

Issue Number 425

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April 2025

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Dear friends and parishioners,

It's March as I write and we have just had one week of glorious bright blue skies and sunshiny days – unusually warm for the season, and then, immediately, a week where it's been colder than normal, with frost on the car a couple of mornings. In our back garden the daffodils woke up, buds shaded quickly from green through to yellow, and then just as it seemed as though they would burst forth, the cold weather has 'hit pause' and it feels as though the flowers are, for a moment, stuck, unmoving and with nowhere to go – paused, almost unable to move from darkness into light.

The daffodils-on-standby reminded me of the day in between Good Friday and Easter Day. The church name for this day is Easter Eve, though the rest of the world calls it Easter Saturday. In the Christian faith this is a day of darkness and sadness, in between Jesus' death on the cross and his rising to new life. It's a 'pause' day, when nothing seems to happen, but it allows us to dwell in and on the dark moments in our life, when it seems as though we are stuck still. This is where the first disciples were at that first Easter, and for them it was more challenging as they couldn't really believe that new life would ever be re-born.

Yet I know that my daffodils will bloom, and I know that even in the darkest times of our lives, even when we ourselves can't see it, there is always hope, and the beginnings of new life. For those of you now in grief I pray that someone will hold the light of life for you – and for all of us I pray that the new life and light of Easter will become part of our daily reality – breaking forth like a beautiful yellow daffodil.

Happy Easter!

With my love and prayers, this coming Eastertide, springtime and always,

**Nicola**

*The front cover shows MP Rachel Hopkins at the opening of the new children's community play area in Kensworth. See page 12.*



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## AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

### ST MARY'S CHURCH

**Church prayers:** in April we shall continue our annual cycle of prayers and will be praying especially for the people of Dunstable Road, Southern Way, Bell Farm Close and Bell Cottages. If you would like a prayer to be said, contact Meg Bender (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

### Easter 2025

**Maundy Thursday:** on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April there is a special service at 8pm. We shall be commemorating the Last Supper and the washing of the disciples' feet by Jesus. This will be followed by a watch of prayer until 10pm.

**Good Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April:** service with our Methodist friends, St Mary's, 4pm.

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April:** our flower arrangers are meeting at 10.30am, to make sure the church will look at its very best with Easter flowers. New arrangers are especially welcome.

**Easter Day, 20<sup>th</sup> April:** everyone is very welcome to the service which begins at the earlier time of 10am. Children's Church will meet in the church tower and the children and young people will be learning about the story of the first Easter and the marvellous news of Jesus being alive for us today and all days. After the service there will be refreshments, including a birthday cake to celebrate all the April birthdays.

**The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM):** the annual meeting takes place on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the church. This is an important occasion in the life of the church in which we elect churchwardens and PCC members, we review the activities of the last year and begin to look ahead to future priorities. Do come and have your say about the running of the church.

**Gwalia Choir Concert:** it's a pleasure to report that all tickets for the special afternoon of 'Songs for Studham' on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm are sold. There will be a 'full house' with approximately one hundred people.

### FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

Many thanks to all our 100 Club members – it is an important fundraiser for us. With a number of new players, we have increased the monthly first prize to £60. March's winners were both relatively new players, Norma Thomas, who generously donated back her £60 prize, and runner-up Penny Fray (£10).

More information on The Friends can be found on our website <https://friendsstudham.wixsite.com/website> or if you want to join the 100 Club please contact John McDougal (john.mcdougal@btinternet.com).

## WHIPSNADE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

### CHURCH NEWS

#### Prayers for April

In April we will be praying for the people who live in Oldhill Wood and Byslips Road. If you have a special request for prayers, please write it on a leaf and hang it on the prayer tree in the church, or give it to the Rector or Churchwardens.

The **Good Friday Service** is on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 10am, and is open for all children to make miniature Easter gardens for each of our 3 churches. Come along with a parent or other adult to hear a story, sing Good Friday songs, and help make a garden, then enjoy drinks and hot cross buns and biscuits.

