

# ***Kimpton Parish Magazine***

*Summer 2012  
Number 230*

*May Festival news and pictures on  
pages 11, 12, 13 and 19*



# The Church in Kimpton and Ayot St Lawrence Normal Services

## **Tuesday**

8.45am	Parish Church	Morning Prayer
5.30pm	Parish Church	Prayers for World Peace

## **Thursday**

8.45am	Parish Church	Morning Prayer
5.30pm	Parish Church	Evening Prayer

## **Saturday**

9am	Ayot St Lawrence	Morning Prayer
5.30pm (summer months)	Ayot St Lawrence	Evening Prayer
5.30pm (winter months)	Parish Church	Evening Prayer

## **Sunday**

8am	Parish Church	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	<i>1st Sunday each month</i>	Family Communion followed by Parish Breakfast
8am	Parish Church <i>other Sundays</i>	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
9.30		Holy Communion followed by coffee
11.30am	Ayot St Lawrence <i>2nd Sunday each month</i>	Mattins with Holy Communion (BCP)
6pm	Perry Green Baptist Chapel	Evening Service at Peters Green

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

The Parish Magazine is now printed on recycled paper.  
The editor and production team acknowledge with thanks a donation received from Kimpton Environmentalists.



Dear Friends

Talking with a couple of parishioners a few weeks ago, we agreed that there are times when we just have to put our trust in others, and that conversation set me thinking. In any human relationship, be it between individuals, organisations or nations, a certain level of trust is essential if

that relationship is to thrive; take away trust, and, as it says in the Book of Common Prayer, "there is no health in us", because trust once broken is almost always impossible to mend. In the past we may have been cynical about the motives of financiers, politicians and the press, but underneath that cynicism there was also a certain level of trust. In the past few years, however, any trust there was has disappeared as scandal after scandal has uncovered corruption and malpractice among financial institutions, politicians and press, all of which has had a devastating effect, mostly on those who can least afford to ride out the storm. From my own point of view as a priest the worst scandal of all has been that in the Church, too many have betrayed a sacred trust and have deliberately harmed children, which is an abomination to God.

We cannot expect perfection from human beings, we all make mistakes or get things wrong sometimes, but we should be able to trust those who are supposed to look after our money; we should be able to trust those elected to represent us to act with integrity; we should be able to trust that the press will report news, impartially, responsibly, and truthfully, and we should be able to trust those who have taken Holy Orders to protect the most vulnerable members of our society, not abuse them.

It seems to me that there is a weariness in the world that comes from the feeling that no-one can be trusted, and yet there are many, many good people, even among bankers, politicians, press and Church, who have been undeservedly tarred with the same brush. These are the ones who will have to work very

hard over the coming years, perhaps decades, to restore trust. As a Christian I take great comfort in the belief and complete trust that in spite of that is happening in our world, God has ultimate control, that He is working His purpose out and that in Him all is being made new. He is the One in whom we can all put our trust, and know that it will never be broken.

Finally, on a more cheerful note, whether you go on holiday or stay home, watch the Olympics, or escape them, whatever you do this summer - enjoy!

*With my love and prayers, Lorraine*

## May Festival Community Awards

Some years ago, Andy Morton suggested that those who contribute a great deal to village life should be recognised in some way and devised the May Festival Community Award, to be presented each year at the Festival Church Service. This has now become something of a tradition, as is the fun of devising ways of encouraging Award Winners who do not normally come to church to do just that -- without letting on that they are to receive the award!

This year it was my pleasure to present five Community Awards. They went to: Rita Swann, for her years of unstinting support and fund raising for Memorial Hall; Scott Goodge, for his work as an assistant leader of Kimpton Cub Scouts and Beavers and his support of the May Festival as a member of the organising committee; Gill Vine, for her work with Kimpton School, her support of Young Kimpton Players, and her celebration cakes; Chris Baker, for his work on the Parish Council and the Memorial Hall Committee, his commitment to Kimpton Players and the Bench Working Party and his concern for the environment; and The Bench Working Party for their voluntary maintenance of community amenities. Congratulations to all of this year's Award winners, and thank you for all that you do and are.

If you would like to nominate someone for an Award next year, just speak to any member of the May Festival Committee, giving the person's name and why you think they deserve the Award.

*Revd. Lorraine*

## From The Registers

### Burials and Interments

21 May 2012	Laurie Seymour (at Chesterfield)
31 May 2012	Dorothy Joyce Hobbs

## Tracing Relatives

I wrote to the Parish Magazine a little while ago whilst I was trying to find my husband's half brother and sister.

I just wanted to say thank you to your readers who responded to the article

We have now managed to find Sandra and are on the verge of meeting with her and her three daughters. We are all very excited and I just wanted to thank you again for all your help.

We haven't managed to locate Jamie yet, but haven't given up hope. Thanks again

*Margretta Symonds 07795 566625*

## Grateful Thanks

The Editor and production team acknowledge with thanks donations received from:

Kimpton WI, Perry Green Baptist Church, Kimpton Environmentalists and Diana Rainback.



## LAURIE SEYMOUR

It is with great sadness that I have to report that Laurie Seymour passed away on 5th May. He had been in hospital both here and near to his daughter Claire in

Chesterfield, but following heart and chest problems and a small stroke, he contracted pneumonia.

Unfortunately he never got to live in the retirement village home he and Daphne bought near to their daughter. Daphne sadly suffers from Alzheimers and is now in a nursing home.

Laurie was a Founder Member of The Kimpton Players, which was formed in 1943, and was a very active member until his and Daphne's ill health prevented his full participation.

He was a great asset to the Players, serving on the Committee and appearing in and producing many plays and Music Hall. In fact it was Laurie who auditioned me for my first Music Hall. He also, along with Peter White, was Music Hall Business Manager for many years.

His soft, gentle ways will be sorely missed and our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

*Viv Newton*

# Special Church Services

## Kimpton

Sunday 1st July at 11am. Patronal Festival Holy Communion followed by Bring and Share Lunch

Please note that the usual 9:30am Service will be cancelled on this day.

