

Kempsford

(with Whelford, Dunfield and Dudgrove)

Parish Newsletter

February 2025

Gardening is good for you.!

Gardening offers more than just beautiful flowers and fresh produce - it can also improve our well being. Whether its getting your hands into soil, growing beneficial plants or simply getting outdoors into nature, it can help us heal, recharge and find solace.

So why not consider helping us improve the Community Garden, we are a friendly group and will be restarting soon.

Would you like to grow your own vegetables or cut flowers but don't have room in your garden?

Would you be interested in renting a Growing Plot of 1.2 m by 2.4 m in the Community Garden behind the Village Hall?



For more information please email: - jacqui.howlett@btopenworld.com
Or phone 01285 712268

Parish Diary

FEBRUARY

Sun	2nd	9.30am	St Mary's Kempford	Candlemas - Holy Communion
Wed	5th	5.00pm - 7.30pm	Kempford Village Hall	Chippy Van
Thurs	6th	7.00pm - 10.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Darts
Sun	9th	9.30am	St Mary's Kempford	Service of the Word
Mon	10th	Doors 6.30pm	Kempford Village Hall	RAF Fairford U2 Pilot Talk - SOLD OUT
Mon	10th	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Pizza Van
Thurs	13th	12.00pm - 2.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Community Café
Sun	16th	9.30am (tbc)	St Anne's, Whelford	Service
Sun	16th	4.00pm	St Mary's Kempford	Family Service
Mon	17th	7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting
Wed	19th	5.00pm - 7.30pm	Kempford Village Hall	Chippy Van
Thurs	20th	7.00pm - 10.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Darts
Sun	23rd	9.30am	St Mary's Kempford	Holy Communion
Mon	24th	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Pizza Van
Mon	24th		MARCH NEWSLETTER COPY DEADLINE	

REGULAR EVENTS

Mondays	10am - 11am	Kempford Village Hall	Rosie's Pilates Plus
Mondays & Wednesdays		Fairford Hospital	Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities Edna Dawes Lunch Club Tel:07713607106
Tuesdays	6.00pm - 9.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Short Mat Bowls (treasurerkempford@gmail.com)
Wednesdays	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Youth Club (Term time only)
Thursdays	12.00 - 2.00pm	Kempford VH Garden	Community Garden open (weather permitting)
Thursdays	7.00pm - 10.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Darts
Thursdays	12.00 - 2.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Post Office
Fridays	6.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Zumba

ADVANCE NOTICE OF INTENDED WORKS AT HAZEL VIEW

Persimmon Homes will be undertaking some remedial works to the street lighting at Hazel View week commencing 3rd February, pending weather conditions.

The works should not cause any interference to residents.

Kempsford Village Hall - February Events

To book the village hall; villagehallbookings@kempsford.net

Regular Events

Mon	Pilates rosie@rosiehowenutrition.com Pizza Van 10 th & 24 th solelunapizza3@gmail.com	10:00am – 11:00am 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Tue	Short Mat Bowls treasurerkempsford@gmail.com	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Wed	Youth Club Chippy Van 5 th & 19 th info@thecotswoldchippy.co.uk	5:00pm – 7:00pm 5:00pm – 7:30pm
Thur	Post Office Darts 6 th & 20 th davis.william68@yahoo.com Community Café 13 th	12:00pm – 2:00pm 7:00pm – 10:00pm 12:00 – 2:00pm
Fri	Zumba bellaannie1@hotmail.com	6:00pm – 7:00pm

Other Events

10 th Feb	Talk/presentation by a U2 pilot. SOLD OUT TICKET ONLY	Doors open at 6:30pm
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KEMPSFORD COMMUNITY CAFÉ
Thursday 13th February 12 – 2pm

Beat the winter blues and come and try our
Homemade Soups and Breads,
Delicious Cakes,
Fresh Coffee and Speciality Teas.

