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April 2024

PARISH LINK

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





Revd. Canon Nicola Lenthall
The Vicarage
Clayhall Road
Kensworth
LU6 3RF

Tel: (01582 872223)

Dear friends and parishioners,

I wonder what you think of when you see a medieval church building – the past, with people building something beautiful to the glory of God; the present, with people worshipping faithfully Sunday by Sunday, and those special moments in people's lives, the christenings, weddings, funerals and burials; or the future, with a sense that whatever it may bring, God is with us? Or perhaps it doesn't feel relevant to you or what is going on in your life?

However you might feel about it, the church is often the oldest building in a village. It holds centuries of prayers, hope and pain within its stones, and often a sense of beauty and peace – the poet T.S. Eliot talks about prayer hallowing or blessing a church. It also holds history. A church has 'seen' war and peace, growth of population, death and coronations of kings and queens, changes of government and more beginnings and endings, both for individuals and for the country as a whole, than we can ever imagine.

This month, we are lucky to be able to host an evening of discovery with historian and broadcaster Dr. Michael Carter from English Heritage (recently featured on podcast and radio show 'You're Dead to Me') at St. Mary's Kensworth, Church End, LU6 3RA, on April 20th at 7pm (tickets only £15, concessions £10, 07793 844077 or 07799 088864). Why not come and join us in our beautiful building where the stones tell their own history – and a history that is still being written, Sunday by Sunday (for more information, see page 12).

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

Nicola

The front cover shows a view of Kensworth taken by Les Randall.

WHIPSNAD E INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

WHIPSNAD E CHURCH

Prayers for April

In April our prayers will focus on people of Oldhill Wood and Byslips Road. If you have a special request for prayers, you could write it on a leaf and hang it on the prayer tree in the church or give it to the Rector or Churchwardens.

Rock Ness Concert

Thank you to the family of Vanessa Hornby for a fabulous family concert in the church on March 2nd. It was full of happiness and love and memories of Vanessa. £475 was raised, which was divided between the church and Dunstable Food Bank.

The Annual Parish Meeting

This will be held in the church on 17th April at 7.30pm with refreshments available from 7.15pm. Every church member or parishioner is very welcome to attend, for the election of churchwardens and Parochial Church Council members, and for discussion of church events and activities.

Sunday School

Every second Sunday of the month (14th April) 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.

Whipsnade Church Working Party

Come and join us on Saturday 6th April from 9.30am until 12pm. Help us clear the churchyard ready for Spring. Coffee and biscuits provided.

Whipsnade Wednesday Coffee Morning

We are running a coffee morning in the church every two weeks from 10am to 12 noon. April dates are; Wednesday 3rd and 17th. Come along to enjoy a coffee and a chat.

KNIT AND NATTER

The group will meet in the church for company, refreshments, and shared crafts on Tuesday 9th April 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.

WHIPSNAD E VILLAGE GET-TOGETHER

In Whipsnade Village Hall on Tuesday 23rd April from 2pm – 4pm. Refreshments and a raffle will be available. Come along for a chat or to play cards and dominos with old and new friends.

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church prayers: in April we shall continue to follow our annual cycle of prayers for the village, focusing on Dunstable Road, Southern Way, Bell Farm Close and Bell Cottages. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, for a special person or event, please be in touch with the churchwarden, Meg Bender on 872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com.

Children's Church meets in the church on Sunday 21st April at 10.30am at the same time as the service of Holy Communion. The children and young people will be enjoying interesting discussions and activities. After the service everyone is warmly welcome to stay for refreshments and with a delicious cake, to celebrate all the April birthdays.

The APCM, the church's annual meeting, is on Thursday 25th April at 7pm. This is an important occasion in the life of the church, where we elect churchwardens and PCC members (the committee responsible for the running of the church), review the activities of the previous year and begin to look ahead to future priorities. Do come and take part and share your ideas about the running of St. Mary's Church in Studham.