## Ayot St. Lawrence

Both the following Services will be held in the Ruined Church  
Sunday 12th August at 11:30am Patronal Festival Holy Communion  
(bring a chair - and umbrella!)

Sunday 2nd September at 3pm, followed by light refreshments. Bring your pets to church for our annual Pet Service to give thanks for the gift of their companionship, and to ask God's blessing on them.



## **Rainbows, Brownies and Guides proudly parade to celebrate St George's Day**

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Leaders from Kimpton joined with Guiding friends from across the division to parade through Harpenden to celebrate St George's day.

The town was full of colour as the girls carried their unit flags through the high street and into the Methodist Church for a service of celebration.

Rainbows, the youngest section of guiding, are celebrating their 25th Birthday this year and the service was centred on this. 1st Kimpton Rainbows opened in 2009, the girls enjoy lots of exciting activities, and they will be joining with other Rainbows over the coming months to celebrate this special birthday.

Alison Watkins, the Division Commissioner commented, "I am incredibly proud to see so many girls and leaders out today, we have had a great afternoon of celebration. It has been a very positive start to an exciting time of year for guiding with the forthcoming Rainbow Birthday to look forward to and as the summer approaches the Brownies and Guides are preparing for their biggest adventures going on holidays and camps."

# **Music for a Summer's Evening**

**7pm, Sunday July 1st**  
**Ayot St Lawrence church**

A perfect night of classical, choral and comedy music by professional and amateur musicians from Kimpton.

Featuring Mandy Britten and Helen McPhun, the newly formed  
Kimpton Village Choir  
and Musical Comedy Duo Albert and Victor.

Tickets: Christine Stevenson 01438 820715 or Anna Bosatta 01438 832613  
£5 in advance, £7 on the door, includes a glass of wine

**This is the concert NOT TO BE MISSED!**



need to congratulate a long standing member of our staff, Mrs Vine, who received a well deserved May Festival Community Award at the church service on Sunday morning. For me, the whole weekend was topped off by a marvellous Kimpton Entertains. It was wonderful to see not only our children but so many former

Another busy term has passed since the last edition of the parish magazine.

We are now studying 'The Olympics' throughout the school, taking in Ancient Greece as well as all sorts of aspects of the modern Olympics.

As part of the topic, many children, staff and parents took part in the 2012 Gold Challenge, where we ran, walked, swam, cycled and jogged a total of 2012 km to raise money for the charity Whizz Kidz. We are very proud to say that, not only did we reach our target of 2012, we passed it and are now on our way to 3920km (2012 + 1908, the date of the first London Olympics). If you would like to sponsor us for this fantastic charity, please call into the school office.

As well as our every day learning, there have, as usual, been lots of additional activities and events taking place.

Early in the term, children from Years One to Six visited Wardown Museum in Luton for a day of Greek and Olympic themed activities. Then came May Festival which we thoroughly enjoyed, despite the rather chilly weather. We were thrilled to be awarded first prize for our float entitled 'Maybe it's Because I'm a Londoner.' Thanks to our amazing KSA committee and friends for their efforts in designing and making the bus and to the large number of children who turned up dressed in their finest. Thanks also to the KSA and friends for the barbecue and staff for manning the cafe in school on Saturday and Sunday. Once again, I must say a particular thanks to Mrs Wood for organising the cafe and supplying a large number of the delicious cakes. We also

pupils, parents and other assorted friends of the school display such a range of talents. All in all a truly wonderful weekend!

Later in May our Year Five children joined the massed choir of Hertfordshire Primary school to sing at the Royal Albert Hall. This is an amazing opportunity organised by the Hertfordshire Music Service every two years. In addition to the actual performance, the children spent the afternoon rehearsing in the Royal Albert Hall, a truly awe-inspiring experience. It was a really memorable evening for all concerned.

Just before half term, we celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by having our own mini street party. The rain held off as we all ate a picnic lunch together at suitably decorated tables on the playground. We then spent the afternoon in mixed age groups playing traditional and appropriately named games, such as 'What's the Time Your Majesty? And Pin the Crown on the Queen.'

Our sports teams have also been busy this year, taking part in indoor athletics, netball tag rugby and cricket. As always, the children have been great ambassadors for the school and for the village of Kimpton. Our girls' cricket team in particular have done very well coming first in a tournament against Harpenden and St Albans schools. We are now hoping that our glorious British summer weather will allow as many as possible of the many sporting fixtures planned for the summer term to go ahead.

With my best wishes for a happy and sunny summer.

Marion Stewart-Smith

# Kimpton Memorial Hall



The Editor's reminder that the copy for my report for this magazine is due next Friday, has arrived just 10 hours before I am due to board a 'plane' to Istanbul, and I need to get a few hours sleep in the interim. Of necessity therefore this report will be brief! I can almost hear the sighs of relief!!

The Hall's AGM was held in March and it was agreed that hiring charges would have to be increased by 5%. It is 18 months since the last increase, and we resolved to review the situation annually in future. New fees were also agreed for the hiring of the lining, and these will apply to any new bookings. Existing bookings will be charged at the old rate.

All the Officers of the Hall were prepared to stand for re-election, and as there were no other proposals, they were unanimously elected 'en bloc'. The one member of the executive who did not want to continue was Peter White, and we would like to thank him for his many years of loyal and dedicated service,

eight of them as Chairman.

We continue to plan the refurbishment of the 'Ladies' and funds permitting, we expect to see some action this autumn.

Bookings for the lining, which has become an important source of income for us, have been healthy, and we hope that trend will continue. The Bench Working Party, with a few other regular helpers, take the lining up and down with almost monotonous regularity, and always do it with remarkable willingness and a great deal of good humour. It is a pleasure to work with them, and we are highly indebted to them.

Time marches on and if I am to sleep tonight, I need to end this report now. I do so with apologies for any important omissions, or for any spelling mistakes and grammatical errors that the editor fails to notice! Oh, and I promise that my next report will be better considered!!

*Roger Nash 01438 832101*

## KIMPTON WI

Our May Festival winning float 'Best of British' had a Jubilee feel. Our cake stall sold out very rapidly and, by popular request, we will increase our range to include preserves in 2013.

