maintenance; I have been doing it since I was 15 and still enjoy it just as much now as I did then.

Have you got any funny stories to share from your time being out and about in the parks and recreation grounds?

This is the most recent funny story, involving Jamie who is the Town Ranger for Dunstable Town Council. He was called to rescue a pigeon caught behind some netting at Grove House and me and my colleague Dave, went to help him. Jamie climbed through the netting and managed to get the pigeon, he went to hand the pigeon to me and I wouldn't take it – there was no way I could hold a pigeon – he then went to pass the pigeon to my colleague Dave and he wouldn't take it. So, poor Jamie struggled back through the netting holding this pigeon. Everyone was laughing because we were so scared over the pigeon. I can deal with most things, but not pigeons!

Do you have any hobbies?

My main hobby and another passion of mine is music. I love rock music and especially the band Pearl Jam. I have seen the band loads of times and this year I am seeing them live twice in three days – first in Yorkshire, then again in Milton Keynes. Obviously I love football, nowadays only watching, but when I was younger I used to really enjoy playing.

What is the hardest part of your job?

The hardest bit is the maintenance of the pitches day to day and clearing all the litter. With the weather at the moment it is harder to get the jobs done and it is taking much longer in my wetsuit with the fork, draining the pitches!

What is your greatest achievement in your job to date?

I think it has to be keeping the pitches to the standard they are, we work really hard on getting the pitches to the best possible standard for the clubs and it is great to see them all looking green and lovely. Also I worked with the team in the parks (Priory and Grove House Gardens) that achieved Green Flag status, so that was nice to be part of – to achieve something so recognisable for our hard work and for the community to enjoy.

And finally I hear you love to sing. What is your favourite karaoke song and why?

I do love a bit of karaoke! I am normally the first person up there and my song is 'Wild Thing' by The Troggs. I love this song as I can really get into it, and if the mood takes me, I end up swinging the mic around like a proper rock star!



DUNSTABLE
TOWN COUNCIL

Dunstable's Green Spaces



Help Make Dunstable Bloom in 2014

The Best Front Garden competition was a great success last year and Promoting Dunstable in partnership with the Town Council will be running a number of horticultural competitions again in 2014. The competitions this year will include:

- Best Front Garden**
- Best Container Display in a Front Garden**
- Best Hanging Basket in a Front Garden**
- Tallest Sunflower Competition**
- Best Licensed Premises Floral Display**
- Best Allotment**
- Best School Garden**

Judging will take place from mid-July onwards, the winners will be announced and presented with trophies at an evening award ceremony on Wednesday 17 September at Atherfield Academy. For more information on each of the competitions please visit www.dunstable.gov.uk and follow the link from the home page. Winners will receive shields and certificates.

You can enter more than one competition and if you would like to take part please return the feedback slip at the back of Talk of The Town. Please fill in your name, address, telephone number and email address and mark the slip with the name of the competitions that you wish to enter. Alternatively, you can enter by emailing your information to john.crawley@dunstable.gov.uk.

The closing date for entries is 5.00 pm on Friday 4 July 2014.

Growing for Gold

2014 marks the 50th anniversary of the Britain in Bloom campaign and to celebrate Bloom's golden anniversary, the RHS is encouraging community groups across the UK to plant golden pollinator-friendly flowers.

Dunstable will once again be entering the regional Anglia in Bloom competition this year and the town's entry will reflect the national theme. With three Gold Medals already gained for the town, Promoting Dunstable, in partnership with the Town Council, will be encouraging community groups, schools and local residents to plant golden pollinator-friendly flowers in their floral displays and gardens. Many of the Council's floral displays will also reflect the theme. A list of suitable plants for people to use can be found at www.rhs.org.uk/britaininbloomlaunch

The 2014 campaign will be officially launched on Monday 7 April 2014 at 10.00 am in Grove House Gardens, when local volunteers will come together to plant a new shrub border. If you would like to take part in the planting just turn up with your trowel and help plant some of these golden pollinator-friendly plants and flowers.

