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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

Harvest is a comparatively 'new' church festival, being Victorian (and it was a Cornish invention, she writes proudly, being Cornish born and bred). It connects us strongly with the environment, and gives us an opportunity to thank those, both local and worldwide, who work to produce food to feed the world. I have had a few grumpy comments that it has become 'politicised' and 'greenwashed' but the truth is that it was always both of those things – it's all there in the Bible right from the very beginning, our responsibility to the created world as a gift to be treasured, cared for and enjoyed. Whatever your faith (or none) this is supremely important, and becomes more so as we realise the effect we have, as individuals and as communities, on the earth.

So although the festival is new, the thinking and theology is as old as humanity itself. I can't put it better than a seventeenth century Anglican writer, Thomas Traherne (writing at a time when the word 'men', meant 'men and women' or 'humanity').

"You never enjoy the world aright till the sea itself floweth in your veins, till you are clothed with the heavens, and crowned with the stars, and perceive yourself to be the sole heir of the whole world, and more than so, because men are in it who are every one sole heirs as well as you. Till you can sing and rejoice and delight in God, as misers do in gold, and kings in sceptres, you never enjoy the world. Till your spirit filleth the whole world, and the stars are your jewels; till you are as familiar with the ways of God in all ages as with your walk and table; till you are intimately acquainted with that shady nothing out of which the world was made; till you love men so as to desire their happiness with a thirst equal to the zeal of your own; till you delight in God for being good to all: you never enjoy the world."

All are welcome to our Harvest celebrations:

St. Mary's, Kensworth – September 25th at 10.30am;

St. Mary Magdalene, Whipsnade – October 2nd at 9am;

St. Mary's, Studham – October 2nd at 10.30am.

With my love and prayers,

Nicola

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church prayers: in the annual cycle of prayers we shall be praying in September especially for everyone who lives in Valley Road and Valley Close. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, please contact churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967/meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

Children's Church resumes after the summer break on Sunday 18th September at 10.30am. The children and young people will be thinking about the day's reading from St Luke and how God can help us to work hard at good things and can help us to avoid bad things like lying and cheating. Everyone is warmly welcome to stay for refreshments after the service and to celebrate all the September birthdays.

The **Harvest Festival** is on Sunday 2nd October at 10.30am. Once again the church will be decorated with produce and tinned food kindly provided by village organisations and will be donated to the Dunstable foodbank and the Salvation Army. The collection will be sent to the Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal, raising much-needed funds for the people of Mozambique – see page 15. The service will be followed by a 'bring and share' lunch in church. Everyone is very welcome.

Churchyard Working Party: please support the working party on Saturday 3rd September from 10am till 12 noon. We need to do some extra jobs – strimming, hedge cutting and weeding, especially in the Garden of Remembrance: please bring your own tools. At noon we shall reward everyone with a ploughman's lunch!

Wine Tasting: Thankfully it's back! The delayed 26th Wine Tasting will take place on Saturday 8th October at 7.30pm at Studham Village Hall. This is a joint event between the Church and the Friends of Studham Church and will feature all the fun from previous years – 7 fine wines with a 3-course supper plus a quiz, raffle and auction. Contact John McDougal (873257/john.mcdougal@btinternet.com) for tickets (£25).

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

The Friends of Studham Church is an organisation whose sole purpose is to raise funds to help maintain the oldest building in the village.

We are pleased that we can hold fundraising events again and are looking forward to hosting the Wine Tasting on October 8th jointly with the PCC (see above). Also listed on page 18 are details of the local organisations who benefited alongside The Friends from the money raised at the May Fair. A huge thanks to all involved.

We also run a monthly 100 Club draw. Congratulations to Hans Mulder and Debbie Storey winning £50 each in the July and August draws and to the runners-up, Alex Roughton and Gill Harris, who received £10 each.

KENSWORTH NEWSROUND

KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

Our prayers for you: if you would like a particular prayer to be said for a loved one or a special event, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670). In September our prayers will be for those who live in Church End, Spratts Lane and Hollicks Lane.

