

Issue Number 409

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September 2023

# PARISH LINK

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





Dear friends and parishioners,

Back in September 2012, my then five-year-old daughter invented the word 'spaghetti-ball'. She was trying to say the word 'sabbatical' (she can manage it better now...) as it was then that I took my first 'sabbatical', a three-month period away from ministry, time to rest on God's breath, to refuel and remember my calling as priest and pastor. The Church of England asks all of us in full-time ministry to do this every ten years or so, and I shall be taking my second sabbatical from this September for three months.

I work (as I know others do in other jobs) six days a week – and although there is still nothing in the world I would rather do than ministry, in order to continue to minister well here amongst you all, this space is needed for me to focus fully on my relationship with God and my calling here. You will all still be in my thoughts and prayers but I won't be engaged in active ministry in the villages. We are lucky here in these parishes to benefit from the ministry of Dorothy Blackburn and Penny Fray, our readers, and the Revd. Dave Heather as our curate too. Sunday services, and other services, will continue as normal with the help of these three lovely people and local retired priests, and other readers, to whom we are very grateful. We also have the wonderful gift of our hugely experienced churchwardens in our three villages, whose church knowledge is vast! (See the Parish Directory on page 5 for their contact details, which remain available during my sabbatical.)

I look forward to seeing you all again from the beginning of December, and to celebrating my twenty years of ministry with the people of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade (it really doesn't seem possible that I began my time as your vicar in November 2003!).

With my prayers and every blessing for the month of September,

Nicola Lenthall

***Thanks to Les Randall for the lovely photo on the front cover.***



## WHIPSDADE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

### WHIPSDADE CHURCH PRAYERS

This month's prayers will focus on the people living between the Old Schoolhouse and Chequers Cottages, as well as anyone for whom special prayers are requested through the Prayer Tree in church or by request to the churchwardens.

### KNIT AND NATTER

The group will meet in the church for company, refreshments and shared crafts on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September from 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 19<sup>th</sup> September from 2pm – 4pm. Refreshments and a raffle will be available. Come along for a chat or to play cards and dominos.

### HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

The Harvest Festival is, as usual, to be celebrated in church on 1<sup>st</sup> October. The church will be decorated on 30<sup>th</sup> September – your help would be very welcome; contact Ann Brinklow (07941 358334) for details. If you have produce or goods that you can supply, please bring it to church in the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup>, or you may prefer to present it during the harvest service. All the goods will be distributed as a goodwill gesture to villagers and the local food bank, so nothing goes to waste!

**The Harvest charity:** all the proceeds from the service and the lunch will go to the Bishop's Appeal, providing the rural women of Uganda with the means to maintain their families, by enabling them to rear chickens and sell eggs.

### VILLAGE LUNCH

The lunch every month on the second Thursday, which is the 14<sup>th</sup> this month, provides a choice of main course, pudding and tea and coffee for £7. Everyone is welcome and there is no need to book. Isobel Randall (01582 872552) would be pleased to have offers of help and/or puddings. The September main course will be a choice of roast beef, venison casserole with dumplings or fisherman's pie.

#### **A plea for help.**

Do you like cooking? Cooking for up to 60 people is a bit strenuous! Isobel (872552) would be delighted to have help with one of the choices, which means making portions for about 15 people and bringing the dish hot to the hall before the lunch.

No-one is out of pocket! The ingredients for the main course are either supplied by the organizers or the cost is refunded. Please think about helping.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Every second Sunday of the month (10<sup>th</sup> September) the children meet in the church vestry during the 9am service for activities connected to Bible stories. Bring your children along for fun and friendship.

## AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

### ST MARY'S CHURCH

**Church prayers:** in September our annual cycle of prayers takes us to Valley Road and Valley Close and we shall be remembering all the residents in our prayers. If you would like a prayer to be said, perhaps for a special person or event, please contact the churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967 or [meg.bender4@btinternet.com](mailto:meg.bender4@btinternet.com)).

**Sponsored Bike 'n Hike** on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September: the church will be open from 9am until 5pm to welcome cyclists and walkers; a team of volunteers will be offering cold drinks and light refreshments. For more details, see page15.

