

Issue Number 398

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July/August 2022

# PARISH LINK

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





Dave Heather  
3 Pulford Road  
Leighton Buzzard  
LU7 1AB

I am excited to be joining the communities of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade in July as your part-time Curate and so here are a few words of introduction which I hope you might find useful.

I am married to Virginia, and we have three adult daughters; Juliet, Rebecca and Sophie as well as a German Shepherd dog called Dexter. Juliet now lives in Bournemouth and Rebecca in Chesterfield; however, Sophie is still at home, from time to time at least. So on a Sunday if you see a grey Kia car with a family of three plus a large very friendly dog you might well have spotted us.

For most of my adult life I have been involved in education. I currently am the Headmaster of Pulford School in Leighton Buzzard and Virginia works there too in the role of Forest School Teacher. Dexter has just reminded me that he also has a professional role to play in school life, making sure that the children are happy and ensuring that there are no leftovers at lunch.

Sophie is nineteen years of age, and in common with many older teenagers, has the distinct advantage of knowing just about everything. I am sure she will be a valuable resource to me in my upcoming ministry.

In our leisure time we enjoy exploring the beautiful country in which we live. Dexter is especially keen on camping trips which involve a few decent walks. We also enjoy a variety of music styles and I confess to having been a keen fan of the Wombles since the seventies!

We are all looking forward to meeting you over the coming months and learning lots of interesting facts about your villages.

With best wishes

Dave

*Dave and family will be welcomed to our parish churches at a bring and share lunch on Sunday July 3rd at midday in Studham Church - do come along and join in, and take this chance to introduce yourself!*

## PRAYERS

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

## ST MARY MAGDALENE CELEBRATION

We will be holding our annual Evensong service in celebration of our patron saint, Mary Magdalene, on Sunday 24th July with afternoon tea at 4.30pm followed by Evensong at 6pm. Do come along – it's a great experience!



## VILLAGE LUNCH

Everyone is welcome to come along for a main course, pudding and tea or coffee for £7, in the Village Hall at 12.30pm. The July lunch is on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>, and the menu is a choice of roast pork, chicken tikka masala, beef and ale pie or fisherman's pie. In the August lunch, on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August, there will be roast lamb, salmon en crouete, cottage pie or chicken chasseur. Come along, meet your friends and enjoy!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school is up and running on the second Sunday of the month at 9am. In the church vestry each month the children talk about an aspect of Christian life and make a craft item related to it. Bring your children along for some fun and company.

## GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

The new garden is now in use, with burial services having been held for several of our friends who passed away while it was being prepared. Thanks to Ben and Jane for their work making it so beautiful, and to Lorna and her family, whose work in the old garden is so much admired. See the Rector for further details, and look on the church noticeboard for information about how we manage the plots.

## 'KNIT AND NATTER'

On Tuesdays 12<sup>th</sup> July and 9<sup>th</sup> August in the church from 2pm – 4pm. From 9<sup>th</sup> August, Knit and Natter will be every 4 weeks. Come along with your knitting, crochet, embroidery, or simply yourself, to enjoy an afternoon of good company and refreshments. Contact Jo King ([sallowsprings@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sallowsprings@hotmail.co.uk)) for details.

## WELCOME

A warm welcome from Whipsnade to our new curate, Dave Heather, who will be joining Nicola in the three parishes as he prepares to be a priest. We are looking forward to seeing him often in the church and in the village.

## AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

### ST MARY'S CHURCH

**Church prayers:** we will be praying in July especially for all the people of Swannells Wood and in August, for everyone in Church Road, Church Close, Church Mead and Red Lion Cottages. If you would like us to pray for something important to you, contact churchwarden Meg Bender (872967/meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

**Celebration Lunch:** on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July we welcome Rev'd. Dave Heather who is joining us as a curate in the Benefice. There will be an informal 'bring and share' lunch from 12 noon to meet Dave and to celebrate this important occasion.

