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PARISH LINK

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





Revd. Nicola Lenthall
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Kensworth
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Tel: (01582) 872223

Nicola and her family are taking a well-earned holiday so we wish them all a relaxing and refreshing break.

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PARISH LINK CONTENTS

PAGE

5	Parish Directories
7	Kensworth Newsround - Church and Bike 'n Hike
8	Around about Studham - Church and Church Friends
9	Whipsnade News - Church, Craft & Natter, Macmillan Coffee Morning, An Afternoon's Entertainment, Village Lunch
10	Studham Common and Parish Council
11	Letter from the new Headteacher at Studham School, Seed Gathering Campaign
12	Local News - Link Website, Whipsnade Tree Cathedral, Bike 'n Hike, Poppy Appeal
13	Church News
14	Church Services
15	Diary - What's on in our villages
16	Kensworth Hike, Village Hall, Flower & Veg Show, Walks
17	Studham Carpet Bowls, Scrabble, Village Hall, Tennis, Quiz
18	Kensworth Cricket Club, School
19	Whipsnade Parish Council, Studham Parish Council Surgery
20	Kensworth Parish Council
21	Studham Playing Fields, Sports & Social Club, Bingo, WI
23	Sales and Announcements, Names of Months
25	Village Organisations

KENSWORTH NEWSROUND

KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

Our prayers: in September we shall be praying especially for everyone who lives in Church End, Spratts Lane and Hollicks Lane.

If you would like us to pray for a loved one or for a special occasion, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670).

The Church Calendar: for all services, see page 14.

This month is when we hold the **Harvest Thanksgiving**, on Sunday 26th September, at 10.30am, followed by our Auction of Produce and our Picnic. We will be meeting in church at 10am on Saturday 25th September to decorate the church; all are welcome – no experience necessary. Donations of flowers and produce to display would also be much appreciated.

There will be the presentation of harvest gifts at the service on Sunday morning by the children. Donations will be in aid of the Bishop of St Albans' Appeal for the Hungry, which this year will go to 'Water is Life' – to enhance supplies of clean water in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where there is so much hardship.

Saints' Days this month are: 21st: St Matthew; 29th: St Michael and All Angels (see page 13 for more information).

Cream Teas: huge thanks to Annabel Potter and her team, for the very successful Cream Tea event in July. A magnificent £453.70 in total was raised for church funds.



Kensworth Evening Prayer Group: on Tuesdays at 4pm, BCP Evening Prayer is said in individual households at 4pm. For details, please contact Jim Putterill (872436).

Church Fundraising Bazaar: do come and have a browse in the Church Hall on Wednesdays, 2pm – 4pm and Saturdays, 10am – 12 noon. Cash only. Sorry we can't accept clothing, electrical goods or large items of furniture. Please make sure anything you wish to contribute is clean and not faulty!



Bike and Hike: see pages 12 and 16 for details of this annual event, which takes place this year on Saturday 11th September, and in particular for Jane Bedlington's sponsored run, which will raise funds for the church. Many thanks to Jane for undertaking this.

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church prayers: in our annual cycle of prayers, in September we shall be praying especially for all the residents of Valley Road and Valley Close. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, perhaps for a special person or event, please contact the churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

Children's Church: it's been a great sadness that during the pandemic St Mary's has not been able to hold face to face activities with children and young people. However, we are optimistic that we can resume Children's Church on 19th September at 10.30am; nearer the time, please refer to the Parish Link website (www.parishlink.org.uk) and to the church noticeboard for details.

Sponsored Bike 'n Hike: on Saturday 11th September the church will be open from 9am until 5pm to welcome and to offer light refreshments to everyone who is taking part in the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust fundraising event. Sponsor money will be shared equally between the Trust and St Mary's (see page 12).

Harvest celebrations will take place on Sunday 3rd October at 10.30am. Once again village organisations have been invited to decorate the church with fruit, vegetables and non-perishable food which will be donated to the Dunstable Foodbank and the Salvation Army. The collection will be sent to the Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal, Water is Life, which aims to bring clean water to the Democratic Republic of Congo, a country scarred by polluted water, and now Covid. After the service there will be an informal 'bring and share' lunch in church; everyone is very welcome.



