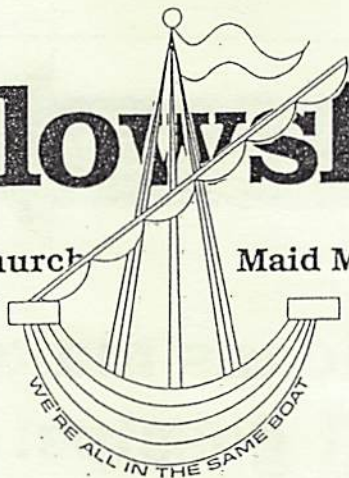


Fellowship

St. Nicholas' Church Maid Marian Way



In This Issue:

I'll Never Preach Again!

Pete Bates says some controversial things in
'Looking at Sexuality through Christian
Eyes'





Anglicans make good

In checking the word 'sibling' in a dictionary, I found that the first syllable has the same meaning as the last syllable in 'gossip'. Sib means close relative, and gossip is God-sib, God-relative, God-parent.

In this sense it goes back to before the Norman Conquest, and in the course of history one finds such charming sentences as that in Evelyn's Diary (1649), "The parents being so poor that they had provided no gossips." The word in this sense was still used occasionally up to the end of the last century and Charlotte Yonge speaks of finding gossips for a christening.

gossips!

A gossip relationship could be taken very seriously, as seriously as blood relationship. Chaucer says a woman may not marry her gossip (in this context clearly a man who has been a fellow-sponsor with her at a baptism) any more than she may marry "her own fleshly brother".

Often the gossip would be well known to the child's mother, and from this comes the sense of a gossip as a close friend, again an old use from the 14th century. Finally, since close friends are given to much talk, the modern meaning crept in from the 16th century, and eventually won the day.

CEN

World record!

Researchers of the Guinness Book of Records have officially confirmed that the MV Doulos, the 77 year-old ship belonging to Operation Mobilisation, is "the oldest ocean-going passenger ship in the world." The grand old lady, staffed by 350 young volunteers, carries a cargo of Christian and educational books to Third World destinations.

CEN

Get Moving on Redesign!

As I write, I am powerfully aware that we have only two Sundays left in St. Nic's before redesign. As you read, we may already have moved out.

This move will be both painful and exciting. The pain arises because of leaving the familiar and well loved and facing all the adjustments of the interim situation at Castlegate. This pain is considerably eased by the warmth and generosity of the folk at Castlegate who will, quite frequently, share the morning service with us.

We can be excited on at least two counts. Firstly, the interim arrangements are bound to teach us new lessons about worshipping the Lord together. Secondly, we can look forward eagerly to returning to the refurbished St. Nic's. Already we report good news about redesign in that our projected costs have not escalated beyond budget, but seem likely to end up around or below budget!

Mention of finance reminds us that we can be very grateful to God, that at this time of depression and cut back, He has led us to give generously.

Although we still have a gap in our annual budget for general expenses, which we must take seriously, much has come in over the last twelve months for the Redesign fund. Thank You!

Moving Back

We plan to mark our move back into St. Nic's on Sunday 6th October by special celebration services with our Archdeacon Tom Walker, our

guest on that day. There will be a thank offering on that day to help complete the current Redesign Appeal total.

Our Harvest Festival, Sunday 29th September, will be a united service with our Castlegate friends and will be our farewell service at Castlegate. Both services that Sunday and on the following Sunday will be so special that we should be thinking about inviting our friends and neighbours, who



would not usually come to church.

Healthy Christian Life

Just before Easter, we agreed that during the summer months of May to September, we should put special emphasis on fellowship in large and small groups. There have already been a number of very happy gatherings from barge trips to barn dances. We need to enjoy being together and meeting new folk in the fellowship, this is fundamental to healthy Christian life. Please work at this at home, in link and regional groups and elsewhere, so that our

celebrations on Sunday 7th October may be rich in the awareness of all that God has given us in our Church. (Building and people!) October will then find us moving naturally into outreach for the next three months, starting with the J. John teach-ins on Tuesdays 8th, 15th and 29th October.

Finally, we can record that one of the very happy chapters in St. Nic's' history has been the visit of John and Agnes Sturt. Many of us have cause to thank God for them and what we have learned through them. Thank-you so much, John and Agnes.

