

Kimpton Parish Magazine

*Summer 2022
Number 270*



Photo: Andy Wright



Summer-Back with a Bang!

We are blessed that the Summer season is back with a bang. Don't you agree the 2022 May Festival was definitely back with a bang? The sun shone (thank you Lord God!), the crowds came and there were many happy smiling faces. The Sunday open air May Festival Songs of Praise service was a hit with everyone who came along. A collective sigh of relief that this year Covid-19 did not entirely defeat everything and everyone's plans. As we enjoy this Summer's festivals, I thought I'd tell you about Festival Church. Yes, the Church does festivals and parties too! Who knew!

Most often festival church comes about when a church building is not used for Sunday services any more but is still highly valued and wanted by its village or community. So we're talking about a church whose future is uncertain, because there are no people or anyone to run it anymore. That's not the case in Kimpton. However, St Lawrence's Ayot St Lawrence now operates as a festival church.

What exactly does that mean? The answer is that the church stays open. Open during the day for visitors and worshippers. It serves the village as a place for prayer and contemplation and for christenings, weddings and funerals. There must be a minimum of 6 services a year (St Lawrence's has 12). These will all be flexible and varied services celebrating big festivals. What are those? At St Lawrence's we have Village Christmas Carol Service with mince pies and mulled wine; Harvest Supper Party, Pancakes for Lent, Mothering Sunday posies, Easter Garden making and lambs to pet. St Lawrence Day falls in August and has picnics, open air concerts, flea circus and Punch and Judy show. There are many interactive and fun ways of celebrating festivals in a Festival Church.

A Festival Church is a community space and can accommodate appropriate complementary community, cultural and commercial uses. This means encouraging the use of the church for events such as village meetings, children's parties and even Art Shows! St Lawrence's has been used as a film venue, drumming school, drama productions, concerts and even a temporary base for visitors from the 501st UK Garrison Stormtroopers. All great festivals!



C. Stevenson



L. Williams

Some of these festivals are happening at Kimpton Church too—in early June I blessed 16 dogs, 4 guinea pigs and Tommy the tortoise. (see page 3)

Watch out for these 'different' church festival events—they are usually advertised around the villages. Let's hope and pray that Covid-19 allows us to continue to celebrate a Summer that is back UK Garrison members with a bang.

*Have a lovely and blessed
Summer time.
Rev'd Linda Williams*



Thank you from the Cream Teas Team

We were not able to thank each one of you personally for your contribution to the success of the May Festival Cream teas but we were incredibly grateful for everyone's support. We made just over £1700, half of which goes to the May Festival fund.

The Bakers of Kimpton rose to the challenge and supplied wonderful home made scones, cakes and tray bakes. We also owe a huge thank you to those who erected the tent and gazebos, put up bunting, moved chairs and tables, took customer payments, cleared tables, washed up and served the teas!

There were lots of jobs to do and everyone came together - it was a great team effort. Please come and join us next year - you will be made very welcome!

*Thank you Kimpton!
Amanda Corcoran and Carly Tindle*

Photos: Juliet Morton



All creatures great and small!



Photos: Andy Wright



Some of the attendees at the Pets' service held at Kimpton church in June.

Some of them even joined in with the bells and hymns!

Funerals and interments

Richard Dollin

The interment of ashes for the late Richard Dollin RIP took place on 20th April. Richard who died in 2020 was laid to rest with his grandmother Ellen Maria in Kimpton Church yard.

Christenings

On May 8th there was a double christening at St Peter & St Paul's Kimpton.

Watched by his big sister Sophie, who was christened in 2019, it was 11 month old **George Geoffrey Stagg's** turn. George's parents are Tamsin and Daniel Stagg of Wigmore, Luton and they were supported by many members of their wider Stagg, Dollin, Deamer and Dollimore village families.

Jane and Matt Edmonds daughter, **Lily Rose** aged 15 months and her brother **Harry Benjamin** aged 6 and a half were also christened together.

Matt and Jane live in Lion's Yard, Kimpton.

On 5th June, just three days before her 1st birthday, **Ayda Andi Cole** was baptised. Ayda's parents are Jo and Charlie Cole who recently moved into Church Lane. A nice touch was a row of balloons tied to the trees along the church drive specially for Ayda who smiled throughout the service.

Weddings

James Lamburn, originally of Kinsbourne Green Harpenden and **Suzanne Rowell** of Blackmore End were married at Kimpton Church on Saturday 28th May. James and Suzanne were obliged to postpone their wedding from 2021 as it fell just inside the extra extension of Covid lockdown imposed by government in June 2021—Suzanne was livid!! Feedback from James and Suzanne is that all went well on the day they finally tied the knot. Their home is in Wandsworth, London.

We have also learnt of the recent deaths of village residents.
Mary White, Marion Ginn and Sue Newman.



The Platinum Jubilee celebrations are now over and, I'm sure, much enjoyed as a time of coming together and having fun. Certainly the W I members who attended the Jubilee tea party in the Memorial Hall, organised by Treena and Craig from the Boot, thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Together with their band of helpers, Treena and Craig entertained us splendidly with a lavish party tea, singing and even, for a few intrepid members, some dancing!

