

Kimpton Parish Magazine

Autumn 2023
Number 275



Photo: Andy Wright

The village says farewell to Linda and Nigel



The Waiting Room

Juliet will tell you that I am not very good at waiting. I am an impatient person, who wants to have results now, not in six months (or a year's!) time.

That's why I find this time of Vacancy in the church so very difficult. You see, according to a strange and arcane ruling by the Church of England, there has to be a gap – a vacancy – after one Parish Priest goes, and before another one arrives. If it were any other sort of business, there would be a successor in the day after someone left, but there we are! We have to follow the way things are done.

Mind you, a period of waiting is not really such a bad idea. It forces us – the people of Kimpton – to fall back on our own resources. We have to run things as best we can. Sunday services, as well as Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals. Perhaps it is good for us. Maybe it will help us to appreciate more the task that a Parish Priest has to do! But also, the Bible has to say something about waiting. The prophet Isaiah, in the Old Testament, wrote;

*But those who wait on the LORD
Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.*

So we need to wait for God. In his own good time he will provide us with a new Rector. It's his timetable, not ours, however irritating it may seem. And, as for all the jobs, well, we'll just have to get on with it. Fortunately we have a couple of brilliant Churchwardens in Lynda Harvey and Annie Hemsli and a whole host of willing volunteers.

And a period of waiting doesn't have to be a time of inactivity. Maybe this period of Vacancy may be a really productive time – a time of growth and initiative. Come along and be part of it!

God Go With You

Revd. Linda Williams arrived in Kimpton four and a half years ago after we had been through a pretty turbulent time in the life of the church. She helped to steady the ship and to guide us into calmer waters. She led us into closer ties with the village community and gave us a new confidence and purpose. She brought back laughter and joy in worship and in our life within the church family and, confronted with the hole in all our lives represented by Covid, she refused to let it get us down.

Nigel, also, has made his mark in the life of the village, particularly in the Bowls Club, where, much to his surprise, he found a talent that resulted in participation in several finals matches, but also in the Bench Working Party. In both he will be sadly missed.

God bless you both and thank you for sharing this bit of your lives with us.

Andy Morton, Lay Reader

New starts --- old tradition --- looking forward to the last quarter of 2023

Autumn has arrived! The sun's taken his hat off. More leaves are dropping from our apple tree than apples. A warmer duvet is on the bed. I'm wondering how much longer I can wear shorts! The harvests are all gathered in and Kimpton Church and Kimpton School have celebrated their traditional Harvest Festival. This time of the year is all about traditions.

Soon it will be the season of Remembrance. We remember our own loved ones who have died at All Saints, All Souls and Remembrance days in November. All power to the Kimpton Royal British Legion in their dogged determination to keep the traditional Parade from the Memorial Hall to Kimpton Church. They've had a battle year on year to achieve this because the national RBL veto's parades (not in Whitehall you'll notice) and the local branch has to fund the enormous cost of road closure. Thank you to the KPC and all who have supported the RBL coffee morning to help defray those costs. Keep supporting them. Why wouldn't we want to continue to parade, stopping at the War Memorial to lay wreaths from the youngest to the eldest in our community.

And all of a sudden, Christmas will arrive. Kimpton and Ayot St Lawrence churches will host carol services and concerts. We'll be celebrating Jesus' birth. The son of God, coming into our world to save us and set us free from the fear of death—so that we'd know there is an alternative, continuing and everlasting life beyond this one—if you believe in Him.

But Autumn and the last quarter of the year are often times for a new start. I've always considered September as a time for a new start—probably because it's my birthday early on in the month. This year I'll be making a new beginning in Hampshire—God and conveyancers willing!

New beginnings are also about making a good end to things. I think we all made a good end to my public ministry here in Kimpton and Ayot St Lawrence. I would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and kind words to Nigel and me. Thank you for the fabulous gifts—I'm thrilled that I'll be able to finally find out if I really am a Viking from a DNA family history kit. We have plans to buy a new posh rug with the John Lewis vouchers. We're delighted, but squabbling over where to go and what to do on the Virgin experience. It's wonderful to have a photobook of our time here to keep and look back upon. I'm thrilled and delighted with a limited-edition print of Ayot St Lawrence by its resident artist Simon Chambers and the George Bernard Shaw first edition. Oh, and we mustn't forget the cakes with fireworks!



Linda receives flowers from the Church Wardens at her final service. More photos on page 15

I've been blessed to be rector of Kimpton and Ayot St Lawrence. I've had great fun too. I succeeded in my aims of 1. Make Christ known in Kimpton and the church more active and visible in the community and 2. Make you laugh! So, to quote GB Shaw, 'If you want to tell people the truth, make them laugh...' I commend the truth of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to you as Nigel and me leave you laughing.

*God bless you all
Rev'd Linda Williams*

From the Registers

On 16th July, **Bluebell Aura Dickinson**, almost 1 year old, was christened at Ayot St Lawrence Church. She is Mum and Dad, Tom and Annabel's second daughter and joins 3 year old big sister Dali in being christened using the outdoor font beneath the portico at St Lawrence's church. Tom and Annabel, who live in Luton, have a soft spot for St Lawrence's as they were married there too. Bluebell is the latest grandchild for the Burrows family.

