



***Kimpton***

*Winter 2019*

*Number 260*

***Parish***

***Magazine***

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



### **Parish Church**

**Sunday 9.30am**

Family Communion with hymns and talk.  
BLAST for young people in Church House

**2nd Sunday 8am**

'Prayer Book' traditional Holy Communion (no music)

**2nd Sunday 9.30am**

Informal worship followed by Parish Breakfast

**Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am**

Morning Prayer

**Thursday 5pm**

Night Prayer (Compline)

### **Ayot St Lawrence**

**2nd Sunday 11.30am**

The service varies according to the season — usually includes Holy Communion and hymns

### **Perry Green Chapel**

**Sunday 6pm**

Evening Service

## **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.



# Telling the Christmas Story of Jesus: God-with-us

One of my favourite things in Advent is to decorate my plastic (non-drop) Nordic spruce Christmas tree until I can't see a bit of green for baubles, fairy lights and tinsel. Some of my baubles are from way back and some are brand new. All are shiny and sparkly and come alive with the fairy lights. On late December afternoons it's simply delightful to turn on the Christmas tree lights and enjoy the colours beaming out in the twilight room. Just looking at the bright Christmas decorations, sparkly tinsel and twinkling lights strung from tree to tree in Harpenden and other local towns, as well as from corner to corner of our own ceilings and windows- reminds me of their origin. All the bright shiny decorations are meant to chase away the darkness and help to re-ignite the brilliant fact of God-with-us; the Incarnation of God here on earth—Jesus.

So at your Christmas Services in Kimpton and Ayot St Lawrence churches you will see candles-lots of them-and the Christmas tree at Kimpton laden with lights and spangly decorations. There's a real need to chase away the darkness at the darkest time of the year and help re-ignite and sustain the brilliance of the Christian faith. Let's do that again this Christmas.

Christmas is already galloping towards us. Our very first celebration is Christingle Service at Kimpton on Sunday 1st December at 4pm. You all know and love this service of fun and games with oranges and cocktail sticks laden with goodies. Watch how everyone's individual lit Christingle candle joined together in a chain around the church radiate a big enough light to chase the darkness away. Watch everyone's face light up in delight too. That's re-igniting the brilliant fact of God-with-us; God here—called Jesus. Come and sing out your favourite carols. Enjoy another sort of glowing with mulled wine and mince-pies on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at

4pm in Ayot and 6.30pm in Kimpton. Parents, come and see Kimpton Primary School's childrens' carol concert. The gentle, glowing light of flickering candles makes it so special—taking us back to past Christmases maybe.

And then suddenly Christmas takes us almost by surprise. I'm usually organised on the outside, prepared on the inside, (sermon scripted, surplice starched, robes ready, turkey in the oven on Christmas Eve!) This year will be extra special as my first Christmas as your Vicar in Kimpton and Ayot. So please join me on Christmas Eve at 3pm for the Children's Crib service (not just for children and not to be missed-bring hankies!) Then everyone is welcome at 11.30pm for Midnight Service of Holy Communion. Often this service begins with the church in darkness, then small hand held candles are lit. When we come to midnight: Christmas Day—and all the dazzling lights are switched on. That brilliant light tells us of the fact of God-with-us: the Incarnation of God here on earth—Jesus. Jesus who comes to chase away the darkness in our lives forever.

Join me on Christmas Day at 10am. Bring a present you have received with you and we'll share the story of the greatest, shiniest, most sparkly dazzling present ever. May you know God-with-you – the Incarnation here on earth—Jesus in your hearts and in your homes this Christmas. Merry Christmas and a happy 2020.

*Rev'd Linda Williams*



*The cover photograph and photos on page 19 are from the 2018 service. Join us on Christmas Eve at 3pm for this year's service.*

# Christmas 2019

**Sunday December 15th**

**Ayot St Lawrence 4pm**

Carol Service with Kimpton Church Choir &  
The Eden Consort

**Kimpton 6.30pm**

Carol Service followed by  
Glühwein served by the choir

## Christmas Eve

3pm Children's Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Communion

## Christmas Day

10am Family Service



## Mike Gilbert

Hilary, Sally, Chris  
and Nic would like to  
thank everyone for  
the cards, flowers and  
messages of  
condolence at the  
sudden death of  
Mike Gilbert.

## From the Registers

### Baptisms and thanks for the gift of a child

29th September	Alexander Newman
29th September	Skip Dennis Bigg
29th September	Chelsea Robin Louise Cursons
17th November	Olivia Melannie Henderson

### Weddings and Blessings of Marriage

21st September	Jane Rebecca Hunt to Matthew Benjamin Edmond
19th October	Kirstie Kelly & David Richardson

### Burials, Interments and Cremations

24th September	Dora Elizabeth Oak Scott
12th November	Jean Durrant
22nd November	Mike Gilbert

## Grateful Thanks

The Editor and Production Team would  
like to acknowledge with thanks,  
donations for the printing of this  
magazine received from Kimpton Parish  
Council, Kimpton Environmentalists,  
and Peters Green Baptist Chapel.