Now it's back to business as usual. Our monthly meeting on June 8th was all about "Brocket Babies ". Our speaker, Eileen Pegrum, was one of over 8,000 babies born at Brocket Hall during World War 2 after the bombing of the City of London Maternity Hospital. With its local connection, this was a very interesting talk.

May's meeting was a lively and enjoyable demonstration and workshop by a local group called "Love to Dance". Several of our members were in the demonstration and others joined in the workshop at the end. Unfortunately, our speaker for April, Karen Dixon, had to cancel her talk about life as an airline pilot, due to Covid. Although sorry to lose Karen, we filled in with a fun social evening and Quiz. Hopefully, Karen will come and talk to us later in the year.

Our Friday afternoon table tennis sessions have now finished for the summer months but we hope to resume in September and will inform our non - members of the dates. Our book and handicraft groups continue to meet monthly.

We were very sad to hear of the death of Mary White last month. Mary had been a loyal member of WI for many years and also our Treasurer for much of that time. A number of WI members attended her funeral service at the Church.

Finally, we are really keen to recruit new members, of all ages, to our ranks and anyone who would like to come as a visitor to one of our Wednesday meetings will be made very welcome. Second Wednesday of the month, in the lounge of the Memorial Hall at 7.45 pm. Do come and join us!

For more information please contact our Secretary, Liz Haynes, on 832500.

Chris Bichener



Meet the New Head

Our roving reporter went down to Kimpton Primary School to meet *John Ferguson*, who took over as Head at Easter, and this is what they talked about.

Mr Ferguson, thank you very much for giving up part of your busy day to talk to the Parish Magazine. Could you start by telling us a little bit about yourself?

I was brought up not far away in Old Welwyn and went to St Mary's Primary School, where my mother was a teacher, and then to Monk's Walk in WGC. I started teaching at a private school in Hertford, where I specialised in sport and became Head of PE. Then I moved to Beijing to help establish a brand new mixed primary and secondary school. I became Deputy Head and stayed for a couple of years, after which I came back to Hertfordshire and worked in two mainstream junior schools before finally coming to Kimpton as Mrs Clements' Deputy and succeeding her earlier this year.

And why did you become a teacher?

In some ways, it's quite odd that I did. I never really enjoyed school. There were only two teachers I really connected with. But I went to the US to work with inner-city children in Philadelphia, and found that so rewarding and enjoyable that I decided to come back to the UK and train as a teacher. I liked working with children so much that I overcame my dislike of school, and here I am running one!

Everyone was really pleased with the school's OFSTED rating before Christmas. Was it a surprise?

No. It was a relief, and a recognition of the journey the school community has been on for the last six years, but not a surprise. Well before the visit, the whole community was confident that the school was good. But we weren't complacent, and of course the inspection was nerve-racking and exhausting, so nothing will ever beat hearing the lead inspector say that the school is good and one she'd be happy for her children to attend.

What do you enjoy most about working in Kimpton?

This is going to be a long answer! Let's start with the children and their families; it's great to work in a school where I've got to know all the children and their families, and where there's such an amazing level of support and encouragement from parents individually and through our active PTA.

Then there's the wider community, which supports us in so many ways. There are individuals such as Andy Morton who are always prepared to come and help and our facilities wouldn't be anywhere near as good as they are without the contribution of the Bench Working Party.

Our governors are a real "critical friend" of the school; they ask uncomfortable questions and push for improvements, but that's how it should be. They also contribute expertise in areas like finance, HR, facilities, marketing, website management and publicity that we need to make the school a success, but teachers are never taught.

Most important of all are the staff; they're a massive reason why I wanted to move up to be Head here. Their passion and dedication to developing the school and keeping the children at the centre of everything we do are inspiring. Yes, we got a "good" OFSTED rating, but no one is sitting still and we all want to move on and make the school an even better place for our children to learn and develop.

The whole school fizzles with ideas; for example, our pupil diversity group has some really thoughtful ideas around ways of reminding us of the whole spectrum of people and that our school doesn't necessarily reflect the outside world. I hope the whole community sees me as someone who's willing to listen to and learn from their ideas.

turn to page 6

from page 5 **What's the biggest challenge facing the school?**

We need to maintain our good standard and build on it, developing the school to be an even better experience for our children. We also need to increase our numbers. A small school is great and having more children can bring its own issues, but funding follows children and, if we want to be a strong and stable school and do all the things we want to, we do need to grow.

Can you tell us what's been happening in school this term?

Let's start with the Jubilee. For the first time in two years the whole school could be together for our celebrations. It's the same with Sports Day, where we can invite parents to watch the whole event. It's just great to be getting back to normal school life again.

The Summer Term is always tinged with sadness as we say "Goodbye" to Year 6. They'll have their Leavers Assembly and their Adventure Week in Norfolk. They always remind us of our school motto "Achieving Today; Ready for Tomorrow". Most of our leavers go on to Katherine Warrington School, and we've met with the staff there who say how ready for the next stage in their life Kimpton children are when they arrive.

It's also a time to take stock. We have SATS and other assessments and write reports for the children. For ourselves we write the SIP (School Improvement Plan) and reflect on the year that's ending and where we should be looking to take the school next year.

Who's your role model?