Archie, two and a half, and **Lottie McLean**, 4 months old, were christened in Kimpton church in a lovely afternoon ceremony on 23rd July. They are Alan and Julie Brown's grandchildren. Parents Jake and Jessie McLean live in Wheathampstead but Kimpton Church is their special place.

On 6th August three was a very special occasion with the baptism of the children of Wayne and Hayley Everiss of The Wick—and with Dad **Wayne** also being baptized. **Elliott Louis**, 4 years old and his sister **Ella Rose**, 7 were as good as gold. They then assisting in the baptism of their Dad Wayne encouraging him to lean his head right over the font with gentle pushes!

Harriett Field and Jake McKee were married at the Palladian Church, Ayot St Lawrence on Saturday 29th July. Harriett is a PE teacher and Ryan is an analytics manager and they have set up home in Knebworth. Harriet grew up in Ayot St Lawrence.

Lucy Lancaster and Ryan Loonan were married at the Palladian Church, Ayot St Lawrence on Saturday 5th August. Lucy's family are Ayot St Lawrence people and well known in the village. Mum Sue is the church treasurer. In spite of nonstop showers, the wedding went well and then it was off to the tented reception just across the churchyard. Both Lucy and Ryan are scientists. They live in Royston.

On 24th July the ashes of the late **Carol Lobjoit** were laid to rest in Kimpton churchyard. The Lobjoit family had lived in Kimpton for many years, only moving away a few years ago to be nearer family.

On 29th July the ashes of the late **Jenny Hulme** were laid to rest in the grave of her husband in Ayot St Lawrence churchyard. Jenny had lived in Datchworth latterly where a memorial service for her life was held.



On 6th August the ashes of the late **Valerie Cowells** were laid to rest in Kimpton churchyard. Valerie, who lived in Kimpton for over 60 years, and her husband Ron who survives her, were regulars at Loaves and Fishes until Valeries' ill health prevented the travelling from Harpenden where they moved in 2019 to be nearer their daughter Jeanette and family. She now rests back at home in Kimpton.

On 10th August the ashes of the late **Allan Thomas Farrell** were laid to rest in Kimpton churchyard in the grave of his grandmother.

On 23rd August the ashes of the late **Coral Townsend** were laid to rest in Kimpton churchyard in the grave of her late husband Brian Townsend. Coral moved away from Kimpton after Brian's death to Wales. Her family from Australia arranged and attended the interment.

Jonathan Welch, of Bibbs Hall Lane passed away after a tremendous battle with an extremely rare form of cancer on 8th August. His funeral was held at the Palladian Church 23rd August and he was laid to rest in the churchyard. Jonathan was 64 years old. He leaves a widow and one brother. Jonathan was a school teacher in technologies latterly in the USA. He had not long retired and returned to the UK when he fell ill.

Kimpton History Group

Wednesday 18th October, at 8 pm in the Green Room

“John of Wheathampstead”

Ann Banham will give a talk about our local man, John of Wheathampstead, twice Abbot of the medieval Abbey of St Albans.

Wednesday 15th November, at 8 pm in the Green Room

“The Tale of 3 Houses”

Jane Simpson will talk about Bleak House, Gustard Wood, Bob Finch about Little Priory, High Street & David Steevens about Blackhorse Cottage, The Green.

Wednesday 20th December, at 8 pm in the Green Room

Members Christmas Party

An evening of quizzes & entertainment. Members are asked to bring a plate of finger food and make a donation towards the drinks. More details will be emailed to members nearer the time.

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

From 10th September and the beginning of our vacancy period before a new rector is found and appointed, the pattern of church services will remain largely unchanged as follows

Kimpton

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays in the month

9.30am Holy Communion

2nd Sunday 8am Holy Communion,
9.30 Worship

4th Sunday 9.30 Worship

Kimpton Garden Club

Would you like to make more use of your garden? Perhaps grow your own cutting flowers, salads, herbs, vegetables or propagate some plants? Join us in one of our meetings which are free for the first visit, and Annual subscription is just £15.00.

We are a friendly and helpful group, swapping plants, seeds and knowledge with great talks and lovely visits out:

In July we visited RHS Hyde Hall, and despite the predicted weather of rain and gale force winds, we had a great day out. Luckily the rains didn't happen but we did have some strong winds! There were many interesting areas to look round and varieties of plants to see, and we came home with plenty of purchases.

In August we had our Garden Party, unfortunately the weather was not so kind, so we decamped to the Dacre Rooms, with beautifully decorated tables, and a fabulous array of home cooked food, especially the desserts, and of course wine and drinks.

September we had a great talk by Craig Jamieson about his experience in horticulture and his work now with multipurpose crops and sustainable development.

On 4th October we have a short AGM, followed by a Quiz with wine and Cheese

1st November: “Winter wonders” Anne Luder will talk about adding colour, structure and scent to the winter garden.

Tuesday 5th December we will have our Christmas party at the Boot and celebrate with a meal and drinks.

New members are welcome, come along to one of our meetings on the first Wednesday of the Month in the Green Room at the Memorial Hall. Meetings start at 7.30pm.

