

Canterbury Cathedral under snow Kent

St. Nicholas News

January 1981

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JANUARY
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30 Barrack Lane
The Park
Nottingham

Our dear Friends,

Just before Joyce went into hospital in November, a wise friend counselled her to learn a new lesson about prayer by suggesting that there are times when we are buoyed along in life, not by our own prayers, but by the prayers of others. What some people call the 'communion of saints'.

Many readers of St. Nicholas News formed part of the body of people who created the wave of prayerfulness which not simply carried Joyce through the experience of hospitalisation but which caused it to be one of those enriching experiences of life for which one looks back and praises God for the intimate ways in which He meets the needs of those He loves.

Let me tell you some of the ways in which He answered your prayers for us. First, there was the provision of Christian fellowship in the ward. This came in a variety of ways. Lally's unexpected admission to hospital, to the same ward, on the same day and at the same time as Joyce, was one source of in-depth relating which was mutually supportive. There were other Christians in the ward too, and the bonding between us as we talked about Jesus and about the relevance of prayer to suffering was very strong.

Another of God's provisions came in the form of a student doctor from St. Nic's. who 'happened' to be doing her placement at Peel Street and who 'happened' to have been assigned to assist at Joyce's operation. Vicky Gauld now knows Joyce 'inside out' - literally! The medical profession provides outstanding care for the physical well-being of a patient, but so far is able to provide little in the form of emotional help

for the suffering, but Vicky's presence for me, provided both. She was able to be at my bedside at odd times during the day. It was she who 'received' my body in the operating theatre and her smiling face and comforting hand (not to mention the quaint blue cap) greeted me when I came round from the anaesthetic. And she was able to pray over me throughout the operation which she assures me was a beautiful one - whatever that means!

The right people seemed to turn up at just the right time. The night before the operation when there was a great deal of apprehension in the ward I was trying to pray in bed alone. The night nurse came to me and whispered "Are you expecting a Priest?" The Chaplain came to see me and we were able to pray together and read the lovely late-night service of Compline together.

I suppose every patient hopes that he/she will be the first patient to be wheeled to theatre, but I was almost the last. Imagine my gratitude, therefore, when at 3.30 p.m. the nurse drew back the curtains after giving me my pre-med. and there was the Chaplain again. Prayer, the laying-on-of-hands and human support meant so much at that moment when 'bodies' were being wheeled in and out of the ward at great speed.

At the other end David and Christina were being upheld in physical ways with pizzas, casseroles, cakes, crumbles, shepherd's pies and the like.

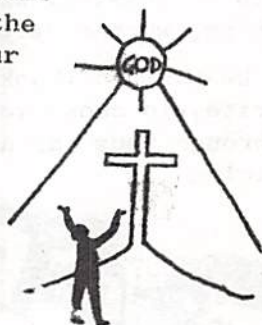
We want to thank all of you who took the trouble to write, to cook, to visit and to pray. It has helped us through thus far and our spirits are humbled and rejoicing.



It would be futile to be triumphalistic about the experience. Pain is pain and it hurts and to disguise it by calling it another name is deceit. We have come a long way, and we are grateful to you and to God, but we need you to know that there is yet a long way to go. The climb of convalescence is an uphill one and we are all struggling uphill together and feeling tired in the attempt. We need your ongoing support and prayer as we stagger rather wearily into the New Year. Someone rightly wrote recently, "the greatest help human beings can give is just to be beside each other in caring prayer". Perhaps the emphasis needs to be on the word caring, for appropriate caring is healing in itself.

There is a lot of suffering in the world as we enter 1981. There is physical suffering in our own country and abroad. There is the suffering brought about by economic depravation and there is much emotional pain in the world in which we live. If we are seeking to live Christlike lives, seeking to alleviate the loneliness of some of those in sorrow and pain, then 1981 will not necessarily be an easy year. But then as someone rightly expressed "loving and serving Jesus does indeed mean taking up the Cross daily and being with Him underneath it - that is, often feeling crushed by the pressures and weight of the complex human situation and the consequences of the sin of the world." Are we prepared for that dimension of Christian involvement with people ?

