

Fellowship



St. Nicholas' Church

Maid Marian Way

WE'RE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT

In This Issue:

- The Rector Ruminates
- Easter Events
- Bunnies and Blessings
- Springcleaning your soul
- What's on March - April
- Peweater the Woodworm
- All the latest news and lots more !

Fourwords

Dear Editors,

could you please publish perhaps a page on which people put their ideas for the Church. Eg. a dance and drama group for the under fifteens, as I think we are too young for the other one. (Dance and drama group). Come to that we're too young for everything else as well.

Anyway, could you put a WANTED sign in your magazine for a leader for this. If anyone is interested, say to phone 815665 (the vicar), please. Thanks a lot.

Love,
Anna Campbell

Item 2 from the PCC minutes

I thought they took hours...
(a) This PCC resolves to finish ~~business~~ ^{sermons} at 10:00pm, any uncompleted items to be deferred to the next ~~meeting~~ ^{service} and

(b) that at approximately 9:45pm to interrupt ~~business~~ ^{sermons} to assess priorities in the light of (a) above and arrange for an extra ~~meeting~~ ^{service} if required.



Exodus on Video

Exodus with a difference is on video, produced by Scripture Union. A somewhat wacky Philip Sherlock retells the story - with Pharaoh living at Newby Hall in Yorkshire, while his slaves live in Leeds back-to-backs.

Anyone from nine to adult should appreciate 'Exodus', and there is full back-up activity material. Contact the SU bookshop in Heathcote St. for more details.

CNS

Churches Get Together

A further step has been taken towards the Churches of Britain working together. General Secretaries have been appointed to the ecumenical structures which will replace the British Council of Churches in September.

Canon Martin Reardon will be General Secretary of Churches Together in England, CTE. At Churches Together in Wales, CYTUN(I) and the Council of Churches in Britain and Ireland, CCBI, will be the Rev. Noel Davis and the Rev. John Reardon (no relation!). - CNS

If you book your place for Greenbelt before April 30th, you'll get a quarter off the price! Details from Greenhouse, St. Luke's Church, Hilmarton Rd., London N7 9JE Tel. 01-609-4830

CNS

Amongst the many things happening at this time in our fellowship at St. Nic's, I would like to highlight two.

The first is the developing and unfolding vision for St. Nic's for the next few years. Many people have been very encouraged by the outline shared in 'Vision for Growth, and my Response' in January. The time has now come to put flesh on the skeleton. I have worked with others to discern God's vision for St. Nic's, and we have been guided by many of our fellowship as we have gathered in groups and at Swanwick to feel our way forward.

Challenge, change and cost

As we put together what we see is God's vision, I have become excited but also deeply challenged in my discipleship. It will mean changes in my priorities. This is entirely in keeping with the Biblical record. I reflect on Abraham, the children of Israel, Moses, Jesus and Paul to name a few. The unfolding of God's vision to them meant challenge, change and cost.

As you enter into the vision as it is shared, be prepared for these same three reactions: challenge, change and cost. The vision should feel exciting and stretching. Matching this, there should be a call to deeper discipleship. This will involve cost and change, both of which are, by themselves, uncomfortable.

Whilst God's call will be to review attitudes, priorities and commitment, we need to beware that this does not mean more meetings for those of us who already attend many! It may mean different meetings! I commend to you a study of some of the Biblical examples of God sharing his vision with groups or individuals as you receive and respond to the St. Nic's vision.

New appointments

Secondly, as I write, we are seeing candidates at a preliminary stage in connection with three new appointments - a lay pastor, an ordained colleague as Roger's replacement, and a lay assistant to follow Rachel as she leaves this summer.

Please pray for the vision sharing at the AGM on 27th March. Pray for the appointment of the right new staff, and for Joyce and I as we make a major ministry trip to New Zealand, (April 2nd - May 17th). Even as the **»»»»»**



first issues of this magazine are read, we are saying goodbye to our folk who drive laden lorries to Poland - follow them with your prayers for that needy land.

David Huggitt

The Other 6 Days

On the Nail?



Elaine was under a lot of pressure at work. Suppliers were constantly asking when their bills would be paid. Some were several months overdue, and besides those who wrote or phoned, there were as many again who simply waited without complaining.

She tackled her boss about it. 'The bills will be paid,' he said, 'but business today runs on extended credit. We shall pay, don't worry. But not until three months after we've had the goods.'

Elaine thought about this. Agreeing credit with a supplier was one thing, but delaying payments was another. Business might well be run this way, but it was unsound business practice, and it might even force a small supplier out of business.

