

# St Nicholas News

October 2017

Price 50p



# Church Diary October 2017

Date	Time	Event
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	8.30 am 10.30 am	<b>Trinity 16</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30 pm	Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am 10.30 am After service	<b>Trinity 17</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Social and Fundraising group meeting to plan the Church fair to be held on Saturday 18th November from 11.00 to 2.00, all welcome
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Evening prayer group based on the film 'Chocolat'
Wedn'sday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am 2.30 pm	Eucharist Women's Fellowship: 'China' with Mrs. Jo Gibbs
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 - noon	Women's Fellowship: Coffee Morning
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am 10.30 am	<b>Trinity 18</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Wedn'sday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8.30 am 10.30 am	<b>Trinity 19</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Wedn'sday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am 2.30 pm	Eucharist Women's Fellowship: 'My Life in Boys' Boarding Schools' with Mrs H Slater
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am 10.30 am	<b>Trinity 20</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion



**Deadline for November Edition: 15<sup>th</sup> October!**

Cover picture from [www.parishpump.co.uk](http://www.parishpump.co.uk)

# From the Churchwardens...

Jane and I have welcomed the opportunity to write the letter for the October magazine. We've been in charge for three months during Rachel's sabbatical and although it has been a reasonably quiet time in the church calendar, we shall be glad to hand back the reins!

The assistant wardens and congregation have all helped us to keep things ticking over. July and August tends to be a quiet time in the life of St.Nick's, a time for holidays and relaxation.

Father Alan has done a brilliant job of delivering Sunday services and keeping us all in check with worship and pastoral matters. He has not turned the church into a Basilica as yet but as I write this letter, there are two weeks to go until Rachel's return, so there is time!

Father Alan has certainly been a source of invaluable advice and support. Rev Mark Hewerdine from our sister parish St.Chad's has helped out with the 08.30am Sunday BCP service and Wednesday morning services in July and September. We are very grateful to Alan and Mark for their contributions to our worship and for simply being at the end of an email or phone call.

In early September Father Alan delivered a training for all lay assistants and readers. We opened the building as usual for Heritage Open Days as part of the Didsbury events and we welcomed 68 visitors over the two days. Jill Lomas belongs to Chorlton Art Group and we are grateful to Jill and her friends for holding their usual exhibition in Church over the Heritage weekend. The art display adds interest and colour to the walls of the building. We were also looking forward to Sally and Lee's wedding, to Harvest Sunday and the start of the church preparation towards

advent. Our Harvest collection has once again been donated to the charity for the homeless in Manchester, Barnabus.

Saturday September 16th brought a very special event to church, the marriage of our former ordinand, Sally Robinson to Lee Longdon. Sally is now a deacon and Lee is an ordained minister. When Rachel first announced that Sally and Lee has asked to hold their marriage service at St. Nick's we



were delighted and excited to be able to witness this special celebration. Sally and Lee kindly invited St.Nick's church family to attend the wedding.



Jane and I realised that the wedding was going to be a rather grand affair when we were informed that over 230 guests were

expected, there would be a Holy Communion and many of the clergy from the Diocese of Manchester would be in attendance including two Bishops, two Archdeacons, a list of Canons, the diocesan registrar and other VIPs. As well as lots of family and

friends, no pressure then!



Sally and Lee had meticulously planned their day including hiring an extra 100 chairs, caterers and a florist. Lee had also hired a temporary organ which had the capacity to fill the whole building with sound. Rev Dr Michael Leyden, Sally's tutor from St.Mellitus

College married the couple, Bishop Mark presided at the Holy Communion and Archdeacon David Sharples delivered the sermon. It was a new experience to prepare communion for over 200 guests with 4 chalices of wine. If only that could be our weekly congregation!



Sally and Lee's wedding was a wonderful occasion, it was so special to share in their special day.

Many congratulations to Lee and Sally!



Thank you to all the St.Nick's folk who helped on Friday and Saturday including our hardworking car park attendants.

So, as the sabbatical comes to a close, the church is still in one piece and there have been no major catastrophes. The prayer groups have continued, pastoral visits and home communions have been delivered, the PCC has met and continued to monitor all aspects of the church finances and fabric and we have enjoyed Father Alan's weekly sermons and reflections.

We have a lot to do in the coming months so let's be thankful for all we have achieved together over the past three months and look forward to the rest of the year with eager anticipation for all it will bring.

With sincere thanks and love for all your prayers and support,

*Alison and Jane*

# Heritage Open Days

At the beginning of September, St Nicholas' Church was open for the Heritage Open Days. Unfortunately it poured most of the weekend and so numbers were down on previous years. However those who did brave the weather appreciated the colourful and interesting interior – many commented they had passed the church many times and wondered what it looked like on the inside. Others had travelled some distance including Derbyshire and were taking the opportunity to visit while they were in the area. Mr Bevan Taylor provided plenty of historical information and was able to answer many questions.



