

HELPING TO
CONNECT CHURCH
AND COMMUNITY
GROUPS
TOGETHER
FOR THE
WELLBEING
OF ALL

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SSUE 16 OCTOBER 2021

Rev'd Mandy writes...

How can we can make a difference to other people's lives? Often it can be in small ways.

Now a number of years ago the charity Open Doors which is a charity that supports persecuted Christians across the world were encouraging people to pray for and donate funds to help those in need in Syria and they put out this very striking poem which I would like to share with you as the sentiments of the poem can relate to many different world situations where people are in need and encourage us to offer what we can, however small, because when we put our gifts alongside the gifts of others, then it really does make a difference.

One light can fight the darkness
One seed can grow a flower
One prayer can move a mountain
One voice speak truth to power
Yes one voice makes a difference
But when joined by thousands more
Then a whisper turns into a shout
Which no one can ignore.
When one light is joined by others
It can pierce the darkest storm.
Many flames can heat an oven
And keep a family warm.
And one seed gives you one flower
But when many seeds are spread.



Then the hungry will be nourished
And the starving will be fed.
One prayer can move a mountain
If that's so, then who's to say
What amazing things might happen
When millions start to pray.
So let a thousand flowers blossom
Join with others; build a fire.
Pray with anyone who's willing.
Turn one voice into a choir.
And the people in the darkness

Who will never know your name

They will hear your distant song of hope

And see your far off flame.

They'll draw strength to face the future.

They'll find hope in darkest night.

because one light is good

but millions more can set the world alight.

So remember, your act of kindness, your prayer, your generosity, put alongside others really can make a difference.



Service rota for October/November

Please note: There is now an additional 8.30am service of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month at St Luke's. All other services are at 10am unless otherwise stated.

Sun 3rd Oct 8.30am St Luke's
Sun 3rd Oct St Francis'
Thu 7th Oct St Luke's
Sun 10th Oct St Luke's
Tue 12th Oct St Francis'
Sun 17th Oct St Francis'
Thu 21st Oct St Luke's

Sun 24th Oct St Luke's
Tue 26th Oct St Francis'
Sun 31st Oct St Francis' 10am
Sun 31st Oct St Luke's 3pm
Service of light
Thu 4th Nov St Luke's

Sun 4th Nov 8.30am St Luke's
Sun 7th Nov St Luke's
Tue 9th Nov St Francis'
Sun 14th Nov Remembrance
Sunday 10am Service of Remembrance at St Luke's
10am Service of Holy Com-

Thu 18th Nov St Luke's

munion at St Francis'

Sun 21st Nov St Luke's Tue 23rd Nov St Francis' Sun 28th Nov St Francis'

Due to a recent break in at St Luke's Church, additional keys must be requested through the Church Warden Dorothy Johnson.
Tel: 07958 785248.
Thank you.

Service of Light...



This year we shall be holding a service of light on Sunday 31st October at 3pm St Luke's Church Duston. During this service there will be an opportunity to remember loved ones who have died, especially during the Pandemic. Names will be read

out and candles lit in their memory. Please email Revd Mandy the names of those you wish to be remembered on aj.marriott 123@gmail.com or drop a note of the names through the Rectory door, 3 Main Road Duston. Thank you



Want to talk?

Perhaps you would like to talk about a Baptism or a wedding, or perhaps there's a question you always wanted to ask about God or Church, or you may just want someone to talk to. If so, Revd Mandy can be found each week on Mondays at:

Number 50 Tea Room 50 Main Road Duston from 11am -12 Noon

No appointment necessary just turn up..

If you would prefer a home visit call Revd Mandy on 07898 364827

Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal 2021

Usually at this time (prior to the pandemic) many of us would be making the last purchases for our shoeboxes and trying to fit them all in.

Sadly, last year, we were unable to do it and this year, although the appeal is still running, we have not had the details until recently, and we feel it may be too late to get everything done in time. So if anyone would still like to contribute, we will receive any monetary donations and send them direct to the Link to Hope Headquarters.

Please hand any donations to Rev. Mandy at church or the Rectory, or to our treasurer Dorothy Johnson. The organisers will be able to buy goods and fill shoeboxes on our behalf and I'm sure that we can still make a difference to people in great need at Christmas. Thank you on their behalf.

Ann Morris



Duston Bowls Club meets every Monday evening at the Community Centre. We would love to welcome new members!

