

THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR
LIGHTS ON SPECTACULAR
SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER
SEVEN STARS GARDEN- FROM 4PM
BBQ, BAR, MINCE PIES, MULLED WINE, GLOW STICKS,
LOCAL CELEBRITY TO LIGHT THE TREE
LOCAL BRASS BAND TO LEAD THE CAROLS



FOLLOWED BY BUMPER
CHRISTMAS QUIZ IN THE SEVEN
STARS AT 18.30

£5 ENTRY

RAFFLE OF GRAND PRIZES

INCLUDING:

STARVEALL Turkey

Meal Voucher

Champagne

Spirits and Wine

Chocolates

Fruit Hamper and many others

TO BOOK A TABLE FOR THIS
HUGELY POPULAR QUIZ SEE ANY
CET MEMBER OR VIA STEPH AT
THE SEVEN STARS.

ALL PROCEEDS IN AID OF
FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE HOSPICE

RACE NIGHT – DINTON VILLAGE HALL - SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

‘As they turn into the straight at Cheltenham it’s over to you in the grandstand Frasers.....’

‘Swinging left-handed around the bottom bend and turning into the straight for the last time where they have one to jump. FRASERS FLYING FILLY leads them in the centre, DINTON ORCHID on her outside, FRANK and NIFTY NITA making ground on the stand side and THE PAINTERS MATE coming to challenge strongly over on the stand rail.....’What a NIGHT!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The cracking of Whips, the thrill of the chase and cries of delight as things reached a climax! – NO!! not a showing of 50 Shades of Grey but RACE NIGHT at the Dinton village hall!

The crowd gathered from 18.30 many dressed appropriately for this equine fiesta as rumours circulated about a dead cert in the third. As it turned out the horse was dead and delivered promptly to the glue factory!

With eight Races on the racecard, all sponsored by local businesses and with 8 runners in each race, all owned and ridden by parish celebrities, commentator Fraser Stewart was at Odds with himself controlling the punters as they cheered their selections to the finish line.

The CET TOTE Monopoly controlled betting on the races and reported suspicious betting patterns on TRACEY’S FOLLY in the third and PAST ITS BEST in the seventh. Following dope tests both owners were confirmed to be DOPES.

Fraser O’Sullivan presents Prizes to winning owner Julie and Jockeyette Debbie after the first race Jockey Will and Owner Viv after the second race Nick presenting winning Jockeyette Kate Mottau after the fifth race.

The bar did a roaring trade as losing punters drowned their sorrows and the popping of Champagne corks echoed around the hall as winning owners celebrated in style.

A big thank you to the race sponsors: Starveall Butchers (Turkey Trot Handicap), ML Financial Associates (Succession Stakes), Elite Physical Medicine (Elite Physical Physios Flawlessly Fixing Fleet Footed Fillies Classic), CSM DESIGN & Décor (CSM Signature Finish), MPAV Technology Specialists (MPAV We Can Fix It Stakes), Nick and Venetia Cottman (Cotters Trotters Handicap for Aged Geldings), Richard and Karen Crow (The Cockney Rebel Guineas), The Seven Stars STEAKS (are the best). Your generosity and support are outstanding!

Thanks to all who turned up and made it a great night of good-hearted fun and community spirit. As a result of your participation and generosity the CET were able to donate more than £200 to the Village Hall Fund and help fund the CET’s next event at Christmas.

Weighed In at Worcester!

Steve Merry – chairperson CET

The Parish Community Events Team laid on a spectacular firework display on Saturday 1st November. Such is the popularity of this annual event that tickets were SOLD OUT many days in advance. The event kicked off at 17.30 at Dinton Cricket Club with a dazzling display of whirling lights as Helios, God of Fire, performed an amazing dance on stilts with lights sparkling from all parts of his body, as he welcomed the crowd.

"The BBQ of excellent burgers and sausages supplied by Starveall Farm, and Steaming Soup, courtesy of The Seven Stars, warmed the cockles of the crowds gathering around the blazing log burners as the rain relented and a beautiful evening ensued. Mulled wine was a firm favourite with all as copious quantities of ale were served from the Cricket Club bar and children treated to complimentary Glow Lights and Toffee Apples.

"Helios discarded his stilts and donned his fireproof clothing as he began his Fire Dance in front of the hundreds of wide-eyed children who responded with screams and shouts of delight as Helios tossed his fiery clubs into the night sky and caught them inches from the ground. The moon appeared above the crowd casting an eerie light over the proceedings as Helios completed his act of death-defying bravado.