**Children's Church:** after the summer break Children's Church resumes within the Sunday service on 17<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am. The children and young people will be considering an important question about forgiving others. Peter knew that God wanted us to forgive people who upset us, but he asked the question 'how often should we forgive?' Jesus told him a story to answer this question and the children will be thinking about how this story answers the dilemma. After the service there will be refreshments and the celebration of the September birthdays.

**Kids' Club** will be meeting on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September in church from 3.30pm until 5.30pm. There will be lots of interesting activities on the theme of Harvest and the afternoon will conclude with a hot tea. Children and young people of all ages (and their parents and carers) are very welcome and to help with catering arrangements, please book by contacting Caroline Child ([cjhitchman@hotmail.com](mailto:cjhitchman@hotmail.com)).



**The Annual Quiz** is on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November from 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Please put the date in your diary and contact John McDougal ([john.mcdougal@btinternet.com](mailto:john.mcdougal@btinternet.com) or 873257) for more details.

**Easy Fundraising** is the new fundraising initiative of St Mary's. The scheme works by raising a donation every time you shop online. Brands such as Tesco, Sainsbury's, M & S, Argos and John Lewis and many more will donate every time you shop online at no extra cost to you. It's free to join and an easy way to support St Mary's as you do your usual online shopping.

Please help us to raise funds by signing up at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/cause/church-of-st-mary-the-virgin-studham/> and please download the extension 'Donation Reminder' so that each time you start shopping with a participating retailer a box appears for you to click that you would like to donate. Each shop will raise a small amount for the church and if lots of people join in, significant sums will be raised!

## 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 especially for those who live in Church End, Spratts Lane and Hollicks Lane.

**Harvest Festival:** the annual celebration for the Harvest will be held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September.

We will be decorating the church for the Harvest Festival on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 10am. If you'd like to help or can donate flowers, fruit or vegetables for the display please contact Jo (07799 088864).

The gifts will be auctioned after the service, followed by our usual bring and share picnic. The collection will go to the Bishop's Appeal for the Hungry, which this year is '**Cracking Food Poverty Together**' in Kumi, Uganda (Mission Direct). Proceeds from the auction will go to local charities.

**Choir News:** the Choir will be leading the singing at the Harvest Festival on 24<sup>th</sup> September.

**Sunday School:** for all young people, there are sessions for seniors and juniors on 10<sup>th</sup> September. All sorts of exciting activities are planned! The children will be thinking about Jesus and how he is always with us.

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 15<sup>th</sup>, at 3.30pm in the Church Hall. Children and their carers are welcome to join in an afternoon of crafts, stories and songs on the theme of 'Care for our World', followed by a hot meal for everybody. No charge, but we are grateful for donations.

**Church Calendar:** 21<sup>st</sup> is the feast day of St Matthew, and the 29<sup>th</sup> is St Michael and All Angels.

**Kensworth Re-use Centre** (formerly known as the Church Shop): 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.

**TABLE TENNIS GROUP****9.30am – 12.30pm Fridays in Studham Village Hall**

We are delighted to say that the second new table has been ordered, thanks to a contribution from the May Fair Committee and the success of the group growing and having funds available to top up the donation.

We are a welcoming group of mixed abilities; coaching is Wednesday 10am to noon, when you are welcome to come along and try it out. Play on Friday is 9.30am to 12.30pm; there is a waiting list to join this group, as it is popular. If you are interested in a tester session or to join the waiting list please e-mail: [twohappyfolks@btinternet.com](mailto:twohappyfolks@btinternet.com).

**PLAYING FIELDS**

Sports activities are running at full pace at the playing fields. There is cricket, tennis (including the Tony Webb Trophy) and a new Studham football team who started training last month. 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 other 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 times are: Monday to Friday 4.30pm, Saturday and Sunday 12 noon.**

Special evenings are in the pipeline, so watch the noticeboard for times and dates. One for your diaries already: Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm - bingo evening and raffle. All members should receive details of events etc via e-mail. Please make sure that your e-mail details are up to date by letting the bar staff, or Sarah Thorne ([Studhamssc@icloud.com](mailto:Studhamssc@icloud.com)) 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 such as parties, birthdays, wedding celebrations, wakes, music evenings etc. If you are planning an event, please contact Sarah Thorne (to see what we can offer).