*Dalia Wyatt (831293)
Sue & Allan Barfoot (832842)*

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

kimptonpc.org.uk

kimptonchurch.co.uk



An Update from Cllr Ralph Muncer

One of the most rewarding parts of my job as your District Councillor is speaking with local residents. That's why over the summer, I have been knocking on doors across Kimpton, Peters Green

and Blackmore End to hear your views on the main issues facing our community.

A number of issues have been highlighted to me which I have raised with Officers at the District Council, colleagues at County Hall and to our local Member of Parliament Bim Afolami. However, the two issues raised by me on the doorstep most frequently are potholes and the expansion of Luton Airport.

Potholes are not only frustrating to drivers but are dangerous and can lead to costly damage to vehicles if not repaired. Unfortunately, road surfaces across the country have sustained major damage this year as a consequence of the snow and ice during the winter months followed by heavy rainfall in the spring. This has resulted in more potholes and maintenance issues across Hertfordshire's 3,200 miles of roads and 3,500 miles of pavement and cycleways. However, due to nearly £4 million of additional funding from the Government's Pothole Fund, Hertfordshire County Council will now be able to repair 40,000 potholes across the County this year, as opposed to the usual 20,000.

This funding will make a real difference to our roads. However, I need your help. If you spot a pothole or highway fault, please report it by visiting: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/highways-roads-and-pavements/report-a-problem/report-a-highway-fault/what-type-of-fault-are-you-reporting.aspx> . If you do not hear back from the council within 28 days, please let me know and I will check on the repair schedule and, if needed, request certain incidents to be prioritised.

As many will be aware, the Public Inquiry into whether Luton Airport should be granted a

Development Consent Order, paving the way for an increase in passenger numbers from 18 million per annum to 32 million per annum, recently began. Luton Airport continues to blight the lives of residents in Kimpton, whether it be noise coming from aircraft operations or the congestion which is caused on our roads and railways. Any expansion of the airport will only seek to exacerbate these issues, having a wholly negative and detrimental impact upon the lives of residents in Kimpton.

That's why I will continue to oppose any further expansion of Luton Airport, and once the Public Inquiry has concluded I will ensure you are kept updated with the latest developments. As ever, if you need any assistance, please don't hesitate to get in touch. *Ralph Muncer*



After our cry for help in the Summer edition, we held an informal meeting in August to discuss a way forward for Kimpton WI and the areas in which help is needed. Most members were keen for us to continue for as long as possible and we were delighted that one of our newer members volunteered to be acting President. So.....we aim to "soldier on", at least for the rest of the year and, hopefully, for much longer.

Our future programme of events include a talk on the 13th September by Warren Phillips, who lives in Kimpton. Warren will talk about his family in World War 2. Then, in October, the subject will be "Molton Wonky - Adventures in Glass", a talk by Katie Lynn, which sounds intriguing ! Visitors and new members are most welcome to join us at our monthly Wednesday meetings - 2pm in the Memorial Hall Lounge.

We also welcome non members to our weekly table tennis sessions which have now resumed for the Autumn and Winter months. These are held on Friday afternoons, 2.00 - 3.30pm in the Green Room, at a cost of £3 per session. Do come along for an hour and a half of fun and (fairly!) gentle exercise.

If you would like to find out more about Kimpton WI, please contact me on the number below. We have recently welcomed several new members and have room for plenty more! So come along on the second Wednesday of the month and join our ranks. *Chris Bichener 01438 832745*

Kimpton Christmas Market

Saturday 25th November

12 noon to 4pm



With new members of the working group, our planning for Kimpton Christmas Market 2023 has been active over the summer. Table bookings are strong for having a craft stall in the Parish Church, Church House or on The Green, with only a few places left to book. We have over 30 stalls offering irresistible handmade gifts, wooden items, cards, candles, chocolates, fudge, jewellery, ceramics, books, knitted items and much more.



The licensed bar on The Green is being operated by Richard Stagg raising much needed funds for the replacement of the Kimpton Players Hut. Live music by our talented local musicians will entertain us throughout the afternoon with Cllr Nicky Jackman creating the schedule. Staying on The Green you will find our regular food outlets of Melt Van, Master Crepes, Buster BBQ and Baxter's preparing delicious dishes and snacks to satisfy your hunger pangs. A corner of The Green is being transformed by Grace Ovington, Go Design, into a themed winter photo booth with numerous props to make your unique family photographs. With the whole area being transformed with festive lights and Christmas decorations, come and relax with neighbours.

You will find more children's activities, a tombola and Father Christmas at Kimpton School, all organised by the PTA to raise funds for the school. Other stalls will be located at The Boot PH.



You are invited to the WHITE HORSE

Pop Up Pubs

Friday 29th September
6pm - 11pm
At the Dacre Rooms, Kimpton

Come in and try some local beers, wines and more...

Socialise with friends old and new whilst catching up with all the latest on the campaign to SAVE OUR WHITE HORSE

DRINK GOOD BEER with FRIENDS

LIVE MUSIC

All proceeds will help to support the campaign to return the White Horse to the community of Kimpton

email: campaign@saveourwhitehorse.co.uk
www.saveourwhitehorse.co.uk

Friday 24th November from 6pm to 9pm

Join us for the launch evening with music from Kimpton Village Choir, Ellie Smith and George Curry and family. Seasonal drinks, including mulled wine, served at the bar. Delicious hamburgers, sausages with vegetarian options from Buster BBQ and, new for 2023, Corbiere Crepes, a family run business run out of a converted horsebox selling sweet & savoury crepes.