ST MARY'S KEMPSFORD WITH ST ANNE'S WHELFORD

Contact details for the parish

Rev Catie - 01285 671490 or Rev.catie@gmail.com

Lay Preachers – Rob Mitchell 01285 712821 & Elizabeth Emberson dizzylizzie@sky.com

Church wardens: Keith Howlett - 01285 712268 churchwarden@kempsford.net

or there is a Facebook page The 5 Villages

Curate Catie's Monthly Musings for February

Dear Friends,

My, January has been chilly! But as February unfolds, we begin to sense the promise of spring in the air as the days lengthen, albeit it gradually, showing that winter's grip is slowly loosening. The snowdrops and crocuses are bravely pushing through the soil, heralding the renewal and vitality that the coming season brings, and these small signs of life encourage us to look forward with hope.

This month, we also celebrate Candlemas, a significant moment in the church calendar as we remember the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, when Simeon recognised Jesus as the light to enlighten the nations. Candles are symbols of Christ's light which continues to shine in the darkness, and it is a reminder that even in uncertain or challenging times, the light of Christ guides and sustains us. In our 9.30am service on 2nd Feb. we will bless the candles we'll be using in church this year - and if you have some candles you would like blessed, please bring them along.

February is also a time to reflect on love, with Valentine's Day offering an opportunity to celebrate the relationships that enrich our lives. Whether we exchange cards, share kind words, or simply reach out to someone in need of encouragement or company, let us remember the source of all love: God, whose love for us is boundless and steadfast. As 1 John 4:19 says, "We love because he first loved us."

So, as we journey through this month, let us embrace the light and love that surround us. May we carry the hope of Spring in our hearts, shine Christ's light in our communities, and share God's love with all we meet.

With every blessing,

Rev. Catie

Rev.catie@gmail.com

01285 671490

Church Services in February

To see the full list of services across the 5 Villages, please see the notice board at the church

Sunday 2 Candlemas Holy communion at Kempford at 9.30 am

Sunday 9 Service of the Word at Kempford at 9.30 am

Sunday 16 Service at Whelford at 9.30 am (tbc)

Sunday 16 Family service at Kempford at 4pm

Sunday 23 Holy Communion at Kempford at 9.30 am

This year there will be a complete renewal of the electoral roll for St Mary's Kempford with St Anne's Whelford. All names will be removed (this happens every six years) and all at present on the roll and all other members of the villages will be invited to fill out a form to rejoin.

LECHLADE HISTORY SOCIETY

Upcoming Talks Held in The Memorial Hall Lechlade 7pm for 7.30pm

Monday February 17th - A History 'Walk' round Faringdon by Dr Mike Wise

In 1681 Thomas Baskerville described Faringdon as a 'pretty well built with some good Inns for entertainment' he tells us about the strategic location as a crossroad and staging post, history of the buildings and the market, its role in the Civil War and why crown prince Wilhelm and a German delegation at The Bell in 1909

Monday March 17th - Littlecote Roman villa by Dr Hugh Pihlens

The Roman Villa is one of the great treasures of Britain. First discovered in the early 18th century, then covered, forgotten and abandoned

250 years later, in 1976, it was re discovered. A team of archaeologists worked for 13 years exploring and restoring it, now, renovated again, visitors can enjoy it

Littlecote is an unusual Villa as it covers the whole of the Roman occupation.

It houses one of the finest and largest mosaics in Britain

Monday April 14th - Queen Katherine Parr - Gloucestershire's Queen by Mike Bottomley

An integrated live presentation of the extraordinary life of Katherine Parr, the 6th and last wife of King Henry V11

He uses music, readings and video to recreate the atmosphere and intrigues of the Tudor Court to tell the largely unknown storey of the Queen and her journey from obscurity to the heart of English history and on to her final resting place at Sudeley Castle

Step Mother to two Queens, "Bloody Mary" and one of our greatest Queens, Elizabeth 1

She was Queen, Queen Regent, Wife ad Lover - Katherine's life storey resonates through the ages

After a flood

If you have been affected by a flood, there are a number of things to be aware of when clearing up:

- 1 ? Contact your insurance company and register your claim.
- 2 ? Take photos or videos and make a list of everything that has been damaged.
- 3 ? Flood water could be contaminated or contain sharp objects so always wear protective clothing, boots and rubber gloves when clearing up.
- 4 ? Find out how to dispose of flood damaged items safely, after you have spoken to your insurance company.
- 5 ? Get your electricity checked by a qualified electrician before you turn it back on.
- 6 ? **Beware of rogue traders**
If your property has been damaged, don't be tempted to agree to have work done by someone who appears at your door unannounced. Always use reputable building contractors and do not pay in advance. Find a trader using the County Council's Buy with Confidence scheme
www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk

Useful contacts

Weather updates:

Tune in to your local radio for the latest information or check the Met Office Severe Weather Warnings: www.facebook.com/metoffice

www.twitter.com/metoffice

Check the Environment Agency's flood warnings and alerts <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/>.

Emergency flooding contacts:

You can contact the Police or Fire Service on 999 if there is an immediate risk to life (101 for non-emergencies).

To report flooding:

Environment Agency Floodline - 0345 988 1188

To report a flood or if your property is at risk of flooding from a reservoir, river or coastal water:

Gloucestershire Highways - 08000 514 514

If flooding is from the highway:

For utilities:

Severn Trent Water on 0800 783 4444 or Thames

Water on 0800 316 9800 or Bristol Water on 0845

702 3797 if flooding is from sewers or burst water mains.

For power cuts call 105 to report or get updates when your electricity has been cut off.

For gas emergencies call 0800 111 999.

Rehoming:

If you need rehoming due to flooding impacting your home please contact friends or family, or your insurance provider or landlord.

If this isn't possible call the District

Council on 01285 623000.

For advice after flooding:

Details of any government support or grants available to homeowners and businesses affected by flooding will be published on our website <https://cotswold.gov.uk/flooding>



in the Cotswolds...
all you need to know



Flooding can happen anywhere - are you prepared?

One in six properties in England is at risk from flooding. Heavy rain has had a devastating impact where people have had to leave their homes and seen valuables destroyed by flood water.

How to prepare for a flood

There are things you can do to reduce the impact of flooding by preparing in advance, such as:

- ✓ Have the correct home insurance policy in place.
- ✓ Write a simple plan of how you would respond to a flood - include emergency contact numbers, essential documents, medication and belongings you would need if you had to evacuate.
- ✓ Prepare an emergency flood kit with items you may need if flooding means you can't access your house.
- ✓ Keep your drains and gutters clear of leaves to help prevent blockages and localised flooding in heavy rainfall.
- ✓ Make sure you know how to quickly turn off your water, gas and electricity mains.
- ✓ Buying sandbags or other flood protection products might help but check government advice about how best to protect your home

www.gov.uk/prepare-for-a-flood



Sign up to flood warnings by visiting www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings

What to do during a flood

Flood water can rise quickly, so always focus on the safety of yourself and your family before your property and be prepared to act quickly. If there is an immediate risk to life or you are trapped by flood water call 999.

In the event of an emergency or severe flooding, follow these steps to stay safe:

- 1 Move your family and pets upstairs, or to a high place with a means of escape.
- 1 Move important items and documents upstairs or somewhere high and safe.
- 1 Turn off gas, electricity and water supplies if flood water is about to enter your home.
- 1 **DO NOT touch any electrical appliances or cables when standing in flood water.**
- 1 If you are asked to evacuate your home, first contact your insurance provider or landlord (if renting) as they may be able to provide you with temporary accommodation. If you are uninsured or your landlord isn't able to help, contact your friends and family to see whether they can help. If you are unable to find alternative accommodation you can contact Cotswold District Council on **01285 623000** for assistance.
- 1 Avoid walking or driving through flood water.

How local agencies support during a flood response

We work with the Police, Fire and Rescue Service, the NHS, Town and Parish Councils, the Environment Agency and other partners to manage flooding.

