

KENNINGTON CHRONICLE



September 2022

*The Village Magazine
now in its 38th year — Issue 430*



Open Gardens June 2022

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The online edition continues to be available with full colour images and clickable links to websites and email addresses

The Parish Church of St Swithun

www.rskbenefice.org

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CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

Bus Pass Group	Contact Gillian Cox	01865 735590
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CHURCH SERVICES

The pattern of Church Services is subject to change. Please refer to notices posted at the church or the church website (www.rskbenefice.org) for up to date information

Holy Baptisms and Banns of Marriage

By arrangement with the Clergy

Useful Telephone Numbers & Contacts

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NHS non-emergency..... www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk	111
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Incident Hotline (24 hours)..... www.gov.uk/report-an-environmental-incident	0800 807060
Kennington Health Centre..... www.botleymedicalcentre.co.uk	01865 730911
Kennington Patient Participation Group (PPG)..... sylvbuckingham@gmail.com	
OCC (Oxfordshire County Council) main switchboard.....	01865 792422
OCC Area Highways Department.....	08453 101111
OCC Street Lighting (to report faults).....	0800 317802
Parish Clerk: Anne Feather..... clerk@kennington-pc.gov.uk	01865 421126
St Swithun's CE Primary school..... office.3258@st-swithuns.oxon.sch.uk	01865 415105
Village Centre Bookings..... hallmanagerkvh@gmail.com	07843 743718
Vale of White Horse District Council (DC) (Main Switchboard).....	01235 422422
What can I recycle?..... www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/recycling-z	

St Swithun's Church Newsletter

Church website for more information and updates: www.rskbenefice.org

As I am writing this, it is stating the obvious to say that it is hot! Though, who knows what the weather will be like by the beginning of September when this edition of the Chronicle comes out?

We British are rather obsessed with the weather—at least that is our reputation! I grew up listening to the litany of the Shipping Forecast on the radio coming from my dad's radio late at night. As my childhood was spent by the sea, the Shipping Forecast felt real to me, something that was close by. I even saw some T-shirts for sale on the internet that had quotes from the Forecast. I was, it has to be said, tempted!

But the weather this summer really has given us weather-obsessed Brits something to talk about. It has been unseasonably hot and there has been much discussion of the increasing impact of climate change. I hope that by the time we are reading this we will have had some much-needed rain.

In Genesis, the poetry of the story of the creation has its own litany, that of God saying that God saw what he made and "it was good". This is repeated throughout the account. God saw that it was good. And it is. We don't have to look far to know that creation is both extraordinary and beautiful. The photos coming from the lately launched James Webb Space telescope (if you haven't seen them it is worth a google) confirm God's extraordinary and beautiful creation in ways beyond our imaginings.

The other thing in the account of creation is that God asks us to care for it, to be stewards of the land, the sea, the birds, the fish, the animals—all of it. It is great to see so many local initiatives, like Wild About Kennington, the car share scheme and many others making a difference to our environment. Finally, Kennington Community Larder provides an affordable top up to the weekly shop AND is good for the planet as it prevents food waste. Pop along to the church and pay us a visit on a Wednesday afternoon.

— Revd. Alison Mathew

Services in September

4 th September	9:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
11 th September	9:30 a.m.	Parish Communion
18 th September	9:30 a.m.	Messy Church
	9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
25 th September	9:30 a.m.	Parish Communion

Bus Pass Group

Bus Pass Group restarts on Friday 16th September in the Church Hall. Come and enjoy a chat over some tea and cakes. Starts at 2:30 p.m. Everybody very welcome. Please bring your friends.

Children's Church starts at 9:25 a.m. in the Church Hall. All are welcome. It runs alongside our Sunday morning services except when there is Messy Church.

Little Lambs A group for pre-school children and their carers runs on a Wednesday morning in term time from 9:15 a.m.

The Community Larder runs on a Wednesday afternoon 3–5:30 p.m. Larder open with café and play area. Contributions for the Foodbank can be left in the box at the back of church or in the vicarage porch before 10 a.m. on the 1st of the month.

Church Grounds Everybody is welcome to come in and enjoy the grounds.

Kennington Methodist Church Newsletter

Upper Road (adjacent to Edith Court)

Rev. Peter Powers
Superintendent Minister and Minister at Wesley Memorial Church Oxford-based
Oxford Methodist Circuit
Tel. 07941 328155

Writing during this current heat-wave is energy sapping. But what about those who have to work? The postman, the builders I see most mornings hefting cement and bricks, the office workers without air conditioning, nurses, care-workers having to keep going no matter what, bus drivers, waitresses, porters, child-minders... Those of you having to work in this heat have my sympathy and I tell myself that I shall never again complain. (But I shall, of course.)

A week or two ago I was leading worship when the New Testament reading was the story about Jesus arriving at the home of Mary and Martha (St. Luke's gospel, ch. 10). Martha, who welcomes him, has a moan because whilst she is doing all the work, her sister just sits and listens to Jesus. Jesus, in my view, responds to Martha somewhat insensitively by saying that the only needful thing is what Mary is doing. No more is said.

My sympathies have always been with Martha. Do understand: I grew up amongst some deeply spiritual people. But those same people were eminently practical as well. Of course there are times when we need to listen, or be listened to, and of course that is the great contribution that some make (and for some it's all they, for whatever reasons, are able to make). But I don't think we value enough those who sweep the floors, wash up, cut the grass, clean the loos, make the tea, set the table, take notes, dress the hurts; in other words, those and all other jobs which we simply expect to be done and take for granted. We don't even notice when they have been done—only when they haven't. So (whilst continuing to value the Marys) let's hear it for the Marthas of this world, whose ministries more often than not go unnoticed, unsung and unregarded.

— John Rowland

Sunday services in September at 10:30 a.m.

September 4th Paul Spray leads our worship.

September 11th Our monthly informal "Together" words, music, activity and...

September 18th Service of Holy Communion led by Rev. Peter Powers.

September 25th We share in our celebration of creation and harvest. We invite thanksgiving gifts of non-perishables, which will be given to the food bank.

Tuesday 13th - The monthly coffee morning where friends and acquaintances gather and where those who begin as strangers end up as friends in this neighbourly event.

As ever, John Wesley's thought for another month:

“Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can...”

Welcome to Revd. Anne Curtis - New Curate at the RSK Benefice

Meet Anne Curtis, who has recently begun her curacy at the RSK Benefice – Radley, Sunningwell and Kennington Churches. It was a delight to speak with Anne who agreed to be interviewed for the Kennington Chronicle.

After reading Natural Sciences at Queens' College, Cambridge, and completing a PGCE at Homerton College, Anne then spent most of her working life as a Maths and Physics teacher,

including a year teaching in Kenya. She has lived in Kingston Bagpuize since 2001 with her husband, Tom, and their two daughters, both of whom are now at university.

From about 2010, Anne began to do some local preaching at her church in Kingston Bagpuize and was actively encouraged by others to pursue this and become a Licensed Lay Minister (LLM). Anne engaged in courses with the Oxford Diocese's Local Pathway and became a LLM in 2017. Anne told me that she very much enjoyed being a LLM which brought her new experiences, such as being a day chaplain at Christ Church Cathedral and helping to teach on Oxford Local Pathway's preaching course. This led her to consider ordination and curacy.