**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.

## VARIOUS

### GERRY BLACKBURN

Dorothy Blackburn would like to thank Nicola for the wonderful service for Gerry which was much appreciated. She is also grateful to everyone for their words of comfort and support.

### MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Come along to Whipsnade church to take part with your friends in our annual fund-raising for Macmillan nurses on Friday 29th September from 10.30am – midday.



For a small donation, enjoy a hot drink and cakes or cream scones, along with competitions provided by the Macmillan charity and a raffle.

There will be a cake stall and other small items for sale. Contact Isobel Randall (872552) if you would like to help or to donate cakes and other items or help run the morning.

### THANK YOU TO THE HUNTERS LODGE

The Hunters Lodge has been providing lunches to some of the residents of Whipsnade Park homes. This is an amazing gesture, and we know how much it means to people who are housebound and sometimes lonely.

Thank you, John, and Louise.

### FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

The Friends believe that our 803-year-old church is an important part of Studham's history and heritage. Our aim is to raise money to help maintain the fabric of this lovely building.

Once again, the May Fair was not just a super day but a good fund raiser. The final profit was approximately £7500 and this was distributed to 12 local organisations and to 2 hospice charities. The consideration of the various requests and allocation of the surplus is the final job of the 2023 Committee – so thank you all for a job well done.

One of our other fund-raisers is the 100 Club where the winners for July and August were Jennifer Orchard and Duncan Wingfield (receiving £50 each) whilst Don Grozier and Pam Rumfitt were the runners-up each winning £10.

If you would like to know more about the Friends of Studham Church, contact John McDougal (e-mail: [john.mcdougal@btinternet.com](mailto:john.mcdougal@btinternet.com); phone 8732570 or look at our website (<https://friendsstudham.wixsite.com/website>).

## KENSWORTH EXTRA



Just a reminder that Kensworth Flower and Vegetable Show is on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September from 2.30pm.

There will be stalls in the car park for visitors to browse; any enquiries, please contact the Show Secretary, Sylvia Inns (07831538682 or [sylvia.inns@gmail.com](mailto:sylvia.inns@gmail.com)).

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

**KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH:** the September Coffee Morning is on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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 CHAT 'n SNACK:** Friday Afternooners will be back on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September between 1pm and 4pm. Everyone welcome, including dogs. Pop in and see us.

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### REVD. CANON NICOLA LENTHALL



Congratulations to Nicola on her recent 50<sup>th</sup> birthday – the photo is taken in Kensworth Church where this milestone was celebrated. (Delicious cakes kindly provided by Jo Cook and Lorraine Burger).

We wish Nicola well on her sabbatical and we look forward to welcoming her back with us in December to celebrate her 20 years of ministry in our three villages.



## **A SAD FAREWELL to GERRY BLACKBURN**

Kensworth is mourning a much-loved and respected member of the community.



Gerry was a resident of Kensworth since 1973, and has always taken part in local activities. He grew up in the Crystal Palace area of London, and then spent the war years as a young schoolboy with his grandparents in Southern Ireland.

After leaving school he trained as a Metallurgist (science of metals). At eighteen, he did his National Service in the RAF, training as a wireless operator. He then went to work in London, where he joined the Young Conservatives and stayed a member all his life,

and where, in 1960, he met Dorothy (our Church Reader). In 1964 he was asked by a former boss to work with him in Kuwait, making water pipes. In 1965 he came home to marry Dorothy. They returned to Kuwait for another year, after which they came to Luton, where Gerry worked for SKEFKO.

They lived in Leagrave, where their two daughters were born. There, he played cricket for Electrolux. His next employment was at A.C. Delco in Dunstable, and the family moved to Kensworth in 1973.

