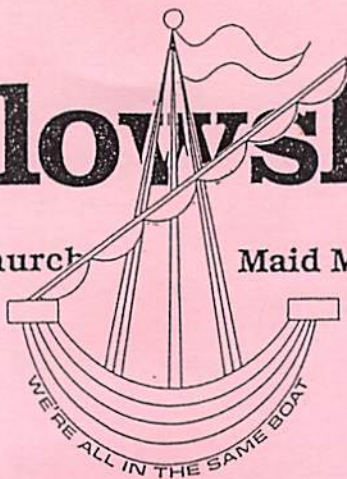


# Fellowship

St. Nicholas' Church

Maid Marian Way



## In This Issue: Update on Redesign Just *what* is going on?

Do you have any  
clergymen going  
cheap?



August 1991

Issue: 16

Price 50p

# ke Note - Take Note - Take

## St. Nic's For Sale (or parts thereof)

As a result of our redesign, we have a quantity of reusable salvage material to dispose of, including:

- 8ft kneelers (reworked into foot stools, individual kneelers or prayer stools?)
- 8ft pew seat runners (for your 8ft pew)
- 8ft x 3ft pew carpets (?)
- 3 large cast iron radiators (becoming fashionable in some refurbishments)

Many old size bricks (good for patching older houses, or build your own barbeque)

All enquiries to Arthur 'it-should-do-well-at-an-auction' Beniston (0509) 672284. Preferential terms to St. Nic's members. Go on, buy a brick. Never to be repeated offers.

*Bill Phipps*

## Are you an 'outgoing' person?

From time to time, individuals and groups 'go out' from St. Nic's to preach, lead in worship or exercise ministries to other churches.

Where this is being done in the name of St. Nic's, we would like to be aware in advance so that we can:-

- offer prayer support,
- possibly suggest others to go along to encourage or to further their training,
- co-ordinate, so that we don't clash or overstretch our resources,
- record, so that the church insurance can cover our official 'outgoings'.

If you have any dates / events already planned or would like to be involved in St. Nic's 'outgoings', please drop a line with details to Jeremy or Colin, c/o the Church Office.

## NOSH 2 - The Students Strike Back

NOSH, (Nottingham Overseas Student Hospitality), is run by Andrew Jackson, who works for ISCS, (International Student Christian Services). *[What a lot of AWFLs, (Acronyms With Four Letters) - Ed]*

ISCS are doing a brilliant job reaching out to international students who are studying in Britain. Last Christmas, two of your Editors had the pleasure of having two overseas students staying with them for a few days. If you would like to have the delight of offering hospitality, from one meal upwards, to an overseas student, contact Andrew on 704089.

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# As the Dust Settles

It's been fascinating watching more and more of our church's history appear from the dust where our pews used to be. The two archaeologists working with our builders have discovered all sorts of things to do with past buildings, just under where we've all been worshipping.

As we looked at all this, one of the archaeologists reminded me of a piece of English Literature I'd not read for years. Called 'Urn Burial', it was written in 1658 by Sir Thomas Browne. In it he reflects on the discovery of a Roman graveyard with lots of urns full of ashes (hence the title), and uses this to think about the nature of death and immortality. It's something like a 'thought for the day', because his deep Christian conviction shines through all his thinking.

## Patent from Oblivion

As I've looked at the marks of the past and thought about how people have tried to preserve their memory in

St. Nic's, some of Browne's words are strikingly relevant.

"In vain do individuals hope for immortality, or any patent from oblivion in preservations below the moon."

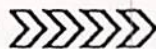


We know nothing of the people who built the earlier churches where we now worship, and nothing of the people whose graves have escaped the ravages of time. We too, says Browne, must not try to be remembered on earth. People "must be content to be

as though they had not been, to be found in the register of God, not in the record of man."

## Security in the Familiar

Does this have relevance for Redesign? It strikes me that a lot of our love of church buildings is not just for their beauty but for the familiarity and security they provide. Part of that impulse (and I speak as someone who has endured Redesigns in three separate churches) is about seeking 'preservation', we find our security in the familiar,



and to change the building is to lose part of our identity. It's the same impulse Browne writes about when people seek to have their memories preserved after death.

Browne's aim is to be secure in God's future, not in humanity's preserved past. As we look to move into our new building we have been called to give thanks for the things of the past, but not to seek to preserve them for their own sake. This could have lots of implications. What will our worship pattern be? Will we have 'Chair Bibles' or will we collect them at the door? Will we sit in straight lines, or can we look at each other?

