

Issue Number 364

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March 2019

# PARISH LINK

Serving the villages of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade for 36 years





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*Rev. Mmasape Zihle, Methodist Minister  
for Southdown, Studham, Flamstead &  
Gaddesden Row*

## **No Greater Love than this... (John 15.13)**

A story is told of how Maximilian Kolbe, a Polish Franciscan friar, volunteered to die in place of a stranger in the German death camp Auschwitz in 1941. After a prisoner escaped from the camp one day, the deputy camp commander picked 10 men to be starved to death in an underground bunker as a way to deter any further escapes. When one of the selected men, Franciszek Gajowniczek, cried out, "My wife! My children!", Kolbe volunteered to take his place.

This is a story of great sacrifice and we may class it as heroism. The story of Maximilian Kolbe is, however, not unique, as time after time, men and women stand in the gap for man: a display of selfless love for fellow humankind. This reminds us of the greatest act of selfless, redeeming love of all time... Jesus' death on the cross on Calvary. Once for All, Christ willingly took on the cross of shame to die so that all who would believe in him may have eternal life.

God's love is not only declared once a year on days like St. Valentine's, but is given freely every day through the many gifts of grace given to all people, believers and non-believers alike, with the promise being there for all who would in time turn to God in faith.

Not all of us may be called to volunteer our lives for another as Maximilian Kolbe did, but we still have the duty to offer of our time and resources unselfishly for the gain of others who cry out for help.

As we journey through this costly period of self-denial in Lent, I pray that what we give up or take up as a sign of our discipleship may serve to bring us closer to God. As we remember the death of Christ for our sake and the sake of the world, may we allow our bad tendencies to die with him; and finally, as we rejoice and celebrate the resurrection on Easter Day, may we rise to new life with Him, to live Christ-inspired lives of service and love to our fellow human beings.

"See! The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world".

Blessings always,

Mmasape

## AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

### ST MARY'S CHURCH

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

**Children's Church** is on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am. It will be the second Sunday in Lent and the children and young people will be considering the promise that God makes to us all, that we can trust in him and his everlasting love for each one of us. There will be refreshments after the service and everyone is very welcome to join in the celebration of all the March birthdays.

The church's **25<sup>th</sup> Wine Tasting Evening** is on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm at Studham Village Hall. Tickets have been selling very quickly but if you would like to join the waiting list, please contact John McDougal (873257 or john.mcdougal@btinternet.com).

### STUDHAM CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Fancy learning something new? Church bell ringing, as we know it today, dates back to the sixteenth century and the familiar sound of church bells is an important part of our heritage.

Ringling church bells is a team activity that gives you a great mental workout whilst keeping you fit at the same time. It provides endless opportunities to learn new things and is an enjoyable way to maintain a traditional skill.

We would be delighted to welcome new ringers. We practise on Mondays, 8 – 9 pm and ring for Sunday services, weddings and other special occasions. Interested? Please contact Angela Blackburn (663756) and join us in ringling our wonderful bells!

### FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

By the time you are reading this it will only be just over two months to the May Fair, on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Not too late to volunteer to help or just make sure this great Studham event is in your diary.

At the time of writing, the February **100 Club** has not yet been drawn - the draw is later this month to give more time for the annual renewals. Details of who has won the £50 and £10 February prizes will be in next month's Parish Link. If you are in the 100 Club, you will have received a renewal reminder, so please re-join if you have not yet done so. Alternatively, if you wish to join the 100 Club for just £12 per year, or find out more about the Friends, please e-mail john.mcdougal@btinternet.com or call 873257.

## WHIPSNADDE INCLUDING OLDHILL WOOD

**PRAYERS:** this month we are praying for all the businesses in the village.

**'RIVERS OF MUSIC':** a concert of light classical music organised by Robert Kendrick on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7pm in Whipsnade Church with interval refreshments. There will be a string quartet, solo playing and singing.