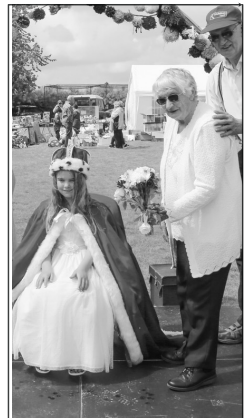
Gerry was always keen on sport. He played football and cricket in London, then badminton, and when the Dunstable Leisure Centre opened, he played squash. He continued to follow Crystal Palace F.C., but cricket was always his passion. His other passion was climbing mountains. He had visited the Lake District when he was at school, so every holiday was taken there, climbing in the hills.

On retirement, Gerry became a Parish Councillor in Kensworth, and kept a close eye on Luton Airport until his health became too bad. A wise person with a great sense of humour, he will be much missed.

## **DORIS SPRIGGS**

In July we also said goodbye to Doris Spriggs of Studham at the grand old age of 101!

Doris was a dedicated member of the congregation at Studham Church; in fact her whole life revolved around the Christian faith, both with her husband, Jack, and in her later years. She lived with her son, Derek, and his wife Ann and was a generous and kind person who was often seen walking determinedly around Holywell – even in her 100<sup>th</sup> year. She was delighted to be asked to crown the Studham May Queen in 2022. We will miss her.



## **NORTH CHILTERN GROUP**

### **Gill Hayward**

Gill, the energetic and efficient secretary of the North Chilterns Group, sadly died in August. She will be missed very much by all her friends in the Group, in U3A, and as a long-serving volunteer in Citizens' Advice. We send our sympathy to her family and to her close friends in Totternhoe church where she was Churchwarden.

### **Quiet Morning**

The annual Quiet Morning will take place at Dagnall church on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September from 10am to 12.30pm. This is a lovely opportunity to relax, think about the brief presentations by Canon Grant Fellowes, walk around in the countryside or simply sit quietly in the church. Speak to your NCG representative for more details.

## **BEDS AND HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST - BIKE 'N HIKE – SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 9AM TO 5PM**

This event is a great opportunity to visit some of the wonderful Church buildings in our area or go and explore elsewhere. How many churches can you visit? You can be sponsored for how many you visit on foot, by bike or in the car, raising money for the upkeep of these splendid buildings in the hearts of their communities.

Half of the money you raise goes to the church building you nominate, the other half is allocated through grants to other church buildings in Beds & Herts.

For sponsor forms and more information please contact Jane Bedlington, Kensworth (871139), Meg Bender, Studham (872967), or Pam Ward, Whipsnade (872406) or visit [www.bedshertshct.org.uk](http://www.bedshertshct.org.uk).

### **Kensworth**

Jane Bedlington is leading a gentle, children-centred, off-road, family walk from Kensworth Church to Whipsnade Church and then on to Studham Church. Choose to do just 2 churches or do all 3 in our benefice.

50% of proceeds go to Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust, and 50% to St Mary's Church, Kensworth.

## **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.

We will have a new Minister responsible for Studham from the beginning of September, Rev. Helen Roberts, who will be welcomed at a Circuit Service to be held at Redbourn Methodist Church on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 3.30pm.

For other services, see page 16.

**A VOLUNTEERS DIARY**

You may well have noticed that the hay has now all been cut and taken away and September is the month when we start cutting all the other long grass in the Tree Cathedral.



Throughout the summer it is left long, as it is a great habitat for bees, butterflies, insects, and birds. We have seen many species of butterflies this summer including Brimstone, Peacock, Red Admiral and Speckled Wood. Longer grass also helps retain humidity and soil moisture, making it perfect for insect larvae and other soil invertebrates, particularly moths and craneflies, which in turn provides food for our birds.

We strim all the long grass areas at the end of the summer. This includes areas in The Easter and Christmas chapels, and we are always extremely careful and vigilant, as there are often small mice and shrews scurrying about, and also toads enjoying the moist grass.