My parents. My father was an engineer and my mother a teacher. They were both grafters, who showed me that life isn't always easy and you need to put the work in. You won't always get what you want, but if you want something you need to work and go out to get it. That's very much what I try to do as a parent myself, trying to stress the importance of drive, work ethic and passion. They also taught me that compassion, openness, and a good sense of humour are vital to make it through life.

How can our readers help you and your colleagues and support the school?

We're always looking for volunteers who can come in to hear children read. And people with a skill or an interest they could show and tell; art and music are the obvious ones, but anything that's different, that we wouldn't have ourselves and you'd be happy to share. Also, outside the classroom practical skills we can call on (like plumbing, electrics, gardening, maintenance) so we can improve our environment in ways we couldn't afford commercially. If you can help, drop me a line admin@kimpton.herts.sch.uk.

And finally

Arsenal or Spurs? I'm a Chelsea man through and through. I should really support Arsenal though as my great grandfather Joe Hulme played for the Gunners between 1926 and 1938 and went on to manage Spurs in the 1940s. And something you wouldn't see these days, he was also a good all-round cricketer, playing 225 times for Middlesex.

Coronation Chicken or Platinum Trifle?

Neither – they're both too sticky and sweet!

Lego or Playmobil?

Lego every time.

JK Rowling or Michael Morpurgo?

Harry Potter's fine, but Michael Morpurgo writes brilliantly about so many different topics.

Paddington Bear or Peppa Pig?

Paddington; that pig needs to learn some manners!



Can we help you with something?

07745 903539

KimptonCares@gmail.com

The Garden Club

Our Spring programme continued with a very enjoyable visit to “Serendi”, a beautiful garden in Letchworth. We were cordially greeted by the owner, who gave us a most knowledgeable and interesting tour of her garden. This was followed by tea and homemade cake – altogether a very worthwhile afternoon.

In June we will be holding our annual plant sale. This will be on Saturday the 18th from 11 am to 1 pm on the middle green. We are hoping for a pleasant day and lots of customers, as the produce will again be very much cheaper than anywhere else. Please bring your own bags if you can.

For July we are planning another local garden visit. Details will be sent out as soon as they are finalised. The Club’s annual Summer Social will this year be held in the garden of Wendy & Keith Chard.

September will see us back in the Memorial Hall, where I shall be giving an illustrated talk on “Plants for Shade”. Visitors are welcome to all or meetings. Wishing you a happy and healthy Summer. *Audrey Fitzpatrick*

Regular Services at St Peter & St Paul Church

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month 9.30am Holy Communion

2nd & 4th Sundays of the month 9.30am Worship Service

2nd & 4th Sundays of the month 8am Said Holy Communion in the Millennium Room
5th Sunday varies.

Grateful Thanks

The Editor and Production Team would like to acknowledge with thanks, a donation received from Robin Wells. Now that we are back to the printed magazine, we would welcome donations again from Kimpton clubs and organisations.

Kimpton History Group 2022

Wednesday 20th July Visit to North Hertfordshire Museum at Hitchin

Our Summer evening visits continue. Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews will take us on a guided tour of the museum. Meet at Kimpton School at 6.15 pm to share lifts for a 7 pm start in Hitchin.

Wednesday 21st September at 8 pm Members Evening: ‘Show us an object, tell us a story’

We are back in the Memorial; Hall for this meeting, where we invite you to bring an item of historical interest (including photographs) but with some sort of story to tell.

Wednesday 12th October (please note, not our normal meeting date) Visit to St Albans Cathedral

The last of our evening visits for this year. Ann Banham will be our guide and will pay particular attention to new treasures, including the amazing wall paintings, which have been brought to life by modern technology. We will leave Kimpton for a 7 pm start at St Albans, full details on the reminder email to members.

Visitors or guests are welcome to attend any of our talks for a small charge of £3, which includes tea/coffee. For more information about the Group, please contact Juliet Morton 01438 832427.

Why not join the Probus Club?

After a long shutdown due to Covid, the Kimpton Probus Club is starting up again! What is the Probus Club? It meets on the third Tuesday of each month in the Green Room behind the Memorial Hall, starting at 1100 with coffee and “mingling”, then a talk, usually an outside speaker for about an hour with questions. Then an optional lunch at The Boot. The membership is retired or nearly retired men. The talks are very varied. Those planned from September onwards include - how the sound track of the latest Bond film was created, the Gunpowder Plot, and the History of Pinewood studios.

If you are interested you can come along for a meeting to see if you like it before you decide to join, and/or contact me to find out more.

*Bob Finch 07796 327870 or
bobfinch108@gmail.com*



Kimpton Parish Council has now established new roles following the recent local elections. Many thanks to the outgoing councillors: Neil Burns, Ian Corbett and Ben Purple who, between them, have provided many years of dedicated contribution to the community in serving on the council including, in respect of Neil and Ian, as Chair. Their many and varied contributions will be well known by the Parish. We would like to welcome three new councillors joining the remaining council: Nicky Jackman, Grahame Durrant and Ian Pegrum.



Outdoor fitness equipment for the Recreation Ground

The new outdoor fitness equipment said to be on order in the last Parish magazine has arrived and been installed. It appears to be a popular addition to the lower level of the Recreation Ground and has seen much use. Please provide any feedback to Carina Helmn, our Parish Clerk, at clerk@kimptonpc.org.uk.

