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PARISH LINK

Serving the villages of Kensworth, Studham and Whipshade for 40 years





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Dear Friends and Parishioners

The week I am sitting down to write this has been one of weather extremes, pouring rain, unusual warmth, then snow, then a biting icy wind from the North, now mild again – yet the daffodils in the vicarage garden battle bravely on, whatever the challenge. It is very much how March often is, but it has at times felt muddy, messy and confusing – just like life itself, both within our three villages and far beyond them.

The Easter story may be one of victory but it is also muddy, messy and confusing for those who were experiencing it. Nothing was ever as the very first disciples expected. Even though they knew what was going to happen – even though they had been told, they failed to take the full implications in. Out of the pain of death new life came, like the yellow of the daffodils, shining above the white of the snow or the green of the grass, nurtured by the brown soil below.

The truth of my faith is that God is the new life in the mess and muddle and confusion of our daily lives. Sometimes we miss the brightness of the flowers – we can't take them in, like the first disciples could not take in the truth of the greatness of God's love – but they are there nonetheless. Seeing is not always believing.

The real beauty of Easter is God's ever-living, ever-loving presence, which even death cannot destroy. My prayer for you this Easter is that you know that love in your life, and that it might sustain and enfold you in the mess and muddle of bad times and the wonder of the good.

With my love and prayers, this coming Eastertide and always,

Nicola

The cover photo was taken near Kensworth Church.

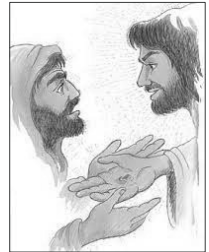
AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church prayers: in April we continue with our cycle of prayers and will be praying especially for the residents of Dunstable Road, Southern Way, Bell Farm Close and Bell Cottages. If you would like a prayer to be said, perhaps for a particular person or event, get in touch with the churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967/meg.bender4@btinternet.com). Alternatively, you may prefer to write your own prayer and hang it on the prayer tree inside the church, (the church is open to all visitors during daylight hours).

Easter Services: details of St Mary's services on Maundy Thursday (6th April), Good Friday (7th April) and Easter Day (9th April) are listed on page 16. Everyone is sure to receive a very warm welcome to these special services in the church's year. Please note the earlier time of the Easter Day Holy Communion; it's at 10am and will be followed by refreshments and an Easter Egg Hunt.

Children's Church meets during the Sunday service of Holy Communion on 16th April at 10.30am. The children and young people will be looking at the story of Doubting Thomas. His friends had told him Jesus was alive from the dead, but everyone knew that was impossible. "Prove it," he said. New children and young people are warmly welcome to join us to find out what happened next and to meet together afterwards for refreshments and the celebration of all the April birthdays.



APCM: this is St Mary's annual meeting, which is being held on Thursday 20th April at 7pm in the church. Everyone on the Electoral Roll is very welcome to come to this important occasion in the church's year, when we receive the annual report for 2022, elect churchwardens and PCC members and begin to look at the priorities for the year ahead. Do come and take part and share your ideas about the future of St Mary's in Studham. (See also page 15).

Summer Party: plans are taking shape for this event on Saturday 24th June from 3pm until 6pm in St Mary's churchyard. It's a family-friendly party with the Shambles Band, a BBQ and children's activities. There will be more details next month but please put the date on your calendar.

STUDHAM WARM HUBS

These are now closed as (hopefully!!) the weather will be getting warmer and people will be able to enjoy more time socialising outdoors.

We would like to thank everyone who has helped in this venture: by providing the tea, coffee and biscuits, donations towards the heating costs, their time in serving refreshments, and those who have given us their company for a couple of hours a week. We hope it has been as enjoyable for all of you as it has been for us.

KENSWORTH NEWSROUND

KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

Our Prayers for You: if you would like a particular prayer to be said, maybe for a loved one or a special occasion, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670). In April we shall pray especially for the people of Common Road between Hollicks Lane and Isle of Wight Lane.

