



*To Thee above our thoughts we raise*

# St. Nicholas News

July & August 1978

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# from no: 30

Our dear Friends,

As we write this in the middle of cold, wet, June, summer holidays seem a very long way away indeed. However, by the time this magazine is produced, they will soon be upon us. This year once again Kevin and Christina will be going on holiday with Christian organisations which reminds us to ask for prayer for the many houseparties and camps which are being held at this time of year. If you would like to really undertake to pray for some of these activities you may like to remove the centre pages of this magazine and use them as prayer reminders. Kevin will be joining a CYFA canal cruise (together with Stephen Neilson) and Christina will be returning to Godalming where she has already enjoyed two marvellous holidays in previous years. That gives us the opportunity for some much needed time on our own and we hope to return to Westleton in Suffolk, a favourite spot of ours for a few quiet days in a friend's cottage. Father and son then hope to go off exploring in the Lake District while mum has time just for quiet and prayer before we return to Nottingham to act as hosts to one of a party of Danish boys who will be visiting the city this summer. Then we pack our bags again and go as a family to Scargill - a most beautiful Conference Centre in Yorkshire where we shall be speaking to the guests and ministering to the Community. We would especially value prayer for that time, and indeed for all of our time away that we may come back renewed and refreshed in every way and ready to be instruments here for the Lord in the busy Autumn months.

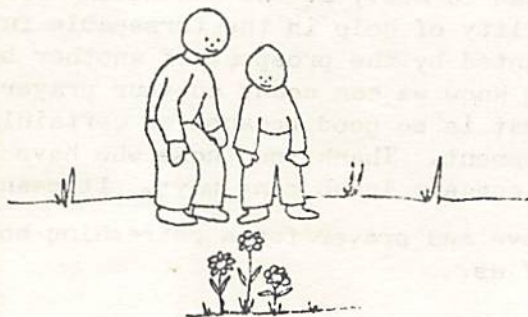


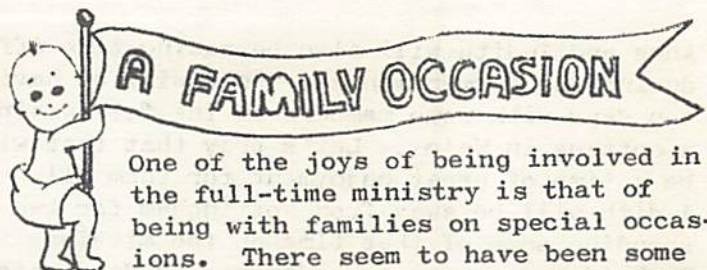
Anne and Judith will also be taking time off during the summer months. Anne will be having ten days with some members of the fellowship in a cottage in Wales. Let's pray that that will be a time of great enjoyment for them all. Judith will be away from Nottingham for two months, spending some of that time on the missions in Cambridge, some at a Conference in Harrogate and some time with her parents in Reading.

As many of us take a break, may we take time to reflect the wonder of Creation. We can learn so much about the Creator in that way. There is a special Competition for the children this month to encourage them to do just that. Maybe we should have an adult section of the same competition!



Consider the lilies of the field,  
they neither toil nor spin,  
yet I say to you that not even Solomon  
in all his glory was arrayed like one of these





One of the joys of being involved in the full-time ministry is that of being with families on special occasions. There seem to have been some very special such occasions recently. The wedding of Louise Spilsbury was such a happy time. Louise grew up in the Sunday School at St. Nic's and "mothered" Christina through her early days at the High School and it was a very special time for us to be considered as part of that extended family for the Wedding Day. Another special day for many of us was the joint Baptismal service of Robert Hart and Judith Kyte. What a lovely service that was. It was so good to see the Marlowes in the supportive role as god-parents for little Judith (the most alert baby we have ever seen at a Baptism, her cute little face watching the Rector very carefully from the edge of her carry cot!) and Andy and Jenny Skinner as godparents for Robert. The lunch in the Old Rectory garden afterwards was greatly enjoyed by the Link groups concerned. Those two little ones were well and truly welcomed into the family of St. Nic's. May we continue to pray for them and other children connected with our Church.

We had hoped it might be possible to write to tell you of developments about help with the ministry. That is not possible at this stage, alas! The work load is heavy at the moment and without the possibility of help in the foreseeable future we feel daunted by the prospect of another busy autumn. We know we can count on your prayer support and that is so good because we certainly need it at the moment. Thank you those who have been expressing concern in so many ways. It means a lot!

