

PARISH LINK

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





Rev. Andrew Brazier
Methodist Minister
E-mail: andrewbrazier@hotmail.com

Tel: 07794 639382

Dear all

It is with some excitement that I can tell you about the arrival of the new Methodist Minister in the area – well at least for the Studham bit of it! I have had the all too brief privilege of being the minister at Studham. In September an old friend of mine, Helen Roberts, will be taking my place. I wasn't ever really able to be a big support to the church because I had four other churches. Helen comes with a special remit to work with village churches and has vast experience of working in rural Wales and Yorkshire. She is a creative soul and will, I believe, bring some very interesting new things to the village of Studham. I hope you will also get to meet her lovely amusing dog called Gabi. I am not sure Gabi actually knows she is a dog and won't chase a ball for love nor money, and when offered the chance to jump a hurdle simply walked round it. Gabi has a way of looking at you that makes you feel like you just said something daft. "You expect me to fetch that! Get it yourself."

In my experience Helen can turn her hand to anything crafty. I especially love her glass work which she produces from a home kiln. I suspect over time the rainbow array of glass ornaments in our homes will increase. Helen and I have had many adventures over the years. Do ask her about the many voyages of the spiral staircase, or how I ended up with a fireplace in my car! I would say it was all good clean fun, but the dust and grit would contradict that.

I will of course maintain connections with the village. My wife teaches at the school, and I will certainly be meeting up with my friend, so I very much still hope to meet you all. This, though, is a much better prospect for the future.

God bless,

Andrew

The front cover shows photos from Kensworth Spring Festival (on the left) and Studham May Fair on the right. Thank you to photographer, Les Randall.

WHIPSDADE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

WHIPSDADE CHURCH

Prayers: in June we will be praying for all those who work in the Zoo, and for the people who live between the Zoo and Dell Farm. If you would like us to join in praying for people important to you, please contact Nicola, the Rector, or the churchwardens. Or you could call into the church and write a prayer on a leaf to be hung on the prayer tree.

Village Lunch: This month's lunch is in the Village Hall at **12.30pm** on Thursday 8th June. Choose from a menu of roast venison, cottage pie, salmon en croute or lemon herb chicken, with a variety of puddings then tea or coffee. All for £7, and everyone is welcome. We are delighted to receive raffle prizes or puddings.

If you would like to help to prepare the meal, set up the hall, serve or clear up, Isobel Randall would love to hear from you (isobel.randall@btinternet.com or 872552).

The PCC: at the annual parochial church meeting the following people were elected by the congregation: Churchwardens – Isobel Randall and Martin Rees; Bola Fola-Caleb, Lay leader of worship. PCC members: Sarah Ayres, Joan Bailey, Mike Bailey, Chris Hazell, Jo King, Les Randall, Pam Ward and Jane Wright.

Sunday School: the Sunday School, led by Glenda Cox, will meet to hear stories and make items to illustrate them on Sunday 11th June at 9am during the morning service. Contact the Rector for further details.

KNIT AND NATTER

The group will meet in the church for company, refreshments and shared crafts on Tuesday 13th June 2pm – 4pm. Patterns, materials and support for beginners are available or bring along the project you are working on.

WHIPSDADE VILLAGE GET-TOGETHER

Whipsnade Village Hall on Tuesday 27th June 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 TREE CATHEDRAL SERVICE

We are holding our annual Tree Cathedral service on Sunday 11th June at 3pm. For more details, see page 14 .

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church prayers: in June we shall be praying especially for everyone who lives in Common Road, Clements End and Pedley Hill. If you would like a special prayer to be said, perhaps for a particular person or event, please contact Meg Bender, Churchwarden (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

Kids' Club meets on Friday 9th June in the church from 3.30 – 5.30pm. Following the theme of the Holy Trinity, there will be lots of interesting activities, both indoors and outside, together with a short worship and ending with a hot tea. Children and young people of all ages and their parents and carers are very welcome. There is no charge but donations to cover the cost of the food are very welcome and it helps with catering if we know numbers, so please contact Caroline Child (cjhitchman@hotmail.com) if you are planning to come.

Children's Church is on Sunday 18th June within our Holy Communion service at 10.30am. The children and young people will be hearing how Jesus understood the difficulties people faced 2000 years ago and how he needed extra assistance to help these people. He recruited twelve volunteers (the apostles) who the children will try to name. They will also think about today's world and how we need to find people who will help too. Everyone is very welcome to the service and to Children's Church which will be followed by refreshments and the celebration of all the June birthdays.