Elaine talked to her friend at church about it. 'The Bible does warn against taking advantage of people in financial deals,' her friend said, 'In Exodus 22, we read, "If you take your neighbour's cloak in pawn, return it to him by sunset, because it is his only covering. In what else can he sleep?"'

Ian Yearsley. - CNS



Profile of a Group

Stewards

In Life, there is often a challenging contrast between the ideal and the actual, between the perfect and the merely human (1Cor 15v49). With stewards, this is no exception . . .

The ideal steward skips into church full of bonhomie and goodwill at least half an hour before each service begins. With deft fingers he or she - we are resolutely non-sexist - folds the pewslips and assembles inserts. With face wreathed in smiles, (s)he hands out said pewslips to the humble members of the congregation on their arrival, says a few words of kindly welcome, and courteously escorts them to a commodious and comfortable seat. [comfortable? - Ed].

With grace and charm, and a steely eye, (s)he persuades them to unlatch their purses and disburse large sums of money into attractively

embroidered blue bags. With an expression of rapt attention, (s)he sets an example of noble participation and concentration throughout the service. With great determination, (s)he prises the congregation out of their pews at Communion, and politely indicates the convoluted route to the spot at which God is closest to us.

At the end of the service, with joy and a sense of a job well done, (s)he places the service books in neat piles of three, collects the discarded pewslips and sweetpapers, ensures that the church is immaculately presentable for the next service, and gaily gambols away into the blossoms of spring and the fumes of Maid Marian Way, eagerly anticipating the next Sunday when (s)he will be on duty.

Please be indulgent as you measure the distance between the ideal and the actual for our stewards.

Malc Offord.



New Training Centre Opens



Scripture Union's new National Training and Resource centre in Heathcote Street, Nottingham has now opened, and their Training Unit has launched what is heralded by SU as 'a new generation' of nationally organised training courses to be held during the year.

The new Centre is intended as the venue for specialist and in-depth training; for instance, courses have already been planned on topics including: approaches to Bible study in groups, being a parent, the effect of loss on family groups, and supporting adults who have been abused in childhood. We are fortunate in being able to attend these courses from our homes.

For delegates from further afield, overnight accommodation may be required, so SU are assembling a register of Christians in and around the city who can provide occasional bed and breakfast for course participants. A payment will be made to cover costs.

Registration forms are available from Kim Borland (SU Training Centre Administrator), or from our own Church Office. Please ask for one if you can help in this way.

Colin.



'Till You Come Through' by David Edwards

I have long respected Dave's ability to stand up at a meeting and sing appropriate songs with ease, skill and no messing about. I've scarcely ever heard him sing anything twice - which is hardly surprising when he's written nigh on 100 songs.

I am pleased he's put some of them on tape. 'Till you Come Through' consists of 10 numbers executed in a relaxed manner. Mike Giddins fills out the sound on the keyboards and the result holds its own with other professional artists. If I had to define the genre, it's a contemporary folk style.

From unabashed love songs like 'My Lord' and 'Forever' to the poignant ballad 'Adam', he doesn't use cliches, though I recognised one or two of J. John's favourite quotes! Not surprising, as Dave has assisted Johnny in his evangelistic work for 18 months now, genuinely supporting his message, rather than pushing himself as a featured performer.

Dave is an accomplished musician who cannot help but go from strength to strength. I recommend you to take your £4 to the Tape Desk and buy his album - you'll like it!

Ro White



Bunny Rabbits and Blessings

About two hundred members from St. Nic's arrived at Swanwick on 2nd February. The weekend was laid out with plenty of time for personal devotion and relaxation. Michael Mitton, of Anglican Renewal Ministries, was the main speaker, despite his 'flu.

The weekend began with an introductory session on 'Returning and Resting'. Michael set the scene by describing the land of Judah in Isaiah's day. The session included a meditation where we imagined we were returning to Jerusalem after exile, seeing the desolation of what had once been a beautiful land.

Running away

Michael went on to tell a story about an occasion when he was walking in some woods. God told him to go and stand by a gate. He did, but nothing happened. "Wrong gate", said God. Michael went to the other gate and saw a rabbit in a field. As soon as the rabbit saw him, it bolted for the trees. "Why did the rabbit run away?", asked God, "you weren't going to hurt it; but the rabbit didn't know that and was frightened that you would." Relating this story to our relationships, it

helped us to realise how often we fear a God who only wants to do good to us, not harm. ". . . Plans to prosper you, not to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future."(Jer. 29)

In the session entitled 'Repenting', (Isa. 59), Michael talked of sin as not only what we do that hurts God, but what we don't do - the sin of omission. It became clear that repenting is an act of love; as Michael put it, repentance starts with tuning into God's feelings.

