

# *Kimpton Parish Magazine*

*Winter 2018  
Number 256*





### **Parish Church**

<b>Sunday 9.30am</b>	Family Communion BLAST in Church House
<b>2nd and 4th Sundays 8am</b>	BCP Holy Communion
<b>2nd Sunday 9.30am</b>	Informal worship followed by Parish Breakfast
<b>Wednesday 9am</b>	Morning Prayer

### **Ayot St Lawrence**

<b>2nd Sunday 11.30am</b>	Holy Communion
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### **Perry Green Chapel**

<b>Sunday 6pm</b>	Evening Service
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For special services see Sunday pew sheet

## **Prayer Corner**

If you would like to have a few moments of prayer or contemplation, please feel free to come to our new Prayer Corner in the Church. There is an opportunity to light a candle for a loved one and sit for a while to think about them and perhaps offer a prayer.

Instead of the Prayer Board, we have a book, where you are invited to write your prayer requests, this will be dated monthly so that there is a permanent record. The Church is open every day and all are welcome to come and experience the peace of our Prayer Corner and beautiful Church.

**The Parish Magazine team wish everyone  
a very happy and peaceful Christmas**



## New Beginnings

'A Traditional Christmas' – that's what we often say we want. Presents round the tree, turkey and brussels sprouts, tinsel and Carols from Kings on Christmas Eve.

It's so tempting simply to pull Christmas out again from the drawer we shoved it into last January, dust it off and sit back contented, with the door firmly closed.

For many people, it's all they can do, with work schedules over-burdening them right up to the last moment.

But perhaps this year is an opportunity also to pause and to reflect.

For the Parish Church, it is something we have to do, no matter what. With Vicar Bonnie now gone to Liverpool, we are busy preparing our Parish profile to attract a new Vicar, and we have to face some very fundamental questions. What sort of place is Kimpton? What is the role of the Church within the village? What type of person would we want as our Parish Priest?

Bonnie made us feel uncomfortable. She confronted us with many difficult truths about the world outside Kimpton. And that is part of the role of Parish Priest. Kimpton is a cosy little village, which tends to look inwards on itself, rather than outwards towards the world. We are a caring community, but is that care simply for the community, or do we consider the needs of people beyond the parish boundary?

Recently, I was shown an Alternative Advent Calendar. It suggested that, instead of being given chocolates or booze each day in Advent,

we could collect food items each day to be given to the Food Bank at The Oval in Harpenden at Christmas.

Is there a way to make Christmas mean more this year, by looking outwards and making our celebrated caring for those within the village be transformed into caring for those outside it who need our help?

Babies are still being born in squalor, as Jesus was. People are still being refugees, as Jesus was. People are still being unjustly accused and killed, as Jesus was. Perhaps, in our Christmas, we could spare a thought for them as we remember him!

*Have a very Happy Christmas,  
Andy Morton*

### **Special Services for Christmas at the Parish Church and Ayot St Lawrence**

#### **Sunday December 16th Ayot St Lawrence**

4pm Carol Service with Kimpton  
Church Choir and The Eden Consort

#### **Parish Church**

6.30pm Carol Service followed by  
Glühwein served by the choir

#### **Sunday December 23rd**

No 9.30am service

#### **Christmas Eve**

3pm Crib Service  
11.30pm Christmas Communion

#### **Ayot St Lawrence**

11.30pm Christmas Communion

#### **Parish Church**

#### **Christmas Day**

10am All Age Service

Come along for a

# Crafty Cuppa

in the  
**Dacre Rooms**  
on

**3rd Monday of every month  
from 1-3pm**

*Bring along a craft or project,  
share ideas and skills,  
help each other out  
or  
just pop along for tea or coffee  
and a friendly chat....*

**Costs £3 per session**

Just turn up or contact:  
Angela Dyke 07788651563  
Julie Brown 01438 833714

Don't miss Kimpton's Christmas Market at The Green, 12.30-6.00pm, on Saturday 8th December. It promises to be a magical village celebration with locally sourced, handmade gifts, festive food and drink, and wonderful live music from Kimpton's own musicians. Merry Christmas!

## Community Food Box

Kimpton Parish Church has set up a Community Food Box for the benefit of the village.

Please feel free to make use of it during the day, either by contributing non-perishable items, or by taking items for your own use.

The box is situated on the tables at the back of the church.

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

4th November

Ethan Mark Andrew  
Chipchase

### Weddings

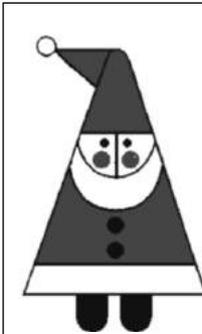
22nd September

Harriet Jane Dudman to  
Benjamin Oliver Watson

### Burials, Interments and Cremations

10th October

William Pickard



## Charity Christmas Card pop-up in Harpenden

The festive season gets under way in Harpenden when the Cards for Good Causes charity Christmas card shop opens in the United Reformed Church, Vaughan Road AL5 4ED on Friday 19 October 2018. Buying Christmas cards through Cards for Good Causes is the best way to get access to the widest selection of Christmas cards available, as well as a fantastic range of seasonal gifts and products, while supporting a range of national and local charities.

Shoppers will be able to choose from hundreds of different Christmas card designs, as well as traditional advent calendars and candles, wrapping paper, gift tags, napkins and stocking fillers. Christmas postage stamps will also be on sale.

In the past ten years, charities have received more than £40 million from Cards for Good Causes, representing at least 70p in every pound, out of which the charities pay for the production and distribution of their Christmas cards and any VAT.

**The shop is open 9.30-4.30 Monday-Friday  
9.30-3.30 Saturday**

For further information visit [www.cardsforcharity.co.uk](http://www.cardsforcharity.co.uk) or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

## Grateful Thanks

The Editor and Production Team would like to acknowledge with thanks, donations received from Kimpton May Festival Committee and Kimpton Environmentalists.

*Calling angels, shepherds and a donkey!*



*It is that time of year... BLAST is busy preparing for our annual nativity play. It is such a special part of our calendar. Rehearsals are as much fun as the day itself... and we never really know what is going to happen at the actual performance!*

*Our older children are helping with the production this year (so it will undoubtedly be more polished) and it promises to include shepherd jokes, the famous angel dance and some favourite carols for us all to sing along to.*

## **It may be before the festive period but plans are already well underway for Kimpton May Festival 2019**

The Purple Army team will be announcing a host of events and acts early in the New Year but for those who want to take part in the procession and get thinking about how they will impress the village the theme for next year is Cartoons.

