

Issue Number 390

www.parishlink.org.uk

October 2021

PARISH LINK

Serving the villages of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade for 39 years





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

Tel: (01582) 872223

Dear friends and parishioners

During the bombing raids of WWII, thousands of children were orphaned and left to starve. The fortunate ones were rescued and placed in refugee camps where they received food and good care. But many of these children, who had lost so much, could not sleep at night. They feared waking up to find themselves once again homeless and without food. Nothing seemed to reassure them. Finally, someone hit upon the idea of giving each child a piece of bread to hold at bedtime. Holding their bread, these children could finally sleep in peace. All through the night the bread reminded them, "Today I ate and I will eat again tomorrow".

Not just in far-off lands but in our own country the worry over whether there will be enough, or any food on the table come tomorrow, is ever present. So at this time of Harvest, for those of us who do have enough, we bring our gratitude; for those who grow, produce, transport, distribute, sell and cook food, and for those charities working with those who don't have sufficient food, especially, locally, Dunstable Foodbank.

Harvest is both a time for thankfulness and for giving; and this year our churches will again be supporting both the Bishop of St. Albans' Harvest Appeal, Water is Life, which will bring clean water to many communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo, bringing with it transformation to daily lives and hope for the future. You can give through church, or at: <https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/st-albans-harvest-appeal>. And also, why not set up a standing order to Dunstable Foodbank at <https://dunstable.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money>.

As the last verse of a Harvest hymn puts it:

Praise God for the harvest of mercy and love
from leaders and peoples who struggle and serve
with patience and kindness, that all may be led
to freedom and justice, and all may be fed.

With my love and prayers,
Nicola Lenthall

The front cover shows the hikers at the end of their walk at Studham Church (see p.9).

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church prayers: in October we shall be praying especially for everyone connected with our local businesses and pubs, and for all the residents and staff at Knoll House. If you would like a prayer to be said, perhaps for a special person or event, please contact the Rector, Nicola Lenthall, (872223 or revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com) or the Churchwarden, Meg Bender, (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

Harvest Festival: the annual harvest celebrations take place on Sunday 3rd October at 10.30am. Everyone is very welcome to this service with its traditional hymns. Thank you to the village organisations which have so kindly agreed to decorate the church with flowers and food. The perishable items will be delivered to the Salvation Army to support their work with disadvantaged people and the tins and packets will be donated to the Dunstable Foodbank. The collection from the service will be sent to the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal which, this year, is helping to bring clean, safe water to communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo. After the service there will be an informal 'bring and share' lunch in church; everyone is invited; more details are available from the Rector or Churchwarden whose contact details are above.



Your gift will resource more work with local churches and help change the lives of people in the DRC.

Children's Church: thankfully this is up and running again after the long pandemic break and next meets on Sunday 17th October at 10.30am. Children and young people of all ages are very welcome and they will be thinking about the Gospel reading for the day from St Mark, how Jesus was self-giving, offering his love and service. There will be refreshments and a celebration of the October birthdays after the service – a warm welcome will be extended to everyone.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

We are a small but friendly group who exist to raise money to maintain the fabric, but not the running costs, of the Church and in doing so help keep alive part of our village heritage.

Hopefully, we will soon be able to re-start our popular fundraising events but in the meantime a big thank you to those who donate to the 100 Club. Congratulations to John Hanna, who won the September draw and to our runner-up, Pam Rumfitt.

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>.

WHIPSNADE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

ST MARY MAGDALENE

Prayers: this month we will be praying especially for the people living in the area from Chiltern Cottage to the Zoo, and along Dagnall Road at the foot of the Lion. If you have any special prayers that you would like to have included in church and personal prayers, contact the Rector (872223) or the churchwardens (Isobel Randall on 872552 or Martin Rees on 873117), or nip into the church and write a request on a leaf on the prayer tree.

Harvest Festival, 3rd October: the Harvest Thanksgiving service will be on the first Sunday in October. If you would like to help with decorating the church on Saturday 2nd from 9.30am – 12 noon, contact Pam Ward (872406) or Isobel Randall (872552). We would appreciate donations of fruit and vegetables, as well as goods, such as tins and packets of food, to be distributed after the service and to go to the Food Bank. (And if you know anyone who would appreciate a gift parcel, please contact Pam).