The summer programme includes visits to Holt Farm, Kimpton and Capel Manor, Enfield. In July a harpist will entertain us.

Join us at the Autumn Show on September 1st for tea where we will be serving our popular homemade cakes.

New members and visitors are always welcome at our meetings; we have a varied programme of speakers for the autumn. We meet in the Memorial Hall lounge on 2nd Wednesday of each month; 7.30pm for 7.45pm Look out for posters. We also have a Book Group which meets monthly and a Table Tennis group on Friday afternoons in the winter months. Why not join us.

*Valerie Pollington 01438 832249*



Residents may have noticed that the hanging baskets that I referred to in my last newsletter have not materialised in the High Street. This is because it turned out that the supplier we had sourced was unable to use the brackets that are fitted to our streetlights, and by the time this issue emerged it was too late (and too expensive) to have the brackets changed. The Parish Council therefore took the decision at the May meeting that we would, with regret, not go ahead with the project.

However, we did distribute the Jubilee Mugs to all children up to and including Year Six, and the Jubilee Open Space is being created along the Park Lane to Church Lane footpath. After some deliberation, it was decided not to fell the yew tree or to convert it into some form of sculpture, and we have instead given it a much overdue 'haircut'. I hope you will agree that it looks a lot better now.

As part of our ongoing 'infrastructure' work, we have now upgraded and resurfaced both the bottom and top sections of the Recreation Ground access road, giving a relatively mud-free zone by the football pavilion, and improved access for people driving up to the Bowls Club, as well as an improved surface by the playground and the gate.

There have also been improvements to the playgrounds, both on the Recreation Ground, and at Wren's Close. At the time of writing, there is still some work being carried out at Wren's Close, which should be completed shortly.

We have also completed a full survey and inventory of all the trees that stand on Parish Council land. We have a duty of care to ensure that these are maintained, and the survey is the first step in this process. Happily, most of the trees seem to be in good health, but there are a small number that will need to be removed or reduced for various reasons, and this work will take place at the appropriate time of year for the trees in question.

Residents may be aware of work that has been taking place on some rights of way and other footpaths in and around the Parkfield Sports Ground. There are some long-established routes in use which are not rights of way as determined by Hertfordshire County Council, and we are aware of the desire of some residents that the status of these routes should be changed, so that they become rights of way.

For clarification, the Parish Council's position is simply one of being responsible for maintaining the mapped rights of way, and we have no authority to change that. There is a legal process that needs to be followed with the County Council in order to dedicate a right of way, and applications need to be made through the prescribed channels. We are happy to work with all parties to ensure a satisfactory outcome, but we have no powers in this respect.

On the planning front, we have been looking at the latest initiative to emerge from Whitehall, in the form of the National Planning Policy Framework, which was published in March 2012, following a period of consultation in which we made our concerns clear. The Framework sets out a 'presumption in favour of sustainable development that is the basis for every plan, and every decision', and we will be watching very closely to see how this might move forward.

On the subject of planning, the Lloyd Way development that we consulted over and expected to start in 2011, is still not under way. At the April 2012 meeting of the Parish Council, we were told that work was now scheduled to begin this Autumn.

Finally, School Transport has become a significant issue for the Parish, in the light of all the budget cuts being felt by Hertfordshire County Council. There are a number of proposals felt by the Parish Council to disadvantage rural communities, and we have seen some evidence of this now that we are into the new academic year. In conjunction with the Governors of the Primary School we will be working to ensure that local children and families are given a fair deal.

The Parish Council have also met with Hertfordshire County Council representatives to try and obtain an explanation for the poor Secondary School allocations and, as ever, to pursue our case for an improvement in our position. This year, for the first time, some pupils who were not given one of the schools in Harpenden that they had ranked were allocated a place in a Bedfordshire school, which we feel is a disturbing development.

*David Hardstaff*



## **The Kimpton Players Spring Production 2012 is Four Short Comedies by Anton Chekhov.**

Following recent successes with J.B. Priestly and Harold Pinter the Kimpton Players are now taking on Chekhov.

The production involves four different stage directors and four different casts.

Not only does the cast of nine for the four plays include well established members but also includes three actors making their Kimpton Players debut.

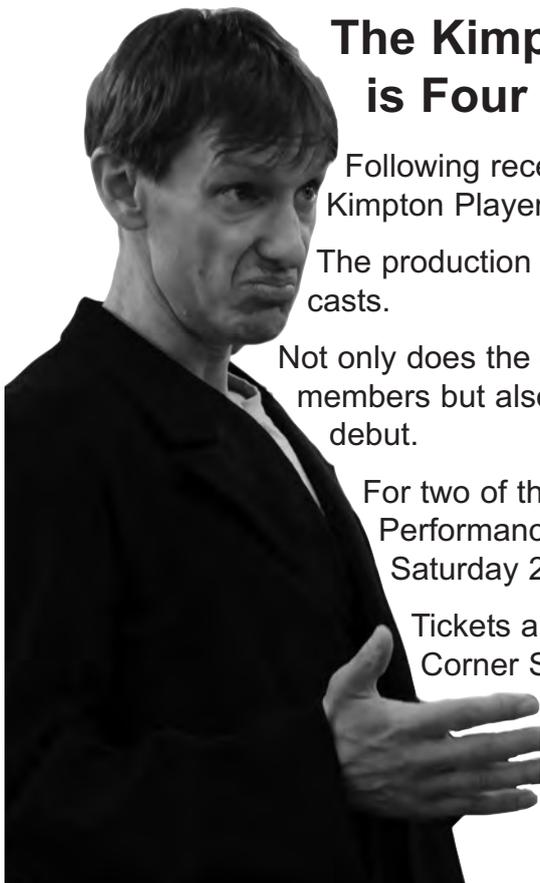
For two of the cast it will be their debut as adult actors.

Performances are at 8pm on Thursday 21st, Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd June in Kimpton Memorial Hall.

Tickets are on sale at the box office 01438 832542 or from the Corner Stores.