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

## Magazine deadlines 2020

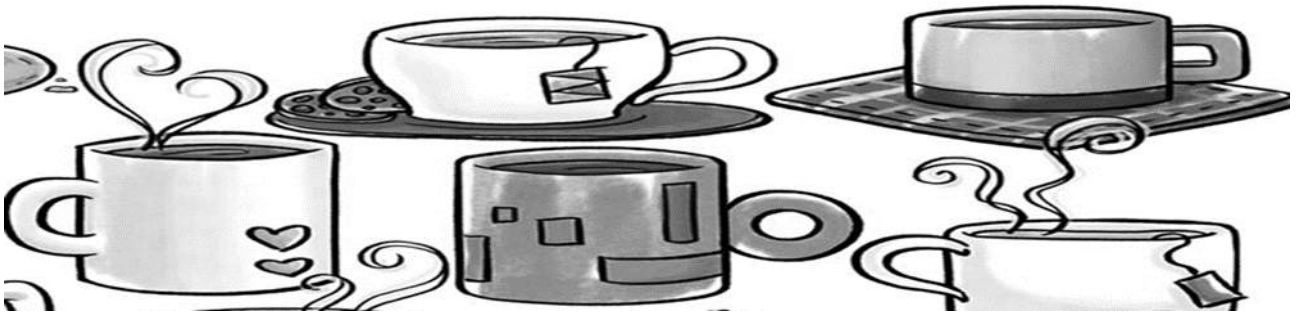
Spring: Friday March 20th  
Summer: Friday June 12th  
Autumn: Friday September 18th  
Winter: Friday November 20th

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)

# DACRE ROOMS NOW OPEN ON WEDNESDAYS 9.30-11.30AM

Need somewhere to work? Meet up with friends? Or just take a break and get out for an hour or two?



Upstairs at the Dacre Rooms is open for you.

Serving tea, coffee, cake & biscuits @ £1.50pp

Plus

## TEA TOYS & TOTS

for parents, carers with babies & toddlers.

In the main room at the Dacre Rooms in term time.

£1.50 PER CHILD, ADDITIONAL CHILD/SIBLINGS 50 PENCE EACH.

Come and chat and make new friends over a cuppa.



### Please support Jeanette Bowers and the Church Restoration Trust

I undertook this challenge in January this year and have clocked up nearly 900 miles so far. Thank you to everyone who has walked with me, it has helped a lot!

I have been collecting sponsorship over the year towards the Kimpton Church Restoration Trust which cares for the bricks and mortar of our parish church. If you would like to donate money towards maintaining this ancient building, you can via [www.JustGiving](http://www.JustGiving) and type in **JeanetteBowers1000milechallenge**.

Thank you very much, Jeanette





# Would you like to be Kimpton May Queen in 2020?

**Plans are now underway for the May Festival 2020.  
Would you like to be the May Queen or  
their attendant?**

**Selection is on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 6pm in the  
Memorial Hall.**

The following criteria must be met

1. Applicants must be in school years 6,7,8 or 9.

**and**

2. Applicants must either live within the area covered by  
Kimpton Parish Council

**or**

3. Must take an active and prolonged role in a village  
organisation.

Application forms will be available from the beginning of January  
either from the Corner Shop or online at the Kimpton May Festival  
web site. The forms must be returned by 27<sup>th</sup> January – details of  
where to return them will be on the form.

Unfortunately, if you do not submit a form you will not be able to  
take part in the selection process.

Further information from Julie Smith 01438 832981 or  
Kim Hills 01438 832762



Photos: Andy Wright

## Greetings from across the fields...at Ayot St Lawrence

Thanks to those who have been following the progress on the repair to our stolen lead roof. As I write, I can see the specialist team finally starting to replace this, which is quite a relief, given the hard frost this morning!



Most of the money for this has come from our insurance, but we are having to dig around in church coffers to find the rest, which is one of the reasons why our programme of events is so critical. Next year on 25th April we are welcoming a BBC Young Musician with her Bach Cello Project: more details and tickets here <http://bit.ly/BachCelloAyot> or [christine@ayotstlawrence.com](mailto:christine@ayotstlawrence.com).

We hope to have a good range of other music in 2020, including opera, baroque harp and cello and hopefully our sell-out Russian choir again. Following this year's successful trial of professional theatre in the church, we are most certainly planning a repeat of that too, with a George Bernard Shaw theme.

Of course we are still very much a working church, under the leadership of Vicar Linda; did you know that Kimpton residents can elect to get married here, subject to a chat with Linda of course? Our services are less frequent than in Kimpton, usually the second Sunday of the month at 11.30, and convenient for a roast lunch at the ever popular Bocket Arms afterwards.