Earlier this year, Anne completed two years of ordination training at Ripon College, Cuddesdon and gained a BA in theology, ministry and mission. And in a most joyful service on 2nd July, she was ordained by Stephen, Bishop of Oxford, at Christ Church Cathedral. This was followed by a combined service of the RSK Benefice in St Swithun's Church on 3rd July. In the photograph, Anne is flanked by Revd. Alison Mathew and Revd. Rob Glenny of the RSK Benefice.

Anne has just begun her curacy here which will last four years. She told me that she has already discovered what a lively benefice this is with a wide variety of events and services. During this first part of her curacy she will be shadowing Revd. Rob Glenny and his team and she is excited to see how they do things, to watch and to learn. Anne said, "I have already been amazed by the St Swithun's Community Larder project, and last week Rob baptised a toddler in a paddling pool at Messy Church in Kennington. I've never seen either of those before!"

Anne is looking forward to playing a full part in the benefice, but at the moment she is very busy getting to know people, learning their names and hearing their stories of how they came to Kennington. She fits in her love of travelling, knitting and gardening in her spare time.

Kennington offers you a very warm welcome, Anne, and we wish you an enjoyable and successful curacy!

Amena Sutton

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Personal - Remembering Maurice Hicks, 1927-2022

...Kennington resident for some 67 years

Maurice, husband to his beloved wife Ann, who left us in 2002, and father to Jane and Russ, was also a three times grandfather, a three times step-grandfather, and more recently a great-grandfather. He was well into his 95th year when he succumbed to a stroke in the early morning of 3rd May this year. A short stay at the JR followed until he passed away in the evening of Saturday 7th May, having been visited that day by all of his close family.



Maurice with that familiar cheeky grin



Maurice with granddaughter, Izi Hicks

Maurice moved to Kennington in 1955 when he and new wife Ann were two of the earliest residents to move into the new Upper Road site, and this is where they stayed. Father was a keen gardener, when time away from Morris Motors / Leyland Cars / British Leyland allowed. In later life he enjoyed working in the lodge at Trinity College, and after that on the gates of the college, helping and directing tourists.

An avid Oxford City FC supporter (and one time player), he was able to enjoy the last home game of the regular season against St Albans City - an exciting 3:1 win - and then take in the final frames of the world snooker final just the day before the stroke occurred.

Maurice's cremation took place at South Oxfordshire Crematorium on 6th June, followed by a celebration of his life with family, near neighbours, and close friends at his house.

I am sure that many of the older Kennington residents will recognise him from these pictures. Hopefully they will be able, at some time in the near future, to raise a glass to cheer the wonderful life of Maurice.

— Russ Hicks

Help for Ukraine

On behalf of those in and from Ukraine I repeat my thanks for the generosity of those who have contributed through Frilford Heath GC reception centre. At the moment we can take no more clothing because the storage facility this side of the Channel is full. But there is ongoing need for toiletries, basic medical items (pain killers, bandages, etc.) and tinned food. As ever if you are able to contribute I am happy to collect and deliver.

— John Rowland, 01865 736200, rowlandj@talktalk.net

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Kennington Community Larder

If you haven't had a chance to visit Kennington Community Larder please do come along on a Wednesday afternoon to St. Swithun's Church. The larder is a joint project between the school and the church and as well as the larder, we run a café from 3 to 4.30 p.m. with home baking and biccies ... and there is a children's play area for little ones.

We provide a **very affordable top up to the weekly shop** (plus helping tackle food waste ... it's a win win!).

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For more information please contact Revd. Alison Mathew on 01865 327974 or email revalisonmathew@gmail.com

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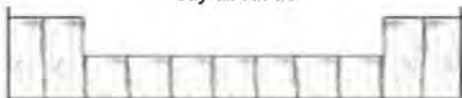
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- to find out more, please contact Mark Horseman (details below)

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- To keep records of the adverts.
- To liaise with the editor / compiler and treasurer
- To understand and comply with GDPR as in the Chronicle's GDPR privacy document
- Currently provide photos for front cover

Treasurer:

- To maintain the accounts in good order, and provide an examined balance sheet at the end of the financial year (31st December)
- To organise the payment of invoices. Currently this is all done by cheque.
- To process payments received, banking them, and sometimes sending receipts.
- To check bank statements (received monthly) also have online access to accounts, current and deposit.
- To reimburse Chronicle team members for out-of-pocket expenses.
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- To check that the adverts being invoiced are in the Chronicle.
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Kennington & District United Church Choirs

Summer Gala Concert - 9th July 2022

But Oh! what an exhilarating time we all had on the afternoon of Saturday 9th July! Whilst others were sitting glued to televisions watching the Wimbledon women's final (yes, we might have chosen a better Saturday for our summer concert), the Kennington Choirs and a goodly sized audience were enjoying a highly entertaining mixed bag of light operatic and musical theatre pieces in St Swithun's Church.

For two concerts now, since the passing of our inspirational founder and leader Trevor Cowlett, the choir has been led and further inspired by Claire Sutton-Williams, already a notable soloist in some of our previous concerts. She put together a lovely programme of pieces from Purcell to Handel to Mozart to Wagner to G & S to Novello to Gershwin to Loesser, including some arrangements of traditional nautical songs. The whole lyrical gallimaufry was loosely tied – sometimes very loosely tied indeed, if truth be told - into a fable, beguilingly narrated by Wendy Lewis, that revolved around the love of a sailor for his lass. There was wooing, carousing, dancing, storm, tribulation, mermaids, enchantment, heartbreak, skulduggery, and beauty of a truly ethereal kind . . . very little of which was on offer in the Wimbledon tennis final! Most of all, there was conjoined musical fun and laughter for a scintillating couple of hours.

We were all – choir and audience alike – thrilled and honoured to be treated to some solos and duets from the same sort of repertoire by both Claire herself and a close professional colleague of hers, Anthony Harris (see photo). Their superb soprano and tenor voices filled our little church and reminded us what the human voice can do when it is truly gifted. But these occasions are also warm social jamborees, and at the interval we all drifted outside to enjoy friendly chat with a glass or two of chilled wine or fruit juice, and a rich array of home-made cakes to match the musical feast we were already enjoying. Suitably refreshed and nourished, folk readily emptied their pockets and purses to the tune of £450, for the benefit of our chosen charity on this occasion, Helen and Douglas House: a splendid sum. Thank you to all.



The second half probably benefited from the cake and wine that had been enjoyed in the interval: choruses were sung with admirable vim and gusto, and few noticed when the odd note went astray or we all momentarily forgot what was up next. This is the Kennington choir enjoying themselves, not Scholar Cantorum. The entire repertoire was, however, beautifully and faultlessly accompanied on the piano by our very own Denise Evans, and the soloists by the peerless Jamal Sutton, a loyal supporter of all the choir's work over the years.

The afternoon was a delightful success in all respects. If you think we sound a little bit pleased with ourselves, it's because we are, and deservedly so. I think dear Trevor would have been proud of us. We owe a huge thank you to Claire for her musical skills and her indefatigable patience and fortitude in putting the whole show together, and to Denise, Jamal and Anthony for lifting the performance standard of our show to something approaching sublimity (only approaching, mind – not there yet!) We resume activities for the autumn season on Friday 9th September in the Methodist Church. This is an OPEN rehearsal inviting possible new members to join us for an evening of fun singing: we could do with some new blood, and we genuinely welcome all-comers. You don't need to be able to read music, rehearsals are great fun and very sociable (plenty of time to make new friends and chat), and you'll be made to feel truly welcome. The physical and emotional uplift you can feel after a good sing has to be experienced to be believed. You're never going to get onto Centre Court at Wimbledon, so why not give this a go!

