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May 2019

# PARISH LINK

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





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Dear friends and parishioners,

I now live in a house with a teenager and a nearly-teenager – and it's an interesting, if not entirely un-stressful, place to be ... partly because their teenage lives both mirror and are completely different from how I remember my own teenage years.

On a conference this year about developing work with children and young people the speaker, who was the Archbishop of Canterbury's adviser on evangelism (that's talking about God to you and me), reminded us of the context in which many of our teenagers live their lives. He mentioned five specific drivers which were:

- relationships and commitment – friendship groups and being 'in' or 'out'
- connectivity and communication – that phone which seems welded to the hand!
- authenticity – 'be true to yourself'
- living in the moment – everything is 'now'
- increasing fearfulness, anxiety and concern – about themselves, others, the state of the world etc. etc.

Some of these were certainly part of my teenage life, others much less so, but what struck all of us (just as the speaker had meant it to), was how much the faith of Christianity intercepts with all of these. It is a faith built on relationship – with God and with others. It is communicated through word, image and action; and Jesus constantly used all of these in his ministry. It is about being true to yourself – made in the image of God. It is something to which we respond in the present, all the time, being loved into wholeness. And it is something which constantly proclaims the presence of a God who loves us. We hear 'Do not be afraid' ringing through all the words of Jesus.

Sometimes it can seem as though faith is irrelevant, but it may be that it has much more to say than we know. It has certainly helped this mum-of-teenagers to look and listen differently (and yes, in case you wondered, I am still getting things wrong, but there is time and space in any relationship to go right again...)

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

**Nicola**

***Front cover photo courtesy of Sally Cload.***

**KENSWORTH CHURCH PRAYERS:** in May, the people of The Lynch, Lynch Hill and Clayhall Road, 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:** following the May Day Holy Communion service at 10.30am on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May, the May Queen will be crowned and she will officially open our May Fair, held in the churchyard. Do come and enjoy all the festivities!

There will be a Rogation Sunday service at 10.30am at Dovehouse Farm on 26<sup>th</sup> May – we look forward to as many as possible joining us to bless the farm and pray for our farming community. For all services, see page 14.

**Evening Prayer:** the short service from the Book of Common Prayer continues on Tuesdays at 4pm in Kensworth Church. For details, contact Jim Putterill (872436).

**Choir News:** the choir practises on Fridays, 6pm – 7pm in the church. In May, the choir will be singing at May Day Holy Communion on the 5<sup>th</sup> and Sung Matins on the 19<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to join, please contact Mike Palmer (524183, e-mail: medpalmer@gmail.com), or the Rector (872223, email:revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com). We also welcome instrumental players to help accompany us.

**Sunday School:** on 5<sup>th</sup> May, there will be a Family Holy Communion service, followed by the crowning of the May Queen and the May Fair. On 12<sup>th</sup> May, there are sessions for seniors and juniors on the theme of Jesus the Good Shepherd, and on 26<sup>th</sup> May, we shall meet at Dovehouse Farm to celebrate Rogation Sunday.

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 May Messy Church will be on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 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 2pm – 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 May Coffee Morning is on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am – 12 noon. Come and enjoy delicious tea/coffee and cakes and friendly chat.

## AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

### ST MARY'S CHURCH

**Church prayers:** in May the people of Byslips Road and Kensworth Road will be especially remembered in our cycle of prayers. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, please contact the Churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967 or e-mail: meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

**Children's Church** on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am will be combined with a special service of thanksgiving and welcome to two new babies. Refreshments will be served after the service and there will be a celebration of all the May birthdays.

St Mary's is once again joining the '**Thy Kingdom Come**' initiative, a world-wide wave of prayer from Ascension Day (30<sup>th</sup> May) until Pentecost Sunday (9<sup>th</sup> June). Please visit the church (LU6 2NW) to take part in our interactive display and do join us on Pentecost Sunday for a concluding Messy Church celebration.

### FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

It's the **May Fair** on May 11<sup>th</sup> – details on this great village day are on page 11. Offers of help and for more information contact either Mike Bailey (872318) or Jane Jacoby (872872).

