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Dear Friends and Parishioners,

The older I get, and the more practised in ministry I become, the more I am aware of how deeply individual the experience of bereavement is. It sounds very obvious - but I am continually struck by it when I pray for those who have lost loved ones, and every time I go into someone's home to help them to plan a unique service for their loved one.

Every single ceremony is different, because every single person and family is. It is such a privilege to be with people at this time in their lives, and one which I never take for granted.

And although every bereavement is different, there is much that joins us together at times of loss. This can often be deeply unspoken, and it can be felt not just in a funeral or a service of thanksgiving, but at times specially set aside, like anniversaries.

In our parishes we regularly offer special church services for those who have been bereaved. These are precious shared moments of togetherness, where we don't need to speak but just to remember.

Every December we have a carol service called '**Light out of Darkness**', created for those who have experienced loss, or who just need a quieter service amid the hustle and bustle leading up to Christmas. And every other spring, during the seven weeks of Eastertide, we have a service called '**In Loving Memory**' – a chance to set time aside and together to remember and mourn, and to feel held, supported and understood. You are all welcome to this service, which this year is on **Sunday 10th May, at 3pm at St. Mary Magdalene church, Whipsnade LU6 2LL.**

Whether you have experienced bereavement recently or longer ago, please know that I remember you in my prayers.

With my love and prayers, this month of May and always,

Nicola

The front cover shows children at Whipsnade Church making Easter gardens for our three churches.



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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 or dorothy.godbod1@virgin.net). In May we shall pray especially for people of The Lynch, Lynch Hill and Clayhall Road.

Church Calendar:

Rogation Sunday: this is the service of the blessing of growing crops and farm animals. It will take place this year on Sunday 10th May, at Lynchfield Farm (LU6 3QZ), by kind invitation of the Woods family, starting at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome to join in the blessings around the farm, enjoy the refreshments afterwards, and explore the *amazing* machinery!

Ascension Day: this year this falls on Thursday 14th May. It commemorates Jesus ascending into heaven, watched by his disciples. It is always held on the Thursday 40 days after Easter. In St Mary's there will be a benefice service of Holy Communion at 7.30pm. All welcome. This will be followed by the AGM of the North Chilterns Group, with refreshments.

Pentecost, or Whitsunday, is celebrated this year on 24th May. It commemorates the Holy Spirit descending on the disciples, giving them the gift of languages to spread the Good News around the world. It is called the birthday of the Christian Church.

Choir News: the choir will be singing at the May Day service on 3rd May, and afterwards, at the May Festival, there will be some great May carols to hear and join in. All welcome!

If you would like to take part in the choir, please contact the Rector (872223 or revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com). You do not have to be able to read music! We welcome instrument players to accompany occasional services.

Sunday School: on 10th May, everyone is invited to the Rogation Sunday blessing of the farm animals and crops at Lynchfield Farm (see above), always great fun.

At the Family Service on 24th May, we'll be celebrating **Pentecost**. Come and find out all about it!

If you would like your child to join Sunday School, or if you want to be a helper, please contact the Rector (see above) or Katherine Huggins (607841 or hugginskatherine1@gmail.com for details.

Messy Church: this will be held on Friday 15th May at 3.30pm in Kensworth Church Hall. The theme this time is 'Welcoming the Holy Spirit'. 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.

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

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

Thy Kingdom Come: this is a world-wide prayer movement; eleven days of prayer from Ascension Day (14th May) until Pentecost Sunday (24th May) and this year's theme is 'God with us'. Through joys and sorrows and everything in between and especially in the current times of uncertainty, we can be sure that God is with us. Everyone is warmly invited to experience the interactive display in the church porch and to hang prayers on the tree inside the church. The church continues to be open from about 9am until 5pm.