The New Year is not so much a time of making New Year resolutions for the Christian, as a time for renewing our commitment to the Lord Christ: the one who came, who comes in 1981 and who will come again in glory. As Anglicans, it can be helpful, indeed essential, from time to time to renew our baptismal vows. They are three-fold and a period of heart-searching and re-commitment would not only strengthen each Christian but also the whole body of Christ at St.Nicholas!



1. Do you (still) turn to Christ ? That may well involve turning away from materialism, ambition and will certainly involve renouncing self-centredness.
2. Do you (still) renounce evil ? Are these empty words, or does their effectiveness penetrate your life-style at work, at parties, your relationships ? The insidious effects of evil corrode the way of life of many of us today who think nothing of stealing employers time and property and who feel it is our right to do as little as possible for the highest possible wage. The subtle effects of evil - jealousy, resentment, pride, dogmatism divide the Church, our own and others - are nation-wide, in a way which dishonours the Saviour to whom we pay lip-service.
3. Do you repent of your sins? Can there be a better way to start the year than by so repenting, turning our back on our sinfulness so that we walk into the New Year as new people - ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven. Alexandra Scharemann emphasises the need each Christian has to repent, to return our love and our life to Christ. 'In Christ all sins are forgiven once and for all, for He is Himself the forgiveness of sins, and there is no need for any 'new' absolution. But there is indeed the need for us who constantly leave Christ and excommunicate ourselves from His life, to return to Him, to receive again and again the gift which in Him has been given once and for all.' (The World as a Sacrament. Alexander Scharemann).

So may this New Year begin with each individual receiving afresh the gift of God's free forgiveness and may we carry Him into our places of work, our fellowship groups, to those in need and share insights about Himself with one another. In this way, the New Year will be joyful, despite pain and frustration, for He is our joy, our peace and the light which the worlds darkness can never extinguish.

With our love, our thanks and our prayers.

David Joya.

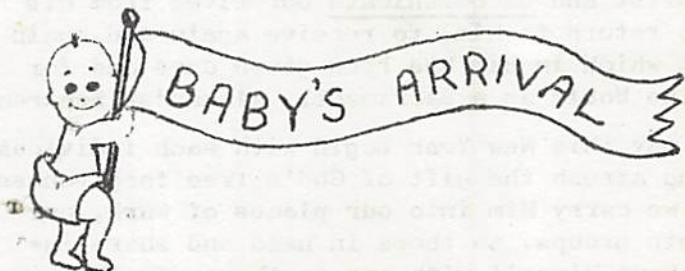


LATEST NEWS

Our best wishes and prayers go with Hilda (Wood) and Jim Jakubowski who were married in St. Nicholas' on New Year's Eve.

Our sympathies and love to the family and friends of Mrs. Ethel Smith who died just before Christmas at the ripe old age of 91, and who is now rejoicing in the presence of her Lord.

Congratulations to Rosalyn Holden on completing the strenuous course to become a 'Queen's Guide'. Also on achieving her Bronze Medallion for Life-saving. Well done. Our commiserations to Alison who acted as the body to be rescued - a great team effort'.



Congratulations to Elizabeth and Alistair Campbell on the birth of their son James in the early hours of Christmas Day.

Also congratulations to Helen (Taylor) and John Davies in Kampala on the birth of Bronwen Rosemary on December 30th, weighing 7lbs. They are all 'doing well'.

It was good to see Julia Popp in church during her brief visit to St. John's. She is thriving and settling down in Woking.

Also Andy and Wendy Green, taking a break from the small Baptist church they are helping with in the London area. Pray for Andy as he continues his studies at the London Bible College.

David Green has been appointed to a parish in Brinscombe, nr. Stroud, Glocs. Do pray for David and Irene and the children that they may quickly settle in and for the Lord's guidance in all that they do.

Communication

AT ST. NIC'S. -

- News - needs to be shared.
- Information - needs to be circulated.
- Dates need to come into the open.
- Communication is the name of the game.

The rules are simple -

(1) USE the criss-crossed board for your notes and inter - church post (!) rather than the font. Look at the board in case you have a note. Simple.

(2) ENTER important dates for the church or your activity at St. Nic's. - e.g. P.C.C., Annual Church Meeting, Pastoral Group, Prayer for the Church's Work, Lent School, Drama open airs, Confirmation etc. So that we don't get unnecessary clashes. You have been warned!

