



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

*September 2022*

### **The end of the summer**

Despite the drought conditions we are experiencing, gardens, parks and the countryside have given us much pleasure over the summer and continue to do so as we enter the month of September and the approach of autumn.

For several years we enjoyed the wonderful blossom of a wisteria in our garden. Then one winter it died. The branches were completely dead and we had to cut it down. Of course we missed the wonderful flowers and scent the following spring but decided not to replace it straightaway.

A couple of years ago I saw a fresh green shoot pushing its way between two planks of our decking. I recognised the leaves as a wisteria and it began to flourish. Graham had to cut away some of the decking wood to allow the plant to grow. What we thought was dead now is alive again and this summer has produced three blossoms.



Sometimes life can be like that. Ideas, friendships, faith, once deemed dead, are reborn through all sorts of circumstances. The ultimate example of course is Jesus Christ who died and rose again that we might have life in abundance.

As we move forward, let us hold onto Jesus "the author and perfecter of our faith", knowing that he will bring life into our service for him.

Let us be led by the Holy Spirit that we may see new growth in ourselves, our church and our community.

Many of us have had new and life changing experiences over the summer.

In this newsletter, two members of St Nick's, Anne Cartmell and Elaine Dunstan share their stories.

Graham and Julie Tanner

**Curate:** Rev. Dawn Knight      **Email:** revdawn68@gmail.com

**Contact Tel:** 01332 519552      **Rest Day:** Friday

**Children's, Youth & Families Worker:** Anna Oldknow

**Email:** stnickschildrensworker@gmail.com

**Church Office Tel:** 01332 550431



## Visit to Oberammergau

In May, a group of us had the privilege to go to the Passion play in Oberammergau, south west Germany. This is usually staged every ten years but due to Covid it was delayed until 2022 (instead of 2020).

In 1633, Europe was infected with a plague and Oberammergau lost 80 villagers. People sought refuge in prayer and vowed that if the village was saved from the plague, they would enact the Passion tragedy every 10 years.

No one died from the plague from then on and in 1634 they fulfilled their promise for the first time. Since then they have kept their promise and are performing this story for the 42nd time this year.

The play is performed exclusively by amateurs from Oberammergau. In 2010 there were over 2000 of the 5300 inhabitants involved in the production either on stage or behind the scenes. The theatre is vast, seating 4500 people with everyone able to see the stage.

The play tells the story of Jesus' Passion from His entry into Jerusalem and ending with the Resurrection and Ascension. The dialogue is all in German but we were given a transcript of the whole play.

The whole experience was very moving and the story came to life in a way I had not expected. Conversations of ordinary people standing by, real animals and children all on stage made me think I was there! The Crucifixion was the climax for me and I found myself so overwhelmed that it was difficult to speak.

I had heard about this Passion play many years ago so it had been on my "wanting to do" list for a long time and it was certainly worth the wait. Thank you Lord for the experience.

**Anne Cartmell**

## **New Wine – United**

I've been going to New Wine since 2013. I started with my previous Church Family, St Matthews in Yiewsley, near Heathrow Airport. I hadn't heard of this before then.

Well, what an uplifted experience this was to meet and worship God with so many likeminded Christians. I didn't know what to expect and how I'd feel. I started with going to Shepton Mallett and in 2018 it was announced that the grounds New Wine used were to be partly developed on and could no longer be used for large gatherings. A new venue had therefore been found at the East of England Showgrounds in Peterborough. So, in 2019 we started at Peterborough and as you know, we were then hit with a terrible couple of years with Covid-19! No New Wine gatherings for 2020 and 2021!

I kept rolling my booking for 2020, booked at the end of 2019 event as we get an early bird discount, and finally this year we were able to go again. I went with St Matthews again and what a delight it was to spend time praying, worshipping and having companionship with so many people.

It was a long awaited time to get that feeling of healing, being refreshed, receiving new inspiration and LOVE from the presence of Our Great Lord. Unfortunately, we were informed that again New Wine needs to find another venue as Peterborough Showground is being partly developed on and no further large gatherings are able to be held there. So we are all praying that new grounds can be found, quickly, for next year!

