

Kimpton

Parish

Magazine

*Summer 2015
Number 242*



More May Festival news and pictures on pages 11, 12, 13 and 21

Photo: Andy Wright



Sunday

9.30am

Parish Church

Family Communion
B.L.A.S.T. and
Sleepyhedz during
term time

2nd Sunday

11.30am

Ayot St Lawrence

Holy Communion

4th Sunday

9.30am

Parish Church

Informal worship

Sunday

6pm

Perry Green Chapel

Evening Service

Tuesday

5.30pm

Parish Church

Evening Prayer

Wednesday

9am

Parish Church

Morning Prayer

Thursday

9am

Parish Church

Morning Prayer

6.45pm

Parish Church

Evening Prayer

For special services please see Sunday pew sheet

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.

Grateful Thanks

The Editor and Production Team would like to acknowledge with thanks, a donation received from Paul and Marion Minchinton.



Soul Music

Just got in from another wonderful evening – folk night at The Boot. It's been one of those balmy summer evenings, getting back from being away at a conference for several days. First there was a huge press conference and launch in London by a Muslim organisation of a curriculum they have developed for teaching peace studies and ending terrorism in schools and colleges. The course is aimed mainly at Muslim youth, but is there for everyone, recognising extremism is not limited to Islam alone. The launch was held at Westminster, in the Methodist Central Hall, with tea and coffee on offer – even in the midst of Ramadan, the month of fasting.

We were addressed by a Brigadier who had served in both Iraq and Afghanistan, sharing that he had witnessed first-hand the results of persecution and hatred, and walked through the bodies of those who had given their lives that others may live in peace. It was a poignant moment – particularly as in another part

of my work I am very aware of an impending demonstration in Luton by Britain First, an organisation dedicated to harassing a particular minority within our nation, spreading hatred and committing acts that cannot be construed as anything other than persecution.

In his recent visit to the Diocese of St Albans, Archbishop Justin Welby joined others of us from the church in signing a letter requesting Britain First cease in their actions in Luton – a town on its knees from all this attention by such far right groups.

Only a few weeks previously a group from London, the Berakah Project, had come to Luton for a concert. Made up of members from various faiths, Christian, Jewish and Muslim, they are a music group popular among the faith communities in Luton. The camaraderie among these musicians is infectious in the quality of their music – music truly soothes the soul, it speaks a language that goes beyond words, beyond doctrines, beyond ideologies and politics. Music speaks the pain and the joy and the loves of the heart and of life. Being able to go down the road of an evening and sit among familiar faces that I see every day in the village, it is such a privilege to be able to sit among those who join in the folk night, to share in the music, and even make my own humble contribution. There is such soothing warmth in the smiles and the openness.

I can't help feeling the world needs so much more of this – music that soothes the soul, and maybe even helps the heart to dance rather than make war.

Revd Bonnie Evans-Hills

From the Registers

Baptisms

5 April 2015 Lily Mae Meiklejohn
5 April 2015 Rise Meiklejohn

Weddings

18 April 2015 Imogen Claire McCarthy to Benjamin John Wilde
16 May 2015 Tamsin Louise Coulson to Martin James Brett
24 May 2015 Daisy Mary Burrows to Martin Alexander O'Hare

Burials & Cremations

21 October 2014 Monica Edith Coot
04 March 2015 Winifred Anne Husbands
11 March 2015 Maurice Barnes
11 March 2015 Valerie Ann Upton
30 March 2015 John David Millward
14 April 2015 Brenda May Warner
23 April 2015 Norman Sharpe
28 May 2015 Roy Robert Merrin

May Festival Cream Teas

Thank you to all the wonderful bakers we have here in Kimpton; you came up trumps again with wonderful scones, cakes and traybakes for the May Festival Vicarage Cream teas. The storm on Sunday afternoon was a little drenching but 'the band played on'. The amazing 'Stackyard Stompers' played throughout and encouraged the customers to return as the rain cleared.

Teas were supervised this year by Liz Jamieson on Saturday and Amanda Corcoran on Sunday. A huge thank you also to those who slaved away behind the scenes as well as those who served the teas.
Liz Jamieson and Val Pollington

Peters Green Village Hall

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

The level grounds 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 Barbara Kazwini
01438 832620
barbara.kazwini@btinternet.com

'Songs of praise!

'O come, let us sing unto the Lord...!', 'Sing a new song to the LORD! Let the whole earth sing to the LORD!' The Bible is full of references to music and singing as being an essential part of worship. And we are blessed in Kimpton in having an excellent Church Choir, which, along with the bellringers and flower arrangers, rarely gets the credit it deserves.

We are incredibly lucky to have as our organist and choir master a musician of Andy Wright's calibre. His versatility is most impressive. As Musical Director of the Kimpton Players he can turn his hand to all sorts of styles of music, and he has risen to the challenge of new hymns and anthems suggested by Vicar Bonnie.

It is this mix of the old and the new in our worship that makes singing in the Choir so interesting and many people, especially those for whom we sing at weddings, have commented on the excellent standard and the great contribution the music has made to their special day.

We are also very fortunate in the wonderful acoustic of our beautiful old church - it has been used for professional recordings in the past - and it makes our attempts sound even more impressive!

The Church Choir is a lovely opportunity to express ourselves as well as to help others to worship and long may that be the case.

Thank you, Andy and the Choir.

Andy Morton

*New members always welcome!
Call Andy Wright on 01438 820929*

The Dacre Rooms

The Dacre Rooms in the High Street, next to the doctors surgery, were erected back in 1879 and donated by Susan Lady Dacre for 'the benefit of the men of the Kimpton' but of course, we want it to benefit everyone in the village! The building is in a prime location on The High Street and we want to preserve this piece of local history and hopefully in time carry out some further improvements. The kitchen has already been re-rurbished.