The service is always a very happy occasion, giving thanks for the harvest. Do come along and join in the traditional harvest songs. You could also bring gifts of food and produce to present during the service and add to the bounty to be shared afterwards.

The Harvest Lunch, Thursday 14th October: a very special occasion this year – the first village lunch since the first lockdown. No need to book – simply come along with your £6 to pay for your two-course lunch with tea or coffee to follow. There will be a bookstall and a raffle. The menu will be a choice of roast pork, venison pie (thank you, Sue!), a chicken dish, a fish dish, with a choice of pudding. Offers of help and puddings will be greatly appreciated – contact Isobel Randall (872552).

The Harvest Appeal: all proceeds from the Harvest service and lunch will go to the Bishop of St. Albans' 2021 Harvest Appeal, "Water is Life", which will help to provide clean water supplies for the People's Republic of Congo.

Sunday School: thanks to Glenda Cox who is re-starting Sunday School as a monthly event from Sunday 10th October at 9am in the church extension's meeting room. Lots to do and play! Contact the rector for further details if you have children who would enjoy activities with others on a Sunday morning.

Bike N' Hike: many thanks to those who manned the church on 11th September and to those who sponsored Bola and Pam who walked 12 miles.

Garden Party: many thanks and congratulations to Ben and Jane Wright, and all their helpers and supporters, for the hugely successful garden party they held in aid of Whipsnade Church and the Friends of the Church. It was a highly enjoyable afternoon, altogether raising over £2000. A brilliant success!

KENSWORTH NEWSROUND

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Prayers: in October we shall be praying especially for everyone who lives in Common Road, from Dovehouse Lane to Hollicks Lane. If you would like us to pray for a loved one or, perhaps, a special occasion, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670).

Church services: for all services, see page 14.

Everyone is welcome to attend our Messy Church Holy Communion on Sunday 10th October, starting with breakfast at 10.15am. This is our first one since lockdown and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there, to take part in the crafts and activities, worship and song that have been missing for so long.

Bike and Hike: on Saturday 11th September, six walkers set off from Kensworth St Mary's and walked to Whipnade and then on to Studham Churches (the three churches known as the Benefice) – see front cover. Friends gave donations or sponsored others to help raise money to maintain our historic churches. If you would still like to contribute to this, please contact Jane Bedlington (07796 015292).

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, 2 – 4pm and Saturdays, 10am – 12 noon. Cash only. Sorry we can't accept large items of furniture, clothing or electrical goods. Please make sure anything you wish to contribute is clean and not broken!

Quilt Raffle: this was held in aid of St Mary's Church, Kensworth: Mike Sawyer graciously gave back the quilt for a re-raffle, as he felt that it was a pity for it to remain in an airing cupboard! The re-raffle was drawn in Kensworth Church on 5th September, using the same numbers. The lucky winner was Margaret Putterill. The raffle raised £740.

FRIENDS of ST MARY'S, KENSWORTH

We have not yet finalised our programme for the year, but here is a very early notice of the long-postponed concert by Caritas Harmony, in the church, on Saturday 2nd July 2022. Please make a note in your diary. It promises to be a wonderful evening.

Tickets and more information from David Jones (01582 873242) or 'Get Tickets' at www.caritasharmony.co.uk.

MORE STUDHAM

STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

Sports activities have now returned to normal up at the Playing Fields with a successful cricket season just completed and a new football team joining us for the winter season. Tennis, of course, continues full pace! There is space for more football – if you would like to form a local team, we'd love 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 and opportunities for sports at the club, or would like to hold an event, please contact the Studham Playing Fields Secretary, Paul Hocking, (pdhocking@btinternet.com).

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

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

On Saturday 30th October there will be a special “Kids Fancy Dress Disco” with fun and party games to be held from 6pm – 8pm; open to all. Although it is almost Halloween, fancy dress is not limited, so kids can come as their favourite Disney or video game character, as well as the usual witches, skeletons, ghosts and ghouls – the wardrobe is the limit!

BINGO

Wednesdays 6th and 20th October at 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 7th October **7.15pm** Studham Village Hall.