Freedom to struggle

Talking about 'Rebuilding the Fellowship', (Isa. 60), Michael said that we could, as a corporate body, reflect God's glory. We need to strike a balance between the 'happy clappy' triumphalism and despairing defeatism. Freedom to struggle, and share our struggles as well as our successes, is something we all need. This means listening, caring, and making an effort. In short, this means loving each other and loving God. ". . . by this shall all men know that you are my disciples." We were reminded that healing is not always instant. Michael emphasised that we, St. Nic's, must believe that we are attractive, even with all our flaws. >>>>>

'Sent out to serve', (Isa. 61), There is hope. Through grace we are saved, and through the Spirit we will serve. Isaiah 61 gives us a tremendous message which is also a challenge. We need to listen to God to see where we can serve, where and how to touch the broken-hearted, and where to shout about the freedom we have been given.

Meditating

Following each session, we divided into smaller groups for workshops. The aim was to deepen our prayer lives by experiencing for ourselves different ways of prayer. These included meditating on music, using our imagination, and spending time listening to God. For us, this opened up methods of expressing ourselves to God that we had not known before. Even though we find prayer difficult, the workshops helped us to see that our whole lives can be a prayer and that there is more than one way of praying!

During the praise on Saturday evening, the presence of God was very powerful. There were several pictures and words. One in particular encouraged us to stay close to God, not to fear Him, and to pray with precision.

Go out and Serve

Apart from all the activities, we found plenty of time for socialising, and even time to go for a long afternoon walk in the Derbyshire countryside. It was mentioned more than once that the pace of the weekend was much slower than in previous years. People left Swanwick feeling ready to go out and serve rather than go home and collapse!

Looking back, it was an enjoyable weekend, and certainly worthwhile. We have both been blessed by the teaching, and look forward to the next houseparty.

Jeremy and Li Meng Summers.



Address Change

Chris and Liz Whitehurst + Rebecca who, according to the address list, live in a place called 'Blank', have moved to 20, Nottingham Road, Keyworth, Notts. Tel : Plumtree (37) 2037



The Springtime of the Soul

During the week leading up to Lent this year, I was off sick. Lying in bed for a week gave me an opportunity to contemplate the bedroom curtains - to see that they are much in need of a wash.

Those soiled curtains also reminded me of the value of Lent. Traditionally, Lent has been known as 'the Springtime of the Soul'. It is that period of the church's calendar when, down the ages, Christians have been encouraged to invite the Holy Spirit to shed His light on their lives, to reveal the soiled areas so that a spot of spiritual spring-cleaning can take place before Christians celebrate that most wonderful of all events in history - the Resurrection.

Spiritual Spring-cleaning

The early Christians took this spiritual spring-cleaning so seriously that they carved out extra time for prayer and self-examination during the six weeks leading up to Easter Day. Failures were acknowledged and confessed. Forgiveness was received. So by Easter Day, this relationship with God had been renewed and the worship was laced with genuine, deep-down joy.

There is great value, I find, in preparing for Easter in this way. And though three weeks of Lent have

passed, there is still time to beg the Holy Spirit to clean us up before Easter.

The normal Christian life

One way to do it is to compare your lifestyle and attitudes with the Christian's manifesto Jesus gave. Matthew 5 v 3-12 describes the normal Christian life. If you think carefully about each verse, you will soon see if you are in the right place before God, or if you need to be changed in some way. Jesus says, for example, "Blessed are the poor in spirit". Or, as I prefer to translate that verse: **You are in the right place before God when you are poor in spirit.**

In Christians who are poor in spirit, there is a complete absence of arrogance; they see their lives for



what they are: a mixture of good and bad. And they recognise that they are powerless to do anything about the sin that pollutes them.

They are so concerned about this sin that they mourn over it. **You are in the right place when you mourn over your sin and the sin which infiltrates the world, Jesus claims.** Those who are not in the right place before God are those who fail to recognise their wretchedness; those who are careless about the plight of our planet. They will remain oblivious to the need for spring-cleaning.

Grieving and longing

When we do grieve over our own short-comings and the way sin is destroying God's wonderful world, and when that grieving gives birth to a longing that we and the place where we live and work should become morally and spiritually right before God, then, according to Jesus, we are in the right place spiritually. But if we never give Kingdom standards a thought, we are not right before God, and need to pray that our hearts of stone will be replaced by hearts that break because God's love is still being thrown back in his face and his will thwarted.

