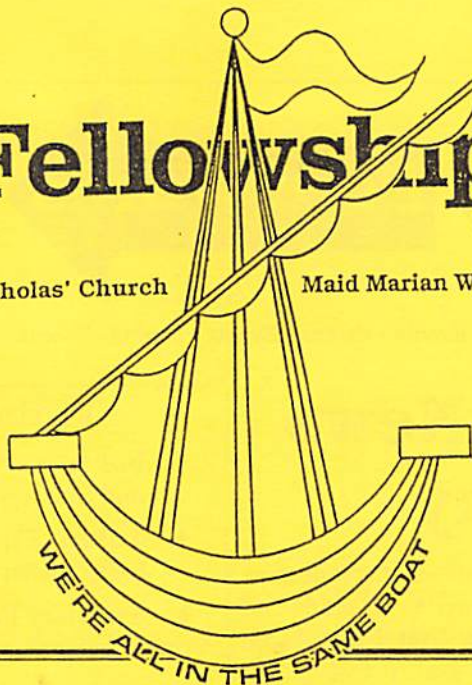


Fellowship

St. Nicholas' Church

Maid Marian Way



In This Issue: 2 out of 7 ain't bad

(That's how many of us are Students)

Plus:

Superman for Rector?





Fore Words

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Good News Day

Before I start, don't stop reading at those dreaded words 'Decade of Evangelism'. I know that I should be 'doing evangelism', and I feel guilty that I'm not . . . or am I? Anyway, the Good News Day is an event being organised as part of the Decade. It will be at Southwell Minster on February 29th and is, "an occasion for everyone to explore new possibilities and ideas, and to express disappointments or doubts. It is also a time for worship, learning through Bible study and workshops, and for hearing how some of the churches in our diocese are tackling the challenge of the Decade in their local area."

There are children's activities and a creche, and even a Saturday afternoon cinema (but I think that's just for the children!)

The workshops include Church Planting, Sharing Faith at Mums and Toddlers and Evangelism to Men.

Fitting Image

- ◆ Footprints with Michelle Taylor and Shirley Novak
- ◆ Tickets £1, programs from the information desk.
- ◆ See Diary Page

Our Best Wishes to
Andy Giddins and
Helen James
for their wedding on February
29th at 2 o'clock.
All are welcome to join them at
this happy time.

More information about the day can be found at the back of church under the tower, so it's worth a look. Oh, and one last thing, in case you're wondering why this 'advert' for the day - the clowns will be there!

Barbara Holbrook

How To Get A New Rector Without Really Trying

Some useful definitions to start with-

Parish: an area of church geography which bears no relation to things as they are (like roads, shops etc) and a lot of relation to things as they used to be (like the three field system, Anglo-Saxon boroughs etc). As far as we can work out, St. Nic's parish boundary goes through BHS's ladies-wear in the Broadmarsh. Now you know why it's called St. Nic's.

Diocese: an area of church geography . . . etc, and also a form of church government, headed by a Bishop, who has senior helpers like Archdeacons. Every Archdeacon has heard the joke, 'What's an Archdeacon? The crook at the head of a Bishop's staff', but I thought I'd include it anyway.

Patron: The Church of England is unique in having patrons for parishes. They derive from Lords of

the Manor, who, having built a church, understandably didn't want some trendy vicar coming in and denouncing them from the pulpit. So, they made sure it was they who appointed the clergy for their churches. A patron is the person (or group of people) who presents prospective Rectors (see below) to the parish (see above). Sometimes the patron is the Bishop, or an Oxbridge college, or the Crown, or an organisation. With St. Nic's it's the Church Pastoral Aid

Society (who are the patrons for 600 or so parishes).

Rector: Some churches have Rectors, some have Vicars. Both are called Incumbents, and all are Priests, but they are definitely not Priests-in-Charge, even though they are. Neither are they Curates, even though because they share a 'cure of souls' with the



Bishop, they are technically curates. That's why clergy called Curates are actually Assistant Curates. Geddit?

Canon: A big shot in the C of E. (So you've heard that one too). During the Civil War one was fired from the tower of St. Nic's. A useful way of saving on clergy salaries (which are not called salaries at all, but stipends).

PCC: A legally constituted body which spends hours producing minutes and trying to design horses (they're all coming out now...)

Interregnum: The times in-between a term of office. While the cat's away...?

The Process

The Rector hands in his resignation and goes on holiday for three weeks (optional). The Diocese appoints a Designated Officer. The D.O. informs the PCC of the Parish (who already know because they've already had a meeting with the Archdeacon), and the PCC discover that if they fail to hold proper meetings they will lose all right to take part in the process.

The PCC have four weeks to produce a Parish Statement. This describes where the church has been, where it is, and where it is going. It also says what the church wants in its new Rector. The PCC spends lots of time on this. [As does your Editor! - Ed]

The PCC has a meeting (called a 'section 11' meeting for reasons known only to the Diocese), where they agree the Parish Statement, elect two Representatives, and decide to do certain things (like advertise the job etc). They'll already have decided this, but you've got to do things properly.



The Chap in the Purple Shirt Again

Nothing happens for a bit. Then there's another meeting (called, you've guessed it, a 'section 12' meeting), when the Bishop comes and tells you what should have been in the Parish Statement but that it's too late now. He also explains that it's not you who appoints the new Rector even after the hard work you've put in. Officially, he tells you, the Patron presents a candidate, the Bishop approves, and we can only reject them if they obviously fail to match up to our parish statement. However, in



practice it's a three way partnership, and we get a lot of say.

