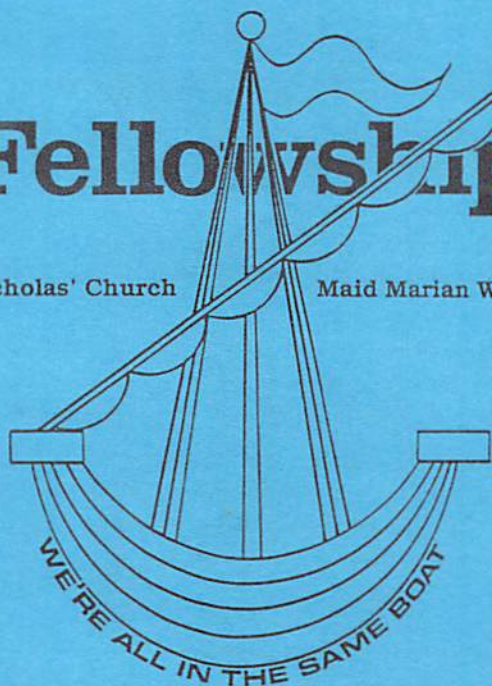


Pete and Margaret Bates
Subscriptions Remaining : 5

Fellowship

St. Nicholas' Church

Maid Marian Way



In This Issue:

- ❖ **Children and Communion - Why?**
- ❖ **Parking and Love - Where?**
- ❖ **David and Joyce - Who?**
- ❖ **Amy and Joabe - When?**

Price 50p

June 1993

Issue: 31

Bomb Hits City-Centre Church



No, not some terrorist group, but some possibly challenging reading matter. There are a couple of thought-provoking articles in this edition of Fellowship, both of which may generate replies.

The Editors were pleased to print the 'Cheating or Tithing' series. It aired a subject that is often not discussed, and this was healthy. We would welcome discussion on children and communion, or on any other issue.

When writing for publication, please: aim to keep to around 300 words, (unless you have a lot to say and are good at writing); keep the tone positive (we do not print criticism); sign the article (no name, no fame); tell us if you don't want your name on it, (then you can be really honest!).

Eds

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Excommunicated!

At the AGM in April, a question was raised about the place of children in communion. This article raises a few issues that may start you thinking.

† "What's on the plate Dad?"

† "Can I have some bread please?"

† "It's not fair that you adults can remember Jesus by praying and having bread and wine. Children can only remember him by praying."

† "When will I be old enough to have communion?"

† "But I believe in Jesus as much as you"

Comments like these are always difficult to answer. They often come out when we're kneeling, waiting for the adults to receive communion and the children to get a pat on the head!

The problem is that I'm convinced that children should be able to take communion. They *are* Christians, and we must help them to grow in their faith. Communion is a way of growing, and yet, the church says NO. It's a rejection that hurts many children deeply.

Why Should Children Have Communion?

Everyone who is baptised is a member of the Church, the body of Christ.

(If you want to know why I think that children should be baptised, listen to a tape of my sermon from 1991.) Jesus told us to remember him in bread and wine. We grow as Christians by receiving communion regularly - and are united with one another and Christ. ('Though we are many, we are one body because we all share in one bread.')

Oh yes - Jesus loves children and uses them to teach adults - see Mark 10:13-16

The Crunch

The crunch came for me last year, when I was leading a morning Communion service at St. Nic's. I



couldn't carry on saying "no" to some of the Church Family. I couldn't discriminate any more between believers who were old enough and those who weren't. And to top it all, the people who were administering communion forgot to give me any! Suddenly, I knew what it was like. It's like watching a party but not being allowed in.

Since then, at communion services where children are excluded from communion, I've excluded myself. I've tried to content myself with the pat on the head and the well-meaning prayer that we offer them. It's not easy. But I'd feel the same if some other group were excluded - women, the elderly, wheelchair users, non-graduates or people with learning difficulties.

What can we do?

