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PARISH LINK

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





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Dear friends and parishioners,

I am writing this in the second week of February, and already, as I walk or drive round the parishes and beyond, I have noticed (with great relief!) signs of spring. In the churchyards there are beautiful tiny snowdrops and aconites, and bobbing in the wind on the verges of roads and in gardens are the golden flashes of daffodil heads (which I happen to be very fond of as I associate them strongly with Cornwall where I come from, where they bloom very early...). The days are getting longer, and sometimes we are lucky with that very translucent winter-spring sun, illuminating the branches of trees in an almost magical way.



The word Lent, which is the season of the church's year beginning this year on March 2nd, is said to come from either the Old English word 'lencten', meaning 'spring season', or possibly from words which we still have in our present-day vocabulary as 'lengthen', which may refer to the lengthening of daylight hours.

My favourite description of Lent comes from Eastern Orthodox Christianity, where they call it the season of "bright sadness". As the days lighten and lengthen, Christians make an even more conscious effort to focus on their belief; actively to attend more services or do some reading around their life of faith, to give time to those in need, or increase their donations to specific charities; all the while moving towards the events of Good Friday with the death of Jesus, and then the rejoicing of Easter Day where death is overturned and the brightness overcomes the sadness.

My prayer for you this Lent is that there may be brightness in whatever sadness there is in your own life, and that we might all know that love of God which passes all understanding.

With my love and prayers, in this month of March and season of Lent, and always,

Nicola

KENSWORTH NEWSROUND

KENSWORTH CHURCH PRAYERS

If you would like a prayer to be said for a loved one or a special event, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670). In March, our prayers will be specially for the residents of The Chilterns.

KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

1st March is Shrove Tuesday, here known as Pancake Day, and in other countries there are great carnivals and feasts before the 40 days of fasting in Lent, which this year starts on Ash Wednesday, 2nd March. All are welcome to learn a bit more at the NCG Lent Course (see page 12). Another date in the church calendar is 25th March, a Quarter Day, sometimes known as Lady Day, when the Angel Gabriel is said to have announced to Mary that she was chosen to be the Mother of Jesus (the Feast of the Annunciation). Mothering Sunday, when we will be joined by our Methodist friends, is on 27th March, and will be a Messy Church, preceded by breakfast at 10.15am (see below).

Choir News: we are pleased that the choir will be accompanying services on the first Sundays of the month and at Easter, with Matthew Huggins as organist. If you would like to join the choir, please contact the Vicar. All voices and all ages welcome – you just have to be able to read!

Kensworth Church Children's Ministry: following our occasional Sunday Messy Church, and our online Messy Churches of the past two years, St. Mary's Kensworth Sunday School will be re-starting in April, on the second Sunday of the month, and our very successful Friday Messy Church will return in May. We are looking forward to seeing the children again!

Dates for your diaries:

Sunday March 27th from 10.15am – Messy Church for Mothering Sunday

Sunday April 10th 10.30am – Morning Service with Sunday School

Sunday April 24th 10.30am – Family Service

Sunday May 1st 10.30am – Family Holy Communion for May Day

Sunday May 8th 10.30am – Morning Service with Sunday School

Friday May 20th from 3.30pm – Messy Church in Kensworth Church Hall

More dates to come...

If you would like to help with Sunday School or Messy Church, please contact the Vicar or Katherine Huggins (607841).

CHURCH BAZAAR (as it is for a charity, it is no longer officially allowed to be called a shop!): open Wednesdays 2pm – 4pm and Saturdays 10am – 12 noon in the Church Hall, behind the Vicarage. Do come and have a browse! Cash only. We welcome your contributions, but please ensure they are clean and undamaged. Sorry we cannot accept electrical goods, clothing or large items of furniture.

WHIPSNADE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

PRAYERS

This month our prayers will focus on the people whose work is based in the village. If you have any requests for prayers, please contact the Rector or the churchwardens (Isobel Randall, 872552 or Martin Rees, 873117). Alternatively, you can write a prayer on a leaf to hang on the prayer tree in the church.

THE GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

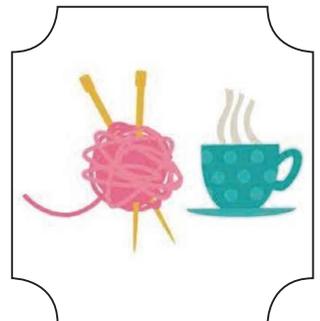
The new Garden of Remembrance will be dedicated by the Archdeacon of Bedford on Sunday 20th March at the 9am service, followed by celebration refreshments. (see also pages 13 and 16). We are grateful to the people who worked so hard to create the garden – especially Ben and Jane Wright, and Pam and Richard Ward.