David Huggett

Outreach to the City



Centre



Why not get alongside people who do outreach and evangelism full-time from 26th July to 19th August. A Youth-with-a-Mission (YWAM) team of ten will be working with Holy Trinity Church, Lenton.

Lenton Regional Group will be looking both inside and outside the region for people to learn short sketches, to take the opportunity to give a five minute 'sermon' on the street, or a two minute talk on 'How God has changed my life'. They are looking for musicians, for people to discuss the dramas with the public

and to hand out tracts, and people to pray, pray, pray.

We have provisionally booked the market square for Saturday July 28th and August 3rd in the morning and for Friday evening August 16th.

Their schedule is not yet fully booked, so if you know youth clubs (especially non-church ones), Holiday clubs, children's homes etc, where they could present the gospel in a creative and modern way, let us know.

Nigel and Sue Hyde

286346

More on Politics - Through Christian eyes

or

Why I haven't joined the Movement for Christian Democracy.

I enjoyed Roy McCloughry's article, 'Looking at Politics through Christian Eyes' in June's issue of Fellowship. I welcome the formation of the Movement for Christian Democracy but have decided not to join.

MCD certainly has a broad appeal, however I have two main reservations about it. Although the six principles are derived from Biblical teaching, I feel they are not given equal weight. I fear there is a strong focus around the campaign against abortion. This is a subject - like so many - on which Christians differ.

I agree that too many abortions are performed, that women are often pressurised into them by men and that the alternatives should be explored before an abortion takes place. Nevertheless, I cannot join with the 'pro-life' lobby. This issue will probably attract a lot of support from Christians who may push to make MCD a single-issue grouping.

Image

My second main concern is about MCD's image. Like it or not this is crucial in politics. Partly because of the pro-life stance and also because of the founding MPs, MCD has a centre-right image. I am well aware that 'trendy-lefty' Christianity is easily derided - The meek shall inherit the earth indeed! Where do they get such left-wing ideas? - but I find myself at home there.

Kingdom of God on earth

All of which leads me to introduce a Christian political grouping which is over 30 years old. It's members include at least 18 MPs, 1 MEP, 2 Bishops and 5 Lords. It is the Christian Socialist Movement. This movement was formed in 1960, believing that Christian teaching should be reflected in social laws and institutions, and that socialist policies are implicit in the quest for the Kingdom of God on earth, and yes, CSM is affiliated to the Labour Party. It pledges itself to pray, give



and work for:

- ☆ The unity of all Christian peoples, especially in social purposes,
- ☆ Reconciliation between nations and people, world peace with nuclear and general disarmament, redistribution of wealth to close the gap between rich and poor, and between rich and poor nations,
- ☆ The common ownership and democratic control of the productive resources of the earth,
- ☆ A classless society combining social, sexual and racial equality with personal responsibility and freedom of speech and association.

In conclusion, I know that Christians will always disagree about politics. However, I would urge all Christians to be more involved in politics. If you feel it is right, join a Christian group involved in politics. Consider joining the political party which most closely represents your Christian beliefs. At the very least, write to your MP every so often to let him or her know your feelings about key issues.

Duncan Myers

Christian Socialist Movement

Eric Wright,

36, Cross Flats Ave., Leeds. LS11 7BG

Movement for Christian Democracy

David Alton MP,

The House of Commons, London. SW1A 0AA

Liberal-Democrat Christian Forum

Margaret Furguson,

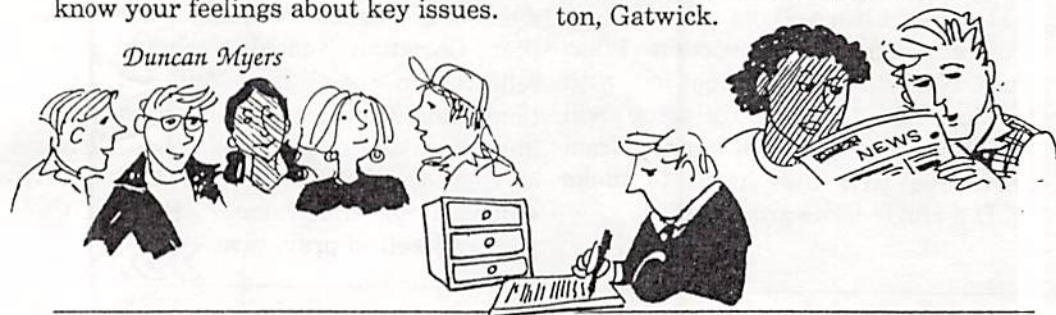
Heather Hill, Southampton Rd., Lyndhurst, Hamps. SO34 7BQ (0703) 282276

The Green Party has a spirituality group which is not Christian

The Conservative Party has no nationally organised Christian Group

Monster Raving Loony Party Hallelujah Subcommittee

Room 23b, The Widow Twanky Home for Retired Gentlefolk, Nether Poppleton, Gatwick.



