

Talk OF THE Town

Issue 105 October 2025

'Making Dunstable a Better Place'

Christmas in DUNSTABLE

**Enjoy Festive Twilight
Markets on Middle Row**



**Christmas Carols and
Torchlight Procession**



**Pay a FREE Visit to
Santa's Grotto**



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after reading

INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



NABMA
the value of standards



ICCM
Institutional Crime Management

40
DUNSTABLE
TOWN COUNCIL

Meet the Councillors

DUNSTABLE EAST



Cllr Sally Kimondo
c/o 76 High St North
Dunstable
LU6 1NF

sally.kimondo@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Mark Davis
88 Jeans Way
Dunstable
LU5 4PP

mark.davis@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr John Gurney
c/o 76 High St North
Dunstable
LU6 1NF

john.gurney@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Kenson Gurney
122 Luton Road
Dunstable
LU5 4JW
07743 240035

kenson.gurney@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Louise O'Riordan
c/o 76 High St North
Dunstable
LU6 1NF

louise.oriordan@dunstable.gov.uk

DUNSTABLE NORTH



Cllr Matthew Brennan
75 Westfield Road
Dunstable
LU6 1DN
07952 436762

matthew.brennan@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Michelle Henderson
11 Beecroft Way
Dunstable
LU6 1ED

michelle.henderson@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Matthew Neall
24 Stamp Acre
Dunstable
LU6 1FY

matthew.neall@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Johnson Tamara
c/o 76 High St North
Dunstable
LU6 1NF

johnson.tamara@dunstable.gov.uk

DUNSTABLE WEST



Cllr Richard Attwell
22 Mentmore Crescent
Dunstable
LU6 3NN

richard.attwell@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Robert Blennerhassett
c/o 76 High St North
Dunstable
LU6 1NF
07721 311988

robert.blennerhassett@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Phillip Crawley
c/o 76 High St North
Dunstable
LU6 1NF

phillip.crawley@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Peter Hollick
1 Carlisle Close
Dunstable
LU6 3PH
07949 072483

peter.hollick@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Liz Jones
82 Jeans Way
Dunstable
LU5 4PP
07828 864440

liz.jones@dunstable.gov.uk

DUNSTABLE CENTRAL



Cllr Trevor Adams
112 High St North, Dunstable LU6 1LN
trevor.adams@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Gregory Alderman
33 Alfred Street, Dunstable LU5 4HZ
gregory.alderman@dunstable.gov.uk

DUNSTABLE SOUTH



Cllr Wendy Bater
97 Grt. Northern Rd, Dunstable LU5 4BW
07789 402631
wendy.bater@dunstable.gov.uk



Cllr Nicholas Kotarski
30 Sundown Avenue, Dunstable LU5 4AJ
nicholas.kotarski@dunstable.gov.uk

Dunstable Town Council Committee Membership

Finance and General Purposes

Councillors Sally Kimondo (Town Mayor)
Nicholas Kotarski (Chair)
Johnson Tamara (Vice Chair)
Richard Attwell (Deputy Mayor)
Gregory Alderman
Matthew Brennan
Phillip Crawley
John Gurney
Kenson Gurney
Michelle Henderson
Peter Hollick
Liz Jones
Matthew Neall
Louise O'Riordan

Community Services

Councillors Sally Kimondo (Town Mayor)
Matthew Neall (Chair)
Kenson Gurney (Vice Chair)
Richard Attwell (Deputy Mayor)
Trevor Adams
Gregory Alderman
Wendy Bater
Robert Blennerhassett
Phillip Crawley
Mark Davis
Nicholas Kotarski
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Grounds and Environmental

Councillors Sally Kimondo (Town Mayor)
Peter Hollick (Chair)
Michelle Henderson (Vice Chair)
Richard Attwell (Deputy Mayor)
Trevor Adams
Wendy Bater
Robert Blennerhassett
Matthew Brennan
Mark Davis
John Gurney
Liz Jones
Johnson Tamara

Dunstable Town Council

Grove House, 76 High Street North, Dunstable LU6 1NF
Tel 01582 513000

Email info@dunstable.gov.uk Web www.dunstable.gov.uk

Opening Hours 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday



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bennettssplash



@grovecorner
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@DTC

DISCLAIMER: Whilst every care has been taken in compiling this publication and the statements contained herein are believed to be correct, Dunstable Town Council cannot accept responsibility for any inaccuracies and do not endorse any particular products.

Town Mayor's Welcome



Dear Dunstable Residents,

I am filled with gratitude for the warm wishes and support I have received since I started my Mayoral year. Our community's engagement in various events and activities continues to exemplify the remarkable spirit of cohesion and togetherness that defines Dunstable.

