

Kimpton Parish Magazine

*Summer 2021
Number 266*



**Juliet Morton's beautiful photograph is
of a "Common Blue" butterfly**



All Change Please

We're all 'control-freaks.' We like routine. We like to know what to expect and not be thrown by the unexpected. The last 18 months living under the massive impact of Corona virus has disrupted everyone's routines and deposited us all deep into the unexpected. We've learned to live with change, which has been very difficult for some and a nasty surprise for others. Normally we'd enjoy a good complain about change. Instead, we might marvel at the changes we have lived through during this pandemic. One example—who would have thought almost 50% of us would have submitted to vaccination with a brand-new vaccine we'd never heard of!!

But for followers of Jesus, 'CHANGE' is our middle name! Jesus came to challenge the 'way it's always been.' Every moment of his ministry is about change. Jesus' disciples struggled to understand what all this change was about. As Jesus led them towards the end of His time on earth with them, so they began to get it. He led them to Good Friday...but also to Easter. It led to His seeming incomprehensible senseless deathbut also to new life, eternal life and abundant life as they had never know it before. It needed CHANGE for that transformation to happen.

Following Jesus means being open for a transformation; open to change our ways of doing things. For us now, we'll have to accept the challenges, even the deaths of some things, the growing pains, which *will* come as the regulations are eased and life returns to some kind of normal. We all hope to be able to soon do more and do it safely—but we may well be doing it differently than before.

Remember that many people will find their lives have changed beyond anything they could have imagined in their wildest dreams. People are mourning loved ones they never thought they would not have the chance to say farewell to. Jobs, businesses and livelihoods have been wiped out. Five million are waiting for delayed hospital appointments or procedures. Many, me included, remain anxious about being in large crowds. Corona virus will be with us for a while yet. We may need annual jabs. We may have further lockdowns. One thing is certain, we shall be obliged to come to terms with CHANGE, with a new way of being and living.

Christians believe that God is with us in all of this. Faith in God can help us embrace this new way, this change because we see God there in the help and support that so many in these villages have freely given to those around them. God is in the initiative of Kimpton Cares. God is there in the doorstep chats and the walks around the Rec and the 'Hellos' across the street. In the face of all the CHANGE we have struggled with, the good news is that God will not leave us but will always support and sustain us. That's why it was so important to continue to respond to God's presence and keep our churches open for most of the pandemic so that we might be there for all. Join me as we come together, Sunday by Sunday, to be nourished ready for the next unexpected step in our journey with the Lord of CHANGE.

Revd Linda Williams

From the registers

Interment of Ashes

Mrs Rosamund Jean Portsmouth and her husband David lived in Kimpton over twenty years ago. Their son Timothy died in his early twenties and was laid to rest in Kimpton Churchyard, where Ros now rests with him. Rev'd Sally Goodson, Associate Vicar, St Mary's Kinsbourne Green, where Ros was a faithful member of the congregation, officiated at the interment of ashes on 19th May 2021. Mrs Marjorie Elsie Barnes (1932-2021) was a resident of Kimpton for 70 years before moving into residential care in Baldock for the last five years of her life. She passed away in January 2021. Marjorie was married to Alfred John Barnes (1926-2010) and their daughter and wider family still live in the village. Marjorie asked to be laid to rest with her three day old son Leslie John Barnes who died in 1953 and her ashes were interred on 8th June 2021.

Wedding

At St Lawrence's, Ayot St Lawrence on Saturday 24th April 2021, Amy Pettingill was married to Phillip Robertson. It was a delightful ceremony attended by 15 guests only under Covid-19 restrictions. Nevertheless this led to an intimate service with personalised modern music choices and a solo of 'Standby me' sung by friend Grace Carson to enjoy rather than hymn singing. After the ceremony a glass of prosecco was enjoyed by all outside the church. Amy is a well known local artist and exhibitor at both Kimpton and Ayot St Lawrence Art shows. The couple have made their home in Great Ashby.



Kimpton History Group

After many months of lock-down the History Group is planning to start up again in September, providing we can satisfy any Covid regulations that are in action at the time of the meeting.