Grateful Thanks

The Editor and Production Team would like to acknowledge with thanks, a donations received from the Baptist Chapel at Peters Green and Kimpton Garden Club.

Kimpton Horse Show 2023



We had over 200 competitors compete at the 79th Kimpton Horse Show back in July, along with one of our biggest ever crowds of spectators and supporters. We'd like to say a huge thank you to each and every one of you who helped out, or visited us on the day, as well as our wonderful sponsors, judges, stewards and volunteers - we couldn't do it without you.



As many of you will know, every show raises funds for us to donate to local charities and causes. This year was particularly special, as we were also raising money specifically for Garden House Hospice, who looked after our much-loved secretary and friend Charlie Manning so well.

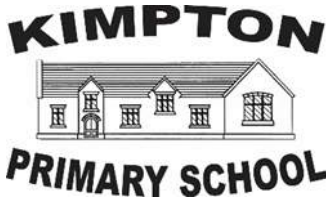


Charlie was the driving force behind our wonderful village horse show for the last 10 years. She was so proud to be a part of the show and was very keen for us to crack on with this year's event.

We're proud to say we are able to donate £5,000 to charities and causes this year. We were also blown away by your generosity to the Hospice through the donation buckets on the gate, as well as supporting the ladies' cake stand on the day.

We can't wait to do it all again next year for our big 80th anniversary, so please do get the date in your diaries: Sunday 28 July 2024.

The KHS Team



A village school – it's all about the people

In the school calendar, September marks the start of a new year. We are delighted to have welcomed to Kimpton Primary School this month not only new pupils but also their families, who we hope will play a long and active role in our community.

We are also thinking about our Class of 2023 and wishing them well as they start their secondary school careers ... but always with a little piece of Kimpton in their hearts; we trust we have prepared them well for this next step in their education. The destination for 70% of our Year 6 leavers was Katherine Warrington School but Kimpton pupils have also gone to St George's School in Harpenden, Hitchin Boys' School, The Priory School in Hitchin, Townsend C of E School in St Albans and Egerton-Rothesay School in Berkhamsted.

The yearly exodus and influx of pupils is part and parcel of school life but we also celebrate the constancy that makes our community so special. This is a Good school and like all good businesses we know that our people are our greatest asset. Although the last three years have seen significant changes in the senior leadership team, we have a good track record of retaining staff – four of our staff have been at the school for over ten years, with a number of staff having had different 'hats' during their time with the school: Mrs Caner, whom many of you will know, was a SEN teaching assistant for five years before she found her niche in the school office; and Mrs Dollin worked for Herts Catering Ltd in our kitchen before she was persuaded to join the school staff as learning support assistant and Breakfast Club leader. It is also worth noting that nearly one in three staff are village residents.

This term we welcomed two new members to the staff team:

- Mrs Grey is the parent of children in the school but has now joined us as a Teaching Assistant, bringing a wealth of early years' experience that will aid the children's transition to Key Stage 1 – she is already making a difference in Year 1.
- Mr Gifford first came to Kimpton Primary School as a 'Rock Steady' tutor and is a talented musician and sportsman – he did a placement here as part of his teacher training and we are delighted now to have him on board as an Early Career Teacher.

We are proud to support the next generation of teachers and now have teachers in their first, second and third years of teaching alongside more experienced colleagues. This breadth of experience is part of what makes the team so successful – we all learn from each other.

Our longest serving member of staff is Mrs Vine – she is a fixture at Kimpton Primary School, having been on the staff for over 30 years, now working with children of the children who were in her classes in the early days.



What made you choose to work at Kimpton Primary School?

"Working as a peripatetic music teacher across ten different schools on a weekly basis, I spent three years getting to know the children at Kimpton Primary. During that time, I came to look forward to each Thursday afternoon I would spend at the school due to the relationships formed with both the staff and children. Kimpton has always been a warm and inviting environment to work in and I was excited at the opportunity to continue my teacher journey with them" - Sam Gifford.

Turn to page 10

From page 9



What is it like to work at Kimpton Primary School?

"Oh, what wonderful memories I have made in 31 years of working at Kimpton School! My first experience of Ofsted was when they put into their report that, 'the children at Kimpton Primary School speak with a smile.' I hold that sentence in my head to this day; it is a joy and a privilege to work with such amazing children. Some of my fondest memories are of the school residential trips to Osmington Bay in Dorset – especially the time when the children challenged me to do the zip wire at the edge of the cliff top. Oh my goodness, what an experience that was!! My time at Kimpton School will shortly be coming to an end and I will truly miss the amazing staff team and especially the incredible children, both past and present" Gill Vine

Although this academic year is only just under way, we are already thinking about 2024/2025 and will be holding two open mornings for September 2024 entry to Nursery and Reception.