*The entire cast is pictured above and, left, Haydn Williams lecturing on "The Dangers of Tobacco".*

*See page 20 for Steve Walters' memories of Kimpton and The Kimpton Players.*



This and previous editions of the Parish Magazine are available in PDF format at the village website [www.kimpton.org.uk](http://www.kimpton.org.uk)  
The copy deadline for the autumn edition is September 17th



## **Kimpton Scout Group**

The summer always brings out some of the best that scouting can offer, with light evening providing us with the opportunity to be outdoors as much as possible. The term began with May Festival and everyone enjoyed the chance to get dressed up and enter into the Best of British theme. Huge thanks must be extended to all those who helped prepare the floats and the walking displays. Special thanks are extended to Eve and Sue who gave a great deal of time and support once again.

The Beavers and Cubs chose a good weekend to go away in mid May. The Beavers slept indoors whilst the Cubs were under canvas at the Harmer Green campsite. For some of the Beavers this was their first night away from home and from parents. They were kept very busy with outdoor activities and were fantastic; all had a wonderful time. The Cubs entertained them in the evening by performing sketches they had prepared specially at previous Cub meetings; they then later 'entertained' the Cub leaders by waking at 4.30 am!! Whilst the Beavers went home after breakfast, the Cubs stayed for another 24 hours and all went to sleep very quickly after an exciting and exhausting day. The time given by the leaders to run these events is massive, but the rewards are so great when you see what immense pleasure it gives to the children as they take on new challenges and learn how to get along with others away from home comforts.

As I write, the Scouts will have returned from their Summer Camp over half term. They will doubtless have had an equally wonderful time, but I suspect that Kimpton's washing machines have been on overdrive due to the muddy contents of the children's rucksacks!

It's not just the children who have all the fun by going away as we are currently planning our Family Camp in September. We know that this promises to be another fabulous occasion and it is a great opportunity for everyone to get involved and enjoy what Scouting offers. For

some parents, like the children, this may be their first experience of sleeping under canvas... but if our past experience is anything to go by it won't be their last!

If you want to find out more about Kimpton Scout Group, and to register on our waiting list (highly recommended!) please visit our website at [www.kimptonscouts.org.uk](http://www.kimptonscouts.org.uk)

*Annie New  
Beaver Scout Leader  
01438 833421*

## **Kimpton Art Group**

There are vacancies for September. All levels of experience are welcome. We meet to paint and draw in Church House on 3rd Wednesday of each month. 2 to 4.30 pm  
Details from Valerie Pollington on 01438 832249

## **Those Noise Neighbours!**

Many people in Kimpton have reason to be grateful for 'Noise Neighbours'. For the last two years, the church has been running the NOISE PROJECT - helping people to sort out a problem garden, or paint a wall - during a day of action in August.

This year, the NOISE PROJECT will be on Saturday 18th August and, once again, we are looking for projects to complete and volunteers to work on them.

If you know of anyone who needs us to tackle their garden, repair a fence or paint a shed or a room or two, then we need to hear about it.

If YOU would like to get involved, it is a fantastic opportunity to work with really enthusiastic people, who want to have fun and achieve something great for others in the village.

Ring Andy Morton and join us. All food is free on the day.

The NOISE PROJECT. It's God's love in action!

*Andy Morton 01438 832427  
adewm@aol.com*

## Kimpton Bowls Club

Not a very good start to the bowls season! Having worked hard to rectify damage to the clubhouse during the closed season, we were presented with dreadful weather ( as was everyone ), resulting in matches being cancelled and roll-ups minimised. However, the club put on a brave face on May Festival Saturday and provided their usual tea, cakes and games on the green. Many thanks to all those who visited the club and helped us to donate more to the Festival Committee than last year!

As a result of May Festival we have recruited one or two new members, which are always welcome. As I write, the weather is still bad but hopefully will improve and enable us to complete our fixtures without cancellations.

Please contact any member of the club that you know to find out more, or phone Beverley Pate on 01582 834014 . Janet at the White Horse also has details of the club. Roll-up nights are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6pm approximately.

We look forward to seeing you. *Dud Ginn*

## Kimpton Cricket Club

After an enjoyable golf day, and a successful fundraising dinner, Kimpton Cricket Club have had a frustrating start to the season, with the heavy rain meaning that the first five matches were cancelled. Eventually we got underway against Knebworth Blues, with a good win, built around strong contributions from Ken Hammond with the ball and from Jacob Sharpe and Simon Dawes with the bat. This was followed up with another good win against Bamville.

We have had an influx of new members this year, but are still pleased to hear from additional prospective new members and non-playing volunteers that might be interested in scoring, umpiring or fundraising.

Please give Simon (01438 833767 or 07899 810743) a call if you would like to get involved.

*Hugh Cutler*

## The Best of British....

...was certainly on display this year as the incredibly wet run-up to Festival meant a lot of (often last minute) work for everyone involved. The weekend itself was 'not too bad' weather-wise, the rain kept away (mostly) and the wind did at least dry out the surface of the Rec to some extent.

My personal highlights, in order of 'appearance', would include an Art Show that just gets better each year, the riot of red, white and blue in the procession, sheep shearing/racing in the arena, a fantastic evening at Kimpton Entertains followed by the same the next evening at Brains (well done The Boot!). I didn't make it to Music Night but this was clearly a massive success and shows how a good idea can quickly become a Festival favourite. For sheer warmth of feeling, however, it would be hard to beat the look on the faces of recipients of the Community Awards at the church service.

On Monday afternoon we took the decision to trust to the forecast and stay on The Green; so glad we did as it is a perfect setting and the sun even came out to crown another memorable Festival.

The 'Committee' does not work alone and Festival is a production only made possible because of so many non-Committee members; to all of you...many, many thanks.

Please do continue to give us your feedback (good or bad) and suggestions on [www.kimptonmayfest.co.uk](http://www.kimptonmayfest.co.uk), via Facebook ('Kimpton May Festival') or to any Committee member. We will always welcome new members...don't be shy!