One of the highlights this year for me has been the incredible turnout at events organised by the Town Council, drawing nearly 5,000 residents together. A special mention goes to our new event this year in special recognition of the Town Council's 40th Anniversary – the Soapbox Derby – which has quickly become a favourite for attendees, showcasing our town's enthusiasm and creativity.

I have immense pride, as Dunstable was awarded the Overall Winner of Anglia in Bloom 2025! This accolade is a testament to our community's collective effort in beautifying our town with beautiful parks, floral displays, community gardens and wildlife projects. The judges made a point of highlighting the strong community spirit they found in the town when they made the award. A heartfelt thank you goes out to Dunstable in Bloom and Dunstable Town Council staff, councillors and volunteers for their dedication and partnership with local groups and projects in this amazing achievement.

I eagerly anticipate seeing all of you at our last events of the year as we close 2025 with our Christmas Carols and Torchlight Procession and Twilight Markets festive celebrations. Please feel free to say hello if you spot me at an event, I'm always happy to engage with our wonderful residents.

Councillor Sally Kimondo
Town Mayor of Dunstable



Town Clerk & Chief Executive's Welcome

Welcome to the winter edition of Talk of the Town. This edition includes details of a whole range of Christmas activities we have planned, including our Twilight Markets. Do come along and support our traders and shop locally wherever you can this Christmas. The range of independent traders in Dunstable means that there is something for everyone.

It's been a busy summer! Out of many memorable events, one which stands out is the Soapbox Derby. The event was a huge success and I know Councillors are keen that we build on this event for next year. This year we had six entries, who impressed with their designs and entertainment, as well as speed. There will be room for more next year so get planning.

I echo the Mayor's pride in Dunstable In Bloom being awarded the overall winner of Anglia In Bloom this summer for the first time. The In-Bloom campaign has become a key feature in the town's life each year.

The awards consider the range and quality of community participation, as well as horticultural excellence and environmental responsibility.

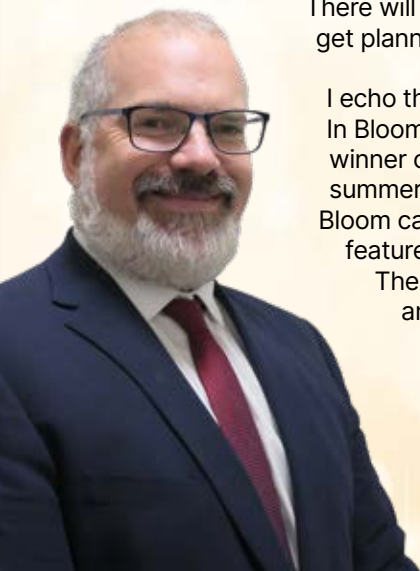
I said this time last year that the works to Priory House were on-going and they still are. Substantial progress has been made in repairing the fabric of the building, but more is yet to do. However, Priory House Gift Shop will be reopened by the time this edition is delivered. There will be a whole new range of stock in time for Christmas, so do drop in to buy some Christmas gifts and have a warm cuppa and a light bite to eat.

The summer season at Bennett's Splash Park has been a success, with the addition of splash and play sessions for dogs at the end of the season, which was a success and the team hope to build on this for next year. The Café will remain open Wednesday to Sunday, so do drop in for a hot drink and warm food and look online for upcoming events.

Finally, we are looking for local businesses who want to support events or services and raise their profile in the town. Further details are inside.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Talk of the Town. Please feel free to share your thoughts with us on any of the Council's services by emailing info@dunstable.gov.uk or messaging us on Facebook @DunstableCouncil. Happy reading!

Paul Hodson
Town Clerk & Chief Executive



Destination

Dunstable town centre
news, events & initiatives

DUNSTABLE

Christmas

in **DUNSTABLE**



Twilight Market

featuring Street Food Heroes

Thursday 11 December, 4 pm to 9 pm

The Square and Middle Row

Join us for a magical evening at our Twilight Market featuring Street Food Heroes! Enjoy delicious dishes from street food vendors, while listening to live entertainment featuring local groups and traditional carols on our community stage.

Explore Middle Row Market, which will be transformed into a festive wonderland with Christmas stalls, offering unique gifts and seasonal treats.

Families can enjoy FREE activities, including a visit to Santa's Grotto, a children's ride and face painting, making this the perfect festive night out for all ages.

FREE parking in Asthon Square car park from 6 pm.

