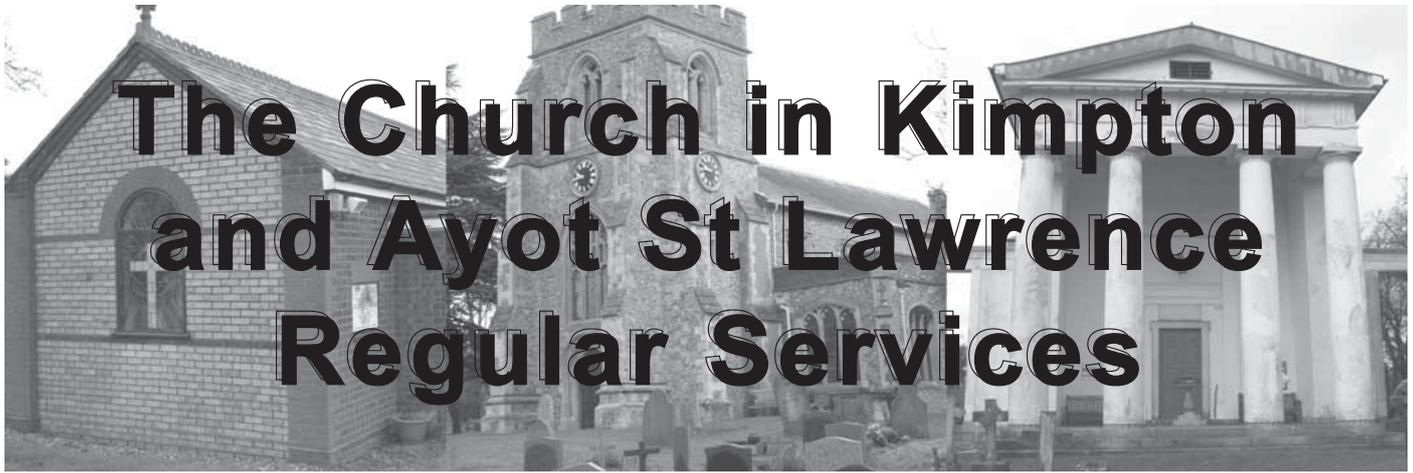


Kimpton Parish Magazine

*Summer 2014
Number 238*

**50th May
Festival
news and
pictures on
pages 11-15
& 22**



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

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

What a wonderful May Festival we had this year! The weather could not have been better (thank you, Lord!) and it was so good to see so many people of all ages from far and near, and all having a great time.

Archdeacon Jonathan came and preached at the Festival Service and was very impressed with all that he saw and heard. He very much entered into the spirit of the Festival, quoting from a poem about a May Queen and then after the service posing for photographs with our own May Queen and her attendants, as well as buying two pictures from the Art Show. He would have liked to have been able to spend more time with us, but had to get back to the Abbey for another service.

The theme of Jonathan's sermon was the importance of community. He reminded us that God Himself is a Community of Three Persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – and that being made in His image means we are not meant to live in isolation, but in harmony with each other and our world. Of course, human nature being what it is, much of the time that is easier said than done! May Festival, though, shows that it is possible to live and work together in reasonable harmony. Yes, there are sometimes disagreements, and perhaps some would do things differently, but we all want the best for our village, and so manage to reach a consensus that works and works well. In the film Chariots of Fire, one of the characters

says, "When I run I feel God smile"; during May Festival I feel Him not just smiling, but laughing with joy. So thank you for whatever you did to help make it so special.

With my love and prayers, Lorraine

An announcement was made by The Reverend Canon Lorraine in Church on Sunday June 15th that she would be leaving the parish and has offered her resignation to the Bishop, which has been accepted.

Lorraine, also C of E Chaplain at the QE2 hospital, said that its closure and some health issues have helped her make the very difficult decision to retire. She will be leaving in early October.

Special Church Services

Kimpton

Sunday 29th June at 11am

Patronal Festival, followed by Bring and Share Lunch (Usual service at 8am, NO SERVICE at 9.30)

Ayot St Lawrence

Sunday 10th August at 11.30am

Patronal Festival in the Ruined Church
Bring a chair, a hat and an umbrella

Sunday 31st August

time to be confirmed – watch out for posters

Bring your pet animals to our annual Pet Service in the Ruined Church, followed by tea and cake.

Grateful Thanks

The Editor and Production Team would like to acknowledge with thanks a donation received from Perry Green Baptist Chapel.

Loaves and Fishes

A new initiative for the elderly and for people on their own got off to a fantastic start in May. 'Loaves and Fishes' is an idea which links up the Parish Church with The Boot.

On the third Wednesday of each month, The Boot opens its doors to all for a £5 Community lunch. At the first occasion, the conservatory was crammed with 31 people, all chatting away and enjoying the excellent value meal. As it was Eileen Swain's birthday, the Boot even provided free strawberries and Ice Cream and Liz Jamieson baked a special cake in her honour.

Six pupils from the Primary School came over to join in the chat and to show off their workbooks, which caused a great deal of interest.

It was a brilliant start and we all look forward to future ones! Come along and join in! Any ideas for improving and developing the idea will be welcome!
Andy Morton 01438 832427

American visit to the Kimpton Millennium Tapestry

The *Marion Scoular Needlework Tour* made a visit on May 23rd to the Parish Church to view the Millennium Tapestry. The group of ladies from several American states had been on an extensive tour of the UK and we were their final destination before they left for home.

Kate Chase, parish church secretary, masterminded the event, organising afternoon tea for the group. Valerie Pollington talked to them about the making of the tapestry and was able to show photographs and drawings which Catherine Tees had preserved in the village archive. The group was very interested in much of the detail and also looked at other embroidered kneelers and cushions in the church.

It was a privilege to share the afternoon with our visitors and to recall how many in the village had been involved in this community project. The visitors were very impressed that the overall sewing time had been only 18 months discounting the design stage. *Valerie Pollington*



Get ready for a noise!

