

DUNTON GREEN NEWS

Dunton Green Parish Council

Issue 020 Summer 2021



Photo by Freda England

In our first edition for 2021, we look back at how 2021 has started and look forward to the rest of the year. - here's hoping that there are nothing but blue skies ahead!



Dunton Green Parish Council
Working for a Better Community in Dunton Green

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DUNTON GREEN NEWS

c/o Parish Council Office, Dunton Green Pavilion,
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DUNTON GREEN
PARISH COUNCIL

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Chair's Update

Apologies. For the second time in the past year, we were unable to publish our newsletter quarterly due to Covid 19 restraints. We hope you enjoy this bumper 6-month edition. Little did we know as we went to press in November last year that there were such things as Tier 4, a Kent variant, or that Christmas could be cancelled. Thank you to everyone who supported our 'Light up Dunton Green' campaign for Christmas. It certainly brightened up the dismal December evenings.



CLLR. FREDA ENGLAND



As we now go to press, the data all seems to be heading in the right direction, and life is slowly returning to 'normal'. I know that many of you will still have difficulties, and should you need help we continue to signpost health, mental health and advice organisations, who are waiting to help you, from our website. The Lockdown Larder is now able to operate from the Pavilion, supporting families in Dunton Green.



The Parish Council has continued to meet using Zoom. At our Annual Parish Council meeting in May I was re-elected as Chairman and Paul Lockey continues as Vice Chairman.

Cont...

...Chair's Update

We now have a new Bookings and Facilities Assistant, Wendy Jackson. She's the person to call if you'd like to hire the Pavilion for activities and events. Many of our regular hirers are slowly returning as the Covid regulations relax, and I know they would all welcome new recruits. Maybe this is the year you take up martial arts or do some Pilates?

Despite the Pavilion being closed for most of the financial year, we've managed to recover much of our lost hirer income. Our Parish Clerk, Tracy, successfully applied for several Government support grants. This means we were able to keep the increase of our portion of your Council Tax to just 0.9% - 95p for the year on a Band D property.



Maintenance of our public land areas has continued. We recently met with our grounds maintenance team, tree surgeon and cycling consultant to plan the further clearance and planting of native trees in Price's Wood, where the cycle track has proved very popular with kids and their dads

during lockdown. In November we planted ten native flowering trees on The Crescent.

Currently the goalmouths at the recreation ground have been reseeded after taking a battering, like the rest of the grass, during the very wet weather in March and right through the most recent lockdown. We are also hoping to replace some of the older play equipment in the coming months.



We were delighted that KCC Highways finally got round to resurfacing London Road from Tesco's to the parade, although it was very noisy for a few nights.



It has certainly improved the look of the village.

They also did some much-needed work on Lennard Road's pavements.



The train station has had some new lights which get brighter when you walk under them and will make it safer in the dark. Fortunately, there was no permanent damage to the station and rail tracks after the maintenance train fire.

As we are all aware parking continues to be difficult in the village. For insurance and safety reasons our small car park was closed through lockdowns. Now it is reopened can I remind you that it is only for users of the recreation ground and Pavilion. You wouldn't dream of just leaving your car in the Duke's Head car park or on someone's else's drive all day, so please don't do that in our car park. We continue to object to all planning applications which fail to provide adequate parking which we believe should be at least 1 space per bedroom.

Over the lockdown an area of land in the recreation ground was cleared of brambles, and, the assortment of fly tipping which has accumulated over the years.



I wish it was the only fly tipping in the village but it wasn't. The dump is open. If the bin men won't take your rubbish, use the dump. Fly tipping is expensive to remove and that's a cost that adds to everyone's Council Tax bill. We will reinstate our bulk freighter collections asap (we are waiting on SDC to give us the go ahead).



There were some incidents of anti-social behaviour including smashing bottles against the Pavilion, and repeated damaged to the mirror on the Lennard Road cut through. We have supplied CCTV images to the police who follow up all such incidents.

It's been a tough year. We all need something to look forward to, so we have provisionally booked for our fireworks display event and have our fingers crossed that this will be able to go ahead on Saturday 25th September.

Keep safe.

Freda England
Chair of Dunton Green Parish Council

www.duntongreenpc.org.uk



DUNTON GREEN
PARISH COUNCIL

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS & LOCAL LISTINGS

Dunton Green Parish Council	01732 462966; clerk@duntongreenpc.org.uk
Taking place in DUNTON GREEN PAVILION, Recreation Ground, Off London Road	
Age UK Lunch Club	01732 454108
Age UK Pop In Café	01732 454108; suelarken@ageuksevenoaksandtonbridge.org.uk
Over 55s Social Club	Dot Carpenter 07818 081 003
Pilates (Bryony Tilley)	07973 345 321
Stay & Play (KCC)	03000 421 137
Street Dance (Youth)	01732 227000; communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk
Taekwondo (Oaks Martial Arts)	01732 759988; info@oaksmartialarts.com
Taking place in DUNTON GREEN RECREATION GROUND, Off London Road	
Easy Netball	01732 227000; communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk
Backyard Bootcamp	07803 050 431; enquiries@backyardbootcamps.co.uk
Taking Place in DUNTON GREEN VENUES (other)	
DONNINGTON HALL Barretts Road	Mrs J Field 01732 462429; www.donningtonhall.co.uk
Tuesday Badminton Club	Gill - 01883 722948 or 077909 12741
Tamz Tai Chi	07792 479 772; tamztaichi@gmail.com
VILLAGE HALL, London Road	Mrs A Rodwell 01732 469610; www.dgvillagehall.co.uk
Coffee Morning	Third Thursday of each month, 10.30am
DG School of Ballroom Dancing	David & Sandra Coppen; 07808 540 315
Holy Communion	1 st , 2 nd & 4 th Thursdays (see St. Mary's contact details)

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS & LOCAL LISTINGS

DG PRIMARY SCHOOL, London Road	School Office 01732 462221 office@dunton-green.kent.sch.uk
Kuk Sool Won Sevenoaks	Korean Martial Arts in the garden of England: 07963 338 544 www.kswsevenoaks.com
OTHER Organisations and activities	
Bessels Green Baptist Church	01732 454921; info@bgbc.co.uk
St Mary's Church Riverhead & DG	01732 455736; stmaryriverhead@gmail.com
Citizens Advice Bureau (Sevenoaks)	01732 440488; info@sevenoaks.cab.org.uk
Dial-a-Ride (Compaid)	01892 832447
Dunton Green Primary School	01732 462221; office@dunton-green.kent.sch.uk
Gymboree	07827 910 978; sevenoaks@gymboree-uk.com
Kent County Council	03000 41 41 41; www.kent.gov.uk
Kent Fire & Rescue	01622 692121; 999 emergency; www.kent.fire-uk.org
Kent Police	101; 999 emergencies; www.kent.police.uk
Kent Sheds	https://shedsevenoaks.weebly.com
Sevenoaks District Council	01732 227000 / information@sevenoaks.gov.uk
SDC Community Development	01732 22700 / communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk



MANY ACTIVITIES ARE CURRENTLY ON HOLD DURING THE COVID-19 LOCKDOWN
PLEASE DO NOT ASSUME THAT ACTIVITIES, IF LISTED HERE, HAVE RESUMED AS THAT MAY WELL NOT BE THE CASE
PLEASE CONTACT ORGANISERS FOR DETAILS

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DEFIBRILLATORS IN DUNTON GREEN



RECREATION GROUND – OUTSIDE OF THE PAVILION
LONDON ROAD SHOPS – OUTSIDE 'THE BED SHOP'
LONDON ROAD – OUTSIDE WALL OF VILLAGE HALL
NEW: CAMPION SQUARE – OUTSIDE WALL OF GYM
Provided for the health and wellbeing of Dunton Green



COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Any items or articles for possible inclusion in the next issue of this magazine must be forwarded to Dunton Green Parish Council, Parish Council Office, Dunton Green Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Dunton Green, Kent TN13 2UR

1st August 2021

Let us share news about the village & your organisations with all residents in Dunton Green

Please forward articles & photos:
clerk@duntongreenpc.org.uk

We have received some great photos and information from residents for this edition and we would love to be able to share more in future newsletters!

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DUNTON GREEN WAR MEMORIAL

The Parish Council was recently contacted by David Spicer, who had been reading with interest the information on the Parish Council's website about those who died in World War Two and who are commemorated on the War Memorial.

Dave had only recently discovered that his granddad's brother, Frederick Collison, is remembered on the Dunton Green war memorial.

Fred is thought to have died as a Prisoner of War on 16th February 1943. He was only 28 years old. He is buried in Germany.

Dave has very kindly sent in this photo of Fred in his army uniform, with his younger brother Alf (Dave's grandad), who hadn't been called up yet for service (he went on to serve with the Kings' Royal Rifles).



We didn't have a picture of Fred before Dave contacted us and we are honoured to share it with you.

If you have any information or pictures relating to those listed on the memorials we would very much like to see them, so that we might put together an archive of photographs for the website to bring to life those who have been lost.

Please contact the Clerk (details on page 2).

Dunton Green Allotments

The Parish Council has a very small number of allotment plots (which are currently all let). The Social Club manages the majority of the plots situated in the allotment gardens at the rear of the Social Club.



Before...

Trish Maddock, one of DGPC's plot holders, shares some photos from the last year of progress on her plot.

And what a good year it was for the plot holders!



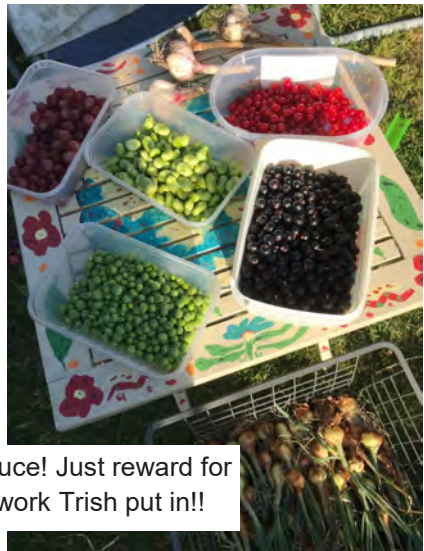
AFTER!!!



PUMPKINS!!



Trish was super proud of these. And we can see why!



Fantastic produce! Just reward for all the hard work Trish put in!!

PARISH COUNCIL News Highlights...

* Climbing Rox Project - Longford Meadow

The Parish Council would like to provide a climbing installation that will be challenging for youngsters and adults alike. We would like your comments on whether you think this would be a good addition to the facilities that are already available in Dunton Green.



The Rox would be installed at Longford Meadow so that there are alternatives to the recreation ground facilities.

These Rox combinations provide a range of multi-functional sports and fitness climbing rocks which offers the ultimate climbing experience with a natural rock look and feel. ROX consists of pre-cast reinforced concrete walls as an inner section, which has a solid-coloured, moulded layer of jet-crete added to give the rock appearance. The ROX units are not only functional, but are also visually appealing within the environment. Beginners or younger children can use the climbing hand and footholds that are attached to the surface, whereas older children or adults can progress their skills by using only the hand crafted rock finish. The surface on the products has a relatively rough finish which is ideal for climbing.

Potentially a unique way to improve the health & wellbeing of DG residents!

PARISH COUNCIL News Highlights...



If you would like to provide the Parish Council with your comments about the proposal for Longford Meadow, please send them (positive or negative) to the Clerk (contact details on page 2).



- * We have plans to install new 'chat' benches around the village so there are more safe spaces for you to meet and chat with friends & neighbours
- * We are working with partners to reinstate and provide new services - please keep an eye on our website, Facebook page and noticeboards.
- * We are hopeful for the return of the Annual Fireworks - watch this space!!

Out and About - 'What Katie Saw' Information,

As usual our roving reporter was out and about during lockdowns. Unfortunately she wasn't up early enough for the train fire!

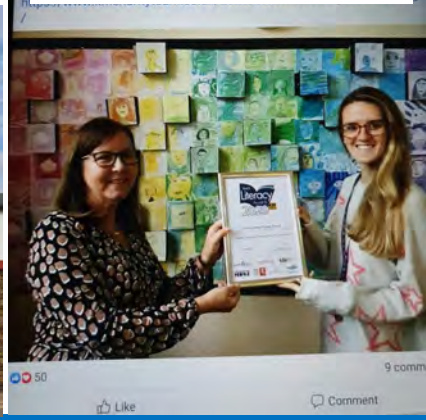
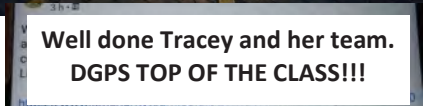
Gossip and News from Kate our roving correspondent



I see our local children's author has been busy during lockdown.



Loved the original use of barrels at The Miner's





The poor teddies of Rye Wood did get very muddy! I know they're hoping more of their friends will join them this year.



Some resurfacing on the Ryewood estate. Anyone know why there are no road makings included at any of the junctions??



