

PARISH LINK

Serving the villages of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade for 41 years





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Dear Friends,

Some of you will know that I love music.

Whilst never having mastered a musical instrument, I do enjoy singing in a choir.

Much of the music that we sing is charged with meaning. We have just started looking at parts of Bach's Christmas Oratorio, for our concert at Christmas.

It seemed surreal commencing rehearsals for Christmas at the start of September! Nevertheless, there has been a clear sense that something as deep and subtle as our relationship with God cannot be expressed in the use of mere language alone, and is lifted when our voices join together in the jubilant intonations of song.

Saint Augustine said that whoever sings, prays twice. This is because song can express the greatest desires and longings of the human heart.

Whether you think you can sing or not, and although some people might claim to be 'tone deaf', faith can enable your heart and mind to be in tune with the music of God's love.

One of our hymns says "How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound – Alleluia!" ('When in our music God is glorified' by Fred Pratt Green).

As autumn draws on, may we be encouraged and moved by the music we make, and hear, and experience, and may God be glorified.

God bless you,

Nigel

The front cover shows two of the winners in the Kensworth Fruit & Veg Show - Sue Moynes won several categories which led to the overall trophy and Jessica Stafford won the children's section for her mini garden.

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

A big thank you: the churchyard working party in August was a huge success. Lots of extra jobs were completed – cutting the hedges, strimming, weeding, pruning roses – the churchyard looked at its very best. Many thanks to Roger and Richard and to the Friends of Studham Common who kindly gave up a morning to help out.

Church prayers: in our cycle of prayers, in October we shall be praying especially for the pubs and businesses of the village and for the residents and staff of Knoll House. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, please contact churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967/meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

Harvest celebrations: the annual harvest festival, a family-friendly service, will take place on Sunday 1st October at 10.30am. Once again, village organisations have kindly agreed to decorate the church with foodstuffs and flowers; a big 'thank you' to them all. The food will be delivered to the Salvation Army in Dunstable. The collections will be sent to the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal, this year supporting poor families in Uganda. The morning will conclude with a 'bring and share' lunch in church. Everyone is very welcome.

Children's Church meets within our normal Holy Communion service on Sunday 15th October at 10.30am. The children and young people will be imagining how they would respond to an invitation to a special wedding banquet. Jesus tells the story of people saying they are too busy to accept and so miss out on a good time. It's the same with people missing out on God's blessing. The morning will finish with refreshments and the celebration of all the October birthdays. Everyone is very welcome, especially any new children interested in joining in.

The Annual Quiz is on Saturday 25th November from 7.30pm at Studham Village Hall. Tickets at £12 each include a fish and chip supper. Please contact John McDougal (873257/john.mcdougal@btinternet.com) to book your team of eight.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

The Friends believe that, whether you are religious or not, the church is a very 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.

Congratulations to our September 100 Club winners – Lynne Moxon, who wins £50 and runner-up, Pam Rumfitt, who collects £10.

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

KENSWORTH NEWSROUND

KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

In October we celebrate the (approximate) foundation of the church building in the 12th century. There is evidence of an older church building below the present one, so there has been a place of worship on this site for at least 1000 years.

Church Prayers

Our prayers for you: If you would like a particular prayer to be said, e.g., for a loved one or a special event, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (dorothy.godbod1@outlook.com/872670).

In October our special prayers will be for those who live in Common Road, from Dovehouse Lane to Hollicks Lane.

Sunday School/Messy Church

There will be a Messy Holy Communion on 8th October, preceded by breakfast for everyone at 10.15am. All are very welcome to attend.

On 22nd October, the children will be learning how Jesus was tested by the elders in the Temple – and flummoxed them!

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.

Choir News

The Choir will accompany the sung service of Holy Communion on 1st October. If you would like to join, please contact our Reader, Dorothy Blackburn (dorothy.godbod1@outlook.com/872670). We also welcome instrument players to help accompany on special occasions.