Christmas In Dunstable

Middle Row MARKETS

Twilight Markets

THE SQUARE AND MIDDLE ROW

THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 4 PM TO 9 PM
WITH STREET FOOD HEROES

FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER 3 PM TO 8 PM

SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER 3 PM TO 8 PM

See you there!

40 DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

Twilight Christmas Markets

Friday 12 December & Saturday 13 December, 3 pm to 8 pm

The Square and Middle Row

Enjoy a day full of live entertainment, festive cheer and family fun. Children can visit Santa's Grotto, enjoy a children's ride, and get their faces painted – all for FREE!

Our stallholders will be offering wonderful gifts, crafts and festive treats – perfect for Christmas shopping or a little treat for yourself. Enjoy live performances on our community stage in The Square, featuring local bands and community groups.

As evening falls, watch the Christmas lights bring Middle Row and The Square to life, creating a magical atmosphere for all to enjoy.

Make sure to bring your family and friends to celebrate the season and soak up the festive spirit.

FREE parking in Asthon Square car park from 6 pm both days.



Rotary
Dunstable



Christmas Window Competition



Our popular town centre tradition is back for 2025!

Local shops and businesses will be competing for the best Christmas Window display. Judging will take place in early December, with the best three windows receiving a festive prize.

The public vote will be held on the Dunstable Town Council Facebook page @DunstableCouncil, so be sure to vote for your favourite window when you see the post!

If you are a local business or shop in the town centre and would like to dress your window to impress, please email Annette.clynes@dunstable.gov.uk or call 07540 048930

This year's 30ft Norway Spruce Christmas tree has been kindly sponsored by Penrose Estate Agents.



Our Loo of the Year award-winning toilets in Ashton Square will be open until late over this weekend and for the Christmas Carols and Torchlight Procession and Remembrance Day parade on Sunday 9 November.

Christmas

in DUNSTABLE



Dunstable Christmas Carols and Torchlight Procession

Friday 28 November, 7 pm, The Square

Christmas officially begins in Dunstable on Friday 28 November with the much-loved Christmas Carols and Torchlight Procession - a tradition that brings the whole community together to mark the start of the festive season.

Join us on The Square from 7 pm, where the school choirs of Dunstable will fill the air with joyous carols supported by the Dunstable Salvation Army band. Meet the one and only Father Christmas and watch the Christmas Tree switch-on, accompanied by a fantastic light show finale.

Middle Row will be lined with food and drink stalls, offering something for everyone, plus Priory House Gift Shop will be open until late, offering hot drinks and the chance to browse a delightful selection of Christmas gifts.

It's the perfect way to celebrate the start of the most wonderful time of the year!

ROAD CLOSURE: Please be aware that High Street South will be closed from the crossroads junction of West Street/Church Street/A5183 to Friars Walk from 6 pm to 9 pm, with a diversion in place for the Christmas Carols and Torchlight Procession. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.



This FREE event is sponsored by Penrose Estate Agents



SCAN ME

FREE Panto Prize Draw

Win two tickets to The All New Adventures of Peter Pan on Friday 2 January, 6 pm at The Grove Theatre in Dunstable!

Scan the QR code to submit your entry, or write to: Communications, 76 High Street North, Dunstable, LU6 1NF.

Competition closing date Thursday 18 December 12 noon, one entry per person. Entrants give Dunstable Town Council permission to share their details with The Grove Theatre. A winner will be selected at random and a member of Everyone Active will contact you if you have won.

Looking to grow your business? **Events Sponsorship could be the way to go!**

We have exciting opportunities for events sponsorship for 2026.

For more information, please email gina.thanky@dunstable.gov.uk or call 01582 891407.

PENROSE PROUDLY POWERS THE MAGIC

JOIN US AT DUNSTABLE'S
CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH-ON
& TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION
28 NOVEMBER 2025



CALL US ON 01582 280811 www.penrose-ea.com



DUNSTABLE FAVOURITE

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EASTENDERS'

**RITA
SIMONS**

CBBC'S & STRICTLY'S

**RHYS
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SIX THE MUSICAL'S

**LOU
HENRY**



5 DEC 2025 - 4 JAN 2026

grovetheatre.co.uk
01582 60 20 80

Supporting Community Growth in Dunstable

Community
MATTERS

Dunstable has always thrived on the strength of its community spirit and that is why the Town Council is committed to ensuring that local groups, organisations and individuals have the support they need to continue making a difference. The Council has a range of funding opportunities and initiatives designed to help ideas grow, projects develop, and residents benefit.

