



Community Connect

Issue 10

April 2021

Helping to connect Church and Community groups together for the wellbeing of all

Inside this issue:

- 1 Revd Mandy writes
- 2 Service rota
- 2 My Gran's recipes
- 3 Roly Polys
- 3 DPC Connect
- 4 Colouring
- 5 Puzzle time
- 6 St Luke's CE Primary School
- 6 Plants & crafts
- 7 Wellbeing popup
- 8 Easter trail
- 9 A walk around my garden
- 10 Community links
- 11 Meet the meerkat
- 12 Beyond the cross
- 13 The Food Bank
- 14 Further Info

Rev'd Mandy writes...

Happy Easter!

Easter is above all about hope. On Good Friday we were reminded of the cruel death of Jesus on a Roman cross, the grief of his family and friends, the confusion, the apparent waste of a young man's life, who had brought healing, forgiveness, hope and love to so many. And on that Friday his lifeless body was sealed in a stone tomb, a cold dark burial place for a man who gave life and light to so many.

But... And there is a 'but', death was not the end, for on the Sunday morning, the grave was empty and Jesus appeared not once or twice but many times to hundreds of people. He had risen from the dead. He had died in our place and paid the price for our wrongdoing. But now he had risen and had made the way for everyone to have eternal life if they believe in Him.

This year has seen the death of so many people not only in our nation but across the world. And above all the message I proclaim as a Christian minister is 'Death is not the end' There is hope if we dare to believe in the man from Galilee.



Our grateful thanks to Daniel Carpenter for this beautiful Easter painting

The following is a true account of one woman's hope in the man Jesus...

'As Vice President, George Bush represented the U.S. at the funeral of former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. Bush was deeply moved by a silent protest carried out by Brezhnev's widow. She stood motionless by the coffin until seconds before it was closed. Then, just as the soldiers touched the lid, Brezhnev's wife performed an act of great courage and hope, a gesture that must surely rank as one of the most profound acts of civil disobedience ever committed: She reached down and made the sign of the cross on her husband's chest.

There in the citadel of secular, atheistic power, the wife of the man who had run it all hoped that her husband was wrong. She hoped that there was another life, and that that life was best represented by Jesus who died on the cross, and that the same Jesus might yet have mercy on her husband.'

So remember :

Light has met darkness and the darkness has not put it out.

Love has met sin and the sin has been forgiven.

Life has met death and death has met its end. Alleluia!

It is with much sadness that we report the death of Jain Kidsley who has assembled our newsletter over the past months with such flair and dedication. We pray for her family and friends at this time.

We also welcome Tim Dwelly to our team, who now takes over the task of putting all your contributions

Service Rota April / May

I am very pleased to announce that as from Easter Day, services will resume in St Luke's and St Francis' churches. I am attaching a service rota with dates of services. It is important to note, however, that when we attend services we must continue to adhere to the Covid guidelines. Face masks must be worn and hands must be sanitised on entry to church. Social distancing must be observed at all times. Sadly, singing is still not permitted and Communion will be received in bread only.

Thank you for your patience and we look forward to sharing worship with you again soon.

God Bless, Mandy.

All services are at 10am.

Easter Day 4th April 10am services at St Luke's and St Francis in order to reduce too many numbers attending at one church, assuming that most will want to attend on Easter Day.

Thursday 8th April St Luke's
 Sunday 11th April St Luke's
 Tuesday 13th April St Francis'
 Sunday 18th April St Francis'
 Thursday 22nd April St Luke's
 Sunday 25th April St Luke's
 Tuesday 27th April St Francis'
 Sunday 2nd May St Francis'
 Thursday 6th May St Luke's
 Sunday 9th May St Luke's
 Tuesday 11th May St Francis'
 Sunday 16th May St Francis'
 Thursday 20th May St Luke's
 Sunday 23rd May St Luke's
 Tuesday 25th May St Francis'
 Sunday 30th May St Francis'

My gran's old recipe books – Ian Hanlon

So, who spotted my deliberate mistake last month? The relief of Mafeking was in 1900 and I typed in 1890 by mistake. Sorry about that – I will try better next time! I have two of my gran's recipe books and, this month, I thought I would include one recipe from each one.