Talk with our children. See how they feel about it. Pray that God will forgive us for putting an obstacle in front of fellow Christians. Ask our church leaders - the clergy and PCC - to debate whether or not we can open communion to all who are baptised. Ask them to seek the Bishop's permission.

Difficult questions

† **Should parents take the law into their own hands and give some of the bread to their own children?**

I think not, but understand those who do.

† **What about children who aren't baptised?**

God loves them of course. Baptism is the sign of entry into the church, communion the sign of membership.

† **Should I join Dunk's voluntary excommunication?**

Pray and see if God calls you to it.

† **Should the children have bread and wine?**

Probably not wine.

† **What does the Bishop think?**

He has recently agreed that a church in this diocese should give children communion.

And Finally

I will happily talk (for ages) about this to anyone who's interested and concerned, whether parent, child or just bothered about the issue. Oh yes, I still take communion at services where people aren't excluded for no good reason.

Dunk Myers

If you have any thoughts on this subject, the Editors would be happy to print a selection of replies, subject to the usual criteria. Items can be published anonymously or under initials upon request, but the author's name must be made know to the Editors.

A Church in ToyTown

or

Noddy and Big Ears Go to Church

One glorious sunny Sunday morning, Noddy and Big Ears were having breakfast together. "Lets go to church this morning" said Big Ears. Noddy agreed - they had not been for a long time. In fact, it was so long since they had been, that they had forgotten the time, and they arrived at church too early. The church was deserted, so they parked their little car outside and waited for the people to arrive.



While they were waiting it started to drizzle, so they sheltered in the car until it was time for the service to start. Gradually, one by one, people arrived in cars. They parked next to Noddy and Big Ears, then rushed inside the church to avoid the drizzle. Soon all the whole road was full of parked cars.

The drizzle turned to heavy rain. More and more people arrived, this time on

foot. These people often carried babies, or had toddlers in tow, or helped elderly folk. They could not rush, but they tried to be as quick as they could to get out of the rain.



Big Ears asked Noddy why all the people arrived on foot, and Noddy answered, "All the parking is full. These people have parked a long way off and have had to walk to get here."



Big Ears was surprised, and asked Noddy, "I thought church-people loved each other! Why then did people who could walk easily park close by, since this forced people who had difficulties to walk a long way?"

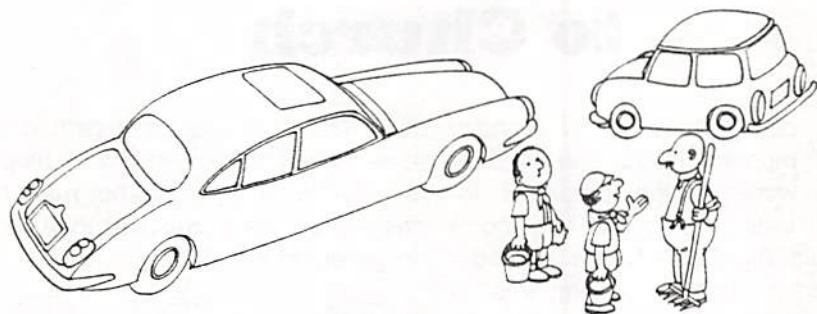


For Sale

Large family frame tent. Sleeps 6 with large area for kitchen and lounge. £150

Sally Eaton 621102.

"The treasurer asked us to wash his car. Which one is it?"



Noddy was confused. "I don't know - it makes no sense. I wonder if PC Plod can explain - here he is now."



PC Plod was confused. "I know", he said, "I will sort out this mess. I will issue parking permits for those who need to park close by, so that they will be able to. If anyone else parks close by, I will give them a parking ticket."



"Well done!" cheered Noddy and Big Ears together, as they entered church.

But this could only happen in Toy-Town!!



JLP

[Let he who has (big) ears, let him hear. - Ed]

Hope in the Cities

Richard and Meili Hawthorne, our resident jet-setting ambassadors, report from another good-will mission to find 'Hope in the Cities'.