Seedcorn Funding

These small grants are perfect for individuals with a fresh idea or for new and emerging groups hoping to get their first project off the ground. That's why the Council offers Seedcorn Grants of up to £500. The application process is straightforward, and this funding could be the very step that helps your idea flourish.

Service Level Agreements

For established community groups and organisations, the Council provides the opportunity to apply for a four-year Service Level Agreement. Grants typically range from £500 to £2,000 and can support either revenue or capital projects. To be successful, applications must demonstrate how the NEW project will benefit residents of Dunstable and align with the Council's Corporate Plan objectives. Funded projects are expected to deliver something new and meaningful for the community.

Scan the QR code for more details...



SCAN ME



Do you run or are you member of a local sports club or society? Are you struggling to get funding for the basics like general running costs? We understand how difficult it can be to raise those vital funds, but as Matt Carrington, Chair of Dunstable Town Football Club shows, signing up to Dunstable Community Lottery could help make all the difference. Since signing up in May this year the club has raised £353.50 and is on track to raise £2,366 over the next 12 months.

When we spoke to Matt about his experience of the community lottery he said: "We're extremely pleased to be part of the Dunstable Community Lottery. As we don't own Creasey Park, a lot of money we raise has to go towards rental of pitches, but we truly want to be a fully inclusive club, so this will mean we are able to help support our youth coaches and give our young players the best experience possible."

"This money will go towards coaching courses for our youth coaches as well as equipment for our players. This will hopefully mean that every player that comes to Dunstable Town Football Club will be able to have an enhanced coaching experience as well as access to equipment to give them every chance to be as successful as possible."

As they say you've got to be in it to win it, and it really couldn't be easier simply visit www.dunstablecommunitylottery.co.uk/good-causes and complete the online form. It takes just 2 minutes to complete. Then, once your good cause is approved, you can start raising that vital cash. It's a fantastic and easy way for your supporters to do their bit to raise money for the club whilst having some fun too.



Want to play Dunstable Community Lottery?

Tickets cost just £1, with 60p from every ticket sold going directly to local good causes. Each week, players could win up to £25,000, with draws taking place every Saturday at 8 pm. Many local organisations have already signed up to benefit, meaning every ticket purchased directly helps strengthen our community. It wouldn't be possible without you! Play the lottery today.

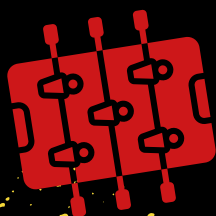
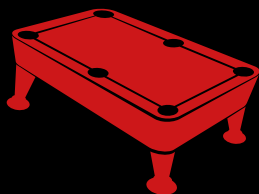


SCAN ME



Grove Corner

Youth & Community Hub



Fun, Friends and New Experiences with Dunstable Youth Activities!

Looking for safe, welcoming, and exciting things for young people to do in Dunstable? Dunstable Town Council runs a fantastic programme of FREE activities, led by our qualified youth workers. Whether your young person is keen to try something new, meet up with friends, or simply relax in a friendly environment, there's something for everyone. Even better – young people get to help shape the activities we run!

Grove Corner – A Hub for Young People

Four nights a week, Grove Corner is the place to be. Inside, there's always plenty going on: arts and crafts, pool, air hockey, table football, gaming in our dedicated suite, or just listening to music and chatting with friends. It's a fun and safe space to spend time, with something for every interest.

Pokémon Tuesdays

For Pokémon fans, Tuesdays are extra special! Sessions include everything from card trading, themed crafts, designing your own characters, and playing Pokémon games, to friendly battles with friends. Later in the evening, a quieter session offers older young people the chance to enjoy games and social time in a calmer setting.

Grove Corner Weekly Sessions

Monday: 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm (ages 13 to 18)

Tuesday: 5 pm to 6.30 pm (ages 10 to 13) / 6.45 pm to 8.15 pm (ages 14 to 18, up to 25 SEND)

Wednesday: 3.30 pm to 5 pm (ages 16 to 18, up to 25 SEND) / 5.15 pm to 6.45 pm (ages 13–15)

Friday: 4 pm to 5.30 pm (ages 14–18, up to 25 SEND) / 6 pm to 7.45 pm (ages 10 to 13)

Out and About in the Community

Our youth team doesn't just stay indoors – they also head out into parks, green spaces, shopping parades, and Grove skate park to meet young people where they are. They're always up for a chat and bring activities along too.

