

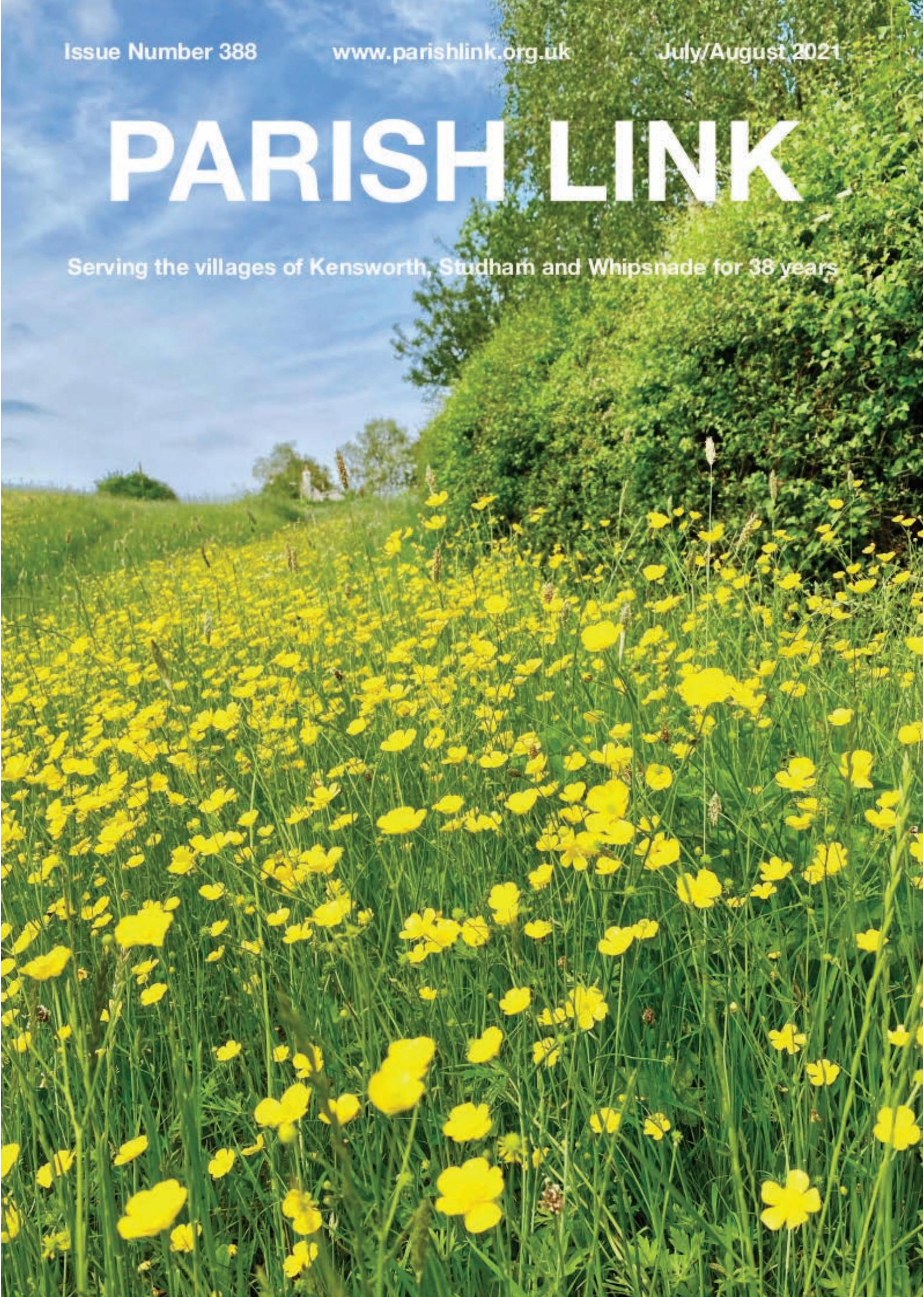
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[www.parishlink.org.uk](http://www.parishlink.org.uk)