#### Light A Candle At Easter

Come and join us at our Easter service on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 9am. Light a candle for a loved one or in remembrance of someone special. We will also be holding our annual Easter egg hunt after the service in the churchyard.

#### Whipsnade Churchyard Working Party.

We will be meeting on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April from 9am – 12 noon. We will be tidying the churchyard ready for Easter. Bring a rake and come and join us. Refreshments will be provided.

#### Sunday School

Every second Sunday of the month (13<sup>th</sup> April) the children meet in the church vestry during the 9am service for activities connected to Bible stories.

**The Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will be held in the church on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm with refreshments available at 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.

#### Whipsnade Wednesday Coffee Morning

We are running a coffee morning in the church every two weeks from 10am – 12 noon. The dates for April are Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>. Come along and enjoy a coffee and a chat.

#### Whipsnade Church Jigsaw Exchange

If you enjoy doing a jigsaw puzzle, we are running an exchange at the church. Bring along a jigsaw and exchange for another or just come and select a jigsaw and exchange it next time. The church is open during the day, so come along whenever suits you.

## 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/dorothy.godbod1@virgin.net). In April we shall pray especially for the people of Common Road between Hollicks Lane and Isle of Wight Lane.

**Church Calendar:** this month sees the continuation of Lent up to Holy Week and Easter Sunday on 20<sup>th</sup> April. This is the most important day in the Church Calendar.

**The Lent Course** continues on Tuesdays 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April (see p.15). Palm Sunday, when we parade around the church with palms, is on 13<sup>th</sup>. Other details of Easter services are on p.16.

St George's Day is on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. He is the Patron Saint of England and many celebrations will take place nationwide. As there is some doubt about details of St George's life, it's not an official 'Holy Day', so there is no official church service.

**Decorating the church for Easter:** we will be decorating the church on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April from 10am. If you are able to help or would like to donate flowers in memory of a loved one, please contact Jo (07799 088864).

**Annual Parochial Church Meetings:** on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30pm in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road. They are open to everyone on the church electoral roll and deal with the activities of the PCC of St Mary the Virgin, Kensworth (not to be confused with Kensworth Parish Council, which is concerned with community matters). Everyone is welcome to join in discussions about the running of the church. Refreshments served.

**Choir News:** the choir will accompany the Holy Communion service on 6<sup>th</sup> April, the Good Friday liturgy on 18<sup>th</sup> April, and the Easter Sunday service on 20<sup>th</sup> at 11am (NB time!).

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

**Sunday School:** on the 13<sup>th</sup> it's Palm Sunday and the children will be joining in the Family Service; on Easter Day at **11am** on the 20<sup>th</sup> (followed by the Easter Egg Hunt!), and 27<sup>th</sup> April.

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; hugginskatherine1@gmail.com) for details.



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## MORE STUDHAM

### PETER WILLIAMS

We are very sad to announce the sudden death of Peter Williams from Woodland Rise, Studham on 11<sup>th</sup> March. He was 92. St Mary's Church, Studham will always remember him as a much-loved Bell Tower Captain for over 20 years.



### FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

Our next work party will be on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April**. Please note, this is a week earlier than the normal work party held on the third Saturday of the month. This is due to the Easter weekend holiday on 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> April.

On Middle Common we will be trimming the hedge on the western side, provided any early nesting birds are not disturbed; we will also trim around the entry points to the Common to ensure clear and easy pedestrian access. Whilst on East Common we will trim back bramble and other growth around the Common car park, provided any nesting birds are not disturbed. Additionally, if time permits, we will continue with the work in the north west corner of West Common to limit ivy growth in the trees; this will ensure that new leaf growth in the trees is not restricted by an over-abundance of ivy.

**Everyone is welcome to the work party:** please do come and help out if you can; new volunteers are always welcome. All tools, and a light lunch will be provided. We meet at the War Memorial on West Common, opposite the Red Lion at 10am. For further information please contact the work party co-ordinator Pam Rumfitt ([pamrumfitt@btinternet.com](mailto:pamrumfitt@btinternet.com) or 872608).