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 hoping to revive some of our popular fundraising events later in the year although a note of caution remains. We are also looking forward to working with the May Fair Committee to get ready for the May Fair next year. However, until then, the 100 Club remains active – congratulations to our recent winners, Pamela Alderson and Debbie Storey in July and Michelle Taylor and Graham Russell in the August draw.

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>.

WHIPSNADDE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

PRAYERS: prayers in September are especially for those who live in the houses on the south side of The Green, between the Old Schoolhouse and Chequers Cottages. If you have any special prayer requests, you can write them on the Prayer Tree in the church or contact the Rector.

‘AN AFTERNOON’S ENTERTAINMENT’: Sunday 5th September 2pm – 5pm. A Garden Party at the house of Jane and Ben Wright to raise funds for Whipsnade Church, tickets £5, or family ticket £10 from Jane Wright (07903 019188), Jo King (07943 565555) or Pam Ward (872406).

CRAFT AND NATTER: Tuesday 14th September, 2pm – 4pm in Whipsnade Church. We had only just started the Craft and Natter when Covid struck, and we had to stop it temporarily. A real shame, it was such good fun. Now we are starting it again, anyone who can knit, crochet, sew, do patchwork, beadwork etc , come along and share with us your knowledge, with refreshments. If you have no experience, then just join us for a couple of hours and we are sure that at the end you’ll be ‘hooked’. For more details contact Jo King (07943 565555).

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING: the annual Coffee Morning in support of Macmillan nurses will be in the church on Friday 24th September between 10.30am and 12.30pm. Teas, coffees, scones and cakes will be served, and funds will also be raised through a Bring and Buy, raffle and competitions. Come along and bring your friends to support this very worthy cause. Contact Kim Brown (872015) or Isobel Randall (872552) for more details or offers of help.

CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY: on Saturday 25th September from 10am until noon. Autumn tidy up. All help very welcome: more details from Pam Ward (872406).

VILLAGE LUNCH: forward notice! The Lunch is returning on **14th October** with a **Harvest Lunch** in aid of the Bishop’s appeal for improved water supply in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Come to the Village Hall at 12.30pm for a choice of main course and pudding, followed by tea or coffee, all for £6. The details of the menu will be in next month’s Link.

If anyone would like to help with the lunch, we would really appreciate support with the following: setting up the hall at 5pm on Wednesday 13th; cooking a main course item for 12 or 20 people; bringing a pudding (any kind of pudding welcome!); serving the meal; washing up and clearing up afterwards. Especially, come and meet everyone – it’s been such a long time! There will be a bookstall and raffle as usual: contributions are welcome.

Contact Isobel Randall (872552 or isobel.randall@btinternet.com) for more information.

MORE STUDHAM

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next work party is to be held on 18th September. We will meet outside the Red Lion by the war memorial at 10am. Work is planned to take place around Peter Enright's memorial orchard, where we will clear any excess growth, to keep the orchard in good condition.

We will also work on East and Middle Commons, where we will be clearing grass, bracken and brambles as necessary from the southern boundary, and mowing around benches and the main trees in order to produce a more natural appearance to the footpath. This work will reduce the nutrient levels preventing excessive growth of these plants, thereby creating a variety of habitats for small mammals and birds.

In addition, we will reduce the brambles around planted gorse at East Common car park and opposite on Middle Common. This is in order to prevent the gorse being smothered by the vigorous growth of bramble and other plants.

If you require further information about the work party (all are welcome, especially new members), please contact the work party co-ordinator Keith Draine (07807 363629 or info@westlea-pm.com).

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Our next meetings will be on 6th September and 4th October in the Village Hall.

Julie, our Clerk, is leaving for pastures new. She has been our guide and scribe for 10 years now and will be missed by us as both colleague and friend. Julie will be an extremely hard act to follow, but Sally Harrop is both willing and able to give it a try and we welcome Sally to the Parish Council. Communication will remain the same, i.e. clerk@studhamparish.co.uk so that there is no loss of continuity.

If you wish to report a broken street light or pothole please use "FixMyStreet". Just put "Fix my street" into the browser and create an account, then follow the instructions to complete. All we ask is that you let us know that you have done it.

If you are a new resident to Studham and have not yet received a welcome pack, please let the Clerk know. If a property near you is up for sale and about to change hands, please let us know so that we can get this service back on track.

Lastly, if your hedge butts either the highway, footpath or bridleway, it is your responsibility to ensure that it is cut back with no overhanging branches or weeds that could cause a problem to users. There are letters on the way from CBC to those already identified as extreme.