Our love and prayer for a refreshing holiday for each of us,

David and Joyce



# EDITORIAL

One of my favourite occupations when we are staying in Derbyshire is to wander in the woods behind Lea Hurst, the home of Florence Nightingale and I am so glad that it is going to be possible for the Women's Fellowship to visit the inside of that lovely home, part of which is still furnished with the Nightingale furniture and mementoes which she brought home from the Crimea. I wonder, though, how many of us are aware, that at the time that Florence Nightingale was making history, here in Nottingham someone was making similar advances in medical care of the needy. Her name was Mary Potter and she began her work in Hyson Green. It was while fetching a friend from the Nursing Home on Mansfield Road recently that I idly thumbed through a booklet called: The Mary Potter story. Then I became quite fascinated not only with the story of her life and work, but by the apposite things - which she wrote about the Lord and the Christian life. Undoubtedly she was a very spiritual woman, and though her Churchmanship was different from ours, has much to teach us about prayer, determination in service and love for her fellow men. The booklet finishes with an epilogue based on Psalm 83. May each of us go to the place of Springs as we take a break this summer and come back renewed and strengthened in body, mind and spirit.

Joyce Huggett.



# MARY POTTER

According to the official records of the city, the expectation of life in some districts of Nottingham during the early part of the nineteenth century did not exceed twenty-five years of age! There was great poverty in the city and the poor were exploited by the rich in a way we would perhaps find it difficult to imagine in these days, difficult as they are. Hyson Green has been described during this period as: "a miserably poor district on the fringes of lace-making Nottingham whose mean houses were a mere huddle".

In 1877, on Easter Sunday, the residents of poverty-stricken Hyson Green awoke to see something new rising above the huddle of homesteads.

## OF HYSON GREEN

It was a cross of "glorious" red on the high roof of a ruinous cottage workshop in Lenton Street, a place they were accustomed to use as a rubbish heap.

That Cross, crudely made from two pieces of board salvaged from the refuse and painted with the only paint available - red: "glorious" because it symbolised the blood of the Saviour - was the beginning of a new work for God in Nottingham. One hundred years later that work continues, though in rather different form! The Cross had been made and erected by one Mary Potter, newly arrived in Nottingham from Portsmouth, as a sign that in the name of God she was desiring to move into the poverty, the sickness, the stretch of Nottingham's deprived areas to heal and to save lives. She quickly gathered round her a team of like-minded helpers and they worked together for the poor of Nottingham, often begging for money



on behalf of the poor. They aimed always to make the poor welcome, keeping a pot of soup bubbling on the stove 24 hours a day to feed the hungry who came unceasingly to the door.

Working together, they transformed the tall, narrow unpromising factory into a Community where they could live together and dedicate their lives to God for the poor. This involved cleaning the rubbish strewn rooms, arranging repairs, (the three floors of the building were connected only by ladder!) Slowly, the dilapidated building became a home where they worked and prayed and listened to God.

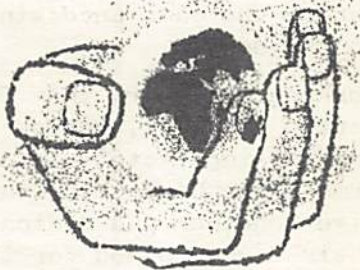


Small beginnings! As so often, a great work for God began in that small, insignificant way. Mary Potter herself once wrote:

"All great works seem to have the mark of apparent failure upon them for a time." But her work did not fail. That home in Hyson Green was occupied for nearly half a century, becoming the centre of caring for the people of the area. In the autumn of 1930, the Community moved to Woodthorpe where the work Mary Potter started is continued in the extensive Nursing Home. Her work of caring for the sick is continued to this day, her work of prayer and listening to God is continued in that same building by the Sisters who live there in Community. When you drive past the Convent on Mansfield Road, you might like to remember the story of Mary Potter and give thanks for the work of the Spirit in that place.

# she wrote....

God looked on the world  
of sinners and loved  
them, unlovely as they  
were.



There is not a greater  
power in life than love.

Cultivate a spirit of joy. It reflects and  
honours the joy of God and is often lost  
through indifference.