The Dacre Rooms were recently the home for for Kimpton Youth Club, which has now closed, but it was also always available for hire as well and has been used for meetings by many other organisations such as Kimpton Probus, The Parish Council etc.

From a questionnaire completed by the residents of Kimpton the general consensus is that as a village we want to see the Dacre Rooms used as a community space and to remain part of the village and not sold off. We received 130 completed questionnaires with the following results. 50% were in favour of the building being refurbished and used as a smaller alternative to the Memorial Hall, 41% in favour of the building being refurbished and used as a part time community bar/restaurant, 5.5% in favour of the building being sold off and the monies raised used within the village and 3.5% in favour of the building being turned in to office space to be rented out But to keep the property running it needs to be used.

The current successful monthly coffee morning is held on the 4th Friday of the month. Now Kimpton Tennis Club, who are trying to raise funds for a new club house, are going to run a second coffee morning on the 2nd Friday of the month. So, forthcoming coffee morning dates for your diary will be 10th and 24th July, 14th and 28th August and 11th and 25th September.

The kitchen and meeting rooms downstairs are ideal for a Children's Party, a club or group meeting, a get together with friends or a Lunch Club or Dinner Party. In addition there are two further rooms and an office upstairs available for short or longer term hire.

Bookings can be made via Sue O'Brien on 01438 832446.

Kimpton History Group

After our summer visits to Burleigh Farm, Langley and St Albans Court House, our evening meetings will resume in September

Wednesday 16th September 2015 at 8 pm in the Green Room

"The Legend and the Reality: life and adventures of Dick Turpin"

A talk by Margaret Bale of HALS

Wednesday 21st October 2015 at 8 pm in the Green Room

"The Home Front in Kimpton during the First World War"

Presented by members of KHG 1911 – 1920 Research Project

Visitors are extremely welcome to attend our evening meetings, for which we charge £3 per visit

For more information contact Juliet Morton on 01438 832427

KIMPTON AUTUMN SHOW

Saturday 5th September 2015 – 2.30 pm Memorial Hall



New Schedule on sale at Corner Store £1

Get creative paint – grow-sow-sew-photo-flowers-veg-bake-craft-art

The children's activity day will be bird orientated – details in Schedule. Judging of Allotments will be on 11th July 10.30. So do go and get your Schedule to see what new and exciting classes you can enter.

Please do enter you may win!!! come along to this fabulous afternoon where you can see all the lovely produce and crafts. There will be music and traditional games for the children also some georgeous teas and cakes which this year the Kimpton Belles are providing and the WI will serve. New this year we will have some Show Pigeons for you all to look at by Paul the local milkman!



Ready, Teddy, Go!



At the Bake-Off Garden Party, was a gazebo for the Teddy Bears' Picnic.

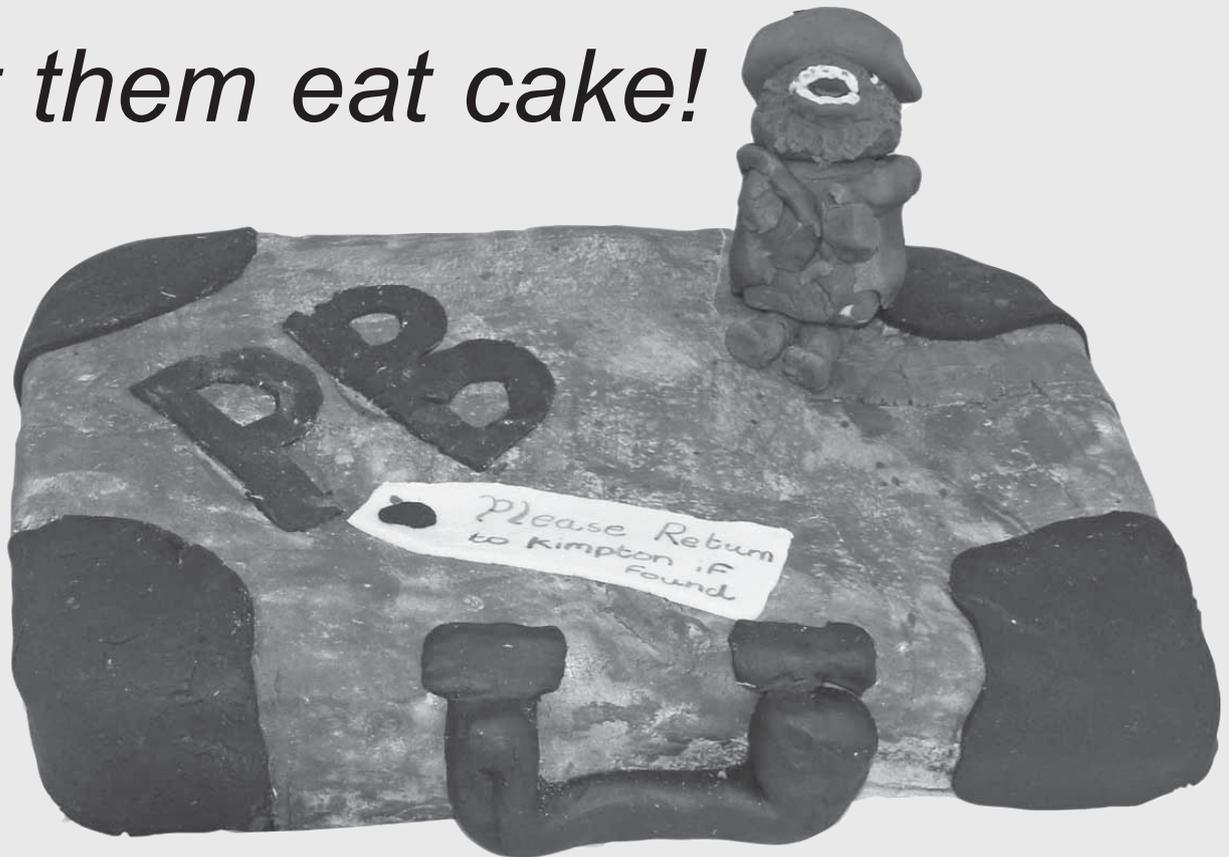
This was to prepare the Teddy Bears for a unique and dangerous challenge - a Sponsored Death-defying Parachute Jump from the top of the Church Tower! Forty-five proud owners of their courageous bears lined up to take the leap. Hauled up the side of the tower in baskets, the critical decision was made as to whether they should be launched down the south side or the north, as the fickle wind threatened to land them on the apex of the Church roof. Many of the bears, it has to be said, plunged with alarming precipitation, often bumping against the buttresses. Others floated away gently, only to find themselves snared on the many roofs and gables of the Church building. But several floated free on the brisk westerly wind, pursued by their owners and the nimble Bench Working Party, who worked tirelessly to rescue the bears from wherever they landed.