Promoting Dunstable



Dunstable in Bloom Medieval Dunstable



Council and Committee Meetings

Copies of the agendas for all meetings are available for inspection 3 days beforehand at Grove House, Priory House (Tourist Information Centre) and Dunstable Library or via the Council's website 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 at rosemary.osullivan@dunstable.gov.uk.

Forthcoming meeting dates are listed below:

03/03/2014	Community Services Committee	19/05/2014	Annual Meeting of the Council and Mayor Making Ceremony <i>7.30 pm Venue TBC</i>
10/03/2014	Grounds & Environmental Services Committee		Plans Sub-Committee
13/03/2014	Dunstable Joint Committee <i>Watling House</i>	20/05/2014	Accts Sub-Committee 5.30 pm
17/03/2014	Finance & General Purposes Committee	22/05/2014	Community Services Committee
18/03/2014	Plans Sub-Committee	02/06/2014	Grounds & Environmental Services Committee
20/03/2014	Accts Sub-Committee <i>5.30 pm</i>	09/06/2014	Plans Sub-Committee
31/03/2014	TOWN MEETING <i>Creasey Park CFC 7.30 pm</i>	10/06/2014	Finance & General Purposes Cttee
08/04/2014	Plans Sub-Committee	16/06/2014	Accts Sub-Committee <i>5.30 pm</i>
14/04/2014	COUNCIL	19/06/2014	Dunstable Joint Committee (<i>Watling House</i>)
24/04/2014	Accts Sub-Committee <i>5.30 pm</i>	26/06/2014	COUNCIL
	Personnel Sub Committee <i>7.00 pm</i>	30/06/2014	
29/04/2014	Plans Sub-Committee		

Grants for Dunstable's Voluntary and Community Sector

Dunstable Town Council's Community Grant Scheme for 2014/15 is now open for applications. We will fund grants from £50 to £1,000 to any community or voluntary organisation which meets the criteria and supports and benefits residents of Dunstable and in particular organisations that help to deliver the Council's priorities:

- Promoting the town.
- Preserving and enhancing the history and identity of the town.
- Improving and/or developing the green and open space in the town.
- Providing/improving services targeted at the town's communities.
- Developing neighbourhoods and/or the town centre.

Community and Voluntary groups who wish to apply must have the following:

- A constitution or set of rules.
- A bank account.
- Public liability insurance.
- Safeguarding policies, if working with children or vulnerable adults in any capacity.
- An equalities statement.
- An annual report.

The Council will not fund:

- Applications from profit-making organisations.
- Applications where those benefiting do not live in Dunstable.
- Organisations who predominantly support people outside of Dunstable.
- Organisations who have not fully completed their application form and submitted the required supporting documents.
- Projects that have already been completed or items already purchased.
- Building repairs.
- Trips/visits/meals out.
- Parties.
- Individuals.

Please note that grants will not be awarded until the end of June 2014, and therefore any requests for funding should not be for expenditure incurred before this time.

For an application form please go to www.dunstable.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can email info@dunstable.gov.uk or telephone 01582 513000.

Deadline for applications is:
Monday 24 March 2014

Town Mayor of Dunstable Councillor John Chatterley Planned Charity Events

In aid of

- Macmillan Cancer Support**
- Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation**
- Bedfordshire Youth Association**

The dates of forthcoming Mayor's charity events are as follows:

Saturday 12 April Charity Coffee Morning

10.00 am
Council Chamber, Grove House, 76 High Street North

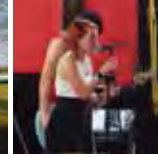
Friday 2 May Charity Ball

7.30 pm
Dunstable Conference Centre, High Street North, Dunstable

Sunday 11 May Annual Civic Service

3.00 pm
Priory Church of St Peter, Church Street, Dunstable

If you are interested in attending any of the above events please contact Michele Markus on **01582 891404** or michele.markus@dunstable.gov.uk



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 & 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

TALK TOWN

of the TOWN

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:

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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.



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