The 27th Wine Tasting:



On Saturday 20th April, 7.30pm at Studham Village Hall is proving to be as popular as it was in 1997! Seven good wines will be served with a selection of patés and cheeses and there will be all the fun of a quiz, a raffle and an auction. Tickets at £25 are going quickly but contact John McDougal, 873257 or john.mcdougal@btinternet.com, if you would like to come.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

The Friends' aim is to raise money to help maintain the fabric and the heritage, but not the running costs, of the oldest building in the village.

The 100 Club winner in February was Nigel Wade with Annette Moss runner-up, whilst in March the lucky recipients were Fred Moss, who has kindly donated his winnings to the Red Cross, and Collette Hayes. Thank you to all our players.

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@btinternet.com or 873257 or look at our website <https://friendsstudham.wixsite.com/website>.

KENSWORTH NEWSROUND

KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

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

Church Calendar: England's Patron Saint, St George, has his feast on 23rd April. There is some doubt about the accuracy of some accounts of his life and therefore the Church does not have special services in his honour, but we celebrate his martyrdom nonetheless.

Choir News: the choir will not be singing at this month's services; our next service will be at the May Festival on 7th May, when we shall also be singing May carols: do come and join in!

If you would like to join the choir, contact the Rector (872223) or (revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com). All welcome – you don't have to be able to read music. We welcome instrument players to accompany occasional services.

Sunday School: on the 14th the children will be 'Learning to live with our mistakes'; on the 28th the theme will be 'Passing on the Good News'. If you would like your child to join Sunday School, or if you want to be a helper, please contact the Rector or Katherine Huggins (607841) for details.

Messy Church: there is no Messy Church in April. The next one will be held on Friday 17th May at 3.30pm in Kensworth Church Hall. Children and their carers are welcome to join in an afternoon of crafts, stories and songs, followed by a hot meal for everybody. No charge, but we are grateful for donations.

Annual Parochial Church Meetings: everyone on the electoral roll is very welcome to attend the APCM on Wednesday 24th April, starting at 7.30pm in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road. Do come and take part, and share your ideas on the running of the church in Kensworth.

CHURCH RE-USE CENTRE (formerly the Church Shop) in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road (behind the Vicarage), 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.) **Cash only.** Please make sure that items to sell are clean and unbroken.

WHIPSNADE & KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALLS

WHIPSNADE VILLAGE LUNCH

We are pleased to announce, there will be a Village Lunch on Wednesday 10th April at 12.30pm in a new format which is hopefully more sustainable for the volunteers and will allow us to continue every 4 weeks. Light lunch – soup and a roll followed by cakes, tea and coffee - £6. There will be the usual raffle, any donations gratefully received.

We are so grateful to Tracy, for stepping forward to run the lunch. If you have any dietary requirement or any questions, please contact her (07889 387957 or e-mail: tracy@stockdalemartin.co.uk). We look forward to seeing you.

WHIPSNADE VILLAGE HALL YOGA CLASSES

Prenatal Yoga Monday: 18.00 - 19.00. Dynamic Yoga: Mon 19.00 - 20.00; Wednesday 18.30 -19.30 - Chair Yoga: Thursday 10.45-11.35 - Mum & Baby Yoga: Thursday 09.45 - 10.35. £12 per session. Contact Sarah Jane 07375 352890/sarahjanehorn@gmail.com

WHIPSNADE VILLAGE HALL HOLISTIC AND WELLBEING FAIR

This will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday 18th May, 11am - 5pm. Come and enjoy the many stalls and have a reading.

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Pat Mitchell has been covering the role of Treasurer as well as Secretary for the last 6 years, so the Village Hall Committee were delighted when Sarah Taylor agreed to become our new Treasurer. Sarah is a qualified accountant and will take up the role from 1st April for the new tax year.

The Committee will also have a new Auditor, as John Vincent, who has performed this role for us for several years, has now retired.

There is no meeting in April but the AGM will take place in the main hall on Tuesday 7th May at 7pm. We are always looking for people to join the Committee; we have some older residents on the Committee and we need some new younger members to bring new ideas.

