

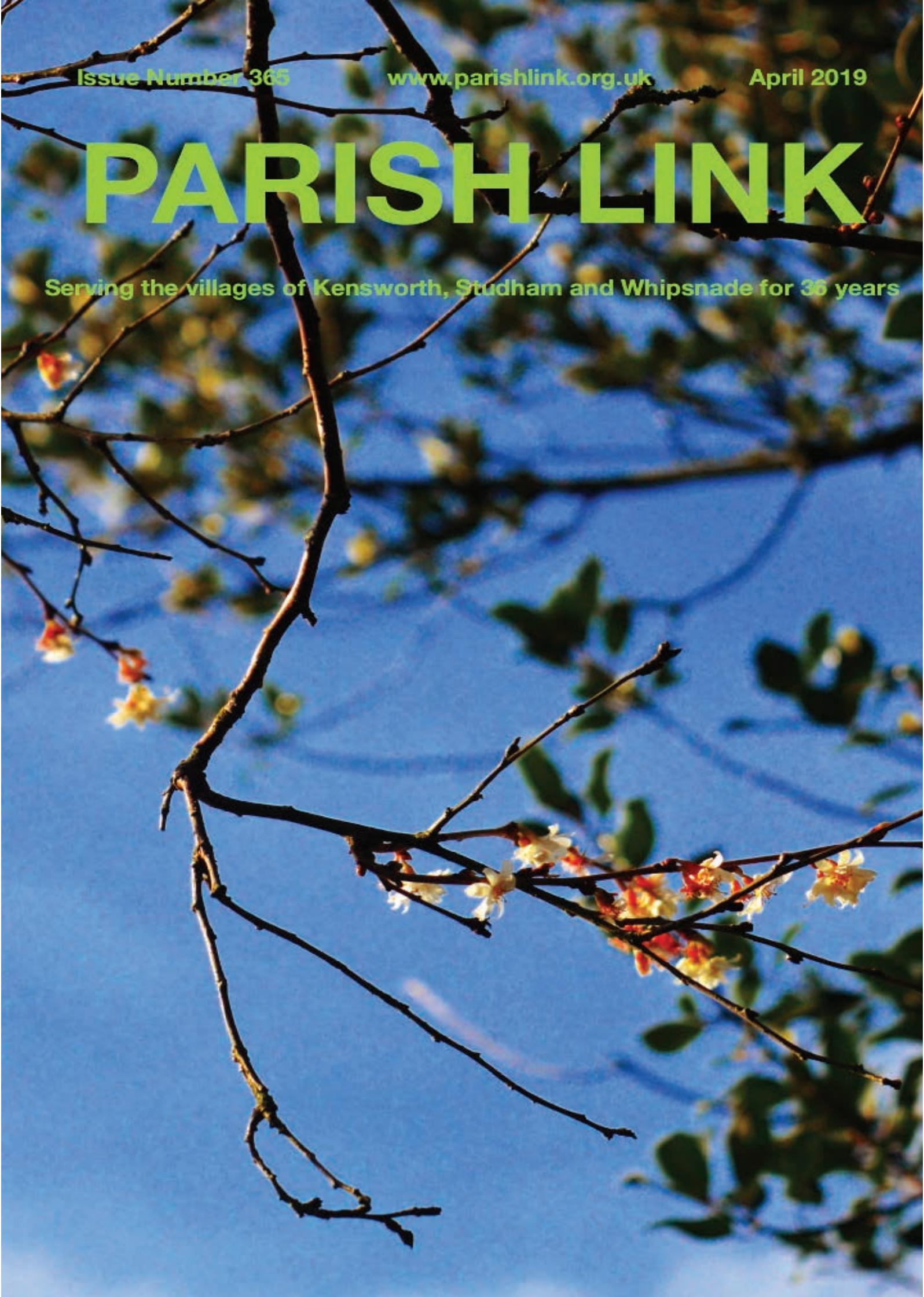
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PARISH LINK

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





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Dear friends and parishioners,

Sometimes what we believe can be written down – sometimes it can't. One of the things which moves me most deeply about the Easter story is that none of those whom the risen Jesus meets are given a piece of paper and asked to 'sign here'; Jesus doesn't start long and complicated questioning to ensure people are 'believing properly' – generally he calls those first disciples by their name and begins a conversation with them.

