The Parish of Kings Norton

Kings Norton Parish Magazine



September 2007 50p



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Kings Norton Parish Magazine

A Church of England Team Parish incorporating the churches of Druids Heath - Hawkesley - Immanuel The Parish Church of St. Nicolas

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Items for inclusion in the October 2007 Issue to be submitted by:-

Monday 17th September

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From The Rector Some short big words...

"you can say a great deal in few words..."

As many often tell me, you can say a great deal in few words – if you want. You can also say very large things in words with very few letters. How we use "we" and "they", "yours", "mine" and "ours" can tell so much about where people are and what we feel and think.

Growing up means that we move from "I", "my", "mine" to "we", "yours" and "ours". It is the same with every new venture. We begin with thinking "What does this mean for me? How will I feel? What might I lose? What might I gain? What's in it for me?" But then we grow to discover the joy of working with others.

The more we grow, the more we discover. We all need something we can call "mine" – but being able to say "ours", for all the struggle it sometimes brings, is at the heart of what it means to be human – and a child of God. As an old Jewish teaching says, "If I am only for myself, who am I?"



Bur sometimes our growing stops. We stay with those who agree with us, who share our tastes and stories, who look at life as we do and make us feel safe. And we draw lines between "us" and "them", "ours" and "theirs" which can become very deep and damaging indeed. We need boundaries – but the deeper they become, the less we grow.

The Gospel stories of Jesus are a continual challenge and inspiration as we wrestle with all this. Time and again, Jesus leaves safe, respectable company to meet, listen to and befriend those on the wrong side of purely human boundaries. Women, taxgatherers, foreigners, offenders and ill people were all judged to be "them" – and definitely "not one of us". For Jesus however, they were at the heart of his Kingdom, not at the edge or outside.

It is the same for the church. It is so easy to gather as the like-minded and congenial, socially and spiritually, using "we" and "ours" to protect us from those who seem different or difficult. We all need safe places, but that is not all we need. To be the church, loving and serving as Jesus loves and serves, our "we" and "ours" must be open-ended. It can be very daunting – and we will make mistakes - which is why God gives his Holy Spirit to encourage and heal us.

Over the next twelve months, we will have new prayer, plans and hopes for each congregation, for St Nicolas Church, for Hawkesley Church and School and for Druids Heath - and we will have our Restoration buildings in full and lively use. In each we are called to grow away from using "ours" as a boundary line between those we agree with and those we don't. God's call to me is very clear. His "we" and "ours" includes all. So must ours. It will not be easy to live and grow in this, but as we often say, "As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray "Our Father". Please pray these precious words for us all, those we like and know - and those we don't. It will be answered!

Canon Rob Morris

St Nicolas

Sunday 16th September

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Harvest Parade Service with Holy Baptism

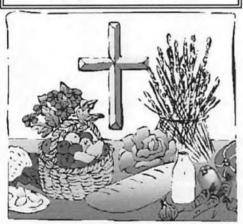
with Holy Daptisin

11.45am Matins

3.15pm Holy Baptism

6.00pm Harvest of People Service

with Holy Communion and Prayer for Healing



COVER PHOTO

Hello everyone...

This months Cover Photo represents the month of September and HARVEST TIME.

Harvest Time at St Nicolas Church will include a Parade Service on Sunday 16th September at 10.30 a.m. and a



Harvest of People Service at 6.00.p.m.

Immanuel Church and Hawkesley Church will both have their Harvest Services on Sunday 30th September at 10.30 a.m.

Chris Holmes



Farmers Market

Sat 8th September

9.00 a.m. to 2.00

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Katie Grace Haynes

"Gift from God". That's what she is!"

Susan, Alan and Sam are delighted to announce the arrival of our Amazing Katie Grace!!

She was born on Tuesday 24th July 2007 at 6.48am, weighing 8lb 1507

She's well and home - a real answer to many prayers!

At 33 weeks' gestation, Katie was diagnosed with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome. This meant that

the left ventricle was underverv developed. Whilst the baby was safe in the womb (with Susan's blood supply), once born, the heart would not work properly. It is rare condition. affecting 1 in 5000 babies. There is no cure (surgeons can close holes in the heart and widen veins, but can't cause a ventricle to grow). But, if the ventricle is large enough operate on, the baby can undergo a series of three operations (one at a few days' one at 6-9

months old and one at 3-5 years old) to improve blood flow by relying on the right side of the heart and the lungs. Children who have successfully had these operations can lead a fairly normal life, the main problems being difficulty in circulation (so feeling the cold easily) and low energy levels as the body has to work hard on maintaining the function of the heart. Long-term prognosis is not known as these operations have only been in existence for 12 years. Having said all that, our consultant looked gravely as he explained that our baby's left ventricle was very small and at that time would be a "borderline case" in terms of whether surgery could even be an option. If this continued to be the case, the baby would die in the first few days of life. Heart transplants are not often offered as there are very few baby sized hearts available.

Nothing could be done before the baby was born and so it was a waiting game. We were hoping for the best and preparing for the worst. We knew that together and in God we could face and get through anything. We had no issue about bringing up a child

with additional needs experience wanted

(we have had lots of additional needs in previous work) but we chance to be able to do even that.

Philippians reminded us: "Do not anxious about anything, but everything, by prayer petition. thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God. which transcends all understanding. quard your hearts and your minds in Christ

Jesus." We set about asking people to pray. We had an amazing show of support from family, friends, church, nursery parents etc and knew that we were not alone in this, which brought comfort and some peace into it all.



(Continued on page 8)

We asked people to thank God:

That this baby was in existence at all! She was already a miracle! After 12 years of fertility tests, treatment (several rounds of hormone treatment and 2 operations), 4 miscarriages and our fantastic Sam, we were delighted to have become pregnant in what we saw as the "last chance" of us having more of our own children. The baby was very active, constantly reminding Susan of her presence with a swift kick!

That we had a diagnosis before birth and so the medical team would be waiting for the baby to be born and would be able to assess and hopefully start treatment straight away. (Some babies are not diagnosed until they collapse after birth; ours had been.)

That we live in Birmingham, near the best Children's Hospital for this condition – other families are brought here from all around the country – we are only 20 minutes away. We even discovered that we already knew one of the Chaplains at the Children's Hospital. We were able to visit the Children's Hospital before the birth to learn more about what might happen if she had the operation. This was particularly important for Susan to be able to visualise as she would still be at the Women's Hospital when the baby was transferred there.

That people around us who don't usually pray were taking it up! This included nursery parents, parents from the school Sam starts in September, friends of friends etc.

That we were of one mind regarding the difficult decisions to be made and had already discussed and agreed on practicalities around potential surgery and/ or if the baby was going to die. It would be harder if one of us wanted one thing and another wanted another.

For our lovely Sam who kept us going and is doing so well.

We were not really thinking long-term at this point, but over the following couple of months, we asked people to join us in praying for:

Continued peace in this whole situation and the knowledge that we were not alone in it.

