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PARISH LINK

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





Rev. Nigel Bibbings
46 Luton Road
Toddington, LU5 6DF
Tel: 01525 872026

Minister, South Beds Methodist Circuit)

Dear Friends,

As I write it is just under a week to go to my marriage to Bernie, my fiancée, at Harlington Methodist Church.

Staring at me from across the desk is a pile of part-completed name place cards for our wedding reception. I have found stencilling onto these the letters of the names of all our guests, much loved members of our families and good friends, really quite hard work and time consuming.

I started off wanting everything to be perfect, every letter perfectly lined up with every other, their spacing regimented. But what I have ended up with is an 'as good as I can manage' mismatch of flawed creativity.

Yet it occurs to me that, not only is life like that (perfection being impossible for most of us) but that creativity is messy and flawed.

Imperfect place cards at our wedding will be even more fitting than something written by the most creative calligrapher or inked by the finest laser printer.

I don't know about you, but it seems to me that there is something fitting in producing something less than perfect, but certainly 'good enough' that speaks to our society's unattainable demand for the perfect offering.

Our wedding is certainly important, the place cards less so, but the individuals they welcome and celebrate, who have made the effort to be with us on our special day are infinitely precious, to us and to God.

So let us learn how to live with one another's imperfections, for we are 'works in progress', and if we desire, can be on the way into the wholeness God wants each of us to share.

Have a wonderful September.

God bless,

Nigel

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church prayers: in September we shall be praying especially for all the residents of Valley Road and Valley Close. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, perhaps for a special person or event, please contact churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

The Annual Sponsored Bike 'n Hike is on Saturday 14th September. Please contact Meg (details above) if you would like to take part and raise funds for St Mary's. 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. We will also be leading a gentle walk for families and dogs to Whipsnade and back: see page 14.

Children's Church: after the summer break, Children's Church resumes on Sunday 15th September at 10.30am. The children and young people will be looking at the bible passages for the day, with crafts and fun activities to demonstrate how Jesus shows the way we can make changes in our lives. Afterwards we'll be presenting our ideas to the whole church and enjoying the cake to celebrate all the September birthdays. New families are especially welcome to come and join us and help make changes happen.

Churchyard Working Party: please come and join us on Saturday 28th September from 10am until 12.30pm. A light ploughman's lunch will be provided afterwards.

Harvest celebrations are taking place on Sunday 6th October at 10.30am. Everyone is very welcome. Once again, village organisations have been invited to decorate the church with foodstuffs, fruit and vegetables. Thank you in advance to all of them; everything will be donated to the Dunstable Foodbank and to the Salvation Army. The collection will be sent to the Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal (see page 15).

The Annual Quiz is on Saturday 23rd November, 7.30pm at Studham Village Hall. Please put the date in your calendar and contact John McDougal (873257 or john.mcdougal@btinternet.com) to register your interest.

Also for your calendar: **Christmas Tree and Crib Festival** at St Mary's on the weekend of Friday 29th November to Sunday 1st December.

For news from the Friends of Studham Church, see page 11.

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 or dorothy.godbod1@outlook.com). 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 22nd September. We will be decorating the church on Saturday 21st September at 10am. If you'd like to help, or can donate flowers, fruit or vegetables, please contact Jo (07799 088864). You can bring gifts of produce to the service, where they are presented to the Vicar.

The gifts will be auctioned after the service, followed by our usual **Bring and Share Picnic.** Please bring your favourite picnic food and drink to enjoy and share. The church collection will go to the Bishop's Harvest Appeal (see page 15). Proceeds from the auction will go to Keech Hospice, and tinned goods will be given to Dunstable Food Bank. Please come supplied with some cash!

Choir News: the Choir will be leading the singing on Sunday 1st September and also at the Harvest Festival on 22nd September. If you would like to join the Choir, please contact the Rector (872223 or revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com). All voices are welcome, and instrument players also.