SUMMER PARTY – BIG BAND MUSIC AND BBQ

Where?: St Mary's Church, Studham

When?: Saturday, 24th June, 3pm – 6pm

What?: listen to The Shambles band, have a BBQ, enjoy children's activities including the famous teddies parachuting off the tower.



What to bring?: picnic rug, chairs, drinks and teddies with home-made parachutes ready to throw off the tower.

Tickets: £10 per person or £25 family ticket to include BBQ
Contact: Meg Bender 872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com



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 June our prayers will be especially for those who live in Common Road, from the Methodist Church to Dovehouse Lane.

Choir News: the Choir will be leading the singing at the Holy Communion service on Sunday 4th June. If you would like to join the Choir, please contact the Rector (872223 or revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com). All voices welcome, and instrument players also, for help with accompanying on special occasions.

Sunday School: for all young people, there are sessions for seniors and juniors on 11th June, when the children will be learning how to serve God through love, and again on 25th June. 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.

Messy Church: Messy Church this month will be on Friday 16th, at 3.30pm in the Church Hall. The theme will be a 'Creation Jar'. 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 Calendar: 4th June is Trinity Sunday, which marks the start of the longest term in the church year, lasting until the week before Advent Sunday, five weeks before Christmas.

The Bring & Buy Bazaar and Recycling Centre: in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road (behind the Vicarage), is open 2pm – 4pm on Wednesdays and 10am – 12 noon on Saturdays. All kinds of treasures are available – come and have a browse! **Cash only.** (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

For all services, see page 15. The June 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.

KENSWORTH BABY and TODDLER GROUP

Every Wednesday in term time, 9.30am – 11am, Kensworth Village Hall – under 5s: £2 per child and £1 per additional child - tea, coffee and biscuits for adults.

KENSWORTH CE PRIMARY ACADEMY AND PRESCHOOL

It has been a month of celebrations here at Kensworth CE Academy. Firstly, we have enjoyed a very special Spring Service followed by the Spring Festival, held at St. Mary the Virgin Church. The children took part in the service with singing and readings, followed by the crowning of the May Queen and her attendants, who looked resplendent in their beautiful fresh-flower crowns with matching posies. We then enjoyed lots of fun activities in the church grounds: it was lovely to see so many school families and staff there.

After this, the children have spent time learning about the new Carolean Era, finding out about our new King's earlier life, before painting portraits and then celebrating the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III in style.

Contact: office@ken.dsamat.co.uk or (01582) 872336

Kensworth Primary Academy PTA

We'd like to start by saying a big thank you to Kensworth Parish Council for their grant and also to Kensworth Drop In Club for their kind and generous donation, both of which will go towards a new covered bike shelter.

We had a wonderful couple of days at St Mary's Spring Festival, and also the Coronation Fun Day – it was fantastic to see so many people.

If anyone would like to donate unwanted clothes to our Bag2School collection on Wednesday 14th June please do get it touch and we can provide further details.

We shall be starting to plan our annual Scarecrow Festival & Fayre soon and would welcome volunteers who can help. E-mail us at kensworthacademypta@gmail.com.

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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

Website: www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Council meetings revert to the 2nd Thursday of each month except August, when there is no meeting.

Following the Election process, 8 Councillors were duly elected uncontested for the Parish of Kensworth: Cheryl Browne, Emma Kerby, Pat Mitchell, John Murray, Amylee Robinson, Graham Starkey, Philip Woods, John Worboys.

Parish Council Meetings:

Next meetings: 8th June 7.30pm and July 13th.

At Kensworth Village Hall, The Chilterns, Kensworth LU6 3RJ.

MORE STUDHAM

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

The Friends believe that our 800-year-old church is an important part of Studham's history and heritage. Our aim is to raise money to help maintain the fabric, but not the running costs, of this lovely building.

We do this through fundraising events such as the recent Wine Evening, the May Fair and our 100 Club. The £50 winner in the May 100 Club was John Hanna with runner-up David Manton winning £10.

A date for your diary – The **AGM** of the Friends of Studham Church will be held on Thursday 15th June at 7.30pm in the church. So, if you would like to know more why not come along?