White blackthorn (sloe) blossom - Price's Wood March 21



The daffodils on The Crescent looked fantastic this spring.





Wow! You don't see one of these trotting through the village very often.



I spy... a tractor! In the recreation ground - looks like work on the football pitch.



Beautiful bluebells in the woods alongside DG railway to Polhill (May)



Flag on the village green at half mast to mark the mourning period following the death of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh in April

Dreadful motorway traffic one April morning on the M26



Dunton Green has seen its fair share of roadworks recently! Everything now looks great. The new safety features at the zebra crossings are very welcome.



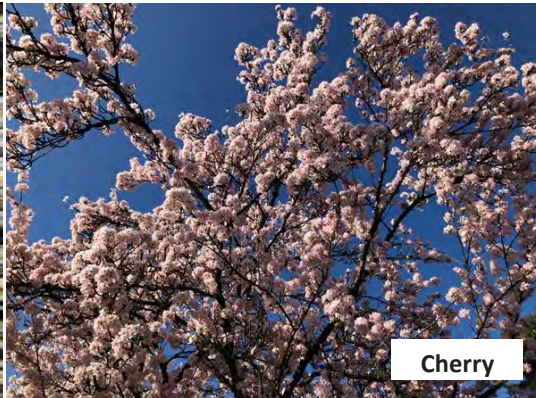
Spring

After over a year of restrictions and lockdowns due to the Covid 19 pandemic, things are starting to get back to normal. While it has had a wide range of negative affects on all of us, nature seems if anything to have benefitted from the reduced movement of people. The air is cleaner (momentarily I'm sure), and many of us have discovered (or often rediscovered) the nature around us.

Although as I write this it's overcast and cold, Spring is definitely settling in. The woods and hedges are alive with birdsong, blossom and



Blackthorn



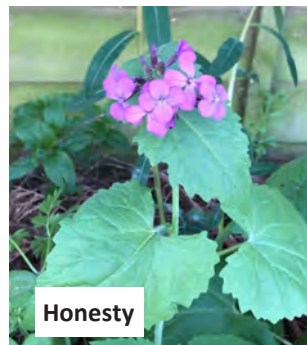
Cherry

wildflowers. Blackthorn, Hawthorn and various Cherries are bursting with white and pink flowers, providing a welcome feast for bees and other pollinators, and a much-needed flash of colour. Honesty, Cuckoo Flowers and hyacinths are starting to flower and the bluebells are not far behind. In the grass the daffodils are coming to an end, but the celandines and daisies are opening.



Cuckoo flower

It's a great time to explore our local area, the Sevenoaks Nature Reserve is looking beautiful and the path round the bigger lake isn't too strenuous and not usually too muddy. Other paths locally have taken a bit of a battering over lockdown, but they're getting back to normal now. We're lucky enough to have several routes criss-crossing the village – North Downs Way and the Darent Valley Path are the 2 longest ones, but there are lots of shorter paths connecting the local villages and beauty spots, and these often have surprisingly spectacular views.



Honesty

It's a great time to explore our local area, the Sevenoaks Nature Reserve is looking beautiful and the path round the bigger lake isn't too strenuous and not usually too muddy. Other paths locally have taken a bit of a battering over lockdown, but they're getting back to normal now. We're lucky enough to have several routes criss-crossing the village –



Polhill Bank

North Downs Way and the Darent Valley Path are the 2 longest ones, but there are lots of shorter paths connecting the local villages and beauty spots, and these often have surprisingly spectacular views.

The Darent Valley Path is described as follows on the LDWA website: *The River Darent flows from its source in the Greensand hills, south of Westerham, to join*

the Thames, north of Dartford. The walk is through a varied landscape of riverside fringed with ancient willows, hop gardens and cornfields, secretive woodlands, downland carpeted with wild flowers and expanses of marshland and has the added attractions of Roman remains, majestic viaducts, historic houses, old mills and picturesque villages with beautiful churches.

Even longer is the North Downs Way, which is described by the LDWA as: *The North Downs Way National Trail broadly follows the historic Pilgrims Way along the North Downs to Canterbury. The first 14 miles are over sandy countryside to the south of the Downs. The Downs are first reached at Newlands Corner, east of Guildford, and from there on the trail mainly follows the crest of the southern escarpment of the North Downs or footpaths and tracks along their lower slopes. There are views over the Weald to the South Downs and several steepish ascents where the ridge is cut by valleys, notably those of the Mole at Box Hill, the Darent at Otford, the Medway at Rochester, and the Stour near Wye. Generally the route provides comparatively easy walking through woods, over chalk grassland and - especially in Kent - through orchards and farmland.*



North Downs

It's a fairly long way, but obviously you don't have to walk all of it at once (or indeed at all). The local bits are very pleasant to ramble along just for a little while, but it's worth wearing appropriate clothes and footwear and taking provisions if you're going for a longer walk. Be aware that the weather is changeable this time of year (it was actually snowing yesterday!) so be prepared for rain/cold even if it's nice when you start out. It's also advisable to have a map if you're not sure where you're going, remember that your smart phone may not have a good signal in the more remote places.

Given the impact of antisocial behaviour on the local area over last spring/summer lockdown, it's also essential to remember the Countryside Code, which aims to show how we can all respect, protect and enjoy the countryside and to make sure it remains available for us all for decades to come. I know I'd miss it if it was gone.



Cllr Andy Lapham
(April 2021)

All photos in this article taken by Andy Lapham, in and around Dunton Green
More information is available at <https://www.ldwa.org.uk/> and at
<https://www.ramblers.org.uk/>

Your guide to enjoying parks and waterways, coast and countryside

Respect everyone

- be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking
- be nice, say hello, share the space
- follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available

Protect the environment

- take your litter home - leave no trace of your visit
- take care with BBQs and do not light fires
- always keep dogs under control and in sight
- dog poo - bag it and bin it - any public waste bin will do
- care for nature - do not cause damage or disturbance

Enjoy the outdoors

- check your route and local conditions
- plan your adventure - know what to expect and what you can do
- enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory



www.gov.uk/countryside-code

Follow advice and local signs

In some cases, additional higher rights of access or permissive access could exist.

Footpath



Bridleway



Restricted Byway



Byway open to all traffic



Permissive Path

Follow advice on local signs as landowners voluntarily provide access to these paths and choose who can use them. Some open access areas are also made available in the same way.