Church Calendar: April is the month of Easter, so a busy time in church. Holy Week starts on Monday 3rd with a service of Holy Communion in St Mary's at 7.30pm, and there are other services during the week around the villages. Special services are the Good Friday Liturgy at 12 noon and the Service of Light on Easter Eve at 8pm. Please note that Easter Sunday Family Holy Communion starts at 11am. (See details of all services on page 16).

Choir News: this month, the choir will accompany the service on Easter Sunday, 9th April. If you would like to join, please contact the Rector (872223 or revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com). We also welcome instrument players to accompany occasional services.

Sunday School: there will be a service of Family Holy Communion on Easter Sunday followed by the traditional Easter Egg Hunt. On 23rd April, the children will be talking about Jesus appearing to people after his death and resurrection.

If you would like your child to join Sunday School, or if you want to be a helper, please contact the Rector or Katherine Huggins (607841) for details.

Messy Church: there is no Messy Church in April. The next one will be held on Friday 19th May at 3.30pm in Kensworth Church Hall.

Annual Parochial Church Meetings: everyone on the electoral roll is very welcome to attend the APCM on 19th April, starting at 7pm in the Church Hall. Do come and take part, and share your ideas on the running of the church in Kensworth.

CHURCH BRING and BUY BAZAAR

In the Church Hall, Clayhall Road (behind the Vicarage), 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.) **Cash only.**

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

For all services, see page 15. The April Coffee Morning is on Saturday 1st, 10.30am – 12 noon. Come and enjoy delicious tea/coffee and cakes and friendly chat.

WHIPSDADE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

PRAYERS

This month we will be praying for the people of Byslips Road and Oldhill Wood. If you have any specific prayer requests, speak to the Rector or hang a request on the prayer tree in the church.

GOOD FRIDAY

On Good Friday we have a special service in Whipnade church at 10am when we invite parents and children to make a miniature Easter garden for each of the three churches. We hear a story, sing a Good Friday song and then enjoy hot or cold drinks and hot cross buns or cakes. Everyone is welcome to join in!

VILLAGE LUNCH

The lunch this month is on Thursday 13th April at 12.30pm in the Village Hall. For £7, everyone is welcome to choose from roast beef, venison pie, breaded chicken breast or smoked haddock in cheese sauce, with a selection of puddings followed by tea or coffee. Offers of help or puddings would be very welcome to Isobel (01582 872552 or isobel.randall@btinternet.com).

KNIT AND NATTER

The group will meet in the church for company, refreshments and shared crafts on Tuesday 18th April 2pm – 4pm. Patterns, materials and support for beginners are available or bring along the project you are working on.

WHIPSDADE PARISH CHURCH

Invites You To

A SUMMER CONCERT

WITH CHEESE AND WINE, RAFFLE

LIVE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

On Saturday 17th June

Start time 5.30pm

Only £10.00 per ticket. (Children Free)

Available from:

Jane on 07908 019188 or Jo on 07943 565555

MORE KENSWORTH

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Website: www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Contact: clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Final Call – for prospective **new Councillors** – the deadline is 4th April for completed forms. Contact us if you would like to become a councillor.

Reminder - **Your Annual Meeting of the Parish** is 13th April at 8pm in the Village Hall. This is a meeting for Kensworth residents to discuss, share and receive matters of local interest. Grant awards and Kensworth Villager of the Year will also be announced. Refreshments will be provided.

The April **Parish Council Meeting** will be a much shorter meeting to transact necessary Parish Council business only (7.30pm to 8pm) therefore no public participation will take place at this meeting.

The Parish Council has been successful in gaining **grant funding** from Central Bedfordshire Council to plant a new native hedgerow of approximately 70m positioned along an area bordering the Kensworth Allotments and The Chilterns housing estate with work on this starting shortly. This will form part of, and be mapped on, the Queens Green Canopy.

Next Parish Council Meeting: 13th April, 7.30pm, Kensworth Village Hall.