Both of these Communicators may be found at the back of the Church between the Wall Safe and the display boards.

It's now over to you

Thank
you

Bishop's Girls' School,
Muyebe,
P.O. Box 17,
Kabale
12.11.80

Dear friends,

On behalf of Senior one class, as class monitor I want to thank you very much for the generator you sent to us.

May the almighty God be with you, and may he add more to you for the love and kindness you showed to us and may he be kind to you also.

Before you sent the generators, we senior ones could not go for night study because the pressure lamps were not enough.

But now that almost every building is within the reach of electric light, we all go for night study and so we particularly wish to thank all of you who participated in raising the funds for buying our generators.

Actually we remember you in our prayer though we are far apart spiritually we are with you. So may His name be praised.

So as we end, we wish you a happy and prosperous stay in the Lord Jesus.

Alice Baiungi
Class Monitor.

let the light
shine!

Uganda

Bishop's Girls' School,
P.O. Box 17,
Kabale,
19.11.80

Dear friends,

On behalf of senior three we are very grateful for the electricity (engine) which you sent us.

We have found it a great help because we are able to study at night and we have more time of studying. So we are thanking you all for the part you played in the installation of electricity in our school. The class that is given this light is also benefitting from it very much, and happy for the brighter and more healthy light.

Well, in the future we are looking forward to all the buildings having this electricity. Thanks a lot for what you have been able to do for us. We all remember you in our prayers.

May God bless you all

Yours sincerely,

Hope-il-Tugumisirize
Senior three Class Monitor.



DR MICHAEL AND MRS (DR) ANNE CURRIE



Pennell Memorial Hospital
Bannu
NWP
Pakistan

Dear Friends,

This comes with our warmest greetings to you all. As we complete our second month in Bannu, our first impressions are already fading fast, but we will try to give you a brief introduction to the set up here. We arrived on October 1, after two days of rather hot and dusty travelling. It was fantastic to watch the transition from the alpine scenery of Murree to the plains around Peshawar, then up over the bare mountains of the Kohat pass, and through some astounding areas of red earth hills, with no green thing in sight (and occasional sheep and goats grazing happily on apparently nothing at all) and finally to arrive on the green fertile lands around Bannu, with all their irrigation canals.

We were warmly greeted on our arrival, first by the other English staff, and then by the nationals. The hospital bed count varies between fifty in the slack seasons, and about one hundred and eighty when it is busy in the spring and autumn (the best seasons for travelling.) This is staffed by two (now four) doctors, three English nursing sisters, and then provides employment for much of the local Christian community, in jobs ranging from dispenser to sweepers. The medical superintendent, Dr. Quddus, is a man of much experience but nearing retirement, who has been here for most of his life. The women's medicine is done by Dr. Ruth Coggan, one of the few woman gynaecologists on the Frontier (also CMS). So far our fellowship with the local Christians has been severely limited by our lack of language, but we have enjoyed the times spent with the other English people.

Michael has started work in the hospital, learning his way around medicine in a new language and an environment totally different from that of the Nottingham University Hospital - his last post. The diseases differ with a lot of tuberculosis, malaria, tetanus, typhoid,

parasitic infections, and patients who are much more sick by the time they actually come to the hospital. The equipment is older, and since no one has done much major surgery for some time, what there is is often tucked away at the back of some cupboard. Anne gulped gently at the anaesthetics, and set to work to learn techniques, which her textbooks mention in the history section! The fact remains, however, that they work, and are often much more appropriate for here, considering the resources available, (though she does hope to introduce some new techniques in due course).

We continue with language study, our teacher is showing a real interest in Christian things. Please pray for him and his family, remembering that of the Pathans professing Christ many are simply done away with by infuriated relatives. Our study has now progressed so that we work entirely in the Urdu script, but actual conversation (the important part) is much more stilted. Alastair has picked up a few words of the "no" and "go away" variety!

Domestically; we have a lovely, three bedroomed bungalow, with two long verandas and walled gardens front and back. We have running cold water, from the hospital tube well which can be drunk straight from the tap, a tremendous blessing. We still have tin baths, but the loos flush! (The hospital drains are quite another matter.) We rejoice in the recent arrival of our sea luggage, with only a few minor breakages. Anne finds herself somewhat confined, as women do not leave the hospital compound unescorted, and most routine shopping is done by our Pathan male cook. All domestic tasks take longer without the modern appliances found in England, so it is an additional blessing to have an ayah, who minds the children in the mornings, does basic housework and all the washing (by hand). This gives Anne some time for language study. The children are thriving; Charlie (just eight months) is learning to crawl, mostly backwards, and Alastair (three next week) has acquired a large circle of very noisy friends, who play happily on our veranda.