By now, most people in Kimpton have heard of The Noise Project. If you haven't, it is a day run by the Parish Church, during which volunteers help people who have tasks they can't cope with themselves - sorting out an overgrown garden, painting a shed or fence, that sort of thing. In previous years, we have had over 60 people taking part and we would like more this year, with jobs lining up to be done - we've got to sort out the School pond for a start!

In between the jobs, we have FREE food and short worship in the Church.

This year, the date is SATURDAY 19th JULY. If you know of a project that needs to be done, or if you would like to take part, you need to contact Andy Morton on 01438 832427.

It's a day you'll never forget, I promise you!

Andy Morton

From the Registers

Baptisms

18th May James Daniel Cross
Shaughnessy
1st June Ebony Sky Jenkins

Confirmations

18th May Lisa Dawn Firth at St Nicholas,
Harpenden

Weddings

31st May Lisa Dawn Firth to Stuart
Andrew Lang
4th June Stephanie Michelle Johnson to
Adam Thomas Hazel

Burials & Cremations

30th April Peter John Hawkins
2nd June John Rumble



John Rumble 1952 - 2014

Gill and Joleen would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes and support during this very sad time.

Thank offerings in John's memory will be donated to Great Ormond Street Hospital and the Masonic Fishing Charity of Hertfordshire. Please contact the editor of this magazine for donation details.

Calling all Friends of Kimpton Church!

As the day to day running costs for keeping our village church open and available to all continue to put a strain on our finances, we need to consider ways of fundraising to meet the expected financial deficit for 2014.

We therefore propose to hold an 'Auction of Promises' sometime in the autumn. If you would be interested in offering any 'promise', be it dog walking, cooking a meal, accommodation, a lesson etc., please contact me. Look out for further publicity. Thank you.

Liz Jamieson 01438 832858

Thanks to the people of Kimpton for a great bake-off!

The Vicarage Cream Teas were a sell out at this year's May Festival thanks to the beautiful warm weather. Liz Jamieson and her team are extremely grateful to all those, known and unknown, who contributed cakes, scones and tray bakes. It is a real act of faith as we never know what will be delivered to the Vicarage.

Some of our younger bakers, who are now involved in the new WI (Kimpton Belles), were baking for their own 'Teas on the Green' on the Monday. We know that some of them also contributed to Vicarage teas!

A huge thank you to everyone.

Kimpton Environmentalists

We have had a busy few months. The Litter Clear at the end of March saw 48 volunteers across Kimpton and Peters Green pick an incredible 130 bags of litter. (see article on page 9). Well done and thank you to everyone who helped. It makes a difference to the look of the lanes and hopefully discourages the litter louts for a while....

Our theme for the May Festival was "50 Shades of Green", with a walking group in the procession and the stall suitable decorated. (See photo on page 13). A Green Party candidate and Greenpeace members from St Albans boosted our ranks to demonstrate that all shades of green are welcome in the Environmentalists. The Kimpton Trail and Kimpton Apple Juice sold well, but we still have bottles left. Call me if you want some.

We've been to the Barn Theatre to see a disturbing, thought-provoking play about climate change. And we have had a pleasant walk to Whitwell.

We are definitely doing our bit for bees in the village. Parkfield "Bee World" is now looking splendid with a good mix of wild flowers and grasses, our work in the spring having paid off. The Rainbows came to visit and help with a wildflower survey. We probably need to do one each month as different flowers come into bloom. Thanks to David Kazwini, we have also been able to sow part of the new Memorial Hall path with bee-friendly flowers. It will look a bit scrappy at first, but there should be some flowers by August, with many more coming up next spring and summer. Please do NOT trample over either area, dump garden waste or pick any flowers.



More working parties and visits are planned but no dates confirmed yet. So look out for posters!

For more details contact Davina Malcolm on 01438 832309



It has been a relatively quiet few months since the last newsletter, with little new activity to report – this is possibly a good thing after a busy year or two with some major projects undertaken in the village. The weather kindly held out for a successful May Festival weekend, and we were very pleased that the new path to the Memorial Hall was able to open in time for that.

Despite the fine Festival weather, you will recall that we have had concerns about the groundwater levels beneath the village, owing to the heavy rainfall earlier in the year, and we met with the County Council, the District Council and the Environment Agency, and are confident that plans and provisions are in place should another flood appear to be likely in the future. The good news for this year is that water levels have receded from their peak, and all is looking well for the moment.

It looks as if the next big issue in the Parish is going to be car parking. Although this has always been an issue in the vicinity of the school with people parking on the corner of Park Lane, and in other inappropriate and ill-considered locations, it is now spreading to other parts of the village.

Can I once again put out a plea to people to be more considerate when parking? Please note that The Highway Code, Section 243, states that you cannot park near a school entrance, at or near a bus stop, or opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction.

All of these regulations are being breached regularly throughout the village, so if you are guilty of this please try and be more considerate in future. Not only is it potentially dangerous but, judging from the comments we are receiving, it is causing considerable annoyance to other residents.

There seems limited progress on the proposed new Secondary School due to be built in Harpenden.

There has been some debate about the location, which at the time of writing is ongoing – a frustration for the Parish in view of the urgent need for school places that will ease the annual cycle of appeals that we need to go through in order to gain a place at our nearest schools.

It does look as if we are in for a couple of uncomfortable years until this school comes online, but the Parish Council will continue to work to support our families as much as we can.

A significant initiative for the coming year is that of

creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Kimpton. Under the Localism Act of 2011, communities have been given the power to set some priorities for development in their areas, with less interference from Central Government. How this works in practice remains to be seen, but the Parish Council has taken the view that we are better placed by having a plan than by not having one.

Unlike previous attempts at a similar thing – the Parish Plan, for example, compiled some years ago – a Neighbourhood Plan has some degree of statutory status. With the current feeling, not just from our own government but from external forces like the International Monetary Fund, being that we need more houses sooner rather than later, this document could become quite significant for the Parish of Kimpton.

A key element in the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan is the involvement of the community. Not only do we hope for suggestions and input, but the Plan itself needs to be approved by the parishioners before it can be put forward. There will be a referendum which requires at least 50% of 'Yes' votes, or the plan cannot proceed.