Never, in the field of Bear endeavour, has so much been made, by so many, of so little!

Andy Morton



Let them eat cake!



The Three Wise Men had nothing on this - a line of people bearing gifts of the most delicious eats you could imagine. Tables, empty a moment ago, were suddenly groaning under the weight of elegant cup cakes, delicious sponges, outrageous deaths-by-chocolate and amazing, imaginative confections in the 'Inspire Me!' category. This was the first Great Kimpton Bake-Off - an wonderful idea by Sue Foote, which saw lots of people spend Saturday morning labouring in the kitchen and then lots of other people eating the fruits of their labours in a splendid Garden Party. Eagle-eyed judges had the invidious task of sorting out the winners in six categories before everyone descended to enjoy the delicious cakes.

Garden Fields made an excellent venue for this new event - plenty of space, yet small and intimate.

Sue's immaculate organisation meant that the whole event - including the weather! - went without a hitch and, like the feeding of the Five Thousand, all went home with their stomachs full!

We managed to raise more than £500 for the upkeep of our beautiful church.



Bear and Bake-off photos by Juliet Morton

Kimpton Memorial Hall



New Recruits – and an Offer for Children’s Parties

Only in the last issue of this magazine did we ask for volunteers for the posts of Secretary and Treasurer. I am very pleased to say that in that short time Jane Coles has become Treasurer and Kate Frost Secretary and they have ‘hit the ground running’. At our first meeting emerged the proposal that is outlined below.

Apparently many people in the village are insufficiently aware of what the Hall has to offer and how much it might cost. Also we are surprised how few children’s parties are being held in the hall – because (naturally) we think it an ideal venue. So here is an offer.

For the rest of 2015 Kimpton Parish Residents can have a children’s party in the Hall any day of the week, including weekends, for the fixed price of £30. (Children in this context means Primary School age or below, not teenagers). What do you get for this?

The use of either or both of the Lounge and the Main Hall. For the smaller party maybe the lounge, for the larger party the Main Hall. Or both of course. The lounge has double doors to the completely enclosed garden for outside play, and of course there is the catering kitchen with stove, fridge, freezer etc. The car park takes about 40 cars and the relatively new pedestrian path from the High Street has safe

access for young ones and buggies. The toilets have recently been completely refurbished and are really bright and clean. The Main Hall floor is regularly sanded and polished so is ideal for young ones to play on. There is an adequate supply of new tables and chairs too. The Main Hall has both heating and air conditioning, the cost included in the £30.

That’s enough on the £30 offer. But can any Hall in the area beat these facilities, even at the normal full price list charges which are £15 per hour in the week and £25 at weekends? We doubt it.

Just to finish – any adults thinking of using the Hall for wedding anniversaries, significant birthdays etc can note that in addition to the above we have a bar area with bottle fridge, stage with amplifier and we are authorised to provide you with a drinks licence. There is also the marquee lining available which transforms the appearance

For more information on the Hall facilities and prices look at our website - www.kimptonmemorialhall.co.uk or contact our bookings secretary Barbara Kazwini on 01438 832620.

Roger Nash
01438 832101

Please remember that the deadline for the autumn edition of this magazine is Friday September 18th
Please send copy and JPEGs to kimpton.editor@btinternet.com



Work continues on the Neighbourhood Plan, and as ever we are interested to hear from local residents who wish to become involved and help with the rafting of this important document. It is important for a number of reasons:

Under the Localism Act 2011, new neighbourhood planning powers can be used to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood.

So-called 'Neighbourhood Development Orders can be drafted that will permit the sort of development we want to see – in full or outline – without the need for planning applications.

Neighbourhood Development Plans or Orders do not take effect unless there is a majority of support in a referendum of the neighbourhood.

There are, of course, restrictions and safeguards – proposals need to have regard to national planning policy, as well as the strategic local plans set by the local council. They also need to get past an independent assessor to ensure it meets the relevant conditions before the referendum is carried out.

Once approved via the referendum, the local planning authority is under a legal duty to bring them into force.

So you can see that this could be a very important document for the Parish. Whether your concern is the type of housing provision in the village (more starter homes, more retirement homes etc.) or whether you want to protect the Green Belt, or even develop the Green Belt, then this is your opportunity to have a say. The questionnaire is online at www.kimptonpc.org/npq

There will also be hard copies distributed with the Parish Magazine, and available at the Corner Stores. You don't need to tell us who you are – the surveys can be filled in anonymously should you wish, but we'd very much like to hear your views, as well as have you involved if you'd like to help.

In other local news, we have had a couple of incidents of anti-social tipping in the village – some rubbish has been dumped on the allotment site, and some kitchen appliances in the Parkfield Car Park. These all have to be cleared away at someone's expense, whether Parish or personal (the kitchen appliances were generously removed by a resident) so it is an extremely selfish and unsociable pastime.