July/August 2021

# PARISH LINK

Serving the villages of Kensworth, Studham and Whipnade for 38 years





Revd. Nicola Lenthall  
The Vicarage  
Clayhall Road  
Kensworth  
LU6 3RF

Tel: (01582) 872223

Dear friends and parishioners,

There is a TV programme I have been watching for a number of years, which some of you may have seen too, called 'The Repair Shop'. In it items beloved to their owners but which have been damaged by the passing of time, or being damaged or broken, or mended in inappropriate ways are restored to their full glory by a team of experts. The items are often not worth much in monetary terms, but to their owners they are everything, often representing a person or relationship in a powerful way. The experts often put not just skill but their heart and soul into the process of renovation, sensing the deep need of the owner, and often the presence of the person the owner may have lost, hidden within the artefact itself.

I am sensing (and seeing) that a lot of people need restoring and renewal. Even those who have not been physically unwell are now battered and bruised, and many more people are emotionally or mentally frail or struggling. I am around as a listening ear for those of you trying to manage feelings of anxiety and despair, those finding it difficult to carry on and to be positive; and I have been listening to a number of people already going through those sorts of emotions. In our parishes we also have a set of people trained to listen to those going through bereavement, which has been a particularly difficult experience in the context of our pandemic living. If you need our help – please be in touch; details above or e-mail on [revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com](mailto:revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com).

As we come back together, albeit slowly and safely, the parish churches are offering Sunday services, socially distanced and at their normal times – and as we come together so too we connect with God and one another, and in times of stillness are able to reflect and to begin to process what has happened. We are also hoping to provide a space for people to socialise gently, including cream teas in St. Mary's Kensworth churchyard on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2.30pm – 5pm and a coffee morning at St. Mary's, Studham churchyard on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 10 – 12noon. Repairing anything takes time and trust. As churches we are here to offer this for you.

With my love and prayers during this summer and always.

Nicola

## KENSWORTH NEWSROUND

### KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

**Our Prayers:** if you would like a prayer to be said for a loved one or a special occasion in your life, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670).

In July our prayers will be especially for the residents of Common Road, from the start to the Methodist Church, including Wick Hill; in August we shall be praying for all who live in Bakers Lane, Woods Close, Grove Place, Dovehouse Lane and Malms Close.

**Services:** as we go to press, almost normal services have been resumed in the three parishes – see page 14 for details. It has been a long, harrowing time for many, and there may be more to come, so it is wonderful to see the church in use again and enjoy the beauty of the churchyard – so many thanks to those who help to keep it tidy! (See notice below).

Huge thanks to Nicola for keeping the online services up and running – an extra duty for someone who already has so much to do.

In the Church Calendar, notable dates in the summer are: 25<sup>th</sup> July, St James the Great; 6<sup>th</sup> August, the Transfiguration of Christ; 15<sup>th</sup> August, the Assumption of the Virgin Mary.

**Kensworth Evening Prayer Group** continues in individual households on Tuesdays at 4pm. Contact Jim Putterill (872436) for details.

There will be a short service of **Compline** at 8pm on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July, to celebrate St James the Great. This is an annual tradition in our church. It will be followed by light refreshments, outside if the weather permits. Everyone very welcome.

### CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July 9am onwards.

Helpers needed to do a summer tidy of Kensworth St Mary's Church grounds. Bring your own tools or just turn up with enthusiasm! We have a beautiful 12th Century Church set in wonderful grounds. All volunteers welcome.

### SEPSIS CHARITY

I am Jen Radford, 17, granddaughter of Robin and Jean of Nash Farm, Kensworth. On the 25<sup>th</sup> July, myself, and my close friend Jess Kefford, are running a half marathon in memory of one each of our grandparents. My other nan passed away this January, which had a great impact on me. We lost her to sepsis at 74 years old. Jess also lost her granddad to sepsis. We are running to raise awareness for this cause. Any donations would be appreciated.

Robin and Jean (872412) are happy to receive donations at Nash Farm. Please make cheques payable to Sepsis Research FEAT.

## AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

### ST MARY'S CHURCH

**Church services followed by coffee:** subject to any changes in restrictions, we are very pleased to be planning to hold a service of public worship every Sunday at 10.30am in July and August, following the pre-pandemic pattern. Please refer to the schedule of services on page 14. And we are also inviting everyone to stay for coffee after each service, to be served outside in the churchyard – it's time to resume the friendly chats which we took for granted before the pandemic!