Church Feast Days

13th October: St Edward the Confessor. He designated the Parish of Kensworth in the 11th century. There is a little shrine to him in the chancel.

28th October: St Simon and St Jude.

Kensworth Re-Use Centre (formerly the Church Shop)

This is held in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road (behind the Rectory) and is open 2 – 4pm on Wednesdays and 10am – 12 noon on Saturdays. All kinds of treasures are available – come and have a browse! (Unfortunately, we cannot sell electrical goods, clothing or large items of furniture). Please make sure items for sale are clean and unbroken. **Cash only.**

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

For all services, see page 15. The October Coffee Morning is on Saturday 7th, 10.30am – 12 noon. Come and enjoy delicious tea/coffee and cakes and friendly chat.

WHIPSDADE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

CHURCH NEWS

This month we will be praying for the people who live between Chiltern Cottage and the Zoo, and along the Dagnall Road. If you would like prayers for a particular purpose or people, please write a prayer on the prayer tree in the church or contact the churchwardens (details page 5).

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

The Harvest Festival is, as usual, to be celebrated in church on the first Sunday of October, which this year is the 1st. If you have produce or goods that you can supply, please bring it to the church 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

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 and educate their children, by enabling them to rear chickens and sell eggs.

VILLAGE LUNCH

The lunch, every month on the second Thursday, (12th October) provides a choice of main course, (this month it's roast pork, cottage pie, Mediterranean chicken or salmon en croute), pudding and tea and coffee for £7. Everyone is welcome; there is no need to book. Isobel Randall (872552) would appreciate offers of help and/or puddings.

A PLEA FOR HELP

Do you like cooking? Cooking for up to 60 people is a bit strenuous! Isobel 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.

We always have a roast cooked by Pam, then a meat course (pie or casserole), often a chicken item and always a fish dish. 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 (8th October) 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.

WHIPSDADE CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

We will be meeting on Saturday 14th October, 9.30am – 12pm.

We will be raking the long grass and having a general tidy up! Bring a rake and come and join us. Refreshments will be provided.

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. The Hall is ideal for parties and hire rates are very reasonable. Contact Lynne Smith, (bookingstudhamvh@gmail.com), who will be happy to help.

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. If you would like to see an online copy of the plans, e-mail villagehallplans@outlook.com putting 'village hall plans' in the subject line. 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, your e-mail will be retained purely for the purposes of updating you as we journey on.

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

We are delighted to say that the second new table has been delivered and is being made good use of by the growing groups of players. The Wednesday coaching sessions are paying off, as excellent progress is being made all round. Intermediate members are also benefitting from these lessons and seeing improvements in techniques and play.

Wednesday morning 10am – 12noon for coaching, £3 a session – all welcome – and if you would like to join the Friday group, to be added to the waiting list please e-mail twohappyfolks@btinternet.com.

QUIZZES

The rounds will be:

- 1: Sport and recent news;
- 2: School days (all the things you learnt at school – and have forgotten!);
- 3: Alphabet (all answers start with G);
- 4: Entertainment (anything that entertains!);
- 5: What's left? Anything we couldn't fit in the previous rounds!
- 6: Music 1960s-2020's (titles beginning K – it should be said that we ignore the words 'A' and 'The' at the beginning of a title!).

There is no fixed team size – so you can go solo or bring all the family. Quiz Night in the the Red Lion is 8 pm on Tuesday 3rd October; please ring the Red Lion (872530) to book a table (and order food if required). See you there!

KENSWORTH EXTRA

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.

Renee Bishop, born 5/9/1923 and Peggy Shury, born 16/9/1923.

100th birthday celebrations for Renee and Peggy were held in Kensworth Village Hall on Thursday 14th September, where friends gathered to celebrate with them on this momentous occasion. Renee's daughter, Anita, is also daughter-in-law to Peggy, so it is a big celebration for the whole family.



There were approximately 60 people at the celebrations from the village, and both ladies received a rousing 'Happy Birthday!' They received individual birthday cakes, cards and flowers from the Drop In Club, and the Committee decorated the Hall with balloons, banners and photos of both ladies when they were younger.

