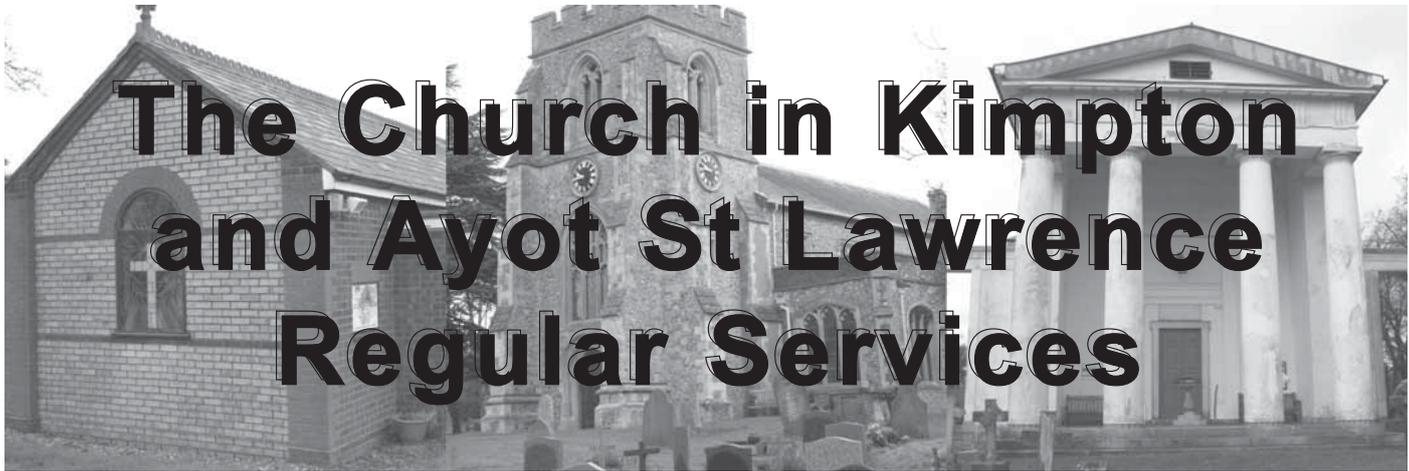


Kimpton Parish Magazine

*Autumn 2014
Number 239*

Noisy boys! See pages 12 & 13 for more
pics of the Noise Project



The Church in Kimpton and Ayot St Lawrence Regular Services

Tuesday

8.45am

Parish Church

Morning Prayer

5.30pm

Parish Church

Evening Prayer

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

4th Sunday

Morning Prayer

9.30am

4th Sunday

Family worship

8am

Parish Church

other Sundays

Holy Communion (Common Worship)

9.30am

Holy Communion followed by
coffee

11.30am

Ayot St Lawrence

2nd Sunday each month

Mattins with Holy Communion
(BCP)

6pm

Perry Green Chapel

Evening Service at Peters Green

**Times of weekday services may vary during the vacancy
Please check the weekly pew sheet for details**

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,

I write this with a certain amount of sadness, as after eight and a half years as your parish priest I shall be retiring at the beginning of October, and Malcolm and I will move to our new home in Norfolk. We will miss Kimpton and Ayot St.

Lawrence very much, as from the day we

moved into the Vicarage we have been made welcome and felt part of the community. When I came here in 2006, one of my clergy friends, who was just a little green with envy, asked "How did you manage to get this?" The answer is through God's blessing. A few years after my ordination I felt that God was calling me to hospital chaplaincy, but although I wanted to say yes to Him, I did not want to give up parish ministry; His answer to my prayer was to bring me here, where I could fulfil both vocations by being your priest as well as a chaplain to QE2 & Lister hospitals.

The word clergy use more than any other to describe how we feel about what we do is privilege. We use the word so much that it can seem a cliché, and yet we cannot think of another word that accurately conveys what is to be allowed into the lives of others when they are at their most vulnerable and/or most joyful. This is how it has been for me. It has been a privilege and a joy to be alongside you for your weddings, your Baptisms, your Confirmations and your bereavements, and I thank you for allowing me to do so.

One of my greatest joys has been seeing individuals grow in their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus; to see them serving Him in ways they could not have once imagined, and to hear them praising Him for all that He has done for them. I have been so proud of faithful Church members who take part in the Bible study and prayer groups, in Blast and Sleepyhedz, in the NOISE project and more recently in the "Loaves and Fishes" community lunch initiative.

(If you don't know what any of those are, look out for posters), and I have so enjoyed the exchange visits with our "twin" church in Schonermark, Germany. I am also delighted that after many years, Ayot St. Lawrence has this year built their loo and kitchenette extension; I am only sorry that I shan't be here for the official opening.

In the hospital half of my ministry I have had the privilege (that word again!) of being with families as their loved ones have passed away, and the delight of holding new-borns; I have baptised poorly babies and adult patients who have come to faith; I have conducted a wedding in the hospital chapel and another on a ward; I have seen staff and volunteers through difficult and traumatic events and at times have laughed with them until tears have flowed. I will miss all of them. The one thing I will not miss is the weekly overnight and once a month weekend on call duties – it is very difficult being called out of a warm bed at 2 am on a winter's night!

Malcolm and I must now look to our future in the village of Kenninghall, which is about 20 minutes drive from Diss. It is a lively place with all the facilities that we have been used to and the people have been very warm and welcoming as we have been having works done to our new home. Kenninghall doesn't have a Bench Working Party, but it does have its own Morris Dancers (I shan't be joining!), and the parish priest is looking forward to my being there, so I hope to be able to help out with services when I can. We have plenty of space in our house, so if anyone would like to visit we would love to see you.

Kimpton and Ayot St. Lawrence will always have a special place in my heart and I will always remember you all in my prayers. I thank the Lord for you, and for bringing me here; I have made so many dear friends and will miss you all so much.

With my love and blessing, Lorraine

Our new address: "Trafoi"
Banham Road
Kenninghall
Norfolk NR16 2ED
Phone: 01953 888389

Business as usual at the Church!

Alas, after her excellent time as our Vicar, Lorraine Summers and her husband, Malcolm, have retired to Norfolk. We wish them a long and happy life there, with our thanks for all that she has done for the parish.