**Prayers:** we continue to follow our annual cycle of prayers. In July we shall be praying especially for all the residents of Swannells Wood and in August there will be special focus on the people of Church Road, Church Close, Church Mead and Red Lion Cottages. If you would like a special prayer to be said, please contact churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

**North Chilterns Group of Churches (NCG) Annual Service and Picnic at 10am:** we are looking forward to welcoming Christian friends from the eight NCG parishes on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August; see page 13 for more details.

**Coffee morning, Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 10am until 12 noon:** after so much social isolation we are arranging this 'get together'. Everyone is invited to come for a chat over coffee, in the churchyard if the weather is fine or in a well-ventilated church if it rains. Please put the date in your diary.

**Churchyard working party:** planned for Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August from 10am until 12 noon. Please come and help to keep our large and beautiful churchyard looking at its best. And to reward all the good work, there'll be a barbeque lunch afterwards!

We are now appealing for more regular helpers to join the voluntary maintenance team so that we can continue to maintain our high standards. There's a variety of jobs such as mowing, weeding, strimming and hedge cutting. Perhaps you enjoy walking through the churchyard or have a family member buried there and feel you could help by giving a few hours a month? If so, please come and meet us in the churchyard on 21<sup>st</sup> August or contact churchwarden, Meg Bender (see above).

**Wild flowers:** the summer wild flower patch has benefitted from the rain and warm sunshine at the beginning of June. Thirteen different species were identified in early June with the ox-eye daisies growing taller than ever this year. The patch designated for autumn flowering species will remain uncut from the end of July.



## WHIPSNADE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

### ST MARY MAGDALENE

As life begins to become more normal, we are starting to serve refreshments at the end of all our 9am Sunday services, so do stay after church for a drink and an opportunity to meet your friends again, probably in the churchyard. We are really looking forward to seeing you!

We are celebrating our Patronal Festival, the feast of St Mary Magdalene, on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm, with our traditional evening service. Come to the churchyard from 4pm for a picnic get-together.

The new church noticeboard now shows photographs of the life of the parish. Call into the church to see the events that happen in normal times!

In July and August we will be praying for the people living, working and volunteering in Bushey Close, the Village Hall and Field and Windy Sayles. If you have any special prayer requests, the prayer tree is back in the church so you can write on a leaf that will be read and used, or contact the Rector or churchwardens.

### Vanessa Hornby

We were very sad to hear of the death of Vanessa Hornby, who was our churchwarden for several years and had a lasting positive impact on the church. Vanessa was kind and hard-working, welcoming to all newcomers, and incredibly efficient. Throughout her illness she set an amazing example of courage and positive thinking. We have missed her presence in church very much since she became too ill to attend, and we send heartfelt sympathy to David and the family.

\* \* \* \* \*

### ECO-TIP FOR JULY AND AUGUST: CONSERVING WATER

It's hot! We have a power shower to cool down, fill up the paddling pool, use our hoses liberally on our gardens. We waste a lot of water. The average person in the UK uses 140 litres of water a day. Why not discuss with your family a few steps you can take to help conserve water this summer? Try and find one or two things you can commit to.

1. Turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth. It's simple but effective.
  2. Take fewer baths and shorter showers. Don't get a power shower.
  3. Use washing up bowls to conserve water.
  4. Re-use water when you make pasta or steam vegetables. Wait for it to cool down and re-use it in the garden.
  5. Fill your dishwasher fully before turning it on.
  6. Collect rainwater in a water butt to use in your garden.
  7. Water plants in the morning – you lose less water to evaporation as it's cooler.
- Consider contributing to WaterAid ([wateraid.org](http://wateraid.org)) – the UK's dedicated water charity to help do your bit.

## MORE STUDHAM

### STUDHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL IS LOOKING FOR NEW GOVERNORS

We are looking for new members of our school Governing Body. There is a lot happening in education which will affect our school and our student body. So if you:

- Share a passion for education
- Would like to give back to the community by volunteering
- Are a team player

please consider applying. Governors do not need a background in education – the Governing Body benefits from a wide variety of skills and experience in business, public service and parenting. Full training and support will be provided.