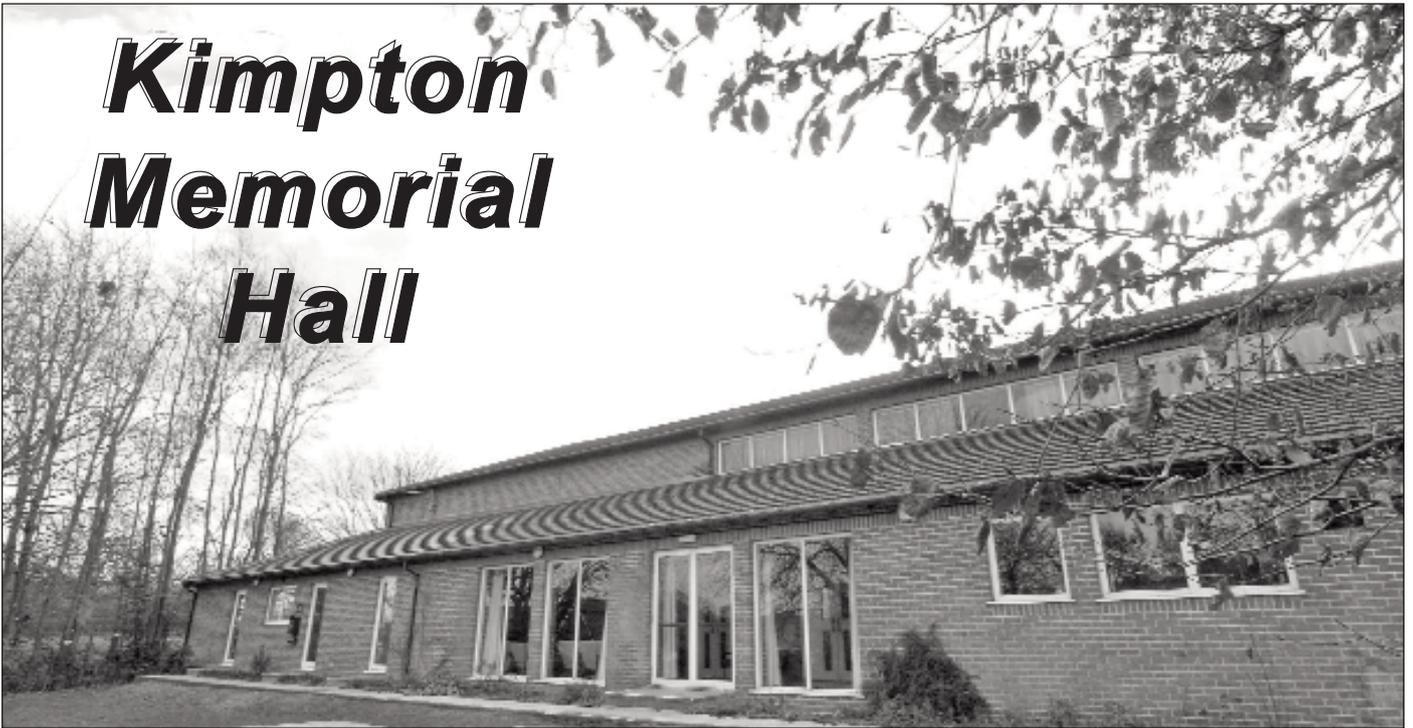
Once completed, the neighbourhood Plan will help to determine planning applications and guide planning decisions within the Parish. We will be able to state the mix of housing that we hope for, in terms of affordable housing, properties suitable for the elderly, as well as pressing for improved broadband provision and so on.

There are a couple of sites within Kimpton that are appropriate for development, so we need to ensure that our voice is heard in terms of how any work on those sites might proceed. If you would like to be involved in the process of drawing up the Plan, please contact me or the Parish Clerk through our website.

Finally, we have just held the latest round of Parish elections, although in our case no election was necessary as the number of candidates equalled the number of places. However, the Parish Council sees one change this year – Councillor John Baughan has left the Council, and has been replaced by Councillor Lewis Hawke. My personal thanks go to John for his input and support over the years we have worked together, and my best wishes for the future. I would also like to take the opportunity to welcome Lewis to the Council.

David Hardstaff

Kimpton Memorial Hall



Good news for the ladies!

Those of you who have visited the Hall recently will be aware that the new pedestrian pathway from the High Street is finally in service. The trees have been trimmed (By the BWP: Many thanks to them): the grass has been cut (Thanks to the Parish Council): and the verges have been sown with flowers (Thanks to Kimpton Environmentalists). I have already thanked those primarily responsible, in the previous issue of this magazine. However, all in all, it has been a great community team effort which has seen this very longstanding ambition, finally fulfilled. I think it all looks super and I have received many complimentary comments: a credit to everybody involved, in my opinion!

A less obvious improvement, the replacement of the 3 large high level windows facing the High Street and the single windows in each of the two main toilets, has also been completed. All these units were single glazed, highly inefficient and we felt, a significant factor in pushing up our astronomical heating bills. The replacements are double glazed and of course, draught free. As part of our five year plan embarked upon when I became Chairman (and now running well into its 6th Year!!), we had hoped to replace all the old windows and doors. That remains an ambition, and we have applied for a grant under the NHDC Rural Funding Scheme, hopefully to carry out that project and to refurbish the Gentlemen's Toilets.



The good news, alluded to in my headline for this report, is that thanks largely to the generosity of last year's May Festival, The Horse Show and the Autumn Show: we will be able to carry out the long promised refurbishment of the Ladies' Toilets, this year. A contract has been placed, and the work is due to be carried out in August. Were we to be awarded the grant referred to earlier, we just might be able to get the 'Gentleman's' done in August, as well. But that is dependent upon the decisions of others, and upon timing. So it would be unwise to hold your breath on that one!

Roger Nash 01438 832101



DriveSafe...ly through Peters Green

The DriveSafe Scheme has been active in Peters Green since March. Sadly, some of the registered owners of the many vehicles found travelling at speeds well in excess of 30mph, so far, are Kimpton residents; so some of you will have received a letter from Hertfordshire Constabulary.