Why not join us at our carol service on Sunday 15th December, 16.00, where we will enjoy Kimpton's own church choir, the Eden Consort and a good range of congregation-sung carols?

But if you are still not in the Christmas spirit, there is a chance of catching one last excellent event this year: our friends at Felici Opera are singing a short programme of varied Christmas music on Friday 20 December, 19.30, accompanied with that seasonal accessory, mulled wine. Now if that doesn't get you in the mood.... tickets here <http://bit.ly/ChristmasAyot> or from Christine as above. Why not follow us on [www.facebook.com/palladianayot](http://www.facebook.com/palladianayot) ?

*Christine Stevenson*

THE  
**BACH**  
CELLO PROJECT  
PERFORMED BY ROWENA CALVERT

As featured on BBC Young Musicians, Classic FM and Radio 3

'A PERFORMANCE OF SOLO CELLO MUSIC INCLUDING BACH'S TIMELESS CELLO SUITES'

**SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2020**  
7.30PM-8.30PM, ST LAWRENCE CHURCH,  
AYOT ST. LAWRENCE, AL6 9BZ  
TICKETS £15, Visit: [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)  
TICKETS CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED ON THE DOOR (subject to availability)

RAISING MONEY FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THIS BEAUTIFUL GRADE I LISTED BUILDING.

**Felici  
Opera**

## **Christmas Market**

The end of the year is rapidly approaching and the Christmas Market is almost upon us. This year it is taking place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December starting at 2pm till 6pm on The Green. We hope to make this year as entertaining 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 has been seen in the village.

There is still much to organise, with the school and village groups decorating Christmas trees and marquees and Christmas lights being erected from 3<sup>rd</sup> December. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this very sociable event. This year any funds raised are focused upon Kimpton Primary School and Kimpton Pre-School.

## **Crime**

November saw a number of thefts and damage caused within the space of one week.

***Tools stolen from vehicle in Lawn Avenue.***

***Vehicle broken into on the High Street.***

***Number plate theft from HDA.***

***Bowls Club sheds broken into.***

***Gas enclosure on the Recreation Ground broken into.***

The Parish Council is working with the Police and the Neighbourhood Watch group in regard to these recent incidents. The Police have reassured us that all possible enquiries are being carried out in an attempt to identify those responsible. This includes review of obtained CCTV footage in an attempt to ID the offenders.

Should any resident of Kimpton have any information relating to these recent crimes, please do not hesitate to contact Safer Neighbourhood Officer, Gary Pugsley.

Gary.PUGSLEY@Herts.pnn.police.uk

## **Parking**

Parking within the village continues to be a challenge. Recently complaints have been raised over cars being parked on the verges of Canham Close and Dacre Crescent. I would ask all drivers to be mindful of other motorists, damage to verges and safety of pedestrians. Orderly parking on one side of the roadway remains possible in most of these areas.

## **Luton Airport Expansion.**

London Luton Airport Limited have been holding consultation sessions in several local villages and I am sure that many of you have had the opportunity to attend. The events have been very professionally run and much information is available. However, Kimpton Parish Council representatives have been surprised that LLAL have to date been unable to fully address the following 3 questions:

After the airport has reached a capacity of 32million, will:

***the noise levels be greater or less than the currently permitted noise levels, and by how much?***

***the pollution levels be greater or less than current pollution levels, and by how much?***

***the traffic congestion on neighbouring roads be greater than the current level, and by how much?***

We would hope that a reputable organisation operating in a world with increasing focus upon global warming and sustainability will be striving to significantly improve these factors. We would encourage all members of the community to register any questions or observations with LLAL by 16<sup>th</sup> December. <https://futureluton.llal.org.uk/>

*Neil Burns*



# Behind the scenes of Kimpton Folk Festival

Kimpton Folk Festival organisers will do almost anything to ensure that next year's festival – on Saturday, July 4 - is another outstanding success. A proposal to ritually sacrifice its chairman Doug Jenner, to ensure fair weather, was only narrowly defeated at a recent committee meeting. For the record, I voted firmly in favour.

Preparations began with a comprehensive review of what went well, and what less well, at the 2019 festival. Plenty of things went very well. Record numbers of visitors flocked to the village to enjoy a spectacular range of acts on three stages, as well as the usual mix of workshops, sessions, buskers, dancing, story-telling and craft demonstrations.

Highlights included an evening concert in the church featuring Kimpton Folk Festival's patrons Nancy Kerr and James Fagan. Across the village, in the Memorial Hall, the wild foot-stomping gypsy rhythms of Sheelanagig had the entire audience up on its feet dancing; in the case of one festival trustee, so enthusiastically that she ended the night in hospital with a torn Achilles tendon. Definitely a health and safety lesson learned there.