— Alan Marsh

Kennington & District United Church Choirs

invite you to an

Open Rehearsal – Come and Join Us!

Kennington Choirs invite you to join them for an open rehearsal on

**Friday 9th September at 7:30 p.m. in the Methodist Church, Upper Road,
Kennington, Oxford OX1 5LR.**

The rehearsal will be led by our Director, Claire Sutton-Williams. We shall rehearse the Fauré Requiem, so do bring along a copy if you have one though copies will be available (Novello edition). If you haven't sung for a long time or if you sing with another choir and would like to join us as well, then this is for you! We are keen to have new members, especially basses and tenors, but all are welcome. Come and meet our current members and find out about the music we sing. We hope to do a concert 'Come and Sing' of the Fauré Requiem on Sunday 23rd October and a Christmas Special in December when the choir will celebrate 50 years since it was founded. We look forward to seeing you!

For more information, please contact Christine Ravenscroft on cravenscroft111@gmail.com or 01865 361431 or Amena Sutton on astobago@gmail.com or 01865 739936.

Kennington History Society

We did not meet in August. We are looking forward to a talk by Mike Hurst called "Tracks to the Trenches" at 7:45 p.m. on the 19th of September in the Methodist Church Road off Upper Road. All are welcome but non-members are charge £2.50. The talk will be followed by tea and coffee. At recent meetings, a number of people have attended on a "taster" basis to see what we are all about. They have mostly liked what they have seen and some have joined. Could that be you? We still lack a Secretary to take minutes at Committee meetings. It is not an onerous position. Again could that be you?

— Bob Johnston

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Congratulations to Kennington's Jerry Patterson!

Alderman honour awarded to three ex-councillors

Three former Vale of White Horse councillors who served the district for a combined total of 52 years have been honoured as Aldermen.

Jim Halliday, Jerry Patterson and Reg Waite were awarded the title at a recent special Council meeting in recognition of the service they provided to the council and the district.



Jerry Patterson served as a district councillor between 1995 and 2015, representing the Kennington ward until 2003, and then onto Kennington and South Hinksey ward from 2003 to 2015 following a change of district boundaries. During Jerry's time at the Vale, he was Council Leader for four years, as well as a period as Chair on the Abingdon and North East Area Committee. He was also a member on several other groups, including the Planning Committee and Reservoir Advisory Group.

Cllr Emily Smith, Leader of Vale of White Horse District Council, said: "Jim, Jerry and Reg were all very active and passionate representatives of their local wards and the Vale of White Horse District Council. Throughout their time, they all worked across several key roles with great dignity. They've set a great example for current councillors to follow and that's why we're delighted to award all three an Alderman title to publicly recognise the significant contribution they've made to people, businesses, and communities across our district."

In receiving the honour, the trio join Alderwomen Briony Newport and Joyce Hutchinson, who were given the title in 2007 and 2011 respectively. If someone is honoured as an Alderman or Alderwoman they can attend and take part in civic ceremonies, but do not have the right to represent the council at official Council meetings or receive any allowances.

— Vale of White Horse District Council

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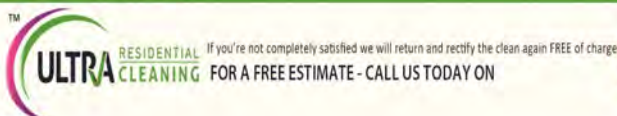
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## KITCHEN KORNER!

### SHRIMP SCAMPI AND ANGEL HAIR

A scrumptious quick meal for the kids and family!

#### Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp salt & a drizzle of oil for the hot water for pasta
- 3 tbsp butter
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 4 cloves minced garlic
- 1 lb large shrimp - peeled and deveined
- 1 tsp salt
- ¼ tsp pepper
- ⅓ cup finely chopped parsley
- ½ tbsp grated lemon zest
- ¼ cup fresh squeezed lemon juice (1-2 lemons)
- ⅛ tsp hot red pepper flakes



#### Method:

1. Cook pasta according to directions on packet.
2. In a skillet, melt the butter & oil, add the garlic and sauté for 1 min.
3. Add shrimp and sprinkle salt & pepper. Sauté until pink (2-3 mins each side).
4. Remove shrimp from the skillet and keep warm for a few seconds.
5. Mix lemon zest, chopped parsley and pepper flakes in the juices from the shrimp.
6. Pour shrimp over the cooked, drained pasta & toss to combine.

**What could be easier?**

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## OPEN GARDENS DAY, JUNE 2022

### A BIG THANK YOU TO KENNINGTON!



*"This was our first time as an 'opener'. It was a lovely, sociable day—albeit very busy—and a great way to meet other villagers!"*

The words of Annette Gillow. She and her husband are the owners of one of the five gardens that opened for the first time ever for our Kennington Open Gardens Day on 26 June this year. Four other garden owners, already veterans of past Open Garden Days, also welcomed visitors that day, making nine in all. As on past such occasions, people were invited to enjoy St Swithun's Church Grounds, where Wild About Kennington put on a display and teas were served. There were refreshments in some of the other gardens, as well as plant sales and a second-hand book stall, and more wildlife gardening advice in the garden of Sylfest and Alison Muldal.

It all made for a great community event, with lots of people on foot around the village (206 of you bought tickets!), meeting neighbours and making new friends, exchanging gardening tips, chatting over tea and cakes. As opener Alison Peedell said, *"We had a great afternoon, catching up with old friends and making new."* Meanwhile, in the Sylfests' garden there was pond-dipping for the children and identifying bees with the help of Richard Parton, and at Annette's place, *"The children were kept busy enjoying our garden trail to find hidden features amongst all the plants and many played the giant noughts and crosses game!"*

The outcome of all this was that the magnificent sum of £1,800 was raised for the Nasio Trust's project to build a community library in Western Kenya ([www.thenasiotrust.org](http://www.thenasiotrust.org)). Added to what we had already raised, this takes us well on the way to our eventual target of £10,000. As Norma Sweeney said, *"It was a great pleasure for me to open for this good cause."*

An event like this cannot happen without a lot of work by many people. I counted about 50 people who had made some sort of contribution to the success of the day. First, I have to thank Norma Sweeney, who shared the overall organisation of the day with me as well as opening her own garden. We owe a huge debt of thanks to all the openers. Apart from Norma (and her long-

suffering husband, John) and me, they were Emma Whiteley, Alison and Sylfest Muldal, Annette and Steve Gillow, Molly and John Dewey, Alison and Brian Peedell, Alan and Jackie Mutton and Sylvia and Attam Vetta. The new openers especially were a bit trepidatious beforehand, not knowing quite what they had taken on, but all did a magnificent job in the end.

There isn't room here to list the rest of the fifty or so people involved. People who baked cakes, donated plants and books, served teas, sold tickets, put up notices and took them down again, and so on, so you get the idea of what a community effort this was. Thanks are also due to the publicity support provided by the Nasio Trust, to members of the Kennington Horticultural Society, to St Swithun's Church for the use of the church grounds, to Wild about Kennington, and to Kennington Parish Council for giving us a grant to cover our printing costs.

