

Issue Number 379

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September 2020

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Revd. Nicola Lenthall
The Vicarage
Clayhall Road
Kensworth
LU6 3RF

Tel: (01582) 872223

Dear friends and parishioners,

It feels as though uncertainty has become a way of life. For those who have experienced a serious illness, either themselves or alongside a loved one, or have had frequent unemployment or financial worries, this will not be unusual. Some with long memories know what it is to live through war. For others the ongoing effects of the insecurity of living at a time of a global pandemic will have been something with which they have not had to cope before.

In times of worry, confusion and anxiety it's difficult to know how to sustain ourselves and others. Many people have thrown themselves into serving the community in really admirable and supportive ways – and it has been wonderful to see how many people have both helped and been helped through the last few very difficult months.

When I feel as though the waves of uncertainty and anxiety threaten to overwhelm me I remind myself that the words 'do not be afraid' or 'fear not' are threaded through the Bible like a golden cord of love. Over and over again they come, often in conversation between a human being – who may be at the end of their tether with worry, bowed down with guilt and pain, or laid low with grief – and God. Whatever happens in the months and years to come, God's promise is that he is always with us. We may not always see him or even be aware of his presence, but a God who knows what it is like to suffer, to love and to grieve, is ours.

I offer you this prayer for this month and those to come.

In our worry, Lord, may we be aware of your constant love;
in our confusion, Lord, hold our hand;
in our grief, Lord, cradle us in your grace;
you, who said, 'do not be afraid', stand by us in our fear
and help us to trust that your love is never-ending.
Amen.

With my prayers and every blessing for the month of September,

Nicola Lenthall



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Parish Directories

Rector:

Revd. Nicola Lenthall
872223

Lay Minister:

Dorothy Blackburn
872670

KENSWORTH

Churchwardens	Richard Gurney	07985 150376
	Barrie Huggins	607841
PCC Secretary	Joanne Cook	0779 908 8864
Church Music	Revd. Nicola Lenthall	872223
Bell Ringers	Polly Frazer	873143
Sunday School	Katherine Huggins	607841
Flowers	Joanne Cook	0779 908 8864
Neighbours Scheme	Community Scheme	07919 081473

STUDHAM

Churchwarden	Meg Bender	872967
PCC Secretary	Gill Harris	603806
Tower Captain	Angela Blackburn	663756
Children's Church	Derek Spriggs	873468
Flowers	Margaret Maddox	873225
Emergency Transport	SiGNS	07563 135895

WHIPSNADE

Churchwardens	Isobel Randall	872552
	Martin Rees	873117
PCC Secretary	Joan Bailey	872318
Church Music	c/o Pam Ward	872406
Tower Captain	Pam Ward	872406
Sunday School	c/o Isobel Randall	872552
Flowers	Anne Weir	873425

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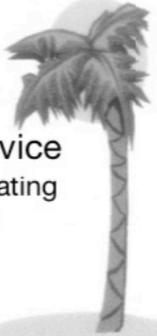
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The Dunstable Foodbank

We are very grateful for your support in 2019. Following Harvest Festivals and Christmas we are well stocked, but we anticipate continued high demand later in the year. Please keep donating! Specific items we need and surpluses are on our website "Dunstablefoodbank.org.uk"

We moved into a new warehouse outside Leighton Buzzard 12 months ago. This will cost approximately £20,000 annually. We are looking for cheaper warehouse accommodation, ideally much closer to Dunstable / Houghton Regis, from March 2022.
Any help or suggestions welcome.

For foodbank queries please contact Mike Pittam on 07874200056 or at info@dunstablefoodbank.org.uk



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STUDHAM, KENSWORTH AND WHIPSDNADE (SKAW) CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE GROUP

This group closed on 31st July for the time being. It would really help if those involved either became a part of the villages' good neighbour schemes, or allowed their data to be held digitally should the group need to re-form (if you are happy for this to happen please contact Liesa Coates on gnstudham@hotmail.co.uk). Many volunteers and those in need are still in touch, which is a wonderful tribute to the group itself.

Anyone who has a new need in the current context should continue to contact 07563 135895 / gnstudham@hotmail.co.uk for the time being and they will be put in touch with the relevant group in each of the three villages. A huge thank you to all those of you who have helped.

The **Studham Good Neighbours Scheme** (07563 135895) and **Kensworth Community Scheme** (07919 081473) would love to have more volunteers especially in light of the recent emergency. More hands on deck makes for light work! We are fortunate in our parishes that our neighbours already look out for each other, so our services are really only called on when it's absolutely necessary. Please do become a volunteer if you can. Whippsnade village is in the process of trying to organise a scheme too – if you can help with this please contact the Parish Council Chairman, Ken France, (872375). Mentoring will be offered to anyone who volunteers as group organiser.

