

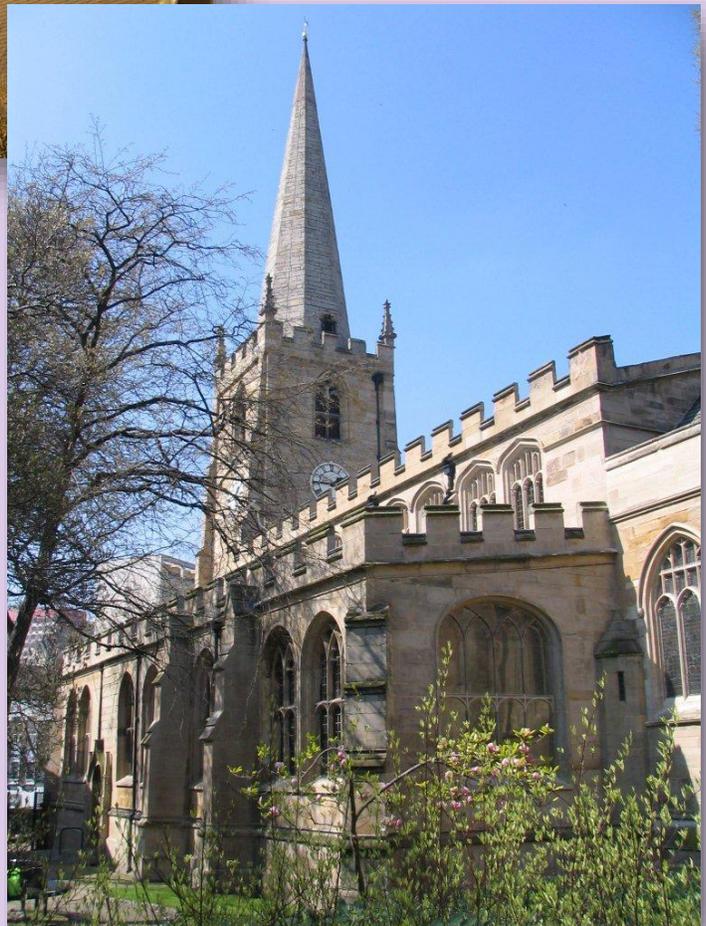


# ST PETER & ALL SAINTS NOTTINGHAM



August  
2018

## Parish Magazine



*This magazine is provided free of charge but donations are invited to help cover costs; please use the donations boxes in the churches*

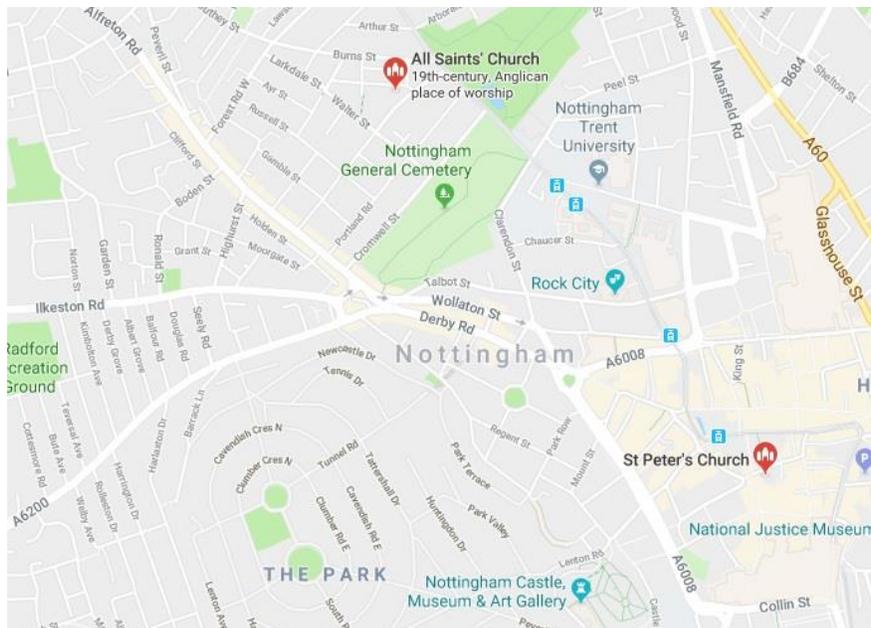
# THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ALL SAINTS, NOTTINGHAM