The #KMF team will also be running their annual Community Awards during the event highlighting the great deeds done in Kimpton by so many unsung heroes. If you know someone who you think deserves to be recognised (whether it be an adult or a young person who has gone the extra mile in their service to the village) contact John Hills on [johnrhills@btinternet.com](mailto:johnrhills@btinternet.com)

Tickets for all of the events from film night, music night and Kimpton entertains will go on sale in the New Year but the #KMF team would like to hear now from anyone who has a local business and would like to advertise in the event programme which will be delivered free of charge again to every house locally.

If you would like to advertise contact [nickhewitson21@gmail.com](mailto:nickhewitson21@gmail.com)

To keep up to date with all #KMF news and updates like and follow their Facebook page or log on to [www.kimptonmayfestival.co.uk](http://www.kimptonmayfestival.co.uk) *Turn to page 11 for details of May Queen selection.*

*visit the village website [kimptonvillage.com](http://kimptonvillage.com)*



## Kimpton aiming for world music domination!

**We're really sorry about all the emails, texts, Facebook messages, posters, flyers and general nagging to buy tickets....but in case you hadn't already noticed, the organisers of Kimpton Folk Festival are busy trying to turn the village into the musical centre of the known world.**

Since July's hugely successful third festival, the Kimpton Folk Events charity has organised sell out concerts in the Memorial Hall, church and Dacre Rooms and is planning many more exciting events. Arrangements to make next year's Folk Festival the best ever are well in hand. In a slight departure from the core folk scene, November saw the arrival in Kimpton of the musically insane duo John Otway and Wild Willy Barrett, best known for their big 70s hit, *Really Free* and a host of near misses.

Wild Willy is already much loved in Kimpton for his appearances with his French Connection band, but concerts with John Otway have become increasingly rare.

The capacity Memorial Hall audience was treated to the madcap antics by John Otway and dead pan humour and brilliant musicianship of Wild Willy Barrett, offering everything from bare-chested theremin playing to wah wah wheelie bin solos.

A highlight involved the sawing in half of a guitar while Wild Willy was still actually playing it. The remains of the guitar were later signed and sold to an adoring fan. It was that kind of night. By the time you're reading this Nancy Kerr and James Fagan, the headliners at our very first Kimpton Folk Festival, will have recorded their new live album at Kimpton parish church. They are pictured above at the recording session.

James and Nancy have become official patrons of Kimpton Folk Festival and will be appearing again at next year's event on Saturday 6 July 2019, both as a duo and as part of the folk supergroup Melrose Quarter which also includes fellow folk couple Jess and Richard Arrowsmith. Other big names already signed to appear include Edgelarks, Megson, Alden, Paterson and Dashwood and The Misshaped Pearls. You can be sure we will be shouting about these and other top acts very soon.

And we can also announce that there will be a strong dance theme to next year's festival, with plans for bop until you drop concerts, dance groups performing all around the village as well as our usual ceilidh finale on the green. So bring your dancing shoes.

But there's more. Continuing the successful run of monthly pop-up concerts at the Dacre Rooms, on Friday 11 January 2019, there's a chance to hear the close harmonies and moving songs of June Swift and Peter Michael Rowan.

On Saturday 2 February 2019, the brilliant Churchfitters, whose quirky, multi-instrumentalist approach to folk music defies categorisation, will be appearing at the Memorial Hall.

Meanwhile we continue with our outreach work, spreading music to the young, the elderly, the lonely and others who might benefit. A new project will take music into schools for children with special needs, preparing and encouraging them to take part in activities at next year's festival.

So apologies again for all the endless trumpet blowing and nagging to buy tickets....but we're not going to stop any time soon!

*Brian King. Kimpton Folk Events*

## Party time at The Boot



### *The Boot Christmas Party for Seniors*

*The Boot will be once again hosting the annual over 65s Christmas party at the Memorial Hall on Sunday January 13th from 12.30pm There will be a 3 course meal and entertainment by Jane Darling*

*If you would like to come please pop into the pub or call us on 01438 832438*

*Come along to the pub and sing carols on Tuesday December 11th from 7.30pm*



## Where did 2018 go?!

Wow, what a 2018 we've had! Over the last year, we have had three very successful shows starting with Old Time Music Hall, followed by The Best Bits of Shakespeare and our more recent pantomime Aladdin.

We'd like to thank everyone who has turned out to see our shows. We couldn't do what we love without you and more importantly, we have raised more money for local organisations and charities.

Looking to 2019, we have our annual Old Time Music Hall, a show that has been running for over 50 years and hits the stage in March. We transform the Memorial Hall for this ever-popular event. This Victorian-themed variety show is full of songs and comedy and, if you wish, you can join in the fun by singing along or even dressing up to fit the era!

Tickets go on sale at 9am on January 19th, with shows on 1st, 2nd, 8th and 9th of March. More details will become available soon via Facebook as well as the posters that will go up soon.

2019 will also feature a summer show in late June and also a winter production at the end of November/early December.

Make sure to check our website [www.thekimptonplayers.co.uk](http://www.thekimptonplayers.co.uk) and follow us on Facebook for any ticket news, show updates and behind-the-scenes fun.

Finally, we'd like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year! We'll see you all in 2019! *Hayley Vine*

**Kimpton Online** has been formed to offer problem solving, support and information for those wishing to explore the technology that is available to us today. We aim to help to boost confidence in using existing devices as well as introducing ways that could make life easier, such as registering with the Doctors surgery for appointments and repeat prescriptions, using skype or facetime to connect with friends and family, store and view photos, joining WhatsApp groups, as well as accessing our Village Facebook Group. We aim to do this through our regular Drop In Sessions as well as occasional teaching groups on particular topics.

Our first successful Drop In was officially launched on 14 November, we have now set up three more at the Dacre Rooms – **Tuesday 11 December between 2 – 4pm, Saturday 5 January, between 10 – 12 and Tuesday 12 February between 2 – 4pm.** All the sessions are free of charge and you certainly don't have to have a device to come along. We are very happy for you to just turn up, but if you would like to find out more please call Grace on 07944 616295.