How lucky we were to have chosen a date before our gardens were afflicted by heat and drought! As Norma said, *"The weather was perfect for garden visiting, sunny with a breeze now and again, which changed the play of light on the plants, creating changing pictures for our visitors."*

And my own feelings about the event? I love sharing my garden with other people, so it was wonderful to welcome so many people of all ages, from toddlers to octogenarians. And I remain eternally grateful to the many people who in some cases allowed themselves to be cajoled into being involved and in others embraced the opportunity enthusiastically. Thank you Kennington for your generosity.

Marilyn Farr (on behalf of the Nasio library fund-raising committee: Sylvia Vetta, Laila Ismail Khan, Amena Sutton and Halcyon Leonard)

## Kennington ADS

Kennington ADS will be back on stage in January with our pantomime, Aladdin! This mystical tale of adventure, written by Tom Whalley, will be full of colourful characters, sing-along songs, fabulous costume creations, and all the feel-good fun that comes with a KADS panto!

**Tickets go on sale on 1st October**, so get ready to book your seat on this magic carpet ride!

Show dates at Kennington Village Centre:

|                       |                            |
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| Friday 27th January   | 7:30 p.m.: all tickets £10 |
| Saturday 28th         | 2:00p.m. and 7:30 p.m.     |
| Sunday 29th           | 2:00p.m.                   |
| Thursday 2nd February | 7:30 p.m.                  |
| Friday 3rd            | 7:30 p.m.                  |
| Saturday 4th          | 2:00p.m. and 7:30 p.m.     |

Tickets are just £10 for the first performance, then £12 adults, £10 concessions, and £35 for a family of four (under 5s go free on laps). The Box Office opens on 1st October: Call on 01865 739025 or email [boxoffice@kenningtonads.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@kenningtonads.co.uk). We accept payment in cash, cheque, BACS, and now by card (booking charge applies).

We'll have lots of updates to share as we get panto-ready, including an announcement about the charity that we'll support this year. Follow us on Facebook @KenningtonADS for all the latest news!



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**Summer Read Challenge Award Party on the morning of Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September.**

### Regular Termtime Children’s Events

**Storytime:** Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2:30pm – 3pm

**Rhymetime:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2:30pm – 3pm

For preschool children and their guardians. Free drop in, but booking greatly appreciated.

## Coffee Talks



**Wednesday 7th September– 11am for 11:30am:  
Diana Bell. Art and Nature.**

Diana is an internationally well-known artist. She is best known for public art. During lock-down she reconnected with nature between Dry Sandford and Bagley Woods to produce a beautiful book. Come and listen to Diana talking about her art and her book. To learn about Diana’s art, see her web site [www.dianabell.co.uk](http://www.dianabell.co.uk).

**Signed books will be for sale!**

## Next Month

**Wednesday 5th October - 11am for 11:30am:**

**Sylfest Muldal-** Kennington resident and wildlife enthusiast- back by popular demand!

## Return of the ‘Board Games Club’ – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 10am – 12 noon



What game would you like to play?  
Bring your own or choose from the many options. Come as a group or come alone to meet new friends.  
If you’d like this to be a regular event then please show your support by attending!

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#### Look out for updates:

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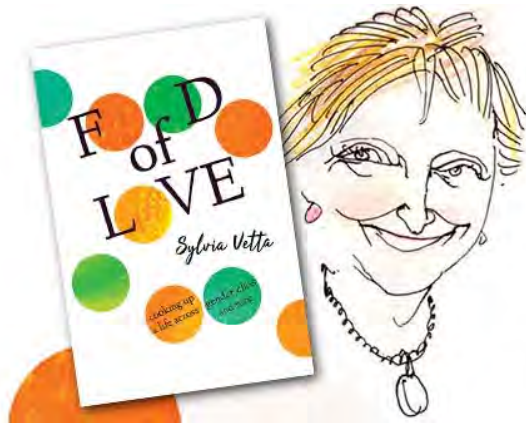
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Claret Press will publish my memoir *Food of Love* in the Autumn. It is the story of a working-class girl who would not have enjoyed the life she has without access to Luton Central Library. That awareness led to my passion to help save Oxfordshire libraries. Korkey Paul leading the Pied Piper procession to tea in Kennington Village Centre was, I believe, instrumental in changing the leader of the council's mind. At least Keith Mitchell hinted as much to me. FOKL's honorary life president, Korkey Paul has illustrated the 'library' chapter towards the end.

My publisher is an indie (because I am not Chinese) but Brushstrokes in Time attracted seventy '5' star reviews on Amazon. It is now endorsed by John Gittings, the former chief foreign correspondent of the Guardian, as well as quietly by the courageous Stars artists (Ai Weiwei was one of them). The Professor of Modern Chinese History at Oxford, Rana Mitter, has endorsed my memoir – just one of the amazing local, national and international endorsements. I cook up a story across gender, class and race because of mine and my husband Atam's intimate experience of the changes in our society related to those themes. Each chapter ends with a recipe provided by family and friends which show how our society has been enriched by immigration.

Kennington has been my home since 1970 and features a lot so I'll launch *Food of Love* with food on 1st October in the Village Centre. There will be a raffle for the Nasio library project. For 50 years through KOA, this village changed the lives of hundreds of thousands of people for the better. It was a brilliant example that you can effect change given the will and determination. When *Not so Black and White* was published, I suggested that co-author Nancy Mudeny Hunt give copies to community libraries in west Kenya. The problem was that there are none – no libraries - so a group of us in the village set about raising the money to build the first.

The successful 'Open Gardens' in June, organised by former KOA chair, Marilyn Farr, was one of our fundraising efforts. For the ambitious but deprived children in Mumias in west Kenya, access to the library, its books and computers will open the world to them just as Luton Central Library did for me. I doubt I would have passed my 11 plus and would be writing this now without access to a library.

I shall lead the November FOKL author talk but I won't be talking about my life but yours. I want to encourage others to write their memoirs and give some advice on how and why you should begin. If you aren't already a friend of our library PLEASE do join. It only costs £3 per annum. There are only a few places left for the October launch event but on Tuesday 18th October, there will be a more traditional launch at the Old Fire Station: <https://oldfirestation.org.uk/whats-on/the-launch-of-sylvia-vettas-memoir/#>

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If your daughter would like to take part we have room. Rainbows can now start at 4 years old. We meet at Kennington Methodist Church Hall on Mondays 5:30–6:30 p.m. You can contact Liz on 01865 730053 for more information, but to register, go to the Girlguiding website:

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

— Pauline (Fern), Liz (Daisy) and Rhiannon (Iris)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Kennington Guides

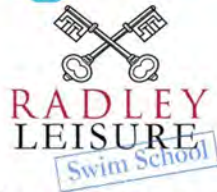
We ended the summer term with a night sleeping under the stars at Beanwood, part of Wytham Woods. After carrying their kit up the hill into the woods, the Guides enjoyed a campfire and built shelters to sleep in. We also had an unexpected rescue mission when we found a tawny owl stuck in a water butt. The owl flew off shortly after being extracted so we are hopeful it will make a full recovery!



We are looking forward to the Autumn term. As many of our older Guides have now moved on, we have spaces for new Guides to join. We are holding an Open Evening on Friday 16th September (see below) from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at St Swithun's Church Hall for anyone interested in joining.

Please register at [www.kenningtonguides.org.uk/openevening](http://www.kenningtonguides.org.uk/openevening)

*Guides is for all girls aged 10-14. If you would like to join in the fun, please contact Jo on 07940 537992 or [1stkenningtonguides@gmail.com](mailto:1stkenningtonguides@gmail.com). More information, including opportunities for girls outside of our age range, can be found on our website: [www.kenningtonguides.org.uk](http://www.kenningtonguides.org.uk)*



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Welcome back! Hoping everyone had a great summer and the Brownies are now raring to go for another term of fun, fun, FUN!