KENSWORTH CORONATION FUN DAY

We are looking forward to the Coronation Fun Day Celebrations on the Recreation Ground on Sunday 7th May - 1pm - 5.30pm. We have children's games, soft play, bouncy castle, face painting, dog show, cream teas, burgers, tasty bites, bar, plus many other stalls and the Eyes of Albion Band. Come along, have fun, enjoy the day, love to see you. All proceeds will go to the Village Hall.



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.

WARM HUB IN KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Come along on a Friday afternoon between 1pm and 4pm. You will find a warm welcome, hot food and drinks and much more waiting for you; everyone welcome. The Warm Hub will be closed on Good Friday, 7th April.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

We are a friendly group who raise money to help maintain the fabric of our church, an important part of our village heritage.

Thanks to everybody who have recently renewed their annual subscriptions to the 100 Club. The winner in March was Fred Moss, with Nigel Wade the runner up.

I'm delighted to say that the Call My Bluff wine evening on 14th April, which is a joint event with The Friends of Studham Common, is sold out.

If you would like to know more about The Friends of Studham Church, or to join the 100 Club, either contact John McDougal (john.mcdougal@btinternet.com/873257) or look at our website: <https://friendsstudham.wixsite.com/website>.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next work party for the Friends will be on **Saturday 15th April**.

During the work party we will be trimming the hedge on the western side of Middle Common and all the entry points that enable pedestrian access to the Common. This will ensure an easy and inviting walk for any visitors.

Whilst on East Common, we will be trimming back growth around the car park and picking up any litter. All the work will ensure that any early nesting birds are not disturbed by the activities of the work party.

So please come along and help us to ensure the Commons look ideal and inviting to visitors for the summer months. Everyone is welcome, especially new members. We meet at the War Memorial on West Common, opposite the Red Lion at 10am.

Contact Pam Rumfitt (872608/pamrumfitt@btinternet.com) for further information.

STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

Sports activities are running at full pace at the playing fields, so if you are interested in joining any of them, 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 the 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.

EASTER

PACE OR PASCH EGG

Meanings

- * The **Paschal Moon** is the first full moon after the Spring Equinox which sets **Passover** and **Easter**;
- * **Pace/Pasch** may derive from the word **Peace**, or the french for Easter, **Paques**, or **Paschal** (Passover in Greek) **Pesach** in Hebrew;

What you will need

- * Eggs
- * Onion skins
- * Newspaper or foil
- * String or elastic bands
- * A pan

What to do

1. Wrap the onion skins around the eggs in a random way;
2. Then wrap the eggs in foil/newspaper covering completely;
3. Pack the eggs into a pan. Boil in water for 7-10 minutes;
4. Leave them sitting in the water until cold;
5. Peel off the foil/paper and skins and you have a beautifully mottled boiled egg;
6. Polish with a bit of oil or butter if you want;
7. Now play your games and eat them.



Traditions and games for your Pasch eggs

- In the north west they are rolled down a hill, the winner being the owner of the egg which goes the furthest and has the least cracks or breaks in it;
- Give a Pasch egg to each person visiting your home throughout the Easter period – a wonderful alternative to the commercial chocolate eggs;
- Each player has a Pasch egg, each player hits the other player's egg with their own. This is known as “egg tapping”, the winner is the holder of the most intact egg;
- In the Greek Orthodox tradition, red eggs are also cracked together when people exchange Easter greetings.

MAUNDY THURSDAY EASTER EGG GIVEAWAY

Maundy Thursday celebrates when Jesus washed his disciples' feet and the Last Supper. There is also the tradition of royalty giving small silver coins known as “Maundy money” as symbolic alms to elderly recipients. We invite you to collect your Maundy Easter Egg on 6th April at 10am at 194 Common Road, Kensworth.



ECO CHURCH & STUDHAM PC

ECO CHURCH



April is a great time to start growing. Consider planting some bee-friendly plants in your garden to help provide bees with pollen and nectar to thrive. Try to plant single, open flowers where you can see the central part of the flower; purple flowers such as lavender, alliums, buddleia and catmint and tubular-shaped flowers such as snapdragons and honeysuckle for the long-tongued bees such as the garden bumble bee.

