

A scenic landscape with a clear blue sky, a line of trees, and a field in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the sky.

WELCOME TO THE VILLAGES OF DINTON, FORD, GIBRALTAR, UPTON AND WESTLINGTON

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

Winter 2019

THE
SEVEN
STARS
DINTON



A Community Owned Pub



The Seven Stars
Stars Lane
Dinton
01296 749000
Sevenstarsdinton.com

Background

This document is intended as an introduction for people moving into, or already living in, the 5 Villages of Dinton, Ford, Gibraltar, Upton and Westlington (the Villages).

The Villages are linked together in the beautiful Chiltern Hills area, nestled off the A418 between the towns of Thame in Oxfordshire and Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire.

Dinton has a reference in the Domesday Book:
(<https://opendomesday.org/place/SP7711/dinton/>)

There are approximately 400 houses in the Villages.



Communication

There are several ways for people to find out about village life and what is going on. There are some excellent websites including:

- * Nextdoor Dinton – with Ford & Upton (www.nextdoor.co.uk).
For use by villagers to post useful information

- * Dinton info (www.dinton.info).
The village website covering all events

- * Parish Council website (www.dinton.org). Covers Parish Council meetings and statutory information.



The following print publications are also hand delivered to the Villages:

- * The Bigg Issue; named after John Bigg, a local personality in the 17th century (he was also known as the Dinton Hermit), is a quarterly newsletter that covers local news. It is published by the Parish Council and previous publications can be found online here: <https://www.dinton.org/bigg-issue/>
- * The Parish News is produced every month and is a community publication covering local churches, but also contains information on other subjects such as gardening, local history, walking groups and other events. The Editor is David Pickup (david@pickupandscott.co.uk)
- * Other local news (e.g. Parish Council meetings, information and events) is displayed on various notice boards in the Villages i.e. outside the village hall in Dinton, on the crossroads in Ford, near the Post box in Upton, behind the Bottle & Glass pub in Gibraltar.

Local Newspapers

Chloe's Column in the Dinton section and Monica's Column for Ford and Upton in the Bucks Herald newspaper brings weekly news on what is happening in our Villages.

Ford has its own Village Society where every resident over the age of 18 is automatically enrolled unless they request not to join. The Society has a marquee which is used at least twice per year for a carol service and a Barbeque. Contact Jon Horn for more information: jonhorn@dinton.org

Infrastructure/location

The Villages are approached off the A418 Thame to Aylesbury road, with Ford being off the C70 / "Haddenham low road". All the roads through the Villages have 30mph speed limits with most of the roads being quiet rural roads.



Local Councils

The Villages fall under the control of Buckinghamshire County Council (www.buckscc.gov.uk) and Aylesbury Vale District Council (<https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk>).

At the time of writing a new unitary council for Buckinghamshire is being formed and is due to be implemented in May 2020.

The local Parish Council for the Villages is Dinton with Ford and Upton Parish Council. Contact details for the Councillors and the Parish Clerk are located on the Parish Council website (www.dinton.org).

There is lots of useful information on both the BucksCC and AVDC websites, below are some example services:

- * Waste services including 'Find your bin day'
<https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/section/recycling-and-waste>
- * There is also an 'Aylesbury Vale Bins' app which is quite good!
- * Pothole Reporting: 01296 382416;
<https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>
- * Planning Applications: <https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/search-planning-licensing-applications>
- * Footpath Problems:
<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/environment/public-rights-of-way/report-a-rights-of-way-issue/>

Schools

Dinton has two schools:

- * A small “Pre-school”. This is held in Dinton village hall. More details from Valerie Partington (Tel 07917 044132).
- * The main primary school for the Villages is Cuddington and Dinton School (01844 291206 www.cuddingtonanddintonschool.co.uk) which is a dual-sited Church of England school with the nearby village of Cuddington hosting Infants from Foundation to Years 1 and 2. The Dinton Junior school is for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6



Accessibility

Due to the nature of the Village’s rural location, wheelchair accessibility is not always easy. However, some of the local footpaths are accessible, although not passable when there are stiles or metal swing gates. The entrances to the Village pubs (Seven Stars, Bottle & Glass and La Chouette, the Belgian restaurant) are wheelchair accessible.