We have no idea of exactly how long the vacancy will be, **but we have been assured that Lorraine will be replaced.**

Meanwhile, back at the Church, we are not going to let the grass grow under our feet. Our services will continue as at present. On those days when we have Holy Communion, we will be welcoming clergy from other churches and, of course, the Fourth Sunday services are run by lay people anyway, so they will continue as normal.

A vacancy can be a time when the Church family goes into decline, while waiting for someone to come to lead. It will not be so for Kimpton. We fully intend this gap between Vicars to be a time of growth, of renewal and of moving forward.

So come along and be part of it! We look forward to welcoming you.

Andy Morton, Lay Minister

Bigger loaves and more fish

The Community Lunch at The Boot, called 'Loaves and Fishes', has proved to be a real success and has established itself as a fixture within the village. Held on the third Wednesday of each month, the lunch has become really popular, attracting about 30 people on each occasion.

At the amazing cost of just £5, it is a really good deal and we are incredibly grateful to Treena and Craig at The Boot for helping to make this such a winner.

Why don't you come along and join in?

Andy Morton

Grateful Thanks

The Editor and Production Team would like to acknowledge with thanks a donation received from Margaret and Rob Terry.

From the Registers

Baptisms and Thanksgiving for a Child

22 Jun 2014 George John Rice-Oxley
06 Jul 2014 James MacIntyre Tierney
06 Jul 2014 Toby Oliver Moore
03 Aug 2014 Alexander Jonathan Kirk
03 Aug 2014 Charlotte Newman
17 Aug 2014 Oswald Nicholson
17 Aug 2014 Eloisa Bridie Kerry
14 Sep 2014 Leo Frederick Daniel James
14 Sep 2014 George Albert Neale James

Weddings

28 Jun 2014 Natasha Jane Louisa Foster to
Mark Steven Hughes
16 Aug 2014 Annika Marie Jennings to
Thomas Robert George Lincoln

Burials and Cremations

08 Jul 2014 Margaret (Peggy) Dollin
20 Jul 2014 Gwendoline Mary Scott
14 Aug 2014 Connie Hopkins

We have also heard that Betty Bowler died in Norwich on 18 Aug 2014



Sadly, for us at the church and in the village, the time has come when we say 'Farewell' to Canon Lorraine Summers as she and her husband Malcolm move on – to Norfolk and retirement. Over the eight and a half years that Lorraine has been with us we have

seen, under her loving and wise leadership, the profile of the church stand out as a beacon to all who desired its light. Lorraine has encompassed and encouraged any seed of development that has come her way which would provide a witness for the God in whom she puts all her trust. This has included holding annual services, for the Bereaved as well as a Thanksgiving for Pets, and many other opportunities, too numerous to mention, to reach out to children and adults alike.

Lorraine has taken delight in seeing people grow in their faith and has always shown concern for those in need. As I have asked people for comments upon her ministry, so many have emphasised the warmth of her care and concern, her generous nature and listening ear, her deep and inspiring faith, as well as her great sense of humour.

Because of Lorraine's contract to be a part-time Chaplain based at the QEII Hospital but covering the Lister Hospital as well, there have been times when demands in the Parish here in Kimpton and Ayot have come after being 'on call' overnight and she has been deprived of sleep! Sometimes her 'on call' pager has gone off in the midst of a church meeting or service! This has definitely not been a nine-to-five type job! As a church, and also a village, we have been privileged to have Lorraine as our 'Shepherd' and we are going to miss her terribly. But as she wrote in her first Parish Magazine article, "one does not discover new lands without consenting to lose sight of the shore". We therefore send her on her way to retirement with our love, prayers and thanks and at the same time we apply those words to ourselves over the coming months. May God bless you, Lorraine and Malcolm.

Liz Jameison

Lorraine is pictured with other members of the PCC at her final meeting.

Shaws Corner Ayot St

Lawrence needs volunteers

This National Trust property needs volunteers at Ayot ready for next season (March to November 2015). Only two people from Kimpton help regularly at present and there is room for more. There is a second hand bookshop; kiosk and garden hut, all of which need helpers. Assistance with providing plants for sale and room guiding is also needed. You could start this autumn if you wish. Contact the House Manager, Sue Morgan on the Shaw's Corner National Trust website.

Kimpton Art Group

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays from 2 p.m. to paint and draw. You may not have any experience since schooldays but why not use the opportunity to enjoy this relaxing hobby.

We all think we will put some time aside at home to paint sometime, but other priorities take over. So why not join us for an hour before you pick up children from school or the whole afternoon if you can.

Valerie Pollington
jandv@pollington10.plus.com



Once again, the weather continues to defy prediction. It has been so dry in recent weeks that the groundwater sump is now empty once more, which is excellent news and Kimpton is probably going to be used as a case-study by the consultants who are being tasked with evaluating the flood risk for the Parish.

As I said in a previous report, funding has been made available for this exercise and, although it will not produce a solution in itself it will establish the feasibility of various options, and can possibly lead to additional funding which can be used for some sort of infrastructure improvement to mitigate the risk of flooding in the future.

Sadly, it's all a matter of simple mathematics – the available funding is related to the risk of a flood occurring, and if the predicted interval between incidents is large then it is not considered cost-effective to fund much in the way of works. Whilst this might make economic sense, it is little comfort to those whose homes and businesses have been flooded, so we await the outcome of this exercise with interest.

There has been little movement on the new Secondary School in Harpenden. There is still ongoing debate and delay, which now means that the target date has slipped to September 2017 for the first intake. The selection of the site is supposed to be finalised in January 2015, so if this happens we can be reasonably confident that the 2017 date will be met.

However, this leaves the Parish with a potential shortfall in 2015 and 2016 that will potentially be worse than those we have traditionally seen, depending upon final pupil numbers. Although it is difficult to predict the outcome each year, the Parish Council will continue to support residents in whatever way we can.

There are a couple of 'housekeeping' notices. It is apparent that some of the footpaths are becoming obstructed again as the result of vegetation overhanging from adjacent gardens. May I please remind residents with properties adjacent to footpaths that it is your statutory responsibility to maintain the boundary, and help to keep the paths clear. It seems that there is a view in some case that this is the responsibility of the Parish Council, so it is worth setting out that it is not. In fact, if Hertfordshire County Council Rights-of-Way people come out and find overhanging vegetation or damaged fencing obstructing the path, they may well deal with it and invoice the resident for the work, so it is probably cheaper to do it yourself!