Dropping off in Church

The Rev. David Beales runs a company called Creative Communications specialising in Training, Evangelism and Youth Ministry. He has just produced 'The Eutyclus Journey', an innovative and fun programme to help young people in the quest for truth about Jesus Christ.

Is your Church ...

- ☆ looking for dynamic resource material for your youth group?
- ☆ thinking of starting up ministry with young people?
- ☆ requiring fresh material for confirmation preparation?
- ☆ needing ideas for youth evangelism?
- ☆ hoping to train new leaders for youth ministry?

**If your answer is 'yes' to any of the above questions,
The Eutyclus Journey could help you!**

The Eutyclus Syndrome

Church census figures reveal that huge numbers of young people give up on church life during early teens. In his forward to the latest national church census, Archbishop George Carey has written:

"One area I looked at first of all, was our ministry with young people and we see that we are not holding our youngsters in the faith." This is The Eutyclus Syndrome!

Remember Eutyclus? (read Acts 20) Like so many young people in today's churches, Eutyclus...

Dropped off! (not even St. Paul could keep him awake)

Dropped out! (no glass in the windows in those days)

Dropped back to life! (When Paul took drastic measures)

The Eutyclus Journey is a drastic measure designed to counteract the negative effects of the Eutyclus Syndrome.



The Eutyclus Journey

The Eutyclus journey is an experiential programme based on the story of Eutyclus in which participants follow Eutyclus' journey of exploration as he seeks to discover the truth about Jesus Christ. Written primarily for younger teenagers (although it works with older teenagers too), the experience invites participants to figure out their own attitudes and response to Jesus in the light of Eutyclus' journey. Eutyclus follows a journey from Troas to Jerusalem encountering on the way a number of different people and incidents from the pages of the New Testament as well as entering into a variety of activities and adventures on the way.

In the process, young people are encouraged...

- ☆ to experience and enjoy Christian Community
- ☆ to discover something new about Jesus' life and teaching
- ☆ to develop and own a personal faith.

The process includes:

- ☆ Christian Education: engagement with biblical stories

through dramatic role play.

- ☆ Active participation: including the making of a TV documentary style program on video.
- ☆ Humour and Sport: surprise fun events like the Wide Game and the Samaria Sports Carnival.
- ☆ Imaginative worship: like the early Christians in the Catacombs of Rome.
- ☆ Challenge to Faith: an opportunity to respond to Jesus' invitation to discipleship.



The programme has been prepared both for those brought up in the family of the church and fringe members or friends of church members. It is set in the context of young people working together in groups with an adult leader and the result is often a significant milestone on the spiritual journeys of young

people. For instance:

- ☆ a reawakening of spiritual life
- ☆ an underlining of Christian commitment
- ☆ a radical conversion to Christ
- ☆ an understanding of discipleship
- ☆ tentative steps towards faith

David Beales

Looking at Sexuality

In a recent sermon, Pete Bates drew our attention to the discrimination and injustice suffered by half our population because they are female. Here, he gives four areas of particular concern.

I see discrimination -
major structural injustice -
or to give it the theological
name - *Sin*.

For Christians this is not trivial or irrelevant, it is not to be thrown aside as the extremist ramblings of radical feminists. This is about overcoming oppression and injustice, it is about bringing in the kingdom of God. Taking action here belongs alongside preaching the good news about Jesus, sending help to the Philippines, feeding homeless people in Nottingham and praying for sick people in the prayer ministry teams.

What can we do? I suggest four areas that might need attention. The headings are Equal Respect, Equal Words, Equal Pictures and Equal Opportunities.