You can also catch the team at The Dunstable Centre for free evening sessions on:

Monday: 5.45 pm to 6.45 pm

Tuesday: 5.45 pm to 6.45 pm

Wednesday: 5 pm to 6 pm

Youth Café at Bennett's Café & Community Hub

On Fridays from 3 pm to 5 pm, the team hosts a Youth Café at Bennett's Café and Community Hub. Young people can hang out straight after school, design menus, prepare food, and learn new skills. There's often an extra activity to enjoy too.

Stay Connected

Our youth workers are out and about across Dunstable every week, so check Grove Corner on Facebook or Instagram for the latest updates and pop-up activities. Facebook @GroveCornerDunstable Insta: @grovecorner

We can't wait to welcome your young person to a session soon – why not encourage them to come along, bring a friend, and get involved?

GC

Celebrating Dunstable's Green Spaces



ABOVE: The judges visiting Woodside Industrial Estate and Community Gardens speaking with Tony Parker - Landscaping Manager.

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE Anglia in Bloom Judges

When the Anglia in Bloom judges visited Dunstable this year, the Town Council's Corporate Marketing and Communications Officer was given the chance to interview them for Talk of the Town. Here is what Chris, Paul and Adrian had to say:

What's your favourite part of being a judge?

Chris: Mine is the joy of meeting the community and all the different characters within that community. No matter where we go within East Anglia, all the people we meet have that common goal of wanting to make a difference for their community. It's just great to see.

Paul: I love seeing and hearing about new ideas and the way people all work differently to improve their environment. I then get to share these ideas with other communities that I visit, and this helps In Bloom grow from strength to strength.

Adrian: Meeting people, celebrating their achievements and acknowledging how hard they work for their community is very important. And seeing that sense of pride they have is fantastic.

Are there any new trends in horticulture or sustainability we should be adopting?

Chris: Sustainable, drought resistant and pollinator friendly planting is really important these days and we have seen some of that here in Dunstable including the work that Tony Parker and the Landscaping team are doing at the Woodside Industrial Estate. Caring about biodiversity and wildlife will be important for future generations.

Paul: Visiting Mentmore Recreation Ground you can see the transformation that is taking place to encourage wildlife and wildflowers. It looks very natural, and it is good to see that Dunstable is already ahead of the game.

Adrian: Encouraging people to respect wildlife, especially in their own gardens because gardens take up a large area of our country, and that is very important for wildlife.

If you were a flower, which one would you be and why?

Adrian: I would be a foxglove I think, because each individual flower on a foxglove is unique. There are no two flowers identical, and it's good to be unique.

Chris: Probably a lavender because no matter how you treat them, they seem to survive and be resilient and still come out smelling wonderful with a bit of fragrance and some colour as well.

Paul: I would be an Aquilegia (Colombine) because every plant that spreads seeds creates a new slightly differently plant.

What is the most unusual thing you've ever seen when judging?

Paul: Last year, I visited a community that bought an old car, cut the roof off and made it into a planter. A Mini in the centre of the village with plants growing out of it is a real talking point.



Dunstable Crowned 2025 Anglia in Bloom Overall Winner and Multiple Category Successes

Dunstable is celebrating after being named the Overall Winner of Anglia in Bloom 2025 for the very first time! This remarkable achievement recognises the town's dedication to making Dunstable a greener, brighter, and more welcoming place for residents and visitors. This is a fantastic achievement in the same year that the Town Council is proudly celebrating its 40th anniversary.

The award reflects the combined efforts of volunteers, community groups, local businesses, schools, and the Town Council, who have all played their part in ensuring Dunstable continues to flourish.

Alongside the top award, Dunstable collected a host of other honours:

- ✿ **Gold Award and Winner** in the Large Town category
- ✿ **Gold** for Grove House Gardens in the Parks Virtual entry
- ✿ **Gold** for Bennett Memorial Recreation Ground in the Parks Virtual entry
- ✿ **Gold and Winner** for Dunstable Cemetery in the Cemetery Virtual entry

- ✿ **Winner** of the Special Award for Best Industrial and Commercial Area – Woodside Community Garden and Industrial Estate
- ✿ **Winner** of the Special Award for Best Local Authority Floral Display – Dunstable Town Centre Floral Displays
- ✿ **Silver** for Blows Down in the Conservation and Nature Reserve Category
- ✿ **Silver Gilt** for The Globe Public House in the Pub Virtual entry
- ✿ **Shortlisted** for the Special Award for Gardening for Wildlife and Biodiversity – Mentmore Recreation Ground
- ✿ **Shortlisted** for the Special Award for Best Grown Your Own – Incredible Edible Dunstable

Special recognition goes to the dedicated Dunstable in Bloom team, whose passion and commitment year after year have been central to the town's achievements, alongside the many volunteers, local businesses, and Town Council staff who give their time and support to ensure Dunstable continues to bloom.