COFFEE, CAKE AND COMPANY

Do you feel the need to get together with other people for a friendly chat? Have you suffered a bereavement? It's the turn of Whipsnade to host this event at 2pm on Sunday 20th March. We look forward very much to seeing you in the church.

KNIT AND NATTER

The monthly 'Knit and Natter' (from 2pm – 4pm on Tuesday 8th March in the church extension) goes from strength to strength, with people either making their own items or contributing to the knitted flowers (at present for Easter decorations). Knitting needles, crochet hooks, patterns and wool are available if you want to come and try it out. This is a friendly, cosy get-together, with no need to knit or crochet if you simply want to have a cup of tea or coffee and a comfortable chat.



VILLAGE LUNCH

This month's lunch is at 12.30pm on 10th March in the Village Hall. Choose from a menu of roast beef, huntsman's chicken, breaded sole or shepherd's pie, with a pudding to follow, then tea or coffee. All for £6!

WHIPSNADE CHURCHYARD

There will be a working party on Saturday 19th March from 9am until 12pm. We are preparing for the Archdeacon's visit to bless our new Memorial garden (see above). All are welcome.

EASTER COFFEE MORNING

Whipsnade Church Easter coffee morning is on Friday 8th April from 10am until 12pm. We have a raffle and Knit and Natter Easter stall. Come and join us for some coffee and cake.

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church prayers: in March we shall be praying for everyone who lives in Holywell Road and Holywell Close. If you would like a special prayer to be said, please contact churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

Children's Church meets on Sunday 20th March at 10.30am. The children and young people will be engaging in interesting activities to help them to understand the reading for the day from St Luke, how God is calling every one of us to be useful members of our families, our schools and our local community. After the service, everyone is invited to enjoy refreshments and to celebrate all the March birthdays.

Kids' Club: the next meeting will be on Friday 25th March at 3.30pm. With Mothering Sunday just two days later, there will be lots of discussion and activities to plan for the Sunday service with the theme of caring – caring for our families and friends, our pets and the environment, and we shall have some very friendly cute puppets to help us! The afternoon will finish after a hot tea, at 5.30pm. All children and young people, and their parents and carers, are very welcome. To book a place, please contact Meg Bender (contact details above).

Mothering Sunday: this special service takes place on Sunday 27th March at 10.30am. This is an informal family-orientated service in which our Kids' Club children and young people will be helping us to reflect on what it means to care. Everyone is warmly welcome to stay for refreshments afterwards.

STUDHAM VILLAGE CE ACADEMY

We're having lots of fun, even on the chilliest of mornings, playing and enjoying our beautiful outside spaces. frosty mornings are warmed up with bike rides, scooters and hula hooping.

Our Pre-schoolers have enjoyed woodland walks, a 'bark chip' kitchen and a wintry redevelopment of their outside space. Learning has been brought to life inside our classes with enthusiastic story telling complete with actions and musical accompaniment. From speaking Papayas to window writing, words literally have come off the page!



We have welcomed in the Chinese New Year, begun decorating our giraffe and even have a Pirate boat 'moored up' in class.

If you would like more information on places or wish to volunteer your time, please contact our school office (872337 or e-mail: school@studhamschools.org.uk).

KENSWORTH EXTRA

FRIENDS of ST MARY'S, KENSWORTH

The Village Hall was as full as was possible, under the social distancing restrictions, as the Friends held their Annual Quiz on 5th February. After an enjoyable evening, the winning table was hosted by Jim Thompson's family, who will hold the Brian Webb Memorial Trophy for the next 12 months. The Committee would like to thank everyone who helped raise over £600 towards the upkeep of the Church.

Please put in your diary the date of the Caritas Ladies' Choir Concert in the church – 2nd July at 7pm. It promises to be a delightful evening. More details later.

KENSWORTH CE ACADEMY AND PRESCHOOL



The Spring term is well underway at Kensworth CE Academy. Reading is our number one priority here and we read to the children every day, making sure that all children get to read and hear high quality texts, including the classics. So, we really enjoyed a whole-school project on 'The Wind in the Willows' by Kenneth Grahame, where all the children listened to different versions of the story, and did some writing and art work linked to it. They all decided that Mr Toad definitely seemed to learn from his mistakes!