Susan's Gestational Diabetes – she was having four insulin injections per day and around 10 blood tests per day to try to keep the diabetes under control.

(She had this at the end of Sam's pregnancy too and it went after the birth.) It was very important for the diabetes to be controlled so that the baby could stay in the womb for as long as possible, giving her the best chance if facing an operation. Sam was born at 38 weeks, which would be a safe aim for this baby too. (The week starting 23rd July.) Sam was delivered by Caesarean Section (after 22 hours' labour!). A natural delivery would be better for this baby as a) the action of the baby being squeezed down the birth canal causes fluid etc to be pushed out of the lungs. which would be helpful as the lungs would play a part in a potential operation; b) recovery time for Susan would be shorter so that she wouldn't be stuck in a different hospital for the early days and then unable to drive for 6 weeks in the to-ing and fro-ing to the Children's Hospital.

Alan. Everyone asked Susan how she was and even asked Alan how Susan was, but the dads seem to be left out a bit.

Sam. At 4 years old, we decided that Sam was too little to be told anything at this stage as 5 weeks lasts for ever for him, particularly if he is worried. We were going to tell him in basic terms before the birth, at the very least so that he didn't expect the baby to come home straight away. (Even if the baby had the first operation successfully, she would be in hospital for several weeks.) Sam was SO excited about becoming a Big Brother so we asked people to pray for him in the coming weeks. He had lots of support and at his age, takes most things in his stride. He understands about hearts and about death, but would obviously be very sad and disappointed if that were to be the case.

The baby. We really wanted to keep this baby and to bring her home. We asked those with great faith (or who were willing to give it a go!) to feel free to pray for complete healing in the womb. The doctors couldn't cause a ventricle to grow, but God could!

For the rest of us (who knew that God could, but didn't know if God would) we prayed that the ventricle would be big enough to operate on. Then, that the first operation (at a few days' old) would be a success and that recovery would go well.

If, for whatever reason, God's will was different from ours and surgery would not be an option, we asked people to pray for the few days we would have together as a family of four. We wanted Sam (and ourselves) to have positive memories of that time. We would obviously then be thrown into

INVITATION

You are warmly invited to attend the Thanksgiving and Baptism Service for Katie Grace Haynes

on Sunday 9th September at St Nicolas' Church.

Please arrive at 3.15pm for a 3.30pm start.

The service will be followed by drinks and cakes. With love from Alan, Susan, Sam and Katie x

bereavement, so asked people to pray for us then too.

We were amazed by people's support. We were surrounded by assurance of prayers and practical help. We had emails from all over the country (and beyond), from friends of friends that we've never met, saying that they would be praying for complete healing. We had many people in our community say to us that they're "not religious, but will give it a go for the baby"! We felt carried through this waiting period and for the vast majority of the time we were at peace with whatever God had in store for us.

Susan was booked in for a Caesarean Section on Friday 27th July. Katie had other ideas and arrived after just 2 hours of labour on the Tuesday before (2 weeks before her actual due date)! There were several great things about that: we didn't have time to get worried about the Caesarean; less recovery time than from a Caesarean; Sam hadn't been told about Katie's diagnosis, etc. More than that, Tuesdays "happen" to be the day that the Children's Hospital's heart consultant is at the Women's Hospital, so Katie was scanned and assessed there and then, instead of our having to wait for the hospital transfer and be separated from her not knowing what was going on. The consultant took a long time over the scan "umming and erring" before telling us (and showing us on the scan) that Katie's left ventricle had grown! (When he gave us the initial diagnosis, he said that ventricles don't really grow to the extent that Katie needs). Therefore, immediately, the need for major heart surgery (and 2 subsequent operations) was removed! He went on to say he had some concerns about her aorta, which seemed blocked in some way (requiring a much more minor operation). The best way to assess this was to remove the drug which was at this point keeping a duct open in the heart, to allow the duct to close and to see whether the heart continued to function normally or not. The medication was withdrawn and we waited...and all was well! No problem there then! Bit by bit, potential issues were eradicated (there was even no transferral of Susan's diabetes to Katie, which is what normally happens to the baby for the first day or so). Her sats remained at 100% for the vast majority of the time and despite several tests. NOTHING could be found wrong!! Amazing!! Once she had been weaned off the drip feeding and onto breast feeding, Katie came home at just 3 days' old! On being discharged, the advice was that we have a perfectly normal, healthy baby who is not a heart patient and mustn't be considered as such! The Chaplain at the Children's Hospital said that word around the hospital was "This just doesn't happen"!! It really is a miracle! Only God could have done it, so a huge THANK YOU went out to Him and to all who prayed. For those wondering whether the initial diagnosis was wrong, no, we saw the scans for ourselves. Several of the hospital staff during our stay knocked on our door and asked if they could meet our little miracle!

Katie is doing really well – sleeping, eating and watching her Big Brother who thinks she's great! It's an amazing story and we feel so blessed that Katie has been given to us – hence her middle name, Grace, meaning "Gift from God". That's what she is!

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READERS LETTER

Editor

I am currently embarking on the Bishops Certificate in Children's Ministry course; I thought the following may be of interest to others.

At the last training day one of the lecturers introduced us to The Prayer Trust, based in Henley-in-Arden. A registered charity which 'seeks to promote prayer for everyone especially through the production of books'.

They produce some lovely booklets and bookmarks for personal use or for giving to others. For their 'hope is that those who use these books will want to share them with others'.

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Jeanette Brown

Praying in Worship St Nicolas Church 8.00 p.m. - 9.15 p.m. on Tuesdays

Four sessions for everyone who wants to do this, including those who lead prayers or would like to - and those who just want to pray more fully in their seats. Cath Bennett will be leading the course - with input from the clergy.

Sept 11th: "Worship together: what we do as God's people"

Sept 25th and Oct 9th: "Praying in worship: Why we do it, what is it for, what helps us to lead and to do it?"

Oct 23rd: "Growing in prayer and worship" Ways forward for each of us - and for all of us.

We will repeat the course later at a different time for those who find Tuesday evenings difficult - but do come if you can.

Canon Rob Morris

TEN COMMANDMENTS SORTED!



Little David was asked by his teacher to name the ten commandments.

"Oh.. That's difficult", said

"You can do them in any order", said the teacher.

"OK, I'll try sir", said the boy... "4, 7, 10, 1, 5, 9, 3, 6, 8 and 2."

What could teacher say???



Restoration

Photos Chris Holmes 16/08/07



Did you miss the Barn Dance? Will you be ready for Heritage Open Day on 8th September – with special opportunity to record your own memories?

Restoration is about a core group working very hard on behalf of us all – but the main part is about all of us, our stories and our hopes. Do join in.

And the building work continues. The next stage for the Old Grammar School is the restoration of traditional lime-mortar in between the timber framing – a tedious but essential task, in which old methods find new life.



The steel frame is now in place on the main site and we shall soon see the service and community rooms taking shape. As this happens, we can be more and more comforted that the care which went into design will be repaid. There are so many anxious moments when we have committed ourselves to something on paper. As it becomes reality, will it fulfil our hopes and needs as we trust? Each day, happily, brings confirmation that it will. Please keep praying, looking and asking.









