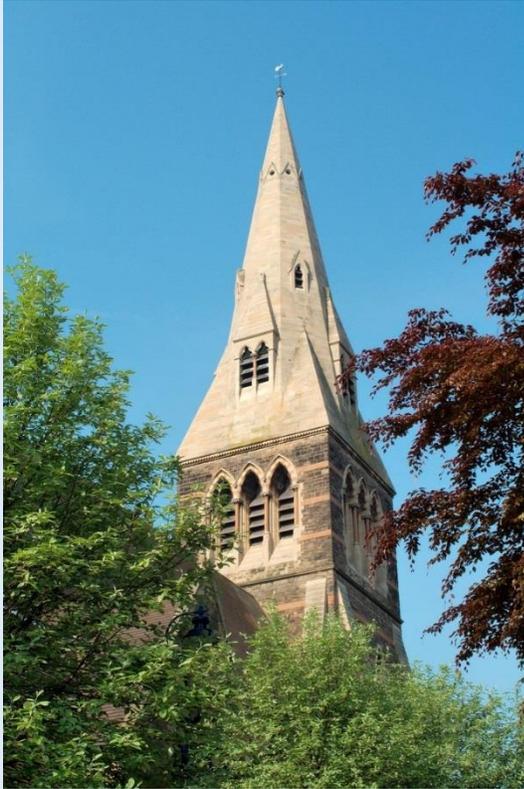


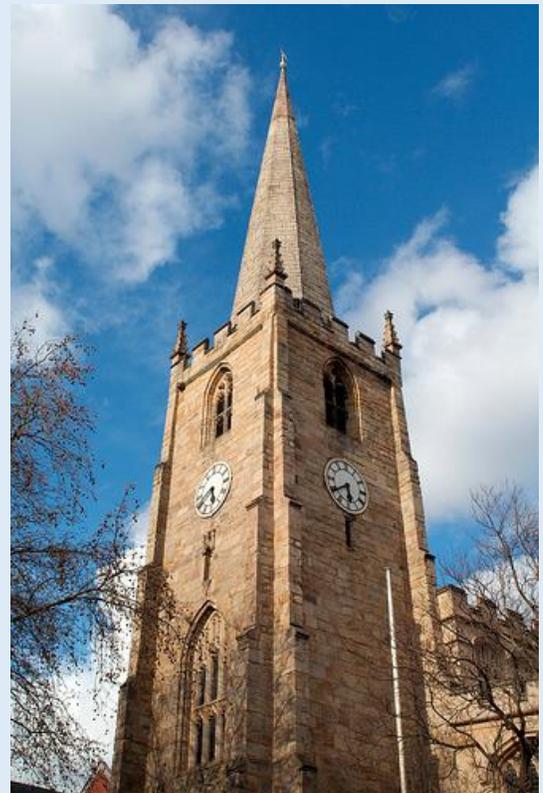


ST PETER & ALL SAINTS NOTTINGHAM



**October
2020**

Parish Magazine



*This magazine is provided free of charge,
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please use the donations boxes in the churches.*

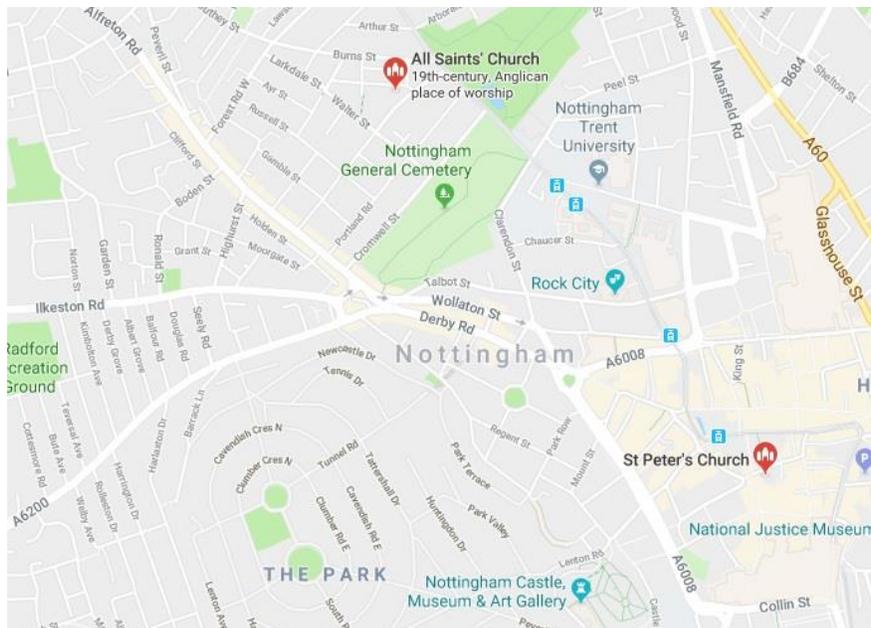
THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ALL SAINTS, NOTTINGHAM