The Life of Marie Curie by Dr. Mike Chapple (bring your own refreshments).

Our October Meeting will be the first time we have had a face-to-face speaker for what seems an absolute age! So we thought we would make it ‘special’ by having an open meeting – this means the men can join us as well! We would ask that masks are worn when not seated so that we do not have to restrict numbers, thus allowing more of you to enjoy this fascinating talk.

Our Speaker is Dr. Mike Chapple who will be talking about the life of Marie Curie, who is the only woman to have received 2 Nobel Awards. There will also be a Bring and Buy table, a raffle, and a ‘Daffodil’ competition (anything with a daffodil: picture, scarf, brooch, vase, etc.). Please come and join us.

MORE KENSWORTH

KENSWORTH FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW

The Show Committee were rewarded for their decision to go ahead with this year's Show on 4th September, as the villagers responded with a really quality display of produce and a full Village Hall watched Nic Simmonds of Ashtons present the awards in the afternoon.

The best front garden was awarded to Claire and Adrian Sawyer from The Lynch and best allotment awards went to Graham Lee and Tiffany Rischling. Other winners were Sue Moynes (floral arrangement and vegetables), Maureen Brinklow (preserves), Jan Harper (cookery), Sue Foster (fruit), Anne McDonald (craftwork), Jo Collins (flowers) and Daniel Bowes (children's categories). Geoffrey Stafford retained the trophy for the most points overall, winning 12 and coming second in 6 other categories (see photo).



Special thanks go to Ashtons for their continued sponsorship and to TC Feeds and Chelsea Direct for providing raffle prizes. Planning will start shortly for the 2022 Show and the Committee welcome feedback or details of anyone willing to lend a hand in any way. Please contact the Chairman, David Manton, for details: (01438 831184 or david.manton@aol.co.uk).

KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL and PRESCHOOL

The Autumn term at Kensworth school is well underway. All the children have been enjoying their learning both inside and outside. Our Forest School is well and truly open and the children have been learning there, whatever the weather!

Our youngest children, in **Saplings class**, have enjoyed their first few weeks at Kensworth, exploring their classroom, meeting new friends and having fun.

Holly class's theme this term is superheroes. They have been learning all about real-life super-heroes.

Oak class have been learning about Greek myths and legends.

Our oldest children in **Hornbeam class** are learning all about the Tudors in their theme, 'Off with her head!'

The school value this half-term is generosity - Corinthians 9.7: 'God loves a cheerful giver.'

For more information or other enquiries, please contact the Headteacher, Steph O'Neill (872336) or e-mail: office@ken.dsamat.co.uk.

LOCAL NEWS

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

This year from 30th October to 13th November and we will return to 'house to house' poppy collections, so please support us. There will also be a stall at the Gateway Centre, which will be manned by volunteers, by kind permission of The National Trust. More helpers with the collections are always welcome. Please contact Local Poppy Appeal Organiser, Pam Ward (872406).

ECO CHURCH

Eco Church is not just about church - it's about our lives and lifestyles. Each month we will be looking at a different aspect of the challenge of climate change that we all face. It's such an enormous issue that we feel we can do nothing on our own, but we can make changes; so, let's all consider what changes we can make to our lives, especially as the UK hosts the Climate Summit in November in Glasgow.

I see lots of cyclists and tricyclists, both young and old, around the villages, and I imagine many of you have a bike in the shed that needs dusting down and oiling up! Cycling doesn't have to be the extreme, lycra-wearing sport of cycle clubs; it can be a means of free transport, family time together, fitness and health, adventure and outdoor enjoyment. Let me take each aspect:

1. Transport – a bike has some carbon emissions in its manufacture – but after that - none! It's then free transport to and from home, work, school and leisure activities. I have recently purchased a second-hand electric bike (granted, this does have a greater carbon footprint than pedal power). I can travel the 9 miles to work on quiet lanes and the Dunstable-Luton Busway in a safe and pleasant environment.

2. Family Time together – bikes are great to get out as a family; there are trailers/back seats for toddlers, tail bikes for those learning to cycle and whole families can get out together.