Could You Tell Me The Way to... errmmm???



WE NEED A NAME!!!

Imagine you are driving down the motorway, you've not been to Kings Norton before but want to visit some historic buildings you've heard about. You see a brown and white tourist sign..... what does it say?

We need a name that encompasses all three buildings when we describe them in marketing terms. This is known as an umbrella name and we want it to reflect both the project and its buildings; but that is shorter and easier to remember. The building names will be unaffected - this is just a way of referring to them to people who don't know them.

This name also needs to reflect what will be happening in the buildings when they reopen. To do this we need your help – what would be a good name to use? Here are some of our ideas – we'd like to hear yours:



- The Kings Norton Centre
- Kings Norton Heritage Centre
- Kings Norton Village Heritage
 - The Tudor Centre
- The Core at Kings Norton



Send your ideas to project.director@kingsnorton.org.uk or to Restoration Project, St Nicolas Hall. 30 Westhill Road, Kings Norton B38 8TN.

Pauline Weaver Project Director

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CALOR

Welcome Return of Le Page Ensemble

Concert - Saturday 6th October at 7.30pm in St Nicolas Church

The **Le Page Ensemble** return! You may remember the wonderful evening they gave us last year. They are coming back, this time in support of our Restoration Project. Do come - and bring others for a sparkling programme.

The music will include:

- A charming new piece written for young people by Anna's father
- . The wonderful David Le Page in a stunning Bach Partita for solo violin
- Borodin's 2nd String Quartet with many tunes you will recognise.

Tickets, including refreshments:

- £10.00 adults:
- £7.00 concessions;
 - £2.00 under-18s

available from church and from Parish and Restoration Offices or at the door.

Do ask Anna or me if you want to know more

Rob Morris

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and

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What does it mean to be an Exile?

This is a theme that has been in my mind for some time now. It's not as obvious as I first thought. Yes, the Israelites were in exile in Egypt and Babylon and much of their story as a people centre on this concept of being in a foreign place, away from home. As I write this we are preparing to go on holiday to France, to a place where I do not speak the language and confess to some relief that the French speak English, mostly...

One can develop the theme by considering how we feel if we stay in hospital. I lost count of the time, what day it was. I resented being told when I could eat, and what I could eat. I objected to being told when I could bath, or that I could not have a glass of cold water everything was always warm! I was away from family and friends who had to make huge inroads into their day to see me. I was not in my own place, my familiar surroundings and people.

The exile is also somebody who is powerless in the face of authority. Benefit claimants find this as do those who must rely on public transport. All of these to different degrees are people who are in exile,

who are not in control of events or circumstances.

What these groups people have in common of course is that they are generally not one of us. One of those who thinks they have circumstances sorted, who know what tomorrow brings and who are clear that if anything needs adjusting then it can be and all will be well. To that end we have newer cars that will not break. have maintained houses with that are secured security systems.



The problem then comes when our world is disrupted, when the cracks appear. The marriage that fails seemingly out of the blue... the institution we belong to that seemed impregnable to the advance of the modern world crumples. It could be the golf club, the favourite pub or beer or a much loved motor company... I well remember Ruddles ales started being made in Suffolk and

Speckled Hen was not made any more in its traditional brewery for reasons of economy.

At that point our sense of being on the in-crowd can be challenged, our sense of security becomes a little weaker and we begin in small ways to feel out of sorts with what was once territory. Church known starts to use new services. roads that were familiar in a long lived in place are changed and we feel threatened in small but increasing ways.

At that point we can either retreat or become armchair commentators proclaiming how things were better in the good old days or as people of faith we can enter deeper into that faith with the one, Jesus, who says come to me, with your burdens and worries. In Christ there need be no exiles, there need be no outsiders, no others. When God offers a way back it is for us to have a certainty that whatever the changes of life, in God there is One who is always there for us.

If that is the case, which I think it is, we need not fear the way of the exile but learn instead to travel lightly not putting our trust in things but in the One who says He will be with us always even to the end of the age.

Revd David Gould

Rebecca's Diary (July)...

My first month as a curate in Kings Norton has gone very quickly. The welcome I have received from people at St. Nicholas, Immanuel and Hawkesley churches has been great. I have also enjoyed meeting folk who don't necessarily come to the church but who also have been very friendly and helpful. So what has happened in my first month? Here are a few of my diary extracts:



3RD July: Went to Hawkesley School where a group from the CVSO and a year group from the school put on a wonderful musical performance. It was brilliant to see the children, who had only had a couple of days to rehearse really enjoying themselves and being so creative.

7th July: Came down in the night to get a cuppa and discovered slugs all over my kitchen floor. One was grinning at me from the top of my pedal bin! I thought I had walked into a Dr. Who episode and expected David Tennant (Dr. Who) to appear and whisk me off on an adventure... needless to say it wasn't. Went and saw Mr. Fallon on the green and he sorted me out. The slugs have now gone. But at one point I did wonder whether to contact Bill Oddie ('Spring Watch on BBC2) to see if he would come and set up 'Slug watch' in my kitchen for all interested parties!

14th July: Kings Norton Festival was such a fantastic day. Lots of people out and enjoying themselves on the only sunny day in weeks. Colourful stalls, lots to eat and drink, lots to spend money on. I asked a friend to make sure I didn't spend too much; needless to say it was just all too tempting....

29th July: Each week I have been involved in helping to lead worship at the three churches. The services have been so varied and it's been great to be part of such diversity and creativity. If you are reading this and don't yet come along to church why not give it ago, it can be fun and fulfilling! You will receive a great

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Rebecca's Diary (July)...



welcome. Come and say 'hello' to us so we can introduce ourselves to you too! The services are listed in this magazine. There isn't enough space to go into detail about all the services but the one at Hawkesley Worship centre on 29th sticks in my mind. There was a small group of people gathered for worship, but while the group was small the welcome was warm and BIG. At the end of service I announced the last hymn, and so we began to sing 'Lift high the cross....' Verse 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and a chorus in between! It just went on and on....I began to panic, because there were clearly just too many verse and I didn't know how to stop it....fortunately my colleague came to the rescue and spoke to the person in charge of the music and finally, with us all running out of breath and enthusiasm we stopped.

'Lift high the Cross ...' indeed!

Weddings and funerals:

I have been privilege to be at various weddings, baptisms and sadly, funerals. These are such emotional occasions and I have been really impressed by how my colleagues, Rob, David, Jayne have stood at the front and conducted the various services. It clearly hasn't always been easy for them, but I feel people whether they are celebrating or grieving are in

good hands in Kings Norton. But behind the clergy and readers team are a whole army of people who have their part to play, especially those in the parish office and the vergers, Pat and Olive. Kings Norton parish is blessed indeed with such people.