OPEN MORNINGS
FOR NURSERY AND RECEPTION
SEPTEMBER 2024 ENTRY

Tuesday 07 Nov 2023, 9.15am
Wednesday 22 Nov 2023, 9.15am

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW
☎ 01438 832 394
✉ admin@kimpton.herts.sch.uk
🌐 www.kimpton.herts.sch.uk
📧 @Kimpton_Primary

*Achieving today;
Ready for tomorrow*

KIMPTON
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ofsted
Good Provider

Come along for a
Crafty Cuppa
in the
Dacre Rooms
on
3rd Monday of every month
from 1-3pm

*Bring along a craft or project,
share ideas and skills,
help each other out
or
just pop along for tea or coffee
and a friendly chat....*

Costs £3 per session

Just turn up or contact:
Angela Dyke 07788651563
Julie Brown 01438 833714

KIMPTON MAY FESTIVAL

I am delighted to report that the profit from this year's May Festival was an amazing £12,688.27 (£519 more than in 2022). Thank you to everyone who got involved in any way in organising events, helping with setting up, clearing away or just attending and spending money. As a very well-known, local supermarket says "Every little helps".

Donations to local groups and organisations will now be agreed and made at the end of September / beginning of October.

On Thursday, 28th September there will be the annual meeting of the Kimpton May Festival Trust at 7.45pm in The Boot Conservatory and after the formalities we will be looking forward to the 2024 festival and deciding on a theme. Anyone interested in getting involved and joining the 'Purple Army' will be very welcome. The more people we have to share the load the better. We are also in need of some administrative assistance as the behind the scenes paperwork involved in putting on the festival seems to increase every year and would be delighted if anyone could help with publicity. All other offers of help also most welcome as 'many hands make light work'.

If you are reading this after 28th September or are unable to attend the meeting and would like to get involved next year, please contact me.

The dates for the next Kimpton May Festival are **Friday 3rd to Mon 6th May 2024** *Barbara Kazwini, Chairman*
barbara.kazwini@btinternet.com
07484355914

Felici Opera presents

A Winter Wonderland



Saturday 9th December, 2023

St Lawrence Church

Ayot St Lawrence

6.30pm

£15 adult, £5 child

**A concert of winter songs from classical to modern,
to raise funds for the upkeep of St Lawrence Church.**

Tickets from www.feliciopera.com

or contact Zoe on 07712 530550





Backing Kimpton in Westminster

As a Member of Parliament, you play a lot of roles.

You tackle a wide and complex range of issues for your constituents – doing your best to resolve their particular problem. You spend lots of time debating national and international legislation – often having to learn quite niche and nuanced topics in great detail. You try to influence local policies – from bin collections to planning applications – over which you have no control and to varying levels of success.

Perhaps most importantly, you are a champion for your constituency and for all the myriad communities within it. In the months since my last column for the Kimpton Magazine, I have been busy championing Kimpton's interests in Westminster.

This has included supporting the Parish Council's project to re-develop the pavilion on the Recreation Ground into a fantastic new amenity for residents. I think this is an excellent project and I was very happy to give them my full support.

I have written directly to the Secretary of State, Michael Gove, to endorse the Council's bid for funding from the Government's Community Ownership Fund and I hope that we will be able to secure the funds needed to deliver the new pavilion. Towards the end of July, I visited the Recreation Ground with Kimpton's District Councillor Ralph Muncer and we discussed at length how we can work together to support the project as it progresses.

I have also been working hard on a number of other campaigns which will benefit Kimpton. That includes my continued efforts to lobby the Department for Transport to stop Luton Airport's bids for any further expansion – recognising the impact that additional capacity would have on communities like Kimpton through increased air and noise pollution and traffic congestion.

I am also working to expand the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty across our local countryside – providing vital new protections for the character of our rural area.

Following our recent success in securing funding for a new specialist Cancer Hospital for our region, I am now working to make further improvements to local health services – including by delivering a new GP surgery to serve our communities.

Kimpton is a beautiful village, with a fantastic, vibrant community. I will continue to be your champion in Westminster.

Bim Afolami



Nestled quietly by St Peter and St Pauls is Church House where we play bridge on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm. We are looking for more local residents to join our club. We are a friendly crew as the name suggests and there may well be faces you already know.

What do we want

Mainly people who have learnt to play bridge and want to develop their standard. No, you don't have to be brilliant just enthusiastic.

What do you do

If you are interested in joining us or would like more information, please contact our secretary James Finlay. bjfnly@gmail.com



Let your hair down, Its panto time!

The Kimpton players are once again presenting their annual pantomime, this year directed by Toby Wood. It is a retelling of the story of Rapunzel, with the long golden hair. All the usual panto fun will be there with opportunities for young and old alike to let down their hair and join in the shouting and singing with the cast.

Performances will be 7.30pm on Wednesday 29th November, Thursday 30th, Friday 1st December and at 1.30pm and 6.30pm on Saturday 2nd December.

Look about for more information and ticket sales later in September on posters or our website thekimptonplayers.co.uk.

Movies at the Memorial Hall - Kimpton's own Odyssey!

We're delighted to announce that, following unanimous approval by the Village Hall Management Committee, we are running a village cinema event at the Memorial Hall on December 9th this year.

A professional Audio Visual company is coming in to fit a high quality cinema system to enable us to hold a trial screening with a view to a permanent installation and on-going cinema club.

