

Issue 435

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April 2026

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Dear friends and parishioners,

Fake news is very much a thing of the present – for generations there have been articles with a biased slant, pictures which portray people or things in a certain light ... and of course all of this peaks with the concept of propaganda.

Yet now we have to read and think and observe; to ask questions of sources and scan diligently for AI generated text or images which might seek to fool us, like never before. Sometimes it is simply impossible to know what might be true.

There's a sense of disbelief threaded right through the centre of the story of the death and resurrection of Jesus, which is celebrated at this time of year. Firstly, the disciples can't believe that someone who they thought of as divine, as the son of God, could die a criminal's death – and then, even more unbelievable, that he could break through the power of death so that his love was not limited to one place and time, but for all and always.

The first witnesses to the depth and breadth of God's life and love were not believed by their friends – who thought it the ultimate in fake news. But the beauty of the story is that right alongside their disbelief is God's love, threaded through their lives and ours, sustaining us in our pain and illuminating our joy. If we open ourselves to this truth, which is God's truth and not ours to manipulate, it will be breathed into us and fake news will be transformed. May we become bearers of the good news that will take its place.

Happy Easter!

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

Nicola

The cover shows a red panda cub born at Whipsnade Zoo, ZSL last year. For information about the 200th anniversary of ZSL, see page 23. Thanks to ZSL for the photo.



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WHIPSNAD E 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, 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.

The **Good Friday Service** is on Friday 3rd 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, hot cross buns and biscuits.

Sunday School

The children meet in the church vestry on April 12th during the 9am service for activities connected to Bible stories. Bring your children along for fun and friendship.

Whipsnade Churchyard Working Party

We will be meeting on Saturday 25th April from 9am – 12 noon. We will be getting the churchyard ready for Spring. Refreshments will be provided. Come and join us.

The Annual Parish Church Meeting

This will be held in the church on Wednesday 22nd 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.

Whipsnade Church Jigsaw Library

If you enjoy doing a jigsaw puzzle, we have a library of puzzles for you to enjoy in the church. The church is open during the day, so come along whenever it suits you.

Thank you for all the donations of jigsaw puzzles. We now have a very good supply. We hope that you come and enjoy the variety of puzzles we have currently got.

The Whipsnade Church Quiz – CANCELLED

Sadly, the quiz, which was to have taken place on Friday 24th April in Whipsnade Village Hall, will not now go ahead. Thank you to all those who supported the event.

KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

Our Prayers for You: if you would like a particular prayer to be said, for example, for a loved one or an occasion important to you, contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670; dorothy.godbod1@virgin.net). In April we pray especially for the people of Common Road, Hollicks Lane to Isle of Wight Lane.

Church Calendar: This month starts on the Wednesday of Holy Week, followed by Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Saturday. Easter Sunday is on 5th April, the most important day in the Church Calendar, celebrating Christ rising from the dead, with the promise to all that love lives on. All services for this dramatic week are on p.16.

St George's Day is on 23rd April. He is the Patron Saint of England and celebrations will take place nationwide. As there is doubt about St George's life, it's not an official 'Holy Day': there is no dedicated church service.

Decorating the Church for Easter: please join us in church from 10am on Saturday 4th April to decorate the church for Easter – all welcome. Donations of flowers or greenery would also be much appreciated.

Choir News: the choir will accompany the Good Friday liturgy on 3rd April, and the Easter Sunday service on 5th 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.

Sunday School: the children will be taking part in the Family Holy Communion Easter Sunday Service at 11am on Easter Day (followed by the Easter Egg Hunt). The service on 12th April will have the theme of 'Thomas', and the Family Service on 26th April will be about 'The Gate for the Sheep'. If you would like your child to join Sunday School, or if you want to be a helper, contact the Rector or Katherine Huggins (607841; hugginskatherine1@gmail.com) for details.

Messy Church: there is no Messy Church in April. The next one will be held on Friday 15th 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 Thursday 16th April, starting at 7.30pm in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road. Please do come and take part, and share your ideas on the running of the church in Kensworth.