We have a joint event with the Studham School Trust on Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> in the churchyard. Come along for a summer afternoon of fun - BBQ and **open-air live music** provided by **Shambles** big band led by school head teacher, Paul Burrett. Tickets, only £12.50, will be available shortly from John McDougal – see below.

We also run a **100 Club** which costs only £12 per year with £60 in prizes each month. Peter Owen and Hans Mulder were the lucky April winners. To join the 100 Club, or to find out more about the Friends, please contact John McDougal (e-mail: john.mcdougal@btinternet.com or call 873257).

### QUIZZES

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm in the Red Lion. This will be the last quiz until September! £3 per head for the quiz and raffle £1 strip (5 chances). All proceeds will go to the Village Hall Improvement Fund. Food is available (but be warned you need to book the curry 'cos it sells out: call Garry Ellis on 872530). To whet your appetite, the 6 rounds in May will be: sport & recent news, school days, alphabet – all start with C, entertainment, anything else and music – title beginning I. Now you have no excuses – looking forward to seeing you.

### SCRABBLE

Our small but enthusiastic Scrabble Group meets at 2pm every Tuesday afternoon at Studham Village Hall – the weather (13) may be wet (8), but we can assure (6) you of a warm welcome (14).

## VILLAGE LUNCH

Come along at 12.30pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May in the Village Hall. The menu is a choice from roast pork, poached salmon with white wine sauce, mild chicken curry with rice or Delia's cottage pie, with choice of pudding and tea or coffee. A great meal for £6! Meet the locals, browse the bookstall – books 50p (proceeds to the Village Hall) and try the raffle.

## GARDEN PARTY

Everyone is very welcome to Tessa and Martin Rees' Garden Party at Kensworth Gorse on 19<sup>th</sup> May from 2pm to 4pm. Wander among the glorious azaleas and rhododendrons, enjoy afternoon tea, a glass of wine or soft drinks. Proceeds go to Whipsnade Church funds. Please, if you can, bring along your own picnic chair! Tickets £5 per person from Tessa or Martin (873117) or Isobel Randall (872552).

## PRAYERS

In May we are praying for residents from Chapel Cottage to The Hunters' Lodge. Prayer requests can also be recorded on the Prayer Tree in the church.

## WHIPSNADE VILLAGE HALL

**Bingo Evening:** on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm. £5 covers entrance, strip of books and cup of tea or coffee.

The **events committee** are planning other events over the next few months, dates to follow – watch this space!

**Village Hall Annual General Meeting:** on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm, everyone is welcome – please come and support your village hall.

For information about the Village Hall, contact Jenny Saunders (07775 582107) or Sam Burr (07921 761730). E-mail: [whipsnadevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:whipsnadevillagehall@gmail.com).

## WHIPSNADE SUMMER FETE

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June in the churchyard. We have some new stalls this year, and plans are in progress for the dog show and other entertainment. We are working hard to put everything together, but we could do with your help as well. We are looking for offers of help beforehand and on the day to run stalls, help with the set-up etc. So now is the time to pot up your surplus plants, put those bottles to one side, and dig out your unwanted presents and books ready for collection / delivery in June. Details of where to leave them will be in the next Parish Link.

This year we are also looking for local talent to perform at the Fete. If you would like to play your instrument, do a dance, or tell some jokes, then we would love to hear from you. We do need to know by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May – please contact Kim Brown ([whipsnadequete@gmail.com](mailto:whipsnadequete@gmail.com)).

## KENSWORTH EXTRA

### KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

**Annual Parish Meeting:** this was held on 11<sup>th</sup> April. The meeting was open to all members of the public, and the Council was pleased to see so many residents in attendance. Chairman, Pat Mitchell, awarded grant cheques to groups and organisations that contribute towards the village, and the 'Villager of the Year' certificate was awarded to Jeremy Pearce for his continued efforts and commitment to keeping the village tidy.