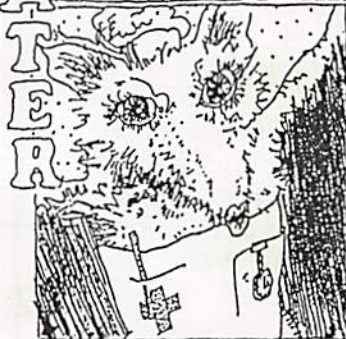
## Using the Past as a Springboard

I think we are learning at Castlegate what we need and what we can discard. We are learning to be a fellowship using the past as a springboard for the new things of God. It is an attitude we need in our own lives too: are we looking for an entry in the record of man, or is our chief goal to be found in the register of God? I'll leave the last words to Sir Thomas:

"To live indeed is to be again ourselves, which being not a hope but an evidence in true believers, ready to be anything, in the ecstasy of being ever."

Think about it!

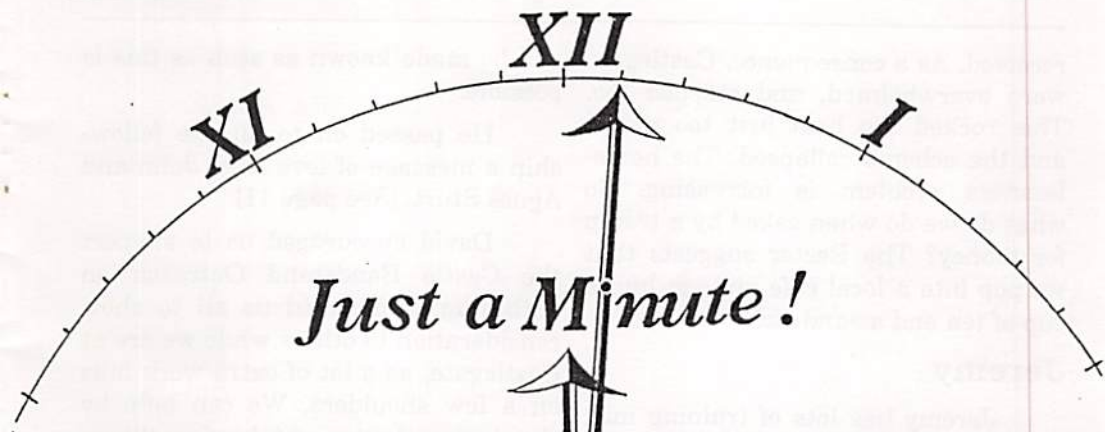
*Jeremy*



"dearest pewi, whats the matter?"

'ohhhh.....'moan'.....  
... (muffled) ... I was.....  
working out at castlegate..  
... but didn't find their..  
equipment too agreeable  
..... ooh..... ehhman..  
.....'moan'.....





*This semi-regular slot will keep you up-to-date with the official goings-on of St. Nic's, and in particular, the most recent meeting of the P.C.C.*

## **So what does Colin *really* do?**

Colin seems to spend most of his time doing redesign-related work, now ably helped by Richard (see page 15), as there are all sorts of minor administrative complications. For instance, he had to submit a new faculty (sort of diocesan planning permission) for the replacement font because in the original, the bowl was not big enough! [for what? - Total immersion of infants?! Ed]

## **Redesign Update**

Following the discovery of a burial vault, the registrar suspended all work. Archaeologists asked for a week's grace to record the findings. Fortunately, we do not expect any financial penalty from the contractors for the delay.

Peter Horslen has started on the re-roofing (see photo on next page - your esteemed Editor was invited to climb up and take it himself!)

The PCC voted to send a letter to the Castegate staff thanking them for the extremely warm welcome we have received.

## **Emma House**

Emmanuel House, the support charity for the homeless, has suspended the 'meal ticket' system. Basically, EH want most people to make a contribution for the meals they provide. However, they do not want to neglect those few who genuinely have no money, but equally, they cannot make that judgment. So local churches provided 'free meal tickets'. Some time ago, St. Nic's stopped giving these tickets because of the hassle



received. As a consequence, Castlegate were overwhelmed, and stopped too. This rocked the boat just too much, and the scheme collapsed. The homelessness problem is increasing. So what do we do when asked by a tramp for money? The Rector suggests that we pop into a local cafe and get him a cup of tea and a sandwich.