Dinton Church

Dinton Church is 12th century in parts and is very beautiful with amazing acoustics. The church frequently hosts concerts with a variety of artists appearing.

The villagers are very proud of this Grade 1 listed building, raising significant sums over recent years for a new window, renewing the tower roof and bells, and installing toilets and kitchen.

Church services are every Sunday except the fifth Sunday in the month, following a regular pattern:

1st week in the month is 10am Holy Communion. This is a traditional service very closely aligned to the Book of Common Prayer.

2nd Sunday there is a 6pm Evensong with no sermon.

3rd Sunday 10am is Morning Worship, which is a relaxed style with modern language and three hymns.

4th Sunday in the month is Messy Church at 4pm. This is an active and participatory service for children and their parents. There is art and craft, singing and activities and finishes with a meal which the whole group enjoys.

5th Sunday is the Benefice Evensong held in different churches around the Benefice. This generally starts at 6.30pm

Churchwarden

Rosemary Jackson is the Churchwarden and her contact details are: 01296 748655 or jacksonrj@btinternet.com



Traffic and speed

The majority of the roads through the Villages are rural, with the likelihood of children playing and villagers walking on the roadsides as there are very few pavements. Consequently, the maximum speed limit is 30mph and, as well as a legal requirement, there is also a “moral obligation” for the villagers to adhere to this.

Ford does have problems with drivers exceeding the 30mph limit as they use the road through the village as a short cut. Ford villagers have owned a speed camera for about the last 10 years and now share a more modern Radar unit with other local villages and have reported repeat speeding offenders to the police.

There are no streetlights in the Villages which is another good reason for complying with the speed limit!

Potholes

Any pothole issues should be reported to:
<https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>



Parking

Due to the rural and ancient nature of the Villages, many of the houses were built several decades and even centuries ago and consequently do not have any garages. Therefore, cars are parked outside houses on roads without streetlights. There are no yellow line parking restrictions and also no “parking permits” so villagers are expected to park considerately e.g. thinking where their neighbours can park and also

considering access for emergency vehicles (ambulances, fire engines etc) so road junctions should not be blocked. If a car is being parked and left for several days, consideration should be given to your neighbours.



There are always plenty of tradesmen parking their vans when working on houses in the Villages, so householders should try and ensure that their workmen park considerately.

Parking around the Dinton school has always been an issue. There are not enough parking spaces available at school drop off and collection time. Parents are asked to help alleviate the problem by (a) parking considerately, (b) walk children to school if feasible and (c) lift share if practical.

Footpaths

We are fortunate to live in the Chilterns area of outstanding natural beauty (www.chilternsaonb.org) with plenty of well signposted footpaths around the Villages.

There are lots of pleasant walks linking the Villages with other local villages (e.g. Cuddington, Haddenham, Stone, Chearsley, Long Crendon, Bishopstone etc). Details of the walks can be found on the Public Rights of Way section of the Aylesbury Vale District Council website. The Aylesbury Ring goes through Ford.

The area is covered by the Ordnance Survey Explorer map number 181 (Chiltern Hills North) and Landranger map number 165 (Aylesbury and Leighton Buzzard). There is a searchable Public Rights of Way map, which includes footpaths and bridle paths on the Bucks County Council website:

<https://prow.buckscc.gov.uk/standardmap.aspx>

There is also a local group called “Simply Walk” who organise local walks around the Villages and have walking maps. Contact : www.buckscc.gov.uk/simplywalk. Tel 01494 475367 or 07802 260812.

Any footpath problems should be reported to Bucks County Council / Public Rights of Way: <http://www.transportforbucks.net/report-it-prow.aspx>



Dogs

Many villagers own dogs and enjoy the excellent footpaths and bridleways around the Villages. Dog owners are expected to be considerate and pick up their dog's mess. There are several "dog bins" in the area including in Westlington; Boot Lane Dinton; the Parish Field Dinton; at the end of the footpath opposite School Lane in Dinton; in Upton near the footpath on the bend; and in Ford in Chapel Road by Manor Farm.