Green Flag Awards

Bennett Memorial Recreation Ground, Dunstable Cemetery, Grove House Gardens and Priory Gardens retain coveted Green Flag Awards, the international quality mark for well-managed parks and green spaces.

The awards follow a full judging assessment earlier this year and confirm that these cherished spaces continue to meet the highest standards in terms of maintenance, community involvement, biodiversity, and visitor experience.

Even more impressively, Bennett Memorial Recreation Ground and Dunstable Cemetery have increased their overall scores, reflecting ongoing improvements and a continued commitment to excellence — a fantastic achievement for all involved.

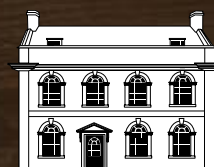
Priory Gardens has also retained its Green Heritage Site Accreditation, supported by Historic England, in recognition of its outstanding historic features and thoughtful management.

The Town Mayor Councillor Sally Kimondo, raised the flag at the official flag raising ceremony on Wednesday 10 September, in the presence of councillors, council staff, friends groups and volunteers.





Priory House Gift Shop



PRIORY HOUSE

We're delighted to announce that the Priory House Gift Shop is back open with a brand-new look! Open Monday to Saturday, 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, it's the perfect place to have a warm cuppa and soak up the festive spirit by enjoying a spot of Christmas shopping.

Come and discover a wonderful range of Christmas gift ideas, from festive socks and stunning jewellery to cosy woolly hats, gloves, and even Christmas dog coats, plus so much more. Whether you're shopping for loved ones or treating yourself, our shelves are full of unique and thoughtful gifts.

While you shop, you can also relax and enjoy our delicious lite bites menu, cakes and hot drinks, or celebrate the season with a warming mulled wine or a chilled glass of prosecco.

Shopping Priory House Gift shop means supporting local. It is a fantastic place to catch up with friends, as well as a relaxed Christmas shopping experience.



Paint a Christmas Decoration Workshop

Sunday 7 December

11 am and 1.30 pm | £12.50 per child (Ages 4+)

Looking for a fun and festive activity to do with the kids? Join us for a magical and festive creative workshop, where children can design and paint their very own Christmas decoration! It's a fun and creative way for children to get into the Christmas spirit, while making a lovely keepsake that can be treasured year after year, or gives kids the chance to proudly create a special gift for family or friends. So, come along, bring your imagination and let's make some Christmas sparkle together!

What's Included? Three different Christmas decorations, paints, brushes and glitter. Children will get delicious hot chocolate and a tasty Christmas treat. Taking their finished decoration home, perfect for hanging on the tree or given as a thoughtful handmade gift.

Who Can Join? This activity is suitable for children aged 4 and over. (Younger ones may need a little help from an adult elf). Due to space, only one parent/carer can attend with the child. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not need to buy a ticket. Hot food and drinks will be available to purchase, plus the gift shop will be open.



SCAN ME



Festive Charm Bracelet & Earrings Workshop

Tuesday 9 December

6 pm to 8 pm | £20 per person

Add a little sparkle to the season, design and make your very own jewellery set – perfect as a thoughtful handmade Christmas gift or treating yourself.

Choose from a wide selection of beads and festive charms, including snowflakes, stars, hearts, and more. With guidance from our friendly workshop leader, you'll create a beautiful bracelet and a unique set of earrings, whether matching or completely different, the choice is yours. The workshop is a relaxed and fun experience, ideal for all ages, and everyone leaves with a stunning handmade jewellery set.

During your visit, don't forget to explore our gift shop filled with unique finds for Christmas gifts. We will be serving hot drinks, wine, prosecco, and light bites, perfect for adding a little extra indulgence to your festive outing.



SCAN ME



Christmas Tea Blending Workshop

Thursday 11 December

6 pm to 8.30 pm | £35 per person

Guided by our expert host, you'll explore an array of teas, herbs and spices to create your very own festive blend – perfect for sipping on cosy winter evenings or sharing as a handmade gift. Think cinnamon, cloves, orange peel, and warming spices that capture the true taste of Christmas.

To make the experience extra indulgent, you'll also enjoy homemade cakes infused with different tea blends, as well as the chance to try Christmas-inspired tea cocktails. You'll learn about the history, health benefits and creative possibilities of tea, while experimenting with flavour, fragrance, and balance.

You'll leave with your own signature festive tea blend and a heart full of seasonal cheer. This is the perfect workshop for tea lovers, foodies, and anyone who wants to add a little sparkle to their Christmas celebrations.