Please contact Chair of Governors, Helen Aleeson, ([hnewnham@studhamschools.org.uk](mailto:hnewnham@studhamschools.org.uk)) to apply or for further details about the role.

### MAY FAIR 2022

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May is the planned date for Studham May Fair 2022. It may seem a long way off but worth saving the date for what is always a tremendous day of family fun.

And to make it an even more of a community and village wide event, for the first time the proceeds will be split across a wide variety of local good causes. Whilst the May Fair will remain a Friends of Studham Church event, a village committee run by Liesa Coates will organise the day and decide on distribution of the profits.

If you would like to help Liesa and her committee, promote your local good cause or just to be part of a great Studham tradition, contact her ([liesa.coates@in2global.com](mailto:liesa.coates@in2global.com)).

### STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Next meetings on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm and then Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

Our footpaths are taking a much larger footfall of late as we all try to stay fit and active. Could we please remind cyclists and horse riders that they are FOOT paths. Cycles and horses are NOT permitted to use them.

Whilst thinking of others – bonfires! Yes, it is difficult to get to the tip at the moment, and yes, the green bin only takes so much (St. Albans now charge for green bins!!) and after a wet Autumn and chilly spring, the birds have finally moved out of your hedge and you want to cut it, but now what do you do with the clippings? Please be considerate of neighbours and remember that green wood smokes!

Talking of smoke makes me think of BBQ's, and other drinks in the garden – please keep the music at a reasonable level. What is music to your ears may not be to those who are trying to enjoy a quiet drink in their own garden.

## MORE KENSWORTH



### **KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL**

The Village Hall reopened for hiring on 17<sup>th</sup> May after two deep Covid cleans - one before the election held in the hall and one afterwards. The local firm who carried out the cleaning was very impressive and will be used for a regular weekly clean in future. The hall was inspected by the CBC Covid Health & Safety team, who gave an excellent report, the best example they had seen! A good response – we are very proud of all the time and effort involved in making it safe.

The hall is slowly returning to normal demand. We received the reopening grant from CBC for £8,000, which will help to cover the costs of the extensive cleaning and the reduced revenue from the last 15 months. We are also considering using card readers to allow us to take bookings, as fewer people are using cash or cheques.

The rendered walls have been painted and there are new outside lights by the fire exits. New fire doors and the rear door have been replaced so the hall is now looking much smarter. There is some more to do, hopefully later in the year.

Some members of the Committee resigned at the AGM so we are hoping that new people will be interested in joining to keep the hall running. We are hoping to return to normality with the Flower and Vegetable Show (see p.20) and events planned for the Christmas period as usual.

The next meeting will be in the Committee Room at 7.30pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July.

## LOCAL NEWS

### THE PARISH LINK.....

.....was first published in 1982: the original producers were Gill Noyelle, Elisabeth Shelley, Sheila Weatherhead and Pam Ward. It has been printed and distributed ever since, apart from during the recent COVID lockdowns. Even then 'virtual' editions were produced for the Parish Link website ([www.paritylink.org.uk](http://www.paritylink.org.uk)).

The magazine is hand delivered 10 times a year, free of charge, to every home in the parishes of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade – over 1,500 households. All the work involved in producing and delivering the magazine, except the actual printing, is done entirely by volunteers.

It provides information about local activities in the three villages as well as advertising a range of local businesses, a number of whom have advertised and supported the magazine for many years. We are particularly grateful to them for continuing to support us through the pandemic.

The current Editorial Committee is Deirdre Brook, Sally Cload, Wendy Knowles, Nicola Lenthall, Fiona McDougal and Pam Ward. Isobel Randall is Distribution Manager, Mike Bailey, Advertising Manager and Les Randall, Treasurer (see p.5).

If you are interested in getting involved in producing the Link, please contact Editor, Fiona McDougal ([fiona.mcdougal@btinternet.com](mailto:fiona.mcdougal@btinternet.com) or call 873257).