Please see page 19 for news of an up-coming Parish surgery.

STUDHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

Hello everyone!

I am very pleased to be able to introduce myself to you all as I begin my headship at Studham Village CofE Academy School. I feel very honoured to be following in the footsteps of Dr Paul Burrett and wish him all the very best for his next venture. We look forward to seeing him at future concerts and services.



I worked in the world of business before fulfilling my dream to teach. I believe this background gives me knowledge beyond school and the education system but made my passion for educating our children stronger. I began by teaching in two village lower schools for the first eleven years of my teaching career and then in a primary school in Luton for the last seven years, where I was the Deputy Headteacher.

I am looking forward to my new role and see the future of Studham Village CofE Academy as a time of great joy and celebration. I am very excited to be working with a fantastic team; the staff, the pupils, the parents, the governors, the parish and of course the wider community.

I know the last two school years have been like no other with the effects of Covid-19, but we are looking forward to exciting times this school year, ensuring the best education for your children within a school that cares and treats every child as the unique individual they are.

We are pleased to say that we still have places available in our pre-school for September. Please contact the school if you are interested in coming to see us (872337 or e-mail: school@studhamschools.org.uk).

I look forward to meeting you all over the coming weeks and months.

With best wishes

Sarah MacKenzie-Skea

Headteacher of Studham Village CofE Academy

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SEED GATHERING

This year's Seed Gathering Campaign organised by the Tree Council begins on 22nd September and runs until 23rd October. Everyone is invited to gather seed, fruit and nuts that can be nurtured and grown into trees for the future. There is a lot of information and advice at <https://treecouncil.org.uk/take-action/seasonal-campaigns/seed-gathering-season>. Fun for all the family to enjoy and get involved together.

LOCAL NEWS

WWW.PARISH.LINK.ORG.UK

Take a look at our re-vamped website which has been re-designed by “Webmaster”, Les Randall – a huge thanks to him for all his hard work. It contains very useful information about our 3 villages – What’s On, Village Noticeboards, News about the Churches, community organisations, leisure activities, transport and much more. If you are organising an event in the 3 villages, do let Les know and he can publicise it on the website (lesrandall@btinternet.com).



WHIPSNADE TREE CATHEDRAL ANNUAL SERVICE

The annual service is on Sunday 19th September at 3pm. Everyone is welcome to the ecumenical service with music by the Salvation Army Band.

WHIPSNADE TREE CATHEDRAL
ANNUAL SERVICE
19th September 2021 | 3pm

Theme: Creation and Climate

Speaker - Revd Charlotte Bannister-Parker

Please bring your own chairs or rugs and a picnic tea

Family friendly service

Any queries call 01582 872406

Bring a rug or chair to sit on. If wet, the service will be in the church. Further information from Pam Ward (872406).

BIKE ‘N HIKE ON SATURDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 9AM TO 5PM

Please support the event this year. Walkers and riders will be raising funds for Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust which supports churches who need funds for repairs and improvements. Half of the sponsored funds goes to the Trust, and the other half to a church of your choice. Over £112,000 was raised throughout the Diocese in 2020, a record amount. Due to the coronavirus churches have had a reduced income over the last year, your support will be much appreciated.

Further details and sponsor forms from:

Kensworth: Jane Bedlington (871139)

Studham: Meg Bender (872967)

Whipsnade: Pam Ward (872406) or Roger Kendrick (413564).

Also see page 16 for news of a Kensworth walk in support of this.

POPPY APPEAL

This year’s appeal takes place from 30th October to 13th November. Please see the October Parish Link for more details or contact Pam Ward, Area Organiser for Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade (872406). Offers of help are always appreciated.

CHURCH NEWS

NORTH CHILTERNNS GROUP OF CHURCHES

Quiet morning: the annual NCG Quiet Morning is on Saturday 18th September from 10.30am (refreshments from 10.15am) at Totternhoe Church Hall. Presentations, discussion and time for quiet contemplation in the hall, church and churchyard. A lovely opportunity for spiritual refreshment. Ending with worship at 12 noon. Everyone is welcome.