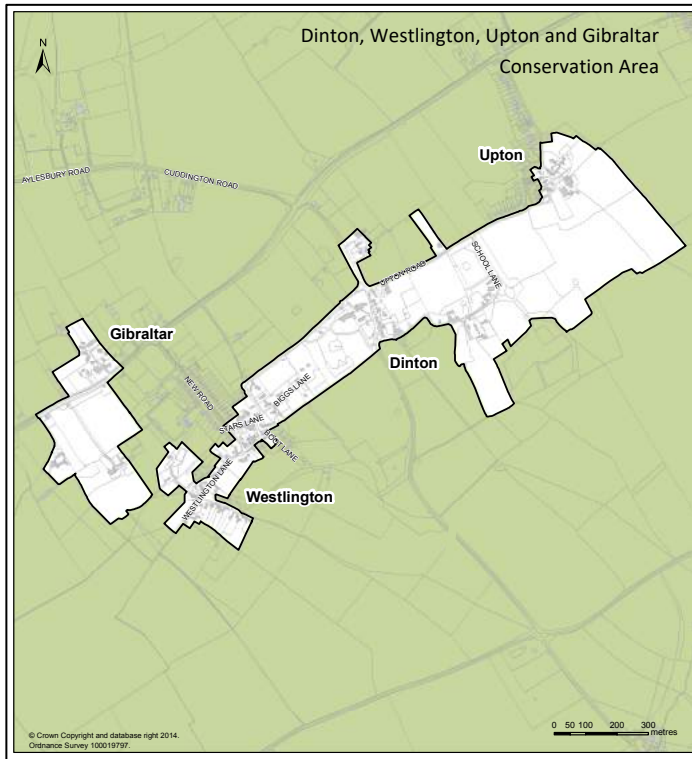
Dogs owners should keep to the footpaths and dogs should be kept on leads even if there appears to be no animals in the field. Be especially careful during spring lambing season. Dogs can be shot if they are caught worrying livestock!

Although dog owners can walk their dogs on the Parish Field in Dinton, the field is predominantly for the use of the Village and dog walkers who offer dog walking services for several dogs are discouraged from using the field.



Conservation

Some areas of the Parish are designated Conservation Areas and the Parish includes a number of listed buildings. To be included in a Conservation Area requires certain criteria and comes with various restrictions which are intended to protect the rural character and ambiance of the Villages.



For more information on the Parish Conservation areas, please see: <https://www.aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk/dinton-westlington-upton-and-gibraltar-conservation-area>

Public Transport

For a rural area, the Villages are relatively well served for public transport

Buses

The Arriva Buses 280 and X8 (www.arrivabus.co.uk) run from Aylesbury along the A418 via Haddenham and Thame Parkway station and Thame to Oxford. At peak times there are 2 buses per hour.

There is also the 110 bus, a less frequent service from Aylesbury to Thame via Chearsley and Long Crendon operated by Z&S Transport. There are also the 111 and 112 buses operated by Z&S Transport which offer a limited service through Ford to Thame, Aylesbury and other villages. (www.z&stransport.co.uk/bus-routes)

Trains

Chiltern Railways (www.chilternrailways.co.uk) operate services from both Haddenham & Thame Parkway and Aylesbury to London Marylebone which can be reached in less than 40 minutes on a fast train from Haddenham. There is also a good service from Haddenham & Thame Parkway to Oxford. The line also links North through to various Birmingham stations.



elitephysicalmedicine

Excellence through experience

WE PROVIDE HIGH LEVEL PHYSIOTHERAPY

From everyday back pain to high-level sport injuries



Rehabilitation
Gym



Biomechanics
& Gait Analysis



Diagnostic
Ultrasound



Manual Therapy
& Electrotherapy



Acupuncture

"I have absolute confidence in referring my patients to Elite Physical Medicine. They are a skilled and highly professional team. We have constant communication and dialogue about our patients which results in seamless care."

Mr R. Kankate (MB BS MS FRCS Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon)

FOR ADVICE & APPOINTMENTS CALL:

01296 437 717

enquiries@elitephysicalmedicine.co.uk
www.elitephysicalmedicine.co.uk



elitephysicalmedicine



Search for us on:



Clinics in Haddenham, Aylesbury & Tring

Doctor surgery

The nearest GP surgery is the Haddenham surgery (<https://www.haddenham.org>) which also has a chemist attached to the surgery.

Hospital

The closest hospital is in Stoke Mandeville which has an A&E department.