A major job we have taken on this summer is clearing the Icknield Way footpath, that runs along the south and west perimeter, of over-hanging branches, brambles, and many holly bushes, which have self-seeded. This has opened the well-used footpath to how it was 20 years ago and made it safer and more dog walker-friendly for all. Whilst doing this, we noticed quite a few trees being taken over and strangled with ivy so we have been clearing each tree as we go and hopefully this will help them survive. The bonfire area is now getting full, so that is a definite job for the next few weeks.

Come and say hello on Tuesdays 9am – 12pm.

**FINES FOR LITTERING AND FLY-TIPPING INCREASE**

The maximum fines for fly-tipping have increased to £1,000. In addition, fines for litter and graffiti have increased to £500.

Central Bedfordshire Council recently issued a £400 fixed penalty notice relating to a fly-tip in Studham – the £400 has now been paid; the culprit got off lightly as the fine would now be £1000.

If you see fly-tipping in action, call the police on 999 and report it as a crime in progress. Record as many details as possible: vehicle's registration number and details. To get rubbish removed report to Central Beds Council.

## KENSWORTH SCHOOL & PARISH COUNCIL

### **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 during their time at Kensworth Academy.

We were lucky to be able to hold a very special service at St Mary the Virgin 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!

Contact: [office@ken.dsamat.co.uk](mailto:office@ken.dsamat.co.uk); 01582 872336

### **Kensworth Academy PTA Association**

Thank you to everyone who donated clothes to our Bag2School collection. We had a large number of donations, raising £50. Six of the school children took part in our sponsored bike ride over May half term, to raise funds for the new bike shelter, and raised an astonishing £333 between them!

Want an easy way to support the PTA whilst carrying out your shopping? Sign up to **Easy Fundraising**! They work with over 7,000 online retailers who will donate to us when you make a purchase.

Use it for your supermarket shop, booking a holiday, renewing your insurance, get your boss to sign up when ordering office supplies from Viking Direct: the list is endless!

Sign up at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and become a supporter of Kensworth Academy PTA.

### **KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

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

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

There was no meeting of the Parish Council in August.

### **Next Parish Council Meetings:**

14<sup>th</sup> September & 12<sup>th</sup> October, Kensworth Village Hall, The Chilterns, Kensworth LU6 3RJ.



## MORE STUDHAM

### 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.

Coach Megan is available for private individual or group lessons; contact 07826 855388 for more information.

For club information, contact Andrew Jones ([andrew.jones@selecta.com](mailto:andrew.jones@selecta.com)/07833 111682/[www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk](http://www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk)).

### SCRABBLE

#### 2pm Tuesdays in Studham Village Hall

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

### STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

Our regular users include carpet bowls, Mums and Tots, Scrabble, table tennis, yoga, bingo, Gong Therapy, WI and tap dancing, but we still have room for other groups, for example: chess or book club, perhaps whist, video games, tabletop games like Dungeons & Dragons, or a board games night like Monopoly. 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](mailto: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.

We recently had a public meeting regarding plans for our re-build programme. These are only the initial ideas, and it is the first step of a very long journey which will take several years to complete. If you would like to see an online copy of the plans, please e-mail [villagehallplans@outlook.com](mailto:villagehallplans@outlook.com) putting 'village hall plans' in the subject line. Under rules of GDPR, your e-mail address will NOT be retained and will not be used for any other purpose. However, if you wish to send a further e-mail to the above address with 'feedback' in the subject line and giving your response to the plans, then your e-mail will be retained purely for the purposes of being able to update you as we journey on.

## NT + A QUIZ

### NATIONAL TRUST NEWS

#### South Beds Association of National Trust Members

The next talk will be on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 2pm in the Salvation Army Centre in Bull Pond Lane, Dunstable. The title is "Leighton Buzzard in Fifty Buildings" by Paul Rabbitts. Guests are welcome at £4; refreshments provided.

Membership is open to anyone - you do not have to be a member of the National Trust. Contact the Membership Secretary (07931 919860).

#### The Gateway Centre, Dunstable Downs

The summer programme of events has now come to an end but look out for future events during the October school holidays.