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church prayers: in April we shall continue our annual cycle of prayers around the parish and will be praying especially for all the people of Dunstable Road, Southern Way, Bell Farm Close and Bell Cottages. If you would like a prayer to be said, perhaps for a special person or event, please contact churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com). If you prefer, you are welcome to write your own prayer on a 'leaf' and hang it on the 'prayer tree' in the church.

Easter 2026

Maundy Thursday: on **Thursday 2nd April** there is a service for the whole Benefice at 8pm. We will commemorate the Last Supper and the washing of the disciples' feet by Jesus. This will be followed by a watch of prayer.

Good Friday, 3rd April: there is a joint service with our Methodist friends at the Methodist Chapel in Church Road, LU6 2QA at 4pm.

Saturday 4th April: our flower arrangers are meeting at 10.30am to decorate the church with Easter flowers. New arrangers are welcome.

Easter Day, 5th April: everyone is very welcome to the service beginning at the earlier time of 10am. Afterwards there will be refreshments and an Easter Egg hunt.

Children's Church meets on Sunday 19th April at 10.30am. Talk about unsettling times! The children and young people will hear the story of how two friends found the perfect answer. Everyone is very welcome to come and enjoy the time together and afterwards to celebrate the April birthdays with cake and drinks.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM): the annual meeting takes place on Thursday 23rd 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 Annual Report and 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.

Studham's 29th Wine Evening: it's a pleasure to report that all tickets for the evening on Saturday 18th April are sold. If you would still like to support the event, please donate a raffle prize to John McDougal, (873257 or john.mcdougal@btinternet.com).

For details of St Mary's involvement at the **May Fair**, see page 19.



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KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY and PRESCHOOL

It's been a wonderfully busy term:

Voices of Hope Concert: a group of our pupils had the incredible opportunity to participate in this concert at St Albans Cathedral. During the day, pupils took part in rehearsals, whilst others practised speeches and songs. They also enjoyed discovery trails in and around the cathedral, expertly led by students from Manshead. It was a wonderful experience.

Community Celebrations: our school community has enjoyed some lovely events this term. The PTA Spring Disco was a huge success, and our Mothering Sunday breakfast was a real highlight – it was wonderful to see so many mothers, grandmothers and aunts join us for bacon and sausage baps! Thank you to everyone who supported these events.

Sports Partnership Festival: our Year 5 pupils are looking forward to hosting the Leighton Linlade Sports Partnership Small School Cluster Festival..

Welcome to Our New Starters: we're looking forward to welcoming our new starters in preschool for their settling sessions.

Places Available: we still have preschool places available for starting in the Summer Term, as well as September. We also have places available in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

If you would like to visit, please call the School Office (01582 872336) to arrange. Visits are by appointment only. We'd love to show you around our friendly school..

Sarah Bowley Headteacher

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Save the date! **Kensworth VH AGM** will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 5th May at 7pm.

Kensworth residents are invited to come and meet the Committee who run the hall, to put forward any ideas for future events/shows. You may like to join the team, help with the running and maintenance of the hall, or organise events. Why not join us for the evening, have your say?

Barn Dance cancelled: it was with sadness that we had to cancel the Barn Dance on 14th March. Keep your eye out for a new date in the Autumn and book early!

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Due to technical difficulties we could not print this month's report. Please note the date: Kensworth Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting is on 9th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

KENSWORTH MAY FESTIVAL

Sunday 3rd May 11.30am

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

DOG SHOW!
BBQ!
RAFFLE!
MAY KING!
BEER & WINE!
FUN STALLS!

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GOODBYE TO THE SHEEP IN
DUNSTABLE ROAD, STUDHAM, WHO
CAME FOR THE WINTER

STUDHAM EXTRA 2

STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

It is with deep regret that we heard of the sad passing of Des Salmon on 27th February, and our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Anne at this sad time. Des had been a Trustee for many years and had held the positions of Accountant and Chairman. He will be sadly missed by us all.

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, 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.

We still have room for other groups. If you would like to organise a group, please contact one of the trustees, (details are displayed in the Village Hall).