**Play Area Improvements:** further to our last update, we are pleased to announce we have received £5,000 from London Luton Airport Near Neighbours fund. The application was for £10,000 and the Parish Council agreed at their last meeting to fund the shortfall to ensure the playground project can proceed as hoped.

The equipment will be provided by HAGS, and will cost a total of £34,648 + VAT. Funding for this project was raised as follows: £10,000 from National Lottery Awards for All, £5,000 from London Luton Airport Near Neighbours fund, £4,630.16 from fundraising and donations, and £1,148 from new build contributions. The Parish Council is funding the remaining balance of £13,869.84. We are awaiting confirmed installation dates, but hope to have it done by summer. For an artist's impression of the play area, please visit [www.parishlink.org.uk](http://www.parishlink.org.uk).

**Great Spring Clean in Kensworth:** Pat Mitchell organised a few hours of litter picking in the village on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April as part of the national Great Spring Clean Project. Nine bags of rubbish were collected in two hours, mainly around the Recreation Ground and the Chilterns. Two parents and two children collected along both sides of Common Road, although there was not so much on the main road, due to Jeremy's regular collections. Thank you to Peter, Jack, Lena, Vanessa, Lily, Layla and Lara. Also, thanks to residents in the Lynch for regularly collecting litter.

***Summer Serenade***

With the  
Award Winning



In aid of  
**St. Mary the Virgin, Kensworth**  
at St. Mary's, Church End, Kensworth.

**Saturday 6th July**  
6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Admission by advance ticket only  
**£12** inc. finger buffet

Cash Bar – Raffle

Seats are limited to 100 and previous performances of this extremely popular concert sold out quickly, so book now to avoid disappointment.

Call **01582 873242**

**CARITAS HARMONY**  
LUTON LADIES VOICES  
CHARITY • FRIENDSHIP • COMPASSION  
Winners of the  
Watford Music Festival 2019

## MORE KENSWORTH

**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. **Please note:** there will be no meeting at the Village Hall on 2<sup>nd</sup> May due to local elections.

**KENSWORTH LADIES' CLUB:** the May event is a trip to the Grove Theatre on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May to see The Roy Orbison Story.



### **FRIENDS of KENSWORTH CHURCH**

The April winners of the **Monthly Draw Club** were Tracey Brinklow and Frances Woods.

On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July, **Caritas Ladies' Choir** will be performing a 'Summer Serenade' at St Mary's Church, Kensworth, commencing at 7pm. Tickets £12, in advance only, including finger buffet – please call 873242 (see page 10).

### **KENSWORTH MAY FESTIVAL - SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> 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 donated by local businesses. Hope to see you there! This will be in the churchyard following the 10.30am Church service.

Donations for the lucky dip and plant stalls would be gratefully received. Please leave donations of plants in Kensworth Church porch between pm Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and pm Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May and they will be collected regularly. Please call Jo (07799 088864) if you have donations for the lucky dip, and we will arrange collection.

### **KENSWORTH CRICKET CLUB**

May's fixtures for Kensworth Cricket Club are:-

- 5<sup>th</sup> Hatfield Away - 1.30pm start
- 12<sup>th</sup> Milton Bryan, Home - 2pm start
- 19<sup>th</sup> TBA
- 26<sup>th</sup> Ashridge, Away - 1pm start

Home games are played at Markyate Cricket Club.

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

## CHURCH UPDATE

### KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

5 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Worship led by Mr Colin Quine
12 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Holy Communion led by the Reverend Wallace Edwards
19 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Worship led by Mr Geoff Best
26 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	United Service at Dagnall (No service at Kensworth)

**Growing Together:** Bible Study and fellowship: 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm (refreshments) for 7.45pm. Come and join us!

### STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	10am	Ms Jenny Harris
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	10am	Mr Len Fowler

### NORTH CHILTERN'S GROUP EVENTS

**Confirmation:** at 4pm on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June the Bishop of Bedford will be coming to Eaton Bray to confirm new members of our churches. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Annual General Meeting:** the AGM of the North Chilterns Group is to be held at Dunstable Downs Golf Club on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 7pm. Events involving all of the parishes for the previous year will be presented and ideas for new events are welcome. All church members are welcome. Don't eat too much before you come – the refreshments are substantial!