Our Science lessons have been very interesting this term. Oak Class have been learning about the digestive system, and to make the learning more memorable, their teacher decided to demonstrate exactly how food was digested with the help of some pairs of tights (intestines) and Weetabix (food). Perhaps you can imagine the rest? Needless to say, the children loved it, and got to have a go themselves, resulting in some brilliant explanations of how we digest food!

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

EASTER FAMILY TRAIL

In readiness for the Easter holidays a new trail is available – similar to the lockdown Village Trails we had in 2020-21.

By foot, bike or car follow a trail with riddles and clues along the way.

Collect the clues and get to know your environment. £5 for the trail.

Contact Jane Bedlington for information (jane.bedlington@btinternet.com or 07796 015292).



MISC

EVERY NEST HAS A PLASTIC LINING!

You may be surprised to learn that birds are increasingly gathering pieces of abandoned plastic waste to build their nests. This is potentially dangerous, particularly to young chicks if they become entangled in the plastic. Plastic is also indigestible if accidentally eaten, and nests made from brightly coloured plastic also make them more visible, and the young chicks more vulnerable to predators. For some species of birds, the nest has to keep the eggs both warm and dry, and plastic may be less effective at keeping its occupants warm and may prevent moisture from draining through, which can impact on hatching success.

We already know how dangerous plastic waste is to both sea and river creatures, but this new revelation is very disturbing. Although manufacturers and supermarkets are making progress with reducing the amounts of plastic used in packaging, we can all do our bit for nature by recycling, re-using and reducing our use of plastic as much as possible. So please spare a thought for wildlife by disposing of your plastic litter responsibly, to ensure it does not find its way into the natural world.

MARCH BRINGS BREEZES LOUD and SHRILL, that STIR the DANCING DAFFODIL

Daffodils are amongst the first flowers we see in springtime (see Nicola's letter p. 3) and are a great indicator that winter is over. Thus, they are seen to represent rebirth and new beginnings. Daffodils are a variety of narcissus, as are jonquils.

- Daffodils are also known as 'Lent Lilies' because they usually bloom between Ash Wednesday and Easter.
- They represent creativity, inspiration, awareness and inner reflection, forgiveness, and vitality.
- If you give narcissi to someone it means 'You are the only one'.



A myth surrounding narcissus flowers comes from Greek mythology. Narcissus was an incredibly handsome young man. He bent over a stream, where he saw his reflection and fell in love with it and couldn't bear to leave it. Eventually, he grew exhausted, fell into the stream and drowned. Daffodils often grow by water and bend over, like Narcissus, to admire their reflection!

The psychological term 'narcissism' also comes from this tale, to describe people who are self-centred.

Daffodils are given to celebrate 10 years of marriage because they symbolise joy, cheerfulness and happiness.

- Narcissus is the birth flower for those born in March.
- Daffodils are the National Flower of Wales and are worn on St David's Day (1st March).

LOCAL NEWS

WELCOME TO JANE AND JO!

Jane Wright and Jo King have kindly taken on the role of Whipsnade Village Correspondent following Pam Ward's retirement (reported in the February Link). Jane and Jo have both lived locally for many years and are now involved in many community events. They are both looking forward to hearing from you about the events you want to have publicised in the Link. Contact details below.



JANE janewrightfrom1963@gmail.com

JO sallowsprings@hotmail.co.uk

PARISH LINK AGM

Do come along and meet Jo and Jane and the rest of the Link Editorial Committee at our AGM on Saturday 12th March at 9am in Kensworth Church Hall (behind the Vicarage). All are welcome.

NORTH CHILTERNNS GROUP OF CHURCHES

This is a special year for the North Chilterns Group; the **fortieth anniversary** of its establishment by the Privy Council. A series of annual events includes the confirmation service and the NCG service in which we are celebrating the 30th years of the Reverend Joy Cousans' ministry and 30 years since Dorothy Blackburn was licensed as a Reader.

The **Lent Course** this year, "Rooted in Hope" is led by Louise Collins of Elstree and Borehamwood, focusing on the trees mentioned in the Bible. Sessions will be held weekly during Lent from Tuesday 8th March in Totternhoe Church Hall, with refreshments at 7.30pm and discussion starting at 7.45pm.

Every church member in the eight parishes is welcome to attend the AGM on 17th May, held in Dagnall church at 7pm.

POPPY APPEAL 2021

The Poppy Appeal for the Royal British Legion for our three villages raised a record of over £6,000. Very many thanks for everyone who helped with the collections and supported the Appeal.

