



**HE
IS
RISEN!**

St. Nicholas News

May 1982

Price 15p. (O.A.P.'s 10p.)

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MAY 82



from

Our dear Friends,

Thank you!

David arrived home from church on the Friday before the TV Service in near despair.

'What's wrong?' Joyce asked.

'You should see the church,' he explained.

'It's an absolute tip. It'll never be ready for Sunday morning!

On Saturday, the day of the spring - clean, we came to Maid Marian Way in tepidation. Would anyone turn up?... They did. Take Heidi, for example:-

'Have you come to help with flowers?', Joyce asked her.

'No! I'm no good with flowers. I've brought my duster!' Her reply was typical of the willingness of the crowd who came - heads protected by headscarfs, carrying vacuum cleaners and brushes.

Before ten o'clock, there were people everywhere - decorating the pillars, the chancel, the windows while others worked behind them, dusting the pews, hoovering the pew runners, washing the floor. We even found one person cleaning the stained-glass window to brighten the colours for the camera men.

It was hard work - filthy work - but fun and rewarding. That, and a similar onslaught on Easter Saturday, brought a sense of togetherness. We sometimes have to work hard at fellowship and loving it seems. On these occasions, it just happened. But we know it did not happen without cost and so we want you to know that we are grateful for this sacrifice of time and energy. It's great !



What we did not see, but heard about from the camera men, was the fantastic breakfast which some of our 'girls' prepared at 6:30am for the TV crew. 'There are some lovely people in this church', we were reminded. 'We'd like to come back'. Again, thank you for unseen but much appreciated practical ministry. It made it a wonderful week-end - not just for us, but for hundreds of viewers if the letters and phone-calls are anything to go by:

'We enjoyed the service from "All Hedgehogs Church"', was one appreciative guy's. Mushy Simpson added another - 'I was able to worship with you on Sunday - on my bed in a single room with a huge colour TV! . Thank you for a wonderful service so full of praise. Of course we were full of praise for little (or rather big) Mark Whitfield.' Mark had arrived the day before, weighing 9lbs 2oz.

The staff feel that the time has come to lay St. Nicholas' News to rest - at least for the time being so the next will also be the last. The reasons for this decision are three-fold. First, the time involved in producing each edition. Second, the cost incurred - we lose money on the magazine each month. Third, we believe the expanded pew slips is a more effective way to share news and items for prayer

since its impact is more immediate and up-to-date. We know some people will miss the magazine and we are sorry for that. What will you read in its place?. We are bursting with ideas which we will share in the final edition of St. Nicholas' News.

Change! Change usually involves an intertwining of sorrow and joy. There's the sadness of leaving the familiar behind and the excitement of welcoming the new. This is not only true of the magazine but of staff changes too. We said our sad farewells to Martin and Sue in March. Some members of the congregation enjoyed and appreciated Martin's Service of Institution at Carlton Colville. But goodbyes over, we quickly welcomed Terry as the Church Administrator. After one staff pray-and-plan day, and nearly one week together, we can testify to the fact that we are glad God has given us Terry as a colleague - grateful for his support, prayer and hard work. And we are giving thanks, too, that Sally, his fiancée, comes with him - not as part of a 'package deal' but supporting and praying in her own right. Welcome to you both!

