



## **St Nick's, Allestree & St Paul's, Quarndon**

*March 2023*

March already. It's a tired old cliché when we comment on how quickly time passes, especially when we get older, but it doesn't stop it being true. One thing that my wife and I have caught ourselves saying to each other is "it's Thursday again!" In case I'm being obscure, what we mean is that another week has almost gone by already, and there do seem to be more and more Thursdays.



As if that isn't bewildering enough, life itself is becoming more and more perplexing. So many changes, and even if we can keep up, we don't necessarily feel comfortable. It doesn't take long at all for things to become "old", and for "old" you can read "finished with". We are in a society which thinks it is free, but woe betide you if you express an opinion that is deemed offensive. Last week, I visited Southwell Workhouse (a very interesting day out, by the way). There was talk of paupers, of loafers, of idiots and lunatics. Of course we don't use language like that these days in a medical or social-care context, but it is dishonest to pretend that they didn't back then, and we were in an historical exhibit.

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**Office Hours:** Monday 12-3pm and Thursday 9am –3pm





However, the need was felt to display signs at various points to make it clear that these words were not being used with any approval, and belonged to the past. Fear of causing offence and getting into trouble was clearly very real, and we find this same thinking in society more widely.

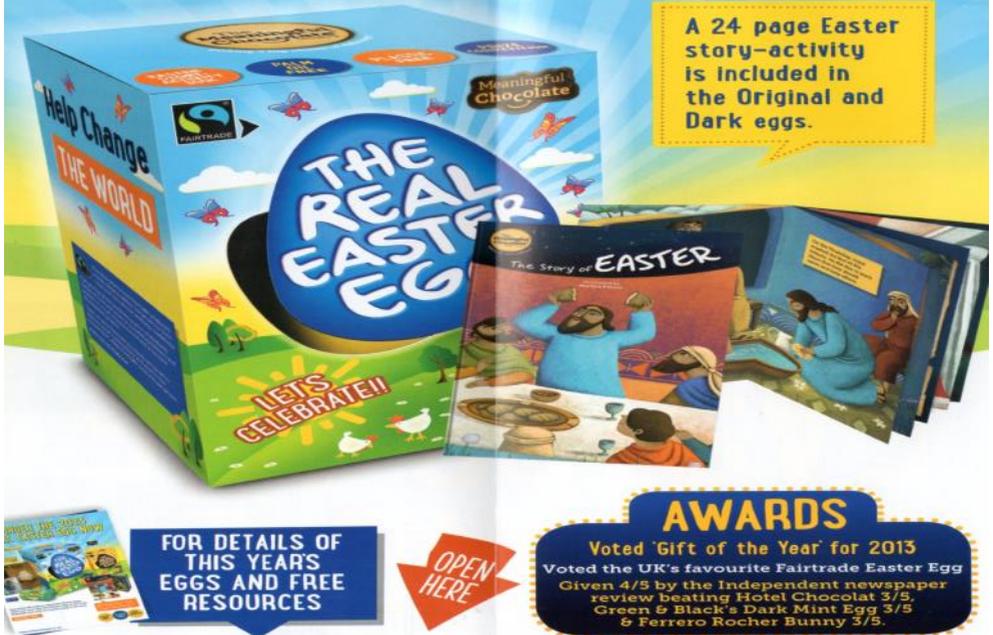
For those of us who follow a faith that is two millennia old (actually, it's older still, but let's not get picky), and who live to standards which the world has consigned to the past, the discomfort can be severe. Our media sometimes say it out loud, and the rest of the time convey the assumption, that Nobody Believes That Any More. For a long time, the Gospel has been dismissed as irrelevant, but now it has become unwelcome. As I write, a Scottish politician's future is in question because she is a Christian, and makes no attempt to hide it. As far as I can see, her faith is orthodox, and her character exemplary, but other members of her party have publicly distanced themselves from her and made it clear that they expect others to do the same. This is not the first time this has happened to Christians in public life, and people in less public situations could tell similar stories.

Jesus himself never sought popularity, and he was never interested in following current fashion. Moreover, he repeatedly warned his followers to expect a hard time – in fact, he warned us to be on our guard against enjoying everyone's approval (Luke 6:26), and urged us to rejoice when we are unfairly treated (Matthew 5:12). While there is no suggestion that we should deliberately provoke hostility, we should not be taken by surprise when we find that we are out of step with the world we live in. Indeed, we should be reassured that we are indeed where Jesus said we would be. And he is with us every step of the way.

David

**LET'S CELEBRATE THE EASTER STORY  
AS WE ALL MEET AGAIN AT EASTER**

A 24 page Easter story-activity is included in the Original and Dark eggs.



## The Meaningful Chocolate Company

The Meaningful Chocolate Company is a Christian company which sells Fairtrade chocolate - Advent calendars at Christmas and the Real Easter Egg, the only Fairtrade egg to include a copy of the Easter story in the box.