ECO-CHURCH

The news of floods and forest fires around the world in recent months is a stark reminder of the effects of climate change and the need for urgent action, confirmed in the most recent UN IPCC report. In November, Glasgow is hosting the UN Climate Conference, Cop26, in which governments from around the world will hopefully commit to targets to reduce carbon emissions. Over the next few months, everyone is urged to follow this news, get informed about the UK's position for reducing emissions (which seems like a promising start), talk to friends and family about the issues, try and find ways to support community, charity or company initiatives to reduce carbon emissions. Collective action is needed to make a difference.

WHAT IS MICHAELMAS?

Michaelmas, or the Feast of St Michael and All Angels, is celebrated on the 29th of September every year. As it falls near the autumnal equinox, the day is associated with the shortening of days; in England, it is one of the "quarter days".



There are traditionally four "quarter days" in a year (Lady Day (25th March), Midsummer (24th June), Michaelmas (29th September) and Christmas (25th December). They are spaced three months apart, on religious festivals. They were the dates on which servants were hired, rents were due or leases began. It was said that harvest had to be completed by Michaelmas, almost like the marking of the end of the productive season and the beginning of the new cycle of farming. This is how it came to be for Michaelmas to be the time for electing magistrates and also the beginning of legal and university terms. (September – Michaelmas, January – Hilary, May – Trinity).

Michael, in the Bible and in the Qur'ān (as Mīkāīl), is one of the archangels. He is repeatedly depicted as the "great captain," the leader of the heavenly hosts, and the warrior helping the children of Israel. Early in the history of the Christian church he came to be regarded as the helper of the church's armies against the heathen and against the attacks of the Devil. He holds the secret of the mighty "word" by the utterance of which God created heaven and earth and was "the angel who spoke [to Moses] at Mount Sinai" (Acts 7:38). Representations of Michael in art reflect his character as a warrior: he is shown with a sword, in combat with or triumph over a dragon, from the story in the Book of Revelation (Apocalypse).

MORE KENSWORTH

KENSWORTH HIKE (part of the Bike and Hike Event)

On Saturday 11th September 10.30am start. Jane Bedlington will be leading our usual walk between the three churches of the Benefice, starting at 10.30am at Kensworth St Mary's, to Whipnade and on to Studham. This is a linear walk ending at Studham Church, so arrange your transport or pick up from there. Transport back to Kensworth can be arranged. We will be taking a new route this year.

This is a fundraiser for Beds Herts & Bucks Historic Churches: you can either get sponsors or make a donation; 50% of money raised goes to St. Mary's, Kensworth. Contact Jane Bedlington (07796 015292) for a sponsor form for more details, or just turn up on the day.

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Now open as normal, with minimal Covid restrictions. We are slowly receiving bookings from regular hirers and hope that these will be back to normal levels soon. Ad hoc bookings are also coming in slowly. We have limited facilities at the moment but hope to reopen all of these in September. We are still having specialist Covid cleaning to ensure that we keep the hall as clean and as safe as possible between bookings. The Committee has completed cleaning of cupboards and contents in the hall, the fridge and microwave have been cleaned and the cooker has been professionally cleaned. We are hoping to purchase a new water boiler and we hope to have this in place before September. There has been a general clean-up of the outside of the hall and the garden area has been trimmed and replanted. This means the hall is looking very clean and welcoming to hirers.

Early notices – put them in your diary! Christmas Bingo on Friday 3rd December, and the Christmas Fayre on Sunday 12th December.

Obviously, we are hoping that we can continue to run the hall hirings to recoup some of the money we have lost during the pandemic and we hope that residents will support us. We are always looking for people to join the Committee, so please come along to the next meeting on Wednesday 1st September at 7.30pm.

KENSWORTH FLOWER and VEGETABLE SHOW

A reminder that the Show will be held on Saturday 4th September: judging in the morning; open to the public in the afternoon from 2.30pm, with various stalls and activities in the car park. We are delighted that it is able to take place this year. Please come and help to make it a big success!

VILLAGE WALKS

We will be meeting in the Village Hall car park at 10am on the following Saturdays: September 4th; October 9th; November 6th.

We will walk for 60/90 minutes on local footpaths and lanes and then finish with coffee.

If anyone has any queries, please e-mail: joanneacook@yahoo.co.uk.

STUDHAM EXTRA

CARPET BOWLS

2pm Thursdays In The Village Hall

We're back from lockdown. An opportunity to relax with a mixed group. No equipment needed. Starters welcome. Contact is Pat (872751) or please just come along. You will be welcomed and it is enjoyable.