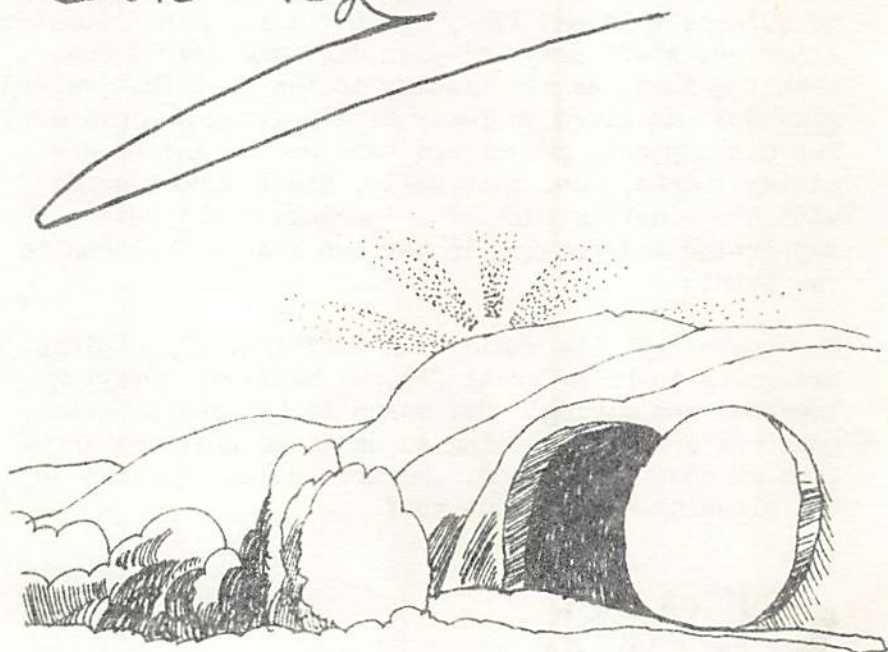
The weeks that lie ahead look exciting. Two things are going to bring great joy, we believe. Praying together and giving! God seems to be promising to pour out a fresh blessing to us as we pray and as we give at cost to ourself. We are looking forward to the blessing. How about you?



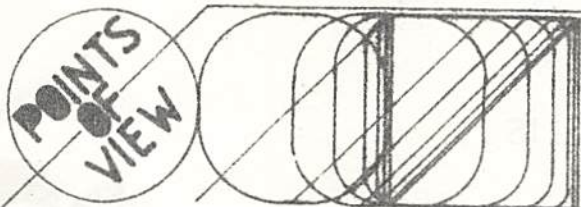
Neville Ward once wrote, 'Pain worked through with Christ leads to a Ressurrection.' Many of you have prayed for us as we worked through the pain of February and March. We felt the power and effect of those prayers and though the pressure is still on, we are enjoying the joy and wonder of the Easter message - 'Jesus is Alive - Hallelujah!'

With our love and thanks for the richness of fellowship expressed in a variety of ways,

David & Joy



P.S. One of the TV crew brought the late Miss Jones' sister to Nottingham for the rehearsal on Saturday. She was thrilled when she realised her sister's church was to be on television.



Many people who watched the T.V. service on April 25th have written to show their appreciation, and to give their thanks to everyone taking part. Here are a couple of extracts from letters typical of those received.

"It was really wonderful to see and hear such dedicated young people in these days of hooligans and vandals; it brings back faith to think that there are such wonderful young people still in existence. Once again, may I say how much I enjoyed it".

"Thank you for a really lovely service. It was lovely to see so many young people, please thank them for their acting and sincere singing, God Bless them all".

There were also people who sent donations to be used in the work here at St. Nicholas. For those who may have doubted the usefulness of the T.V. service, these letters have proved its importance, particularly to those house-bound by age or illness.

As one letter ended,
"God bless all who took part in the service.
Thank you,
Yours in Christian Love,
To God be the Glory!"





is...



...Kind

Kindness is love acting on persons. Since kindness may be soft; it is not weak; tender but not feeble; sensitive, but not fragile.

Kindness is enormous strength.

Kindness is the power that moves us to support and heal someone who offers nothing in return.

Kindness is the power to move a self-centred ego toward the weak, the ugly, the hurt, and to move that ego to invest itself in personal care with no expectation of reward.

It does not take much power to write a small cheque for charity.... It takes great power to be a Mother Teresa wrapping tender arms around the wretched poor and bleeding in the streets of Calcutta.

Kindness is love's readiness to enhance the life of another person. But it is more! it is the power to move close to another person in order to heal... Kindness is the power to bear another's burdens by feeling his pains in your own soul.

The risks in kindness are terrifying.