Or alternatively, contact john.mcdougal@btinternet.com or 873257 or look at our website <https://friendsstudham.wixsite.com/website>.

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.

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.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next work party is on Saturday 17th June. The work plan envisaged for the day will entail mowing the main paths on Middle and East Common to improve and ensure a good access for all our visitors. Also, we will trim gorse shoots across all the commons, where flowering has finished, in order to encourage the survival and regeneration for insects and nesting birds.

An additional task may be to mark, and treat willows, hawthorns and gorse, growing in the grassland, in order to prevent the development of scrub in the hay meadow.

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 Keith Draine (k.draine@draines.co.uk/07807 363629).

MORE KENSWORTH & ECO CHURCH

Quiz Night

14th July- commencing at 7.30pm - hosted by the popular Dave Henderson.

£7.50 per person; bring your own food & drinks.

Maximum of 8 per table or individual places can be booked through David Manton (01438 831184) or **david.manton@aol.co.uk**.

KENSWORTH FLOWER & VEGETABLE SHOW

Kensworth Flower & Vegetable Show on Saturday 9th September: programmes will be available early in July in the village shops and the Village Hall. They will incorporate the entry forms.

+ + + +

ECO CHURCH ECO LIVES

Waste and Landfill

“Don’t litter, put it in the bin”, we say, but then what happens to it?

We are conscientious with regards to littering our streets, we see the obvious impact daily, but we don’t see what happens to our waste which is thrown away. Much of the waste and landfill is unnecessary packaging which gets binned the minute we access the delicious but out-of-season raspberries or new game.

Buy food that hasn’t come far, that doesn’t need hermetically sealed packaging to keep fresh as it travels hundreds of miles.

What about sanitary products, nappies and wet wipes? These are classed as disposable, but do they have to be? These products are pretty new, first being available around 1950s but not commonly used till the ‘60s. There is a revolution in washable sanitary products, moon cups and washable nappies. I can vouch, having brought up my 3 children in the 2000s with washable nappies and myself using a moon cup or washable sanitary towels – it really isn’t difficult. All these products are easily available on-line, in local pharmacies and supermarkets – buy once, it saves the environment and your money!

Jane Bedlington

WHIPSNADE TREE CATHEDRAL

WHIPSNADE TREE CATHEDRAL ANNUAL SERVICE

Come and join us on Sunday 11th June. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone to the annual service in Whipsnade Tree Cathedral, which is on Sunday June 11th at 3pm, supported musically by the Dunstable Salvation Army Band and the children of Studham and Kensworth schools with the assistance of Mrs Copeland. Philip Nalpanis from A-Rocha UK (a Christian charity working to restore and protect the natural world (<https://arocha.org/en>) is our guest speaker, and the service will be followed by refreshments in Whipsnade Village Hall. If you can help with the refreshments, by baking beforehand or serving on the day, please contact Pam Ward (872406 or pamelaj.ward@outlook.com). Some chairs will be provided, but if you can bring your own, or a rug to sit on that would be helpful!

WHIPSNADE TREE CATHEDRAL – VOLUNTEERS DIARY

The Annual Tree Cathedral Service is on Sunday 11th June at 3pm (see above) and this is the time for people to come and celebrate the beauty and spiritual meaning of the Tree Cathedral.

The story began in 1925 when a young Edmund Kell Blyth converted a pair of old cottages in Whipsnade into a holiday home for poor London families in memory of three close comrades killed in the First World War. These were Arthur Bailey, John Bennett and Francis Holland, who actually died later in 1930.

It was in 1930, that Mr Blyth and his wife visited Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, which fully lived up to their expectations. On the drive home, they stopped to watch the sun set through a copse of trees and this is where the idea was born.

He then set about the idea of creating a Cathedral by using trees to represent walls and doorways, the Chancel being a half circle of silver birches. With the help of just one man, Albert Bransom, they started planting. The plans follow that of a traditional medieval cathedral.

The Tree Cathedral has never been consecrated but as Edmund Blyth said in 1940. "It is managed to emphasize the vigour and balance of individual plants in patterns that create an enclosure for worship and meditation, offering heightened awareness of God's presence and transcendence."

NORTH CHILTERN GROUP

The AGM of the North Chilterns Group was well attended in St Mary's Church, Kensworth, after the Ascension Day service. Isobel Randall, retiring chairman, and Barrie Huggins, retiring treasurer, were thanked for their years of service. As a new chairman could not be found, in the interim representatives of the parishes will chair the meetings in turn.