## Jeremy

Jeremy has lots of training info. If you want any, ask him. He also invites comments on the way family services are going. Jeremy comments that Prayer and Fasting ought to be part of our ongoing life as a fellowship.

## The Rector's bit

David confirmed that a church planting scheme is being considered over the next few months (this was first mentioned last issue), and details

will be made known as soon as this is possible.

He passed on to all the fellowship a message of love from John and Agnes Sturt. [See page 11]

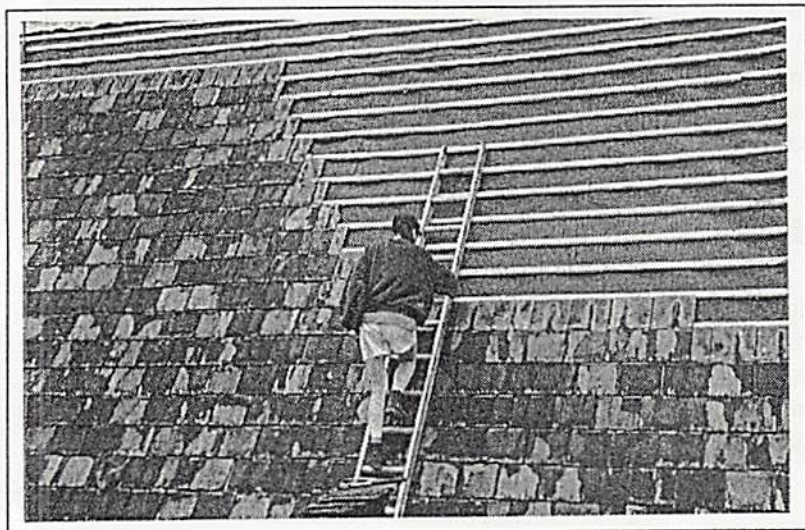
David encouraged us to support the Castle Bandstand Outreach on 18th Aug, and asked us all to show consideration to others while we are at Castlegate, as a lot of extra work falls on a few shoulders. We can help by clearing up books, not leaving things in church, and leaving the back pews free for people who arrive late or have small children.

## Finance

Chris Nurden brought us the news that our estimated income is now only £2000 short of our budget (it was £12,000 short). Let us thank God for this, as we do not need to cut

budgets. But we can't be complacent - it would still be nice to reinstate the original budgets, in particular, to pay more of our Diocese Quota.

*David  
Moore*



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# Looking at Gender

*In last month's magazine, we looked at part one of gender issues. In this second part of Pete Bates' article, he shows the Biblical basis for his views.*

It all starts with a family, God's family. So far, all my attempts to see God have been like sitting on a bus and squinting through a dirty window trying to see where I am going. But one day, we will be lifted out of this gutter to a dramatically different life. One day the best of our dreams and hopes will be fulfilled. Whatever you have hoped that heaven will be like, multiply by ten. We shall be in harmony with each other. We will be adopted into the family in heaven.

## **Adoption**

Adoption means a radical transformation. Your relationship with God changes and you begin to know Him as Father, and other Christian believers as your brothers and sisters.

As well as being a transformation, adoption is the great

equaliser. We all need to be adopted into God's family. When God comes to the orphanage there is nothing to recommend one of us above another. You may speak nicely, or have a lot of qualifications. You may be lonely or be worried about your exam results. Despite these differences we are all of the same status - we all need adoption. Therefore when God welcomes us into the family, not one of us can be smug. We are here solely because God has adopted us and no-one is any better or worse than anyone else.

## **Manifesto**

When God is our Father, then we are all brothers and sisters. We are all one in Christ Jesus, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female" (Gal 3:28). This verse is not just a nice thought, a postcard from heaven, "We are all one, wish you were here." It is a manifesto for Christian intervention in society, an agenda for

Through Christian Eyes



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action. How does Galatians 3:28 find expression in our lives?

*Neither Jew nor Greek.*

Divisions between Jew and Greek began to be eroded when the Gospel was preached to the Gentiles, but there is still much work to be done to bring an end to racism.

*Neither slave nor free.*

Slavery was outlawed 200 years ago, but we still have huge divisions between the rich and the poor.

*Neither male nor female.*

This is where this two-part article concentrates, although many of the principles apply equally well to the other divisions. I hope to light the blue touch paper of some thoughts, discussions and prayers.

## Some Statistics

What is the current situation? Has the prophetic word of the Apostle been fulfilled and the Kingdom of God been brought into our society already? Has the division between male and female been eradicated?