Love moved God to become a person like us. Love led Him, as a man, to use his power wholly as servant-power. In love's power He gave Himself in kindness. He washed dirty feet, wept with grief-wreaked people, sympathised with the harlot, entered the lives of the disowned and the disdained. All his life he was powerful in kindness. But they hanged him; they pounded a rail into the ground, put a cross bar on it, and hanged him till he died. God who is love was hanged to die. The centre of power for all the world was weakest of all men'.

(Lewis Smedes; Love within Limits; Aslan Lion 1979; pp 19-27)

...Not Jealous

Love is 'a love that lets go ... It is the power to move us towards another person with no expectation of reward - not even the reward of exclusive loving.'

'Love is the inner power to be happy when someone else shares your friend. Love is the power to rejoice in the superior talent, success, or power of someone close to you. Indeed Love is the power to be glad when another person shares a part of your loved one's life that you cannot share'.

'This Love is the power of sharing without being threatened.'

(Lewis Smedes; op.cit.;pp 29-33)

...Not Irritable

'To be irritable is to be in a constant countdown for a temperamental blast-off. It is to have your insides coiled, ready to spring into fury... Love puts a long fuse on our emotional bombs.'

...Not Resentful

'Resentment is yesterday's irritation scratched into the sensitive membranes of our memory. It is yesterday's hurt grown up into today's indignations. Planted and rended in our memory, the thorn that first pierced us now stabs away at our peace. Memories of minor hurts become major resentments.'

'Love does not demand explanations and apologies or keep accounts.'

'Resentment keeps enemy lists, files on every person who has injured us. Each one must pay for the pain he caused before he can face us as a moral equal.'

'Love exocises resentment... Love drives out the demon of remembered pain.'

'Love lets the past die.'



ANNUAL MEETING

About 100 people attended the Church Annual Meeting held on Monday 29th March, when the following Church Officers were elected:

Church Wardens: Malcolm Offord
John Holden

Deputy Wardens: Paul Evans
Iain Pullinger

Deanery Synod
Representatives Frank Wright
Keith Jackson

Elections to the Parochial Church Council

Maggie Barwick Martyn Offord
Richard Hawthorne Mike Shouler

(continuing for a further term:)

Peter Ellis Di Payne
Ian Grimbaldston Kathleen Robinson
Ann Hart Gordon Walker
Bob Marlowe Richard Watmough

Our sincere thanks to all those who serve on the P.C.C. and to the Sidesmen. Especially we wish to place in record our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Herbert Newcomb as he retires after serving 25 years as a sidesman at St. Nicholas'.

John

J. JOHN'S DIARY

Sunday

- May 9th - St. Paul's and St. Mary's College Chapel Service.
-Evangelistic am.
- St. Nicholas Church
- Teaching pm.

Monday

- May 10th - Bluecoat School - Assembly
- Bramcote Hill Comp. - Lunchtime C.U.
- St. Nicholas Women's Fellowship -pm.

Tuesday

- May 11th - Glasedale School - Lower Assembly
- Trent College - Evening

Wednesday

- May 12th - Glasedale School - Upper Assembly
- Girls' High School - Lunchtime meeting

Thursday

- May 13th - West Bridge Comp. -Assembly
- Bilborough College - Lunchtime meeting

Friday

- May 14th - Youth Rally Nottingham - Evening

21st - Youth Rally Nottingham - Evening

16th - 23rd - HornChurch Mission

- 23rd - St. Barnabas' Church, Inham Nook -pm- Guest Service
- 24th - 26th - Convert - Rest & Renewal
- 27th - Staff Quiet Day
- 28th - Nottingham Youth Rally - Evening
- 29th - Youth Meeting at St. Aldates & St. Ebbe's - Evening
- 30th - St. Ebbe's Church Oxford - Preaching am
- 31st - June 3rd - Newport College of Art Mission
with Nigel Webb
- 6th - Parish of St. James Fletchamstead - Evening
Guest Service
- 9th - 11th - Conference on Expository preaching
sitting at the feet of Dick Lucas.
- 13th - Christchurch North Finchley -pm
- Guest Service then Y.P.F.
- 17th - West Notts. College - Lunchtime meeting



THE PERSON I THOUGHT DID IT...
GOT DID !! ^{??}

NUCLEAR AGE

PAUL OESTREICHER

There is no Christian argument for waging nuclear war 'Better dead than red' is a wholly pagan concept. Every tyranny can be outlived. God remains a reality in every situation of persecution and suffering.