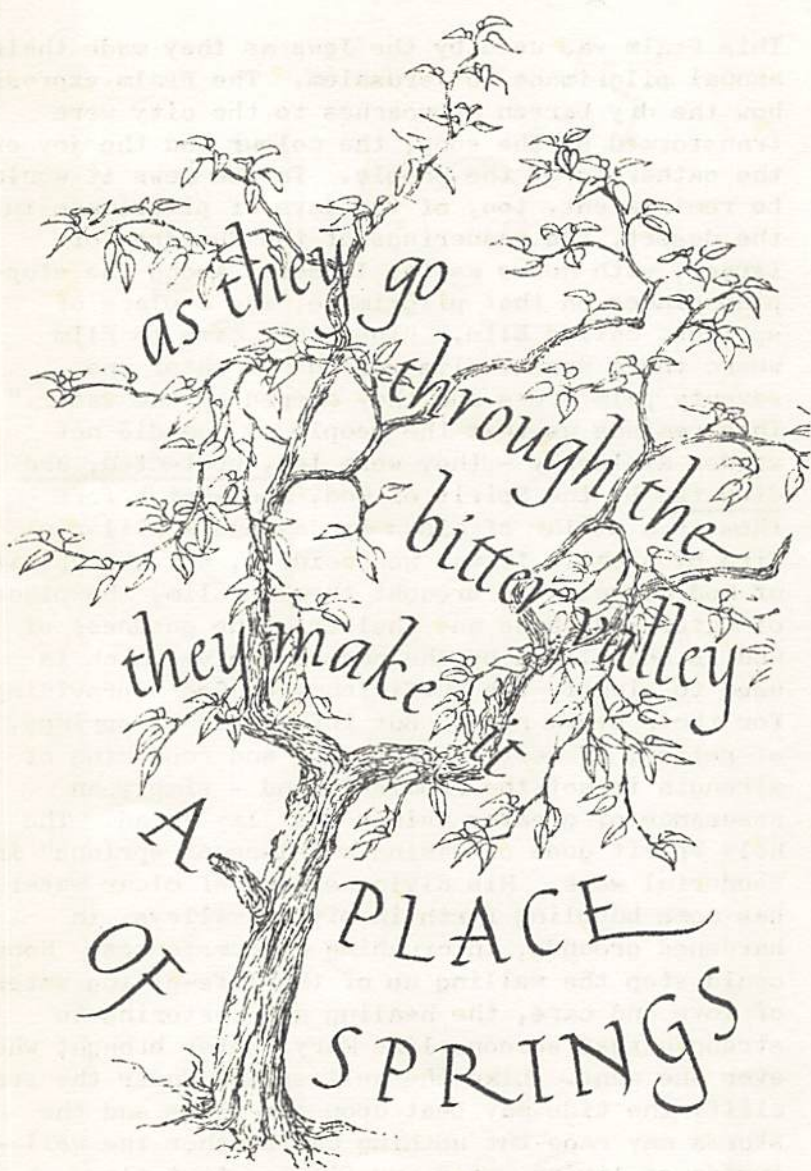
We are in God as fish are in  
water.



Hope is a flower of great beauty in God's sight  
and can only grow on earth. It blooms best in  
adversity. Let us not then fail Our God or  
disappoint Him in time of trial.







as they go  
through the  
bitter valley  
they make it

A  
PLACE  
OF  
SPRINGS

# psalm 83

This Psalm was used by the Jews as they made their annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem. The Psalm expresses how the dry barren approaches to the city were transformed by the song, the colour and the joy of the gathering of the people. To the Jews it would be reminiscent, too, of the days of pilgrimage in the desert, the wanderings of the Children of Israel, with Moses as the leader. Among the stopping places on that pilgrimage, was a place of springs, called Elim. "Then they came to Elim where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees and they camped by the water." This reminds us that the people of God did not wander aimlessly - they were led, protected, and directed by the Spirit of God, Who went before them as a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. It was no accident, but the Spirit of God Himself Who brought them to Elim, the place of water and shade and shelter. The goodness of God is underlined by the number twelve which is used to signify the sufficiency of God's providing for their every need. But this place of springs, of relief, of rest, refreshment and regaining of strength is not the Promised Land - simply an assurance of greater things that lay ahead. The Holy Spirit goes on making a 'Place of springs' in wonderful ways. His divine spring of clear water has come bubbling forth in bitter valleys, in hardened grounds, in crushing circumstances. None could stop the welling up of the life-giving waters of love and care, the healing and restoring to strength that someone like Mary Potter brought wherever she went. Like the well spring under the sea cliff, the tide may beat upon the rocks and the storms may rage but nothing can smother the well - spring of living water and its constant flow.





# JULY News

We have missed Jean Walker from the fellowship recently but are glad to hear that she is so much better. Mention of her name gives a good opportunity to thank her and Gordon for all that they do for us week by week. Thank you!

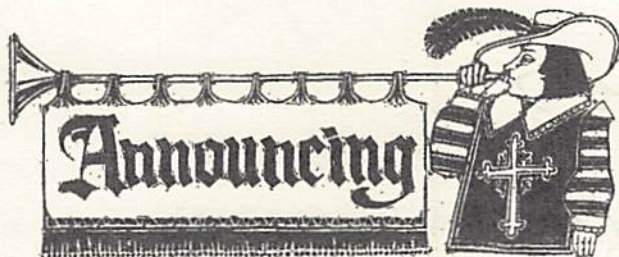
**Congratulations** to Michael Watkins on obtaining his diploma in Pastoral Studies at St. John's. So glad to know the year at St. Nic's was not wasted!

Congratulations, too, to Fi Eden on her appointment as Teacher of RE at Henry Mellish School in Nottingham. It is good to know that Fi will be with us a little longer.

See Moi Yap (of the Chinese Church) has been accepted for training at All Nations College and will be starting in September.