Let us look first at education and employment. The overall picture is that, although women comprise around 45% of

the workforce, they make up only 26% of all persons in managerial positions. This is despite doing better than boys at school in all subjects apart from two, and more girls continuing their education after 16 than boys. More qualifications, but fewer jobs, less promotions, less training and less pay. Don't blame this on the babies, there is more to this than career breaks for families.

## Violence

What about home and leisure? The RAC has recently begun to advertise a new service. Lone women whose cars break down will jump the queue and be helped first. Why is this necessary? Do women have to live in fear of violence? Is assault, rape and domestic violence acceptable?

How do we interpret these facts? Is it benign paternalism, men generously relieving women of the terrible burdens of jobs, public life and personal security? What I see is discrimination, major structural injustice, or to give it its theological name, Sin.

In the last issue, I spent time on four areas that might need attention. These were:

*Equal Respect - not*

Through Christian Eyes





# Through Christian Eyes

assuming that the woman should stay at home with the children or that the man should be able to fix the car.

*Equal Words* - the idea of inclusive language in the liturgy of worship.

*Equal Pictures* - we need men and women as rôle models both in the crèche and in the pulpit.

*Equal Opportunities* - both at work and at church.

But what about the Church? The Diocese of Southwell has recently voted in overwhelming support of the ordination of women. Programme planners, think about who you invite to do things. Are you promoting some people at the expense of others? Sometimes the problem is not about skills and aptitude and calling. Sometimes there is a confidence shortage.

## Make Way for God's Gifts

As a man, I have wondered how much I unconsciously control and assert power. Per-

haps the Holy Spirit wants to help me to withdraw from some situations and make way for gifts God has given to women. Perhaps I shouldn't preach at St. Nic's again until another woman has

preached. After this sermon, perhaps I won't be asked to preach again!

Women, are you fed up with getting knocked down? Have you given up the fight for justice? Are you ducking opportunities to grow and deferring to men? Why have I, as a man, preached this

sermon? Surely you could do it better!

One day we shall be adopted into heaven and shall see our Lord Jesus Christ. Then we shall know the prophecy fulfilled, when there shall be neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female. All divisions will be ended and everyone made whole at last, all one in Christ Jesus. May we prepare for that great day with all our heart, mind and strength.

*Pete Bates*

*Don't walk in front of me,*

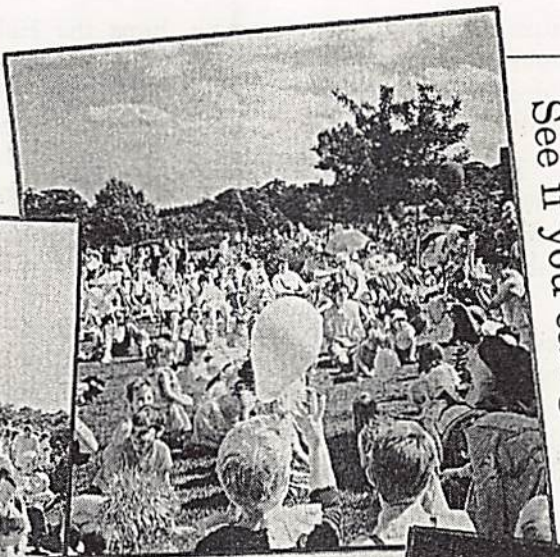
*because I might not follow.*

*Don't walk behind me,*

*because I might not lead.*

*Walk at my side  
and be my friend.*

There are five St. Nic's clowns on this page,

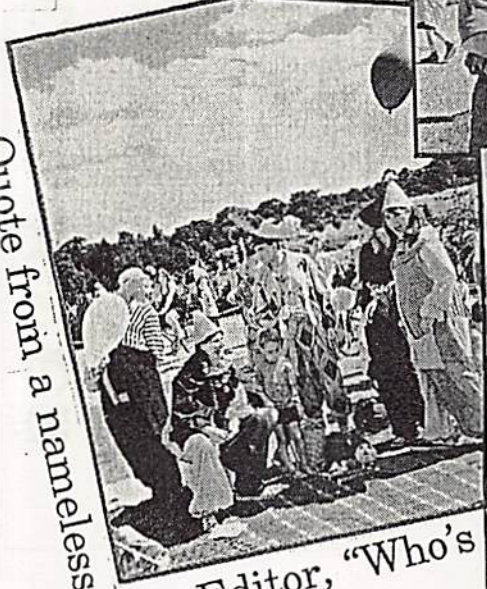


See if you can guess



who they are.