Children's Church meets on Sunday 17th May within the morning service of Holy Communion at 10.30am. The children and young people will be looking at the words 'Through the highs and through the lows I go' and will consider how Jesus helps us throughout our daily lives. After the service everyone is very welcome to stay for refreshments and to celebrate all the May birthdays.

May Fair, Saturday 9th May: come and see us at the tombola stall and win lots of lovely prizes!

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH 100 CLUB

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

April's lucky winners were Lindsey Glover, receiving £60, and Jane Jacoby who won £10.

Anyone wishing to join in the fun can contact the Friends via the website (<https://friendsstudham.wixsite.com/website>) or e-mail John McDougal (john.mcdougal@btinternet.com).

STUDHAM CHARITY BINGO

Wednesdays 6th and 20th May at 8pm in Studham Village Hall

Why not come and join us? Doors open at 7.30pm. What's more it won't break the bank. 25p entrance, £4.50 for a set of 6 books and 25p for a strip of raffle tickets put in singly, so that's 5 chances to win a prize.

It doesn't matter if you play bingo regularly, have not played for years, or never even played at all. We are a friendly bunch who will help every step of the way. So we look forward to seeing you there.

ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH**Church Prayers**

In May we will be praying for the people who live and work in Whipsnade from Chapel Cottage to the Old Hunters Lodge, including Sallow Springs. If you have a special request, write your prayer on a 'leaf' and hang it on the 'Prayer Tree' in the Church or hand to the Rector or Churchwardens.

Sunday School

The children meet in the Church Vestry on 10th May during the 9am Service for activities connected to Bible stories. Please bring your children along for friendship and fun.

'In Loving Memory' Service

Every other year local churches host a special service for all those who would like to remember those we love but see no longer. This year all are welcome to St. Mary Magdalene at 3pm on 10th May for a short service of remembering and candle-lighting, followed by refreshments.

Good Book Club

The 'Good Book Club' returns for the Summer and the first meeting will take place at St Mary Magdalene, Whipsnade on Sunday 10th May from 5pm to 6pm. The new book to read is 'Falling Upward' by Richard Rohr.

Whipsnade Churchyard Working Party

We will be meeting on Saturday 23rd May from 9am to 12 noon. Refreshments will be provided. Please come and join us.

WHIPSNAD E WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING

We run a coffee morning in Whipsnade Village Hall every two weeks from 10am – 12 noon. The dates for May are Wednesday 13th and Wednesday 27th. Come along and enjoy a coffee and a chat.

WHIPSNAD E KNIT AND NATTER

The group will be meeting in Whipsnade Village Hall for some friendly chat, refreshments and shared crafts on Tuesday 19th May, 2pm – 4pm. Choose your project, bring it along, and one of our many knitters will be there to help you along your journey to achieve amazing results.

WHIPSNAD E VILLAGE GET-TOGETHER

Come and join us on Tuesday 5th May between 2pm and 4pm for tea, coffee, cakes and a good catch-up with new and old friends. Various activities go on at different weeks, including bingo and quizzes. There is always a raffle with plenty of prizes. Please come along and join us.



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STUDHAM VILLAGE CE ACADEMY

In the lead up to Easter, our children reflected on one of the season's most powerful messages: forgiveness. Through stories, worship and thoughtful discussions, pupils explored what it means to forgive others and to receive forgiveness ourselves. They learnt that forgiveness is not always easy, but it brings healing, new beginnings and hope – values at the very heart of the Easter message and our Christian ethos.

Alongside this spiritual learning, there is a real sense of excitement building across the school as pupils begin practising a flash mob dance to perform at the Summer Fair. Laughter, teamwork and determination are in abundance as children work together to master the moves. It has been wonderful to see confidence growing and we are very much looking forward to sharing their joyful performance with the wider community.

The children have worked hard to learn the Makaton signs for the words in the song.



We are also delighted that the school has begun learning Makaton signing. This is an important step in supporting communication, inclusion and kindness, helping children to express themselves in new ways while being more aware of the needs of others.