To bring you up to date, we finished the school term off with a high action joint meeting with the Brownies and the Rainbows! We enrolled two new Brownies – Rowan & Aurora. All the girls made up their own styled fajitas, tore around outside with games and then we enrolled new Rainbows just before Brownie bells. It was absolutely delightful to have the Rainbows share the last meeting with us and the girls all got on very well indeed.



In the previous meetings, we were very industrious in making bunting for our party which was strung up outside on the bushes at the last meeting. The Brownies made loads of messy finger painting by creating their own paint colours. Then they prepared an exploding colour mixture! Oh my! During the last few weeks, we had a great discussion on various careers that women could do. Barn Owl put up pictures of women firefighters, racing horse riders, authors, golfers and a volcanologist! The girls were in teams and had to come up with what kind of qualifications/attributes each career would require. They were very interested and animated when I revealed that Kennington has its own lady Volcanologist in our midst! I think she would be a great visitor to come and speak to the girls about her career!

There was a chocolate heist! The scenario was that a chocolate bar was stolen from the village shop! The girls were given a dexterity task to complete before obtaining a clue from Brown Owl. In the end, they discovered who was the thief and they didn't even need all the clues. No chocolate was in danger of being eaten at this sleuthing task! These types of game/tasks we play are all part of working together as a team and to make them think their way out of the puzzles we present.

We are a very welcoming group of Brownies and would love to see new members! You can come along for a taster session if you are unsure. Looking forward to seeing everyone for the autumn term!

— Eagle Owl

*Brownies is open to all girls aged 7-10 yrs. We currently have spaces for more girls to join and they can join at any time of the year. Please contact Angie on: 07758 756204 or [3rdkenningtonbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:3rdkenningtonbrownies@gmail.com). More information on Girlguiding and Brownies can be found at [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)*

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| Tuesday                           | 8:30-12:30    | 2-5:30        | 5:00-12:30        | 2-5:30            |
| <b>Wednesday</b>                  | 8:30-12:30    | <b>2-4:00</b> | 5:00-12:30        | <b>2-6:30</b>     |
| Thursday                          | 8:30-12:30    | 2-5:30        | 5:00-12:30        | 2-5:30            |
| Friday                            | 8:30-12:30    | 2-5:30        | 5:00-12:30        | 2-5:30            |
| <b>Saturday</b>                   | 9:00-1:00     | <b>Closed</b> | 5:00-12:30        | <b>12:30-3:00</b> |
| <b>Sunday &amp; Bank Holidays</b> | <b>Closed</b> | <b>Closed</b> | <b>5:00-11:00</b> | <b>Closed</b>     |



### Beaver Colony Update

Wow! What a busy summer term we have had with the Beavers working towards their Teamwork and Adventure Challenge Badges. We also have a lot of folk from the local community to thank for the support they have given to the Colony.

Thank you first goes to Meryll, our Kennington ecologist, who took the Colony out on a bear hunt in Kennington meadows (See photo). We didn't find any bears, but the Beavers can now tell the difference between a fox paw print and a dog print. They showed a great deal of interest in poo identification rather than species spotting - not really that surprising for a group of 6-8 year-olds!



Second thank you goes to Laura Greene, our Kennington professional photographer, who helped the Beavers achieve their Photography Badge (see photo). We had a lot of fun dressing up and learning how to frame and take each other's pictures. Laura was very brave and generous in allowing the Beavers to use one of her actual cameras.

Third thank you goes to Coach Dave, who is a youth coach at Oxford rugby club. He hosted a session at the rugby club, taking the Colony through warm up drills and then finishing with a tag match.

Fourth and final thank you goes to Nick, Cub Scout alumnus and Kennington adventurer. He was kind enough to bring one of his converted land rovers down to the Scout HQ (see photo) and answer the many questions the Beavers had around his adventures. The Beavers had a great time clambering in and out of his land rover as well as working out which country all the flag stickers belonged to.



There are no meetings over the summer holidays but that doesn't mean Scouting has come to a stop. The Beaver Leaders have now started planning our programme for next term as well as finalising the details of our September camp at Youlbury.

— Tamsin (Alpaca), Beaver Colony Assistant

*We now have young people on the waiting list for every section. Please get in touch to offer some time to get to know the kids in our community and have fun yourself.*  
[Kenningtonscouts@gmail.com](mailto:Kenningtonscouts@gmail.com)



# Exciting opportunity to join **Living lab** as part of Oxford University research

**Living labs** are a group of households living in real-world conditions, in their own homes and who are committed to trial, learn, interact and share data with a research team on phenomena of interest.



Digital technologies and applications are all around us. Apps, the internet, smartphones, cloud-based services powered by artificial intelligence – all increasingly inseparable from how we move around, how we heat and organise our homes, how we shop, how we socialise and relax.

A very exciting opportunity is available to get involved and participate in a Living Lab as part of an important study called iDODDLE at the University of Oxford which is exploring the role, use and impacts of digitalisation on our daily lives.

The iDODDLE research team are keen to recruit a wide range of households to capture insights from people with a high use of digital technologies, but also very importantly, households with a low use of digital technologies.

**Generous thank you payments and other incentives available for helping research and taking part**

If you live in the Oxford area, have internet access, and your whole household is willing to take part, you can apply!



**Interested?**

Please email [livinglabs@idoddle.org](mailto:livinglabs@idoddle.org)  
or scan the QR code below



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### **KENNINGTON HISTORY SOCIETY**

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## The Oxford Inklings

Oxford has a long and distinguished history of famous authors and poets, including C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, Owen Barfield, Charles Williams, Lord David Cecil, and Lewis Carroll but also the writings of Percy Shelley, Oscar Wilde, Vera Brittain, Robert Graves, John Betjeman, George Macdonald, G. K. Chesterton and Dorothy L. Sayers to name but a few. More recent alumni include Wendy Cope (*Making Cocoa for Kingsley Amis*), Jill Paton Walsh (*Lord Peter Wimsey series*), Colin Dexter (*Inspector Morse series*) and Phillip Pullman (*Book of Dust Trilogy*).

A walk from Kennington along the River Thames to Folly Bridge and then into the city of Oxford leads to Christ Church College Gardens. These gardens also lead up to Merton College, one of the oldest in Oxford (founded in 1264), which is where JRR Tolkien lectured as a Professor of Anglo Saxon History. Walk a little further on from Merton College and you will arrive at Magdalen College where CS Lewis was a Fellow and Tutor in English Literature. These two great literary giants formed a deep and lasting friendship which continued throughout their lifetimes.

JRR Tolkien (*The Hobbit and Lord of the Rings*) and CS Lewis (*The Chronicles of Narnia and The Ransom Trilogy*) were members of "The Inklings" in Oxford. They were part of a gathering of friends, most of them scholars and academics within Oxford University, many of them creative writers and lovers of imaginative literature. The informal meetings consisted of friendly conversation, the exchange of ideas and, most often, readings of new and original material.

The members of "The Inklings" included C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien, Owen Barfield, Charles Williams, Warren Lewis, Hugo Dyson, Lord David Cecil, Roger Lancelyn Green, Adam Fox, R. A. Havard, J. A. W. Bennett, and Nevill Coghill. The core of this legendary literary group was CS Lewis, JRR Tolkien, Owen Barfield (*Saving the Appearances*) and Charles Williams (*All Hallows Eve*). They were united by a love of myth and the belief that it is through the imagination that reality is illuminated.

