

## St John's Parish Hall – an excellent venue available for hire

by | Revd Vicky Maunder

his year celebrates the 110th birthday of St John's Parish Hall on Grove Lane. The attractive building is home to the popular Kingston Kindergarten, the Spring Grove Fringe Amateur Dramatics Society and a number of local groups and clubs and is an excellent venue for children's parties and other community events.

It was opened on the 19th December 1903 by the Bishop of Southwark and was the inspiration of the vicar of St John's Church the Revd Arnold Letchworth. He was an energetic and visionary priest responsible for the building of the church, the hall and St John's School to serve the new Spring Grove estate.

The Surrey Comet described the hall's first party in January 1904. "The Hall looked quite its best with the bright electric light and two good fires. There were plenty of little tables covered with white cloths. Tea and coffee were handed round. Screens were placed at the end of the Hall to keep out all draughts and form a kind of cloakroom. A capital programme of music, instrumental and vocal, was provided."

The hall quickly became established as a venue for church and community events and continues to flourish as a popular community facility today. Its excellent facilities include the large main hall with a newly laid sprung wooden floor, a stage and a room with well- lit kitchen area. To hire it contact Frances Hazelgrove on 07952085661 or e-mail admin@ stjohnskingston.co.uk; charges are £20 an hour or £15 an hour for regular bookings.



Quiz Night

There are a number of weekly classes and groups held at the hall that are very pleased to welcome new members...

Mondays 8pm-10pm BADMINTON robertdavis24@gmail.com

Wednesdays 4pm-6pm PERFORM

– drama, dance & singing workshops for children sophieladds@perform.co.uk

Wednesdays 8pm-10pm SPRING GROVE FRINGE DRAMA GROUP sandy.gavshon@yahoo.com

Thursdays 6.45pm-7.45pm TAI CHI chris@grok.co.uk

Saturdays 10.15am–11.20am MONKEY MUSIC – Music and Movement for younger children Kingston. surbiton@monkeymusic.co.uk

Sundays 6.30pm-8pm NEO-NUNCHAKO exercise johnalbury@neo-nunchaku.co.uk