Have you ever tried short mat bowls? Come along for a free evening at Duston Bowls Club on Monday 4 October.

We meet at Duston Community Centre, Pendle Road, at 7.30pm and finish at 9.30pm.

All you need to bring is yourself and a pair of flat bottomed shoes

Duston Dashers ····

We're a Social Running Group!

We meet every Sunday morning at Errington Park, 08:55 for an 09:00 start.

All runners are welcome for a nice chatty Sunday run, whether you're in training, want to get active or 'dust down' your trainers!

Come and join us, and we enjoy a nice well-deserved cuppa and a natter at the end.

Any questions please get in touch, DM via Duston Dashers FB page or direct on: **07485 784370**

Lawrie



Macmillan Coffee Morning



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2021 10.00am - 1.00pm

AT ST FRANCIS CHURCH
EASTFIELD ROAD, DUSTON
RAFFLE, CAKE STALL, TOMBOLAS
COME AND JOIN US

Marriage At St Luke's



Congratulations to Garry Brown and Cassandra Price who were married at St Luke's Church Duston on the 14th August. May God Bless you richly in the years ahead!

ISSUE 16 PAGE 5

Revd Heather Wilson. RIP

It is with much sadness that we heard of the death of Revd Heather Wilson last month.

Heather was Team Vicar at St Francis from 2006 until 2015, when she retired and I took up the post of Team Rector for Duston and Upton Parish.

Heather was always very kind and gracious to me as I stepped into her shoes. We shared much laughter together and she was always a great source of local knowledge. We all miss her greatly and some of our parishioners have written their own tributes to a dearly loved vicar and friend.

Heather loved coming to the Wellbeing Café at St Francis and was a whizz at doing jigsaws. Carol writes 'Haven't known you long. Jigsaw Queen! Will miss your pickle. God Bless.'

'Remembering your kindness and love when Stuart died. My children all remember you as a lovely lady. God Bless.'

'Remembering the good times we shared with you and David, especially our meals out when the boys were at Curry Club. Fly high darling Heather. Mary and Bob'.

'Happy memories. Rest in peace my friend. God Bless you. Daphne.'

'Introducing me to play the organ. Baptism of Isabelle Ingram at Bugbrooke. Rest in Peace. Jon Gardiner.'

'I especially remember Heather showing love and kindness when I needed it most. RIP.' Val Thomas.

'Rest in Peace Heather. God Bless' Barbara H.

'Heather such a down to earth approach to Godly matters. Thank you.'

'Remembering a wonderful trip to the Holy Land which Heather led. Her support for Mothers Union when I was leader. A very helpful caring person.'



'I enjoyed working with her at Rothersthorpe. She was so honest, faithful and helpful. She led us on a wonderful and inspirational trip to the Holy Land.'

'She would have made Paddington Bear very happy, her marmalade was heaven' Darrin Stevens.

'So many memories, from a voice on the radio, to our Team vicar; from being a verger at funerals to letting our hair down at Pub Club. I saw so many sides of a faithful, caring priest. She will be sorely missed. Now in Glory. God Bless you Heather for all you were.'

'Dear Heather, we will miss you so much. From church, the radio, Pub Club, your jam and marmalade and your kind and wise words, your friendship. God Bless you and keep you safe in his arms. With love from Ann Morris and family.'

'Heather we will miss you like crazy and your doggies. Remember CPFT!! Thank you for your friendship. I am so sorry we lost you. May the Lord look after you and David. Much love from Gill, Bob and Danni.X'

Heather,thank you for contributing so much to the life of St Francis' Church and for all your help to me as Churchwarden. I an, Molly, Charlotte and Abe. X '

Rest eternal grant unto her O Lord, and let light perpetual sine upon her. Rest in Peace.