Sunday School: for all young people, there will be Sunday School on 8th September. All sorts of exciting activities are planned – the children will be exploring *God's New Future!* More fun will be had at the Harvest Festival on 22nd September – please bring gifts of flowers, fruit and/or vegetables, jam etc to give in aid of our charities, and enjoy the picnic afterwards.
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 will be on 20th at 3.30pm in the Church Hall. Children and their carers are welcome to join in an afternoon of crafts, stories and songs on a question we all ask – *Who is God? What is God Like?* Followed by a hot meal for everybody. No charge; donations welcome.

BIKE 'N HIKE

To all three churches in the Benefice; refreshments available at each church. Complete all or just part – it's up to you! Transport back can be provided; inform Jane Bedlington if required. Sponsor forms with further information from Jane or can be collected at any time from the church porch – you can give a donation instead of being sponsored. See also page 14.
Contact Jane on 07796 015292 or just turn up at 10am.

WHIPSNADE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

CHURCH NEWS

Prayers for September: in September our prayers will focus on people living in Whipsnade Park homes. Thank you to everyone who lives in Whipsnade Park homes for supporting the church by coming to our activities and functions. 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.

North Chilterns Group Quiet Morning: we are holding a quiet morning at Whipsnade church on Saturday 7th September from 9.30am – 12.30pm. For more details, see page 14.

Sunday School: every second Sunday of the month (8th 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.

Macmillan Coffee Morning: Whipsnade church will be holding their annual Macmillan Coffee Morning on Wednesday 18th September. Come and join us for coffee, cake and chat and help raise lots of money.

Bike and Hike: join the sponsored bike and hike, raising money for Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust on 14th September. Whipsnade church will be open and ready with refreshments. (See page 14).

Whipsnade Church Autumn Concert:
Saturday 12th October at 6pm. Please come and join us to listen to some beautiful music and enjoy a glass of wine, nibbles or a tea and coffee. Doors open at 5.15pm. £5 per adult.

Whipsnade Churchyard Working Party:
Come and join us on Saturday 21st September from 9am until 12 noon. We will be strimming the long grass, so please bring a rake. Coffee and biscuits will be provided!

HARVEST FESTIVAL
Our annual Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday 6th October at 9am. This is a family-friendly service, with the church filled with flowers and foodstuff. The food will be delivered to local people and to the Dunstable Foodbank. The proceeds from the service and the village lunch will go to the Bishop's Appeal (see page 15).

STUDHAM/KENSWORTH NEWS

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

The aim of the Friends of Studham Church is to raise funds to maintain the structure and fabric of our 800 year-old church. Thanks to all our players in our monthly fundraiser – the 100 Club. Diana Wingfield was the winner in July, with Don Grozier runner up, whilst in August, Peter Owen and Gill Harris were successful.

Our next fundraising event is the Call My Bluff Wine evening on Friday October 25th, held jointly with The Friends of Studham Common. Tickets, priced at £22.50 for this popular evening, are now sold out. However, if you would like to go on the reserve/returns list, please contact John McDougal (873257 or john.mcdougal@btinternet.com).

Well done to Derek and Becky and their May Fair Committee, who have now finalised the allocation of approx. £10,000 raised on the day. Beneficiaries include The Friends of Studham Church, The Friends of Studham Common, The Methodist Church, Mums & Tots Group, Playing Fields, the Village School, Scouts, Village Hall and Studham Tennis, Football and Cricket Clubs. Donations were also made to St Francis, Rennie Grove and Keech Hospices. Well done to all involved.

KENSWORTH FLOWER and VEGETABLE SHOW

Just a reminder that Kensworth Flower & Vegetable Show is on Saturday 7th 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 (07831 538682 or sylvia.inns@gmail.com). Please remember to return your entry forms to Sylvia no later than Thursday 5th September.
Programmes are available with entry forms in both Village Stores and the Village Hall.
We are grateful to Fine & Country for their kind sponsorship.

KENSWORTH ACADEMY PTA ASSOCIATION

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 and become a supporter of Kensworth Academy PTA.

MORE WHIPSNADE

WHIPSNADE VILLAGE LUNCH

There will be a village lunch on **Wednesday 25th September** at 12.30pm in a new format which is hopefully more sustainable for the volunteers and will allow us to continue every 4 weeks.
A light lunch will be served. This month it will be lasagne followed by cakes, tea and coffee, all for £6.
There will be the usual raffle, any donations gratefully received.