Tickets, adults £10, under 16s £5, from Robert Kendrick (413564), Isobel Randall (872552) or Pam Ward (872406). Proceeds to Cancer Research UK and Whipsnade Church.

**WHIPSNADDE GREEN SCRUB CLEARANCE:** on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March from 10.30am – 3pm. The last one of the season. We will continue clearing the re-growth on The Green between the Village Hall entrance and the Zoo car park. Everyone welcome, tools provided. Bring your own picnic. Queries to Charles Frost (871417). Very many thanks to the Greensand Trust and everyone who has helped with these tasks during this winter.

**VILLAGE LUNCH:** all are welcome to the lunch on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 12.30pm in the Village Hall. This month's menu is a choice from roast gammon, venison pie, beef lasagne or smoked fish pie followed by a choice of puddings and tea or coffee. All for £6 on the door. Offers of help or puddings to Isobel Randall (872552) or Pam Ward (872406).

**CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY:** on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 10am to 12 noon. A tidy up after the winter; helpers welcome. Details from John Ward (872406).

**CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:** this year the Church is compiling an entirely new Electoral Roll. Application forms are available in the Church. Everyone currently on the Roll has been sent a letter inviting them to re-apply for membership. Please ensure that you return your forms to Joan Bailey by 22<sup>nd</sup> March (Tel: 872318) or leave them in the box provided in the Church.

**MOTHERING SUNDAY REMINDER:** on 31<sup>st</sup> March – the fifth Sunday of the month – the service is at Kensworth Church at 10.30am. There is no service at Whipsnade.

### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is in the church on 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 7pm. Come along to elect the churchwardens and Parochial Church Council; hear what is happening, make suggestions and express your views about church affairs.

If you want to nominate someone for either position of warden or PCC member, collect a form from the church or from Isobel Randall (872552). Please remember to ask your nominee first!

**KENSWORTH CHURCH PRAYERS:** in March the people of The Chilterns will be especially included in our prayer cycle. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670).

**KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH:** Lent, a time of reflection, contemplation and fasting leading up to Easter, starts on Ash Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March. Mothering Sunday is on 31<sup>st</sup> March, marking the fourth Sunday in Lent, when traditionally families gathered at their mother church and the fast was allowed to be lifted for the day. We will be joined by our Methodist friends from Kensworth and this year, as it is a Benefice Service, by parishioners from Studham and Whipsnade – all welcome to this special service.

There are also special Lent courses on Tuesdays: for details, see page 12. And don't miss our Art Workshop about the Stations of the Cross on 16<sup>th</sup> March – page 13. For all services, see page 14.

**Choir News:** the choir practises on Fridays, 6pm – 7pm in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road in March. The sung services are usually on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. If you would like to join, please telephone Mike Palmer (524183 – medpalmer@gmail.com) or the Rector (872223, revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com).

**Sunday School:** for all young people, there are sessions for seniors and juniors on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, and on 17<sup>th</sup> March the younger children will have special activities to understand the Bible story. If you would like your child to join Sunday School, or if you want to be a helper, please contact Katherine Huggins (607841) for details.

**Messy Church:** the March Messy Church will be on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, at 3.30pm in the Church Hall. Children and their carers are welcome to join in an afternoon of crafts, stories and songs on a biblical theme, followed by a hot meal for everybody. There is no charge, but we are grateful for donations.

**CHURCH SHOP:** the 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.)

**KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH:** for all services, see page 13. The March Coffee Morning is on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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.

## FoSC & KENSWORTH PC

### FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The Friends' main work party will be on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March**, the last winter work party for the year, as the vernal equinox occurs the following week, the herald of spring and the greening of the Common (see page 12). However, Storm Erik has left a trail of debris and broken dead branches, whipped from the trees and shrubs around Studham.

Our main tasks will therefore be a general tidy up and to complete any remaining unfinished work from earlier work parties over the whole common. All work will be carefully controlled to ensure early nesting birds are not disturbed.