On the subject of maintenance, there is some tree-work needed on the Parkfield Recreation Ground, and this will be undertaken as a rolling programme. The trees will benefit from some maintenance, and during the examination of what needed to be done it transpires that we have some quite rare specimen trees in the borders of Parkfield, so they will be worth looking after.

Finally, please see the item (page 18) on the allotments from Carina Helmn, the Parish Clerk. There are some vacant plots, and it would be good to see them all in use. *David Hardstaff*

Could you use some extra cash?

Talk to your District Councillor

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



Auction of Promises



Due to the possibility of finding ourselves in financial debt by the end of the year, Kimpton Church is holding a fund-raising Auction of Promises on Friday 17th October, in the Memorial Hall at 7pm for 7.30pm. As is the nature of our giving, ten percent of all money raised will be given to an outside charity. In this case it will be Mercy Ships, based in Stevenage, which gives free life-changing operations to people in poor parts of Africa, wherever the ships can dock.

Catalogues (50p) can be purchased from Fringeline, The Corner Shop, The Boot, or through a church member. Tickets (£7.50) for a meal and maybe entertainment, are available from John and Jeanette Bowers at 8 Canham Close (01438 832503) or again through a church member. Please encourage friends and neighbours to come along for a rare opportunity to have a fun, fund-raising evening. Make up a table or not, as you like, and bring some cash or a chequebook with you!





‘Super loos’ and More!

In the last issue of this magazine I reported that the ladies loos would be refurbished during August. I also said that were we to receive an NHDC grant (for which we had already applied), we just might be able to have the ‘Gentlemen’s’ upgraded at the same time. I am delighted to report that in the ‘nick of time’ we were notified of the success of our grant application, and both sets of toilets have been refurbished. Nice things have already been said about them, and we hope everybody will be happy with them.

We are to receive a grant of £12,000 from the NHDC Rural funding scheme, specifically to enable us to carry out the work to the Gent’s and to replace all the Hall’s remaining old original (single glazed) windows and doors. These two projects will cost £19,000, so the grant will go a good way towards funding that. We are exceedingly grateful to NHDC’s Parish Challenge Panel for its confidence in us, and for its generosity.

The funding for the Ladies toilet was met entirely from donations, as will be the funding for the £7000 shortfall between the cost of these two projects, and the grant we are to receive. I would reiterate that we never fund improvements from letting income. So far as village organisations are concerned we only ever look to achieve a ‘break even’ between income and expenditure. So we are very lucky that the village as a whole has been so supportive of our efforts, and so generous with its donations. We thank you all.

As I have mentioned before, nearly six years ago we embarked upon a five year plan! Our declared objective was to bring our (almost) 30 year old Hall up to a standard whereby it would last another 30 years without too much more being done to it. We are getting there, but we are not quite there yet, so please, please, keep up the good work and keep those donations coming! We promise we will spend them wisely.

Roger Nash 01438 832101

Visit the village website to see previous editions of this magazine and much more kimpton.org.uk

***It's Panto time again -
Oh yes it is!***



Puss in Boots

Pantomime time is drawing near and the Kimpton Players are pleased to announce they will be putting on Puss in Boots on 4th, 5th and two performances on 6th December.

Ben Crocker's Panto is the traditional tale of a cat who can talk and thus helps the Miller's poor son Jack to win the hand of the fair princess. This version, however, has a few extra characters to further complicate the plot and cram in even more laughs.

Make your Christmas complete with a traditional visit to the Pantomime to laugh, shout and sing.

Tickets will be available on the door, but to be sure of your seats call Bernice at the booking office on 01438 832237 Payment can also be made through PayPal via the Players' website thekimptonplayers.co.uk

Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for under 16's.

For performance time please see the posters around the village and the website.

Kimpton WI

In July we had an interesting talk on graphology (the study of handwriting) and then on a lovely sunny day in August we visited Hampton Court Palace, the beautiful home and gardens where Henry VIII lived. In September we then learnt about his marital status with an entertaining talk by Gary Fisher.

At the Autumn Show, the W.I. provided their usual excellent teas and cakes and made a good profit which went to the Memorial Hall funds. Valerie Pollington won the W.I. Cup. She also came second with her entry to the NFWI Lady Denman Cup competition "What My W.I. Means to Me" - many congratulations Valerie.

Our October and November meetings will see us learning about Historic Herbal Remedies and Victorian East London and table tennis has started again, as have handicrafts and the book club.

As a result of last year's excellent December meeting, when Eric Morecambe's daughter spoke to a packed Hall, we are organising another Christmas entertainment evening with mince pies and wine. Keep Wed. 10th December free and watch out for details/posters nearer the date.

A warm welcome awaits you at our meetings on the second Wednesday of the month in the lounge of the Memorial Hall. Do not hesitate to contact Janet 01438 832597 or Shirley 01582 833285 for further details or information.

Janet Holmes-Walker

Farewell from Bob and Pat Gilbert

Bob and Pat would like to say cheerio to all the friends they have made in the last thirty one years of living in Kimpton, and for the support when sons Robert and Ben were involved with falls in the mountains and car accidents. It has been a pleasure living here and we shall miss all the activities and coffee mornings etc. Once again, thank-you Kimpton.

Rainy start for the bowls season

The season began with the usual inclement weather affecting some of the matches and club night activities. Hopefully, when you read this report we will have had a better summer.

Our Open Day went well, followed by a wonderful May Festival. The Bowls Club, as usual, provided refreshments and bowls-related games on the green. We were able to donate to the M F Committee a sum 25% increase over last year, thanks to our visitors. Visitors are always welcome on club nights and to watch matches.

Check on our website www.kimptonbowlsclub.blogspot.com

Alternatively, contact Beverley Pate on 01582834014 for details of club activities.

As reported earlier, we do host other clubs and village groups for "roll-ups" etc. This season we have booked in seven events including Rainbows, Guides, Scouts, Tennis, Freemasons and The Boot. We hope to recruit one or two new members as a result of these events.