FROM THE EDITOR

It's been quite a roller-coaster ride since we reluctantly took the decision not to produce a paper magazine back in May, primarily to protect those wonderful people who deliver the magazine to every household in our three villages. We have tried to continue with this on-line version but obviously as organisations and activities dried up, there has been less and less to say!! However, we persevered and my thanks to everyone for their support.

We feel that, if things stay as they are, we are now in a position to produce a paper magazine again and, I am pleased to say, that having consulted our deliverers, they are happy to help once more. So, the next issue, October 2020, should be dropping through your letterboxes at the end of September. If you have anything for that issue, you will have to move fast because the deadline will be the 10th September.

If you feel able to help with deliveries, particularly in the Oakway, Studham Rise and Byslips Road areas of Studham, please contact Isobel Randall (872552).

Thanks once again for all your support.

Fiona McDougal

WHIPSNADE

CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

On Saturday 21st September from 10am until noon. Autumn tidy up. All help very welcome, more details from Pam Ward (872406).

WHIPSNADE VILLAGE HALL

We are up and running and available for hire, subject to Government guidelines to Covid19 compliance.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING (The World's Biggest Coffee Morning)

This will be on Friday 25th September from 10am – 12noon. This is our annual fund raising event in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. See posters for more details nearer the time or contact Kim Brown (872015) or e-mail: Whipsnade.events@gmail.com for more details or offers of help.

CHURCH NEWS

Still no **village lunch!** That means, of course, that we won't have the usual large amount to send to the Harvest Appeal this year.

We are, however, celebrating the Harvest Festival. The date will be 4th October at 9am – look out for more information on the website and on noticeboards. The church will be decorated for harvest, and we hope to have a generous collection for the Harvest appeal.

Prayers will be offered in September especially for the people living from The Old School House to Chequers House and Chequers Cottages. If you have any special requests for prayers, e-mail or telephone the Rector or the churchwardens, Martin Rees (873117) and Isobel Randall (872552).

The **church is open** every day for people to have a quiet refuge to sit and rest while walking, to think and to pray. We are very grateful to our band of volunteers who take turns to go in and sanitise it at the ends of each day, so that all visitors can feel safe. If you do go in, please do not go beyond the temporary barrier so that we can be sure that the spaces in use are safe for all.

We are also grateful to the loyal volunteers who, led by Pam Ward, have continued to look after the **churchyard** during the summer. Now that Andy Ward has given the long grass its annual cut, they have worked hard to clear the hay.

Bells: we all cheered up immensely when we heard the bells being rung for our service on 16th August. Quite like old times! We are looking forward to hearing them again for our next service, which is on 6th September at 10.30am.

KENSWORTH

KENSWORTH CHURCH PRAYERS

In September our prayers will be for people who live in Church End, Spratts Lane and Hollicks Lane. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670).

KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

Worship is back in church, but very different in these days of restrictions! Services are held in each church in the benefice in turn, at 10.30am on Sundays.

Please wear a face covering unless you are exempted, and chatting with friends has to be outside, before and after the service. No refreshments can be served, but there is a very peaceful and inspiring atmosphere in the simple service. We are fortunate to have lovely organ music played by Chris Hazell and Matthew Huggins, to whom many thanks. We'd also like to thank Kerry, the Reader from the parish of Totternhoe, Stanbridge and Tilsworth, who gave Nicola and Dorothy a break by taking some services in August.

Kensworth Evening Prayer Group continues in individual households on Tuesdays at 4pm. Contact Jim Putterill (872436) for details.

In Kensworth we will have our Harvest Festival on Sunday 27th September, one week later than usual, and this year it will be in a different format. Look out for details on the WorshipLink pages.

KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL

The school is OPEN! September return to school:

Monday 7th September: Saplings and Holly classes;

Tuesday 8th September: Oak and Hornbeam classes.

Please see website (www.kensworthacademy.com) for latest news and information, or contact the Head Teacher, Mrs O Bates (872336) or email office@ken.dsamat.co.uk.

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL

There is no update on the Village Hall, as it remains closed at least until the end of September. We are involved in discussions with BRCC about what work is necessary before we can reopen the hall and what is required to keep it safe from Covid-19. This is a huge area of responsibility and we are taking advice from other halls on how to achieve a safe reopening when the time comes.

SPOTTED KENSWORTH

Visit the Facebook page 'Spotted Kensworth' a useful community page for sharing views and ideas.