Through a charity licensing partner *Moviola*, we will be able to screen a plethora of movies to suit a wide variety of tastes.

We realise that December is the season to be jolly and so we will be choosing two films to screen, a matinee performance and an evening performance. If you have any suggestions for Christmas movies, please email them to us. We have a few already...

At the moment we have a minutely small team of volunteers and need more people to get involved to make the venture a success. If you think you can help in any way please email us (details below).

The project, if successful, will offer another social hub for the village and an opportunity for village organisations to raise funds each time a film is shown. If your village group would like to help run the first event please get in touch asap (helping on the door, running the bar, setting up seats etc...). Individuals are welcome to help too!

We're really excited about what this might mean for the village and for those that find it difficult to travel to the nearest cinema.

Just think of it, our very own KIMPTON ODYSSEY!

Further information will follow - please keep an eye out for the next Parish Magazine, on the Village Facebook Group and the Memorial Hall website: www.kimptonmemorialhall.co.uk

Please get in touch directly if you would like any further information:

kmh@armstrong-taylor.co.uk Tim Armstrong-Taylor, Vice-Chairman, Kimpton Memorial Hall



The Remembrance Parade and Church Service will be on Sunday 12th November

Please meet in the Memorial Hall car park by 10am if you wish to join the parade

We will be hosting the Dacre Room coffee morning on Friday 27th October- all proceeds will go to the Poppy Appeal.

We will also have leaflets available explaining the work of the RBL

Kim Hills, Chairman, 07901 605383



Thank you, Kimpton for wonderful, donated help for Ukraine

Since before Christmas last year we have been collecting much needed goods to send to Ukraine through the charity ALFS. About every 6 weeks a lorry goes over to Poland full of donated goods which are then taken into Ukraine and distributed to small villages, some special groups such as a premature baby unit and schools, and communities missed by other means of help. This month through your generosity at one of the Coffee mornings and from one or two special donations,

we have been able to send the money for a generator. This item has topped the list of items needed since we began, because with very little reliable power, people have no way of creating heating or the means to cook other than through generators... but they are expensive.

Thank you from Ukraine

Maxim lives in the partially flattened village of Chernihiv. Many of you have sent shoes, clothes, toys, food and school equipment to his village. He works tirelessly delivering the aid. He has sent us all a message: Below is a translation:

"Many thanks to all members of the group and to all those who help Ukraine to this day. Thank you for dreaming and believing in our victory in a war which was not declared by us, and we also understand how everyone is tired of hearing about Ukraine on the news in groups and just on the street, but understand, we are the same people as you. And God willing, and I believe in this, everyone will be rewarded by the Almighty. Peace and love and eternal health to each of you. And only in trouble can the true face of a person be known." Quoted in The Welwyn Magazine Sept 2023.

Collection Point:

Kimpton Parish Church – in a plastic box behind the font which has a list on it of what is needed each month. Alternatively contact me on 01438 832427. Thank you for your generosity.

Juliet Morton

The village says farewell to Linda

On Sunday September 3rd villagers gathered in Church and at lunch in the Dacre Rooms to say a fond farewell to Rector Linda and husband Nigel.

They were presented with gifts including an Ancestry DNA kit, John Lewis vouchers, a photobook of her time in Kimpton and an original painting of Ayot St Lawrence church.



Photos: Andy Wright

Kimpton Autumn Show

What a wonderful, sunny day we enjoyed this year for the village's own Autumn Show. The air conditioning was a welcome break in the Memorial Hall as we shared the results of this year's competition entries. We also enjoyed lots of new and old games, with thanks to the school PTA.



We would like to make some special thanks to an amazing team of people. The KAS Committee, Judges, Stewards, Stallholders, the PTA and many others who helped to organise and run this lovely village event. A large share of thanks must also go to the wonderful Bench Working Party for so much help and support. Bob Finch and the team have such a huge impact, ensuring the setup, clear down and smooth running of the show - including placing banners at both ends of the village and painting the HUGE notice board outside the Boot. We'd also like to thank the Horse Show for kindly donating our rosettes, and the History Society for lending us their boards so that we can display the wonderful photography entries.

Finally, a **big** thanks to all who took the time to enter and produce such amazing treats, cakes, crafts and produce.

Well done to Sophie King, whose winning design will be the front cover of our show schedule next year.

Looking to the future, we really do need your support to continue running this lovely little village event. Do please consider entering a category or two (or more)! in 2024 (Sat 8th September). Also, should anyone have any suggestions on how we can make improvements, do please let us know via our Facebook page, and please follow us on there for up to date information for next year's show.

See you Saturday September 8th 2024

The Kimpton Autumn Show Team



Neil Burns helming a 46ft yacht. If he can do it, so could you!

Pastures new for the KYC

Having sailed the waters of the coast around Majorca and the Dodecanese, this year, the Kimpton Yacht Club tackled the beautiful area off Split in Croatia.

Over 30 of us had blissful sailing in five boats and enjoyed the scenery, the culture and the good living that epitomise those waters. Other KYC crews ventured along the Turkish coast and around the Cyclades, with one venturer is on a long-term cruise in the Caribbean!