All children and young people are welcome to join **the Kids' Club**, which meets in church on 15<sup>th</sup> July from 3.30pm. There will be an opportunity to try a model railway and to take part in lots of craft activities, followed by a hot tea. We will be exploring how we can restore God's earth and how important it is to hear what God is saying to each of us. To book a place, contact Caroline (cjhitchman@hotmail.com).

**Children's Church** follows just two days later on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am; we will continue with the theme of caring as Christians for God's creation. Everyone is invited to coffee after the service and to the celebration of all the July birthdays. There will be no Children's Church in August; the children and young people and their leaders will be enjoying a well-earned holiday.

A **Churchyard Working Party** will be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September from 10am until 12 noon and will be followed by a ploughman's lunch. Thanks to our mowing team the churchyard looks wonderful but we also need to do some extra weeding and strimming jobs. Everyone is very welcome; please bring your own tools.

### FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

We are an organisation whose sole purpose is to raise funds to help maintain the oldest building in the village, our church.

The **May Fair** is traditionally our biggest fundraiser, so it was great to be able to hold this event for the first time since 2019. Thanks to everyone who played a part in helping raise in excess of £8500 which is being split between many village organisations. At the time of writing the split has yet to be finalised but more information will be in the next Parish Link.

Congratulations to the winners in the June 100 Club with Dorothy Blackburn winning £50 and Geoff Shute receiving £10 as runner up.

You can find out more about the Friends on our website (<https://friendsstudham.wixsite.com/website>).

**KENSWORTH CHURCH PRAYERS:** if you would like a particular prayer to be said, for example for a loved one or a special event, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670).

In July our prayers will be for all who live in Common Road, from the start up to the Methodist Church, including Wick Hill.

In August we shall say prayers for the residents of Bakers Lane, Woods Close, Grove Place, Dovehouse Lane and Malms Close.

**KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH:** services continue as usual throughout the summer months. For all services, see page 16. Everyone is warmly invited to join our Messy Holy Communion on 10<sup>th</sup> July, starting with breakfast at 10.15am.

**Choir News:** the Choir usually accompanies the service on the first Sunday of the month (not in August). If you would like to join the choir, please contact the Rector (872223 or [revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com](mailto:revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com)). All voices and ages welcome, and you don't have to be able to read music, just enjoy singing. We also welcome instrument players to help accompany the choir.

**Sunday School:** our Messy Holy Communion is on 10<sup>th</sup> July (see above). There is no Sunday School during the school holidays, but do come to the services anyway! If you would like your child to join Sunday School, or if you want to be a helper, please contact Katherine Huggins (607841) for details.

**St James the Great:** on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July, the Feast of St James, the Choir will lead a service of Compline in the church at 7.30pm, followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

**Bring and Buy Bazaar:** this is held in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road (behind the Vicarage), and is open 2 – 4pm on Wednesdays and 10am – 12 noon on Saturdays. All kinds of treasures are available – come and have a browse! (Unfortunately, we cannot sell electrical goods, clothing or large items of furniture). Please ensure that items that you wish to sell are clean and unbroken.

**Church Calendar:** all services are on the Sundays after Trinity. Notable days are: 25<sup>th</sup> July: St James the Great; 6<sup>th</sup> August: the Transfiguration of the Lord; 15<sup>th</sup> August: the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH:** for all services, see page 15. The July Coffee Morning is on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 10.30am -12 noon. Do join us for delicious coffee and cakes and a chat. There is no coffee morning in August – the next one will be on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

## ECO CHURCH

Going on holiday in the summer is a source of great excitement and joy for us, especially after the restrictions of the past two years. In this short article we want to suggest ways to consider the environment more in our travels.

### **Low impact:**

Why not try camping? Over the last 16 years I have taken my children camping every summer; it really helps connect you to nature. There is, of course, the glamping experience which, if you want to dip your toe in, is a great idea. Some campsites have tents already pitched, which makes life a little easier if you're uncertain where to start. If you fancy going in at the deep end, then I recommend 'big tent family camping'. I love the feeling of outdoors and the connectedness to nature. If you want an eco-friendly holiday, camping is probably your best choice.