2nd Aug: My neighbour came round to say I had a wasp's nest in my roof and a rat's nest in my garden! So, I started the month with slugs in the kitchen so now I finished the month with a growing, happy family of rats in the garden and wasps in the roof. A lovely man, called Graham came and sorted them all out. He said he was surprised the queen wasp set up her nest in such an unusual place when she could have taken her 30,000 strong family and settled in the compost at the bottom of the garden or in a bush or a hole somewhere... we both decided she must be a very determined female!....

More next month so watch this space!





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News from Grace

Not surprisingly. Grace's plans have changed since her last letter and her visit in March. Her home leave was extended so that she and Peter, who she had met in Central Asia, could get married on August Bank Holiday Saturday! wish them blessing in their life and service together. Grace has been reviewing the development community work of the agency, she been working ensure that strategies for the future are up to date and relevant. She is planning to return Central Asia sometime within the next few months as a visiting consultant to take part in training before returning with her husband in late 2008 on a more permanent basis. In the meantime they will be preparing for their return by continuing language developing studies and other skills to equip them for their future work. She says how much she values our prayerful and financial support, so if you would like to keep up to date with her latest news by receiving a copy of her letters. please let church office know and get your name on the list!

Ann Morrell.

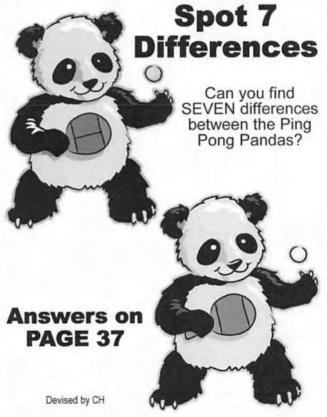
King's Norton History Society

KING'S NORTON HISTORY SOCIETY.

The Society's 2007/2008 Lecture Programme commences on MONDAY 24th SEPTEMBER with a talk entitled "Passion for Perfection" given by Eric Clements Des RCA, the renowned local designer and educator. The Society's meetings are held in St. Nicolas Church, doors open at 7.00pm.

Claire Simpson

King's Norton History Society



THE PARISH OF KINGS NORTON

The Parish of Kings Norton is a Team Parish comprising the parish church of St. Nicolas and three other District Churches.

WHO'S WHO AND ORGANISATIONS

Clergy:		
	Rector), The Rectory, Kings Norton B30 3EX	458 3289/459 0560
The Revd. DAVID GOULD (T	eam Vicar), 53 Wychall Park Grove, B38 8AG	459 5144
The Revd. REBECCA PULLI		458 2950
Hon. Curate:	N (Curate)	450 2950
	15 Chalasses Assess Kinns Nation BOR BVD	450.0700
Methodist Minister (Hawkesley):	, 15 Chalgrove, Avenue, Kings Norton B38 8YP	459 3733
The Revd. DONALD SAMPS	ON	476 7223
Lay Staff:		
Mrs. FAY FEARON (Reader) Ms RUTH SNASHALL (Read		451 1914
Church Wardens		
	SIAN SMITH c/o Parish Office	458 3289
		458 3289
Hawkesley (Chief Stewards)		338086 or 550 3455
	Mr. RAY DAVIS	458 5774
	Mr. PETER SMITH	453 9931
Immanuel (Warden)	ALAN HAYNES	459 4711
(Deputy Warden)	DEBBIE MALONE	
(Deputy Warden)	Mr. PETER SMITH ALAN HAYNES DEBBIE MALONE GERRY MOORCROFT	
P.C.C. Secretary		
		.50 0000
P.C.C. Treasurer	Rev JAYNE CROOKS, c/o Parish Office	458 3289
Parish Office:	30 Westhill Road, Kings Norton, B38 8TN	458 3289
	(Office: 10.00 a.m 1.00 p.m. Monday to Friday)	Fax: 486 3954
Parish Administrator	Mrs. CHRISTINE BOWEN	458 3289
Parish Administrator		458 3289
Finance Administrator		458 3289
Organist and Music Director	Miss SYLVIA FOX, 9 Kingshill Drive, B38 8SA	07778 449170
Chair & Orchestra Practices	Tuesday: Individual Tuition 7.00 - 8.30 p.m.	0///04451/0
Choil & Orchestia Fractices		00 0 00
	Friday: Juniors 6.30-7.45 p.m., Seniors + Adults 8 Sunday: Before Evensong 5.30-5.45 p.m.	.00-9.00 p.m.
Immanuel Music Group Leader	SUSAN HAYNES, 42 Marbury Close, B38 8YX	459 4711
Sunday School/Junior Church Superi Oasis (St. Nicolas)	intendents: contact via Parish Office	459 2200
Hawkesley	Contact via Parish Office	458 3289
The OASIS (Immanuel)	Miss NICKY CROOKS	
IMPACT! (Youth Group)	Every Sunday, 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m., at St Nicola	as Hall
Under las Andreas	Leader, GARETH JUNES	
Hawkesley Anglican		
Methodist Church	20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 2	200
	Shannon Road, Hawkesley, Kings Norton, B38 97	R
Headteacher	Mr. GRAEME DOBSON 459	6467 Fax: 459 6468
Dall Diagram	D. C. T. J. 1717.	
Bell Ringers	Practice Tuesdays at 7.15 to 9.15 p.m. in the Tow	er
	Mr G HARRISON, c/o Parish Office	
Secretary		458 2342
Kings Norton Handbell Ringers	Practice Mondays at 7 30 p.m.	
	Mar 10 MEL CON Mark 1.50 p.m.	2000 1010

......Mrs. JO NELSON

Mobile 07970 852280 or 208 4013

Secretary	.Mrs. J. CALEY, 25 Fairmead Rise, Kings Norton, B38 8BS	458 3328
Women's Evening Fellowship	1st Thursday at 7.30 p.m. in St Nicolas Hall Secretary: Mrs. CAROL DEVIC	458 3289
Seniors Club (Over 65's)	Every Wednesday afternoon in St Nicolas Hall DEB BUCKLEY & SIAN SMITH	702 2063
PRODH	KAREN URWIN (Project for the Renewal of Druids Heath)	430 6005
Scouts and Cubs	At St Nicolas Hall:-	
(198th Birmingham)	Beavers (aged 6-8): Wednesdays 5.00-6.00 p.m. Ahmeek: Mrs. PENNY HATTERSLEY	628 5694
	Cubs (aged 8-10½): Wednesdays 6.15 p.m7.45 p.m. Leader: Mr. JOHN HATTERSLEY	628 5694
	Scouts (aged 10½-15½); Wednesdays 8.00 p.m9.30 p.m. Leader: Mr. ROB KEENAHAN	244 0789
Scouts and Cubs	At the Bells Farm Community Centre:-	
(129th Birmingham)	Cubs (aged 8-11): Thursdays-6:30 p.m 8.00 p.m. Leader: Miss KAREN URWIN	459 7086
Guides and Brownies	At St Nicolas Hall:-	
	Rainbows: Mondays 5.30 p.m6.30 p.m.	
	Brownies: Thursdays 6.30 p.m8.00 p.m. Guides (247th Birmingham): Mondays 7.15 p.m9.00 p.m.	
	Brownies (188th Birmingham): Tuesday 6.00 p.m7.30 p.m.	
Guides and Brownies	At Hawkesley Church Centre:-	
	Rainbows (1st Kings Norton): Monday 5.30 p.m.	
	Brownies (259th Birmingham): Wednesday 6.30 p.m. Guides (141st Birmingham): Thursday 7.00 p.m.	
	Guides (141st birmingham). Thursday 7.00 p.m.	
Kings Norton Society	Fourth Friday at 8.00 p.m. mainly at St Nicolas Hall	
	Contact: RICK AND CLAIRE SIMPSON	459 5750
Kings Norton History Society	Last Monday (or last but one if Bank Holiday) from September	
	to May (exc. December) in St Nicolas Church at 7.30 p.m.	
	Secretary: Mrs CLAIRE SIMPSON	459 5750
St. Nicolas Pre-school Playgroup	Monday to Friday 9.30-11.45 a.m. in St. Nicolas Hall	
Parish Magazine Editor	Mr CHRIS HOLMES contact via Parish Office	628 5284
	E-mail editor@kingsi	
Parish Magazine Treasurer	Mrs. ALISON BLUMER, 60 Masshouse Lane. B38 9AA Revd JAYNE CROOKS, contact via Parish Office	486 2837 458 3289
Advertising Manager		