New people continue to swell our ranks and, to help them get their sea-legs, Andy Morton is proposing to run an introductory course for those who wish to find out more about sailing and navigation. If you are interested in joining in, please ring 07884064268.

Also, anyone can come along to our get-togethers at The Boot. The next one is Thursday 2nd November from 8pm. Entirely free (except your drink at the bar!)

Andy Morton

Scouts

**1st Kimpton
Harpenden & Wheathampstead**

During the summer holidays whilst most of us were having a well-deserved break some of our eldest Scouts completed their Expedition Challenge Award. They planned a two day expedition on the Ridgeway,

carried their kit, put up their tents and cooked their own meals. They had minimal supervision and only got lost once! We are so proud of them as they were able to put all their Scouting skills to good use.



Beavers are enjoying the start of the new term and are really looking forward to their camp. Unfortunately, Lime is no longer able to assist at Beavers and we are very sorry to see her go. We are extremely grateful for everything that she has done for 1st Kimpton Scouts. To enable Beavers to continue we need at least one more adult volunteer. If you are interested in helping and are available on Thursday evenings between 5.00-6.15pm please email secretary@kimptonscouts.org.uk.

Cubs have a busy programme planned that includes a camp, World Challenge Award and Remembrance Parade. Scouts are practising their orienteering, and team building skills in preparation for the Green Beret Challenge. If you have a child aged between 6 and 14 years that would like to join, please find more information on our website kimptonscouts.org.uk. We look forward to welcoming you at our AGM on Thursday 23rd November from 5.50pm at the Memorial Hall Kimpton.

Kate James, GSL 1ST Kimpton Scouts

Kimpton Bowls Club has had a very successful season.

The competition results are listed below.

The outdoor games finish on September 30th and from October 10th Carpet Bowls will be in the Memorial Hall from 10am until 12noon.



Roving Jack	1 st	Bernice Edwards	White Horse Trophy
	2 nd	Phil Matthews	
Drawn Pairs	1 st	Dave Desborough Nigel Williams	Stuart Williams Shields
	2 nd	Grahame Durrant Warren Phillips	
Triples	1 st	Chris Bailey Bob Bailey Jane Robinson	Presidents Cup
	2 nd	Janis Littlefield Nigel Williams Warren Phillips	
Three Woods	1 st	Dane Truscott	British Legion Cup
	2 nd	Mick New	
Two Woods	1 st	Mick New	Parkfield Plate
	2 nd	Bernice Edwards	
Women's Singles	1 st	Sharon New	Hubert Pruden Cup
	2 nd	Jane Robinson	
Men's Singles	1 st	Dane Truscott	Harding Cup
	2 nd	Nigel Williams	
Handicap	1 st	Dane Truscott	Wakefield Cup
	2 nd	Nigel Williams	
Veterans	1 st	Nigel Williams	Dennis Hill Trophy
	2 nd	Jane Robinson	
Novices	1 st	Mick New	Bowler on stand
	2 nd	Dave Desborough	
Yardstick	1 st	Dane Truscott	Knockout Cup
	2 nd	Alan Brown	
Fixed Jack	1 st	Alan Brown	Wardill Rose Bowl
	2 nd	Grahame Durrant	
Members of the Year		Phil Matthews Mick New	Cyril Carter Trophy

KIMPTON PRESCHOOL

PRESENTS

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CRACKER
FUNDRAISING EVENT

90s & 00s

CHRISTMAS PARTY

WITH

THE 88 & DJ

AT KIMPTON MEMORIAL HALL, SG4 8RD

DOORS 7.30PM
SATURDAY 16
DECEMBER 2023

TICKETS £10
BEFORE 31 OCTOBER -
£15 THEREAFTER

CONTACTLESS BAR - FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL

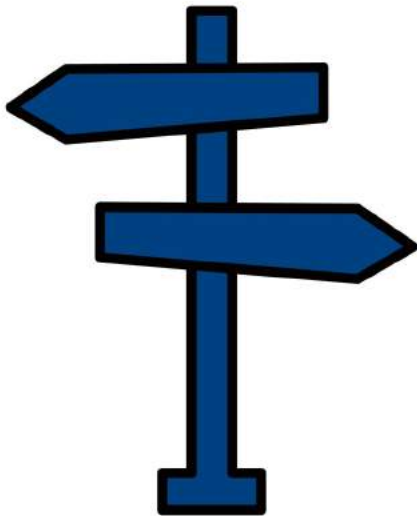
BOOK HERE:

KIMPTON-PRE-SCHOOL-LTD.SUMUPSTORE.COM/

CHAIRMAN@KIMPTONPRESCHOOL.CO.UK

01438 833936

**Do you need help? We can
offer free and impartial
advice on a wide range of
topics including...**



- **Energy saving**
- **Housing**
- **Scams**
- **Employment**
- **Family**
- **Benefits**

**Phone us on 01462 689801 and
leave a message, or email us via
our website**

northhertscab.org.uk





KIMPTON VILLAGE CHOIR

We would love you to join us on Monday evenings
7.45pm - 9.30pm

In The Memorial Hall (Term time only)

from 11th September 2023

No audition necessary, just a smile and enthusiasm required. Come for a trial before you officially join.