Quote from a nameless



Editor, "Who's



that chap in the



purple shirt?"

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# The Party in the

A beautiful August afternoon saw the usual thousands enjoying the delights of Clumber Park. In the Turning Yard, people were stopped in their tracks by a 'Party' with brass band, drama, dance, a magician, (unbelievably) short talks by the Archdeacon of Nottingham, Tom Walker, and clowns. Lots of clowns. I know, because I was one of them!

It was all in aid of the Gospel. We heard the call to commitment put clearly. To use an official phrase, it was 'low cringe-factor' evangelism: watchable, enjoyable and challenging. We clowns had to give out a well produced leaflet, with texts of hymns, some testimonies and a response form.

## Interesting

Being a clown was more than interesting. Members of the church didn't recognise me, perfect strangers asked me to pose for their cameras, children ran away screaming and only one person refused the proffered leaflet. All in all there was an excellent party atmosphere. I will treasure the memory of the Bishop of Southwell talking to two clowns who he then

## Park

discovered to be the Diocesan Director of Evangelism and the Associate Minister of St. Nic's!

And then the news on the next day was of an eleven year old brutally raped in Clumber hours later. The rapist could have been around with us. All party memories burst like the balloons we were giving out. I felt that our attempts at evangelism were in immense bad taste and the thought of the Party embarrassed me. I've changed my mind since then. Yes, the superficial humour of the Party might have been shown up for what it was, but if our Good News is overshadowed and defeated by events such as these, then it is no Good News at all.

## Our Gospel is Light

We live in a world of suffering and pain, and our Gospel is light in darkness. It was right that we went to where people were and presented Jesus in the best way we could. Perhaps I was wrong to feel that the people we met were basically decent. We can be under no illusions about the nature of our world, but we must not cease to evangelise, to do that would be to give in to the darkness.

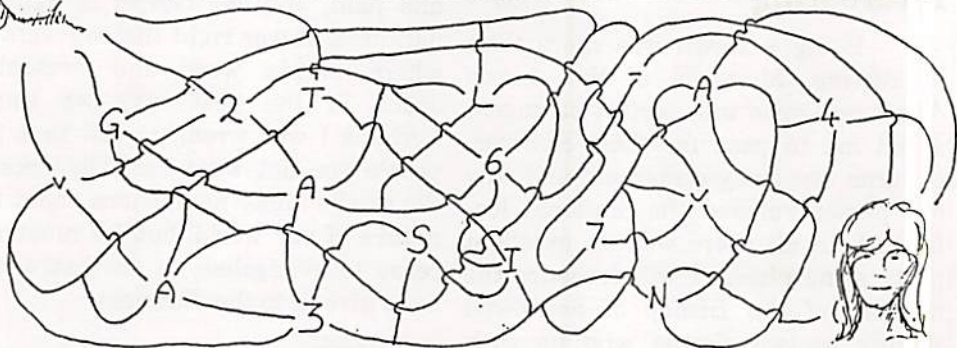
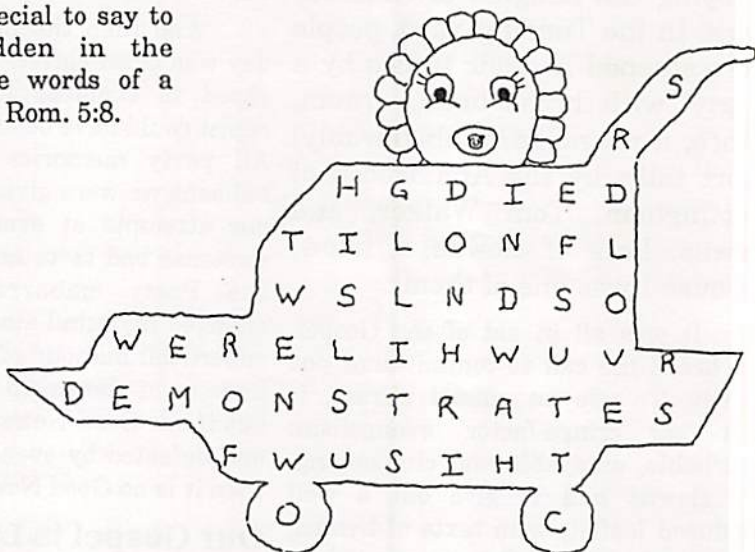
*Jeremy*

# Bible Brain Benders

☆ The Bible says we are all like babies who have to grow up. In this month's puzzles, we can find out what helps us to grow.