There is a defibrillator in Dinton outside the Seven Stars pub.

Security

Although at the time of writing there is no Neighbourhood Watch for the Villages, the Next Door Dinton – with Ford & Upton website and app does act as a Neighbourhood Watch alert for the Villages. It allows people to let others know if there are any safety or security issues e.g. suspicious people in the Villages or if someone has suffered a break in or burglary. Google Next Door and sign up for the area.

The nearest Police Stations are in Waddesdon, Aylesbury (Buckinghamshire) and Thame (Oxfordshire). The Villages are fortunate to have an excellent Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) who is Sue Jones and Police Constable Dean Kingham who can be contacted via 101.

Cycling

Although the main A418 road is not suitable for cycling, there are some pathways that are more conducive for cyclists. It is possible to cycle from Stone alongside the A418 past the Bottle & Glass in Gibraltar reaching a small road on the right linking through to Cuddington. The quality of some of the paths is variable.

There is a local council initiative to link the path through to an existing pathway (Green Lane) which goes through to Haddenham. If this came to fruition it would enable commuters to easily cycle to Haddenham railway station.



Shopping and local Businesses

The Villages do not have a shop. However, there are local independent shops in the nearby villages of Cuddington (www.cuddingtonvillage.com) which includes a Post Office and Chearsley Village Store.

There are two delivery services available in the Villages.

Newspapers are delivered by News Direct based in Haddenham (0800 9173076).

Milk deliveries are from Milk & More (0345 6063606) or www.milkandmore.co.uk

There is also a Grimsby-based **fishmonger** who delivers on a Wednesday. His name is Mark Yates and he can be contacted on 07557 199805 or yatesqualityfish@hotmail.com. Once he knows you, he will always stop by!

There are post boxes in each of the Villages, the post box next to Dinton Church has a 4pm week-day collection.

Haddenham has a variety of independent shops plus a Martin McColl store. There is also a Londis Post Office. For more information see: <https://www.haddenham.net>. There are also Post Offices in Stone and Cuddington

Supermarkets

The two nearest towns of Thame and Aylesbury also have most of the main supermarkets. Thame has Waitrose and a smaller Sainsbury and Co-op. Aylesbury has two Tescos, Aldi, Lidl, Waitrose, Morrisons and Sainsbury.

Pubs and Restaurants

We are fortunate to have a good range of pubs and restaurants in the Villages.

Dinton's pub, the **Seven Stars** (www.sevenstarsdinton.com), is owned by the local community and is a friendly and welcoming pub run by the French landlady, Stephanie Guiraute. Steph and her team serve a good range of local beers and offer an English food menu with a "French twist".

There is also a Belgian restaurant in Westlington! **La Chouette** (www.lachouette.co.uk) is run by a charismatic Belgian, Frederic Desmette. In his own words Frederic is "opinionated, cantankerous and obnoxious!" However, his cooking is excellent with a superb wine list. A visit to La Chouette is highly recommended. Frederic is also a well renowned photographer with many of his nature and wildlife photos adorning the walls of his restaurant – another reason to visit!

Gibraltar has the **Bottle & Glass** pub (www.bottleandglass.com), The Bottle and Glass is a family run Gastro style pub, headed by husband and wife team Chris and Elaine. With a menu offer of freshly prepared locally sourced food, plus a stone baked pizza offer to eat in or takeaway. Our dog friendly bar is an ideal spot for a welcoming drink, read a paper, watch a game or warm yourself by the fire.

www.thebottleandglass.com Tel 01296 748444

After being closed for several years, The Dinton Hermit, in Ford, a charming Grade II listed pub restaurant, reopened this November! Enjoy great local ales, quality wines and an extensive menu including pub favourites, seasonal dishes, a Little Tummies menu and a host of bar snacks and sharing dishes all prepared freshly. We welcome families, food aficionados, dog walkers, local residents and those from surrounding towns and villages alike!

www.thedintonhermit.co.uk / hello@thedintonhermit.co.uk / 01296 312877

KUTICLE

Beauty Treatments

For full treatment details please visit

www.kuticle.com

Jessica GELeration

A manicure or Pedicure that can last up to 2 weeks
Over 200 colours to choose from plus over 50 Colour
Changing Gels available