Chinese Whispers

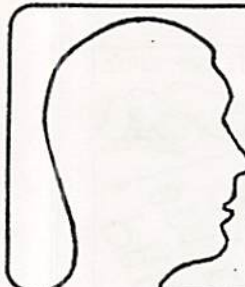
Then the Patron can start looking for candidates, even though he's probably been doing this for ages. This is a mixture of old boy (person?) networking, officially held lists, and response to adverts if placed. The patron produces a shortlist, and then the Parish Representatives get involved in the interviewing procedure. If someone likes us and we like them, we tell the Patron, who tells them. If they want to come they tell the Patron, who tells the Bishop, who tells us, and then we say yes or no. Then the Patron tells them, and they can then say yes or no. Weeks later the decision is made public.

God can even work through the C of E

As you can imagine the last paragraph takes a long time. The interregnum looks like quite a daunting prospect, and our Archdeacon calls it a period of bereavement. However, like all periods of bereavement, interregna [that's a cunning latin plural - Ed], are creative as well as painful, and we will need time to adjust to the idea of the ministry of someone new. I have caricatured the process just a little, and it does look like a classic C of E mess. It isn't. The parish I left last year has just been through it all, and got a brilliant replacement, so do not despair. We can praise God that our Patrons know us well, and that our Bishop does too. 1992 promises much.

Jeremy



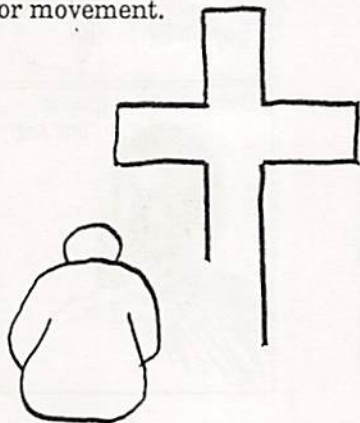


Profile of a Group

The Creative Worship Group

Hi There! In the following words, I'd like to introduce you to the Creative Worship Group.

We are at present mainly from the West Nottingham Regional Group, and have been meeting together once every month since April 1991. We came together because of a shared desire and commitment to worship in experimental and creative ways; we have consequently used our own material for songs, music from tapes, psalms, poetry, meditations, sign language and dance or movement.



Currently, we are looking forward to sharing our own Taize-style service with you. This will be happening on Wednesday February 26th at St. Nic's from 8:00pm.

During the service, we shall focus upon God in the stillness, using images, chants and songs, and prayers. Please come along if you are interested - with your own cushion!

Other meetings include:

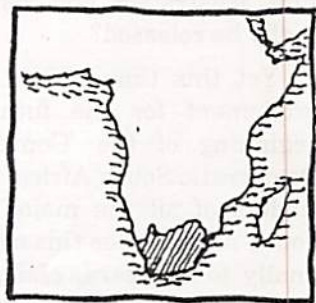
- ♦ An evening, led by us for the West Nottingham Regional Group, examining aspects of worship at Stapleford House on Tuesday February 11th
- ♦ Our regular monthly meeting on Friday March 20th at 25, Holbeck Road, Western Boulevard.

We hope to see our current membership growing - please come along and join us.

Sue Ramsey



From Our Own Correspondent



Helen Williams, just back from making a Tear Fund Video in South Africa, studys pharmacy, and plays bass guitar in the morning music group.

This year I spent Christmas as part of a team living and learning alongside black South African Christians in Soweto. Twenty-five British Christians met up with twenty-five Africans drawn from Soweto, Zululand, Capetown and Zimbabwe to listen to them, share with them and seek to understand their life and faith.

We were privileged to witness the reality and strength of their faith that God would establish a new and free South Africa, their willingness to forgive over and over again, and their eagerness to work for reconciliation and reconstruction of the nation.

A Tale of Two Cities

Driving from Johannesburg into Soweto it is hard to imagine how such inequality exists. Twelve kilometres from the city centre is another city,

housing 3.7 million in a vast, sprawling township. Up to twenty-five people can be jammed into a three or four roomed house, if they are lucky. If not they must survive in the corrugated iron shacks of the squatter camps, without electricity or water borne sewerage. They have to share a stand pipe in the street with thirty neighbouring shacks and a pit toilet with up to sixty-six others.

Is it Surprising?

Township violence occurs continually - an average of five people per day are killed in Soweto alone. We attended a church with a congregation of less than a hundred which had buried eight members in the past seven months as a result of this. But is it really surprising that, with problems like 49% unemployment-



ment and no valid form of self-expression, frustration and rage will eventually be released?

Yet this time is one of hope and excitement for the future with the beginning of the 'Convention for a Democratic South Africa' involving the leaders of all the major groups. The South Africans see this as their chance finally to be heard, and an indication of the willingness of the government to implement change.

Powerful Witness

The most encouraging thing we saw was the work of Youth Alive Mission (YAM) in the community. The initial vision of YAM was to reach high-school aged young people with

Prayer Pointers

Please pray that we as Christians will take up the cause of justice against injustice; that we will not deny the worth of any person made in God's image, people who are being killed daily for political ends.

Pray for those who perpetrate the violence, that they would be convicted of their sin, and have the courage to repent.

Pray for the government of South Africa, that they would gain the integrity to govern in a just and godly way, thinking especially of the progress of CODESA.