☆ We are all sinners from birth, but God has something very special to say to sinners. Hidden in the pram are the words of a famous verse, Rom. 5:8.

☆ Follow the maze to turn the child into an adult, and find the Bible reference on the way.



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# PULSE

15a Warborough Ave,  
Epsom, Auckland.  
New Zealand.

*Dear David and Joyce,*

*We wish to thank you, and indeed all the St. Nic's team for the invitation to come and work with you over the past three months. We also thank so many members of the fellowship for their hospitality. We have been really overwhelmed by the Lord's goodness and the kindness of his people.*

*There are so many aspects of our stay in Nottingham which are precious memories for us. We found the friendship and fellowship of the team very enriching, as well as that of so many others in the church. We have happy memories of the times of worship at St. Nic's.*

*While the programme you organised for us was somewhat demanding, we also found it very fulfilling, and learned a lot. We're really grateful for the encouragement and support that so many members of the fellowship gave us.*

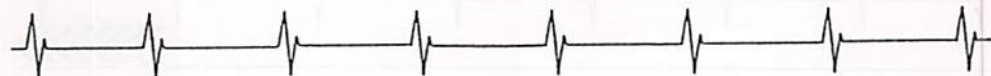
*As you know, part of our personal goals we had in coming to England was to clarify the Lord's leading for our future, and we believe this has been achieved. We return to Auckland with a clearer picture of what the Lord wants us to do. We are very grateful.*

*Please would you convey our love and thanks to all the members of the fellowship at St. Nic's. We will continue to hold you in our prayers.*

*With warm greetings in Christ,*

*Shalom.*

*John and Agnes*



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# PULSE

## Heigh Ho! Heigh Ho!, Again

*The Editors apologise for the titles over these two pages, but since neither Bill nor Colin could think of better ones, we didn't either.*

Redesign Part II, or the never ending saga. Colin names it, the team will try to get it done. So the pews, platforms, and heating metals have all been removed and disposed of, wall mounted monuments have been cleaned, and the Chancel apron cut back to the line of the Chancel arch, all as per plans A, B, C, and D. However plan E (for 'Entwistle') was also introduced.

This included:

- ☆ Installing an additional phone system in the Centre,
- ☆ Painting Pauline's new office (ex Eddie Neale),
- ☆ Hanging radiators (salvaged from the church) in store rooms,
- ☆ Painting the upstairs loo, landing and stairwell,
- ☆ Removing the fireplace, and realigning the aperture to accommodate the safe salvaged from the

Church boiler house, followed by painting everywhere in Helen's office.

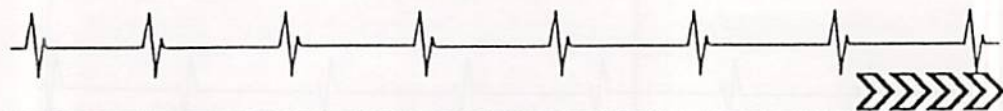
- ☆ Restoring the garden area to a manageable condition.
- ☆ Removing the vestry chimney breast and replastering.

Most of the above was done by our own volunteers working in excess of 160 person-shifts, and fuelled by our own catering teams. Everyone has been superb, offering help and accepting direction without question. With such cooperation, we could almost do anything for anyone.

Does anyone have any buildings that need 'redesigning' in the area? We seem to have all the abilities, and many of us (sadly) have the time if they have the money.

*Bill Phipps*

NB Our archaeologist will write for the next issue.



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# PULSE

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## The Low-Down on Redesign

Interesting remains of the earlier church on the site have been uncovered and the work of investigation and clearance continues. The City Archaeologist is plotting and recording - and will publish his findings in due course.

Whilst there are some ground obstructions to be overcome, the good news is that once the excavations are complete, we should be able to proceed with a new floor almost identical in construction to that which we originally planned. This means that hopefully we shall not require a new Faculty (the legal consent necessary before any works can be undertaken within our church).



The investigative and clearance work is naturally taking longer than straight forward excavation. Until we move into the phase of actual construction, it is difficult to estimate a revised completion date. However, at this stage, it looks as though it will be November before we are able to reoccupy our building.