**Wednesday 15th September 2021
at 2.30 pm**

Members Afternoon 'Welcome Back' Tea Party in the Memorial Hall Lounge and Garden (if the weather is fine). Members are invited to 'Show us an object, tell us a story'.

Our evening, talks programme in the Green Room will start in October

**Wednesday 20th October at 8 pm
"The first 1000 years of St. Albans Abbey"
by Ann Banham**

**Wednesday 17th November at 8 pm
"Faberge and Luton Hoo" by Fiona Lean**

**Wednesday 15th December at 8 pm
Members Christmas Party**

The usual reminder email, giving full details of the meeting will be sent to members a week or so before the event.

John Pollington

The Bowls Club

Despite all the turmoil that the Pandemic has brought us all, Kimpton Bowls Club has, more or less, maintained a normal service. Together with matches against other clubs and our own club competitions, the club has continued with club nights on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, starting at 6pm. Anyone is welcome on club nights to come and play. We have all the equipment required together with the coaches to get you started.

We are very lucky to have such a wonderful location in the village, particularly on a summer's evening. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Warren Phillips

Church Services at Kimpton

Morning Prayer 9am on Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays

Compline (Night Prayer) Thursdays 5pm

Sundays (1st, 3rd & 5th in the month) 9.30am Holy Communion. A more traditional church service with hymns, sermon & communion-lasts about an hour

Sundays (2nd & 4th in the month) 9.30am Worship for all. A more contemporary church service with hymns and songs, choir, talk & prayers-last about 45 minutes.

Sundays (2nd & 4th in the month) 8am Holy Communion. Traditional service, no music-lasts 30 minutes.

Church Services at Ayot St Lawrence

Monthly at 11.30am

July 18th CELEBRATING SUMMER (with Holy Communion)

August 15th ST LAWRENCE DAY VILLAGE AFTERNOON from 2pm and a Christening.

September 19th PET SERVICE at ruined church

October 17th HARVEST FESTIVAL (with Holy Communion)

November 14th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY at 10.50am at the War Memorial in the centre of the village.

December 19th VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE 4pm

December 24th CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS 11.00pm

Dates for your diaries

Saturday 10th July Noise! Project

Saturday 12th September Bike and Hike for Historic churches trust charity (half of money raised here comes to the church here.)

Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th September Ayot St Lawrence Art Show in St Lawrence Church & Beer Festival at the Bocket Arms public house.

Sunday 26th September Kimpton Church Harvest Festival

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.



KIMPTON GARDEN CLUB

Saturday 5th June 2021

The first big village function for villagers to attend after such a long time of isolation!

The Kimpton Garden Club held a plant sale on Saturday 5th June 2021 from 11am to 2pm on the green. Villagers were able to come out on a lovely sunny day and see and buy from a wonderful variety of plants (all grown by members).

It was so nice to see so many villagers and for everyone to have the opportunity of talking to each other after such a long time of isolation.

It was a golden opportunity to let people in the village and surrounding areas be aware of our friendly and informal club and encourage them to join us. We have varied and interesting speakers and make several great trips out to an assortment of gardens.

Our meetings will be re-starting in September and are held on the first Wednesday of the month in the lounge of the Memorial Hall at 8 p.m.

Should you require more information please contact Mary Guenier, 01582 832110 or Sue Barfoot, 01438 832842

Janet Holmes-Walker



After fifteen months of lockdowns, restrictions and limited face to face contact, Kimpton WI members are at last looking forward to our first full members' meeting. Hopefully (and we take nothing for granted!) we will hold this meeting in the Memorial Hall. It will be an informal social gathering, enabling members to meet and greet friends, exchange news and experiences and gradually adjust to our new freedom, whilst still observing any precautions that remain in place.

Following this, in August we hope to have our first meeting with a speaker, whose talk is entitled "Bring my violin alive". This promises to be a light hearted, musical evening to which we welcome visitors and prospective new members of all ages. Do come along - we'll be delighted to see you! More details will be posted on notices around the village nearer the time.

During the winter lockdown the library has been able to provide our book group with several sets of books and last month we were finally able to have a discussion meeting in a member's house - much appreciated by all who were able to attend.