Pray for the victims of the system,

"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Philippians 1:21

the gospel. They are also now involved in community development work; meeting the primary needs of those in shanty towns - food, shelter and education - as well as petitioning on their behalf. A more recent scheme, 'The Joshua Project' aims to create jobs in the area by the setting up of small businesses. Their work is a powerful witness to those they meet, who can really see they live what they believe - the motto of YAM being Philippians 1:21

that they would have God's strength to cope with their suffering and forgive those who sin against them.

And finally, pray for the health and safety of the Christians in Soweto, that their work may continue, and that they may receive the financial input they need to proceed with future projects.

Helen Williams

St. Nic's hopes to get the video when it is released.

Looking at the Election

Nigel Hyde has come up with some thoughts about the forthcoming election. Here, he suggests Ten Questions You Could Ask Your MP.

Continual press speculation leaves us in no doubt that the next General Election will soon be upon us. I believe that as Christians, we should be well informed about the government of our nation and be prepared to express our views to our MPs on a regular basis.

The 'God' of Economics

One could argue that the British Constitution was built upon Christianity; but ever increasing secularism, the god of economics and the strength of noisy, if unrepresentative, pressure groups have caused more and more of our laws to be based on foundations other than God's.

The Bible is full of God's judgment on nations who would not follow Him, yet we also see tremendous blessing where places such as Ninevah heard God's word to their generation and repented.

Critical matters

Let us be well informed as to what our election candidates believe and what their views are on matters critical to God. I believe this response is beyond politics, and the important issue is to see Christians in Parliament irrespective of their political dogma.

So what are the issues we should be asking our candidates about?

My suggestions are set out below.

- ◆ Who is Jesus Christ, and what do you believe about Him?
- ◆ What is your view as to the role of the church in today's society?
- ◆ What are your views on abortion?
- ◆ How should the Shops Act (1950) be reformed?
- ◆ Are you committed to seeing at least 0.7% of Britain's GDP given to support those in impoverished overseas countries?

Through Christian Eyes



- ♦ Should Christianity be taught in schools?
- ♦ What are your plans to address the issues of poverty and homelessness in Nottingham?
- ♦ Should Christians be allowed to profess their belief in Christ and act upon it while holding government or public sector appointments?
- ♦ What are your views on television, cinema and video censorship?
- ♦ What are your views on embryo and genetic research?

As the campaigners knock on our doors, let us be ready to share our faith and always be ready to give an account of the sure hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Let us make our views known. You can write to your MP on any issue and they will always receive your letter if it is addressed to The House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.

Nigel Hyde

What A Remarkable Church!

A Competition

We are so fortunate at St. Nic's to have so many wonderful people doing so many great things. Thank you to David H and Joyce H for helping me so much by leading my church. Also to Bill P, Arthur B, Colin E, Gordon W, Sue T, Kath W, Irene O, Helen M, Roy M, the young M's and well, the whole church. God has given me some wonderful people, a great church to be part of. I receive so many good things from all of you.

Thanks from Pete Livsey

Can you supply the full surnames of the above people? If so, then jot them down on a bit of paper marked 'What A Remarkable Church', and leave them in the 'Fellowship' pigeon hole.

In case there is more than one correct answer please complete the following tie breaker in not more than 16 words. 'I really like being in St. Nic's because . . .' There will be a prize for the winner. Results announced in next month's 'Fellowship'.

Finding Your Feet

Remember that small girl you read about in December? The one who aspired to work for Footprints? Read on to discover how she coped with her first three months.

Picture a hot September day. There is a gentle breeze playing over the grass outside St. Nic's church hall. Through the open window of the Footprints office wafts a gentle melodic sound "Mayull! Leicester Evening Mayull!!!" Who else but Steve Stickley on the first day of rehearsals for 'Leicestershire As I remember It'. Thus began my first day with Footprints.

The Second-Hand Shop Tour

On taking up the position of Volunteer, I was told that I would soon be going on tour. As I remember, it was on my very first day that the tour I had dreamed of as a child began. It was called 'The Second-Hand Shop Tour' - to

buy props and costumes for 'Leicestershire As I remember It'. And as for visiting all these mysterious places, well I'm not sure that Derby Road or Market Street were quite what I had in mind!

Dreams and Reality

One hope that I had for my time here was that it would be good experience - which I quickly gained in the art of taking things back to the aforementioned second hand shops to the extent that the shopkeepers now retreat to the shadows at the back of the shop the minute I open the door.

More seriously, however, how do the small girl's dreams match up to the reality of working for a Christian theatre company?

Talents and Faith

'Leicestershire As I remember It' was commissioned as part of the Leices-

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tershire Literature Festival. It was a 'non-Christian' play, played mainly to non-Christian audiences, and succeeded in affirming for me that Footprints are not so much Christians who perform 'Christian' drama, but rather professional artists who use their talents in relation to their faith.

Serious Issues

I have found that, despite the lightheartedness on the surface making Footprints a fun company to work for (which was more often than not the side I saw as a child), there is necessarily a side that is far more serious, owing to their beliefs as Christians.

I suppose that I expected all their work to be overtly 'evangelistic', but it was good to find that they are not afraid to deal with issues such as abortion and child abuse which

Y O U R F E E T

I feel too many Christians are often unwilling to face. This has been evident in the other projects I've been involved in - the 'Seduction Tour' about teenage sexuality, and the filming of a video for Tear Fund which was about 'taking care' of each other and the environment.

Dreams Realised and Shattered

Thus, a small girl's dream of becoming a Foot has been realised, and her illusions shattered. Footprints are not about brightly coloured clothes, left-handed guitars or rickety vans, but about a group of people dedicated to exploring the vast range of possibilities that Christian drama offers . . . and the striped sweater the girl was going to knit is still but a dim and distant ambition.

