

# TALK of the TOWN

'Helping make Dunstable a Better Place'

# Cheers!

Raise your glass to a summer of fun, including...

## DUNSTABLE BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

### PLUS INSIDE

An 8-page Souvenir Supplement Commemorating The Queen's Visit to Dunstable



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



DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

# Meet the Councillors

## CENTRAL WARD



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



**Cllr Lisa Bird**  
124 Chiltern Road  
Dunstable LU6 1ET  
01582 478078



**Cllr Pat Staples**  
Mandelay  
10 The Paddocks  
Dunstable LU6 3FQ  
01582 650018

## MANSHEAD WARD



**Cllr Des Moffatt**  
44 Longfield  
Harpenden AL5 1QF  
07947 221156



**Cllr Eugene Ghent**  
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Dunstable LU6 3LD  
01582 703036



**Cllr Jessica Castle**  
c/o Dunstable Town  
Council, Grove House,  
76 High Street North,  
Dunstable LU6 1NF

## ICKNIELD WARD



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



**Cllr John Kane**  
2 Ripley Road  
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LU4 0AT  
01582 510048



**Cllr Gloria Martin**  
70 Crabtree Way  
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LU6 1UR  
01582 666910



**Cllr Sid Abbott**  
3 The Paddocks  
Friars Walk, Dunstable  
LU6 3FQA  
01582 947345



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

## NORTHFIELDS WARD



**Cllr Emma Simmons**  
27 Pipers Croft  
Dunstable  
LU6 3JZ  
01582 933591



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



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



**Cllr Steve Elliott**  
43 Beech Green  
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## WATLING WARD



**Cllr Peter Hollick**  
1 Carlisle Close  
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LU6 3PH  
01582 665133



**Cllr Liz Jones**  
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Dunstable  
LU5 4PP  
01582 472044



**Cllr Claire Meakins**  
11 Bernard Close  
Dunstable  
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07583 888001



**Cllr Ann Sparrow**  
23 Staines Square  
Dunstable  
LU6 3JG  
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**Cllr Andy Whayman**  
Birch House  
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Dunstable LU6 3BJ  
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## Dunstable Town Council Committee Membership

### Finance and General Purposes

Councillors Gloria Martin (*Town Mayor*)  
John Kane (*Deputy Town Mayor*)  
Andy Whayman (*Chairman*)  
John Chatterley (*Vice-Chairman*)  
Sid Abbott  
Terry Colbourne  
Eugene Ghent  
Peter Hollick  
Liz Jones  
Claire Meakins  
Des Moffatt  
Patricia Russell  
Ann Sparrow  
Pat Staples  
Nigel Warren

### Community Services

Councillors Gloria Martin (*Town Mayor*)  
John Kane (*Deputy Town Mayor*)  
Pat Staples (*Chairman*)  
Steve Elliott (*Vice-Chairman*)  
Lisa Bird  
Jessica Castle  
John Chatterley  
Terry Colbourne  
Jeannette Freeman  
Eugene Ghent  
Claire Meakins  
Patricia Russell  
Emma Simmons

### Grounds and Environmental

Councillors Gloria Martin (*Town Mayor*)  
John Kane (*Deputy Town Mayor*)  
Liz Jones (*Chairman*)  
Sid Abbott (*Vice-Chairman*)  
Lisa Bird  
Jessica Castle  
Steve Elliott  
Jeannette Freeman  
Peter Hollick  
Des Moffatt  
Emma Simmons  
Ann Sparrow  
Nigel Warren  
Andy Whayman

### Dunstable Town Council

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## The Mayor's Welcome

Councillor Gloria Martin

It is a great pleasure to be writing in the Talk of the Town for the first time since being appointed to the historic office of Town Mayor of Dunstable.

The Town Council have arranged a packed programme of events over the coming months and I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible. Look out for the two new events, Priory Pictures on 24 June and again on 5 August, there will also be a return of Proms in the Park on 9 September, which proved popular last year.

The service for older people has also expanded this year with two new initiatives being provided by the Town Council; a Big Lunch which took place on Tuesday 6 June for residents aged 65 and over and 10 free coffee mornings throughout the year at various locations across Dunstable for those aged 55 and over. At the coffee mornings and Big Lunch there will be advice and information available on different topics as well as the opportunity to socialise and meet new people.

Our own Dunstable Town Band started the season of Sunday Band Concerts in Grove House Gardens on 25 June, please come and support the rest of the bands playing this summer. Full details of all our events are available on our website. [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk)

I have chosen as my charities this year, Dunstable and District Scout Council, Hospice at Home Volunteers and South Bedfordshire Dial a Ride, all organisations that I have been personally involved with. I have a programme of charity events arranged to support these worthwhile causes during my Mayoral year. These and many more worthwhile charities in Dunstable rely on the goodwill of volunteers, unsung heroes, who give their time for the good of others.

I have taught and provided First Aid support at many events during my life, and I wish to promote the idea during my Mayoral year that a knowledge of first aid is an essential life skill. To this end I am calling on all youth groups in Dunstable to invite me to visit them, when they have young people who have achieved this important skill, so that I can personally recognise their success.

The Town Council is working hard to make Dunstable a better place to live and work, the A5-M1 and Woodside links are now open and we look forward to the de-trunking of the A5 and all of the opportunities that this will bring. As I write this article Bennett's Splash is being built, let us hope for good weather so that we can all enjoy the summer events.

*Councillor Gloria Martin*  
Town Mayor of Dunstable



## David Ashlee

Town Clerk and Chief Executive

Welcome to the summer edition of Talk of the Town.

By the time you read this the Council will have opened its new Bennett's Splash and Splashside Café in Bennett Memorial Recreation Ground. This new £550,000 facility has been part funded by Central Bedfordshire Council through its Market Town Regeneration Fund and is another great example of how, by working together, both authorities create tremendous value for the Dunstable council tax payer. This new facility will be open 7 days a week until September and should provide hours of enjoyment for families in Dunstable.

The annual events programme is also in full swing with the Council already having staged St George's Day, Around the World, the Classic Motor Rally, Dunstable Live and the first showing of Priory Pictures. Party in the Park is imminent with Toyah headlining and please make a note in your diaries for the Dunstable Beer Festival taking place on the new dates of Thursday 17, Friday 18 and Saturday 19 August.

In addition to this the Council will soon be launching the children's summer activities programme featured later in this edition. Running from 2 to 24 August, this programme of activities offers a range of free and value for money activities for young people of all ages.

The Council is also continuing to promote and develop Dunstable Market so please visit the Market every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday and look out for our special Themed Markets every second Saturday of the month and our Creative Craft Market every third Saturday of the month.

I hope you enjoy the special commemorative pull-out of the Royal Visit that took place in April this year. This feature was produced in collaboration with Central Bedfordshire Council who did a fantastic job in organising the visit.