The handicrafters, although unable to meet in person, have all been busy knitting and sewing for the hospitals and charities. They hope to hold their first group meeting in September.

The Herts Federation has continued to organise interesting and varied Zoom talks and, in July, the County Performing Arts Committee is hosting an Afternoon tea, with poetry and readings, for Hertfordshire members in Kimpton Memorial Hall. This is always an enjoyable and popular event.

Finally, when we resume "business as usual," we hold our meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.45 pm in the Memorial Hall Lounge. After so many months with nowhere to go, perhaps a date for your diaries?!

For more information please contact our Secretary, Liz Haynes - 01438 832500

Chris Bichener

Recent changes on the council

There are three recent changes at Kimpton Parish Council to update you on. Firstly, at April's meeting we welcomed Ben Purple as our newest parish councillor, having filled the vacancy by co-option. I'd like to thank Cllr Lewis Hawke, the outgoing councillor, for his service to the parish during his seven-year stint on the council, during which he also served as vice-chair.

At May's council meeting, which by a quirk of scheduling fell only a week later, I was elected chair for 2021-22, following Cllr Neil Burns decision to step down from the role. Neil was elected straight into the role when he joined the council three years ago, and has done a sterling job. I'd like to thank him for his leadership and personal contribution, in particular on planning issues and in pushing forward the affordable housing agenda. Finally, I'd also like to thank Cllr Alex Firth for accepting the role of vice-chair for the upcoming council year.



The Butt End of..?

Those of you out and about recently may have noticed the council has put up signs denoting 'Butt End Path' (pictured), which runs from the Hitchin Road to the top of Church Lane. By doing so, we are reinstating the name of an historic footpath as recorded on various old plans. The origin of the name remains a bit of a mystery, but one plausible explanation is that a 'butt' is the name farmers give to an awkward shaped corner of a field, which certainly fits the description of a nearby field. Thank you to Cllr Jon Marsh for arranging this on behalf of the council.

Time for a trim?

The persistent rain in May followed by June's warm spell has brought a welcome growth spurt for local vegetation. However, a few residents have advised the council this is now encroaching across pavements meaning that pedestrians, particularly those with buggies and dogs, have to step on to the road as they pass by. With this in mind, if your property is adjacent to a public footpath or pavement, please can I ask you to ensure these are kept clear.

Greening Kimpton

We held the kick-off public meeting for this campaign on Zoom in late April and it was great to have so many people in attendance. By way of a reminder, 'Greening Kimpton' is a community-led initiative that aims to support local people and businesses in reducing energy consumption and waste, helping create a healthier and happier future for us all. We'll launch the full campaign in earnest in September, to give us time to engage with local groups and organisations from across the community and establish the role they can each play. We're also actively looking for people of all ages, backgrounds and different shades of "green" to join our working group. Please get in touch with myself or Carina Helmn, the Parish Clerk, to find out more. *Ian Corbett*



We are delighted with the numbers joining our official ECB-sponsored All Stars and Dynamos programmes on Sunday Mornings. We have had over 50 children sign up, far more than our initial expectations, and are now already halfway through the 8-week courses. We've had some great feedback and will certainly run the programmes next season and beyond as we expand our junior cricket section further.

The adult cricket season has also started and we're now five matches in (three wins / two losses since you're asking...). Whilst availability of players has been excellent so far this season we would encourage anyone thinking about (re) starting their cricketing career to come along to nets on a Thursday evening from 6ish and to spectate and/or participate in the forthcoming 'Kimpton 100' tournament which is due to start w/c 7th June. The inaugural tournament will feature four village teams based loosely on the Rugby Club, Tennis Club, The Boot and parents of Kimpton School / All Stars / Dynamos. The teams will play a series of 100 ball 8-a-side games (match schedule, and other information is available on www.kimptoncc.hitscrickets.com)

Lastly, but certainly not leastly..., the club would like to extend its thanks to a number of local companies that have recently provided generous sponsorship: Switchshop, Rayner Essex and Moulding Construction will have their logos emblazoned on our shirts, with Andrews of Kimpton and Jarvis Homes sponsoring match day banners at the ground. We really appreciate their support which will allow us to further develop the club's facilities and activities.