<b>PARISH CLERGY</b> Rev. Christopher Harrison, Rector Rev. Dr Richard Davey, Associate Priest Rev. Dr Helen Hall, Associate Priest Rev. James Saxton, Associate Priest	<b>PARISH READERS</b> Laurie Crawforth Dr Esther Elliott Clarence Rickards Chris Smedley
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## CHURCHES

St Peter’s Church, St Peter’s Square, Nottingham NG1 2NW  
 All Saints’ Church, Raleigh Street, Nottingham NG7 4DP



## *From the Rector...*

*The Reverend Christopher Harrison*

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Stephen Hawking, professor of mathematics, took place recently in Westminster Abbey. It was entirely fitting that such an intellectual giant should be honoured in this way, and that he should take his place within the long line of towering figures who are commemorated there.

Hawking is known for his pioneering work on the frontiers of cosmology, quantum physics, and related matters. He played a key role in bringing the debate about the nature of so-called black holes into the public arena, and communicating the complexities of the theories of relativity in ways which were at least reasonably accessible to ordinary people. Through his work, in particular through books such as 'A Brief History of Time', concepts such as curved space-time, multiple universes and quantum gravity began to be more widely discussed, even if they remain opaque to most of us.



Hawking devoted a not inconsiderable amount of time and effort to exploring the question of the origin of the universe. For most of the twentieth century, the 'Big Bang' theory was taken for granted as the best explanation of how our universe began from an infinitesimally small point and expanded at an inconceivably massive rate to the size which we know it to be today; indeed it continues to expand. Even Hawking, however, was not able to come up with a conclusive solution to the question of where the universe came from in the first place. If I understand him correctly, his argument would be that since space, time and mass/energy all came into being at the moment of the Big Bang, any discussion of the origin of the universe becomes meaningless.

The Big Bang theory does have a natural affinity, however, with the description of the creation of the world (and universe) which is given in the first chapter of the Book of Genesis. Even if we don't believe in a literal six-day creation process, we can still see connections between the Genesis account and the idea of a God who is actively involved in bringing the universe into being from nothing and guiding its subsequent development, and what we know now about the formation of galaxies, stars, planets and ultimately the emergence of life. A mature theological understanding of the nature and role of a Creator God, therefore, will accept the contribution of evolution to the development of life on earth, while also allowing for the contribution of God's guidance to the overall process whereby humanity and other forms of life have reached the present day. Such a theory is sometimes referred to as 'Intelligent Design'.

There remains, however, a massively wide range of theories about the origin and development of the universe, both within the Church and beyond. I was most surprised to read recently that, according to a Gallup survey which was conducted last year, around 38 per cent – over one third – of adults living in the USA believe that God created humanity in its present form. This means that they do not believe in the evolutionary development of humans from pre-human ancestors.

In the scientific arena, however, it is becoming more and more apparent that the 'Big Bang' theory is not free from challenge. I have been reading a fascinating book by the Italian physicist Carlo Rovelli, 'Reality is not what it seems', which attempts to bring together the hitherto unreconciled theories of relativity and quantum physics. This involves so called 'quantum loop' theory, which is far too technical for a non-scientist such as myself, but which offers the enigmatic possibility that our universe might in fact be the consequence of a 'Big Bounce' following the contraction of a previous universe, rather than the result of a Big Bang.

At its best, Christian theology has attempted to wrestle with the findings of science and to consider how they relate to the insights contained in the Bible. The challenge is to be open to new discoveries whilst respecting the wisdom of our forerunners in the faith. We do not have to hold to literalist views of Scripture, which are extremely difficult to reconcile with modern science; but we can still remain true to the Gospel which tells of a God who is infinite love and whose blessing and goodness permeate the universe. May the dialogue between faith and science continue to be energetic and healthy, with a true spirit of openness on both sides.