This year we are also sponsoring a teenaged girl, Islay, for her sport module of her Duke of Edinburgh Award. We commemorated this event by presenting her with an engraved plate on Finals Weekend.

Our Triples League team performed well in the 2nd. Division; finishing third.

Following Finals Weekend, 13th and 14th September, and Presentation of Trophies, 31 Club members enjoyed a Buffet / BBQ at The Boot, thanks to Treena, Craig, Wendy and their Team.

The results of the in-house knockout competitions are as follows-

Roving Jack	Ken Ryder
Drawn Pairs	Beverley Pate & Edna Symonds
Triples	Beverley Pate, Pat Flury & Angus Lennox
Three Woods	Pat Flury
Two Woods	Jane Robinson
Fixed Jack	Ken Ryder
Handicap	Ken Ryder
Novices	Robert Matthews
Veterans	Ken Ryder
Yardstick	Bob Porter
Ladies Singles	Margaret Butterfield
Mens Singles	Phil Matthews

Club Member of the Year, by secret ballot, was Angus Lennox.

The Rainbows, Brownies and Guides of Kimpton are having a Mince pie and Carol Concert

on

Tuesday 9th December

at

The Memorial Hall from 4.00pm till 6.00pm.

Free Entry

Everyone Welcome

Donations for the refreshments would be greatly appreciated.

Raffle Tickets on sale £1 each



The Garden Club has had a very interesting Summer programme. Our visits to the Isobel Hospice garden and Kew were very enjoyable and inspiring. Our Summer social had

a few spots of rain but it was lovely to watch the sun go down over the woods and open countryside.

The September meeting, saw us back in the Green Room at 8 o'clock. We had an interesting slide show and discussion about gardening through the seasons. The speaker, Roger Skipper, is a popular visitor to Kimpton Garden Club and his enthusiasm and knowledge knew no bounds.

October 1st will be our AGM. We will have cheese and wine and a quiz. Our meeting on November 5th will be "Wildlife Hunting with a Camera Part II" with Richard Revels. Richard's photography is outstanding so if you are interested in coming, we start at 8 o'clock in the Green Room. You will find us a friendly and welcoming group.

For more information please contact our secretary on 01438 832776. *Joan Amoss*

Kimpton Rights of Way Working Group

The ploughing has been completed quite early this year and most of the paths have already been reinstated by our farmers. Please let me know of any still not cleared – but bear in mind that there will be temporary disruptions for seed drilling.

The County Council has reduced the regular maintenance that they do – mostly field edges – to just two cuts a year. We are aware that their contractors seem sometimes to skirt around obstructions rather than remove them, so that walkers are forced out into the sown part of the field. I have compiled some examples to try to do something about this but please let me know of any that you come across.

Dog fouling has got much worse this year. Do you have any ideas on how to get irresponsible

dog owners to be more responsible or have you heard of anything that works? The BBC has an article on approaches that have been tried across the world – see www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-22853270. The maximum fine for allowing a dog to foul is £1000 and the maximum for leaving poo bags around is £2500. Policing it is not easy but if you see an owner allowing their dog to foul any public space, including fields and woodland, you can report it to North Herts District Council. Go to www.north-herts.gov.uk and click on 'Report it' on the right side of the page.

Yet again, if any walkers, runners, cyclists, riders or landowners have difficulty with any of our paths or bridleways tell either me or Tom Goldsmith, Countryside Access Officer at Hertfordshire County Council (tom.goldsmith@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Bob Malcolm
01438-832309
bobm@ideo.co.uk

Kimpton's Golden Oldies Glow!

On 11 September seven of us joined thousands of others across the UK and took part in a synchronised HIIT session in a bid for a world record.

We were governed by strict rules but our bid was successful and verified later as a new Guinness World Record for the largest High Intensity Interval Training Workout.

It was exhausting but great fun and we also raised much needed funds in aid of Isabel Hospice. *Diana Rainback*

This and previous editions of the Parish Magazine are available as PDFs at the village website www.kimpton.org.uk
The copy deadline for the winter edition is
November 21st



The noise is getting louder!

For the fifth year running, a large group of volunteers came together in July to help people tackle those tasks that needed to be done and were too daunting to start.

After a hearty breakfast and a short act of worship, fifty people of all ages set out to paint fences, sort out gardens, weed ponds, prune trees, weave willows and clear damaging ivy from walls. The NOISE PROJECT has now become an established feature of the village and is one of the ways in which the Church can show the love of Jesus in practical action. The bright blue T-shirts - some now bearing the honourable scars of hard work - can be seen around the parish.

But it was not all hard work. After a satisfying day of tasks, we finished off with the barbecue and water fight that has also become something of a tradition for the Noise!

See you next year - maybe you would like to join in!

The date for 2015? Saturday July 18th.

*Andy Morton
Photos: Juliet Morton*



Kimpton Preschool



We are very pleased to welcome some new children and their families to our sessions, as well as our newest team member, Chloe. We have all been busy during the summer preparing a host of exciting play and learning experiences ready for the new term. Our outside area has had a complete overhaul and we are so fortunate to have a fantastic new roadway weaving through our garden. The surrounding areas have also been re-turfed and shaped. This is all thanks to Mark Klimek, of Home Counties Surfacing, a familiar face around Kimpton and our hero! He generously donated all the labour and materials, which allowed us to have this wonderful addition to our garden. We are so grateful to Mark for this fantastic gift.

We have also adjusted our opening hours, which are now 8.50am to 11.50am, with a lunch club available every day until 1.20pm. Our morning sessions are extremely busy and spaces are limited, so if you are considering Kimpton Preschool for your child, we encourage you to register as soon as possible.

Here's to another busy term of laughter, fun and great adventures!

KIMPTON AUTUMN SHOW



WOW... Amazing, fabulous, exciting!! Think you will agree it was a great Show. The Judges said that they were very impressed with the standard this year, so well done everyone that entered - without entries there would be no Autumn Show.

Thank you to all the Stewards who come and help alongside the Judges, hope you enjoyed.

All that helped enjoyed a lovely lunch, thanks Jenny for organising this. We have not yet done our sums - but am sure it was as good as last year, if not better.