I really believe the new A5-M1 Link Road and Woodside Connection are already starting to have a positive impact on the town and with the other regeneration work the Council is working on with Central Bedfordshire Council the future is looking bright for the town and the town centre. September should see the start of implementing the High Street Improvement Scheme with a number of retail units in the town centre benefiting from investments made by Central Bedfordshire Council and retail partners to improve the look of the High Street.

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) or following us on Twitter and Facebook

Happy reading!

*David Ashlee*  
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

# NOTICE BOARD

News, Announcements and Items of Interest for Residents of Dunstable

## New burial and memorial options now available at Dunstable Cemetery

Have you recently been bereaved and are unsure what to do with the cremated remains of your loved one? Sanctum vaults provide the ideal opportunity to place your loved one's cremated remains in a small above ground stone chamber with a personalised plaque and a place for flowers to be laid.

The new memorial kerb plaque garden area at Dunstable Cemetery also provides an opportunity to place a memorial plaque on a polished granite kerb around an attractive feature flowerbed.

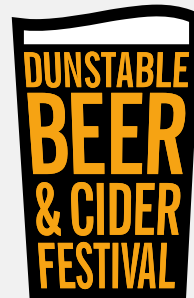


If you would like more information about the costs or options available please contact the Cemetery Manager, Mary Dobbs on 01582 891428 or email [cemetery@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:cemetery@dunstable.gov.uk)

You are welcome to come along to Dunstable Cemetery and have a look at the area for yourself.

## Sponsor an Ale!

Are you a local business or organisation and don't have much marketing budget? Then this is for you... sponsor an ale for £60 and get tonnes of advertising to over 40,000 people. This is a great opportunity to advertise to your local community, definitely not to be missed.



Contact [Lisa.vincent@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:Lisa.vincent@dunstable.gov.uk) or phone 01582 891406.

## Big Thanks from Dunstable's Big Lunch

The unpredictable British summer weather did not deter people from enjoying a special day out. Over 80 people battled the wind and rain to attend the Big Lunch in Grove House Gardens on 6 June. Participants enjoyed an array of entertainment and a picnic lunch. Many were also lucky to win raffle prizes from a bottle of wine, to meals, to spa treatments and much, much more all donated by local businesses. Thanks go out to all who supported this brilliant event.



The new Bennett's Splash and Splashside Café are both now officially open for visitors. For further information turn to page 6, or contact James Slack on 01582 891433 or [james.slack@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:james.slack@dunstable.gov.uk)



DUNSTABLE  
TOWN COUNCIL



# Destination

Keeping you abreast of town centre news, initiatives and developments

**DUNSTABLE**

## Dunstable Joint Committee Promotes Shop Front Accreditation Scheme in 2017

Have you ever been drawn into a shop you hadn't intended to visit just because they have done an amazing job on their window display? Or have you been confronted by a shop front so shabby it had you dialling for DIY SOS?

Readers may remember that back in 2016, the Dunstable Joint Committee launched the inaugural Shop Front Accreditation Scheme for Dunstable town centre. The purpose of the scheme was to recognise those businesses whose shop fronts contributed positively to our town centre and to encourage others to think about their kerb appeal.

In order to judge to the business premises, the Dunstable Joint Committee have developed a judging criteria, which included points for cleanliness,

maintenance, display and signage. If businesses met the minimum criteria they were awarded Bronze accreditation with those exceeding the criteria having the potential to be awarded Silver, or even Gold!

A total of 20 businesses took part in 2016 and all received at least Bronze accreditation for their efforts and were given a window sticker and certificate to display at their premises. Well, for 2017 the scheme is back and it is hoped that even more businesses can be encouraged to take part and the same criteria will be used to judge participants in the 2017 scheme. A full breakdown is available on the Dunstable Town Council website, along with a list of the results from last year: <http://www.dunstable.gov.uk/shop-front-accreditation-scheme.htm>

The scheme has been promoted to town centre businesses and the deadlines for applications was 30 June 2017. The judging will be taking place in July and the results will be published soon after.

The appearance of our town centre is something we can all impact positively on by working together. Making small changes can make all the difference!



## AFTERNOON TEA

Enjoy an award-winning Afternoon Tea in our beautiful stone-vaulted Undercroft.

A selection of home-made sandwiches, scones and cakes, served with a choice of over 20 loose leafed teas and infusions from our *Dunstable* range.

Afternoon Tea is served Monday – Saturday 12.00 pm to 4.00 pm  
Last booking at 3.30pm. Booking is advisable.

Telephone 01582 891420  
Email [prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk)  
Visit [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk) or follow

[@PrioryHouse](#) [Dunstable Town Council](#)

PRIORY HOUSE HERITAGE CENTRE

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

## An Exhibition on the History & Culture of Tea

launched in conjunction with the 150th Anniversary of the Ceylon Tea Industry in 2017

Discover the global history of tea that lies behind our daily cuppa in this fascinating new exhibition.

You will find snippets on the people behind the industry, health benefits, other uses, how tea is drunk in different countries, the growth and production and see some interesting, genuine pieces of tea memorabilia.

There will also be the opportunity to indulge your senses by touching and smelling different types of tea.

Look out for talks, tastings and Afternoon Teas, all devoted to understanding and enjoying our national beverage.

Plus, you can tease your tastebuds with a variety of teas in the Dunstable Tea range at Priory House Tea Room.

Open for visitors between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm Monday to Saturday

FREE ADMISSION

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

Dunstable tea UKTEA & INFUSIONS

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# Bennett's Splash and Splashside Café are now open!

The eagerly anticipated splash park 'Bennett's Splash' and the newly converted Splashside Café are now open.

Bennett's Splash and the Splashside Café will now be open daily from 10.00 am – 6.00 pm until Sunday 3 September.

Bennett's Splash is located in Bennett Memorial Recreation Ground, access to the park is via either Canesworde Road or Bull Pond Lane. This new free to use splash park is open to all so come down to Bennett's Splash to literally make a splash this summer.

**If you're driving, parking is easy, don't get caught out by many of the parking restrictions surrounding the park, simply make use of one of the 387 spaces at Ashton Square Car Park off Bull Pond Lane. Please note, this is a pay on exit system. Also please avoid tailgating to ensure your registration can be recognised, otherwise you will have problems exiting. (See our map above).**

No need to pack a picnic as the Splashside Café can cater for all your needs, serving kids' lunch boxes, baguettes or Splashside pizza. Feeling healthy, try a smoothie or fruit juice or why not indulge yourself with a slice of cake a cappuccino?

Every summer day needs an ice cream and there will be a great selection from the LM Ices ice-cream van located on site.

Bennett's Splash is enclosed with plenty of space to picnic and benches are available, so parents can sit back and relax while the children can enjoy splashing around, safe in the knowledge they can't escape!