Telephone prefix in all cases 0121

Could all included in this section please inform Parish Office if and when contact details change

or e-mail webmaster@kingsnorton.org.uk



During the restoration construction period, from July 2006 to January 2008, venues and times may vary from time to time. The Parish Office has temporarily moved to 30 Westhill Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 8TN.

The telephone number remains the same.

CONTACT PARISH OFFICE 0121 458 3289

If you or your group are still unsure where you will be able to carry on YOUR meetings and activities, please contact the Parish Office

July 2007 Baptisms

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

1st July 2007	Cauly Bobby Morris
1st July 2007	Brooke Mia Patricia Crowley
1st July 2007	Isabella Sophia Cranstoun
15th July 2007	Ellie Addel Bishton
15th July 2007	Lillyanne Katie Ward
15th July 2007	Kalum Thresher-Wilding
15th July 2007	Heidi Saffron Francis

July 2007 Weddings

"Those whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

7th July 2007	Ian Nickolds and Sharyne Fitzgerald
7th July 2007	Adam Power and Rebecca Childs
7th July 2007	Martin Vale and Kelly Hinsley
21st July 2007	Danny Hale and Kerry Satterthwaite
21st July 2007	Allan McKinley and Claire McCall
21st July 2007	Paul Leadbetter and Clare Broadbent
28th July 2007	Adrian Beard and Amy Thomas
28th July 2007	Robert Hardy and Elizabeth Hawkesford

July 2007 Funerals

"I am the Resurrection and the life, saith the Lord."

2nd July 2007	Lewis Wilfred Parsons, aged 83	Service in St Nicolas; Burial at Wythall
3rd July 2007	- [- [- [- [- [- [- [- [- [- [Service in St Nicolas;
		Burial at Kings Norton Cemetery
3rd July 2007	Ronald James Hewitt, aged 60	Cremation at Lodge Hill
4th July 2007	Gladys Tracey, aged 87	Cremation at Lodge Hill
6th July 2007	Michael Leaonard Vaughan, aged 56	Service in St Nicolas; Burial at Lodge Hill
9th July 2007	Leslie John Richards, aged 77	Cremation at Lodge Hill
9th July 2007	Emily Maud Banner, aged 93	Cremation at Lodge Hill
9th July 2007	Margaret Maud Lock, aged 75	Service in St Nicolas;
		Burial at Brandwood End Cemetery
10th July 2007	Audrey Patricia Williams, aged 75	Service in St Nicolas;
TO CONTRACT OF THE PARTY OF THE		Cremation at Lodge Hill
10th July 2007	Ben Israel Broomfield, aged 23	Service in St Nicolas; Burial in Churchyard
11th July 2007	Thomas Terry Ward, aged 49	Service in St Nicolas;
		Burial at Kings Norton Cemetery
12th July 2007	Thomas (k/a Tom) Martin Fahy, aged 8	2 Burial in Churchyard
	Ronald Edward Williams, aged 63	Cremation at Lodge Hill
19th July 2007	Mary Gertrude Greaves, aged 92	Service in St Nicolas;
Control of States		Burial at Brandwood End Cemetery
19th July 2007	Gurtrude (k/a May) Elsie Morton, aged	93 Cremation at Lodge Hill
26th July 2007	Henry Proctor, aged 96	Interment of Ashes in Churchyard
	Baby Breakwell, Stillborn	Service in St Nicolas, Burial in Churchyard
	June Margaret Dyke, aged 79	Service in St Nicolas;

Cremation at Lodge Hill

SERVICES

St. Nicolas

EVERY SUNDAY

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) 6.00 p.m. Evening Worship (various)

EVERY 1st, 3rd and 4th SUNDAY

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (sung Communion with Oasis 5/7's)

2nd SUNDAY

10.30 a.m. Parade Service

11.45 a.m. Matins (BCP)

'Oasis'

for children aged 3 to 11, EVERY SUNDAY (except for Parade Service) at 10.30 a.m.

4th SUNDAY

EVERY MON/ WED/THURSDAY

9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer

5.30 p.m. Evening Prayer

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Family Service

EVERY THURSDAY

9.30 a.m. Tiny Tots

The children join the congregation in church towards the end of the service.

Tiny Tots

for 0-5's and parents/carers - each term-time Thursday 9.30 - 10.30 a.m. - in Church -

for play, coffee and chat.

Candle-lit Church meets EVERY WEDNESDAY 6.30 to 8.00 p.m. Creating a Candle Lit Church where anyone can come and enjoy a peaceful creative space in this busy city. Tea and coffee will be available and all are invited to feel free to come and go as you please throughout this time.

Hawkesley Anglican/Methodist Church

- meeting at the Hawkesley Pastoral Centre, Shannon Road/Old Portway EVERY SUNDAY 10.30 a.m. Family Service and Sunday School.

EVERY TUESDAY 9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Immanuel Church

- meeting at Fairway Day Centre, corner of The Fairway and Wychall Lane.

EVERY SUNDAY 10.30 a.m. Morning Service/Communion.

Oasis - Every Sunday 10.30 a.m. (except for All-Age Worship service)

Druids Heath

Services here are currently suspended pending an exploration

of future possibilities.

Café T

meets each week at the home of Gill and David Gould and welcomes people from all congregations (or none) to explore faith issues in a home based context. Call the

Parish Office for details.

BAPTISM AND MARRIAGES

Forms & particulars obtained from St Nicolas Church on Thursday Evenings between 6.30 & 8.00 p.m. or if you have other queries contact the Parish Office, 30 Westhill Road, Kings Norton, B38 8TN.