We want you all to be aware that a First Notice will be followed by a Second (Final) Notice if your speed is recorded in excess of 30mph again. When a second notice is issued, the details of the vehicle are passed to the local police officers who will consider the appropriate action to be taken then and in the event of further occurrences.

Peters Green is a very small village. Slowing down whilst driving through the length of it will not add any time to your journey.

Drivers of vehicles with manual transmissions may find it helpful to remember that dropping down to 3rd gear as they reach the 30mph sign at the edge of the village will help them keep within the speed limit without increasing fuel consumption. (This advice is provided by Road Safety Trainers at National Speed Awareness Courses).

Donatella Pirola

Kimpton WI

In April Damien O'Dell told us about Ghost Hunting in Hertfordshire and in June we had a brilliant talk on stained glass by Anna Conti. During April our team of Liz Haynes, Sue Ryder and Joan Amoss got through to the final of the WI Three Counties (Herts, Beds and Bucks) Quiz which will take place in June. Good luck ladies!

May Festival involved many of our members baking for our cake stall which, as usual, sold out within a couple of hours. Other members worked on our float celebrating 50 years of May Festival. We had three Kimpton Belles and three Kimpton WI members on the float all looking rather glam and golden! (see photo on page 14) And to crown it all, five of our members took part in the May Festival Pole dancing. We certainly work hard and have fun!

Table tennis has finished for the summer but will start again in September and our Handicrafts group is continuing to meet on the

fourth Monday of the month. The book club is also continuing through the summer.

Speakers for our July, September and October meetings will talk on Graphology/Handwriting, Wives of Henry VIII and Historic Herbal Remedies respectively. If you would like to attend any of our meetings, a warm welcome awaits you on the second Wednesday of the month in the Lounge of the Memorial Hall. For details do not hesitate to contact Janet 01438 832597 or Shirley 01582 833285.

Peters Green Village Hall

Ideal for Family Parties, Exercise and Dance Classes, other Social Events and for Long Term Hire.

The level grounds and lawn can accommodate bouncy castles and marquees, offering both an outdoor play area and the opportunity to entertain friends and family in lovely rural surroundings.

Spacious and well equipped kitchen.

Seated capacity: 80

Enquires: Mrs Lesley Lark, 01438 831189.



130 bags of rubbish!

Kimpton Environmentalists had another strong turn-out for the annual Kimpton Parish Litter Pick on 28 March 2014. The 48 volunteers from Kimpton and Peters Green managed to collect 130 bags of rubbish from the lanes around Kimpton, Peters Green and Blackmore End. In addition, 9 volunteers from Whitwell collected 32 bags of litter from around the village.

As a result, the lanes around Kimpton Parish look so much better and many cyclists, motorists

and horse riders paused to thank us for our hard work. The clean lanes will help to present Kimpton at its best for visitors to the May Festival.

Next year's litter pick is provisionally scheduled for Saturday 28 March 2015. To be added to the mailing list, please email tim.parfitt@netcel.com

Kimpton Probus Club

Kimpton Probus Club was founded fourteen years ago and it has taken a very long time for us to make a contribution to the Parish Magazine, but we hope that, in future, we will be regular contributors.

The purpose of the Club is to provide opportunities for retired, or substantially retired, professional and business men to meet regularly to enjoy good fellowship and stimulating discussion. We meet in the Memorial Hall on the third Tuesday of every month, except August. Our activities consist of talks given by visiting lecturers, and occasionally members, on a variety of subjects, as well visits to places of interest. After our talks, we retire to the White Horse for lunch.

Activities for the remainder of this year will be talks on the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden (entitled Tutus, Tenors and Trial Balances) and the Life of Lady Hamilton (complementing an earlier talk on Nelson), plus a visit to HMS Belfast.

Membership of the Club is open to people who are resident in the Parish of Kimpton, although the geographical extent of Kimpton may be interpreted somewhat elastically at the discretion of the Club Committee!

We are always seeking new Members and, if you feel that Probus would appeal to you, please contact us. The Secretary is Victor Maller, 01438 832374 or email victor.maller@the-coppice.com.

Kimpton Preschool

If you're thinking about a preschool place for your child, we're pleased to say that we have spaces available from September. However these book up quickly, so do get in touch and register your child's details to reserve your place. You can contact the office on 01438 833936 or drop in during session hours to speak to Lesley O'Brien, our Preschool Manager.

If you're interested in finding out more about funding for your child's time at preschool, please visit www.hertsdirect.org and search for 'early education funding' for further details.

Cricket and Cocktails

Friday 27 June, 6pm, Kimpton Cricket Club

Our fundraising team are currently busy planning for the annual Kimpton Preschool vs Kimpton Cricket Club match – an evening of 20Twenty cricket, BBQ, cocktails, raffle and, most importantly, lots of fun to raise funds for Kimpton Preschool. All are welcome – there will be games for the kids – please join us.

This and previous editions of the Parish Magazine are available as PDF files at the village website www.kimpton.org.uk

The copy deadline for the autumn edition is September 19th



The Garden Club has had a very interesting Spring programme

The May meeting was a very amusing talk about Luton Hoo Walled Garden. The speaker gave us a fascinating insight into the Earl of Bute's interest in plants from all over the world, his eccentric ideas for plant classification and Astronomy! We didn't realise that the octagonal shaped walled garden had been designed to catch the sun's rays at different times of the year.

Our meetings in June and July will be an evening visit to a garden in Letchworth and a day trip to Kew. The August meeting will be a Summer Party. Weather permitting we shall be outside.

The September meeting Wednesday 3rd September, will see us back in the Green Room at 8 o'clock. It will be a talk about gardening through the seasons. The speaker, Roger Skipper, is a popular visitor to Kimpton Garden Club. Kimpton Garden Club is a very friendly group, we meet on the first Wednesday of the month, and we welcome new members. For more information please contact our secretary on 01438 832776.