If you have a small area of garden free, or even a window ledge, why not plant a few seeds and grow some vegetables? Easy vegetables to start with include cherry tomatoes, bush-type cucumbers, aubergines, peppers, courgettes, basil, green beans and rosemary.

As Easter approaches and you think about buying chocolate eggs – try to buy chocolate which is Fairtrade and which uses palm oil produced from a sustainable supplier. Cocoa producers are often poorly paid for their labour, earning on average \$1/ day. Palm oil is responsible for the destruction of much of the world's rainforests and is endangering the habitats of many species. It's very difficult to avoid consuming palm oil as it's in many products, but you can buy responsibly-sourced palm oil; look for the label RSPO. Suggestions of chocolate eggs to purchase are at www.fairtrade.org.uk/media-centre/blog/fairtrade-easter-eggs.

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held at 8.15pm on 3rd April, following the normal Parish Council Meeting held at 6pm. All members of the parish are invited to both of the above meetings. This will also be the last meeting for those parish councillors who are not standing in the forthcoming elections. We feel sure you will join in thanking them for all the hard work and effort they have put in over the last 4 years and we wish them well in their future endeavours, whatever they may be.

If you would like to be advised of meetings and other important issues by e-mail, please go to our website or e-mail news@studhamparish.co.uk asking to be added.

If you have recently moved into our parish and have not received your Welcome Pack, 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.

We would remind you of a quick way to record highway issues to Central Beds Council. It is called 'FixMyStreet' and can be accessed via the CBC website.

CHURCH ANNUAL MEETINGS

Wednesday 19th April – Kensworth – 7pm and 7.30pm, Kensworth Church Hall.

Thursday 20th April – Studham – 7pm and 7.30pm, St. Mary's, Studham.

Wednesday 26th April – Whipsnade – 7pm and 7.30pm, St. Mary Magdalene, Whipsnade.

All are welcome to these meetings at which churchwardens will be elected, members of the Parochial Church Council (the body which makes decisions about the mission and ministry of the church) elected and the annual report for each church presented.

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday services are usually at 10.30am:

Sunday 9th April Morning Worship

Led by Mr Roger Owers

Sunday 23rd April Morning Worship

Led by Mr John Enego

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

STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

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

Sunday Services:

9th 10am Miss Linda Hillier

23rd 10am Mrs Karen Noble

Although our own services are not being streamed, Zoom meetings are available from many of our circuit churches. If you would like details please contact Linda.

A POEM FOR EASTER by Tim Lenton

The tomb was a cave
and Lazarus asleep:
Jesus walked in the light
on a pathway of tears
carrying God's glory

He lifted His eyes,
called into the darkness:
Lazarus rose and came out

Jesus keeps on calling
into the darkness:
different names
different caves



WHIPSNADÉ PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual General Meeting which will take place in Whipnade Village Hall starting at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 9th May, 2023. All are welcome.

WHIPSNADÉ TREE CATHEDRAL – VOLUNTEERS DIARY

With the arrival of Easter and the longer warmer days, we must now start thinking about cutting the grass in the Tree Cathedral. We have a long-established plan of which areas are kept cut short and which areas are left to flourish and provide habitat for all the butterflies, insects and the wild life that scurries about in the undergrowth. There is also an abundance of bulbs and natural wildflowers that are starting to burst into life at this time of year.



The Easter chapel will soon have a beautiful display of cherry blossom and either side of the trees are daffodils and crocuses already flowering.

When you enter The Summer Chapel you will encounter the Autumn Circle; this is a plantation of field maple, which we keep trimmed to a height of about 1.5m to encourage vigorous growth at this time of year and results in some amazing colours in the autumn. We keep the area under the Autumn Circle clear to discourage pests and the area inside is kept mown.

The Gospel Oak stands in the centre. The Summer Chapel and a lot of the area in here is also left to long grass and nature.