*Andrew Ackrill, May Festival Committee Chair*

# What a great weekend despite the weather!





It certainly was The Best of British! May Queen Adena Moulding and her attendants Natalie Hill and Molly Thomas-Chivers braved the cold weather with true British spirit and attended most of the events over the weekend.

The arena events were well attended and a great time was had by all. So congratulations to Andrew Ackrill and everyone involved in the organisation of May Festival.

*Photographs: Andy Wright*





# ROYAL BRITISH LEGION *Kimpton Branch*

The Branch Committee would like to thank the member of the Bench Committee for his work recently to clean the War Memorial following some vandalism.

Two Branch members recently attended a service at St Alban's Abbey with the Lord Lieutenant of the County to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

We will soon be making arrangements for the start of the Poppy Appeal and we apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused by the closure of the High Street for an hour or so on Remembrance Sunday. This is a police requirement for health and safety.

Membership of the Branch continues to hold up, but we are still keen to recruit new members to the Legion which works to support ex servicemen and their families. Anybody requiring further information about the Legion and what it does, should contact our Chairman, Malcolm Voss (01438 832921) or the Secretary, Dave Gibbs, (01438 832236). *Dave Gibbs Branch Secretary*

## May Festival Thanks

### Kimpton Rock

I would like to thank everyone who bought Kimpton Rock during the May Festival. As I am sure you are aware, in doing this you have helped me to go to Morocco in 2013 in order to support a community project where I will be teaching English to Moroccan children and digging irrigation channels to help supply water to a community.

Half of the money raised will go towards Morocco whilst half will go to the May Festival to help support local charities.

Thanks especially to Bob Finch who supported me throughout the weekend.

*Many thanks again, Jacob New*

### Programme Sellers

A big "thank you" to all the May Festival Programme Sellers who went door-to-door, most of whom were not on the Committee. It is not an easy job, either selling or trying to put flimsy slips of paper through difficult letter boxes.

We have made over £2000 profit for the Festival from the Programmes. So another big "thank you" to our advertisers who trust us to put on a good Festival long before they know what the weather is going to be!

Please support these generous local advertisers. *Davina Malcolm*

## Karate Club

As usual, the ZOKU Shotokan Karate Association have been very busy.

At the end of April, members took part in a Weapons course, which taught our students about traditional Okinawan weapons and the way they were once used as agricultural tools. Students enjoyed learning skills of the Nunchaku and also practiced sparring with a Bo Staff (long stick). Everyone enjoyed the fantastic demonstrations by the instructor (using more of the sharper, dangerous weapons) which included spears and scythe. It is definitely a course which will be repeated in the near future.

On Sunday 13th May one of our adult Kimpton students, Patrick New, attended and passed his Intermediate Black Belt grading exam. Patrick had been preparing for this exam for many months and had been training and revising hard. Patrick not only had to do the long and exhausting physical exam, but produce a written portfolio and pass a Japanese written test. Patrick performed very well on the day and certainly deserved to receive his new grade. His next goal, will be his full black belt!

Classes in Kimpton are held on a Wednesday evening in the Kimpton Memorial Hall.

All 5 year olds: 5.30-6.00

Children of 6-9 year olds: 5.30-6.30pm

Adults & children from 10 years old: 6-7.00pm

To book your place please email [sez69sez@hotmail.com](mailto:sez69sez@hotmail.com) or phone 07796 605642 or visit [www.zokukarate.co.uk](http://www.zokukarate.co.uk)



Despite the unusual and 'challenging' weather for early spring, the Garden Club stall at the May Festival was successful. Thank you to all our supporters!

The summer promises to be an interesting time for the club. In June we have our day outing to Cottisbrooke Hall plant fair.

In July we have an evening trip to Abbots House, Abbots Langley. This will give us a glimpse of a professional garden in a beautiful setting.

August 1st will be a 'bring and share' summer party with garden games and activities. Let's hope the summer will be in full swing by then!

Visitors and new members are always welcome. For more information contact our Secretary on 01438 832776. *Joan Amoss*

## Kimpton's 36th Autumn Show Saturday September 1st Memorial Hall

Classes in flowers, fruit, vegetables, cookery, preserves, crafts and photography

Special classes for children with money prizes!

Scarecrow competition (back by popular demand)

Schedule from The Corner Stores

Staging and judging in the morning

Open to the public at 2.30pm

WI teas, Sideshows, Tombola,  
Grand Draw  
Presentation of cups

Entry £1 (children free)

## Horses at The Hoo

One of the annual events that puts Kimpton on the map - the popular horse show - takes place on Sunday 29th July as usual. This year, though, there is a new venue. The grass in the field by the church on Hitchin Road that has hosted the show since it started in 1944 has



been reseeded and needs to get itself established, so the show is moving up the hill to The Hoo.

It will be among the parkland laid out originally by England's foremost landscape gardener Capability Brown in the 1700s that the jumping classes, the showing classes, mounted fancy dress and gymkhana will take place, where the bar and stands will be set, and the caterers cater to the

hundreds of riders and horse-lovers that regularly come to this, one of the leading village shows in a wide area.

What isn't changing is the fact that it is all in aid of organisations in and for the village, and that, it will be a small but keen group of volunteers who make it all happen.

What will change is that if you come up the hill, as well as round the show, you can wander along the footpaths round The Hoo, the home of the Lords Dacre and Hampden for centuries until the 1930s. Pretty Rye End and the classic stone bridge over the former lake aren't far away.

For more about the show, and how to lend a hand or advertise your business, see [www.kimptonhorseshow.co.uk](http://www.kimptonhorseshow.co.uk).

More about the lords and ladies of The Hoo can be found on the History Group page of the village website [www.kimpton.org.uk](http://www.kimpton.org.uk).



**The 2012 Kimpton Parish Litter Pick broke new records with more volunteers,** more lanes cleaned and more rubbish collected than in 2011. Kimpton Environmentalists had 50 volunteers step forward to enjoy the warm Spring weather and clear litter from the lanes surrounding Kimpton and Peters Green and so help make the area look its best for the May Festival.