"The crowd were then directed into the Parish Field in readiness for the Fireworks at 19.00. Once again, our hero of the Falklands, Will Hughes, had masterminded the choreography of a spectacular kaleidoscope of light about to burst over the night sky. 6-year-old Yaga Khan of Upton was the lucky child with the winning Ticket No which gave her the honour of pressing the button that launched the opening rocket salvo. With the crowd countdown to launch time Yara pressed firmly and rockets raced skyward erupting into a rainbow of colour - the display had begun!

"For the next 15 minutes the cares of the world were forgotten as mesmerised children thrilled to the noise, colour and the potent smell of gunpowder filling the night air. All good things must come to an end and did so as the final sparks fell to ground. The crowd gave a rapturous applause clearly very appreciative of the efforts made by the team who put the event together.

"Thanks to one and all who attended and made this the success it was. Special thanks to the ladies who ran the BBQ once again expertly marshalled by Debbie Hughes, and to all who turned up Sunday morning for the clean-up. Also, a very big thank you to Dinton Cricket Club who once again ran the Bar and provided so many of the facilities for the crowd to enjoy.

Steve Merry, Chairman of the Community Events Team

THE COMMUNITY EVENTS TEAM PRESENTS



**ANNUAL PARISH FIREWORKS DISPLAY
SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2025, 5.30pm**

BBQ and BAR at Dinton Cricket Club from 5.30pm and Fireworks on the Parish Field from 7.00pm

Featuring once again the 'HELIOS GOD OF FIRE'
and his amazing, blazing stilt walking act!

Ticket pricing and further details in due course

Once again, we anticipate a sell-out for this popular event

**THE CET PRESENTS THE PARISH HORSE RACING FESTIVAL
SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 6PM – 10.30 PM DINTON VILLAGE HALL**

**YOUR CHANCE TO OWN OR RIDE A HORSE IN ONE OF THE RACES.
10 RACES THROUGHOUT THE EVENING INCLUDING:**

THE WESTLINGTON SELLING STAKES

THE UPTON OPEN RACE FOR GELDINGS

THE FORD LADIES' DERBY

THE GIBRALTAR A418 HANDICAP

THE DINTON POWER CUT HANDICAP (Sponsored by Thames Water)

**PUNTERS CAN BID TO OWN OR RIDE A HORSE IN EACH RACE
BETTING ON THE NIGHT AND PRIZES FOR OWNERS AND RIDERS
PROCEEDS FOR STAGING FUTURE CET EVENTS AND THE VILLAGE HALL
PROJECT
BAR AND NIBBLES AVAILABLE**

COMMUNITY EVENTS TEAM



Just as Summer lazes its way into the Autumn season of mists and mellow fruitfulness so the Parish CET, aging like a good vintage wine, is marking the changing seasons with an autumn fiesta of fun to appeal to the finer palates of the parish.

The hedonistic, frenzied gyrations of the Baby Boomers at the Midsummer Ball now seem just a distant memory, with only the faint whiff of the Dung Beatles catching the nostrils during a late summer evening stroll.

The Ball was once again a great success with capacity attendance and many enjoying a glass of bubbly as they witnessed a most thrilling end to the cricket match v Aston Rowant with Dinton losing out in the final over with the visitors 9 down. There were many fantastic, themed table displays ranging from Casino Royale to Hawaiian Sunsets and Classic 60's Memorabilia with the £100 Seven Stars Gift Voucher going to Val Scott and her team of femme fatales. Much fun was had during the Heads and Tails game, and speculation was intense for the 'Wheelbarrow of Booze'. However, the night belonged to the music as we were transformed back to the 'swinging sixties' and the Dung Beatles proving once again that old rockers never die they simply start to smell a bit.

Thanks to Dinton Cricket Club for providing the venue and bar facilities and in particular to Hannah and Eliot for bravely managing the bars.

Next year the event will take place on Saturday 27th June at the cricket club for which the band 'Lost in Music', a 7-piece colossus, have been engaged. Book early to avoid disappointment.



Looking ahead to 2025 Calendar of both CONFIRMED and TO BE CONFIRMED events

We do hope to see many of you enjoying these events and there will be more information in due course.

CALENDAR 2025

October 11th – Annual Conker Championship – Dinton Cricket Club from 5pm

November 1st – Firework Display – Dinton Cricket Club/Parish Field from 5pm

November 15th - Parish Horse Racing Festival – Dinton Village Hall from 6pm

November TBC – Wine and Cheese Evening Dinton Village Hall

December 7th Christmas Tree LIGHTS ON – Seven Stars Garden from 4pm

**December 7th Christmas Quiz in aid of Florence Nightingale Hospice from
7pm**

December 24th Parish Carol Singing from 18.00 departure outside Seven Stars

DINTON BEER FESTIVAL

The Dinton Beer Festival, always on the third Saturday in August, was held in the gardens of the Seven Stars pub on Saturday 16th August. We were lucky once again with the weather, warm, overcast and dry. A crowd, similar to last year, enjoyed the vibrant family atmosphere, sampling the beers, Pimm's and ciders on offer, together with Steph's tasty barbecue, while listening to the live music, followed by some excellent DJ sounds towards the end of the afternoon, which encouraged some lively boogieing.