Snow Mountain by Christine Lavin



Cousins by Margaret Crooks



Marguerites by Helen Kerr

A coffee morning started the weekend off, and along with cards and visitors' guides on sale brought in some income. Chorlton Art Group had set up a display of their work and some of the artists came along to support the event. Irene Smith provided

some pieces of stained glass and Jason Smith some photographs of Buddhist temples and monks from his trip to Cambodia.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event and who helped once again to raise

the profile of St Nicholas Church.

*Jill Lomas*

# P.C.C. Meeting – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017

The Parochial Church Council meets six times a year. Key issues at the September meeting included finalising the building work with the architect so that all bills can be paid, and any VAT reclaimed. There are also a number of small electrical jobs that need doing and we are waiting for a qualified electrician to provide quotes, and to begin the work. The boilers are in a very poor state, and are so old that parts cannot be found. Again we are waiting for an engineer to get back to us.

As always, finance is a big issue for discussion at PCC meetings. Our funds are continually reviewed and we look at the most cost effective ways of providing the resources we need and for doing necessary repairs. We keep a check on how much we have paid on the Parish Share as we must make regular quarterly payments.

The hall continues to be well used and provides valuable income. There have been a number of private parties being held in the hall and we are looking at hire charges to see how they compare with other premises. As the numbers using the hall are increasing we are also looking at whether it would be more cost effective to have hand driers instead of paper towels, especially as these cause a lot of mess and fill up our bins. Parties are charged a fee to pay for our cleaner to clean the hall, kitchen and toilets after use.

Other items: We were pleased to note the success of the Holiday Club, and that some new girls joining Rainbows attended the club.

Provisional dates for Christmas events were discussed – these will be published next month so do look out for them.

There was a report from the Food Bank – Margaret Witty will be providing some information on this at a later date.

We discussed how to improve this church magazine, and would like to see more contributions from church members. PCC members themselves have said they will provide an article each month. So please think about whether you could write something!

*Jill Lomas*

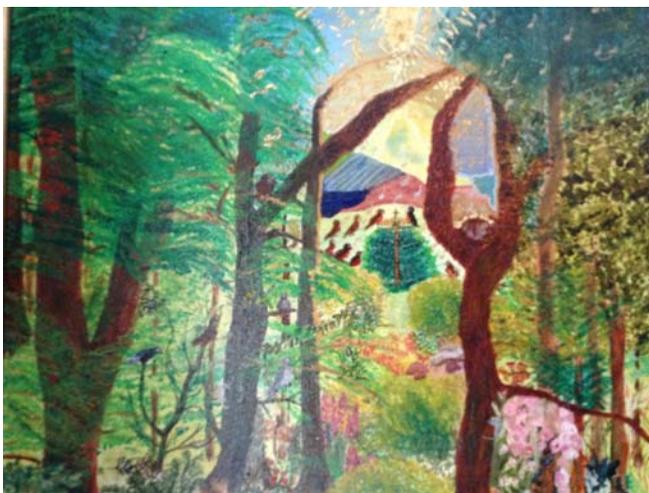
## **A Peaceful Space**

Our robin gave a small chirp and looked around. It seemed that no-one was going to have a small chat with him. He shook his feathers and decided to fly around and see how the fields and hedgerows were doing. “harvest-time is fast approaching,” he thought. So he had a happy quiet time and found a few berries in the hedgerows to nibble. Deciding to return home – to his tree – and have a quick nap he heard a noise and much laughter. Turning back to see, (of course he wasn’t nosy, just interested!) he flew over the ripening corn and found a grassy field edge and a group of children. Then he heard a knocking sound and saw children throwing stones- but at what?

Robin searched along this path. He heard a shuffling noise and a stone obviously hitting something again. He felt a bit cross about this. He spied a wee wildlife movement below him. “Are you hurt?” he called down and saw four tiny, tiny legs appear with a tiny head. “I’m not hurt, Mr Robin,” it answered back, “but I am distressed about my shell.” “Of course,” the robin thought to himself, “it’s a tortoise.” “We don’t see many of you around,” he called down. “Someone said we are getting scarce, whatever that means,” the tortoise replied. There came a louder noise, then Robin heard a scuffle in the grass below him. “Are you all right?” Robin called. Tortoise answered in a shaky voice, “I must get going to a safer place.”