## Service of thanksgiving for the Windrush Generation

All Saints' Church, Raleigh Street, Nottingham, held a service of celebration on June 27th for those who came to the United Kingdom on HMS Windrush in 1948, and for all those who had subsequently come from the West Indies and settled in the city.

A variety of speakers shared stories, memories, poems and music, including Cllr Merlita Bryan, Bishop James Stapleton, Esther Stapleton-Stone, Dianne Skerritt, Pitman Browne, Lilleth Clarke, Freddie Kofi and Dr Rose Thompson.

The event was a tremendous celebration of the contribution which the West Indian community has made to Nottingham and Nottinghamshire over the last 70 years, although concerns were also expressed about ongoing racial divisions and racist attitudes, alongside the way in which some people from the Caribbean have been treated recently by government organisations.

The service was led by the Rev'd Christopher Harrison, Rector of the parish of St Peter's and All Saints'.



*Photographs: Charles Banton-Wilson*

God of the exile, thank you for the contributions of the Windrush generation to British life and culture. Thank you for those who bore the heat of explicit racism, refusing to bow to its demeaning demands, but lived out their conviction that all are made in the image and likeness of God, and that the humanity of none should be denied. Amen.

*Radio 4, Prayer for the Day  
6th March 2018*



## Music Matters

Peter Siepmann

I would like to start this month's article by thanking all those choristers who enable us to keep a choral presence alive at St Peter's during the summer months (albeit in a slightly altered service pattern, details of which can be found in the diary section of this issue of the magazine). The fact that St Peter's can offer choral services fifty-two weeks of the year really is quite exceptional, and something of which I know we are justly proud.

Cathedral communities are also keen to provide choral worship throughout the year, and so it is commonplace for such places to invite suitably qualified visiting choirs to sing in place of the resident choir during the holidays. St Peter's Choir has a rich history in this area: The first such trip was to Lichfield Cathedral on Low Sunday 1969 (the choir was delighted to return there - on the same day - just forty-seven years later in 2016!) and it has been a particular pleasure to develop this area of the choir's work during my time as Director of Music. The past ten years have seen the choir lead the worship at the cathedrals in Canterbury, Chester, Coventry, Derby, Durham, Ely, Gloucester, Lichfield, Lincoln, Llandaff, Norwich, Peterborough, Ripon, Salisbury, Southwark, Southwell, St David's, Wells, Winchester and York, as well as the abbey churches in Bath, Tewkesbury and Westminster, and the chapel of Windsor Castle. Further afield, recent years have also seen international tours to Cologne and Paris.



*St Peter's Choir at Wells Cathedral, on the steps of the Chapter House - September 2017  
[Photograph: Michael Leuty]*

Visits such as these form an important part of the choir's routine; when singing away from home, we take very seriously our role as ambassadors for our own church, parish, city and diocese, and so it is always particularly rewarding when the choir's singing and churchmanship are kindly complimented by cathedral clergy and congregations. It is also enormously fulfilling for us to be able to sing in some of the most famous and inspiring ecclesiastical buildings in the world: we often find ourselves inspired not just by jaw-dropping architecture (there are too many examples of this to mention, but the famous 'scissor arches' at Wells were a recent highlight) and historical significance (the two 'royal peculiars' in the list above were particularly humbling - I shall never forget conducting in Windsor with one foot on the tomb of Henry VIII!), but often also by wonderfully satisfying acoustics (again, a number of highlights, but Coventry is particularly exciting in this regard), particularly eloquently delivered and choreographed liturgy (UK cathedrals almost all set such superb examples here, but as one might expect, Westminster Abbey runs an exceptionally tight ship in this regard) and magnificently colourful and powerful organs (ask Mike Leuty and Lee Rooke for their favourites!). As you can imagine, such a feast for mind, body and soul acts as a powerful 'carrot' and the choir is often at its biggest for these visits, attracting a large number of our part-time and visiting choristers as well as the full-timers. But the icing on the cake is always the sight of friendly faces in the congregation; if you've not joined us on a choir visit yet, do think about it - upcoming trips are to Beverley Minster (27-28 October 2018), Liverpool (Anglican) Cathedral (25-26 May 2019) and Worcester Cathedral (2-3 November 2019).