**Everyone is welcome, especially new members!** What better time to cast off the last of the winter gloom? Please come and help out. Tools will be supplied, as well as lunch, for all the volunteers. We meet at the War Memorial on West Common, opposite the Red Lion at 10am. Contact Denis Davison (872650 or [denis@denjen.co.uk](mailto:denis@denjen.co.uk)) for further information.

### KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

#### Crime & Antisocial Behaviour

The Chairman of the Council attended the quarterly meeting with the Community Police Team at Dunstable Police station in January. Insp. Gurr reported that the statistics showed that ASB issues had fallen slightly but the theft of vehicles, mainly keyless vehicles stolen from driveways using an enhancer of the mobile signal from the key to the car, and also thefts from (mainly tradesmen's) vehicles, had risen. It was agreed the main areas for the Community Police Team to concentrate on in the next quarter would be: drugs and the theft OF and FROM vehicles.

If you are affected by any crime or anti-social behaviour, please do report these directly to the Police. They need the community to be their eyes and ears to gather information and report to them. This will help them build intelligence data in order to use their resources effectively and target areas most needed. These should be reported on 101 and you can also start a 101 live web chat online through their website [www.bedfordshire.police.uk](http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk).

If you wish to report any issues anonymously, these can be reported through Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111 or online via [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org). They are an independent charity and you will remain 100% anonymous. They don't ask you for any personal information and do not track your device.

If you have any difficulty reporting to the above, or still have concerns doing this, please let the Parish Council know by email: [kensworthpc@gmail.com](mailto:kensworthpc@gmail.com) or letter to 131 Common Road. The Parish Council will not respond directly, but will pass details on to the relevant authority.

## MORE WHIPSNADE

### WHIPSNADE SUMMER FETE

This year the Fete is on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June** – a preliminary planning meeting will be held on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March** at 7.30pm at Chapel Farm, Whipsnade. Everyone is welcome; bring your ideas and offers of help. This year, we would like to involve more villagers in this annual event. Contact Isobel Randall (872552) or Pam Ward (872406).

### WHIPSNADE PARISH COUNCIL

At January's meeting, members approved two major items of capital expenditure for new facilities in the village:

**Speed sign** - to complement our existing 40 mph limit speed warning sign, we shall be installing one of the new types of 'feedback' illuminated signs which give approaching motorists a read-out of their actual speed illuminated in green if below the speed limit, followed by a 'smiley' sign, or red if above the legal limit. The unit will be solar powered and so can easily be moved to different locations along the busy road through the village.

**Village Hall children's outdoor play area** – an order has been placed with Sovereign Play for new children's outdoor play equipment on the Village Hall meadow, comprising a climbing frame and slide and a double swing complete with picnic table and chairs and enclosed by a picket fence.

Our thanks to the Trustees of Whipsnade Village Hall and Field for their consent to install the new facility which we hope will become popular with residents and visitors to the Village Hall alike. The equipment is designed for children age 8 and below, and for supervised play only. Installation is scheduled to start on 13<sup>th</sup> March, so we look forward to opening the new playground later this month.

The **next meeting** of the Parish Council is on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March in Whipsnade Village Hall, at 7.30 pm. This will also be the **Annual Parish Meeting**.

### WHIPSNADE TREE CATHEDRAL 'SPRING CLEAN'



This year on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March between 11am and 3pm. There are lots of hedge cuttings to rake up and loads of branches from the winter storms to tidy up ready for the grass cutting season to begin. Bring a picnic, tools provided; there's something for all the family to do.

Volunteers are needed to help with the regular maintenance of the Tree Cathedral, say half a day a week? Interested? Contact Pam Ward (872406).

## THIS MONTH

**THE NORTH CHILTERNNS GROUP OF PARISHES – 2019 LENT COURSE** ‘The Christ we share’. Using artwork, we will explore images of Jesus from around the world to gain insight into “the Christ we share” with Christians worldwide.