On the question of finance, we are grateful that the services of the archaeologists are being provided at no cost to us. Some increase in expenditure on the overall contract is inevitable, but we trust that it will not be too significant.

*Colin the Ent*

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# PULSE

## Perpetual Motion

### Changes of Address For Sale - £46,950

Chris and Julie Bignell  
70, Lambourne Dr.,  
Wollaton.  
NG8 1GR  
289349

Modern, terraced house in Radford, near Canning Circus.

2 bedrooms, gas central heating, car standing, small back garden, carpets included.

Contact A Jackson or A Glenton Tel: 704089

Mike Dymott  
67, Windsor St.,  
Beeston.  
NG9 2BW  
220361

### For Sale or To Rent - £85,500

Extended, 3-bedroomed, traditional, detached house close to Wollaton Park.

Gas central heating, 2 garages, double glazing, oak fitted kitchen, carpets and curtains included.

Contact David and Fay Moore Tel: 284828 or 664938

Alison Hoare  
49, Gladstone St.,  
Beeston.  
NG9 1EU  
252959

### For Sale - £35,950

Spacious, 3-bedroomed, mid-terraced house in Sneinton.

Full gas central heating, fully modernised, 18' dining kitchen.

Contact Carol Matthews Tel: 584215

Robin and Angela Scott  
46, Church Dr.,  
Ravenshead,  
NG15 9FF  
(0623) 490881

### For Sale - £79,950

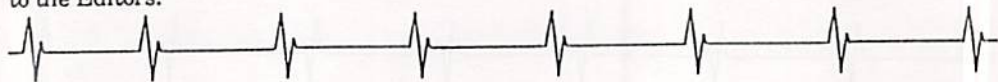
Extended, 3-bedroomed, modern, detached house close to Bramcote Moor.

Gas central heating, integral garage, part double glazing, pine fitted kitchen, carpets included.

Contact Tim and Joy Lee Tel: 287690

Pauline Walker  
147, Charlbury Rd.,  
Wollaton.  
NG8 1NE  
426315

N.B. Changes of address should be sent to the Church Office, not to the Editors.





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# PULSE

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Let me

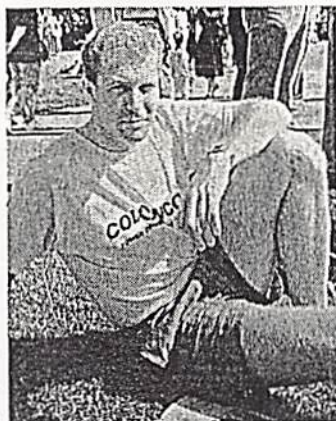


introduce you to . . .

## Richard Ives

By now, many of you may have noticed a new face at Sunday Services, opening windows, setting up the OHPs and generally charging around a yard or so behind Colin. Let me introduce myself. I'm the new Lay Assistant (practical), and I shall be working alongside Colin over the summer months while the redesign work is going on. I will then be taking over from Wendy as the full-time student worker.

If time spent as a student were to count for something other than hair loss, then I would be eminently qualified as the student worker! I spent four years studying languages at Exeter University, followed by two years of Law at York. The results aren't out yet, but if all goes well, I'll be studying



Wow! Just look at those legs!

Articles in a Nottingham Solicitors' firm in a year's time. Nottingham, then, is to become my adopted town.

I have a small but far flung family. My sister and her husband live in Africa, and my parents, after many years of travelling, are now comparatively close in Switzerland. As you can imagine, it's hard to visit at the weekend, but it's great for holidays.

I came to faith as a student, so I look forward to working alongside students and to encouraging their ministries. Equally, I look forward to becoming a full member of St. Nic's and to meeting many of you.

So next time you see me charging past, why not stop me and introduce yourself?



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# PULSE

## From our Correspondent

*Shaun and Jan Walsh (currently working in India) proudly announce that Sarah Elizabeth Rebecca was born on 7th June at 9:45am in Mussoorie, North India, weighing 7lbs.*

We are so grateful to God for both a trouble free pregnancy and a strait-forward delivery. Sarah was three weeks early and is of course the most beautiful baby in the world, taking after her father (guess who's writing this!) We only just made it to the hospital an hour before she was born, a friend in a taxi 'just happened to be' passing at the right time; one of many ways the Lord has faithfully met our practical needs since we left family and friends for the sake of the Gospel.

### Rich Fellowship

Another testimony to this provision was that we were able to find accommodation in Mussoorie at the last minute and so avoided having to return to hot Hyderabad, as we had originally planned. We have experienced rich fellowship and much practical help from the Indian church here.