Although the choir and organist team may be able to realise their fullest musical potential during these visits, it is without question that our principal function and responsibility is - and always will be - to the regular worship at home at St Peter's and (on fifth Sundays) at All Saints'. If any proof of this were needed, let me end where I started, by recognising with gratitude the hugely impressive commitment made by that loyal core of choristers who, mindful of the line in one of our favourite hymns, "the voice of prayer is never silent", enable choral worship to continue in our parish all year round.

## CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July</b>	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist*	All Saints'
		Holy Communion in E-flat <i>Bairstow</i> A prayer of St Richard of Chichester <i>White</i>	
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist	St Peter's
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	1.15pm	Meditation	St Peter's
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	10.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> August</b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Songs of Praise	St Peter's
	5.00pm	Holy Communion with prayers for healing	St Peter's
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	1.15pm	Meditation	St Peter's
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	2.00pm	Wedding - Katherine Hall & Daniel Creasey	St Peter's
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	9.45am	Family Service	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist	St Peter's
	5.00pm	Evensong (no choir)	St Peter's
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	1.15pm	Meditation	St Peter's
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist*	St Peter's
	5.00pm	Taizé Service	St Peter's

<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	1.15pm	Meditation	St Peter's
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	10.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist*	St Peter's
	5.00pm	Compline (no choir)	St Peter's
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup></b>		<i>Bank Holiday</i>	
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Matins*	St Peter's
		Responses <i>Clucas</i> Te Deum in A-flat <i>Harris</i> View me, Lord <i>Wood</i>	
	5.00pm	Holy Communion with prayers for healing	St Peter's

*The Coffee Room and Fairtrade Shop will close for a short summer break on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July.*

*They will both reopen on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August.*

*Orders/purchases from the shop can still be made through the office during working hours and on Sundays.*

Magazine contributions are welcomed by **20<sup>th</sup> of the month** to Adele Siepmann:  
office@nottinghamchurches.org

If you don't have access to email, hand written pieces will be accepted!

*Please note that it may not be possible to include all submissions*

## POEMS

### 'June morning' *Ann Parker*

Passing the east end of the chapel,  
the sunken garden is seen to burgeon  
inside, on the carpet, with a billowing  
of arabis, around the sundial  
in the centre of the floor.  
From inside the chapel, later  
on a summer's day, abundant irises,  
undisturbed through weeks of winter,  
are poking their leaves in through  
the open door, as if giggling, daring  
one another to go in to that warm  
place  
where humans wander in and out.  
Surely not a place for rooted life?  
Or are they, in this age of climate  
change,  
hoping to God that we will see them  
as vital members of the congregation?

*June 2018*

*Holland House*

### 'Love your Sun' *David Atkins*

I love your sun that brightens the sky  
Love your rain,  
Although I keep dry  
Love your colours at the break of day  
Love your moonlight and stars far  
away

Won't you  
Soften my heart : to be like you  
Open my ears : to hear you  
Change my mind to believe in you  
Open my eyes to see you

Because:

I love your sUn that brightens the sky  
Love your sOn that brightens the sky

## Second Anniversary Service of Nottingham Enlightening Word Church at All Saints'

On Sunday 24th June the Nottingham Enlightening Word Church celebrated the second anniversary of its inauguration at All Saints', which was in June 2016. Led by Pastor Nim Kam To, the church draws its membership from Nottingham students and others who have a Chinese (largely Hong Kong) background. Rev Christopher Harrison was the preacher at the anniversary service, and spoke on the themes of grace, mercy, peace, truth and love as found in the writings of St John.

The Nottingham Enlightening Word Church meets at All Saints' on Sundays at 2.00 pm and on Friday evenings.



## MOTHERS' UNION

*There is no Mothers' Union meeting in August*

### Summer of Hope Appeal 2018

Over the next few months why not take part in our Summer of Hope Appeal? We are encouraging members and supporters to put their faith into action and join in our appeal by hosting a garden party or other summer event.

Funds raised will help us reach out to even more vulnerable people and communities than before. Please do get involved and help this summer become a Summer of Hope!