If you have any dietary requirements or any questions, please contact Tracy (07889 387957 or e-mail tracy@stockdalemartin.co.uk).

Huge congratulations to Ed and Tracy, who run the lunch for us. They married in Whipsnade Church on 27th July. It was a beautiful wedding and we wish them health, happiness and a long life together.

WHIPSNADE WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING

We hold a coffee morning in the church every two weeks from 10am - 12noon. The dates for September are Wednesday 4th and Wednesday 18th, which will be our Macmillan coffee morning (see page 13).
Come along and enjoy a coffee and a chat.

KNIT AND NATTER

The group will meet in the church for company, refreshments, and shared crafts on Tuesday 24th September 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.

WHIPSNADE VILLAGE GET-TOGETHER

Whipsnade Village Hall on Tuesday 10th September from 2pm – 4pm.
Refreshments and a raffle will be available. Come along for a chat or to play cards and dominoes with old and new friends.

*** * * ***

FOOD BANK

Many people depend on our local foodbank for their food needs – no-one in the 21st century should have to rely on charity for something as essential as food. The food bank, run by The Trussell Trust, are asking for our help. They currently need long life fruit juice, long life milk, tinned vegetables, jars of pasta sauce, tinned meat meals, tinned fruit, sponge pudding, tinned solid meat, packets of rice, baked beans and carrier bags!
If you are able to help, you can leave goods in your local church, on the doorstep of the Vicarage in Kensworth or contact one of the churchwardens (see page 5). Also visit The Trussell Trust website for more information.

MORE KENSWORTH

KENSWORTH ST MARY'S
Churchyard Working Group
Many thanks to the volunteers who made a big impression on the churchyard on 13th, 20th and 27th July.
Do you value this space as a beautiful place to sit, walk through or visit?

We need your support to help us maintain the grounds for everyone.
You can help:
- join our Churchyard Working Group WhatsApp;
- join the WhatsApp but do what you can when you can;
- independently feel free to do any weeding and tidying.

Please contact Jane Bedlington (07796 015292) if you would like to help – all support is appreciated.

New Plant-Lock Bike Rack is ready to use!
Many thanks to Kensworth Parish Council and E&C builders for supporting St Mary's PCC by installing a new Plant-lock Bike Rack. Over time the planter will be filled with bee-loving plants.



Why not cycle to church, or cycle down Hollicks Lane, lock your bike and take a walk around the quarry or relax in your churchyard?
Your bicycle frame and both wheels should be secured with quality bike locks to the locking bars for best security. Bicycles are left at the owner's own risk.

Kensworth Re-use Centre (formerly 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. **Cash only please.**

Looking for Duke of Edinburgh Award Volunteering Opportunities?
Call Jane Bedlington (07796 015292) (DofE Assessor).
- Gardening at the church 1 hr/week – and keeping the gravel clear from weeds to protect the foundations of our 12th Century building.
- Help at the Re-use Centre Saturday mornings 10am –12 noon opposite Kensworth School (under 18s must be accompanied by an adult).

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

NORTH CHILTERNS GROUP QUIET MORNING - THE TREE OF LIFE
The annual Quiet Morning is on Saturday 7th September from 9.30 - 12.30, and this year it is at Whipsnade Church. Led by Penny Fray and Canon Nicola, participants will explore different aspects of the Tree of Life.

Between a few brief presentations, you can wander around the churchyard and the green, getting inspiration from the trees. Perhaps you would like to use materials that you bring with you (some will be provided) to create artwork about them. You could simply sit quietly in the church or the churchyard. Refreshments are officially available at 9.30 on arrival and again at 10.30, but feel free to have drinks at any time.
At the end of the session there will be a brief service.

CHURCH CALENDAR: 21st September is the feast day of St Matthew, and the 29th is St Michael and All Angels (known as Michaelmas).

HISTORIC CHURCHES BIKE 'N HIKE
14th September between 9am and 5pm.