In total, the 50 volunteers collected a staggering 150 bags of rubbish, 6 car tyres, a travel cot and a 5 gallon bucket of dead pheasants! We had many cyclists and motorists pause to thank us for our hard work, and a couple on a tandem who volunteered to help next year! A well-spent morning Spring-cleaning Kimpton's lanes was rounded off with a well-deserved lunchtime drink in The Boot.

To join the mailing list for the 2013 Kimpton Litter Pick, please contact Tim Parfitt on [tim.parfitt@netcel.com](mailto:tim.parfitt@netcel.com)

### **Rights of Way (ROW) Interested in Kimpton's Network of Footpaths and Bridleways?**

Kimpton is fortunate in having a good network of ROWs which allows easy access to the surrounding countryside; with interconnecting paths to adjoining Parishes walkers have the option of a wide range of walks to suit most needs. These ROWs are maintained and controlled by Herts County Council (HCC) ROW with the support of local Parish Councils. In Kimpton the Parish Council has set up a ROW Working Group to liaise and work with HCC to ensure our network is maintained and, where possible, make improvements.

The ROW working group is made up of 6-8 volunteers, including a KPC representative. We meet 2 or 3 times a year, usually in the spring and autumn, to review any problems related to the network and discuss improvement and enhancement projects which could be funded through the Parish Paths Partnership (P3) grant. Recently the ROW working group has, through P3, improved the steps in Hall Lane, had steps

installed at the crossing on Ballslough Hill, obtained a permissive ROW at Blackmore End to avoid walking on Kimpton Road and improved the FP/BW signs around the Parish. Currently we are in discussion with the landowners and farmers to make a continuous path from Claggy Road to Peters Green.

Due to unavoidable circumstances the Working Group has not been meeting of late and during that time some members have moved or, because of outside commitments, have left. It is now time to re-establish the Working Group so if you are enthusiastic to see our ROWs maintained and feel you can make a contribution or just to find out more about our Rights of Way why not come along to

The Green Room  
Kimpton Memorial Hall  
Wed 7th July at 7.30  
Or contact Kimpton Parish Council  
01438 832573 / [kimptonpc@btconnect.com](mailto:kimptonpc@btconnect.com)

*Chris Baker - Kimpton FP Working Group*



# Neighbourhood Watch Update

## Community Policing

PCSO Elaine Cuozzo continues to provide us with as much cover as is possible consistent with her varying shift patterns and demands from other villages.

Fortunately we are generally still considered to be a low crime area and what crime does occur is of the petty nature.

Don't forget that If you need to contact Elaine or any other officer the quickest way is to use the automated system at County HQ on 01707 354192 where you must clearly identify the officer you wish to speak to. It is fast and reliable.

A timely reminder that PCSO's now have powers to issue on the spot fines to motorists for a number of offences inc. inconsiderate parking, anti-social driving (e.g.driving/ parking on the verge or footpath), failure to display a valid tax disc and causing an unnecessary obstruction.

Stevenage Police report that 400 owners were either fined or warned in a recent swoop on vehicles with deliberately misleading (i.e.incorrectly spaced or distorted) characters on their number plates.

## Police Target Issues

A new system allows residents to select their personal priorities meanwhile Hitchin Police will concentrate on reductions in Metal Theft, Fly Tipping and Anti- Social Behaviour so if you witness any of these crimes actually taking place you should ring 999. If it's after the event please ring 101.

Metal thieves are still targetting the precious metal in catalytic convertors which are cut out from the exhaust system, particularly on commercial vehicles that are left unattended for long periods

## New Hi- tech Property Marking – Selecta DNA

Selecta DNA is a 'magic' UV sensitive micro-dot fluid available at £50 for a kit comprising a bottle of the fluid, a brush and warning labels for attaching to the item and your entry doors.

There is sufficient fluid to mark about 50 of your most valuable possessions uniquely to your home, so it is not possible to share with a neighbour, but has the distinct the advantage that the police can trace stolen items to your household.

Contact PC Matthew Jenkins e-mail [matthew.jenkins@herts.pnn.police.uk](mailto:matthew.jenkins@herts.pnn.police.uk) .for a kit.

## OWL On-line Watch Link

Anyone on e-mail address can be included in the OWL system, by contacting the WLO Jill Dockley at [Jill.Dockley@herts.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Jill.Dockley@herts.pnn.police.uk) Once on line you can look at the "Fix my Street" link and you can let the council know about faulty street lights, potholes, graffiti etc.

## Caring Neighbours

You should always check on elderly, vulnerable and neighbours living alone and remind them not to let unexpected callers into their house. If in doubt call the Police immediately on 999.

## Reporting Crime

If you have any information about a crime please use the new national call line 101 (not 0845 33 00 222.) You can also contact Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111 to provide information anonymously.

## Night Security and Absence

Do ensure that you have secured all windows, doors, garages and sheds. Make your property look 'lived in' if possible by parking a vehicle in front of your garage or at least on the drive. If your absence is for more than a day give a neighbour your contact details.

Upvc doors with handle operated shoot bolts or claws must be double locked with the key, Don't leave any keys within sight of an open letter box.

Have a peaceful and enjoyable summer.

Compiled by:

Alan Smith, Kimpton Village NHW Co-ordinator  
01438 832749

[margaret.smith5@talktalk.net](mailto:margaret.smith5@talktalk.net)



It's been another busy term at Kimpton Preschool and the children have enjoyed being back in the garden now that the grass is growing again, after being fenced off for re-seeding. It's great for the children to have the shade of the trees to play under, but it does mean we will struggle with the grass growing each year. We are looking into options for artificial grass and will keep you posted on our plans to raise funds for this. If any readers have contacts in that business who may be able to help us, then do please let us know.

### **May Festival**

We had great fun dressing up and decorating our 'Teddy Bears' Picnic' float at the May Festival, and were thrilled to win second prize for our efforts. The children looked amazing as teddy bears, insects and picnic food, and so did Preschool Manager Lesley as a ladybird! Not to mention our very own teddy bear mascot (thanks Chris). The children (and adults) behaved beautifully and we were very proud of them.