National Trail

National Trails are created for walking, with horse-riding and cycling possible on some trails or trail sections.

www.nationaltrail.co.uk



Open Access

You can walk and explore away from paths.

www.openaccess.naturalengland.org.uk

For further information visit www.gov.uk/countryside-code

Wildlife in Dunton Green

I was reading the latest parish newsletter and glad to see I'm not the only one enjoying the wildlife in Dunton Green!

Red Kites have actually been in the Sevenoaks area since about 2015; though I first saw them around DG in 2018 (photo attached from that year, over Lennard



Rd). I'm reliably informed there are a few pairs that breed further up the Darenth valley, these birds then feed



along the motorway and railway line in DG. But they are not the only raptors to be seen- attached is a photo of

the successful local Hobby nest (2019), and the local Sparrowhawk and Buzzard. WFH this year I saw Hobbies over the house (Lennard Road) twice in late August and



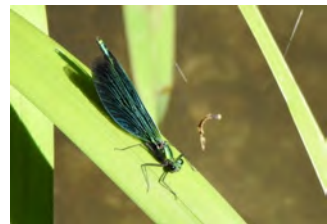
there are also Peregrine that are reasonably regular year round, on top of the more common Buzzards and Kestrels... you just need to look up!

Being at home over lockdown I also started to notice other wildlife, including seeing a few day flying Jersey Tiger Moths (used to be Very rare but increasingly regular in SE) and a Beautiful Demoiselle Damselfly-right on the eastern edge



of its range in Kent on a stream down near Chipstead Lake (obviously not put off by the anti social behaviour...)

Anyway, we must continue to cherish nature and treat our surroundings with respect, and I think the parish council exemplified this in recently objecting to the proposed housing development on the green belt by the station.



All the best

Oliver Bournat Dunton Green

P.S. I had 2 Waxwing by the caravan park on Rye Lane 2 years ago, so winter doesn't mean the action stops!

We are always really pleased to hear from residents in Dunton Green, especially in response to the newsletter. Thank you to Oliver for sending us the information and wonderful photos on the previous page.

We also heard from Trish Maddock, another Dunton Green resident: Following on from Andy's fantastic articles in the last two magazines, the first brilliant one on wild flowers and the second one on fungi (also brilliant), I have attached three photos of some more orchids I have found in Dunton Green. I occasionally used to meet Andy on his morning walks and we'd have a lovely chat about the wildlife, birds and flowers we would see on our walks around the village (he in fact mentioned me in his wildflower article). I told him of these orchids I had found and he actually hadn't spotted them.



Bee Orchid

The first photo is a bee orchid, the second is a common spotted orchid and the third a white helleborine.



Common Spotted orchid



Helleborine

If you have photos, information or stories that you would like to share, please do send us the details. We would love to include them.

Send them by email to us at the Parish Council via clerk@duntongreenpc.org.uk

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The Parish Council's website provides information on all sorts of activities and news in the village. Please check the website regularly for page updates and sign up for Email Alerts for things like events, news and planning. *Contact us by email if you have community events and activities that you would like to advertise.*

NEWS ABOUT THE RESUMPTION OF ACTIVITIES AS LOCKDOWN IS FURTHER EASED WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THIS WEBSITE - SIGN UP TO STAY INFORMED!

If you'd like to let us know what you are doing in Dunton Green, if you take part in something that you think others would enjoy or would like to contribute to the content of Dunton Green News please do get in touch.

We know there is so much more we could share.
See Page 2 for contact details - we'd love to hear from you!

Please provide us with your contact details when you send us anything. We are happy to withhold your details if you would like us to but we are unable to print anything that is sent to us anonymously.

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Dunton Green Primary School

All the teachers and support staff were happy and excited to welcome the children back to school on 8th March after the extended lockdown in January and February. During the lockdown the school remained open to vulnerable children and those whose parents are key workers. We continued to keep the kitchen open so that we were able to provide all children in school with a hot meal every day and those children at home eligible for free school meals received vouchers via the government scheme. On-line learning and live lessons were provided via Microsoft Teams throughout lockdown and the school were able to provide children without IT equipment at home, a loan of a school iPad or laptop meaning that all children had access to the learning.

One of the first events that the children enjoyed on their return to school was World Book Day which we celebrated on 10th March. The theme was 'Around the World in 80 Days', the children dressed as tourists and adventurers and boarded a flight. DG Airways then 'flew' the children to a range of destinations to explore food and art from countries such as Japan, London, France, China & Egypt. Two of our classes have been writing to pen pals at a school in Canada, replies have been received and were opened with much excitement.

Our Easter Bonnet competition had some amazing entries, the children showed their creative side and great imagination, there was a winner in each class!



We also had a fun intra-house sports competition this term. All the children were involved in a range of multi sports with the points awarded added together resulting in an overall winning house at the end of the competition. The house cup is then adorned with the winning house ribbons and awarded to the house captain.

We have recently had some ready to hatch eggs via Living Eggs which the children were able to watch hatch and grow in the early weeks. The children loved this experience and we will definitely repeat it next year.



The school now have a brand new website which we would encourage you to visit www.dunton-green.kent.sch.uk . There is lots of information on the website about the school and a link to our Twitter page @DGprimary which gives an insight into daily life. There is also a link on the website to our brand new school video. Due to the pandemic we have been unable to hold open events this year for prospective parents, so this video gives a lovely introduction to our school for those parents unable to visit in person.



We are especially proud to have recently been awarded overall Primary School Champions in the Kent Literacy Awards for our Friday book initiative.

From all the staff at
Dunton Green Primary School



SPRING ISSUE 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 13th June 2021

Football Tournament

Football, fun, refreshments and activities all day on the school field, to raise vital funds for our little school.

Please come along and support if you can.

Can you help?

We will also need loads of helping hands with the football tournament and BBQ, selling drinks and various stalls, so if you are free and would like to help out please get in touch on teamdgschool@gmail.com



As things start to feel a bit more settled, we thought now would be a good time to update all of you on what we have been up to these last few months, and how the work “behind the scenes” has continued to enrich and improve the experience of all of our children whilst at the school. Here’s a quick recap of Team DG activity since the last newsletter...

October

Our “Decorate Your Own Jack O’Lantern” competition in school raised **£91** in donations, which was used to cover the costs of short-term weatherproofing and storage for the PTA shed in the school grounds. This contains all the equipment, donated items etc used to run our events, as well as the second-hand uniform.

We desperately need to replace this shed with a larger version in better repair, so if you know anyone who may be able to help supply us with a new shed at “mate’s rates” please do get in touch with the school!

We were also delighted to hit just under the **£2,000** mark on our fundraising campaign for a minibus for the school, which would enable the children to travel to swimming lessons, sports competitions, choir performances and school trips.