**Remembrance Day**

The involvement by so many from the community to organise and turn out to take part in the memorial parade and service, the candle lit procession and the lighting of the beacon, made the whole day a very special occasion. KPC were delighted to financially support the evening event.

**Christmas Market**

At the time of writing the Christmas Market is almost upon us and this year it is taking place on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December starting at 12:30 on the Village Green. We hope to make this year as magical as last. The market stalls are all fully booked, the musicians running order is scheduled, and most importantly of all I am told that Santa is on his way. There is still much to do with the four marquees being erected by villagers on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> December from 9:30am. Any available help is welcomed.

**Affordable Village Homes Survey.**

Ever increasing house prices mean that some members of our community are forced to move away from the area to find somewhere to live. High prices and shortages of the right type of homes also conspire to prevent young people on lower incomes from starting their own households. It can also be difficult for older people to move into accommodation that is more suitable for their needs.

It is also the case that low wages and high prices combine to make it hard for many to afford

**Could your group use some extra cash?**

**Talk to your District Councillor**

I would like to publicise the Annual Discretionary Grant that District Councillors can donate to local Volunteer and Community groups. In previous years grants have been made for new dog mess bins, benches, repairs to facilities and youth groups. The amount requested can be as little as £50 Ideas are often channelled through the Parish Council or alternatively contact me direct.

Cllr John Bishop  
john.bishop@north-herts.gov.uk

housing on the open market in Kimpton, whether to rent or buy. Local house prices are now well over ten times the average salary for Hertfordshire. People need and deserve decent homes to live in that they can also afford.

A Housing Needs Survey is being distributed throughout Kimpton on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and will result in an overview of our current affordable housing need.

I would ask you to respond, whatever your situation and whatever your opinion is: Whether you are for, against, in need of, or know someone else in need of housing, please take the time to complete the survey.

I appreciate that some may have concerns about any new housing, but if a need is established through this exercise, we hope that the housing provided would be for local people connected to the Parish. These homes should then, subject to changes in government policy, remain affordable and for the use of local people in perpetuity.

*Neil Burns*

**Would you like an allotment at Peters Green?**

There are both large and small allotment plots available  
Contact Charlie or Lorna at [pgallotments@gmail.com](mailto:pgallotments@gmail.com)



## Tree-mendous fun!

Some of the residents in Lloyd Way recently clubbed together to buy two birch trees to replace the dead ones that had originally been planted by the developer of the new houses. On a warm Sunday afternoon in October, armed with spades and forks, they set about the task of digging out, replanting and watering-in. The workers were kindly supplied with mugs of hot coffee as they laboured. A good time was had by all!

### Kimpton History Group

**Wednesday 16th January 2019**

**at 8 pm in the Green Room**

**“Shaw, Theatre & the Arts ”**

Juliet Morton and Valerie Pollington will be talking to us about George Bernard Shaw who lived at Ayot St Lawrence.

**Wednesday 20th February**

**at 8 pm in the Green Room**

**“Wheathampstead Workhouse”**

Talk by Mike Smith of Wheathampstead History Society.

**Wednesday 20th March**

**AGM at 8 pm in the Green Room**

**for the first 10 minutes**

Then John Pollington will dig out some more stories & photographs from the Village Archives.

Visitors are extremely welcome to attend any of the talks, for which we charge £3 per visit including tea/coffee & biscuits.

For more information about the Group, please contact Juliet Morton on 01438 832427

### A message from Marion and Dud Ginn

Marian and I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our neighbours, friends and fellow villagers for all their care, support and kindness through this difficult and stressful time of our lives. We appreciate all that you do for us and thank God for guiding us to Kimpton forty four years ago!

*With love, Marian & Dud*

### Magazine deadlines 2019

**Spring March 22nd**

**Summer June 14th**

**Autumn September 20th**

**Winter November 22nd**

It is important that all copy and photographs in, JPEG form, are in by those dates or before the deadline.

The magazine is usually distributed 2 to 3 weeks after the deadline.

[kimpton.editor@btinternet.com](mailto:kimpton.editor@btinternet.com)



## Kimpton and the Incinerator

I am sure many of you are aware of a proposal (by a company called Emsrayne) to build a large incinerator on the Lower Luton Road just outside of East Hyde. I fully understand the detrimental effect this will have on Kimpton as well as Harpenden and the other surrounding villages. From the start I have been strongly opposed to the proposal and will continue to fight it. Putting an incinerator there would lead to hundreds of HGVs clogging our small rural roads, high levels of air pollution in an area already blighted by Luton Airport, and other negative environmental effects. It is a bad idea.

Emsrayne Ltd were due to put forward their application in September but, as of mid-November, they have not put forward any proposal. I think this delay reflects the huge opposition raised by all of you against the plans; opposition that I have tried

to amplify as much as possible. They underestimated our resolve to stop this incinerator ruining our local area. This passion and determination will prove vital for the future. Unfortunately, whilst they are yet to put forward their proposal to Central Bedfordshire Council, their delay does not mean this issue has gone away. They are likely to make the application soon.

The Stop Harpenden Luton Incinerator (SHLI) group have done a wonderful job in raising awareness, organising volunteers and continuing to increase support for the cause. Last month SHLI and I met with Grant Schapps, MP for Welwyn & Hatfield to discuss our fight against the incinerator. Grant fought an eight-year battle in his constituency against Veolia who put forward a similar proposal which was defeated in 2016. His advice offered all of us a great deal of insight into how we can organise ourselves more effectively moving forward.

We do not want this incinerator. If Central Bedfordshire Council are foolish enough to approve it, I will ensure that the decision is called in and considered by the Secretary of State – and will make the case that it should not go ahead.

You are more than welcome to contact me at any time if you wished to discuss this matter or get an update.

I wish all of you a wonderful Christmas period and look forward to visiting Kimpton soon.

*Bim Afolami MP*  
*Member of Parliament for Hitchin & Harpenden*  
*bim.afolami.mp@parliament.uk*



## Kimpton Environmentalists

Kimpton Apple Juice makes a delicious, additive-free, guilt-free Christmas present. Buy it from the Dacre Rooms, or order quantities of 6 or more direct from me, with no delivery charges.