The Hall is ideal for parties and hire rates are very reasonable. Contact Lynne Smith, (bookingstudhamvh@gmail.com) for more details.

STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

If you are energetic, cricket, football and tennis are always open to new players, so if you are interested, please get in touch (Studhamssc@icloud.com) or call into the Clubhouse and leave your details. 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 Allan Wright (871495).

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.

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Opening hours from 1st April: Sat and Sun 12 noon and Mon – Fri 4.30pm.

Please note that ALL memberships are renewable on 1st April.

Club membership subscriptions are: family (parents and children under 18) – £26; single (18-64) – £20; concessions (students in full time education and those aged 65 and over) – £11.

Memberships are an important element of keeping our Club in the financial condition required for the future. Application forms are available at the bar.

Check the noticeboard, Facebook or website for times and dates of events etc. All members should receive details via e-mail: please make sure your e-mail details are up to date by letting the bar staff, or Vicky Roch (Studhamssc@icloud.com) know.

ECO-TIP APRIL: ENJOY NATURE

We are so fortunate to live in the countryside where we can access nature easily. Even in the seemingly incessant rains of February and March, you could still hear the woodpecker drumming in the woods. Now the daffodils are out cheering up our gardens, and the pink blossoms and green buds are appearing on the trees.



This month, we will have a wonderful display of bluebells in the woods all around our villages. Try to organise a walk to see the bluebells and take some deep breaths to smell that indescribable subtle scent. Take a few moments to listen to the sounds of nature around you and still your mind.

William Wordsworth, our great 19th century Romantic poet, said 'Come forth into the light of things, let nature be your teacher'. A short search online provides me with numerous studies confirming how nature can provide multiple benefits for health and wellbeing from improvements in physical health to improvements in psychological and social wellbeing. This month, try and get out and appreciate nature every day.

The Beds, Cambs and Northants Wildlife Trust has some really good ideas on their website for everyone. Take a look at their website and see if you are inspired to get involved with them: (www.wildlifebcn.org/get-involved/wild-events-and-experiences/resources).

CIVIC SERVICE: the Chairman of Central Bedfordshire Council, Kevin Collins, is holding a Civic Service on Sunday 26th April at 3pm at All Saints Church, Caddington. The address will be by the Bishop of Bedford, the Right Revd. Richard Atkinson. This is a public service and all are invited. Dress smart - chains or badges of office to be worn where appropriate.

POTHOLES AND HIGHWAYS PROBLEMS

The Central Bedfordshire Council web pages for highways problems can be found at: 'report or track roads and highways problems – potholes, street lights'.

The page for reporting potholes is 'potholes'. Potholes that have caused damage and require urgent repair can be reported to CBC's emergency contact line: 0300 300 8049.

CHURCH NEWS

STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

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

April services and events:

Friday 3 rd	4pm	Rev. Roberts	United Good Friday Service with St Mary's at Chapel
Sunday 5 th	10am	Rev. Roberts HC	United Easter Service at Gaddesden Row
Sunday 12 th	10am	Karen Noble	Studham
Sunday 26 th	11am	Tony Higgins	United Service at Flamstead

Studham Methodist Chapel currently meets on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. We are an All-Inclusive Church and all are welcome to join us.

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 also have monthly Circuit Worship Services. Join us on Zoom at 6pm on 26th April: details available from Linda Hillier.

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH: Sunday services are at 10.30am:

12 th April	Morning Worship	Led by Mr Graham Sharp
26 th . April	Morning Worship	Led by Mr Colin Quine

Coffee Morning at the Chapel - details page 20.

SOME THOUGHTS FOR THIS EASTER PERIOD

- The trouble is, we won't let God help us. – George MacDonald
- Most people want to serve God, but only in an advisory position. Anon
- Suffering from truth decay? Brush up on your Bible. Anon
- Exercise daily – walk with the Lord. Anon
- Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil – it has no point. Anon
- Prayer is more than meditation. In meditation the source of strength is one's self. When one prays they go to a source of strength greater than their own. Anon

STUDHAM EXTRA 2

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH 100 CLUB

The 100 Club is an important fundraiser to help maintain the structure of our 800+ year old church.