If you would like to visit our school, please don't hesitate to contact us (872337 or e-mail: school@studhamschools.org.uk).

***Sarah Young
Headteacher***

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, table tennis, yoga, bingo, gong therapy, WI and tap dancing. If you want to join a group, details are on page 29 or contact a trustee who will pass on your enquiry.

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

We are always happy to welcome others who would like to become a trustee; the work is not onerous and we have around 4 meetings a year. If you would like to join us, please let Chrys Smith (07907 974091 or e-mail smithlaws@hotmail.co.uk) know.



KENSWORTH MAY FESTIVAL: a reminder that this is on Sunday 3rd May. It's a May King this year!!

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH: for all services, see page 16. The May Coffee Morning is on Saturday 2nd at 10.30am – 12 noon. All warmly invited for delicious cakes, tea/coffee and a chat!

CHURCH RE-USE CENTRE (formerly the church shop): in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road (behind the Vicarage), open 2pm – 4pm on Wednesdays and 10am – 12 noon on Saturdays. All kinds of treasures are available – come and have a browse and bring your own unwanted items (unfortunately, we cannot sell electrical goods, clothing or large items of furniture.) **Cash only, preferably small change!** Please make sure that items you offer for sale are clean and unbroken.

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 FRIDAY AFTERNOONERS: Chat 'n Snack: come and join your friends on a Friday afternoon, 1pm – 4pm in the Village Hall, for a catch-up, light refreshments, a quiz/games or just enjoy the company.

MISC.

WHY IS HAWTHORN KNOWN AS THE MAY TREE?

Colloquially known as May or the May tree, hawthorn blossom typically appears at the start of May in England and toward the middle of the month further north. However, climate change is bringing flowering forward, meaning the old English name for hawthorn may no longer be as relevant as it once was.

Hawthorn is a common sight across the UK. It is a robust, practical little tree, growing up to 15m tall even in harsh conditions.

Despite our national familiarity with the tree, many people are not aware that we have two native species of hawthorn. The common hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*, is the taller and more widespread of the two, often found along hedgerows or in scrubland. The midland hawthorn, *Crataegus laevigata*, is more shrublike and favours ancient woodland habitat. Both traditionally blossom in May time.

Hawthorn trees can live up to an astonishing 400 years old and are steeped in mythology, from the pagan symbol of fertility to the Great Plague. The pagan symbol of fertility, this tree is the ancestor of the Maypole and the source of May Day garlands. The flowers make up the crown of the May Queen and the wreath of the Green Man. Although beautiful, it is said you should never bring this blossom into your home – partly because it is seen as unlucky, and partly because the smell of the flowers is so bad that it reminded people of the Great Plague!

DUNSTABLE & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

This Is My Life

History Society member Richard Hornsey, who organises the microphone system at the society's monthly meetings, talks about his career as a BBC Television engineer and his other interests including scuba diving and the local Wildlife Trust. 7.45pm in the Methodist Hall, The Square, Dunstable. Visitors £3.

SOUTH BEDS ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS

The next meeting will be our **AGM** followed by a talk will be by Gillian Mason, the Cultural Heritage Curator from Stowe gardens. On Monday 11th May, 1.45 pm for a 2pm start.

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

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

On Thursday evening Kensworth Parish Council held their Annual Parish Meeting here (see page 22) . The winner of Villager of the Year was Terry Beckham. Terry has been a member of the Village Hall Committee for many years. He is the one always working away in the background, managing the car park for all the events, setting up the tables plus many other tasks, not only for the Committee but also many other groups that hire the hall. Thank you, Terry, for all you have done over the years.

The Village Hall Committee would also like to thank the Parish Council for the grant we were awarded. This will go towards the roof repairs that are being carried out and maintenance that is required to the flooring.

Our **Summer Family Fun Day** in the Hall and on the recreation ground this year is on Saturday 4th July. The event is to raise money to go towards the running of the hall.

