



**Kings Norton Parish Magazine | June 2012 | £1**

Trinity:  
One God,  
Three Persons

Rainbow:  
One Light,  
Seven Colours



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July 14th. 2012

10.00am – 2.00pm

at

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**Items for inclusion in the July 2012 issue are to be submitted by:- Friday 8th June 2012**

### Welcome...



Last month we published some important information about the future of Saint Nicolas Place. So much time and effort has been put into restoring these mediaeval buildings, making them accessible to local people and visitors alike. Sadly, the funding streams for doing this work have come to an end and so it is vital that we now embrace the ways in which we organise and support the work of keeping these buildings open and operating.

There is a lot of information in this month's edition about Saint Nicolas Place including activity programmes for the forthcoming half-term and Summer Holidays. Page 11 has more information on how you can be involved.

Once again, David Ash has been busy with his camera, capturing the recent Confirmation Service amongst other events. He also managed to record the moment a rainbow appeared to emanate from St Nicolas Church which we have used for the front cover this month. I'm sure you will agree it is a remarkable photograph.

Thank you for reading.

Alan Haynes, Editor.

## From The Rector Big Questions



**W**e live in a time of huge questions, old and new. Nations grapple with new and largely unforeseen changes to their politics and economies. The affluence and growth which so many had almost taken for granted is further and further beyond the reach of more and more. Society seems to grow more fragmented by individualism and narrowness of vision. Religion brings too often not peace, God's *shalom*, but conflict. Questions of personal morality are framed and decided very differently from even twenty years ago.

Big Questions like these, and many more, are not 'out there'. They touch us all. They affect our national life and bear down on the local lives and choices we all have. They have huge impact on the future of all who are taking exams right now. They touch the things so many look forward to; from the Diamond Jubilee celebrations and the Olympics to the renewal of our own communities, new opportunity on the estate areas of the parish, deep change in Saint Nicolas Place – even our own Kings Norton Festival.

In church we sing "Do not be

afraid." We hear bible verses which promise comfort and assurance. In Baptism, Communion and all our worship we receive God's promise to be with us. In April, we witnessed this promise made to the twelve of us who were confirmed at Bishop David's hands in a memorable service.

In the face of all that seems to threaten and undermine, are these only pleasant words – or are they true for all in all places? It really matters.

Faith is often (falsely) pictured as escape – a comfort blanket for those who cannot face the harsh realities of the world as it is.

Our ancient parish church can seem just that, a beautiful place to hide. But that would betray its story. Yes, our churches must always be haven and shelter for all. St Nicolas was built to be a place of worship, prayer and sanctuary, extended around 1300 AD to be also a place of gathering and growth for the whole community life of Kings Norton. That pulsing heart of our churches' story is to be made afresh every day in the whole-hearted welcome and prayer given there for all.

That however is only the

tussle for the title of champions that went right to the wire. However, my rave this month is for three football managers who lifted no trophies this season, but whose dignity and quiet effectiveness in unpromising circumstances has been hugely impressive. My enthusiasm for Newcastle United is no secret in these parts, and so it will be no surprise that the Toon's boss, Alan Pardew, is one of those three. He had a hard task to win over supporters, but has done so in no uncertain manner.

Alongside my admittedly partisan raving over the work of Alan Pardew, I would want to add the names of his predecessor at Newcastle, Chris Hughton, and of Roy Hodgson, for their labours at Birmingham City and West Bromwich Albion respectively. Common to all three - and this is where I hope this column becomes of interest and relevance to those of you with no interest in football - has been a capacity to draw out the very best in the gifts and abilities of those under their charge. Fans of all three clubs would be the first to admit that their squads lacked the quality or breadth of resources of some of their rivals. But in forging a strong team spirit, and encouraging players to perform at a level higher than they believed possible, the managers enabled the clubs to exceed all expectations. Let's hope

that Roy Hodgson can do the same with the England players at the European Championships this summer!

Which brings us back to Ofsted. I am convinced that, whilst criticism and sanctions may sometimes be needed, encouragement and praise are far stronger forces for good. The gifts that each child - and each teacher, head-teacher, footballer, manager, and every single one of us - possesses are most likely to be released when we know that we are valued. In the security and confidence that such assurance brings, we are set free to flourish and to achieve in ways we never otherwise could. And all of that is true in the Church as well as in the world.

During Church services, we often declare our belief in God in the words of the creed. But there is something that is more important than our belief in God; and that is God's belief in us. It is in the confident and absolute assurance that each one of us is created, and loved, and gifted by God that we are enabled to grow in those gifts, and use them to the service of God and one another.

John White

## Rev John Ranting and Raving



**A**fter last month's break, I am back to ranting and raving. Thanks to all of you (well, okay, both of you) who mentioned that you missed my page in the magazine, in which I rant about something that has annoyed me, and rave over something which has stirred up more positive passions. I am choosing to interpret that as "overwhelming public demand" for more of the same...