Harvest Festival: this will be on Sunday 25th September. We will be decorating the church at 10am on 24th September and anyone who would like to help would be very welcome. We'd be particularly grateful for donations of flowers, fruit or veg – bring along on the day or drop off with/collected by one of the Flower Team. Offers of help/queries, please contact Jo Cook (07799 088864).

The gifts will be auctioned after the service – followed by our bring and share picnic. The collection is for the Bishop's Appeal for the Hungry, which is for destitute people in Mozambique (see p.15). Proceeds from the auction will go to Keech Hospice.

Choir News: the Choir will be leading the singing on 4th September and also at the Harvest Festival on 25th September. If you would like to join the Choir, please contact the Rector (872223/revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com). All voices are welcome, and instrument players also, for accompanying us on special occasions.

Sunday School: for all young people, there are sessions for seniors and juniors on 11th September. All sorts of exciting activities are planned! If you would like your child to join in, or if you want to be a helper, contact Katherine Huggins (607841).

Messy Church: Messy Church this month will be on Friday 16th, at 3.30pm in the Church Hall. Children and their carers are welcome to join in an afternoon of crafts, stories and songs on a biblical theme, followed by a hot meal for everybody. No charge, but we are grateful for donations.

Church Feast Days: 21st – St Matthew; 29th – St Michael and All Angels.

The Bring & Buy Bazaar: in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road (behind the Vicarage). It's open 2pm – 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, and please ensure that any items you wish to donate are clean and unbroken.

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

The September Coffee Morning is on Saturday 3rd, 10.30am – 12 noon. Come and enjoy delicious tea/coffee and cakes and friendly chat. All are welcome.

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.

PRAYERS

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

VILLAGE LUNCH

The lunch is in the Village Hall on 8th September at 12.30pm. Come along to choose a main course of roast beef with roast potatoes and Yorkshire pudding, lamb hotpot, chicken pie or breaded sole with cheese and parsley sauce; then enjoy a pudding and tea or coffee, all for £7. Offers of help or puddings or raffle prizes please to Isobel Randall (872552).

HARVEST

The Harvest Festival is on Sunday 2nd October at 9am in the church, with church decorating on Saturday 1st at 10am. Contact Ann (07491 358334) if you want to help decorate or contribute to the produce and flowers.

FLOWER ARRANGING

Are you interested in learning flower arranging? Whipsnade church is looking for people to do simple arrangements, especially for Christmas, Easter and Harvest, and Ann Brinklow would be very happy to teach you basic techniques while she is arranging the flowers. Or if you already arrange flowers, we would be thrilled to have your help! Contact Ann (07491 358334) to find out more.

WHIPSNADE VILLAGE GET-TOGETHER

Whipsnade Village Hall on Tuesday 20th September from 2pm to 4pm. Refreshments and a raffle will be available. Come along for a chat or to play cards and dominos with old and new friends.

KNIT AND NATTER

Whipsnade church on Tuesday 6th September. Enjoy a chat and tea and cake whilst knitting or helping make the poppies ready for decorating the church for Remembrance Sunday. Any craft welcome.

THANK YOU TO THE OLD HUNTERS LODGE.

Thank you to John and Louise for the kindness you have shown to some of the residents of Whipsnade park homes. Your gestures mean so much to people who are housebound and sometimes lonely.



REQUEST FOR HELP AND WHIPSNADDE PARISH COUNCIL

HELP NEEDED

The Parish Link has a wonderful team who deliver the magazine each month but from time to time they like a holiday or are unable to deliver for another reason. If you would be prepared to help out occasionally, please give your name to Distribution Manager, Isobel Randall (872552) or Editor, Fiona McDougal (873257) who will add you to a list to be contacted if required.

WHIPSNADDE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

New Access Road To Tree Cathedral

Andrew Selous MP was the special guest at the opening on Tuesday 9th August of the new access road at Bushey Close, The Green, serving local homeowners and upgrading the access for cars to Whipsnade Tree Cathedral car park from the main highway. Pictured at the opening ceremony from left to right are Paul Miller, National Trust, Andrew Selous MP, Robin Fitzgerald, ZSL and Ken France, Whipsnade Parish Council.



The project, to replace the previously worn and potholed track, has had a particularly long and drawn out history dating back over 20 years.