Future Plans

A project is being started to repurpose the pavilion on the upper level of the Recreation Ground with focus on greater community use. Please speak to Carina if you have any comments or proposals.

Issues of traffic and parking have as always been identified as of significant concern to the community. The 'Highways and Parking Working Party' led by Cllr Alex Firth continues to look at options for possible improvement, leading to a consultation with villagers. We are hopeful we will be able to put a 20mph scheme in the village out to consultation in the near future. Our County Councillor, Richard Thake, has arranged for the County Highway Managers to speak to the Parish Council at the June meeting - to which all are welcome to attend - and we will report back after that on progress.



Recent Parish Events

A big heartfelt congratulations and thanks to the May Festival Committee. There are many hours of time and tremendous effort put in by the volunteers and participants who come up with ideas and organise events that we all enjoy. We have also enjoyed wonderful Jubilee celebrations this year including some super yarn

bombing! The photo is of the Jubilee Garden off Church Path.

We look forward to the Kimpton Folk Festival, Kimpton Horse Show, Kimpton Autumn Show and Kimpton Christmas Market later in the year. Kimpton Parish Council is always pleased to support and participate these fabulous community events where it can.

Please drop a note to the Parish Clerk on any item that might help to improve Parish life.



Ukrainian musicians to play at Kimpton Folk Festival

Kimpton Folk Festival organisers are delighted to announce that this year's event on Saturday, July 2 will feature a group of top Ukrainian singers and musicians.

The performance on the Green will be led by acclaimed Ukrainian singer Alla Kravchuck (pictured) who has graced concert platforms throughout the world. Her group will perform a mixture of traditional and modern songs and tunes, and there will also be a chance to learn some Ukrainian dance steps with Marina.

The Ukrainian music is just part of a packed afternoon of music, dance and family entertainment being provided entirely free on The Green and in Garden Fields.



Performances on the The Green stage, will include guest appearances from top artists appearing in ticketed concerts in the Church and Memorial Hall. It's a starry line-up including Fara, Megson, Granny's Attic, Honey and the Bear, Brooks Williams and festival patrons Nancy Kerr and James Fagan. (pictured left)

Other attractions on The Green stage include music from Kimpton Village Choir, a performance by Herts Early Dance, and a variety of local singers and musicians including Said the Maiden. As usual the afternoon will be rounded-off with a rousing ceilidh.

Meanwhile Garden Fields will be the focus for family entertainment including an opportunity to learn circus skills with Steve Kaos, arts and crafts (including how to make a clay sculpture of the Green Man) and story-telling for children of all ages.

For more information and to buy concert tickets, go to: www.kimptonfolk.uk *Brian King*

Music at the Palladium Church Ayot St Lawrence



London and Edinburgh

Another tale of two cities

The League of Harmony

Rosemary Edwards Baroque 'cello
Mike Parker Single-Action Harp

Eighteenth Century Sonatas by Scottish composers and music with a Scottish influence

Saturday 9 July 2022 19:30 Tickets £10.54

Ayot St Lawrence Church

Church Lane

Ayot St Lawrence

AL6 9BZ

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/edinburgh-and-london-a-tale-of-two-cities-tickets-336404413657

14th August 13:00

Eden Consort Picnic Concert at the Palladian Church, led by Christina Raven, Kimpton's occasional church organist!

Bring your own picnics and listen to a broad selection of music from this talented local group.

No tickets necessary: donations to the church.

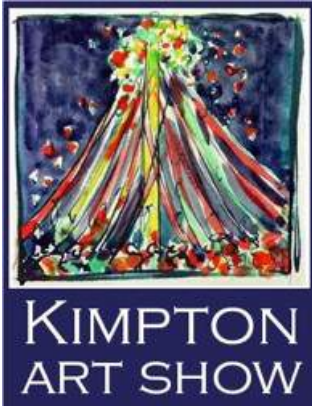
10th September 18:30

Fayrfax Consort led by David Ireson.

Contact Christine

christine@ayotstlawrence.com

for tickets (£12.50)



During the four months that we spend planning the Kimpton Art Show we liaise with the 100 artists who exhibit with us. These are relationships that provide such added value to the event, and the warm, enthusiastic feedback we receive is, I believe, a reflection of the excitement and appreciation felt by all visitors to the village over the May Festival weekend. I know how very hard the Art Show and May Festival Committees, and all their other volunteers and supporters, work to enable such a broad variety of entertainment, and so I am taking this opportunity to share with you all a flavour of this very special return to business in 2022

- It was lovely to be back.
- So glad the art show was a huge success! I agree that we were all craving it.
- It was indeed a joy to be part of, and to experience.
- I thought everything looked gorgeous, beautiful pieces of work everywhere
- Thanks for finding someone with sufficiently good taste to buy one of my paintings!
- Great to see you and the team back at the church and you've all managed to put together a wonderful event.
- It was a super exhibition and the icing on the cake was that our dog that we rescued from Portugal came third in the Best Rescued Dog Group!
- Thank you, and especially for all the hard work you and your team put into making this such a lovely event on the calendar.
- I'm over the moon that I sold and it's inspired me to find a way to continue, so thank you.
- A Sale: Ooh, that's marvellous news, I was not expecting that!
- It was of course lovely to have sold a few works but also to have met some old friends and enjoyed chatting once again. Not to mention viewing such a diverse range of art work. How wonderful it is that you enable this event to happen each year.
- It was wonderful to be involved in the Kimpton Art Show and great to meet so many local artists. I will certainly be looking forward to returning in 2023
- Thank you to you and your team for all your organising of the art show. It was a great weekend in the village.