-Nuclear disarmament is not only essential to survival, it is a moral imperative and spiritual necessity.

-Money for arms is found. Money for the starving is not.

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

.... 'love your enemies is a credible peace strategy and the only one the church as such is authorised to pursue.'

LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN

In the event of nuclear war there will be no chances, there will be no survivors - all will be obliterated.

-Wars cannot be fought with nuclear weapons. Their existence only adds to our perils because of the illusions which they have generated.

This is just a small selection of quotations from well-known

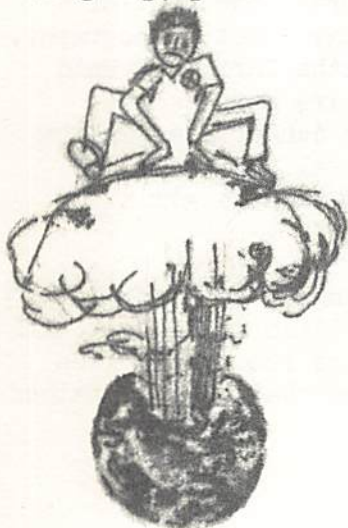
Christians on the issue of nuclear war and the arms race. Others represent the opposite point of view (eg. Francis Schaeffer). A poll commissioned last year suggests that there are more 'hawks' among practising Christians than in the population at large.

The recent revival of interest in CND shows that the nation as a whole is becoming increasingly aware of the issue of nuclear arms and is acting on that awareness. But what are we doing in our churches? If we follow the message of Deut.20:4 (The Lord God is He that goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory.) surely we have no need of conventional or nuclear weaponry, particularly the latter, as the world wide effects of using them would be so devastating.

As Paul Oestreicher has put it, "There is nothing - save fear ignorance and conformity to the world - to stop the church internationally, nationally and locally from committing itself to action for peace backed by the immeasurable power of prayer."

There is to be a Coffee Club 'Husbands and Wives' evening to discuss the issue on May 31 at 8pm in the church hall. The speaker will be Barbara Lacey who is the chairwoman of a local group called Christians Against Nuclear Arms. We hope to see as many members and spouses as possible present so that we get a cross section of opinion.

(If you like further information on CANA or the local CND group, please contact Lally Holdsworth -tel.48383



BETWEEN THE LINES

"HOW CAN A YOUNG MAN KEEP HIS WAY PURE?
BY LIVING ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD". Psalm 119:9

The importance of reading good books and magazines is too often overlooked. In his 'English Social History' G.M. Trevelyan said:

"Education has produced a vast population able to read but unable to distinguish what is worth reading" This was the situation Onwell deals with in '1984' where his proles were all literate, and fed on machine-produced rubbish containing sop-elements to keep them happy, and not only giving them wish or dream fulfillment stories, but over creating the wishes and dreams in the first instance, so that their minds were never 'tainted' with morality, joy or any other liberating thoughts.

Think about some of the 'literature' (for want of a worse word) that is available today. Not pornography, which is an obvious evil, nor Agatha Christie, Enid Blyton or Alistair Maclean which are harmless if idol pleasures. One evil, subtle danger lies in the cheap romantic fiction type pf novel, and in many or the magazines on sale aimed at teenage girls.

The dangers here are many.

Firstly, the appalling lack of comment on immorality which passes as tandard. It is difficult against this intake of ideas which are set up as the norm to see Christian morality as exciting and challenging, rather than dull and restrictive.

Secondly, the artless plots contained in these stories often stereotype roles of man and woman, so that men are seen as the strong safe protectors and bread-winners, the ultimate answer (with touches of passion, romance and good-looks); and woman as pretty mothers and wives securely installed in a comfortable home, living happily ever after.