A Date for your 2019 Diary: All you ever wanted to know about recycling your rubbish. Your questions answered by a representative of NHDC on Tuesday 19th February, 7.30pm, The Green Room, Kimpton Memorial Hall.

*Davina Malcolm 01438 832309*



## Official Opening of refurbished Dacre Rooms

Back in September villagers gathered for the official opening of the refurbished Dacre Rooms.

Ted Frith, Chair of the Trustees, comments, "The grant from NHDC has allowed us to refurbish a wonderful Victorian building in the centre of the village and to create a facility that is once again thriving at the heart of our community.



It is already being utilised by residents of all ages for a wide spectrum of events. We are very grateful for the support we have received from NHDC, and also from our parish council and the Kimpton May Festival."



Pictured cutting the ribbon are (left to right) Dacre Rooms Charity Chair Ted Frith, and Committee David Pitcher, Kate Buckenham, Dee Hibbert, Jackie Davies, Jon Marsh and Cllr Tony Hunter the Executive Member for Community Engagement and Rural Affairs.

To book or view the Dacre Rooms email [bookings@dacrerooms.info](mailto:bookings@dacrerooms.info) or telephone Claire Fox on 07854 257437

*Turn to page 22 to read more about the Dacre Rooms refurbishment.*

## Could You be May Queen 2019 or an Attendant?

Applications for the role of May Queen and their Attendants will be open and selection will take place at 6pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at Kimpton Memorial Hall.

There is no need to book it is open for everyone and anyone between the ages 10-14 (in May) so just turn up and be prepared to sit in front of a selection panel of three independent judges with no connection to Kimpton and answer some questions about yourself and your hobbies.

This selection process is to find suitable Ambassadors that represent some of our brilliant young persons in this village and have the honour of undertaking a traditional role in our time-honoured May Festival procession.

We are always open to new ideas and would welcome anyone who would like to be involved in this role and any improvements that could be made.

Please contact Mandy Purvis 07787787671 [mandypurvis@aol.com](mailto:mandypurvis@aol.com) or Kim Hills 07901605383

# The village unites for peace



Photos: Juliet Morton

# Celebration and Singing



More photos page 14

Photos: Andy Wright



*The Remembrance Sunday Parade, Church Service, and evening Beacon Lighting event were all tremendous successes and extremely well attended.*

*The evening procession started in the church with local musicians playing and singing underneath a flight of doves.*

*Andy Morton and Sue Burns spoke before Robin Wells lit the beacon then the Village Choir sang with everyone joining in the well known songs.*

*The village certainly did unite for peace.*



# Kimpton Values



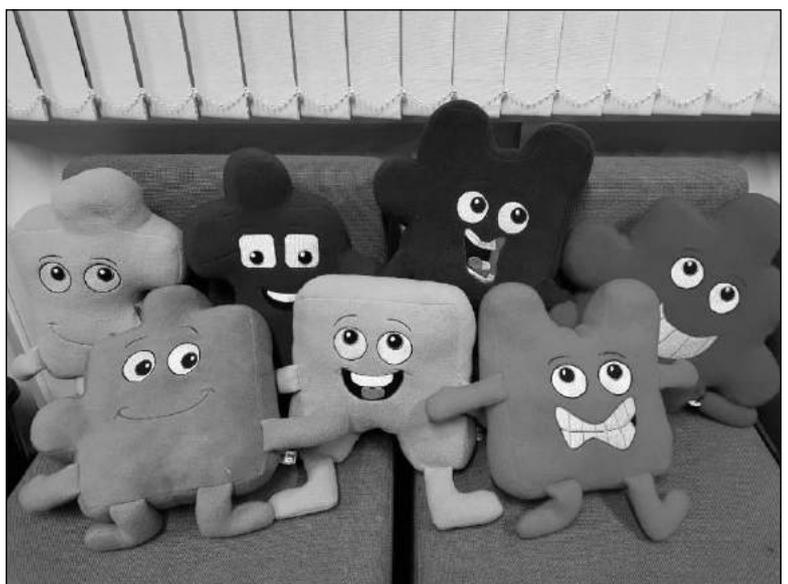
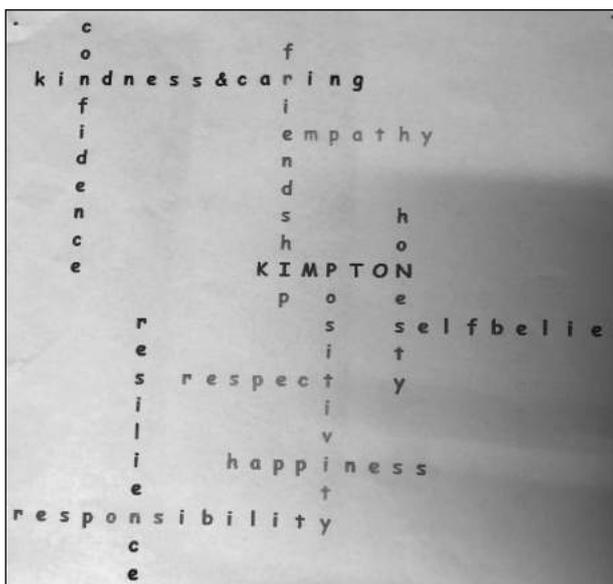
The Autumn Term has been a very exciting one at Kimpton Primary. We had a number of new staff join us in September and it gave us a chance to review all that we were doing and to take on fresh ideas. Please do take a look at the newsletters on our website where each week we are putting a spotlight on a member of staff so that everyone can get to know our staff team.

One area that we have been focussing on this term is our behaviour – both learning behaviours in the classroom as well as the behaviour that we show around school. We decided, as a staff, that as a result we wanted to change our Behaviour Policy to reflect our new approach. Our new policy is driven by having a positive approach and basing our PSHE on 12 Kimpton Values. We want all of our pupils to leave as good citizens, ready for the next step in their learning journey as well as having the confidence to make the right choices when no one is looking.

Mrs Dunk is our PSHE subject leader and is also our behaviour lead. She started by introducing the 12 values to the children through an exciting catwalk. This grabbed their attention and gave the values momentum from the beginning. Already we can see that pupils are valuing one another by the choices they are making as well as highlighting their peers for hub points when they see someone demonstrating one of our values.