Diana Gould

Answers

<i>Beauty, Woman.</i>	
<i>3 Kiss, Lips, 4 Heart, Man, 5 Charm,</i>	
<i>Ezra, Zedekiah.</i>	
<i>Others: Achaz, Zadok, Mephibosheth,</i>	
<i>1 Way, Death, 2 Answer, Wrath,</i>	
<i>3 Kiss, Lips, 4 Heart, Man, 5 Charm,</i>	
<i>Ezra, Zedekiah.</i>	
<i>Jehoshaphat, Uzziyah.</i>	
<i>Kings: Sihon, Joash, Rehoboam,</i>	
<i>Jehoshaphat, Uzziyah.</i>	
<i>Prophets: Belteshazzar, Zephaniah,</i>	
<i>Nathan, Micahiah, Obadiah.</i>	
<i>1 51:10, 2 100:4, 3 127:1, 4 46:10,</i>	
<i>5 139:1, 6 84:10, 7 119:9, 8 42:1,</i>	
<i>9 103:12, 10 17:8.</i>	
Proverbs	
Psalms	
People	

Praying in the Street

Do you want to know what goes on in that secret conclave that gathers after each evening service? No, I don't mean those who go to the 'Trip', I mean those who go praying in the Market Square. Read on . . .

In response to the direct word that God gave to the church a few weeks ago, that we should go out and pray in the Market Square, people have come together after the past two evening services to do just that.

So far, the Lord has not lead us into any confrontational spiritual war-

fare, but just to go and pray as we walk and listen to what He is saying. We feel that we are on a prayer journey that may last several months, and which begins with the awareness of God's pain for a city that has so many who are lost without Him.

Simon Fairington

nts - Events - Events - Events - Events - Events - Events - Events - Events - Events - Even

who had experience of a Link Group to give comment. So, after some brilliant help from them down the office, I found a student who entertained herself every Tuesday night at said groups, namely Sam(antha) Brown (the one with ginger hair who does the overheads every now and then, so I was told!) [And did the prayers at the last Family Service - Ed]

Is Sam Wild and Untamed?

"Well", she said, "the benefits of joining a Link Group are widespread. The most obvious thing I can think of is the stability which comes from mixing with people who are mature and have totally different interests from your average student. That said, most of the non-students in the group

are in fact ex-students so know what's it's all about. This was a great help through tough times and they were a great support to me."

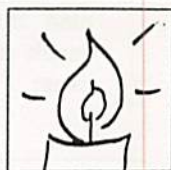
Obviously such a wild and untamed preposition as Old Lenton Link Group impressed our Sam, because it now runs under her wise leadership.

So there you have it, I can't think of anything more you'd want to know, it's up to you, if you want to join a Link Group, just 'phone our Colin Entwistle in the office and he'll be happy to sort you one out.

Barry Williams

[I can really endorse this stuff about Link Groups, I used to find it a nice change to go to a house where there wasn't a bed in every room! - Ed]

Into The Light!



What's all this activity on the University Park? The answer comes from our spy on the campus, James Grainger-Smith, it's the NUCU Spring Outreach from Feb 20th to 22nd 1992

These days promise to contain a full complement of testimonies, open-air events, musical items and feats of dramatic skill as the Christian Union hold its main outreach of the year.

Only Contact



There are some 7,000 students registered at the University, and the likelihood is that for many, their time spent here may well be the only time they ever come into contact with Christianity. It's a staggering thought, and one which demands that we proclaim the Gospel of Christ constantly and uncompromisingly.



The allure of alternative answers to the pressures of student life such as cult religions, drink and promiscuity is a stark reality. Students seek answers, and Jesus Christ says that He is the only Way, Truth and Life.

This is where You come in!



The time is drawing nearer for 'Into The Light', and practical details such as publicity and administration are very much under way. But the phrase 'the best laid plans of mice and men ...' serves as a humbling reminder that if God doesn't instigate and approve our plans, our efforts are wasted. This is where *You* come in! We'd very much value your support as a congregation; praying with us that God will be the focus of our endeavours, guiding us and receiving all the glory.



The areas where your prayers would be especially appreciated are:

- ◆ That as members of the CU, we will be motivated to pray faithfully for 'Into The Light', and ask God to show us how we can witness to our friends ourselves, and



also that we would see the outreach as part of our ongoing witness;



♦ That people will come to the meetings, and hear the Gospel preached so that God can begin to work in their lives;

♦ For all those involved in organising things - the evangelism team, hall CU reps, open-air team and Exec.; that they will all know that God is with them, with His peace, strength, guidance and love;