He called them, as he calls us, not into a discussion of doctrine but into a lifelong relationship with him. And what are relationships about? Relationships are messy and contradictory – the same people whom we love dearly have the power to irritate us intensely; when we start to love someone we open ourselves up to the possibility of pain by making ourselves vulnerable – this is what happened to God. Through loving us enough to walk amongst us as his Son he opened himself to the pain of rejection and death.

Life has messy and blurred edges; and so faith, too, has messy and blurred edges. Things are not very often straightforward. If the risen Jesus we meet at Easter tells us anything, he tells us that building a relationship happens through:

- meeting the other person where they are;
- listening and taking them seriously;
- assuming that we can learn from the other person;
- being open to them, and risking hurt.

God calls us into a new relationship of love with him today. It may be a struggle. It may not answer all our questions, but it will ultimately change our lives, if we let it.

With my love and prayers, this Eastertide and always,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicola" with a decorative flourish underneath.

Nicola

Front cover photo courtesy of Isobel Randall

PRAYERS

In April we shall be praying for the people of Oldhill Wood and Byslips Road. We also pray for the people and issues requested on our church prayer tree. If you would like the support of people praying for your needs, contact us by hanging a request on the prayer tree in the church, or pass your request on to either the Rector or the churchwardens.

THE CONCERT IN THE CHURCH on 3rd March was greatly appreciated by all who attended on a very windy evening. A group of very talented young musicians sang and played a variety of instruments. Over £700 was raised for Cancer Research UK and the church. Special thanks to Robert Kendrick for organising it.

WHIPSNADE VILLAGE LUNCH is on Thursday 12th April at 12.30pm. Enjoy a Spring-themed menu, with a choice of roast lamb, venison casserole with dumplings, fisherman's pie or coq au vin, and a choice of puddings with tea or coffee. All for £6; come and meet new friends. Offers of help or puddings to Isobel Randall (872552).

EASTER PLANS: The Good Friday service is at 10am when we welcome children from the three villages to take part in making Easter gardens. Each Easter garden is a model of the garden showing Jesus' open tomb surrounded by flowers, and it stays in its own church throughout the Easter season. There is then a short service followed by hot cross buns and drinks. Come along with your friends!

The church will be decorated for Easter on Saturday 20th April starting at 9.30am. Contributions towards the flowers are welcome (especially if in memory of a loved one) to Anne Weir (873425). Help with the decorating would be most welcome.

Easter Day: we hope for fine weather for our Easter Egg Hunt after the 9am service.

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM) is on Tuesday 23rd April at 7.45pm in the church. The Easter Vestry, with election of churchwardens is followed by the APCM at 8pm in which the events of the year are reported and the Parochial Church Council is elected. Come and meet fellow members, enjoy refreshments and share the life of the church. Nominations for Churchwarden and members of the PCC are welcome – please check first that people are eligible to stand and willing for their names to go forward! Nomination forms are in the church.

THE FRIENDS OF WHIPSNADE CHURCH were formed in 2004; the primary purpose is to raise funds for the church fabric; for example a contribution was made to the building of the church extension. We are now concentrating on helping to keep the listed building in good order.

The AGM is on Sunday 28th April at 10am in the church. Everyone is welcome, especially new 'friends', to come and hear about further plans and events for the year.

KENSWORTH NEWSROUND

KENSWORTH CHURCH PRAYERS

In April the people of Common Road, from Hollicks Lane to Isle of Wight Lane, 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

April will be a busy month in the Church, from the solemnity of Lent to the joys of Easter Day. There are many special events and services – see details on page 14. Please note that the Easter Sunday Service starts at 11am.

If you wish to help decorate the church for Easter (volunteers always welcome!), please contact Penny Brown (603837).

Evening Prayer: the short service from the Book of Common Prayer will resume on Tuesday 23rd April at 4pm in the church. For details, contact Jim Putterill (872436). Many thanks to Kensworth Methodists for allowing this service to be held in their church during the winter months.

Choir News: the choir practises on Fridays between 6pm and 7pm in the church. In April the choir will be singing at: Sung Eucharist on the 7th; on Good Friday, 19th April, at Sung Liturgy at 12 noon; at 8pm on Saturday 20th at the Service of Light; and on Easter Sunday.