Beyond this chapel and all the way round the left-hand side of the cathedral is a wide cloister walk, which is an avenue of Ash trees (cut back last year to try and contain Ash die back). It was decided to leave most of the trees there for structure and appearance. The areas around the walk are left to long grass to encourage wildlife and many bulbs and wild flowers also flourish in this area.

The Dew Pond area is cut regularly as this area is intended for relaxation, where people sit and enjoy the beautiful planting and an area where people love to picnic with young children running around and playing in the grassy hollow in the middle.

Come and say “hello” on Tuesday mornings 9am – 12pm.

KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY and PRESCHOOL

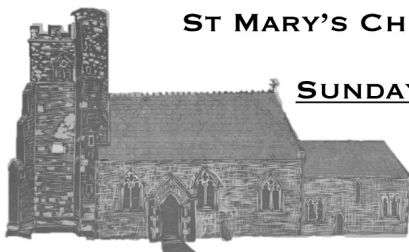
We really enjoyed the celebrations for World Book Day. Reading continues to be a huge part of life at Kensworth School, so our 'Wild about Reading' themed day was right up our street. We dressed up as our favourite animals and brought our cuddly animal friends to school with us to join in the fun. The children enjoyed a competition to take a photo of themselves reading in a 'wild' place. One of the highlights was a visit from local company Teaching Talons who brought to school some real-life animals, really bringing to life our special day.

We do have available places at the school so if your child or someone you know would like to come and join the fun, please do get in touch – we would love to meet you and show you round. Contact: office@ken.dsamat.co.uk (01582 872336).

Kensworth School Parent Teachers' Association

The children all enjoyed the PTA Valentines Disco before half-term which raised over £100. We were very pleased to be able to fund Teaching Talons to come in and show the children some of their wonderful animals (see above). We have been busy organising a Quiz Night and Mother's Day gifts this term and are currently fundraising to raise money to go towards a covered bike shelter, so the children have somewhere dry to store their bikes and scooters.

If you would like to offer help/fundraising ideas, please get in touch with us via e-mail (kensworthacademypta@gmail.com). We always welcome new members.

KENSWORTH SPRING FESTIVAL**ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHURCH END****LU6 3RA****SUNDAY 30TH APRIL, 2023****11.30AM****CROWNING OF THE MAY
QUEEN, MORRIS DANCING,
RAFFLE**

Beer & Wine Tent, BBQ, Cake Stall, Bric-A-Brac,
Open Bell Tower, Plant Stall, Face Painting
& lots of Fun and Games!

12.15pm DOG SHOWPROCEEDS TO LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANISATION, MAINLY ST MARY'S CHURCH AND KENSWORTH SCHOOL

STUDHAM EXTRA

STUDHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL



So many potatoes...so many World Book Day characters!! As well as dressing up ourselves, we celebrated World Book Day this year with a 'turn a potato into a book character' contest.... prizes for the winning entries for each year group were chosen and awarded by Governor Julie Allam...with such varied and fantastic creations it was not an easy job! Our outdoor Forest School classroom is complete and ready to be used by everyone in the school to really make the most of our outside space. Pupils will be creating dens, seeing wildlife and bulbs emerge from their winter slumbers and just enjoying being outside in nature.

During this term, from the giant friendly Dragon in Sycamore Class, an inspiring Easter play from the pupils of Maple Class, a fabulous farm shop in Oak Class and our pre-schoolers learning to 'Ready, Steady, Grow!!' in our Acorn Class, we have certainly packed a lot in! We have enjoyed church visits as well as lots of extra-curricular clubs including music, dancing and gardening.

Our school PTFA have lots of exciting events planned for this year, from Mother's Day bags to Easter craft workshops, Doughnuts for Dads and the school Summer Fayre.... we cannot wait to share the fun! New PTFA members are always welcome, you can look on the school PTFA Facebook page or e-mail the school for more details.

Don't forget our 'stick store' located at the front of the school for all those sticks you can collect on your walks.