3. Fitness and health – cycling helps with cardiovascular health. Why pay for the gym? My son worked out the hours he has been out on his bike: it cost 20p/hour. You can't get a gym for that price!

4. Adventure and outdoors – connect with nature, breathe some fresh air. Cycling opens up the opportunity to adventure beyond our neighbourhood and gives independence for travel and holidays.

Dunstable is blessed with 4 great cycle shops: Dysons, Pedal Works, Halfords and Decathlon. The Dunstable Tidy Tip has a shop where you can buy second-hand bikes and of course there's FB Marketplace and the like, but I bet many of you have a bike in the shed – dust it down and get out there! I challenge you to make a difference.

Jane Bedlington

CHURCH NEWS

STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Linda Hillier is 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 10 th October	10am	Mr Mike Lees	
Sunday 24 th October	10am	Rev. Dyer.	Harvest Festival

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.

THE CALENDAR: Kensworth church building was founded, on the remains of an even earlier church, around the mid-12th century, and every October those churches whose foundation date is not known exactly (including Studham) will commemorate the start of building. It is awesome to think how long people have been worshipping within the walls!

18th October is St Luke's Day, and 28th is St Simon and St Jude. 31st October is All Hallows Eve, or Hallowe'en, the eve of All Hallows (All Saints) Day.

WHY DO WE CARVE PUMPKINS AT HALLOWE'EN?



Most people think this is an American tradition that has made its way across the Atlantic, but the origins are much closer to home.

There was an ancient Celtic tradition in Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man to scare away the Devil and witches on All Hallows Eve (Hallowe'en), which in turn was inherited from the Celtic folklore festival of Samhain (summer's end). In the 8th century the Pope announced that 1st November would be All Saints Day, fitting neatly into the tradition. People lit bonfires and danced around with wreaths of evergreens, singing and playing games and playing 'trick or treat' to ward off evil spirits. They hollowed out swedes (which they call turnips) and put glowing coals or candles in them.

Over the 18th and 19th centuries these traditions crossed the Atlantic to America with emigration from the Celtic nations. They noticed that pumpkins there were easier to carve and rapidly adopted them in place of the swede (try hollowing out a swede!). The festival was adopted enthusiastically by the American public, became a huge part of life there, and travelled back across the ocean to all parts of the British Isles, and indeed, the world. In England it has come to rival Bonfire Night as a celebration!

STUDHAM EXTRA 1

STUDHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL



It has been fantastic to welcome everyone to school at the beginning of a new school year! What a great start back we have had! Everyone looking very smart in their school and PE uniforms!

There are so many things already planned for the new term including a visit from the Bishop of Bedford, a trip to St Albans Cathedral, animal visit in school, the Whipsnade Tree Cathedral Service, Harvest Festival and a Healthy Hearts and Minds day to name but a few! We hope that we will see you while we are out and about!

We still have places available in our pre-school; please signpost anyone who may be interested to our school website for further information (www.studhamschools.org.uk). Thank you!

Sarah MacKenzie-Skea
Headteacher at Studham Village CE Academy

STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

We are delighted to welcome back the Happy Bowlers to their Thursday morning slot. The trustees are pleased with the support, since re-opening, by groups who have resumed their long-term bookings, and hirers for parties and other functions. The hall has a modern kitchen and is well placed to support all types of functions and groups. Contact Des Salmon (872082 or e-mail: desstudham@btconnect.com).

The AGM is at 2pm on Friday 1st October. The hall will be well ventilated to meet the Covid19 control recommendations with seating appropriately spaced. The AGM is an open meeting and an opportunity to meet the team that runs your Village Hall.

SMILE LINES

Here are some more real-life extracts from church bulletins and notices that didn't come out quite in the way intended!

- Harvest Supper Friday at 6pm. Prayer and medication to follow.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

STUDHAM EXTRA 2

CARPET BOWLS

2pm Thursdays In The Village Hall

We're back on 7th October. We are a friendly mixed group and new members will be made welcome. No experience is necessary and no equipment is needed. It is an opportunity to relax and at the same time have some very modest exercise. Contact Pat (872751) or please just come along.