There have been changes to the opening hours of the Hertfordshire Waste Disposal sites, so it is advisable to check the website before setting off. Currently the published times are:

Harpenden and Stevenage: 10-6 all year; closed Thursday and Friday

Sandridge and Cole Green: 10-6 Apr-Sep, 8-4 Oct-Mar; closed Tuesday and Wednesday

Outside Hertfordshire, but still geographically convenient is Eaton Green Road, Luton (near the airport): 9-8 May-Sep, 9-5 Oct-Apr; open every day.

I mentioned in the last newsletter that the Council was debating whether to tarmac the Parkfield Car Park, and it was decided not to go ahead with this, partly on the grounds of cost. However, an amount of tree work and other maintenance tasks have been carried out around the village, both by external contractors, and the tireless Bench Working Party!

Please keep an eye on the Parish Council website (www.kimptonpc.org.uk) and also follow us on Facebook as well, at www.facebook.com/kimptonpc

David Hardstaff



Wheelie bins say it all in Peters Green

The enthusiasm with which residents of Peters Green responded to the offer of 30 mile speed limit stickers for their wheelie bins was overwhelming. The purchase of the stickers was funded by the Parish Council.

The resulting sight of the village on bin collection day, when the stickers are on display along Kimpton Road, all around The Green and also in Lawrence End Road, shows a community united in seeking a way to slow irresponsible drivers who tear through the village at speeds well in excess of 30mph, disregarding safety and mindless of the many blind spots and concealed entrances.

The stickers also reinforce the message that the Police Volunteers try to put across while giving their time to speed monitoring under the DriveSafe Scheme.

We hope the message will stick.....!

Kimpton Garden Club

Our meetings during the summer have been outings and social events. In early June we visited the Beth Chatto Gardens in Colchester, Essex. Still an active gardener, Beth's Gravel Garden was of particular interest to us. Set in the poorest of soils and never been irrigated, this area was ablaze with colour and texture. In mid-June we visited a garden owned and designed by a RHS Chelsea Flower Show exhibitor. Again there was great interest in her choice of flowers, many from New Zealand and Australia.

Meetings in September and October will be in the Green Room at 8 pm as usual.

September's meeting will be a talk by Tom Cole, entitled 'Autumn Planting for the Vegetable Garden'; October's talk will be given by Stephen Poyser to answer the question, 'What is happening to our native bees?'

For more information please call 01582 832110

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 autumn edition is September 18th



Thank you all for another fantastic May Festival; hopefully everyone was able to find something to interest, amuse or entertain them. We were again largely fortunate with the weather, with the short, but extremely sharp, deluge on the Sunday afternoon being the one low point!

As usual I would like to thank the Committee and the 'cast of thousands' in the background who work so hard to deliver a memorable event. We had to contend with a few late changes this year; firstly, under police/council 'advice' we had to amend the procession route to avoid closing the junction by Kimpton Grange. This will be a permanent change moving forward. Secondly, the late announcement that The White Horse would close its doors just before Festival meant that the Codicote end of the High Street was much quieter than usual over the weekend; though the fabulous chili con carne being served from

the Dacre Rooms on Saturday certainly helped attract people. We will look into how we can make up for that next year (and feel free to suggest ideas).

This will be my last Parish Magazine report as Chair of the Committee. As you may know, I am stepping down after five Festivals and will hand over 'the hat' to my successor at our AGM. It has been said before but, I do not believe there is another village of equal size to Kimpton that is able to put on such an event, covering a long weekend and with such a varied programme; you should all be very proud, whether you are working to make it happen or supporting it by your attendance. Please note that the AGM is open to all and will be held in September (look out for information regarding time and venue). Please do come along and express your thoughts and ideas, you will be very welcome.