### STUDHAM TABLE TENNIS CLUB

The group is made up of different ages and abilities and everyone gets on really well. The coffee and tea break is an opportunity to have a chat and a biscuit or two, which is when the noise level increases. There is a waiting list to join and sadly, at the moment, we cannot accept any more names to be added as we have 7 waiting for a slot. The success is apparent as folks move away from the village but continue to come back twice a week to play. As soon as a slot is freed up, I will be in touch with those on the list.

### 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.

## MORE KENSWORTH



The new Kensworth Community Play Area was officially opened on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March by Rachel Hopkins MP. Its opening marks the culmination of a two-year project led by Kensworth Parish Council that raised £100,000 to fund the redevelopment.

The play area includes a sustainable four tower castle, where the panels can be replaced in the future for an alternative design, an innovative multi trail-set that encourages agile play, and an accessible roundabout. The entire play area has been resurfaced with a colourful, soft surface that will ensure a safe and fun play environment; children from Oak class attended the opening and were given the honour of being the first to sprint on to the play area as soon as the ribbon was cut, with children from other classes not far behind!



The project was overseen by Cllr John Murray, Cllr Pat Mitchell and Christina Jones, Parish Council Clerk. The initial needs survey was led by Amy

Robinson. Sponsors were Chelsea Direct; DH Woods & Son; Kensworth Village Stores; Lansdowne Services Ltd; Lutts Group; PR Farming Ltd; and The Farmers Boy and CBC Ward Councillors. The installation was by Caloo Limited, an Aylesbury-based family business.



## **WHIPSNAD & STUDHAM EXTRA**

### **WHIPSNAD**

#### **Whipsnade Village Lunch**

There will be a village lunch on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm. Come and enjoy a light hot lunch, 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](mailto:tracy@stockdalemartin.co.uk).

If you would like to volunteer your help, we would be pleased to welcome you. Please contact Tracy (as above) or Jane (07903 019188).

#### **Whipsnade Village Get-Together**

Whipsnade Village Hall on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April and Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April from 2pm – 4pm. Refreshments and a raffle will be available. Come along for a chat or to play cards and dominoes or do a quiz with old and new friends.

#### **Grantchester**

Whipsnade Village Hall has made another appearance in the series Grantchester. The filming was done last year and the new series has just aired on ITV1 and can be streamed on ITVX, with the Village Hall making a five minute appearance in episode 6. It's definitely worth a look!

#### **Knit and Natter**

The group will meet in the church for company, refreshments, and shared crafts on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **STUDHAM QUIZ**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 8pm in Studham Red Lion.**

First Tuesday of the month until May 6<sup>th</sup>. £3 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 April will be:

1: sport & recent news; 2: school days; 3: alphabet (V); 4: entertainment (anything that entertains including April Fool's jokes!); 5: what's left? and 6: music 1960s-2020's, (humorous songs).

## ECO LIVING

### ECO LIVING: WHO MADE MY CLOTHES?

Fashion Revolution Week is a global movement dedicated to raising awareness about ethical fashion, sustainability, and transparency in the fashion industry. Taking place every April around the anniversary of the 2013 Rana Plaza disaster in Bangladesh, where over 1,100 garment workers lost their lives when the building collapsed, this week encourages consumers to ask brands this question.

The goal of Fashion Revolution Week is to demand fair wages, safe working conditions, and environmentally responsible practices from the fashion industry. It highlights the hidden reality behind fast fashion, where workers often face exploitation and unsafe environments. By questioning where and how clothing is made, consumers can push brands toward greater accountability.

So, what can you do? Start by checking the labels on your clothes and researching the brands you support. Ask them on social media, using the hashtag **#WhoMadeMyClothes**, about their supply chain transparency. Choose to buy second-hand, support ethical and sustainable brands. Spreading awareness by sharing information and joining local events can also create a collective impact.