Jane Bedlington

### **Medium/high impact:**

For those of you who love to travel far, this is a difficult area, as taking a long-haul flight is not environmentally friendly; aviation contributes to about 2.4% of global carbon emissions.

- Organise a holiday where you take the train. Try getting an Interrail pass and travelling around Europe.
- Carbon offsetting – it adds to the expense of your holiday but consider paying the environment for the cost of your flights. For your flight footprint, look at [www.co2.myclimate.org](http://www.co2.myclimate.org), or for a more general overview of your carbon footprint, look at [www.footprint.wwf.org.uk](http://www.footprint.wwf.org.uk).
- Actively look for accommodation which is environmentally friendly/run on renewable energy. Perhaps consider a self-catered holiday and visit restaurants serving locally-sourced foods. According to Sustainable World Travel, less than half of hotels globally compost their food waste and often send it to landfill instead, creating methane gas.
- Make learning about the environment where you are visiting a key factor of your holiday. For example, the charity WWF (Worldwide Fund for Nature) has a travel website where you can book adventurous tours that help fund conservation efforts and provide a chance to spot wildlife. It also teams up with local holiday providers certifying eco-friendly places to stay close to national parks.
- Finally, act as you do at home. Avoid single-use plastic (get everyone to bring their water bottle in their rucksack) and recycle your waste.

## MORE KENSWORTH

**KENSWORTH DROP IN CLUB:** everyone is welcome to 'Drop In' at Kensworth Village Hall every Thursday 9am – 11am for tea/coffee and biscuits (soft drinks and crisps for children). Enjoy a chat and games and get to know the locals! We also have outings.

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

What an amazing time we have had celebrating HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee! The children have been learning about the life of our Queen across the decades. Oak class recorded a special performance of the National Anthem, which was included in the official St. Paul's Cathedral Choir for the Queen video. You can see the whole recording here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4WaCZZawTo>. Can you spot Kensworth's very own Oak class?



We held a Street Party on the playground and wore red, white and blue clothes, topped off with our very special, home-made crowns. We sang the National Anthem and, finally, each class said a prayer for HM the Queen. The day ended with a brilliant Kensworth Jubilee Bake Off, where we all baked some stunning cakes. We were delighted that local

bakers, Matt and Selma from WeBake4U, came to do the judging. It was a difficult job to taste so many fantastic entries!

The rest of the summer term has been fun-packed, with the children learning through the class themes from 'Vikings' to 'Sunshine and Sunflowers', 'Land Ahoy' and 'Misty Mountains'. We have enjoyed a variety of sports activities, including an alternative sports' day led by specialist coaches.

We finish the year with a very special leavers' service in St. Mary the Virgin Church, where our Year 6 children will lead us with memories and farewells. We will miss them and know they will continue to be successful in all they do.

Our Preschool and Reception classes are almost full for next year, but we do have a little bit of room as well as some available places across the school, so if your child or someone you know would like to come and join our wonderful school, please do get in touch. We would love to meet you and show you round (office@ken.dsamat.co.uk or 01582 872336).

## MORE WHIPSNADE

### **WHIPSNADE SUMMER FETE 2022 IS BACK**

**Saturday 9th July 13:30 – 16:00 - Whipsnade Church**

*Join us for an afternoon of family fun and entertainment to help raise funds for the Church*

We need your help if you :

- • have anything you can donate to the stalls
- • are able to help run a stall
- • know someone who would like to have a stall at the fete

Contact [whipsnade\\_fete@gmail.com](mailto:whipsnade_fete@gmail.com), or Kim Brown (07748 333089)

### **WHIPSNADE CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY**

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July from 9.30am until 12pm. All welcome.

### **WHIPSNADE VILLAGE GET-TOGETHER**

Whipsnade Village Hall on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July and 23<sup>rd</sup> August from 2pm until 4pm. Refreshments and a raffle will be available. Come along for a chat or to play cards and dominoes with friends. From 23<sup>rd</sup> August, this will be every four weeks.

### **AN AFTERNOON'S ENTERTAINMENT**

With Live Music, Tea And Cakes.