SCRABBLE

2pm Tuesdays In The Village Hall

We're back after lockdown. New players are welcome to a small friendly group. Did you know that Scrabble was the most looked-for board game over lockdown? Why not come and try the real thing, with real opponents? Contact is Mary (alan.must@churchclose1pluscom) or just come along.

STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB

The tennis season is now well and truly 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 – 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 on 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

On Tuesday 5th October at 8pm in the Red Lion.

Quizzes are back! And what a re-launch evening we had last month! We look forward to seeing you for this month's quiz and to give you a chance to "swot up", the rounds will be 1: Sport and Recent News, 2: School Days (all the things you learnt at school – and have forgotten!), 3: Alphabet (all answers start with N), 4: Entertainment (anything that entertains), 5: Anything we couldn't fit in the previous rounds! and 6: Music, (all start with the letter U!). Please ring the Red Lion (872530) to book a table (and order food if required). See you there!

COUNCIL NEWS

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Nicola Sewell; e-mail: clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Website: www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Volunteers needed: we are looking to form a committee to oversee and manage the village's celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 2nd June 2022. We are seeking volunteers and are keen to get plans in place as soon as possible. If you would like to join the Committee, please contact the Clerk, using the contact details above, before 14th October. The Jubilee year will see everyone come together to celebrate this unique event; being part of the Committee is an ideal opportunity to make a real difference to the residents of Kensworth, whilst being involved in an amazing, unique event.

Recreation Ground Improvement Committee sought: we have big plans to improve the recreation ground, by updating existing play equipment and also adding new facilities. This will be a longer-term, expensive project and as such, the Parish Council needs volunteers to join a Recreation Ground Improvement Committee. If you have a passion for the recreation ground, feel you understand what is needed or simply just want to get involved, please contact the Clerk.

Councillor Vacancy: we are still looking for a Councillor to fill a casual vacancy. If you believe you have something to offer the community, please contact the Clerk.

Parish Council Meetings: all meetings are open to the public and have resumed as face-to-face meetings (held from 7.30pm at Kensworth Village Hall).

Below are dates for the rest of this year:

October 14th, November 12th, December 10th.

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.

CENTRAL BEDS COUNCIL

Garden waste will be collected between 18th October and 30th October instead of collecting food waste. Just place your garden waste bin (or two council issued bags) at the kerbside instead of your food waste bin on the day you normally have your recycling collected.

CBC is carrying out a consultation on parking fees and charges in its area – they are also seeking other ideas and suggestions which could be introduced. See parishlink.org.uk for more details and go to the Central Beds website to fill in the survey. Closing date is 14th November.

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The **next meetings** of the Parish Council will be on Mondays 4th October and 1st November in Studham Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome.

A **Parish Surgery** will be held on Saturday 9th October, 10am – 12 noon. We are restricting the numbers to 40, on a ‘first come first served basis’, so we would ask that only one member per household requests a place to ensure as many householders as possible may attend. Those attending will also need to be ‘double-vaccinated’ and wear a mask. To book your place, please e-mail either the Chair (bob@afromosia.com) or Vice-chair (mark.poyner@brasierfreeth.com). The main topic to be discussed is Community Fibre Broadband. No refreshments will be served.

There are now 3 defibrillators in the village: Red Lion, Sports & Social Club and Holywell Road. It is helpful if residents are aware of how these work, so a training session has been arranged for Monday 25th October in the Village Hall. The same restrictions as the surgery apply – to register contact: news@studhamparish.co.uk.

If you are a new resident to Studham and have not yet received a welcome pack, please let the Clerk (clerk@studhamparish.co.uk), or any Parish Councillor know. If a property near you is about to change hands, please let us know so that we can get this service back on track.

If you wish to report a broken street light or pothole please use “FixMyStreet”. If you want to stay abreast of what the Council is currently involved with, please register your interest with the Clerk, and receive e-mails direct. You may of course also look at the website to find the latest happenings.

Lastly, if you are thinking of burning your garden rubbish, please be aware of nearby outbuildings and also consider how it will affect your neighbours. Taking it to the tip is easy – there is no longer any need to pre-book a slot. Remember that vans and trailers will be charged.