### PENNY FRAY

We are pleased to welcome Penny Fray as a Reader in the Benefice from June this year. She lives in Northchurch in Berkhamsted and has an adult son who is a mature student in the University of Hertfordshire studying Psychology.

She studied Environmental Science for her degree in Plymouth and then went on to be a teacher. She spent 25 years teaching Science in secondary schools and working as a pastoral deputy head. Since moving here, she now runs her own business tutoring children for the 11+ transfer test for Buckinghamshire Grammar Schools.



In her spare time, she enjoys dressmaking and knitting and loves walking around our beautiful local countryside – one day she hopes to have a dog to walk with.

## CHURCH NEWS

**FIRST STEPS** is on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm in Kensworth Church Hall. There is no First Steps service in August.

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

#### Baptism

6 <sup>th</sup> June	Henry van der Byl-Knoefel	Studham
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#### Confirmation

27 <sup>th</sup> June	Michael Sawyer	Kensworth
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#### R.I.P.

18 <sup>th</sup> May	Doreen Baker	Studham
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30 <sup>th</sup> May	Vanessa Hornby	Whipsnade
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### NORTH CHILTERNNS GROUP REPORT

Things are beginning to return to normal! We are looking forward to seeing everyone again in the flesh rather than electronically.

Studham church is hosting the annual North Chilterns Group service on 29<sup>th</sup> August at 10am, followed by a Summer Picnic in the churchyard at 11.30 with music and children's entertainment. Hot and cold drinks will be provided; bring your own food for the picnic. No need to book, but do come along to meet all of your friends.

Forward notice: The annual Quiet Morning will be at Totternhoe church and hall on 18<sup>th</sup> September from 9.30am, ending with a Eucharist at midday. More details will be in the September magazine.

### STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

At a recent meeting of the Chapel Council, it was decided to appoint Linda Hillier as our Pastoral Contact. If anyone has concerns they would like to discuss with our Minister, Rev. Stuart Dyer, please let Linda know (872860).

#### Services:

Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	10am	Rev. Dyer	HC	Action for Children Sunday
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	10am	Mr Len Fowler		
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> August	10am	Rev. Dyer	HC	
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	10am	Rev. Dr David Chapman, the Chair of the District (Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire).		

Studham Methodist Chapel currently meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month and all are welcome to join us. On weeks when face to face services are not held, there are Zoom services available. If you would like details of these, please contact Linda Hillier.

## STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB

The tennis season is now well underway and we offer free annual Junior Membership (with every full adult member) and annual Family Membership from £75.

Coaching is now back underway alongside our Cardio Tennis – a fun, fitness class based on the game of tennis. Junior and adult tennis coaching takes place every Saturday afternoon between 2.30pm and 5.25pm (adults 2.30pm to 3.25pm, cardio 3.30pm to 4.25pm and juniors 4.30pm to 5.25pm). All are welcome. Our coach, Megan, is also available for private individual or group lessons. Please contact Megan (07826 855 388) for more information.

For information on coaching or joining the club, contact Andrew Jones ([andrew.jones@expressvending.co.uk](mailto:andrew.jones@expressvending.co.uk)/07833111682/[www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk](http://www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk)).

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### JULY

- 1<sup>st</sup> Carpet bowls, Studham VH, 7pm every Thursday (p.17)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Studham WI, picnic Studham Common, 7pm (p.21)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Cream Tea Party, St Mary's, Kensworth, from 2.30pm (p.11)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Studham Parish Council meeting, Studham VH, 7pm (p.10)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Scrabble, Studham VH, 2pm every Tuesday (p.17)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Studham Church coffee morning, 10am until 12 noon (p.8)
- 17<sup>th</sup> FoSC work party, meet 10am War Memorial (p.19)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Kensworth Churchyard Working Party from 9am (p.7)
- 28<sup>th</sup> Bingo, Studham VH, 7.30pm (p.21)