Simon Thompson

Mr. Dadswell's Challenge

All teachers hope to inspire their pupils and become a role model that they can look up to. Our Year 3 teacher, Mr Dadswell, not only achieved this with his class, but has inspired the whole school and the community of Kimpton. On Saturday, 5th June, at 7:30am. Mr Dadswell and friend, set off running with the goal of completing a double marathon. With 52 miles ahead of them, they set off with a spring in their step and smile on their faces. The weather was cool and dry, the perfect day for a run.

By mile 4, things changed, and as the sun rose, families all over the country were thinking about starting up the BBQ and getting ready to enjoy this glorious day of sun. As if 52 miles was not a big enough challenge, they now how the baking hot sun to contend with.



Throughout the day, Mr Dadswell's wife kept us all up to date with his progress, but as mile 36 ended he was starting to get pains in his back.

Having trained for months on end and even organised a school fun run to inspire the



children of Kimpton to get active, he decided to stop. But this was not the end of the day! Mustering up all the energy he could, he was back on the road modelling resilience and once again inspiring us all.

There was no doubt that the next 14 miles pushed him to the limits but with two miles to go, he and his friend, were on the brink of greatness. Having set off from Kimpton at 7:30 they now climbed the hill of Whitwell, with the water tower at the top marking the finish line. 8:00pm; he had done it! 52 miles and 12 and ½ hours later Mr Dadswell showed us that belief, drive, and resilience are key to achieving your goals. Congratulations to him on this remarkable achievement.

Kimpton Horse Show 2021 is all systems go!



The horse show committee is delighted to be back this year to celebrate the 77th show in style! Come and join us on Sunday 25th July to enjoy your friendly village horse show once again.

As one of the few remaining village horse shows left in the region, we're proud to be able to continue contributing to worthwhile causes from the money raised at each show. In the past this has included Macmillan Nurses, Kimpton Village Church and the Herts Air Ambulance. Over the last decade, we have raised more than £25,000 - something we are all very proud of.

Last year, the show was run virtually for the first time ever due to the pandemic. Although the field gate remained shut, where the horse show was concerned some things remained the same. We had hundreds of photo entries from our lovely competitors giving rise to some incredibly tough decisions for our dedicated judges. We also posted out boxes of beautiful rosettes to our worthy winners. The show did go on!

But there's nothing quite like the excitement of show day and this year we have the exciting addition of a long-awaited adult gymkhana (why let the kids have all the fun?!), plus we've upped the ante for the prestigious Harding Cup with an amazing haul of prizes for the combination of horse and rider who accumulates the greatest number of points throughout the show.

We would like to record our sincere thanks to our many benefactors and helpers for their continued support over past years and, on behalf of the Kimpton Horse Show committee, we wish all of our competitors the best of luck at this year's show.

To find out more visit www.kimptonhorseshow.co.uk

email secretary@kimptonhorseshow.co.uk or call 07951 381147

We look forward to seeing you soon!



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

May 15th was the centenary of the Royal British Legion. Sadly, due to Covid rules, we were unable to hold a Remembrance Ceremony but myself and Robin Wells (Our President) laid a wreath on behalf of the village.

The RBL was formed in 1921 because after the First World War, Britain's economy plummeted, leaving 2 million people unemployed. Over 6 million men had served in the war. Of those who came back, 1.75 million had suffered disability and half of these were permanently disabled.

On 15th May 1921, the British Legion was formed, bringing together four national organisations of ex-Servicemen that had established themselves to support those who had suffered as a result of service during the First World War. Later that year the poppy became the symbol of remembrance and the first appeal that year raised £106,000 (equivalent to £5.21m in 2021) and 2,500 branches of the British Legion were established across the country. The following year the Legion's Poppy Factory opened in the Old Kent Road, London where 40 disabled men manufactured 1,000 poppies a week. The first Festival of Remembrance was held at the Royal Albert Hall in 1927.