November

Despite no Christmas Bazaar this year we were still able to run our popular raffle, which raised a fantastic **£1,189** for the school. Thanks so much to everyone who bought a ticket and supported us.

A massive thank you to Dunton Green Parish Council, who kindly donated the sum of **£150** towards this event, which provided our wonderful cash prizes.



December

Silent Auction: We were thrilled to have had a custom auction website built for us by one of our Year 1 parents. This enabled us to run the auction online for the first time, and enabled people from the wider community and families to place bids. The auction raised just under **£1,200!!!**

On the 9th of December the children were able to enjoy a delicious Christmas lunch at school, with table crackers provided by PTA funds. We were so pleased that they got this opportunity to celebrate together before the school closed and the children faced another period of home study.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Anyone can help support our local village school at NO COST to yourself, simply by shopping online! See below for how...

1. Shop at smile.amazon.co.uk to donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to the school – just make sure you have selected The Dunton Green Primary School Parent-Teacher Association as your chosen charity.
2. If shopping online at other sites you can use the portal <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/dunton-green-primary-school>

JOIN US AT OUR NEXT MEETING

Date tbc!

parentkind.org.uk

is brimming with articles for parents, to help you support your child's school life and learning, and it's open to everyone!



Search for Dunton Green Primary School Parents and Carers on Facebook
teamdgschool@gmail.com

January & February

We hope you all liked seeing the colourful Welcome Back banners & balloons we placed on the gates at the start of the new school term. In light of everything they had been through, we unanimously felt that the staff and children deserved a bit of a celebration as we welcomed them back into school! The balloons were once again very kindly donated by the wonderful Lisa at Up, Up & Away.

Similarly, the PTA were pleased to be able to provide a brand new hot water dispenser, personalised mugs & a tin of treats for the staffroom, with thanks and recognition for all the wonderful efforts of all the teachers and staff at the school at keeping our children safe, happy and motivated. We are so proud of our little village school and also our amazing children who have demonstrated their core value of Resilience so well!

March

We were so pleased to be able to treat the children to some Easter fun, despite still not being able to run the usual disco or Easter Egg Hunt. The online party that we had hoped to hold just before children broke up at Christmas was turned into an Easter disco, and we heard that all the classes had a great time joining in!

Local residents may have spotted a furry special guest at the gates with headteacher Ms Boanas on the last day of term! A big thank you to the Team DG Easter Bunny for making a special appearance...

Finally, we were thrilled to introduce a new event, Break the Rules day! It's safe to say the idea was a hit with the kids, and this is something we definitely intend to repeat in the future as an alternative to standard "Own Clothes" days. We're pleased to report that the day raised **£307.78** in funds, which will directly benefit all children at the school.

Parentkind
Member Association



The Dunton Green Tournament for U7s/U8s Sunday 13 June 2021

Join us for a fun-filled day of grassroots football in the grounds of Dunton Green Primary School, Sevenoaks.

Hosted by FA qualified coaches, it's the perfect opportunity to celebrate a return to football and to gauge your team's development in a friendly, age-appropriate environment. There are trophies to play for in both age groups.

Venue: Dunton Green Primary School, London Road, Sevenoaks TN13 2LR

Cost: £40 per team (Max 10 players)

Food and refreshments will be available through the day.

Morning session (9am start): U8

Afternoon session (1.30pm start): U7

Age groups based on 2020/21 season

To register your interest please send an email to duntongreenfootball@gmail.com

Just provide your club name, team name/s (max 2 teams per age group), plus your contact details... and we'll come back to you!



Dunton Green Primary School is delighted to be hosting its summer tournament on Sunday 13th June. Now in its second year, the tournament is being played on the school field and gives the community school the opportunity to show off its grounds and raise funds by offering a range of refreshments throughout the day.

The competition is run by parents of the school who also coach grassroots football teams in the local area, and follows FA guidelines on inclusivity and fair play.

This year, in a bid to raise awareness for the environment, every effort is being made to make the tournament plastic free.

Match balls for the tournament are kindly being donated by Alive & Kicking, a not-for-profit organisation that supports sport and health education with centres across sub-Saharan Africa. The tournament is also being supported by the Fit for Sport app, where participating sports clubs can confirm all players and supporters are free of covid symptoms.



HANDYMAN SERVICES

Terry-the-handyman.co.uk

L.E.D. lights
Doors hung
Locks fitted
Lighting / bulbs
Shelving
Curtain poles
Roller blinds
Venetian blinds
Trampolines



Sockets/Switches
Special projects
Garden furniture
Brickwork repairs
Garage/workshop refit
Playhouses/Sheds
Radiator covers
Mirrors/Pictures hung
Stair spindles
Storage Hooks
Kitchen units adjusted

TVs installed
Skirting boards
BBQ assembled
Fence repairs
Garden furniture
Flat packs built
Shed repairs
Carpentry
Jet washing
Child locks
General repairs

07729 552578

Public Liability Insured
Approved local
authority contractor

Maintenance contractor to
Dunton Green Parish Council



e-mail Terry on: partytel@ntlworld.com

DUNTON GREEN PAVILION

Recreation Ground, London Road, Dunton Green TN13 2UR



Dunton Green Pavilion is a fantastic community facility owned and managed by Dunton Green Parish Council.

The Pavilion is located in the Recreation Ground in Dunton Green and offers excellent facilities for community activities, commercial organisations and private hire.

Please see the Parish Council's website for more details about the venue, including pricing.

bookings@duntongreenpc.org.uk / 07305 814694

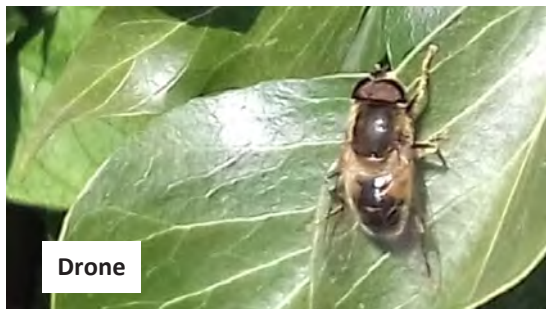


BEE WATCH!

As the days warm and spring flowers bloom, one of my favourite sights and sounds as I tend the garden is the buzz of the emerging bees. Like many people, I am saddened about the current plight of our bees and the sharp decline in their numbers due to pesticide use, disease and loss of habitat and I am trying my best to plant bee-friendly flowers that will help them all year round.