Supermarkets no longer stock the Real Easter Egg so the only way to order them is at [www.realeasteregg.co.uk](http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk) or phoning 01925 877004.

As well as paying farmers a fair price for their produce, the company have donated more than £320,000 to charitable, development and education projects. There is a scheme to buy an egg at a reduced price to donate to the Trussell Trust food bank hub for distribution.

Individual or group orders are welcome. Order by March 7th.

# Nagpur Link

St John's, Park Farm



## Lent Lunch

Soup - Cheese or Ham Roll - Piece of Fruit - Tea - Coffee

*Saturday 25 March 2023*

**12.30pm**

£5 suggested donation- cash only



## **The Allestree Nagpur Link Takeaway Curry Night Fundraiser**

Back in 1977, the Church in Derbyshire formed a partnership with the Church of North India (CNI). The during the 1980s a group of churches in the area of Allestree formed a close relationship with the CNI Social Services Institute in Nagpur. Called the Nagpur Link, our group has supported the work of the CNI SSI ever since, assisting people in the slums and allowing them to help themselves out of poverty. Recent projects include the funding of a training centre and funding of seeds to allow planting on the 'Allestree Field' in Nagpur. Prayer support and exchange visits are also integral to the partnership. Each local church in the area is asked to have a Nagpur Representative, and I have recently put my name forward as the representative for St Pauls, Quarndon.

On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023, the group held a takeaway curry evening, hosted by Broadway Baptist Church in Darley Abbey. The team of dedicated volunteers, were busy in the kitchen from 9am, cooking and preparing enough curry to be served that evening. The fantastic samosas were collected from a shop in Derby, along with naan bread. The full works! A selection of chicken, broccoli and spinach curries meant that all tastes were catered for.

Supporters were able to book their collection time and orders through the website, from 5.30pm with the latest servings being at 7.30pm. To stay environmentally friendly, people were asked to bring their own containers along. Such an array are already stored in our houses, and as I found out on the evening, all with different lids!

The team were truly inspirational, with such amazing dedication to a very worthy cause. In total the amount raised from the takeaway night was over £1000.

There will be other local events this year, if you would like to help continue supporting the Nagpur Diocese keep an eye on the notice board outside St Pauls church.

Rebecca, St Pauls, Quarndon

## **St Paul's News**

### **St Paul's APCM**

As we now have a Coronation to celebrate on the weekend of the 6<sup>th</sup> May, the PCC have decided to move the APCM to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May when hopefully more of you can attend.

Though we have an 'All Age' service at 3.30pm, we will also now have a said Morning Praise service at 10am followed by post service refreshments and the APCM.

Please do come and join us if you are free. You do not have to attend either service that day, just turn up (have a cuppa and biscuit), listen to the reports and if you are a member of the church (see below) you can also vote.

Your support will be very much appreciated by the PCC.

Many thanks

## **St Nicks News**

- We are looking for a new PCC secretary and Pastoral Care coordinator with Linda and Anna retiring at the APCM. Please speak to Paul or Graham if interested.
- The Vestry and Church room have been redecorated with thanks to the Community Payback effort under the direction of Mike Hannah.
- St Nicks APCM will be held on May 4th at 7:30pm
- There will be a church coronation celebration lunch at the church on Sunday 7th May.
- A thanksgiving service will be held for Kate Moncur on Friday March 10th at 2pm

## **2023 Electoral Rolls**

As parishes prepare for their APCMs, they look to review their accounts, write reports and update their church Electoral Roll.

This is different to a Local Council Electoral Roll and is the foundation of church governance, allowing you to vote at the APCM.

Like the last few years, the 2023 Electoral Roll is just a 'tweak' to the current list and does not require everyone to sign up again, so unless you advise otherwise, you remain on the list. If you are new to our church and wish to be counted as a member, then please get in touch with your Electoral Roll Officer. Similarly, if you no longer wish to be a member or are a member of another church, then again let us know.

To be on the Electoral Roll a person must be baptised, at least 16 years old and either: live in the parish and a member of the Church of England (or a church in communion with the Church of England), or be not resident in the parish but a member of the Church of England (or a Church in communion with the Church of England) and has regularly attended worship in the Parish during the six months prior to enrolment, or be a member in good standing of a Church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and they are prepared to declare themselves a member of the Church of England, having regularly attended worship during the six months prior to enrolment.

As per the C of E rules, we will be announcing the Electoral Roll update activity in services in March / April and they will be published just before the APCM.

Many thanks in advance for your patience re this necessary process  
Jan, St Paul's Electoral Roll Officer  
Gill, St Nick's Electoral Roll Officer

## **The Children's Society**

Thanks to everyone who continues to give to The Children's Society through their box contributions. This year's total amount is £985.