STUDHAM

SUNDAY SERVICES

We are so pleased that in a 'new normal', services of public worship have begun again, alternating each Sunday with Kensworth and Whipsnade churches, and we are working towards holding a Holy Communion service shortly. Details will be published on the Parish Link website and the WorshipLink.

CHURCH PRAYERS

In September we shall continue to follow our cycle of prayers, praying especially for everyone in Valley Road and Valley Close. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, please contact the Rector, Rev. Nicola Lenthall (872223 or revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com).

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Harvest celebrations will take place on Sunday 4th October at 10.30am. Village organisations have once again been invited to decorate the church – thank you in advance to them – it will be excellent to see the church looking at its very best. All donations will be sent to the Dunstable Food Bank and to the Salvation Army – their face-to-face work is curtailed at the present time so they have asked us not to send perishable fruit and vegetables. The collection will support the Bishop's Harvest Appeal, 'Creating a Buzz in Nepal', which is creating opportunities through bee-keeping for people to rebuild their lives after the devastating earthquakes in 2015.

WILD FLOWERS

In the churchyard the autumn flowering wild flowers, helped by the recent rain, are now growing well in the designated area. Barbara Johnson who has been keeping a watchful eye on the flowers throughout the lockdown (many thanks to her), has identified Mouse-Ear Hawkweed, Bird's-



Foot Trefoil, Ox-Eye Daisy, Red Clover, Self-Heal, White Clover, Betony, Black Knapweed, Lady's Bedstraw, Wild Carrot and Devil's-Bit Scabious. We've loved to see how the predominant colour of this area has changed since late spring, from the yellows of Mouse-Ear Hawkweed and Bird's-Foot Trefoil through the deep pinks of Betony and Knapweed to a late summer sea of lilac-blue Devil's-Bit Scabious (see photo), which is alive with bees and butterflies.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS – see later.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

In our three villages, people have been extremely lucky during the dreadful lockdown. There have been so many volunteers helping out those who were housebound, and as well as those, our two shops, Kensworth Supermarket and Kensworth Village Stores, have gone over and above the call of duty in serving their customers. Newspapers and goods were cheerfully delivered, customers were given credit, nothing was too much trouble. The Post Office, operating inside Kensworth Supermarket, was also available and helpful at a time when things could have been very difficult for vulnerable people. They have all contributed to making what could have been a trying time much less stressful.

We also owe grateful thanks to the Farmers Boy in Kensworth and the Bell in Studham for providing meals for the vulnerable during lockdown. Apologies if we have missed anyone out! We look forward to being their faithful customers for a long time to come!

TENBY 14th – 21st May 2021

A holiday is planned for the above dates – 8 days. We will be staying in the 4* Heywood Spa Hotel on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis. The hotel has a gym and indoor pool .

There will be a guided tour around Tenby, the Tudor Merchant's House and Dylan Thomas's Boathouse.

There will be a boat trip around Caldey Island, a visit to St David's Cathedral, Fishguard and the 100 foot tapestry that was commissioned as a permanent legacy of the invasion Bicentenary in 1997 .

There will be a day in the National Botanic Garden of Wales, a ride on the Heritage Steam Gwili Railway with a cream tea. and time in Pembroke and Cardigan.

There will be a free day.



The approximate price is £990 per person which includes accommodation, all travel, visits, guide and tip for our driver. The deposit for the hotel is £100 per person, which will be refunded if the hotel has to close because of COVID. Please send ASAP to secure a place on this holiday. The balance will be due at the end of March 2021.

Please send a cheque payable to Margaret Maddox, at 7 Oakway, Studham, LU6 2 PE.

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings: due to the current Covid-19 situation, we are meeting virtually via Zoom when necessary. All Parish Council information and meeting details can be found on our new website (kensworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/).

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

We held our first online Council Meeting on Monday 6th July using Zoom. There were a number of parishioners who braved the technology and the meeting was effective. For the time being, it is looking as if virtual meetings will remain the recommended approach and the next such Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday 7th September.

The tri-parish Studham, Kensworth and Whipsnade Coronavirus Response Group drew its activities to a close at the end of July after several months of excellent work by its volunteers. Community support in the parish has now reverted to the Studham Good Neighbour Scheme.

The Parish Council is pleased to see normality beginning to return to our lives including the reopening of The Bell, The Red Lion and the Sports & Social Club, and the Friends of Studham Common recommencing its work parties. However, the risk of a resurgence of Coronavirus nationally remains and we should still be cautious and follow the recommended guidelines that are in place.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

In the current circumstances our main fundraising venture to help preserve the structure of the village's oldest building is the 100 Club. There's a £50 first prize and £10 runners-up each month – in July these prizes were won by Clare Orchard and John Hanna, whilst Emma Mulder and Gerry Blackburn were the lucky August winners.