Thank you all for your continued concern and prayer.

Michael, Anne, Alastair and Charlie.

BIBLE STUDY



ROMANS

Chapter 3.21 - 4.25: the way of justification.

v.21 'But now....' What a hammer-blow! What a tremendous truth is enshrined in those two words. Man has come to the end of his resources (the argument of the preceding chapters). Like the children of Israel on the brink of the Red Sea, we 'stand still and see the salvation of our God.' v.24 states the grounds of our salvation: we are declared righteous freely (we cannot earn it) by God's undeserved love through the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ upon the Cross. Here is the answer; here is the kernel of the Gospel. Contrast for a moment the two ways: the way of the Law, you do your best and hope, at the end of your life, that the Lord will accept you; by the way of faith in Christ, you are declared accepted at the beginning of your new life, not on the basis of works (v.27) but 'of grace (v.24), through God's wholly unmerited favour.

In vv.24-25 there are two very important words which describe pictorially what the Lord has done for us:

(1) redemption - the scene is the slave market and the word refers to the price paid to free a prisoner. For us the price paid was the Lord's death to release us from our slavery to sin.

(2) propitiation - the scene is the holy of holies in the Temple and the word refers to the mercy-seat where once a year the people's sins were absolved with blood. For us the Lord Jesus has absolved our sins through His own blood shed at Calvary.

For our part we must believe that and appropriate its truth personally (v.25 shows that the Lord is only a propitiation through faith in His blood). In this way the Father demonstrates His righteousness (v.26) by punishing sin and, simultaneously, His love by dying for us. The chorus puts this truth well:

At the cross of Jesus
Pardon is complete
Love and justice mingle
Truth and mercy meet.

v.28 sums up: 'a person is put right with God only through faith, and not by doing what the Law commands (because it's an impossibility!) Chapter 4 illustrates this principle from the life of Abraham. Space forbids comment; may I commend Gen. 15. 1-6, Ps. 32.1-2,5, 10b, and Gal. 3 for further study.

We are now at the half-way stage; the problem has been posed, and now solved. So what? The next four chapters give us the fruits or consequences of justification.

Next month: Chapter 5 - the consequences of justification: (i) peace with God.



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to "St. Nicholas' News".

Name -----

Address -----

I enclose £1.80 plus £1.38 postage.

GOING TO...

Week 1. Reflect on what a New Year might mean - "Behold I make all things new". "Sing to the Lord a new song". "If a man is in Christ, he is a new creation".

What would make it new for you?

Pray for those for whom the last 12 months have been a difficult time, and those who face known challenges this year.



Week 2. Pray for the world. It is waiting, groaning, for the revealing of God's sons.

Pray for the witness of 'Christians under pressure' known to you; in public positions, in decision-making roles, in peacemaking situations.

Pray for our country during this, the most crippling month for strikes, that justice, righteousness and mercy will triumph over power and self interest.



PRAYER



Week 3. Pray for those who suffer especially because of Cold Weather. Those who are lonely. Ask God what you and your Link Group can do to help; ask God to show you practical expressions of love which you can make.



Week 4. Pray for the Confirmation Candidates in their preparation and in the week following their commitment.

The following have expressed an interest to be confirmed on Sunday 25th January at 6.30 p.m. when our good friend the Bishop of Sherwood will join us to preside.

Elaine Brooks
Angela Goddard
Peter Goodband
Catharine Harvey
Rosalyn Holden
Ruth Jones

Tina Kirby
Paul O'Shaunessy O'Neill
Janice Rose
Ray and Carol Samme
Ruth Sansome
Pete Wilkinson

Pray for their families and friends during the service.

CHRISTIAN DRAMA



St. Nic's has had an active drama group now for just a year. In that time we have performed sketches in church, in the street and even in Southwell Minster. We have confused some, entertained others and (I hope) challenged a few. But what is the point of it all? Is it just to satisfy the egos of a few extroverts, or does drama have any real value to the church?