Equal Respect

It is easy to give nodding support to the notion of equal respect, but a careful look in the mirror can be quite uncomfort-

table. What is my real attitude? When it comes to mending the car or cooking the tea, who do I expect should put on the boiler suit or the pinny? Both women and men carry around stereotypes and assumptions which may have little to do with Biblical values. It might be worthwhile to allocate yourself a Link Group meeting to think this theme through together.

Equal Words

Words shape thoughts and attitudes. Words are fluid and their meanings are constantly changing, constantly affecting the way we think. Twenty years ago the word "men" had twice the meaning it has today - then it meant the human race; now it means the males only. So phrases which were originally written to mean one thing are now heard to mean something quite different.

What happens when language is frozen whilst meanings change? Women are ignored

Through Christian Eyes



in the liturgy of worship. We sin against our fellow men, Jesus came for us men and our salvation. In baptism we say "unless a man has been born again", in marriage, "That which God has joined together let not man divide", and in a funeral, "The days of man are but as grass". If we try to correct this by replacing male terms with general terms, then women remain invisible, no longer specifically excluded but simply ignored.

Change the Liturgy

Equal words means inclusive language in the liturgy of worship. The General Synod of the Church of England have given permission for some changes in our authorised service, where this meets with the agreement of the incumbent and the PCC. In the general confession we could say 'neighbour' instead of 'fellow men'. In the Creed, the word 'men' could be missed out, so the phrase would read 'for us and for our salvation'. Perhaps this could be discussed in the PCC at some convenient point.

The liturgy we use has a basis in law, whilst (thankfully) the Songs we sing do not. Despite this, our songs have a power to influence our thinking about God and ourselves. Per-

haps someone could go through the OHP slides and recommend a changed word here and there. In "Praise God for the Body" we could sing "people" instead of "brothers". In "Father God I wonder" we used to sing, "Now I am your son" but now we sing "child", better, isn't it?

The words we use shape our thinking but so do the pictures we use.

Equal Pictures

The person who stands at the front to lead worship is a picture of what God is like. He or she is also a statement of what legitimate Christian activity looks like. Each time a man preaches, a message is communicated that men do this sort of thing, and by contrast, that women don't. Each time a woman leads worship, or preaches, we are all reminded that there is neither male nor female, we are all one in Christ Jesus. So thank you, Sandie, for leading our worship. Thank you, Joyce for preaching. Thank you, Di and Ros and Peggy for serving us in communion. But the proportion is still unbalanced.

What about Junior Church and Sunday School? The leadership team must be made up of men and women. The creche must have men and women on

the rota. Each time leadership is carried out by men and women we are achieving a healthy balanced picture of the nature of God and the wholesome human response. So men - blow away the stereotypes and get down amongst the toddlers. Women - blow away the stereotypes and do that talk at your Regional meeting. Or rather, allow God to speak to you about what He wants instead of rejecting His plans by thinking they might be unfeminine or 'men's work'.

Bride or Army?

Our thinking is also formed by the Bible passages we read and the images and pictures we draw out for our songs. In our teaching and fellowship we have promoted certain Biblical images and neglected others. Which image comes most readily to mind, the Army of God or the Bride of Christ? Do you know any choruses based upon Isaiah 66 where God is portrayed as a nursing Mother with us as her children? I don't want to throw out the masculine images, but we need all the Biblical images to help us grasp what God is like. So please help us, you songwriters out there. Let's have a break from military imagery and give us some songs from Isaiah. Let's have some

sermons from the heroines of Scripture like Miriam, Deborah, Ruth, Esther, Rahab, Mary, Anna and Priscilla.

Equal Opportunities

The church and the world are bound together. Our behaviour in church is inextricably linked to the way society runs and so we are either part of the problem or part of the solution. While we allow the status quo to remain we are connected with domestic violence, with advertising that exploits women, with injustice in the workplace. Little jokes and rotten attitudes are on the same continuum, part of the same process which diminishes women and dismisses half of the family of God.

Only if we act differently will opportunities for fulfilment, for employment, for self expression, for leisure, be made equally accessible to people, whether they are Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female. What can we do to bring in the kingdom of God?