If you would like to join, please contact Mike Palmer (524183; e-mail: medpalmer@gmail.com), or the Rector (872223; revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com). We also welcome instrumental players to help accompany.

Sunday School: 14th April is Palm Sunday, with a special Family Service. On Easter Sunday, 21st April, there will be special activities for the younger children during the service, followed by the Easter Egg Hunt for all the young people. **(NB: the service starts at 11am).**



On the 28th, the younger children will have a lesson on 'The wonder of Thomas'.

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: see page 13.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING: our APCM is on Tuesday 30th April at 7.30pm in the Church Hall, behind the Vicarage in Clayhall Road.

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church Prayers: in April all the people of Dunstable Road, Southern Way and Bell Farm Close will be especially included in our prayers. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, please contact Churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

Easter Services: everyone is warmly welcome to join us in our special Easter services. On 18th April the Maundy Thursday service, in which we remember the last supper of Jesus, is at 8pm and on Good Friday (19th April) we shall be joined by our Methodist friends at 4pm. The Easter Sunday service is at the earlier time of **10am** and will be an Easter Celebration Holy Communion for all ages. After the service there will be refreshments, the celebration of all the April birthdays and an Easter Egg hunt.

Decoration of the church's north aisle and the modernisation of the kitchen and toilet – this work will begin immediately after Easter and is scheduled to last 4-6 weeks. During this time, Sunday services will continue as normal but during the day the church will remain locked for health and safety reasons.

The church's annual meeting (**the Easter Vestry meeting and APCM**) is on Thursday 25th April at 7.30pm at the church. We shall be reviewing the last year and begin planning for the year ahead with the election of Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council. Please come along to hear what's going on and have your say about the future.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

We are a friendly group who aim to raise funds throughout the year to support the maintenance of the oldest building in the village, the church.

We have a full programme of fundraising events – it's just over a month to our main event, the **May Fair**, on 11th May.

We also have a joint **summer event** with the Studham School Trust with live band music and barbeque in the churchyard on 22nd June, a **Race Night** on 4th October and our **Call My Bluff wine evening** on 1st November.

We also run a **100 Club** which costs only £12 per year with £60 in prizes each month. Nigel Wade, Kathleen Barnes, Fiona McDougal and John Hanna have been the lucky February and March winners.

To join the 100 Club, or to find out more about the Friends, please e-mail john.mcdougal@btinternet.com or call 873257.

KENSWORTH SCHOOL NEWS

KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY and PRESCHOOL

A very busy term so far! We said goodbye to Miss Hughes and wish her well in Totternhoe. We have welcomed Mrs Catherine Harrison as our new Assistant Headteacher and teacher in Oak Class, and Mrs Price, our new Mealtime Assistant.

Class assemblies have been amazing, showing us what they have been learning this term. Hornbeam gave us a taste of their timetable in 'A day in the life of Hornbeam'; Oak Class presented a morning of entertainment on 'Kensworth TV' and Cherry Class took us on a voyage on the Titanic. Well done to all the children! Our Collective Worship club are also taking us on the Lenten Journey on the build-up to Holy Week and Easter. The children are creating teardrops for our Prayer Tree, showing their understanding of the journey.



On Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent, there were pancake races on the playground with lots of fun and very good 'flipping' action by the children.

To promote our Healthy School initiative, our School Council challenged the children to keep food diaries over half term. Every child who took part received a backpack containing stationery. Staff are jealous! The school became a sea of book characters for World Book Day. There were wonderful costumes and books were shared.

From September, our Breakfast Club provider, KidZone, will be trialling an after-school club here at Kensworth to allow us to offer wrap-around care. The first hour (until 4.30pm) will be Active Hour followed by a calmer hour, which may involve art, crafts, games and more. The club will end at 5.30pm. Breakfast club will continue to run from 7.45am. This will be a one term trial to gauge the number of children taking part in the club. If there is an insufficient number, then KidZone will not continue with this offer. All places are booked directly with KidZone.

To contact the school, please telephone the Headteacher, Mrs O Bates (872336), or e-mail kensworth@cbc.beds.sch.uk.

Kensworth School Parent Teachers' Association asks for your support:

Our 'Alfresco' Quiz Night is taking place on Saturday 11th May at Kensworth School at 7pm prompt. The quiz will take place in the newly renovated grounds of Kensworth School. 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 the school.