The prime object of what we do is to communicate to our audience, and what we seek to communicate is Christian truth. Drama at its best can insinuate truth into our minds, which might otherwise be closed to receive it. It creates sympathy or indignation, which can put a new perspective on our own attitudes (as King David found when confronted by the prophet Nathan). We laugh, and are caught laughing at ourselves.

Take street theatre as an example. One of the main problems of street evangelism is attracting a crowd. Good street theatre (i.e. lively, well written and well performed drama) will draw people because it is entertaining. Humour is a great help in this. Then because they are enjoying themselves, people will be open to what you have to say to them. Through drama you can instruct and challenge people without threatening. Often people will want to talk to you about what you are doing, and the sketches provide common ground for discussion.

This is the sort of thing we are aiming at. We want to contribute to the edification of the church as well, and we look to you for two things. Firstly, the freedom to make, and to learn from, mistakes. We are bound to

get it wrong sometimes, particularly as we begin to write our own material. Help us find where our talents lie. Secondly we value feedback on whether our work is helpful or not. We need to know whether what we are doing is relevant and any good artistically. Help us get better!

John Emmett.

..REVIEW..

More - with - less
Cookbook.

Doris Longacre



This Cookbook is an attempt to suggest recipes enabling us to "eat better and consume less of the world's limited food resources". Since we bought this book, John and I have had fun trying different recipes as some of you know. The book is clearly set out and written in an enthusiastic style. One drawback is that it is American so gives measurements in American cups! I have used a small mug as my measure, but this does involve guesswork. For those cooks who like to be precise, this may be a problem. For those of you who enjoy concocting, the book gives basic recipes which may be adapted.

If you are considering trying to eat more simply this book is very useful in giving lots of different recipes enabling you to do so. Published by Lion at £1.25 or £4.95. The more expensive Edition contains an extensive section on nutrition, particularly the protein content of certain foods. It also has a spiral spine so that it opens easily at the recipe you want.

Mary Tomkinson.

A STEP FURTHER

by Joni Eareckson and Steve Estes

If you read the book 'Joni' would already have been introduced to this attractive, spirited and once physically active American girl. Alas, she broke her neck in a diving accident at age 17. Since then she has been totally paralysed below her shoulders.

A living death? Yes, for some her condition might seem so. Certainly, Joni's initial experience of hospitalisation immediately after her accident, suspended from the ceiling in a stryker frame, could be described for her as "hell".

However, the initial crisis and adjustment pains over, Joni reflects upon what has happened to her and why. In this follow up, 'A Step Further' is really marking another stage in her growth in maturity and understanding as a Christian. Sentence to life in a wheelchair by the devil, she has emerged the winner as artist (by mouth), author, actress and witness extraordinary. In a very honest way she expresses the understanding which have brought her to a positive mental attitude, proving the reality of Jesus Christ, who himself 'overcame the world'!

From her own standpoint, Joni surveys the whole area of suffering in this book; why God allows it and how He uses it for our good. All points are ably illustrated from life. She even tackles the question "Why wasn't I healed?"