We are looking for help with organising the event, especially on the day; also, for anyone that would like to sponsor the dog show, or can offer prizes for the raffle and the tombola.

We would like to hear from anyone that can provide children's entertainment. It's also an opportunity for anyone who sings and/or plays an instrument, any bands, magicians or dancers to come along and take the stage during the afternoon. Show everyone how good you are!

If you are able to help with any of the above or are interested in a stall - please contact sylvia.inns@gmail.com or 07831 538682.

Don't forget the Village Hall Committee AGM on Tuesday 5th May at 7pm. We'd love to see you there.

SAVE THE DATE! KENSWORTH FLOWER & VEGETABLE SHOW

The Show will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 5th September. Programmes, with entry forms, will be available early July. More details in the next Link.

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## **A Thought**

### **Seize the day**

Today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be, so enjoy this day while it lasts.

## CHURCH NEWS

### IN LOVING MEMORY

Every other year the local churches host a special 'In Loving Memory' service for all those who would like to remember those we love but see no longer. This year all are welcome to St. Mary Magdalene at 3pm on 10<sup>th</sup> May for a short service of remembering and candle-lighting, followed by refreshments.

### 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).

#### May services and events:

|                         |      |                           |                        |
|-------------------------|------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> | 10am | Rev. Helen Roberts        | HC                     |
| Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> | 10am | Rev. Dr. Caroline Wickens | Circuit Superintendent |

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 on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm for Pentecost – led by Rev. Helen Roberts. Link details are available from Linda Hillier.

### KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH:

Sunday services are usually at 10.30am.

Services for May:

|                      |                 |                                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 10 <sup>th</sup> May | Morning Worship | Led by Mrs. Andrea Als-McClean  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> May | Holy Communion  | Led by the Rev. Patrick Kandeh, |




More details of our activities can be found on the chapel noticeboards.

**Coffee Morning at the Chapel:** details are on page 12.

### NORTH CHILTERN GROUP OF CHURCHES

On Ascension Day (Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May) after a service of Holy Communion at 7.30pm, the North Chilterns Group are holding their Annual General Meeting in Kensworth Church. All are welcome - refreshments will be provided.

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR MAY

|                                                   | <b>KENSWORTH</b><br> | <b>STUDHAM</b><br> | <b>WHIPSDADE</b><br> |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> May<br>Easter 5                   | 10.30am<br>May Day Holy Communion<br>with Festivities                                                 | 10.30am<br>Family Service                                                                           | 9am<br>Holy Communion                                                                                  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> May<br>Easter 6<br>Rogation      | 10.30am<br>Rogation Service at<br>Lynchfield Corner Farm,<br>The Lynch, Kensworth<br>LU6 3QZ          | 10.30am<br>Holy Communion                                                                           | 9am<br>Holy Communion with<br>Sunday School                                                            |
| Sunday<br>10 <sup>th</sup> May                    | 3pm 'In Loving Memory' service' for those who have been bereaved<br>Whipsnade Church                  |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                        |
| Thursday<br>14 <sup>th</sup> May<br>Ascension Day | 7.30pm Holy Communion for Ascension Day<br>At Kensworth Church                                        |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                        |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> May<br>Easter 7                  | 10.30am<br>A Service of Stillness and<br>Reflection                                                   | 10.30am<br>Holy Communion with<br>Children's Church                                                 | 9am<br>Family Service                                                                                  |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> May<br>Pentecost                 | 8am<br>Holy Communion<br>10.30am<br>Family Service                                                    | 10.30am<br>Holy Communion                                                                           | 9am<br>Holy Communion                                                                                  |
| Sunday<br>31 <sup>st</sup> May<br>Trinity Sunday  | 10.30am Benific Holy Communion<br>At Studham Church                                                   |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                        |

**Messy Church** is on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May in Kensworth Church Hall, Clayhall Road, LU6 3RF from 3.30pm. This event includes craft activities and other fun, ending with a short service and then a shared hot meal. If you'd like to know more about this church activity, please contact the Revd. Canon Nicola Lenthall on (01582) 872223 or revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com.