General Enquiries:- Parish Office Mon to Fri 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. e-mail:- info@kingsnorton.org.uk - Web Site:- www.kingsnorton.org.uk

Please visit the Parish Website on www.kingsnorton.org.uk for more information on services on a weekly basis.

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Barn Dance Low Down on the Hoe-Down

The recent Barn Dance at St Nicolas Hall in August was enjoyed by all and raised much needed funds.

Two country gals, Renate Berry (left) and Jan Treasurer, 'moseyed down' to St Nic's Hall and looked the part in their country attire.

Or could it be that they are using the event as an opportunity to show off the new uniform for the RESTORATION TOUR GUIDES ???.

All proceeds from the event went towards the Kings Norton Restoration Fund appeal.

CH







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Ever After

Rug ripped from under your feet Cast adrift and anchor gone All at sixes and sevens Now two is suddenly one Thread and bearings lost Ship abandoned, all at sea Hope sinking on the horizon Now it's "I" instead of "We" A piece of your puzzle is missing The half that made the whole shebang The front seat of the tandem is empty There's a vin but there's no yang It's like Ginger waltzing without Fred It's Johnny singing without June It's like Corbett without Barker It's Mills without the Boon But one day without any warning Out of the blue, like a thief in the night If a stranger dares to steal your heart And you're filled with a sweet delight Then take the plunge and cross the Rubicon For when push it comes to shove You can dance the dance with another So c'mon. Jump in to love.

by elvis mcgonagall

Women's Evening Fellowship NEW SEASON STARTS Sept 6th 2007 - 7.30 p.m.

Our new season starts on Thursday September 6th at 7.30 pm in St Nicolas Hall, Westhill Road.

Ken Whittaker, who has spoken to us before, will be giving a talk and tips on growing bulbs.



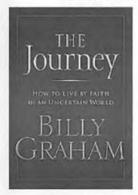
All welcome.

Gwen Fox - Chairman

BOOKS REVIEW The Journey

Billy Graham ISBN 0 8499 9145

£9.99



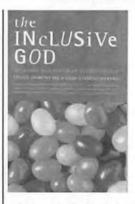
One of the joys for me of the Church o f England is the breadth o f thinking and practice that comes under the umbrella! Yes, it can be painful. but it also has the potential for wonderful creativity if only

we could stop each other defending bits of ground as being the last word in liturgy or mission or whatever else.

It has been my great privilege to work with people of hugely different outlooks and I find in myself a refusal to be bracketed to closely. Working as part of the team that planned and delivered the Billy Graham: Mission England football ground meetings of 1984/85 and with that all that went with them was a rich and challenging time for me. I discovered in Billy Graham none of the hype he was accused of, far more the servant preacher. So I came to this book anticipation and found here a distillation of much of what I had heard at nearly fifty public events and many others beside. Now elderly and in poor health here is one man's attempt to describe his journey of faith in his way. I find it profoundly moving and a great example that he has proved faithful to his calling and exercise of ministry over so many years with all the temptations that have brought so many others down. He has proved faithful and in that deserves a hearing as one who explores what it is to be caught up with God in discovering what life can offer.

The Inclusive God

Steven Shakespeare and Hugh Rayment-Pickard ISBN 1 85311 741 2 £12.99



My second book is very different. Here is a clarion call to seriously inclusive theology as biblical. missionary radical i.e. taking seriously core principles of the faith we share. It challenges us to justify seriously all the limitations we

place on God's creation because of our human fears and limitations. How much do we limit the cross, revelation and the kingdom of God with our personal prejudice and bigotry thus offering to all who would seek not so much the kingdom of God but one according to me and mine....The chapter on the Inclusive Church alone is worth buying the book for its challenge to see the church as unfinished, not infallible but open to continuous reform as it works through the risky process of journey with God and into God.

That brings us back to my first book this month and so to each of us as we dare to enter into a process of journey with others into the God who calls us. Is not inclusion the very heart of the Gospel? If that is so, how different would we be as individuals caught up by baptism and Eucharist in the church and how different would church look as truly gospel, truly inclusive and how much more would that say about the inclusive God who we dare to worship and seek to follow.

Perhaps these two books have more that compliments than divides.....

Revd David Gould

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PRODH



PROJECT FOR THE RENEWAL OF DRUIDS HEATH

Last month Chris (our Editor) kindly put in an article on PRODH. Now I feel it's up to me to take on the reigns!

I have been in post for three months and it feels like a lot longer (in a good way that is!) So far my most important skill has been listening and the result has been a lot of learning. I have had conversations with sixty householders and around ten businesses, as we want to ensure we get a really clear picture of life on the estate. I have had many networking conversations with people from a variety of different organisations that either: provide a service to people on Druids Heath; support community work in the area or are doing something similar to PRODH.

Some of the messages are hard to hear. A woman with two children who had been in temporary accommodation for nine years. Another lady whose house had been flooded with sewage seven times before it was sorted out. A man with three children living twelve floors up in a tower block. Some things are hard to see. Leafleting around the tower blocks, (the Neighbourhood Office was kind enough to let me join them in one of their leaflet drops) and seeing steel cages up in front of peoples doors for security. Just imagine bringing up a child in that environment. Others are different. One lady I talked to had no problems to report. She told me that everything was wonderful. I pressed her further to find that, earlier on this year her and her young son had been moved in to the very nice two bed roomed house she now lived in from one of those tower blocks.

Apparently the name PRODH is becoming known. People are starting to hear about us

and seem to be seeing it as a force for good. I have had some really useful conversations, such as meeting with the clerk of Frankley Parish Council on Friday and gaining a clearer idea of where the new Community Council may sit in the legal framework of the City.



The Committee of PRODH has developed into a very effective team. It consists of: one of the Selly Oak Constituency Ward Officers, Wyn Jones; Dawn Curley, the Project Manager of Birmingham Young Carers; Sydney Forster, leader of Spearhead, a Christian Youth organisation; Christine Westwood, a Health Visitor; Sgt Denise Markham, Police Neighbourhood Officer; Chris Evans a Reader at Barnt Green; Stephen Plant, Parish Warden; Alan Haynes, Church Warden at Immanuel and it is chaired by Revd David Gould.

Having come from a background in teaching the learning curve has been more of a vertical cliff face, but, learning on the job, voracious reading and in particular having a superb team behind me has ensured that I stay on track. My thanks to them all.

Karen Urwin Civic Renewal & Community Regeneration Officer for PRODH

ONIA ASIA

A Taste of Indonesia

First, thanks so much for the support and encouragement of so many people for the Buy The Book sale at the Kings Norton

festival in July. We raised a really worthwhile £230. £30 has gone to Grace Guinness of CMS, £50 directly to 2 students I told you about, £75 into STT Abdi Sabda college in Medan, Northern Sumatera welfare fund and £75 into the college library fund. You can be assured that it every penny will go straight to where it is needed.