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CHURCHES

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



It would be a welcome change to be able to write an article for this magazine which made absolutely no reference to Covid-19, but I find this to be impossible. In March, when church services were abruptly suspended, and the nation went into lockdown, there was at least some clarity as to what to expect over the coming weeks. Those who could do so worked from home as far as possible; social interaction was very limited, and we were all very aware of the mounting pressures on the NHS and the tremendous suffering endured by those who were severely affected by the virus, and their families. As a parish, we adjusted to the new situation by means of webcast services, 'Zoom' meetings and extending support to those experiencing particular need. As spring turned into summer, we enjoyed good weather and celebrated the resurgence of nature.



Now, though, as the autumn chills start to predominate and we become more and more aware of the shorter days and the ever-closer prospect of winter gloom, a renewed uncertainty is in the air. Covid-19 seems to be all around us, as universities around the country confine groups of students to their halls of residence and the Nottingham Post website dampens our spirits every day with the ever growing list of schools around the county (currently almost 50) where one or more staff or students have recently contracted the virus. Like businesses, other private sector and many public sector organisations, and charities, we in this parish have tried hard over the summer to get things back to some degree of normality. But what now lies ahead?

It is very hard to plan with any degree of certainty. The Coffee Room is now open. The roof project at St Peter's will soon be completed and we will be able to use the whole church again, probably beginning with Sunday services on 25th October. We will be holding the delayed Annual Parochial Church Meeting at All Saints' Church on 20th October. The weekly Eucharists at both churches have settled into something of a pattern, and once again I thank all those who each week devote much time and preparation to these. But who knows whether Nottingham will reach such a level of cases of Covid-19 that a local lockdown will be deemed necessary? Will this work? We are already seeing that as pubs and restaurants close by 10.00 pm, groups of people simply congregate elsewhere. I must say it is a great pity that churches like ours, where everyone has unfailingly taken massive steps to obey the rules and adopt new practices in order to limit the spread of the virus, should have to face this fresh uncertainty.

All the same, we do need to be enormously thankful for the many blessings from which we have benefited in recent months. While there have been some heart-rending accounts around the nation of those who have suffered acutely from Covid-19, there have been remarkably few cases within our own church community. While very many businesses, large and small, have taken a colossal hit as a result of the measures to limit the spread of the virus, we have already been blessed by a very generous response to our financial appeal earlier in the year. We have also come together in several new and creative ways using technology such as Zoom and WhatsApp, including the Bible Study Group led by Liz, the WhatsApp daily Bible text sharing group, the telephone and email network which has sustained the Thursday communion group, as well as the Zoom meetings of the Overseas Committee, the Caring for our Common Home group, and the Theology discussion group. If you would like to join any of these groups, do let me know; as we move into autumn it might be a good time to new ways of sharing in the life of our churches in these difficult times. Don't forget, also, that there is another Zoom coffee time to which everyone is invited this Sunday, 4th October, from 3.30 – 4.30 pm.

Amidst all the uncertainty which we all face, however, let us draw hope and encouragement from the much-loved festival which we traditionally celebrate at this time: Harvest. Our harvest services on 4th October enable us to give renewed thanks to God for the blessings of the fruits of the earth, as well as for the work of all those who are involved in bringing these to our shops and our tables. We will also pray for all those who are suffering from lack of food, both in this country and around the world. Covid-19 will at some point recede; let us hold onto the confidence that a point will be reached at which it dominates our lives less and less. We will weather the current storm, although it may of course be very costly to some. But Harvest Festival reminds us of the fundamental goodness of God in providing the necessities of life to us all; it is up to us to be good stewards of God's Creation, and to work together, under God's guidance, to recreate a world in which each person may thrive, flourish and receive the blessings which God wants us all to enjoy.