March's lucky winners were Sally Cload, receiving £60, and Freya Griffiths who won £10.

Anyone wishing to join can contact the Friends via the website: <https://friendsstudham.wixsite.com/website> or john.mcdougal@btinternet.com.

MAY FAIR 9TH MAY: St Mary's Church is delighted that the event is going ahead once again and this year, we'll be taking charge of the tombola. Prizes will be given to everyone who draws out a ticket ending in a 5 or a 0. We need a wide range and lots of prizes! If you would like to support the event, please consider giving a prize. Contact Meg Bender (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL CLUB

Pickleball is a rapidly growing, highly social, and accessible sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong, making it ideal for all ages and skill levels. It offers excellent low-impact cardiovascular exercise, burning up to 300-350 calories in 30 minutes! Search on YouTube or Instagram to see videos of this fun game.

So why not give it a go at Studham Tennis and Pickleball Club? To book a taster session, contact Cheryl Ronaldson (Cheryl.ronaldson@icloud.com or 07979 090838). We are also running walk-on sessions at Studham May Fair on Saturday 9th May.

WI

Thursday 2nd April at 7.15pm in Studham Village Hall

Following our AGM, members of Studham WI enjoyed a presentation on '3 Women of History' given by Julia, one of our members. First of the three was Cleopatra, who married two of her brothers, was the lover of Julius Caesar and later the wife of Mark Anthony. The second was Poppaea Sabina, the beautiful and noble born-wife of Nero. The final woman introduced was local celebrity Katherine Ferrers, also known as the Wicked Lady, a notorious highwaywoman. Her family home was at nearby Markyate Cell. She bled to death on its doorsteps, having been shot.

On 2nd April, a 'Tasting Evening' when we will be trying some of the "new" hot cross bun flavours. How about "Double Chocolate", "Salted Caramel", or even "Bakewell Tart"! Results next month.

MORE KENSWORTH

KENSWORTH GIVING CAMPAIGN – April 2026

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

It may surprise you to know that 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 the church's life and work within our community of Kensworth. We are grateful that we have a number of people who support us, but always hope that more individuals will support us through the Parish Giving Scheme.

We only just about cover our costs every year, including our required contribution to central church funds, but last year again saw a deficit, despite valiant fund-raising efforts. The reality is that we need giving to increase so 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. If you would like to make a difference you can set up regular giving online at www.parishgiving.org.uk or by phone on 0333 0021271, quoting this Parish Code: 320632322.

If you would like more information, please contact Revd. Canon Nicola Lenthall (revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com or 01582 872223).

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, used clothing or large items of furniture.) Cash only. Please make sure that items you bring in are clean and unbroken.

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH: for all services, see page 15. The April Coffee Morning is on Saturday 4th, 10.30am – 12 noon. Come and enjoy delicious tea/coffee and cakes and friendly chat.

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: every Friday afternoon 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! NB – No meeting on 3rd April (Good Friday).

STUDHAM MAY FAIR



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MORE STUDHAM

STUDHAM VILLAGE CE ACADEMY

As the signs of spring begin to brighten our days – snowdrops peeking through the soil, lighter mornings, and a renewed sense of hope – I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of Studham Village CE Academy. It is a joy to join such a vibrant, welcoming community, and I look forward to working together to help every child flourish.

This half term has already been filled with memorable moments. We were honoured to welcome our MP, Rachel Hopkins, who visited the school to deliver a personal thank you to Mrs Copeland for her wonderful service to our community, supporting children with their reading and leading our choir with such dedication. Our Year 4 children also had an inspiring trip to St Albans Cathedral, where they performed beautifully in the *Voices of Hope* celebration alongside other schools from our trust.

For more information about our events and school life, please visit our website www.studhamschools.org.uk.

Mrs Sarah Young, Headteacher

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next work party for the Friends will be held on **18th April**.

On Middle Common we will be trimming the hedge on the western edge, ensuring any early nesting birds are not disturbed; we will also trim around the entry points to the Common to ensure clear pedestrian access.