### AUGUST

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Studham Parish Council meeting, Studham VH, 7pm (p.10)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Scrabble, Studham VH, 2pm every Tuesday (p.17)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Carpet bowls, Studham VH, 7pm every Thursday (p.17)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Studham WI AGM, Studham VH, 7pm (p.21)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Quilt Auction closing date 9pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> Studham Churchyard working party, 10am until 12 noon (p.8)
- 21<sup>st</sup> FoSC work party, meet 10am War Memorial (p.19)
- 29<sup>th</sup> NCG Annual Service and Picnic, 10am (p.13)

**4<sup>th</sup> September** Kensworth Flower & Vegetable Show from 2.30pm (P.20)

**Notice of events for the September issue by Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August to village correspondents - see page 5.**

## **STUDHAM AND WHIPSNADE ULTRA-FAST INTERNET UPGRADE**

Studham and Whipsnade Parish Councils are joining forces to support the government's 'Fibre for All' initiative, in order to upgrade 694 local properties to fibre. By replacing outdated and sometimes unreliable copper cables with Ultra-Fast fibre, Internet access will significantly increase, removing the historical problems experienced by the vast majority of village residents, farmers and businesses.

The initiative is government funded, with £1,500 allocated per home and £3,500 per business, which is covered when each resident/business signs up for a simple 12 month contract with an ISP (internet service provider), to enable the Government funding to be authorised for the installation of the cables to our homes (which is projected to take 12 months). The upgrade will make our community future-proof, adding value to each home whether the existing resident utilises and values the internet or not; the time is right to do this and the funding is available for our community.

The new infrastructure will provide ultra-fast online access to the streaming of multi-media such as remote schooling/University/College lessons/business meetings on Zoom & Teams/films and on-line gaming for young families, which is the future of the UK and the world.

In principle, if we all agree to the initiative and sign up, there will be no infrastructure cost other than what we pay for internet access, which is available in many packages from basic to ultra-fast. We have formed a collective executive team to manage and sign-off the 'Community Fibre Project' and respectfully request the support of all residents in order to complete this highly ambitious and timely initiative. The future is literally in your hands; whether you are young or old, we will all benefit one way or the other.

If we have not already spoken to you, everyone will be contacted and requested to indicate whether they will support the upgrade and commit to the conditions so that we can secure sufficient government funding; however if you require any additional information or explanation of the initiative please feel free to contact Michael Stott (Michael.Stott@icloud.com). Let's do something positive, and join forces for the greater good of our community; it will have a positive impact for generations to come.

### **FILMING IN CLEMENTS END ROAD, STUDHAM**

A note from Poppet Productions Ltd: Due to unforeseen circumstances, we have changed our filming schedule, and are now planning to film on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July. See Link website for details.

## STUDHAM EXTRA 1

### CARPET BOWLS

We are a friendly mixed group who meet at the Village Hall from 7pm on Thursdays. No equipment is needed as it is all supplied. There will be a warm welcome to a relaxing evening whether you are experienced or a starter. Contact Pat (01582 872751/trevorthorne433@btinternet.com) or just come along.

### SCRABBLE

At the Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons at 2pm. We are a friendly group and you will be made welcome. Our contact is Mary (e-mail alan.must@churchclose1plus.com) or just come along.

### STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

The trustees thank the following organisations for supporting the floor replacement, ancillary work, and fireproof curtains:

Central Bedfordshire Council for Section 106 funding and running the Government Support Scheme; Dixie Rose Trust; Gale Family Trust; Luton Airport Near Neighbours Fund; National Lottery; Red Lion, Studham, Quiz Nights; Studham Scrabble Club; Wixamtree Trust.

Contractor: DPO Building Contractors Ltd.

Consulting Structural Engineers: Glasspool and Thaiss.

### STUDHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

I feel a little sad as I write this as it will be my last offering to the Parish Link before retiring as Head Teacher of Studham School.

It will be getting on for eleven years since I started here. In that time I have had the privilege of working with some amazing children and the most dedicated staff team a Head could ask for. I have also had the support of the Governors who give up their time for free to support the school. Latterly, we have had the support of the Diocese of St Albans Multi Academy Trust. It certainly hasn't been the last year I imagined thanks to Covid!



I hope to be back from time to time to attend school concerts and services but I will miss the many friends I have made in Studham and Whipsnade.