The photo (courtesy of John Hagen) shows the ladies - Renee Bishop on the left and her daughter, Anita Shury in the middle and Peggy Shury on the right.

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Website: www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Contact: clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

New Playground - Kensworth Recreation Ground

Survey is out - please look out for the survey and share your preferences on what play equipment it should have and how it should look (this is for the playground inside the metal railing).

All survey responses are required by the middle of October 2023.

Donation grants available

The Parish Council has a small amount of funds remaining open to voluntary and community groups for expenditure that will, in the opinion of the Council, bring direct benefit to Kensworth or its inhabitants. Grants cannot be made to individuals. Request an application form from the Clerk.

Next Parish Council Meetings:

12th October and 9th November, 7.30pm in Kensworth Village Hall.

WHIPSDADE EXTRA

KNIT AND NATTER

The group will meet in the church for company, refreshments, and shared crafts on Tuesday 3rd October from 2pm – 4pm. Choose your project, bring it along, and one of our many knitters will be there to help you along your journey to achieve amazing results.

WHIPSDADE VILLAGE GET-TOGETHER

Whipsnade Village Hall on Tuesday 17th October 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 VILLAGE HALL ROCK AND ROLL AFTERNOON

Whipsnade Village Hall are delighted to announce an afternoon of entertainment by the Rock and Roll singer, Joe Corrigan. This will be on Tuesday 10th October starting at 2pm. The price will be £12 per person and will include tea, coffee, and cakes.

WHIPSDADE VILLAGE HALL HOLISTIC AND WELLBEING FAIR

On Saturday 14th October between 11am and 5pm.

OPAL – OCTOBER'S BIRTHSTONE

Traditionally, the opal is the birthstone for October. It is believed to bring luck, health and love to its wearer. To astrologists, the stone represents the star sign of Libra, symbolising sincerity and purity.

Opals are unique gemstones that display an array of colours when exposed to light, caused by the way light interacts with tiny silica spheres within the stone. Opals can range in colour from milky white to black, and can contain flashes of other bright colours. They are formed from water that seeps into cracks in rocks and then evaporates over time. This process leaves behind deposits of silica that eventually solidify. The tiny spheres are stacked like marbles in a box, causing a unique sparkling and flashing effect. They diffract light in a fantastic variety of patterns and colours, which shimmer, and the shimmer is considered the opal's most characteristic quality.

The most famous source of opals is Australia's Lightning Ridge region, where *black opals* are found. These have a dark body tone and exhibit the most vibrant play of colour. *White or light-coloured opals* also display this, but with less vibrancy. *Boulder opals* have a layer of ironstone on their side, which makes them more durable, while *crystal opal* is transparent or translucent.

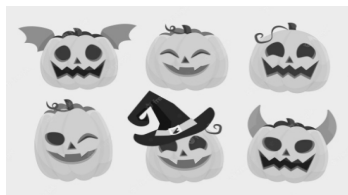
Today, opal is Australia's national gemstone.

LIFESTYLE

ECO-TIPS FOR AUTUMN

- * Try and leave a small section of fallen leaves in your garden for small animals to hide in.
- * Enjoy seasonal food which has fewer air miles and therefore carbon emissions – enjoy apples, blackberries, leeks, pumpkins, butternut squash, mushrooms. See if you can try a new vegetarian seasonal recipe this month.
- * Following the Harvest Moon in September is the 'Hunters Moon' or 'Blood Moon' in October; try and find a good spot to do some night sky gazing.
- * Stock up your bird feeders with seeds.

* If you have children and celebrate Halloween, rather than ordering another costume from Amazon, see if you can swap an old costume with a friend, go to a charity shop or repurpose some clothes. If you're decorating a pumpkin, try and use it afterwards and then put the waste in a compost bin.