It was a lovely day with some music by Nigel, Doug and Bill (thanks Boys) with traditional Outside games that the children loved and Bob and the Bench Boys kept them all amused, thank you. Also thanks to Sue and Reece for making the Tombola such a great attraction.

Our rustic autumn show stall with lots of lovely handmade goodies alongside Kimpton apple juice was hugely popular and it did not rain!

Everyone loved the fabulous teas/cakes by the lovely ladies of the W.I. thank you.

People of all ages enjoyed looking at all the different classes ranging from vegetables, flowers, photography, cakes, Art, crafts and more - so if you think you would like to have a go next year - get planning - you will not regret it.

Finally, we had a great raffle with some fabulous prizes from various sponsors, perhaps you were a winner.

Well done to all the Trophy winners.

Thank you all once again - look out for Posters for next years Show - from Sandra Berti and Team - Nigel, Jenny, Alison, Ceil, Lucy, Hattie and Sarah.



Kimpton Monkeys is a playgroup run in term time by local mums at Kimpton Memorial Hall on Tuesday mornings from 9.30 till 11.30 am.

Admission is £2.50p per child with siblings over 6 months old being an extra £1.00. This price includes tea or coffee and biscuits for Mum, Dad, Gran, Grandad, Carers and juice/water and a healthy snacks for each child.

The morning starts with table top toys to include work benches, tools, trainsets, kitchen, pots and pans, dolls, craft table, something for every child.

10.20 is snack and tea time.

10.40 is time for ride on cars/trikes and slides.

11.15 is singing and instruments for all to get involved.

It's a great chance to meet other families within the village and surrounding areas.

Find us on facebook for all up to date news about Monkeys: [facebook.com/KimptonMonkeys](https://www.facebook.com/KimptonMonkeys)

Come along and join in the fun, we look forward to seeing you!



Kimpton Horse Show 70 years on and still going strong

With birthday spirit in the air, the Kimpton Horse Show committee pulled out all the stops to make this year's show the best yet. They were delighted to welcome the local WI, Kimpton Belles, to host the show's special birthday tea party. Thanks go to



everyone who helped out on the day, including the Bench Working Party and ex-players from Kimpton Rovers, who once again couldn't help but test their high jump skills over the show jumps!

There was also a special presentation to Geoff Harding. The show was founded by the Harding family in 1944 to help raise funds for a tablet to commemorate the dead of both World Wars, and build a much needed village hall. The show continues to be held by their kind permission each year.

Jake Harding presented the Harding Challenge Cup to this year's winner - Hayley Ward riding her rescue pony Noel. The cup is the most sought after trophy on the showground, awarded to the combination of horse and rider who accumulates the greatest number of points throughout the show.

Amongst all the fun and excitement, approximately £4,000 was raised. The committee will be making donations to the following local causes: the Memorial Hall, the Bench Working Party, the Parish magazine, and the Church's NOISE Project. Kimpton Horse Show also provided the rosettes for the Autumn Show. Other donations will go to charities and worthwhile causes nationwide for the benefit of the parish.

"Chase me Charlie" winner Millie Dickinson is pictured in action by Sallie Wilson and the celebration cake was very much enjoyed.

Your Parish Church Choir needs you!

We are looking for men and women to swell our numbers. No experience is necessary and there will be no auditions!

Come along to the church on a Friday evening at 7.30 in the church or contact organist Andy Wright on 01438 820929 or kimpton.organist@btinternet.com

Kimpton May Festival 2015 And the theme is....

As the evenings begin to darken ever earlier the May Festival cycle springs into life! At our recent social ('not an AGM') event we were pleased to welcome some new members to the Committee, disburse some funds to local causes, and to gather suggestions around the theme for 2015. A short-list was then posted on the Kimpton May Festival Facebook site to allow people to express their opinions. In case you haven't heard before the time you are reading the Parish Magazine, the theme for 2015 will be....

All the fun of the fair!

This was the over-whelming favourite choice and groups and organisations should be able to let their collective imaginations run wild! (Think fairground rides & attractions, circuses etc.) We also sought ideas around how the Festival should evolve now we had reached and passed the 50th milestone. Thank you to those who took the time to do so, we will use this feedback in our planning.

The continued success of the Festival is dependent upon people willing to volunteer some of their time...this could be anything from an hour to the whole weekend. You don't need to 'join' anything, just let us know that you could help. More information about the types of opportunities available, and to pledge your support, will be broadcast as we get closer to KMF2015.

Andrew Ackrill, May Festival Chair

A letter from Suffolk

Kimpton, surging with life, and to quote Revd. Lorraine, (who will be sorely missed), 'God laughing with joy.' Thank you, all who were involved in the 50th May Festival or have helped to keep the show 'on the road' through the years. It was inspiring!

In the most enjoyable Summer Magazine I was named as founder of the Festival. This honour is shared with Pam Martin, now resident in Canterbury. Ken Martin was then the Vicar of Kimpton and they lived in the Old Vicarage. Don and I lived at 11, High Street and here the

idea was first discussed. Artist Pam made full use of her talents; she suggested a procession, May Queen competition and home-made bunting. I played the fiddle for and organised the Maypole Dancing, the bells and hand-bells and Morris Men. Ken gave Pam and I communion on that first May Day and a box of chocolates each in the evening. On the 40th Anniversary Pam and I were driven in a veteran car at the head of the procession.

Mention must be made of Ron Hyde, known as a popular whist drive MC. We asked him to join us. He not only looked after the public address system but on his milk round encouraged customers to run stalls etc. Both Pam and I left the village years ago but hopefully some will still remember Ron. I hope he was 'looking down' on us this year. Next year Pam and I plan to meet again, if Maisie Harding can join us (guess where) it will be perfect.

Helen Price

Calling World Challengers...

Are you (or your teenager!) fundraising for a school expedition? Have you got a big total to reach? Would you like some help?

If so, then the May Festival needs your help! If you would like to be part of a new venture for 2015 which could help you on your way to reaching your grand total then please get on contact.....