Andrew Ackrill, May Festival Committee Chair

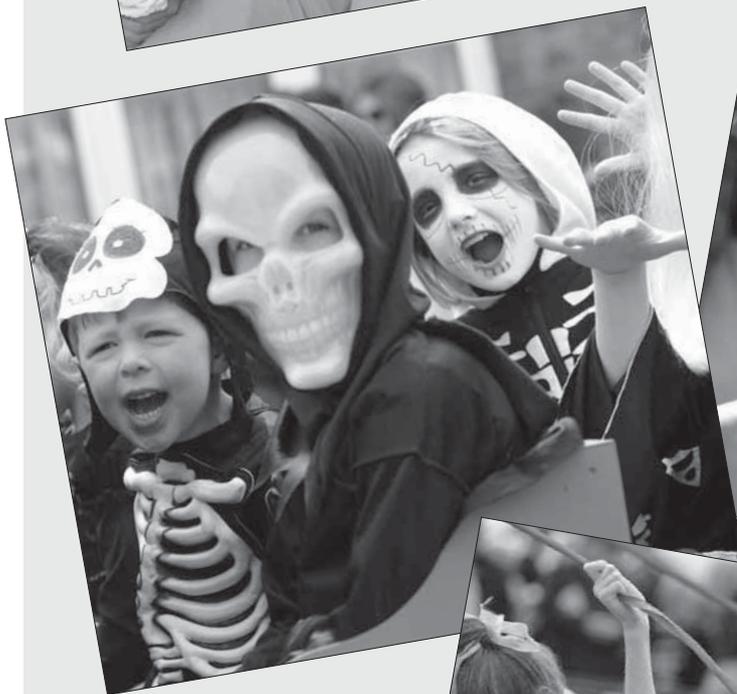


May Festival fun

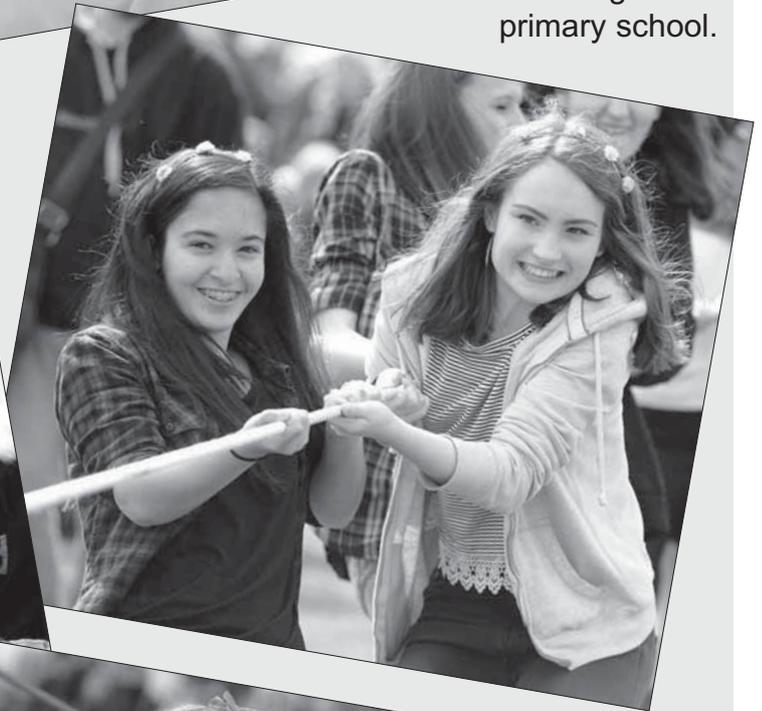




May Queen Eleanor is crowned by last year's Queen Lucy Williams. The May Queen's attendants are Lizzie (left) and Katie. There were ghosts and ghouls, lots of fun in the tug of war and the wonderful maypole dancing by students from the village primary school.



Masks and Charlie Chaplin add to the fun whilst Sam Gibbs collects the money! Keith White, the Kimpton Players' own Laughing Policeman keeps the crowds outside The Boot under control and the WI celebrate their centenary.



photos: Andy Wright

Kimpton Rights of Way

It has been a vigorous growing season this not-quite-summer. The County Council's mowing and strimming team are – we have been told – out and about right now. Rather than worry about overgrowth that is still to be dealt with, I would really like to know where the mowing and strimming crew appear to have been but have not done a good job. It really is worth reporting this – where we reported poor maintenance last year, HCC got either the maintenance team or a 3rd party contractor to sort it out. But we have only a short window in which to tell HCC so they can get the contractor back to put it right. Please let us know asap.

Despite the disappointing lack of sunshine, the rain that we have had has had little impact on the ground with the result that some of our waymarks are simply falling out of the dried-out earth. These are fairly easily fixed so please let me know if you see wonky signs or waymarks.

My predecessor, Chris Baker, tried to establish a series of 'permissive path' links so that we could walk all the way from Kimpton to Peters Green off the road. We at last have agreement on the first stretch from Commons, through the meadow opposite the Grange, and further toward Peters Green. We are right now looking into how we clear the route and how we create safe access at each end. I hope to open this first stretch later this year.

If any problems, let me know or tell Tom Goldsmith, Countryside Access Officer at Herts. County Council
(tom.goldsmith@hertfordshire.gov.uk).

Bob Malcolm
01438 832309 bobm@ideo.co.uk

The Primary School is 'Forging Community Links'

Year 2 have been very fortunate to be invited down to Manning's Farm twice this year and we are only in June! Our first visit was during the middle of lambing season and all of the class had a wonderful time meeting the new-born lambs and finding out all about them. Today, (Tuesday 30th June), we went back to see how the lambs were doing. They seemed

to have grown so much in such a short space of time. This visit was different though, as not only were the sheep out, but also the cows. It was surprising for us all as the cows were much larger than we realised.

It has been wonderful spending time at one of our local farms and we cannot thank Mr and Mrs Manning enough. They were very welcoming and we feel we have forged a great relationship with our local farm and hope it will continue to blossom.

Kimpton Horse Show Sunday 26th July 2015

Now in its 71st year the Kimpton Horse Show has a jam-packed schedule of showing, show jumping, gymkhana, fancy dress, working hunter classes and much more!

Whether you're planning to compete or just to enjoy the atmosphere, join us for some fun and friendly competition, all to raise funds for causes benefiting the lives of local people. This was the initial vision of the Show's founder, Mr Harding. Last year over £4k was raised for local charities including Macmillan Nurses and Kimpton Rovers Football Club.

Mr Harding realised, towards the end of World War II with the return of peace, that Kimpton needed a Village Hall as a social centre. He became the first contributor to fund for this project and at a public meeting it was decided to go ahead with the scheme. To increase funds, the first Gymkhana, for which Mr Harding was almost wholly responsible, was held on a modest scale in April 1944. After this initial success, the annual show has grown and prospered, now taking place each year on the last Sunday in July.

Geoff Harding remembers working on the gate at that first show held during a freezing snow shower, but the British spirit was undaunted. The horses had names like 'Tuppence' 'Betsy' and 'Tinker'. The games, Posting the Letter, Bending, and Musical Chairs, were great fun and the lucky numbered programmes cost 6d, with a prize worth £1 to the fortunate winner.

A perfect day out for everyone, so why not come and join us? For more information visit www.kimptonhorseshow.co.uk



Kimpton WI

What a time we've been having! In April Ulla Pickett gave an interesting talk about volunteering in Tanzania. This was followed by May Festival when our cake stall sold out, our float came third and our team came third in the Brains of Kimpton! Many thanks and well done to all concerned.

The week after May Festival we celebrated 100 years of the Women's Institute with a

first class lunch, including harp entertainment, in the Memorial Hall to which members from surrounding institutes were invited and we welcomed the Centenary Baton (pictured below). Many thanks to the members of the committee who prepared the delicious lunch and also to the Kimpton Belles who made the celebratory cup-cakes for everyone. The Baton was then transported on our float and taken to Peters Green where a celebration tea took place and the Baton was handed over to their W.I. On the float we had five W.I. ladies, two Kimpton Belles and three of their young daughters.