12TH CHILTERNES WALKING FESTIVAL

This will take place 14th – 29th October and will feature a programme of over 50 walks and events throughout the Chilterns. Events include:

- Coffee, cake & chat.....many of the walks take in a café, pub or farm shop, some of them in tucked-away scenic locations.
- History & Heritage...Explore the First World War trenches at Marlow Common, Arts & Crafts architecture in Amersham and Chesham, iron age hillforts or the former rural industries around High Wycombe. Discover and walk some of the ancient routes which criss-cross the Chilterns, exploring Drovers routes (and inns!), or take the Chinnor & Princes Risborough railway.
- Wildlife and Nature...see the woodlands at their autumnal best, enjoy the crunch of the beechnuts underfoot, and the trees and hedgerows bursting with colour. There are walks taking in nature reserves and the special landscapes and views of the Chilterns, led by knowledgeable guides. Find out about the management and conservation projects in these special places.

For more information, visit www.chilternsaonb.org/walkingfest.

NICOLA'S SABBATICAL

The vicar, Revd. Canon Nicola Lenthall, is on study leave for the months of September, October and November, returning to ministerial work on December 3rd. All services will continue as normal. If you need support with something that's going on in your life, there will still be people to help and to listen.

For pastoral help please contact:

Dorothy Blackburn	01582 872670 (dorothy.godbod1@outlook.com)
Penny Fray	(pennyfray15@gmail.com)
Revd. Dave Heather	(dheather@pulfordschool.org)

For funerals please contact:

Dorothy Blackburn or if unavailable then the churchwardens (p.5)
 For baptism/christening bookings or wedding bookings please contact:
 Glenda Cox, parish administrator (glendaecox@hotmail.co.uk).

Interments of ashes will resume in December.

STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Linda Hillier is our Pastoral Contact (872860). We now have a new Minister responsible for Studham and three other churches in our circuit. The Rev. Helen Roberts was welcomed at a Circuit Service held at Redbourn on 3rd September.

October services:

Sunday 8 th	10am	Rev. Helen Roberts	Holy Communion
Tuesday 10 th	10am-12noon		Coffee Morning
Sunday 22 nd	10am	Local Arrangement	(David and Goliath)

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month and all are welcome. 'Local Arrangement' services mean that members choose the readings, hymns and an activity for children which surround a particular biblical event/story, rather than having the usual form of service. So far, we have covered Daniel in the Lion's Den, the Secret Baby (Moses), Jonah and the Whale and Joshua and the Walls of Jericho. October will be David and Goliath and we would welcome all.

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday services are usually at 10.30am:

8 th October	Harvest Festival	Led by Mr Geoff Best
22 nd October	Morning Worship	Led by Mr Steve Rogers

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

GREAT WORK BY THE WHIPSDNADE KNIT AND NATTER GIRLS

Whipsnade Knit and Natter girls have been knitting Trauma Teddies for the L&D hospital and the police service. These Trauma Teddies are then given to the children who are in hospital, having operations or just generally going through tough times. They are used by the police following road accidents or various other incidents of trauma involving the social services.



Our girls have been beavering away and have knitted lots and lots of Teddies and should be very proud of their endeavours.

WHIPSDNADE TREE CATHEDRAL – VOLUNTEERS DIARY

In early September, we started clearing and strimming the area in and around the car park. High winds had resulted in a lot of branches and other debris falling in this area, making it look extremely untidy.

We now start to think about leaf clearing, although since August, we have noticed quite a few of the trees, particularly the Oaks, have already started to shed a lot of leaves. This is because of dry conditions through the summer. The grass turns to straw and the ground to dusty mud; the trees respond by shedding their leaves. This is an emergency response to protect the plant from dehydration.



Now is also the time we start to think of the annual leaf sweep; we enlist the help of staff from The National Trust and we have had assistance from the scouts and cubs. This job is hard work but good fun; the sweep this year is on 26th November: if you are fit and able, bring a rake and come and join us, we would be more than pleased to see you.