**The Norwich trip:** there are still some places on the trip to Norwich from Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. If you would like a weekend outing, staying in a good hotel and visiting the city and cathedral, speak to your NCG representatives: Isobel Randall, Whipsnade; Deirdre Brook or Barrie Huggins, Kensworth; Derek Spriggs, Studham; or Jean Waldock, the organiser (01525 210782).

### THE MONTH OF MAY

May was named after the Greek goddess of fertility, Maia. The Anglo Saxons called it Tri-Milchi (the Month of Three Milkings) because, with lush new grazing grass, cows could be milked three times daily. May's birth flowers are the Hawthorn and Lily of the Valley, and the birthstone is the Emerald which symbolises love and success. In rural areas, May Day was a major festival, marking the end of winter, and was celebrated with music, games, Morris and maypole dancing. Maypoles were once a common sight and children would dance around them, creating a beautifully plaited pattern of ribbons.



In keeping with tradition, there will be a **May Festival at Kensworth Church on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May** and a **May Fair in Studham on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May**.

## STUDHAM EXTRA

### STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Data Protection:** due to the new Data Protection laws now coming into force, the Parish Council wishes to 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.

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 ([clerk@studhamparish.co.uk](mailto:clerk@studhamparish.co.uk)) and she will tell you what it is all about.

Please remember to vote in the **Local Elections** on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. These are probably more important to us than General Elections. The Polling Booth will be in the Committee Room in the Village Hall and will be open from 7am. Please remember to use the side door as there is a WI Meeting in the Main Hall. No vote – no say!!



### CARPET BOWLS

The Club meets at 7pm on Thursdays and dates are in the diary (p.15). 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

**Floor Replacement:** the Parish Council has pledged up to £10,000 towards the cost of replacing the floor and treating the walls. Our great thanks from the Trustees. This means the work should be able to start in the foreseeable future. The continuing support from hirers is much appreciated. Ample notice will be given when the hall has to be closed, with alternatives offered.

**Annual Quiz Night, Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June:** our annual fundraising evening – 7pm for 7.30pm start. Fish & chips supper, BYOD, £10. Teams or individuals all welcome. Thanks to Andrea Maxted, Chrys Smith and their families for again setting the questions. Tickets from Des Salmon (872082 or e-mail: [desstudham@btconnect.com](mailto:desstudham@btconnect.com)) and trustees.

**AGM, Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 8pm:** this will be an Open Meeting and an opportunity to meet the team who run the Village Hall. The business part is kept to a minimum, but there is the opportunity to raise any points relating to your Village Hall.

## STUDHAM SCHOOL NEWS

### STUDHAM SCHOOL TRUST

It is well known that school finances are under significant pressure at the moment, not least in small village schools. Studham School have managed, against the odds at times, to keep the School budget in balance, but they still spend more each year than they get from the Government in grant. So the reserves that have kept them afloat for many years are now nearly spent.

The Governors and members of the local community have therefore set up a new charity, the Studham School Trust, to support the School, and to ensure that they have the resources they need to give our children the education they deserve.

We know how much the local community values having a first school for children in Studham, to serve families in Studham and Whipsnade, and we hope that the community will give their strong support to the School Trust. We aim to set up a regular giving scheme which we hope you will sign up to. Please contact our Treasurer Les Randall ([lesrandall@btinternet.com](mailto:lesrandall@btinternet.com)) if you would like to support us.

Look out for us at the May Fair, when some trustees will be available to tell you more about our plans. Do come along on 22<sup>nd</sup> June for a summer's afternoon of open-air music with the **Shambles Band**, led by our Head Teacher Paul Burrett. Your ticket price will include barbecued food - more information on page 8 under the Friends of Studham Church entry.

### STUDHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

It has all been happening over the past few weeks in Studham Village School. The Year 3 and 4 children are working furiously at their maypole dancing with all the early tangles and trips that always plague the first weeks of practice. They seem to spend more time undoing knots than they do dancing but as they say – it will be alright on the night (afternoon).



Our Year 1 and 2 Class have had the excitement of a visit from the fire brigade, complete with a fire engine, and the chance to squirt water all over the Headteacher's car. The children also had the chance to visit the Common along with visitors from the Greensand Trust, who showed the children the signs of Spring to look out for. "Impact Easter!", reported on in the last Link, was a great success with a whole morning of activities based around the Easter story. The children really got into the story and asked a lot of searching questions.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Studham May Fair on 11<sup>th</sup> May.

## WHIPSDADE & KENSWORTH

### WHIPSDADE PARISH COUNCIL

The **new playground** in front of the Village Hall is a small play area funded by the Parish Council and replaces a playground which was removed over 30 years ago for safety reasons. Constructed on the Village Hall field, it was waiting for its RoSPA test when we went to press.



A **Grand Opening** is planned for Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 3pm, everyone welcome, especially accompanied young children. Come and share in tea and cakes.

The **elections** for the new Parish Council are on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May between 7am and 10pm. The **next meeting** of the Council will be held in Whipsnade Village Hall on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm. All welcome.

### KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

In the absence of the Chairman, David Manton stepped in as acting Chairman for our short meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Mike Sawyer has repaired the door handle on the internal door, and although refurbishments to the hall have not yet started, it is hoped that some of the work can be completed over the Easter holidays.

The Bookings Clerk reported that Peppa Pig have cancelled their Saturday morning booking, low attendance making it no longer viable. Bookings were quiet for the month of April but ad hoc bookings continue to come in for most weekends.

The next **village walks** are to be held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May and 8<sup>th</sup> June, meeting at the Village Hall car park at 10am and returning for coffee and biscuits at 11.30am. Please come along and join in these walks as they are a good opportunity to meet and chat with other local people, and to explore the surrounding area. During the lighter evenings, it was agreed to hold a mid-week walk in June for people who cannot manage a Saturday morning – we will meet at the Village Hall car park at 7pm on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June.

We are still looking for a Treasurer who is good with spreadsheets, to join the Committee. If you are interested, please come along to the next meeting which is on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

### FAMILY BARN DANCE

**Planning ahead!** A family barn dance will be held in Kensworth Village Hall, on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 5.30pm-8.30pm, with live ceilidh band and caller, and fish supper. Open to all ages. Keep the date. Ring Jane Bedlington (871139) to book early.

## STUDHAM EXTRA 2

### **BINGO**

On Wednesdays 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 7.30pm in Studham Village Hall. Why not come and join us? £5 will pay your entrance, set of 6 books, strip of raffle tickets and even a cup of tea/coffee! New players always welcome.

### **STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS**

Our AGM is on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm and everyone is invited to attend. Please contact us if you would like to use the space for a function or activity – contact is Paul Hocking (pdhocking@btinternet.com or tel: 07500 849280).

### **SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB**

Please note that subs were due on 1<sup>st</sup> April and the ‘month’s grace’ is now over! New swipe cards are being issued and these need to be swiped every time you buy a drink at the bar to benefit from members’ bar prices. Under General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) rules, we also need to update your contact details so please complete a form at the time of paying your subs. Please see Club notice boards for further details on GDPR.

### **WI**

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 7.45pm in Studham Village Hall – Resolution Meeting. Two resolutions are going through to the National Federation of Women’s Institutes (NFWI) AGM in Bournemouth in June. They are “A call against the decline of local bus services” and “Don’t Fear the Smear”. These will be discussed at the meeting and our votes recorded for the National AGM. Membership cards, with details of meetings for the coming year, will also be available.

### **STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB**

Our new membership year began on 1<sup>st</sup> April and we are delighted to announce we are now offering free annual Junior Membership\* and annual Family Membership from £75.