The National Federation of W.I.'s celebrated the centenary with a garden party on the 2nd June at Buckingham Palace in the presence of the Duchess of Cornwall, Princess Alexandra, the Countess of Wessex and the Duchess of Gloucester, for 8,000 members. Carol Bennett from Kimpton W.I. and Sarah McCarthy from the Kimpton Belles attended in their finery. From all accounts, although a very windy day, everyone had a wonderful time.

Our President attended the Albert Hall two days later for the 100th Annual Meeting which was opened by the Queen, Princess Anne and the Countess of Wessex.

At our June meeting a few days later Ernie Almond, alias Smarty Arty, told us about his career entertaining children including many of the royal ones.

We're now looking forward to Extreme Knitting at our July meeting, a trip on the Grand canal in August, a talk by Mervyn Edwards on the Newbury By-Pass in September and Life Coaching by Claire Goldwater in October. Some interesting and varied meetings so why not come along and join us in the lounge of the Memorial Hall on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.45 pm. A warm welcome awaits you all. For more information contact Janet, 832597 or Sue 832560.





Royal British Legion

Kimpton Branch

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.

On Tuesday 16th June Kimpton Branch of the RBL a presentation took place at the Boot for the village's poppy collectors. Many thanks to Sue Burns for organising the event and to David Hardstaff, Chair of the Parish Council, for making the presentations. Thanks are also due to the May Festival Committee for providing the refreshments and to Treena at the Boot for the catering and warm welcome to 36 members of both the Men's and Women's branches. A number of collectors received awards, notably Phyllis Desborough who received an award for 50 years as a poppy collector. Well done Phyllis!

Shirley Clarke and Lorna Voss were also recipients, having both served as Co-ordinators of the collection over many years.

Nationally, the RBL is trying to refocus on targeting ex servicemen and women. As part of this, the Kimpton Branch Legion is trying to prepare a data base of ex- servicemen and women and their dependents who now reside in Kimpton Parish. All information supplied will be treated as confidential and in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

Please contact Kimpton RBL Branch secretary, Dave Gibbs (dave.gibbs@learningbehaviour.com) if you are able to help with this project or have any details of ex-servicemen and women in the Parish.

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

Dave Gibbs Branch Secretary

The Royal British Legion Women's Section

The Women's Section once again had a very successful Tombola Stall at the May Festival and we would like to thank all those who supported us, either by contributing towards the prizes or by buying a ticket on the day. The Section would like to congratulate all the Poppy Appeal collectors who received awards at the presentation evening held recently and especially one of our members, Mrs. Phyllis Desborough, who has been collecting for the Poppy Appeal for fifty years.

Contacts: Jenny Desborough (832432) or Shirley Clarke (832637)

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Awards

A warm summer evening in June in The Boot Conservatory saw an Awards Evening for Kimpton's Poppy Appeal Volunteers who each year work to raise funds for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

The ceremony was attended by both the Kimpton Branch of The Royal British Legion and the Royal British Legion Women's Section and many of our Poppy Volunteers. Awards ranging from 5 years to 50 years service were presented by Cllr David Hardstaff. The 50 year award was presented to Mrs Phyllis Desborough who understandably this year is retiring from this role with our warmest gratitude.

Last year 5 new Poppy Volunteers were recruited to the team but as people either move from the village or retire from the role, we would welcome anyone who feels willing to play a part in this most important fund-raising activity. It is for the 2 week duration of the Remembrance Appeal in October and November.

If you would be interested please feel free to contact me.

Sue Burns (01438 832960) Kimpton Poppy Appeal Organiser

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PHEW!!!!

My last article had me in the role of the grim reaper, with the sad news that our Scout Troop was under threat.

I am delighted to announce that we do now have a solution. Andrew Musgrave, an experienced Assistant Scout Leader in Wheathampstead but a resident of Kimpton, has stepped up and offered to become our Scout Leader once Mark retires from this role. This is wonderful news and we are all so very grateful to him. The way our Troop runs will inevitably change as a new leader takes over, and we are appealing now for adults who may wish to offer some support. We are therefore asking if you may consider whether you can give up one evening (or more!) a term. All the planning will be in place and you would be informed about what you need to do beforehand. We really stress that no prior experience or skills in Scouting are necessary. I would like to extend this invitation to the wider community so do please contact me if you feel you may be able to offer us some of your time.

This term has been as busy as ever, with the Cubs due to go away camping shortly and the Scouts having enjoyed a fabulous week away at Chalfont Scout Activity Centre. All involved had a wonderful time, developing new skills and learning new things about themselves as they took on new challenges.

It gives me immense pleasure to announce that the winner of the prestigious Pauline Ballan District Award was presented to Mark Hubbard in June. This award is given to those who go above and beyond in their commitment to Scouting, to those who quietly get on and carry out all those essential but not necessarily glamorous jobs, to those who can be relied upon to always give 100%. For anyone who knows Mark in his capacity as a Scout Leader, or indeed in any of the myriad other roles he has in contributing to village life, I'm sure you cannot think of a more worthy recipient. In a field of 6 nominations across the District it was the unanimous decision of the Executive Committee to award it to Mark. Massive congratulations!

Annie New 01438 833421
www.kimptonscouts.org.uk

Scouts are pictured enjoying their recent camp at Chalfont St. Peter. There were 18 scouts (13 boys, 5 girls) and 4 leaders. Activities included climbing, high-ropes, zip-wires and crate stacking. Most of the meals were cooked by the scouts on open fires. They did a day hike and swam at a local pool.

Mark Hubbard receives his prestigious award from the District Commissioner and a County Team representative.



Busy Rainbows!



The Rainbows have had a very busy couple of terms. Last term we were working on our Paddington Bear Challenge, which involved us making Paddington Bear wooden spoon puppets and making marmalade which we then used in our afternoon tea. We also decorated some jars for mother's day presents.