Jane Mitchell is to take up her appointment at Rugby School in September. It will be sad to say goodbye to her after so many years of fellowship but our prayers follow her as she goes.





August is an important month for Tom and Kathleen Robinson because they celebrate their Ruby Wedding Anniversary. How much we owe to both of them. Tom was one of the first people we met from St. Nic's even before we arrived in Nottingham. In fact we stayed in their delightful bungalow in The Park while searching for schools for the children. Little did we suspect in those early days how much humour, and wit there is stored up in Tom nor how much spiritual depth and leadership we were to see in Kathleen. We thank God for them both, as do many in the Church and know that many readers of St. Nicholas' News will rejoice with them next month.

### Pat Dearnley



has moved house at last! He would like to thank those of you who have been praying. He is very thrilled with his new home. In his words: The Lord has done it again. The new address is:  
9, Jackson Road,  
LONDON N7 6ES  
(Tel: 01 607 6255)

Chris Waldron is known to many of us. While she was working in Niger, she met a Canadian by name of Steven. They are to be married on July 1st. An unexpected bonus from a year on the mission fields!



The Chamber Orchestra of Bilborough College have recently had the honour of being selected to represent the United Kingdom at the International Festival of "Music and Youth" in Vienna. Two members of the fellowship are to be part of the tour. At the moment Anne Weston is busily sewing costumes of Nottingham lace for Penny and Cecilia who are playing with the orchestra. It sounds a very exciting and demanding tour. They arrive in Vienna on July 6th, and are to be officially welcomed on the 8th by the Burgomaster. They are to perform at various concerts in castles in and around Vienna. It all sounds very romantic. We wish them well and hope they will both enjoy this unique experience. Later in the summer, they are both travelling again, this time to Stuttgart to play with the County Youth Orchestra. Congratulations from us all!



Welcome back to three Claires! Claire Marlowe is home from France, Claire Evans has popped in from Wales and Claire Ashcroft has been to visit us from Chester where she is well settled into a Church and feeling very much at home.

It has also been good to welcome back Brian and Enid Parker and the boys. It is always a lovely surprise to see Brian arrive unexpectedly in the Choir!

We send greetings to Mrs. Foster who continues to make progress after her operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Giles have been worshipping with us for some time now, together with Sue. We would like to assure them of our prayers as they come to terms with the loss of a loved one in the family recently.

# MRS JUDKINS

Mrs. Judkins, Sunday School teacher to many of the Women's Fellowship members, and faithful occupier of the back pew in Church for many years died recently, aged 86.

Eric Turner writes a tribute to her:-

It was with much regret that I heard of the passing of Mrs. Annie Judkins, a very old and valued member of St. Nicholas' Church.

It was way back in 1932 that I first met Annie Judkins. I knew her then as Miss Hawksley. I had just joined the Church Choir as a boy, having been informed by a school pal of mine that I could earn the princely sum of four shillings (twenty pence) by singing in the Church Choir for three months. This was wealth to any boy of ten years of age in the thirties, and how much we looked forward to our pay night on the last Choir practice of each quarter of a year when we would receive our four shillings, provided of course, that we had attended every practice and service during those three months. Deductions were made according to the number of times one missed either a practice or a service.

With joining the Church Choir, I was also introduced to the Sunday School, which was held in the St. Nicholas' School rooms, on Castle Road, one of the buildings pulled down to make way for the College of Further Education.

It was at the Sunday School that I began to read the Bible and began to understand that it was something more than just a book, through the teaching of such people as Miss Hawksley, Ernest Everett, Miss Mitchell, and Sid Swain.



These people faithfully sowed the seed of the word of God, week by week, and year after year, and there must be many people like myself, who are thankful for the teachings of these faithful servants of God.

Throughout the War years, while serving in the Forces, Annie Hawksley, along with several other members of the Church, kept me informed of the 'Goings-on' at St. Nicholas', and when on leave, it was always a pleasure to spend my Sundays at St. Nicholas'. Annie Hawksley was a great comfort to me when my younger brother, John, was killed in North Africa, for me too was a member of the Choir, and was also in Miss Hawksley's class.

No doubt it was through the concern and interest of such people as these that I remained a member of the Church and was glad to come back after the war.

Now Mrs. Judkins (Annie Hawksley) has joined The Master whom she has served so faithfully over theyears and we who had the pleasure of knowing her can rejoice in the Master's words,

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant".

Eric Turner.





# PRAYER

# TOPICS

**JULY** Our prayers are especially asked this month for the team of twenty students and others from our Church who are on a Mission in Cambridge. The Mission is led by Roger Simpson, the dates are July 1st - 15th. The team are looking to some of us to be really involved with them on the prayer side of the work.