Kimpton Art Show 2022 raised funds for:

Kimpton Parish Church Restoration Trust – donation £4,000

Kimpton May Festival Good Causes – donation £4,000

Sue Burns, on behalf of Kimpton Art Show Committee

To see this magazine in full **colour visit these websites**

kimptonchurch.co.uk

kimptonpc.org.uk

KIMPTON MAY FESTIVAL - Was Back with a Bang

Wow, what a weekend! The 56th May Festival finally happened and how lovely it was to see so many people out and about enjoying themselves after the last couple of years of restrictions. The Kimpton Community came together and put on a good show.

We really didn't know what to expect. Would people want to be mixing with others, would numbers be down, would they spend money in the current economic climate? Well we needn't have worried and it was very pleasing that we were able to put on all of our planned events and some were even better supported than in previous years. All those puppies and dogs acquired during lockdown seemed to put in an appearance at the Dog Show!

Whilst we are still reconciling the accounts, it looks as though there will be a profit in excess of £12,000 to be distributed in the Autumn. A full summary of the accounts will be published in the next edition of the Parish Magazine.

If your village group or organisation would like to be considered for a grant from the Kimpton May Festival Trust, please complete a Grant Application form. The deadline for form submissions is 1st September 2022. The form can be found on our website or you can request one by emailing me at barbara.kazwini@btinternet.com

We would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way to the success of the festival. It is a huge team effort from not just the core committee (who all worked very hard) but all the volunteers who helped in any way with the events and those who came along and supported them. From hanging bunting to washing up at the Cream Teas, every little bit helps and is appreciated.



If you would like to find out more about what we do and where the money goes and perhaps get involved with helping next year, then come along to our annual "Kick-off" meeting on Thursday 29th September at 7.45pm in the Dacre Rooms.

The theme for 2023 is to be "Rock, Pop & Superstars" so plenty of time to think about what you could do!

It would be lovely to see some more new faces who could eventually take on the baton from those of us who've been involved for more years than we care to think about!!

Well done Kimpton.

Barbara Kazwini 07484 355914

www.kimptonmayfestival.co.uk



KIMPTON MAY FESTIVAL certainly went with a bang!



Photos: Andy Wright

Photo: Juliet Morton



The 2022 May Queen, Hannah is pictured with her attendants Abby and Molly. She is crowned by 2020 elected May Queen, Lexi.

Great fun was had by everyone in the procession and the crowds who turned out to watch.

More photos on page 14 & 15

Photos: Andy Wright

KIMPTON MAY FESTIVAL Monday on The Green



Kimpton Community Awards 2022

Community awards for 'Outstanding

Contribution to the Kimpton Community' were presented to Ted Firth, John Hills, Kim Hills, Juliet Morton, Mary Hyde, Anita & Sanjay, Eileen Swain and Carina Helm.





Photos: Andy Wright

Accidents will happen! The Maypole dancers get themselves into a bit of a tangle.

Above, left, Jenny Thurston receives a well deserved bouquet for organizing the Maypole dancing for several years.

The voice of the May festival, Arthur South, in action at the auction and multi-accordionist Nigel Hyams is part of the band playing for the maypole dancing.



**Have you ever wondered how your donation money is spent?
When you pop your donation in the Poppy appeal tin- or now
swipe your debit card on the machine- where does it go?**

The RBL supports both serving and and ex- serving personel- for the rest of their lives if they need it. The list of support offered is endless but recently we had experience of a scheme that I never knew existed.

The RBL run a telephone buddy scheme- it offers companionship, support and a friendly ear to anyone who is feeling lonely or isolated. At the start of Lockdown, my husband John volunteered to become a phone buddy. After initial training he was put in touch with a 96-year-old lady who had been one of the first women to join the RAF during WW2. Obviously, she was unable to meet with anyone due to the Covid Restrictions, so Johns weekly phone calls soon became very important to her. He would be on the phone for three hours or so!!! She is very engaging and interesting, so he also found the calls extremely worthwhile. They carried on with their weekly calls throughout the pandemic. He would often come away from the call chuckling at her tales of being a young woman in the RAF but also listened when she talked of her current feelings of isolation and sadness.

Then in April the sun came out and we went to visit Maureen at her home in Hertfordshire. It was quite emotional when the two of them met in person for the first time and she spoke fondly of how John’s support and calls had helped her during those awful times. Over several cups of tea and a large piece of chocolate cake she regaled me with her exploits and shared some sad memories of the war. A friendship has been formed and hopefully a little support given.

The costs to the RBL is minimal, but the impact it has had is immeasurable.

You do not need to be a member of the Legion to become a phone buddy- if you think its something you could do, please feel free to give me a ring or contact the RBL direct.