However, with perseverance and great tenacity and cooperation between the major stakeholders – ZSL, NT, CBC, Tree Cathedral Trustees and Whipsnade Parish Council - a way forward was found to put in place the necessary funding, culminating in the construction of a brand new road link.

Cllr. France in his opening remarks welcoming our MP to perform the cutting of the ribbon, thanked all the stakeholders for their contributions and gave special thanks to Mrs Pam Ward, Trustee of Whipsnade Tree Cathedral, but for whose doggedness and determination, the project might never have been completed.

Speed Advisory Cameras

The Parish Council has learnt that it failed to qualify in its bid for extra funding to install an automated speed advisory camera covering the centre of the village; this is in an area of particular concern owing to pedestrians crossing on signposted trails and traffic emerging from side roads, including to and from the Tree Cathedral.

A traffic survey count recorded an 'eighty-five percentile' figure of 41.3 mph, insufficiently high according to the road experts to merit a speed advisory device. For a 40 mph speed zone this value, they say, must be higher than 44 mph before they will consider supporting a scheme. Needless to say, the Parish councillors are extremely disappointed at this and the council is resolved to seek alternative ways forward to address this issue.

MORE WHIPSNADE

AN AFTERNOON'S ENTERTAINMENT

On Sunday 4th Sept. 2.00 till 5.00
With Live Music, Tea, Cakes and Raffle
Honesty Bar

At Edenhurst, Dagnall Rd LU6 2LD.
(Under The Bottom Of The Zoo)

With Proceeds To Whipsnade Church And The Junior Diabetes Research
Foundation

Please bring a chair or blanket to sit on the grass
Admission £5

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING IN AID OF MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

It's time for a Coffee Morning and you're
invited. Let's do whatever it takes to
support people living with cancer.

Place: Whipsnade Church;
Date: 30th September;
Time: 10am – 12 noon.

In aid of

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

Wanted: Deputy to Parish Link Editor

Local person needed to assist editor 4-6 hours per month

- Help collating and editing information
- Write short articles to a brief
- Contribute to editorial content
- Occasionally stand in for editor

Ideally the person should have some experience of graphic design or journalism
or writing or similar. Computer skills are required.

Please contact Fiona at fiona.mcdougal@btinternet.com

GOOD CITIZENS



Following the merger of Studham, Kensworth and Whipsnade Good Neighbour Schemes into SKAW Good Neighbours last year, the Committee is arranging a number of training evenings to improve the quality of the services offered to beneficiaries by the volunteers. The first of these is a practical First Aid Appreciation course on 26th September at 7pm in

Studham Village Hall. Attendees will learn how to cope with medical emergencies, such as a collapse, a heart attack, a stroke, a choking fit or a major bleed.

The Committee is offering a number of free places on this course, giving priority to potential volunteers, or others who may benefit from this evening, such as carers. Admission is by ticket only which may be obtained from Tony Goodeve (077100 79974 or 01582 872525) or send an e-mail to tony@goodeve.net giving a daytime telephone number. Those non-members attending may like to make a voluntary donation.

ECOLIVES - PREPARING FOR WINTER

Although winter seems a long way off, it's time to start planning for it. The soaring costs of energy offer a real incentive to consider making lasting changes and reducing your carbon footprint. Whilst these changes may individually be small, they can add up to make significant savings.

Some suggestions to consider include :

- ~ Draught proof gaps and top up insulation in preparation for the cold;
- ~ Reduce costs for central heating: delay the switch on in the autumn as long as possible; turn down the thermostat; reduce the time when the heating is on (put on a warm jumper);
- ~ Turn down the hot water temperature;
- ~ Switch off electrical devices – do not leave TVs, computers and iPADS on standby;
- ~ Turn off lights when you leave the room;
- ~ Consider switching energy provider.

Read more at <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/hub/quick-tips-to-save-energy>.

SUPPORT

The Government has launched the 'Help for Households Campaign' to raise awareness of the support available for those that need it most. The campaign aims to explain the different schemes available (including new, exceptional one-off payments and existing benefits and schemes). There are currently 41 different schemes available – see www.gov.uk/helpforhouseholds. Online tools help people to check support that they are eligible for and how to access it.