Joan Amoss

Schedules & entry forms available from The Boot, White Horse & corner shop in Kimpton... £1

Kimpton Autumn Show

Saturday 6th September 2014

Come & show off your skills.... cake making, arts & crafts, children's classes.... and so much more!

Allotment Judging.... Saturday 12th July

Celebrate it's 38th year!

Join us for.... teas & cakes, raffle, sideshows, music and fun for all the family!

Memorial Hall, Kimpton – 2.30pm

Find us on Facebook (Kimpton Autumn Show)



Connie Hopkins celebrates her 100th birthday

Connie and her husband Bert moved to Peters Green in 1967.

Being a very keen gardener Connie joined the Kimpton Garden Club and grew a great variety of vegetables.

She joined the Kimpton WI and with Margaret Payne started the choir which she sang in until two years ago. She also baked and made marmalade for the WI market in Harpenden.

Her two sons, John and Stephen, held a family party to celebrate.



**Well,
here's to
the next
50 years
of the
Kimpton
May
Festival!**

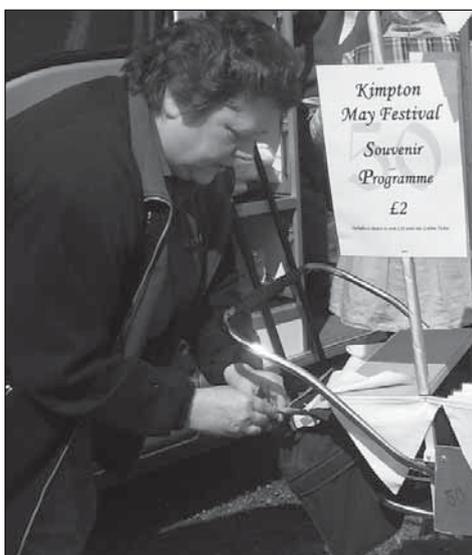
Hopefully everyone found something to interest, amuse or entertain them. We were again fortunate with the weather (thanks to Lorraine and the Archdeacon of St Albans) with rain not arriving until Tuesday morning.

The Committee (pictured above) and the 'cast of thousands' in the background, worked extra hard this year to deliver a memorable event. My personal highlights include some very good arena events (Titan the robot and the birds of prey), a fantastic Music Night and the opportunity to meet our very first May Queen and attendant. This year's May Queen and attendants did a fantastic job, managing to keep smiling through a very long weekend, and the carriage was stunning.

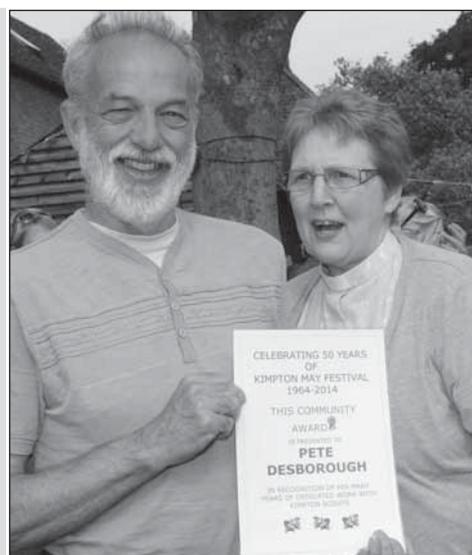
My personal thanks to a few (of many) individuals who make Festival possible; Mark Frost and Clive Mitchell for volunteering to co-ordinate the bunting...Festival would not be the same without it! Ben Cole for storing much of the 'kit' for the Festival and making continuous trips back and forth to help so many groups with their own events. Arthur South for putting his voice in jeopardy each year, working the mic on the Rec and on The Green, not to mention chairing Brains of Kimpton. On that subject I should highlight the Committee team's success in this year's Brains. A very competitive but fun evening and my thanks to our opponents and my fellow team mates John Hills and Donna Bigg...all worth it for the look on Donna's face at the end!

The date and venue for the Committee AGM will be advertised shortly, please do come along, you will be very welcome. P.S. The Festival tea towels were a great hit and a few are still available; many thanks to Steve Spalding for the fab image.

Andrew Ackrill, May Festival Committee Chair



Pete Desborough receives his Community Award, from Vicar Lorraine, for services to Scouting as did Mark Hubbard. Sam Gibbs received an award for his work with the football club and his enthusiasm on the May Festival Committee. Barbara Kazwini received an award for her contribution to village life and work on the May Festival Committee.



Fantastic fifty!

photo: Juliet Morton



Crowds thronged the streets of Kimpton for the 50th May Festival Friends reunited (left) Masie Harding meets with May Festival founder Helen Price. Scott provides much needed refreshment for the Kimpton Pole Dancers. Kimpton's first May Queen Frances Harding crowns this year's Queen Lucy Williams. There were musicians and a conjurer on hand to entertain the crowds. Photos: Andy Wright