He
is risen
from
the dead
and He
is Lord

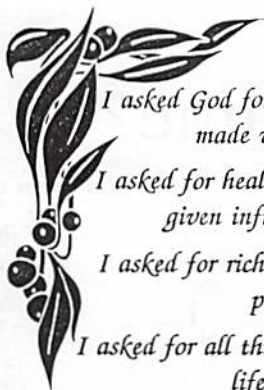
There is space to look at only one more of the guidelines that God gives. **You are in the right place when you are merciful.** The merciful are those who, like Jesus, feel people's pain and see their destitution and find themselves compelled from within to take action. Lenten people are like that.

From the inside out

Self-examination should never be undertaken in our own strength or using our own wisdom. Rather, it should always be preceded by a prayer that God's Spirit will show us just what he wants us to see - no more and no less. It should be followed by a prayer that this same Spirit will change us from the inside out so that, as time evolves, we become more and more like Jesus.

Then, when Maundy Thursday arrives and we commemorate with other Christians, the Last Supper, our hearts will be ready to keep watch with the Suffering Servant, to stay with him through the traumas of Good Friday, to enter into the mystery of Holy Saturday, and truly to celebrate with the words from the Communion Service on Easter Day: Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Hallelujah!

Joyce Huggett.



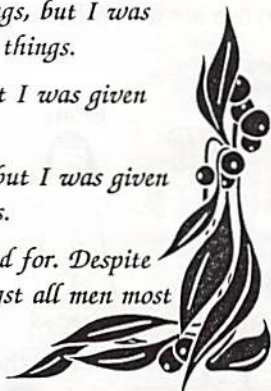
I asked God for strength that I might achieve, but I was made weak that I might learn humility.

I asked for health that I might do great things, but I was given infirmity that I might do better things.

I asked for riches that I might be happy, but I was given poverty that I might be wise.

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life, but I was given life that I might enjoy all things.

I got nothing I asked for but all that I hoped for. Despite myself, my prayers were answered. I am amongst all men most richly blessed.



Go Out on Good Friday

As part of the Nottingham Council of Churches, we at St. Nic's have a great opportunity to witness in the Market Square on Good Friday.

During the last hour of the Good Friday Vigil (8pm - 9pm), there will be prayer for Nottingham, praise and worship, some drama and testimony, and a brief message on the meaning of Good Friday.

It will be a good opportunity to remember with thanks the events of the first Good Friday, and to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with individual passers-by in the Market Square. People can also be invited to the guest service on 15th April.

Naturally, many of us have concerns and fears about this sort of witness, and we will be looking at this in Church before we go out. I want to encourage you to give your support to this event. We are committed to a city-centre Church, we have God's gift of eternal life and we have the opportunity here to share our faith with others. Remember, a conversation you have with a stranger may affect that person's eternal destiny.

Please pray for this outreach, we need you to be there if at all possible.

Nigel Hyde.

Outreach Committee.

What's in a Name?

Here are some brothers and sisters from the Bible. Can you match them up?

Moses



Esau



Peter



Abel



Mary



Andrew



Martha



Cain



Jacob



Aaron



Half and Half - Solve the clues to find two halves of a girl's or boy's name.

- 1 To make full + The edge of the mouth = _____
- 2 Where an Abbott lives + A strong wind = _____
- 3 The opposite of heaven + The fourteenth letter = _____
- 4 A crumbly soil from Irish bogs + To make a mistake = _____
- 5 Having lots of money + Not soft = _____
- 6 A stick or pole + A leg joint = _____
- 7 Paler than black + Pig meat = _____
- 8 A gap between houses + A male child = _____

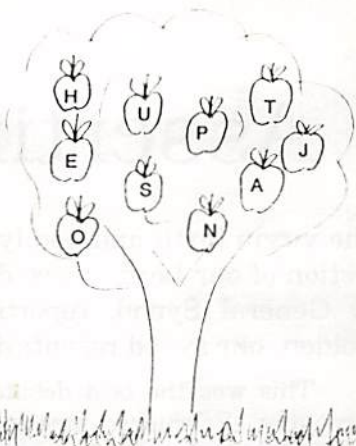
Many thanks to **Chris Barnes** for Apple Jack. If you would like to write a puzzle for this page, please send it to the Editors at the usual address. Don't worry about having to do beautiful drawings, or typing, just send us your ideas!

Apple Jack

Find as many names in the tree as you can. They are all people in the Bible. You may use each 'apple' as many times as you like.

Score:

- ☐ Fewer than 5 names : Not too hot!
- ☐ From 5 to 10 names : O.K.
- ☐ From 11 to 15 names: Good
- ☐ More than 16 names : Excellent!



What's My Line?