On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2.00 Till 5.00

At Edenhurst, Dagnall Rd LU6 2LD.

(Under The Bottom Of The Zoo)

Please Bring A Chair Or Blanket To Sit On The Grass.

Tickets £5.00

With Proceeds To Whipsnade Church And The Junior  
Diabetes Research Foundation



## KENSWORTH EVENTS

### KENSWORTH FLOWER & VEGETABLE JUBILEE SHOW

Kensworth Flower & Vegetable Jubilee Show will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. We are looking to build on the strength of support for last year's Show, which was held despite doubts with the ongoing pandemic.

Programmes are expected to be available in the Kensworth shops at the beginning of July and will include the usual mix of categories, covering flowers and plants, vegetables, fruit, cakes and preserves, craftwork and flower arrangements. There are also categories for the under-12's, including a special category this year to write a short poem about the Jubilee.

Judging will take place late morning before public admission at 2.30pm, with prizegiving commencing at 3.30pm, followed by the sale of produce. There will be stalls in the car park, with a range of products, so please come along and support this community event, which has been running in its current format since 2008. We look forward to seeing you there either as an exhibitor or spectator and are always interested in recruiting new Committee Members.

Any enquiries should be addressed to the Show Secretary, Sylvia Inns (07831 538682 or [sylvia.inns@gmail.com](mailto:sylvia.inns@gmail.com)).

The return of the very successful  
**FAMILY BARN DANCE** with Live Ceilidh band and Caller  
 Fish & chip supper

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October 5.30 – 8.30pm at Kensworth Village Hall  
 Tickets: Adult £17 / Family 2+2 Under 16s £45/ Child Under 16 £8

All proceeds to St Mary's Church Kensworth.

Contact Jane for tickets ([jane.bedlington@btinternet.com](mailto:jane.bedlington@btinternet.com) or 07796015292)

Book by 24<sup>th</sup> September to secure your place.

### NEW FAMILY FUN PICTORIAL QUIZ FUNDRAISER 2022

Many of you enjoyed last year's pictorial quiz: now it's time for a new one for 2022. With many thanks to St George's Church, Langton Matravers, Purbeck, Dorset for allowing us to use their quiz to raise money for St Mary's Kensworth.

Work out 50 place names from the British Isles, and one song title from the picture clues. For example



Liver



Pool

E-mail [jane.bedlington@btinternet.com](mailto:jane.bedlington@btinternet.com) or text your e-mail on 07796 015292 for a copy of the quiz. BACS details will be sent out or pay by cash. Each quiz is £3.50.

## CHURCH NEWS

### HISTORIC CHURCHES BIKE 'N HIKE

The Bike 'n Hike for 2022 is definitely on. The date is Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September. The idea is to bike or walk around our churches and collect sponsor money for Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust, who give grants to repair and restore local churches.

Please book the date: it is great fun being involved in raising the money for our local churches. Last year Whipsnade received a special certificate for raising over £500. More details and sponsor forms will be available in the next Parish Link.

### KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH:

Services for July/August: all Sundays at 10.30am

10 <sup>th</sup> July	Holy Communion	Led by The Reverend Nigel Bibbings
24 <sup>th</sup> July	Morning Worship	Led by Mr Roger Owers
14 <sup>th</sup> August	Morning Worship	Led by Mr Colin Quine

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

### STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Linda Hillier is our pastoral contact. If anyone has concerns they would like to discuss with any of our Ministers, please let Linda know (01582 872860) and she will make the necessary arrangements.

#### Services:

##### July

Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10am	D. Crew	
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	4pm	United Service - Flamstead	
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Rev. C. Weaver	Holy Communion

##### August

Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10am	D. Williamson
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Local Arrangement

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.

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS:

#### Marriage

21 <sup>st</sup> May	David Grimmer & Hilary Middleton	Kensworth
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## MORE KENSWORTH + COATHANGERS

### SPONSORED BIKE 'n HIKE

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September: 10.30am start at St Mary's Kensworth. We are leading a gentle, children-centred, off-road, family walk from Kensworth Church to Whipsnade Church and then on to Studham Church. Choose to do just 2 churches or do all 3 in our benefice.