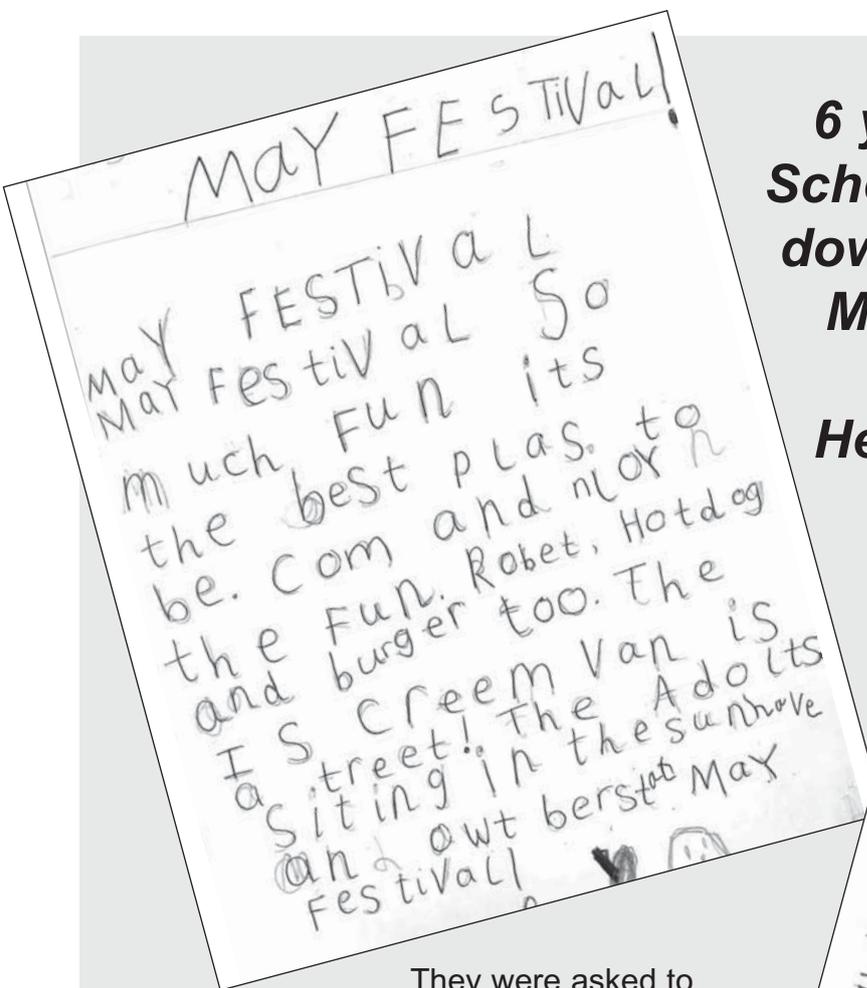






Titan the Robot entertained the crowds and there were modes of transport, fast and slow in the procession. The Kimpton Players invited everyone to sing along with Old Time Music Hall favourites and the WI celebrated in style.



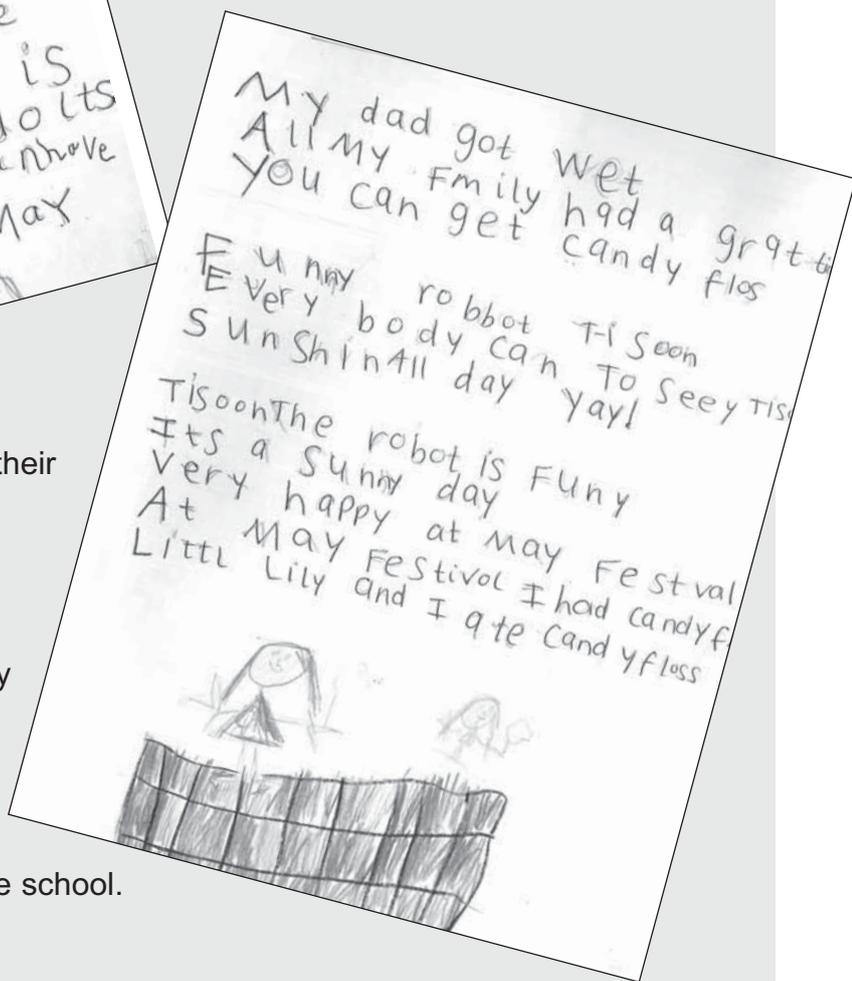


6 year olds at Kimpton School were asked to write down their thoughts about May Festival by teacher Jenny Meiklejohn. Here are two examples by Lillie and Poppy.

They were asked to choose a way of writing down their experiences of May Festival to share with others. As a class we suggested acrostic poems, a postcard, a diary, other forms of poetry and imaginative story writing.

Mrs Stewart-Smith thought it would be lovely to hear from the children.

We are incredibly proud to be part of the May Festival Celebrations and as a school celebrated its 50 years with many associated activities going on throughout the school.



Kimpton School children dancing at the May Festival

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Women's Section



On 18th March the Kimpton Branch of the Women's Section celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a buffet at the Boot Pub.

Three of the Founder Members are still with us but, unfortunately, were not well enough to join us for the evening. However, we were happy to have members from the Kimpton Men's Section, London Colney Women's Section and Hatfield Women's Section.

During the evening a Certificate was presented to the Chairman, Mrs. Shirley Clarke, by Mrs. Doreen O'Dell representing the County and a celebration cake was cut by two of our longest serving members, Mrs. Phyllis Desborough and Mrs. Phyllis Shepherd. A most enjoyable evening was had by all.
Shirley Clarke - Chairman

The Kimpton Branch of the Royal British Legion has undergone something of a revival over the last twelve months. Membership has increased and the committee has become more active.

We were sad to hear of the death of John Rumble, a long time member and the committee has agreed to make a donation to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital in accordance with Gill's wishes.