We were also pleased to organise the May Festival Craft Market again this year, which saw many new stallholders as well as some familiar faces offering bespoke and boutique handmade crafts to an appreciative audience.

### **Jubilee Ball**

A number of our parents enjoyed a wonderful night at the Jubilee Ball, arranged by the White Horse who very kindly donated a generous sum from the proceeds to Kimpton Preschool. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to Janet and her team, for the welcome donation and for a fabulous evening of entertainment.

### **Cricket and Cocktails, Friday 29th June, 6pm**

After the success of last year's Cricket & Cocktails event, the Preschool dads will be taking on Kimpton Cricket Club once again in a charity cricket match. Expect an evening of family fun with BBQ, drinks and a luxury hamper raffle plus games to keep the children busy. Fingers crossed for better weather this year! All welcome, please come along and enjoy a cocktail or two for a good cause.

If you would like to find out more about Kimpton Preschool, or arrange a visit, please contact Lesley O'Brien on 01438 833936.

**Please remember that the deadline for the autumn edition of this magazine is Monday September 17th  
Please send copy and JPEGs to  
kimpton.editor@btinternet.com**

# Kimpton Entertains

Photographer *Juliet Morton* was there with her camera



Anna Bosatta directs the new Village Choir (top) and left, cheeky chappie Roy Roberts was compère for the evening. The two Andys (Morton and Wright), centre left, gave us their version of The Stately Homes of England and contortionist musicians Albert and Victor played Bach's toccata and fugue in D minor. Unsuspecting members of the audience (above) were also roped in!

# A letter from Saint-Lazare (Canada)

## Ex Kimpton resident *Steve Walters* reflects on his move to Canada in 1999

July 1999 seems such a long time ago, but it has gone by in the twinkling of an eye; and yet it seems only yesterday that we left the familiar comfort of our home in Kimpton, and emigrated with three young children across the pond to Canada. I remember saying goodbye to Bunty (my mother) and it felt so final as we waved goodbye that morning with mum, Viv and nephew Kasper and I shedding a small tear. It was frightening, exciting, scary.... many different feelings as we landed at Montreal's Dorval airport and turned towards the immigration side, rather than the tourist side. Time to practice our French. Merde!

With all our immigrations papers in order we were driven to our new house and our new life. In those first few days there was some regrets about leaving friends and family, angst whether we had made the right decision, and trepidation on how to cope with an entirely new culture. There was also a whole new set of things to learn. Finding out about medical care... where to go for a doctor and applying for the Quebec Medicare Card. Luckily Canada has its own version of the national health service which works quite well and the system creaks a little at times but all in all it is good. Taxes.... yuk! Being a 'different' province, Quebec has its own taxes so we have to fill out two sets of tax returns... one for the provincial government and one for the federal government. A right royal pain and of course it also works out that we pay more; you do not have to earn much to be paying 50% of your salary. Driving... a simple thing but coming off the motorway in Montreal was a very daunting experience. They have service roads running along the side of the motorway and you have to cross these to make your exit. So the first time it was very much indicate, pray, and hope you make it across! What we found out later was that to indicate in Quebec is a sign of weakness. Je m'excuse – une blague!

But surprisingly enough it does not take much to get used to the new way of life, and now we often help new Brits who are just starting out here when they have questions. Well, over 12 years later, I guess you can say everything turned out OK. We have made some superb new friends, got a beautiful house and have made this our home. Canada is a beautiful country and Quebec, with its French twist makes it an interesting place to live. Being in North America in a province where a large percentage of the people do not understand any English, makes you realize how important it is to learn the lingo and be able to communicate. *to page 21*



*Steve in a Hudson Players production of "Jitters" and above right, on the right, a teenage Steve in a Kimpton Players production. Opposite Steve as Aunty Septic in a Hudson Players Panto.*



from page 20 We live in the delightful town of Saint-Lazare [www.ville.saint-lazare.qc.ca/saint-lazare](http://www.ville.saint-lazare.qc.ca/saint-lazare) , close to Hudson, Quebec. Hudson/Saint-Lazare is quite similar to Kimpton in some respects with lots of activities and many different clubs; Gardening, Scouts, Canadian Legion and many more. In fact, the family has embraced many of these and especially the local amateur dramatics club. The Hudson Players Club is one of the oldest English am-dram groups in Quebec and there has been a few stage appearances by the Walters on the local stage - in fact it is pleasing to report that good old British Panto is alive and well in Quebec. The club also produces plays and the latest production Jitters (a Canadian version of the play Noises Off) was well received by pretty much full audiences. We often think of the early times we had at the Kimpton Players with Len and his "Comical Cock", Bunty nervously acting on stage, Pauly upright and confident, with Viv and I running around making noise and enjoying ourselves. That seems so long ago but it showed me, and instilled in me, a love for the theatre and showed how much the arts is an important part of the community. Luckily I have found the same thing in Hudson/Saint-Lazare, so the story continues.

Now for a weather report. We have hot summers and cold winters - real seasons - so we swim, boat and barbeque in the summer, and ski, skate and hot-tub in the winter. Believe me to sit in a hot tub when it is -20 with a nice chilled glass of Chardonnay, looking at a clear starry sky is

exhilarating.... until you have to get out! The boys have also been fortunate by having a ski hill just 20 minutes up the road where they learned to snow board.... so many of their winter weekends were spent on the piste.

Saint-Lazare in the summer is also a place where there is a whole slew of stuff going on for the children. When we first arrived I was astounded to learn that there were over 1,500 kids enrolled for the soccer (OK, football). Needless to say I was quickly recruited as a coach... they worked on the basis that as I was English then I must be an expert. I am reminded of the phrase "in the land of the blind, the man with one eye is king". It worked out OK with our team winning the cup one year.

Do we miss anything in England.... hell yes! Our friends and family, the footpaths and walks, and the Sunday morning drink at the pub. Would we come back? Never say never, but for the moment life here is good.

*Steve Walters*

## Fifty Years ago from the the Parish Magazine and Local Press

At a meeting of Kimpton WI in June 1962 Mrs I.C. Peach gave a demonstration of floral arrangements and also gave hints on the care of cut flowers.