Manicures & Pedicures

Including standard, Detox, Deluxe & Thai

**Hydrotherm Massage, Swedish Body Massage & Indian
Head massage**

Full Body Waxing – Male & Female

Male Manicures & Pedicures

£5.00 off your first treatment with this advertisement

Kuticle, Starbank House, Stars Lane, Dinton HP17 8UL

Call Debbie today to make your appointment

T: 07740 348479

E: debbie@kuticle.com www.kuticle.com

Other local businesses

Dinton is also home to **Kuticle Beauty Care**, owned by Debbie Macklin, who works from her home in Stars Lane. Kuticle can provide a variety of treatments including **Therapy with Beauty** which can help with a number of problems such as Sleep issues / headaches / difficulty in relaxing / stress levels and bereavement plus many more. Contact Debbie on 07740 348479 or visit www.kuticle.com

Adrian Coole gained a BA (Hons) in **Antique Furniture Restoration** in 1991 and then worked with Martin Small in Ipsden for some years. He now undertakes repairs or restoration to most pieces of antique or vintage furniture. Adrian can be contacted at: Old Grapevine, High St, Dinton. Tel 01296 748763 adrian.coole@btinternet.com

Lifestyle Candles The Old Coach House New Rd Dinton HP17 8UT run by Lynn Holloway www.lifestylecandles.org

Andy McCrae, who is a Dinton resident, is a partner in **Elite Physical Medicine**. They have locations in Haddenham, Aylesbury and Tring and offer physiotherapy from back to sports injury care. Facilities include rehabilitation gym, diagnostic ultrasound, manual therapy and electrotherapy.

Andy's contact details are: Andy McCrea BA (Hons) BSc (Hons) MCSP HPC Reg. Chartered Physiotherapist. Elite Physical Medicine Tel: 01296 437717 Mob: 07974209686.

andy@elitephysicalmedicine.co.uk www.elitephysicalmedicine.co.uk

Local computer support. **THE WINDOWS CLEANERS**. Based in Ford, a home/small business service for all your computer needs. Established for over 18 years. System upgrades, virus/malware removal, performance improvements, wireless/wired networking and repairs etc. Owned and run by John Gilmour in Ford 01296 748 980 or 07947 700746 john@thewindowscleaners.co.uk "

computer problems ?

call THE WINDOWS CLEANERS

A HOME SERVICE FOR YOUR PERSONAL COMPUTER

system upgrades
virus removals
performance improvements
wireless networks
internet solutions
and more

for a speedy,
jargon-free appointment:

07947 700746
01296 748980

GDT Building Solutions
Enhancement & Maintenance

All Building Work Internal & External
Design & Build * Garage & Loft Conversions
Windows * Doors & Conservatories
Driveways & Patios * Landscaping

Call Gareth for a free no obligation quotation
07789 901 208
gdtbuildings@outlook.com

Your local reliable tradesman

Dinton Folly - award winning Sparkling Wine



Dinton Wines started in 2013, when retired local, Laurie Kimber, wondered what to do with the field he owned down the road. Learning as he went, but with a lifetime's knowledge of growing all manners of fruit and vegetables, he set about planting hundreds of vines on his 15 acres of land overlooking the stunning Chiltern Hills.

This area of outstanding natural beauty is the perfect location for growing the three classic grape varieties that achieve the subtle taste of Dinton Folly, a classic English sparkling wine. Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Pinot Meunier combine to produce a dry, elegant and complex taste.

When it's time to harvest, the vineyard is truly a family business and Laurie's children, grandchildren and even his great-grandchildren, as well as neighbours from Dinton and Upton, all come out in force to pick the grapes.

The first harvest of Dinton Folly was ready to drink in June 2016 and has since won several awards, including the Thames & Chilterns Vineyards Association 2018 Gold Medal



Community Events Team

The Community Events Team has been established following strong demand expressed by local residents. The Team has the following objectives:

- * To reignite and maintain the enthusiasm for organising & running a calendar of community fun events on an annual basis
- * The events to be of varying scale with at least 2/3 larger events of which one will replace the long running Dinton Fete with something more appropriate to this day and age
- * Identify and maintain a Parish wide enthusiastic team of willing and available volunteers to plan and execute the prioritised events
- * To generate an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment in all we do
- * To Maximise the use of local facilities to stage events: Parish Field, Village Halls, Local Pubs, Dinton Cricket Club, Westlington Green etc
- * Liaise closely with other established groups throughout the community for mutual cooperation and success and to avoid event clashes
- * To support Parish projects and selected local charities (eg Florence Nightingale) from any profits generated from the staged events.