Junior and adult tennis coaching takes place every Saturday morning between 9am and 11am (juniors 9 - 10, adults 10 - 11). All are welcome – non-members £6 per session, members £4 per session. Our coach, Megan, is also available for private individual or group lessons. Please contact Megan (07826 855 388) for more information. Family social play is on a Saturday between 2pm and 4pm.

For more information on coaching or joining the club, please contact Andrew Jones (andrew.jones@expressvending.co.uk or 07833 111682/ www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk).

*\*with every full adult member*

## KENSWORTH SCHOOL & BEDS YOUNG FARMERS

### KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY and PRESCHOOL

Another busy time here at Kensworth! Our fantastic Collective Worship team has taken us through the Lenten Journey, culminating in our great Easter Collective Worship for parents. The whole school amazed us with their piano, singing and storytelling talents. The team finished off the journey ready for Easter.

The children brought a tear to the eye at our **Mother's Day assembly**, where they shared their poems and thoughts about their mums.

Cherry Class enjoyed their **Titanic Day** where they set sail on the maiden voyage, enjoyed making food and eating it at a tea party, and made their own life boats (luckily). The rest of the school was concerned for their safety when we heard the 'ICEBERG!' cry go out, and the evacuation taking place. However, I am assured that all made it to safety.

We look forward to the summer term, with some fun topics coming up. Cherry are off around the world and taking a jaunt into the past. Oak are off to Ancient Egypt, and Hornbeam are off to see the Mayans (well, the British Museum!). Swimming lessons start, and we will be preparing for those important SATs and quizzes.

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

### Kensworth School Parent Teachers' Association asks for your support:

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 the 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 722053). Tickets are £5 per person. All proceeds will go to Kensworth School PTA to provide extra resources for Kensworth School.



Our **Summer Fete and Dog Show** is on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 12 noon until 3pm – there will be a BBQ, face painting, teacher in stocks, a variety of stalls, the Fire Brigade and lots more! For more information or to book a stall, contact Vanessa (07788 990364) or Gina (07506 722053).

### BEDS YOUNG FARMERS

Our Rally Day takes place at Walducks Farm, Stewkley, near Leighton Buzzard, LU7 0DL on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May. The day will be jam-packed with attractions, including animals, tractors and machinery, children's rides, craft stands, local food and drink producers, displays and of course competitions. All are welcome.

## MISC

### FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON



We are pleased to confirm that the hedgerow restoration project, to provide a southern boundary hedge for the Common by traditional techniques, is now complete; the last section, on West Common, was completed earlier this year. The project started back in 2011 with the planting of new whips to mark the hedge boundary, by pupils from Studham Village School (see before and after photos).

Our next main work party will be on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May** (please note this is **after** the May Fair which will be on the 11<sup>th</sup> May). On West Common we will be trimming the footpaths to improve the access, and also trimming areas around the margins of the football pitch and the Rushmer Bench. Other tasks will include removing dead overhanging branches and topping young bracken. This will reduce the bracken's vigour, enabling younger plants to grow and provide a more diverse flora.

Everyone is welcome, especially new members – do please come and help. Tools will be provided as well as a light lunch. We meet at the War Memorial on West Common, opposite the Red Lion at 10am. Please contact Joan Stone (872520 or e-mail [geone.stone@gmail.com](mailto:geone.stone@gmail.com)) for further information.



### THE PASSING OF A LOCAL CHARACTER



Pat Pugh, nee Durrant, was born in Luton in 1927 and sadly passed away in February. A career in journalism took her to London where she met her husband Eric, a well-known sports journalist. The couple lived at Rosemary Cottage, Whipsnade, where they supported the local Conservative Association, and had a busy social life. Through Eric's work, they were regulars in many a football club boardroom, especially Luton Town F.C. Eric pre-deceased Pat by over thirty years.

As a widow, Pat served on Whipsnade Parish Council. She was the local 'Avon Lady' and organised the speakers for the flower club. She hand-delivered newspapers on foot all round the village for many years. She helped with village events, and annually sold raffle tickets for them on her daily round. In later life, Pat became something of a recluse, and her final years, after a bad fall, were spent in care homes.