Or, if you are serving or ex- serving personnel and you want to ask for a phone buddy please phone 0808 802 8080. *Kim Hills (Chairman) 07901 6005383 RBL (Kimpton Branch)*

**Kimpton Poppy Appeal
Request for Poppy Appeal Organiser**

I appreciate that it is rather early in the season, but this is just to explain that 2022 will be my last year organising the Kimpton Poppy Appeal. I have informed both the Kimpton Branch of the Royal British Legion and RBL Head Office.

If you are interested in taking on the voluntary role of organising the Poppy Appeal from next year, 2023, I would be very happy to take you through the process this year.

Prior to Remembrance fortnight, the role requires the online ordering and storage of stock items, and liaison with Poppy Volunteers for the staffing of either a stall, or house-to-house collections. Beyond that, is the financial paperwork and banking of monies.

Please contact me if you are interested in becoming the Poppy Appeal Organiser for Kimpton. It is a valuable role and a lovely way of meeting people in the village.

Sue Burns. PAO Kimpton burns200@btinternet.com

01438 832960

Kimpton Village Choir



If you love to sing we would love you to join us

When - Mondays 7.45pm to 9.30pm

Where – Kimpton Memorial Hall

(From September 2022)

Fees: paid termly

No audition required, just enthusiasm and a smile

Come along for a taster session any Monday Evening





1st Kimpton Guides

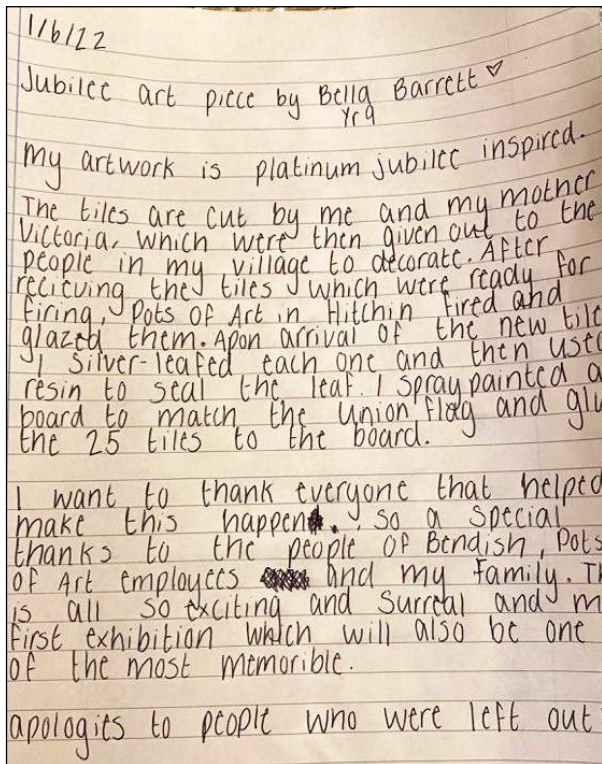
It's been so good to finally get back into guiding after such a long time being restricted on activities.

We held a very successful breakfast cafe on the Monday of May Festival weekend and raised much needed funds for the unit.

We have been out and about this term. We have had a scavenger hunt with the Brownies. The guides had a recycling evening, which saw some amazing robots being made. We have enjoyed tea at Pizza Hut where we had our first enrolment since 2020.

We celebrated the Queens platinum jubilee with a party for Rainbows, Brownies and Guides a great time was had by all.

We are joining Kimpton bowls club soon for a evening of fun and having a end of term camp fire.



Bella our oldest guide recently made us all very proud with her art which was exhibited at the Whitwell art show on village day.

We are joining our district guides next year on our 1st international trip to Paris.

Donna 1st Kimpton Guides

Kimpton Bench Working Party

It is hard to believe but apparently there are residents of Kimpton who don't know about the Bench Working Party. What? Disgraceful.

So here are a few notes on us and what we are doing.

There are just over twenty of us, all male except one very brave female, average age the wrong side of seventy. We meet weekly to do all sorts of jobs around the village, and help out at village events as well. The jobs we have been engaged in recently include - preparing and then oiling the beautiful old Church external doors, planting about 1000 young trees around the Parkfield Rec car park and down the track towards the Hitchin road, cleaning off and repairing the soffits and barge boards of Church House, then painting them with, hopefully long lasting, paint.

We do things like replacing the broken steps leading up from Hall Lane to the allotments, repairing broken kissing gates, setting out the banners for events such as the Folk Weekend and the May Festival, clearing weed growth from the edges of pavements. We fabricated and installed the large notice board now outside The Boot which previously had the Advent calendar on it at the Corner Stores, and OF COURSE we look after the benches around the village. We have two people who do that exclusively; scraping, painting, repairing benches every Wednesday morning.

Soon we will be manning the gate and organising the parking at the Horse Show at the end of July, and then helping at the Autumn Show in September.

And there is lots more, but hopefully you now have a flavour, and I had better leave space for others to fill.

Bob Finch, Bench Working Party Coordinator

Bob Finch
01438 832497
077963 27870



Responding to being sanctioned by Russia

I have been informed that I have been sanctioned by the Russian Government for my role in the UK's response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. These

sanctions will prevent me from any travel to or dealings with Russia.