Whilst on West Common we will continue with the work in the north-west corner of the Common to limit ivy growth on 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; do come and help out if you can; new volunteers are always welcome. All necessary tools, and a light lunch will be provided. Meet at the War Memorial on West Common at 10am.

For further information please contact the Operations Manager Bob Wilkin (e-mail bob@afroirmosia.com or mobile 07796 446031).

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 Geoff Duke (07786 663089) or please just come along.

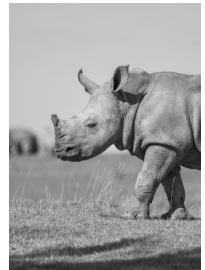
ZSL'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

This year, the global conservation charity behind Whipsnade Zoo, ZSL (Zoological Society of London), is celebrating an extraordinary milestone - 200 years. Founded in 1826, ZSL has been pioneering science, global conservation, and inspiring connections between people and wildlife for two centuries.



At Whipsnade Zoo, there's a whole year of celebrations planned for this incredible anniversary – from special heritage tours, to exhibitions and family events for everyone to enjoy.

This April, join the Zoo-normous Easter egg hunt, seeking out giant eggs hidden around Whipsnade's 600-acre site, cracking clues to be rewarded with a tasty treat. As you hunt, you'll encounter the 11,000 animals who call the conservation zoo home, including a herd of Asian elephants, reticulated giraffes, ten white rhinos, and more.



The Royal Mint has released a commemorative coin to celebrate ZSL's 200 years, depicting three species that tell a powerful story about conservation: the Sumatran tiger, the Socorro dove, and the Partula snail.