KENSWORTH EVENTS

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Christina Jones email: clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Village Enhancements in Kensworth: we would like to make some improvements within Kensworth Village and are looking for people to join a committee to discuss project ideas and to help see them through. A Jubilee Garden is one of the projects that is currently in discussion. Please contact the Clerk to register your interest in joining the team. We look forward to welcoming you.

Kensworth Allotments – Police aware: trespassing and theft have been reported to the Police after recent incidents have taken place at the allotments. This is private land for allotment holders and authorised persons only; non-authorised persons will be reported and action taken.

Next meetings: 8th September and 13th October Kensworth Village Hall, LU6 3RJ.

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

Saturday 15th 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 or 07796015292)

Book by 24th September to secure your place.

KENSWORTH FLOWER & VEGETABLE JUBILEE SHOW

Just a reminder that Kensworth Flower & Vegetable Jubilee Year Show is on Saturday 3rd September from 2.30pm. There will be stalls in the Village Hall car park for visitors to browse; any enquiries, please contact the Show Secretary, Sylvia Inns (07831 538682 or sylvia.inns@gmail.com).

Once again, we are grateful to Ashtons for their kind sponsorship.

LOCAL WALKS WITH A HUNT ALONG THE WAY!

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 Bedlington for the trail (jane.bedlington@btinternet.com/07796015292).
All proceeds to St Mary's Church, Kensworth.

CHURCH NEWS

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 (872860) and she will make the necessary arrangements.

Services:

Sunday 11th September 10am

Local arrangement

Sunday 25th September 12 noon

John Fellows (Baptism)

Zoom meetings are available from many of our Circuit Churches. If you would like details of these, please contact Linda Hillier.

BISHOP'S HARVEST APPEAL

This year, the Bishop of St Albans' Appeal will help change the lives of people in Mozambique who have been traumatised and displaced by conflict. Located in south-eastern Africa, Mozambique has a population of around 31 million. Despite gaining independence from Portugal in 1975, Mozambique became caught up in a brutal civil war that only ended in 1992. The war destroyed lives and livelihoods, with more than 820,000 people fleeing their homes and becoming internally displaced. More than 12 million people live below the poverty line. Your support will help on-the-ground local church partners to reach the most vulnerable – please give generously to your Harvest Festivals or make an online donation through Tearfund.

From the Parish Registers

Baptism

10 th July	Jack Johnson	Studham
17 th July	Nolan McNary	Whipsnade
17 th July	Lennon McNary	Whipsnade
24 th July	Roux Cole	Studham

Confirmation

26 th June	Matilda Tarsey	Studham
26 th June	Stuart Tarsey	Studham

Marriage

18 th June	Thomas Richmond & Gemma Butler	Kensworth
25 th June	Daniel White & Danielle Abbott	Kensworth
2 nd July	Andrew Wheeler & Gina Owen	Kensworth
16 th July	Craig Brooks & Sophie Smith	Studham
16 th July	Russell Follett & Laura Thornhill	Kensworth

R.I.P.

13 th July	Peter Sanders	Studham
16 th July	Peter Horstman	Studham

STUDHAM 2

STUDHAM MAY FAIR

A huge 'thank you' to everyone who helped make May 7th such a special Village Day but particularly to Liesa Coates and her Committee. The £8500 raised has been divided between the following Studham organisations:

The Friends of Studham Church;
Methodist Church;
Mums and Tots;
Friends of Studham Common;
Playing Fields;
School;
Scouts;
SKAW;
Village Hall;
Women's Institute;
Village Christmas Lunch.

In addition, donations were made to St Francis Hospice, Berkhamsted and to Hospice at Home Volunteers.

STUDHAM MUMS AND TOTS GROUP FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN



Heather Wright and Marion Sheehan have run this wonderful group for the last 8 years.

From 9.30am to 11.30am every Tuesday morning during term time in Studham Village Hall, they provide play, a healthy snack at 10.15am and a cuppa for mums, dads or child minders.

They have good, clean, well-maintained and safe equipment, with each session costing £3 per child plus adult.... and only 50p extra per additional child. Children come from Studham and the surrounding villages.