Match the names with the descriptions

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1 Hagar | A The Grandfather of David. |
| 2 Manasseh | B One of the spies sent to Canaan. |
| 3 Eleazar | C A servant in exile who rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem. |
| 4 Joshua | D A maidservant of Abram's wife. |
| 5 Samson | E A good king of Judah. |
| 6 Boaz | F A shepherd-prophet. |
| 7 Hannah | G A Nazirite who killed a lion. |
| 8 Ahab | H A son of Aaron. |
| 9 Asa | I One of Job's daughters. |
| 10 Nehemiah | J Joseph's eldest son. |
| 11 Jemimah | K The mother of Samuel. |
| 12 Amos | L A bad king of Israel. |



Answers

What's my Line - ID, 2J, 3H, 4B, 5G, 6A, 7K, 8L, 9E, 10C, 11I, 12F.
 Editors!
 Noah, Satan. If you find any others, please send the reference to the
 Apple Jack - Hosea, Jael, Japheth, Jehoash, Jehoshaphat, Jehu, Esau & Jacob,
 Moses & Aaron.
 Halves - Phillip, Abigail, Helen, Peter, Richard, Rodney, Graham, Alison.

Asserting the Faith

The virgin birth and bodily resurrection of our Lord were debated by General Synod, reports John Holden, our synod representative.

This was the best debate of the three-day February meeting. The motion had been tabled some time ago because of the distress felt by many ordinary church people when clergy are reported as denying some fundamentals of the Christian faith.

The conflict was between those who wanted the synod to make a very clear affirmation of the faith and those who (like the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of Durham) prefer to assert their belief in the incarnation and resurrection without actually saying that Mary was a virgin and the tomb was really empty.

Ammendment

The Archbishop of York called the wording of the motion 'crass', and said that we needed restraint in the face of mystery. The Archdeacon of Leicester, however, proposed an alternative wording which was carried almost unanimously.

Other items of interest included the Archbishops' being pressed to publish the Bishops' paper on homosexuality which has been leaked!

(They refused.) They were also challenged to allow an emergency debate on the appointment of bishops and their orthodoxy of belief. (They refused.)



Clergy resignations

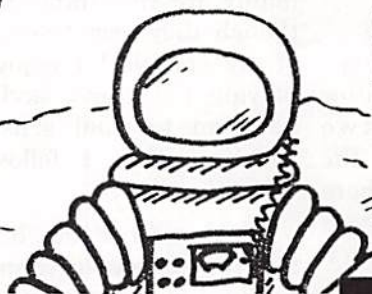
On the second day we began by considering the financial provisions of the Ordination of Women measure. [See Fellowship issue 2 - Ed] The Bishop of Derby pointed out how generous the provisions seemed, while Professor McClean said that some estimates of possible clergy resignations were scaremongering. He said that 176 was more realistic.

On the third morning we looked at a book from the Liturgical Commission concerned with family services and forms of worship suitable for Urban Priority Area parishes. There is much useful material in this book, but not all of it is yet authorised for use.

The final afternoon began with the very good debate on the virgin birth and resurrection, and finished with tedious legislation.

John Holden

take me to your leader



Richard and Meili Hawthorne

Richard and Meili Hawthorne's marriage 8 years ago when they were 50+, startled and delighted their families. Richard enjoys telling people that he and Meili had 'clocked up' 100 years of single living between them!

Richard is a Deputy Church Warden and member of the PCC and Staffing committee. Nottingham born, he left Mundella School at 16 to join the printing company started by his grandfather. 'Hawthornes' 100-plus work force in Nottingham and Leeds produce colour printing for Wrangler Jeans, Barclaycard, "Postman Pat" and many others. Acceptance of responsibility for his industry led to presidency of the Nottingham Printing Industries Association in 1980 & 81.

Meili is on the Women's Fellowship committee. Born in central China, daughter and grand-daughter of medical missionaries. [see 'The Cross and the Dragon' written by Meili's father, on the church bookstall - Ed]. She left



junior school teaching in London to become a missionary herself. 30 years full-time unsalaried work with Moral Rearmament in Europe, Nigeria and Hong Kong helped her to learn much about listening to God and trusting his love and provision.

God's call to Richard to open his heart led him to membership of the Nottingham Community Relations Council and to a conference where he met Meili. Building 'bridges' among the communities continues to be one of their outreach commitments.

Leisure interests include gardening, passionate TV Sports viewing, [passionate sports? - Ed] and double-granny-watching (which includes Scrabble, Canasta and family games!)





Gerald Cook

I suppose that after nearly two decades in the church, there are many who know my face, a good number who know my name, and even a few who can put the two together!