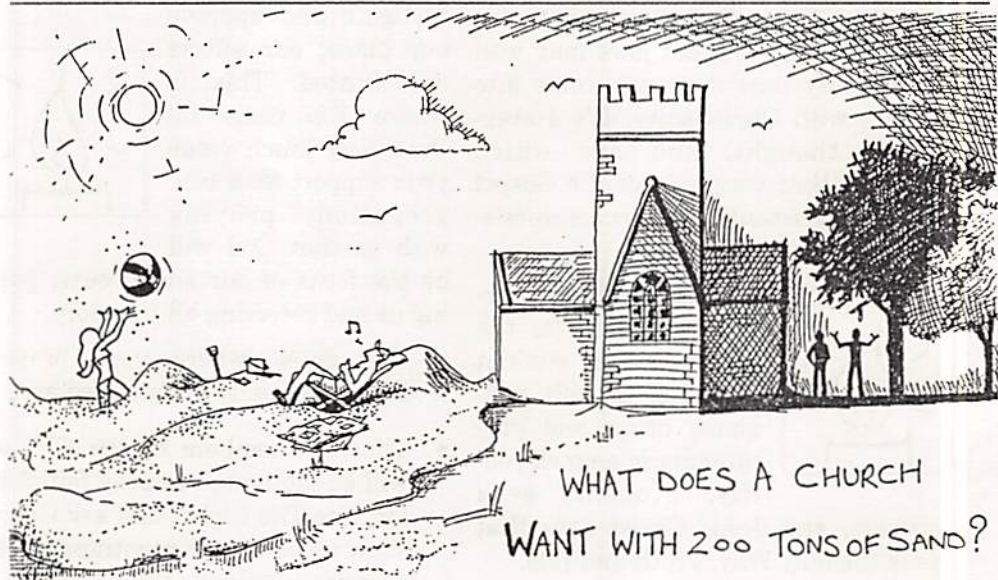
♦ For the speaker, Paul Hinton, those

giving testimonies, those involved with counselling, musicians and the drama group; that the Holy Spirit will use their gifts to reveal God's greatness



JGS

We heard too late for a write-up in this mag, of the Clifton Poly Mission, running the week up to publication. We hope that all went well, and that we'll be able to bring you a report in the next issue. - Ed



WHAT DOES A CHURCH
WANT WITH 200 TONS OF SAND?

Back to the Land of Oz

David Beales has just returned from Australia where, it seems, he forgot how to use conjunctions.



Plane arrived early, very early - before 7 a.m. - stood in the dazzling sunlight before friend arrived. 'Quick Hello' then he thrust order of service for next day into my hand, explained theme at length to advise re sermon . . . nodded intelligently in moronic jet-lag stupor and managed to fool him.

Next 36 hours: somewhat blurred in memory . . . couldn't sleep at night (2 p.m. GMT) . . . listened to radio 'til 3:00 a.m. . . . preached at North Beach next evening in amongst racy theatre by The Edge . . . Got lots of hugs from middle-aged women (what were they doing at a youth rally?) and a round of applause . . . either did okay or unusually polite congregation.



Zombification

Next evening meant to have consultation with a whole load of school chaplains re Eutyclus . . . only one guy turned up (it was at his house)

. . . discovered he was up to his neck in pastoral problems . . . both of us in advanced state of zombification had cappuccino and chat at beach . . . that night radio on 'til 3:30ish.



is Dave Beales A Drip?

Rapid phone calls to set up appointments re Eutyclus . . . amazed at enthusiastic response . . . borrow car, but lose window winder . . . heat wave 37.8 degrees . . . arrive at appointments dripping . . . elicited much sympathy . . . Catholic Youth Chaplaincy . . . Scripture Union . . . Anglican Education Dept. all sold on Eutyclus . . . radio off just after midnight.

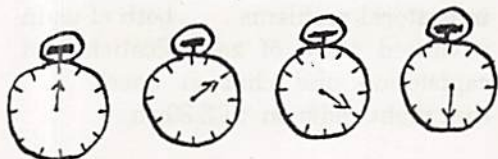
Friday night preach to hundreds of young Anglicans on River Cruise . . . afterwards drove up to Fast Eddy's for late night snack with friends . . . stopped on way by policeman for random breath test . . . relieved to have drunk only three and a half pints of coke all night . . . radio boring so read 'How to get your point across in 30 seconds or less' by Milo



Frank, America's foremost Communications Consultant . . .

Aspirations

Prepared to preach next Sunday . . .
30 seconds or less . . .



And Failure

Sunday . . . preached for 35 minutes in the morning (sorry, Milo) . . . evening, preached along with Bush Band singing Christian songs to Waltzing Matilda and Click Go The Shears . . . overheard pew conversation, "That can't be David Beales, he's got old and put on so much weight" . . . in fit of morbid doubt decide to scrap planned sermon to preach on Self Image . . . found notes weren't there so stuck with original plans.

Visits to various schools . . . Prinking (preaching / linking) with The Edge . . . telling teachers about Eutyclus . . . one school buys 4 packs for year-9 camp . . . gratitude flies to heaven.

Bunfight at Cathedral

Put on suit and dog collar to visit Archbishop . . . he only has 5 minutes . . . thanks to Milo, time for ten 30 second points . . . attend Bishop of Kalgoorie's farewell Eucharist in Cathedral . . . Archbish gives Eutyclus a plug in his sermon, then asks

for commission after he gives me bread . . . I nod ambiguous Amen . . . Archbishop's wife very encouraging in bunfight afterwards . . . says "You ought to come more often, but you'll have to take initiative" . . .

Visit Leederville parish to hear of plans for next week's mini-mission . . . not many plans . . . make some rapidly . . . 3 home groups and 2 Sunday guest services . . . home groups go for quality not quantity . . . waitress from 'Witch's Cauldron' restaurant becomes Christian . . . not so the Von Daniken disciple who tries to convince speaker of planetary status of heaven . . . speaker's hire car won't start after Thursday's talk.



Rap Dancing Angel

Guest service packed on Sunday night . . . stunning performance from The Edge featuring Rap Dancing Angel on Bethlehem hill . . . excellent testimony from Philosophy student . . . roaring response to Christmas sermon from high energy congregation.