Led by an experienced DofE Award expedition leader and outdoor First Aider. All children must be accompanied by, and be the responsibility of, the accompanying adult. Refreshments at every church.

50% of proceeds go to Beds & Herts Historic Church Trust who help with care and maintenance of our churches and 50% to St Mary's Church, Kensworth. To get your sponsor form, contact Jane Bedlington (01582 871139).

For more general information, see page 15.

### SUMMER FAMILY TRAIL



A scavenger quiz covering 5.25km (3.2m) starting in Kensworth to Whipsnade to Studham and back to Kensworth. By foot or by bike 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 for the trail ([jane.bedlington@btinternet.com](mailto:jane.bedlington@btinternet.com) or 07796 015292). Proceeds to St Mary's Church, Kensworth.

### COATHANGERS: MEMORABILIA!

Sorting out clothes in the wardrobe the other day, I suddenly realised that most of the coathangers were far from new, bringing up many memories.

Wire hangers from dry cleaning – so many! It brought back a picture of my mother eyeing a tangled heap of them on the floor and murmuring 'I'm sure they *breed*...'. A couple with my name on, from student years: that reminded me of those amazing days, some strained and anxious, but mostly times meeting many who are still friends, and the fun and adventures we had. There are old wooden ones with the name of a tailor on, from my grandparents' time when it was usual to have suits made by the local draper's shop. Another has the name of a hotel (tut tut, must have been pinched!), but a nice reminder of a holiday long ago. Then an interesting one with all sorts of pegs and layers, which came from France when we spent some time there. There are two small plastic ones with animals and letters, left over from the children's wardrobes, and bringing memories of them as they grew up. Tucked in at the back is a very beautiful one in gold satin, with the wedding dress still hanging on it.

It was quite surprising how these humble coathangers revived a host of vivid memories. Have a look at yours and see what you find!

**Deirdre Brook**

## STUDHAM EXTRA

### STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

Our AGM this year is to be held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 7.30pm. Please come and join us, light refreshments will be available after the meeting.

Our regular users include carpet bowls (2 groups), tap dancing, bingo, mums and tots, Scrabble, W.I., yoga and the Parish Council, but there is room for others who wish to hold a single meeting or become a regular user e.g. Chess or Book Club. The Hall is ideal for parties and hire rates are very reasonable. Please contact Lynne Smith, (bookingstudhamvh@gmail.com), who would be pleased to discuss all the information required.

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

### STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

Sports activities are running at full pace at the playing fields, so if you are interested in joining any of the sports activities, please get in touch. The playing fields are also available for other events and have previously hosted marquee parties, touch rugby tournaments, school sports and village events, including May Fair and Jubilee. If you would like any further information or are interested in using the fields to host an event, please contact the Secretary, Paul Hocking (07500 849280).

Please remember to look after your dogs if walking on the playing fields and clear up all mess to protect sports users and children using the grounds.

### SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

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

The Sports and Social Club 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.

A reminder that all memberships were due for renewal on 1st April; there has been no increase in membership fees this year and they remain at £23 for family, £17 for single and £9 for concession.

### BINGO

**Wednesdays 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July and**

**Wednesdays 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August at 8pm in Studham Village Hall**

Doors open at 7.30pm for 'eyes down' at 8pm. Whether you are new to bingo, or an old friend looking to renew your bingo skills – everyone is most welcome.

## STUDHAM EXTRA 2

### QUIZZES

Quiz Night will be back at the Red Lion, Studham, on Tuesday September 6<sup>th</sup> at 8pm, so start swotting! In the meantime, we would like to say a huge “Thank You” to Garry, all the Red Lion staff, those drinkers who bought raffle tickets and, of course, all of you who have racked your brains for the answers, for helping us to raise a magnificent £1,800 towards the Village Hall Rebuild Fund.

### 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. All are welcome. Our coach, Megan, is also available for private individual or group lessons; contact her on 07826 855 388 for more information.