So what are you waiting for? Come down to Bennett's Splash this summer for a splashing good time.

## Dunstable Town Mayor's Forthcoming Charity Events

### Race Night

Saturday 23 September 2017

Creasey Park Community Football Centre,  
Creasey Park Drive, Dunstable, LU6 1BB  
7.30 pm

### Bowling Night

Friday 13 October 2017

GOBowling, Court Drive, Dunstable  
7.30 pm

### 'Best of British' Gala Dinner

Thursday 23 November 2017

Hospitality Central,  
Central Bedfordshire College,  
Court Drive, Dunstable  
7.00 for 7.30 pm

### All welcome

If you would like to attend any of these events please contact Michele Markus on 01582 891404 or [michele.markus@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:michele.markus@dunstable.gov.uk)



# Creasey Park Goes Green



**CREASEY KICKZ  
FOOTBALL PARTIES**



**BAR & FOOD**



**FUNCTION  
HIRE**



**CLUB  
PRESENTATIONS**



**PITCH HIRE**



**CORPORATE**

In June 2016 Dunstable Town Council adopted its first Environmental Policy. The policy sets out the Council's environmental position and values, the performance intentions and direction it hopes to achieve.

Over the past year Creasey Park Community Football Centre has been at the forefront of driving this policy forward and driving the Council's environmental intentions. To do this Creasey Park first set about conducting an environmental audit of the centre operations. This established baseline data on energy usage and CO2 omissions and highlighted key areas for improvement. The audit and findings led to a Creasey Park environmental strategy and mission statement:

'Creasey Park Community Football Centre recognises it has a responsibility to the environment beyond legal and regulatory requirements. The Centre is therefore committed to reducing its environmental impact and continually improving environmental performance as an integral part of the business strategy and operating methods.'

From the environmental audit three key improvements were identified.

- 1 Increase dry waste recycling
- 2 Replace paper towels with electric hands dryers
- 3 Reduce carbon omissions

**Improvement 1** – the Centre recognised that a huge proportion of its waste was cans, plastic bottles and paper cups. It was also recognised that the centre is not giving its customer the opportunity to recycle. Therefore clearly labelled dry recycling bins and general waste bins were put into operation around the Centre. This enabled the customers to recycle and do their part and resulted in a lowering of waste management costs.

**Improvement 2** – a cost and carbon analysis report on paper towel cost against use of electric hand dryers showed that hand dyers were the most cost effective. The study also showed that hand dryers have a lower carbon footprint than hand towels. The result being that hand dryers have replaced paper towels across the Centre.

**Improvement 3** – reduce carbon omissions. Through diligence in working to centre environmental strategy the Centre used less power and therefore less CO2 omissions every month from June 2016 to May 2017 compared to the same months from June 2015 to May 2016.

Creasey Park is now setting new environmental performance targets and Dunstable Town Council aims to replicate the environmental audit process across all its facilities.



# Dunstable's Green Spaces

## Anglia in Bloom Comes to Town

This year the Anglia in Bloom judges will be visiting Dunstable on 17 July. The members of Dunstable in Bloom will be showing the judges all the very best environmental projects, open spaces and floral displays that the town has to offer as they are taken on a three and a half hour tour of the town. Every little helps to keep our town looking good and you can help us to win Gold again in 2017 in lots of ways. If you see litter in the street or in our parks; pick it up and pop it in the bin. The judges will see lots of front gardens as they are driven around so put up a hanging basket, cut the lawn or plant some colourful flowers. Send us your front garden photos so that we can show the judges how much people are doing to brighten up their street and their homes. Send your photos (in JPEG format) to john.crawley@dunstable.gov.uk no later than Thursday 13 July.

## And This Is 'Wheelie Fantastic'!

This popular activity is back again helping to support Dunstable in Bloom brighten up our town. A wide range of community groups, schools and local businesses have been busy decorating and planting their barrows to this year's theme of 'Flower Power'.

The theme was chosen to mark the 50th anniversary of the Hippy movement and also to complement the RHS national theme of 'Greening Grey Britain.' Thanks go to a number of local businesses who supported the project but were unable to decorate/display a barrow. They kindly donated money to cover the cost of barrows and compost to enable other groups to take part.

If you want to be part of this year's Wheelie Fantastic you can decorate and plant your own barrow and send details along with some photos to Dunstable Town Council. If you are part of a group such as a school, social or activity club or neighbours working together and would like to be involved in brightening up your area by planting and displaying a barrow next year, then please contact sandy.coyle@dunstable.gov.uk or call Sandy on 01582 513000



## Beecroft Academy Celebrate 'The Summer of Love'

Year 6 pupils at Beecroft Academy enjoyed a hands on modern history lesson in May. Officers from Dunstable Town Council visited the school and gave a presentation on the history of the 1960s. This was followed by decorating wheelbarrows and poles to the Wheelie Fantastic theme of 'Flower Power'. The children really enjoyed working together on the project whilst listening to tunes from the 60s. One class worked on a Yellow Submarine barrow whilst the other class did an iconic Bob Dylan one. They also wove brightly coloured ribbon onto bicycle wheels and the outcome was a great psychedelic success.



## Dunstable Love Parks Week 2017

Do you or your family use your local park to play or spend some quality time together? Would you like to use your local park more often for different pastimes or pursuits? Well, Dunstable Town Council is delighted to be taking part in this year's National 'Love Parks' campaign during the week of 17 to 21 July. The campaign aims to encourage communities to come together to use and value their local green and open spaces. We have a range of free activities on offer to suit all ages and tastes so be sure to make a date in your diary to take part.

Date	Time	Activity	Location	Age Range
Mon 17 July	5.00 pm to 6.30 pm	Barbecue & Games in the park	Grove House Gardens	10 to 18
Tues 18 July	10.00 am to 1.00 pm	Taichi, Pilates and seated exercise	Brewers Hill Recreation Ground	50 +
Wed 19 July	3.30 pm to 5.30 pm	Family Fun & Games	Bennett Memorial Recreation Ground	Families and children up to age 10
Thurs 20 July	10.00 am to 12 noon	'Boot Camp' keep fit	Priory Gardens	Adults
Fri 21 July	10.00 am to 11.00 am	Teddy Bear's picnic & story telling	Brewers Hill Recreation Ground	Parents & Toddlers





## Featuring Her Majesty and The Duke of Edinburgh on their visit to Dunstable

Find out more about the history of Royal connections with Dunstable on page 3

Share the excitement of local people as they welcome the Royal Party on page 4

See ZSL Whipsnade in all its glory on page 5

Hear directly from Priory View residents about their day with The Queen and Prince Philip on page 6-7

Central  
Bedfordshire



DUNSTABLE  
TOWN COUNCIL

# A day for us all to remember

*That was the verdict of everyone lucky enough to be present at Her Majesty The Queen's first official visit to Dunstable.*

Accompanied by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, whose last visit to the town was more than 60 years earlier, Her Majesty visited Dunstable on April 11, initially touring ZSL Whipsnade and then spending time at Central Bedfordshire Council's landmark independent living scheme Priory View.