This March and April, we had a one month tour to the cities of Chicago, Toronto, San Francisco, Denver, Portland (Oregon) and Vancouver. It took us on a similar mission to the one we went on a year ago in Australia and New Zealand.



citizens of their cities. They ranged from police chiefs to ex-prisoners, business executives to community workers and students.

Our hostess in Chicago was one of the first American women in the

Warm People in a Cold Climate

'Hope' was literally what we found in many instances, and what we were able to share from our own experience. Whether our environment was the frozen depths of the Toronto winter (-18 degrees) or the warm spring of San Francisco and Denver, we met all kinds of people committed to bringing hope and change to the disadvantaged or to the second-class

Episcopal Church to become ordained, and had preached in Westminster Abbey in the '70s. She arranged for us to speak to a mixed-race adult Sunday School class in St. James's Episcopal Cathedral.

Five Thousand Families

The following Sunday we were worshipping in a large Methodist Church in one of the San Francisco suburbs, and the week after that in a Catholic church in Denver that had a fel-



lowship of 5,000 families. Later on, a couple of Anglican churches and a lively Baptist church completed our ecumenical worship experience! In between there were speaking engagements at three conferences, a couple of Rotary club lunches and many smaller meetings with community and racial equality commission leaders. In some cases there was a need to challenge the 'haves' to share and care and become involved.

Silicon Valley Murders

In East Palo Alto, the notorious drive-by murder area in 'Silicon Valley' south of San Francisco, it was moving to hear a Mexican-American ex-nun and a group of Hispanic mothers sharing their frustration about the bad name given to their city by the rival gangs selling drugs. At the conference these ladies decided to work and pray together until it was safe for their children to play in the parks. Such change would seem a vain hope except that they were being backed by the (lady) Mayors of the three neighbouring cities who are as determined and committed as the

Hispanic mums. Local churches and community leaders are giving support. Together they are also making an ally of the local newspaper.

Powerful Engine for Change

Our experience showed that racial and cultural differences can be a powerful engine to move us forward together as we seek and follow God's wisdom. Many responded to our invitation to attend the National Cities Conference in Richmond, Virginia. This is entitled 'Healing the Heart of



America - An Honest Conversation on race, reconciliation and responsibility.' (June 16 - 20).

This conference has been organised jointly by Mayor Walter Kenny and members of the city government, business, churches and community organisations jointly with Moral Re-Armament. Dr. Ray Bakke of Chicago and Rev. 'Biker' John Smith of Melbourne are among the speakers. We welcome your prayers for the effective healing of hurts, many of which date back to when Richmond was the centre of the slave trade.

Richard and Meili Hawthorne



From Our Own Correspondent



Michael Reeves, a 20 year old psychology and philosophy student at the University (Beeston Tech., not the Polyversity) is going to work in Beirut this summer with Tear Fund. Read all about it!

A team of 8 of us (mostly male students aged 19 - 23) will be working at the Near East Boys' Home in East Beirut. I know little about the home except that it has some, but only limited, facilities, and that it is situated on a hill overlooking the city.

There are more than 50 boys at the home, aged 4 - 17, from mixed religious and emotional backgrounds. We will be there for six-and-a-half weeks, from 9th July to 24th August. This time covers their summer activity period and we will be responsible for doing trips, games, spiritual activities and possibly studies with the boys. We may also do some basic maintenance at the home.

The project has been organised by Tear Fund, which acts as a partner with the Christian Middle-Eastern

group that runs the home. Tear Fund sends about 12 teams like this to a number of countries each year. This summer, teams will be going to Uganda, Mozambique, South Africa, Brazil, Columbia and others. Before flying, we have a five day orientation course at a college in London, when all the teams are able to meet.

I have never done anything like this before, nor been outside Europe. It should be a brilliant experience and I'm really looking forward to meeting the boys; sharing with and learning from them. It's impossible to know what to expect, but I hope that God will use this time to challenge and strengthen our faith in Him, and that we and the boys will experience his love in a very real and powerful way.

Michael Reeves

A proverbial BBB this edition:

Mixed Proverbs and a Cross-Quiz with two sets of clues.