The first one is taken from the printed, locally based book and includes the name and address of the person who contributed the recipe. Many of you, I am certain, will have had a cup of coffee in Lawrence's in St Giles Street and enjoyed one of their delicious cheesecakes which, unbeknown to me, contained potato!



Potato cheese-cake

Miss H. E. Hawkes, Cecil Road, Queen's Park, Northampton

Mix 4 ozs. of finely mashed potato with 2 ozs. of butter, 4 ozs. of castor sugar, 3 ozs. of currants or sultanas, a little candied peel, two eggs (well beaten), and a few drops of vanilla or almond essence. Sufficient for about 20 cheesecakes. Bake until ready.

Parsley Brandy

From my Gran's hand-written notebook and is for one of the many wines that she made during her life.

3/4lb of parsley, 3 1/2 lbs sugar, 2 lemons, 3 oranges, 1/2 oz. of ginger (optional), 1/2 lb raisins, 1/2 lb wheat, 1 gallon of water and 1 oz. yeast. Chop parsley, being careful to save all the juice, then pour boiling water over it. Leave for 12 hours, then strain carefully through a thick muslin bag. Bring liquid to the boil and simmer for 5 minutes, add sugar and stir until dissolved, add wheat and raisins. Cut oranges and lemons into halves and add the juice to the liquid. When cold add the yeast. Ferment for 14 days, strain and put into an airlock jar. Leave until ready to drink. Enjoy!!



For all owners of fur and feather babies, past and present

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE ROLYPOLYS

We want to share with you some really Good News.

Chapter 1

We know that some of you have lost your fur babies recently and that this has made lockdown even harder for you. You say they have died but we say they have 'gone over the Rainbow Bridge'.

The sad part is that you can't see them anymore. You can't share cuddles, play-times or walkies and it is their company you miss more than anything. We want you to know that 'over the rainbow bridge' is a wonderful place. They miss you too but are happy with lots of other fur and feather babies where they can play in safety and are looked after by the Maker, who loves them and you very much.

He was sad to lose them when he gave them to you, but so wanted to share with you the love he had for them so he let you have them for a little while even though he knew your world would wear them out. He has taken them back to remake them and you will all be together again some day.

Next time we will tell you more about the Rainbow Bridge....!



DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

More info on our Facebook and Website or contact us by phone if you are not online.

01604 583626
events@duston-pc.gov.uk
www.duston-pc.gov.uk

DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL: Connect with us

We hope you are all well and enjoying the sunshine and spring bulbs. Here's how you can connect with us and each other during the month of April.

EASTER TRAIL 29th MARCH – 9th APRIL

Join our trail around the village; 20 locations for you to spot with a fascinating fact at each one to learn more about Duston. We have had a lot of fun putting this together. Big thanks to Kathy, Barbara, Margaret, Mark & David from Duston Local History Society for their help and knowledge. Simply enjoy seeing our jolly eggs across the village or enter our competition to win a fabulous Easter hamper.

VIRTUAL WELLBEING TALK – LIVING WITH PARKINSON'S—THU 15TH APRIL 2-3PM

DPC and St Luke's PPG welcome you to our next health talk via Zoom. Angela Jeffery from Northants Parkinson's offering FREE advice and information. You can pre-submit questions, get more info and register your place by emailing enquiries@northantsparkinsonspeople.uk