Dinton Wines had their usual outlet and record numbers enjoyed their glasses of Dinton Folly. Takings at the gate were £5400, just £300 under our record takings of last year. When the final figures are available, we anticipate we will have over £5000 to distribute to local causes and projects.

As this was our tenth festival, since our first in 2015 and missing 2021 due to the pandemic, it seems a good point to reflect on what the festival has achieved. Last year we donated nearly £6000 to local causes, taking our total donations to nearly £21,000 to date and this should increase to over £25,000 during the next year. The village hall, the church, local footpath improvement, children's playground and parish field are examples of where our donations go.

The beer festival relies on volunteers to set up the event, run the day and clear up afterwards. These helpers are unstinting in their efforts and our thanks go out to them and to Steph and her staff who put in such hard work to help make the day successful.

It is most important to acknowledge that none of the above would be possible without the generosity

of the sponsors who, year after year, sponsor the real ales, ciders, Pimm's, glasses and music.

A heartfelt thank you goes to all our sponsors for their support over the years. We say it every year, but the generosity of spirit, as evidenced by the sponsors and volunteers working with the Beer Festival, has ensured that this event is now the successful annual family and community event which we all look forward to attending and enjoying.

DINTON BEER FESTIVAL

The tenth annual Dinton Beer Festival will be held this year on Saturday 16th August so please put this date in your diary.

If you would like to sponsor or contribute to the beer, cider, Pimm's or festival glasses, please contact Dick O'Driscoll on 07711 731740 or Dennis Dunn on 07773 765060.



Looking ahead to 2025 here is our Calendar of both CONFIRMED and TO BE CONFIRMED events

We do hope to see many of you enjoying these events and there will be more information in due course.

CALENDAR 2025

June TBC Coffee and Cakes morning Dinton Village Hall

July 5th Parish Picnic Ball – Marquee at Dinton Cricket Field – Featuring The DUNG BEATLES

August CET Young Members Event TBC

Sept 14th Outdoor Movie Night TBC

September 21st – Tail Trails including Book Event - TBC

October 11th – Annual Conker Championship – Dinton Cricket Club from 5pm

November 1st or 8th – Firework Display – Dinton Cricket Club/Parish Field from 5pm

November TBC – Wine and Cheese Evening Dinton Village Hall

December 7th Christmas Tree LIGHTS ON – Seven Stars Garden from 4pm

December 7th Christmas Quiz in aid of Florence Nightingale Hospice from 7pm

December 24th Parish Carol Singing from 18.00 departure outside Seven Stars



COMMUNITY EVENTS TEAM

**ANNUAL MID-SUMMER PARISH PICNIC BALL
SATURDAY 5TH JULY
DINTON CRICKET CLUB IN THE MARQUEE
FROM 6pm UNTIL HERE COMES THE SUN
SHOWCASING “THE SENSATIONAL DUNG BEATLES” (Sledgehammer Alter
Ego’s)**

We have already had a fabulous response to ticket sales but can always find a few extra spaces for those of you who have LET IT BE until the last minute. Tables seat up to TEN people (12 at a pinch) and many of you have already reserved tables, BUT for those not requiring a full table we are able to put smaller groups together to make a table of ten. We also have available space in Gazebos outside the Marquee but looking inward towards the stage.

If you still need A TICKET TO RIDE, then please contact any CET member to arrange (see below) and WE CAN WORK IT OUT for you to join our MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR. Tickets are available at £25 per person and there will be 2 complimentary bottles of Prosecco included on every table. It's only MONEY and money CAN'T BUY ME LOVE

As always, it is up to attendees to bring your own food and if you are arranging a delivery from a local food service outlet, then please arrange delivery no later than 19.15pm such that we are all seated and enjoying our food before the DUNG BEATLES strike

The BALL has been a traditional BLACK TIE and EVENING DRESS event but in these changing times I FEEL FINE if you want to wear more casual attire and for sure after a HARD DAY'S NIGHT on the dance floor you get NOWHERE MAN sticking to tradition So, IT WONT BE LONG now until we GET BACK together and TWIST AND SHOUT through the night until it's time to FOLLOW THE SUN and take THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD home leaving YESTERDAY far behind as MAXWELL'S SILVER HAMMER starts thud, thud thudding, inside your head as your hangover develops. And so, FROM ME TO YOU, PLEASE PLEASE ME and accept THIS BOY'S invitation to join the fun:

**WHEELBARROWS of BOOZE RAFFLE - Bottle Donations Welcome
HEADS OR TAILS KNOCKOUT – Bring a £1 Coin
PRIZES FOR BEST DECORATED TABLE's - 60's THEME**

The MARQUEE will be available from 2pm for those wishing to decorate their table.