1. Pray for Roger and Mushy in their leadership roles - for wisdom, sensitivity and energy.
2. Most members of the team are new to this sort of work - pray for courage and wisdom for them.
3. Each day they will be contacting overseas students from the many language school in the town. Many of these students are lonely - pray that friendships will be quickly made.
4. Many students will be from countries which are not open to Missionaries. Pray particularly for meaningful friendships with such students.
5. Each day there will be Bible Studies.
6. Pray for the times of relaxation with the overseas friends - punting on the River Cam, barbecues on the Common, coach trips.
7. Many will hear about Christ for the first time in Cambridge this summer. Some will go home wanting to learn more - ask that links with Christians will be found when they return home.



# CYFASUMMERING



CYFA = Church Youth Fellowship's Association. It is a Nationwide organisation and at this time of year thousands of teenagers will be attending camps, houseparties and Canal cruises arranged by the Society. How many young people attribute their growth in the Lord to such camps, when, away from the rush of life in the city there is time to reflect on the things of God. Covenanters, Crusaders, Pathfinders will be arranging similar activities for young people. May we pray this month for:

1. The leaders of such activities.
2. Each young person attending camp.
3. Safety in travelling and in the swimming, climbing, and other activities.
4. The spiritual impact of the camps both for those who lead and those who are "campers"
5. Pray especially for Roger and Mushy and the team from St. Nic's leading a houseparty in Felixstowe.
6. Pray for the Rectory family and their involvement in the Houseparty at Scargill.
7. Pray for the evangelistic camp in Spain which Roger and Mushy will be leading with others from St. Nic's.

( Then pray for rest for Roger and Mushy!! )



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# ST NICHOLAS MISSIONARY WORLD

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## BARRY AND ANTHEA

News from Peru still arrives regularly despite the busy time which Barry and Anthea are having.

Recently they had a fortnight away for the Mission's annual conference, of which Barry has again been appointed Secretary.

By now they should have paid their first visit since their return to Peru, to the Cailloma region, high up in the mountains.

The £150 which St. Nicholas' contributed to their work in Peru from the Missionary Tithe fund has proved extremely timely and much appreciated, as £50 had already been spent in faith on books and materials. The Bible School, for which Barry has been preparing courses enables those living outside Arequipa to study the Bible, and classes are due to begin in July.

The remaining £100 will go towards their own support, as we suggested after hearing of the enormous price rises in Peru. In fact the general situation in Peru has deteriorated over the past three months. Recent price rises of 60% on petrol, flour, milk, bread and cooking-oil, plus rationing incurred by general strikes have led to violent demonstrations and a state of Emergency controlled by tanks and soldiers Barry and Anthea write that they were able to stock up before the strike but there is deprivation and hardship among



the poorer sections of the community.

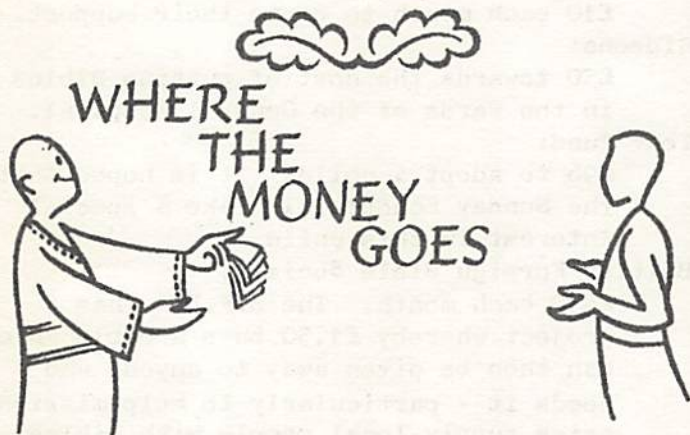
As they still have a steady stream of people with problems seeking help and counselling they have a hectic time and need to be continually fresh in the Lord.

A new Missionary Prayer group meets specifically to pray through the needs of our missionaries, which the Harrisons' find is very encouraging as prayer support can mean as much as financial support.

Look out for news of the next Missionary prayer meeting on the notice board at the back of church.

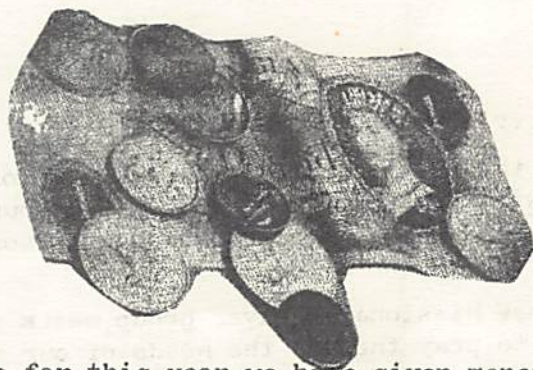
Everyone welcome,

Janet and Tony Hills.



At the last church A.G.M. we passed a resolution that we would give a tenth of the church's income to missionary work. The money is in addition to the offerings given on each missionary Sunday.