THE GROW TOGETHER ALLOTMENT – 1ST APRIL 10 - 4pm

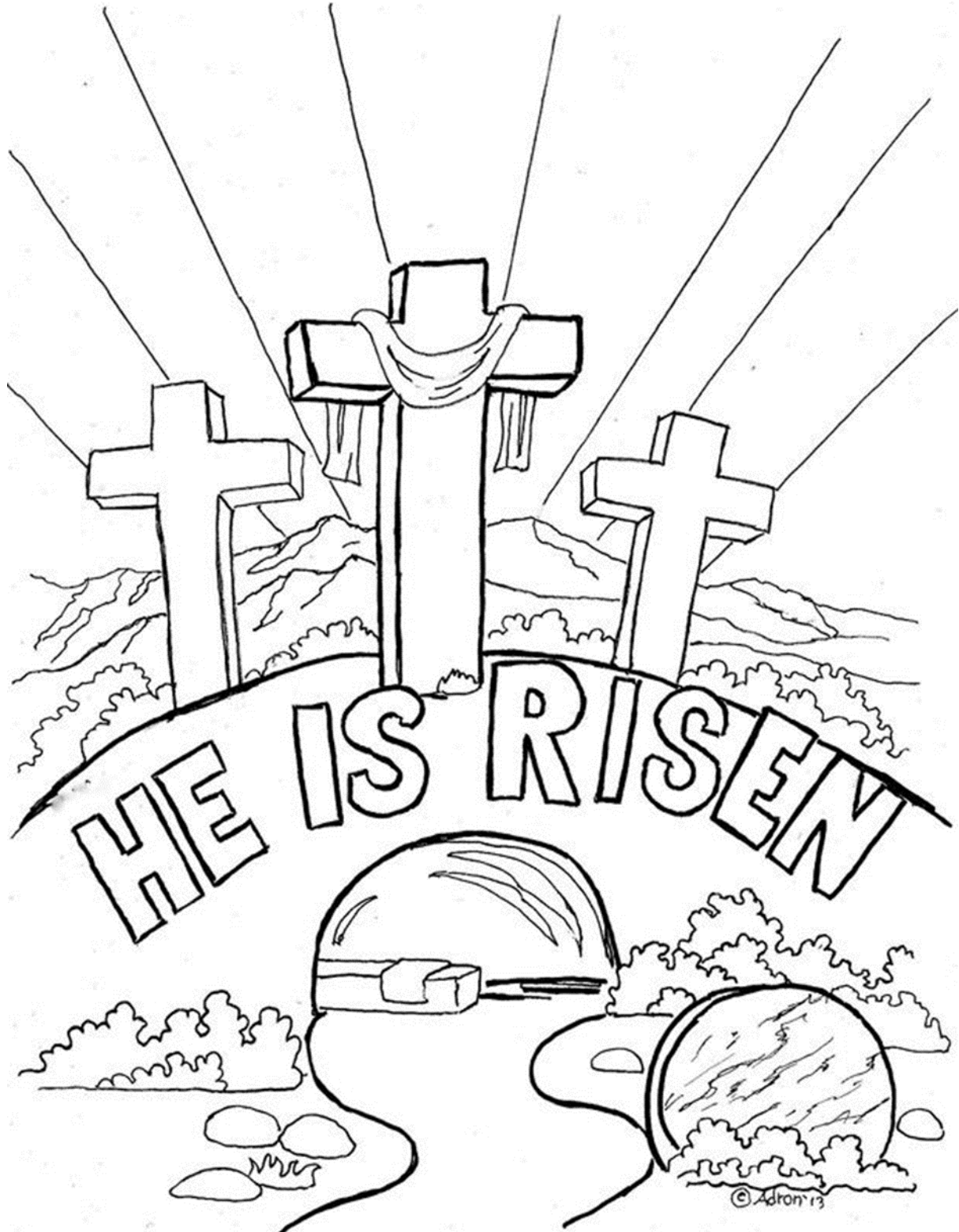
Potato planting day! All ages and abilities are welcome to join our band of volunteers. You choose for how long. Fresh air, friendship and fun. Social distancing rules apply. Call to register so that we can let you in. jenny@cypn.org or call **01604 583626**

KNITTING!

Thank you to all for the wonderful selection of hearts so lovingly knitted, crocheted and crafted for our NHS rainbow. Your brilliant handiwork can be seen on the bank of St Luke's Centre and we are currently working on a second. The pot of gold at the end of our rainbow is you lovely lot! Thank you for getting involved.

A PICTURE TO COLOUR

While away your afternoon colouring this beautiful picture



St Luke's CE Primary School

This week we saw the return of all pupils to school after the latest period of lockdown. The children have made the transition between learning at home and school really well and it is lovely to feel the school being alive again and see their smiling faces as they arrived.