If you are interested in a place for your child (pre-school to year 4, from 2 years old to 9 years old), please contact the school office (872337 or e-mail school@studhamschools.org.uk) for more information.

Sarah Dryden, Deputy Headteacher.

STUDHAM CARPET BOWLS

2pm Thursdays in Studham 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.

WHIPSDADE & KENSWORTH

WHIPSDADE VILLAGE GET-TOGETHER

Whipsnade village hall on Tuesday 4th April from 2pm – 4pm. Refreshments and a raffle will be available. Come along for a chat or to play cards and dominos with old and new friends.

WHIPSDADE CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY.

On Saturday 15th April between 9.30am and 12 noon. All welcome.

KING CHARLES 111 CORONATION

Whipsnade Parish Council and Whipsnade village hall are pleased to confirm that celebrations for the coronation of King Charles 111 will be held at the hall on Sunday 7th May from 1.30pm to 5pm.

Refreshments will be available including tea and cakes. The Jockey bar will be there with their wonderful choice of cocktails. There will also be various activities for children and music throughout the day.

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Bookings for the hall are very good and we are receiving excellent comments from ad hoc hirers. We were pleased to receive another good review from the annual CBC checks of our disabled facilities, including the types of tables that allow good wheelchair access. We have plans to upgrade the kitchen facilities and to redecorate the hall this year so that it remains well maintained and in top condition.

Over the past 3 – 4 years, the number of regular hirers of the hall has increased, and we have very few weekends free in the whole of the year for the ad hoc hirers, who love to hire the hall because of the good facilities and reasonable rates.

Energy costs are still very high, and we are undertaking fund raising to help us to cover these rising costs; this includes the **Coronation Fun Day** organised for Sunday 7th May at the village hall and recreation ground, where proceeds will go to the village hall (see page 11 for more details about the various things planned).

The village hall is in the process of reviewing all the hire documents and processes for the hall and updating the bank mandates following the death of our Chairman, Mike Sawyer. Due to the age of the current trustees, the village hall is in need of younger people to come forward to be **trustees of the registered charity** Kensworth Village Hall. We also need younger people to join the committee to help run the very successful village hall that Kensworth has.

Please come and join us at the **AGM** on Tuesday 2nd May at 7pm in the hall.

STUDHAM EXTRA 2

SENIORS TABLE TENNIS

10am – 12 noon Fridays in Studham Village Hall

Funding for a new table tennis table has been secured and we hope to have that in place for the Friday sessions very soon. Everyone is welcome, over 12 years of age, £3 a session. Why not come along and have a chat and a cuppa with this friendly group one Friday? Please contact Felicity Cornelius (872038) for more information.

STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

Our regular users include carpet bowls, Mums and Tots, Scrabble, table tennis, Parish Council, yoga, bingo, Gong Therapy, WI and tap dancing. We have room for other groups, for example: chess or book club, perhaps whist, video games, table-top games, or just a 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 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.

SCRABBLE

2pm Tuesdays in Studham Village Hall

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

STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB

We offer free annual Junior Membership (with every full adult member) and annual Family Membership from £75.

Coaching takes place 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/07833 111682/www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk).

BINGO

Wednesdays 12th and 26th April at 7.30pm in Studham Village Hall. You may not have joined us before or you may be one of our regulars, whichever it is we will be pleased to see you. Doors open at 7.30pm and 'eyes down' at 8pm.

WI

7.15pm Thursday 6th April – Studham Village Hall – Taster Evening

Why not join us for a most enjoyable evening tasting "Easter Biscuits". For those who don't know this is a West Country tradition we are looking forward to trying.

Studham May Fair 2023 - Saturday 13th May

Your May Fair needs You!