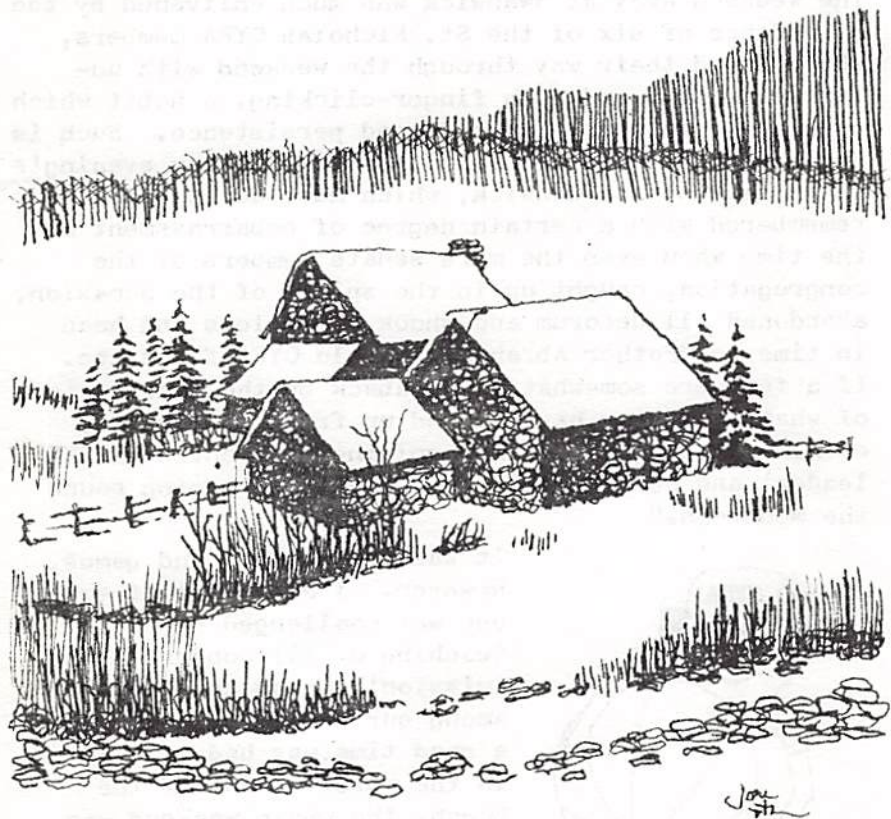
On the critical side, I felt there is a certain wistfulness throughout the book. I suspect that Joni puts a braver face on things than her true feelings would allow. Perhaps this is why her anticipation of heaven is so keen. This quality however, for me, adds rather than subtracts from the character of the book.

No-one can deny the impact that Joni has made on Christian and unbeliever alike. If you saw her

recent film at the YMCA you will have warmed, I'm sure, to this very real person. Perhaps you will have a chance to see it on its return there in March. Until then, read this girl's testimony of faith, and perhaps - no probably - you too will be taken a Step Further into His will.

MWL

On Sale at the bookstall.



"This card was drawn by Joni Eareckson a competently skilled artist who, due to paralysis, must draw with her mouth. Miss Eareckson desires that the Author of her creativity be glorified through her signature . . . PTL means Praise The Lord! It is to Jesus Christ, her Savior, that she dedicates her art."

Impressions

OF

SWANWICK

The weekend away at Swanwick was much enlivened by the attendance of six of the St. Nicholas CYFA members, who bounced their way through the weekend with unlimited energy and much finger-clicking, a habit which even now they pursue with dogged persistence. Such is the result of their contribution to Saturday evening's entertainment at Swanwick, which must surely also be remembered with a certain degree of embarrassment as the time when even the more sedate members of the congregation, caught up in the spirit of the occasion, abandoned all decorum and shook arms, legs and head in time to "Father Abraham", an old CYFA favourite. If a few were somewhat taken aback by the realisation of what CYFA-ites have picked up from their Sunday evening meetings, all was explained by Denise (a CYFA leader) and her rendition of "She'll be coming round the mountain."



It wasn't all fun and games, however. I am sure that everyone was challenged by the teaching of all concerned and 'mission' is now the "in" word among our dedicated Six. So a good time was had by all and, in the words of one of the bunch, the whole weekend was 'finger-clicking good'!

Anonymous CYFA member.



Once again history was made at Swanwick when Abraham and the Lott tribe foregathered. Not this time to gaze out over the cities of the plain but to take advantage of a getting together of like minds in a friendly and stimulating atmosphere. The warmth of the log fire was matched by Debbie's welcome. It was followed by the joyous sound from on high of Milton's voice and from a lower altitude the sight of YY's unmatchable smile.

Under Bob Marlow's cheerful leadership our group indulged in uninhibited discussion to such good effect that it was impossible to cover the whole range of questions in the time available. Even without Colin's support we should have eulogised again about the food. What better start to the day could there be than a plate full of that magnificent Hayes' porridge ?

The timetable seemed to work better this year and the style and economy in the use of words of David Green meant a great ability on the part of his listeners to concentrate and appreciate his message.

The Barn Dance was well "called" and revealed some remarkably fit evangelicals. CYFA's interpretation of "Heaven is a Wonderful Place" was stimulating while some of the other entertainment can only be described as hairy.

Even the creche had its moments although these are better left to the imagination. All in all a very rewarding weekend.