Kensworth VH Summer Fair – Saturday 15th June

Make a note in the diary to join us on the day! An exciting day for everyone – live music, children's entertainment, bouncy castle, dog show, various stalls, cream teas, burgers, drinks and much more. If you would like to have a stall, please contact Sylvia (07831 538682).

CONGRATULATIONS TO A KENSWORTH CENTENARIAN!

Congratulations to Dorothy Robinson who was 100 years old on the 8th March. Born at Clay Hall Farm, Kensworth, to Ephraim and Annie Bates, Dorothy has lived all her life in Kensworth, until two years ago when she moved into Knoll House Care Home, Studham.

We wish her all the best for her special birthday.

From Wendy Kennedy and family, and all her friends in Kensworth and beyond.

'Not so Horrible Histories!'

You are warmly invited to the oldest building in Kensworth, *St Mary the Virgin, (Church End, LU6 3RA)* for an evening of discovery with historian and broadcaster *Dr. Michael Carter* from English Heritage, recently featured on podcast and radio show *'You're Dead to Me'*.

Travel back to medieval times in our medieval building, still used for worship today, and dip in to the life and worship of our local ancestors.

We look forward to welcoming you on

Saturday April 20th at 7pm

Tickets from £15 conc. £10

Call: 07793844077 or 07799088864

To reserve your place
(leave a message if not answered)

**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 afternoons 1pm - 4pm in the Village Hall. Come along and meet everyone for food, drinks and lots of laughter. Let us put a smile on your face!

For Methodist Church news, see page 16.

STUDHAM 2

WARM HUBS

Warm hubs have now finished – a big thank you from Studham Methodist Church and the Trustees of the Village Hall to everyone who donated refreshments and money; your generosity is most appreciated by those who run the hubs and those who come to visit. You have helped provide a warm and comforting place over a long, cold winter.

STUDHAM VILLAGE C of E ACADEMY

This month has again been jam-packed with things! We welcomed Usborne Books into school to celebrate World Book Day with us, and through the sponsored Reading and Listening (for our younger pupils) we raised a staggering £850, which will go towards wonderful new books for our school. The children and staff all looked fantastic too and it was lovely to see our parents coming into school to read and be a part of the day.

Woodpecker Class spent a chilly day on Dunstable Downs as part of their geography topic 'Misty Mountains and Winding Rivers'; the day was led by Adventures Into. The children learnt how the Downs were formed, walked to a quarry and the five knolls, studied compass points and flew kites.



Our PTFA helped the children plant bulbs for Mothers' Day.

As I write this we are looking forward to Red Nose Day and 'Doing something funny for

Money!' I wonder what jokes and costumes our children and staff will surprise us with!

We are looking forward to our Music Concert this term as our children have begun to learn the ukulele; our year 3s and 4s are preparing for their Easter performance and we will be holding our Easter Service at St Mary's Church.

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 (01582 872337 or e-mail school@studhamschools.org.uk) for more information.

Sarah MacKenzie-Skea, Headteacher

ECO-LIVING – APRIL

Spring is in the air and, as we find ourselves in April, lots of us will be taking time outside to work in and update our gardens. Take a look at some of the tips below for creating a more eco-friendly space.

- Choose a variety of native plants. Not only will they encourage a range of wildlife, including bees and butterflies, they are also often easier to grow and more resistant to pests than imported options;
- Include a tree in your garden if you have the space to do so. As well as giving you a shaded place to relax, trees also encourage a greater diversity of wildlife in the garden as a whole;
- Set an area aside for growing fruit and vegetables. There is a wide variety of produce that can be grown, even in limited space, from root vegetables to small fruit trees;
- Add a compost heap or water feature. As well as providing a home for a number of smaller species, compost heaps also help reduce the amount of waste you need to dispose of elsewhere. A water feature will encourage amphibians and insects, while providing a water source for birds and mammals.
- Provide spaces and routes for wildlife. This could be adding a bird box or bug hotel, or simply leaving small holes at the bottom of fences to allow hedgehogs safe passage through your garden.