Take Archbishop's wife's advice and invite chairman of Diocesan Evangelism Committee out for seafood extravaganza . . . have Chinese lunch with Bishop-elect Ben of Bendigo . . . call publishers in Melbourne to explain why I should be included in their plans . . . enthusiastic



Home and Away?

Over a long period, the Lord has been speaking to the fellowship at St. Nic's about 'moving out'. Some members have expressed frustration at the apparent lack of response or obedience to this; yet the fulfilling of these words has been happening all around us without us necessarily recognising it!

Teams of people have gone out from St. Nic's to take services in other churches, to run training weekends and to provide music or seminars on a wide variety of topics. They usually return feeling they have gained more than they have given.

We asked what 'Away Team' activities people knew of in 1991; we were told of 59 events involving 38 different people. There may have been more that we do not know about.

So, it just goes to show that the Lord does fulfil His word. If you are seeking involvement in this work, or know of fellowships where a team might be welcomed, discuss it with us.

P.S. If we change 'St. Nic's Away Teams' to 'Away People', we get SNAP, rather than SNAT. More 'Snappy', don't you think?

Pete Bates and Di Payne

response - living proof that "an expert is someone a long way from home."



Escaped Without Injury

Final pre-holiday preaching at Wan-neroo . . . recall with congregation that this was the place where a) copped for speeding in 1978, b) gashed eye on rugby field requiring many stitches in 1979, c) broke nose on rugby field in 1980 (still crooked), d) got concussion from vicious kick in head on rugby field in 1983 (small hole in forehead bears witness) . . .

this time escaped without injury . . . warm response to preaching, especially from friendly atheist who said he wished more people were there.

Flabbergasted but Delighted

Met advertising executive who had plans to raise \$50,000 for Christian Performing Arts Company I'd initiated earlier . . . Lord, why don't these guys grow on trees? . . . invitation from Evangelism Chairman to speak to 5,000 on Day of Pentecost . . . flabbergasted but delighted . . .

Rain on Christmas Day . . .

David Beales

What is a Diocesan Volunteer Anyway?

The lowdown on Sue Ramsey who is funded by the missionary committee to work for a year with St. Stephen's, Hyson Green.

I've been based at St. Stephen's since the autumn. My first impressions are that the amount of community work and local outreach is very impressive for the size of the church. Everyone has been very hospitable and willing to help me settle in. It's certainly been a challenge, adjusting to an inner-city area, and an eye-opener to encounter the cycle of deprivation which affects so many people's lives.

But What Do You do?

A cross-section of my weekly activities includes:

Tuesday evenings - I'm involved in a new Youth Group, which is looking at the book of Revelation. This is proving exciting and unusual.

Thursday evenings - I'm helping to lead the 'Abundant Life' course, which is a nurture group for people who want their children baptised.

Friday afternoons - I help at the

church Mums and Toddlers group. Here, the aim is to befriend and support the mothers, who are often in difficult personal situations. It can be quite hard to relate to people in such daunting circumstances, and the relationships will take time to develop. I've been challenged to see God in all these situations and I'm convinced that God does provide them with the courage to survive.

How Can We Be Involved?

I'd especially like prayer for:

- ◆ The relationships with the mothers to continue growing as they trust me more;
- ◆ The 'Abundant Life' course members to really find the new life Jesus offers;
- ◆ A close bond between the Youth Fellowship to grow;
- ◆ God's guidance for me as I look to the future.

Sue Ramsey

Land Flowing With Milk And Honey: The Manna Farm Project

In 1991 in Nottinghamshire alone there were over 300 long term drug users. There is at present no place for long term residential care - where people in the grip of powerful addiction can have the time and space to beat it.

Rebuild Their Lives

Manna Farm will be such a place, where men and women with drug dependency problems can learn to live a life without drugs and rebuild their lives. The Farm is near Calverton with 9 acres of land, and will be home for up to 16 people, including those at risk from HIV and AIDS.

Phil O'Brien, the project's Director, worships at St. Leonard's, Wollaton. He worked at the Potter's House before setting this up 2 years ago. He became a Christian at a rehabilitation centre in Newark (now closed) and since then has seen many times how Jesus can be the key to breaking free from addiction. The O'Brien family have taken people with drug problems

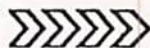
into their home. This has become impractical and the need for a larger home grew into the Manna Farm Project. I work part-time for the project doing fundraising and admin., and am really excited by the project. In the Autumn I hope to begin work full time on the staff team in charge of maintenance.

A Life Changing Programme

Residents will have a year-long programme whose objectives are to:

- ◆ Enable people to give up drugs completely.
- ◆ Help people find new meaning and direction in their lives.
- ◆ Develop self-esteem and enable people to realise their potential so that they are prepared for life in the community.

The key elements of the programme will be farm work, teaching, counselling, recreation and arts. We will encourage community life and will meet daily for prayer, fellowship and worship which will not be





PULSE

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Money Talks



Central Nottingham regional group are hosting a meeting in church on Tuesday February 18th at 7:45pm at which Andrew Dilnot will be speaking on 'Wealth and Poverty in the UK'. Andrew is the director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies, (that's things to do with tax, to you and me!) According to Roy McCloughry he is, "one of the best economists in the country and certainly worth coming to hear." So do drag your Link Group or Hall Fellowship along and if you know other people outside St. Nic's who would be interested in coming, they're very welcome.

Sarah Churchill

compulsory for the residents.

The project has the support of the local addiction services and will be a local charity, partly administered by Adullam Homes, a Christian Housing Association based in Birmingham.