We have still not had time to clear the bonfire area, which has an accumulation of summer cuttings and general debris. A lot of the branches that resulted from clearing the Icknield Way footpath were taken by Craig from Whipsnade Zoo, who collects for the animals and can often be seen in and around the area in his Whipsnade

Zoo truck stacked high with elephant or giraffe fodder.

As always it is great talking to you all as you walk through The Tree Cathedral and hopefully will make a few new acquaintances at the annual leaf sweep.

VILLAGES TRIP & MORE KENSWORTH

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



Whipsnade and Kensworth Village Hall committees are organising a tour around London to see the Christmas lights (with local pick-up). On Monday 11th December, the trip includes a short stop at the German market near the London Eye and a fish and chip supper. For more details or to reserve your place, please phone Carole (873717) or Sylvia (07831 538682).

CHAT 'n SNACK

Friday Afternooners will be going strong on Fridays in Kensworth Village Hall, 1pm – 4pm. Everyone welcome, including dogs! Do pop in and see us. Snacks and drinks are available.

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Over the summer period the Hall has been completely redecorated and a new mat has been laid in the entrance foyer. The refurbished kitchen is looking smart and hirers have been very pleased with the new facilities.

The Hall is almost fully booked for weekends up to Christmas - only a few weekend slots are available. The Committee are looking at various village events for 2024, and also future refurbishment plans for the Hall.

This year's **Christmas Fayre** at the Village Hall is on 3rd December - 1pm – 4pm. Santa will be there to meet the children. We have various stalls, refreshments, mulled wine & mince pies, and many other activities.

If you are interested in having a stall, please ring 07831 538682 for further details.

Art Club - on Tuesday afternoons 1pm – 4pm: we have a well-established Art group in the Village Hall. It's a very friendly group – everyone is welcome.

If you are interested, call 01582 872115 or text 07445 772048.



And finally, we have a lovely new **website**, which we hope will become a valuable resource for Kensworth residents and others – it's at www.kensworthvillagehall.com and it will be kept up to date with all our Village Hall activities.

The Committee meets every other month, so the next meeting is 1st November at the new time of **7pm**.

WHIPSNADE PC STUDHAM WI

WHIPSNADE PARISH COUNCIL

King Charles III Coronation Medals

There are still a small number of the King Charles III Coronation commemorative medals available from the Parish Council. Over sixty of these were distributed to children, either living in the village or those with relatives in the parish. If you would like to receive one of these medals (pictured) please contact the Chair or your nearest parish councillor.



Winter scrub maintenance on Whipsnade Green

This will begin again this Autumn and we are looking for new volunteers to join the group which meets on a Sunday morning once a month starting at 10.30am for about three hours. These are supervised sessions courtesy of the Greensand Trust who provide all tools and protective equipment. The date of the first session is Sunday, 15th October. There will be one more session this side of Christmas in December, date to be confirmed. Please contact Ken France (872375) if you would like any additional information.

The **next meeting** of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday, 14th November in Whipsnade Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

STUDHAM WI

7.15pm Thursday 5th October – Karen Jordan

We enjoyed an interesting talk from one of our own members, Julia, at the September meeting. Julia, an archaeological and historic tour organiser, spoke about how she arranged her personal and professional life so that she could lead tours around the UK and Europe, without family life falling apart. With a grown-up family and a 'house trained' husband, Julia admitted her major concern at home now was for her elderly cat. She regaled the meeting with stories of how minor disasters on the tours had been averted and explained why she travelled with a large bag of essentials. She then answered numerous questions from the members present and the evening concluded with the drawing of the raffle.

Please join us on 5th October to hear how Karen, a Studham Resident, manages a home and 2 small children whilst both she and her husband are serving Police Officers.

Spoiler alert: Thursday 2nd November at 7.15pm, Jill Lee will be telling us about how she managed a home whilst being a CEO of a major company. This will be an open meeting so all are able to attend. There will be a raffle and a bring and buy table. Entrance is £4.