STUDHAM EXTRA

BINGO

This is on Wednesdays 10th and 24th April 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.

STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

Would all those who walk their dogs through the playing fields please keep them on a lead whilst in the grounds and remember to clean up after them?



SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Subs are due on 1st April. To ensure that members receive their due benefits, new cards are being issued and under General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) rules, we need to update your contact details and explain how and where they are stored. So please call in and see us.

Saturday 27th April is the 10th Anniversary of the Chuck Golf Day for the Chuck Cup. Matches will be played at Whipsnade Golf Club and celebrations and presentations will take place at the Club.

SCRABBLE

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

WI

On Thursday 4th April at 7.45pm in Studham Village Hall. We are starting our 101st year with an Open Meeting – everyone is welcome to attend. The speaker will be Bill Bowman, local photographer, who will be telling us all about his professional life behind the lens, with some anecdotes from 'off camera' no doubt! . Visitors £3.50 including refreshments. Competition: My Favourite Photograph. There will also be a Bring & Buy stall on a Spring theme.

QUIZZES

On Tuesday 2nd April at 8pm in the Red Lion. £3 per head for the quiz and raffle £1 strip (5 chances). All proceeds will go to the Village Hall Improvement Fund. Any size of team, food is available (but be warned you need to book the curry 'cos it sells out!). Ring Garry Ellis (872530).

To whet your appetite, the 6 rounds in April will be: sport and recent news, school days, alphabet – all start with B; entertainment, anything else and music – title beginning with H. Now you have no excuses – looking forward to seeing you!

THIS MONTH

WHAT IS MAUNDY THURSDAY?

Maundy Thursday is the day before Good Friday. It is one of the lesser known days of the Christian calendar. The name 'Maundy' is derived from the Latin word "mandatum", meaning a commandment. Jesus Christ, at the Last Supper, commanded:

'And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.' (John 13:34) .

During the Last Supper, Jesus washed his disciples' feet. This act has sometimes been followed literally in history as a good way of reminding rulers that they are here to serve their subjects: in England, until 1689, the King or Queen would wash the feet of the poor on Maundy Thursday in Westminster Abbey. (The feet were first washed by Yeomen of the Laundry before the monarch had to wash them and kiss them!). Food and clothing were also handed out to the poor.

The tradition of the Monarch giving money to the poor dates from the 13th century, from the reign of Edward I. Every year on this day, the Queen attends a Royal Maundy service in one of the many cathedrals throughout the country. Those who receive the coins, men and women, as many as the age of the Monarch, are all retired pensioners recommended by clergy and ministers of all denominations, in recognition of service to the Church and to the community.

A complete set of Maundy money consists of: a groat (4p), threepence (3p), a half-groat (2p) and a penny (1p). They are actually legal tender, but in view of their rarity, are very collectable.



Many Christians commemorate the Last Supper in a special Eucharist. In some churches, the washing of feet takes place. After the service the altar is stripped. Some Christians may hold an all-night vigil in church, remembering Christ's time in the Garden of Gethsemane. In our benefice, this service takes place in St Mary's, Studham (see p.14).

THE NORTH CHILTERN'S GROUP OF PARISHES

The Annual General Meeting of the North Chilterns Group of Churches is on Tuesday 21st May at 7pm at Dunstable Downs Golf Club. Come along to see what is happening in all the villages, hear what is planned for next year, and offer any of your own suggestions.

Don't forget the final two dates in the **Lent Course**, "The Christ we Share". 7.30pm for 7.45pm at St Giles' Church Hall, Totternhoe on Tuesdays 2nd and 9th April.

CHURCH NEWS

FIRST STEPS AND MESSY CHURCH

Due to the holidays, there are no First Steps or Messy Church services in Kensworth or Studham in April. Children are all welcome to the Good Friday Service at 10am at Whipsnade Church to help make Easter Gardens.

STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 14th April 10am Rev. Mmasape Zihile
 Sunday 28th April 10am Dr. Roy Swanston

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

7th April 10.30am Worship led by Mr R. Armiger
 14th April Please see Notice Board
 21st April 9.30am Holy Communion led by the Reverend Nigel Bibbings
 28th April 10.30am Worship led by Mrs. Elisabeth Bibbings

Please see Notice Board for date of **Growing Together** – Bible Study and fellowship 7.30pm (refreshments) for 7.45pm. Come and join us!