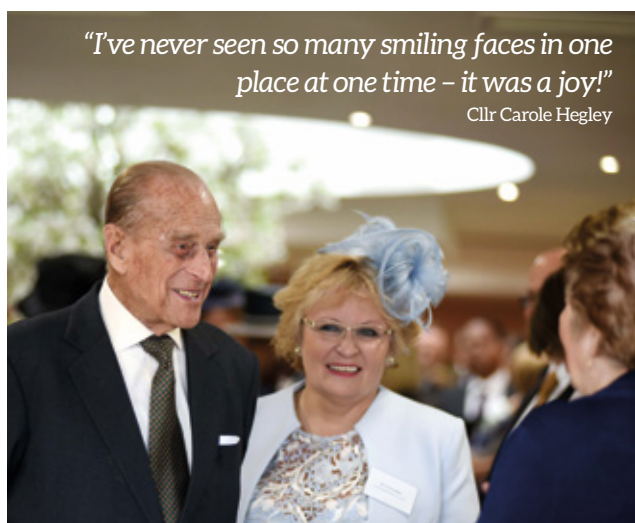
Cllr Carole Hegley, Central Bedfordshire's Executive Member for Social Care and Housing, and Cllr Peter Hollick, Mayor of Dunstable, were among those to be introduced to the Royal Party when they arrived at Priory View, with Cllr Hegley accompanying The Duke of Edinburgh and the council's Director of Social Care, Health and Housing Julie Ogley accompanying The Queen on a tour of the building.

She said: "I was thrilled to be involved in the day, both as a Central Bedfordshire councillor and as a Dunstable ward member. It was just a great honour for us to host Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh and to be able to showcase two of our proudest local developments."

Priory View is an award-winning scheme that offers older residents a balance of independence with "on-the-doorstep" access to community, social and care service support should they need it.

And ZSL Whipsnade is one of the area's leading tourist attractions, welcoming more than 670,000 visitors last year and making a significant contribution to the local economy as well as safeguarding the well-being of vulnerable species of animals.

Town Mayor Cllr Hollick was also able to welcome the VIP guests. He said: "It was clear from all the media coverage that the opportunity to meet and feed the elephants at Whipsnade was an intriguing experience for Her Majesty, who opened the new Elephant Centre at the zoo before joining us at Priory View."



*"I've never seen so many smiling faces in one place at one time – it was a joy!"*

Cllr Carole Hegley

His Royal Highness Prince Philip with Cllr Carole Hegley



The Queen is welcomed to Dunstable by the official greeting party

Local people turned out in force to welcome the Royal Couple, lining High Street North with a sea of waving Union flags.

And for the residents of Priory View themselves it was especially exciting.

Cllr Hegley explained: "We worked hard with the residents' committee to make the day very special for each and every resident, many of whom are of a similar generation to the Monarch and fondly remember her Coronation."

The tour of Priory View meant that everyone who lives at the complex, together with those who work there and invited guests, had the opportunity to be involved.

She added: "It was everything and more I could have hoped for: a fantastic event; so much engagement with residents and visitors by The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh, and some wonderful moments of humour on the way! I've never seen so many smiling faces in one place at one time – it was a joy!"

"I would like to thank all of the local businesses and organisations who made the day such a success."

And Cllr Hollick added: "They were special guests, yes, but also really delightful people. At lunch I found myself sitting next to Prince Philip, along with Cllr Hegley on his other side. And rather than finding the experience intimidating, it was pleasant and relaxed with the conversation flowing over a range of subjects.

"In short, it was an honour to be involved in this very special day with our very special guests."

# The Return of The Royals

*John Buckledee, chairman of Dunstable and District Local History Society and a former editor of the Dunstable Gazette, writes about previous Royal visits to Dunstable.*

Royal visits to Dunstable have been few and far between in recent years, but it wasn't always like this. One King, **Edward I** spent so much time here that special rooms were built for him at Dunstable's large monastery, of which the present Priory Church is a surviving remnant.

An earlier king, **Henry I**, took a particular interest in Dunstable. He had a hunting lodge built amidst Dunstable's forests, spent Christmas here with his court, founded the Priory and laid out plots of land around the crossroads to begin our present town. **King Stephen** stayed in Dunstable, and on one occasion held a meeting here with the future **King Henry II**.

The courtly processions of **Queen Elizabeth I** (right) passed through the town with great pomp and ceremony during her well-recorded visits to the great houses at Toddington and Woburn, and **Queen Victoria** and **Prince Albert** stopped for refreshments at the Sugar Loaf hotel during a journey to Woburn.

**Henry III** clearly knew enough about the town to allow it to become one of the few venues in the country where knightly tournaments could be held. These were huge affairs involving mock battles between hundreds of knights, and monarchs frequently stayed in Dunstable for a few days with their retinues while the events took place. The warlike **Edward I**, addicted to tournaments, stayed here numerous times and his son, later **Edward II**, was at Dunstable at least once, in 1293, when a Dunstable tournament became notorious because a man was killed during the melee.

**Edward III** was here for some very spectacular tournaments, including a sumptuous event organised to celebrate the betrothal of his son. Descriptions have survived of the elaborate and expensive clothes worn here by the king, queen and princesses. Edward's mother, **Queen Isabella**, and her lover, **Roger Mortimer**, who together ruled England while Edward was still a teenager, attended a tournament here in 1329... the detailed bills for renovating the town to make it ready for their visit still exist.

During the Wars of the Roses, **Henry VI** found himself here frequently, including the famous events of 1461 when his Queen, **Margaret of Anjou**, passed through Dunstable with 15,000 troops and, after winning the Battle of St Albans and rescuing her husband, returned with him through our town.

During another violent time in our history, **King Charles I** and his Royalist army stopped in Dunstable on their way to the battle of Naseby. The King took refreshments at the Red Lion Inn.

**Henry VIII** came here often, accompanied (on separate occasions!) by **Catherine of Aragon**, **Anne Boleyn** and **Catherine Parr**, and was at one time considering making Dunstable into a cathedral city. Dunstable Priory was chosen as the venue for the church proceedings which, in Henry's absence, annulled his first marriage. Four years later, with the closure of the monasteries imminent, he decided to avoid the Priory's royal apartments and stayed instead at Dunstable's White Horse, where he played a game of bowls on the green behind the inn.

With the end of travel by coach and horses, monarchs have tended to prefer getting around their realm by train, motorway and helicopter, so there's little chance these days of glimpsing Her Majesty whizzing through Dunstable on her way to somewhere else. **Prince Philip** opened the Ludun works in Liscombe Road in 1956 but **The Queen's** tour of Priory View in April was her first official visit here. Ironically, Priory View has been built on the site of the old ABC Travel Guides offices, which Her Majesty's daughter, **Princess Anne**, officially opened in 1982. So that part of Church Street really does have Royal connections.