As I watched bees foraging on my comfrey and lavender in the heat of last summer, I was amazed at the variety of different shapes, colours and pollinating styles of the various bees (short vs long tongue, hover style or crawl etc.) so much so, that this year I promised myself to be able to identify the bees that visited my garden. This, however, as I am finding out, is not as easy as I thought it would be!

A little homework has informed me that in the UK, as well as the one honeybee species we have, there are 24 species of bumble bee and over 240



species of solitary bees. So, armed with my phone camera I have tried to snap and identify the first of the intrepid bees to visit my garden this spring.

The first was an easy bee to take a picture of and I recognized it immediately from my childhood days as a Honeybee because of

its' elongated shape as opposed to the rounded shape of a bumble bee. What I did not realise until I consulted the various internet Identification charts, is that this is actually a male Drone honeybee. Drones are identified by their very large eyes which enable them to easily spot Queen bees in flight and the lack of pollen sacs on its legs, as being Drones they do not collect pollen. In fact, the life of a Drone, although shorter, is one of hedonism and laziness, flying about keeping an eye open for Queen bees, occasionally feeding and resting a lot, which is why I had plenty of time to get a clear(ish) picture of this Drone (above).



However, the next bee I saw was a worker Honeybee. It was difficult to take a clear picture of her because she never stopped flying quickly from flower to flower collecting pollen, but she was identifiable by her smaller eyes and heavily laden pollen sacs. I was also delighted to discover that the pollen she had collected was bright blue rather than yellow as I expected, as this worker honeybee had obviously been foraging on bluebells as well as the tiny Forget-me-not flowers.

I also remember being told as a child that honeybees do not sting, and armed with this information, I remember happily and fearlessly spending many hours in my Nan's front garden catching honeybees in my cupped hands and letting them go again. A bit of a shock now then to read that it is only male bees of any species that do not sting (as the stinger is a modified form of the female egg-laying organ) and all female workers and Queen bees do indeed sting. I must have been just very fortunate as a child when catching bees, or perhaps it was my confidence in (albeit wrong) knowledge that gave me an assuredness and calmness when cupping bees in my small vulnerable hands. Fortunately, honeybees are tolerant and passive creatures, and only sting when truly provoked

as they will die after stinging, unlike bumble bees and wasps that will happily sting multiple times.

The next bee I heard long before I saw it.

A deep drone progressively got louder as the bee



equivalent of a B52 Bomber slowly bumbled past, aptly living up to its name, resolutely and repeatedly bashing itself into the lounge window until it realised it wasn't getting anywhere and changed course, thereby causing me to duck out of its lumbering path. How these amazing big furry barrels get airborne appears to defy any normal aerodynamic principals, but is, I understand, a feat of physics more akin to that behind the action of helicopter rotors. Large, round, furry with black and yellow stripes and a white bottom, this was a classic White-tailed bumble bee. Unfortunately, I couldn't get a clear view if it had pollen sacs or how hairy its legs were to be able to identify whether it was male or female (rather similar to humans, hairy legs are another apparent distinguishing feature between male & female bees!).

The last bee I saw was a little more confusing to identify. Much smaller than the White-tailed bumble bee, its round shape identified it as one of the other 23 species of bumble bee – but which one?



The ginger thorax, black abdomen and white tail suggested that it might be a one of our most common species, the Tree bumblebee. As the name suggests, these bees colonise holes in trees and will also use nest boxes and are found in habitats ranging from woodland to gardens. However, I will not be catching these cute-looking bees in my hands as they are reportedly feistier and more aggressive than other bees and can sting with impunity. Please do let me know if I have erroneously identified any of the bees in this article. I will carry on trying to identify bees as the summer progresses and more bees emerge as the weather warms up.

If you are interested in getting to know the bees visiting your garden, there are many of these identification charts available on the internet and there is also a Bumblebee Identification App from the Bumblebee Conservation Trust (<https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/>) to help bumblebee-beginners identify the most common species of bee in the UK.

Cllr Dr Debbie Parker
(May 2021)



All photos in this article taken by Debbie Parker, in and around Dunton Green

PARISH COUNCIL EVENTS : DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tuesday July 13th 2021 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Tuesday Sept 14th 2021 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Saturday 25th September - Annual Fireworks Display 6.45pm TBC

Tuesday Oct 12th 2021 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Tuesday Nov 9th 2021 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Sunday Nov 14th 2021 - Annual Remembrance Sunday Service, 10.45am TBC

Tuesday Dec 14th 2021 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Dec 2021 - Annual Christmas Singalong TBC

Quarterly Freighter Service - no return of the service to date

DGPC will be considering the viability of its events for 2021. We remain optimistic that some will be reinstated this year and that we can all gather together again as a community. More details will be made available nearer the time if they do go ahead.



Visit www.duntongreenpc.org.uk and sign up to Email Alerts to keep up to date and informed about all the latest news, meetings and events information as it is published. Meeting agendas are published in the week prior to the meeting and are available on the website

If you have events that you would like publicised please contact the Clerk and we can consider publishing your activities on our Parish Council website events listing page - we're keen to let everyone know just what is on in Dunton Green and it starts with you!

AS A RESULT OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC MANY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS ARE NOT YET CONFIRMED. AS THINGS ARE REINTRODUCED WE WILL KEEP THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE UPDATED WITH DETAILS

DUNTON GREEN NEWS

All back copies of Dunton Green News can be found on the Parish Council's website - www.duntongreenpc.org.uk - on the DUNTON GREEN NEWS tab.

If you could help us deliver newsletters in your road / area please contact the Parish Council - the more volunteers we have the better!
Thank you.

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

Now that the Ryewood estate is finished, there are many living there who may wonder about its past.

Most recently it was a major cold storage estate, employing 100's and dealing with the logistics of transporting frozen goods across the UK and Europe. In the end it fell foul of new EU regulations around refrigeration gases and it was slowly closed down, with companies relocating to sites nearer motorway connections.



Here are some views up, down and from Rye Lane taken in May 2010.

And a view from within the cold store site itself.

If you have old photos and stories of DG to share, please get in contact. We would love to publish them.





Things have changed a bit since 2010! In our next edition we will share more photos - this time showing the construction phases of Ryewood.

Did you see this in the Sevenoaks Chronicle? Social Club history!

memories are as valued as ever

enormous disruption to everyday life. Pickets took it in turns to stand outside the post office.

■ Dunton Green Social Club

Every so often I feature a picture of characters of not-so-long-ago and challenge readers to name them all. I am rarely disappointed and this week, thanks to Nick Carter, Roger Tingley and the parish council clerk Tracy Godden, I am now able to identify all the jolly-looking members of Dunton Green Social Club (Chronicle, January 21).