To find out more about the Friends or to join the 100 Club, please e-mail or call John McDougal (john.mcdougal@btinternet.com or 873257).

MRS IRENE MILLEST

We are sad to report that a founding member of Kensworth Historical Society, Mrs Irene Millest, of The Forge, Kensworth, passed away very peacefully on 29th July aged 96. She had been unwell for just a few weeks and in early June she moved to a nursing home in Berkshire near Jane, her daughter. She was known to many and will be sadly missed.

All the Historical Society documents are held by Julia Holder. If you would be interested in taking over their safe keeping, especially if they could be recorded online, please contact Julia (juliaholder100@gmail.com).

CHURCH NEWS

	KENSWORTH	STUDHAM	WHIPSNADDE
6 th September <i>Trinity 13</i>			10.30am United Benefice Service
13 th September <i>Trinity 14</i>	10.30am United Benefice Service		
20 th September <i>Trinity 15</i>		10.30am United Benefice Service	
27 th September <i>Trinity 16/ Harvest</i>	No 8am H.C. 10.30am Harvest Festival	Service tbc	Service tbc

‘First Steps’, a short service for babies and toddlers and their carers, will be on Friday 11th September at 2pm; either on the Nicola Lenthall YouTube Channel or in person at Kensworth Church Hall, depending on circumstances.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRoQ3YB9ywTtcFdtEt0vmgQ>

September Messy Church will be online on the Nicola Lenthall YouTube channel from mid-September (link above).

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

These meetings have had to be arranged from April and the new dates are:

Kensworth – Thursday 15th October;
 Studham – Wednesday 21st October;
 Whipsnade – Thursday 22nd October.

At the meetings, Churchwardens and PCC members are elected and future plans are discussed. For more information, or to put your name forward, speak to Nicola or one of the Churchwardens. Hopefully it will be possible to have live meetings, provided appropriate social distancing is possible – if not, they will be done virtually.

The **NCG Quiet Morning** arranged for 5th September has had to be cancelled.

In the **Church Year**, we remember St Matthew the Apostle on 21st September, and on 29th it is the feast of St Michael and All Angels.



I am organising a **Macmillan Mad Hatter Caper** on Friday 25th September in the car park at the Red Lion, Studham, from 10am to 12 noon. Guests will be able to have a cuppa and a slice of home made cake for just £5. Guests are invited to wear a special occasion hat or a hat belonging to a loved one. Everyone wearing a hat will be entered into a prize draw to win a years supply of my home-made cake (12 cakes). To ensure there will be enough coffee and cake for everyone, guests are asked to RSVP or donate in advance at thyg.uk/BUU004349968.

If the weather is inclement, I will be offering a coffee and cake takeaway service from the pub doorway or a delivery service within the local area for an enhanced donation.

Everyone's life has been, or sadly will be, touched by cancer. Over the last year, when both my husband and father had cancer, Macmillan's support and care has been incredible. I really want to help support them as they supported me.

Louise Fanthorpe

BIKE 'N HIKE ON SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER

9am to 5pm. Please support the event this year. Walkers and riders will be raising funds for Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust which supports churches who need funds for repairs and improvements. This year's Bike 'n Hike will be different - walk or cycle, or drive between churches or sponsor those taking part. Unfortunately, the churches will not be offering refreshments, and you do not need to log in or even go inside the churches. Half of the sponsored funds goes to the Trust, and the other half to a church of your choice. Due to the coronavirus, churches have had a reduced income over the last few months; your support will be much appreciated. Further details from Pam Ward (872406) or Roger Kendrick (413564) for Whipsnade, Jane Bedlington (871139) for Kensworth or Meg Bender (872967) for Studham.

As last year, Jane is organising a family event - join her at 10am at Kensworth St Mary's Church, in Church End (the bottom of Hollicks Lane). All social distancing rules will be complied with and we will walk from Kensworth Church to Whipsnade Church and then onto Studham Church if you wish.

POPPY APPEAL

This year's appeal dates are 24th October to 10th November. Due to the coronavirus, there will be no door-to-door collections this year. Please see the October Parish Link for more details or contact Pam Ward, Area Organiser for Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade (872406).

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

The next work party for the Friends will be on Saturday 19th September. We will meet outside the Red Lion pub by the War Memorial at 10am. This will be only the second work party to be held since January following the pandemic of COVID-19.

Work is planned to take place on Middle Common, where we will clear excess growth around the Enright Orchard. Also, East and Middle Commons, where we will be cutting and clearing grass, bracken and bramble as necessary from the southern boundary, including mowing around the benches and main trees and clearing along the base of the hedge and reducing brambles around the planted gorse at East Common car park and opposite, on Middle Common.