**Parish Registers**  
R.I.P.

14<sup>th</sup> March

Carol Wheeldon

Studham

**April**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Table Tennis, Studham VH, every Wed, 10am – 12 noon  
 1<sup>st</sup> Kensworth Re-use Centre, Church Hall, every Wed 10am – 12noon (p.20)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Kensworth Drop-in Club, VH, every Thurs, 9am – 11am (p.20)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Carpet Bowls, Studham VH, every Thurs, 2pm (p.22)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Studham WI, VH, 7.15pm (p.19)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Table Tennis, Studham VH, every Fri 9.30am – 12.30pm  
 4<sup>th</sup> Kensworth St Mary's decorating for Easter, from 10am (p.8)  
 4<sup>th</sup> Kensworth Re-use Centre, Church Hall, every Sat 10am – 12noon (p.20)  
 4<sup>th</sup> Kensworth Methodist Coffee Morning, 10.30am – 12noon (p.15)  
 7<sup>th</sup> Whipsnade Village Get-together, VH, 2pm-4pm (p.7)  
 7<sup>th</sup> Studham Parish Council meeting, Studham Scout HQ, 7pm (p.24)  
 7<sup>th</sup> Red Lion Quiz Night, Studham Red Lion, 8pm (p.24)  
 8<sup>th</sup> Studham Charity Bingo, VH, 7.30pm, also 22<sup>nd</sup> (p.24)  
 9<sup>th</sup> Kensworth Parish Council Meeting, VH, 7pm  
 Annual Parish Meeting 7.30pm  
 10<sup>th</sup> Kensworth Chat 'n Snack, VH, every Fri (not Good Friday), 1pm –4pm (p.22)  
 15<sup>th</sup> Whipsnade Coffee Morning, Church, 10am – 12noon (p.15)  
 16<sup>th</sup> Kensworth St Mary's APCM, Church Hall, 7.30pm (p.8)  
 18<sup>th</sup> Friends of Studham Common work party, 10am (p.22)  
 18<sup>th</sup> Studham's 29<sup>th</sup> Wine Evening, VH, 7.30pm (p.9)  
 21<sup>st</sup> Whipsnade Church Knit and Natter, 2pm-4pm (p.15)  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Whipsnade Church APCM, Whipsnade Church, 7.30pm (p.7)  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Whipsnade Village Lunch, VH, 12.30pm (p.18)  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Studham St Mary's APCM, Studham Church, 7.30pm (p.9)  
 25<sup>th</sup> Whipsnade Churchyard Working Party, 9am–12noon (p.7)  
 29<sup>th</sup> Whipsnade Coffee Morning, Whipsnade Church, 10am–12noon (p.18)

**May**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Kensworth May Festival (p. 12)  
 5<sup>th</sup> Kensworth Village Hall Committee Meeting, 7pm, AGM 7.30pm (p. 11)  
 5<sup>th</sup> Studham Parish Council AGM, Studham Scout HQ, 7pm (p. 24)  
 9<sup>th</sup> Studham May Fair (p.19, 21)  
 12<sup>th</sup> Studham Annual Parish Meeting, Studham Scout HQ, 6pm–8pm (p.24)  
 12<sup>th</sup> Whipsnade Parish Council Meeting, VH, 7.30pm (p.18)  
 14<sup>th</sup> Kensworth Parish Council Meeting, VH, 7.30pm

***Please submit items for the June issue of the Parish Link by Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May!***  
***via your village correspondent. For contact details, see p 5.***

## FOSC & STUDHAM WI

### FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next **work party** for the Friends will be on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

We will be on West Common, where we will trim around the base of the cherry tree outside the Forge, as well as the margins of the football pitch, goal posts, bins and benches. We will also be trimming footpaths to improve access to the Common and remove dead overhanging branches and other branches that are around head height.