SCRABBLE

2pm Tuesdays In The Village Hall

Back after lockdown. We are a friendly group and you will be made welcome. Our contact is Mary (alan.must@churchclose1plus.com) or just come along.

STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL – WE ARE NOW OPEN

The hall has been deep cleaned, with a new floor and the main hall re-decorated. Several block booking groups have restarted, and we welcome the U3A Recorder Group as a new regular booking.

There is a modern kitchen and a meeting room also available.

Contact is Des Salmon (tel: 01582 872082/e-mail: desstudham@btconnect.com).

The trustees are delighted to welcome Simon Maxted as a trustee. Simon has been a staunch supporter of the Village Hall and his mother was a trustee. Simon will bring a wealth of experience and background to the trustees.

STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB

The tennis season is now well and truly underway. We offer free annual Junior Membership (with every full adult member) and 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 – 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/07833 111682/www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk).

QUIZZES

Tuesday 7th September at 8pm in the Red Lion.

Quizzes are back! We look forward to seeing you for the re-launch of our quiz nights after the recent enforced stoppage! Please ring the Red Lion to book a table, (and order food if required – 872530).

KENSWORTH EXTRA

KENSWORTH CRICKET CLUB

Fixtures:

12th September Breachwood Green Home

If you would like more details about the Cricket Club, please contact Duncan Wingfield (872896) or e-mail: d.wingfield78@btinternet.com.

KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL and PRESCHOOL

The end of the Summer term at Kensworth can only be described as 'full of fun'! We were lucky to have enjoyed an 'alternative' Sports' Day, where the children spent the day experiencing a host of activities, such as archery and golf. This was followed by a more traditional sports' day where we were so pleased to be able to welcome our families to watch the children enjoy their races, which included egg and spoon, sack and of course some flat, running races.

We were sad to say 'farewell' to our Headteacher, Mrs. Bates, who is going back to Totternhoe school, where she is also Headteacher. We had a lovely final, collective worship with her under the trees outside and thanked her for all she has done for Kensworth School. We are lucky, though, that our new Headteacher, Mrs Steph O'Neill, has been with us since April, sharing the job with Mrs Bates, and so she will be carrying on the good work.

The Autumn term has had an exciting start with the official launch of our Forest School. Following a competition to find a name for it, the winning name was chosen: 'The Secret Garden'. So, for the first week of the new term, the whole school, from Preschool to Year 6, have been reading the classic story of The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett, as well as having lessons in our very own 'Secret Garden' and adjacent Pencil Garden. What a way to start the term!

Enquiries to the Headteacher Steph O'Neill (872336) or e-mail: office@ken.dsamat.co.uk.

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A POEM BY SHIRLEY FRY

Take time to watch the clouds unroll
Their feathery strands across the sky
Take time to watch the little ants
The fluttering of a butterfly.

Take time to listen to the birds
To breathe the scent of dampened grass.
Take time to share sweet nature's gifts
And you will find your troubles pass.

PARISH COUNCILS

WHIPSNADE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Whipsnade Green: have you ever stopped to wonder who manages ‘The Green’, or do you not give it any thought, or imagine it doesn’t need any managing? Well, in answer to the last of these – yes it does – quite a bit of management is needed to keep it doing its job of quietly preserving the unique character of our village. In days past, animals would have been at work grazing the sward and providing a meagre livelihood for some local inhabitants. These rights persist to this day in the holding of ‘stints’ or grazing rights and are inherited through titles to property: One stint equals one ‘cow common’ enough grazing to keep one cow in milk over the summer season.

As a registered common, the land is also subject to a Scheme of Management and Byelaws which dictate what activities can and cannot be undertaken. Although a ‘common’, the land itself is privately owned by ZSL and is managed by cooperation and consent between them, Central Bedfordshire Council, the holders of stints and, most importantly, you, as residents, if you happen to live in Whipsnade, as it is also the Village Green. One of the most important tasks of the Parish Council is to actively represent these interests within the overall group of stakeholders, so that the beauty and recreational amenity of The Green may be enjoyed for all and for generations to come.

Winter scrub maintenance on Whipsnade Green: why not come along to one of the monthly winter scrub-bashing sessions which start this year on Sunday, 3rd October? Sessions are normally half a day - 10.30am to 2.30pm. You will feel fit and refreshed after a gentle work-out helping to keep encroaching scrub in check. Just come along on any of the days or call Ken France (872375) for further information.