It seemed sensible to give the money as it came in and not to wait to the end of the year and you will notice that there are thank you letters from Ruth Samles and the Harrisons elsewhere in the magazine.



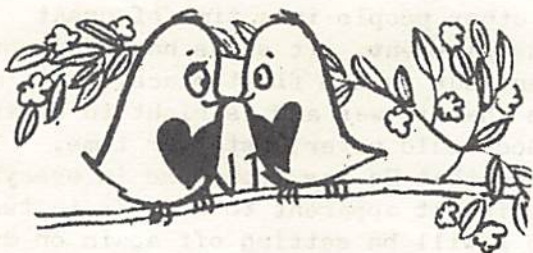
So far this year we have given money to

- i) Ruth Smales: £50 as a personal gift.
- ii) Barry and Anthea Harrison:  
£100 to complete the amount of money we committed ourselves to send for their support.  
£50 towards their library project (ask Janet and Tony Hills if you would like to know more).
- iii) Lynn and Elaine Failing:  
£10 each month to go to their support.
- iv) Gideons:  
£50 towards the cost of putting Bibles in the wards of the General Hospital.
- v) Tear Fund:  
£96 to adopt a child. It is hoped that the Sunday School will take a special interest in this child.
- vi) British Foreign Bible Society:  
£450 each month. The B.F.B.S. has a project whereby £1.50 buys a Bible which can then be given away to anyone who needs it - particularly to help missionaries supply local people with Bibles.

We are buying 3 Bibles a month.

Over the year we plan to give some money to each of the missionaries we support - either as a personal gift or to be put towards a project of their choice.





Monday, 12th June 1978

Dear Ros.,

Thankyou so much for your letter which was waiting here when we returned from Capetown yesterday. Thankyou also to St. Nick's for the money - it was a great surprise I must say, but most gratefully received! I think the best thing you can do with the cheque is to send it to my parents who will shortly have to sort out my insurance and also my return flight home - very well timed!

I've two fairly momentous pieces of information to give you. Firstly, as you might be wondering from my last sentence, I will be returning to England 5 months ahead of schedule, in December at the end of the school year! The reasons for this are very complicated, but basically because we are not doing anything that could not be done by an Indian member of staff. School got particularly frustrating at the end of term during the exams when we both had some rather head-on clashes with the head and we realised how isolated we are - our nearest european is now 22 hours journey away! This means that it is impossible for us to get away for a week-end without taking time off school and doesn't really do our sense of perspective much good! The area of greatest need is in the church, and here again we find life frustrating simply because we are women and can do so little without upsetting people. All in all we seem to be missionaries who aren't allowed to talk about Jesus and taking

jobs from other people in a time of great teacher unemployment. It seems hard to know why we were sent out in the first place, but I'm still sure that it was and is right to be there and that God would never waste our time. It's good to know that He has a purpose in everything even if it is not apparent to us. So in two weeks time I will be setting off again on my travels!

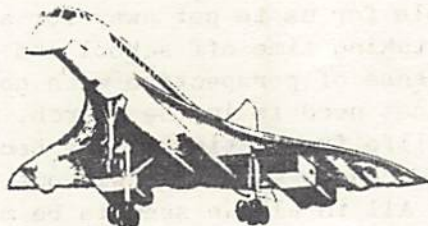
My other piece of news is not so depressing - Nigel and I got engaged this week-end and hope to be married soon after Easter next year! Do I need to say more?! It's been really super being here over the past few weeks and to receive the loving welcome that I've had from the parish. Life really is so exciting at St. Elizabeth's and I really praise God for the opportunity I've been given to be renewed spiritually and physically and gain strength for the next 6 months. Not to mention being with Nigel! We've just had 3 weeks holiday together in the Cape and were blessed with the most glorious weather, things really couldn't be more perfect!

I will think and pray about more long-term projects in India and let you know when I'm back in the thick of it! - It's really so wonderful to know how St. Nick's is growing in this area.

Thank you too for all your love and support.

Lots of love from me,

Ruth.





# DAVID GREEN



St. Mark's Church,  
P.O. Box 14407,  
NAIROBI

May, 1978

Our dear Friends,

"We haven't heard any news from you since you returned to Kenya four months ago" - so a number of you have reminded us in your letters recently. Oh dear! News from us is certainly overdue. But your comments are a great encouragement to us too, assuring us of your continued interest and prayers, which have certainly supported us through what has been - and still is - a very busy period; not an easy one at all, but we believe we are on the threshold of great things.

Things seemed peaceful in the church after we got back; but we had felt there would be a spiritual battle on our return, as we had told you. Again, some of our services in February and March seemed lifeless, even oppressive. The Lord led us to take "The Christian's Armour" (Eph. 6: 10-20) as the theme for our sermons in Lent, one of which was taken by Mr. Bryn Jones. He, with David Mansell, will be known to some of you;

they visited Nairobi in March; and arising from their ministry among us various things have begun to happen.