STUDHAM SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

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

All subscriptions are due on 1st April and are currently: 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. They are an important element of keeping our Club in the financial condition required for the future.

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

We welcome all visitors and new members. We provide competitively priced drinks and the facility is also available for private events. If you are planning an event, please contact Sarah Thorne to see what we can offer.

If you wish to join us, we will be delighted to see you. Membership Application forms are available at the bar and from Sarah Thorne.

LOCAL EVENTS

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES! Studham Tennis Club will hold a fundraising walk and barbecue on 30th June. Everyone will be welcome and proceeds will be equally shared between Macmillan Cancer Research and the tennis courts resurfacing project next Spring! More info to follow in May.

KENSWORTH SCHOOL PARENT TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Kensworth Academy PTA is delighted to announce that our

BIKE SHELTER PROJECT

has been shortlisted to be in with a chance of winning up to £1500 with the Tesco Stronger Starts Scheme

Please use your blue tokens to vote for us at the following stores:

Tesco Extra (Skimpot Road, Dunstable)

Tesco Express (High Street South, Dunstable)

Tesco Express (Langdale Road, Dunstable)

Tesco Express (Main Street, Houghton Regis)

Voting opens early April to end of June. Thank you!

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

KENSWORTH MAY FESTIVAL

**ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHURCH END
LU6 3RA**

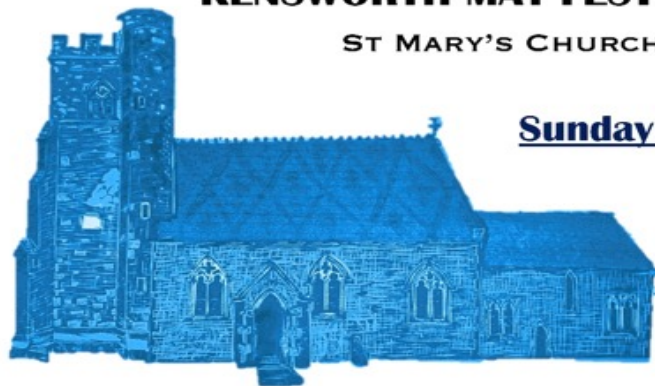
Sunday 5 May, 2024

11.30am

**CROWNING OF
THE MAY QUEEN**

**MORRIS
DANCING**

RAFFLE



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

12.15pm DOG SHOW

PROCEEDS TO LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, MAINLY ST MARY'S CHURCH AND KENSWORTH SCHOOL

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT GROUPS

WHIPSNADE TREE CATHEDRAL – VOLUNTEERS DIARY

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

When you enter the Summer Chapel, you will encounter the Autumn circle; this is a plantation of field maple, which we keep trimmed to a height of about 1.5m to encourage vigorous growth at this time of year and results in some amazing colours in Autumn. We keep the area under the Autumn circle clear to discourage pests and the area inside is kept mown. The Gospel Oak stands in the centre of the Summer Chapel, surrounded by an area which is left to long grass and nature.

The Dew pond area is mown regularly and we start to prune some of the shrubs in the borders around the Dew pond, to encourage growth. We also start weeding these borders to clear brambles and re-mulch where necessary. This area is intended for relaxation, where people sit and enjoy the beautiful planting, and an area where people love to picnic with young children running around and playing in the grassy hollow in the middle.

We volunteer on Tuesday mornings 9am – 12pm and would love for you to come and say hello.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The **next work party** for the friends will be on Saturday 20th April.

On Middle Common, we will be trimming the hedge on the western side, provided any nesting birds are not disturbed, and also around the entry points to the Common; this will ensure they are clear for pedestrian access.

On East Common, we will trim back bramble and other growth around the car park. In addition, and if numbers and time permits, we will also continue with limiting the ivy growth at the north west corner of West Common to ensure that its growth is not restricting the leaf growth on the trees.

Everyone is welcome to the work party, especially new volunteers - please come and help out; all necessary tools, and a light lunch will be provided. We meet at the War Memorial on West Common at 10am.

For further information on the work party contact the work party co-ordinator Keith Draine on 07807 363629 or e-mail k.draine@draines.co.uk.