The Annual Service will be Messy Communion at Eaton Bray on 30th July, and the Quiet Morning will be led by Canon Grant Fellowes on 2nd September in Dagnall church.

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Please find below details of the services at the Methodist chapel, which are currently taking place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, subject to changes in guidance from above.

Services are at 10.30am.

11 th June	Morning Worship	Led by Mr Frederick Cole
25 th June	Holy Communion	Led by Rev. Nigel Bibbings

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 (872860) and she will make any necessary arrangements.

June Services:

Sunday 11 th	10am	Local Arrangement
Sunday 25 th	10am	Mrs Jenny Harris

We currently meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month and all are welcome to join us.

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.

22ND JUNE - SAINT DAY OF ST ALBAN

Alban was the very first Christian martyr in Britain – or at least the first we know of. A 'martyr' is someone who has died for the faith – the word literally means 'witness'. He was probably killed during the persecution under the emperor Diocletian in the early years of the fourth century, in the late stages of the Roman occupation of Britain. His martyrdom took place in the amphitheatre outside the Roman city of Verulamium, which is now St Albans.

King Charles Coronation Village Celebrations



Whipsnade celebrated the King's coronation in style with an 'All welcome' event at the Village Hall that was attended by over 100 village residents, their families and friends. Over forty children attended, enjoying a wide range of fun activities and games, and each receiving a King Charles III commemorative medal.

We were especially pleased to have as our guest, His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Bedfordshire, Mrs Susan Lousada, who had kindly accepted our invitation to officiate,

together with Revd. Canon Nicola Lenthall, at the conclusion of the event, with cutting of the Coronation Cake and proposing of the loyal toast. This followed the awarding of prizes to the winners of the 'Best King and Queen' fancy dress competition which was judged by John and Louise Ledwidge of the Old Hunters Lodge.

The event was organised and funded jointly by Whipsnade Parish Council and Whipsnade Village Hall Committee. Our thanks to all those who helped to make it such a success, especially the very many hands that went into preparing a splendid afternoon tea.

Bus shelter on The Green

Return of a familiar landmark, the bus shelter on Whipsnade Green, seen below fully restored and in the immediate aftermath following its near total destruction last September as a result of a road collision, miraculously with no one injured. Judging by comments received from residents (and bus users, of course), it was sadly missed over the winter but now beautifully restored to its former glory. Our thanks go to the building contractors Firma Construct of Pitstone (brothers George & Tom France) who completed the work to a high standard and attention to detail.



The Parish Council was able to make a claim for third party damage against the driver's insurance and has now been fully recompensed for the loss.

The next meeting of Whipsnade Parish Council will be on Tuesday 11th July 7.30 pm at Whipsnade Village Hall.

CORONATION YARN BOMBS

A big “thank you” to the ladies of Studham who brought a smile to our faces for these lovely decorations on our post boxes.

By Beryl Harrison



By Mel Bassil



STUDHAM VILLAGE CE ACADEMY AND PRESCHOOL

We were delighted to welcome some residents of Knoll House along with our neighbours to join in celebrations for the Coronation of King Charles III. Pupils, staff and our guests shared tea and cakes to mark the occasion and pupils told our visitors lots of interesting Coronation facts that they had been learning which were mounted, bound and presented in a keepsake book for Knoll House residents to take with them. We finished off the celebrations by performing our new Coronation song! The pupils certainly sang their hearts out raising the roof with a song fit for a King! We'd like to thank all those that came along to mark this wonderful moment in history with us.



The Studham May Fair saw pupils from Maple Class once again show off their maypole dancing skills. So much work had been done to learn all the steps and I'd like to say a special thanks to Katie Roberts for her hard work in choreographing the dance. Our May Queen and her attendants this year really enjoyed the proceedings and great fun was had by all!

Our School Summer Fayre will be held on **Saturday 15th July**. There will be so much to do and see. Come along and share the fun!

If you are interested in a place for your child (preschool to year 4, from 2 years old to 9 years old) please contact the school office (872337 / e-mail school@studham-schools.org.uk) for more information. We look forward to seeing you soon.