I am married to Anne, and we have three sons - Daniel (10), Alexander (7) and Christopher (3). I am a Head of R. E. and a Deputy Head of Year in a Nottinghamshire Comprehensive.

Within the Church, I am currently a Regional Overseer and a member of the Pastoral Leadership Group. This involves me in quite a few meetings of one kind or another but I have always felt my abilities, such as they are, lay in personal work, and I

try to contribute in that area. My family are very important to me even though they sometimes get the dregs of my energies! I enjoy most sports, playing the piano, and computing. I have an unusual sense of humour, which is why I follow Manchester United!

As a Christian R. E. teacher, I feel that I have a tremendous opportunity. I am not paid to evangelise the pupils; it is illegal for me to do so anyway. I do, however, have the chance to present Christian perspectives in R. E., in Personal and Social Education, and through my organisation and presentation of assemblies.

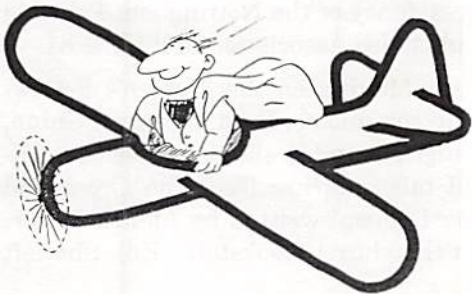
I have great confidence in the State education, and tremendous hope for the young. Who knows - one of them may give me a proper job one day!

Gerald Cook

Preaching for High Flyers

- This is the title of a workshop to be held in the St. Nic's Centre at 2:00pm on the Sunday after Mother's Day. The aim of the workshop is to encourage those with potential preaching ability to exercise and extend their gift.
- Further details are available from David Huggett, who will be leading the workshop.

Note: Valid pilot's licence is required.



Just one more little Miracle

Until recently, 1990 has been a very dry and testing time for us. We had no alternative but to ask the Lord to provide. He did of course - abundantly!

The recent rise in our mortgage repayments made two things impossible for us; paying a poll tax any higher than the present rates, and going away on holiday. We believed that the Lord wanted us to foster children, but we were beginning to question whether this was so.



Fostering means Leslie being at home rather than in employment. Was this fair to our own children? Would they understand? Would they grow up thinking that obedience to God meant struggling financially?

We prayed and waited. Perhaps Broxtowe council would be inspired to set an incredibly low poll tax. Our faith wasn't that strong, it appears!

Answers

Less than a month has passed since then, and prayers are being answered. Somebody (anonymous) from outside our fellowship felt the Lord telling him/her to pay our poll tax for a year! That anonymous person was obedient to the Lord. Thank-you.

Less than a week later we received, again anonymously, £250 in cash with the instruction that it wasn't to be used seriously, for bills etc. Thank-you. We now have a holiday to look forward to in the summer.

It is wonderful to see the Lord's provision like this. Thank-you, (If any of our anonymous friends are reading this), for the bonus of seeing our children's faces light up when they held and counted out £250 of miracle - "It's like playing Monopoly, isn't it, Mum!" "Wow - we can go on holiday now." We

wish whoever sent us that money could have shared the children's joy with us.

We are thankful too because, as they grow, the children can point to miracles of answered prayer - what better way to bring children up? One reason for sharing this in the magazine is in the hope of thanking the people who have helped us, another is to encourage any other people in the fellowship who are also struggling, to believe and know that miracles are still happening.

Most of all, we want to thank the Lord for this provision. To him be all the Glory.

[Names supplied - Ed]

Personally Speaking . . .



For Sale :

Ladies size 12-14 sheepskin jacket, slightly worn.

Amstrad PC1640. Double disk drive, keyboard, one year old, excellent condition.

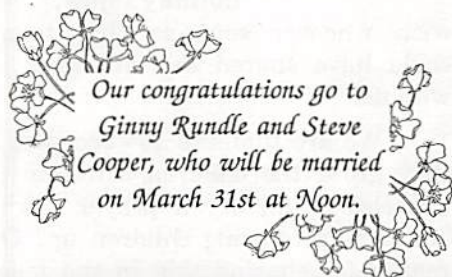
Tunturi Rowing Machine. Used 6 times!

Sarah & Andy Churchill 415620

Wanted:

☞ Accomodation for a 15 year old German girl for the Autumn Term this year (Sept - Dec). She is the daughter of the President of the Baptist Union of Germany.

☞ For more information, contact Malcolm and Irene Offord (476924).



Wanted :

One lodger for 3 to 6 months, woman preferred. To share house in The Park, own bathroom, share rest of house.