During the latest lockdown, we were more prepared than for the first lockdown! However, we weren't expecting to find out on the Monday evening that schools were closing from Tuesday!

As a school, we wanted to ensure we could support pupils and parents with learning from home so in September we started to implement the use of Microsoft Teams across the school. Over the autumn term, this enabled us to provide lessons to pupils isolating at home alongside their peers in school.

During lockdown, we provided two and half hours of live learning for pupils to access from home. In addition to these live lessons, pupils had additional work to complete using a range of resources. The live lessons were a brilliant way of enabling the children to access learning and have

support from the classteacher and teaching assistants. We also saw that it enabled the pupils to see their friends. We found early on that the children enjoyed being able to interact on this platform with their peers. We had fantastic attendance with pupils at home accessing the lessons and being usually ready for them at least 5 minutes before they started!

We supported families who did not have devices at home by loaning them devices from the school and providing broadband connection or sim cards if needed. We were fortunate to receive funding for devices from Becketts and Sergeants Educational Foundation and Forefront Church which enabled us to purchase additional laptops/ipads to support those families without.

In school, we opened everyday for keyworker and vulnerable children and on average we had 110 pupils accessing school key worker provision daily. The children in school accessed the live lessons in school via Microsoft Teams so they were able to learn with the rest of their class.

It was a very different and exhausting eight weeks but our school com-

munity shone. We saw our children ready to learn everyday and fully engaged in their learning. Parents supported their children with their learning either during the lessons or when their children were completing independent work. This all would not have been possible without the dedicated staff at school who provided learning at home and at school.

We hope that the new normal continues so that our children can enjoy being children and have the opportunity to learn within the classroom!

Sonia Clews

Headteacher

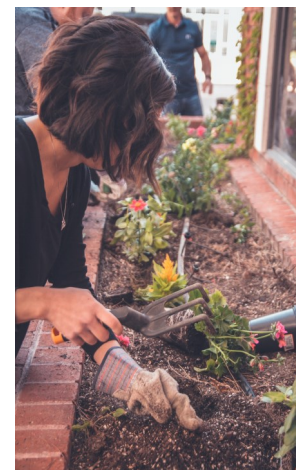


PLANT AND CRAFT SALES



We are hoping to do a few sales for Parish Funds again this year, starting in May.

If you are planting any seeds, could you add a few more for us? Thank you! We shall give dates of the sales nearer the time. Watch this space.





PLEASE JOIN US for our next
VIRTUAL HEALTH &
WELLBEING POP UP

Thursday 15th APRIL | 2pm - 3pm

'Living with Parkinson's'

with Angela Jeffery



A FREE, informative presentation giving help and advice

**Hosted via
Zoom**

**Pre submit any questions
to [bcdm@duston-
pc.gov.uk](mailto:bcdm@duston-pc.gov.uk)**

**For more info and to register, email
enquiries@northantsparkinsonspeople.uk**

Duston Parish Council working in partnership with St Luke's PPG



**T: 01604 583626
E: bcdm@duston-pc.gov.uk
www.duston-pc.gov.uk**



VILLAGE EASTER TRAIL

29TH MARCH TO 9TH APRIL



**WIN AN
EASTER
HAMPER!**



**FIND OUR
20 EGG
LOCATIONS**



**HISTORICAL
DUSTON
FACTS**

For more info, clues & entry form visit

www.duston-pc.gov.uk/easter-trail

T: 01604 583626

E: events@duston-pc.gov.uk

or follow us on Facebook



DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Walk Around My Garden—Rob Taverner

This time of year, the garden is springing in to life. Each day a new plant is stirring and already we have seen the inevitable snowdrops flourish. Looking around the garden many other plants and bulbs are peeping out.



Daffodils are always a good sign that spring is here, we like the smaller versions with “Tete a Tete” being our favourite, they burst into flower and stand quite erect showing themselves to all who look at them.



The Hellebores have been out for some time now. They were badly affected by the recent cold snap, when their heads bowed down almost to the ground. They are recovering now but really need some

sunshine to lift their heads.