WHIPSNADE PARISH CHURCH

Invites you to;

A SUMMER CONCERT

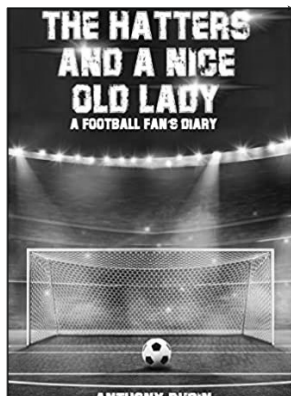
WITH CHEESE AND WINE, RAFFLE,

LIVE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT. On Saturday 17th June
2023.

Start time 5.30pm.

Only £10.00 per ticket. (Children Free)

Available from: Jane on 07903 019188 or Jo on 07943 565555



THE HATTERS AND A NICE OLD LADY - A FOOTBALL FAN'S DIARY

By Kensworth resident, Anthony Rubin.

Luton Town came into Anthony's life as the nearest club to a house in Kensworth, where he spent much of his life. The family moved there from London at the outset of WW2 to be further from likely bombing targets.

Supporting a club that has had more promotions and relegations than most has never been dull. The publication of the book could not have been more impeccably timed as it was completed at a time when Luton are really on the up. As the Link goes to print, they are in the playoffs with the possibility of being promoted to the Premier (top) league, which would be amazing! The book is different from other football tomes in that it also relates to two other teams; "Nice" (OGC Nice) and Juventus ("the old lady") and hence the title!

The evocative story is packed with a passion for football and intense emotions. It is available on Amazon and Abebooks.

KENSWORTH SPRING FESTIVAL



The sun shone on 30th April for the St Mary's Church Spring Festival and a good crowd turned up to watch the crowning of the May Queen and to enjoy the various activities on offer. The event raised over £1850 for the church, as well as supporting

other local organisations, particularly Kensworth School. We are grateful to everyone who donated raffle prizes, cakes etc, helped on the stalls or who supported the event by coming along.



KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

The Committee would like to thank all the residents who came to join us for the AGM and for those people who volunteered to join the committee. We are pleased to announce that John Hagen has offered to be our Chairman and Joules Hall has offered to be our Treasurer (after a 6-year search for a volunteer). Two more people agreed to join the Committee - Leanne Miller and Gareth Price.

The Committee accepted the Treasurer's report for the year and the accounts were kindly audited by John Vincent, who has completed this role for the last 6 years. We will need to allocate a new auditor for next year, as John has finally stepped down, and we thank him sincerely for his contribution.

Coronation Celebration Day - Fantastic weather - Successful day!

Thank you to everyone who came along to celebrate with us on Sunday 7th May and made it such a great day. A big thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their time. A special thanks to Lutts Group for the lorry (our stage), also Kensworth Post Office/Village Shop, C&C Inflatables, John Hagen, photographer, Caroline's Kitchen, Tring Brewery Co, Farmers Boy, Fitness Personal Training, Scan Optics Ltd and everyone else who donated raffle prizes. Thank you to the Eyes of Albion Band for playing great music all afternoon.

We made a profit of £1708 for Kensworth Village Hall.

A link to view pictures of the event is on Spotted Kensworth.

Formerly the **Warm Hub** - Kensworth Village Hall is still open on Friday afternoons, 1pm - 4 pm, for drinks, cake, snacks, or just a chat with friends. Why not drop in?

The next **Committee meeting** is on Wednesday 5th July at 7.30pm.

STUDHAM EXTRA I

TABLE TENNIS GROUP

10am Fridays in Studham Village Hall

The table tennis club is attracting new members from local villages as regular or ad-hoc attendees each week; there is no commitment to come along every week. We have members from Hemel, Kensworth, Studham and Dagnall, who come along regularly and ages range between 14 – 89, a real spread of ages.

During the Easter break we had 5 students joining us and certainly reduced the average age. They also acted as ball boys and girls saving the more mature attendees the job of bending. It is £3 a session and includes tuition, use of balls/bats and a cuppa with a biscuit or two.

We are a friendly group who are supportive and new members of all standards over the age of 12 are welcome.

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 on 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).

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. Contact Lynne Smith, (bookingstudhamvh@gmail.com), who will be happy to discuss your needs.

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

It was lovely to see so many at both the Coronation and May Fair.

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.

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

Events planned: **June 3rd at 7pm, John Knowles**. Others are in the pipeline, so watch the noticeboard for times and dates.