The Inklings would meet in CS Lewis's rooms in Magdalen College, Oxford during the 1930s and 1940s and in various Oxford pubs, usually The Eagle and Child and sometimes The Lamb and Flag. Both of these pubs are in St. Giles not far from The Ashmolean Museum and The Martyrs Memorial. During the war years beer shortages occasionally rendered the Eagle and Child unable to open and the group instead met at other pubs, including the White Horse in Broad Street and the Kings Arms on the corner of Parks Road and Holywell Street.

Clive Staples Lewis (better known as CS Lewis) loved nothing more than sitting in the back room of his favourite pub, The Eagle and Child, surrounded by his closest literary friends, including JRR



Tolkien. In 1926, Lewis joined the English faculty at Oxford University, which is where he met Tolkien. The most well-known members of this extraordinary group of Oxford academics who loved great stories and great beer were, of course, CS Lewis and JRR Tolkien.

Lewis and Tolkien remained “literary soul mates” until Lewis’s death in 1963. They inspired each other, and their relationship remains one of the most significant in twentieth-century literature. Tolkien once wrote of Lewis: “Only from him did I ever get the idea that my ‘stuff’ could be more than a private hobby.” Another commentator noted, “Without JRR Tolkien, we might never have heard of CS Lewis, but without Lewis, we might never have heard of Tolkien.”

*This is article 3 out of 6 on Oxfordshire History written by John Clapton for The Kennington Chronicle*

## Apple Café



Apple Cafe has had a break over the summer, while many of our volunteers are away. We are re-opening on Thursday 8th September at 10 a.m.

For the month of September we are offering tea or instant coffee for just £1. We will continue with our delicious cakes and scones, as well as our warmer weather foods such as baked potatoes and soups.

As well as opening as a cafe we will continue to offer special events. This term we plan to have a coffee-tasting session, with the people who provide our filter coffee, Jericho Coffee Traders. They are highly knowledgeable about their coffee, so come along to find out more, date to be confirmed.

If you are interested in sharing a hobby with others at Apple Cafe, we are always open to new ideas, so just drop us an email, or contact us on Facebook.

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## Hello again!

I am introducing myself as the new (returning) clerk for the village. Rachel left for new horizons earlier this summer, with me taking the reins at the beginning of August. I look forward to working with the Council again.

I am sure you that would like to join the Council in passing on best wishes and thanks to Rachel for all her help and support over the five years she has been clerk for Kennington and all the very best for the future.

## Grants

Kennington Parish Council has awarded a grant of £217 to help offset losses incurred due to Covid-19 for the Kennington History Society.

## Litter-Mapping Project

Vale of White Horse District Council is undertaking a litter-mapping project. Litter pickers are asked to record the location and types of litter either online using the online survey Litter Picking Project form [whitehorsedc.gov.uk/littermapping](http://whitehorsedc.gov.uk/littermapping). The survey will run until 30th September.

## Remembrance Day

The organisation of this year's Remembrance Day is underway, with a meeting planned later this month.

We will need to be thinking of Christmas soon!

— Anne Feather, Clerk to the Council

## Dates of Council Meetings September 2022

All meetings are normally held in the Village Centre. Members of the public are welcome but please inform the clerk in advance if you are planning to attend.

|                          |           |                                                                |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thursday 8th September   | 7:30 p.m. | <b>Kennington Parish Council meeting</b>                       |
| Wednesday 14th September | 7:30 p.m. | <b>Playing Fields Committee meeting, Playfield Rd pavilion</b> |
| Tuesday 20th September   | 7:30 p.m. | <b>Council Planning meeting</b>                                |

Planning applications are considered by the Parish Council at the next meeting following receipt of the plan as they only have 21 days to send in their comments. Therefore, please telephone or email the Clerk immediately you receive notification to ensure the Parish Council members are aware of any neighbour objections. Plans can be viewed by arrangement with the Clerk or online at [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk).

To contact the clerk, call 01865 421126 or write to [clerk@kennington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@kennington-pc.gov.uk).



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## Oxford Preservation Trust

**Oxford Open Doors 2022** will take place on **Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th September**. We are excited about opening the gates to Oxford's amazing history and heritage again with new places opening alongside old favourites, and all for free! Oxford Open Doors gives local people the chance to be a tourist in their own city, and in 2021 we were delighted to welcome 12,500 people who visited 69 venues and events, both in-person and virtual. We are following the national Heritage Open Days theme with a twist: **Astounding inventions, innovations and inspirations**. Some highlights include:

- Come and meet Ai-Da, the world's first ultra-realistic robot artist, at the Weston Library.
- Visit the homes of the 2019 Nobel Prize Laureate and Oxford-Astrazeneca COVID-19 vaccine at The Old Road Research Campus.
- Explore the delights of St John's College, with its traditional quadrangles, award-winning modern architecture, and beautiful gardens.
- The Discovering Heritage and Green Spaces self-guided walk around Rose Hill. The Oxford Preservation Trust has worked with the local community to create this walk, which will be launched and available over the weekend.
- Step inside history at the Oxford Castle & Prison. Look out for the stone carving demonstration in the Castle yard!
- Take a tour of Oxford in a vintage bus, courtesy of Oxford Bus Museum.
- Find out about some of the big ideas and amazing inventions made here in Oxford, with the guided walk with Oxford's Guild of Guides.
- Hidden Oxford at its best: Shakespeare's Painted Room at The Crown Tavern in Cornmarket street.

Oxford Preservation Trust wants to make Oxford's history and heritage accessible for free to everyone in our beautiful city, across town and gown. Help us keep going and JOIN today. Oxford Preservation Trust members can enjoy some amazing discounts and special events:

- OPT members enjoy special members-only events and priority booking for Oxford Open Doors.
- OPT Members who refer a friend to join as a member of OPT, will both receive a FREE event of their choice in the Autumn programme.
- New Members who join OPT before the end of September will receive a free limited edition OPT Eco Travel Mug.
- OPT members receive 100% free entry to Oxford Castle and Prison all year-round.

View the full programme at [www.oxfordpreservation.org.uk/content/events](http://www.oxfordpreservation.org.uk/content/events) and keep up to date on our social media channels: Facebook @OxPresTrust, Instagram @OxfordPresTrust and Twitter @OxfordPresTrust.

We continue to encourage you to enjoy our land at Kennington Memorial Field and Flood Meadows on walks and runs. Please remember to pick up dog waste and be careful not to drop

cigarettes or ash on the extremely dry meadows. We have had a small field fire in recent weeks so do take care, and please call us as well as emergency services if there are any further fires.

We hope you are staying cool in this weather and are looking forward to a bit of English rain!

As always, please get in touch if you want to find out more about Oxford Preservation Trust, the work we do or how to volunteer, by visiting our website at [www.oxfordpreservation.org.uk](http://www.oxfordpreservation.org.uk) or giving us a call on 01865 242918.

## No Miles Nursery at 140 Poplar Grove - Fundraising for Viva.org

The nursery will be having a break from selling plants this autumn, while I aim to regroup, after having had a challenging time with family bereavements.

We managed to raise just under £700 this year supporting Viva.org in their efforts to help street children. So THANK YOU for buying my plants.