Several years ago, we bought some cyclamen, since then they have multiplied and multiplied. Even when not in flower, they give an amazing display of detailed colourful leaves, before closing down and disappearing for a year to recuperate.



Similarly, we also bought a few natural primroses. They kept to themselves for a few years as they established, but now increase each year and have colonised in one of the flower beds. I’m guessing there around 30 plants fully grown, with a similar number germinating each year.



So, to finish, for years we assumed this was a cherry tree, with its beautiful blossom every year - I even used to send a picture to one of my Japanese work colleagues. However, one year in the



autumn we noticed some fruit on the tree. Turns out it is an ornamental “plum” tree.... Ah well.. it’s still very pretty!! (my colleague was always curious as cherry blossom time is in May, but she didn’t want to disillusion me...!!)



I hope you enjoyed walking around my garden, perhaps we can walk somewhere else another month.

Rob

Community Links

As part of our commitment to share and build stronger links in our community we have agreed to share articles with Duston Local History Society (DLHS). Here are a couple of their articles for your interest.

Community Connect



Welcome to Duston

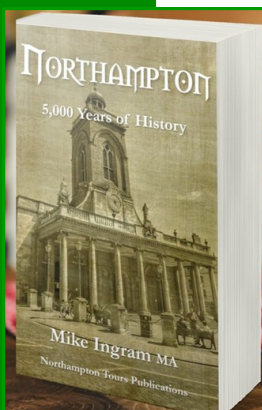
Since the County Asylum was built on the edge of Duston in the 1870s the village has warmly welcomed newcomers. The Asylum advertised widely throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland - and so people came to work in Duston; many married and stayed and raised their families here. In the 1930s we saw new waves of Georgians, Jocks, Taff's and Maccas (Co Durham) - their lovely accents added

to the Northampton "me ducks".

In the 1940s the building of Duston's first factory, British Timken, brought workers from the bombed out factory in Birmingham. Accommodation was in short supply, which may have caused some resentments, but the building of new Council houses and the wonderful Timken's Show helped the newcomers settle in. British Timken brought new employment opportunities and excel-

lent social and sporting activities. Moving on to the 1950s when nurses were recruited from further afield and from the Commonwealth, most from the Caribbean, it must have been tough for them leaving their families far behind, many stayed and gave valuable help to the NHS. This is a special place to live. Duston continues to welcome newcomers from all around the world and we must continue to encourage it.

History of Northampton



We are planning our first Zoom meeting with MIKE INGRAM to continue his series of talks

HISTORY OF NORTHAMPTON

Monday 10th May at 7.30 pm

All you need to watch this meeting is access to a computer or laptop.

You will be sent an access code which you should then copy and paste into your web browser AT THE TIME OF THE MEETING which will then automatically link you to the Zoom presentation.

Further details will be sent later but for now we would appreciate if you would **let Kathy know** if this is something you would like to be involved in, so we have some idea of numbers. Please use the email address:

correspondence.duston.dlhs@gmail.com

ARTIST IN OUR MIDST

We have discovered there are quite a few artists living in Duston.



Beyond the Cross

An Easter Reflection: David Huffadine-Smith

Amongst my collection of Christian faith-related oddities I have several crosses, although I do not actually have a crucifix as such.



One of the things that has become lodged in my mind over the years is that a crucifix (i.e. a cross with an image of the hanging body of Jesus Christ attached to it, usually with a plaque above inscribed with the letters "INRI") reminds us that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, following an unjust Trial, the outcome of which was based on the authorities of the day yielding to civil expediency under political pressure, rather than pursuing Justice.

On the other hand, a cross, with no hanging body, reminds us that the dead body of Jesus was taken down from the Cross, was buried underground in a borrowed Tomb for three days in accordance with pre-existing Holy Scriptures, from which He miraculously arose from the dead.

One of my collection of crosses is in the form of three cleats or cut nails roughly fused together in the form of a cross, a reminder to me that neither

the Cross nor the Tomb could hold Him, and I cannot help but think of the art-work in Ely Cathedral entitled "Noli me Tangere" (do not touch me), which depicts the encounter between Jesus and Mary Magdalene on that first Easter Morning.