Emma Rice-Oxley

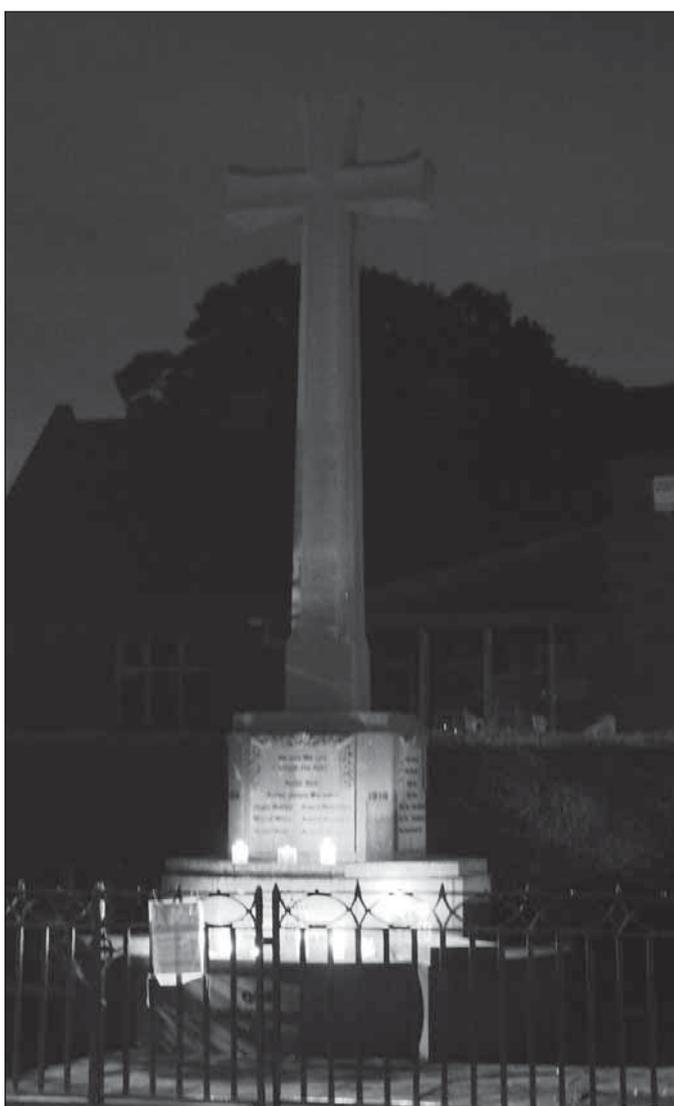
*Vice Chair Kimpton May Festival Committee
emmariceoxley@hotmail.com*

**Please remember that
the deadline for the
winter edition of this
magazine is Friday
November 21st
Please send copy and
JPEGs to
kimpton.editor@btinternet.com**



2014 is a significant date for the nation as it is the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of WWI

Kimpton Branch of the Royal British Legion organised a commemoration as part of the national 'Lights Out' event. Over 60 people attended and many villagers brought candles which were placed on the War Memorial. The Branch is indebted to those who attended and also those who



remembered at home by turning out all lights but one at 10.00pm. The event was a great success. Thanks to the Parish Council for their support.

The Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service will take place on Sunday 9th November this year. Two minutes' silence will be observed at 11.00am; mustering will be at 10.15 at the Village Hall to arrive at the War Memorial by 10.30. If you are intending to attend the Church Service, please be in Church in plenty of time preferably before 10.40am.

We again apologise for any inconvenience caused by the closure of the High Street for the Parade. The closure will run from approximately 10.15 to 10.45.

Anybody requiring information about the Legion and what it does should contact our Secretary, Dave Gibbs (01438 832236) from whom application forms may be obtained.

Legion members will also be remembering the fallen at the village War Memorial at 11.00am on Tuesday 11th November. All are welcome to join us. Next time you are passing the Memorial, it is worth noting the names of the men who gave their lives; you will recognise a number of family names which are still common in Kimpton.

Dave Gibbs Branch Secretary

Peters Green Village Hall is closed for essential maintenance

We had known for some time that wet rot under the suspended timber floor was a growing problem that needed addressing to keep the Hall in good order, then in recent weeks the floor in the ladies and in the disabled toilets gave in, creating hollow areas under the vinyl layer, which prompted the cancellation of all bookings, on safety grounds.

Thankfully, meanwhile, we had applied for and obtained a grant from North Herts District Council's Rural Community Building Funding Scheme in order to refurbish the floor and carry out other important improvements to the Hall. This substantial grant and additional help from the Parish Council are enabling us to repair the floor, insulate the walls and ceiling, improve airing in all toilets and take measures to improve external drainage to stop rain seeping in through low level air bricks.

The Hall is a community asset, built in 1929 for the benefit of the inhabitants of Peters Green. The view from its grounds across open countryside is glorious and as a venue it is ideal for family parties, meetings, dance and fitness classes. It has been used to rehouse garden parties in bad weather and it has hosted indoor fairs and fundraising events in aid of local and national charities.

A small group of committee members is looking after it, dealing with the day to day, doing their best to ensure that it remains available for the present and future generations, but more support is needed from our community.

We are currently looking for a new Booking Clerk

The role will become vacant from January'15. It requires some basic administrative skills and a little spare time to deal with hirers and to communicate with other committee members regarding the collection of hiring fees and any maintenance issues that may arise when conducting post hire inspections.

The Chair, Treasurer and the Secretary deal with all the legal and the other administrative aspects of running a community building.

If you can help fill this role, we would love to

hear from you. Please call Lesley on 01438 831189 or Donatella on 07879 425879.

*Peters Green Village Hall Management
Committee*

Don't lose the plot – allotments available now

Gardening fans will already be aware that September is the time for harvesting and many people will be reaping the rewards of growing their own vegetables. Much of the prize produce at Kimpton Autumn Show was grown at our allotments behind Kimpton Primary School playing fields.

So if you have a passion for growing your own fruit, vegetables or flowers but don't have the space in your garden, you will be pleased to learn that Kimpton Parish Council has plots of all sizes available to rent, all under a £1 per week.

Those with limited time we have created half or quarter plots giving everyone the opportunity to take part in an activity that is fun for all the family. Having an allotment is a great way to exercise, make new friends and it gives children the opportunity to learn about how to grow their own.

An allotment can also help you save money by providing cheap fresh fruit and vegetables that encourage a healthy diet.