The picture was taken in the 1970s soon after Roger Tingley became Club Secretary. Only he and Ron Edmeads are still alive and, according to Nick Carter, whose father is in the picture, they have been members of the club for more than 60 years.

They are: Back row (left to right):

It was all smiles at Dunton Green Social Club

Len Burrows, John Cheeseman, Bill Harvey, Nick Carter, Gordon Riddle, Alf Aldridge, Tony Paige, Cliff Hart and Tim Brooker.

Front row: Ron Edmeads, George Turner, Tom Jones, Roger Tingley, Vic Bromley and Tom Edmeads. Here they are again.

RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME

The day I left school was the first time I'd ever been given a camera to take some photos. It was the 70's and the concept of having a mobile phone that took pictures was science fiction. It was the start of a lifetime of capturing memories and moments. Anyone who knows me, knows I take pictures all the time, and friends know who will have a photo of someone's 50th or of a holiday in 1986. However, I have always wanted to take a photo that was used on the news. I've often looked at the photos that others have taken of events, and thought that they had been lucky and been in the right place at the right time.



My husband and I were once all over South Korean social media because we happened to be sitting on a French beach when one of their chart-topping stars- Sunmi - was doing a photo shoot following her sell out concert at the O2 the night before. Hundreds of thousands of South Koreans saw it, but not many Brits. Anyway, I didn't want to be IN the photo used, I wanted to take the photo used!

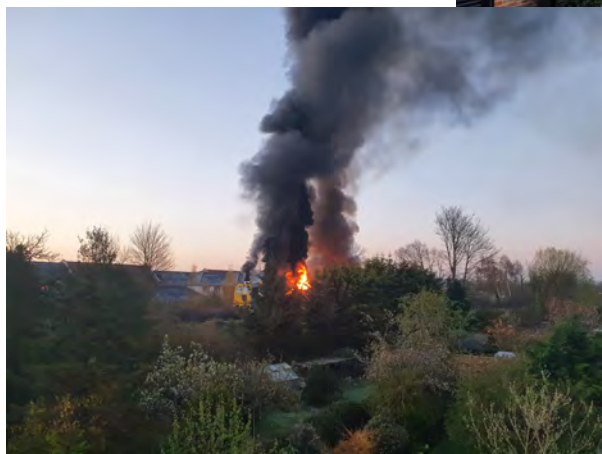
At 5.15am on Friday 21st April, I was woken by my neighbour banging on the front door and my fire alarm tweeting. 'There's a fire' she said, and for a moment I thought it was my house. In fact, there was a burning maintenance train on the embankment at the bottom of my garden.

Very quickly Station Road and Kingswood Road were full of fire and police vehicles and we knew that all the train crew were safe.



Around the corner in Ryewood, firemen were dousing the flames too!

By this time, trains had been cancelled, and Dunton Green was headline news on BBC Breakfast TV and BBC South East news. The fire was out by 8am and slowly the emergency workers left and railway teams started the task of getting



the line opened again. I decided to send some photos into the local press and media. Soon camera teams arrived at the station, and there were mentions of the fire and disruption of services throughout the morning on national tv and radio. My photos were on various media websites and Facebook.

Mid-afternoon, I got a phone call. Would I be happy to do a TV interview on Zoom? So I did, and my photos were on the news, but it was KMTV news so I doubt many saw them.

However, all was not lost. BBC South East were still covering the fire in their 630pm show, and finally one of my photos was on the news!

Later it also made the national press on the Daily Express website.



So it turned out my 'Right place, right time' was 5.30 in the morning in Dunton Green.

Clr Freda England

Your local officers



Hannah Rainbow Sue Harwood

Our PCSOs have been very busy around Dunton Green and the Sevenoaks District so far in 2021. If you need their help or assistance please contact Kent Police as per the details below.

We are on hand to deal with your concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour where you live. We can also give you advice to help you protect yourself, your home and your property from crime.

Contact us:



Call **101** to speak to a member of your local policing team or to be put through to the officer best placed to deal with your enquiry.



Email: csu.sevenoaks@kent.pnn.police.uk

We have increased the number of officers in our communities to provide continuity in local crime investigation, give victims of crime a single point of contact and enhance visibility in the community. The officers named above are subject to change depending on operational need.

For advice, news and details of local engagement meetings in your area, visit www.kent.police.uk



**Kent
Police**

Call **101** for non-urgent issues.

Call **999** in an emergency.

If deaf or speech impaired text '**police**' and your message to **60066**.



Community Safety Unit (CSU)

The CSU based at Sevenoaks District Council consisting of Police, Council and other agencies have been addressing local concerns that are brought to their attention.

Residents may not always see Police out on their street, but there have been active police patrols in the area due to reports from concerned residents. **Residents should always report any issues whether its drugs, anti-social behaviour or crime to 999 if an emergency or 101 for a non emergency.**

This can also be reported on line by going to <https://www.kent.police.uk/services/report-online/kent-police-online-reporting/>



You can also report any concerns to the CSU via community.safety@sevenoaks.gov.uk or by calling us on 01732 227000

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF...

...I NEED THE POLICE?

Dial **999** if there is threat to life or a crime is in progress.

Call **101** for all non-emergency matters.

PCSO Sue Harwood or PCSO Hannah Rainbow Telephone **101** or Email: csu.sevenoaks@kent.pnn.police.uk

...I NEED TO REPORT A STREET LIGHTING ISSUE?

If the street light in question belongs to the Parish Council then report the fault directly to the Clerk. Details of where DGPC columns are located:

Barretts Road	Hillfield Road	London Rd Slip Road
Donnington Road	Ivy House Lane	Lusted Road
Kingswood Road	Milton Road	Rye Lane
Lennard Road	Pounsley Road	Vicarage Lane
London Road Footpath to Station		

All other street light issues must be reported to KCC's Highways Department via the 24hr Contact Centre on **03000 41 81 81**.

PLEASE NOTE that whenever you report a lighting fault you will be asked for the **column number** (which is on the street light) and the location. Please ensure that you have these details to enable a prompt response.

...I NEED TO REPORT A HIGHWAYS ISSUE?

If you identify a problem with roads or pavements such as potholes, broken kerbs or missing signs you should report these to KCC's Highways Department via the 24hr Contact Centre on **03000 41 81 81** or via KCC's online reporting tool www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem

...I WANT TO REPORT GRAFFITI IN DUNTON GREEN?