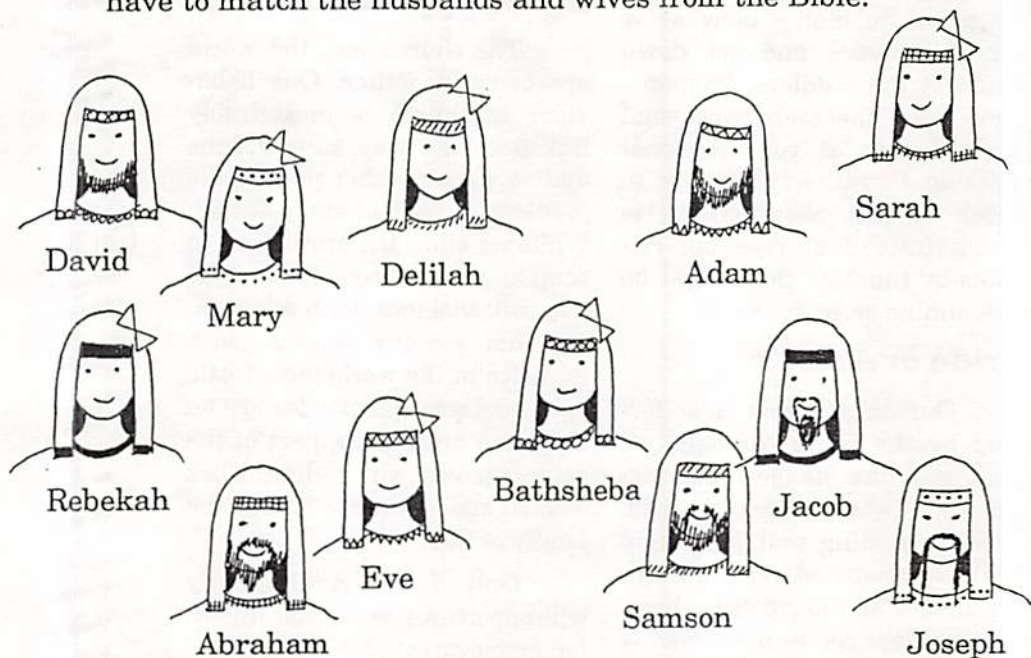
Pete Bates

For an answer to the above question, read the next issue of 'Fellowship' magazine, in which Pete will give examples of the practical outworkings of these principles.

Through Christian Eyes

Bible Brain Benders

☆ The theme for this month is 'People'. In the first puzzle, you have to match the husbands and wives from the Bible.



☆ Find all these people in the grid. All of the letters are used!

Aaron	Hosea	Mary
Amos	Israel	Nehemiah
Daniel	Jacob	Noah
Eve	Jeremiah	Paul
God	Job	Zebulun
Herod	Joseph	

H	Y	J	O	S	E	P	H
E	Z	R	N	O	R	A	A
R	V	E	A	N	I	U	I
O	H	E	B	M	O	L	M
D	O	G	E	U	O	A	E
I	S	R	A	E	L	S	H
L	E	I	N	A	D	U	E
J	A	C	O	B	O	J	N

- ☆ A prophet is a person with a special message from God. Can you name the Bible prophets from the clues below? All of them wrote a book of the Bible.

Which prophet . . .

1 was swallowed by a whale?

2 was thrown into the lion's den?

3 told God that he was too young?

4 saw a valley of dry bones in a vision?

5 was a prophet to Ninevah?

6 was an adviser to King

Nebuchadnezzar?

7 had a wife called Gomer who left him?

8 foretold that the Spirit would be poured out on all people?

9 was a shepherd from Tekoa?

10 said that Jesus would come and die for our sins like a lamb?

- ☆ Solve the clues from the life of Paul and put the answers in the grid, then read down to find the name of a person whom he met. Who was this person, and why should we not follow his example?

1 Paul was arrested for bringing these people into the temple.

2 Asian city visited by Paul.

3 Paul's secular occupation.

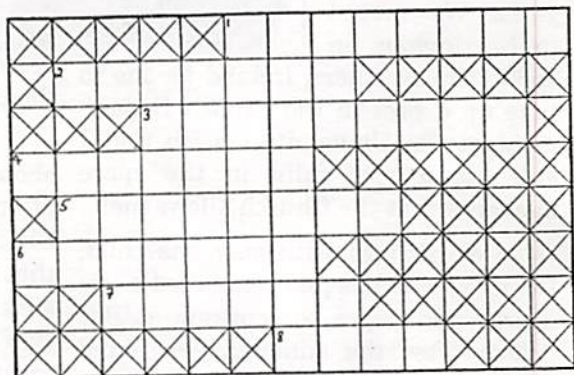
4 Paul's assistant and younger colleague.