MORE STUDHAM

STUDHAM VILLAGE CE ACADEMY AND PRESCHOOL



We have certainly embraced our school motto of 'Caring to Learn and Learning to Care' at Studham School, both with our inside and outside learning. We enjoyed the beautiful weather that we were blessed with on our return and our Sapling Club have been busy harvesting our fruits and vegetables.

Thank you, Ms Oldham, for looking after our chickens over the holidays and for teaching us the right way to CARE for animals. It is always exciting to learn about God's creatures. We wonder what species will visit Studham

pupils this year!

Our Early Years have a wonderful outdoor learning space that they use every day and main school pupils have lots to do during lunchtime, with many stations of activities to choose from. Owl class (Key Stage One) has a new dedicated outdoor area currently under construction and we look forward to sharing pictures with you once it is finished!

If you would like to visit the school, then please contact the office 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 (preschool 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 MacKenzie-Skea, Headteacher

SCRABBLE

2pm Tuesdays in Studham Village Hall

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

STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB

Paul Hobday is now our coach at the club. Paul is a level 4 (out of 5) coach with over 25 years' experience of coaching in the local area.

He runs coaching sessions for adults and juniors of all ages and abilities on a Saturday afternoon during term times. Anyone can book either a course of coaching, or a weekly session. Juniors get a 33% discount if they sign up to a course with a friend or sibling.

More details can be found at <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StudhamTennisClub/Coaching>. Any queries to John Callender (johnccallender@gmail.com.)

MORE STUDHAM 2

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Our next meeting will be at **7pm on Tuesday 3rd October** at Studham Scout Group Headquarters, 3 Clements End Rd, Studham, LU6 2NG. Members of the press and public are welcome. Parking is available and the meeting room is accessible.

Studham Parish Council met on 18th July and it was encouraging to see such a good attendance. Following an uncontested election on 3rd August, the Parish is pleased to welcome 4 new councillors. Studham Parish Councillors are now:

Councillor Lola Harris – Chair; Councillor Mo Rashid; Councillor Jennifer Rushmer; Councillor Sue Holliman; Councillor John Newland*; Councillor Jane Jacoby; Councillor Norma Thomas.

*(John has subsequently moved away).

Parish Clerk: Sally Harrop has now moved on as Parish Clerk and the Parish Council thank her for all her hard work and support over the past few years. The new Parish Clerk is Brian Mew, who can be contacted by e-mail (clerk@studhamparish.co.uk) or at 146 London Road, Dunstable, Beds. LU6 3EX.

Defibrillators: a brief reminder that the Parish Council defibrillator locations are: post box outside 5 Holywell Road; Studham Sports and Social Club, 3 Clements End Road; The Red Lion, Church Road.

Highways issues: any highways issues can be reported to www.FixMyStreet.com. Please then e-mail the clerk with the details of the report.

Fly tipping: fly tipping incidents can be reported on the Central Bedfordshire Council website under the section 'Report fly-tipping or illegal waste dumping'. Please then e-mail the clerk with the details of the report.

BINGO

Wednesdays 11th and 25th October 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.

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.

KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY and PRESCHOOL

Kensworth children have returned to school well rested and ready for the new school year. The children have been having lots of fun getting to know their new class teachers and/or classmates as we have some new members of staff.

Plenty of learning has already happened. Saplings class have settled in to their new routines with their new key adults, exploring the indoor and outdoor environments. Holly and Chestnut class have loved experiencing our very own forest school area, enjoying the last of the summer sun. Oak class visited the Chiltern Open Air Museum and experienced a day in the life of a Stone Age person. Hornbeam boys and girls have taken part in football tournaments, one of which was hosted by us and the children were superb ambassadors for our school.

Contact: office@ken.dsamat.co.uk; 01582 872336

Kensworth School Parent Teachers' Association

We are planning our activities for the next school year, and would love to hear from anyone who would like to join us: E-mail at kensworthacademypta@gmail.com.