I don't think I am the only person to have responded with indignation to some recent comments made by Sir Michael Wilshaw, OFSTED's chief inspector of schools. My ire was raised by his reported claim that head-teachers today "don't know the meaning of the word 'stress'". His justification for this seemed to be that other occupations are more stressful (possibly true, but irrelevant), and that head-teachers now have an easier job than was the case a few years ago because they have greater powers (dubious logic). I would have been cross at these words regardless of who had spoken them; but for them to come from the person in charge of school inspections beggars

belief. I know from my experience as a school governor that, when conducted wisely and sympathetically, Ofsted inspections can prove to be positive occasions in the life of a school. However, Michael Wilshaw's ill-judged and inflammatory comments can only serve to undermine any respect or confidence that teachers, head-teachers and governors can have in the inspection system.

Rant over. And now for the rave. One occupation that is undeniably stressful must be that of a professional football manager. I am writing this piece on the final day of what has been the most gripping Premiership season for many a year - at least for those of us infected by football fever. I cannot remember when so many issues of titles and relegation have been at stake right up to the last few minutes of the final match. I found it tense enough just listening to the radio commentary; I dread to think how the respective managers must have been feeling.

Obviously, much credit must go to the managers of the two Manchester clubs, for the titanic

beginning.

Generous hospitality in Jesus' name has to run through all that we do as church like the lettering in a stick of seaside rock. Shelter in need, shelter for prayer and shelter for hospitality are the essence of our calling as God's people in and for this community.

And then we discover the 'much more' of God's love. We need rest and safety – but in a hazardous world, we need also to find the strength to go on, unafraid. That too is God's gift and promise. "Give us this day our daily bread" is a prayer of trust that God will feed us in our hunger. It is even more a prayer for the food which will enable us to love, pray and work tomorrow. And it is answered.

The Big Questions do not go away. They often seem overwhelming. Despair seems understandable but amidst the temptation to give up come stories of honesty and struggle – of strength and purpose in God's grace in which we are given real hope.

So often, visitors to Iona say, "I came looking for peace; instead I found strength." Here we pray that all will find both. Christian Aid Week reminds us to listen to the countless stories from the more than 700 CA partners across the world. There are stories of small

farmers, often women or even children left alone, who work together using simple technology to raise new crops for sale and for feeding those who depend on them. They need help to gain ploughs, seeds, ram-pumps and access to fairly traded markets. To these they add their labour, ingenuity, local knowledge and gift for working together for the sake of all, not just for themselves. Things change. Hope is made new where once all seemed lost.

Our link with Malawi tells the same. Small gifts from Birmingham; huge faith and hard work by those who receive them to ensure that our sisters and brothers in Christ can provide safe and growing health care, schooling and improved farming to desperate communities.

These astonishing stories are not confined to the so-called developing world. Lives and gifts here in Kings Norton have been transformed wholly by finding strength alongside others through God's church in times of despair and uncertainty. That's why we live in hope, for God's strength, poured from the Cross through the giving of the Holy Spirit waits only for willing hearts to receive and trust. In Romans 12, Paul tells us that Christians are not isolated strugglers. We are 'members one of another'. Then he goes on to talk of

the different gifts which each member has for the benefit of all. Among them is what is translated as the gift of 'administration'. Keeping paperwork and communications in useful order is a great essential gift, but that's not what Paul means here. His word is *cybernesis*; used now as the study of how things work together most efficiently. In Paul's time it meant the gift of steering a ship.

We talk often glibly of 'journey'. If it's made by car or train, we know that it is simply a matter of choosing the right line and keeping going. For a sailing ship, it's very different. Tides ebb and flow. Storms spring up on the calmest days. Winds change direction and strength. And then there's the crew and all their mix of character, experience and loyalty to one another.

No wonder Paul chose this as a way of talking about the 'steering' gifts needed in the church as Body of Christ. Things change. The unpredictable happens. Crew members discover new skills – or recover old ones. Even destinations are not certain. As church and people move together in an unpredictable world, change is constant.

And this is why God gives the Holy Spirit. Within the Spirit's gifts there is refreshment, peace and renewal.

There is also capacity for generosity and courage in the face of every change and every Big Question. In the Holy Spirit, we can sing, open-eyed to the world we live in, "Do not be afraid". Christians believe that the power of evil was overcome on the Cross. We also believe that Jesus did not keep this victory for himself. His will and purpose is that all should live in it, come what may, enabled by the free-flowing love of the Holy Spirit.

As we face the Big Questions in the world, in church, in our local community and in our own lives, my prayer is that far from giving in to despair, we dare instead to trust the promised gift of the Holy Spirit to draw us together in shared story, purpose and service.

It was not meant to be easy. It is meant to be fulfilling – and useful in love. We have discovered some of what this means here. Do trust that there is so much more to come as we move on.

Rob Morris

### **What are your hobbies and interests?**

I enjoy reading, cooking, travelling and spending time with my children.

### **What are your best memories?**

My best memories are of growing up in the woods of Southern Oregon. Living here in Kings Norton this spring has reminded me of all the great fun my brothers, sister and I would have in the rain and the mud!

### **What is your favourite holiday place?**

The beaches of south Florida!