Bible Brain

Mixed Proverbs

Some of the adjectives and nouns have been missed out of these proverbs. See if you can put them back to make sense. Adjectives are marked with an *A*, and nouns with an *N*.

- 1: A *N* of *A* character is her *N*, but a *A N* is like decay in his *N*.
- 2: Like a *A N* in a *N* is a *A N* who shows no *N*.
- 3: A *N* shows his *N* at once, but a *A N* overlooks an *N*.
- 4: A *A N* gains *N*, but a *A N* gains only *N*.
- 5: A *A N* turns away *N*, but a *N* stirs up *N*.
- 6: *A N* is a *N*, it is attained by a *A N*.

Adjectives

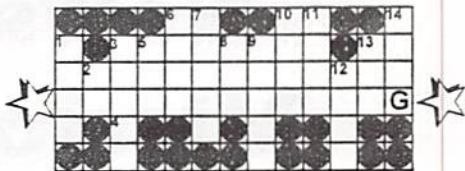
Kind hearted
Gold
Noble
Prudent
Grey
Beautiful
Ruthless
Disgraceful
Gentle
Righteous

Nouns

Woman
Wealth
Crown of splendour
Hair
Man
Anger
Respect
Ring
Answer
Pig's snout
Wife
Woman
Bones
Insult
Harsh word
Discretion
Man
Wrath
Life
Annoyance
Husband's crown
Fool
Wife

Benders

Answer the clues and put the words in the grid to find the word between the stars, then re-arrange the words to make a famous proverb. There are two sets of clues, one cryptic, one easy, both giving the same answers.



Easy

- 1 Belonging to you, sounds like 'more'.
- 2 The cat sat ___ the mat.
- 3 Jack ___ Jill.
- 4 Not out
- 5 First word in clue 2.
- 6 Same word as clue 1.
- 7 Faith, belief, being sure, sounds like 'fussed'.
- 8 Sounds like something you tie, but it means 'the opposite'.
- 9 Your body's pump.
- 10 'To bend' or 'meat with no fat'.
- 11 A name for God, sounds like 'ward'.
- 12 Sing praise to the Lord _____ tambourines.
- 13 Posses, sounds like 'groan'.
- 14 The whole lot, sounds like 'Paul'.

Cryptic

- 1 You are, I hear, not mine.
- 2 No going back above.
- 3 In addition, a small scattered tribe.
- 4 One enters before any number.
- 5 This piece of writing is very definite.
- 6 Why, before the hour sounded, did you take possession?
- 7 Oxydise a metal faithfully after afternoon meal.
- 8 The heavyweight returns, or does he?
- 9 Man takes painting to centre.
- 10 Definitely French, not English, but thin.
- 11 It was funny going, but we lost 50 on the way back to my master.
- 12 Together, they were hit badly due West.
- 13 Now put the first last.
- 14 50 backwards notes in total.

News from Missionaries

- Home and Abroad -

David Beales

Dave is a home missionary and director of Creative Communications, a charity promoting evangelism, training and youth work. Dave has recently come at the end of a long mission in Basford.

In a packed and exciting programme, Dave has been to lots of guest services, a healing service, a pub night, a barn dance, a March for Jesus, an old folks' home, a youth swim-in, a play morning, Radio Nottingham and lots more. He was joined for part of the time by a team from Cliff College. The good news is that the profile of the church is being raised, many people throughout the community are being involved in the different events, handfuls are making a commitment to Christ and dozens are seeking healing.