We will also top young bracken shoots in order to reduce the vigour of these plants, which will encourage growth of other younger plants and give a more diverse flora on the Common.

Everyone is welcome to the work party, please do come and help out if you can; new volunteers are always welcome. All necessary 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 work-party co-ordinator Bob Wilkin (bob@afrosmosia.com or mobile 07796 446031).

### STUDHAM WI

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 7.15pm in Studham Village Hall**

Our April meeting we tasted some of the “new” hot cross bun flavours that have appeared this year. In our opinion, the St Clemens were far and away the winners. Chocolate and salted caramel were each a distant second and the apple and cinnamon came a very poor last! I

In May we will be discussing two resolutions that are going forward to the National AGM this year. They are: **Accessible Public Toilet Facilities:** a call for clean, free and accessible public toilets to promote dignity, health and social inclusion and **Action on Women’s Homelessness:** urging government action to reduce women’s homelessness and improve temporary accommodation.

To lighten the end of the evening we will have a Chinese Raffle. Don’t know what that is? Well, come and join us to find out. It really is great fun – it is a cross between a raffle and musical chairs but there is no music! All ladies welcome (sorry, no gents this time!). Entrance is £5 to non-members which includes refreshments, and there will be a charge for the Chinese Raffle.

## WHIPSDNADE PARISH COUNCIL

### Restored Village Festival of Britain Sign

Thank you to **Paul Wright** for the beautiful restoration work on our Festival of Britain sign now once again welcoming visitors at the eastern end of the village. This included re-painting of the 3D relief roundels



restoring the colours to their original condition. This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Festival of Britain held in 1951 which, with its then futuristic theme, presaged the modern technology revolution and space travel (Paul remembers having attended the event as a youngster!).



### Whipsnade Summer Party – Save the date

The village is getting together again to put on another summer celebration party which will take place at the Village Hall & Meadow on the afternoon of **Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> July**. Lots of fun and entertainment for children and adults of all ages. Watch out for more information in June and July editions of the Parish Link.

The next meeting of Whipsnade Parish council will be held at Whipsnade Village Hall on **Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> May**. All welcome

### WHIPSDNADE VILLAGE LUNCH

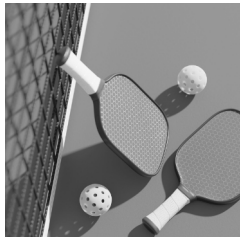
There will be a village lunch on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 12.30 pm. Come and enjoy a light hot lunch, cakes, tea and coffee – all for £7. There will be the usual raffle, any donations gratefully received.

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 (e-mail above) or Jane on 07903 019188.

### WHIPSDNADE VILLAGE HALL HOLISTIC AND WELLBEING FAIR

Our very popular Holistic and Wellbeing fair returns to Whipsnade Village Hall on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May between 11am and 4pm. There will be psychic mediums, tarot readers, crystals, Cocoa products, spiritual gifts, clothing and more.

Refreshments are available and all proceeds from these, plus the stall fees and £1 admission go to the hall funds, so it is an important fundraiser. Find us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/amethystmoons18/events](http://www.facebook.com/amethystmoons18/events)).

**STUDHAM 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 call/whatsapp 07979 090838). We are also running walk on sessions at Studham Fair on Saturday 9 May.

We supply equipment required.

**STUDHAM TABLE TENNIS CLUB**

The TT group is made up of mixed ability players, who have greatly improved since joining the group. We are a friendly group who are very sociable (especially at break time when the biscuits come out!). We have a waiting list to join and you must be physically stable on your feet and be of a friendly nature. We supply bats (although many players have now purchased their own bats) balls and tuition if needed.

Please e-mail [twohappyfolks@btinternet.com](mailto:twohappyfolks@btinternet.com) giving details of your playing level, confirming you are fit and whether you would like to join the waiting list for Wednesday or Friday.