### **If you went on Desert Island Disks, what would be your luxury and book?**

My luxury: mounds of dark chocolate

My book: A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

### **What are your hopes for Kings Norton?**

I would like to see Kings Norton continue to be a welcoming congregation ministering to adults and children and to increase its outreach to youths in high school and beyond.



**Tammy Tearoe**



**Where were you born?**

I was born on a United States Air Force base in Victorville, California.

**What is your occupation?**

I am not currently employed as I am helping my family adjust to our new life here in the U.K. Prior to moving here, I was employed as the Director of Christian Education at the Delmar Reformed Church in upstate New York. I absolutely loved my position working with children and adults, helping them to grow on their spiritual journey. It was a difficult decision to leave my position, but I feel strongly that God always has perfect plans for our lives and I look forward to seeing where He is leading me in the future.

**Why Kings Norton?**

My family and I chose Kings Norton originally because of the history of the church building! We stayed at Kings Norton because the people are welcoming, the clergy are obviously committed to Christ, and the theology of C of E churches fits ours.

**Why is my Christian faith important?**

I was raised in a Christian home but fell away from my faith when I hit my early twenties as I struggled with the theology of the denomination I had been nurtured in. After having my son and daughter, I found myself feeling God's calling on my life and took the opportunity to explore different Christian faith traditions. I found the Reformed Church in America to be a place where I could struggle with my questions about God, be honest about my doubts, and truly strive to walk humbly with God. My faith gives me hope for a better tomorrow, peace in the midst of upheaval and strength when I just don't have it all together.



## Women's Fellowship

Our meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June in the North Hall, St. Nicolas Place. We will be having a talk entitled 'Madeira – Island of Flowers' by Rita Sutton. Visitors are always welcome.

Alison Blumer, Chairman.

## Kings Norton History Society

KINGS NORTON HISTORY SOCIETY is featuring historical 'sports and sporting events' in Kings Norton for our exhibition at the Kings Norton Festival on Saturday 14th July. If you have any relevant photographs, particularly one of the original Kings Norton Tennis Club house, which we could copy for this event, we would be most grateful. The contact number is 0121 459 5750. Claire Simpson.

## Men's Monday Nights Out

We will once again be meeting at the Navigation on Monday 11th June. Monday night is Megameal night or, if you are not that hungry, maybe you could join with someone to take advantage of the two meals for £8 deal. For more details, please contact Alan Haynes on 07534 615489. Thank you.

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## Saint Nicolas Place

The Tudor Merchant's House and the 17<sup>th</sup> century Old Grammar School set around the Norman foundation of St Nicolas Church and containing the 18<sup>th</sup> century *Saracen's Head*. *The finest collection of mediaeval buildings in Birmingham, owned and managed by Kings Norton Parish church for all to discover, enjoy and use*  
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Café and Gift shop: Tuesday to Saturday 10am-4pm  
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Guided Tours: Friday and Saturday at 11am and 2pm  
Group tours can be booked at various times through the week.

Craft Market: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday (KN Farmers' Market Day)

St Nicolas Church is also open for visiting, services permitting:  
Wednesdays 10am-1pm and 6.30pm-9pm; Saturdays 10am-12

### Booking events and functions

Visit [www.saintnicolasplace.co.uk](http://www.saintnicolasplace.co.uk) to see our facilities for wedding and family functions and for corporate and community events and training – and our wide range of catering options. Viewing of rooms for any booking is warmly welcomed at a convenient time for you.

Just call 0121 458 1223 or Parish Office on 0121 458 3289  
Marriage and baptism enquiries for St Nicolas church: Thursdays 6.30pm-8pm

### Activities

Saint Nicolas Place is home to a wide range of activities every week alongside the full programme of activities of St Nicolas Church, including: Uniformed groups, Seniors' Club, Community Choir, Social Support Groups, Zumba, Rhythm Time, Slimming World, Dance and fitness Groups, Kings Norton History Society,

heritage group events - . . . . and we have room for more!

We are also developing rich local archive and study resources.

Just call 0121 458 1223 or 458 3289 for details



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## Chapel Choir

Directed by Peter Oakes

Organist – Robert Smith

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July**

**7.30pm**

***Free entry***

Retiring collection in aid of church funds and the  
Macular Disease Society

## Concert in St Francis Church, Bournville

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm**

The Chapel Choir of the Thomas Hardy School (Dorchester, Dorset) will perform a programme of music taken from services and concerts they have sung during the past year. The conductor will be Peter Oakes, who has taught at the school since the 1990s, and the organist will be Robert Smith, currently organ scholar at Somerville College Oxford.

The concert will include items sung since last September in services at Bath Abbey, King's College London and University College Oxford. Other events represented by music in the concert will include the Opening Service of the Crown Courts in Dorchester (when the choir had the privilege of singing to both Lord Neuberger, The Master of the Rolls, and Lord Phillips, The President of the Supreme Court) and the school's annual concert with Imperial College Symphony Orchestra.

There will be no admission charge, but a retiring collection will be taken in aid of church funds and The Macular Disease Society.