Sarah & Andy Churchill 415620

Damascus Road is a musical based on St. Paul's sensational encounter. The music is written by Paul Douglas, a local Christian musician and the production is by the people who did 'The Passion' a couple of years ago.

The world premiere is being presented by the Methodist Church of the region at Nottingham Playhouse. Shows will be nightly from Wednesday 21st to Saturday 24th March at 7:30 pm, with a matinee at 2:30 pm on the Saturday.

Tickets cost £5 and £6 with concessions for under 16 and UB40, and are available from the box office, 419419.

Sarah Churchill

Burnett on Brooksby

When Claire and I arrived at Brooksby Hall for Good News Crusade's annual family camp, the first thing that struck me was the immense friendliness of those who greeted us. In no time at all they had our tents up and had made us feel very welcome indeed.

Having made ourselves as comfortable as the great outdoors permitted, we headed for that evening's meeting, which had to be seen to be believed. Evangelist Don Double preached the Gospel, there was a massive response, and that's how it was all week!

During the days that followed, we went to seminars during the day and meetings in the evening, and we experienced more of God's presence and blessing than either of us ever had before. We had a flying visit from Terry Waite's brother, David. Despite being the most ordinary chap that you could want to meet, David's testimony, told in a very matter of fact way, brought another harvest of souls for the Kingdom of God.

What a week! We both came back having had our spiritual batteries charged to overflowing. God did some amazing things. People were healed, saved, delivered, challenged and encouraged, and all in an atmosphere that had the hallmark of the Lord's approval.

So as we drove the fourteen miles back home, I became a confirmed Christian camper. 1990 promises to be even better, so the only thing left to do is - book now!

Sandy "Spyder" Burnett

Spyder and Claire Burnett are taking bookings for Brooksby Hall, cost approx £30 for one week of camping. Tel: 507003

SINGLED OUT

Singled Out is alive and kicking and planning its next major event! A one-day conference entitled 'Life-Styles', on Saturday 28th April, all day in St. Nic's Church Hall. Kathy Keay is returning as guest speaker and we will be exploring some of the options open to single people, particularly in our living arrangements. Kathy's book, 'Memoirs of a Solo Survivor' should be published by then and she should have some original thoughts to share.

Booking forms are available from your organising team - Ro White, Maria Potik, Clive Wright, Tania Lawton, Roger Abbott and Rob Edlin. There is a limit of 50 places and St. Nic's will have first option. After that it will be offered to other fellowships, so book now! Cost is only £5.

Ro White.

The P.C.C. and the art of Drumming



The Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) consists of ex-officio and elected representatives. The ex-officio members are the Clergy, the Churchwardens and the Synod representatives. The rest of the members are elected (on a three year cycle) at the AGM. From these, a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, treasurer and electoral roll officer are appointed.

What does the P.C.C. actually do?

The council meets bimonthly to perform a variety of business:

- ☞ To handle the finance and admin. of the church.
- ☞ To care for and maintain the fabric of the buildings and graveyard.
- ☞ To consider matters of importance to the Church, such as how St. Nic's relates to the deanery, the diocese and the wider Church. (Inward perspective).
- ☞ To promote the whole mission of the Church in consultation with the incumbent. (Outreach perspective).



How does it Work?

At St. Nic's, the majority of the routine work is conducted by sub-committees. Reports are presented to the P.C.C. either to each meeting (clergy and treasurer), or on a rotational basis, (sub-committees and Deanery Synod). The sub-committees are involved with Mission, Finance, Staff, Building Maintenance, Outreach and Redesign, and consist of P.C.C. members and others with specialist expertise or interest.

What Kind of Person serves on the P.C.C.?

There are no stereotypes, the membership reflects the variety that exists within the congregation itself. Members should, however, possess qualities such as prayerfulness, loyalty and an ability to be informed about the affairs of the church.

And so to the connection between the P.C.C. and drumming: there isn't any, except that I do both! [Yes, we feel swindled too - Ed]

If anyone would like to know more about the P.C.C., please contact me, or any other member of the Council.

Brian Pepper,
Deanery Synod Representative.

Subscriptions Save Time

The magazine subscription scheme is working well, and saves you and your Editors a lot of hassle. We would like to increase the number of subscribers. If you enjoy this publication and do not subscribe, or if your subscription is running out, why not take out a six-issue subscription for just two pounds? Please ask one of the Fellowship team for details.



Skipping Church

Over a period of time, an incredible amount of rubbish accumulates in and around the Church Hall and outbuildings. The Practical Ministries Committee (the part of the P.C.C. responsible for 'gutters and downpipes') is hiring a skip and organising a team to help fill it on the morning of Saturday, 24th March.