My best wishes go out to the children and staff and particularly to my successor, who will no doubt introduce herself in the next issue. In the meantime, I hope you all get a chance to catch up on some much delayed holiday and social time.

Paul Burrett

(soon to be former) Headteacher

## KENSWORTH EXTRA 1

### **KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY and PRESCHOOL**

It has been a very busy Summer term. We are lucky that with all the sunshine, we have been able to take our learning into our outdoor spaces, including for our younger children their first chance to explore our Forest School. Luckily the sun was shining when our oldest children enjoyed a camping experience run by a local company, Adventures Into. They camped overnight in the school grounds and took part in organised games and activities and – of course! – a campfire.

We have recently designed and launched our new website and school logo (photo), which have been very well-received by our families and staff. The children were involved in coming up with ideas for the new logo and we worked with a design company who took the ideas and created the finished result. Our new website is live and has plenty of information about our school including pre-school and our before and after school provision. Do have a look ([www.kensworthacademy.co.uk](http://www.kensworthacademy.co.uk)).



We are also looking ahead to the Autumn term as we have asked the children and village to make scarecrows and display them in front of their houses ready for the end of August. We will arrange a vote for the winning entry to tie in with the Kensworth Flower and Vegetable Show on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September. We aim to have the village covered in scarecrows and raise some money for the school at the same time. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **VILLAGE WALKS**

For the last few years, we have been organising a social walk once a month on a Saturday morning. We have usually walked for about one and a half hours on local footpaths and finished back at the Village Hall for coffee afterwards. On a couple of occasions, we have organised a summer evening stroll, finishing at The Farmer's Boy instead. Although numbers of walkers have fluctuated month by month, there is a small group of "regulars", who have enjoyed both the exercise and the chance to meet new people and make new friends.

Due to the recent restrictions on group activities, we haven't managed many walks since the pandemic began. We are now in a position to start walking regularly again and we thought that this was an ideal opportunity to canvas opinion and find out what sort of walks people would like. Please e-mail [joanneacook@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:joanneacook@yahoo.co.uk) if you would like to share your ideas. Would you like to join us for a gentle stroll or would you prefer a power walk? Does a Saturday morning suit you or are your weekends too busy?

We look forward to hearing from you.

## **FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON**

High summer is upon us and our next work party will be on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July followed by Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August. Please contact Bob Wilkin (bob@afromosia.com or 871268) to check final details of the work party.

The work parties are scheduled to start at 10am, meeting at Studham Common next to the War Memorial outside the Red Lion pub.

In July the current plan is to work on the southern boundary of the whole Common, checking along the base of the hedges and to trample down any excessive vegetation, taking care not to disturb late-nesting birds. This will allow the hedge to grow well to provide a good habitat for wildlife in the future. Additionally, on East Common, we will partially trim vegetation around the car park, leaving some cover in the ditch for wildlife.

The following work party will be on 21 August when we will cut and clear grass and bracken on West Common from the glade by the school hedge, and areas south and west of the football pitch and beside Clements End Road. This will reduce nutrients in some areas while leaving others uncut to provide ground cover for small mammals and birds and also keep some areas with short grass as places for children's games etc. In addition, we will trim scalloped edges along the bridleway adjusting the cut so as to encourage the spread of wild raspberries and to allow more light and air in to the area in order to prevent the bridleway getting too muddy.

## **FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH**

The Friends of Studham Church are a friendly group who raise money to help maintain the fabric of the oldest building in the village.

The Committee of the Friends is meeting this month and remain hopeful that, if regulations allow, some of our popular fundraising events can return. However, until then the 100 Club remains active – congratulations to the June winner, Pam Rumfitt who wins £50 and runner-up Geoff Shute, who receives £10.

Studham May Fair will be on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022 – please see page 10.

If you would like to know more about The Friends or to join the 100 Club for £1 per month, then please e-mail john.mcdougal@btinternet.com or call 873257. You can also find more information on our website (<https://friendsstudham.wixsite.com/website>).

## **QUIZZES**

Not long now until September – so start swotting! Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 8pm in the Red Lion – looking forward to seeing you there.