5 Paul was converted on his way here.

6 This city had problems with the Lord's Supper.

7 Paul's birthplace.

8 He approved of the killing of Stephen.



- ☆ Many thanks to the Morning Music Group for Bible Brain Benders

PULSE

Let me



introduce you to . . .

Malc and Irene Offord

Irene and I form part of that very select group of people who are PH, we joined the Church about a year before the arrival of the Huggetts! We moved to Nottingham in 1969 from Northern Ireland for me to take up a post in the French Department at the University - a job that I still attempt to fulfil in the spare moments that the Church allows me!

We arrived with only one child, Dominic, who has just completed a law degree and hopes to continue at Bar School after the summer. We found that every time we moved house, somehow or other, another child arrived, viz Matthew (now earning his living), Kirsty and Jessica (both still at

school), so we've stayed put in our present house for the past 14 years to avoid more growth (very un-St. Nic's!).



Irene is a very busy marriage counsellor, who, besides being involved in various St. Nic's activities, plays a very active part in the musical life of the city.

I've been a churchwarden for about 15 years now, and have served at one time or another on most of the Church's committees. I have to admit that being a warden in a church like ours gives me a great sense of Christian satisfaction, as I see it as my role to help people the Lord in a relaxed, peaceful way by making them feel welcome and appreciated as they come to Church Sunday by Sunday.



PULSE

Dancing in Jerusalem

In August, I will be attending the International Christian Dance Fellowship Conference in Jerusalem. This is a conference for those who choreograph, perform, teach, plan or direct any aspect of dance or movement ministry. It will be a unique opportunity for people from around the world to meet and perform, to share insights and skills and to build unity across denominational, theological, racial and artistic differences.

While in Israel, we will be exploring the Jewish roots of the Christian faith and will be sharing with those living there, through dance performance and teaching. Our presence will be a support to the people of Israel and a common love of dance will be an effective means of communication. Where dance is not so accepted amongst believers, we will help to encourage movement ministry in the body of Christ/Messiah in Israel.

A vision for this conference was received when the I. C. D. F. was founded several years ago. Jerusalem

was chosen for being the birthplace of the Church, the place of Christ's return and the meeting place of East and West, Jew and Gentile. However, there have obviously been many months of uncertainty because of the war.

Since my healing from M.E. in January [See issue 12], I feel that the Lord, in addition to using my personal testimony, is wanting to use my dance training to further the work in His kingdom. I cannot possibly express the sheer joy and closeness to God that I experience when I am dancing for Him. It is a real privilege to spend time with Him creatively choreographing movements that can touch people's hearts in power. While I was ill, I could not have imagined being well enough to walk properly again, and now I'm dancing! Such is the greatness of the Lord.

I would be most grateful for your prayer support in this venture.

Liz Babbs

 **P U L S E**

Changes of Address

Please note that changes of address should be given to the Church Office and *not* directly to the Editors.

Mark & Jo Enstone

76 Cycle Road, Lenton, Nottingham NG7 2DT tel: 784746

Yvonne Hewins

2 Rolleston Crescent, Watnall, Notts. NG16 1JU tel: 384176

Jeremy, Jacque & Samuel Follett

28 Harewood Avenue, Newark, Notts. NG24 4AN tel: (0636) 700396

Alison Hoare

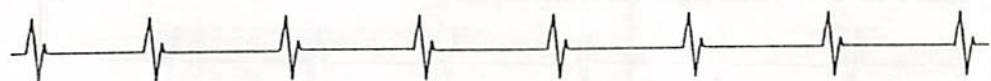
2 Newton Street, Beeston, Nottingham NG9 2SG tel: 430268

Roger Mayfield

3 Croft Cottages, Staythorpe Road, Rolleston, Newark, Notts.

Attention Mothers!

18 year old female student seeks paid employment for July.
Child-minding, Mother's Help or something similar.
Contact: Rebecca Smith tel: 621080 A.S.A.P.





PULSE



Heigh Ho! Heigh Ho! It's Off to Work We Go!