MORE ABOUT MEDAN

A local guidebook says: 'When newly arrived in Medan one just wants to leave immediately. Don't! Medan has much to offer, not just pollution, dirt, noise heat and chaotic traffic. Give Medan a chance.' I did think that Medan is a city which only the native born could love. Yet I found kindness and a warmth of welcome. I developed a fondness for the city which attempts to cope with a painfully slow recovery corrupt governments and ensuing bankruptcy which followed national independence after the second world war. There is 20% youth unemployment and an inability to attract tourists. (If you ask in the tourist office in the airport they ask you what it says in your guide book!) Recently, there has been a catalogue of natural disasters, the tsunami, earthquakes, floods and volcano erruptions on a scale unimaginable to most of us, and a major plane crash near a densely populated area of the city. Oh, and apparently unsolvable traffic chaos!

LAKE TOBA

Those visiting Medan are there either for business or to see the orang-utan sanctuary. One effect of the tsunami was that the

sanctuary terrain became a mud slide. Many of these appealing creatures fled. A year later and it was still only partly rebuilt so the remaining primates live in very poor conditions and less tourists come. They are missing one of the most beautiful places on earth. About 3 hours drive from Medan is Lake Toba, created by a massive volcanic erruptions thousands of years ago. This is a fertile area with cooler, clear air, surrounded by volcano shaped mountains. There is an island in the middle, with ancient religious carving, a little like those on Easter Island.

Nearby and along the lake are some intact traditional Karo Batak and Toba Batak villages. ('Batak' is a pejorative term meaning 'pigeater, given to the locals by the Muslim invaders. Their ancestors were head hunters. many converted to Christianity by German missionaries in the 19th century.) The steep boat or sail shaped thatched roofs of the oldest houses are most distinctive. They are built on earthquake proof wooden supports and used to hold 8 or 9 families. There is a cooking platform and a birthing post. Now they are so expensive to restore that they are largely abandoned and the associated skills lost. Sadly the fishing industry is also almost finished. The Japanese captured Sumatera from the Dutch during the war. They filled the lake with their favourite fish which consumed the local varieties. A virus has attacked the descendents so that most have died.

Back in Medan, on Saturday evening at 7pm four of the busiest roads in town would close. Hundreds of tables and benches and food stalls would be set out by local Chinese restaurateurs. Families would enjoy the friendly atmosphere evening eating, talking and watching karaoke on the huge screens!

(Continued on page 35)

Don't lose your photo's

'Inevitably, one day the PC will crash and the photo's lost forever, unless.....'

I recently had to teach my four year old son all about cameras with film in and the need to wait (even for an hour) to get them developed. All he had ever known was digital photography and being able to see the results on a small screen instantly. With digital cameras and camera phones becoming the norm now I bet there are a lot of photographs taken that never get printed but are still treasured memories stored on a hard drive of a PC.



Inevitably, one day the PC will crash and the photo's lost forever, unless of course you have saved them somewhere else instead. Along with all your other important documents it is a good discipline to regularly back-up your files onto a CD or DVD.



Alternatively you could use Flash memory which you insert into a USB port. Although this is a bit more expensive than DVD's it is much quicker and more straightforward to use. 2Gb of memory will give you plenty of storage and will only cost around £10.

If you have a broadband connection another alternative is to upload your photo's to a website where not only you but others can access them (if you want them to). Many of these sites offer free storage space and also printing with free prints thrown in as an introductory offer. If you Google 'free photo storage' you will find a large number of these sites. My personal favourite Picasa is at http:// picasa.google.co.uk which excellent photo organiser software that you can download to your PC and they also give you a massive 1GB of free storage space.

Happy Surfing



Hawkesley Church
Enjoy Coffee & Chat
Tues 4th Sept & fortnightly Thereafter
ALL ARE WELCOME



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AND ASSOCIATES

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Hawkesley Church

Anglican/Methodist Church meeting at the Hawkesley Pastoral Centre, Shannon Road, Old Portway



YOUR VERY WELCOME

Our Summer Barbecue was held on Sunday 24th June midsummer (joke) day, but due to the inclement weather we had to move inside to the pastoral centre and church hall for the serving and eating of the food, which was cooked outside under the gazebo by Jim Clarke and Gerry Moorcroft. This change of arrangement did not prevent us from enjoying the occasion, which was especially well supported by members of Immanuel Church. The food was excellent and the whole event a great success with many thanks due to all who brought prepared, served and cooked the food. It is good that we can meet and share food and fellowship with friends from the wider parish, and that there may be more occasions when such events can take place.

On Sunday 5th August we celebrated our first baptism at Hawkesley Church for four years and this was a very happy occasion. A congregation of approximately 60 adults

and 20 children witnessed the baptism of Shania Delsie Burgess in a Holy Communion and Baptism Service which was led by Revd Jayne Crooks.

Our "Coffee and Chat" Group will resume after the summer break on Tuesday 4th September and fortnightly thereafter. Details of our Autumn Programme will be announced in the Parish Newsletters.

Ray Davis, Church Steward.

Harvest at Hawkesley

Sunday 30th September

10.30am Harvest Parade Service

A

A Taste of Indonesia (continued)

(Continued from page 32)

On Sunday afternoons I used to take refuge, after church with the students, in one of Medan's new air-conditioned shopping malls, much to Gwyneth's despair. I needed my western fix! You met every foreigner in town in Starbuck's or the huge Carrefour where we would buy banana cake for Sunday tea. I depended so much on Gwyneth for everything else that it was nice to have 'my' bit of Medan to share with her. One of the Australian omf partners said "Thelma knows all the shopping in Medan" which I was quite proud of! I had been so nervous to step outside the house, except to go to the college the first year.

The joy of the students, their desire to broaden and deepen their Christian faith, the amazing resilience of the people in the face of such adversity helped me make the decision to return to Medan. It was an enormous privilege to Serve Asia with omf for 2 summers and God willing, I should like to go back one day. Please pray for this area, especially those who witness to their Christian faith in difficult conditions.

Go to www.omf.org.uk for information about short and long term placements in south east Asia.

Thelma Mitchell



CHILDREN'S PAGE... with Karen

Dear Friends, Here we are again in the first month of Autumn, a new season, for some of you a new class and new teachers and for some even a new school. My story today comes from the Bible you can find it in Acts chapter 10 and it tells us about a new start for a man called Peter. You might remember Peter he was one of Jesus' disciples.

Enjoy, Karen

Peter and Cornelius

Jesus had told all his disciples to go and spread the word of His death and rising again, so the disciples went out to do as they had been asked and Peter was one of them. Naturally enough they started amongst the people they knew and understood, people who had grown up as Jews, the same as they had. Peter healed many Jews, using the power of the Holy Spirit that the disciples were given by God, and he baptized many of them also but then one day something happened that changed everything.

Peter was staying in a place called Joppa with a friend of his, a tanner called Simon. Some way away in Caesarea there lived a Roman Centurion called Cornelius. One afternoon Cornelius had a vision. Immediately he called two of his servants, and a soldier who was one of his attendants, "Go to Joppa." he told them, "There staying at the house of Simon the Tanner you will find a man called Peter. Ask him to come and see me here."