Good news!!- we have been informed that the Festival of Remembrance and the Remembrance service at the Cenotaph this year should go ahead in November having been cancelled last year due to Covid. We have applied for Keith Dollin – our Standard Bearer- to represent the village once again at the Royal Albert Hall. I will keep you posted on the progress of that in the next magazine.

The Parish Council recently granted our application for funds for the cleaning of Kimpton War Memorial. This is quite a task undertaken by a sandblasting company and will be completed in the first week of the school summer holidays to ensure that the surrounding school area is not affected Kim Hills (07901 605383), Chairman, RBL (Kimpton Branch)

Starting on 19th July 2021
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

Village Wooing


Bernard Shaw



The Palladian Church, Ayot St. Lawrence

SHAW 2020

Friday, August 13th @ 7.30pm
Saturday, August 14th
@ 3.00pm & 7.30pm
Tickets £12.50 available @
www.shawsociety.org.uk





The Future of the Palladian Church?

Simply put, the future of the Palladian church depends on the villagers taking ownership of the church and responsibility for its governance. Whatever options the future brings, the building will need input from more people to keep going.

This church building is unique -- literally the only one in the world by Nicholas Revett. It attracts visitors and walkers all year round. We are trying to capitalise on this by offering it as a

unique wedding venue, a unique artist's opportunity, a site of scientific interest via God's Acre mapping.

A new Future as Festival Church?

The Palladian Church plans to be the first Festival Church in the Diocese of St Albans. This means;

Monthly church services structured around Christian festivals to include a mix of prayer and the sacraments alongside concerts, drama, activities for all ages, crafts and food. For instance: the Easter garden competition for children with recycled resources—prizes of chocolate eggs-naturally! Our June service includes taking part in the 'Love your burial ground's' Churches count on nature-where we'd like lots of families to come up and count the flora and fauna in individual marked out squares of the churchyard.

Your village church stays open! You will still be able to have Christenings, Weddings and funerals there as well as Art Shows, concerts and Christmas carols.

We want increased use of the church as a venue to hire and for village events. It is the one village public space. So, need a space for something? Just ask.

In many ways the Palladian Church has evolved into festival church over the last few years. Plans have been severely impacted by Covid-19, but services, Christenings and weddings are taking place. Obviously, this is the route we'd prefer to go down and hope you will agree it's a great move for the Palladian church.

To secure this future there are two vital things which must be achieved:

Governance of the church needs to be on a secure footing. This means the church council needs more people. We have no Wardens and only 3 formal members. More people will be needed to help with joint village and church events.

Funding of the church needs all the help it can get. Covid-19 lockdown has meant no fundraising at all. I have had past years' outstanding church contributions to central church, which we could not pay, written off. This has given us that clean slate and reduced the annual precept to £4k

Any Future as parish church?

If the Festival Church concept fails, the Palladian church cannot continue as it has in the recent past. In that event there are two possibilities:

Closure. If there is no clear desire for the mission and ministry of the church in the villager, then the Palladian church would close. This remaining village community building will be lost. Services will no longer be able to held there.

Chapel at Ease. This option means the village passes governance of the Palladian Church to Kimpton Church Council. Often when this happens a 'Friends of the Church' groups takes on the maintenance of the building.

I hope you will join with me in not wanting the Palladian Church, your church, to close. Our church's situation will be reviewed in 2022.

Rev'd Linda Williams



Fit & Fantastic Kimpton Exercise Classes.... round up for the year just gone and what is to come! Soooo, the global pandemic decimated all our classes as you can imagine. (We work entirely in schools, community venues, pre-schools and care homes). I lost nearly all my teachers from my team, as they quite rightly needed to earn an income in more stable industries, BUT we kept Ronnie (our much loved Kimpton teacher)...who recorded and made available 12 standalone FREE Pilates classes which we shared with all our regular participants and also to the wider village through You Tube. They weren't perfect... we were still mastering technology.... but they did help many of us stay flexible, still see Ronnie and feel there was something familiar to stay