That particular Mary promptly disappears from the New Testament narrative, and whilst that disappearance has created much speculation amongst writers of pulp fiction, if we stick to fact, what does happen, every year, is that Easter is followed by Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descending as Fire from Above, a New Beginning in our relationship with God.



But my favourite (should I have a favourite?) cross is in the form of an oval plaque or medallion scarred with random grooves, but which also has a cut-out of a plain simple cross, which reminds me of the scourging that Jesus received as part of this obscene quasi-judicial process, and in our own lives, we have probably all received scourgings in one form or another.



Hold that medallion up to the light, look through the cut-out, and what you see in the Light is "beyond the cross", and that reminds me that whilst every year we revisit the Trial, the Crucifixion and the Resurrection, having looked back, we then need to turn and look forward, through and beyond the Cross, continually re-assessing the Easter Story in the light of our present situation and circumstances, and prepare ourselves for the moment that it is time for us to receive that Fire from Above.

**The Cross is not the end,
it is the start of a new
beginning.**



The FOOD BANK Needs you!

Duston United Reformed Church works with Re:store to offer a food bank.

Situated opposite the Bakery in Main Road Duston, we are open on Saturday mornings from 10.00 until noon to provide ready packed groceries, we also have house-

hold products, personal hygiene items, nappies/wipes, baby food and a treats box from which you may chose additional items.

PLEASE if you need some help, come and see us. You will be assured of a confidential, warm and friendly welcome. If you know of anyone who could do with a helping hand, please tell them about us. During the current pandemic, we follow COVID guidelines, please wear a mask. One person at a time, unless you have children with

you, in which case you may bring them in with you. A one way system is in place.

Donations may be brought to Church on Saturday and Monday mornings between 10 and noon. We currently need long life milk, tinned plate pies/tinned meat, tinned vegetables (large and small). large packets of cereal, tinned fruit/tinned rice puddings. We cannot accept fresh produce.

Thank you so much.



Remember
YOU may
also need the
Food Bank!

Top 5 Items to donate this month

All in date please...

- ◆ Long Life Milk
- ◆ Plate Pie (ie Fray Bentos or like)
- ◆ Tinned Veg (Lg & Sm)
- ◆ Tinned Fruit & rice Pudding
- ◆ Breakfast Cereal



In these times we are all struggling in different ways and some more than others. There is one way some of us can help by donating to the Food Bank.

We can't drop off at churches now, but you can drop off donations at St Luke's Rectory 3 Main

Road Duston, and Liz and Suzi are also happy to pick up items from you at home, when they are out on their walk. **Call Revd Mandy on 07898 364827** if this is the case and she will pass the message on to Liz and Suzi.

Thank you.

Donations

URC - Sat & Mon 10 – 12

St Luke's Rectory – 3 Main Road

Liz & Suzi can Pick up on their walks



Helping to connect Church and Community groups together for the wellbeing of all

Community Connect

The Rectory
3 Main Road
Duston
NN5 6JB

Email: aj.marriott123@gmail.com

We aim to get Community Connect out by the first week of each month, so articles for the following month need to be submitted by the beginning of the last week of each month. They can be emailed to Rev'd Mandy Marriott at aj.marriott123@gmail.com or put through the Rectory door 3 Main Road Duston NN5 6JB.

This is your community newsletter so keep your articles coming in.

We love to hear from you.

*We currently don't charge for Community Connect but if you would like to make a donation towards printing costs then we would be very grateful. Donations can be made by cheque to Duston and Upton PCC or by BACS transfer to Duston and Upton PCC Acc number 32599613 Sort Code 23-05-80. **Thank you.***

In your next issue of Community Connect...

We are grateful to Rob Taverner for his delightful photos of his garden in this month's newsletter. Next month Darrin Stevens will be sharing some of his Spring 'photos from St Luke's Churchyard. So why not be inspired as lockdown eases to get out and snap some nature 'photos!

Here's a taster from Darrin's selection...