Robin was cross about this and called again to Tortoise, “I’ve had a thought. I could fly in and out of the side and find a lovely space for you.” “Oh dear, said Tortoise, “I am so tired now. I don’t think I could come with you.” “Right,” said Robin, “then a change of plan. You follow me slowly.” Where do you think they were making for? Yes that’s right, Robin’s Tree Home, with his friends below. But firstly, a surprise! They slowly made the short journey to The Cathedral for the Woodlanders.

“Where do you go when you are very upset? You take your troubles to Jesus, of course; with the Father’s grace and compassion you find the strength you need. One thing you have from the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is Love – God’s unconditional love. “We love Him because He loved us first.” So take your prayers to God in a peaceful setting whether at home, in a bedroom, or in a space



outdoors where you go to for your prayers and find peace. Don’t worry about the – maybe - stiff and formal setting of a church or cathedral. You can just talk to God or His Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. We could end our prayer time with “Praise and thanks be to God.”

Tortoise followed Mr Robin into his church / cathedral – and what do you think happened next?

*Irene Smith M. Theol.*

## Parish Registers – August 2017

Date	Attendance	Cash	Envelopes	Total
6 <sup>th</sup>	29	21.10	253.90	275.00
13 <sup>th</sup>	34	6.10	306.90	313.00
20 <sup>th</sup>	37	28.30	198.00	226.30
27 <sup>th</sup>	20	50.00	182.00	232.00
Total		105.50	940.80	1046.30

## St Nicholas Club Draw

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Alison Holmes

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Eunice Wilshaw

## Church Duty Rota – October 2017

Date	Warden 8.30am	Warden 10.30am	Altar Server	Lay Assistants	Sides- people
1 <sup>st</sup>	Fred Murphy	Louise Hollings- worth	Jane Cawley	Jane C Clare C	Margaret V Michael V
8 <sup>th</sup>	Fred Murphy	Julie Crossley	Brenda Maclese	Brenda M Cliff S	Lyn R Ann A
15 <sup>th</sup>	Fred Murphy	Jane Cawley	Nikki Naylor		Brenda m Michaila R
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Peter Cullen	Peter C Alison C	Eunice W Julie B
29 <sup>th</sup>	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Jane Cawley		Sybil G Alison C

# Organisations

## **The Maker's Club (Sunday School)**

Mrs. Margaret Witty (0161 432 2933)

For all children aged 3 years upwards in the hall from 10.15 a.m

## **Women's Fellowship**

Chairman: Mrs Ann Holmes (0161 434 2245)

Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 2.30 pm

## **Confirmation Classes**

For young people and adults by arrangement with the Minister.

## **Rainbows**

For girls aged 5 to 7 years.

Wednesday evening, 6 pm to 7 pm, in the church hall

## **Church Hall Bookings**

**Church Hall and Glass Room are available for hire.**

**Details are on our website:  
[www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk](http://www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk)**

**For bookings please contact:**

**Alison Mills (0793 207 1977)  
[alison@glensidemills.co.uk](mailto:alison@glensidemills.co.uk)**

# The Parish Church of St Nicholas Burnage

## Sunday Services

8.30 a.m. Eucharist (BCP)  
10.30 a.m. Family Service and Eucharist

For Saints and other weekday Services, please see the Diary page inside the magazine.

Holy Baptism on 3rd Sunday of each month at 10.30 a.m.

Holy Communion is taken to the housebound by arrangement with the Minister.

<b>Minister</b>	Rev'd Canon Rachel Mann 0161 432 7009		
<b>Curate</b>	Rev'd Alan Simpson		
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Mrs Alison Mills (07932071977)	<b>Organists</b>	Mr Oliver Mills (07786 337087)
	Ms Jane Cawley (0161 283 0513)		Ms Elizabeth Bray
<b>Assistant Wardens</b>	Mr Fred Murphy	<b>Hon. Treasurer</b>	Mrs Caroline Abiodun
	Mrs Grace Manley		
	Ms Jill Lomas	<b>Minutes Secretary</b>	Mrs Ann Ackerman
	Mrs Julie Crossley	<b>Deanery Synod</b>	Mrs Grace Manley
	Mrs Louise Hollingsworth		Mrs Christine Price
<b>Elected on PCC</b>	Mrs Lyn Rimmer, (electoral Roll Officer)	<b>Magazine Distribution</b>	Mrs Brenda Maclese
	Mrs Margaret Witty	<b>Missionary Secretary</b>	Mrs Margaret Vessey
	Mr Tony Witty		
	Mrs Alison Cullen		
	Ms Michaila Roberts		
	Mrs Julie Bodgers		
	Ms Nicola Naylor		
	Mr Giles Elliott		

[www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk](http://www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk)  
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