Everybody welcome to the meetings on Tuesdays 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> April – all in St Giles’ Church Hall, Totternhoe, 7.30pm for 7.45pm

### **SHROVE TUESDAY: Pancake Day (5<sup>th</sup> March)**

Ever wondered why we eat pancakes just before Lent? The tradition dates back to Anglo-Saxon times, when Christians spent Lent in repentance and severe fasting.

So on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, the church bell would summon them to confession, where they would be ‘shriven’, or absolved from their sins, which gives us Shrove Tuesday. At home, they would then eat up their last eggs and fat, and making a pancake was the easiest way to do this. For the next 47 days, they pretty well starved themselves.

Shrove Tuesday is always 47 days before Easter Sunday and falls between 3<sup>rd</sup> February and 9<sup>th</sup> March.

### **SPRING EQUINOX**

The Spring Equinox (also called the March equinox or vernal equinox) falls on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019, at 5:58pm. This event marks the astronomical first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere and always occurs on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, or 21<sup>st</sup>.

For the first time in nearly 40 years, the Spring Equinox will occur on the same day as March’s Full Worm Moon (the name for the March Full Moon, considered to be the last full moon of winter). The last time that these two events occurred on the same date was on 20<sup>th</sup> March 1981, though they did come close again in March 2000, separated by a span of only four hours.



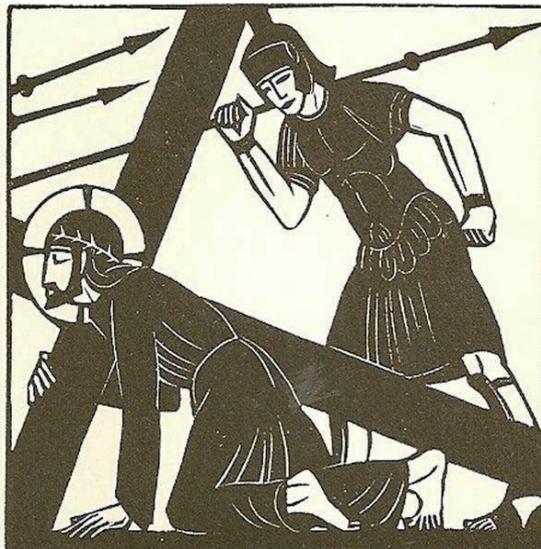
But that’s not all: March’s full moon will also be a “supermoon”, meaning that it will be slightly larger and brighter than most of the other full moons this year.

The word equinox comes from the Latin words for “equal night”—aequus (equal) and nox (night). On the equinox, the length of day and night is nearly equal in all parts of the world. According to folklore, you can stand a raw egg on its end on the Spring Equinox – do let us know if it’s true!

## CHURCH NEWS

### ART WORKSHOP

Open to all (especially if you think you're 'not artistic!'): an Art Workshop for adults on the theme of 'The Stations of the Cross' (which will also be the theme of a service of 'Music & Word' at Kensworth Church on Palm Sunday in the afternoon). The Stations are descriptive moments of Jesus' journey from his trial until his crucifixion



This will be an opportunity for playfulness and prayerful meditation and for guided creativity. No skill or prior experience is required! We will be led by Katherine Killick, a Jungian psychotherapist who has written and published on art therapy.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2 – 4pm in Kensworth Church Hall, Clayhall Road.  
Pre-booking essential! For further details, contact Revd. Nicola Lenthall (01582 872223 or [revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com](mailto:revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com)).

### KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday services are usually at 10.30am

3<sup>rd</sup> March      Worship led by Mr R. Owers

10<sup>th</sup> March     Worship led by Mr J. Enejo

17<sup>th</sup> March     Holy Communion led by the Reverend Seung-Wook Jung

24<sup>th</sup> March     Local Arrangement – Please see the Notice Board

31<sup>st</sup> March     Mothering Sunday - United Service at St Mary's Church, Kensworth

**Growing Together**      21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.45pm

### STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March      10am    Rev. Mmasape Zihle: Chapel Anniversary

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March      10am    Local Arrangement

**Messy Church** – page 14

**SMILE LINE** A minister, known for his lengthy sermons, noticed a man leave during the middle of his message. The man returned as the service concluded. Afterwards the minister asked the man where he had gone. "I went to get a haircut," was the reply. "But," protested the minister, "why didn't you do that before the service?" "Because," said the man, "I didn't need one then."