Each half term we are focussing on two of our values through assemblies, hub group activities as well as our star of the week awards. There is a real buzz around school about these values and each hub is motivated to do well as a team to earn collective points. This half term we are looking at Confidence and Respect.

If you do see any of our pupils around the village demonstrating any of the 12 values below, we would love to hear about it. Tweet us @Kimpton\_Primary or drop us a note into school. We want to celebrate positivity wherever we can.



As we head into Christmas, everyone at Kimpton Primary would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a promising New Year. I will be leaving the school in the very capable hands of Mr Lock whilst I leave to grow my family by one in January. *Mrs Tracy Clements, headteacher*

visit the village website [kimptonvillage.com](http://kimptonvillage.com)



# *A fantastic start to the autumn term at Preschool*

It has been a fantastic start to the Autumn term at Kimpton Preschool, with great weather (in the main) and a lovely new group of children. We have been utilising our outdoor space to its maximum. The addition of new resources donated by the community - a small climbing frame, a new kitchen and Polydron - have really boosted the children's interest in the garden, which has provided us with lots of learning opportunities.

It's a period of exciting change at Preschool and we are thrilled to now offer all day sessions on Mondays and Tuesdays from January onwards. We still have places available, so please do get in touch if you are interested. If more families decide to take advantage of afternoon sessions, we may be able to extend our offering further.

We'd like to thank all of the lovely people in our village for your continuing support. Our Bag2School collection has been really well supported and the generous donation that we received from the May Festival Committee will help us to meet the running costs of our fantastic premises. By the time this is published, our quiz evening will also have been and gone, and if ticket sales currently are any indication, we're pleased that so many of you are able to come. Your help really does enable us to provide Kimpton's children with a great start to their education.



## **The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and Beacon Event**

Once again my sincerest thanks to Kimpton's Poppy Volunteers and the generosity of the village. In this centenary year we have raised £3,829.15.

The Beacon Event could not have occurred in such a safe environment without the backing of Kimpton Primary School and the hard work of the Bench Working Party. Many others contributed to the success of the evening and we all appreciated the sing along with Kimpton Village Choir and Nigel Hyams' beautiful rendition of his own folk ballad.

Thank you to everyone who either helped along the way or joined the community on the evening to make the event a memorable occasion.

*Sue Burns Poppy Appeal Organiser*



# Royal British Legion, Kimpton Branch

As this year was the Centenary of the ending of hostilities of the first World War, and Armistice day fell on a Sunday, it was convenient that we remembered and celebrated two occasions in one day.

The Remembrance Sunday Parade and Church Service, and the evening Beacon event were both a great success and very well attended.

The weather for the day was in our favour, and we would like to thank all the village organisations, the Parish Council, Police and North Herts DC for controlling the road closure, also thanks to Harry Grey our Parade Marshal for keeping us all in order, and especially the young groups and their leaders and parents for the part they played in the Parade and Church service. This year, we decided to have some light refreshments available in the Memorial hall before the Parade set off. This was organised by Kim Hills, who with the help of some kind ladies made this worthwhile.

Wreaths were laid by the Ladies and Men's Branches of the Royal British Legion, the Parish Council, the Police and the Church, followed by the very young girls and boys who laid 44 Poppy crosses on the Memorial in memory of the men of Kimpton who lost their lives in the two wars.

The Church was full, and thanks to the Churchwardens and sides persons for organising and seating the very large congregation of well over 350, but apologies to those who had to stand.

A very big thank you to Andy Morton for officiating and his inspiring contribution, to Andy Wright and the Choir, and also thanks to John Blackshaw our Trumpet player. A special thanks to Alex Frith, Lexi Knight and Sam James, who read the names of the fallen men of Kimpton so clearly.

In the evening, the Beacon event was a great success, and we owe a massive thank you to Sue Burns and Kim Hills for taking on this project and organising the evenings events. This could not have been made possible without lots of help from Bob Finch and the Bench Boys working party and many others.

At our British Legion AGM on the following evening we had a good turnout of members.

Both Dave Gibbs and Robin Wells retired from their positions of Secretary and Chairman. Our grateful thanks go to Kim Hills who has taken over as Chairman, and Donna Bigg as the new Secretary.

If there are any new comers to the village, or anyone who would like to become a member of the Branch, you do not have to be ex military, please contact Donna.

Donna's contact number is 07795 956043, email: donna.guides@hotmail.co.uk

*Wishing you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas. Robin Wells.*

## Remembrance Day Refreshments

For the first time we opened the Memorial hall on the morning of Remembrance day to provide hot drinks and shelter ( although it wasn't needed as it was such a lovely morning) as people gathered for the parade. This proved a success and we will be doing the same next year.

For the Battles Over evening ,we put out a plea to Kimpton to provide cakes and sausage rolls. **And thank you Kimpton- you did not let us down!!!** We could not believe the amount of amazing cakes that arrived. Although we did not charge for the refreshments at either event, we welcomed contributions and made over £200. In addition, a Facebook auction to sell a cake made by Mary Hyde raised a further £62! The winner- Michelle Baylie- then gave it back to us and it became part of the evenings cakes!!!

I must also thank the ladies that helped in the kitchens either during the morning, or evening or both!!! You worked exceptionally hard and I have no idea how many hot drinks you served and cleared away but we could not have coped without you.

*Kim Hills, Chairman, British Legion, Kimpton Branch*

# Did you know that Kimpton Artist Steve Harvey is exhibiting his paintings at Hertford Theatre Gallery from February 26th - March 23rd 2019?



Steve Harvey has been painting for 20 years in watercolour and oils. Redundancy from the day job has given him the opportunity to mount an exhibition of his work. This is one of his more recent paintings, you may recognise the scene! His subjects are varied so why not take a trip to Hertford and see for yourself.



## Garden Club

We are a very friendly club and extend a warm welcome to new members and we are particularly keen to attract younger residents who will benefit from the wide pool of knowledge readily available from our more senior

members.

Normally we meet on the first Wednesday in every month in the Memorial Hall Green Room and our programme covers a wide range of interesting speakers usually supported with colour projection and plants for sale.

Visitors are most welcome, so do come and enjoy convivial company and refreshments.

We have been entertained by some really good speakers recently who will be certainly be invited to speak again.