## Prayers for August

*Rev. James Saxton*

'When I was young, I wanted to change the world. I tried, but the world did not change. Then I tried to change my town, but the town did not change. Then I tried to change my family, but my family did not change. Then I knew: first I must change myself.'

*(attributed to R. Israel Salanter – quoted by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks in 'To Heal a Fractured World' – published by Schocken Books, New York, 2005)*

When we pray, what are we doing? Are we bombarding God, with a list of 'I wants', or 'requests'. Jonathan Sacks starting point in prayer, is human responsibility and humility before the God who is just there, with us, no matter what, and that we have a responsibility to learn from the ways of the world, about thinking about our lives, observing people, reading books, searching for teachers and exemplars, trying to distinguish between what ultimately matters and what merely matters at the time.

In prayer the starting point is the belief that:

- Each of us is here for a purpose
- That discerning purpose takes time, honesty, knowledge of ourselves, knowledge of our world. 'Each of us has a unique constellation of gifts...'
- That even the smallest deed can change someone's life
- That it is not the honours we receive that matter, but the honour we give
- That what counts is not how much wealth we make but how much of what we have, we share
- That we spend some of our life in the service of others
- That no religion that persecutes others is worthy of respect, nor one that condemns others, is worthy of admiration
- That we honour the world God created and called good by searching for and praising the good in others and in the world
- That putting others down, we diminish ourselves; lifting others, we lift ourselves
- That few are the days when we cannot make a difference to the lives of others
- That pain and loneliness are forms of energy that can be transformed, if we turn them outward, using them to recognise and redeem someone else's pain or loneliness
- That the ability to give to others is itself a gift, and in so doing we come close to God
- That the best way of receiving a blessing is to be a blessing
- And that if we listen carefully enough – and listening is an art that requires long training and much humility – we will hear the voice of God in the human heart telling us that there is work to do and that God needs us

Some thoughts about the beginning of prayer, a framework perhaps or a starting point, as we pray for all our neighbours, the world and its hurts, for each other, and ask for the constant renewal of vision for the church, for our church and community. Prayer helps to change, transform, and go deeper into God.

*(influenced by Jonathan Sacks, book 'to Heal a fractured world')*

## Church Welcomers

Do you have time to spare on a regular basis each week?

We would like to organise a team of people to be alongside Michael and Paul to provide a Welcome to visitors to St Peter's Church during the week. The church is normally open between 10am and 4pm and we would hope that people could provide this service for the whole, or part of a day. We would also hope that if sufficient numbers are willing then this vital initiative can be provided in pairs.

If you are interested please speak to Christopher or Michael.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

### 'Other People's Houses'

by Lore Segal

Published 2018 by Sort of Books £8.99

The reprinting by the publishing company Sort of Books of Lore Segal's autobiographical novel 'Other People's Houses' is timely. At a period in our global history when once more children, for their own safety, are being sent into the unknown by their parents, her story resonates. It tells of how as a ten year old girl she was sent on the first train full of children from Nazi- controlled Vienna, in December 1938, as part of the Kindertransport and how she lived as a refugee in 'other people's houses' for seven years.

Anyone with a close relative of 10 years of age will be subject to a whole gamut of emotions at the thought of this small child and her suitcase being sent off from Austria on a winter's day, alone to no fixed address.

Describing her arrival at Harwich Segal writes:

'The boat seemed deserted. I walked up some stairs and through a door and came out into the open air on to a damp deck, there was a huge sky so low that it reaches down to the ground in a drizzle as fine as mist. A wider wooden plank stretched between the boat and the wharf, there was no one around to tell me what to do so I walked down the plank,

I stood on land that I presumed was England...my ten- year- old self in an alien country without my Mutti, without a grown-up to tell me what I had to do next, what was going to happen.'

She writes lovingly and honestly about those she lives with during the ensuing years. The contribution they made to her growing up and to her becoming a writer, to her intellectual development and to her political outlook. Her accounts are witty, intelligent, real and thought provoking. Her perceptions of the Church of England and the Orthodox Judaism she found on these shores are a particularly fascinating aspect of this Bildungsroman.