The **next meeting** of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 14th September in Whipsnade Village Hall starting at 7.30 pm. All welcome – come along and have your say.

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STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL SURGERY

We are going to hold a Parish Surgery during October. The main items for discussion will include Broadband fibre connection to the house, meet the police, and electric charging points amongst others. There will be a chance for questions, and hopefully answers, as well as light refreshments.

Please watch the notice boards, and next month’s Link, for the date and time and we look forward to seeing you there.

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Nicola Sewell e-mail: clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk (07985 159015)
Website www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk.

All **Parish Council meetings** are open to the public and have resumed as face-to-face meetings from 7.30pm at Kensworth. Next meeting: Thursday 9th September. Social distancing measures will be in place, including the use of masks and hand sanitizers and a restriction on numbers. All attendees will need to register their name and contact details on the night.

Parking on verges and pavements: despite letters being sent, inconsiderate parking continues to be a problem, particularly along Common Road and on the Ridgeway. We are working with Central Bedfordshire Highways department and will be taking evidence of offending vehicles and escalating the issues to CBC. Please remember to park considerately and safely where it is allowed. Parking on verges is not an option as, not only does it ruin the verge, but reduces visibility for traffic at busy junctions.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Volunteers required!: we are looking to create a committee to oversee and manage the village's celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 2nd June 2022. If you would like to be involved and volunteer for the committee, please contact the Clerk, using the contact details above.

Future Projects in the Village:

Following its last RoSPA safety inspection, we believe the time has come to replace, rather than repair, the play equipment in the recreation ground.

Whilst we intend to look for sources of funding, projects of this size are very expensive. Thus, it is likely when looking at our budget for 2022/23 we will be making an increase to our precept, which means there will be an increase in the Council Tax charges.

As much as we would prefer not to have to increase charges, we must be realistic: at the end of the day better facilities will benefit many parish families. Increasing Council Tax is the main way that Parish Councils pay for community projects; once the budget is decided, we will let residents know.

Councillor Vacancy

We are still looking for a new Councillor to fill a casual vacancy. If you have a passion for your village, want to see things change and believe you have something to offer the Council and Kensworth residents, then please get in touch. To find out more about being a Councillor contact the Clerk.

Our **next meeting** will be held on Thursday 9th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Members of the public are always welcome to attend.

STUDHAM EXTRA 2

STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

Sports activities have now returned to normal at the Playing Fields with a successful cricket season just completed and a new football team joining us for the winter season. Our AGM was also held on 30th June.

Please do visit the club and the Playing Fields and get involved with the sports clubs, who will be delighted to welcome new members! There is still space for more football – so if you would like to form a local Studham team, we'd be very interested to hear from you!

The Playing Fields are there for everyone in the village to enjoy – but please do not allow your dogs to foul the grounds. Please also keep off the cricket square.

If you would like any more information about the facilities at the club, or would like to hold an event at the Playing Fields, please contact Secretary, Paul Hocking, (pdhocking@btinternet.com).

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 4.30pm to 9pm, Saturday and Sunday 12pm to 9pm. If you are not yet a member, forms are available at the bar.

BINGO

Bingo is back. Wednesdays 8th and 22nd September, 8pm in Studham Village Hall. 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 looking to renew your bingo skills, everyone is most welcome.

WI

Thursday 2nd September **7.15pm** Studham Village Hall Social Gathering (bring your own refreshments).

Following on from a very successful Annual Meeting last month, we have made a few 'tweaks' to our procedures. For example, please note the new start time of 7.15pm instead of 7.45pm, and it was decided that 'own refreshments' should be brought. These are on a trial basis.

Our September meeting will be a replay of the "Social Gathering" that we were going to hold in July on the Common. This is open to all ladies, (£4 entrance fee non-members), but what better way to come and find out about us and how the WI works? There are just over 250,000 of us in England, Wales and the Islands (Scotland and N Ireland have their own federation), and we are all from different backgrounds and walks of life – even the Queen is a paid up member! Our remit under the Charities Commission is Education, so our talks cover all aspects of life, and sometimes death (often the funniest of speakers!), crafts, hobbies, you name it we have talks about it! So why not come and see for yourself? You will be most welcome, and you don't have to live in Studham either.