Phase II redesign starts in earnest on July 8th with the stripping of the church. Sixty-seven intrepid individuals have signed the 'availability chart', offering whatever help they can. Their obvious enthusiasm is a great encouragement, although some attitudes towards the demolition aspects prompt me to invite the simultaneous presence of prayer ministry personnel!

As with everything else that I have been called to do at St. Nic's, finding myself attempting to coordinate a section of Phase II is a very humbling and privileged opportunity to serve the Lord. The redesign subcommittee, led by Arthur Benniston, includes Colin Entwistle, David Huggett, Irene Offord, Helen Pinnington and Gordon Walker. By 'sitting-in' on their most recent meeting, I can confirm that they have clearly devoted many hours debating, negotiating and

planning their way to this most exciting stage when things will be seen to be happening.

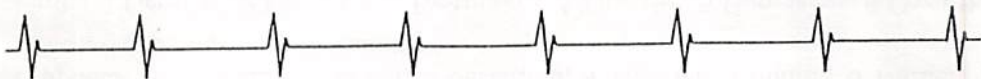
By the end of Week One, most fixtures and fittings will either have been stored away ready for re-siting and reuse or have been dismantled and sold. The end of Week Two will have seen the end of all surplus heating metals, an assessment of electrical cables etc., and marking of all



legible tomb stones for later re-siting. Wall mounted monuments and plaques will also have been cleaned.

Volunteers will be contacted and advised accordingly. Everyone involved *must* wear practical clothing and footwear especially when the pew platforms and metal works are taken apart.

Bill Phipps



BB
AA
GG
KK
WW
OO
RR
DD
SS

**Editors' Address
Change**

David and Fay Moore

Lowdham Station, Station
Road, Lowdham, Notts. NG14
7DU tel: 664938

Items for publication can be
sent to:

Tim and Joy Lee

2, Kingsdown Mount, Wollaton,
Nottingham. NG8 2RQ
tel: 287690



**Editor - One who separates the wheat from
the chaff and then prints the chaff**

Two young ladies were discussing their future husbands. One was determined to marry a doctor so that she could be ill for nothing. The other replied that she would rather marry a vicar so that she could be good for nothing!

Answers

Prophets - 1 Jonah, 2 Daniel, 3 Jeremiah, 4 Ezekiel, 5 Jonah, 6 Daniel, 7 Hosea, 8 Joel, 9 Amos, 10 Isaiah.
Paul - 1 Gentiles, 2 Ephesus, 3 Tentmaker, 4 Timothy, 5 Damascus, 6 Corinth, 7 Tarsus, 8 Saul. - Eutychus, he fell asleep during a sermon and was killed as a result! (Acts 20)

12



CODE FOR
PS SECRET
DOCUMENT
MOLE.
OVER
IS
PY
D
E

DIARY

July

Thurs	11th	7:45	Speaker's Corner in the Lower Lounge
Sun	14th		SNYF picnic after Church
Sun	14th		Moving to Castlegate Congregational Church
Sun	- 29th Sept		
Fri	26th	8:00	Eight 'til Late at 96, Burlington Rd.
Fri	26th		YWAM team based at Holy Trinity, Lenton [see page 2]
	- 20th Aug		
Sat	27th		Outreach in the Market Square with YWAM team

August

Sat	3rd		Outreach in the Market Square with YWAM team
Sat	17th		Outreach in the Market Square with YWAM team
Fri	30th	8:00	Eight 'til late at 96, Burlington Rd.

BABYSITTING AT PNU'S
NEXT THURS

. Changes . . . Changes . . . C

Items for the next issue of Fellowship should be sent to:

☆ The Editors, 2, Kingsdown Mount, Wollaton (287690)
or given to Dave or Fay Moore or Tim or Joy Lee at church.

The next issue is planned as follows:

☆ Copy date 4th August for 18th August

anges . . . Changes . . . Chan

CONTACT

Outreach Committee

David Huggett	411383
Chris Bignell	289789
Peter Harrison	221291
John Hepworth	235364
Nigel Hyde	286346
Deborah Williams	613647
Peter Wright	605212

Finance Committee

Chris Nurden	(0509) 853280
Colin Entwistle	609811
Barbara Holbrook	(37) 4096
Malc Offord	476924
Nick Wilson	288327

Practical Ministries Committee

Gordon Walker	811596
Susan Ashford	227581
Colin Entwistle	609811
Malc Offord	476924
Helen Pinnington	704985