Dinton Cricket Club will be open from 11a.m for that Saturday's cricket fixture and those arriving from 6pm you may catch the closing overs of the match while perhaps quaffing a glass or two of complimentary Prosecco or some other beverage from the cricket club bar. Parking will be available in the Parish Field and for wheelchairs there will be access (by car) from the entry into DCC on the A418. If arriving by YELLOW SUBMARINE may we suggest that you surface somewhere within the River Thame Marina and ask THE FOOL ON THE HILL for further directions.

Please contact any CET Team member: Steve Merry, Debbie and Will Hughes, Debbie and Martin Hawes, Paul Aston, Fiona Gamon, Julie Foulkes, Nick Cottman, Neil Chudley, David Jackson, Fraser Stewart, Andy McCrea – if you want more information or Tickets



Looking ahead to 2025 here is our Calendar of both CONFIRMED and TO BE CONFIRMED events

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CALENDAR 2025

March 22nd Wine & Cheese evening together with 100 Club Draw, - 19.30 Dinton Village Hall. BAR included

April TBC Home Made Gin Tasting Competition - Seven Stars

April 20th TBC Easter Egg Hunt

May TBC – Coffee and Cakes morning Dinton Village Hall

June TBC Coffee and Cakes morning Dinton Village Hall

July 5th Parish Picnic Ball – Marquee at Dinton Cricket Field – Featuring The DUNG BEATLES

August – CET Young Members Event – TBC

September 14th Outdoor Movie Night - TBC

September 21st – Tail Trails including Book Event - TBC

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COMMUNITY EVENTS TEAM

From the Community Events Team may we wish all our parishioners the very best for 2025 with much peace, happiness and hope for a calmer world in the future.

Thank you for your excellent support of the events our team have organised in the past 12 months, and the pleasure derived, without your support our efforts are in vain. In our humble attempt to help restore world order, the CET has recently met with 'The Donald' to see if he might want to sponsor a future event. He said he had a few major projects on at the moment in Canada, Panama and Mexico but he would keep us in mind. He also reassured us that he has no plans to annex the Parish despite his assertions that he is the great, great, great, great, grandson of the Dinton Hermit as evidenced by his orange hair and big coat.

Our final event of 2024 was the 'Christmas Tree LIGHTS ON' celebration in the Seven Stars Garden on 1st December followed by our bumper Quiz in the pub bar, in aid of the Florence Nightingale Hospice which has been the beneficiary of this and other events for many years. £800 was raised for the Hospice thanks to your generosity. The event was very well attended and loud cheers echoed around the parish as the

fantastic Christmas tree, supplied by Hartwell Nursery, burst into splendid illumination when our local celebrity and resident vicar, Nigel Featherston, worked a miracle as he said the immortal words 'LET THERE BE LIGHT'.

It was great to see so many recent members of the parish join the celebration and for so many young children enjoying the magic of Christmas as they danced and sang around the tree while consuming hot dogs and burgers, the traditional Christmas feast for so many - thank you Ronald McDonald. Much Mulled Wine, courtesy of Steph our genial host at the Stars, was consumed, along with other festive brews and Steph's homemade mince pies – a splendid start to the Christmas Season.

No rest for the wicked though as we rolled on into the evening and our festive Christmas Quiz. A packed house, very merry following the afternoon session, once again demonstrated the IQs of the collective parish as very modest scores were recorded. Victory went to the massed forces of Upton Mafia once again demonstrating their knowledge of the Trivia rather than the Real world. Generously they donated their winning prize money to the Florence Nightingale Hospice. We did have one final event on Christmas Eve as we gathered a stalwart group to brave the winter evening as we toured around Dinton and Westlington singing Carols and collecting money once again on behalf of Florence.

And so goodbye to 2024, despite the wars, climate change inflicted disasters, potholes and HS2, we do hope the CET managed to bring some fun and pleasure to you all.

A heart felt thank you from me to those members of the CET who have done so much to help organise and stage our events, I very much appreciate your efforts.

Cheers

Steve Merry – Chairperson CET