DFM

David and Joyce Huggett

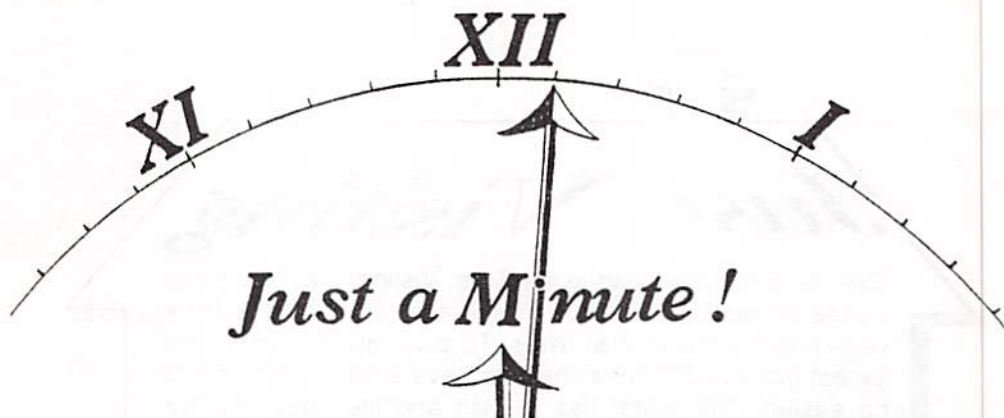
David and Joyce have recently spent some time on tour in Australia and New Zealand, and returned at the start of June.

They came back via Perth, where they led a charismatic gathering of some 1200 delegates, and via Singapore, where they had the chance to meet a support group of ex-St. Nic's folk.

David and Joyce have been accepted as mission partners with Interserve, and will be based in Cyprus. They will minister amongst the 400-strong team in the mission spreading from North Africa to Bangladesh and up into the former Soviet Union.

St. Nic's will be supporting David and Joyce both in prayer and financially. We will have valedictory services in church on Sunday 27th June.

DFM



The first PCC meeting since the AGM and election of new officers provided an opportunity for the greenhorns to find out. 'All-those-things-you-wanted-to-ask-about-the-PCC-but-were-afraid-to-ask'. One of the first tasks was the election of the Standing Committee. Contrary to popular opinion, this does not comprise Colin, Chris N. and Richard H. all hobnobbing after services, but is a legal requirement and takes emergency decisions.

This was revealed when Killy bravely asked, "What is a standing committee?"

Inspiration?

The next hot potato was during the allocation of PCC members to the PLG and the five PCC sub-commit-

tees (Practical Ministries, Missionary Staffing, Social Concern and Finance.) On asking, 'What exactly is the PLG?', we were enlightened to hear that it is 'more inspirationally organised'. (Jeremy)

This was very encouraging if not crystal clear.

Irene Betts can Read!

Exciting Plans!

David Betts revealed some exciting future ideas for evangelistic carol services at Christmas, with the possibility of a very famous Chris-

tian as the draw. Our lips must remain sealed pending negotiations.

Student Worker

The response to the ads for a student worker has been good, and interviews are taking



Just Visiting

Ever fancied taking part in the 'Just Visting' quiz? To be a visitee, all you need to do is have a home and be a fairly well-known member of St. Nic's. To be a visitor is the same except that you don't even need to have a home. What could be easier? The visitor has to visit and then describe the house of the visitee, making sure that there are clues to the identities of *both* parties in the 100 word description. The visitor should also give five suggestions as to the identity of each and two *very* potted life-histories for the next issue. Previously featured people are inelligible, and please check with the Editors before making your visit.

Eas



place. No-one can accuse St. Nic's of ageism as Jeremy revealed that 'slightly older and even older people' had been considered. (Does this mean 22+?)

New Morning Service

The planned reorganisation of Sunday Services was hotly debated - the morning service was first in line, due to 'its inherent strengths and core members.' At the interesting sugges-

tion of there being a slot available at 9:00pm for an 'alternative culture' service, Martyn made the Freudian slip of suggesting with glee. "Yes, 1662!"

Irene Betts can Read!

The meeting ended on a high note as the PCC unanimously agreed to the licensing of Irene as the first woman reader at St. Nic's. Congratulations, and long live 'the monstrous regiment'!

Susan Lea-Wilson

Revival!

In the last issue, Helen Smith asked to contact anyone travelling to New Zealand. Chris Barnes read the item and it sparked the following thoughts.