The Beds. & Herts. Historic Churches Trust annual sponsored event with half the sponsorship money going to them and half to the participating churches. The Trust gives grants to churches and chapels for the care and repair of their buildings.
Our village churches are taking part – see below for contacts if you wish to join in either on your bike or on foot! Or you may wish to sponsor someone who is taking part.

St Mary's, Kensworth: Benefice Walk starting at Kensworth St Mary's Church, walking to Whipsnade Church and then on to Studham Church; refreshments available. Complete all or just part – it's up to you! Contact Jane Bedlington (07796 015292) or just turn up at 10am (see p.8).

St Mary's, Studham: will be open between 9am and 5pm; a team of volunteers will be offering drinks and light refreshments. (See p.7).
If you would like to take part in a relaxed guided walk from St Mary's to Whipsnade church and back, contact Meg Bender (872967) or Fiona McDougal (873257). We will be meeting in the church at 10am – families and dogs welcome!

Studham Methodist Chapel: contact Chrys Smith (smithlaws@hotmail.co.uk) who will be pleased to provide a sponsor pack.

St. Mary Magdalene, Whipsnade: contact Pam Ward (872406) for more details. Whipsnade church will be open and ready with refreshments.

CHURCH NEWS

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

All services are on Sundays at 10.30am.

The dates for Kensworth Methodist chapel services for September are:
8th. September Holy Communion Led by the Rev. Nigel Bibbings
22nd. September Morning Worship Led by Mr John Enejo
Particulars of other services can be found on the chapel noticeboards.

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH COFFEE MORNING: the September Coffee Morning is on Saturday 7th, 10.30am – 12 noon. Come and enjoy delicious tea/coffee and cakes and chat. All are welcome.

STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Our minister is Rev. Helen Roberts (713773/revhelen2015@gmail.com). Or you may telephone our local pastoral contact, Linda Hillier (872860).

Services and events:

Sunday	8th September Harvest	10am	Rev. Helen Roberts
Sunday	22nd September	10am	Local Arrangement

Saturday 14th is the Historic Churches Bike and Hike. See page 14.

Studham Methodist Chapel currently meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month and all are welcome to join us. Those services which are 'Local Arrangement' means that members choose the readings, and hymns.

MESSY CHURCH

Please see announcement on page 16.

BISHOP'S HARVEST APPEAL

This year the appeal is being run in partnership with The Leprosy Mission to support a project in Sri Lanka. The country is suffering from a huge economic crisis and families are struggling with soaring prices and shortages of food and fuel. For those affected by leprosy, life is even harder with the added burden of being shunned by their community. The project provides those affected by leprosy with the means to grow their own food and raise their standard of living.

You can support by donating to your church's harvest festival (see pages 7, 8 and 9) or you can make a bank transfer to The Leprosy Mission using the following details:
Sort code: 20-67-45, Account No: 00197742, Acc. Name: The Leprosy Mission Great Britain

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

WHIPSNADE PARISH COUNCIL

Speeding Traffic: continuing our campaign for greater traffic speed control through the village, CBC (having refused permission to install a modern vehicle activated speed warning sign "VAS") did concede that signage needed improving following recent accidents. The new "40" mph roundels painted on the highway will help, as will replacement of the missing and damaged 40 repeater signs.

Following a further appeal to Rachel Hopkins, our new MP, there has been a promise from the police traffic community team for an intervention by the Mobile Radar Gun team. Hopefully this will catch some of those driving at ridiculously fast speeds that have become a regular feature.

Whipsnade Green Winter Maintenance Volunteers: we are hoping to build on the success of last winter's activity to control scrub invasion around the borders of the Green and better manage layered habitats for ground nesting birds and small mammals, and we would welcome any new volunteers to help with operations. Watch out in the Link for dates of the sessions which will be held on three Sundays over November, December and January between 10.45 am – 2.45 pm. All tools, protective equipment and light lunchtime refreshments provided.

The **next meeting** of Whipsnade Parish Council will be held on Tuesday, 10th September at 7.30 pm in Whipsnade Village Hall. All welcome.