Fashion Revolution Week 2025 (Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April) is a reminder that we all have power to create a more ethical and sustainable fashion industry. Have a look at <https://www.fashionrevolution.org/frw-25/>).

### ECO LIVING: ACHIEVING ZERO WASTE

Following on from last month's article on International Day of Zero Waste, here are some ways of helping to reach zero waste.

**Start at home:** begin by assessing wasteful habits and adopting a more conscious lifestyle. This might mean reducing single-use plastic consumption by opting for reusable bags, containers, and utensils.

**In the workplace:** companies can minimise paper waste by embracing digital solutions, reducing packaging, and promoting the use of reusable office supplies.

**On a larger scale:** communities can create initiatives that support zero waste, such as promoting the use of refillable water stations and considering waste at community events. You can contact your MP: [rachel.hopkins.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:rachel.hopkins.mp@parliament.uk) to express your concerns.

## CHURCH NEWS

**KENSWORTH MESSY CHURCH:** there is no Messy Church in April. The next one will be held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

**KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH:** Sunday services are at 10.30am: The dates for Kensworth Methodist Chapel services for April are:

|                          |                 |                         |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> . April | Holy Communion  | The Rev. Claudia Lupi   |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> . April | Morning Worship | The Rev. Patrick Kandeh |

See the Noticeboards for further details.

### STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

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

April Services:

|                  |      |               |                                      |
|------------------|------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | 10am | Palm Sunday   | Rev Helen Roberts                    |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | 10am | Easter Sunday | Rev John Fellows HC/US Gaddesden Row |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | 10am | Low Sunday    | Local Arrangement                    |

As Easter Sunday is not one of our normal Worship Sundays, we will be joining our friends at Gaddesden Row for a United Service and Holy Communion.

Those services which are 'Local Arrangement' means that members choose the readings, prayers and hymns.

Although our own services are not being streamed, services are available from one of our circuit churches. If you would like details of these, or of Zoom fellowship meetings, please contact Linda Hillier.

We have monthly Circuit Worship Services. Join us on Zoom at 6pm on 6<sup>th</sup> April - led by Rev. Fowler-Marchant. Details are available from Linda Hillier.

### LENT COURSE

The annual **North Chilterns Group Lent Course** continues at Eaton Bray Methodist Church (Totternhoe Rd, Eaton Bray, LU6 2BD). Entitled "Once upon a time", we are looking at Scripture and Story. Come and join us on Tuesdays April 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, from 7.30pm.

## **WHIPSDNADE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **VE 80<sup>th</sup> May**

There is to be Beacon Lighting on the Downs on this coming 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 'Victory in Europe' (VE day). The Parish Council has been working with the National Trust, Dunstable Town Council and Central Beds Council on the detailed arrangements. The National Trust has applied for a road closure to avoid the difficulties experienced on previous beacon lightings. This will apply from early evening until after the event, during which times cars will not be able to access the Downs from Whipsnade Roundabout to the bottom of Whipsnade Road. The Parish Council is hoping to arrange minibus transport from the Park Homes site to the Gateway Centre using the Dial-A-Ride service.

### **Whipsnade in Wartime**

As part of the village's 80<sup>th</sup> VE commemoration, our Council Chair, Ken France, will be giving a talk on **Whipsnade in Wartime**, which will be held in Whipsnade Village Hall on the evening of Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May. The event, sponsored by Whipsnade Parish Council, is free and light refreshments will be provided. The talk will begin at 7pm, doors open at 6.30 pm.

### ***Next Meeting of the Council***

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May** in Whipsnade Village Hall at 7.30pm. This will be the **Annual General Meeting** of the Council.

## **WHIPSDNADE TREE CATHEDRAL - A VOLUNTEER'S DIARY**

After the long winter, we are pleased with the arrival of April and Easter in the Tree Cathedral. The Easter Chapel is magical at this time of year with all the bulbs, especially the daffodils and crocuses, starting to come out. The blossom on the cherry trees also looks magnificent.