This term we took part in the May Festival procession with our Hook a Duck float, the girls had great fun dressed up as ducks and the Guides also joined us.

We then worked on our road safety badge where we looked at different road crossings and made a mask. We made traffic light biscuits and learned how to cross a road safely and how to report an accident.

We've had a great day visiting London Zoo with Kimpton and Wheathampstead Guides. We had a fun evening up Kimpton bowls club.

We had a sleepover which was on the frozen theme, where we made snow and snow globes. We shall be saying goodbye to four of our girls this term and hopefully welcoming three new ones, but unfortunately we shall also be saying goodbye to one of our unit helpers.

We desperately need another pair of hands, if you have an hour to spare on a Tuesday afternoon and would like to come and join in all our fun, please give me a ring. *Wendy Dollin 01438 832077*

Kimpton Players

Junior Kimpton Players present "Stoppit", a ghost story set in a school at the Memorial Hall on Sunday 12th July.

This play, though short, has everything - a nasty teacher, unruly children, goody goodies, a fire and ... well that would be telling, wouldn't it?

Entrance was free AND tea and scones provided during the interval. Although donations are gratefully received.

Junior Kimpton Players, a thriving group of boys and girls, are working hard to entertain you.

Should you wish to join them for their next

venture, or just join in the weekly fun, please get in touch with Lynne Wood or Nicky Jackman (01438 833727) or through the Kimpton Players website thekimptonplayers.co.uk

The Players are also recording their fifth radio play over the summer. This is Dylan Thomas's play for voices "Under Milk Wood" and involves a large cast of junior and adult members.

Many members enjoy the series of radio plays as no lines have to be learnt by heart and also the recording process is great fun producing sound effects, trying to keep quiet during a 'take' and coping with a very busy Luton Airport!

Contact details are on the website.

Kimpton Belles WI

It has been a very busy time for the Kimpton Belles. April saw a beginners Pilates session, May was our annual meeting finishing with a fabulous talk by Ernie Almond 'A lifetime of children's entertainment' who use to entertain at Prince William and Prince Harry's Birthday parties and in June we had a lovely upcycling evening.

For the second year running we were delighted to participate in the wonderful May Festival procession alongside Kimpton WI in which we came a delightful 3rd!

We celebrated 100 years of the Women's Institute making 70 cupcakes for the Centenary lunch to mark the occasion. Two of our future Belles, Freya Barber and Hope Yates travelled with the baton on the float to Peters Green where the Baton was handed over and lots of cake was eaten!

Our Secretary attended the National Federation of W.I's 100 Years party at Buckingham Palace on the 2nd June in the presence of the Duchess of Cornwall where a wonderful afternoon was had and fabulous memories made.

We are looking forward to the rest of this year's calendar which includes a skin care evening and learning the art of Burlesque!

We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 19:45 in Kimpton, if you would like further information or would like to come along as a guest please do give us a ring for a chat, we would love to welcome you. (Sarah 0794 1052915 / Emma 0793 9397280)

Kimpton Tennis Club

Exciting times ahead

There is so much going on at the Tennis Club at the moment .

We have decided to change the surface of our courts so starting on Tuesday 4th August we will be installing an artificial grass surface called Tiger Turf on courts 1 and 2, this is a very popular surface that we hope our members will enjoy, it's defiantly better on the knees and hips for some of us more mature members !

We have had our planning application for a new club house approved and we are busy fundraising the £45000 required, to date we have raised £16000 already with another £8000 pledged so we are well on our way, with further fundraising organised and grants applied for we are confident we will be able to built the new club house next March ready for the summer season, we would like to thank the Parish Council for their enormously generous donation of £10000 towards this project.

On the courts things are also going well, our first team are in the top division of the Datchworth Summer League and playing some amazing tennis, we also have 4 other teams that could get promoted this season. The junior section is getting stronger and stronger under the guidance of our coach Steve Bone and the introduction of the Tuck Shop on a Friday afternoon is a massive success.

Socially there is also plenty going on with social tennis on Fridays from 7 and our Summer Ball is sold out, we are going to Ascot races and have a number of other events. New members are always welcome at the tennis club whatever your standard is and being one of the cheapest memberships around it's also great value.

If you would like to join please contact me on makktc@googlemail.com Thanks Mark Klimek

Sue Ryder Stagenhoe celebrates its priceless volunteers and appeals for more people to support the charity

During Volunteers' Week (1-7 June) Sue Ryder hosted celebratory events nationwide in recognition of the support its 12,000 volunteers give to the charity, at which long serving volunteers were awarded tokens of appreciation. At the Stagenhoe neurological centre in St Paul's Walden, Sue Ryder hosted their awards on 4th June to celebrate 40 volunteers who have jointly been working for Sue Ryder over 121 years.

The charity promotes a wide selection of volunteering roles on its website and can develop bespoke roles for people with specific interests or skills. Stagenhoe currently has opportunities available for activities assistants, IT buddies, fundraising assistants, *to page 20*

from page 19 receptionists, excursions escorts, drivers and receptionists. The volunteers are priceless as they help Sue Ryder raise vital funds to continue incredible care for people living with long term conditions including multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease. Tracey Le Gallez, Head of Volunteer Development and Engagement at Sue Ryder said: "Individuals volunteering with Sue Ryder will know that their efforts really do make a difference but it's not just one way; volunteers can also gain invaluable work experience and develop skills needed to thrive in a work environment."



Volunteers who received awards at the ceremony included Sheila Grosvenor-Johnson (pictured with Centre Director Paul Osbourne), who has been with Stagenhoe for an impressive 15 years, assisting with social and creative events and activities. One volunteer was even recognised for volunteering with the residents at Stagenhoe for an outstanding 35 years. Community Volunteer Engagement Coordinator, Debbie Wright said "the commitment that all our volunteers show is much appreciated by all of us here at Stagenhoe. The work they do is so important to the centre and our residents and we hope it will inspire more people to come and join us." To find out more about how you can help, please call Debbie Wright on 07775 030826 or email deborah.wright@suerydercare.org. Alternatively you can visit www.suerydercare.org/volunteering

Kimpton Preschool

The final part of our summer term is underway and there are lots of exciting play and learning adventures to pack in during the coming weeks.