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Next meetings: 7pm on 3rd September and 2nd October at Studham Scout Group Headquarters, Clements End Rd, Studham, LU6 2NG. Members of the press and public are welcome. Parking is available and the meeting room is accessible.

Rachel Hopkins MP: in August, Rachel Hopkins, the new MP for our constituency, met with Cllrs Harris and Rushmer to discuss local issues.

Studham, Kensworth and Whipsnade Good Neighbours Scheme: if you would be interested in lending your neighbours a hand and to find out more, contact the SKAW (07563 135895 or via e-mail at skaw_gns@outlook.com).

Highways, footpaths and rights of way: any highways issues and any problems with footpaths and rights of way can be reported to www.FixMyStreet.com. Please e-mail the clerk with details of the report (clerk@studhamparish.co.uk).

Overgrown hedges: we remind residents that they are responsible for ensuring that hedges and vegetation do not block footpaths, pavements, and highways.

Fly tipping and rubbish disposal: incidents can be reported on the CBC website 'report fly tipping and illegal waste dumping'. The link to the CBC website 'rogue rubbish collectors' provides information on rubbish disposal, including spotting rogue collectors and finding a licensed waste carrier.

STUDHAMBURY 2024 – A TRUE COMMUNITY EVENT

The sun was slow to shine for the ninth Studhambury Charity Music Festival at the Red Lion Pub; however, nothing dampened the spirits and generosity of those attending. This annual (Covid years excepting) event raises funds for Young Lives vs Cancer. It was terrific to see our common filled with picnickers, out for a family fun day with hours of entertainment supplied by the talented local artistes.



Every penny of the money donated went directly to the charity. We are blessed to live in such a kind and giving village, filled with those who are keen to help, whether by baking a cake, lending a marquee, printing a multitude of t-shirts, supplying top notch sound and lighting, building a stage or actually getting up on that stage.

What a laughter-filled day unfolded and the audience showed their great appreciation and support with their open-handedness and good humour. Garry Ellis, the landlord, thanked everyone for their support and expressed how much staging the event at the pub means to him personally. A great time was had by all and another £5,500 has been raised for this vital charity.

Annie Herriott Milne

STUDHAM VILLAGE CE ACADEMY

We are very excited to be starting a new academic year. 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 were very proud to celebrate the first anniversary of our Forest School within our Sapling Centre alongside our recently added Garden of Wonder, where our children can experience STEM activities to enhance their learning.



We would like to thank Revd. Nicola for her assemblies throughout the year and allowing the whole school and their families to gather at St Mary's church at the end of each half term to celebrate and to worship.

If you would like to visit the school, contact the office to make an appointment for a personalised tour. If you are interested in a place for your child, contact the school office (872337 or e-mail school@studhamschools.org.uk).

Sarah MacKenzie-Skea, Headteacher

CONSERVATION WORK

WHIPSNADE TREE CATHEDRAL - A VOLUNTEER'S DIARY

September is the month when the hay is cut by a contractor and taken away and we start strimming the long grass. Throughout the summer, it is left uncut, as it is a great habitat for bees, butterflies, insects and birds.

Visitors may have noticed there have been several Norway Spruce taken down in the Christmas Chapel. This is part of a long-term plan to reinstate and manage the chapel in the way it was originally planned all those years ago. The plan was that the centre piece trees should be planted in the shape of a star and at different heights. The trees taken down had become too large and will now be replaced by new trees, which will be a similar variety to those removed and all at different stages of maturity to give the chapel balance and create more light for the younger trees.

Another project this year has been the reseeding of barren areas of the nave using a new variety of shade resistant grass. This has proved to be very successful, and hopefully this will be done in other areas around the Tree Cathedral that are struggling for grass growth.

We will also concentrate on removing ivy from the trees this month. Some of the trees get taken over and strangled, so this is a very important task. Please come and say hello on Tuesday mornings 9am – 12noon.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next work party for the Friends will be on **Saturday 21st September**.

The work for September will be on East and Middle Commons where we will be cutting and clearing grass, bracken and bramble, as necessary, from the southern boundaries, including mowing around the benches and main trees and clearing along the base of the hedge. This will reduce nutrient levels in order to create a variety of habitats for small mammals and birds.