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. Anybody requiring further information about the Legion and what it does, should contact our Secretary, Dave Gibbs, (01438 832236).

Dave Gibbs, Branch Secretary

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Unfortunately, I find I am no longer able to continue as the organiser for the Poppy Appeal in Kimpton and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported the Appeal in any way. I am pleased to say that Sue Burns of The Chapel, The Green has agreed to take over this role.

CAN YOU HELP?? Collectors are urgently needed for next November in the Blackmore End area (Beech Way, Blackmore Manor and

Kimpton Road) and in Kimpton Bottom. If you feel you could help, please ring Sue on 01438 832960 who will be happy to chat to you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Shirley Clarke



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.

Our Monkeys had a great time walking along in the 50th May festival procession this year with their masks and tails on, it was such a lovely day to be part of.

We are looking forward to our messy play morning at the end of June which will involve water, sand, paints, jelly and lots more messy fun.

Term ends on Tuesday 22nd July so we will be having our summer party with bouncy castle and party food.

Come along and join us!

It was 70 years ago.....



....Geoffrey Harding thought the village should play. And so to raise funds for a village Hall, the Kimpton Horse Show was conceived. The Show is proud to be still part of local life, and in touch with its roots - raising funds for the benefit of the village and parish of Kimpton.

Back in 1944 the war was finally going the Allies' way. Thoughts turned to life once peace had returned. What better way to resurrect the sense of community than somewhere to hold events - a

new village hall. With a definite goal in mind, fund-raising events would set the scene for the better life to come.

Step forward local farmer Geoff Harding, who had the idea for a gymkhana, which would also carry on the pre-war tradition of horse events under the aegis of the various Lords Hampden and Dacre up at the Hoo, a tradition that goes back to the famous 19th century Hoo Races. A public meeting overwhelmingly backed the idea, and also decided that the funds would also be used to set up a memorial in the church to commemorate villagers who had died in the two World Wars.

The show, in April 1944, was the first social event for many years, and was an enormous success, despite attracting, in its very British way, unseasonal snow showers. The races included Posting the Letter, Bending and Musical Chairs. One lucky numbered programme costing 6d (2.5p) would win its fortunate owner £1! The Viscountess Hampden presented the prizes on the day.

Now held on the last Sunday in July, Kimpton's is one of the few remaining village horse shows in the area, and attracts entrants from as far afield as Cambridgeshire and Buckinghamshire, Essex and London - and don't they love the village setting. Its success is due to its competitive but friendly spirit and its range of classes ranging from those leading to affiliated national finals to fancy dress, gymkhana games and novelty classes for those loveable family ponies.

Making it happen over the years have been the Harding family along with long-standing Secretary Sallie Wilson, the Manning family and the essential brawn of Kimpton Rovers FC and umpteen supporters who with current Chair Charlie Read will take care of this year's show, Thanks too to the Thompson family for storing the jumps ready for their annual outing.

Needless to say that the Memorial Hall and the Church feature among the local beneficiaries; the show also donates to county charities like Macmillan Nurses and the Hertfordshire Air Ambulance. £4,750 was raised last year alone.

So come along on Sunday July 27th to the field on Hitchin Road and keep the spirit of this 70-year old wartime brainchild buzzing.

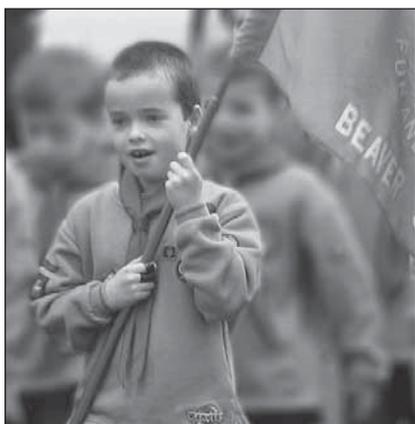
To find out more visit www.kimptonhorseshow.co.uk, email secretary@kimptonhorseshow.co.uk or call 07951 381147.

**The deadline for the autumn edition of this magazine is
Friday September 19th
Please send copy and JPEGs to kimpton.editor@btinternet.com**



Kimpton Scout Group

What a great start to the summer term we have had. It began with a fabulous turn out for the District Scout St Georges's Day parade in Harpenden. Our young people turned out very smartly in their uniforms and represented our village very well. This is always a great occasion and helps us all to realise that we are part of the large, exciting and very popular community of Scouts.



We hope you enjoyed our children and young peoples's participation in the May Festival. 50 Scout Badges were represented by the costumes and badges the young people created. We really appreciate all the support we received with sales at our book stall after the parade. The monies make a valuable contribution towards both the Festival Committee and the Scout Group. Thank you.

May half term saw our older Section, the Scouts, enjoying a fantastic week away camping in Norfolk. The leaders provided some wonderful opportunities for the Scouts to enjoy a wide range of activities, including rafting, canoeing, swimming, cooking and visiting Cromer and Great Yarmouth. Massive thanks must be extended to Mark, Christine, Rainey and Kate. The time, energy and enthusiasm they give to ensure the Scouts have a truly memorable experience is wonderful.

We are an ever popular Group in the village and we encourage you to register your child on our waiting list as soon as possible. You can access our waiting list Family Information Form on our website at www.kimptonscouts.org

We are very eager to recruit new leaders for our Scout troop. I make this appeal each time here, but have never heard even a tiny squeak of interest from anyone! Please, if you have any interest in providing opportunities to enrich the lives of our young people, do contact me so we can discuss it further. There is currently the very real possibility that in 18 months we will no longer be able to sustain all 3 Sections in the Group. *Annie New Group Scout Leader 833421*

Kimpton School Association

Indulgence Evening, Friday 4th July, 7.30-10.30pm Kimpton Primary School

Following on from another winning float entry and the sell-out May Festival BBQ, the KSA is now gearing up for our annual Indulgence Evening – a wonderful night of mini pampering treatments, shopping and drinks that will raise funds to boost the school's IT facilities.