If you would like more information, please contact Peter Oakes (peteroakes@talktalk.net) or John Oakes.

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### Use Olympic Torch as a spur to prayer

More Than Gold, the agency helping churches respond to the 2012 Games, has launched 'The 70-day Prayer Relay', which tracks the same dates and venues as the official Torch Relay. Jane Holloway, Chair of More Than Gold's Prayer Team says, 'The Olympic Torch journey will pass through over a thousand communities. We would like it to inspire a cascade of prayer and praise – with individuals and churches taking time to pray, alone and together, as it travels through their area.'

Full details of how churches can engage with the Olympic Torch Relay are at [www.morethangold.org.uk/torchrelay](http://www.morethangold.org.uk/torchrelay)

## Supporting Saint Nicolas Place

From April to July 2012, we are re-shaping the way we organise and support our work.

The generous and vital support of Heritage Lottery Fund, BBC Restoration Fund and English Heritage ended in December 2011. We now have to pay our own way – at some £100,000 each year.

We control all costs – and are doing so even more.

We also raise some £80,000 through café, shop and room hire.

For the rest, we depend on donations, volunteer support and fund-raising events. We're also seeking new sources of income and grants to ensure that Saint Nicolas Place continues to grow as a vital centre and resource for heritage, learning and service at the heart of local community and church life.

We want this to include you! Do visit!

We're raising quality and simplicity in our café. We're sourcing new suppliers for our shop. We're offering more spaces for activities, learning and community groups. We're asking for your views.

Please stay with us as we make these changes, encourage others to visit, do ask about our many volunteering opportunities and if these buildings matter to you, please consider making a small regular donation by standing order.

That will make such a difference.

Do ask for SNP Gift Aid and Standing Order forms.

### Disabled access

The Tudor Merchant's House and Old Grammar School ground floor were made DDA compliant through the Restoration Project. All rooms have disabled access, with lift access to all floors. We have 3 disabled toilets. Unfortunately, the Old Grammar School first floor is not fully accessible.

# Book Review

**Everyday God** by Paula Gooder

**Published by:** Canterbury Press  
Norwich (30 April 2012)

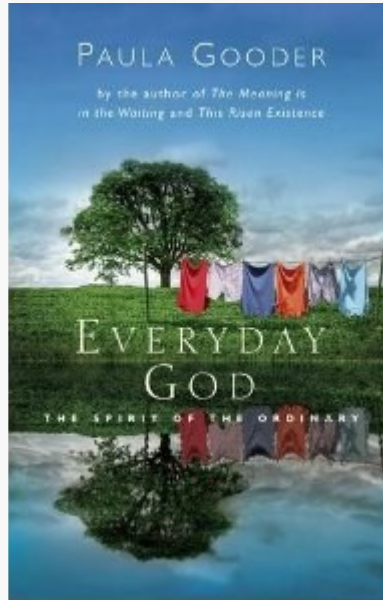
**ISBN-13:** 978-1848251168

Price : £7.19 from Amazon Books

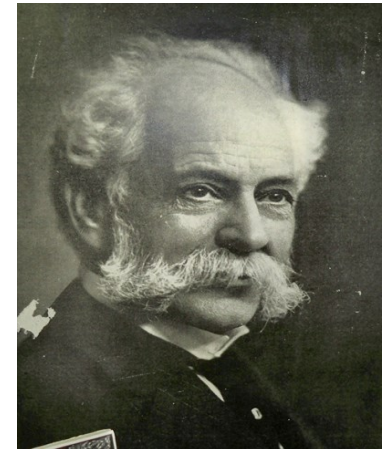
Having pre-ordered this book last autumn, I was not disappointed when it duly arrived through my letterbox just after Easter!! The book was inspired by the name given to the longest season of the Church's year – that of Ordinary Time and through exploring 33 passages from scripture (one for each of the Sundays in Ordinary Time), Paula seeks to help Christians glimpse God in the ordinary, everyday lives that we lead and encourages us to 'turn aside' and encounter God. Here is a brief extract from the Epilogue to whet your appetite.

*Ordinariness lies right at the heart of our Christian faith. The God whom we worship, is truly an everyday God who time and time again breaks out of the gilded palaces we create for him and meets us instead in our everyday lives. This God cares more about people than about grandeur. He is more concerned with justice than fine worship. This God is more likely to be found with mud and dust, than with gold and jewels. This God yearns to give us everything we need to thrive. This God reveals his glory both with dramatic fire, thunder and lightning, and in the sound of sheer silence. This God breaks into our lives and transforms us from glory into glory.*

Revd Jayne



one of the first American businessmen to introduce welfare facilities. This founder insisted that staff provide dining rooms, a gymnasium, swimming pool, free medical and dental treatment, life insurance and further education.



At forty two, he fulfilled a long desire to travel to Europe, to Germany the home of his parents, and England. His notebook records his interest to see the places that had marked the great spiritual heritage of this land, John Bunyan's Bedford and the travels of George Whitfield and the Wesleys.