*Henry VIII, the Royal with the most renowned association with Dunstable*



# A Warm Welcome for The Royals



The bunting was out; the flags were waving – and even an excited lion was in the crowds trying to grab a glimpse of Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh as they arrived at Priory View.

Crowds started building outside Central Bedfordshire Council's independent living scheme in Church Street from 8am – four hours before the Royal visitors were due to arrive there.

Swelled by excited children on their Easter holidays, the throng was four deep by the time the Royal visitors were driven into the car park in the front of the building accompanied by flashing blue lights.

Michael Jones, of Dunstable, had waited for an hour and a half to see The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

He said: "I'm very excited – I have only ever seen The Queen on my banknotes before!"

Sam Stock was dressed as a giant lion. He chose the costume due to the symbolism of the lion with Dunstable, including the 150-metre long white lion carved on Dunstable Downs in 1933 to celebrate the opening of Whipsnade Zoo. Sam said: "I was lucky as I saw The Queen and Prince Phillip very close up as they slowed down at Priory View."

What are your memories of the Royal visit? Share them on our Facebook or Twitter pages using @letstalkcentral



Excited residents awaiting the arrival of the Royal visitors



The Royals feed Donna the Asian elephant

# First Stop: Whipsnade

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo's brand-new Centre for Elephant Care was given the Royal seal of approval on Tuesday 11 April as HM The Queen, accompanied by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, officially unveiled the elephants' £2million home.

Set amidst 30 acres of rolling paddocks, the custom-designed Centre for Elephant Care is the new home for the zoo's herd of nine Asian elephants. They include ten-month-old calf Elizabeth, who was named by zookeepers in honour of Her Majesty, as she was born the day before The Queen's 90th birthday celebrations in 2016.

The Queen, who is Patron of international conservation charity ZSL (Zoological Society of London), which runs ZSL Whipsnade Zoo, enjoyed a private tour of the Centre where they met Assistant Curator of Elephants, Lee Sambrook, and watched the elephants receive a pedicure.

HM The Queen, accompanied by The Duke – former president of ZSL – then unveiled a commemorative plaque commemorating the event, during a special ceremony where Her Majesty and His Royal Highness each fed Donna the elephant a banana.

Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) are classified as endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and due to habitat loss, human conflict and poaching their wild populations are in decline. The species are also listed on ZSL's EDGE (Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered) list, meaning there is a particularly urgent need for conservation action. ZSL is working in Thailand – a major stronghold for Asian elephants – to reduce human-wildlife conflict and ensure the peaceful coexistence of elephants and humans.



The Queen meets staff at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo



## At home with the Royal Family

When personalised invitations to join the celebrations of the Royal Visit were hand-delivered to Priory View residents in March, the buzz of excitement swept through the community like wildfire.

Chair of the residents' committee, Margaret Luther, explained how the element of surprise added to the sense of anticipation:

"We had known about an official opening for some time and were working with colleagues from Central Bedfordshire Council to plan how residents could be involved. But nobody knew about the fact that our Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh would be coming to our community.

"It was only when we opened our invitations and saw that we were to host these very special guests a matter of days before the event that the sense of occasion really began to sink in. It was an incredibly proud day for us all, one that we will never forget."

And what an occasion it was! HM The Queen and His Royal Highness enjoyed a tour of the building and also had the chance to speak with residents taking part in some of the numerous activities on offer and enjoying the many different facilities available at Priory View.

They popped into the on-site café to chat to residents who regularly gather there for a morning coffee before catching up with those enjoying a bit of pampering in the hair salon.

In the light and airy restaurant bar area, more residents and professionals involved in the development met the Royal Couple who also spent time with the staff and service users of a specialist day centre for people who are experiencing dementia.

The second floor spa with therapy rooms also formed part of the tour before Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were welcomed into the home of Pauline Stainsby, who has been living in one of the 83 state-of-the-art apartments since October 2016.

Pauline said: "It was wonderful. She was so gracious, just lovely to talk to. She went into the bedroom and saw the kitchen and lounge and then went on to the balcony as well. I can't believe I've seen them!"

Pauline added: "I like it here – people are absolutely lovely. I enjoy going and mixing with other people and we have some good laughs."

That was emphasised by Ruhelly Begum, scheme manager for Priory View, who said: "The close-knit community which has formed here in such a short time is amazing, and I think that was evident to HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh as they went around the building."

The VIP visitors were joined by a number of residents and invited guests for a lunch with a local theme of smoked ham hock, venison from the Woburn Estate and Bedfordshire

Leonard and Margaret Blanchard with their floral display



cheese and biscuits. Her Majesty was joined for lunch by two Priory View residents Margaret Luther and Jill Donovan, Lord-Lieutenant Helen Nellis, Council Chairman Cllr David Bowater, local MP Andrew Selous and the Bishop of Bedford.

Having officially opened the building by unveiling a plaque featuring Dunstable's Priory Church, Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh were presented with a posy and a copy of Rita Swift's book *Dunstable Timeline* respectively by Priory View's oldest residents George Baker, 93, a former Royal Navy serviceman, and Angela Greene, pictured on the first page of this supplement.

George said: "I was very excited and very honoured to meet The Queen. I had been in her presence before when my wife – who is sadly no longer with us – and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary alongside other people in the gardens of Buckingham Palace."

Connie Brown was another of the Priory View residents lucky enough to meet Her Majesty.



The Queen witnesses a pedicure underway at Priory View's salon

The Queen talks with a group of Priory View residents



She said: "I had a few words with her, which was lovely. I was emotional; very emotional. I told her how it has made a big difference living here. I couldn't help myself – I was getting more and more excited."

Leonard and Margaret Blanchard produced a special floral display for the Royal visit, complete with toy corgi in Union flag waistcoat – courtesy of one of the other residents of Priory View.

Leonard said that The Queen had asked him a question about what the gardening club – of which he is a member – does. He said: "I told her that we grow vegetables and we have a donation box where the other residents take the vegetables and then we use the money to buy more plants for next year."

Among the many people involved in preparing for the Royal visit were staff and students at Silsoe Horticultural Centre. The council-run day care facility for adults with learning disabilities grows flowers, fruit, vegetables – and these are then used to produce things like jams and chutneys.

Sue Collins, who works at the centre, said: "We did the planting for the hanging baskets and the 12 troughs up on the balcony. It was a mixture of staff and students and it really looks beautiful with the sun shining."

Julie Ogle, the council's Director of Social Care, Health and Housing, said: "It was a tremendous honour to be able to show Her Majesty The Queen around Priory View and to showcase our award-winning independent living scheme.