Members had to guess the content of various bags and one containing pickling spices caused much sneezing and coughing!

A competition for the most articles in a matchbox was won by Mrs Shepherd, Mrs Wykes and Mrs Cole.

It was unanimously agreed at a meeting of The Parish Council that rents of garage sites on the West End allotments should be from 5s (25p) to £1 per annum.

The tenancy of a plot at West End Allotments was terminated because the allotment holder erected a garage. Kimpton Parish Council sued for possession of the plot before His Honour Judge Lawson Campbell at Hitchin County Court. The defendant was Mr J Williamson of 113 High Street. The Council were given possession within a month.

In August Mr H Chalkley of 17 High Street celebrated his 90th birthday with a dinner party at the Pool House and a party at his home, which was bursting with flowers, cards and telegrams.

Miss Margaret Jocelyn Ross and Mr Anthony Bacon were married at the Parish Church on August 18th. After a reception at the Bride's home in Blackmore End the couple left for their honeymoon in Florence.

A Social and Dance at Kimpton Memorial Hall in aid of 1st Kimpton Scout funds was not well attended. However an enjoyable evening was had with hot dogs served in the interval. Dancing was to the Mick Walkers Band with Mr L Arnold as MC.

The Council decided not to grant permission sought for by a resident on the Village Green to erect a drying post.

*Please visit the Kimpton History Group archive at [www.kimpton.org.uk](http://www.kimpton.org.uk)*



**Remember.  
Celebrate.  
Change lives.**

Celebrate the life of a loved one with a Macmillan tribute fund and you'll also support other people with cancer and their families.

Create yours at [macmillan.org.uk/tributeffunds](http://macmillan.org.uk/tributeffunds).

Together, we can change lives.

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604); MAC13086\_AD\_A5

**Please remember that the deadline for the autumn edition of this magazine is Monday September 17th Please send copy and JPEGs to [kimpton.editor@btinternet.com](mailto:kimpton.editor@btinternet.com)**

# The Church in Kimpton

## Parish Church

### **Vicar**

The Reverend Lorraine  
Summers  
The Vicarage  
11 High Street  
Kimpton SG4 8RA  
01438 833419  
revles@btinternet.com

### **Lay Minister**

Mr Andy Morton  
01438 832427  
adewm@aol.com

### **Reader**

Mrs Valerie Phillips  
01438 832649

### **Church Wardens**

Mrs Jeanette Bowers  
01438 832503  
jeanette.bowers@hotmail.com

Mr Ben Cole  
07831 673382  
cole.son@farming.co.uk

## Baptist Church

### Perry Green at Peters Green

### **Minister**

Rev Michael Thomas  
59 Oakley Road  
Luton LU4 9PX  
01582 422635

### **Branch Leader**

Miss Pam Greener  
01582 604771

## Roman Catholic Church

### **Priest**

Father Brian Reynolds  
01582 832114

## **Police Telephone Numbers**

Urgent 999

Non Urgent 101

Hitchin Safer Neighbourhood Team

Rural Issues

01438 757604

Ward Constable Chris Suckling

01438 757604

Community Support Officer

PCSO Elaine Cuzzo

01707 354192 (automated system)

## **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 edition must be in by September 17th  
Kimpton Parish Magazine is printed by  
Triographics Printers Ltd. Knebworth 01438 811905

## **Parish Council**

Cllr John Baughan  
Cllr Ian Corbett  
Cllr David Hardstaff  
Cllr Jon Marsh  
Cllr Sue O'Brien  
Cllr Jon Palmer  
Cllr Donatella Pirola  
Cllr David Reavell

*Parish Councillors can be  
contacted at  
***kimptonpc@btconnect.com****

### **Parish Clerk**

Carina Helm, Memorial Hall kimptonpc@btconnect.com  
01438 832573

### **North Herts District Councillor**

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

### **County Councillor**

Cllr Richard Thake richard.thake@hertsc.gov.uk

# Helping Hand

## HOSPITAL VISITING

Please phone the vicarage - 01438 833419 - if anyone from the village is in hospital.

## NORTH HERTS COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER SERVICES SCHEME

Can provide transport to hospitals. For details ring 01462 459752

## CANCER ADVISORY SERVICE

BACUP Link Line. Freephone 181199

## THE SAMARITANS

If you would like to talk to the Samaritans or find out more about becoming a volunteer, please ring 01582 720666 or 08457 90 90 90 anytime day or night or email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

## HITCHIN CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

To contact the CAB phone 01462 622999 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoon between 1pm and 5.30pm

## CARERS IN HERTFORDSHIRE

Support and guidance offered for all carers, including support groups, a telephone link line and a regular newsletter. Carers can contact the centre on 01462 456660

## KIMPTON MONKEYS TODDLERS' GROUP

Come and meet local, friendly faces and enjoy general play, craft, ride-on toys, baby corner, singing, etc for pre-school children and babies.

Entrance is £2.00 plus 50p for each additional child and includes tea/coffee/juice and snacks for all. Held at Kimpton Memorial Hall on Tuesdays from 09:30 to 11:30 during term time.

Contact Natasha Mayling on 07970 172571. [www.facebook.com/KimptonMonkeys](http://www.facebook.com/KimptonMonkeys)

## KIMPTON PRESCHOOL

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

We are open during term time from 9am to 12noon, Monday to Friday. We also offer Lunch Clubs from Monday to Thursday and afternoon sessions from 1-3pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

For more details, please contact Lesley O'Brien, Preschool Manager, on 01438 833936 or visit [www.kimptonpreschool.co.uk](http://www.kimptonpreschool.co.uk)

## KIMPTON MEMORIAL HALL

For bookings contact Mrs Barbara Kazwini. 6 The Wick, Kimpton. 01438 832620

## PETER'S GREEN VILLAGE HALL

For bookings please contact Pauline Massam 01438 833806

## USEFUL LINKS

[www.kimpton.org.uk](http://www.kimpton.org.uk)

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

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

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