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Website: www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
Contact: clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Daffodils – Infill gaps

We hope you are enjoying the increased number of daffodils through the village this year. The intention is to do another round of planting in the autumn; now is a good time to record where the gaps are whilst they are still out. If you would like to send photographs pinpointing suggested locations, this will be taken into consideration and shared with the planting team.

Coming Soon – Defibrillator Awareness session for residents

This session will be open to the local community interested in gaining a better understanding. 'What is a Sudden Cardiac Arrest? - What to expect when you dial 999? - How to give CPR and why?'

Further information will be circulated once the date has been set.

****Annual Meeting of the Parish for residents – 11th April at 7.30pm**

This is an open meeting for Kensworth residents for information sharing on matters of interest to the community from community groups and the work of the Council over the past year. It is where community grants from the Parish Council and Villager of the Year are presented. It is also where electors may have their say on anything they consider important to the people of the Parish.

Refreshments will be served after the business part of the meeting, when villagers can enjoy a free glass of wine, tea, coffee or a soft drink and light refreshments socially.

Community Litter Pick - Residents and Parish Council

On Saturday 16th March, residents and members of the Council came together to join in the Great British Spring Clean and spent time litter-picking in Kensworth to make a difference to where they live. Cream eggs were given out to children attending and a great job was achieved.



Next Parish Council Meeting:

11th April: earlier time of **7pm** Kensworth Village Hall. Please note, this is a short meeting for Parish Council business only. There will be no public participation as this will be in the Annual Meeting of the Parish taking place from 7.30pm – see above **.

STUDHAM EXTRA

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.

STUDHAM TABLE TENNIS GROUP

9.30am - 12.30pm Fridays in Studham Village Hall

The table tennis club is attracting new members of mixed abilities from local villages as regular or ad-hoc attendees; there is no commitment to come along every week. The tea, coffee and biscuits go down well each week. 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, as long as you are steady on your feet – we don't want anyone to fall over!

If you are unsure please drop in around half time; we play 10am to noon on Wednesday and 9.30am to 12.30pm on Friday. Join us for a cuppa and a biscuit, if you can beat certain players to the biscuit tin, that is.

BINGO

Wednesdays 10th and 24th April at 8pm in Studham Village Hall

Come and join us for bingo in 2024. Doors will open at 7.15pm for 'eyes down' at 8pm. Entrance 25p, 6 tickets £4.50, and raffle 25p strip (5 chances). All donations to the raffle gratefully received. We look forward to seeing you there. No. 4 – knock on the door, 28 – don't be late!!

STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

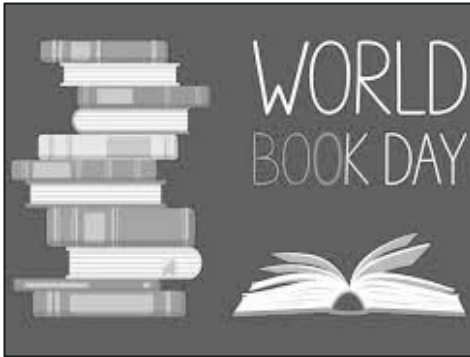
Tennis activities are running at full pace, and the cricket season is almost upon us, but you can still put yourself forward to join training. Tennis and the new Studham Football Team are also open to new players. If you are interested, get in touch (Studhamssc@icloud.com or call into the Clubhouse). Junior training is also available in some sports.

The playing fields are also available for other events; if you would like any further information, please contact the Secretary, Tricia Harris, (871293). The Sports Clubs - tennis, cricket and football, are looking to host an "Activities Day" in June when you see all the sports that are on offer and even participate!! Watch out for the date.

KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY and PRESCHOOL

The first half-term of the year has flown by and we are now almost half-way through the next one. We have been busy in school and have enjoyed some great activities.

On Thursday 7th March we celebrated **World Book Day** and the theme this year was 'Our Favourite Bedtime Stories'. The children were invited to come into school dressed in their pyjamas, and bring their favourite books to share with their friends and the school staff. We were delighted to welcome parents into our classrooms to share books, reading stories to their children themselves and then swapping over so they could listen to their children reading.