His heart remained in Sunday Schools, giving them wide ranging support. He was always available in the task of reaching the rising generation for Christ.

With a vast business empire by the time of his death in 1919, his obituary gives a clue to his life's priorities – 'Henry J. Heinz, churchman, philanthropist, manufacturer'.

Heinz prefaced his Will with the words "Looking forward to the time when my earthly career shall end, I desire to set forth, at the very beginning of this Will, as the most important item in it, a confession of my faith in Jesus Christ as my Saviour.'

Frank Williamson is a Missionary with Birmingham City Mission and Pastor at Kings Norton Baptist Church.

In 1869, at 25, he married Sarah Young, a godly woman, and together they set out to serve the Lord. This was also the time of his first registered food company, a bottling plant 'Henry J Heinz Food'. Though his company demanded much of his time, he ran a local Sunday School and gave himself to the teaching and nurturing of those under his care, such that they never forgot his warm hearted and wise



counsel. Characteristically, he was always determined to make the Lord's work a priority and supported it from his proceeds.

Dependent upon vegetables, he bought in large quantities. On one agreement, he contracted to take every sound vegetable from a farm in Illinois. Everything was fine until one year such a quantity kept coming (due to a

bumper American harvest) that he was being required to pay \$2100 a day! He had invested heavily and, with no-one offering credit, he wrote to his mother that the company would not survive. Soon afterwards, it collapsed leaving him penniless. In the midst of this turmoil, Heinz trusted his Lord and kept his integrity in the turbulent world of business. While many would have hidden from the consequence of such failure, Heinz recorded every one of those to whom he owed money in a book labelled M.O. (Moral Obligations). This was noted by family and supporters who aided him to later restart. A landlord gave him free rent for a time.

Once more Heinz, with his enthusiasm and action, built up the business, gaining the respect of his employees for his upright and resilient character. Small in stature, with a permanent twinkle in his eye, he radiated energy as he traversed the factory, helping and directing. He had new methods of producing recipes, increasing efficiency in manufacturing and sales methods. Strong growth meant new land was acquired beyond the sprawling Heinz Empire in Pittsburgh. Every dealing, he directed, must be straight and fair. He was



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seeing you there!



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AT SAINT NICOLAS PLACE

7th June

10.30am -12.30pm

Paper Plate Panda

2pm - 4pm

Origami

8th June

10.30am - 12.30pm

Moveable Paper Dinosaurs

2pm - 4pm

Treasure Hunt Map

9th June

10.30am - 12.30pm

Yarn Octopus

2pm - 4pm

Bookmark Making

£2.50 per child per session.

Saint Nicolas Place, 81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 8RU

For enquires call 0121 458 1223

## For all the Saints

A Bible Character or a Christian from the pages of history, retold by Frank Williamson



Up the Allegheny River, six miles east of Pittsburgh and on the edge of the prairie, stood the little village of Sharpsburg. Among its residents, a family of German immigrants. The date 1854. At barely eight, the young Henry J Heinz went to school and sat under the wise direction of the warm hearted Lutheran Pastor. In the afternoon Henry, the oldest of eight children, enthusiastically tended his mother's large kitchen garden. This provided everything they needed and more. The excess he sold locally, touring the village with his basket. As he went, his thoughts traversed beyond the prairie to an eastern land where the Lord Jesus had walked and lived. The one who had come into the world to seek and save the lost and had died in Henry's place, bearing his sin away. Yes, this was his heartbeat and motivation, the Lord Jesus, the Lord of heaven and earth was this young boy's Lord. The one he spoke with, served and obeyed. The Bible was the main text book at school and Christian living characterised home life. 'In living for the master and serving him,' said Heinz in later years, 'some things have been incalculably helpful and I turn with grateful heart to the teachings of my mother. Many of her sayings ever stand guard around my thoughts and influence my actions'.



His work in the garden and selling locally meant that the basket became a wheel barrow and then an ox cart. Once, through his quick initiative, he saved the garden from being washed away when the turbulent Allegheny River swelled and flooded. Interspersed with his food work, he helped his father in his struggling brick business. Bricks became a life long fascination.



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## “It’s OK - God’s got special ears”

A wonderful comment I once hear when I was on holiday abroad. I was in one of those huge Roman Catholic Churches where there seems to be so many things going on at once: a weekday Mass in a side chapel; confessions; people lighting candles for prayer and dropping the coins into the box with a clang; a family baptism with ancient great (or even great x2) granny, frail and in a wheelchair, taking noisy photographs all too close to the Mass chapel; tourists clicking and whirring cameras... you get the idea. I then overheard a small child ask their mother, “How can God hear the service Mummy?” Her reply was, as the title of this article, “It’s OK - God’s got special ears.” I thought it was a wonderful reply from someone who, I assumed, had no formal theological training.

God’s ability to hear all our prayers and receive all our worship is, thankfully, way ahead of anything we could think of if we put a human guise on God.