CHURCH NEWS

STUDHAM 800TH ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday 13th March at 4pm, St. Mary's, Studham will host 'Held in the Hand of God' – a 'Music & Word' reflecting on the 800th anniversary of the consecration of Studham Church (and of the probable licensing of the first vicars of Kensworth and Studham), and on the way in which we have been held in God's love through the past two difficult years. This reflective meditation will include bible readings, clavichord music and poetry.

WHIPSNADE MEMORIAL GARDEN

On Sunday 20th March, St. Mary Magdalene, Whipsnade will welcome the Ven. Dave Middlebrook, Archdeacon of Bedford at our 9am service, to bless the new memorial garden for the interment of ashes. In the afternoon we will be hosting our semi-regular 'bereavement tea', from 2.30pm – 4pm; do drop in for refreshments, fellowship and chat, with others who have been bereaved in the past few years, and our trained listeners.

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) and she will make necessary arrangements.

March Services:

Sunday 13 th	10am	Rev. S. Dyer	Holy Communion
Sunday 27 th	10am	Mr D. Williamson	

Studham Methodist Chapel currently meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month and all are welcome to join us. We are asking for face masks to be worn and that social distancing is maintained.

Although our own services are not being streamed, Zoom meetings are available from many of our Circuit Churches. If you would like details of these, or any of our other Zoom fellowship meetings, please contact Linda Hillier.

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Services for March are currently taking place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, subject to changes in guidance from above. All are welcome, but there is to be no socialising inside the premises, after the service.

13 th March 10.30am	Holy Communion	Led by the Rev. Nigel Bibbings
27 th March 10.30am	Mothering Sunday	United Service at St. Mary's, Kensworth

Particulars of other services can be found on the chapel noticeboards.

MORE WHIPSNADDE NEWS

WHIPSNADDE CHURCH – GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

Whipsnade PCC are developing a new area of the Garden of Remembrance in Whipsnade Churchyard, so that parishioners can continue to choose to inter the remains of their departed loved ones in the village.

We are raising funds for the laying out and landscaping of the new Garden and are asking for support from the community. The work will be done by our wonderful volunteers, but we need to raise around £1,000 to pay for the costs of preparing the area for planting and for buying shrubs and bedding. We know that many villagers and visitors find peace and a space for reflection in this quiet corner of Whipsnade.

Our volunteers will be working over the next few weeks to prepare the site, buy the plants and get the area ready for a service of dedication to be led by the Archdeacon of Bedford on Sunday 20th March at 9am. As ever, all parishioners are welcome to join this service, which will be followed by light refreshments.

Please consider a donation towards this project. £25 will buy a shrub, £10 a perennial plant, and £7 a bag of compost.

Cheques should be payable to Whipsnade PCC, or a BACS transfer can be arranged. Our Treasurer, Les Randall, will be delighted to hear from you (lesrandall@btinternet.com or at 14, Holywell Road, Studham, LU6 2PA).

QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Whipsnade Parish Council has provided funding in its budget to support a village event to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 70 years on the throne over the special May/June Bank Holiday. Having consulted with both Kensworth and Studham Parish Councils on the timing of their celebrations, we are aiming to organise a Village Party on Saturday, 4th June so please all make a note in your diaries.

At the moment we are thinking along the lines of a 'bring and share' picnic/lunch/afternoon tea at Whipsnade Village Hall and meadow with games and prizes for the children (and maybe adults as well!). We are keen to involve as many people as possible in helping with the event and would like to hear from anyone who wishes to get involved or volunteer their services. We will be arranging an organising committee meeting so that we can plan the event and put together a team to run it. If you would like to be involved or have some ideas you would like to share beforehand, please contact Ken France (872375), Craig White (873171) or Pam Ward (872406).

There will also be an opportunity to discuss ideas at the next Council meeting, which is also the Annual Parish Meeting, and will be held in Whipsnade Village Hall on Tuesday 15th March, starting at 7.30 pm.

MORE STUDHAM NEWS

STUDHAM WI

Thursday 3rd March at 7.15pm in Studham Village Hall. Our AGM.

Our February Meeting was in the hall, and members and guests enjoyed a wonderful talk from Mike Pittam on how the Food Banks have coped during the pandemic, and how they are moving forward in 2022.