SCAN ME

To book our workshops, please scan the QR codes or call us on 01582 891420 and we can book it on your behalf.



Dunstable Town Guides
would like to invite you to



2025

Ghost Walks

Take a spooky walk around Dunstable!

Family Walk

Friday 31st October at 6.30 pm
Suitable for children over 8 years old
accompanied by an adult.
Feel free to come in fancy dress and bring
a torch.



Crying child

Halloween Ghost Walk

Friday 31st October at 8.00 pm
Suitable for 15 years and over

Middle Row's
children in a window

Christmas Ghost Walk

Sunday 28th December at 8.00 pm

Not so friendly
poltergeist
Cuthbert's ghost



The witch in a bottle

The walk starts outside Priory Church. Tickets
cost £5.00 per adult and £2.50 per child & need to
be booked in advance from Priory House Heritage
Centre on 01582 891420.

Please check our website for details and any programme changes
dunstabletownguides.co.uk



Follow us on Facebook

Supported by Dunstable Town Council

Bedfordshire Day



Saturday 29th November 2025

The Dunstable Swan Jewel

FREE events at the Priory Church of St Peter

A unique brooch was lost in Medieval Dunstable and
found again in 1965. We are celebrating the 60th
anniversary of it's discovery.

11 am Talk 'Who Lost the Dunstable Swan Jewel'

a look at all the candidates,
by Jean Yates

1.30 pm Talk 'Looking down a kaleidoscope at a roundel: the Renaissance world of Dunstable's Canon William Cotson'

a talk announcing a unique discovery
by Stephen Williams

See and hear about the 1965 dig and find out what
happened to it afterwards.

Refreshments and light lunches will be available at the church



Dunstable Town Guides
would like to invite you to

Tea Time Tales

Tea Time Tales with refreshments are held on alternate Thursday
afternoons between 2.30 pm and 4 pm currently in Grove House,
76 High Street North, Dunstable, LU6 1NF organised by the
Dunstable Town Guides

Thursday 13 November

Cars, Conkers and Coffee Machines: Comic Verse from Everyday Life

by Richard Harrington

27 November

How Dunstable helped Narnia and The Hobbit come to life, told to us by a friendly Whipsnade Lion

by Stephen Williams

11 December

Christmas: A Journey Through Other Traditions

by Jana Veyres

Tea Time Tales ticket price: £6.

Book your tickets online by scanning the QR code:

If you experience any issues with booking tickets,
please call Priory House on 01582 891420.



Please check our website for details and any programme changes
dunstabletownguides.co.uk



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Supported by Dunstable Town Council



Dunstable Town Guides
would like to invite you to

2025 Christmas Ghost Walk

Take a spooky walk around Dunstable!

Sunday 28th December at 8.00pm

Crying child
Not so friendly
poltergeist
Middle Row's
children in a window
Cuthbert's ghost



The witch in a bottle

The walk starts outside Priory Church. Tickets
cost £5.00 per adult and £2.50 per child & need to
be booked in advance from Priory House Heritage
Centre on 01582 891420.

Please check our website for details and any programme changes
dunstabletownguides.co.uk



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Bennett's Café & COMMUNITY HUB

The Splash Park season has now come to a close and what a fantastic season it has been, all thanks to you! It's been wonderful to see so many families enjoying the FREE facility throughout the summer. Don't worry, the Splash Park will be back and ready to reopen next year!

To finish off the season, we hosted our very first Doggy Splash & Play event. Thanks to feedback, we're already looking at ways to adapt and improve it, and we hope to bring it back even bigger and better next year!

Bennett's Café & Community Hub will be open Wednesday and Thursday, 10 am to 4 pm, Friday 10 am to 3 pm and Saturday and Sunday 10 am to 2 pm, offering our autumn and winter menus, as well as a range of hot drinks to warm up.

We are also bringing a host of community events, such as Winter Warmth Hub drop in sessions, talks from the amazing Good Life Sorted, alongside returning favourites; Adult Craft Club, Chatty Café, Home Education and new this year, Messy Play!

Bennett's Café & Community Hub will be open for some autumnal and spooky activities in October half term, including a return of our fabulous build-a-bear sessions which will be held on Friday 31 October, so do keep an eye on the what's on page of our website www.dunstable.gov.uk or our social media @bennettssplash for more information!

And it won't be long before ... shhh... Christmas! We will have festive build-a-bear sessions available then too, a beautiful way to make some festive memories with your little ones, as well as more festive fun happening at the café too!

We look forward to welcoming you all through the doors and seeing you pop by for a warm drink on a chilly day!