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
Facebook@DustonPC

DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL: Connect with us

We hope you are all well and keeping busy as we look forward to beautiful autumnal colours and big moons this month. Here's how you can connect with us during October:

THE GROW TOGETHER ALLOTMENT - Thu 14 & 28 October 10-2pm

We will be having an autumn clear up on the allotment this month ready to put the plot to bed for the winter. We are also offering half term activities for any young people who would like something to do in the holidays so do come and join us. As ever, all ages and abilities are welcome, you choose for how long. Please call to register so we know you are coming jenny@cypn.org or call 01604 583626

LIVE WELLBEING TALK – AGE UK: A GUIDE TO SERVICES AND SUPPORT Drop in between 2 & 3pm

DPC and St Luke's PPG welcome you to our next FREE health talk. We will be hosting this in person, where Roger from AGE UK Northamptonshire will be on hand to give advice and guidance on the wealth of support services available. This is an informal drop in session. Covid control measures will be in place. Register your interest or get more info by emailing events@duston-pc.gov.uk or call 01604 583626

SPRING INTO 2022

We will be out and about later this month tidying up and planting bulbs around the village. Can you help? Is there a spot in Duston that needs a bit of cheer or could benefit from a Womble visit? Would you like to join us in making Duston look even better? Give us a call, whether you have volunteered with us before or would like to, we would love to hear from you. Please email bcdm@duston-pc.gov.uk or call 01604 583626

HALLOWEEN ROCKS 1 – 31 OCTOBER

We are inviting you to join in the fun this month by decorating a rock or pebble with a Halloween theme. Take a picture and post it on our Facebook page if you wish then hide it somewhere in the village for someone else to find and re-hide. To add to the fun, we will be releasing 10 rocks for you to find between 25th and 31st October – look out for the DPC logo on the underside of the rock and contact us to exchange it for a bag full of Halloween booty. More info at www.duston-pc.gov.uk/halloween-rocks

DUSTON REMEMBERS

Look out for our famous poppy cascade which will be on display again towards the end of the month to coincide with the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal which is celebrating its 100th year! The cascade will be floodlit at night and we will also be placing poppies on the lamp posts along the Main Road. If you would like to make a poppy on a stick to add to the display then please get in touch or check our website for more details.

#DUSTON TOGETHER

Do you run or belong to a group or organisation, own a shop or business or provide a service that operates in Duston? We want to hear from you so that we can add your details to our directory. We already have almost 300 listings but are looking to expand that to provide a central point of information for the benefit of all. Please call the office and ask for Sarah or email us for a capture form events@duston-pc.gov.uk

01604 583626

www.duston-pc.gov.uk

Facebook@DustonPC

Iona. By Revd Ann Slater



I have recently returned from a week on lona, a week of pilgrimage, retreat and holiday. Some of you will know that lona is one of my favourite places, my happy place where I feel very close to God.

George MacLeod, founder of the Iona Community based at the Abbey described the island as a "thin place" – only a tissue paper separating the material from the spiritual, and I have often experienced this.

The prospect of being in Bishop's House, the Retreat House for Argyle and the Isles, again this year has kept me going throughout Lockdown. Our visit was uncertain until the last minute as Scotland was much slower at opening up. Eventually we learnt that the group visit could not happen - as a retreat house it's a very comfortable place, but the rooms are not en-suite. However they were offering a limited number of rooms as B&B and I quickly phoned to book one of these. So it was very different this year, only seven of us instead of the usual 24. The advantage was that you never had to queue for a bathroom as you had one allocated to you and only you!

Because we were so few, and the services were not open to the public as they usually are, we didn't follow the set pattern but agreed each day at what time we would meet together for worship and we were very blessed in that one of our number is a brilliant pianist/organist and so we able to sing hymns which was wonderful. It was also different in that we did not have free access to the Abbey, but had to book in. I did go to the Thursday evening Eucharist, which was wonderful, a very relaxed and thought provoking liturgy.

The Iona Community lead a pilgrimage around the island and in our earlier visits we joined them. However, they have published a book called "Around a Thin Place" which we now use to do our own thing at our own pace, which is a bit slower these days.

What is a pilgrimage? Many things to many people. For me it's a journey which is often physical, but may be simply spiritual, in order to grow closer to God and to seek his will. (For instance, the first time I went I was about to move from Welton to Heyford and so I spent my time seeking God's will for my new ministry, and I can still remember the theme of my first sermon in my new benefice.) The book offers Bible readings and reflections to use at different points on the journey. The island is very small, about three miles long and one and a half wide, and has very few roads.



Visitors are not allowed to take cars across, so it is also quiet. One of the stops on the pilgrimage is at the crossroads – a rather grand name for the junction between a single track tarmac road and a farm track. Here we are encouraged to think about crossroads in our own lives and how our decisions have influenced our lives. It is also a place to choose the route – shall we take the rough boggy track up the hillside towards the Marble quarry or the gentle road to the Machair, the golf course. We continued without getting lost which must be a first, to the Marble Quarry.