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 by letting the bar staff have your e-mail address.

The Sports and Social Club welcomes all visitors and new members. We provide competitively-priced drinks and the facility is also available for private events – please contact the Club Manager (Louise 07737 839596) to see what we can offer.

Subscriptions were due on 1st April. Family (parents and children under 18) – £25; Single (18-64) – £20; Concessions (students in full-time education and those aged 65 and over) – £10. Please pay your subscriptions as soon as possible.

If you wish to join us, we will be delighted to see you. Membership Application Forms are available at the bar.

BINGO

Wednesdays 7th and 21st June 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.

RED LION QUIZZES

These have now finished for the Summer - see you in the Autumn.

STUDHAM MAY FAIR: once again, Studham May Fair proved a tremendous community day with hundreds attending a hugely entertaining afternoon. The Fair was opened by May Queen Jessica, ably assisted by Holly, Poppy and Riley, and crowned by Ellie, last year's Queen. The crowd was then entertained by traditional May pole dancing by



the children of Studham School.

With over 25 stalls and entertainment from an eclectic mix of St. Albans City brass band, Last of the Summer Ukeleles, Rock Chorus and New Moon Morris Dancers there was fun for all the family.



In excess of £8000 was raised – last year the profit was split between 11 Studham organisations and 2 local charities; this year will be very similar. Details in future Links.

Finally thank you to all who came, to those who helped on the day, the organising committee but mostly to joint chairs Becky Salisbury and Derek Spriggs. The Committee's slogan was "Yes We Can"; well, Yes You Did !

(The photos show the children of the school dancing and the overall winner of the Dog Show).

WI

7.15pm Thursday 1st June – Studham Village Hall – Speaker: Revd. Canon Nicola Lenthall

Last month we discussed the resolution which will go before the National AGM in Cardiff later this month: "Clean Rivers for People and Wildlife". Although we have no rivers in our three parishes, it is still something that we should all be aware of as both the Ver and Gade do start as chalk streams here.

This month we will be treated to a talk by our own Vicar, Revd. Canon Nicola Lenthall. Her talk is entitled: "Sorry I'm late, Bishop, the teddy bear fell down the toilet! - 20 plus years of a mum in ministry". I think that says it all!

NATIONAL FUDGE DAY

Did you know that 16th June is National Fudge Day? Such a popular sweet was actually invented in error!

The story dates from 1886 in Baltimore in the USA. A confectioner made a mistake (a fudge – an old word for a mistake) while trying to make toffee, but ended up creating something just as tasty. We celebrate this happy accident on June 16th, which is National Fudge Day. In the late 19th and early 20th century, recipes for it spread like mad among students in America, and then all round the world.

National Fudge Day is the perfect excuse to try some exotic new flavours of fudge. Think about sampling and be adventurous; it might be fun to mix up some particularly unusual flavours, like carrot and orange, liquorice, or – for grown-ups only – tequila and lime.

Ingredients for basic fudge

397g tin condensed milk
450g/1lb light brown soft sugar
120g/4½oz butter, cubed
125ml/4fl oz milk
pinch salt



Method

1. Line a 20cm/8inch square tin with baking paper. Place a glass of cold water in the fridge with ice cubes.
2. Place all the ingredients, apart from the salt, into a large, dry saucepan over a low heat. Stir until the butter has melted and the sugar has dissolved.
3. Slowly bring the mixture to a rolling boil over a medium-high heat for 10 minutes. Stir continuously, especially around the edges, to stop the mixture catching on the bottom of the pan and burning.
4. Once the mixture has reduced and darkened, carefully dip a teaspoon into the mixture and drizzle it into your glass of iced water (remove the ice cubes.) It should become a soft, pliable ball you can squash with your fingers when dropped into the iced water. If it sticks to the glass or your fingers when you press it, continue to boil and test the mixture every 2–3 minutes, or until it passes the test.
5. Add a pinch of salt, then beat the mixture well. Leave to cool in the saucepan for 10 minutes. Beat the thickened mixture again, leave for another 5 minutes and beat again. Pour into the lined tin and level with the back of a spoon.
6. Refrigerate until completely firm (at least 3 hours) until you can cut through it easily with a knife. Remove the fudge from the tin, transfer to a chopping board and slice into 36 pieces (6x6) with a sharp knife.