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptism

10th March James Macleod Biley Studham

R.I.P.

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 23 rd January | Kenneth Waldock | formerly Kensworth |
| 15 th February | Andrew White | Whipsnade |
| 19 th February | Colin Wilkins | Studham |
| 21 st February | Christopher Craughwell | Studham |

BEREAVEMENT

When I first experienced bereavement I likened it to waves of the sea. Emotions and feelings which sometimes are manageable and at other times sweep you off your feet; some of which you can see coming and prepare yourself for, and others of which you seem to have your back to and engulf you before you know where you are or how to cope. It is a continuous state of being – there is no way to recapture ‘what there was before’, and the only thing you can do is to try to find the support structures you need. Even then there is nothing that will be able to stop the pain of loss, the pain which is part of the nature of being human, building relationships and living through the joys and hurts of love.

Every other year our local churches host a special “In Loving Memory” service for all who would like to remember those we love but see no longer. This year, all are welcome to St Mary’s, Kensworth at 3pm on 28th April for a short service of remembering and candle-lighting, followed by refreshments.

Revd. Nicola Lenthall

LOCAL NEWS

PILATES CLASSES

The Markyate surgery Patient Participation Group has organised for Pilates classes to be held in Kensworth Methodist Hall on Wednesdays from 11.30am to 12.30pm, starting with a 'taster' session on 3rd April. Thereafter these will be held every Wednesday.

These classes are primarily aimed at the over 65s and those with mobility issues (Parkinsons etc). The cost will be £5 per session with everything provided by the instructor Lesley Pickering from Edlesborough.

If you or anyone you know may be interested, please contact Dawn Stafford (872554) or Michael Cain on (872587).

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting: on Thursday 11th April at 8.15pm at the Village Hall. The meeting is open to all members of the public and we will award grant cheques to local groups and organisations and the 'Villager of the Year' award.

Great British Spring Clean: Kensworth is joining the 'Great British Spring Clean' on Saturday 13th April, with volunteers meeting at 10am at Kensworth Village Hall. Equipment will be provided. Please e-mail kensworthpc@gmail.com or phone/text 07912298141 so we know you are coming. The event will be co-ordinated on the day by Kensworth Chairman Pat Mitchell.

Play Area Improvements: we are pleased to announce we have received £10,000 from National Lottery Awards for All. We are also waiting on another grant application for £10,000 from London Luton Airport. We have allocated £9,000 towards the new playground project: also £4,558.16 raised by donations and £1,148 from new build contributions.

If the Airport application is successful, the Council will have a total of £34,706. Otherwise, there is still £24,706 available for new equipment. The Council will place an order with HAGS in April. We are confident that even without the Airport funding, there will be exciting new play equipment installed before summer. We will keep you updated; also see our website www.kensworth.bedsparishes.gov.uk/.

Parish Council Funding: Parish Councils are funded by levying a "precept" collected from within the council tax paid by the residents of the parish. Parish Councils are made up of unpaid councillors who are elected to serve for four years. In order for Kensworth Parish Council to provide improvements, a £10 increase to an average Band D property has been applied to the Parish Council precept for 2019/20, meaning a Band D property now contributes just over £67 per year.

We would love to hear what type of village improvements you would like to see, so please e-mail your ideas to kensworthpc@gmail.com or phone/text 07912 298141 or speak to one of our Parish Councillors.

KENSWORTH EXTRA

KENSWORTH CRICKET CLUB

Kensworth Cricket Club start the season with an away game at Wendover C.C. on Sunday 28th April at 1pm.

If you are interested in joining your local village team, please contact Duncan Wingfield (872 743) or Jon Holt (872 896) for further details.

KENSWORTH MAY FESTIVAL - SUNDAY 5th MAY

Come to see the May Queen being crowned, a bunch of merry Morris Dancers, a wonderful Dog Show, many interesting stalls, pony rides, BBQ and drinks, with the addition of some incredible raffle prizes! More information coming soon, but please put the date in your diary!

CHURCH SHOP

The shop, in the Church Hall, Clayhall Road (behind the Vicarage), is open between 2pm and 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).