This comes after I have played a leading role in the sanctions regime placed on Russian oligarchs and those with links to the Russian regime in my capacity as Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Financial Markets and Services. I have also worked closely with Ministers on support for Ukraine and Ukrainian nationals seeking safety from the war in Ukraine.

I am proud of my tough stance against Russian aggression in Ukraine and the role that I have played, working with Ministerial colleagues, on the UK's sanctions regime. I am currently working closely with the Government and cross-party colleagues on the second Economic Crime Bill, which will come to Parliament in the summer. Together with colleagues I am working to ensure that it is extremely tough on corrupt dirty money from Russia and elsewhere.

We must continue to enforce our punitive sanctions against Russia, depriving Putin and his cronies of money stolen from the Russian people. This money should be paying for the healthcare and education of Russian people, but it is now funding the very bombs dropping on hospitals and schools in cities across Ukraine.

I regard being sanctioned by the criminal gang masquerading as the Russian Government to be a badge of pride.

Bim Afalami



An Update from Cllr Ralph Muncer

Over the last few months it has been a real privilege to speak to so many residents about their priorities for our community. Having been elected as your District

Councillor, I'm looking forward to working hard serving the people of Kimpton and delivering on what matters most to you and your family.

I would like to draw your attention to my contact details, if there is an issue that you need my help with or you wish to bring to my attention, please feel free to get in touch using the details below and I will do my very best to assist you:

Via Email: ralph.muncer@north-herts.gov.uk

Via Post: FAO Cllr Ralph Muncer, North Hertfordshire District Council, Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire, SG6 3JF.

We have all been shocked by the news and images coming out of Ukraine after Russia's illegal invasion, asking ourselves what we can do to help ease the suffering of the Ukrainian people. I know of a number of families in Kimpton, Peters Green and Blackmore End who have welcomed Ukrainian Refugees into their homes, and I want to take the opportunity to thank all those who have supported the efforts in our community to make these individuals so welcome.

The proposed closure of the Village Surgery is of deep concern to many. The Public Meeting, held in late April, gave patients an opportunity to question Dr Pathmanathan about the plans and the response of residents clearly demonstrated the strength of feeling on this issue. Rest assured, I will continue to seek a pragmatic solution which will ensure that NHS Services remain both local and accessible to residents.

I look forward to updating you on what I have been doing to deliver on your priorities and once again, if there is anything I can assist you with please get in touch.

Scouts



1st Kimpton Harpenden & Wheathampstead

It was wonderful to join the district St George's Day Parade in Harpenden on Sunday 24th April. The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts looked very smart as they marched along the High Street with two marching bands. The parade was followed by an outdoor service of thanksgiving and the renewal of our promise. The following week saw the Cubs and Scouts parading along Kimpton High Street as part of the May Festival procession. Their theme was 'Scouts Stomp' and they certainly made plenty of noise drumming with billycans and chanting camp songs.



The Scouts have been particularly busy with fundraising. The second-hand bookstall raised over £500 for the troop. 1st Kimpton Scouts would like to thank everyone that supported our second-hand book stall, particularly our chairperson, James Hartley and his wife, Jane who organised the stall. As part of the Scouts Fundraising Activity badge, they organised a raffle and coffee morning in the Dacre Rooms which raised £380 for Ukraine refugees.



The Beavers had a fun evening celebrating the Platinum Jubilee by creating a collage of the Queen and eating doughnuts. The Cubs, Scouts and WAK Explorers enjoyed a campfire with backwoods cooking. The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are looking forward to plenty of outdoor activities this summer including an activities day, bike ride, water games and a camp. If you are interested in helping or would like to join 1st

Kimpton Scouts, we meet every Thursday at Kimpton Memorial Hall. Beavers meet 17.00 to 18.15, Cubs meet 18.15 to 19.30 and Scouts meet 19.30 to 21.00. For more information, please contact Roisin at secretary@kimptonscouts.org.uk.



May Fest fun

Our little Superheroes had a brilliant time on the May Festival Preschool float. So special to have the May Festival and our amazing village back in full flow, and to see so many happy faces waving back at the children! Big thanks to Beth, Michelle, Tilly, the kind Mums (and our little ones) who made the float look so fantastic! Thank you also to the generous Nyal Johnson and Luton Hoo, for kindly lending their vehicle and driving us.

We were thrilled and proud to win 3rd place in the 'Best Float' competition. Well done team!
The prize money was spent on watering cans for the children, perfect for their sunny garden fun :

Come & say 'hi' at the Folk Festival...

We are really looking forward to having a stall at the Kimpton Folk Festival on 2nd July. Come and stock up on soft drinks and sweets, and help raise funds for the Preschool.

Running stalls is just one way that we look to raise money for equipment; particularly expensive items like a new climbing frame, which is very much on our wish list! If you have any ideas about how to create some fun and enterprising fundraising ideas, please come and chat to us at the Folk Festival or drop Beth an email at manager@kimptonpreschool.co.uk

September enrolment now open (2 - 4yr olds)

With some of the older children moving on at the end of Term, we are now delighted to accept new children from September 2022.

Pop in and see us for a show around/meet the team, or to get a Registration Form - which will confirm your child's place.

We accept 15-30hrs, funded & self-funded. Call us on 01438 833936 for more information.