Help us Make it A Special Day for Everyone

Volunteers Needed

- ❖ The May Fair needs your help from **Thursday 11th** to help with putting up tents to the event on **Saturday**.
- ❖ If you have any time at all to spare it would very much appreciated.
- ❖ Please either call: Derek Spriggs (07825 705380) or Becky Salisbury (07956 656794) or email your details to mayfair.studham.derek@gmail.com

Items for Sale Needed

- ❖ **Nearly New – Preloved Stall**
- ❖ For household items, pictures, games, jewellery, clothes, bags, shoes etc,
- ❖ Please contact Jo Majewska on 07815 120390 to arrange collection or delivery of items.
- ❖ **For Books**
- ❖ Please contact Peter or Stephanie Gee (07766 916081 or 01582 873154).
- ❖ For the **Tombola, Made in Studham items, Booze Barrow, Raffle Prizes, Plants, & Cakes.**
- ❖ Please call: Derek Spriggs (07825 705380) or Becky Salisbury (07956 656794).

STUDHAMBURY IS BACK!!

What? Studhambury is returning this year after an enforced 3 year absence.

When? It will be on 20th May – the weekend after the May Fair. From 1pm at the Red Lion.

Great cause: once again any money raised will go to CLIC Sargent's Young Lives Against Cancer. We hope to push our running total through the £50,000 barrier so please come along and give generously.



STUDHAM SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

From 4th April the opening hours are: Monday to Friday 4.30pm, Saturday and Sunday 12pm.

We welcome all visitors and new members. We provide competitively-priced drinks and the facility is also available for private events. If you are planning an event, contact Club Manager, Louise, (07737 839596) to see what we can offer.

All members should receive details of events etc. via e-mail. If you have not been receiving yours, please make sure that your e-mail details are up to date with the bar staff. If you wish to join us, we will be delighted to see you, Membership Application Forms are available at the bar.

A reminder that memberships are due for renewal on 1st April. The Committee has reluctantly decided to make a small increase to assist with maintaining the financial health of the Club. This is the first increase since 2019. Please pay your subscriptions as soon as possible.

From 1st April subscriptions will be as follows:

Family (parents and children under 18): £25; Single (18-64): £20; Concessions (students in full time education and those aged 65 and over): £10 .

QUIZZES

April Quiz Night at the Red Lion on Tuesday 4th at 8pm, so start swotting!

The rounds will be: 1: sport & recent news; 2: school days; 3: alphabet (all answers start with D); 4: entertainment; 5: anything we couldn't fit in the previous rounds! and 6: music, (titles beginning H).

There is no fixed team size – so you can go solo or bring all the family, however, please ring the Red Lion (872530) to book a table (and order food if required). See you there!

INTERESTING INFO

FIRECREST

This poor bird is a firecrest which didn't survive the recent cold snap and was found by the post-box in Holywell Road.



Studham resident and bird expert, John Hanna, says "it is quite rare, unlike its near identical cousin the goldcrest. They are our smallest UK birds – not the wren as many people think. The distinction is obvious in the name. Unfortunately for much of the year they are indistinguishable until they get their breeding plumage. This one looks like it is entering the "fire stage". (Sorry the photo is not in colour but it can be e-mailed to you if interested; contact fiona.mcdougal@btinternet.com).

Both species can be seen around the sewage works. They like conifers and water. If your hearing can pick up high frequencies, you will hear them now or very soon. It's a high-pitched whistle.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

April Fools' Day is celebrated in many countries on 1st April every year. On this day, practical jokes (or *April Fools*) are played on friends and family. The jokes are done to embarrass them. In some countries, April Fools only last until noon, and if someone plays a joke after that, they are an April Fool.

People have set aside a special day for playing jokes for centuries.

In the Middle Ages, New Year's Day was celebrated on 25th March in many places. In some areas, the New Year was a week-long holiday ending on 1st April. Thus began the tradition of April Fools' Day.

In France, an April Fool's joke is called a '*Poisson d'Avril*' (April Fish). They stick a paper fish on their friend's back, and shout "Poisson d'Avril!" when it is discovered. (Only fools would try to buy fish in April!).



Sometimes large media corporations will publish fake news stories on 1st April. For example, in 1957 the BBC broadcast a story about spaghetti trees. According to the story, people in Switzerland grew spaghetti on trees. Later, many people called the BBC asking how they could get a spaghetti tree!