"What struck me was how at ease Her Majesty was when she was talking with residents there, who were keen to share their stories of how much Priory View has benefited their lives since they moved in over the past 12 months.

"It was a truly inspirational occasion and one I know that everyone who was involved will remember for many years to come."

For more information about Priory View and what it's like to live there, visit [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/prioryview](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/prioryview)



\**Dunstable Timeline* is published by Dunstable and District Local History Society and is available by post from 9 Appleby Gardens, Dunstable, LU6 3DB. Cost is £5 plus £2 postage and packing, and cheques should be made out to the society.



Central  
Bedfordshire

**great**  
lifestyles

# The Dunstable Centre

**Your new leisure centre and library  
Due to open in winter 2018/19**

We are investing £20.1million to redevelop your leisure centre. The new state-of-the-art facility will be much more than just a leisure centre though and will include:



6-lane, 25-metre  
swimming pool



Learner pool  
& viewing area



100 station  
gym



Freeweights  
area



4 studios



2 squash courts



6-court  
sports hall



Fully accessible  
ground floor  
library



Children's zone  
and facilities for  
teenagers



Crèche



Cafe



Disabled parking  
and drop-off



Adult Day Care



Citizens Advice



## Colin Trotman

### Dunstable Town Council Market Officer

In this edition we shine the spotlight on Colin Trotman who is the Market Officer for Dunstable Market. Colin has been working for Dunstable Town Council for just over 8 months now. We take a look at what it is like on Dunstable Market.

#### What do you enjoy the most about working on the market?

Meeting people, traders and the public, getting satisfaction from working in the community and the feeling that I'm contributing to something worthwhile, despite the challenges the market faces.

#### Markets nationwide are on the decline, so why should people shop on Dunstable Market?

Dunstable is an ancient market town with a long and fascinating history in which the market has played a central role. What you get from shopping on a market is an authentic, traditional shopping experience that really is unique. Markets have a real sense of community that chain stores just cannot provide; the more people that attend, the more traders we can attract.

#### There is an exciting plan of themed markets this year. Can you tell us more about the themed markets and what shoppers can expect?

The themed markets started in April and take place every second Saturday of the month all the way through into December. Each month has a different theme and we have already experienced Health and Beauty, Fair Trade and a Youth Themed Market. The purpose of the programme is to attract new traders onto Dunstable Market to provide some variety alongside our regular stalls. Traders are offered the discounted price of £15 per stall, per event to come and trade with us and so far the events have attracted a number of new traders. The challenge will be to keep those traders coming back so I urge everyone to support the local market to help make this happen. There are a number of themed dates still to come with Family Bric-a-Brac, Charity, Halloween, then finally Christmas themes, so come along and check out the goods on offer. If that wasn't enough, we are also holding Creative Craft Markets on the third Saturday of each month with traders selling handmade quality goods of all descriptions and again these take place until the end of the year. All events take place in the Ashton Square area between 10.00 am and 3.00 pm.

#### Is there any particular themed market you're looking forward to the most?

I'm looking forward to each, especially those in the summer months, in particular the Youth Market, as it's always encouraging to see younger people get involved in the traditional market scenario - most younger people being preoccupied with buying and selling on the internet - this gives younger people the opportunity to get a feel for trading with people on a face to face basis, hopefully to discover that this in itself has its rewards. I'm hoping that the Bric-a-brac event in August will also be very absorbing, as you never know just what you're going to get turning up on the stalls, always one of great interest to those browsing.

#### Do you think you could ever be a market trader?

Yes, without doubt. Whilst it can be a very tough way to earn a living with early starts and being out in all weathers, there are also many advantages. You have relatively low overheads, work for yourself and get to meet the community, working right at its heart.



Colin Trotman

#### When not working for Dunstable Town Council, what do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy doing a lot of gardening, and walking in the countryside - I used to do a lot of distance running, something I may take up again!

#### Before starting this role working on the market, what did you do before and has that experience helped you taking on this role?

I was working with a global motor company in the Customer Services / Customer Relations Department for 16 years, but have also worked on building sites, in a Job Centre, and once had my own window cleaning business - the diverse nature of my prior roles has certainly helped me communicate with people at all levels involved with the market

#### If you weren't a Market Officer, what would you be and why?

A gardener on a nice peaceful country estate somewhere! I've spent most of my working life in positions that have involved resolving problems with people facing difficulties of one sort or another, be it with finance, employment, or faulty vehicles- the latter at the sharp end of a global corporation. Being a Market Officer has its challenges too, but is a happy medium. The thought of the peace of tending the gardens of some tranquil estate, if it were financially viable, is something that probably most people dream of.

#### And finally, the most important question...if you were a superhero what powers would you have and why?

I have to admit, there are always times when I would like to have the power to make certain people vanish - if only for five minutes or so!

# Dunstable Town Council

# SUMMER

# Activities

Dunstable Town Council invites you to join them for a summer full of fun! Once more the annual 4-week Summer Activities Programme returns, suitable for children of all ages.

**National Play Day**



**FREE EVENT**

**Wednesday 2 August 2017**  
**11:00 am to 3:00 pm**

St Augustine's Academy playing fields  
 Oakwood Avenue, LU5 4ES

**Inflatable Day**



**Friday 11 August 2017**  
**12:00 noon to 4:00 pm**

Grove House Gardens, LU6 1NF  
**£5.00 wristband unlimited use**

**Skate Jam**



**FREE EVENT**

**Sunday 13 August 2017**  
**12:00 noon to 4:00 pm**

Grove Skate Park, LU5 4JD

**Fit 4 Fun**



**FREE EVENT**

**Thursday 17 August 2017**  
**11:00 am to 3:00 pm**

Beecroft Academy playing fields  
 Westfield Road, LU6 1DW

**FAAT Club Event**



**FREE EVENT**

**Tuesday 22 August 2017**  
**1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**

'Fit and Active Together' Club  
 Downside Recreation Ground  
 Suffolk Road, LU5 4ES

**Art Attack!**



**Thursday 24 August 2017**  
**11:00 am to 3:00 pm**

Priory Gardens, LU6 3RZ  
**£3.00 wristband unlimited use**



PLEASE NOTE: Under 8s must be accompanied by an adult

For full details of the programme, dates, times and venues visit [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk)

New activities may be added so keep on looking, or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/dunstabletowncouncil](http://www.facebook.com/dunstabletowncouncil) to keep up to date with all that is happening!



Find us on Facebook  
GroveCornerDunstable

## Grove Corner

Grove Corner is a great place for young people to relax, spend time with friends and enjoy free games of pool and table football. All this whilst listening to their own music on the i:on speaker. If you are really lucky you will also witness staff attempting the latest dance moves!