The group is looking forward to a great new season of fun as the recent donation from the Studham May Fair will help maintain the high standards and relaxed atmosphere they are known and loved for.

Please contact Heather on 07958 350002 for more info.

SPONSORED BIKE 'n HIKE – on Saturday 10th September. This year the event will be 'back to normal' with many churches open to welcome visitors. The object is to raise money for the Beds & Herts Historic Church Trust giving half the sponsorship money raised to the church of your choice. Help will also be appreciated to welcome visitors in the church; contact your local organiser.

St Mary's Church, **Kensworth** are leading a gentle, children-centred, off-road, family walk from Kensworth Church to Whipsnade Church and then on to Studham Church. Contact Jane Bedlington (871139).

Sponsor forms and further details are available:

Whipsnade: Pam Ward (872406) or Roger Kendrick (713564).

Studham: Meg Bender (872967).

Let's hope for a lovely fine sunny day when everyone can enjoy our local countryside, our churches and raise much needed money for the churches.

WHIPSNAD E TREE CATHEDRAL – VOLUNTEERS DIARY

September is the time when we start to cut the long grass and un-mown areas. Throughout the spring and summer these areas are left to grow wild for the bees, butterflies, insects and birds and all the small animals that can often be seen scurrying about in the undergrowth. The longer grass also helps retain humidity and soil moisture, making it perfect for insect larvae and other soil invertebrates, particularly moths, butterflies, craneflies and sawflies, which in turn provide food for our birds.

As all the creatures have now made use of this facility, we start to trim the long grass, which encourages new and vigorous growth in the new year. Cutting the long grass helps maintain a diverse mix of flower and grasses and makes for good root development. We rake up behind the trimmer and pile up all the debris, which makes a big pile of compost at the far end of the grounds. The larger areas of long grass, outside the main hedge-lined confines are, at this time of year, cut professionally and the hay carted away.

Another job this time of year is removing the brambles, which seem to enjoy growing up through the laurel hedges. This needs to be done in cooler weather when long sleeves and gloves can be worn! Getting inside the hedges can be challenging but it also gives us a chance to get rid of some of the ivy that can strangle the laurels.

Our team of volunteers are there on Tuesdays 9am until 12pm, so if you are in the area, please come by and say "hello".

MORE STUDHAM

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The Committee of the Friends of Studham Common are pleased to announce that they have been awarded a Community Green Flag award by Keep Britain Tidy for the year 2022 – 2023, scoring maximum points for our maintenance work.

So that we can continue with such a high standard, please come and join the next work party which will be on Saturday 17th September.

We will work on the Middle Common to clear around the Enright Orchard and keep a check on the health of the Platinum Jubilee trees. In addition, we will work on East and Middle Commons cutting and clearing grass, bracken and bramble as necessary. This will maintain a more natural appearance and give a visual appreciation of some individual trees and also prevent the gorse being smothered by the vigorous overgrowth of bramble and bracken.

Everyone is welcome, especially new members. We meet at the War Memorial on West Common, opposite the Red Lion at 10am. All tools will be provided. For further information contact Bob Wilkin (bob@afromosia.com/871268).

STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

Our regular users include carpet bowls (2 groups, Thursday morning and afternoon), Mums and Tots (Tuesday morning), Scrabble (Tuesday afternoon) and now table tennis (Friday morning), Parish Council (first Monday evening), yoga (Tuesday evening), bingo (every other Wednesday evening), W.I. (first Thursday evening) and tap dancing (other Thursday evenings). So you see there is room for other groups, for example: a chess club or book club, perhaps a whist or family games night. If you would like to organise any of these, or any other group, hold a single meeting or become a regular user, then please contact one of the Trustees.

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 anyone 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.

Seniors table tennis at Studham Village Hall

There was a successful inaugural session on Friday 24th June and now continues every Friday 10am – 12noon. All are welcome, including “youngsters” and pupils during the school holidays.

Contact is Des Salmon (desstudham@btconnect.com/872082).

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. If you would like any further information, please contact the Secretary, Paul Hocking (07500 849280).