Also on Middle Common we will clear around the trees in the Enright Orchard and the Platinum Jubilee trees to ensure continued visual appreciation of some individual trees, as well as ensuring the preservation and development of the Memorial Orchard. Any grass path cutting will include scalloping of the edges of the path to provide a more natural appearance across the Common.

Do come and join us; everyone is welcome to the work party, especially new volunteers – all necessary tools, and a light lunch will be provided. We meet at the War Memorial opposite the Red Lion at 10am.

For further information on the work party, please contact Joan Stone (872520 or e-mail geone.stone@gmail.com).

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.

KENSWORTH CHAT 'n SNACK: pop into the Village Hall on a Friday afternoon between 1pm - 4pm. Meet old friends for a chat, and make new ones while enjoying a snack and a drink.

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

We are looking forward to our regular village organisations restarting their bookings. We continue to look at fundraising events following the disastrous weather for our Summer Fair, although we do thank the residents for their support in the afternoon after the horrendous rain in the morning hampered putting up gazebos (which later blew away). We did make a very small profit: we were thankful that we covered our outgoings. The next Committee Meeting is Wednesday 4th September at 7pm.

KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY and PRESCHOOL

We would like to begin with a shout out to all the children who left us in July and will be starting new schools. We wish them lots of luck and happiness for the next part of their education journey. We were also very lucky to have had the opportunity to work with three work experience students in the last couple of weeks of term. The end of the summer term is always an extremely busy time, so it was fantastic to have additional help. All three worked exceptionally hard and showed great maturity and professionalism.

We are very excited to begin a new academic year: our staff have been working hard to get ready and plan lots of engaging lessons and activities.

Once again, we are delighted to support the Village Fruit and Vegetable Show. The children have produced some excellent pieces during their art lessons, which will be available to view as part of the show.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for details of our open day events we will be running during the autumn term.

If you are interested in a place for your child (Preschool to Year 6), please contact Mrs Rooney in our school office (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.

For our PTA Association news, please see page 11.

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Christina Jones email: clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
Website: www.kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Exciting New Play Area Redevelopment in Kensworth – our community needs your support!
The aim is to install the exciting and much-needed new play area for children in the enclosed section of the recreation ground by this coming Spring. The Parish Council has allocated £30,000 of its reserves towards the nearly £100,000 project and have submitted a number of specific grant applications for consideration.

Donations shall also play an extremely important part in helping to achieve this new play area for the children and we ask for your support – please donate to the fund if you can, as little or as much as you can – even small amounts will make a difference with enough supporters.

Donate by any method:
- we have a go fund me page: https://gofund.me/d4a7f5ba
- we can accept direct bank transfers.
- we can accept cash or cheques.

If you would like to discuss a donation, please contact us on the above number. Thank you so much to all those who have donated so far.

Image of Play Area selected from results of the community survey:



Allotments – plots becoming available in Kensworth
Why not consider growing your own vegetables? Start preparations by becoming a plot holder at the local allotments. The cost is £25 per half plot with a *returnable deposit (£50). *Subject to terms of agreement

Next Parish Council Meetings: 7.30pm, 12th September & 10th October, Kensworth Village Hall, The Chilterns, Kensworth LU6 3RJ.

MORE STUDHAM

SCRABBLE
2pm Tuesdays in Studham Village Hall
All welcome. Contact is Mary Must (alan.must@churchclose1.plus.com).

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 VILLAGE HALL
The hall is ideal for parties and hire rates are very reasonable. Contact Lynne Smith (bookingstudhamvh@gmail.com), who will be happy to discuss your needs.

We are always happy to welcome anyone 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.

Thank you to all those who joined us for our AGM in August, and to those who have decided to join the Trustees – you are most welcome and we look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

STUDHAM BINGO
Wednesdays 11th and 25th at 8pm in Studham Village Hall
Come and join us for bingo. 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 raffle gratefully received. We look forward to seeing you there.