Did you know a small hub and information centre has now opened where you and your children can borrow books and a blanket and find a quiet space to read; borrow binoculars and identification books and see what birds, butterflies and wildlife you can spot; play board games or borrow litter pickers and help with the Downs clean.

#### QUIZ (answers on page 23)

1. Which two zodiac signs occur in the month of September?
2. The Anglo-Saxons called the month Gerstmonath, after which crop usually harvested in September which they used to make beer?
3. September's birthstone is which precious gemstone, a variety of the mineral corundum?
4. Which world famous festival, held annually in Munich, Germany, is a folk festival running from mid- or late September to the first Sunday in October?
5. The birth of Queen Elizabeth I happened on 17 September, 1533, can you name her mother?
6. What did Robbie Williams switch on in 2010, the Bee Gees in 1995, and Red Rum in 1977?
7. What name is given for the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel, celebrated on 29 September?
8. On 7 September 1838, which daughter of the keeper of Longstone lighthouse risked her life in a small rowing boat to rescue nine shipwrecked people?

## KENSWORTH EXTRA

### KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

During the summer period a great deal of work has been completed on the hall. The Committee have been working hard to get this work done to cause minimum disruption to regular bookings and ad hoc weekend bookings.

The kitchen has been fully refurbished, with new cupboard doors and drawer fronts, new storage shelves have been created, a 'new' fridge freezer has been provided and the kitchen has been repainted.

All the other areas of the hall have been repainted ready for the rest of the regular bookings to recommence in September after the school holidays. The mat in the entrance foyer has been replaced and the front of the hall looks lovely, with flower boxes and hanging baskets in full bloom throughout the summer.

The Drop In Club will be holding a joint 100th birthday celebration for two Kensworth ladies, Renee Bishop and Peggy Shury on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September between 9am and 11am. The local press have been asked to attend and record this momentous occasion.

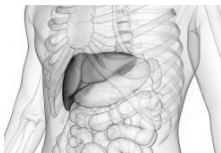
Make a note in your diary – this year's Christmas Fayre at the Village Hall is on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1pm – 4.30pm. Santa 🎅 will be there, also many stalls of all varieties. If you would like a stall, please call 07831 538682 for details. The next Committee Meeting is Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30pm.

### NEW FAMILY FUN PICTORIAL QUIZ FUNDRAISER 2023

Many of you enjoyed last year's pictorial quiz: now it's time for a new one for 2023. With many thanks to St George's Church, Langton Matravers, Purbeck, Dorset for allowing us to use their quiz to raise money for St Mary's, Kensworth.

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

For example:



**= LIVERPOOL**

E-mail Jane Bedlington (jane.bedlington@btinternet.com or text 07796 015292) for a copy of the quiz. BACS details will be sent or pay by cash. Each quiz is £3.50.

**BINGO**

**Wednesdays 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 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 on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September in Studham Village Hall – Julia Opperman**

At our August meeting, we enjoyed an interesting demonstration and talk given by Alison, from Jonquil Floral Design in Dunstable. Alison showed the meeting how to create a beautiful floral arrangement, set in a 'hat box' container, and explained the stages she went through and her selection of flowers.

Please join us on the 7<sup>th</sup> when our own Julia Opperman will be talking to us about how she arranges her life and family as well as all those Archaeological Tours aboard the Cruise Ships.

**QUIZZES**

We are back! Summer is officially ending and Quiz Night in the Red Lion is back! 8 pm Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

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 F), 4: Entertainment (anything that entertains!), 5: What's left? anything we couldn't fit in the previous rounds! and 6: Music 1960s – 2020's, (titles beginning J)!

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).

**TALKING OF QUIZZES**

Answers to our quiz on page 21.

1. Virgo (until September 22) and Libra (September 23 onwards)
2. Barley
3. Sapphire
4. The Oktoberfest
5. Anne Boleyn
6. Blackpool illuminations (always annually switched on in September)
7. Michaelmas Day
8. Grace Darling



## **FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON**

Following our 16<sup>th</sup> successive annual Community award for a Green Flag status, the next work party for the Friends will be on 16<sup>th</sup> September.