For more information on coaching or joining the club, please contact Andrew Jones (andrew.jones@selecta.com or 07833 111682/www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk).

### 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 Thorne (872751) or please just come along.

### SCRABBLE

#### 2pm Tuesdays in the Village Hall

New players are welcome to a small friendly group. Contact is Mary (alan.must@churchclose1pluscom) or please just come along.

### WI

Our Jubilee meeting was a huge success, and we hope you all enjoyed the speaker as much as we did – the refreshments weren't bad either!!

#### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 7.15pm Garden Party

Members only Garden Party hosted by one of our members.

#### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August 7.15pm Studham Village Hall

The main part of the evening will be a talk on “Blows Downs” by Sarah Cowling. These are the forgotten Downs between Dunstable, Caddington and Luton, but they have an enormous amount of history and intrigue connected to them. Open to all ladies: visitor price for the evening is £4.

## KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Kensworth Village Hall agreed at the AGM in May to meet every two months from now on, so there was no meeting in June.

Thank you to the Kensworth Platinum Jubilee Committee for arranging the St George's Dinner and the Jubilee celebrations on 5<sup>th</sup> June. The Committee members were meeting from October 2021 planning these events to raise funds for plants in the Jubilee Garden and in the village. Thank you to - John Worboys, Emma Kerby, Sylvia Inns, Pat Mitchell, Charley Dodgson and Tracy Tungate.

The **next meetings** for the Village Hall Committee are: 6<sup>th</sup> July and 7<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in the Committee Room upstairs in the Hall. If anyone would like to get involved in managing the Village Hall, please come along to the meetings.

### **Kensworth Village Hall – an overview**

What do ballroom dancing, yoga, the flower and vegetable show, voting, wedding receptions, bingo, volleyball, and toddler groups all have in common? They all take place in Kensworth Village Hall, which is now fully “open for business” after the challenges of the pandemic. The Hall provides a modern and spacious venue, not only for a huge range of one-off events, such as parties, organised by village residents and others from further afield, but also regular meetings of a wide variety of clubs and groups.

The Hall is managed by a small team of volunteers who make sure it is well maintained and pays its way. We also organise several events throughout the year, such as the Christmas Fair and Christmas Bingo, to bring members of our village community together. People tell us that they would like more of these events and this is where we need help! We need suggestions about what type of event would be popular – so if you have any, we would love to hear from you. If you are more interested in doing something practical, we'd love to hear from you too – extra pairs of hands are always needed. If you have 4-5 hours a month free and know anything about double entry bookkeeping, we'd be particularly pleased to hear from you as we are looking for a new Treasurer. If you work, you might even get paid time off to do it if your employer has a volunteer policy!

Until recently the Hall Committee organised regular walks, finishing in the hall for coffee. We'd like to continue these but, again, we need to know what residents want: is it a gentle stroll and chat (avoiding hills!) or a more challenging walk designed to improve your fitness? Please get in touch if you'd like to get involved.

### ***The Village Hall Committee***

***(Contact Pat on 01582 871178 or at [pat@ysmit.co.uk](mailto:pat@ysmit.co.uk) or Jo on 077990 88864 or at [joanneacook@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:joanneacook@yahoo.co.uk))***

## PARISH COUNCILS

### KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk:** Christina Jones e-mail: [clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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

**Land for Let** – approximately 7 Acres permanent pasture, Clayhall Road, Kensworth, for haymaking or grazing by arrangement, 3-year Tenancy. If you are interested in tendering for the land tenancy, please express an interest in writing to the clerk. Closing date for tenders: 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

### Next Parish Council Meetings:

July 14<sup>th</sup> and September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in Kensworth Village Hall, The Chilterns, Kensworth LU6 3RJ. There will be no meeting in August.

### STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place in Studham Village Hall at 7pm on 4<sup>th</sup> July. All members of the parish are welcome to attend. Please note that there will not be a scheduled meeting in August, although one may be held if required, and we are thinking of a Parish Surgery in the Autumn, perhaps early October. Keep an eye on the website and notice boards for details. If you would like to be advised of meetings and other important issues by e-mail, please contact [clerk@studhamparish.co.uk](mailto:clerk@studhamparish.co.uk) and ask to be added to the list.