Organisation	What they are responsible for and support provided:
Gloucestershire County Council Highways as the Lead Local Flood Authority	Any flooding affecting property, roads or paths including flood prevention on highways from surface or groundwater.
Sewer Trent Water, Thames Water or Bristol Water	The local sewer system and any flooding that may affect them. Let them know if you have any issues with sewer water.
Environment Agency	Any flooding issues affecting main rivers. They are responsible for managing the flooding and flood prevention in those main water courses.
Gloucestershire Police and Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service	Support with closing roads and helping in the immediate response to a flood but have no statutory responsibilities for flooding.
Local Town or Parish Council	Your local Parish Council may provide flood support. Check with them for more information.
Cotswold District Council	We may be able to support by rehoming anyone who has to leave their home due to flooding, or who has been affected by flooding from ordinary/minor watercourses.
Local landowners	It is the responsibility of landowners to maintain water courses on private land.



CONTACTS

NEWSLETTER COPY	Teresa Griffin	clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	0781 8626158
COUNCILLORS	KPC Website -	www.kempsfordparishcouncil.net	
Parish Council Chair	Mark Strange	markstrange@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 810635
Parish Councillor	John O'Connell	johnoconnell@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 810512
Parish Councillor	Christine Nugent	christinenugent@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 810306
Parish Councillor	Karen Saunders	karensaunders@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 713155
Parish Councillor	Neil Green	neilgreen@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	07745 193925
Parish Councillor	Stephen Andrews	stephenandrews@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 719924
Parish Councillor	Debbie Watson	debbiewatson@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 810664
Parish Clerk	Teresa Griffin	clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	0781 8626158
County Councillor	Dom Morris	dominic.morris@gloucestershire.gov.uk	07500894702
District Councillor	Tristan Wilkinson	tristan.wilkinson@cotswold.gov.uk	
District Councillor	Helene Mansilla	helene.mansilla@cotswold.gov.uk	
Constituency MP	Dr Roz Savage	roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk	
CHURCH			
Canon	Rev John Swanton	ampneyrector@gmail.com	01285 851309
	Rev Caroline Symcox	carolinesymcox@googlemail.com	01285 712611
PCC Secretary	Rosemary Andrews	rosemary.andrews@btinternet.com	
Choir	Mrs Cathy Stanford		01285 713033
Church & Hand Bell:	Sally Strange		01285 810635
KEMPSFORD VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS			
Chair & Trustee	Ian Housley	To contact any Committee Member email -	
Secretary & Trustee	Kathy Woodward	infokempsfordvillagehall@kempsford.net	
Community Garden	Jacqui Howlett		01285 712268
WHELFORD VILLAGE HALL			
Bookings	Sue Griffin	374croft@gmail.com	01285 712979
SCHOOLS			
Kempsford School	Helen Seward (Head)	admin@kempsford.gloucs.sch.uk	01285 810367
School Governors		chair@kempsford.gloucs.sch.uk	01285 810875
Farmors School	Matthew Evans (Head)		01285 712302
COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL	(including Bulk Refuse)		01285 623000
GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	Switchboard		01452 425000
	Adult Social Services		01452 426868
	Children's Social Services		01452 426565
GLOUCESTERSHIRE HIGHWAYS		highways@gloucestershire.gov.uk	08000 514 514
WILTSHIRE HIGHWAYS		northernhighways@wiltshire.gov.uk	0300 456 0105
Royal British Legion	Mr A Hill		01285 810035
SSE		Reporting of power cuts	105 or
Thames Water			0800 316 9800
Environment Agency		Floodline - 0845 9881188	03708 506 506
Non-emergency	Police		101
NHS 111 Service		(when less urgent than 999)	111
Hilary Cottage Surgery			01285 712377
FRIENDS OF FAIRFORD & LECHLADE COMMUNITIES - Serving Fairford, Lechlade & surrounding villages			
Administrator	Kerry	admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk	01285 707300