Can you come along, from 9am, to load the skip, or assist with other practical jobs? Offers of help to Gordon Walker (811596), please, or just turn up.

Colin.



Advice Required:

We are considering forming an advisory group to offer constructive criticism, and to comment on the balance of content in this magazine. If you are interested in helping in this way, please let one of us know.

Please keep contributing material, showing how God is working today in your life, link-group, and work-place.

David & Fay Moore, Tim & Joy Lee

Items for the next issue of Fellowship should be put in the box at the back of church or sent to:

The Editors, 54 Tranby Gardens, Wollaton (284828)

Copy date is Sunday 15th April.

Telephone Changes

☎ Stephen & Julie Barber now on 815855

☎ Chris & Ruth Butler now on 616963

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A local paper reported on an open-air event: *"The sudden gust of wind took all who were at the ceremony completely by surprise. Hats were blown off and copies of the Vicar's speech and other rubbish were scattered over the site."*

Man in pub to 'War Cry' seller :

Do you save young girls? . . . Well save one for me!



Item 4b from the PCC minutes :

Colin Entwistle now has a cordless telephone. He was anxious to dispel allegations that he was a 'yuppie' by pointing out that it would save on rental for the office to church line. [Sure - Ed.]

Why did the hedgehog cross the road?

Because he wanted to prove he had guts.

Jessica Offord. [Yuk - Ed]

Home James

On his way to a funeral, the minister leant forward and tapped the driver on the shoulder to ask a question. When the driver jumped visibly, the minister apologised for startling him. 'That's alright, sir', the driver replied, 'It's just that I usually drive the hearse.'



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March

- Sun 18th 6:30pm Guest Service with J. John.
18th 12:00 Newcomer Lunch
19/21/23 7:30pm The film "Jesus" at Shakespeare St. YMCA
Wed 21st 1:30pm Bluecoat Visit to the church
21-24 7:30pm 'Damascus Road', Nottingham Playhouse. See page 17
Sat 24th 9:00am Work party - church hall. See page 19
10:00am Movement Workshop in church
Sun 25th Mothering Sunday
5:00pm Baptisms at Portland Leisure Centre
Tue 27th 7:45pm Annual General Meeting in church for all church members
Fri 30th 8:00pm 8 'til late prayer meeting at 96, Burlington Rd.
Sat 31st 12:00pm Wedding in church of Ginny Rundle & Steve Cooper

April

- Sun 1st 2:00pm Preaching workshop with David Huggett. See page 14
Mon 2nd David & Joyce Huggett leave for their tour of New Zealand.
Tues 3rd Evangelism Training Day
Sun 8th PALM SUNDAY
Fri 13th 8-9pm Good Friday Vigil (St. Nic's. hour) See page 9
Sun 15th EASTER DAY, copydate for next 'Fellowship'
6:30pm Guest Service - J. John
Fri 27th 8:00pm 8 'til late prayer meeting at 96, Burlington Rd.
Sat 28th 9:30am Singled Out Day Conference "Lifestyles". See page 16
Sun 29th 3:00pm St. George's Day Service for the scouts in church

Forward Dates

- Thur 17th May David & Joyce return to Nottingham from N.Z.
25th - 29th May Together '90 - Newark Showground

DINNER AT PNU'S
NEXT THURS



CONTACT

For Services Rendered

In this issue, we are listing members who offer services. The following people are expected to do a good job, and charge the going rate.

- | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|
| ▷ Michael Cobbett | Solicitor | (0773) 740235 |
| ▷ Stephen Sadler | Gardener | 734339 |
| ▷ Helen Smith (Allanah Cakes) | Catering and cakes | 621080 |
| ▷ Fay Moore (F.M. Tutoring) | Maths/Computing tuition. | 284828 |
| ▷ Tim Lee (MyCrow Partnership) | Computer Consultancy | 287690 |
| ▷ Patrick Cordon. | Plumber | 877218 |
| ▷ Peter Horslen | Building work & Home Repairs | 215211 |
| ▷ W. M. Haynes | Painting and Decorating. | 8, Cranmer Walk,
St. Annes. |
| ▷ Laura Parr, L.T.C.L. B.Mus | Teacher of Clarinet & Recorder | 228361 |
| ▷ Doug Gittens. | Guitar Lessons | 784862 |
| ▷ Sue Strachan | Solo School of Motoring | 250007 |

There are other members of St.Nics who could have been in this list, had they given their names to the Editors!

Where are all the teenagers who want to earn extra pocket money by baby-sitting? We must have at least one electrician in the fellowship - who are you?

Please don't think that 'the other chap will do it', if everyone left it to someone else, your Fellowship magazine would soon disappear!