KENSWORTH FLOWER & VEGETABLE JUBILEE SHOW 2023

On the hottest day of the year, the Village Hall was awash with colour as residents again produced a wonderful display of exhibits. Although certain categories may have been affected by the recent spike in weather conditions, there were also fewer entries in categories such as flower arranging, baking and craft items. The Committee always welcome feedback to improve the Show and are also keen to locate new Committee Members.



Sue Moynes pipped Geoffrey Stafford to take the major trophy, but Geoffrey won the best preserve with his pickled shallots. Other prize winners were Charlotte Bassett (vegetables), Shirley Hull (flower arrangement), Jack & Lena Davis (fruit), Maureen Brinklow (cake), Anne McDonald (craft) and Jessica Stafford (children's section).

Prizes were also awarded to Tiffany Rischiling and Kerri O'Brien for best allotments and to Brian and Mel Davis for best front garden. The prizes were presented by Andy Young of Ashtons Estate Agents, who continue to sponsor the Show. The Committee would like to thank them, together with the businesses who kindly donated raffle prizes.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next work party for the Friends will be on Saturday 21st October. The work will include trimming the school hedge on West Common, to ensure that the hedgerow will eventually form a continuous dense habitat for nesting birds and provide a corridor for other wildlife.

On West Common, we will be thinning selected trees and cutting and clearing grass and bracken from the glade by Church Road, and also on parts of Old School House meadow. The objective is to reduce nutrients in some areas while leaving others uncut to provide ground cover for small mammals and birds.

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).

STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

Sports activities are running at full pace at the playing fields. The cricket season has ended, but you can still put yourself forward for next year's team if you are interested. Tennis and the new Studham Football Team are also open to new players 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 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 Hours are: Monday to Friday 4.30pm, Saturday and Sunday 12pm.

Special evenings 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, make sure that your e-mail details are up to date by letting the bar staff, or Sarah Thorne (Studhamssc@icloud.com) have your e-mail address.

Events we have planned for October are Wednesday 18th Quiz Night with Chrys and Tuesday 31st Halloween Party especially for the young and young at heart! We are also holding a Christmas Table Top Sale on November 25th so if you have a craft, especially a Christmas one, do please let Sarah know so that your name can be added to the list. Full details will be on the Club noticeboard.

JOSHUA MURRAY & AVA PANNELL

Josh is formerly from Studham and was married on 2nd September 2023 at St Mary's Church, Washington, West Sussex. He returns regularly and maintains many contacts still in the village.

KATHERINE LUCK & JAMES O'CONNELL

Katherine, also formerly from Studham, was married on 26th August 2023 at Winchester Registry Office. Katherine, whose parents and brother live in the village, still has many friends here and was for many years a keen supporter of the local pony club and tennis club until work took her to live in Winchester.

LINK NEWS

Treasurer, Les Randall would like to thank readers for **donations** of £25, £24 and £11. 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).

A reminder that the Link **Annual General Meeting** will be held on Saturday 28th October at 9am in the Church Hall in Kensworth (behind the Vicarage). All are welcome.

CARITAS

On Saturday 26th August, The **Priory Church in Dunstable** hosted a capacity audience of **Caritas Harmony** and **Keech Hospice Care** supporters to witness a unique event. Local award-winning choir (with many members from our 3 villages), Caritas Harmony, performed an inspirational concert with three objectives in mind - to raise funds for Keech Hospice in Luton, to celebrate 20 years of Caritas Harmony and to say an emotional farewell to the choir's Musical Director Margaret Blenkin after 20 years of work and dedication.

Margaret has skilfully led the group through competitions, wedding celebrations, tours, CD recordings, and pandemic Zoom rehearsals as well as the performance of more than 250 concerts. In that time, the choir has raised an estimated £200,000 for charities across Herts, Beds and Bucks, with Keech Hospice Care being the main beneficiary.



We are indeed fortunate to have such a talented group carrying on the tradition of choral excellence for which Luton and Dunstable are so well known. From September, the choir will be led by experienced Musical Director, Cassandra White, and the first concert under her leadership will be at St Mary's Dunstable R.C. Church in West Street on 10th December.