Hertfordshire OWL membership is currently 162,000 which includes Kimpton with 418 (48% of village households) but we want to improve on that. Please tell your friends and neighbours about it and urge them to join. Joining is simple by visiting www.owl.co.uk, contacting your Ward Coordinators (details below), or our Watch Liaison Officer Verity Soued on wlo@herts.pnn.police.uk.

Fortunately this has been a quiet quarter but one recurring major issue relates to online and telephone crime :

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau has published its annual assessment covering 2022-23 and its findings include

- Phishing emails continue to be the most common way frauds are started
- Hacking (Social media and email) is the top cyber crime type
- Online Shopping and Auction Fraud is the top fraud type, which means people are buying goods that possibly don't exist.
- Courier Fraud reports are DOWN but losses have INCREASED by 96%.

Across Hertfordshire we know residents are still being conned through telephone and online frauds, and the fraudsters can be persuasive, and manipulative.

If you receive a telephone call or email to say you are entitled to compensation, or you could help with a Police situation relating to your bank account, or your broadband / energy company / phone provider is giving you money back – it's likely to be the start of a fraud as the criminal will try to hook you with something that seems too good to be true. Any reputable company you do business with would have your postal address and would send you a letter about any money owing to you – they really wouldn't phone, text or email you.

If you, or a family member or friend has been a victim, please report to Herts Police by ringing 101 or through the online chat option (search for Herts Police Contact) and please forward any suspicious texts to Action Fraud at 7726 (spells SPAM on your keypad). Please report scams and attempted scams to Action Fraud.

Other reported issues in the quarter are

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 10th September | Van windscreen and offside window smashed while parked on Kimpton Bottom. |
| 8th August | Rogue traders arrested after visiting a home offering to clean the victim's driveway and roof. |
| 8th August | Theft of number plates from vehicle on Kimpton High Street. |

Also, don't forget that you can report anonymously if you witness any incidents of fly-tipping, dog fouling, unruly behaviour, excessive noise and nuisance neighbours on Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111. Please use 101 for non-emergencies or you can go online to: www.herts.police.uk/report/report

Your Kimpton Ward Coordinators

If you have any questions relating to NHW get in touch and we will be pleased to help

*John Bowers, 07833 301 268 bowers984@btinternet.com
Angus Davidson, 07789 502 057 angussdavidson@btinternet.com*

The Church in Kimpton

Parish Church

Lay Reader

Andy Morton
01438 832427
adewm@aol.com

Church Wardens

Anne Hems
anniehems@gmail.com

Lynda Harvey
07487 413901
lynda.a.harvey@hotmail.com

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator

Liz Jamieson
01438 832858
liz@jamieson21.plus.com

For any information regarding the use of the Parish Church, (including Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals), please contact either the Lay Reader - Andy Morton (07884064268), or one of the Churchwardens; Lynda Harvey (07487413901) or Annie Hems (07811168980)

Baptist Church

Perry Green at Peters Green

Branch Leader

Miss Pam Greener
01582 604771

Police Telephone Numbers

Urgent 999 Non urgent 101

Hitchin Safer Neighbourhood Team

Guy Westwood
guy.westwood@herts.police.uk

Ward Constable Natasha Redman
natasha.redman@herts.police.uk
PCSO Heather Burrows
heather.burrows@herts.police.uk

Hitchin rural general email
SNTHitchinRural@herts.police.uk

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

Parish Magazine

Editor: Andy Wright

email: **kimpton.editor@btinternet.com**

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

Deadline

Copy for the Winter 2023 edition must be in by
Sunday November 26th

Parish Council

Cllr Alex Firth (Chairman)
Cllr Grahame Durrant
Cllr Nicky Jackman
Cllr Sue O'Brien
Cllr Ian Pegrum
Cllr Sarah Amexheta

Parish Clerk
Carina Helmn
clerk@kimptonpc.org.uk
01438 832573

North Herts District Councillor

Cllr Ralph Muncer ralph.muncer@north-herts.gov.uk

County Councillor

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

Member of Parliament

Bim Afolami www.bimafolami.co.uk

Helping Hand

North Herts Community Volunteer Services

Can provide transport to hospitals. For details ring 01462 689400

The Samaritans

If you would like to talk to the Samaritans or find out more about becoming a volunteer, please ring 01582 720666 or freephone 116 123 anytime day or night or email jo@samaritans.org

North Herts & District Citizens Advice Bureau

To contact the CAB phone 0344 411 1444 www.northhertscab.org.uk

Kimpton Preschool

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

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

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

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

The Dacre Rooms

To book The Dacre Rooms please email our bookings secretary Wendy Dollin bookings@dacrerooms.info

Kimpton Memorial Hall

For bookings contact Mrs Barbara Kazwini. 6 The Wick, Kimpton. 01438 832620 barbara.kazwini@btinternet.com

Useful Links

kimptonvillage.com

herts.police.uk

stalbans.anglican.org

kimpton.herts.sch.uk

kimptonchurch.co.uk

 Kimpton Church Hertfordshire

Kimpton Primary School

We are an OFSTED Good Provider and offer nursery and primary education for children aged 3-11. Places available for September 2023.

For information:



01438 832 394



admin@kimpton.herts.sch.uk



www.kimpton.herts.sch.uk



@Kimpton_Primary