**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.

**STUDHAM RED LION QUIZ****Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm in the Red Lion**

£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: slphabet (all answers start with I); 4: entertainment; 5: what's left? Anything we couldn't fit in the previous rounds! and 6: music 1950s-2020's (all start I).

# STUDHAM MAY FAIR



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## KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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

**Contact:** [clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk) Tel: 07387 789897

### Well-Attended Annual Parish Meeting

The APM in Kensworth proved to be a tremendous success this year, with a strong turnout from residents. Arranged and hosted by the Parish Council, the event brought the community together to hear about the wide-ranging work being undertaken by the Parish Council and Community Groups to support residents and enhance local facilities for everyone.

Attendees also included representatives from local community groups, the Police Community Support Officer, Central Bedfordshire Council Ward Councillor, and some local businesses who generously sponsored the children's play area. This showcased the collaborative spirit that continues to benefit Kensworth and its residents. The open forum gave residents the opportunity to share thoughts and raise questions, providing valuable insight and encouraging positive dialogue within the community.



Villager of the Year, Terry Beckham



Representatives from local groups receiving their awards

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the "Villager of the Year" award, recognising an outstanding contribution to the community. The first round of Parish Council Grants for 2026/2027 were announced with awards made to Kensworth Flower & Vegetable Show, Kensworth Village Hall, The Parish Link, Kensworth Methodist Church,

Kensworth Academy PTA and Kensworth Society of Church Bell Ringers.

The event concluded with refreshments, allowing attendees the chance to connect, engage, and celebrate the strong sense of community that makes Kensworth a flourishing place to live.

**Next Parish Council Meeting:** 14<sup>th</sup> May: this will be the **Annual Parish Council Meeting** at 7.30pm.

**STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

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

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

**Next meeting:** the Annual General Meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 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. This is an opportunity for the community to hear reports on community matters from the Parish Council and community groups.

**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. Latest information can be found at CBC 'roadworks, road closures and temporary road closures'.

**A note that temporary road closures will be in place from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> May for carriageway works on Buckwood Lane and the Dunstable Road/Holywell Road junction.**

**Potholes and highways problems:**

CBC web pages:

**Highways problems** 'report or track roads and highways problems – potholes, street lights'.

**Potholes** 'potholes'. Potholes that have caused damage and require urgent repair can be reported to 0300 300 8049.

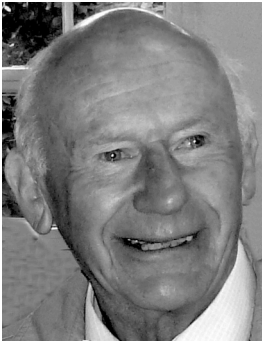
**STUDHAM SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB**

Opening hours for May are: Sats and Suns 12 noon and Mon - Fri 4.30pm.

Club membership subscriptions for 26/27 will be: 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.

We welcome visitors and new members. We provide competitively priced drinks; we are also available for events such as parties, christenings, birthdays, wedding celebrations etc. If you are planning an event, please contact Vicky Roch ([Studhamssc@icloud.com](mailto:Studhamssc@icloud.com)) to see what we can offer.

## **DES SALMON**



With the passing of Des Salmon, Studham has lost a man who was instrumental in numerous village organisations throughout the 51 years he lived in the area

Des made a tremendous contribution to the running and maintenance of Studham Village Hall. As well as being both Chairman and Treasurer for lengthy periods, he organised the hall bookings, carried out inspections, dealt with contractors and acquired grants.

Des will always be associated with the May Fair which he organised and ran for more than 25 years. He was also a longstanding Chairman of the Friends of Studham Church, organising numerous fundraising and social events.

Des was a Parish Councillor and served as Chairman for 4 years. In his younger days he was also involved in the Social Club and Playing Fields including being Club Treasurer. He was a founder member of the Oldhill Wood neighbours' group.