I have recently been reading an interview with Wayne Hughes, who is a General Superintendent in New Zealand. He had been discussing the move of God in the 1970s, this causing rapid growth in the church, followed by difficult times and hard lessons. Revival in Britain is a burden on my heart daily to pray for and like many Christians I fervently believe it is imminent.

Restoring Life

The basic idea contained in 'revival' is the re-animation of life in the believer. It does not apply to the unbeliever, as they are 'dead in sin'. There can only be revival where there is life to revive! The Hebrew word *hecheyah* is used some 40 times in the Old Testament to mean revive or restore life.

It is used of the great Old Testament revivals such as those under Nehemiah and Ezra. Psalm 5:6 says, "Revive us again that your people may rejoice in you." In Habbakuk we have the prophet's famous prayer for revival. 'Oh Lord, revive thy work in the mist of the years.' (Hab. 3:2)

A Definition

I think that Christmas Evans, the famous Welsh preacher, came the nearest to a true definition, saying, "Revival is God bending down to the dying embers of a fire that is just about to go out, and breathing into it, until it bursts again into flame."

In revival, men and women come alive to the life of God. Not only are churches changed, but whole communities are revolutionised as people are drawn irresistibly into the Kingdom of God.

Huge Changes

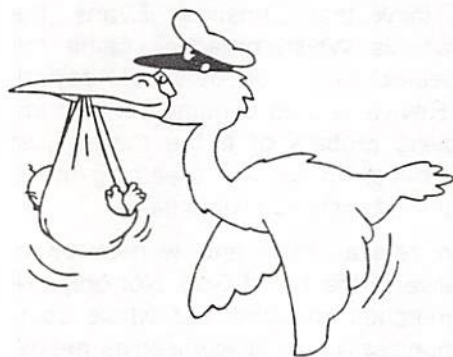
Try to imagine yourself living in Ysbytty Ystwyth in 1859, as in 2 months, 200 out of a population of 1,000 find Jesus; or in Cardiganshire, as 24,000 out of 70,000 become converted. In the year after the revival, criminal cases in Welsh courts fell by one third.

I see problems that may hinder the Holy Spirit spreading in Britain. The church seems easily satisfied with a few people saved, a few more



Moving Times

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Andrew, Lynn and Hannah Lennard-Jones on the safe arrival of **Joshua John** on 2nd May. The four of them are now permanently resident at the address on the right.



speaking in tongues, a healing now and then, they think they have everything. But God is raising up a strong people whom he has broken and put together for his glory. They have been born again and, with persistence and zeal, seek to see God's Kingdom return in power again.

Chris Barnes

Peter Baguley

3, Friar's Court, Lenton Road, The Park, NG7 1EW
Tel: 243289

Justine Swindells

282a, Derby Road, Lenton, NG7 1PZ

Helen Wright

c/o Occupational Therapy Department,
San Jose Medical Centre,
675, East Santa Clara Street,
San Jose,
California, 95112,
USA

Kate Sharples (correction)

34, Highfield Road.

Joabe and Amy Andrade

504, Milesdale Lane,
Smyrna,
TN 37167
USA

Tel: USA (615) 459 - 2802

Andrew and Lynn Lennard-Jones

'Longfields',
7, Shenley Hill Road,
Leighton Buzzard,
Bedfordshire,
LU7 8BY
Tel: (0525) 372197

Joabe and Amy Andrade
504, Milesdale Lane,
Smyrna.
TN 37167
USA

Tel: USA (615)459-2802

Dear St. Nic's,

As we write this farewell letter to you, there are many thoughts that cross our minds and hearts.

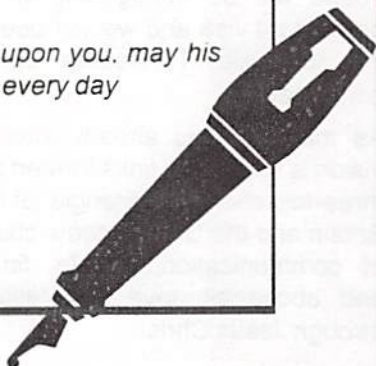
There is a sense of peace, joy and excitement for the future, yet at the same time a sadness enters our hearts, for good-byes and farewells are never easy. We leave behind many dear friends, precious people and a beautiful country.