As well as a great excuse to catch up with the girls, this is your opportunity to relax, refresh and indulge, right on your doorstep. You'll find:

- ✿ Popular local health and beauty professionals offering mini treatments and therapies from £5
- ✿ Licensed bar serving refreshments
- ✿ A wide range of stalls
- ✿ Fabulous raffle

You'll receive a menu of treatments and therapies along with your ticket. Get yours from Sarah Kilby or Helen Purple on 07769 710694 (Sarah) kimptonksaevents@gmail.com
Tickets cost £5 in advance or £7.50 on the night, and include a welcome drink plus nibbles. Places are limited so don't miss out – book now!

The Kimpton Players celebrate 70 glorious years



Well, Abigail's had her party, and by all accounts, it was a huge success. Everyone that went enjoyed themselves immensely, and it is good to know that so many people had such a good time – not sure her Mum was best pleased, though, I don't think she enjoyed the evening quite so much.

While we're talking parties, the Players celebrated their 70th birthday on June 14th. 70 years? Doesn't seem possible, does it? But it's true – Kimpton Players have been entertaining the people of Kimpton since 1943. If you visit our website, www.thekimptonplayers.co.uk you can see a list of all the different productions we've put on since the beginning, along with programmes and photographs. (And thanks to Tony Newton for compiling that list for us – it was a huge task.) 70 years is quite an achievement, and we're enormously proud of it. With your support, let's hope we

can continue doing so for another 70 years.....

Our next production will be our bi-annual pantomime. This year, it's going to be 'Puss In Boots', chosen, organised and led (as was the last one), by our wonderful Junior Players. Watch this space, and in the meantime – check out the website, thekimptonplayers.co.uk (even I'm impressed!!)

Arthur South



A scene from Abigail's Party

Kimpton Rights of Way Working Group

The rain this last winter made the going difficult on many of our paths and bridleways. Then the winds brought down the trees. Whatever the official guidance on the time to clear rights of way, we took a reasonable stance, recognising that the farmers have a difficult enough job apart from clearing footpaths and bridleways. And they did all get cleared, generally within days.

Now the cycle of seasons has moved on and some paths are becoming overgrown with nettles and brambles. In general it is the responsibility of Herts County Council to keep these clear, rather than the farmers or landowners, and HCC have a 'mowing' schedule to deal with this growth. We have been quite concerned that this has not been done too well recently but HCC has just 10 days in which to ask the contractors back to put things right. So if anyone sees that a field edge has been mown but the brambles have not been taken back far enough, or any other shortcomings of the mowing, please let us know ASAP.

Earlier in the year, the unsafe trees along the Park Lane end of the footpath from opposite the Corner Stores were cut back quite dramatically. Some of them are now regenerating, but in the coming weeks a new hedge will be planted, including a few taller trees.

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 Herts. County Council (tom.goldsmith@hertfordshire.gov.uk).

And, please, dog owners, don't leave dog poo on the paths. Nor in plastic bags hung in the hedges. The plastic might degrade but it takes years. It would be better to flick the poo off the path with a stick.

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



Community policing

Fortunately we continue to be classified as a low crime area so our PC Chris Suckling and our PCSO Elaine Cuozzo have been diverted to higher crime areas resulting in reduced presence in Kimpton and other villages. However, it would be reassuring to see a uniform occasionally other than in a passing beat car or when they attend a local crime scene.. Chris and Elaine maintain regular contact with the Parish Council and NHW Co-ordinator meetings where Chris supplies detailed crime data. 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 new Police & Crime Commissioner.

Local crime alert

Police recorded crimes for the last 12 months were 63 compared to 79 in the previous period which is good news , however, amongst those were 12 burglaries ,4 thefts from and 3 thefts of motor vehicles.. So we must not relax our guard and the police have issued the following timely reminders:-

Doors, windows, garages, sheds and gates

Lock them all at night or on departure and don't forget to lift the handle and key lock PVCu doors.

Your car

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

Your bike

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

Scams on the loose

Be very wary of the following scams which police advise do continue to operate in this area:- One Day Sales . Trading Standards warn that flyers through your door invite you to a one day sale in a local hall with very tempting offers. Don't be conned as these offers are usually bogus and if you must buy, use a credit card if possible but if you paid cash normally there is no comeback. If you have a problem call the Citizen's Advice Bureau on 08454 040506.

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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 !

Powerful computer attack

The National Crime Agency advise that there are organised cyber criminals at work who can infect your computer with malicious software (malware) usually by asking you to click on e-mail links or attachments . You can protect yourself by installing and updating security software.

If you are unsure or need professional advice then contact www.getsafeonline.org/nca.

A further scam involves 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. Don't!

Advise your relatives and friends not to get conned.

Summer sale!

If you need any of the following personal and property security items at knockdown prices please contact Alan Smith ... these are really good value for money.

Personal Alarms and Door and Window Alarms and Letter Box Deflectors.

Vehicle speeding in the High Street

Progress continues to be slow as an IT problem has been discovered in the system controlling the training of Lead Volunteers, which may not be resolved until the end of July. The remaining members of our team have now been formally cleared as volunteers. We would welcome more volunteers so if you are concerned 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 call the Police immediately on 999.

Night security and absence

If you are planning on leaving 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 Letter Box Deflectors prevent this.

Inspite of some of the worries above do have a peaceful and enjoyable summer.

Compiled by:

*Alan Smith, Kimpton Village NHW Co-ordinator
01438 832749 margaret.smith5@talktalk.net*

**The deadline for the autumn edition of this magazine is
Friday September 19th
Previous editions as PDFs can be seen at the village website
kimpton.org.uk**

Kimpton Entertains - the showcase of village talent



The Memorial Hall was packed on May Festival Saturday evening for Kimpton Entertains and Juliet Morton was there with her camera to record the event.



The Church in Kimpton

Parish Church

Vicar

The Reverend Canon 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

Jenny Kelly
01438 831230

Mr 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***

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

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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 from 8.50am to 11.50am, Monday to Friday. We also offer Lunch Clubs (11.50am to 12.30pm) and afternoon sessions (12.30pm to 3.30pm) from Monday to Thursday. 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