Our mower has been serviced and is ready for action! Our first job is to mow the Summer Chapel and dew pond area, where we purposely left the leaves so that the mower would mulch them into the ground. This is experimental for this year and will hopefully prove effective.

If you wander into the Summer Chapel, you will see the Autumn Circle, which is a plantation of field maple. We keep this trimmed to 1.5 metres to encourage vigorous growth at this time of year – this results in some amazing colour in the Autumn.

Come and take a short walk and enjoy our Easter and Summer Chapels along with everything else the Tree Cathedral has to offer.

## KENSWORTH EXTRA

**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.**

**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! We are not open on Good Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> April.

### KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

At the meeting in March, John Hagen, who stepped down as Chair in January due to ill health, confirmed he was now much recovered and would like to re-stand as Chair for the AGM in May. The Committee were pleased at John's return to good health and fully accepted his return as Chair with grateful thanks.

**Bookings** for the hall continue to be very good with bookings already received until September.

**Refurbishing work** is progressing well on the changing room facilities at the rear of the hall, for the EB Lions Football to make use of for the rest of the season. Unfortunately, the refurbishment uncovered some structural issues from the construction of the hall extension years ago, which will now have to be addressed urgently. To carry out this work we need to raise **funds**. So, throughout the rest of the year we are organising fundraising events! We need your help to make these events happen and be successful.

**If you value your Village Hall, please support us:** it is down to us to ensure it is still here for the next generation to enjoy.

**SUMMER FAIR:** Sat 7<sup>th</sup> June: come along - with the family...not forgetting the dog!

Dog Show, children's disco, talent contest, selection of tasty foods, bar and stalls. Full details next month. Please contact 07831 538682 if you would like a stall or to enter the talent contest.

**MIDSUMMER MADNESS EVENING** - Saturday 21st June.  
BBQ, bar, karaoke, disco. More details to follow.

## **KENSWORTH EXTRA 2**

### **KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY and PRESCHOOL**

What a great month it has been - welcome Spring sunshine highlighting a fun-filled term! We were delighted to support the opening of the new Kensworth play area, and took all our year 3/4 pupils along, who were a credit to the school with their impeccable behaviour and enthusiasm. It was great to see the fantastic work done by all at the Parish Council. The legacy of this investment will support young people for years to come.

We have recently had updates to our school practices with the introduction of a new behaviour curriculum focusing on positive reinforcement. This is complemented by a new house system. The houses are named after inspirational individuals who represent our school values: David Attenborough, Albert Einstein, Nelson Mandela and Malala Yousafzai. Children collect Dojo points each week, with the house winners getting recognition in our celebration worship on a Friday. This has been really well received by our children and has allowed additional responsibility for year 6s as house captains.

Shrove Tuesday saw the traditional pancake races and was another chance for house competitions. Teams were made up of all ages, allowing collaboration across the school and healthy competition. Einstein house won by a single point.

World Book Day was a resounding success, with almost everyone (adults included) taking part, including some alternative activities and celebration of books, fostering that love of reading that we hope to instil in all children. With the residential trip (CYE) and Easter celebrations still to come, it really is a joyous time to be in a Primary school.

If you are interested in a place for your child (Preschool to Year 6, from 3 years to 11 years old), please contact Mrs Rooney in our School Office (01582 872336 or e-mail: [office@ken.dsamat.co.uk](mailto:office@ken.dsamat.co.uk)).

**Steven Wareham**  
**Deputy Headteacher**

**FAMILY BARN DANCE** on 1<sup>st</sup> March was a huge success, both as a fundraiser for St Mary's Church Kensworth and a community event. Many thanks to The Barn Rat Band and their caller, who provided us with live music, and to the Kensworth Village Stores, Kensworth Supermarket & PO, TC Feeds, Chelsea Direct and Olive Restaurant in Markyate for their raffle prize donations, and to everyone who came and made the event a success.

**KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH:** for all services, see page 15. The April Coffee Morning is on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am – 12 noon. Come and enjoy delicious tea/coffee and cakes and friendly chat.