## LOCAL NEWS

### CHURCH ROOFS

We have recently heard the sad news that lead has been stolen from the north aisle roof of Stanbridge Church and there have been several similar thefts elsewhere in the Diocese. We should state that none of our village churches has a lead roof and no roofing work is planned for them at the current time. All our churches have footpaths through the churchyards, which are well used by dog-walkers and ramblers. We also benefit from thoughtful and watchful near neighbours.

Could we please ask all those of you who walk through the churchyards, or live nearby to assist us by being vigilant and phoning the police (101) immediately if you see anything suspicious. Thank you so very much.

*Revd. Nicola Lenthall and the churchwardens*

### SIMNEL CAKE



This is a fruit cake, traditionally eaten on Mothering Sunday and on Easter Day. The fourth Sunday of Lent was traditionally a day when Christians attended their mother church, and when young people in service were allowed the day off to visit their mothers. The Lenten fast is suspended for the day. The cake has marzipan instead of icing, and is topped by 12 marzipan balls around the rim, to represent the Apostles (minus the traitor Judas Iscariot!) and Jesus. Sometimes the Jesus figure goes in the middle.

‘Simnel’ comes from the Latin word for wheat flour (as in ‘semolina’). There is a myth that it was named after Lambert Simnel, who falsely claimed to be an heir to the throne in 1487, but Simnel Cakes had already been part of Lent and Easter for two centuries before that.

### DUNSTABLE DOCTORS

Over the years, there has been talk of moving Doctors’ practices in Dunstable onto a ‘Health Hub’. There is now a consultation underway on this, so go to [www.bedfordshireccg.nhs.uk/dunstablehub](http://www.bedfordshireccg.nhs.uk/dunstablehub), fill in the questionnaire and have your say. Closing date 7<sup>th</sup> April.

### ELECTIONS

Don’t forget the local elections being held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May this year. It’s your chance to have an influence over the way local issues are handled so make sure that you have a vote.

*Thanks to Studham Parish Council for the above two items.*

## KENSWORTH EXTRA

### KENSWORTH LADIES' CLUB

The March meeting will take place on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> in the Church Hall at 7.30pm. It will be a session about the Art of Painting, with a chance to try out your skills. No experience necessary! All ladies welcome.

### FRIENDS of KENSWORTH CHURCH

The **New Year Quiz** was a great success, and a sum of over £500 was raised. Many thanks to all who helped and attended.

The **next events** involving the Friends will be: running a barbecue at the May Festival on 5<sup>th</sup> May, and on 6<sup>th</sup> July there will be a concert in the church by the Caritas Ladies' Choir – details later.

The January winners of the **Monthly Draw Club** were Philippa Frey and Julia Holder.

### KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

The Committee were pleased to welcome Terry Beckham to the Village Hall Committee and hoped he would bring some new ideas for the future.

Mike Sawyer was pleased to announce that we had been successful in obtaining a grant from the Wixamtree Trust for £3,000, so we now have sufficient funds, with the donation of £3,000 of materials and free labour, to deal with the major issues on refurbishing the hall. Adequate notice will be given to hirers if necessary.

Once the work has been completed the conditions of hire will be updated to reflect how we expect hirers to take care of the refurbished hall. Hirers have been complimentary about the facilities and we hope to be able to keep our rates competitive.

We are still looking for a Treasurer to help produce the spreadsheets required by the auditor and the Charity Commission. If you are interested, please contact Pat Mitchell (871178) or come to the next meeting on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30pm.

The next Village Walk is planned for Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March – look out for the notices advertising it. It's a great way to get to know the local area, and meet other people from the village. Coffee is provided afterwards in the Village Hall.

Next meeting in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March.