While the three men were on their way Peter was on the roof of Simon's house praying. He became hungry and asked for some food but while it was being made he suddenly fell into a trance and had a vision of his own.

In Peter's vision he saw a sheet being lowered out of heaven and on it was all sorts of animals and birds and a voice told him to kill and eat the animals. Now Jewish belief says that animals have to be prepared in a certain way before they can be eaten so Peter shouted "No, I have

never eaten anything impure or unclean!" but the voice said "Do not call anything unclean that God has made clean." Three times this happened and then the vision ended.

While Peter was still wondering what the vision meant, Cornelius's men arrived at Simon's house and asked to see him. Simon went out to them, curious to know what Romans could possibly want with him. The servants told him that Cornelius, a Roman Centurion, wanted Peter to visit. Peter was just about to say that his message was only for Jews but suddenly he remembered his vision. He heard in his mind the voice saying "Do not call anything unclean that God has made clean." and suddenly Peter knew what it meant. It meant that the Good News of Jesus dving for our sins and coming back to life was not just for the Jews it was for everyone and God had chosen Cornelius to be the first.

Peter went and visited Cornelius and they ate and talked and laughed together until late into the evening. After this Cornelius told many of his friends about Peter's visit and the Good News, that Peter had told him, spread. Peter continued to travel all over Israel but now he did not keep his news for the Jews but spread it amongst many different people, whoever would listen and many thousands were baptized.

New starts can be scary but, just like Peter and Cornelius found, if we put our trust in God and believe that he knows what is best for us, they can lead us to wonderful new things.

Sudoku

	4				
		6		1	5
6			3	2	
3	1		5		
		4			2
	2				1

Sudoku Rules

The numbers only go up to 6. There needs to be all the numbers 1-6 in every box and every line.

LAST MONTHS SUDOKU SOLUTION



3	5	1	6	4	2
1	6	2	4	5	3
2	4	3	5	1	6
4	2	5	3	6	1
6	1	4	2	3	5
5	3	6	1	2	4

SPOT 7 DIFFERENCES FROM PAGE 21



Tiny Tots We meet again on 6th September.

Tiny Tots finished their term with a flourish as we took the opportunity afforded by a day of sunshine, to have a picnic in the grounds of Nicolas church. Seen here in the photo are some of the faithful regulars. Lilv. Ellie. Sophie and Melissa. together with Grace. who joined us recently.

blessing. During the last year we have had a lot of fun, learning about Jesus and his friends and about how much God loves each one of us. We've learned some new songs and acted out the stories of Christmas and Easter. Tiny Tots have just had a break now for the month of August, but we



We rounded off our picnic with an "awards" ceremony, when each received certificate of attendance and the present of a for book being member. We said our goodbyes to those who would not be returning in September, as they move on to nursery school and we ended some of our favourite songs and a for God's prayer

shall be starting a new term on September 6th so if you are not at school and are under 5, please come and join us for an hour on Thursday mornings in St Nicolas' church between 9.30 am and 10.30 am, for fun, stories, songs and prayer. (But please bring your mummy or a carer with you!) you in September.

Revd Jayne Crooks

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Prayer and World Needs Group

are organising a

Green Dinner Party



Saturday September 29th 2007 Manningford Hall, Bells Lane, Druids Heath

From: 6pm - 9pm (Green cocktails served @ 6pm)

In true green style, you are invited to -Bring enough green food for yourself (with the option to swap with others) Bring a bottle

The aim is -

To enjoy each others company, eat together, to chat about green issues.

Dress code - GREEN!

There is no charge for the event but you will need a ticket. Tickets will be available at church services or from the Parish Office.

CAFÉT - CAFÉT - CAFÉT - CAFÉ Trying to make sense of faith!

Café T is an informal exploration of the Christian understanding of faith Tuesday Evenings at 8.00 p.m. at the home of Gill & David Gould for more details 458 3289 or 459 5144



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HERITAGE OPEN DAY

Saturday 8th September

Tours of St. Nicolas Church and exteriors of the Restoration Buildings 10.00 a.m. & 12 Noon

Talks on the Restoration of the Old Grammar School & Saracen's Head 11.00 a.m. & 1.00 p.m.



GREETINGS FROM IMMANUEL CHURCH!

Yet again, the summer has flown by! Alan and I would like to thank people at Immanuel for "stepping in" over August when we have had to take a back seat from our church responsibilities. ever, people were willing and able to practical support in ways and all the jobs got done! Thank you.

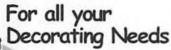
September often feels like the start of a new year, certainly for children, young people and teachers! At Immanuel we have several people who are starting new schools or colleges and so we will be praying for them. We will also be continuing to pray for our two local primary schools, Fairway and Wychall, and will be resuming our support for them in this new academic year.

This term we are looking to start an Alpha Course at Immanuel. The course is pretty well known nationwide and basically involves 12 sessions of eating meals together and exploring the basics of our faith, through presentations and discussions. particularly useful for those new to faith or for those who are "just looking". At Immanuel we will run the first course for people who primarily already come to church, either because they are interested in the content of the course (it has been suggested that it's a good follow-up from Confirmation Classes) or because they are looking to invite friends/family next time and would like to experience it for themselves first. It won't be exclusively for Immanuel, so if you would like to find out more about it, please feel free to contact me on tel. 459 4711. Thank you.

Susan Haynes

Harvest at Immanuel

Sunday 30th September 10.30am Harvest Service





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"Parish Mag"

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Dear Margaret,

I notice that the parish web site is advertising a 3D course. Will those attending need to bring their own special glasses in order to appreciate the presentations or will they be provided. I still have a pair that I was given at a cinema when I went to see a film in 3D which I would happily lend to anyone wishing to attend the course.

S. Crivens

Dear S

Thank you for your kind offer, but we won't be needing your glasses. The 3D course is a bible-based study course for established Christians who want to develop their understanding and discipleship. If you want to find out more, please contact the Parish Office.

Dear Margaret,

I wrote to you back in May about the number of people getting married, and it has come to my attention that it has happened again. It turns out that Rachel who works in the Parish Office has got herself married to Richard and I wasn't invited. I can't believe it.

Matt Rimony

Dear Matt.

You are quite right, Rachel and Richard have indeed got married. I'm sure you would want to join me in wishing them a very happy married life together.



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Prayer and World Needs Group are organising CAKE STALLS







The Prayer and World Needs Group are holding a number of CAKE STALLS following the 10.30 a.m. services in September.

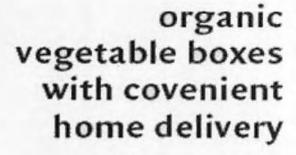
They will be as follows:-

September 2nd - at St Nicolas September 16th - at Immanuel September 23rd - at Hawkesley



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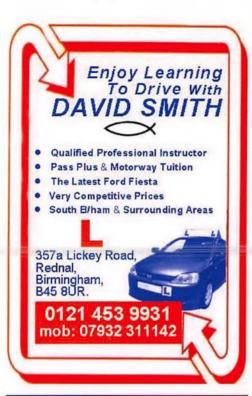
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