## VARIOUS

### STUDHAM 2025

# MAY FAIR

**Saturday 17th May**

**Raffle prizes  
or booze barrow  
items call Becky  
07956 656794**

## Can you help?

**All donations before  
the event will be  
gratefully received!**

**To donate:**

**Preloved,  
nearly new and  
booze barrow items  
call Jo  
07815 120390**

**Books  
call Steph  
07884  
082131**

**Anything else...  
call Derek  
07825 705380**

### KENSWORTH MAY FESTIVAL!

ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHURCH END  
LU6 3RA

Sunday 4 May, 2025

**11.30am**

*CROWNING OF THE  
MAY QUEEN*

BEER & WINE TENT, BBQ, CAKES, MORRIS DANCING  
CAKE STALL, *BRIC-A-BRAC*, PLANT STALL, *RAFFLE*  
*FACE PAINTING*, TRY THE BELLS & OTHER FUN & GAMES!

**12.15pm DOG SHOW!**

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

[KENSWORTH MAY FESTIVAL](#)

**Studham School World Book Day**

[See next page](#)



## STUDHAM VILLAGE CE ACADEMY

### **Spring's Awakening and Community Highlights!**

As the days grow longer and the first vibrant buds burst forth, it's truly wonderful to witness the reawakening of nature. From the cheerful songs of returning birds to the delicate blooms pushing through the earth, our school and surrounding areas are alive with the beauty of this season.

Adding to the warmth of spring, we were also honoured to welcome the **High Sheriff of Bedfordshire** to our community. His visit was a truly memorable occasion and we extend our sincere gratitude to him for sharing his time and knowledge with us.

The excitement didn't stop there! **World Book Day** saw our school transformed into a vibrant tapestry of beloved characters. It was a joy to witness the explosion of creativity as our children brought their favourite literary figures to life. The air buzzed with the enthusiastic sharing of cherished stories, favourite books, and budding aspirations to become authors. It was truly inspiring to see the next generation embracing the magic of literature (see photo on page 21).

We are now eagerly looking forward to the joys of Easter, with special worship services and engaging performances.

We are incredibly grateful for the supportive community we share. Your participation and enthusiasm are what make our school such a special place. Thank you for being a part of our incredible journey. We look forward to sharing more wonderful moments in the months to come.

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](mailto:school@studhamschools.org.uk)) for more information.

We look forward to meeting many of you at upcoming community events.

***Sarah MacKenzie-Skea, Headteacher & Studham Village CE Academy Team***

### **STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL**

The hall is in use nearly every day – sometimes twice or even three times a day! Our regular users include carpet bowls, mums and tots, Scrabble, table tennis, yoga, bingo, gong therapy, WI and tap dancing. If you want to join any of these activities, details are on the Contact Page or contact one of the Trustees.

**Village Hall Fete, Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July:** between 2pm and 4.30pm. If you would like to be a stallholder (£20 a pitch), sponsor the event or donate raffle prizes, contact Lynne Smith ([bookingstudhamvh@gmail.com](mailto:bookingstudhamvh@gmail.com)).

## **KENSWORTH & STUDHAM PARISH COUNCILS**

**Kensworth Community Play Area Completed** – see cover and p.12.

### **PARISH MEETING – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm, Village Hall**

Hear about work that has taken place over the past year. Share your views on what you feel is important and comment on changes you would like to see. Find out who the Villager of the Year is and which Community groups were successful in achieving a Grant/Donations from the Parish Council.

**Allotments at Kensworth** – We have plots with immediate availability. £25 per ½ plot with a \*returnable deposit (£50). \*subject to agreement terms. Water included. Available to those in Kensworth and neighbouring villages.

### **Antisocial behaviour / offences**

Call 999 if an act is in progress and there are concerns for public safety  
Call 101 (non-emergency).

**Next Parish Council Meeting new time** 7pm Kensworth Village Hall 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025. There will be no public participation at this meeting, making way for the Parish Meeting at 7.30pm.