Steve Merry (Poppy Cottage, Stars Lane, Dinton; 01296 749937 or mobile 07850 049587 or stephentmerry@yahoo.co.uk) currently chairs the regular meetings of the team which are usually held in the 'Robinson Snug' of the Seven Stars.

The team represents a cross section of volunteers comprising members from all Villages within the Parish.

New members are very welcome, just contact Steve.

From our regular community feedback, it is clear that our events need to embrace the entire Parish and appeal to all ages and interests, family groups and individuals.

The community have asked for open air events throughout the summer with the emphasis on fun, music and dancing and some friendly competition blended with the opportunity to eat and drink together. There are also targeted events to stretch your imagination and reveal the 'inner you', together with old favourites such as Firework Night and Picnics in the Park.

Our Events Calendar is published on the 'NEXTDOOR' website/ app and on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Community-Events-for-Dinton-Ford-Gibraltar-Upton-Westlington-102554137816463/> or search for **Community Events for Dinton** on Facebook.

Through the staging of such events we strive to see the community come together strongly in a spirit of togetherness such that we maintain the vibrancy and appeal for which our Parish has so long been admired.

Whether you are into:

Dancing in the Park, Fun in the Sun
Fireworks in the Dark or a Burger and a Bun

Your Community Events Team is here to create, support and help provide the ingredients that make it that extra bit special. On behalf of the Team we look forward to seeing you at our events throughout the year

Steve Merry

Chair, Community Events Team

Other Clubs and Societies

The Villages have plenty of clubs and societies covering a wide variety of pastimes and interests including: Church bell ringing; Akido; Cubs & Beavers, yoga, a community choir and also tennis (in Cuddington); Dinton cricket club, who play a good standard of league cricket and also have a thriving junior section operating on Friday nights in the summer with up to 200 boys and girls enjoying the coaching.

Contact details for a variety of local clubs

- * Bell Ringing Tower Captain: Andrew Wild - 01296 748679
- * Church of England Minister: Margot Hodson 01844 291244
- * Vicar Associate: Dr Phil Groves 01844 291244
- * Church Wardens: Rosemary Jackson 01296 748655; Neil Chudley - 07788 923493
- * Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals: Parish Office - 01844 291244
- * Churchyard Working Party: Andrew & Helen Wild - 01296 748679
- * Cuddington & Dinton School: 01844 291206; Headteacher: - head@cds.school ; Office - office@cds.school
- * Dinton Village Hall Bookings: Diane Trigg - 01296 748361
- * Haddenham Community Library; 0845-2303232
- * Parish Magazine (Dinton): Mike Thompson - 01296 748561
- * Police Station (Waddesdon): PC Dean Kingham/PCSO Sue Jones— 101
- * Pre-School, Dinton Village Hall: Valerie Partington - 07917 044132
- * Akido: Anthony Pinchbeck - 01296 747853
- * Cubs & Beavers: Emily Gray - 07746 973805
- * Dinton Cricket Club: Telephone: 01296 747254; <https://dinton.play-cricket.com>

Red Kites

Once extinct in England, Red Kites were reintroduced from 1989 and we now have a thriving population of these impressive birds.



More information and details of other local attractions can be found at the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Beauty website:

<https://www.chilternsaonb.org> of prey.

(With thanks to Barry Lynch for the photos)

Document Info

This Document has been produced in 2019 by the Village Community Led plan team. The members of the team were:

Anne Dunne, Amanda Bassett, Mel Kidner, John Owen, Dick O’Driscoll and Nick Cottman.