There is always a variety of information at hand and staff are happy to answer any questions you might have and offer support when needed. Also if they can't help they usually know someone who can. Young people can access arts and crafts materials and join in with community activities such as the Wheelie Fantastic Project. The brilliant wheelbarrows, decorated to the theme of 'Flower Power' can be seen in Grove House Gardens.

August sees the return of Monday night Drop-In and Hang-Outs. Weather permitting, there will be outdoor BBQs and team games in the park along with the normal indoor activities.

New people are always welcome and it is free to attend. Grove Corner is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm and Fridays from 8.00 pm to 9.30 pm for young people aged 13 to 18 years old and from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm every Friday for those aged 10 to 13 years old.

If you would like more information, please contact Senior Community and Young People's Officer, Gill Briggs on 01582 891434 or email [gill.briggs@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:gill.briggs@dunstable.gov.uk)

# young DUNSTABLE

## New Junior Wardens

St Augustine's Junior Wardens welcomed two new volunteers this term, Clare and Rigerta. They have a wealth of knowledge to bring to the project as they both work at Meaningful Education Ltd., and the group have already benefited from their input.

This term the Junior Wardens have been exploring 'awareness'. They have enjoyed visits from lots of organisations giving them information around safety in the home, keeping safe while out and about, road safety and keeping others safe.

As usual they have had lots of fun playing games, role playing and creating items as part of the theme. This has included taking part in the 'Brake It' poster campaign, a national campaign encouraging drivers to slow down.

With the support of the volunteers the project will now be continuing in September at St Augustine's Academy, and if you are a pupil at the school and would like to join be sure to look out for the new registration after the summer holidays.

If you are interested in finding out more about this project, please contact Senior Community and Young People's Officer, Gill Briggs on 01582 891434 or email [gill.briggs@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:gill.briggs@dunstable.gov.uk)

## Find Yourself A Little Headspace

Dunstable Town Council and SORTED Counselling services have worked together to devise a new project called 'Headspace' which has been piloted in two schools across the town. The aim is to help young people gain confidence and be in control of their emotions and actions. The project helps young people to explore different ways to cope with the stresses life can throw at us all. It does what 'it says on the tin', it gives some time and space for young people to consider how they currently react to situations and suggests other possible ways of dealing with things. Those who have attended the sessions say they have gained a lot from it and definitely feel more confident in themselves.



DUNSTABLE  
TOWN COUNCIL

Here's to a fun summer... **Cheers!**

# DUNSTABLE BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

## Dunstable Beer & Cider Festival

Grove House Gardens - Thursday 17, Friday 18 and Saturday 19 August

Do you enjoy a local ale, a refreshing cider or do you prefer a nice glass of wine? Then come along to Dunstable Beer Festival where there will be a selection of 32 ales, 14 ciders and a fully stocked bar selling wine, spirits and soft drinks. **Plus** there will be a great programme of live music throughout the weekend and children's entertainment on the Saturday. Entry to the Beer Festival is only £2.50 per day and all ales and ciders will be £3.50 a pint.

### Did you know you can sponsor a festival ale for only £60?

A fantastic marketing opportunity or an unusual gift for a beer-loving friend! For more information contact Lisa on 01582 891406

# PRIORY PICTURES

New for 2017 Priory Pictures is a **FREE** outdoor cinema event in the beautiful setting of Priory Gardens

**Saturday 5 August**  
Priory Gardens - **FREE**

Following a very successful first event on Saturday 24 June, Priory Pictures returns on Saturday 5 August with three more open-air movie showings for your enjoyment.

## Saturday 5 August

- 4.00 pm Shrek
- 6.00 pm Beauty and the Beast
- 8.30 pm Top Gun

There will be an outdoor bar, food, popcorn and candyfloss plus get there early to bag yourself a deckchair, to sit back, relax and enjoy the movies! Admittance is absolutely free of charge – what more could you ask for other than good weather?

# Yes, it's **THE** Toyah!

**Saturday 15 July**  
12 noon to 8.00 pm, Grove House Gardens



Come down to **Party in the Park** where you and your family can enjoy the kid zone, which this year will feature bouncy castles, **Tony's Reptile show**, circus skills and a children's disco. Bring your dogs too, because this year we are excited to have **Wrayfield Dog Agility** attending. They will be bringing a Crufts style agility arena, for you to bring your dog along to have a go at the course. There will also be a funfair for everyone to enjoy, **The Bees Cheerleaders** and **HOT academy** dance schools will be performing on stage along with **Magic Dave** plus there will be a variety of craft and charity stalls, pony rides and much, much more!

Then into the evening is when the music starts, from 6.00 pm get settled for 2 hours of brilliant live music to take you back to the 80s. Back by popular demand is the amazing **Boy George Experience**. He performed at Dunstable Live in 2016 and was such a hit that he is back to get you in the party spirit! This year we are thrilled to announce that the amazing **Toyah Willcox** will be performing at the Party in the Park.

From punk princess to cult stage actress to high priestess of TV, Toyah Willcox is a uniquely gifted performer and an inextinguishable flame. Charismatic, outspoken and impossible to categorise, she is one of Britain's iconic household names – an award-winning rock legend as well as a much-loved stage/screen actress and music composer. In a career spanning over 35 years she has amassed 13 top 40 singles, recorded 24 albums and toured live across the world. In this lively and energetic festival set with her full live electric band you can expect to hear hit singles Good Morning Universe, Thunder In The Mountains, It's A Mystery, I Want To Be Free, Brave New World and Rebel Run. Toyah will be performing her Greatest Hits tour live with her fantastic band.

**This is one party definitely not to be missed!**



**Saturday**  
**9 September**  
6.00 pm to 9.30 pm  
Priory Gardens



**June, July & August**  
2.30 pm to 4.15 pm, Grove House Gardens

Back by popular demand from the very successful first event in 2016. Come and watch the spectacular BBC Proms broadcast live on our giant screen in Priory Gardens, with stunning HD sound and special effects.

The afternoon will start with Dunstable Town Band, playing a selection of brass band hits before the main broadcast at 7.30 pm. There will also be interval entertainment from top vocalists and musicians. During the big finale to the proms watch the gardens come to life with dancing lights, fire and more. Plus don't miss the spectacular firework finale straight after the show.

So get your picnic rugs and chairs out, and enjoy a Pimms or two from the licensed bar and get set to enjoy the 'Priory Proms in the Park'. Keep an eye on our website for details of the final event times once the broadcast has been announced by the BBC at [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk)

Not sure what to do on a Sunday afternoon? Why not come down and enjoy these free Sunday Band Concerts? Sit back and relax to the wonderful music played by these fantastic brass bands.

- 9 July Welwyn Garden City Band
- 23 July Toddington Town Band
- 30 July St Albans City Band
- 6 August Hitchin Band
- 13 August Chiltern Hills Brass

Dunstable Rugby Club will be selling teas, coffees and refreshments from Grove Corner throughout the concert.