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Our next meeting will be in Studham Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 5th September; all members of the Parish are welcome to attend. A meeting is also scheduled for 3rd October as well as a Parish Surgery on the 8th October. There are also plans to hold an evening of defibrillator training but the date has yet to be finalised. Keep an eye on the website and noticeboards for details. If you would like to be advised of meetings and other important issues by e-mail, please contact clerk@studhamparish.co.uk and ask to be added to the list.

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 check if your hedge is causing a hazard outside your property – growing across a footpath, or into the road. Please be considerate and cut it back.

Finally, we would remind you of 'Fixmystreet' – a quick way to record Highway issues to CBC. It can be accessed on the CBC website. We do ask that you let a Councillor know what you have reported only so that we can chase it up for you.

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AUTUMN RECIPE

With all the lovely autumn fruits, you might fancy making fruit crumbles. Why not make a batch of crumble mixture that you can freeze and use in smaller quantities as needed? This is a Nancy Birtwhistle recipe: You will need:

Plastic freezer boxes with lids or covers

500gr (1lb 2oz) self-raising flour or plain flour with 15gr (1tbsp) baking powder

4tsp ground ginger/cinnamon/nutmeg or a mixture of all three (optional)

200gr (7oz) butter at room temperature, or grate from the fridge

200gr brown sugar (any sort)

200gr porridge oats, rolled oats or oatbran

Mix the flour with the spices (if using) in a large bowl. Rub the butter in with fingertips until it looks like coarse breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar and oats. That's it! Transfer the mixture to the freezer containers and use as needed. No need to thaw first.



MORE KENSWORTH

KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY and PRESCHOOL

When this article is published, we will have already said a fond farewell to our Year 6 leavers, who enjoyed an emotional celebration of all their achievements. We were lucky to be able to hold a very special service at St Mary's Church, led by Revd. Canon Nicola, who has known many of the children since before they started school and who has led them in countless collective worships, both at school and at church. We know they will go on to their new schools and carry on being brilliant and we wish them all the very best. Here's hoping they remember to pop back for a visit!

Following the success of last year, we have decided, with our PTA, to hold another Scarecrow Festival. It will be on Saturday 10th September. There will be prizes for the winners. We aim to have even more scarecrows than last year and hope to raise some money for the school at the same time. There will be refreshments and some other activities on the school playground. We look forward to seeing you there! (See more details below).

Contact: office@ken.dsamat.co.uk; 872336.

Kensworth Academy PTA Association

We present our Scarecrow Festival & Fayre on 10th September from 11am. To enter your Scarecrow please use <https://forms.gle/W7QkKZwgFsRBrPBt9> or find us on Facebook. First prize is a family tour of Wembley Stadium, kindly donated by Urban & Rural. Maps are available to purchase from the school from 11am, and then you can enter the prize draw by voting for your favourite. There will be wellies to wang, ducks to hook, BBQ, beer tent and more. For any more info please e-mail: kensworthacademypta@gmail.com.

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall continues to be busy with a lot of 'ad hoc' re-bookings after hirers have been very pleased with the facilities; also, there are some new groups looking to hire the hall in the autumn. The Committee still have some maintenance jobs to do and are obtaining quotes for the fireproof hatch into the kitchen. Some repainting jobs are needed, and a new trolley for moving the tables into the store cupboard. We have unfortunately suffered from plumbing issues: thankfully no major digging up was required, for which the Committee are grateful, and for local firms coming to our assistance very quickly to limit the disruption to hirers.

The Committee are pleased to welcome three new residents who have joined us - Lesley Greengrass and Laura and Callum Brown. We would always like to see more residents join the Committee, as they will all bring new ideas for running the Village Hall for the community.

Date of the next meeting: Wednesday September 7th, at 7.30pm. All welcome.

STUDHAM VILLAGE CE ACADEMY



We are very excited to be beginning a new academic year at Studham Village CE Academy and have lots of events planned for the upcoming year that we look forward to sharing with you!

We ended the year with our 'Wheelie Fantastic Wheelbarrow' Competition for Dunstable in Bloom and the judges visited the school on our penultimate day of the year. (Fortunately it was cooler than the scorching Monday and Tuesday!) The judges loved the children's explanations of their design and involvement in bringing the 'Queen's Corgis Café' to life. Paddington Bear, of

course, made an appearance along with his favourite 'marmalade' plant finishing off the design!