Graffiti can be reported via SDC's **online graffiti reporting form** (www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/services/housing/crime-prevention/graffiti-reporting-and-removal.) or by **calling SDC on 01732 227000**.





Dunton Green Parish Council

Tracy Godden: Clerk & RFO Dunton Green Parish Council

01732 462966 / clerk@duntongreenpc.org.uk

Wendy Jackson: Bookings & Facilities Assistant

07305 814694 / bookings@duntongreenpc.org.uk

Your local representatives: Dunton Green Parish Council



ClIr Freda England
Chairman DGPC

freda@duntongreenpc.org.uk



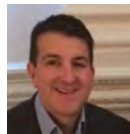
ClIr Andy Lapham

andy@duntongreenpc.org.uk



ClIr Paul Lockey
Vice Chairman DGPC

paul@duntongreenpc.org.uk



ClIr Anthony Carrol

anthony@duntongreenpc.org.uk



ClIr Graham Hersey
Allotments

graham@duntongreenpc.org.uk



ClIr Annie Norton

annie@duntongreenpc.org.uk



ClIr Angel Gomes-Chodynieski

angel@duntongreenpc.org.uk



ClIr Debbie Parker

debbie@duntongreenpc.org.uk



ClIr James Copeland

james@duntongreenpc.org.uk



Could this be you?!!

If you are interested in joining us at DGPC please contact the Clerk (details on page 2)

Your other local representatives:



Sevenoaks District Council - 01732 227000

ClIr Mrs Kim Bayley - 01732 458556

cllr.bayley@sevenoaks.gov.uk

ClIr Cameron Brown - 01732 740654

cllr.brown@sevenoaks.gov.uk



Kent County Council - 03000 41 41 41

ClIr Nick Chard - 03000 41 10 09

nick.chard@kent.gov.uk

Coronavirus Information



Whilst we have come through three lockdowns over the last year and the vaccination programme is now being successfully rolled out, Covid is still very much with us.

Please think of others and take whatever precautions are advisable to stay safe and to keep the most vulnerable people in our community safe too.

Restrictions have been eased following the move to step 3. However we must continue to exercise caution as we move towards a return to 'normality'.

Together we can do it.



NHS

**We must
keep on
protecting
each other.**



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

STAY ALERT • CONTROL THE VIRUS • SAVE LIVES

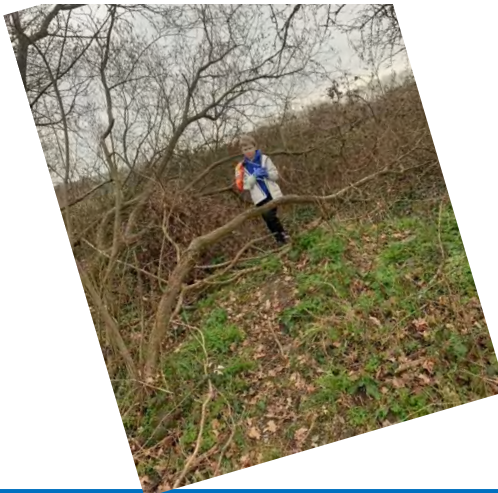
LITTER!

Back in March there was concerted effort by many in the village to collect litter. Of course, it shouldn't really be necessary for anyone to have to clear up after other people but sadly Dunton Green, like many other places, is blighted by unwanted rubbish being left for others to clear up. Valuable resources have to be used by all local councils to try to stay on top of this blight and bands of volunteers who have simply had enough and want to do something to improve their communities help tackle this ongoing issue.

Sam Molineux (aged 9) and his friend Oliver Moore (aged 10).



Between the boys and their mums (Alexandra and Tracey) they collected over 7 bags of litter from around the local area. The boys did incredibly well and worked hard for over 2 hours collecting rubbish





Madeleine Dacey, age 5 also taking part in the 'Clean Up Sevenoaks' Weekend, collecting rubbish from Station Rd and The Sidings.

Thanks to mum Natasha for taking Madeleine out - she looks like she enjoyed herself!

Just some of the litter collected by Alison Diamond and her family.



DGPC will try to reinstate its community litter picks later on this year.



It is really encouraging to see how many young people actively took part in the arranged litter pick.

We very much hope that their example encourages others to join or, better still, not to leave the waste in the first place!

We know many of you litter pick on a regular basis and we thank you all for your efforts.

Look out for national campaigns via www.keepbritaintidy.org

Pop Up Sue Is Back!

Sue Larken, the Health & Wellbeing Coordinator for Age UK Sevenoaks & Tonbridge is looking forward to starting the Pop In tea/coffee with mobility, Strength & Balance Exercises back at Dunton Green Pavilion again. Sue would like to invite everyone back, and anyone who has never been is very welcome to come along too.

Wednesday 30th June 1:30-3:30 pm

“It will be so good to see everyone laughing together again as we improve our strength and fitness”

For more information email

suelarken@ageuksevenoaksandtonbridge.org.uk

Or call Sue on 07867 648 667



Looking forward to seeing you there!
Best wishes - SUE

LOOK OUT FOR NEWS OF THE LUNCH CLUB:

we are hoping to see a return for the autumn. - check the DGPC website for news!



NEW ACTIVITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE - COMING SOON!!

The Parish Council is very excited to announce that Kent Panthers will be running Community Basketball sessions for young people in Dunton Green on Mondays from June. Please keep a look out on our website and Facebook page for more information.



Fully funded by Dunton Green Parish Council, these sessions will be available free of charge to participants!

Dunton Green Project

Easy Netball

Everyone is welcome. Minimum age 14

£2.00 pay
as you go

Thursday 7pm to 8pm

MUGA, near the Pavilion, Recreation
Ground, Dunton Green, TN13 2UR

**WE ARE
BACK!**



For more information, please call 01732 227000 or
email communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk



SESSIONS RUN WEATHER PERMITTING - JOIN YULIA FOR FUN SESSIONS EVERY WEEK



Pop Up Sue is Back in Dunton Green !

Dunton Green Pavilion, Recreation Ground, London Road, TN13 2UR

We are welcoming everyone back on

Wed 30th June

1:30-3:30pm

Classes will then be 2nd

Wednesday of every Month

Improve your mobility, strength & balance

Meet others, in a friendly, covid-safe, class with a qualified instructor and a cup of tea/coffee



PROUD TO SUPPORT AGE UK

For more information, call **Sue 07867 648 667**
or email
suelarken@ageuksevenoaksandtonbridge.org.uk

Age UK Sevenoaks & Tonbridge registered charity number 1088213. 05/18