Many of you have shared in our wedding last May at St. Nic's, stood with us in our visa applications for Britain, Brazil and the USA, the death of Amy's maternal grandfather, our trip to Brazil and our ministry. To each of you who have believed in us, our calling and ministry and who have supported us in prayer and finances, we would like to say thank-you. There are not enough words to express our heart-felt appreciation and gratitude.

Until we meet again, may the Lord shine upon you, may his love, grace and mercy be yours each and every day

In his love

Joabe and Amy



More news overleaf ...



Amy and Joabe's News

On April 2nd this year, Joabe had his interview with the American Embassy in London for his permanent visa to the USA. We were quite nervous and anxious about the process, but trusting God all the way.

The interview went smoothly, quickly and without any hassle. Joabe has now received his permanent visa to the States!! Once he has entered the USA, he will receive his visa stamp on his passport and his green card to enable him to work there, and of course, pay taxes!

Looking ahead

The time has come for a different stage in our ministry and a change of location. When we travel to the states, Joabe will be immigrating with his permanent visa and we will be making Nashville, Tennessee our new home-base.

As many of you already know, our vision is to see the links formed by the three-fold chord, the triangle, of Brazil, Britain and the USA become channels of communication, people, finances and above all, love and fellowship through Jesus Christ.

What Next?

We will be staying with Amy's parents and both be returning to our respective professions: Joabe as a teacher in Portuguese, Amy as a Computer Software Analyst. We will settle in a local church and continue to look for the fruition of the vision of the triangle of Brazil, Britain and the USA.

Our desire is to breakdown social, cultural and denominational barriers and bring unity to the body of Christ. Our heart-felt belief is that there is neither 'Jew nor Greek, slave nor free', but that we are all one people in Christ Jesus.

Some Points for Prayer

Pray for our plans to travel to the States on 15th June.

Please continue to pray for the finances for our trip and our relocation.

Pray that God will go before us and prepare the way for a home, for a church, for friends and employment.

Finally, please pray for us to enter the States with as few cultural shocks as possible.

Blessings to each of you

Joabe and Amy

... TOP SECRET ...

.. CHURCHWARDENS' FILE ..

Name: David G Selly

Also Known As: Norman Tebbitt
(MIS Cover)

Age: Can remember
seeing the actual
Battle of Britain
taking place
over London.

Whereabouts: Rainworth,
Mansfield.

Spouse: No information

Children: Four, (3 female,
1 male), aged 28
to 31. Living in
Birmingham, Banbury, Oxford and Windsor.

Training Chartered Mechanical Engineer, which may
account for ...

Occupation: Tells companies all over UK what they already
know. It's called being a management
consultant.

Interests: Classic FM, Opera, Ballet

Non-Interests: TV - does not have a set!

Extra-Mural: Occasional Visitor to Arnold Link Group

Real Interest: Member of Council for the Leprosy Mission

Undercover Activities: Churchwarden

Hobbies: Photography, driving real steam locomotives,
building a model railway layout.





**Come to Church
Now -
Avoid the
Christmas Rush!**

Services at St. Nic's

10:15 am

Communion - 1st & 3rd Sundays

Morning Prayer - 2nd & 5th

Family Service - 4th

6:30 pm

Communion - 2nd & 5th Sundays

Evening Prayer - 1st, 3rd & 4th

Coffee and squash are served after all services. A creche is available during Morning Services, and children's groups are run on all but 4th Sundays.

Copydate

Items for the next issue of Fellowship can be:

- ❖ left in the pigeon-hole at the back of church,
- ❖ sent to The Editors, Station House, Station Road, Lowdham, NG14 7DU (664938),
- ❖ or given to David or Fay Moore or Tim or Joy Lee at church.

The next issue is planned as follows:

Copy date 11th July for 25th July