The 'wheelbarrow' has been the star attraction within our new allotment area and we are looking forward to embracing the seasons and seeing what we can grow!

A date for your diary....We would love to see you all at our **School Autumn Fete on Saturday 17th September from 12 noon.**

With places available from 2 – 9 years, if you are interested in coming to Studham Village CE Academy and would like to arrange a visit, contact Ms Oldham in the school office (872337 or visit our website www.studhamschools.org.uk).

We look forward to seeing many of you over the coming months.

Sarah MacKenzie-Skea
Headteacher

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

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

We welcome all visitors and new members. Please pop into the club to explore what we have to offer. We provide competitively priced drinks and a good food menu. 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 Louise Burroughs, the Clubhouse Manager, (07737 839596) to see what we can offer.

At the recent AGM it was decided that there would be no increase in membership fees next year (payable from 1st April 2023) and they remain at £23 for Family, £17 for Single and £9 for Concession. All members should have received details of how to pay through BACS. Please let the bar staff know if you haven't received this.

STUDHAM 3

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 (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).

BINGO

Wednesdays 7th and 21st September 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.

QUIZZES

Quiz Night will be back at the Red Lion on Tuesday September 6th at 8pm, so start swotting! The rounds will be: 1: Sport & Recent News; 2: School Days (all the things you learnt at school – and have forgotten!); 3: Alphabet (all answers start with U); 4: Entertainment (anything that entertains!); 5: Anything we couldn't fit in the previous rounds! and 6: Music, titles beginning with A.

Please ring the Red Lion (872530) to book a table (and order food if required)

WI

Thursday 1st September at 7.15pm in Studham Village Hall.

We had a wonderful Garden Party in July, and our August Meeting saw us safely store the Time Capsule for future WI members to enjoy and listen to a fascinating talk all about the wonderful work being done on Blows Downs by the Wildlife Trust. Our September meeting, for ladies only, will be a talk on Women's Aid in our area. The competition will be: "My favourite toiletry", and donations towards this local charity can be made on the evening.

CARPET BOWLS

2pm Thursdays in the Village Hall

We are a friendly mixed group and new members will be made welcome. 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

Contact is Mary (alan.must@churchclose1pluscom) or please just come along.

SIX REASONS NOT TO FEED RED KITES (Chilterns Conservation Board advice)

1. Feeding encourages red kites to become bolder than they naturally would be and to fly too close for comfort. They have sharp claws and a wingspan of around six foot. If the birds become a nuisance this could change public support for the welfare of these birds, perhaps leading us back down the road towards the persecution of red kites – part of the worrying history of these birds.
2. Feeding encourages concentrated numbers of kites in one area. This discourages songbirds and ground nesting birds from feeding and bringing up their young.
3. The scraps of uncooked and cooked meat that people feed red kites don't present a balanced, healthy diet.
4. Red kites can drop scraps of meat onto neighbouring gardens and properties which is a health risk and attracts rats and vermin (the Conservation Board has even received complaints about scraps of meat dropping onto people's heads!).
5. Feeding discourages red kites from expanding their range and looking for new breeding territories and sources of food. This disrupts their natural population spread.
6. Red kites can feed and thrive successfully in their natural habitat without our assistance. People were encouraged to feed them during their reintroduction in the 1990s, but now that this species is doing well, feeding is no longer necessary.

5TH CHILTERN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

On from 18th September to 3rd October: a series of events throughout the Chilterns celebrating our rich heritage and cultural past. There is so much to see and do – beautiful gardens, historic houses, private tours, plus walks, talks and even music. For more information and for a full programme visit www.chilternsociety.org.uk.

DUNSTABLE & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society meets at 7.45pm on the second Tuesday of each month at the Methodist Church Hall, The Square, Dunstable: visitors are welcome. Annual membership costs £8 (June - December fee £4). Entrance fee for non members is £2 per meeting.

13th September: **The Great Train Robbery**

Local headmaster Andrew Cook returns to the history society with further revelations about the notorious crime near Leighton Buzzard, including details about four suspects who were never convicted. Dr Cook is the author of 'No Case To Answer', a new book about the robbery.