Our March meeting is our AGM and, once the business has been completed, there will be cheese, wine and bingo with prizes! Subs are also due - £44 for the year. Please contact Lynne Smith (873371) to find out how payment can be made. New members are always welcome.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/studhamwi>) for up-to-date details.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next Friends' work party will be on Saturday 19th March, when we will be finishing any uncompleted tasks over the entire Common from previous work parties during the past year. All work is to be carefully controlled to ensure early nesting birds are not disturbed, but that the Common remains open and accessible to all.

Please note, everyone is welcome to the work party – please come and help out; all necessary tools will be provided. We meet at the War Memorial on West Common, opposite the Red Lion at 10am. Contact Keith Draine (07807 363629 or e-mail info@westlea-pm.com) for further information.

CARPET BOWLS

2pm Thursdays in the Village Hall

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

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.

BINGO

Wednesdays March 9th and 23rd at 8pm in Studham Village Hall

Doors open at 7.30pm for 'eyes down' at 8pm; everyone is most welcome.

MORE KENSWORTH NEWS

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Christina Jones e-mail: clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Website: www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Great British Spring Clean: 'Community Litter Picking in Kensworth'. Saturday 26th March 10am: meet at the Village Hall car park where bags & litter picker sticks will be provided. Whatever time you can spare, please help.

Parish Meeting: save the date: Thursday 8th April at 7pm. The meeting will include an overview of the past year's work and an opportunity for you to meet your Councillors and ask the Parish Council questions. We will be awarding those who were successful in bidding for our annual grants and announcing the recipient of the 'Villager of the Year' award.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Committee: as we move closer to the fun events and village enhancements being arranged for all our residents to enjoy, we ask for more volunteers to join us with the many tasks still required to make this happen. Please offer your support if you can in any of these areas:

- * Fundraising dinner on 23rd April, St Georges Day
- * Celebration Garden Party on Sunday 5th June with a bar and live music
- * A new Jubilee Garden for all to enjoy
- * Tree and bulb planting within Kensworth.

Contact John Worboys (e-mail:shortgrovemanor@gmail.com) for information.

Parish Council Meetings:

Next meeting: 10th March from 7.30pm at Kensworth Village Hall.

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

The lettings for ad hoc events are steady. We have some parties pending that wish to use bouncy castles; these are not covered by the hall's insurance. Previously some bouncy castles have been erected without permission, so in future there will be a disclaimer for any damages or injuries added to the booking form. The Committee are seeking legal assistance to cover these issues. Ad hoc bookings for the Hall have increased by almost 25% on the last full year's figures, 2019, which is very encouraging.

Maintenance is ongoing in the hall – the Committee are hoping to have a fireproof hatch cover installed in the kitchen. One radiator thermostat controller was damaged; we are trialling a new thermostat cover, which is locked, to stop hirers from turning the radiators down or off. Some groups have (meaning to be helpful) turned the radiators off after evening bookings and the Hall is then cold for the Tiny Tots, Toddlers and Drop In clubs on the following mornings, as it disrupts the timers.

There is to be a Village Walk on Saturday 19th March, meeting at the Village Hall at 10am and it is proposed that, if the footpaths are still muddy, this will be a walk up Common Road and Isle of Wight Lane to Dunstable Downs.

STUDHAM EXTRA

STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

Our regular users include carpet bowls (2 groups), tap dancing, bingo, mums and tots, scrabble, W.I., and Parish Council, but there is room for other groups. The hall is ideal for parties; hire rates are very reasonable. Contact Lynne Smith, (bookingstudhamvh@gmail.com) to discuss all the information required.

We are always happy to welcome others who would like to become a VH Trustee. The work is not onerous and we have around 4 meetings a year. If you would like to join us, please contact either Des Salmon (872082) or Chrys Smith (872989).

STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB

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 her (07826 855388).

For more information, contact Andrew Jones (andrew.jones@expressvending.co.uk or 07833 111 682/www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk).

QUIZZES

Tuesday 1st March at 8pm in the Red Lion.

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 R), 4: Entertainment (anything that entertains!), 5: Anything we couldn't fit in the previous rounds! and 6: Music, Y.

Please ring the Red Lion to book a table, (and order food if required) as we will not be using the marquee area. See you there!

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Opening: Monday to Friday 4.30pm, Saturday and Sunday 12pm.

The Sports and Social Club is thriving under new Club Steward, Louise, and welcomes all visitors and new members. Please do pop into the club to explore what we have to offer. We provide competitively priced drinks and a good food menu, including roast lunches on Sunday! The facility is also available for private events such as parties, wedding celebrations, music evenings etc – with full bar service and food options if required. If you are planning an event, please contact us to see what we can offer.