Please note that we will still be required to consider all aspects of control and prevention of spreading any COVID-19 infections within the volunteer group. Therefore, volunteers should bring their own gloves and water bottle and also be prepared to bring a packed lunch. In addition, the Committee of FoSC requests that all the volunteers at the work party should complete and sign a health declaration. The Committee trust and hope you will understand the necessity for this action in the present circumstances.

Contact Denis Davison (872650 or denis@den-jen.co.uk) for more information.



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against
poverty

As we come out of Lockdown from Coronavirus into a whole new situation around us are you being faced with a whole heap of financial worries and fears about how you are going to be able to cope?

Have you or someone important to you been made redundant?

Worried about how to cope with less money coming in?

Are you anxious about paying your upcoming Bills?

Are money worries affecting your health and wellbeing?

Are you feeling unable to cope with life any longer?

BUT THERE IS A HOPE AND A FUTURE – come along to **Markyate Baptist Church** Christians against Poverty Course (CAP) where you will find help, understanding, love and guidance in supporting you with compassion and confidentiality through the mess that you feel you are in. MBC's CAP Trained Money Coaches, Alan and Lesley Poole, have been running courses since 2014 – this year it is in the Church Hall, situated on Buckwood Road, Markyate, AL3 8RU.

8th, 15th and 22nd October starting at 7.30pm

For more information call Alan or Lesley on 01582 425123 or 07717 317914 or e-mail: poolealan2@btinternet.com or sign up at: capmoneycourse.org.



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WE ARE SPECIALISTS IN NON-MEDICAL CARE OF OLDER PEOPLE IN THEIR OWN HOMES: Home Instead Senior care provides that precious gift of freedom; enabling people to remain at home where they're most happy and comfortable. Families can enjoy the freedom to relax in the knowledge that their loved ones are in excellent hands, being cared for by the world's leading home care company specialising in older age adults. If you feel that we could help you and your family, please get in touch, we are here to help (01525 213179).

GARDEN MAINTENANCE AND CARE: Short-term garden care for holidaymakers and regular maintenance. Lawns, hedges, beds and pruning. Call Ben Putterill on 01582 872436/07801 653042, e-mail: ben_putterill@hotmail.com

GUTTERMEDICS: guttering cleaned, repaired and replaced. UPVC fascias and soffits fitted and washed. Exterior painting including wooden fascias painted. All roofing work including felt. For free estimates call 01582 872880. Mobile 07815 115971 anytime.

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SMALL PLOT SOUGHT by local man to build own wooden home, part of large garden also suitable (with car access) please contact: Simon, 07720 986977 Sjp45@hotmail.co.uk.

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EXPERIENCED CLEANERS REQUIRED for Whipsnade holiday changeovers. £10ph first 4 cleans, then £12ph. Contact Sandra 01582 872255.

Sales and announcements for the October issue of the Link by Thursday 10th September to Advertising Manager, Mike Bailey (mjbailey1@btinternet.com or phone 872318 or send to 42 Woodland Rise, Studham LU6 2PF). Cost 25p per word.



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Central Beds Cllrs	Kevin Collins 417933 & Eddie Perry 873909		
Police	Control Centre (01234) 841212 or Crime Stoppers (0800) 555111		
Church Friends	David Manton 01438 831184	John McDougal 873257	N Craig 07792 567537
School Head Teachers & Pre-School	Mrs O Bates 872336	Mr P Burrett 872337	
Toddlers Groups	Kate Starkey 07702 402278	Heather Wright 872118	
W.I. Secretary		Chrys Smith 872989	
Village Hall	Lynn Bradley 873981	Des Salmon 872082	Samantha Burr 07921 761730
Studham Sports and Social Club	Steward – Club House –	Steve Hawes 07768 872871 872137	
Friends of Studham Common		Geoff Shute 872732	
Methodist Church (Hall Bookings)	Norman Willis 872312 Doris Folds 968149	Inga West 872138	
Kensworth Good Neighbours Scheme	07919 081473		
Good Neighbours Scheme SiGNS		07563 135895	
Neighbourhood Watch	Caroline Streek 872410	Richard Hodge 873630	
Local History	Julia Holder 873465		
Carpet Bowls	Geoff Stafford 872554	Pat Thorne 872751	
Cricket Club	Duncan Wingfield 872743	Robert Thorne 873015	
Tennis Club		Andrew Jones 07833 111682	
Beavers	~~~~~	Caroline Constantine 873331	~~~~~
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