To find out more then please contact Carina Helmn, 01438 832573 or clerk@kimptonpc.org.uk



Maintaining our Church

As with any ancient building, the upkeep of our beautiful parish church involves a continuous programme of maintenance and significant expenditure.

This burden falls squarely on the shoulders of the local church community and, in our case, the responsibility for raising funds for this purpose lies with the Kimpton Parish Church Restoration Trust. The KPCRT was set up in 1984 as a UK registered charitable trust. We are governed by a trust deed and are run by a small group of trustees, the vicar and our Church Wardens. Professor Mike Cox is our chair and the group works closely with the PCC and particularly the PCC Fabric Committee. Under the terms of the trust all monies raised must be used for the maintenance of the buildings and NOT for day-to-day running expenses.

Demands on the trust are often unpredictable as works can be required at any time and often at short notice. To counter this, we maintain a modest cash reserve to cover short-term contingencies. However, the most significant projects often arise as a result of the "Quinquennial". Within the Church of England all church buildings must be inspected every five years by an architect or chartered surveyor approved by the Diocesan Advisory Committee. This regular system of review is designed to ensure that church buildings are kept in good repair. Our latest Quinquennial Inspection took place in 2013 and, thankfully, only relatively modest repairs were required which have now been completed. Our church is well maintained, and so we expected a relatively benign survey report, but we still breathed a collective sigh of relief that nothing seriously untoward was discovered.

The trust has spent in excess of £750,000 since its inception in 1984 and the recent "modest" work will cost us over £20,000. Our funding comes from a range of different sources. We have received a number of English Heritage grants over the years but these are no longer available. We are now increasingly reliant on local fund raising activities. In recent years, our two largest sources of income have been the Kimpton Art Show and the Kimpton May Festival and we

are very grateful to both of them. We have also been fortunate to receive a small number of bequests, donations and covenants. Finally, we have also raised some significant amounts from selling gifts. One recent example was the Kimpton tea towel printed with Juliet Morton's wonderful photographs of Kimpton doorways.

I'd like to conclude by highlighting our latest fund raising initiative and by giving you the first opportunity to purchase a limited number of high quality crystal wine glasses that have been designed for us by Balmoral Glass. The crystal is etched with our village name and a maypole dance scene as illustrated in the panel. Even if they don't appeal to you personally, perhaps you could see them being a great gift for a friend or someone who used to live in Kimpton. If you run a local business, they may make a very topical corporate gift for your important clients this Christmas. The glasses come in a very tasteful blue presentation case and cost £25 each or £45 for a pair.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions on the work of the KPCRT or if you are interested in making a donation or bequest.

Ted Frith, Trustee, KPCRT



**Kimpton
Crystal
Wine
Glasses**

**£25 each
or two for
£45**

**Please contact Carina Helmn
01438 832573**

or clerk@kimptonpc.org.uk

**All profits in aid of the Kimpton
Parish Church Restoration Trust**



Neighbourhood Watch Update

Community Policing

It is reassuring to know that we continue to be classified as a relatively low crime area so as reported previously our Ward Constable PC Chris Suckling and our PCSO Elaine Cuozzo have been diverted to higher crime areas resulting in reduced presence in Kimpton and other villages.

Chris and Elaine maintain contact with the Parish Council and the half-yearly NHW Co-ordinator meetings where Chris supplies detailed crime data and updates on recent developments

To contact Elaine or any other officer please use the automated system at County HQ on 01707 354192 and clearly identify the officer you wish to speak to.. Other useful contact nos. are inside the back cover of this magazine, including the Police & Crime Commissioner, David Lloyd.

Local Crime Alert

Police recorded crimes for the last 3 months are not available but we do know of two household burglaries and one stolen car. So we must not relax our guard and the police have issued the following timely reminders now that longer nights are with us.

Doors, Windows, Garages, Sheds and Gates, Lock them at night or on departure and don't forget to lift the handle and key lock PVCu doors.

Don't leave your car unattended with the doors unlocked and worst still with the ignition key in it and the engine running! It does happen.

We hear increasing reports of bike theft, so do be careful about leaving yours unattended and not padlocked.

Safety Tips for University Students

The Suzy Lamplugh Trust has issued a handy Top Tips Sheet covering student safety which you can obtain by contacting their site www.suzylamplugh.org

Scams on the loose

Be very wary of the following scams which police advise may operate in this area.

Breaking into your Bank. Caller claims to be from your bank saying that your account has been hacked and they need to put you through to the police and after a pause another voice (obviously in the same office) comes on claiming to be a policeman and asks for your Account and Pin Nos. Police officers would never ask you to do that so put the phone down immediately.

A Scammer to avoid a Scammer

Hertfordshire Trading Standards warn of companies trying to sell you devices such as call blockers and services to block calls for £59 which in fact are free if you use the Telephone Preference Service (TPS) or the Mail Preference Service.(MPS) Don't give any personal or bank details over the phone if you are cold called.

However, overseas calls are not trapped by the TPS so you may wish to buy a suitable device from Amazon or Argos . Note that you will have to activate "Caller Display" and if this facility is not on your phone your service provider can supply this for a small monthly charge.

Phantom Chalk Marks

If you have noticed any unusual chalk marks on the pavement outside your or a neighbour's property please inform the Hitchin Safer Neighbourhood Team at once on 101. It is thought that this may be signal of a likely target to would be burglars

Computer Attack

Do make sure that your computer is loaded with the latest security software to avoid attack by cyber criminals.

Don't get involved with callers claiming to represent 'Computer Software Technical Support' using the name of a company like

Microsoft saying you have a problem which they can put right if you give them certain details! Advise your relatives and friends not to get conned.

Vehicle Speeding in the High Street

Progress with the formation of a Drivesafe Speedwatch Scheme has sadly faltered due the loss of our two Lead Volunteers. However, I am trying to arrange a “dummy run” with the Speed Indicator Device under the instruction of our PCSO in order hopefully to maintain interest.

We would welcome more volunteers so if you feel strongly about speeding then do please contact Alan Smith.

Caring Neighbours

Please be kind enough to check on elderly, vulnerable and neighbours living alone and in particular remind them not to let unexpected callers into their house or engage in conversation with any dubious phone caller. If they are in any doubt tell them to put the phone down or if they are on the doorstep and are unsure about their identity advise them to close the door and then call the Police immediately on 999.