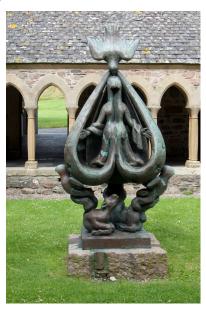


The beautiful white and green-veined lona marble has been shipped all over the world from the roughly built quay and can be seen in the statue of Queen Victoria outside Buckingham Palace as well as the Scots Kirk in Jerusalem. The quarry has been abandoned since 1915, but the old machinery can be seen alongside huge chunks of marble. Here we reflect on the limitlessness of

God's time and creation and the infinitesimal shortness of our own lives. The rocks will still be here long after the machinery has disappeared in spite of human attempts to preserve it, but will our planet survive the changes we are inflicting on it. After the scramble down to the quarry I am always moved as I think about how Almighty God invites us mere humans to work with him in his ongoing creation.

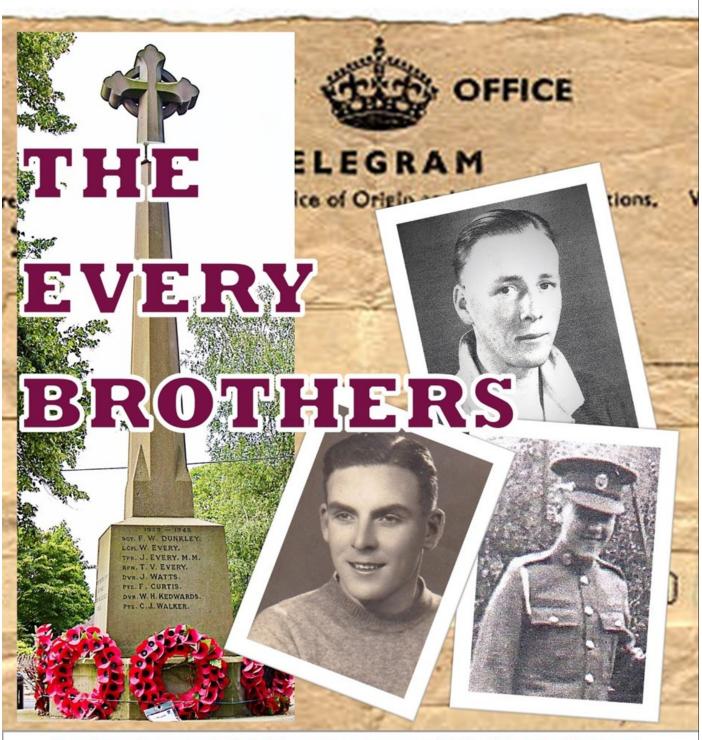
As always we were amazed at how God works his healing power among us on Iona. There were times when I struggled during Lockdown and even as I went, my anxiety levels were very high, but as I allowed myself to become more open to God, He set His peace firmly in my heart and I now feel like the old me!

One of the images I dwelt on during isolation was the statue of the incarnation in the cloisters of the Abbey, imagining myself sitting in the sunshine focused on it. The sculpture shows Mary supported by three angels as the Holy Spirit, a dove, surrounds and fills her. Beneath her is a lamb which reminds us of lesus death on the cross.



The modern Iona Community is an ecumenical group of very disparate people and as the statue is the work of a Jewish artist it takes ecumenism to another level for me, while reminding me of the need for reconciliation between world faiths. It was such a joy for me to book into an Abbey visit and sit in the cloisters once again, even in the rain!

I thank God that I was able to go to Iona and for my healing and I pray I may go again in 2023.



Brothers Tom, Jack & William Every were all killed in World War 2 and are commemorated on Roade war memorial - this is their story



7 .30 pm 14th November The Deco Theatre
Tickets from the box office 01604 491005

or online: www.thedeco.co.uk

THE DECO



Thursday 21 OCTOBER 2021 | 2 - 3pm

AGE UK Northamptonshire; Products & services in your local area



with Roger from AGE UK Northamptonshire

Free information, help and advice at this drop in session

Duston Community Centre, Pendle Rd, NN5 6DT

Covid control measures in place

Contact events@duston-pc.gov.uk or 01604 583626 to register your interest or for more info

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



Shedversation. A Story—Part One

Hello again. You may have noticed that I've been away for a while. Well, I wasn't in prison if that's what you were thinking. No. I have been getting out into the wider world as things have slowly started to open up after (Or is it still during?) the Covid pandemic. I am now double jabbed and feel renewed.