linked to in an unfamiliar world. Then. In the second lockdown, we went 'live' via Zoom with weekly Pilates and also our Over 50's class, allowing us all to stay fit and connect with each other in person using our computers....and NOW we are back in person every Monday and Thursday at 10am. Firstly, a huge thank you to those who were able to take part in these community classes through lockdown, it was so important to Ronnie and to many of you too and secondly, if you are looking for a Pilates class or alternatively a general cardiovascular, strength and stretch class then please do think about joining us. Pilates: Monday 10am Church House and on Thursdays 10am: Fit & Fantastic Over 50's general fitness class at the Memorial Hall. Please do contact me by email if you would like to come along – lorryedwards@active-creative.com, as we do need to book everyone in properly to keep you safe or give me a call 01438 831281. Happy to tell you more about what we do and why we do it. Thanks village! Lorry 01438 831281



Tree Planting Benefits Kimpton - says *MP Bim Afolami*

Over the coming years, I am committed to offsetting the carbon footprint from my duties as your Member of Parliament by planting hundreds of trees across the constituency. Tree planting is hugely beneficial for our local area in so many different ways.

These native broadleaf trees will each sequester 1 tonne of carbon dioxide during their lifetime. They will also boost biodiversity by offering new habitats for an abundance of wildlife and our essential pollinators. Trees are also excellent barriers against flooding, mitigating flood risk and securing riverbanks from erosion. Soil erosion is a monumental problem in the UK, but trees help to sustain

the natural biome of the ground and replenish its nutrients. These trees will also bring significant benefits to our community health and wellbeing – improving our already green and luscious areas for us and future generations to use. Speaking of future generations, the creation of community assets like village orchards or school woodlands also contribute to protecting the green belt from future development.

In the Spring of this year, I began the pilot phase of my constituency tree planting with 400 trees planted across the constituency. In Kimpton, I was pleased to work with the excellent Parish Councillors and their volunteers, spending time with Bob Finch and the Working Bench Group. Working with local community champions is the best way to identify the most suitable planting spots, whether to replenish hedgerows, improve community spaces or start a village orchard. The trees were provided in partnership with The Woodland Trust, and I am grateful to them for their advice and assistance from the outset.

I hope that this planting scheme can continue to benefit our local communities – both in Kimpton and across the whole of our constituency. Local Authorities, particularly Parish Councils with land in their portfolio, are very well-placed to take large numbers of trees with their knowledge of the local landscape and residents' views. I hope to maintain these partnerships for further planting later in the year when the tree-planting season begins again.



Hi from the Kimpton Preschool Team!

New beginnings & enrolment reminder

As we near the end of Term, we will be saying good bye to some of our children (as they move on to 'big school'), but also welcoming some new little starters. There is still time to register...

- Open to all children from 2-4yrs old (**Child can start the day after their 2nd Birthday*).

We accept 15-30hrs, funded & self-funded.

(**Advice on funding applications is available*).

For more information, please contact us on:

01438 833936 or

manager@kimptonpreschool.co.uk

Bag2School Fundraiser

Following the fantastic results last year (big thank you Kimpton), we have organised another clothes and shoe collection with *Bag2School* - to raise some much-needed funds for Kimpton Preschool.

To help us, we are asking for...

Mens/ladies/children's clothing, handbags, hats, bags, soft toys, scarves & ties, paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around please).

How and where to drop them off...

Mindful of covid, we ask that all clothes be freshly laundered, put inside bin bags/carrier bags etc and dropped off at the Preschool gates (opposite The Boot pub). To respect social distancing rules and to minimise touch points,

we regret that we cannot make collections.

Please fill as many bags as you can, to help raise money for our wonderful Kimpton Preschool.

'The more they weigh, the more they pay'. Deadline is Friday 9th July 2021.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Play Area Community Help

Thank you to everyone involved in creating the new 'Water Wall' and the 'Locks and Latches' board, for our Outdoor Play Area. From donating the pallets, to painting and assembling them. The children absolutely love these new additions!

Thank you also for the community help in making a special new sail for our Pirate Ship, it is a big hit! We are so grateful for your ongoing kindness and help, for our little community-led Preschool.

Sad farewell...and exciting news!

