



Connecting the Community October – December 2016

EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM BRONZE AWARD WINNERS 2016

CHRISTMAS MARKET

SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2016
11AM – 4PM

DUSTON COMMUNITY CENTRE
PENDLE ROAD
DUSTON
NN5 6DT

FREE ENTRY



- SELECTION OF STALL HOLDERS
- COMMUNITY STALLS
- CAROL SINGERS
- ART EXHIBITION
- CRAFT ACTIVITIES
- FACE PAINTER
- COMMUNITY CAFÉ OPEN SERVING HOT & COLD FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
- PARISH COUNCILLORS ATTENDING & MUCH MORE



Sponsored by Duston & Upton Church

Twinkling lights, Christmas carols, mince pies, and Father Christmas.

Yes, it will soon be that time of year again. Christmas. Many people believe that Christmas is really for the children and indeed children play a large part in our festivities.

The reality of what Christmas is truly about should perhaps produce in all of us, a gasp of amazement and even shock, more of an 'Oh' factor. After all Mary was unmarried when she became pregnant; her baby was born in a back room of a middle Eastern town, and laid in an animal's feeding trough. The visitors who came and saw the baby were a group of rough, uneducated men, shepherds, who were often branded as vagabonds and thieves. The family had to flee in fear of their lives because the king at the time, Herod, had issued an order to kill young boys of two years or under, so the family became refugees.

Less of an 'Aah' factor now and perhaps the most startling fact of all was that this child, Jesus, was in reality, God.

God came identifying himself with humankind, not remote, unseeing, uncaring, but God with us and the message of Christmas is that God is indeed here among us, pardoning our mistakes, giving us hope, loving us through all our life. I hope and pray that you will allow yourselves to marvel and wonder again at the story of Christmas and to enter into it and know God's touch on your own lives. Do come along to the various Christmas services in our churches and sing with us the familiar carols and welcome God in our midst.

God Bless you with His peace at Christmas and the New Year.

Mandy Marriott Team Rector of Duston and Upton Parish.

DUSTON CONNECT

**DUSTON OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE ASSOCIATION
(DOPWA)**

Registered Charity Number 286498

Who are we?

We are a charitable organisation with a committee comprising 17 volunteers which includes a Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary

What do we do?

We meet bi-monthly to organise and plan the following for our 400 members:

An Annual Party

An Annual half day coach trip with lunch

A Christmas card and voucher to spend in the local shops

A Bit of History

There has been a continuous tradition of helping the elderly in Duston dating back 125 years! The first 'Older Folks Christmas Party' was organised in 1891 by the Choir and Ambulance Class of Duston Chapel. To qualify you had to be at least 45 years of age. 40 residents attended, some of whom were brought from Northampton Workhouse by wagonette. Each lady was given a pack of tea and each gentleman 6d of tobacco by the vicar of Duston. The tradition continued, every year, even during the two world wars.

In 1951 Duston Parish Council set up a Welfare Committee to continue the activities with a new qualifying age of 70.

From 1952 annual outings and holidays were introduced by local councillor JP Harrison and in 1958 the food parcels were replaced by a 5 shilling voucher. When Duston Parish Council was absorbed into Northampton in 1965 a new organisation – Duston Old People's Welfare Association (DOPWA) was born and continues to this day celebrating its Golden Jubilee Year in 2015

How can you help?

By supporting fundraising activities held in partnership with Sainsbury's as their current Charity of the Year

By becoming a DOPWA volunteer. As well as hoping to recruit additional 'contacts' to help provide the above services we are currently looking for a minutes secretary, a chairman and a treasurer

Please contact either of the following if you would like more details:

Enid Freeman 01604 753913

David Winter 01604 755207



LIVE ON

TO THE MEMORY OF THE FALLEN AND THE FUTURE OF THE LIVING

The Duston and District Branch of the Royal British Legion provides lifelong support for the Armed Forces community - serving men and women, veterans, **and their families.**

We are here to signpost you to the support and guidance that you may need. We are one of the 2,500 Royal British Legion branches across the UK and overseas.

All ages are welcome to show support for the Armed Forces, **whether they serve or not**, and participate in the welfare and fundraising work of the Legion as well as social activities.

Annual membership for Veterans or **Non Service Adult** is £17 per year
Youth Membership 12 to 16 years is a one off payment of £5.

(Full membership will commence from the age of 17 years)

Pop along to one of our meetings or events

Duston and District Branch Meetings held: First Thursday of Every month at
Trilogy Sports Centre, Cotswold Avenue, Duston. 7.30pm

Activities and Events:

Friday 14th October – A invitation to attend the Annual Dinner Dance
(Tickets Only and available at £35 pp)
Marriott Hotel, Northampton

Saturday 29th October – Children's Halloween Disco – (Tickets Only)
Duston Community Centre, Pendle Road, Duston NN5 4XD

29th October – 11th November – Poppy Appeal Collection at Sainsburys,
Sixfields
(Volunteers needed)

For More information please Email:

PAO@dustonrbl.co.uk Tel: 07956 386720

The Royal British Legion
Registered Charity No. 219279

Little Red Riding Hood

A Family Pantomime By Johnathan Freeth

Wed 7th – Sat 10th December 2016

7:30 pm Saturday Matinee 2:30 pm

Tickets **£8** Each Group Ticket **£30**
(4 people)

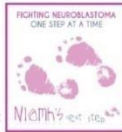


Duston Community Centre,
Pendle Road, Northampton,
NN5 6DT

Order tickets from our
website:
www.dustonplayers.org.uk

Or
Box Office
07464 859017

Proudly Sponsoring:



XMAS WINDOW INITIATIVE

This year, businesses along Main Road in Duston have the opportunity to

take part in the Xmas Window Initiative to improve the atmosphere of our Village for Christmas. Each day will reveal a different festive window display. The Window Initiative will start by switching on the Xmas Lights and then end with a service at St Luke's Community Centre. All are welcome to attend.

Further details can be found on the Duston Parish Website, Facebook and Twitter.

Duston in Bloom 2016 – Bronze Award Winners!

In last month's edition of the newsletter we noted that the Parish Council had entered the East Midlands section of Britain in Bloom competition. Having only made the decision in March, and with judging taking place the first week of July, it left little time to get organised.

However, the Parish Council staff pulled together and with help from Cotswold WI, Hopping Hill Primary School Year 3 students, Caring Kindergarten Nursery, Perkins Florists, Golby's, CGM (Complete Ground Maintenance) and Barnett Landscapes plus some excellent partnership working with the Youth Group, Voluntary Impact and Duston's local policing team, we made it happen.

We hope you will all agree that Duston looked 'in full bloom' and the two judges who visited were very impressed with the excellent efforts from a first time entrant. On Wednesday 14th September representatives from the Parish Council attended the award ceremony in Mansfield and were really delighted to receive a Bronze award and a Judges Award for the Grow Together Allotment! Well done to all on an excellent result for a first entry and hopefully this will improve on years to come.

We will update you next month on how you can get involved in Duston in Bloom.

If you are a member of a group or have an event or activity you would like to include in the January – March issue please do not hesitate in contacting the Duston Parish Council Office by email: office@duston-pc.gov.uk

Subject Newsletter

Produced by Duston Parish Council, editorial by Councillor Lisa – Jayne Read