* * * * *

ALL IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

- 125 years ago, on 3rd October 1896 William Morris, British textile designer, pot novelist and socialist, died.
- 70 years ago, from 15th to 17th October 1951, the first party election broadcasts were televised in the UK. The three main parties, Liberal, Conservative and Labour, were allocated 15 minutes each.
- Also 70 years ago, on 31st October 1951, zebra crossings were introduced in the UK. The first one was in Slough, Berks.

KENSWORTH EXTRA

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Now **fully reopened** for hirers and all the facilities are available. We are slowly having regular village hirers return to their weekly slots and we have been encouraged by more ad hoc enquiries for private parties at the weekends. Unfortunately, the Taekwondo classes have cancelled due to lack of interest, which is a shame, as we have actively been trying to encourage more groups for the youth of the village to get involved. We are hoping to have two new regular hirers use the hall in the coming weeks, so please look out for notices advertising what they can provide for residents. The Committee continue to keep on top of regular maintenance issues and other legal requirements that have to be completed.

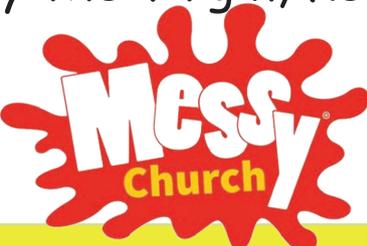
If anyone is interested in joining the **Committee**, please come along to our meetings, held on the first Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall – we are always looking for ideas for fundraising. The next meeting is 6th October.

Reminders: Christmas Bingo, Friday 3rd December; Christmas Fayre, Sunday 12th.

The Drop In Club has resumed every Thursday from 9am – 11am. It is timed to welcome parents/carers after taking children to school, and people of any age, to meet together. Do drop in for a cuppa, games and chat. Toddlers very welcome, catered for with toys and healthy snacks.

The Village Walks start from the Village Hall car park each month at 10am, lasting about 90mins and finishing with coffee in the hall: future dates - Oct 9th and November 6th. If anyone has any queries, e-mail: joanneacook@yahoo.co.uk.

St Mary the Virgin, Kensworth



Messy Church

Holy Communion

Sunday, 10th October, 2021

Starting with breakfast at 10.15am



WHIPSNADE PC AND FoSC

WHIPSNADE PARISH COUNCIL

Playground: now officially open again and all are welcome to use it. Users of the playground - parents, grandparents, other adult relatives, guardians, and carers, i.e., those supervising – should do so only after considering any possible risk of Covid transmission and state of vaccination and vulnerability of their own circle of contacts. The Parish Council, as operator of the playground, will keep these under review and make any additional provisions as are advised or required.

Queen's Jubilee Community Orchard: our thanks to National Trust for managing the orchard throughout the pandemic. This year has not been a vintage year for apple growing as anyone who has fruit trees may know. We hope to arrange a tidying up day sometime in October/ November which will be an opportunity for the community to come together and get involved. Also with the forthcoming Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations due next year we should start to think what kind of special event we could hold and perhaps the orchard planted to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee would be an appropriate focus. Any ideas on this, please do let one of your councillors know.

Whipsnade Green Conservation Volunteers – Winter schedule.

Annual 'scrub-bashing' and general winter maintenance on Whipsnade Green will recommence this month. Dates confirmed so far are (all Sundays):

- 3rd October
- 31st October (British Summer Time ends)
- 21st November

Sessions starting at 10.45 am. Meet outside Dell Farm entrance. Don't feel you have to stay for the whole session which normally finish between 2.30 – 3.00 pm.

The **next meeting** of Whipsnade Parish Council will be held in Whipsnade Village Hall on Tuesday 9th November starting at 7.30 pm.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next work party will be held on Saturday 16th October. We will meet outside the Red Lion pub by the War Memorial at 10am. The work will include trimming the school hedge on West Common to ensure that it will eventually form a continuous dense habitat for nesting birds and a corridor for other animals.

We will also cut and clear grass and bracken from the glade by Church Road and parts of Old School House meadow and, if time permits, thin a few trees in the area. This will reduce nutrients in some areas whilst leaving other areas uncut to provide ground cover for small mammals and birds.

If you require further information about the work party, please contact co-ordinator Bob Wilkin (bob@afromosia.com or telephone 01582 87126).