The festival has won many accolades over the years for the extraordinary standard of artists on show, and the sheer range of entertainment on offer across the village. But some visitors have also asked if its possible to stagger concerts so that ticket-holders can get to see all the performers. So that's exactly what we're doing in 2020. Afternoon and all-day ticket holders won't have to miss a single minute of the main concerts, but will still have the choice to drop in on the free music and dance events on the village green, or attend sessions or workshops.

Acts already confirmed included Scottish fiddle, piano and close harmony quartet Fara, Kimpton Folk Festival favourites, Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar and the hugely popular husband and wife duo Megson. And as next year's festival falls on America's Independence Day, US singer-guitarist Brooks Williams will be flying the flag for Britain's lost colony.

More acts will be announced soon, but Super Early Bird tickets and more details are available at [www.kimptonfolk.uk](http://www.kimptonfolk.uk)

*Brian King*



***The first reader to name these four enraptured-looking individuals wins a copy of Doug Jenner's CD. (Second prize is two copies!) Send your answer to [hello@kimptonfolk.uk](mailto:hello@kimptonfolk.uk)***

# Kimpton History Group

**Wednesday 18th Dec 2019**

**in the Green Room**

**Christmas Party**

Details will be circulated to members nearer the time.

**Wednesday 15th Jan 2020**

**in the Green Room**

**'Archaeology of Kimpton'**

An illustrated talk by Keith Fitzpatrick  
Matthews from Hitchin Museum

**Wednesday 19th Feb 2020**

**in the Green Room**

**AGM for first 15 minutes, followed by**

**'From the Archives – Kimpton in  
1940's'**

An illustrated talk by John Pollington

Visitors are extremely welcome to attend any of our meetings for which we charge £3 including tea/coffee and biscuits. For more information about the Group, please contact Juliet Morton on 01438 832427.

**VE Day Celebrations**

**Friday 8th May 2020**

The History Group hope to stage an exhibition at next year's May Festival & at the VE Day Celebrations about what happened in Kimpton during WW2. We already have some information in our archives, but would welcome any extra information or photos you could share with us. Also do you have any photos of what you were doing on VE Day 8th May 1945, wherever you were? If you can help, please contact Juliet Morton 01438 832427 or John Pollington 01438 832249.

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



## **The Boot over 65s Christmas Party**

We will be hosting our annual party on Sunday 12th January 12.30 for 1pm at the memorial hall. If you or anyone you know would like to attend please let us know on 01438 832438 or pop into the pub.

## **Dates for the diary**

Tuesday 10th December 7.30pm will be our usual Carol evening which will coincide with our 7th anniversary of having The Boot.

Come and join us for a singalong.

Wednesday 18th December 8pm will be our big Christmas quiz night new teams always welcome.

Saturday 21st December 8pm we will be having a Christmas party with nibbles and a disco. Please wear your tackiest Christmas attire.

We would also like to thank all the groups and individuals who contributed to our stolen OAP fund. We were completely overwhelmed by the support of this wonderful community.



## Kimpton Garden Club

We extend a warm welcome to new members and are particularly keen to attract younger residents who may well benefit from the wide pool of knowledge willingly given by our more senior members.

We meet regularly on the first Wednesday in every month in the Memorial Hall Green Room at 8 p.m. with a programme covering a wide range of interesting speakers usually with colour projection and plants for sale.

Visitors are most welcome, so do come and enjoy convivial company and tea/coffee and biscuits. ( £3 fee )

We have been entertained by some really good speakers recently and we have a full programme for 2020, starting in January with Chris Thorne from Aylett Nursery talking on maintaining Christmas colour.

We organise coach trips to beautiful gardens and visits by car to local gardens and our social programme includes Christmas and Garden Parties and Quizzes...

If you like plants, vegetables and gardens you will find a warm welcome at our meetings which provide a wealth of interest to share in the company of fellow minded folk and hopefully improve your knowledge of this fascinating subject. You don't need to be a Monty Don to enjoy the experience!

If you wish to create or modify a garden we might be able to 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.

Meetings are free to members, visitors £3, Annual Subscription only £15.

**Mary 01582 832110 or Myra 01438 832776 for more information**

## A huge thank you to our village community from Preschool

Only a few months ago we told you about Preschool's uncertain future and our need to raise considerable funds. Thanks to lots of help from our lovely village with fundraising events, and a fantastic grant from the Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation, it's amazing to be able to write that we are in a much better position.

The impact of the funds that we have raised so far has been huge. Preschool is now in a significantly better place, with our building improved, much greater financial security and a host of new people with different skills on our management team. We're really excited to welcome some new trustees and our staff and children are thrilled to finally have a fully functioning heating system. We're also busy recruiting for a new Deputy Manager having said goodbye and a big thank you to Lisa last week.

We still have much more to do, and raising funds is a constant and ongoing necessity, but it's fantastic to be able to write with such positive news.

Thank you to all those who have supported us so far - we couldn't have done it without your help! And it means that we have more time to focus on the really important things - ensuring that Kimpton's (and surrounding area) youngest have the best possible start.