## **STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**Annual Parish Meeting:** on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April from 6pm at Studham Scout HQ, Clements End Rd, Studham. This is an opportunity for you to hear reports on community matters from us and community groups.

**Next PC Meeting:** the AGM on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm at the Scout HQ.

**Potholes and highways problems:** [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/transport, roads and parking/potholes](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/transport,roadsandparking/potholes). This is the new CBC web page for reporting potholes. Potholes that have caused damage and require urgent repair can be reported to CBC's emergency contact line (0300 300 8049).

### **Crime and nuisance reporting:**

**Emergency - 999, Non-emergency - 101**

**Police:** non-emergency, 101 or e-mail: [DunstableCPT@beds.co.uk](mailto:DunstableCPT@beds.co.uk).

**Motorcycle and vehicle nuisance and illegal parking** reports: use 101 and follow up with reports / photos to: [Opmeteor@beds.police.uk](mailto:Opmeteor@beds.police.uk).

**Local Rural Police:** for local non crime matters: PC Dani Taylor: [Danielle.Taylor@beds.police.uk](mailto:Danielle.Taylor@beds.police.uk). Police Sergeant - Ryan Donaldson: [Ryan.donaldson@beds.police.uk](mailto:Ryan.donaldson@beds.police.uk) or Hayley Miles: [Hayley.Miles@beds.police.uk](mailto:Hayley.Miles@beds.police.uk). Please ensure that contact with the local officer is made before a Police Sergeant is contacted.

## **MORE STUDHAM**

### **STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB**

We are delighted to announce that our courts have now been resurfaced with Tiger Turf, that enables play in challenging weather and is a forgiving surface for players of all ages.

We now offer both tennis and pickleball, with pickleball equipment made available to members. A great opportunity for local residents to try this fast-growing sport. Many thanks to all those who have supported us in raising the funds for this investment, that secures the long- term future of our club.

### **STUDHAM CHARITY BINGO**

**Wednesdays 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30pm in Studham Village Hall**

There is always room for more to join us for bingo, so why come along and join in the fun? Prices remain the same: entrance 25p, books (10 games) 75p each (£4.50 for strip of 6), raffle 25p strip. Free refreshments.

### **WI**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.15pm in Studham Village Hall**

March was our AGM and a great success. In April our speaker will be Adam Smith, on the History of Country Houses and Estates - especially those with a local connection. All ladies are welcome to join us; the entrance cost is £4 for non-members.

A reminder to all members that annual subscriptions are due. An e-mail is being sent to each member with banking details for electronic payment.

### **STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS**

All our sports sections, cricket, football and tennis, are open to new players, so if you are interested in joining any of them, 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 just as a spectator to any of the events held. Football matches start at 10.30am on a Sunday, and we look forward to seeing you. All details are on the Club Notice Board, Facebook and website.

### **SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB**

Opening hours are: Saturday & Sunday 12noon and Monday - Friday 4.30pm. A reminder that **ALL** Club Memberships are due on 1st April. Subscriptions are: Family (parents and children under 18) – £25; Single (18-64) – £20; Concessions (students in full time education and those aged 65 and over) – £10. Memberships are an important element of keeping our Club in the financial condition required for the future.

## MISC.

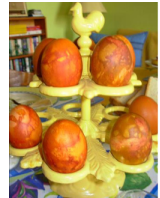
### ROADWORKS

Latest information on roadworks can be found at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/transport\\_roads\\_and\\_parking/roadworks](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/transport_roads_and_parking/roadworks).

### PASCH EGGS

#### What to do

- Wrap onion skins around eggs in a random way.
- Then wrap the eggs in foil/newspaper - covering completely, use string/elastic to keep it in place if needs be.
- Pack the eggs into a pan, boil in water for 7-10 mins.
- Leave them sitting in the water until they are cold (overnight is best: put the whole pan in the fridge overnight).
- Peel off the foil/paper and skins and you have a beautifully mottled boiled egg.
- Polish with a bit of butter / oil if you want.
- Now play your games and eat them!