We hope to establish strong links with churches as they can play a unique role in supporting residents at the farm and then continuing this as residents leave and settle, possibly still attending the same church. This can be really effective in anchoring a person in their new life. Local agencies will also be involved in resettlement.

The Need

The project will be operational by October 1992.

Funding - So far we have £567,000 to purchase and renovate the farm, mainly from Nottingham Health Authority and the Housing Corporation with some funding from trusts.

The Need - We need £97,000 to furnish and set up the house, equip the training centre and for agricultural, gardening and maintenance equipment. Oh yes, we also need a minibus and car.

If you know of anyone who is a trustee of a Trust or a company who can donate anything or give discounts, or wish to support the work in any way then please let me know - soon!

Pete Livsey

PULSE

'The Light That Shines on All Mankind' (John 1:9)

We all live with people of races and cultures different to our own, not just in the lecture room or hall of residence, but at work and in the street, too. How can we relate to those around us who don't share our beliefs?



Last year up to 2,000 Clergy and others signed the now-famous 'Open Letter' condemning Multi-Faith Acts of Worship. Leaders of different faith-communities have felt shunned and hurt. Yet Christians believe that God has revealed Himself in Jesus Christ in a unique way. How should we relate to members of other faiths in this Decade of Evangelism?

Many faith-communities in Britain today feel defensive and undervalued. Our country has a sad history of religious and racial intolerance. The

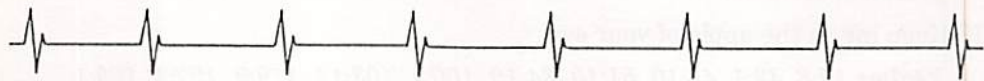
church has not always stood alongside those being ill-treated and persecuted.



As Christians, are we willing to spend time getting to know people, finding out about their hopes and fears? In doing so, we may learn a lot about each other's faith. We'll find that we have more in common than we thought. In time, as the relationship develops, the opportunities to share our own story will crop up.

As we think and pray about our friends of different faiths, we may find that they are nearer to God than we had realised. They will have things to teach us too. As the Spirit prompts us to tell our story of faith, may we also hear him speaking in others.

Duncan Myers



Bible Brain Benders

For all you serious Bible Students out there, here is a trio of testing teasers. Get your grey matter going!

Here is a list of characters from the Bible. Which were prophets, which were kings and which were neither?

Zadok, Jehoshaphat, Zephaniah, Uzziah, Achan, Belteshazzar, Joash, Micaiah, Obadiah, Nathan, Rehoboam, Mephibosheth, Sihon, Ezra, Zedekiah,

Can you match the verses from the Psalms with the references?

- 1 Create in me a pure heart, O God.
- 2 Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.
- 3 Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain.
- 4 Be still and know that I am God.
- 5 O Lord, you have searched me and you know me.
- 6 Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere.
- 7 How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.
- 8 As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you.
- 9 As far as the East is from the West, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.
- 10 Keep me as the apple of your eye.

Psalms 17:8, 42:1, 46:10, 51:10, 84:10, 100:4, 103:12, 119:9, 127:1, 139:1.

Here are some proverbs, but it seems as though a book-worm has been at them. Can you fit the words into the right places?

- 1 There is a ___ that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to ___. (Prov. 14:12)
- 2 A gentle ___ turns away ___. (Prov. 15:1)
- 3 An honest answer is like a ___ on the ___. (Prov. 24:26)
- 4 As water reflects a face, so a man's ___ reflects the ___. (Prov. 27:19)
- 5 ___ is deceptive and ___ is fleeting, but a ___ who fears the Lord is to be praised. (Prov. 31:30)

Answer, Beauty, Charm, Death, Heart, Kiss, Lips, Man, Way, Woman, Wrath.

PULSE

Oh, Do Be Quiet!

Pete Livsey finds it hard to stop talking about a special time.

Just before Christmas, myself and 20 other Niccites went to Launde Abbey to a silent retreat led by David and Joyce. This may sound easy - making sure people don't talk, its actually very demanding.

It was the weekend when the earth was covered in magical hoar-frost and the countryside was stunning. I was daunted by the prospect of 48 hours total silence and it took me until Saturday afternoon to settle into it. It was hard to let my busy life subside and begin to hear the small voice of God as we thought about Jesus coming to us in the birth of an ordinary baby. His humanness and weakness struck me, yet He was fully God, I knew He identified fully with my life and weakness and yet was also my Lord.

The weekend had both talks and times of quiet to discover what God was saying to us and just 'be' with Him, not easy if we are facing difficult

St. Nic's Celebrates

'A good time was had by all' at the New Year's Eve Party, from ages 2 to somewhat more than that! Fay Moore did sterling service on the barn dance front, and as for Jonathan 'DJ' Etheridge - Noel Edmonds eat your heart out!

We're not too sure what was in the Scottish brew concocted by Carol Slater to be had at the midnight hour, but Beth Shouler said it was wonderful if a goodly dose of lemonade were added!

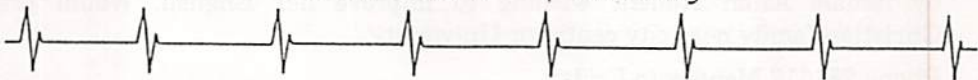
Well done to Beeston Lock Link Group for a jolly good do.

Sarah Churchill

things. On Saturday night we prayed for the following day's Carol Service at St. Nic's and for wider church issues.