Des was a war time evacuee and was very proud to be invited to take part in the Service of Remembrance and the traditional march past at the Cenotaph a few years ago.

In 2014, Des received a Citizenship Award from the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire in recognition of "great and valuable services". A man who truly believed in serving the Community.

## **STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS**

It is 'all change' but still very active at the playing fields. Football is almost finished for this season, cricket is about to start and tennis continues with more players than ever, so why not come up and watch the action? Nothing like a sunny afternoon spent watching others rushing about!

If you are more energetic, cricket, football and tennis are always 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.

If you would like any further information, or are interested in using the fields to host an event, please contact Allan Wright (871495).

## SAHARAN HIKE

In November this year, Studham residents Mike and Sam Pigott along with Joel Williams, will be taking on an extraordinary challenge to raise as much as they can in support of the Hospice of St Francis. They will be trekking 50km across the Sahara Desert battling extreme daytime 40 degree temperatures while enduring freezing desert nights. They plan to camp under the stars, carrying everything they need. This won't be easy, but every step, every blister and every sunrise over the desert will be for the people the hospice cares for.



A more personal attachment and purpose is included within Mike's bio in the Just Giving link which also provides information on how donations help the hospice. If you feel you can and would like to donate, Mike and the team would be very appreciative. Thank you so much.

The Just Giving link is [https://www.justgiving.com/page/mike-pigott-1?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL&utm\\_campaign=020](https://www.justgiving.com/page/mike-pigott-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=020).

## DONATIONS

The Parish Link Treasurer, Les Randall, acknowledges with thanks a donation of £125 from Kensworth Parish Council. If you would like to make a donation to help with running costs of the Parish Link, please contact him (01582 872225 or e-mail [lesrandall@btinternet.com](mailto:lesrandall@btinternet.com) or drop in to 14 Holywell Road, Studham).

## ANNICK SPAIGHT

The sad news reached me recently of the death in January of Annick Spaight, a French lady who used to live in Studham with her husband and their family of four. Some Studham residents and former pupils at Studham School may remember her. □

For many years in the 1970's she gave pupils at Studham School enjoyable French lessons which included such customs as "Poisson d'Avril" - the French version of April Fool. More importantly, the children were off to a good start with the language when they went to Middle School. They were so lucky. Other Junior Schools had no foreign language teaching.

Annick later moved to King's Lynn, and following that back to France to live near her daughter in Vernon. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

*Pat Baker*

**STUDHAM MAY FAIR: Sealed Bid Auction of Fine Claret.** 7 bottles of fine Bordeaux wine to be auctioned. *Worth over £300.* Sealed bids to Geoffrey Stone, Old School House, Church Rd, Studham or delivered to the Prize Draw tent of the May Fair on 9<sup>th</sup> May. (4 bottles of Chateau Chasse-Spleen 2003; 2 bottles of Domaine du Galet 2017; 1 bottle of Grand Cru Clos Fourtet Saint Emilion 2008)

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**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. Please 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.

**DUNSTABLE FOOD BANK:** we always need foodstuffs but especially long-life fruit juice; tinned meat in sauce: sweets/chocolates; jars of jam; instant mash; pulses; long-life milk; tea and carrier bags. No pasta or rice please. Please leave items in any of the three village churches or take to the Vicarage.

*If using the services of any of the announcements on this page or any advertisers in this magazine, please mention the Parish Link.*

*Advertisements in the Parish Link are in no way intended as endorsements by the editorial committee of the advertised product or service.*

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



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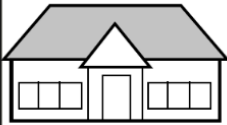
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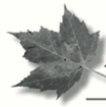
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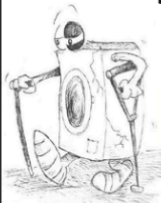
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