Our Hindi has now taken some-

what of a back seat as we adjust to the demands of a newborn baby, but we are pleased with the progress made so far.

### Raw Garlic

We left Mussoorie for Delhi on 20th July. We will soon return to Hyderabad to serve the existing projects of the mission. Please pray that we might find our place doing base work whilst at the same time maintaining the priorities of the Hindi learning and adapting to the culture, which are vital to our longer term goals.

Our health has been good, although Jan has had a mild case of Giardia - a stomach bug well known in these parts. One recommended 'natural' cure is to eat two raw cloves of garlic every morning. As neither of us fancy this idea, please pray for healing! Pray also that the three of us will adjust quickly to the heat of the plains again after cool Mussoorie.

Thank you for your prayers,

*Shaun, Jan and Sarah*



# Diary

## August

Sun 18th 3:30pm Castle Bandstand  
Concert Outreach. Nottingham Castle  
Bandstand

Fri 30th 8:00pm 8 'til late Prayer  
Meeting at 96 Burlington Road, Sherwood.

## Service Times

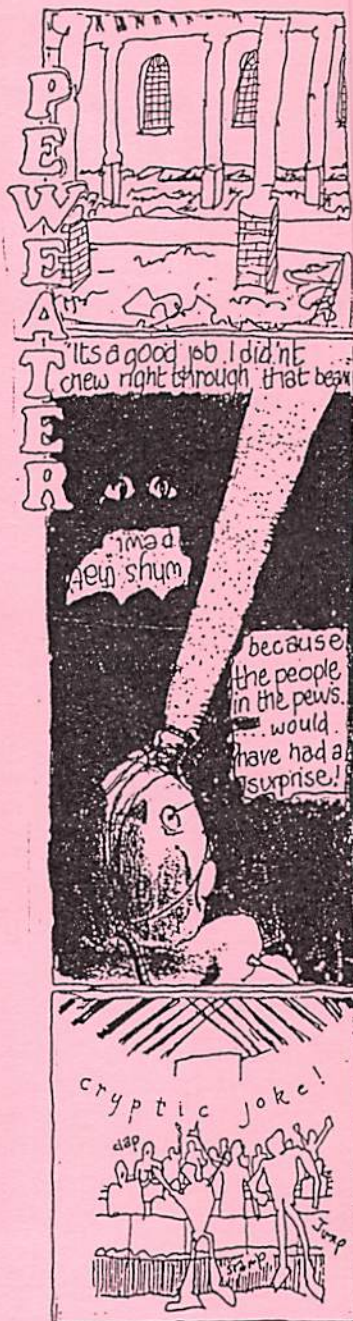
- Morning Service, 10:10am for  
10:15am
- Evening Service, 6:30pm

While our Church building is being  
refurbished, we are meeting in the  
Congregational Centre on Castlegate.

## Copydate

Items for the next issue of Fellowship  
should be sent to The Editors, 2, Kings-  
down 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 15th September for  
29th September**



# CONTACT

## Missionary Committee

Hilary Holden	812043
David Carter	259242
Pete Chaplin	700250
Sue Ellis	250346
Susan Lea-Wilson	614426
David Moore	664938
John Sayers	624108
Wendy Sayers	624108
Gwyn Thomas	225098
Pauline Walker	426315

## Staffing Committee

Richard Hawthorne	625335
David Huggett	411383
Deirdre Offord	391891
John Sayers	624108
Peter Wright	605212

## Social Concern Committee

Deirdre Offord	391891
Dominic Flanagan	700526
Claudette McLennon	227768
Pat Morroll	252575
Martyn Offord	391891
Gary Taylor	

## Miracles Really *do* Happen!

This is being written on the Tuesday before publication, and I have just about finished the typesetting. *Someone has been praying!*

Normally at this stage I am still messing around trying to get a first set of proofs printed out, and would still be messing around tomorrow. But as I write, the final masters are coming off the laser printer and I hope to do the pasting up tonight. This is unheard of! The computers all worked, there were hardly any corrections, and the whole production cycle seems to have been cut to a third of its normal length!

*Whoever you are, keep praying, it works!*

## A Big Thank You

. . . to all of our many contributors. We have had so many items given to us for publication that we have had to hold some of them over for next issue. Keep up the good work and keep us flooded with your news and events.

*David and Fay, Tim and Joy. Your Editors*