There was an unfortunate incident recently, when an unruly dog caused considerable damage. Please do not bring dogs into the shop (except, of course, Assistance dogs). There is very little room!

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

For all services, see page 13. The April Coffee Morning is on Saturday 6th, 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 between 9am and 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 LADIES' CLUB

The April meeting will be an Afternoon Tea on Monday 1st April – meet at The Farmer's Boy at 6pm.

FRIENDS of KENSWORTH CHURCH

The February winners of the Monthly Draw Club were Gillian Rubin and Dorothy Blackburn.

The next event involving the Friends will be running a barbecue at the May Festival on 5th May (see above).

On 6th July there will be a concert in the church by the Caritas Ladies' Choir – details later.

STUDHAM EXTRA 2

STUDHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

With half-term and the short month of February since our last Parish Link article, there is very little to report on. Instead, let us look forward to some of the things coming up in the rest of this term.

Easter is looming large and we have lots planned. We have invited a special guest to come in and run a whole day of activities entitled “Impact Easter!” This is a new venture for us and we are looking forward to trying it.

Many of us give up things for Lent but we are taking a different approach with our “40 Acts of Kindness”. Children are given a sheet with 40 ideas for kind deeds which parents or other relatives can sign off if achieved. Those children with the most signed off get invited to a special breakfast with Rev. Nicola Lenthall.

As always, we will be holding our Easter Concert and on the last day of term (5th April at 9.15am), we will be holding our Easter service at the church. Anyone is welcome to join us. On our return from church, our PTFA organise the annual Easter Egg Hunt – the one day of the year we don’t earn our Healthy School badge!

STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

New children’s group: on Wednesday mornings from 8th May, Moosical Fun for children will be at the Village Hall. “We sing, we dance, we learn, we have fun”. The contact is Laura: 07521 311886 or moomusicdunstable@gmail.com/ Website: www.moo-music.co.uk/dunstable or Facebook: [moomusicdunstable](https://www.facebook.com/moomusicdunstable).

Annual Quiz Night: on Saturday 1st June, 7pm for 7.30pm. Fish and chips supper, BYOD, £10. Tickets from Des Salmon (872082 or desstudham@btconnect.com) or a trustee.

AGM: on Friday 12th July at 8 pm. This is an open meeting. Some way off, but it is an opportunity to meet the team that runs the hall for the community, discuss the past year and put forward your thoughts.

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 SOAP BOX DERBY

A fun event at Studham Sports & Social Club on Sunday 26th May from 12 noon. Entry is £25 – all profits to CLIC Sargent ‘Young Lives Cancer Fund’ and local charities. For more information, contact Nick Opperman (872437 or nick.opperman@btinternet.com).

ELECTIONS THURSDAY 2nd MAY

On Thursday 2nd May elections will be held across Central Bedfordshire to elect Councils, both Parish and District. To find out how to become a Councillor, please contact Central Bedfordshire Council: (0300 300 8052/e-mail: electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk). Completed nomination forms should be returned in person to Central Bedfordshire Council no later than 4pm on 3rd April.

WHIPSNADE EVENTS

Rhododendron garden party: Martin and Tess Rees are again holding a garden party on Sunday 19th May from 2pm – 4pm at Kensworth Gorse so that we can enjoy their glorious rhododendrons and azaleas. More details in next Link.

Whipsnade Summer Fete will be held on Saturday 15th June from 1.30pm – 4pm. This is a major fundraising event for the church. We welcome new ideas and offers of help beforehand and on the day to run stalls etc. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Kim Brown (872015). Thank you in advance for your support.

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

The Committee is still looking for a **volunteer Treasurer** who is good with spreadsheets. Pat Mitchell is currently doing the jobs of Secretary and Treasurer, which is very demanding. If you could spare a couple of hours per week and attend the monthly meetings, please contact Pat (871178).

At the March meeting, the Chairman was pleased to announce a **donation** of £3,000 from the Wixamtree Trust; also, the Rugby Cement Benevolent Fund has donated £6,651.60. The Committee was delighted to receive these grants after last year, when we had to replace the boiler and complete urgent maintenance work.

A meeting was held between the Committee and some local tradespeople, who have kindly donated time and money to help get some of the urgent work completed. We are very grateful for this assistance, and will be offering them the opportunity to quote for the remaining improvements. We are hoping to proceed with the least disruption possible and we ask that hirers will bear with us, as there will be some difficulties while the work is being carried out.