If any of you would like further information on my experiences, I'll certainly be happy to talk to you.

With Love and Prayers to all,

**Elaine Dunstan**

## Vacancy Update

After a long wait, we have finally got some movement in the process of getting a replacement for Becky. Church House wanted to leave any appointment decisions to the new Archdeacon and unfortunately that appointment has only just happened.

The new incumbent – Ven. Matthew Trick met with both PCCs in July and advised us that he was happy for us to proceed with the replacement process. He was very clear that this was to be via a joint Parish Profile and work will now start to produce this document. Both PCCs have been asked to nominate representatives that can form a (joint) subgroup.

The work we have been doing on developing our new Visions will form an important part of the Parish Profile. We also have our last profile and various examples on the internet so there will be a lot of updating of info and deciding what is best to share. Once they are happy with a draft profile it will go to Matthew and then to the PCCs for approval.

The Archdeacon's office then advertise the role and representatives from both churches will be involved in the interview process. The office do though have a significant number of vacancies across the diocese but we hope it wont be too long before we can update you again with more information or even an outcome.

Though we are still some way off, we are able to start to move forward and work towards the next chapter in our churches' lives. In the mean time we ask for your prayers for the PCCs and reps as they compete this important task.

Jan Calladine Church warden St Paul's

## Holiday at Home

Several of us have been involved in Holiday at Home (H@H), which though at Broadway Baptist is also supported by many other churches in area. The idea is to provide a mini holiday for those who can not go away. The latest event was in August and the theme was 'All Aboard'. We had up to 50 senior guests who spent 3 days at Broadway and the final day at Crich Tramway Museum.

Each day started with coffee and biscuits and then some chair-o-bics followed by craft activities. Side rooms contained other games, jigsaws and videos and there was even a drama group. The hand massage service was immensely popular and we had to put out chairs for the queue.

After a 3 course lunch, guests were entertained by a talk or singing and we rounded off the day with tea and burgeoning plates of cakes.

Many guests commented on how much they enjoyed the days and they all went home with a craft they had made and a smile on their faces.

None of this could have occurred without the many volunteers who decorated, made teas, baked cakes, washed up, donated games, swept up or acted as hosts – chatting to the guests. It was immense fun and thoroughly worthwhile despite being tired at the end of the day. We are always on the lookout for more volunteers and the guest list is always open so do get in touch with Broadway, or any volunteers in your own church or look out next year for publicity for the August 23's event.

## Children's Society

Many thanks to those who continue to support the Society. In the past few months there have been donations from the Women's Fellowship, from Coffee and Chat, and of the proceeds from a sale of second hand books at Play and Praise as well as a very generous private donation. Now the weather is cooler I shall be making marmalade and, nearer Christmas, selling the Society's Christmas cards.

The Society continues to campaign for improvement in the lives of under-privileged and vulnerable children through better social care, more help for 17 and 18 year olds leaving the social care system, enhanced facilities for unaccompanied child asylum seekers and greater resources to rehabilitate child victims of County Lines drug gangs.

You can read more about the Society's activities on their website

Helen Illingworth

## 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** in the chapel was changed to prayer on Zoom during the pandemic. This has been a valuable time but does not suit everyone so we are proposing to return to the chapel for some of the coming year on Wednesdays at 7.30pm



September 28th	chapel	January	Zoom	March onwards	chapel
October 26th	chapel	February	Zoom		
November 23rd	chapel				

## 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*

## 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 after a time of not being able to gather.



## Prayer Requests:

Please pray for:

- Gael and the family as they settle into their new life in Bristol
- All those in our church community who are struggling with ill health
- For Anna as she takes on part of the administrator role in addition to her work with children and families

## St Nick's Pub Lunches

Join us after church for a pub lunch social once a month.

The next ones will be September 18th and October 16th

*Please speak to Christine Penny for more info. All are welcome!*



## 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.