The first half of Autumn term was a fun filled seven weeks of play and learning. And the run up to Christmas is set to be even busier!

### Parish Magazine Deadline

Spring Edition

Friday March 20th

Please send in all copy and images to  
[kimpton.editor@btinternet.com](mailto:kimpton.editor@btinternet.com)

# Kimpton pays its respects





# Royal British Legion, Kimpton Branch

As I write this, we have just had the Remembrance weekend. The parade and church service on Sunday were well attended and the weather was kind. The uniformed organisations were excellent and the behaviour of the younger ones in church was amazing- Congratulations to their leaders.

On Saturday, our Standard Bearer – Keith “Digger” Dollin, represented the Branch, by parading the Standard at the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall in front of the royal family.



Said Digger: - *“It was an honour to be able to be present in front of the Queen and the armed forces personnel. When I was selected during the summer to do it, I thought immediately of my Dad who was involved with the D day landings. I felt like I was doing it for him. Although it was nerve wracking (I didn’t want to be the one that fell down the stairs!), the camaraderie with other Standard Bearers was amazing. My family and friends were in the audience and my brother had flown in from New Zealand to be there too. It was a weekend I will not forget. I initially joined the British Legion to help raise money for our armed forces but this is my third year as Standard Bearer and I have been proud to be present at the annual RBL race day in the summer at Newmarket and also recently provided a guard of honour at a memorial to a young flying officer tragically killed in WW2.”*

On Monday we had our AGM and I am delighted that our membership has increased- we have had a fantastic year with both social and remembrance events. For me, this is what being a member of the Legion is about. A chance to raise money, raise the profile of the work of the Legion and just enjoy ourselves! We are hoping to arrange a visit to the National Arboretum and possibly a tour of the Battlefields. Think about joining us- please give me a ring if you are interested.

Now we are looking forward to the village celebration on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE day.

*Kim Hills (Chairman) 07901 605383 Royal British Legion (Kimpton branch)*



*Above a screen shot of Digger in the Royal Albert Hall. Far left, Kim Hills, Sue Burns, John Hills and Vicar Linda before the procession. Left, Digger is pictured with Jenny Desborough and Sarah Ward.*

## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2019 - £3,431 raised

**To the Poppy Volunteers** My very warmest thanks to all the Poppy Volunteers who completed the house-to-house collection over the Remembrance fortnight. I would also wish to thank those Poppy Volunteers who have retired this season and equally, those of you who have taken up these roles so that we may continue the fundraising going forward. The Poppy Appeal also receives great support from our local pubs and shops, the School, the Scouting Movement and the Church.

**To the Village** Thank you for providing such a warm welcome to our Poppy Volunteers. We are undoubtedly the last door-to-door collection in existence and it is an unusual factor in the modern age for perhaps a complete stranger to be at your door, collecting cash. Taking into account illness or holidays, we aim for our Poppy Volunteers to cover the same route each year so that residents may gradually get to know them, and indeed expect their arrival.

I personally took on the rural route this year and it was a great pleasure to meet so many of you and be invited in out of the rain. There were several properties that I was unable to access and in the spirit of providing a service whereby all residents are able to make a donation should they wish, please let me know if you would like me to call next year and we can arrange an appropriate time.

Conversely, all Parish residents have every right to refuse our approach and while the Poppy Volunteers are on the lookout for 'No Cold Calling' signs, these can sometimes be missed in the November gloom. So, should you wish to be listed as a preference that we do not call on you, please let me know and we can flag that decision with total respect.

Sue Burns, Poppy Appeal Organiser [burns200@btinternet.com](mailto:burns200@btinternet.com)

## D Day 75 plus 3 months—a different liberation celebration

As we begin to plan events in Kimpton for VE Day 75 next year, here's another celebration commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of fighting in World War 2 from Summer 2019. From 31<sup>st</sup> August to 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019 a column of 60 military vehicles traversed Belgium from south to north following in the footsteps of the Allied Forces who liberated Belgium from Nazi occupation. The column set out from Mons, liberated by the British Guards Division with help from the Belgian Brigade on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1944. It travelled northwards, as had the Guards Division in 1944, from town to town in the order they were liberated. So Ath— Halle — Brussel —

Vilvoorde — Mechelen — Breendonk — Willebroek — Boom — Antwerpen — Turnhout — Geel — Leopoldsburg.

The Column stretched for 7 kilometers causing havoc in traffic. It comprised 20 modern Belgian army vehicles, 20 lovingly restored and unique World War 2 vehicles-- some of which actually took part in the 1944 liberation. A further 20 historical vehicles belonging to individuals joined in. Thousands turned out to watch it go past including the King. *to page 15*







## Kimpton WI

The clocks have gone back, dark evenings are upon us and our busy centenary year is fast drawing to a close. It

seems no time at all since we were planning our Birthday parties and now, here we are, planning our final celebration of the year - Christmas lunch at the Boot!