## **KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Clerk:** Nicola Sewell; e-mail: [clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk)/07985 159015

**Website:** [www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk).

**Casual Vacancy:** a vacancy exists on the Parish Council, due to a recent resignation, to be filled by co-option. The term of office will run until May 2023. If you would like to serve as a Councillor, please apply in writing to the Clerk at Kensworth Parish Council, Kensworth Village Hall, The Chilterns, Kensworth, Beds LU6 3RJ or e-mail (above), providing brief background details and stating why you would like to join the Council.

To qualify, a person must be a British subject, aged over 18 years old and an elector, must reside in, or within 3 miles of, the Kensworth Parish boundary or occupy as owner or tenant any land or premises therein, or have their principal or only place of work there, and must not be disqualified from holding office as a Councillor.

**Dangerous parking along Common Road:** the Parish Council continues to receive complaints about inconsiderate parking, where vehicles are parked across pavements, forcing pedestrians onto the road into the path of speeding traffic.

Cllr Brown has been logging the issue and has now sent photographic evidence of 21 separate vehicles parking illegally across the village. A report has been sent to Central Bedfordshire Council to escalate the issue with enforcement officers.

**Youth recreation project:** following a plea by a resident for better recreational facilities for young people between the ages 11 and 17, we will shortly be seeking the views of young people in the village to understand what they want in terms of recreation, and to replace the old BMX track that once stood in the recreation park. Please watch this space and, in the meantime, put your thinking caps on! Once we know what the young people of Kensworth want, we hope we can build something that will bring pleasure to many generations to come.

## **KENSWORTH FLOWER & VEGETABLE SHOW**

It is planned to hold this year's Show on 4<sup>th</sup> September. As usual, there will be categories for everyone, so please pick up a Programme from either of the local shops. Judges will be out and about shortly looking for the best-kept front garden and we are delighted that the children from Kensworth school will once again be demonstrating their artistic abilities. Remember you don't have to be green-fingered, capable of appearing on Master Chef, or excellent at crafting - it's all about taking part, so we hope to see you there.

Admission to the general public will be from 2.30pm, with Ashton's, our main Sponsors, undertaking the presentation of awards at 3.30pm. For all enquiries please contact Sylvia Inns (07831 538682).

## STUDHAM EXTRA 2

### STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

With Covid restrictions gradually being relaxed, sports activities are returning to normal up at the Playing Fields and we have been working to further improve the facilities on offer. Work has been carried out to improve the football and cricket pitches, and we are about to undertake a much-needed refurbishment and resurfacing of the children's playground. If you have any questions, please contact the Studham Playing Fields secretary, Paul Hocking, on [pdhocking@btintenet.com](mailto:pdhocking@btintenet.com).

### SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 4.30pm to 9pm, Saturday and Sunday 12pm to 9pm onwards. Just a reminder that all membership fees are now due so whether you are an existing member or wish to join us, we look forward to seeing you.

### BINGO

Bingo is back – well almost! We will be starting on Wednesday **28<sup>th</sup> July** at Studham Village Hall, and then fortnightly. Doors open at 7.30pm for eyes down at 8pm. Whether you are new to bingo, just taking full advantage of the fact that we are no longer 'locked-in', or an old friend – everyone is most welcome.

### WI

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July 7pm Studham Common "Re-unite" Picnic.

A wonderful talk last month about Highgate cemetery, and this month is going to be the first time we have seen each other in person since March last year! And what better way to start this new phase than with a great get-together, with so much to catch up on, friendships to renew etc. If you are not yet a member but would like to join us, we would love to see you – all we ask is that you bring your own food, drink and chair. There will be raffle tickets on sale.

Keep watching both Facebook and our web pages to see the latest happenings, both accessible by entering 'studhamwi' into your browser.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> August will be our 'delayed' AGM for 2021 at 7pm in the Village Hall and refreshments will be cheese and wine.

### HOW OUR MONTHS GOT THEIR NAMES (CONT)

- July was named in honour of Julius Caesar after his assassination in 44 B.C. July was the month of his birth, and is the first month in the calendar named after a human ruler.
- August: In 8 B.C., the month Sextilis ("sixth") was renamed after Augustus, nephew of Julius Caesar and the first emperor of Rome.