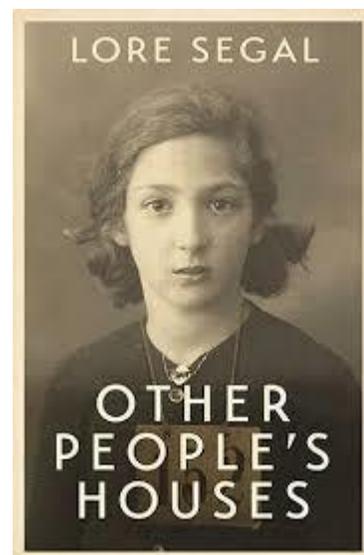
First published in 1965 Segal's engaging Preface and Afterword focus on the conflict between memory and fact, between narrative and recollection. Now 90 years old Segal recently was interviewed on Radio 4's Woman's Hour. As a taster to the novel it is worth listening to the broadcast of Segal talking about her experiences in the same very matter of fact style as that in which she writes. This can be heard on the BBC iplayer for Tuesday 26th June and is about 25 minutes into the programme.

Although, amazingly, through Lore's own efforts her parents gained a visa to join her, it must never be forgotten that of the 10,000 such children as Lore who came on Kindertransports between December 1938 and August 1939 only ten percent ever saw their parents again.

*Bramcote Bookworm, July 2018*



*Lore Segal, left with label 152, arriving Harwich, December 1938*



# Children at St Peter's Church Nottingham

St Peter's Square (*just next to Marks & Spencer*)  
NG1 2NW



## Family Service

Every second Sunday in the month 9.45am - followed by coffee and crafts in the parish room. All ages welcome.

## All Services-Children's Corner

See parish website (below) for details of service times. Children are welcome at all services. Like everyone else, they can sit wherever they choose, but there is a corner with toys and carpet for those who find it more comfy than a pew. Breastfeeding welcome.

## Infant Singing Group

Parents with small children are welcome to join other parents and toddlers/babies in the St James' Room (through the doors under the organ pipes) during the Sermon at services when the church choir is present. A small selection of musical instruments and nursery rhymes will keep little ones entertained during this part of the service.

## More information

If you would like more details about anything, including [baptism](#) or [confirmation](#), please contact the Parish Office:

[office@nottinghamchurches.org](mailto:office@nottinghamchurches.org) / 0115 9483658 (Mon-Fri 9am-3.30pm)

or come along and see us at one of our services.

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

Baby change facilities are available in the Parish Centre - please speak to a member of staff if you require use of them.

*Rev. Dr Helen Hall*

# Regular Activities in our Churches

*For regular services, see the calendar pages in this magazine*

## All Saints'

- Community Coffee Morning (part of the Places of Welcome network): Tuesdays from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm
- Women of Faith activities and lunch, first Thursday of every month from 11.00 am – 1.30 pm
- Mothers' Union: Third Saturday of every month, 10.00 am – 12.00 pm
- The All Saints' Drama Club meets from time to time to prepare and present short dramatic items
- Series of 'Saturday Matinee' film showings take place at 2.00 pm from time to time
- The Nottingham University Society of Change Ringers (Bell Ringers): Tuesdays in term time, 7.00 – 8.30 pm
- The Nottingham Enlightening Word Church (Chinese) meets in All Saints' Church on Sundays from 2.00 - 4.00 pm and on Friday evenings from 7.30 pm.

## St Peter's:

- Rough Sleepers' Drop-in: Wednesdays from 11.00 am – 12.30 pm
- Gateway Drop-in for anyone with particular mental health needs: Wednesdays from 1.30 – 3.30 pm
- The Thursday communion service at 11.00 is followed by coffee and fellowship
- Bible Study group: Thursdays from 12.15 – 1.00 pm
- St Peter's Bell Ringers: Thursdays 7.00 – 9.00 pm

The Parish Overseas Committee meets every other month; the Caring for our Common Home working group also meets on a regular basis. Please contact the Rector if you would like to know more about these. Our churches also support the work of the Mount Zion foodbank at Bobbers Mill; collection boxes for gifts of food are available in the churches.

## PARISH OFFICE

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