# 'Picture Perfect': Autism Bedfordshire



Autism Bedfordshire and Dunstable Town Council were delighted to join forces on a new photographic project during May and June this year. The participants concentrated on three areas of the town; Grove House Gardens, Priory Gardens and Dunstable Cemetery. The group were ably assisted by Councillor John Chatterley, who shared his passion and knowledge of photography with them as well as some of his own equipment. Managers of the different sites also gave the group a brief history of the areas, so that they could put what they photographed into context. After editing, the group selected a number of images and an exhibition took place in Grove Corner on 8 June. Don't worry if you missed it you can view some of the work on [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk) or visit our facebook page.

## Anniversary for MS Society

Throughout 2017 the MS Society Luton, Dunstable and District Branch are celebrating our Emerald Anniversary. For 55 years we have been offering support and assistance to people in the local community who are living with Multiple Sclerosis. Much has changed since the branch first started, particularly in the increased range of services that are offered. We now have a team of committed volunteers and support nearly 90 members!

As a branch we offer advice and information to people who have been newly diagnosed to explain what MS is and how to manage different symptoms. We have a dedicated Support Worker who is available to talk confidentially and provide guidance when needed.

We offer two physical activity sessions each week. During these sessions, members can take part in swimming, yoga, pilates and chair-based exercises suitable for all abilities. Luton, Dunstable and District Branch also operate our own mini bus service to transport less able bodied members from their homes to the weekly activity sessions, the therapy centre in Bedford and our various social events.

We host regular social events to bring our members and their families together. This includes a coffee morning (every other Friday), a Lunch Club (second Saturday monthly) and 'Fun & Trouble' (last Friday monthly). These are all fun socials and are open to people of all ages.

We keep our members up to date on branch activities via a quarterly newsletter and our facebook page. If you would like to find out more information about the work we do or to become a volunteer please contact us via the telephone on 0845 605 2055 or email us at [lutondunstable@mssociety.org.uk](mailto:lutondunstable@mssociety.org.uk)



## Dunstable Men in Sheds

Are you over 55? Retired and miss the camaraderie of work? Still working but have your evenings free? Do you have an interest in DIY, would like to learn and share and create items of use for local communities? Then why not consider Dunstable Men in Sheds!

They are based at Meadway Allotment store and the ever growing group have been busy of late, creating different sized totem poles, bird boxes, and much more!

Whatever skills you have, or even if you just want to pop by for a cuppa and a chat you will receive a warm welcome. In this shed you could find new friends with whom you could share skills and experience and be involved in tasks that require a helping hand.

Opening times:

Monday: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Thursday: 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Friday: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

# Dunstable Town 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:

11/07/2017	Plans Sub-Committee	18/09/2017	Finance and General Purposes Committee
19/07/2017	Accounts Sub-Committee 5.30 pm	20/09/2017	Accounts Sub-Committee 5.30 pm
27/07/2017	Personnel Sub-Committee	21/09/2017	Dunstable Joint Committee <a href="#">Watling House</a>
01/08/2017	Plans Sub-Committee	02/10/2017	COUNCIL
22/08/2017	Plans Sub-Committee	03/10/2017	Plans Sub-Committee
23/08/2017	Accounts Sub-Committee 5.30 pm	18/10/2017	Accounts Sub-Committee 5.30 pm
04/09/2017	Community Services Committee	24/10/2017	Plans Sub-Committee
11/09/2017	Grounds and Environmental Services Committee	26/10/2017	Personnel Sub-Committee
12/09/2017	Plans Sub-Committee		



***Creative Craft Market***

Ashton Square, Dunstable  
10.00 am to 3.00 pm

On the 3rd Saturday  
of each month from  
April to December 2017

*Beautiful handmade gifts for you to buy*

[www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk) 01582 513000  
Follow us on Twitter @DunstableTown  
Like us on Facebook /dunstablecouncil

**DUNSTABLE market**  
PUTTING THE HEART BACK INTO DUNSTABLE




## DUNSTABLE GOOD NEIGHBOURS

### Would you like some help from Dunstable Good Neighbours?

If you need occasional help with small tasks around the house or garden, assistance with form filling, occasional lifts to the doctors, shops, etc. or would just like a chat over a cup of tea...



...please call our Good Neighbours number on

**07491 455777**  
(between 9am and 5pm)



All of our volunteers are police checked,  
and our visits are free

Supported by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity  
Serving communities across Bedfordshire





DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL



# Services Dunstable Town Council Provides For You

## Main Council Reception 01582 513000

For more information visit [www.dunstable.gov.uk](http://www.dunstable.gov.uk)

## 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](mailto:cemetery@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Parks and Open Spaces

Maintenance of grounds, sport pitches and skate park, litter picking, dog bins, grass cutting  
Freephone 0800 013 0350 | [info@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:info@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Allotments

Plot lettings and maintenance of sites  
01582 891426 | [allotments@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:allotments@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Play Areas

Maintenance, inspections and cleansing  
Freephone 0800 013 0350 | [info@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:info@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Town Centre Maintenance

Maintenance of raised beds, grassed areas and floral displays  
01582 513000 | [info@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:info@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Maintenance of Priory & Grove House Gardens

Grounds maintenance, litter picking, dog bins  
01582 891413 | [john.crawley@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:john.crawley@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Town Ranger & Town Centre Ranger

Cleaning up the public places in Dunstable  
Freephone 0800 013 0350

### Grove Skate Park

01582 513000 | [info@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:info@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Bennett's Splash & Splashside Café

01582 891433 | [james.slack@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:james.slack@dunstable.gov.uk)

## Mayoral and Democratic Services

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

## 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](mailto:clare.brett@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Events Programme *including:*

Dunstable Live, Fireworks, Party in the Park, Proms in the Park  
01582 891406 | [events@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:events@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Priory House

Heritage Centre, TIC, functions, tea rooms and gift shop  
Priory House Heritage Centre, 33 High St South, Dunstable LU6 3RZ  
01582 891420 | [prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Grove Corner Young People's Centre

76a High Street North, Dunstable LU6 1NF  
01582 891434 | [info@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:info@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Older People's Support Service

Good Companions day care, CPCFC Lunch Club  
01582 513000 | [info@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:info@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Creasey Park Community Football Centre

Artificial/grass pitches, function room, licensed bar, BMX track  
Creasey Park Drive, Dunstable LU6 1BB  
01582 891433 or 07712 861618 | [cpcfc@dunstable.gov.uk](mailto:cpcfc@dunstable.gov.uk)

### Peter Newton Pavilion (Managed by Beds FA)

Century House, Skimpot Road, Dunstable LU5 4JU | 01582 565111

### Downside Community Centre

Licensed to the Seventh Day Adventist Church  
Suffolk Road, Downside Estate, Dunstable | 01582 666403

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](mailto:customer.services@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) or visit [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)



# TALK 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.