#### Traditions and games for your Pasch eggs

- In some parts of the British Isles Pasch eggs are rolled down a hill, the winner being the owner of the egg which goes the furthest and has the least cracks or breaks in it.
- Give a Pasch egg to each person visiting your home throughout the Easter period – what a wonderful alternative to the commercially over-packaged chocolate eggs!
- Each player has a Pasch egg, each player hits the other player's egg with their own. This is known as "egg tapping". The winner is the holder of the most intact egg.
- In the Greek Orthodox tradition, red eggs are also cracked together when people exchange Easter greetings.

### LINK

We would like to apologise to those who had pages missing from last month's Link due to a problem at the printers.

The Link is delivered free to all households and businesses in the three villages of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade, thanks to a group of volunteers who go out in all weathers to do this. If you would like to help with production costs, donations are gratefully received by our Treasurer, Les Randall (contact him on 872552 or [lesrandall@btinternet.com](mailto:lesrandall@btinternet.com) or 14 Holywell Road, Studham, LU6 2PA). Thank you to a reader this month for a donation of £9.



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## SALES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE ORCHARD FAMILY** would like to extend our thanks to friends, family and the local farming community, who have supported us following the passing of Ian Orchard. Your kind words, messages, cards and presence at the funeral has brought us great comfort during this difficult time. A special thanks to Nicola and everyone who helped make the service a special tribute to Ian.

**LAWN MOWER FOR SALE** FOX petrol lawn mower, self-propelled with 21" cut. Used only two times. £180 ono. Please phone 01582 873539.

**HUB CARE SUPPORT - Dunstable:** do you have an elderly loved one struggling and needing support? We can help with Companionship, Personal Care, Cleaning, Shopping, Cooking, Respite Care, Live-In Care, Transport to appointments and more. **DBS checked**, insured, local helpers with excellent references. From £20/hr. Please call us on 01582 858602 or 07902 397223.

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**TC OVEN CLEANING:** Ovens, Hobs, Ranges & more. Oven cleaning from £50 Call 07812 775522 or [tcovencleaning@gmail.com](mailto:tcovencleaning@gmail.com).

**PIANO TUNING AND REPAIRS:** Tuning, servicing, regulating and repairs of upright and grand pianos. Visit our website: [www.crazyaboutpianos.co.uk](http://www.crazyaboutpianos.co.uk). Contact Gabriella on 01582 353132, or e-mail [info@crazyaboutpianos.co.uk](mailto:info@crazyaboutpianos.co.uk).

**YOGA CLASSES:** Whipsnade Village - Prenatal Yoga Wed 18.00-19.00  
- Dynamic Yoga Wed 19.00-20.00 £12 per session. Contact Sarah Jane 07375 352890 [sarahjanehorn@gmail.com](mailto:sarahjanehorn@gmail.com).

**COMPUTER HARDWARE & SOFTWARE REPAIRS:** Home and business upgrades. No fix, no fee. Most repairs carried out in your home; if not, the computer will be picked up and delivered back to your home. Call Ken (07974 156743 / 01582 794723).

**YOGA CLASS:** Tuesday evenings in Studham Village Hall 7.30pm – 8.30pm All levels welcome. Please bring mat, blanket and water. Chair can be used. All proceeds to charity. Contact Helen on 07581 132418 or [hc.thompson@me.com](mailto:hc.thompson@me.com).

**YOGA THERAPY:** are you stressed and anxious? Are you struggling with your menopause? Try a 121 Yoga therapy session with Helen. Contact [hc.thompson@me.com](mailto:hc.thompson@me.com) or 07581 132418.

**Sales and Announcements for the May edition of the Parish Link should be sent by Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April to the Advertising Manager, Geoffrey Stone, at [localparishads@gmail.com](mailto:localparishads@gmail.com) or call 01582 872520. Cost £3 per line.**



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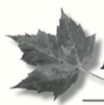
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