Preschool would like to say a fond farewell to our amazing Manager. Shahnaz (and her team) have looked after our Preschool for the last five years, and more recently, have carried the children (and us) through the lockdown selflessly - with love, care, fun and learning! The team, parents, and all of the children would like to say a huge thank you. We will miss Shahnaz very much, and wish her all the very best.

...we are also excited to announce our new Manager - Annie, who will be joining us after Summer, for the new September Term. We look forward to welcoming Annie to our special village and Preschool soon.

Happy Summer

Lastly, we would like to wish you all a very happy (and safe) Summer, see you in September! Best wishes from the Preschool Team & Committee.



Please take time to read the issues below affecting personal, vehicle and property safety .

Local Crime and Safer Neighbourhood Policing

The last few months have been relatively quiet, but there have been incidents relating to scams, motor vehicle theft, theft of property from motor vehicles and some drug possession.

If you are a victim of, or a witness to, an incident which you feel is serious enough, do report it immediately to Hitchin Police Station using 101 and ask for a Crime Number.

Our Hitchin Rural officers are Ward Constable Gary Pugsley and PCSO Heather Burrows who can be contacted via the automated control at County HQ on 01707 354192 or use the e-mail addresses inside the back cover of this magazine.

OWL (Online Watch Link)

We want more of you to join the growing numbers of residents benefitting from receiving police crime alerts direct by e-mail or telephone. Hertfordshire OWL membership is currently 162,000 but we want to increase that so please tell your friends and neighbours about it and urge them to join. Contact www.owl.co.uk, our Ward Coordinators (listed below), or our Watch Liaison Officer Verity Soued on wlo@herts.pnn.police.uk.

It is important that we keep records up to date to maximise the benefit of NHW within the community. We are always looking for Street Coordinators to each cover a small number of houses. They will maintain the details of new households and amendments as well as keeping an eye on any vulnerable people who also may not have access to OWL on the internet.

Scams continue to be a big problem. Typical ones in circulation today are :

1. Scammers posing as Police Officers/Staff/Banking Officials.
2. HMRC monies owing or refunds
3. Dating websites – Romance scams. Exploiting vulnerable, lonely members of our society
4. Spoof emails asking you to click on links
5. Post office/courier texts demanding payment for wrong postage. - This is a double scam. Payment is demanded to redeliver a parcel. A few days later the victim is called by a scammer purporting to be from their bank, telling them they were victim of a scam (which they were). As this is true the victim believes them and potentially parts with further money via a Push Payment.
6. Virgin Media network and account issues
7. Amazon prime accounts
8. Courier Fraud - when a victim (often elderly or MH concerns) is contacted and told they need to move their money as they have been subject to a scam/investigation. They arrange to meet with that individual to collect money they take out of the account. With large unusual payments or requests to take money out of a branch, the Banking Protocol will be enacted by banking staff whom inform the Police of potentially fraudulent activity
9. Covid 19 Vaccinations - a) people offer to arrange a Covid vaccine for a fee. Only the NHS has access to vaccines and will never ask for money. B) Fake NHS text and emails telling people that they are eligible for the Covid 19 vaccine. If you click on the link you will be taken to a convincing NHS website that asks for personal and financial details. There is a Crimestoppers Covid Fraud Hotline set up by the Government in partnership with Crimestoppers to enable individuals to report within the public sector during Covid. **The Hotline is 0800 587 5030**

None of the above organisations send e-mails asking you to click a link.

Please report all scams to Action Fraud on the following link: www.actionfraud.police.uk

Keyless Vehicle Theft – protect your vehicle

Always lock your vehicle. If possible, park your car in a locked, alarmed garage. Check regularly for software updates for your car and keep your vicinity key in a signal blocking pouch. Criminals also employ remote keyless entry jamming equipment; so ensure your car is locked before leaving it by trying the door handle and checking the indicators flash. If possible switch the key signal to “off” (check the manual or ask your dealer). For additional security fit a steering wheel lock (e.g. Krooklock or Stoplock) and/or an approved tracking device, which will help police recover a stolen vehicle.