## STUDHAM PC AND SCHOOL

### STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Data Protection:** due to the new Data Protection laws now coming into force, the Parish Council feels that we should point out to residents that they have the right to remain anonymous should they so wish. With this in mind, we will in future not print in the minutes the names of parishioners who have spoken at meetings, or raised subjects via e-mail or other written correspondence without their express permission. Please advise us at the time if you are prepared to have your name published in full: we can instead use initials or refer to you simply as “a resident” or a “parishioner”.

Our **new website** will soon be ‘up and running’, just a few more ‘tweaks’. Watch this space for further updates. Talking of which, if you do wish to be party to what is going on you can always join our ever-growing e-mail list. Just e-mail the Clerk saying that you wish to join and she will tell you what it is all about.

**Change of date** – please note that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 8.15pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall. Please access via the back door (by the bins) as the main hall is booked by another group. The previous dates and times are now superseded.

### STUDHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

Our Year 4s are taking part in a new scheme and are appointing Junior Road Safety Officers to help spread the word about keeping ourselves safe when out and about. On the theme of safety, February 5<sup>th</sup> was “Safer Internet Day 2019” and children used a variety of resources



to find out how they can keep safe when browsing the web. Pictured below are Sycamore Class (Years 1 & 2) with some of the posters they made about not giving out personal details online.

Sticking with Sycamore class – or at least part of it – our Year 1 gym team took part in a gym display with the other Priory Partnership schools at Icknield School. It was not a competition but the children did themselves proud.

Our Jazz Band has started rehearsals to be ready for some performances in the Summer term. Not many schools boast a jazz band and I don't know of another Lower School that could make that claim. Look out for them playing later in the year.

## KENSWORTH 2

### **KENSWORTH CRICKET CLUB**

Kensworth Cricket Club begins preparations for the new season with indoor nets practice starting on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March at Dunstable Cricket Club, 11am till 12 noon; these will continue up to Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

If you are interested in joining your local village team, then please contact Duncan Wingfield (872743) or Jon Holt (872896) for further details.

### **KENSWORTH SCHOOL**

Due to half term, the School report will have to be held over until next month.

For information about the school, please contact the Headteacher, Mrs O Bates (872336) or e-mail [kensworth@cbc.beds.sch.uk](mailto:kensworth@cbc.beds.sch.uk).

### **KENSWORTH SCHOOL PARENT TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION**

Our 'Alfresco' Quiz Night is taking place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May at Kensworth School at 7pm prompt. The quiz will take place in the newly-renovated grounds. If weather is poor, the quiz will be moved to the school hall, which has also been renovated. Please get your teams together to make up a table for this popular quiz, or we can make up a table for you. Bring your own drink. To book a table or a place on a table, call Gina Owen (07506 722 053). Tickets are £5 per person. All proceeds will go to Kensworth School PTA to provide extra resources for Kensworth Church of England Academy School.

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### **ORCHARD SURVEY**

Steve Halton from CBC recently sent out a request for volunteers to participate in a parish-by-parish survey of orchards in Bedfordshire as part of the 'Orchards East' project. The volunteers are needed to:

- 1) help with the surveying work (anytime between now and August 2020!)
- 2) identify any orchards locally, be they old, new or long gone.

Pam Rumfitt is co-ordinating the survey for Studham – should anyone be interested in doing the same for Kensworth or Whipsnade, please contact Pam for further information (e-mail: [pamrumfitt@btinternet.com](mailto:pamrumfitt@btinternet.com) or phone 872608).

An orchard is any group of 5 or more fruit or nut trees of any species on one site. So, for example, a group of an apple, walnut, plum, quince and greengage in one garden would count as an orchard, but 5 fruit trees on two or more sites, even if closely adjoining, would not.

## STUDHAM EXTRA

### **BINGO**

This is on Wednesdays 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in Studham Village Hall. We have had our winter break and are ready for fun evenings - why not come and join us? £5 will pay your entrance, books, cup of tea/coffee and even a strip of raffle tickets! New players always welcome.