Thanks

Helen Illingworth

## **News from Anna our Children's and Youth Worker**

From March to September last year we ran our youth outreach project, being a visible presence outside Woodland's School in Holy Family Church car park every Wednesday 3 – 4.30pm. This was in collaboration with ourselves, Broadway Baptist, YWAM, local council, and Sporting Communities. We gave away over 120 hot chocolates in about 15 minutes every week!

During these 5 months we consulted with the young people about further youth provision in the area and decided to look for a venue nearby to hold an indoor youth group for the winter months. In September our conversations around a possible venue and funding for Sporting Communities took an unexpected turn, at this point myself, Jonathon Schmidt (YWAM) and Amy McCallum (Broadway Baptist Church) prayed and felt it was right to hold the group at St. Nick's.

We were then encouraged to seek funding by the neighbourhood board from Warm Spaces which we were granted (beyond our expectations!) This funding is enough to see us through most of the academic year. The youth group finally started at the beginning of February, Tuesdays 3.30-5pm. We've had 2 sessions so far and have had 15 young people. Exciting times!

## **The Children's Society are Recruiting for Volunteer Speakers**

Can you talk with passion to audiences both large and small?

Would you like to help the most vulnerable children in the country?

If so, support us by becoming a Volunteer Speaker for Children's Society

We need people like you to make a real difference by increasing awareness of our vital work. By reaching out and sourcing talks in your local community you will inspire people to support us and strengthen our ties with your local area, through churches, schools and businesses.

You will thank existing supporters and motivate new people to get involved in our work and donate their time and money.

We want your time with us to be enjoyable and well as impactful, which is why we will reward as provide you with all of the support and training you need to be effective in your role and to get the most out of volunteering.

What the role involves :

- Attending training on how to be a confident and effective public speaker in various places, including churches schools and community groups for The Children's Society
- Delivering talks in your local community groups schools and churches
- Speaking to raise awareness of the issues vulnerable children and young people face
- Explaining how we are here to help and letting them know about the impact their support has had
- Encouraging audience members to get involved through House Box network campaigns Christingles and other fundraising events
- Proactively sourcing talks in your local area

If you think you have what it takes to become a Volunteer Speaker for The Children's Society please contact Jane Foster on [jane.foster@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:jane.foster@childrenssociety.org.uk) or call 0114 2890323'

## Prayer Requests:

*Please pray for:-*

- Phil and family as they mourn the loss of Kate.
- Those who are seriously ill and in need of comfort and healing.
- For progress in the calling of a new vicar to our parishes.

### St Nick's Prayer Circle

St Nick's have a prayer circle as part of their pastoral care set up.

For those unfamiliar with the practice, it is simply a circle of people who are committed to phone along a chain when people request prayer, or a situation arises that needs communicating and praying for. You can rest assured that you are being covered in prayer when you approach someone who is on the contact list.

***If you would like to be added to the prayer circle,  
please get in touch with the church office.***

***For more details, please see the poster at the back of St Nick's***

## Church Prayer @ St Nick's

**Pre-church prayer** has now resumed in the chapel from 9.30am to 9.45am on a Sunday morning. We pray for the service to follow and anything else the Holy Spirit prompts us to bring to our Father.

**Monthly Prayer Meeting**  
now returns to the chapel  
normally on Wednesdays  
7.30-8.30pm

However this month it will  
meeting will be on Tuesday March 21st 7:30pm

Contact Graham if you are interested in joining us in prayer.



## News about Dawn

We officially heard that :

‘The Revd Dawn Knight Assistant Curate of Allestree St Nicholas and of Quarndon, Diocese of Derby, has been appointed Priest-in-Charge of Cotmanhay and Shipley in the same diocese. ‘

Her last service with us will be on Sunday 23rd April followed by a goodbye lunch, the full details later.

Congratulations to Dawn. Please pray for her and her family as they prepare for the move to the new parish and the responsibilities of the appointment.

## Coffee & Chat @ St Nick's

A reminder that Coffee & Chat meet every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, in the Church Room, 10:30am -12noon. All are welcome to join in and enjoy this lovely social, which is much appreciated



## St Nick's Pub Lunches

Join us after church for a pub lunch social once a month. The next one will be on March 12th at 12 noon.



## Knit & Knatter @ St Nick's

Meetings are held in the Church Hall on the 1st, 3rd, and where there is a 5th Wednesday of the month, 2-3:30pm.

*Membership fee*—£5 each quarter, then £1 per session.

Contact Sandra on 557114

Come and join us for tea, biscuits, and chat.

## **Newsletter Information - Deadline!**

Please be aware that the deadline for any news you'd like to be included in the next Newsletter is always the 23rd of the month before.

Any info should be sent to the church

## **St Nick's Birthdays**

If you've got a big birthday coming up, maybe 80, 90..... 100?! We'd love to know so that we can celebrate with you!

Speak to Sarah Tupling, who keeps our birthday records up to date.