Aside from the partying, we have, of course, enjoyed our usual varied and interesting programme of speakers and activities. In October Bob Harding Jones took us on a trip down memory lane, entertaining us and testing our memories with recordings and film clips of radio and TV sitcoms, many of them dating back to the 40's and 50's!

November's meeting was a talk and demonstration of scarf tying. Our speaker, Wendy Warren, demonstrated simple but effective ways of tying and draping scarves and wraps to enhance an outfit. These were displayed very temptingly, together with some beautiful jewellery, so that many of us could not resist the urge to treat ourselves to an early Christmas present!

Our Christmas meeting will be a musical medley. Two musicians, Ray and Ted, will entertain us with music played on a keyboard, accordion and clarinet. This will include some Christmas Carols and a sing-along.

Several weeks ago a group of members attended a very moving service in St. Albans Abbey celebrating the centenary of Hertfordshire Women's Institute and another group enjoyed an outing to a production of "The Addams Family" by Harpenden Theatre Company.

Our monthly book and handicraft clubs continue to meet in members' houses and our weekly table tennis sessions have recently resumed in the Green Room on Friday afternoons. Prior to

this, for several weeks we have been playing in the games room kindly offered to us by one of our members. Table tennis is open to non members at a cost of £2.50 per session, 2pm on Fridays, all levels of ability!

During the course of the year we have been delighted to welcome a number of new members. We do hope that this interest is maintained so that we can continue to be a thriving organization.

To find out more about us, look out for posters around the village, contact our President, Sue Newman (01438 832560) or follow us on Facebook.

Finally, we would like to wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

*Chris Bichener*

*from page 14* As I too watched the 2019 Liberation Column via online TV, it gave me a flavour of what it must have been like for my Dad and his brother who drove lorries in the original 1944 Liberation Army. I know Dad particularly remembered the stops at Vilvoorde and Mechelen. My Mum grew up in a village just north of Vilvoorde, where my parents met--precisely because of the Liberation column. The column rolled on to liberate Breendonk, a Nazi concentration camp which is today a National Memorial. Much of Belgium was effectively liberated from 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> September 1944 by the Welsh Guards. Later my Dad's brother was involved in the fighting which continued until November 1944 in the north-west to free Antwerp port. My Dad went south-eastwards caught in the Ardennes fighting until January 1945. They both came home.

*Rev'd Linda Williams*

**Deadline for the spring edition  
Friday March 20th**

# Kimpton Walking Netball

After a meeting in The Boot in August, a number of ladies showed interest in taking part in Walking Netball. The Memorial Hall was booked for Tuesday afternoons from 2.30 to 3.30 p.m. as was a coach from England Walking Netball.

We have now had nine sessions which have been thoroughly enjoyed by all those taking part. Many ladies have not played for a good many years and to restrict oneself to walking rather than running has not always proved easy but great fun. Our coach has been excellent and taught us numerous aspects of playing the game.



We have two more sessions before Christmas and hope to continue in 2020. If you are interested do contact Margaret (832749) or Janet (832597) for more information or come along to our next two afternoons on 3rd and/or 10th December.

## SAVE THE DATE!!



## CURRYOKE



## Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020

### Curry + Karaoke at the Dacre Rooms

### To buy a ticket or for more info:



### Call or Text 07775 905925

# Let's all go to the Music Hall 2020



The Kimpton Players will present their 55<sup>th</sup> Old Time Music Hall in the Kimpton Memorial Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020 and the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

A riotous evening of song and laughter with a pie and pickle supper and drinks served at your table.

Tickets will go on sale at the Playhouse (in the Memorial Hall car park) from 9am on the 18<sup>th</sup> January and afterwards from the box office. Watch out for posters around the village for more details or go the Kimpton Players website ([thekimptonplayers.co.uk](http://thekimptonplayers.co.uk)) for more details.

*Keith White (Producer)*



Patient  
Participation  
Group for



Bridge  
Cottage  
Surgery  
Services  
Update

### **Physiotherapy Clinic**

**Wednesdays 8.30am - 2pm**

**Appointments can be booked 'on the day' or in advance through Reception and will not involve a follow up**

20 minute appointment to see, assess and give advice, support and exercises.

Will request radiological investigations or refer onto the Musculoskeletal Clinic, when approved by the relevant Trusts, and where clinically appropriate.

### **Criteria**

**Over 16 years of age.**

Muscle/joint pain in any part of the body (including neck or back pain) or injuries (sprains/strains).

Arthritis or suspected age related changes.  
Anyone who had previously failed physiotherapy.

### **Saturday Nurse Appointments 8am - 4pm**

**Appointments must be booked from Reception on phone or in person  
this is not a walk in clinic**

Different nurse each week on rotation.  
Patients use check in screen when they arrive and wait to be collected by nurse as the main surgery is not open.