Our social programme includes a Christmas Party, Garden Party and Quizzes.

A popular item in our programme is visits to gardens of interest, by car or coach.

Our AGM in October elected our officers for 2019, approved the 2019 programme of speakers and visits, and agreed to increase the annual subscription to £15 which still represents excellent value for money. The meeting finished with an illustrated cycling tour of Indian gardens.

If you like plants, vegetables and gardens you will find a wealth of interest at every meeting in the company of fellow minded folk and hopefully improve your knowledge of this

fascinating subject. You don't need to be an expert to enjoy the experience.

If you wish to create a garden or to modify one we can help you with the most cost effective layout/selection and maintenance of plants and propagation techniques.

Look out for our forthcoming events advertised on numerous sites throughout the village.

First time visitors come for free and for subsequent visits will pay a £2 fee and be encouraged to join.

Meetings are free to members, visitors £2,  
Annual Subscription only £15

Call Mary 01582 832110 or Myra 01438 832776  
for more information.

## Bowls Club

The season finished with glorious weather for our Finals Weekend. All competitions were closely fought and it was good that some new (ish) members featured in the Honours.

Yesterday's AGM was well attended and went well. Angus Lennnox retired from greenkeeping after many years and the members are grateful for his dedication with Ben Croft taking over. Angus has also stepped down as club Captain, to be replaced by a team of FOUR. That shows how much work Angus did in that role. Angus can now relax and enjoy his bowls.

Phil reported that after ending bottom of the league last year, we came 5<sup>th</sup> this season.

Our next event is Christmas Dinner at The Boot.  
*Dud Ginn*



## Kimpton WI

At Kimpton WI we are now well into our autumn/winter

programme of talks, outings and activities. So far we have learned about the amazing work being done using dogs for medical research and November's talk was all about coffee from the tree to the cup. Accompanied by slides, this demonstrated the lengthy and complex processes involved in producing coffee and the talk was followed by tastings of coffee of various strengths and flavours. December's meeting will be "A Christmas Surprise", to be organised by two of our committee members and, with the festive season fast approaching, preparations are underway for our stall at Kimpton Christmas Market and our Christmas lunch at The Boot.

In October about twenty members enjoyed an entertaining production of "Oliver" by Harpenden Musical Theatre Company, which included a cast of very talented young performers.

November's outing was a coach trip to the London Postal Museum.

This featured centuries of history of the postal service, together with artefacts and films, and the opportunity to take a short ride on the unique Mail Rail. This is an underground experience, through narrow tunnels, in a small train which used to transport letters and parcels across London. The visit was very informative and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Our regular activities include monthly Book Group and Handicraft meetings and weekly Table Tennis in the Memorial Hall Green Room. We welcome non-members to join us for Table Tennis on Friday afternoons. Just £2.50 for an hour and a half of fun and exercise. (Expertise not required!)

2019 will be a landmark year for Kimpton W.I. as we celebrate our 100th birthday preparations for this momentous occasion are already in full swing. A warm welcome awaits both visitors and new members who may like to join us for talks and presentations during our centenary year.

Finally, we wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year. Let us hope that 2019 doesn't bring a return visit of the "Beast from the East"!

For more information about us please contact our secretary, Liz Haynes (01438 832500) Or you can follow us on Facebook (Yes - we have moved into the 21st century!)

*Chris Bichener*

### Were you a member of Kimpton WI?

We are celebrating our 100th birthday in February and we would love any past members to join us.

Please contact Secretary Liz Haynes for details. tel: 01438 83250 email: [keithlizhaynes1965@gmail.com](mailto:keithlizhaynes1965@gmail.com)



### Please help Alex raise funds for WWF

I'm running the Brighton Marathon on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2019 for WWF because I want to help, and raise at least something for them. To find out more about the work of WWF visit their website [wwf.org.uk/charity](http://wwf.org.uk/charity)

This will be my first marathon and I would be extremely grateful if you can help by donating anything you can to my fundraising page [justgiving.com/alexanderwest2019](http://justgiving.com/alexanderwest2019)

I've lived in Kimpton since the end of July this year, however I knew the village before as I went to primary school here and grew up living just up the road in Whitwell.

## Kimpton Village Choir

Our community village choir goes from strength to strength under the expert guidance of Tim Armstrong Taylor, who manages to keep us all in check in the wittiest of ways!

After a successful summer picnic at the Palladian Church in July, we are now rehearsing for our winter concert on Sunday 9th December at Kimpton Parish Church - a musical candle-lit evening with guest performers, a little audience participation, together with mulled wine and mince pies. For tickets, please contact **Yve 01582 834208** or **Gill 07797 895546**.

We always welcome new members, so if you fancy giving us a try, please do contact Yve and come along in January (Men are VERY welcome too!!)

For more information please see our new website soon to go live, thanks to Gary Vine, or see the posters in this issue - Huge thanks to Sue Wells for her creativity as always!

Wendy Hyams



## Do you need a cat sitter?

Feeding, grooming and playing, with email updates on your cat.

The contact Amelia Hendrey on [mindymagic@hotmail.com](mailto:mindymagic@hotmail.com) or 07791 689035

## Herts Musical Memories

Herts Musical Memories is a charity first set up by Kerry Brabant to continue the wonderful work of the Singing for the Brain groups in Hertfordshire run by the Alzheimer's Society. We run 13 weekly singing sessions for people with dementia and memory problems throughout Hertfordshire. They are a lifeline for those who attend. Not only do they provide valuable cognitive therapy, but the sessions are very often essential social activities for those who are struggling to retain their abilities, feeling safe in the company of those in similar situations. Many have lost their ability to communicate, but can still remember the words of songs, and together with their partners/loved ones/carers they have fun!

There are spaces at the moment at our Wheathampstead and Welwyn Garden City groups (Monday morning and Thursday afternoon respectively) If you would like to attend or would like more information, please contact **Wendy Hyams 07984 588532** or **Kerry Brabant 0208 9505757**

## SURRENDER TO FITNESS

Servicing your Health and Fitness needs has never been easier.

The following weekly fitness classes are now established in Kimpton

Boxercise- a mixture of boxing cardio and bodyweight circuits, it is a social and enjoyable way to start seeing results. All abilities catered for (both male and female).