Life is just not like that, and to day-dream that it might be is to totally miss the point. Yet, it is so easy to latch onto these ideas in various forms and dilutions and develop them as expectations and ideals, which then become precious because they give a false sense of security and are very hard to get rid of. Day-dreams can subtly develop and determine what people look for in life. I think women are particularly prone to this - expecting one day marriage and motherhood to their ideal as a right and until this idealism is crucified, the reality and beauty of what God wants to give is ignored and hidden.

A third danger, particularly from Teenage magazines, also Cosmopolitan, Honey, etc. is the promotion of a false picture of the mystery of womanhood backed by the use of the expensive products advertised within their pages. It is a subtle variant of feminism no longer seeking fairness and equality, but by implication enthroning woman as the superior sex.

All this is in direct opposition to the biblical picture of woman and if you think that the submissiveness Paul discusses in Corinthians etc. leads to an un-exciting life, and that the modern image of womanhood is far more attractive and challenging then read again Proverbs 31:10-31, and the 'Song of Solomon'. It is not God's idea that the wife be chained to her home doing 'little woman' tasks and thus becoming narrow-minded and un-satisfied.



It is vital to read what is wholesome and uplifting. Not always specifically Christian literature, but what is generally en-nobling and encouraging rather than romantically dreamy, escapist and fantastic. Rather than the negative avoidance of what is bad as unhealthy it is important to fill our minds with good things, just as we do not just avoid bad food, but eat what is good. We need to recognise the need for reading for stimulation of helpful thoughts and ideas and remembering that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, we should be as discerning about films that we watch and the books that we read, as we are about what we eat and drink.

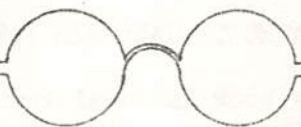
H.T.

"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

Philippians 4:8



REVIEWS



HOW WE GOT OUR BIBLE

PATERSON SMYTH

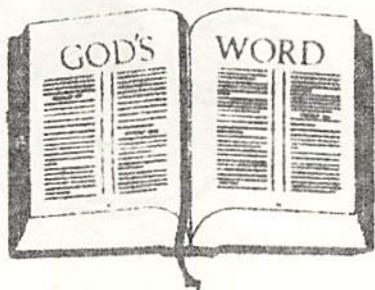
This is a brief but very concise and most interesting account of how the Bible as we know it today came to us.

The first part of the book explains the origins of the early manuscripts and how they became accepted as Church literature, and then goes on to explain how these were brought to Europe.

The Greater part of the book then deals with the translators and revisors who wanted to create a Bible in the language of ordinary people, especially John Wycliffe and William Tyndale, and the immense opposition they encountered from the established Church in what it saw as a "Perversion of the Scriptures", and how this argument has continued today with our modern translations.

The Author goes to great trouble to present all the points of view fairly and without bias. Consequently, this is a most enlightening book, easy to read, a great source of information and a forceful reminder of the people long ago we need to thank God for.

J.M.



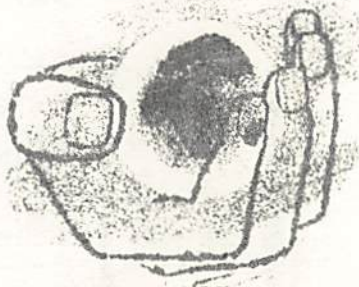
This book is ideal for those who wonder what would really happen if they gave themselves to God. It is the story of a Moslem woman, wife of a Pakistani Diplomat, who after being left by her husband, tried to find out more about God's purpose for her life from the Kiran.

During her reading she was intrigued by the many references she found to Jesus, and she did a courageous thing for a Moslem when she aquired a Bible to find out more.

From then on Jesus revealed Himself to her in a most dramatic way, and said quite clearly, "Follow Me".

The story continues with description of her seeking to be obedient to Christ inspite of the appalling rejection by society and risk to life itself, that results from a Moslem publicly renouncing her faith and becoming a Christian. The book contains moving accounts of God's rewards for her obedience inspite of opposition, and is a marvellous picture of God at work in the lives of the most unlikely people.

J.M.