I hope to be back with colourful Spring bulbs in the New Year.



— Rosey Hollinrake

## Kennington Strollers

### ...continuing to walk at the Playing Field in September

We have been walking at the playing field on Playfield Road, every **Wednesday afternoon at 2 p.m.** since 4th May. By the time you are reading this in September, we will have done 18 spring/summer walks. If the weather is still kind to us, we will continue to walk every week until **Wednesday 28th September.**

In most weeks, 10 to 12 people have been regularly walking and the group have had the company of Carol, Marilyn, and Elaine, our loyal volunteers. In July and August we also had a new helper Bhuv, a student at Oxford University, who wanted to volunteer in a community during his summer break. I am pleased to say we have had plenty of support for our walkers this year who have enjoyed a variety of people to walk and talk with. After the short walk we enjoy a cup of tea and chat together.

Ashley Chapman, (Active Communities Officer at the Vale of White Horse), organised training for new volunteer walk leaders during August. Two of our volunteers attended the walk leader training morning. We are now known as a “wellbeing walk” - part of the Ramblers nationwide scheme. It was previously called Walking for Health.

I would like to thank **everyone – both walkers and volunteers** - who has attended the short gentle walks at the playing field this summer. I hope the walks have helped to improve or maintain your fitness and mobility. We welcome new walkers to join us during September on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. The walks are as many or as few laps of the playing field as you want to do and at your own pace.

If you want more information about the short gentle walks, please get in touch with me on 01865 735419 or email [gardneraldgate@outlook.com](mailto:gardneraldgate@outlook.com)

## **LADIES**

Fancy a cup of tea and biscuit, chat with others and listen to an interesting talk one afternoon?

Why not come along to the

**Methodist Church**

**on Wednesday, 7th September, at 2.15pm.**

**Our talk this month is:**

**“Why farming matters” with Emma Hamer**

You will be made most welcome and we look forward to seeing you then

If you have any questions, please telephone Jean on Oxford 730280 or Maureen on 01235 530357. We will be pleased to hear from you.

— KENNINGTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (formed in 1925)

## **Kennington Horticultural Society**

### **Annual Show: Saturday 10th September 2022, to be held in the Village Centre**

Members wishing to exhibit at the Annual Show can register their interest by contacting the show secretary Alison Peedell, on 730961 or by email on [brianpeedell@gmail.com](mailto:brianpeedell@gmail.com) and request a show schedule.

For cost reasons we have reduced the number of show schedules this year. There will still be adequate numbers available. John Maine has delivered show schedules to last year's show entrants. Setting up will take place on Saturday 10th September from 9 a.m. The show will open at 2:15 p.m.

### **Talk: Wednesday 28th September 2022 in St Swithun's Church**

A presentation by Mandy Bradshaw. Entitled '*Find the Angle at Chelsea*', Mandy will share her experiences of Chelsea Show behind the scenes. Members £2.00; non-members £3.00. Refreshments complimentary.

### **Coach outing to Westonbirt Arboretum: Saturday 15th October 2022.**

Coach outing to Westonbirt Arboretum. The coach will depart Manor Grove at 8:30 a.m., calling at bus stops in the village. Places can be booked with the treasurer on 730961. The cost inclusive of coach and admission is £30.00.

### **One to note: Wednesday 23 November 2022**

Presentation by Robert Harvey. Secrets of the Wiltshire Landscape.

— Brian Peedell

# MAKE A CHANGE

## BECOME A COUNCILLOR

The next Kennington Parish Council elections are a year away.

Are you passionate about your community? Do you want to help make a long-lasting change? Do you have innovative ideas for the council? Do you have concerns about a specific issue and want to do something about it? If this is you, then we need you.

We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect their community to put themselves forward for election.

Make a change and become a councillor.

Find out more at <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/local-elections> or contact Kennington Parish Council on 01865 421126 or [clerk@kennington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@kennington-pc.gov.uk)

#MakeAChange #KenningtonPC #KenningtonParishCouncil



In Rowan class we have been thoroughly enjoying our topic 'Creeping, Crawling Creatures.' In DT we created fantastic bug coasters as gifts for a special adult at home. We tested out different materials, created a design, and made them. Afterwards we evaluated our finished product. We enjoyed wrapping them in tissue paper and tying them with a ribbon for our adults. In Art we made bug sculptures inspired by the artist Edouard Martinet.

Recently, we went on our residential trip to Hillend Outdoor Centre, Farmoor, where we went bug-hunting, and built some impressive dens. Everyone got involved and showed fantastic imaginative thinking and problem solving skills too. In the evening we had a campfire with some enthusiastic singing, before falling fast asleep as soon as our teachers told us to...



In English, our most recent writing journey was based on the story of The Princess and the Pea. We learnt it off by heart with actions before making changes to it. After this, we changed the pea into a bug, and thought about how that would change the story. The princess didn't fare too well in some of our stories; being bitten all over by the bug in the night, and then deciding not to marry the prince after all!

In Science we have been learning about animals including humans, and their different habitats. One lesson, we went on a walk around our school field looking for micro-habitats. We did this at Hillend too, and some of us even created some tiny dens for hedgehogs when we were den-building.

Finally, in Geography, we have been growing in our understanding of physical and human features. On our residential field trip to Hillend we thought about Kennington compared to Hillend in terms of human and physical features. We noticed that Hillend has far more physical features than Kennington. In addition, we collected data about our field trip there, creating a pictogram of results of children's favourite activities there. Most of us liked the toasted marshmallows best!

— Rowan Class

## Wildlife and traditional gardening

Series from Stuart Mabbutt, *Wildlife Gardening Specialist*, 01865 747243, [www.wildmaninspires.co.uk](http://www.wildmaninspires.co.uk)

### Feeding People is Easy

Another book review for you this month. This time it is Colin Tudge's, '*Feeding People Is Easy*'

I have read Colin's books before, and though his writing style infuriates me, if you can wade through his words, there are impactful messages in there. Messages that will stick with you for life. He does have a tendency to use words and phrases I've never heard before and goes well beyond academic speak. It feels to me he could say what he means in far fewer words. I get the feeling he enjoys bamboozling the reader with his grasp of English, saying in a complicated way, what he could say in far simpler terms.

That said, it is a good read, and the challenging message I got from the book, "Feeding People is Easy", is topical and an important one. The ideas are not all emanating from the author, as in my view he's reviewing a lot of other big thinkers' concepts, and marrying them up with his own. He actually does that very well I point out. We can feed ourselves without the abuse to animals and the natural world; that's what I was left thinking after reading this. If we get it right, the quality of life for almost all, if not all societies, will improve. What I like about the book is it pretty much shows what we can all do to help. The book advocates allowing us to do it for ourselves, but it's by no means a manual on how to do that. This book is as much about social justice as it is about food supplies.

The book reinforces that every one of us is undeniably invested in the food supply chains, ethics and production, and that realisation is power. We have the power to directly influence. A lot of the concepts I was aware of before, but it was nice to see them framed in a new way and punctuated by new ideas. Many readers may not even be aware there is a problem at the outset, but by the end of the book I'd hope everyone would be thinking about far reaching, yet simple solutions. It just needs reimagining this feeding ourselves thing, and there is so much more to learn about the subject, and adjusting our own mindsets in relation to it.