Wednesday 7:30-8:30PM Kimpton School  
Blast circuit training- an early morning mixed ability circuit training, a mix of strength and cardio exercises targeting the whole body.

6:15-7:00AM Kimpton Memorial Hall

£8 per session

Online booking available. [app.gymcatch.com](http://app.gymcatch.com) or Facebook

Any questions contact Paulette Eldridge @ 07967550472 / Facebook: surrendertofitness



## How to make a hedgehog friendly garden

British Hedgehogs are in decline and need our help! We only have around 700,000 left and this figure is generally on a downward trend throughout the UK. It is rare to ever see a hedgehog in cities these days and they are almost gone from London. The suburban towns and villages are a safe place for hedgehogs. We've heard from residents in Kimpton there is a small population. One of which has taken up residence around the Church Green area.

How about making some small changes to your garden that would help entice a hedgehog to visit you and perhaps even stay over this winter? If you can check off any or all of the following, you will have a hedgehog friendly garden!

- ***Don't use slug pellets or pesticides.***
- ***Have at least one 13cm hole in any fencing along you boundary.***
- ***Put out some hedgehog food and water in a shallow bowl.***
- ***Close off any open holes such as drains or ditches which hedgehogs could fall in to and not escape.***
- ***If you have a garden pond or pool make a ramp or a way for the hedgehog to escape should it fall in.***
- ***Obtain and place a suitable hedgehog home or box for hedgehogs to nest in and even hibernate in.***
- ***Plant fruit trees to help attract insects which also provide food for hedgehogs.***
- ***Hang out some insect habitates on trees, fences, and walls.***
- ***Seed some wild flowers in your garden.***
- ***Pile up leaves, create stacks of wood or logs, or start a compost heap.***

Ultimately a messy garden is the type a hedgehog loves! Try not to make it too perfect. We have an online shop and sell lots of hedgehog goodies such as homes and food specially created for hedgehogs. We also sell insect habitats and lots of different wildlife foods. We also offer a free local delivery service. All income generated through our shop is used to help the hedgehogs.

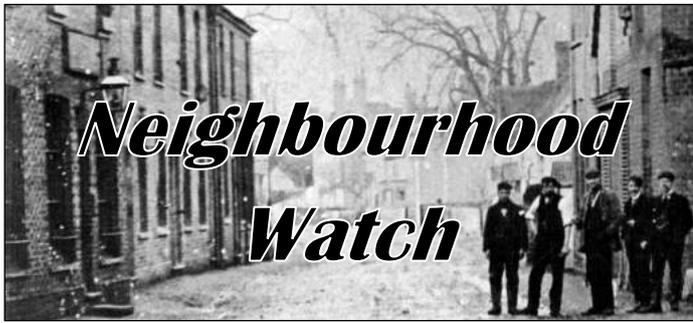
**[hornbeamwood.org.uk/shop](http://hornbeamwood.org.uk/shop)**



**Hornbeam Wood Hedgehog Sanctuary** helps hedgehogs in the local area. We look after hedgehogs that have no place to roam, have managed to find themselves in precarious situations, are ill or injured. We look after them until they are fit to be released. We fatten up underweight hogs who arrive at the sanctuary during the autumn/winter months so they are ready for release in the spring. We also tend to young hoglets during the spring/summer months who have lost their mothers or been

found abandoned, many still have their eyes closed. We have a Facebook Page with lots of photos and videos of some of the hedgehogs we have helped, please visit and like our page

**[facebook.com/HornbeamWood](https://www.facebook.com/HornbeamWood)**



## Neighbourhood Watch

### Be aware of these scams!

For the benefit of those residents not receiving OWL crime messages direct from Hitchin police I would draw their attention to the following.

With Christmas in sight please keep a lookout for suspicious vehicles or persons who could well be "casing the joint" with a view to future action. Ring 101 with descriptions of vehicles and/or persons.

Don't be fooled by a telephone call pretending to be from HMRC saying they have an arrest warrant in your name for unpaid taxes and they need your bank details.

Similarly a call or email from BT or Microsoft saying your internet is slow and they offer to help which involves downloading some software onto your computer. Then they're in!

Also villains have ways of getting access to your Bank details, either by telephone or email, so don't give any personal or bank information to an unsolicited caller. Put the phone down and never click on an email link.

Fraudsters are able to port your mobile phone details to a SIM card which they control and use it to access your bank account and help themselves. Always keep one step ahead!

### Community Policing

To contact our Safer Neighbourhood Team Ward Constable PC David Hine or our PCSO Heather Burrows, use the automated system at Herts Police HQ on **01707 354192** or alternatively you can email **David.Hines@herts.pnn.police.uk** or **Heather.Burrows@herts.pnn.police.uk** Other useful contacts are inside the back cover such as the Police & Crime Commissioner, David Lloyd.

### Caring Neighbours

Also be kind enough to check on elderly, and vulnerable neighbours living alone and remind them not to engage in conversation with any dubious phone caller. If in any doubt advise them to put the phone down and then call the Police immediately on 101. Also encourage them to fit a door chain.

You can report anonymously any incidents of abuse, dog fouling, unruly behaviour, excessive noise and nuisance neighbours on Crime Stoppers **0800 555 111** or **101 for non-emergencies** or go to **herts.police.uk/contact\_us/contacting\_us.aspx**

*Alan Smith, Kimpton Ward NHW Co-ordinator  
01438 832749 [margaret.smith5@talktalk.net](mailto:margaret.smith5@talktalk.net)*

## The wonderful Victorian building that is the Dacre Rooms has been part of our community for almost 140 years.

Lady Dacre was the wife of 22nd Baron Dacre and the granddaughter of the 4th Duke of Devonshire. She was a Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Victoria, indeed attending her at the coronation in 1838, and mixed in the highest echelons of society and the political classes. She was, however, a firm believer in temperance and the value of education.

So, with the twin aims of providing an alcohol-free environment for socialising and an orderly place for working men to become aware that education could improve their lives, Lady Susan established the Working Men's Institute in 1879. It was known colloquially as "The Reading Rooms". Over the years that have followed the building has seen many other uses; the British Legion has rented it, it served as a small factory during the Second World War, and finally it was home to the Kimpton Youth Club for several decades before that ceased to operate. Slowly, the unused Rooms began to deteriorate until, five years ago, its future was in significant doubt.