Sylvia Fox

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future. I want to go to university to study music performance, a course you can only find in five UCAS Universities as a masters (MA) degree. Without 3 C-A at A level, I won't even be considered and will have to go the long way round, finding a college that will do the music performance foundation degree and then a one year top up course (at uni) to get a masters. All that work to different paths if I don't get my grade.

Therefore, when it comes to exams, teens just grin and bear it, hoping the after effects don't leave them homeless or better yet locked in a padded cell, rocking in the corner muttering all the answers they got wrong. The worst thing about exams is the pressure about the future. My advice to teens is to have a backup plan (God forbid that you don't get the grade!) so there's another plan if things go really wrong.

And yet, I hear you cry, what's the 3rd mission? The 3rd mission is a new step towards my dream to be a rock star. (I also really want to be a music teacher, so I focus on that more realistic dream.) I have got my first ever try out for a band. With the excitement looming, I have to say that I hope I get the role of female vocalist.

If there's one thing that Kings Norton's taught me, it's to dream and not to let the fools (or telly tubbies as I call them) of life get you down, especially with all the new responsibility I was recently given. I am now deputy head chorister, a server on a Sunday morning and have my new role of head babysitter at home (even though the child's almost ten and the whole thing should be called: "failing to do what your mum told you to do because the 'little angel' found out where I hid the glue"). Even though babysitting sucks, the new responsibilities have left me feeling like I'm old enough to spread my metaphorical wings and fly into a whole new world of performance. Don't fear; even if I blow minds with my voice, I'll still follow my Sunday morning rule of being at church.

So I feel like I've rambled on for too long. This is Katie signing off duty. God bless and may the Force be with you.

Katie Donaghy



## A glimpse into my teenage mind in the month of May-hem

This month, I have had three missions:

- 1) Write an amazing article for some amazing people (you) to understand the evil teenage world.
- 2) DON'T PANIC OR DIE! (The exams are here.)
- 3) To fulfil my secret dream to be a rock star.

Now it's safe to say I've completed mission 1. The proof is in your hand. But mission 2 might take some more work.



May should be re-named the Month of Mayhem. Exams are a teen's main focus and everything but sleeping, eating and, in my case, church and God get thrown out the window of the teenage mind to allow a flock of headless chickens to move in for little while. And while they're nesting in there, they eat, throw and mess up the little stock piles of knowledge that we humble teens have stored over the year, leaving us with a few days to try and remember every last detail of the social policies affecting children and families, or the conventions of a magazine cover. I have come to the conclusion that no matter how hard I try, I will forget nearly everything the night before I have to sit my test or hand in my coursework.

This wouldn't be a problem if exams had content in them that teachers actually taught during the course. While I'm in an exam, I find that the pressure lets me remember stuff I worked into posters and taught to rather unresponsive best mates, evil children (also known as my little brother and sister) and a slightly bored boyfriend. (Tip - 70% of content put in mind maps is remembered and 90% of information that's taught to someone else will be remembered).

Even though exams may seem to be a lot of hassle, they're unfortunately too important to miss or cop out of, even though they leave me and the rest of the teenage army with headaches and eye problems from staring at the same graph for 5 hours. The marks lead to grades that could make or break your

## April 2012 Baptisms

*"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"*

1 <sup>st</sup> April	Kealiegh Sarah Jessica Buller
1 <sup>st</sup> April	James Edward Cox
1 <sup>st</sup> April	Madison Glenis Janet Darby
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Claire Lardner
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Dawn Louise Lardner
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Diane Marie Oakley
8 <sup>th</sup> April	Holly Elizabeth Cartwright
8 <sup>th</sup> April	Harry Thomas Cartwright
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Ollie Richie Baillie
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Maddison Laura Green
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Layton Paul Anthony Harbidge
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Louie Eugene May-Dyer
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Malachy Matthew Murphy

# Harry L Marks

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The Holy Spirit will always be with us and go with us wherever we go.

The Holy Spirit guides us and empowers us to continue to share the Good News of Jesus with other people.



### CRYPTOGRAM: Acts 1:8

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
15	2	18	23	26	4	24	21	8	19	6	5	17	16	11	3	25	9	12	13	20	10	22	14	7	1

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22 21 26 16 13 21 26 21 11 5 7 12 3 8 9 8 13 21 15 12

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15 16 23 12 15 17 15 9 8 15 15 16 23 13 11 13 21 26

26 16 23 12 11 4 13 21 26 26 15 9 13 21

**CHILDREN'S PAGE...** with Gail.



Hello Everyone!

After the Ascension of Jesus, it seemed that God had left us all alone.

Ten days after the Ascension, we celebrate Pentecost. This is when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the third part of the Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit which is how we understand God.



The symbols of Pentecost and the Holy Spirit include flames, wind, the breath of God and a dove.

Jesus had left us with an important job to do and God gave us the power of the Holy Spirit to help us and to be with us always. When we remember the pouring out of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, we are remembering that God hasn't abandoned us.