### **SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB**

Call in at the Club and see what events we have planned, or just have a friendly drink and chat. The pool table and dart board are always available and families are most welcome.

Please note that subs are due on 1<sup>st</sup> April. New swipe cards are being issued. To benefit from members' bar prices, you will need to renew membership and collect your swipe card. Under General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) rules, this will also mean updating your contact details and explaining how and where they are stored and how they will be used. Please see Club notice boards for further details.

### **SCRABBLE**

Our small but enthusiastic Scrabble group meets at 2pm every Tuesday afternoon at Studham Village Hall.

### **WI**

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.45pm in the Village Hall, our Annual Meeting. As this is mostly a 'business' evening with no speaker, we will be lightening it up at the end with cheese and wine and lots of chat - so why not come and see what we are all about?

### **QUIZZES**

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm in the Red Lion. £3 a head for the quiz (any size of team) and raffle £1 per strip (5 chances). All proceeds will go to the Village Hall Improvement Fund. Food is available (but be warned you need to book ahead if you want the curry); ring Garry Ellis (872530).

The 6 rounds in March will be: Sport & Recent News, School days, Alphabet – all start A, Entertainment, Anything Else and Music – title beginning G.

### **CARPET BOWLS**

The Club meets at 7pm on Thursdays in Studham Village Hall and dates are in the diary section. We are a small friendly group and new members are most welcome, or just come for a taster. Contacts are Pat Thorne (872751) or Des Salmon (872082)

### **STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL**

The Village Hall continues to be popular for family parties and other events. Charges are reasonable. It is a community centre so use it or lose it. A little way ahead, but here are some diary dates: Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June: Annual Quiz Night; Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July: AGM.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**MARGARETTE** thanks Studham's Secret Santa for his/her wonderful surprise. Much appreciated - Happy New Year.

### PARISH LINK

Les Randall, the Treasurer, is grateful for donations totalling £63.50 from readers and £40 from Kensworth Methodist Church. This helps to keep the Parish Link free and delivered to every household in Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade. If you would like to make a donation, contact him on 01582 872552 or e-mail: lesrandall@btinternet.com, or send a cheque (payable to Parish Link) to 14 Holywell Road, Studham, LU6 2PA. Thank you.

Also don't forget our website at [www.parishlink.org](http://www.parishlink.org) for all sorts of extra local information, news of local events and photographs. If you are holding an event in 2019, take a look at the "What's On" page to avoid clashes and also let Les know (see above) if you want your event to appear on the page.

### DUNSTABLE & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

On 12<sup>th</sup> March, "On the Ball" – Dunstable Town Football Club was established in 1883 – club Chairman, Alex Alexandrou, a professional historian, gives a talk about the club, its most famous players and its role in the life of the town. Held in the Methodist Church Hall opposite Wilkinsons in Dunstable at 7.45pm. Visitors to meetings pay £2.



### SOUTH BEDS ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS

Our talks revert to Wednesday evenings at 7.45pm. The next one is by Keith Hoffmeister on The Impact of HS2 on The Chilterns is on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March and will be held in the Salvation Army Centre in Bull Pond Lane in Dunstable; guests welcome at £3.

### DUNSTABLE DOWNS GATEWAY CENTRE

On the first Sunday of every month between 2pm and 3.30pm, "Fifty Things to do before you are 11¾" – a variety of activities for children – indoors or outdoors dependent on the weather. Call 01582 500920 or visit [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dunstable-downs](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dunstable-downs) for more information.

### HEALTH AND WELLNESS GROUP

A group for the over 65s in Flamstead, Markyate, Kensworth and Studham. 2nd Monday of the month; pub lunch and talk at the Spotted Dog in Flamstead. Starting on 1<sup>st</sup> March and then every alternate Friday at 2pm, Tai-chi class plus talk and tea in Markyate Y2K Hall. For more information, call 07983 91887 on Tues/Wed/Thurs afternoons between 2 and 4pm.