Find out more about ZSL's 200th anniversary and keep up to date with the latest events at www.zsl.org/zsl200.

~~~~~

## **SOUTH BEDS ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS**

The next talk will be by Paul Rabbitts on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April, 1.45 pm for a 2pm start. The topic will be "Dunstable in 50 Buildings".

We meet in the Salvation Army Hall in Bull Pond Lane, Dunstable. Visitors welcome at £4. £2 for members and £1 for refreshments.

## **DUNSTABLE & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

### **The Mystery and Magic of Hieroglyphs**

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April, an illustrated presentation by Nick da Costa showing how the Ancient Egyptians used pictures of everyday objects to create the world's first form of writing. He describes the key to translating their inscriptions and how this was rediscovered in comparatively recent times. It's apparently quite easy to learn and there will be handouts at the end of the talk! 7.45pm in the Methodist Hall, The Square, Dunstable. Visitors £3.

## STUDHAM PC, QUIZ & BINGO

### STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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

Contact: [clerk@studhamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@studhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Next meetings:** 7pm on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April and the Annual General Meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, both at Studham Scout HQ, Clements End Rd, Studham, Dunstable LU6 2NG.

**Annual Parish Meeting:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May from 6pm to 8pm at Studham Scout HQ. Refreshments at the Studham Sports and Social Club after the meeting. This is a separate meeting from the Parish Council Annual General Meeting and is an opportunity for you to hear reports on community matters from the parish council, community groups, and other organisations.

**Parish Council website and parish e-mail:** a reminder that useful parish information including the agendas and minutes of meetings can be found on the parish council website: [www.studhamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.studhamparishcouncil.gov.uk). On the website, residents can also sign up for the parish e-mail service free of charge for more parish news and information.

**Fly tipping:** fly tipping incidents can be reported on the CBC website at 'report fly-tipping or illegal waste dumping'. Please then e-mail the clerk with the details of the report.

**Temporary road closures:** we receive advance notification from CBC Streetworks of Temporary Road Closures and use the parish e-mail and Parish Council website to notify residents of road closures in the area.

### STUDHAM CHARITY BINGO

**Wednesdays 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 8pm in Studham Village Hall**

Why not come and join us? Doors open at 7.30pm. 25p entrance, £4.50 for a set of 6 books and 25p for a strip of raffle tickets.

It doesn't matter if you play bingo regularly, have not played for years, or never even played at all, just come along.

### STUDHAM RED LION QUIZ - Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm

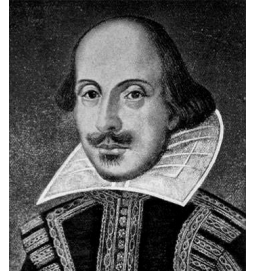
£3 a head to enter and £1 per strip raffle. There is no fixed team size; please ring the Red Lion (872530) to book a table (and order food).

The rounds will be:

1: sport & recent news; 2: school days; 3: alphabet (H); 4: entertainment; 5: what's left? Anything we couldn't fit in the previous rounds! and 6: music 1950s-2020's (only need title and they all start H).

## WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE 1564 – 1616 ON 23RD APRIL

William Shakespeare was an English playwright, poet, and actor. He is widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's greatest dramatist. He is often called England's national poet and is known as the "Bard of Avon".



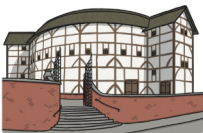
Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon in 1564. Though the exact date is unknown, historians accept 23<sup>rd</sup> April as his birthday. He was the third of eight children and was educated at the King's New School in Stratford.

When Shakespeare was 18, he married Anne Hathaway, a 26-year-old woman. Their wedding was rushed because Anne was already pregnant! They had three children: Susanna (who married John Hall); Hamnet (who died in 1596 at the age of 11 from unknown causes); and Judith (who married Thomas Quiney). By 1592, Shakespeare had become an actor and was becoming well known as a writer of plays. **Hamnet** is the subject of the award-winning recent film about this family tragedy.

At the time of his death in 1616, only some of Shakespeare's plays had been published in single editions. His plays were collected and published in 1623, seven years after he died. There is proof that people in Shakespeare's time thought highly of him. After his death, even his rival Ben Jonson said:

Triumph, my Britain, thou hast one to show,  
To whom all scenes of Europe homage owe.  
He was not of an age, but for all time!

### The Globe Theatre



Shakespeare was involved in the building of the Globe Theatre in 1599; however, it burned down a few years later. His plays are still performed at the new Globe Theatre, built in 1997 near the original. Do visit it!

## ALL IN APRIL

|                             |                                                            |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 1 <sup>st</sup> 1918  | The Royal Air Force is formed in Britain                   |
| April 4 <sup>th</sup> 1969  | Martin Luther King, Jr, is assassinated in Memphis         |
| April 12 <sup>th</sup> 1961 | Yuri Gagarin became the first human in space               |
| April 19 <sup>th</sup> 1775 | American Revolution begins at Lexington & Concord          |
| April 14 <sup>th</sup> 1912 | RMS Titanic hits an iceberg                                |
| April 26 <sup>th</sup> 1986 | The Chernobyl nuclear disaster occurs in Ukraine           |
| April 30 <sup>th</sup> 1789 | George Washington takes office as the first U.S. President |



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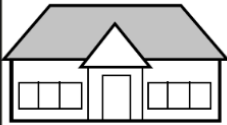
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[www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/studhamtennisclub](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/studhamtennisclub)



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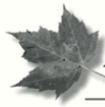
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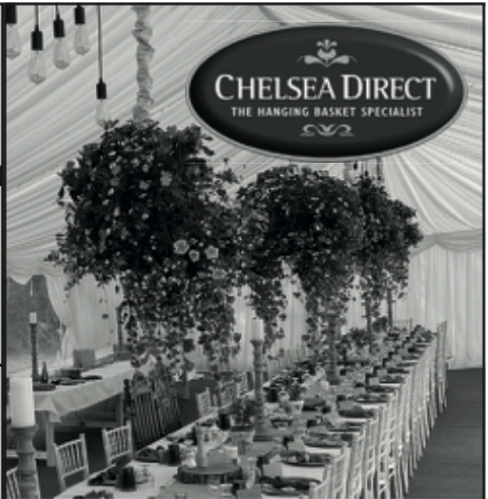
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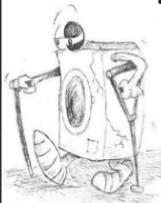
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