### **Clinical Pharmacist**

**2pm - 5pm Monday and Tuesday**

**Appointments bookable from Reception on phone or in person. They release 5 days before from 2pm**

Services provided include minor illness for over 2 year olds, repeat pill prescriptions, emergency contraception, asthma checks, blood pressure checks and diabetic reviews.

If you would like further information about the Bridge Cottage Surgery Patient Participation Group please email  
ppgbridgecottage@gmail.com

## **WW2 Memories? Stories? Photographs? Accounts? Please can you help us?**

On May 8th 2020 the country will be celebrating 75 years after the end of WW2 in Europe. For this event (and May Festival) the History Group would like to put on a special exhibition but we need your help! Please could any of you provide any stories or memories or photographs that we could use?

We are looking particularly for:

1. Personal memories (or that of relations) of life in Kimpton during the 1939 -1945 years.
2. Memories of Kimpton School during those years
3. Any memories of the Evacuees who came to Kimpton
4. War memories with a Kimpton link
5. Celebrating VE day 1945 - anywhere in the world! Thank you.

*Juliet Morton 01438 832427*



Refugee children from London at Lawrence  
End in 1939





Some images from last year's Crib Service and Nativity play. Come along to the church at 3pm on Christmas Eve to hear again the wonderful story of the birth of Christ as told by *BLAST*, the children's church, and sing some familiar carols. Many thanks to Carly Tindle for the photographs.



*Environmentalist Robin Riley with one of the many large bags of empty crisp and snack packets left at the Dacre Rooms recycling point.*

*There is also a recycling point at the church.*

## **When the turkey is tired and the pudding has palled and you are watching films on TV, you may just notice.....**

One of any pair of identical twins is evil.

When you turn out the light to go to bed, everything in your bedroom will be clearly visible but slightly blue.

Large loft apartments in New York are plentiful and affordable, even if you are unemployed.

If you need to defuse a bomb don't worry about which wire to cut. You will always choose the right one.

It doesn't matter if you are outnumbered in a fight. Your enemies will wait patiently to attack you one by one....dancing around in a threatening manner until you have despatched their predecessor.

If you are beautiful your make up never rubs off, even while scuba diving or fighting aliens. However if you are overweight your mascara will run and your lipstick smear.

All beds have special L shaped covers that reach up to the armpits of women but only to the waist of the man beside her.

All grocery shopping bags contain at least one French Stick and leafy topped bunch of carrots.

Rather than wasting bullets, megalomaniacs prefer to kill their enemies using complex machinery involving fuses, deadly gases, lasers, buzz saws and hungry sharks, all of which will give their captives at least 20 minutes to escape.

The ventilation system is the perfect hiding place in any building. No one will ever think of looking for you there and you can travel to any part of the building without difficulty.

And here is something true to all films to watch out for;  
See if you can spot the can/bottle of Coca-Cola and the chicken that is in every film ever made!

*Rev'd Linda Williams*





At this time of the year, with Christmas looming fast, May seems a long way off but the committee is already hard at work with preparations for the 56<sup>th</sup> Festival that will take place from Friday 1<sup>st</sup> to Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020 when the theme will be “Rock, Pop and Superstars”. As always, there will be a parade of floats along the High Street to the Recreation Ground on the Saturday and we would really like to have many village organisations, groups and individuals represented in the procession. If you haven’t entered before and would like more information, please get in touch. Previous entrants and village groups will be contacted in the New Year with more information but get your thinking caps on for ways to interpret the theme.

According to the old proverb, “necessity is the mother of invention” and the government’s decision to move the first May Bank Holiday to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May next year has necessitated some changes to the programme of events for the weekend. We are planning to fit as many of the popular events as we can into one less day by doing some things a little differently and we hope we can rely on the support of the village. Once finalised, details will be posted on the May Festival website, the village Facebook page and, of course, in our full colour programme that will be distributed in April. If you would like to advertise your business in the programme that is delivered to all houses in the village or you would be interested in being a festival sponsor please get in touch with me or via our website

Kimpton May Festival is a prime example of the community spirit that thrives in this village and the way that so many people give of their time and money to help others never ceases to amaze me.

This will be my first year as Chairman of the committee of which I have been Secretary since 2004 and I’m looking forward to the challenge the year will undoubtedly bring. I’m also looking forward to handing over the baton of minute taking at our committee meetings to Donna Bigg. Emma Rice-Oxley and James Clayton are continuing in the roles of Vice-Chair and Treasurer respectively.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank John Hills, for his work as Chairman of the May Festival Committee since 2015; a hard act to follow.

*Barbara Kazwini, Chairman, 01438 83260 [www.kimptonmayfestival.co.uk](http://www.kimptonmayfestival.co.uk)*

### **Charity Christmas Card Pop-up shop 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 26 October 2019. 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.