I was surprised that there was only one other man on the retreat, a pity, for I think that we men are really missing out - the sense of Jesus being part of our humanity is still with me. So get your size nines along to the next quiet day, or perhaps we should organise one just for men?

Pete Livsey





PULSE

Changes of Address

Steve Maskery: 60, Mottram Road,
Chilwell. NG9 4FW Tel: 251297

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Cate Sims: Flat 1, 222 Derby Road,
Lenton. NG7 1NQ Tel: 241596

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Jo Forrester: c/o 16, Mapperley Hall
Drive, Mapperley Park. Tel: 605212

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Mark Hargrave: 71, Beeston Road,
Dunkirk. NG7 2JQ Tel: 790542

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Rebecca Smith: 40, Gladstone Street,
Loughborough, Leics. LE11 1NS
Tel: (0509) 262954

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Martin Regnard: 11/25, Victoria
Centre Flats. NG1 3PJ Tel: 470374
Visitors welcome - Saturday Morning
Coffee! A rest from shopping!

Quotable Quotes

In a recent sermon, Duncan Myers
was heard to say:

"The Book of Revelation is an early
pop video."

"If you're not sweaty you're not seri-
ous about worship."

○○○○

While proof reading the Parish
Statement, David Moore came to a
description of the church hall and
inadvertantly revealed the location of
the St. Nic's illicit still by changing
'and a smaller side room' to 'small
cider room'!

○○○○

Did you know that Nick Wilson (PCC)
sleeps with his boots on? He's done
this for a couple of weeks, ever since
a tractor ran over his foot while he
was asleep! Some people do the
strangest things for fun.

Accommodation Wanted

Housekeeping, baby sitting or caring for the elderly offered in return for room
by female Asian student wishing to improve her English. Would prefer
Christian family near city centre or University.

Phone 781612 Monday to Friday

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DIARY

February

- Wed 5th 8:00 Vocational Meeting 'Guidance and the call of God'.
Speaker: Duncan Myers, in the Church Hall
- Thur 6th 7:30 Central Deanery Synod meeting in church
- Sun 9th Missionary Day. Awhole dayeventon Mission Worldwide,
with Chris Sugden. At St. Nic's with seminars, lunch etc.
- Mon 10th 8:00 Coffee Club Open Evening. 'Prayer with Small Children
Around', at 91 Woodbank Drive, Wollaton
- Wed 12th Group Leaders' Training Course - contact Jeremy Fletcher
- Thur 13th Quiet Day at Morley Retreat House. 'In God's Hands'.
Speaker: The Rev. Gary Birchall
- Fri/Sat 14/16th Engaged Couples' Week-end at St. Nic's with David &
Joyce
- Tue 18th Central Nottingham Regional Meeting open to everyone, in
Church. See page 20
- Fri 21st Day of Prayer & Fasting
- Sat 22nd 9:30 Movement and Healing Workshop - contact Maggie
Woodall (397452)
- Wed 26th 8:00 Taize-style worship in church - See page 4
- Thur 27th 8:00 'Fitting Image' - Footprints in church. See 'Fore Words'
- Fri 28th 8:00 8 'til late Prayer Meeting at 96, Burlington Road, Sherwood
- Sat 29th 2:00 Wedding of Andy Giddins & Helen James in church
- Sat 29th 'Good News Day' at Southwell Minster - See 'Fore Words'
- Sat 29th 2:00 Prayer Ministry Training, 'Bereavement'. Church Hall

March

- Sun 1st Day for Reviewing of Giving in 1992
- Sun 1st Copydate
- Wed 4th Married with Children - Contact Mike & Fi Shouler



DINNER AT PAUL'S
NEXT THUES

Enlarging our Global Vision

This is a whole-day event next Sunday, (9th Feb). It is not just for potential missionaries, but is for families, singles, students, children. In fact, it is for *you*. Michelle Taylor is organising a fun-packed day for the children.

Chris Sugden will be preaching at our services, and leading two seminars. There are two sessions of workshops, with a choice of five in each.

Workshops at 2:45pm

- ♦ *'Stethoscopes and Scalpels'*, by Lionel and Mary Mills.

Recently-returned missionaries talk about medical work in Rwanda.

- ♦ *'Keep Praying'*, by Sue and Phil Andrew.

How a prayer support group works for both home and abroad missionaries. Come and pray.

- ♦ *'Tentmaking - following in Paul's footsteps'*, by Nigel Hyde.

Use your career overseas, and serve God while you are there. Nigel was an accountant in Papua New Guinea.

- ♦ *'Short-term Calling'*, by Gwyn Thomas and others.

Gwyn presents opportunities with organisations such as Tear Fund, YWAM, Horizons, etc. You can serve for anything from 3 months to 2 years.

- ♦ *'Changing your Tune'*, by Fay Moore.

Learn some African songs for the evening service.

Workshops at 3:30pm

- ♦ *'Learning and Preparing for Mission'*, by David Muir.

David presents a novel approach to training for mission work.

- ♦ *'Where shall I go this Summer?'* by Sally Stewart and others.

Slides of places where you can go for a few weeks in the summer.

- ♦ *'Time out as a Volunteer'*, by Sue Ramsay and others.

Working with churches in the inner-city? Our volunteers tell us about it.

- ♦ *'Through African Eyes'*, by David Sudlow and others.

David, with two African students, tells us what life and the church are like in Burkina Faso.

- ♦ *'Changing your Tune'* - again.

Sign up for lunch and tea today. Choose your workshops on the day. Come when you can. Go when you must. Don't miss it.