Parents also sent in photographs of their children reading in a variety of different places and different ways. We even had a photograph of one of our reception children reading their book underwater! We all enjoyed seeing these photographs during the day: these images will now be used to create a new reading display to share with visitors and demonstrate the magic of stories and reading.

Mothering Sunday – the children spent time in school making gifts and cards for their mothers or another important female in their lives —I'm sure there were very many happy faces when the gifts were received on Sunday 10th March! Thank you to our PTA for supplying resources for the children to use to create their presents, and for their ongoing support.

Easter is on the horizon and we are looking forward to a special Easter service led by Nicola, our school vicar. Each class will be giving a short presentation and we will be inviting parents to join us. We will also be seeing a very special visitor as there's a rumour that the Easter Bunny will be coming to school to see our children and wish them a very Happy Easter!

If you are interested in a place for your child (preschool to Year 6, from 3 years old to 11 years old), please contact Mrs Rooney in our school office (01582 872336 or e-mail office@ken.dsamat.co.uk) for more information or to book a visit. We look forward to welcoming you to our school soon.

Sarah Dryden, Interim Headteacher

STUDHAM EXTRA 2

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Our next meeting will be at 7pm on Tuesday 7th May at Studham Scout Group HQ, Clements End Rd, Studham, LU6 2NG. This will be the **Annual Meeting of the Parish Council**. Members of the press and public are welcome to attend. Parking is available and the meeting room is accessible.

Co-option of new councillor – Jason Jackson: we are pleased to welcome Jason to the council. He will be dealing with the Playing Fields and Studham Sports and Social Club liaison.

Annual Parish Meeting: this will be held on Tuesday 30th April from 6pm until 8pm. Venue to be confirmed will be either Studham Sports and Social Club or Studham Scout Group HQ. This is a separate meeting from the Annual Meeting and is an opportunity for you to hear reports on community matters, from the PC, community groups and other organisations.

Highways issues: these can be reported to www.FixMyStreet.com. Please e-mail the clerk (clerk@studhamparish.co.uk) with details of the report.

Fly-tipping: fly tipping incidents can be reported on the CBC website Report fly-tipping or illegal waste dumping'. Please then e-mail the clerk.

Overgrown hedges: we would like to remind residents that they are responsible for ensuring that hedges and vegetation do not block footpaths, pavements and highways, and to show consideration to users by cutting back to within the boundary of their properties. This link to the CBC website contains more information on reporting overgrown shrubs or hedges: 'street cleansing, litter and road sweeping'.

Waste collection: a reminder that missed waste collections can be reported to CBC at 'waste and recycling/report a missed collection'. All waste bags, sacks and bins can be ordered online from CBC at 'order food waste bags, garden waste sacks or a bin' or tel: 0300 300 8302.

STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB

Paul Hobday is our coach at the club. Paul is a level 4 (out of 5) coach with over 25 years' experience of coaching. 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 with a friend or sibling.

Further details from <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StudhamTennisClub/Coaching>. Queries to John Callender (johnccallender@gmail.com).

MORE STUDHAM

WI

Thursday 4th April at 7.15pm in Studham Village Hall

Last month was our Annual Meeting – and after the business we not only had a slide show about the history of the WI from Julia but also a super quiz from Fiona. We rounded off the evening with cheese, wine and a chat.

For our April meeting our friend Frances Carlaw, The Pearl Lady, will be visiting us again. Frances will be bringing not only pearls but other jewellery that she has made for sale. There will be a short talk about the pearls and also about the charity where all her profits go. Look her up online "Frances – the Pearl Lady.co.uk". Entry is free to all ladies (gents welcome at £4) and there will be a raffle. We look forward to seeing you there.

QUIZZES

Quiz Night in The Red Lion is at 8pm on Tuesday 2nd April

The rounds will be: 1: sport & recent news; 2: school days; 3: alphabet (all answers start with M); 4: entertainment; 5: what's left? Anything we couldn't fit in the previous rounds! and 6: music 1960s-2020's, (R).