Staffed by a team of local volunteers, the Harpenden pop-up shop is part of a network of more than 300 temporary shops run by Cards for Good Causes, the UK’s largest charity Christmas card organisation. It represents more than 250 charities including Cancer Research UK, NSPCC, Alzheimer’s Society and RNLI.

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

9.30 – 4.30 Monday-Friday

9.30 - 3.30 Saturday

United Reformed Church, Vaughan Road, Harpenden AL5 4ED



### **Local Crime and Safer Neighbourhood Policing**

There has been a worrying outbreak recently of break-ins and thefts from properties and vehicles and it is likely that we have been "cased" and any weaknesses in our security noted. If you are a victim or a witness and you think the incident is serious enough report it immediately to Hitchin Police Station using 101 and ask for a Crime Number. If you think that the response is unacceptable then take the name of the officer you spoke to and report it to me. I will then raise the matter with the Rural Sergeant Guy Westwood.

I would just like to remind you that our Hitchin Rural officers are Ward Constable David Hine and PCSO Heather Burrows, who can be contacted via the automated control at HQ on 01707 354192.

### **Keyless Vehicle Theft**

Another reminder that with the increasing number of these vehicles in use villains have more opportunity to gain access to and steal your car using so called "booster relays" which enable them to connect your key to your vehicle even if some distance apart. It will help if you store the key in a dedicated security pouch or in a metal box or wrapped in foil to shield it from any unwanted signal and store this as far from the parked car as possible.

On some cars it is possible to switch the key signal to "off" so check the manual or ask the dealer.

For additional security you could also fit your car with an old fashioned steering wheel lock and/or an approved tracking device, which will help police recover a stolen vehicle.

### **Vehicle and Contents Theft**

Countywide there has been a marked increase in these crimes so always lock your car and set the alarm and don't leave any valuables, Satnavs or Dash Cams on display..

### **Car Parking Meter Scams**

Person claims that his foreign card won't work in the machine and asks you to use your card and they will give you cash. If you do that your card will appear to be stuck in the machine whereupon a bogus parking attendant arrives and pretends to ring the operating company who say they can retrieve your card and return it to you. Once you have left they retrieve your card and use it.

Alternatively, villains posing as parking attendants claim the machine is faulty and your card is jammed and they can release it if you give them your pin, then they clone your card and off they go on a shopping spree!

### **Protect your money**

Some residents are still being conned by scams allowing villains to get access to their Bank details, either by telephone or email, so don't give any personal or bank information to an unsolicited caller. Put the phone down.

### **OWL (On line Watch Link)**

We need more of you to join the growing numbers of residents in NHW and OWL in order to receive police crime alerts direct by email or telephone. Joining is quite painless by contacting [www.owl.co.uk](http://www.owl.co.uk) or our Watch Liaison Officer, Verity Soued. [wlo@herts.pnn.police.uk](mailto:wlo@herts.pnn.police.uk)

### **Another Fraud Alert**

Do you access your banking via mobile phone? If so be aware that fraudsters are able to port your telephone number to a SIM card which they control and then use it to access your bank account and help themselves to your money.

### **Seasonal Security Reminders**

The build up to Christmas is a great time for criminals to break in and help themselves to presents and valuables so do hide them away. Whenever you leave your property unoccupied for any length of time please secure all windows, doors, garages and sheds. Make the property look 'lived in' by parking a vehicle on the drive and installing timer operated security lights and do please give a neighbour your contact details.

Don't leave any keys within sight of an open letter box. Our free Letter Box Deflector prevents 'peeping toms' having a quick look and using a grabber. Please let me know if you would like one.

Don't forget that you can report anonymously if you witness any incidents of fly tipping, abuse, dog fouling, unruly behaviour, excessive noise and nuisance neighbours on Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111. Please use 101 for non-emergencies or you can go on line to : [herts.police.uk/contact\\_us.aspx](http://herts.police.uk/contact_us.aspx)

With best wishes for a peaceful, enjoyable and crime free winter.

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

# The Church in Kimpton

## Parish Church

### ***Priest-in-Charge***

Rev'd Linda Williams

01438 833348 *with voicemail*  
lindalpwilliams@hotmail.co.uk

### ***Lay Reader***

Andy Morton

01438 832427  
adewm@aol.com

### ***Church Wardens***

Juliet Morton

01438 832427  
julietmorton@aol.com

Lynda Harvey

07487 413901  
lynda.a.harvey@hotmail.com

### ***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***

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 20th

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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

01438 832573

### ***North Herts District Councillor***

Cllr John Bishop

john.bishop@north-herts.gov.uk

### ***County Councillor***

Cllr Richard Thake

richard.thake@hertscc.gov.uk

### ***Member of Parliament***

Bim Afolami

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](mailto: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 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 our bookings secretary Wendy Dollin [bookings@dacrerooms.info](mailto:bookings@dacrerooms.info)

## **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