WI
Thursday 5th September 7.15pm, Studham Village Hall - Aggie Mutuma
Join us at the next meeting for an inspiring presentation by the award-winning inclusive culture strategist, Aggie Mutuma. As a key advisor to the WI National Federation, Aggie is helping us evolve to ensure all women feel represented and included in our work and membership. Her insights are shaping our journey towards greater diversity and inclusivity, a core focus of our organisational strategy since 2020. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from a leading voice in the field and learn how we can all contribute to a more inclusive WI.
All ladies are welcome to join us at this meeting; entrance is £4 for non-members, which includes refreshments.

STUDHAM SPORTS ACTIVITIES

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Opening hours: Saturday & Sunday 12noon; Monday - Friday 4.30pm

Subscriptions: 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.

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. If you are planning an event, please contact Sarah Thorne (Studhamssc@icloud.com) 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).

STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB

Thank you to all those who kindly sponsored our walkers in aid of both Macmillan Cancer Support and the court resurfacing fund. We raised over £8,000 in memory of two local residents and stalwarts of the tennis club – Terry Groom and Nick Jones. Should you still wish to sponsor us, you can do so at https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/StudhamTennisClub.

We hope you have been inspired by Wimbledon and the Olympics! Our new coaching term starts each Saturday afternoon from Saturday 7th September. You can book on-line at https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StudhamTennisClub/Coaching. If you have any queries, then please contact johnccallender@gmail.com.

STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

If you are interested in joining any of the sports clubs, please get in touch (Studhamssc@icloud.com) or call into the Clubhouse and leave your details. Junior training is also available in some sports. You are more than welcome to come and just be a spectator at any of the events held and we look forward to seeing you. All details are on the Club notice board, Facebook and website.

The playing fields are also available for other events; if you would like any further information, or are interested in using the fields to host an event, please contact the Secretary, Tricia Harris (871293).

Please remember to look after your dogs if walking on, or visiting, the playing fields and clear up all mess and take it away with you to protect sports users and children using the grounds.
The bins inside the playing fields are for general rubbish and not 'dog poop'.

ECO – LIVING: TRANSPORT

Often eco-tips for transport seem to be more for city dwellers who can more easily choose alternative means of transport than the car. However, there are things we may be able to do to lessen our dependence on cars in our lives in our villages.

Not all of these will be suitable for you, but see if any are possible.

1. choose to walk or cycle rather than take the car. Both of these options are great for your health and for the environment. Investigate safe cycle routes, invest in waterproof visible clothing, some lights and maybe even bicycle panniers. Have a look at https://www.cyclestreets.net/journey to see if you could replace a car journey with a bike ride.
2. try sharing lifts more regularly. We are all so used to driving ourselves, but try to make an effort to think who you could share a lift with to reduce car journeys.
3. if driving, turn your engine off in your car when you are waiting and don't start the car until you are ready to drive.
4. if flying, consider finding out how much your flight is costing the environment in terms of carbon emissions and make an extra payment to an environmental charity. Take a look at this website which can help to calculate your journey: https://www.atmosfair.de/en/offset/flight. Also, Skyscanner can help you make a decision to choose more environmentally friendly airlines.

QUIZZES

Tuesday September 3rd at 8pm in the Red Lion, Studham.

We are back!! Red Lion Quizzes, first Tuesday of the month. £3 a head to enter and £1 per strip raffle (5 entries). 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).

The rounds for September will be: 1: Sport & Recent News; 2: School Days (all the things you learnt at school – and have forgotten!); 3: Alphabet (O); 4: Entertainment; 5: What's Left? and 6: Music 1960s-2020s, (letter T).

STUDHAM TABLE TENNIS CLUB

9.30am – 12.30pm Fridays in Studham Village Hall

We meet twice a week. The friendships that have been formed have become an important part for many members' lives, making these two mornings a priority to attend each week. The TT standard is improving with the coaching on Wednesday mornings. If there is anyone who would like to learn to play and has never played, e-mail twohappyfolks@btinternet.com and perhaps a session could be added to a Wednesday, so come along and have a go. There are 5 people on the waiting list; if you want to join that list, please e-mail the address above.