Night Security and Absence

If you intend to leave your property unoccupied in the coming weeks please do ensure that you have secured all windows, doors, garages and sheds. Make your property look 'lived in' if possible by parking a vehicle on the drive and installing timer operated security lights. If your absence is for more than a day do please give a neighbour your contact details.

PVCu doors with handle operated shoot bolts or claws must be double locked with the key, If you don't do this the door can be jemmied! Don't leave any keys within sight of an open letter box. Our free Letter Box Deflectors prevent this.

Inspite of some of the worries above do have a peaceful autumn.

Compiled by:

*Alan Smith, Kimpton Village NHW Co-ordinator
01438 832749 ajsump@gmail.com*

Harpenden secondary school update

Many of you will be aware of the proposal to build a new secondary school in Harpenden. Sir John Lawes played host to a very informative info/Q&A session on 9th September, where representatives from Herts County Council and the Harpenden Schools Education Trust presented their progress with the bid application so far and fielded questions.

Application

The bid application is still on track for the deadline of 10th October. However the Trust needs more parents from the first two years of intake (2017 and 2018, current Year 4 and Year 3) to register their support on the website, to demonstrate support for the new school.

If you haven't registered your support and your child is currently in Year 3 or Year 4, we urge you to do so now – if there aren't enough signatures, the bid will automatically fail at the first stage. This does not commit you to selecting the new school when you do your formal school application, but it does mean that you may have more chance of getting a place at any of the Harpenden schools if the bid is successful. For clarification, registering for the previous HCC e-petition and registering support for the HSET bid are two different processes – you will need to do both. Register now at www.harpendensecondaryfreeschool.org

Location

The 7 sites under discussion are currently being assessed but a final decision, driven by the results of the ongoing technical surveys, should be made by January. The application, at this stage, is still about the school itself rather than the specific site.

Single sex schools

The panel were keen to point out that Kimpton is within the priority area for the St Albans single sex schools, and that the number of places they allocate to us is directly related to the number of applications received – so if the schools receive more applications from this area, you are more likely to be allocated a place there.

For more information on school admissions, visit www.hertsdirect.org/admissions

To keep up to date with the bid's progress and the implications for Kimpton and Whitwell, visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/kimptonparentsgroup



Kimpton-on-Sea

In August, sixteen members of the Kimpton Yacht Club (Britain's most distant Yacht Club from the sea!) took to the waves in three yachts to cruise in company off the East Coast. In two private yachts (Ray and Anne Banham's 'Lottie II' and Victor Maller's 'Seaspray') and a third yacht, 'Roxanna', chartered from Shotley Marina, we explored the Orwell and Stour estuaries and sailed up the River Deben to Ramsholt.

Each evening, we all met up to enjoy some excellent food, while we exchanged stories of our exploits.

On the Sunday, we braved the perils of the Deben Bar and returned to Harwich in gale-force conditions - an excellent weekend for us all.

Andy Morton

Kimpton Flood Investigation

The village of Kimpton has experienced groundwater and surface water flooding events in recent history, most memorably in 2001. To tackle this, Hertfordshire County Council has commissioned a study into these flood events to understand how and why the flooding has occurred, and also to assess potential options to mitigate flood risk in Kimpton.

The project is being managed by the Flood Risk Management Team at Hertfordshire County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority, although the project is principally funded by the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee levy through the Environment Agency. Other organisations contributing to the project include North Herts District Council, Thames Water, the local highways authority and Kimpton Parish Council.

Environmental consultancy, ESI, have been contracted to undertake the study as groundwater flooding specialists. The project started on 23rd July 2014, with a project team visit to Kimpton village, and is expected to continue until early 2015. A large part of the investigation will involve gathering and analysing data and information about previous flood events in Kimpton and the natural environment

within and surrounding the village. This data will be used to identify a number of potential options to mitigate flooding. On completion of the study, further funding will need to be secured to implement the preferred option(s).

The study is not expected to cause any significant inconvenience. However, during the data gathering stage, you may notice engineers in and around the village examining drainage systems, watercourses and other key features. It may also be necessary to carry out some property level surveys, although residents and businesses will be contacted prior to surveys being undertaken.

On behalf of Hertfordshire County Council, ESI will be holding a workshop in Kimpton later in the project, in order to present the findings of the project and to consult with the local community. In addition, an online consultation will be posted on the Kimpton Parish Council website to allow residents to submit any information they may have about flooding in the village, and to give their opinion on the findings of the study.

If you have any questions, please contact Emma Ryder at Hertfordshire County Council on 01992 556476 or email emma.ryder1@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

The Church in Kimpton

Parish Church

Lay Minister

Mr Andy Morton
01438 832427
adewm@aol.com

Church Wardens

Jenny Kelly
07818 613143

Ben Cole

07831 673382
cole.son@farming.co.uk

Baptist Church

Perry Green at Peters Green

Minister

Rev Andrew Gale
01582 422635

Branch Leader

Miss Pam Greener
01582 604771

Police Telephone Numbers

Urgent 999 Non Urgent 101

Ward Constable Chris Suckling
Community Support Officer PCSO Elaine Cuzzo
01707 354192 (automated system)

Hitchin Safer Neighbourhood Team
Sergeant Martin Turpin
01438 757604 (usually answerphone)

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

Parish Magazine

Editor: Andy Wright

email: kimpton.editor@btinternet.com

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Kimpton SG4 8SD 01438 832249

Deadline

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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

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 us at kimptonmonkeystoddler@gmail.com www.facebook.com/KimptonMonkeys

KIMPTON PRESCHOOL

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

We are open during term time, Monday to Friday, with morning sessions from 8.50am to 11.50am and Lunch Clubs from 11.50am to 1.20pm. For more details, please contact Lesley O'Brien, Preschool Manager, on 01438 833936.

KIMPTON MEMORIAL HALL

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

PETER'S GREEN VILLAGE HALL

For bookings please contact Mrs Lesley Lark, 01438 831189

USEFUL LINKS

www.kimpton.org.uk

www.herts.police.uk

www.stalbans.anglican.org

www.kimpton.herts.sch.uk