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Vehicle and Contents Theft

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

There is an outbreak of catalytic converter theft particularly from Hybrid cars, even in daylight, where the thieves profit from the sale of the precious metal content. Take special precautions such as parking in a garage or close to a wall, fit CCTV to your home, have fixing bolts welded or fit a dealer supplied security cover. It is also possible to etch or forensically mark the converter and use a windscreen sticker to deter thieves. Hertfordshire Constabulary has teamed up with garages around the county to offer free catalytic converter security marking. Details of the garages taking part in the security marking scheme can be found at <http://www.herts.police.uk/operationfeline/>. The marking takes around two hours.

Seasonal Security Reminders

As lockdown eases and we are free to move about it is important that you secure all windows, doors, garages and sheds if your property is unoccupied. Do not post holiday dates on social media and only upload holiday photos on your return. Make the property look 'lived in' by parking a vehicle on the drive if possible and installing timer operated security lights and give a neighbour your contact details. Never leave any keys within sight of an open letter box

Making Kimpton a better place to live

There has been a big increase in fly tipping. You can report any incidents anonymously on **Crime Stoppers 0800 555 11** plus dog fouling, unruly behaviour, excessive noise and nuisance neighbours. Use 101 for non-emergencies or go on line to: <http://www.herts.police.uk/report/report>

Your Ward Coordinators

If you have any questions relating to NHW please get in touch and we will be pleased to help.

John Bowers, 07833 301 268 bowers984@btinternet.com

Angus Davidson, 07789 502 057 angussdavidson@btinternet.com

Kimpton Ward Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators

Shingles Vaccine

Did you know there is a vaccine that helps reduce your risk of getting shingles and reduces the severity of symptoms if you do develop the disease?

Shingles:

- is a common disease that can cause long-lasting severe pain
- has been known to cause permanent disability
- occurs more frequently in those over 70 who are also more likely to have worse symptoms

The vaccine:

- is significantly reducing the number of cases
- will reduce the severity of symptoms in vaccinated people if they develop the disease
- cannot cause shingles in healthy people
- you will only have the vaccine once – you do not to be re-vaccinated every year
- is recommended even if you have had shingles before.

You become eligible for the shingles vaccine as you turn **70**. The vaccine is also available for those previously eligible (currently in their seventies) but who missed immunisation. People aged 80 years and over are not eligible because the vaccine becomes less effective as people get older. However, if you turned 80 in the last 12 months and missed out on the vaccine due to the COVID-19 pandemic, you may still be eligible, so please enquire if you are interested.

If you are eligible then please contact your GP surgery to make an appointment with a nurse to have your vaccination. If you would like further information about the Bridge Cottage Surgery Patient Participation Group please email ppgbridgecottage@gmail.com

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

Jenny Kelly
07818 613143
genkel@btinternet.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

Your Parish Magazine

Due to the current situation this edition of the Parish Magazine is only available online. Please feel free to print it and pass it on to those not online.

Police Telephone Numbers

Urgent 999 Non urgent 101

Hitchin Safer Neighbourhood Team

Sergeant Jonathan Vine
jonathan.vine@herts.pnn.police.uk

Ward Constable Gary Pugsley
gary.pugsley@herts.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Heather Burrows
heather.burrows@herts.pnn.police.uk

Contact any officer by telephone on 01707 354192
(automated system)

Police and Crime Commissioner

David Lloyd
commissioner@herts.pnn.police.uk

Parish Magazine

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email: ***kimpton.editor@btinternet.com***

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

Deadline

Copy for the autumn 2021 edition must be in by
Monday September 20th

Parish Council

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

Parish Clerk

Carina Helm
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

North Herts & District Citizens Advice Bureau

To contact the CAB phone 0344 411 1444 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

The Dacre Rooms

To book The Dacre Rooms please email our bookings secretary Wendy Dollin bookings@dacrerooms.info

Kimpton Memorial Hall

For bookings contact Mrs Barbara Kazwini. 6 The Wick, Kimpton. 01438 832620 barbara.kazwini@btinternet.com

Useful Links

kimptonvillage.com

herts.police.uk

stalbans.anglican.org

kimpton.herts.sch.uk

kimptonchurch.co.uk

 Kimpton Church Hertfordshire