The next **village walks** are to be held on Saturday 6th April and 11th May. Please come and join in these walks each month – they are a good way to explore the area and chat afterwards over coffee and biscuits.

The **next meeting** will be held on Wednesday 3rd April at 7.30pm.

Date for your Diary: Margo's Quiz, in aid of the Flower and Vegetable Show, will be held in the Village Hall on 27th July, £7.50 per person to include supper. Tables of 8, preferably. Enquiries to David Manton (01438 831184).

MORE STUDHAM

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON



The Friends wish to thank Paul Rushmer and the Studham, Kensworth and Whipsnade Scout Group for their recent fantastic help with our new dormouse boxes for the Studham Common hedgerows.

The exceptionally cold and wet 2017/2018 winter caused considerable damage to a number of the dormouse nest boxes on the Common. Therefore, before the start of this year's season, we decided to replace

12 boxes and repair a number of others. The Scout group were able to assist in this task and made up the 12 new boxes from kit form in a single evening!

The next Friends' work party will be on **Saturday 20th April**, when we will continue checking all recent and new plantings of hazel etc. on East Common, north of the concrete road. Everyone is welcome to the work party; we meet at the War Memorial on West Common at 10am. Lunch and tools will be provided. Contact Bob Wilkin (871268 or Bob@afromosia.com) for further information.

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting: Monday 1st April at 8.15pm at Studham Methodist Church. This is your meeting when you can find out exactly what your Councillors have been doing for the past year and the aspirations that they have for the coming one. We hope to be able to bring you details of the new phone mast which will give better service to some areas of the village, although topography says that it will never be all! Hope you can join us.

Could we respectfully remind residents to consider their neighbours and not fly drones over other people's gardens, as we have received some complaints about this. The Rules and Regulations concerning the flying of drones changed on 13th March 2019, and these can be obtained from <https://dronesafe.uk/drone-code/>.

There are to be local elections held on Thursday 2nd May and these will take place in the Committee Room of the Village Hall. Please remember that the Main Hall will be hired out that evening so use the side door as the entrance.

It is with sadness that we have accepted the resignation of two of our Councillors: Andrea Maxted, who has served on the Parish Council for over 10 years, and Melissa Newland who has served for 2 years. We wish them both well.

MISCELLANEOUS

ART WORKSHOP

A group of thirteen met in March to take part in an art workshop based around looking at the 'Stations of the Cross' with an abstract eye, led by Katherine Killick, a Jungian psychotherapist who has written and published on art therapy. The group opened themselves up to a spirit of creative exploration and discovery, and produced some



thought-provoking and moving art. This work, showing the descriptive moments of Jesus' journey from his trial until his crucifixion, will be displayed in Kensworth church for a service of 'Music & Word' on Palm Sunday (April 14th) at 4pm, and will remain there for Holy Week, alongside children's work produced in March Messy Church.

MARKYATE PLANT SALE

Markyate's garden party of the year selling over 7,000 colourful bedding plants, hanging baskets and a wide selection of perennials and shrubs. Order bespoke hanging baskets or tubs from £16 or refills (POA). Contact Ian Bradley (01582 943133 or ie.bradley@talktalk.net) for details. Last date for orders 27th April. Plant Sale – Saturday 18th May from 10am at 64 High Street, Markyate AL3 8HZ.

DUNSTABLE & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

On Tuesday 9th April in the Methodist Church Hall opposite Wilkinsons in Dunstable at 7.45pm. The talk this month is on "King Henry's Cathedrals" – revealing Henry VIII's plans to create a number of new cathedrals, including one at Dunstable.

SOUTH BEDS ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS

The talk this month is on "The History of College Lake" by Rodney Simms, on 3rd April at 7.45pm. Held in the Salvation Army Centre in Bull Pond Lane in Dunstable.

FOR YOUNGER READERS

Some puzzling questions to ponder.

1. What word begins with E but has only one letter?
2. What can be seen once in a minute, twice in a moment and never in a thousand years?
3. I am not alive but I have five fingers – what am I?
4. Which hand is best for stirring sugar in your cup of tea?
5. What flies when it's born, lies when it's alive and runs when it's dead?

Answers on page 23.