First of all, the Lord called a few of us to covenant together, to stand by each other to pray and work unitedly that we may see God's saving purpose fulfilled in St. Mark's; which we sealed in a simple, heart-melting Communion service together. That may sound either too grand, or else banal: the fact is that the support of a committed group like this has already enabled us to see (in some areas) what we need to do, to do some things which I think I would never have dared on my own, and to find strength and help when we have been under spiritual attack, particularly in our home.

Our next move is to re-start an evening service - the first to be on 28th May - entitled "Evening Praise". We want it free and unstructured, in which any may contribute, with testimonies, requests for prayer, and so on. May it be under guidance of the Spirit and with opportunity to exercise the Gifts of the Spirit. It could be exciting; it could be a flop; may it be used by God, for His glory and for building up His Church.

This mission, under the title of "Here's Life - Nairobi", is being organised by the local team of Campus Crusade for Christ. It is a great opportunity, depending on the participation of local churches, though so far communication has been rather lacking between the organisers and some churches, leaving us very little time to complete their training programme. The main thrust of the mission will be in June and July, and the climax is to be the visit of Bishop Festo Kivengere (ex Uganda) for some public rallies in September and October. Pray that it will indeed bring much blessing to this city and country, people hearing the gospel and turning to Christ.



We thank God for the freedom we enjoy to worship and proclaim Christ in this country: who knows for how long it will continue?

Lastly, the family: Andrew and Kathryn have settled back happily at their school, St. Andrew's Turi, and seem to be doing reasonably well. Kathryn is now having piano lessons. Sharon (8 months) 4 teeth and very healthy lungs (!) - the 4th tooth has made her much less happy than is normal for her recently, which is especially tiring for Irene. A plague of fleas, brought by the cat, which may seem a small trial, is in fact a most unpleasant one at present in the home. It is problems like these, together with frequent calls and interruptions, which both of us have found very taxing, and for which we ask your prayers that we still rejoice in all circumstances and do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

With our love and greetings in Jesus,

David and Irene Green,  
Andrew, Kathryn and Sharon.



Responding to the recent gift of money received from the Church, Eric Turner writes:

"May I, on behalf of the Nottingham Branch of the Gideons, express my sincere thanks for the gift of fifty pounds. This, as with all other gifts will prove a great help in our work in the Nottingham area. Bibles have now been placed in a large number of hotels and our annual placement of New Testaments in the schools is increasing. Most of the Eventide Homes have also received the larger printed Scriptures and the Branch has just completed the project of placing Testaments with holders in all the bedside lockers in the General Hospital. As always, there is new ground to be covered ....

# tübingen

T Ü B I N G E N



Dear David and Joyce,

I wonder if it is as hot in England as it is here in Tübingen at the moment? That's why it is quite hard to prepare for exams at the moment too. In five weeks time I'll have my written finals consisting of translation from German into English as well as an interpretation of an English (or American) literary text. I'm only just realising what an amount of plays, novels, short stories etc. English writers have produced since Shakespeare and it is quite difficult to know where to start. Nevertheless, most of the time I'm quite confident that with God's help I'm going to cope with everything. And before my orals in mid-October or the beginning of November, I hope to come to England for a short visit in order to "brush up" my English anyway.

One reason why I am writing to you just now is the fact that two girls from Tübingen (Christians) are going to spend two terms at Nottingham University (winter and spring term). It seems very difficult to find accommodation. If you know anybody from St. Nic's or elsewhere who take up students (I'm not sure if that's the right expression!) could you let me know? Of course they would be happy to come to a Christian family, but really they would be glad to find at least something (perhaps not too far from the University).

One of the girls who does Theology and English is going to travel through England in July or August and will try to look for somewhere herself too.



But it would be a great help for her if she knew of something before. I think the girls need accommodation from the beginning of October.

I hope and I am sure that Church life in St. Nic's is going well. You'll probably have Church picnics this summer too.

When I go through my photographs I always remember those picnics in Wollaton Park, the University and near the Trent which I enjoyed immensely (but not only the picnics of course!) And it was so great to see so many people again in January which was important for me as it is so easy to lose contact once one is back home.



Give my regards to everybody in St. Nic's. Through the Church Magazine I'm always in contact with you all. And I wish you strength and joy for all the different things you do in Church and in your home.

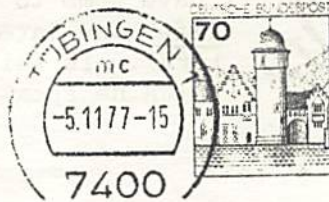
Thank you very much!

With much love

Yours in Jesus,

Annerose.

(If anyone knows of suitable accommodation for the two girls mentioned in Annerose's letter I should be most grateful to hear so that I may write back to Tübingen soon. Joyce.)