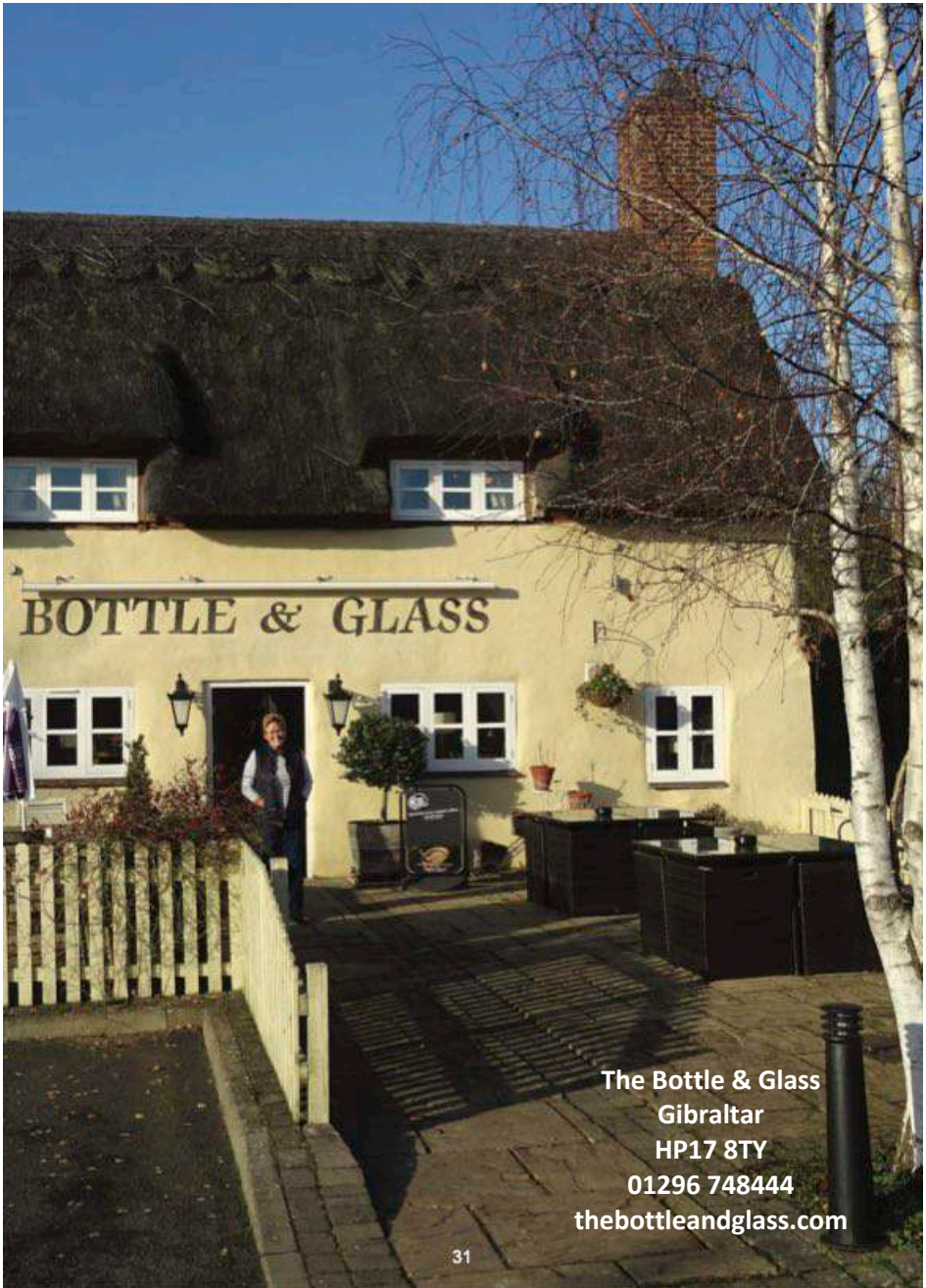
A pdf version of this document is available on the Dinton Info website: <https://www.dinton.info>



With Thanks

A huge thank you to our sponsors and donors:

- The Seven Stars, Dinton
- The Bottle & Glass, Gibraltar
- Debbie Macklin, Kuticle Beauty Treatments
 - Adrian Coole, Furniture Restorations
 - Andy Macrae, Elite Physical Medicine
 - Dave Thomas, Upton Graphics
- Laurie & Margaret Kimber, Dinton Wines
 - John Gilmour, The Windows Cleaner



The Bottle & Glass
Gibraltar
HP17 8TY
01296 748444
thebottleandglass.com