SWANWICK '80 - What was your impression ?

Nervous anticipation giving way to relief at the actual accommodation and the facilities in the bedrooms.

Too many people! I'll get to know them! Will they want to know me ?

The atmosphere of peace and fellowship almost tangible.

Joy at the very real presence of the Lord in the meetings.

Learning through David Green, the Bible and each individual's experience of the Lord.

Constructive help and challenge from the members of my discussion group. Much food for thought and prayer.

Happy children obviously getting as much out of the weekend as were the adults. Thank you Di., Sylvia and Dave.

New friends! A feeling of belonging. I think I shall be happy here.

Finally an awareness that the Holy Spirit was quietly at work changing minds and hearts and instilling His vision; Mission to All Men.

Alan and Ann Sare
Janice (aged $4\frac{3}{4}$) and Gillian (aged 3)



What was your impression ?

The houseparty was a magnificent time of praise and worship, of teaching and of ministry to each other through the discussion groups, where our attention was focused by David Green on mission - on a global, local and personal level and where we all fitted into this. There was a tremendous feeling of love and openness with a great desire by all to get to know one another. As a student it was a very good opportunity of getting to know more people in the church and to put names to the face I vaguely remembered reading the lesson or giving out the service sheets. In knowing more people - standing on someones toes in the barn dance was a slightly unconventional method of introducing oneself - it helped a lot in our worship and with the children there we really did become a 'family'. That a feeling of love for one another and for Christ really did exist there and I hope which has been carried back to St. Nick's.

It was also a time of great fun and relaxation - a result of excellent organisation - Long coffee breaks took away the intensity of some church and university weekends. St. Nicholas also should congratulate itself on the quality of its self entertainment. I can remember precious little of the song Dave Huggett sang which is probably not untypical but the sight of his bronzed torso is something which I will not exactly treasure but I'll certainly remember!!

N.P.B.



Summer events



A new year ... and a new call - what will you do with your Summer?

Last year St Nic's folk were flung out to the resorts of Britain and elsewhere in all weathers.

This year there are opportunities for Christian service around the country - have you considered this yet?

Those who were involved last year could inform you of this year's opportunities - if you're interested, why not talk to them. Most people are on the St Nic's address list.

Sandy Shallows.

If the Sandy Shallows of Beach Missions beckon, you could find out about the CSSM at Cromer from Mark Osborne or Peggy Wright, and the East Runton one from John Bestwick or Kevin Huggett, then there's Nevin in N. Wales that Alison Mathin could tell you about. Perhaps Jonathon Hawker or Jill Bradbury could fill you in on the United Beach Mission held last year at Peignton, and what this year's plans are.



Crusaders, Camping and CYFA

Crusader Camps (Graham Hollows or the Masons or John Holden) happen almost anywhere and do almost anything. The Midland Camping Venture (Colin Fryer)

of course may be your scene. Then there's the CYFA houseparty hogging the sun at Felixstowe, with its yearly quota of St Nic's helpers, Mike and Rose Marshall would be happy to tell you about that.

Nurses....Purposes....?

If you're a nurse, then Jenny Littleford will fill in the picture for you about the Nurses Christian Fellowship Summer School. It may be that Claire Evans will be leading another Purpose Holiday assault on the sunspots of Europe, if you're a student your enquiry would be especially welcome.

Millom, Cambridge

More definite are the plans for Millom, near the Lake District. The town is holding a mission from 19 - 28 June which David and Joyce Huggett will be leading. A large team will be needed - be prayerful, because names will be considered and people will be encouraged to go soon.

J. John will need fellow workers, students especially, for the Cambridge Outreach among foreign students and visitors from 5 - 17 July. Give him your name if you're interested Christina Huggett went last year and could tell you about it.

Then there's always Barrowby....

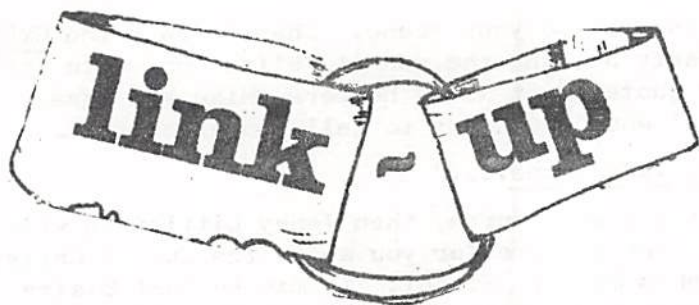
More gentle and holiday like will be this year's St. Nicholas houseparty at Barrowby, Yorkshire from 22 - 29 August. Gordon Walker and Bob Marlowe would be happy to give you details. Many enjoyed the last two years at Thwing and Sherringham, and gained much from the fellowship and the guest speaker.