On the East Common we will be cutting and clearing grass, bracken and bramble, as necessary, from the southern boundary. On Middle Common we will clear around the Enright orchard and Platinum Jubilee trees, including mowing around the benches and main trees and clearing along the base of the hedges on both Commons.

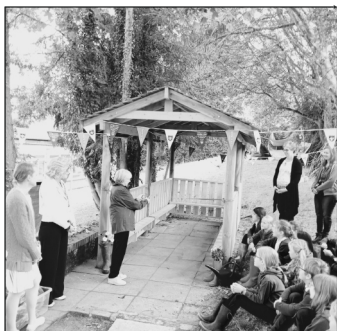
The objective is to reduce nutrient levels in order to create a variety of habitats for small mammals and birds. Whilst scalloping areas of grass will enhance the visual appreciation of some individual trees, it will also produce an overall more natural appearance and help to maintain the footpaths.

In addition, on the East Common we will reduce brambles etc. by the planted gorse at the car park and also opposite on Middle Common, in order to prevent the gorse becoming smothered by the vigorous growth of these plants.

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 Joan Stone ([geone.stone@gmail.com](mailto:geone.stone@gmail.com) or 872444).

## **STUDHAM VILLAGE CE ACADEMY AND PRESCHOOL**

We are very excited to be starting a new academic year here at Studham Village CE Academy. The staff have been working hard over the summer and can't wait for the children to return to their new learning environments both inside and out!



We have lots of upcoming events and activities so please check out our website and calendar for more details!

We were very proud to celebrate the opening of our new Forest School within our Sapling Centre. Thanks to our wonderful community we have been able to get our first sets of resources and the whole school are looking forward to their Forest School sessions.

If you would like to visit the school then contact the office from 4<sup>th</sup> September to make an appointment for a personalised tour. Details of open day tours will be posted soon. If you are interested in a place for your child (from 2 years old to 9 years old) contact the school office (872337 or e-mail [school@studhamschools.org.uk](mailto:school@studhamschools.org.uk)).

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

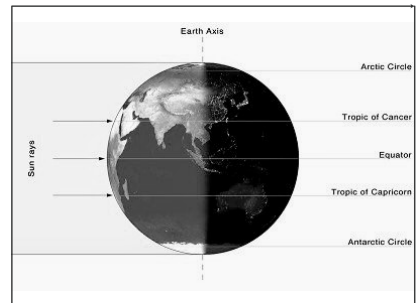
## PARISH LINK

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Link will be held on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 9am in the Church Hall in Kensworth (behind the Vicarage). All are welcome to hear how the magazine has been doing, to hear a presentation on the accounts and to share any ideas, suggestions, comments etc. All this with a cup of tea or coffee!

**The Treasurer** would like to thank Studham WI for a donation of £10 and readers for £20 and £24. If you would like to make a donation to the Link to help with running costs, contact Les Randall (872552 or at 14 Holywell Road, Studham, LU6 2PA or [lesrandall@btinternet.com](mailto:lesrandall@btinternet.com)).

## AUTUMNAL EQUINOX

The Earth, on its tilted journey round the Sun, has two days in the year when every part gets 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness (*equi* (equal) and *nox* (night)). The first is the Vernal, or Spring, Equinox, which is in March, as the sun appears to move north and our days get longer.



In September the Autumnal Equinox happens, when our winter approaches. People have marked this in different ways in many cultures:

- in Japan, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan there are Bank Holidays.
- native Americans in Mississippi watch the sunrise through a large circle of timbers, a bit like Stonehenge.
- in the Jewish religion, Rosh Hashana is held at the new moon before the equinox, and Sukkot marks the next full moon.
- here in the UK, and in other European countries, harvest festivals are held, to mark the end of summer reaping. There are church festivals on the nearest Sunday to the Equinox.

If you are interested in astrology, the Autumnal Equinox marks the change from Virgo to Virgo.

The date of the equinox varies slightly from year to year, between the 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September. To be exact, this year, 2023, the moment of equal day and night is on 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6.50am precisely!