**We will never be alone. Wherever we go, Jesus goes with us. For when we believe in Jesus, His Holy Spirit lives in us.**

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## April 2012 Funerals

*"I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord"*

2 <sup>nd</sup> April	George John Gardiner, 88. Cremation at Robin Hood.
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Richard George Larmouth, 73. Cremation at Robin Hood.
4 <sup>th</sup> April	Jessie Carter, 89. Interment of ashes in St Nicolas churchyard.
10 <sup>th</sup> April	Doreen Mary Smith, 97. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
11 <sup>th</sup> April	Anthony Ian Hall, 74. Service in St Nicolas Church, burial at Kings Norton Cemetery.
11 <sup>th</sup> April	Edith Muriel Williams, 91. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
12 <sup>th</sup> April	Kenneth Bannister, 89. Cremation at Robin Hood.
13 <sup>th</sup> April	Barbara Jean Crates, 81. Service in St Nicolas Church, burial in St Nicolas churchyard.
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Peter James Whitehouse, 48. Cremation at Robin Hood.
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Joan Jagger, 90. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
17 <sup>th</sup> April	Lucy Yvonne Okey, 16 weeks gestation. Burial in St Nicolas churchyard.
17 <sup>th</sup> April	Jean Crook, 78. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
18 <sup>th</sup> April	Rose Duggins, 87. Interment of ashes in St Nicolas churchyard.
20 <sup>th</sup> April	Charlie Ward, 11 weeks gestation. Burial in St Nicolas churchyard.
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Arthur Thomas Cook, 88. Service at St Nicolas Church, burial at Kings Norton Cemetery.

## At Saint Nicolas Place

### Seniors' Club (Over 65's)

Every Wednesday 1pm – 3pm  
Marlene Collyer & Anne Dent

### Women's Fellowship

7.30pm 1st Thursday; Secretary: Carol Devic

### Guides and Brownies

Rainbows: Mondays 5.30 - 6.30 pm  
Brownies (188th Birmingham): Tuesdays 6.00-7.30 pm  
Brownies: Thursdays 6.30 - 8.00 pm  
Guides (247th Birmingham): Mondays 7.15-9.00 pm

### Guides and Brownies

at Hawkesley Church Centre

Rainbows (1st Kings Norton): Mondays 5.30 pm  
Brownies (259th Birmingham): Wednesdays 6.30 pm  
Guides (141st Birmingham): Thursdays 7.00 pm

### Scouts and Cubs (St Nicolas, 198th Birmingham)

Tuesdays at Oddingley Hall, Beavers (6-8yrs): 5-6 pm Penny Hattersley 628 5694  
Oddingley Road, B31 3BS Cubs (8-10½): 6.15-7.45 pm Gareth Jones 07714 490110  
www.myscouts.co.uk Scouts (10½-15½): 8 pm

## Saint Nicolas Place

81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 8RU.

Ancient buildings given new life by community and church in partnership.  
Explore your heritage, volunteer, gather for meetings, functions and events  
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All enquiries – and to plan and book your event - phone **0121 458 1223**

Email: [info@saintnicolasplace.co.uk](mailto:info@saintnicolasplace.co.uk) Website: [www.saintnicolasplace.co.uk](http://www.saintnicolasplace.co.uk)

Bookings/Events: Andrew Driscoll

## Kings Norton Parish Office

St Nicolas Place, 81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 8RU. 0121 458 3289

e-mail:- [parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk) Open: 10 am - 1pm Tuesday - Friday

Parish website [www.kingsnorton.org.uk](http://www.kingsnorton.org.uk)

Please use Parish Office to contact clergy and lay officers, to place prayers and notices in our weekly newsletter and monthly Events Diary – and for all churchyard enquiries.

## Hawkesley Anglican Methodist Church Primary School

Shannon Road, Hawkesley, Kings Norton, B38 9TR 459 6467 Fax: 459 6468

School website: [www.hawkesley.bham.sch.uk](http://www.hawkesley.bham.sch.uk)

## KINGS NORTON TEAM PARISH

### People, Places and Contacts

Please use our website [www.kingsnorton.org.uk](http://www.kingsnorton.org.uk), ask at services or Open Church times or at Parish Office on 0121 458 3289 (Tue-Fri 10am – 1pm). The weekly newsletter and monthly events diary have the latest information. Churchyard enquiries to Parish Office

#### MINISTRY TEAM:

Canon Rob Morris (Team Rector)	458 3289/459 0560
The Revd Dr John White (Team Vicar)	458 3289/07854 412949
The Revd Jayne Crooks (Team Vicar)	458 3289/459 3733
The Revd Donald Sampson (Methodist Minister)	458 3289/476 7223
Mrs Fay Fearon (Reader)	458 3289/451 1914
Mrs Ruth Howman (Reader)	458 3289

#### WARDENS

<b>St. Nicolas Hawkesley</b>	Paul Shelton, Anne Hughes 458 3289 Jim Clarke 550 3455/07939 838086 Elaine Cooper
<b>Immanuel</b>	Alan Haynes 459 4711