There is no fixed team size – however, please ring the Red Lion (872530) to book a table, (and order food if required). See you there!

STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

The hall is in use nearly every day – sometimes twice or even three times!! If you would like to organise a group, hold a single meeting or become a regular user, then please contact one of the Trustees whose details are displayed in the Village Hall.

The Hall is ideal for parties and hire rates are very reasonable. Please 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.

SCRABBLE

2pm Tuesdays in Studham Village Hall

All welcome. Contact is Mary Must (alan.must@churchclose1.plus.com).

KENSWORTH EXTRA 2

KENSWORTH BARN DANCE

A fabulous time was had with over 85 attendees on Saturday 9th March. Many thanks to all who attended and supported us, raising over £500 for the Church.

The Barn Rat Band and their caller Lisa were fantastic and led us, literally, every step of the way.

Thank you to our raffle donors: The Farmers Boy, TC Feeds, The Kensworth Village Store, The Kensworth Supermarket, Chelsea Flowers Direct,

Markyate Fish and Chips and Markyate Pavillion and other individuals.



KENSWORTH GIVING CAMPAIGN – New life of Easter, new beginnings!

St Mary's Church, Church End, Kensworth, LU6 3RA.

Regular giving from individuals is the primary way in which St Mary's resources itself - we receive neither government nor Church of England income. Gifts from our community and supporters are vital to your church's life and work within our community of Kensworth. We are hoping that more individuals will support their local church and its work throughout our parish through the Parish Giving Scheme.

We have currently just about covered our costs, including our required contribution to central church funds, but we are now running at a deficit, and the reality is that we cannot, as things stand, expect to continue as we have been for much longer, unless giving can be increased.

We hope that St Mary's will still be an open church for many years, available for baptisms, weddings and funerals and able to continue the work throughout our village – but this will depend on increasing the number of regular donors. Can you help? Any weekly or monthly gift will help us with our ministry to all of Kensworth.

You can set up regular giving online at www.parishgiving.org.uk or by phone (0333 0021271), quoting this Parish Code: 320632322 or use the QR code. For more information, contact Revd. Canon Nicola Lenthall (revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com 872223).



LOCAL EVENTS

LUTON CHORAL SOCIETY

Spring Concert on Saturday 13th April in the Priory Church, Dunstable at 7.30pm. The Chiltern Sinfonia conducted by Crispin Lewis perform Haydn's Nelson Mass and Mozart's Vespers. Tickets at £15 (£12 concessions, £5 under 18s) available at lutonchoralsociety.org.uk or on the door.

NATIONAL TRUST

Dunstable Downs Gateway Centre

18th April: 4pm to 6pm. Children's Painting Workshop. Guided by an artist, children will explore the magic of colour mixing and application whilst painting our specially selected canvas titled 'Sky's the Limit'. £20.

19th April Heritage Coffee Morning: 10am – 11.30am. Share your stories of the Downs with staff – particularly memories of wartime, agriculture and sports.

23rd April: 10.30am – 1pm. Gentle Stroll, Blossom Watch.

For more details and to book, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk.

South Beds Association of National Trust Members

Our April meeting will be a film about Gardens of the National Trust. Held at the Salvation Army Centre, Bull Pond Lane, Dunstable LU6 3AH. On the 8th starting at 2pm. All welcome (associate members £2, non associate members £4). Refreshments £1.

DUNSTABLE & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Next meeting is on 9th April "Pictures In The Parlour".

Long before the invention of cinema and television, Victorian audiences marvelled at the entertainment provided by magic lantern shows. Kevin Varty uses vintage equipment and a valuable collection of hand-painted glass slides to outline the history of these early image projectors.

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

DONATIONS

If you would like to make a donation to keep the Parish Link delivered free to our 3 villages, contact Les Randall (lesrandall@btinternet.com/872552) or deliver to 14 Holywell Road, Studham LU6 2PA.