So far, I have ordered a takeaway for delivery to the shed, and spoken to the people in the next shed, who only visit, but don't live there, as I do in mine. I have also tried my hand at online dating. This was prompted by a random email I received from a young lady, together with her portrait photograph, informing me that she was looking for a long term relationship with an honest man. She is currently out of the country on her final deployment with the United States Armed Forces, prior to her retirement and is looking to settle in England afterwards. She then asked if we could chat on the WhatsApp phone application (App), as she didn't like the quality of the men she had heard from so far. She later told me that she was having some trouble receiving her final pay 'check,' and was short of cash, and would I be able to send her some money by Western Union to help her out until she could repay me? 'Great!' I thought. Here am I, aged somewhere between 50 and 70, overweight, balding, with an only a slightly annoyed bowel, and myopic, and this lady had taken an interest in me. I once stole a packet of cheeses from Tesco when I was 15 though, so can I really call myself honest?

By a twist of fate, the love of my life has come knocking on my door by way of a random email. So, I placed all of my life's savings in an envelope (£3.60) and posted them to her by 'Signed for' delivery to her PO Box address.

A few days later she messaged me again on WhatsApp and said that the money I had sent was not now enough, because her cat had become sick and might die if she couldn't find the funds for an operation for it. We had already discussed how much I like cats, amongst other things, such as how, as a retiree, was I able to afford to live in England, and whether I would be able to afford to visit her once she returned to the United States. She was desperate for the money for the cat and told me I would probably feel bad if her cat died. I agreed with her. She suggested I could take out a bank loan to help her, and that she would repay me once her pay was released. Being the kind soul that I am I borrowed about £10,000 and sent it to her. She said that it was a very expensive operation, and that veterinary bills were very high where she was, although she couldn't tell me exactly where that was as it was top secret.

All was quiet for about a week, when she messaged me again. The cat was still unwell and hadn't had the operation, as the money I sent was held up at customs. She asked me if I could send a 'clearance fee' to her so that she could pay to have the money released. I suggested that we should discuss the situation on the phone as it was all getting rather complicated, but she declined, saying she had a bout of laryngitis having recently contracted Ebola. She then sent me two pictures of herself in her swimsuit.

By now I was getting worried. What if the cat died due to lack of funds for its operation? I was wracked with indecision and guilt. So, did I send the 'clearance fee' you ask? No. I did not.

In fact, most of this story is made up, except the bit about receiving the email in the first place, and the cheese. Unfortunately for some most of this story is true. There are a lot of individuals out there who make a living out of conning ordinary people out of their money. They are often, but not exclusively, operating out of, Ghana, Nigeria, or Russia, and they work in office based call centres, or "scam farms," alone, or possibly even in sheds.

They seek out people they perceive to be vulnerable, whether they are widowed, lonely, straight or gay, or otherwise. Using software, they can even fake their location so that they appear to be only a few miles away. Not only do they send random emails, they also pop up on legitimate online dating websites.

Shedversation. A Story—Part One continued

If they get a person's WhatsApp details, which includes their mobile number, they can also hack into that person's WhatsApp account and add malicious software.

Below is an extract from the website abc.net. au news: The link is provided should you be viewing this Shedversation in the online format.

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-02-11/ghana-meet-the-scammers/10785676?nw=0&r=HtmlFragment

"In a tiny flat in Ghana, in west Africa, an aspiring entrepreneur trawls Facebook for divorced and widowed women on the other side of the world.

The 27-year-old, who calls himself Kweiku, is searching for 'clients' — scammer parlance for victims who can be conned online into sending money. For Kweiku, romance scams are a transaction, not a crime.

"A client is somebody, a business partner who brings you money, that's why you use the word client." "Some are divorced and some — their husbands are now dead."

"Kweiku sells perfume on the streets of Ghana's capital, Accra, to maintain a meagre income between Western Union transfers from a woman he seduces online.

"He poses as a US soldier called 'Johnny', an online persona built on stolen photos, fake ID and stock scripts with storylines about urgent emergencies that can be solved with cash.