Finally, if you have other holiday opportunities like this perhaps you would be sharing 'em, too!

See you on the beach



MWL



ACROSS THE RIVER

It was rather a blow when the 'old' Bridgford group was split up. However with the introduction of the 'Charter' in September, the division was made and three groups emerged from a group that had overgrown the normal sized house.

In many ways Bridgford 1 (names to take place of numbers for the next session) has a good mix. We settled down and got to know each other better while reading, discussing, grunting over, but in the main accepting the 'Charter'.

And since, things have gone very well. All have opened up their homes for meetings and most of the members have taken the lead during our study of some of the Psalms. Praying and sharing have deepened our fellowship together.

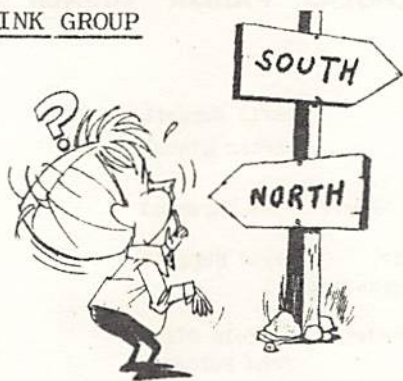
Ties with other Bridgford groups are maintained and strengthened by joint meetings. We had an evening in the Holy Land with slides and commentry by Bob and Betty Marlowe. During Advent, an evening Ten-Pin bowling, and an after Carol Service fellowship with coffee and mince pies, are planned. On January 7th we are to have a joint group communion service.

Since the start of the group meetings we have had the Christening of our youngest member Joe, followed by a first class D.I.Y. lunch and get-together, and two engagements.

There's much to be said for group life

Bob Haytack

LENTON NORTH LINK GROUP



Or is it Lenton South ? Like the other Lenton group we are having difficulty remembering whether we are north or south. Despite this "setback" we enjoy being together as a group. About 15 to 18 people tend to come along. We are mostly students - particularly medics - or nurses, with a majority of women. We have had Bible Studies to look at what it means to be a group and share together. We have also had a film strip from Tear Fund, and various social functions, including a fireworks party. In addition a recent prayer breakfast was enjoyed by those who attended. We have begun praying together in pairs.

Mary and I have been thrilled by the way we are coming together as a group, especially as many of us are new to the idea of a linkgroup. We "rounded off" the term with a Christmas party where we played silly games like nursery rhyme charades.

John Tomkinson.

A Year for God

Proclaim the year
of the Lord's favour

Isaiah 61:2

ST. NICHOLAS PARISH CHURCH NOTTINGHAM

STAFF

Rector:	David Huggett	Tel: 411383
Clergy:	Martin Winbolt-Lewis	Tel: 46952
Outreach Worker:	Mike Marshall	Tel: 44196
Counsellor: (and Magazine Editor)	Joyce Huggett	Tel: 411383
Church Wardens:	Malcolm Offord	Tel: 46924
	John Holden	Tel: 812043
Diocesan Reader:	Tom Robinson	Tel: 45470
Treasurer:	Richard Watmough	Tel: 92-60682

SUNDAY SERVICES AND WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES

Sunday

- 10.45 a.m. Morning Worship.
Creche. Climbers. Explorers. Pathfinders.
- 5.20 p.m. Hospital Ward Service
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Worship.
Coffee is served in Church after the Service

Each week

- Parish Fellowship Group Studies and Prayer
- Worship Workshop Thursdays 7.30 p.m. Lower Lounge
- Mid-week Lunch Wednesdays 1.00 - 2.00 p.m. Lower Lounge

Fortnightly

- Area Link Groups Wednesdays and Thursdays 8.00 p.m.
- Women's Fellowship Mondays 2.30 p.m.
- Coffee Club Wednesdays 10.15 a.m.