If you have any enquiries about the advertised events, or hiring the space for an event of your own, please do not hesitate to contact us at: communities@dunstable.gov.uk or by calling 01582 891434



Dunstable Town Council and Committee Meetings



Members of the public are encouraged to attend meetings. Residents are welcome to speak to councillors at the start of any meeting on any subject relevant to the council or committee agenda. Agendas for all meetings can be accessed on the Council's website 10 days before the scheduled meeting. Meetings are held at Grove House, 76 High Street North, Dunstable (unless stated otherwise). Meetings are livestreamed on the Dunstable Town Council's YouTube channel and are available to watch afterwards. If you are intending to speak at a meeting or ask a question, it can be helpful if you let us know beforehand to give councillors a chance to prepare an informed answer. Please email democratic@dunstable.gov.uk or call 01582 513000. The full calendar of meetings and agendas can be found at www.dunstable.gov.uk/council-meetings.

2025

27/10	Plans Sub-Committee 6.15 pm
03/11	Community Services Committee 7 pm
06/11	Personnel Sub-Committee 7 pm
10/11	Grounds & Environmental Services Committee 7 pm
17/11	Plans Sub-Committee 6.15 pm
17/11	Finance and General Purposes Committee 7 pm
27/11	Dunstable Joint Committee 6.30pm (at Grove View Health Hub)
01/12	Full Council 7 pm
08/12	Plans Sub-Committee 6.15 pm

2026

05/01	Plans Sub-Committee 6.15 pm
12/01	Community Services Committee 7 pm
15/01	Personnel Sub-Committee 7 pm
19/01	Grounds & Environmental Services Committee 7 pm
26/01	Finance & General Purposes Committee 7 pm
02/02	Plans Sub-Committee 6.15 pm
09/02	Full Council 7 pm
23/02	Plans Sub-Committee 6.15 pm

Remembrance Day Parade & Civic Service

Sunday 9 November, from 10.30 am

Show your support by lining the High Street to watch the parade as it passes through. The parade will set off from Grove House Gardens from 10.30 am and proceed through the town centre towards Priory Gardens, where a two-minute silence will be observed following the striking of the maroon signal, accompanied by wreath-laying at The War Memorial. A service will then take place at Priory Church. All are welcome to attend. Service sheets will be available to download from the Council's website.

Please note that High Street North and High Street South, between Grove House and Priory House Heritage Centre, will be temporarily closed from 10:30 am to 11:00 am on Sunday 9 November for the Remembrance Day Parade.

Armistices Day Tuesday 11 November, 11 am

Join us this Armistice Day at the War Memorial in Priory Gardens as we come together to remember and honour all those who have served and sacrificed in times of conflict. At 11 am, we will observe a two-minute silence to reflect, show our respect, and pay tribute to the courage and dedication of those who gave so much. We invite everyone to stand with us in unity and remembrance.

Lest we forget

Council Services

Central Bedfordshire Council Services

0300 300 8000

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

- Highways Planning and Maintenance
- Council Tax Collection
- Council Housing and Garages
- Street Lighting
- Parking and Blue Badge Parking
- Environmental Health
- Waste Collection, Tidy Tips, Fly Tipping, Street Cleansing and Grit Bins
- Arranging Elections
- Leisure and Libraries
- Schools and Education
- Planning Applications
- Building Control
- Bus Passes and Information
- Trading Standards
- Registering a Birth, Death or Marriage
- Social Care (Adults and Children)
- Licenses, including Taxi, Premises and Street Trading
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Benefits
- Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour
- Independent Living and Care Homes



Central Bedfordshire

Dunstable Town Council Services

01582 513000

www.dunstable.gov.uk

- Dunstable Cemetery
- Open Spaces, Including Recreation Grounds and Play Areas
- Allotments
- Town Ranger Services
- Grove Skate Park
- Detached Youth Work
- Bennett's Café & Community Hub + Splash Park
- Events Programme
- Christmas Lights
- Ashton Square Public Toilets
- Middle Row Markets
- Older People's Support Service
- Mayoralty and Civic Functions
- Priory and Grove House Gardens
- Priory House Heritage Centre, Tea Rooms and Gift Shop
- Grove Corner Young People's Centre
- Floral Displays
- Town Centre Management

Citizens Advice Dunstable

The Dunstable Centre, Court Drive,
Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU5 4JD

Call 01582 670003

Monday to Wednesday 9.30 am - 3:30 pm

Thursday and Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Evening appointments available upon request

Or fill in the enquiry form at:

www.dunstablecab.org.uk/get-advice/email-us/



citizens advice