Our garden is flourishing with fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers, and the children pride themselves in keeping it all well watered (despite our water meter!). They have recently cut herbs from the garden to prepare a Greek dip for snack and hopefully some cherry tomato, lettuce and cauliflower delicacies will be on the menu very soon. Turns for feeding the pets have now been rotated (a necessity as 'Baby Fish' was definitely getting above his BMI) and so alongside daily weather person duties, the children's responsibilities are growing. The birds in the garden have enjoyed homemade fat balls and these treats, much to the children's delight, encouraged a few more varieties of wildlife to visit the garden. As you are probably aware, we don't have the quietest garden in the neighbourhood, but we must have the most inviting as our bird box became home to a family of Blue Tits, who stayed around for several weeks. Every so often they popped their heads out, probably to see who was ringing the bell... I wonder if they will be brave enough to return again next spring?

Despite weekly visits to the primary school pond, we still haven't managed to witness the tadpoles becoming frogs. However, we have taken the opportunity to use each journey as a sound walk, listening to the environmental delights around us.

Lastly, a messy play alert ... the children have been exploring gloop and paint on a large scale. Yes, it was messy. Yes, it was creative and abundant with learning and, yes (courtesy of Florrie and Joshua's suggestion), we did wallow in it with our feet ... sticky toes ahoy!

If you would like to know more about Preschool, contact us on 833936 or kimptonpreschool@gmail.com. Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/KimptonPreschool](https://www.facebook.com/KimptonPreschool).

We are now full for September 2015 but if you would like to be considered for January 2016 and beyond, please contact us for a registration form.

We are looking for another Early Years Practitioner to join our team. Must be qualified to a minimum of Level 3. Please email at the above address for an application form or more details.

May Festival Snapshots



photos: Andy Wright



Neighbourhood Watch Update

Community Policing

Heather Burrows has replaced Elaine Cuzzo as our PCSO and has been very active recently in the High Street, Dacre Crescent and Commons Lane conducting a door to door introduction and checking whether residents have any security concerns. The main purpose of the call is to encourage residents to join the OWL network and receive police and NHW e-mails, where she has been very successful.

If you need to contact her or our Ward Constable PC Chris Suckling please use the automated system at County HQ on 01707 354192 and clearly identify the officer you wish to speak to. Other useful contact numbers are inside the back cover of this magazine. For non-emergency call 101.

Local Crime Alerts

In the last report I mentioned the following important issues which you should be aware of as they are still happening.....

Cold calling on Wills and Trusts

If you get a cold call from a firm claiming to be able to safeguard your assets with advice on Wills or Trusts, do not get involved, just put the phone down.

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. After a pause another voice comes on, obviously in the same office, claiming to be a policeman and asks for your account and pin numbers. Put the phone down immediately.

Royal Mail email Virus

The OWL network has just advised this latest scam where a bogus Royal Mail email says they have a letter/parcel for you to collect. You are invited to follow some instructions in order to release the item and in so doing you allow a virus to enter your computer and encrypt some files. Following on you are requested to send a ransom to have the files decrypted!! Please, please do not get involved unless you have concrete evidence that the e-mail is genuine.

Fraud Prevention

Numerous examples of fraud can be found on the police OWL website. Fraud Prevention Update January 2015

Nuisance Phone Calls

These pests are still with us despite any attempt to block by various means such as the Telephone Preference Service (TPS) or built-in blockers as fitted to the latest generation phones.

Computer Attack

Do ensure that your computer is loaded with the latest security software to avoid attack by cyber criminals. Do not get involved with callers claiming to represent 'Computer Software Technical Support' using the name of a company which sounds like Microsoft.

Theft of Keyless Start Motor Vehicles

There continues to be an increase in this type of crime with thieves using devious methods to circumvent the latest technology. We understand that fitting a dual band tracking device that works on both VHF/UHF and GPS so that one band is always active is a very sound precaution. Never leave your vehicle unattended with the doors unlocked. Fit a secure lockable device over the on-board diagnostic port.

Caring Neighbours

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

Night Security and Absence

If your property will be 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.

Do not leave any keys within sight of an open letter box. Our free Letter Box Deflectors prevent peeping toms having a quick look. Please let me know if you would like one.

*Best wishes for a peaceful Summer.
Alan Smith, Kimpton Village NHW Co-ordinator
01438 832749 ajsumpire@gmail.com*

The Church in Kimpton

Parish Church

Vicar

Revd Bonnie Evans-Hills
The Vicarage
11 High Street
Kimpton SG4 8RA
01438 833419
bonnie.evans-hills@hotmail.co.uk

Lay Minister

Andy Morton
01438 832427
adewm@aol.com

Church Wardens

Jenny Kelly
07818 613143
genkel@btinternet.com

Juliet Morton
01438 832427
julietmorton@aol.com

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 Heather Burrows
01707 354192 (automated system)

Hitchin Safer Neighbourhood Team
Sergeant Steve Oliphant
01438 757604 (usually answerphone)

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

Parish Magazine

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Cllr David Hardstaff
Cllr Lewis Hawke
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 Helmn, 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

Member of Parliament

The Rt. Hon. Peter Lilley feedback@peterlilley.co.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
barbara.kazwini@btinternet.com

PETER'S GREEN VILLAGE HALL

For bookings please contact Mrs Barbara Kazwini. 01438 832620
barbara.kazwini@btinternet.com

USEFUL LINKS

www.kimpton.org.uk

www.herts.police.uk

www.stalbans.anglican.org

www.kimpton.herts.sch.uk