In 2014, a poll of residents suggested that refurbishment of the Dacre Rooms as a community venue was the preferred option and a hard-working group set about organising fund raising events to rescue matters. Grants from North Herts District Council, Kimpton Parish Council and Kimpton May Festival enabled urgent remedial work to take place. By 2017, more ambitious plans had been developed to refurbish the Dacre Rooms and to transform the venue into something fit for the 21st century. NHDC agreed to fund the majority of the project alongside further generous support from the Parish Council and the May Festival. Work began in January this year and was completed in April, on time and on budget.

On 27<sup>th</sup> September we hosted a tea party to celebrate the renaissance of the Dacre Rooms with our supporters and friends. We were delighted to be joined by so many of you, including a number of representatives from the district and county councils. We received a letter of thanks from NHDC, which I believe sums up the success of this project rather succinctly. "It was truly an exceptional day and my my, what you and the team have achieved is something really special, not just in Kimpton but as an exemplar for others to try and attain throughout the District & villages.....".

As a recently appointed trustee, I take little personal credit for the hard work that the team has put in, but they have clearly done a great job. I am extremely grateful to everyone who has helped in any way to make the refurbishment of the such a success for the village, and I wish to record my thanks to all of you publicly. I include in my thanks the many of you who are using the Rooms.

*Ted Frith, Chair of the Trustees*

# The Church in Kimpton

## Parish Church

During the vacancy  
please contact the Lay  
Reader or the Church  
Wardens

### **Lay Reader**

Andy Morton  
01438 832427  
adewm@aol.com

### **Church Warden**

Juliet Morton  
01438 832427  
julietmorton@aol.com

### **Church Warden and Pastoral Care Co-ordinator**

Liz Jamieson  
01438 832858  
liz@jamieson21.plus.com

## Baptist Church

### Perry Green at Peters Green

### **Minister**

Rev Andrew Gale  
01582 422635

### **Branch Leader**

Miss Pam Greener

### **The Parish Magazine Team is trying to help the environment**

The Parish Magazine is now  
printed on recycled paper.

The production team  
acknowledge with thanks a  
donation received from  
Kimpton Environmentalists

## **Police Telephone Numbers**

Urgent 999    Non Urgent 101

Ward Constable David Hine  
Community Support Officer PCSO Heather Burrows  
01707 354192 (automated system)

Hitchin Safer Neighbourhood Team  
Sergeant Steve Oliphant  
01438 757604 (usually voicemail)

Police and Crime Commissioner  
David Lloyd  
commissioner@herts.pnn.police.uk    01992 556600

## **Parish Magazine**

Editor: Andy Wright

email: [kimpton.editor@btinternet.com](mailto:kimpton.editor@btinternet.com)

Typed or written copy to John Pollington, 10 Canham Close  
Kimpton SG4 8SD    01438 832249

### **Deadline**

Copy for the spring edition must be in by  
Friday March 22nd

Kimpton Parish Magazine is printed by  
Triographics Printers Ltd. Knebworth 01438 811905

## **Parish Council**

Cllr Neil Burns (Chairman)  
Cllr Ian Corbett  
Cllr Alex Firth  
Cllr Lewis Hawke  
Cllr Jon Marsh  
Cllr Sue O'Brien  
Cllr Carly Procter  
Cllr David Reavell

### **Parish Clerk**

Carina Helmn  
Memorial Hall  
[clerk@kimptonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@kimptonpc.org.uk)  
01438 832573

### **North Herts District Councillor**

Cllr John Bishop    [john.bishop@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:john.bishop@north-herts.gov.uk)

### **County Councillor**

Cllr Richard Thake    [richard.thake@hertscc.gov.uk](mailto:richard.thake@hertscc.gov.uk)

### **Member of Parliament**

Bim Afolami    [www.bimafolami.co.uk](http://www.bimafolami.co.uk)

# *Helping Hand*

## **North Herts Community Volunteer Services**

Can provide transport to hospitals. For details ring *01462 689400*

## **The Samaritans**

If you would like to talk to the Samaritans or find out more about becoming a volunteer, please ring *01582 720666* or freephone *116 123* anytime day or night or email *jo@samaritans.org*

## **North Herts & District Citizens Advice Bureau**

To contact the CAB phone *0344 411 1444* [www.northhertscab.org.uk](http://www.northhertscab.org.uk)

## **Kimpton Monkeys Toddlers' Group**

Come and meet local, friendly faces and enjoy general play, craft, ride-on toys, baby corner, singing etc for pre-school children and babies. Entrance is £3.00 plus 50p for each additional child and includes tea/coffee and snacks for everyone. Held at Kimpton Memorial Hall on Tuesdays from 9.15am-11.15am during term time. Contact *bethsperoni@hotmail.co.uk* or find us on Facebook by searching *KIMPTON MONKEYS 2018*.

## **Kimpton Preschool**

Our friendly team, based at Linden Lodge in the grounds of Kimpton Primary School, offers sessional care for children aged two to five years old.

We are open during term time, Monday to Friday. Our morning sessions run from 8.50am to 11.50am and Lunch Clubs from 11.50am to 1.20pm. We now also offer 30 hours childcare, with afternoon sessions running from 1.20pm to 3.05pm, where there is enough interest. For more details, please contact Shahnaz Vayani, Preschool Manager, on 01438 833936 or email [communications@kimpton-preschool.co.uk](mailto:communications@kimpton-preschool.co.uk)

## **The Dacre Rooms**

To book The Dacre Rooms please email [bookings@dacrerooms.info](mailto:bookings@dacrerooms.info) or telephone our Booking Secretary, Claire Fox on *07854257437*.

## **Kimpton Memorial Hall**

For bookings contact Mrs Barbara Kazwini. 6 The Wick, Kimpton. *01438 832620*  
[barbara.kazwini@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.kazwini@btinternet.com)

## **Useful Links**

[kimptonvillage.com](http://kimptonvillage.com)

[herts.police.uk](http://herts.police.uk)

 [stalbans.anglican.org](http://stalbans.anglican.org)

[kimpton.herts.sch.uk](http://kimpton.herts.sch.uk)

[kimptonchurchherts.wordpress.com](http://kimptonchurchherts.wordpress.com)

Kimpton Church Hertfordshire