I'd say more focus is on the problems than the solutions, but personally, I appreciated the space to come up with my own solutions and do further reading via other writers and thus educate myself about all this. The fact that we are already producing enough food to feed the world yet failing to do so because of how we use and distribute that food, will stay with me for a long time. Some of the author's revelations shocked me, but it succeeds in revealing there's a lot we can do, yet we are a long way from achieving it.

It is a bit like what's going on in the ecosystems in our gardens, parks and greenspaces. The solutions are there; we just need the space, time and desire to get there. The essence of this article is that we all need to look at our priorities and improve on them. There's always more we can do. Happy Gardening!

— Stuart Mabbutt

## Abingdon Heritage Open Days

This year the main events are on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th September, but our "**Engines, Drains and Nuisances**" Exhibition will be open in St Ethelwolds on the Thursday and Friday as well.

We kick off with a talk in the Unicorn Theatre on Wednesday 14th. This year's theme is "**Astounding Inventions and Innovations**"—appropriate for this area—and we will have the usual mix of exhibitions, open historic buildings, walks, talks and trails.

You can find the full programme at [www.abingdonheritage.org.uk/festivalprogramme](http://www.abingdonheritage.org.uk/festivalprogramme).

# 1<sup>st</sup> Kennington Guides Open Evening



Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Sept 7:30-9:00pm  
St Swithun's Church Hall, Kennington  
For girls aged 10 to 14

Do you like cooking, arts and crafts,  
playing games, learning new skills,  
going on trips, camping and sleeping  
under the stars?

Come along and find out more about  
joining our Guide unit.

Please register for this event at  
[www.kenningtonguides.org.uk/openevening](http://www.kenningtonguides.org.uk/openevening)  
or email [1stkenningtonguides@gmail.com](mailto:1stkenningtonguides@gmail.com)







## Calling all musicians!

Kennington Memory Club operates on two days a week in Kennington Methodist Church to provide day care for people with dementia, and respite for their carers. One of the main pleasures for our members is music. The brain seems better able to recall songs and music which were enjoyed in earlier years than many other aspects of life. There is a particular joy in listening to and joining in with live music.

This is why we would love it if there were any musicians, who could volunteer by visiting Kennington Memory Club occasionally or regularly, on Mondays or Thursdays, sometime between 11 am and 3pm, to add those special moments to the day. You might be a pianist, guitar player, instrumentalist or singer. All can contribute their own brand of musical magic! This would give the members a valued opportunity just to listen to the live music or join in with singing and foot-tapping.

If this is you, please get in touch with our organiser, Helen, on 07852 883496 or email [memoryclub1@outlook.com](mailto:memoryclub1@outlook.com)

— Isobel Birse

## From the Editor



Welcome back after our annual August break! We hope you are enjoying this long hot summer. Temperatures have been unusually high and this makes us realise how much we need to be aware of climate change and its effect on our environment. We must continue to do whatever little we can in our own way to negate the effects. The verges in Kennington certainly look very dry but there are some magnificent front garden displays to brighten and colour the village.

Our front cover is a collage of photos from the Open Gardens at the end of June. That was a splendid community event and it was good to see so many people walking around the village and enjoying the ten gardens and of course the teas on

offer! The article about the event tells us that £1800 was raised for the Nasio community library project. What a wonderful effort by visitors to the gardens! Thank you, all.

September brings new beginnings for many, and we wish those of our readers who are starting new schools, new classes, starting or returning to university or apprenticeships or new jobs, every success for the new academic year. We look forward to bringing you information and news of interest for another eleven months.

— Amena Sutton

## KENNINGTON LIBRARY

The Village Centre  
Tel Oxford 730763

|           |                  |
|-----------|------------------|
| Monday    | 2:00pm — 6:00 pm |
| Tuesday   | closed           |
| Wednesday | 10:00am—1:00pm   |
| Thursday  | closed           |
| Friday    | 2:00pm — 6:00pm  |
| Saturday  | 10:00am—1:00pm   |
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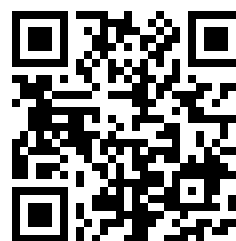
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## Kennington Village Diary

The Village diary is now maintained as an online Google Calendar, updated whenever new information is provided. Go to:

<https://kenningtonchronicle.org.uk/diary/>

to see the most up to date version and to see the submission instructions or scan this QR code to avoid the typing!



### Wed 7 Sept 2022

11am **Friends of Kennington Library - Author Talk with Diana Bell**

Venue: Kennington Village Centre, OX1 5PG, UK

Details: Refreshments served before the talk. No need to book.

2:15pm **Kennington Women's Institute**

Venue: Kennington Methodist Church, Upper Rd, Kennington, Oxford OX1 5LR, UK

Details: Visitors are welcome to all meetings.

### Thu 8 Sept 2022

7:30pm **Parish Council Meeting**

Venue: Kennington Village Centre, OX1 5PG, UK

### Fri 9 Sept 2022

2:30pm **Friends of Kennington Library - Storytime**

Venue: Kennington Village Centre, OX1 5PG, UK

Details: For preschool children and their guardians. Booking appreciated via Kennington Library on 01865 730763

### Mon 12 Sept 2022

2:30pm **Friends of Kennington Library - Rhymetime**

Venue: Kennington Village Centre, OX1 5PG, UK

Details: For preschool children and their guardians. Booking appreciated via Kennington Library on 01865 730763

### Tue 13 Sept 2022

10am **Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy**

Venue: Kennington Methodist Church, Upper Rd, Kennington, Oxford OX1 5LR, UK

Details: All are welcome for coffee and a chat

### Wed 14 Sept 2022

7:30pm **Parish Council Playing Fields Meeting**

Venue: Playfield Road Pavilion

### Mon 19 Sept 2022

7:45pm **Kennington History Society**

Venue: Kennington Methodist Church, Upper Rd, Kennington, Oxford OX1 5LR, UK

Details: Tracks to the Trenches - by Mike Hurst. Visitors welcome (£2.50 entry).

7:30pm **Parish Council Planning Meeting**

Venue: Kennington Village Centre, OX1 5PG, UK

### Every Tuesday in September

11:00am **Table Tennis Club**

Venue: Kennington Youth Club, Kennington, Oxford OX1 5PG

Details: Cost £2:00 per session - All equipment provided

Contact: Roy King 01865 735864

## Contacts and Submissions for the Kennington Chronicle



A volunteer-run village magazine distributed free to 1,800 Kennington households monthly except August.

**ADVERTISEMENTS**, whether from commercial concerns or village organisations, to be submitted with artwork, and cheques payable to **The Kennington Chronicle**, by **4 p.m. on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month** prior to publication. Advertisements accepted at the Advertising Coordinator's discretion, subject to availability and suitability. All advertisements must be checked. Submit errors and alterations to the Advertising Coordinator by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Publication of an advertisement does not imply endorsement, and the Editorial Committee in no way accepts responsibility for goods or services supplied by our advertisers.

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**NEWS AND ARTICLES** to be submitted by **4 p.m. on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month** prior to publication.  
The Editor reserves the right to edit or omit any submissions.

The editorial policy is **News not Views**.

Submissions to include name and contact details.

For information about Formats, Automated Reminders and more, go to:

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**DELIVERY:** The Chronicle is delivered **around the first of the month**, except August. Contact the Distribution Coordinators for queries or problems with delivery:

**Marilyn Farr (North End) 01865 326519**  
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[distribution@kenningtonchronicle.org.uk](mailto:distribution@kenningtonchronicle.org.uk)