WHIPSDNADE & STUDHAM

WHIPSDNADE TREE CATHEDRAL - VOLUNTEERS DIARY

Our January and February jobs are mostly clearing leaves and fallen branches and a general tidy up to prepare for Spring.

The Christmas chapel, which is populated with Norway Spruce, had 3 trees felled this year for festive duties: one was adorned with lights and decorations for Whipsnade Church, one went to The Gateway Centre and the other went to The Hunters Lodge. As is the practice when the spruce are felled, a new tree is planted to take its place. We are now organising the planting of 3 new trees, with one already in the ground and more to follow.



Running alongside the Christmas chapel is a troublesome Viburnum Tinus hedge, which one of our first jobs as Volunteers was to cut back to the ground, as it was overgrown and in very poor condition, with its leaves dying off and full of holes. We believe this is Viburnum beetle damage. The beetles breed in the undergrowth under the plants and then begin attacking the shrub in April. We have now cleared all the old leaves and debris from under plants and in a few months we will try and treat them to prevent further attack.

Our bonfire area is busy at this time of year, as we are constantly clearing and burning dead wood and leaves as we try to keep the site clear. We do try and assess wind direction before lighting bonfires, but we apologise if the smoke has affected you at any time. The leaves that don't get burned are piled up next to the bonfire and as you can imagine, the heap is getting bigger and bigger!

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

If you have recently moved into our Parish and have not received your **Welcome Pack**, contact the Clerk (clerk@studhamparish.co.uk) who will arrange this for you. The pack contains information on the local amenities and activities in the area.

There is a change to the Spring Bank Holiday arrangements this year for the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** celebrations. All 3 villages are planning events for the 4-day weekend. If you would like to help in organising Studham's participation, or could offer assistance, please contact us and we will add you to the list.

Good news for residents of both Studham and Whipsnade. The **Broadband Fibre** to the Home project is well underway and leaflets will be delivered to every home in the next few weeks explaining the next steps.

Speeding along Dunstable Road has increased over the recent period. Could we remind you all that the speed limits shown are maximum speeds and not targets!

Next meeting: Studham Village Hall at 7pm on 7th March.

FUTURE EVENTS

KENSWORTH MAY FESTIVAL - 1 May 2022!



Sunday 1st May. Come to see the May Queen crowned, a wonderful dog show, many interesting stalls, pony rides, BBQ and drinks, plus great raffle prizes! More information soon, so make sure the date is in your diary. Remember that this year we are celebrating many things - not least because we haven't had one for 2 years and also it is over 800 years since vicars were regularly recorded in the church – so it's a special celebration!

THE VAUXHALL MALE VOICE CHOIR

are holding a St George's Day Concert at Whipsnade Village Hall on Saturday 23rd April at 2.30pm. Doors open at 2pm.

Tickets cost £10, with children ½ price and includes light refreshments. For tickets, please contact Ken Jones (01525 753110), or on the door. Don't forget your flags!

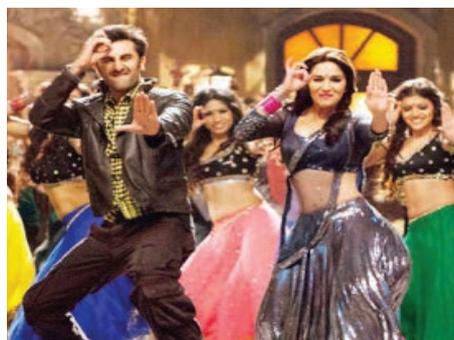


If any men out there would like to join the Vauxhall Male Voice Choir, then why not come to a rehearsal and meet this friendly choir? We meet every Wednesday evening from 7.30pm – 9.30pm at High Town Methodist Church, Luton. For more information please take a look at www.vmvc.org, or e-mail: info@vmvc.org, call John (762830) or look at our Facebook page.

Joining a Choir can seriously ENRICH your life!

An EVENING of FAMILY BOLLYWOOD DANCING

The Lockdown Bollywood Evening was such a success we will be hosting a live event.



Saturday 11th June 7pm @ Kensworth Village Hall

We will join Dunsia Chauhan of Dunsia's Dance Academy.

Dunsia will show us key Bollywood moves and we will dance together.

Tickets are £10 and £5 for children inc. Indian snacks at the interval. BYOD.

All proceeds to St Mary's Church Kensworth.

Contact Jane for a ticket on jane.bedlington@btinternet.com or 07796 015292.