Volunteers wanted

Kimpton Preschool is run by a Committee - made up of volunteers, and we are looking for *more* parent/non parent help and volunteers please! Whether it be to join the Committee or volunteering to read to our children/or help lead an activity, all help is most welcome.

Best wishes from the Kimpton Preschool team.

kimptonpreschool.co.uk
01438 833936
manager@kimptonpreschool.co.uk



The Autumn Show is back!

While the May Festival was coming back with a bang, the Autumn Show was quietly germinating under the ground. Now it's sprouting back into life and will be in full bloom by the Autumn.

Yes, after a two-year COVID-induced absence the Autumn Show is back! This will be the 44th show and will take place in the Memorial Hall on the afternoon of Saturday 10th September. This is our friendly local show with lots of classes and plenty of opportunity for us all to display anything we've made during lockdown or the results of those gardening skills we've "HOEnd" (get it!) over those long two years.

As well as classes for all types of vegetables (including the most amusing misshapen vegetable – here's a picture of a past winner), flowers and fruit, there are classes for baking (including flavoured gin!) and preserves. This year the "given recipe" (which entrants have to follow) is a Swiss roll. So, if you made your own Platinum Trifle from scratch (instead of cheating like me), this should be a cinch! There's also a section of the show given over to craft/art and



photography. Have you taken up knitting like Tom Daley? If you have, there's a class for you! And lots more too.

If you're under 18 there's a special section of the show just for you (divided into four age groups) with lots of things you can be doing over the Summer Holidays. One very important competition for those under 18 is to design the front cover of the programme for the 2023 Show. This year's cover is by Hannah Tobin, the winner of the 2019 Colouring Competition. Thank you, Hannah, for such a beautiful cover.

Something for all ages is to see how tall you can grow a sunflower. Bring it along on the day (in its pot or cut off at the ground) and let's see who can grow the tallest. But be careful! Here's a picture of one of the organising committee getting lost in her sunflower patch three years ago. Can you spot her?

By the time you read this, the programme with details of classes and how to enter should be available all around the village and on Facebook. Please think about entering (as many classes as you like – but only once per class!) and come down to the Memorial Hall on 10th September and take a look at the exhibits. Whilst you're looking around there will be lots of other things to do, such as refreshments, live music and a tombola, and, at the end of the afternoon, there will be an auction of exhibits.

Mark Baldwin



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. Joining is simple by contacting www.owl.co.uk, our Ward Coordinators (details below), or our Watch Liaison Officer Verity Soued on wlo@herts.pnn.police.uk.

We would urge you, if not yet registered on OWL, to do so. The more of us that are aware of the system, the email updates it issues and the additional useful information that is available on the OWL system the better for us all.

Have you changed your email address?

If so, until it is updated on the system, you will no longer receive the emails. This is something you can do yourself or feel free to contact the Ward Coordinators below.

Here is a sample of recent emails :

08 Jun 22	Warning as residents receive scam police calls re bank account activity
30 May 22	Beware of energy rebate and cost of living payment scams
28 May 22	Increase in distraction thefts in car parks
25 May 22	Theft of catalytic converter in Lister Hospital car park
24 May 22	Residents advised to remove their personal details from 192 directory
15 May 22	List of local food hubs and their contact details issued
06 May 22	Warning of several distraction thefts, including in St Albans and WGC
30 Apr 22	Theft of a moped from High St Kimpton

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

Also, don't forget that you can report anonymously if you witness any incidents of fly-tipping, 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 online to: www.herts.police.uk/report/report

If you have any questions relating to NHW then 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*

Do you give unpaid care to a family member or friend with a disability, addiction, frailty or long-term mental or physical illness? If so, then you are a carer.

At the last count there were more than 108,000 registered unpaid carers in Hertfordshire. But many more people are out there looking after family members, friends and neighbours who may not know about the support available. Unpaid carers face many challenges, often juggling complex home situations and work or study.

Hertfordshire County Council is committed to supporting carers, recognising the vital role they play in supporting so many people across the county. This year it is spending more than £2.3million commissioning services to make sure that carers have access to the support they need in their local community. These services are being delivered by local charities, such as Carers in Hertfordshire, Age UK, Turning Point and Crossroads Care. This support has been increased through the council's Covid Recovery Strategy.

The council also runs a huge range of day services and clubs which are also a source of respite and support.

If you are an unpaid carer and would like to access help, support or advice, visit: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/carers

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

Police Telephone Numbers

Urgent 999 Non urgent 101

Hitchin Safer Neighbourhood Team

Guy Westwood

guy.westwood@herts.police.uk

Ward Constable Gary Pugsley

gary.pugsley@herts.police.uk

PCSO Heather Burrows

heather.burrows@herts.police.uk

Hitchin rural general email

SNTHitchinRural@herts.police.uk

Police and Crime Commissioner

David Lloyd

commissioner@herts.police.uk

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 Autumn 2022 edition must be in by
Sunday September 18th

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@hertfordshire.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 OFSTED 'Good' Preschool and friendly team are based at Linden Lodge (on the grounds of Kimpton Primary School), offering sessional care for 2-4yr olds.

We are open Monday-Friday (term time), with morning/lunch club/afternoon sessions available.

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

For more information, please contact the team on manager@kimptonpreschool.co.uk or 01438 833936. www.kimptonpreschool.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