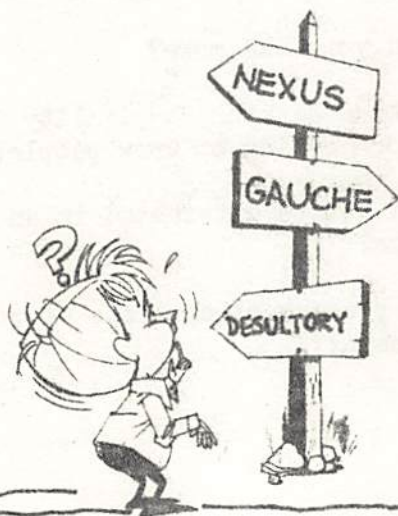


YOU WHAT?

The twenty words listed below have all been used in public meetings of St. Nicholas over the past few months. Why not run a Link Group quiz with prizes for the most accurate or funniest definition? Is rectitude David's view on something? Is eclectic a kind of fit? Is ignominious a species of lizard? What would the man in the street score?

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Anomaly | 11. Gauche |
| 2. Apposite | 12. Iconoclastic |
| 3. Archetypal | 13. Igominions |
| 4. Crisis of identity | 14. Invidious |
| 5. Denouement | 15. Nexus |
| 6. Desultory | 16. Obscurantist |
| 7. Duality | 17. Proputiation |
| 8. Eclectic | 18. Rectitude |
| 9. Eschatological | 19. Rhetoric |
| 10. Expiation | 20. Theocentric |

P.B.



market research

The staff are considering ways in which the church can help and encourage students, and involve them more in church activities. The questionnaire below is therefore intended as an outline for ideas from church members.

However if you are a student your ideas are obviously also very valuable. Please write them down, and hand them to Heidi Trundle or any other member of staff.

Please make a note of your thoughts on a separate sheet if you haven't enough room here. When you've filled in the sheet please hand it to Heidi.

Name.

How much personal contact do you have with students?

Would you like more?

Do you use/think Hospitality Sunday is a useful way of getting to know people?

Would you be interested in an 'Adopt -a- Student' scheme?

Have you any other ideas or comments that would be useful?



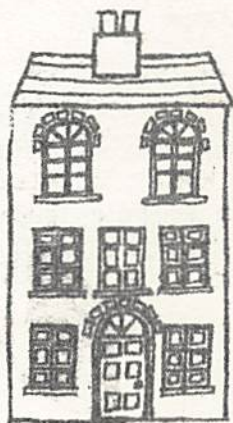


Mike and Rose are letting their house next year while they are at Trinity. If you are interested, or if you know of anybody who would be interested in renting it, please get in touch with them for details.

- nb 3-4bedroom
- detached
- Lenton
- UFCH etc

Accommodation

Young couple urgently require a flat, or any other accommodation for July. If you can help, please ring Fay Rumley, 788428



Alyn Haskey would like to know of any opportunities for speaking to groups involved in teaching, fellowship or evangelism. If you know of any such opportunities, please contact him on tel. 232353 or write to him c/o 247, Exchange Road, West Bridgford.

STAFF

RECTOR: David Huggett	tel. 411383
COUNCELLOR: Joyce Huggett	tel. 411383
OUTREACH WORKER: Mike Marshall	tel. 44196
EVANGELIST: J. John	tel. 43133
CHURCH WARDENS: John Holden	tel. 812043
Malcolm Offord	tel. 46924
TREASURER: Richard Watmough	tel. 37-3441
MAGAZINE EDITOR: Heidi Trundle	tel. 46862

SUNDAY SERVICES AND WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES

Sunday 10.45am Morning Worship
Creche, Climbers, Explorers, Pathfinders.
6.30pm Evening Worship. Coffee after service
8.00pm CYFA

Mid Week Area Link Groups :Tues. & Weds. 8.00pm
Basics for Belief:Weds. 7.30pm Lower Lounge
Music Group:Thurs 7.45pm Church Vestry

Fortnightly Women's fellowship. Monday 2.30pm Lower Lounge
Coffee Club: Weds. 9.45pm Lower Lounge