#### PCC (Church Council)

Secretary: Judy Ash

Treasurer: c/o Revd Jayne Crooks

<b>Parish Administrators:</b>	Judy Ash, Sylvia Fox, Christine Gadd
<b>Christian Giving Officer</b>	Jean Brownsword 458 3289
<b>Churchyard Care Team</b>	Richard Harper 458 3289
<b>Bible Reading Fellowship</b>	Julie Caley 458 3289
<b>Flower Co-ordinator</b>	Alison Blumer 486 2837
<b>Organist and Music Director</b>	Sylvia Fox 07778 449170

*Tuesday: Training and groups 6-9pm; Friday: Juniors 6.30-7.45 p.m.; Seniors/Adults 8-9pm.  
Handbell Ringers Mondays 7.30pm*

<b>Immanuel Music Group</b>	Susan Haynes 459 4711
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#### Oasis/ Sunday School

Immanuel	Nicky Moorcroft (Oasis leader)
St. Nicolas and Hawkesley	contact via Parish Office 458 3289

#### Parish Magazine: Editor Treasurer (Subscriptions) Advertising Manager Parish Website

Alan Haynes 459 4711	<a href="mailto:editor@kingsnorton.org.uk">editor@kingsnorton.org.uk</a>
Alison Blumer 486 2837	
Evelyn Finn via Parish Office 458 3289	
David Ash e-mail	<a href="mailto:webmaster@kingsnorton.org.uk">webmaster@kingsnorton.org.uk</a>

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## The Church in the Parish

We are a Church of England Team Parish in partnership with the Methodist Church, serving all in Kings Norton through St Nicolas Parish Church and Hawkesley and Immanuel District Churches.

We believe that the church in Kings Norton exists:

To be a worshipping transforming partnership in Christ

To live out God's radical hospitality for all

To be equipped for work in God's world

### St Nicolas Parish Church *on The Green B38 8RU*

**Sunday 8.00 am** Holy Communion (BCP)  
**10.30 am** Holy Communion Oasis for 5-11's  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: 10.30am Parade Service - All Age Worship 11.45am Matins (BCP)*  
**4pm** Holy Baptism (*1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays*)  
**6 pm** Evening Worship

*Every Sunday evening we offer prayer, music and quiet for all to share in as you wish. Do come..*

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday : Taizé Prayer 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: Holy Communion with Prayer for Healing*  
*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday : Night Prayer and reflection 4th/5th Sundays: Special services/Evensong (BCP)*

Mon, Wed, Thu 9am Morning Prayer

Thursday 11 am Holy Communion (BCP)

*BCP is the Book of Common Prayer from 1662. Other services are a mix of ancient and modern words and music, mostly from the Common Worship Service Book 2000.*

### Hawkesley Church (Anglican/Methodist)

*at Hawkesley School on the corner of Shannon Road and Old Partway ,Kings Norton, B38 9TR*

**Sunday 10.30am** Worship and Children's Activities (5 -11's):

*1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays – Holy Communion;*

*2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays – Morning Worship.*

**Tuesday 10am** Hawkesley Coffee Morning (every two weeks)

### Immanuel Church

*at The Fairway Centre on the corner of Wychall Lane and The Fairway, Kings Norton, B38 8XJ*

**Sunday 10.30am** Worship - and Oasis for children of primary school age.

*1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays – Holy Communion;*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – Joining with St Nicolas*

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – All Age Worship*

## Open Church

We open St Nicolas Church as much as we can so that all may share God's peace and promise in a space where they have been found and trusted for centuries. There is a place for you within its story. Please pray that more will know it as a safe place for prayer and healing, where sorrow and joy are held in God's love.

We welcome volunteers to share in our offering of welcome, refreshment and care through St Nicolas, Hawkesley and Immanuel, to steward St Nicolas in Open Church times and care for our churchyard, flowers and brasses. Do ask.

### Open Church times

*Do visit, pray, light a candle or share quiet conversation over coffee as you wish*

**Wednesday** 10.00 am – 1.00 pm and 6.30 – 9pm (Candlelit Church)

**Thursday** 6.30 – 8pm for all Marriage and Baptism enquiries

**Saturday** 10.00 am – 12 noon for coffee, knit-and-natter, prayer

with **Messy Church** for all ages every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday (Market Day)

### Candlelit Church

Every Wednesday, 6.30 – 9 pm with informal learning together at 8pm.

Quiet spaces, candles, conversation, creativity and music.

*Arrive at any time; stay for any length of time - as you wish.*

### Tiny Tots

Thursdays, 9.30 am (term time) in St Nicolas Church for 0-5's and parents/carers.

### Growing in Faith

We are growing fresh ways for all to grow in faith – those making their very first step, those who have made many and those who are discovering God's love afresh after times of change. Please ask in each church for details.

### Baptisms and Marriages

Please visit St Nicolas on Thursdays between 6.30pm and 8pm to ask any questions and arrange bookings with our clerks. One of the clergy is also present to help if there is a question over whether your service can be held in this parish.

### Helping to keep our parish church open for all

It costs around £800 each week to keep St Nicolas open. We welcome all financial support through donations and especially through regular Planned Giving. Do ask for details and, if a taxpayer, please ask how you may Gift Aid your offering.