"Sometimes I'm in Palestine, sometimes I'm in Iraq and we are helping keep peace in that country because there's a war going on," he said.

"I proposed to her (A Mexican woman), and we were getting along but I wanted some capital, so I asked her for money. In all, I think she sent me about \$2,000."

The Shedversation view on this is that the internet is a great place to do lots of positive things, such as learning and research, and keeping in touch with people. It is safe to use if you know what look for.

If you know someone who has been scammed online:

Get them to tell their bank: If you think they might have shared their bank or credit card details with a scammer then try to get them to let their bank or Credit Card Company know as soon as possible. They might be able to block their card or hold any unusual transactions before the scammer can access their money.

There is a lot of information to be had on dating scams so Part Two of this article will be in the next issue of Community Connect, together with some of the other scams that are in use.

Knowledge is power. I hope this knowledge will be useful to you. If you have any comments on this article, please contact the Community Connect Editor and I will try to answer them.

ISSUE 16 PAGE 12

- Gracie meets God

Four year old Gracie was taken to church to see a neighbour's wedding. She was thrilled with the pretty dresses, flowers and the singing. She loved singing and La la-ed her way through the hymns.

Several Sundays later she was playing in the field that separated her home from the churchyard and saw people going up the path into the church, so followed them in.

Once in church she felt a bit lost until a neighbour spotted her and said 'Gracie, come and sit here with me.' 'Now', the neighbour said, 'you must be a very good girl and sit very quietly because you are the in God's house now'.

Again, Gracie loved the hymns, la laing happily through them.

When the vicar went up into the pulpit the neighbour said, 'now we are going to hear a story'.

Gracie listened, but didn't under-

stand much of it. Her stories always began 'Once upon a time,' and ended 'they all lived happily ever after.'

At the end of the service the vicar was in the porch shaking hands as people left.

As Gracie reached him, he said,' Well now, who have we here?'

Gracie told him her name and the vicar said 'Well Gracie, shall we see you next week?' 'Oh yes please' said Gracie.

When she got home, her mother said, 'Where have you been? I said to stay in the field.'

When she said she had been to church, her mother was appalled. 'In your old play clothes, she exclaimed.' Oh it's all right Mummy' said Gracie,' God didn't mind. In fact, when we came out, he shook my hand, asked my name and asked if he would see me next week. I can go can't I? It was lovely.

A true story from the 1930's By Mary Gardner



Annual Service of Remembrance

Please note that our annual service of Remembrance will be on Sunday 14th November at 10am St Luke's Church Duston.
(Note new time).



Duston FOOD BANK Needs you!

TOP ITEMS TO DONATE:

- ♦ Washing-up liquid
- Toilet roll
- Deodorant (men's / ladies')
- Household cleaning sprays (not bleach)
- Multi bags of crisps
- Chocolate & biscuits for treats (individually wrapped ie Club / Kitkat etc)



Remember
YOU may also
need the Food
Bank!



Duston United Reformed Church (URC) works with Re:store to offer a food bank on Saturdays 10:00 to 12:00.

They have a band of 8 volunteers who last month helped 45 families.

Situated opposite the Bakery in Main Road Duston, they are open on Saturday mornings from 10.00 until noon to provide ready packed groceries. They also have household 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.



Thank you very much

Donations

URC-Sat & Mon (10:00-12:00)

St Luke's & St Francis' churches (on days when there are services)

St Luke's Rectory - 3 Main Road



Community Connect

The Rectory 3 Main Road Duston NN5 6JB

Email: aj.marriott | 23@gmail.com

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

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.**

Quiz Time

Answers



1) Whose statue stands above the entrance to All Saints Church?

Charles II

2) Why is it there?

He donated 1000 tons of timber to rebuild the town after the fire.

3) Where was the original Ten-Pin Bowling Alley located?

Weedon Road

4) What stands in its place today?

A bingo hall

5) Morrison's supermarket is on Victoria Promenade. What was there previously?

A cattle market (A railway station was nearby)

7) What year did the Queen open the Tower?

12th November 1982

8) What was the main ingredient sold by the market that was demolished to accommodate the present Bus station? Fish

9) Charles Bradlaugh is commemorated in the town centre. Who was he?

A local Liberal MP

6) The Express Tower is off Weedon Road. How High is it?

127.5 metres or 418 feet

10) There was an incident in Gold St. in July 1942. What was it?

A plane crash