We would like to say a very big ‘Thank You’ to all those who have recently given time and effort to organising village activities such as the May Fair, and all the Jubilee events. We are looking to make a “Memory Book” of pictures, reports, poems, anything that will allow future generations to see how we celebrated. Please send anything to [Studhamplatjubilee@hotmail.com](mailto:Studhamplatjubilee@hotmail.com) by 31<sup>st</sup> August and we will do the rest. (Photo of Dog Show courtesy of Bill Bowman).

If you have recently moved into our Parish and have not yet received your Welcome Pack, please contact the Clerk who will be pleased to arrange this for you. The pack contains information on the amenities and activities in the local area.

Now is the time to be aware of the hazard your hedge is causing on the outside – growing across a footpath, or into the road. Please be considerate to everyone. Finally, we hope you all have a good summer, and remember, if you are going away either let your neighbour, or the local Neighbourhood Watch know so that someone can keep an eye on things for you.

## MORE STUDHAM

### FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next work party will be on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July. The August work party will be on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August.

On Middle and East Common we will be completing the mowing of paths to make for easy walking. To help visibility from, and into, the East Common car park and help prevent car crime, some light trimming around the perimeter will be done. In doing this we will keep an eye out for any lizards which may be lurking in the ditch! They're rare but have been seen in the past. If time permits we will trample some bracken along the southern boundary of all 3 Commons to deter its growth.

Everyone is welcome. Meet outside the Village Hall at 10am. All tools are provided.

For details please contact Joan Stone (872520/e-mail: [geone.stone@gmail.com](mailto:geone.stone@gmail.com)).

### STUDHAM VILLAGE CE ACADEMY

I cannot believe as I write this month's Parish Link article it signifies my first full year at Studham Village CE Academy! I would like to thank everyone, both at school and in Studham village for making me feel so welcome! It has been an exciting first year what with all the amazing events that we have been able to take part in!

Rev'd. Canon Nicola Lenthall has supported us in holding half termly services at the church as well as coming in and leading our collective worships and topic talks to the children throughout the year. We all appreciate her visits and her commitment.

At school we have been hard at work creating new outdoor spaces. We now have our Studham Seedlings area where we are beginning to grow our own potatoes, fruit, vegetables and flowers. We have built a chicken run to house our chickens we hatched in spring and are looking forward to our first eggs! Our school rabbits are also enjoying their new enclosure and the children are loving watching them.

Our outdoor play areas have been updated to include mud kitchens, road works, loose parts and the main school playground now has a garden centre.



We have been very fortunate to make this happen through funds, donations from parents and hard work! If you would like to help, we have lots more ideas planned! If you are interested in joining our school, contact the school office as we would be delighted to show you around ([school@studhamschools.org.uk](mailto:school@studhamschools.org.uk)/tel: 01582 872337). Our pre-school is an integral part of our school and we have places available for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. We look forward to hearing from you.

***Sarah MacKenzie-Skea, Headteacher***

## WHIPSNADE TREE CATHEDRAL – VOLUNTEERS DIARY.

With the warmer weather and longer days, our work at the Tree cathedral mainly involves keeping the grass cut, strimming around the countless trees and weeding. We are also spending some time in The Summer Chapel where there is a mature circle of Field Maple hedge. We cut this hedge to about five feet high and keep it cleared underneath to try and discourage any pests. The grass inside the circle is kept mowed and also a strip about three feet wide round the outside circumference is also kept short to enable visitors to walk round it.

A large part of The Summer Chapel is left to long grass for the bees, insects and butterflies. One of our volunteers keeps a note of the varieties of butterflies and is often seen chasing them around to get a good photo!

Recent recordings include;

**Brimstone:** males are bright yellow and females are pale yellow with leaf-shaped wings. Usually seen in ones or twos.

**Peacock:** large and colourful with a spectacular pattern of eye spots. Loves stinging nettles.

**Orange tip:** males have orange tips and frequent the edges of woods; females love damp meadows.

**Holly blue:** males have bright blue wings and females have black edges to their wings. Caterpillars love holly and ivy, which is where the ame comes from.