# Does Jesus Heal today

In answering that question while speaking to the Women's Fellowship recently, Michael Watkins, who was in General Practice for thirteen years, and is now studying at St. John's College, began by saying that the short answer, as far as he was concerned could be summed up in one word:

YES!

He then went on to look at various aspects of this important subject.

What type of ministry did Jesus have on earth?

St. Matthew's gospel in particular emphasises that droves of people came to Jesus for healing and, as far as we are aware, none of these was sent away without healing. Often, however, it was not just healing of the physical needs. In the healing of the paralytic for example, Jesus goes way beyond the physical needs presented to Him and deals with unconfessed sin in the man.

On other occasions, it would appear that it was broken relationships which needed to be healed in addition to the obvious physical ailments.

In the Sermon on the Mount, too, we see the desire of the Lord to restore priorities.

He is thus concerned with the whole of life, as St. John's Gospel tells us:

"I have come to give you life" and later, abundant LIFE". Is this life of which he speaks for





heaven or for the here and now? Undoubtedly there is the future hope, but life - His abundant life is also for the here and now. His desire for us is

### Wholeness

i.e. a healing of the whole personality involving body, mind and spirit.

### The healing tendency in nature

The healing purposes of God can be clearly seen in nature where so often we see life bursting forth where there has been apparent death or decay. Take trees, for example. So often where there have been scars, new growth so quickly takes place to cover what would have marred the beauty. Our bodies are another example. Old wounds so quickly heal over. What a mess we should look if that were not the case! Doctors, therefore, are simply trying to help the body to heal itself - fostering the natural, God-given tendency.

### Relationship between illness of the body and sickness of the mind

Most of us at some time experience anxieties, worries, fear, even anger. There is no need for shame in having such feelings, but they do need to be acknowledged for otherwise they can do harm to other parts of our body - psychosomatic illness. The Lord and fellow Christians can take these anxieties, worries, fears, tensions and deal with them.



So often we are overwhelmed by inner conflicts, those parts of ourself which we are unable to cope with and outer conflicts, the parts of other people we cannot cope with. It is only ourselves we can change! So we see that often as well as physical healing there is a need for psychological and sometimes a spiritual healing. It is difficult to separate them because the inter-action between body, mind and spirit is complex. But there is that assurance that all healing comes from God and whether that healing comes through medicine, pills or prayer ministry He is the Source.

Scripture leads us to expect that He heals

We read in Hebrews that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. The healing ministry of Jesus continues today because He dwells in us through His Spirit. Mark 16 and Acts 1.1 also lead us to expect that His healing work is still available today.



What must I do?

ASK! - not in a demanding way, rather as little children ask. How much more trusting children are than adults and quite unashamedly they will ask for what we hesitate to request!

ASK IN HIS NAME that is according to the mind, will and character of Jesus. We need a close relationship with God so that we shall know what He wants us to do in a given situation.

Recognise that you have faith!

So often people rebuke themselves for having insufficient faith. Maybe then we need to recognise that if we have the Lord within us we have all the faith we need because He is the Giver of Faith.



# Holiday

## COMPETITION

Dear Children,

A friend wrote to me the other day and gave me a beautiful present which she had made. It was the smallest present I have ever received and in her letter she said:

See how God loves little things

---

While you are on holiday this year, keep your eyes open and see if you can make a collection of little things from nature. It could be very small shells if you are on the beach, it could be little pebbles or stones, or if you are in the countryside there are some beautiful little fir cones lying around at the moment. Make your collection look interesting and then give it to me by the first weekend in September.

Happy hunting!

Joyce Huggett.



# ST. NICHOLAS PARISH CHURCH NOTTINGHAM

## STAFF

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Student Worker: Miss Judith Roberts.

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Diocesan Reader: Mr. T. Robinson, B.A. Tel: 45470

Treasurer: Mr. R. J. Marlowe. Tel: 231711

## SUNDAY SERVICES AND WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES

10.45 a.m. Morning Worship (Communion 1st & 5th Sunday)  
Creche, Sunday School, Explorers, Pathfinders.

5.20 p.m. Hospital Ward Service.

6.30 p.m. Evening Worship (Communion 3rd. Sunday).  
Coffee is served in Church after the Service.

### Each Week

Parish Fellowship: For Prayer & Study: Tuesday 8 p.m. Lower  
Lounge.

Choir Practice: Fridays 7.30 p.m. The Church.

Worship Workshop: Thursdays 8 p.m. Lower Lounge.

Mid-week Lunch: Wednesdays 12.30 - 2 p.m. Lower Lounge.

### Fortnightly

#### House Fellowship

Meetings: Wednesdays & Thursdays 8 p.m.

Women's Fellowship: Mondays 2.30 p.m. Lower Lounge.

Coffee Club: Wednesdays 10.15 a.m.