**Speckled wood:** they live for no longer than 3 weeks and love scrub and tall vegetation. They often perch in sunny spots.

If you are in the Tree Cathedral and spot any other varieties, let us know and we can add them to the list.

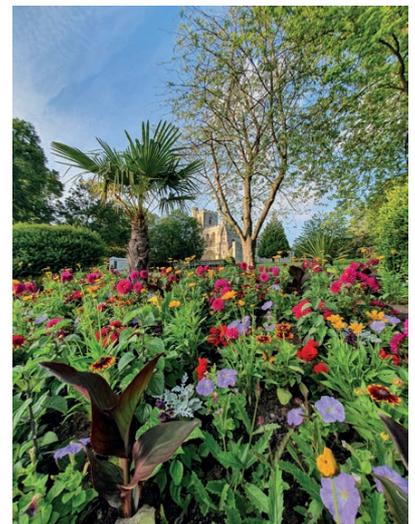
We are around Tuesday mornings 9am – 12pm.

## DUNSTABLE IN BLOOM

Dunstable has been selected by Anglia in Bloom to represent the region as one of 46 finalists in the RHS Britain in Bloom UK competition for 2022. Dunstable will compete against 8 other towns in the Large Town Category.

RHS judges will be visiting the town between 25<sup>th</sup> July and 12<sup>th</sup> August when they will be shown Dunstable in Bloom initiatives, many environmental and community projects, and the town's open spaces and floral displays.

This is the first time that Dunstable has been selected as an RHS Britain in Bloom finalist. Fingers crossed!



## TENBY HOLIDAY - SEPTEMBER 21<sup>st</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup> 2022

We will stay in the 4\* Heywood Spa Hotel in Tenby on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis for 7 nights.

Visits will be made to the Tudor Merchants House in Tenby and Dylan Thomas's Boathouse in Laugharne. There will be a guided tour of Tenby. We will go to the National Wool Museum and have a journey, with a cream tea, on the Gwili steam train railway. There will be a visit to St. David's cathedral with a coffee break and lunch in the refectory. Then we will be going to see the Fishguard Tapestry. On the last day, we will drive to the National Botanic Garden of Wales where we will also see a Birds of Prey flying display. A boat trip around Caldey Island will follow.



Please phone or e-mail Margaret Maddox (01582 873225/mki.maddox@icloud.com) for the details.

## MARGARET'S TRIP TO THE ISLE OF MAN

We stayed in the excellent Sefton Hotel on the sea front. On the first day we went to Maughold Church to see an amazing collection of Celtic Crosses, with a guide. Later, we drove to the northernmost part of the island, and toured back to Douglas, where we visited the stables of the Bay horses, who pull the trams, and watched the blacksmith at work. On the second day, we went to the Tynwald (Parliament) chambers and drove on to Peel to see the castle. On Saturday we followed the TT course with a guide, then saw over the Jurby Transport Museum. Sunday was a free day, and on Monday we went via steam train to the old Parliament House of Keys. Afterwards we visited the famous Knockaloe POW camp. On Tuesday there was a visit to the lovely Cregneash Folk Village, followed by some seal spotting on the Sound near Port Erin. On the last day we went by electric tram to Laxey to view the largest water-wheel in the world, then on by tram up to the summit of Snaefell. We are so grateful to Margaret for organising the holiday, and fitting in so much in a week – and the good weather! As ever, a wonderful trip.

## SMILE LINES

An honest seven-year-old calmly announced to her parents that Billy Brown had kissed her after church. "How did that happen?" gasped her mother. "Well, it wasn't easy," admitted the young lady, "but three girls helped me catch him."

## PARISH LINK

If you would like to make a donation to help keep the Link delivered free to every household in our three villages, contact Les Randall (01582 872552 or e-mail: lesrandall@btinternet.com) or send a cheque to 14 Holywell Road, Studham, LU6 2PA. Thank you.