Oswald Newell - 6th October 1935 - 2nd June 2020

Ossie Newell of St Peter's Church died earlier this year; for many years of his long life he was a devoted servant of the church and parish alongside his remarkable work in the wider community. The following obituary has been provided by his family; please do continue to remember them in your prayers.

Ossie was born in West Bromwich in 1935, the son of James and Olive Newell and older brother of Arthur. After leaving school with qualifications in art and geography, he began work as a draughtsman. At the age of 16, he met his wife Olive and they married six years later in August 1958. They were married for nearly 62 years and had three children: Louise, Helen and David.

As Ossie progressed in his career, becoming a professional manager and a chartered engineer, the family often moved home, from the West Midlands to Somerset, Cambridge, Surrey, Cheshire, London and finally to Nottingham where they settled. For the last 10 years of his professional career, Ossie was a Director of AMEC plc, a multi-national project management and construction services company, a role in which he was responsible for engineering on a worldwide basis as well as the profitability of 17 companies in the oil and gas industry.

Following retirement from his professional career, Ossie set about pursuing his love of art, architecture, history, theology, and philosophy, and embarked on a Bachelors degree in Arts and Humanities with the Open University. However, in August 1999, whilst writing his final dissertation, Ossie suffered a severe stroke which changed his life forever, resulting in a complete weakness to the right side of his body.

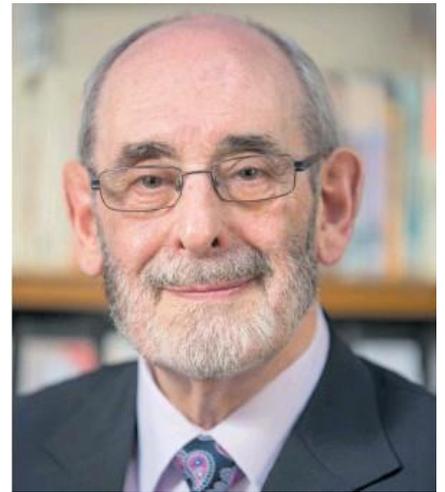
"He did recover well, mainly because he was just so determined, but it was his experiences during that time which made him want to help other people in the same situation," explains grand-daughter Katie. Three weeks after his stroke and before he was able to walk, wash, or feed himself, Ossie decided improvements were needed in stroke rehabilitation care. Even before leaving the hospital, he had his first meeting with hospital staff.

"From then on, he just worked constantly and tirelessly for the last 20 years of his life, to try and improve stroke services in Nottingham and the East Midlands. He was just so driven and so passionate about that," says Katie. "His main focus was creating a joined-up pathway for stroke care because he felt that, although his care in hospital had been good, resources were limited and when he was discharged so much was left up to him. A stroke has such a long-lasting impact, so psychologically a lot of people aren't in the right mindset to be able to do that. Finding a way to help was really what spurred him on."

Through his voluntary work, Ossie contributed significantly to improving stroke services throughout the country. He helped to set up the Nottingham Stroke Services Partnership Action Group, and represented patients from the East Midlands at a Summit Conference for Stroke Survivors held in Parliament prior to the launch of the National Stroke Strategy. In recognition of his work, Ossie was awarded an MBE in 2009 in the Queen's Birthday Honour's List, as well as an honorary doctorate from the University of Nottingham in 2013 for his working partnership with the university. When a new stroke unit was created at the City Campus of Nottingham University Hospitals, the Newell Ward was named in his honour.

The Nottingham Civic Society also awarded Ossie a Certificate of Commendation for his work in project-managing the external renovation work of St Peter's Church in 2001. "The stroke did have a lasting impact on him physically, but he was absolutely determined to do everything he'd been able to do before. He didn't want to be defined by the things he couldn't do, just to focus on what he could do and the difference he could make," Katie says.

In 2015 at the age of 80, Ossie decided to retire again, this time from his voluntary work. However, this second retirement was short-lived and September 2016 saw the creation of The Ossie Newell Foundation, a charity to support research into stroke rehabilitation at the University of Nottingham. Through the Ossie Newell Foundation, Ossie was keen for his legacy to live on. Between 2016 and 2020, the Foundation raised around £77,000, which now funds the work of PhD students.



Overseas Committee

Dorothy Mountford

The Overseas Committee would like to thank everyone who took part in the ever-popular Silver Smarties appeal. This year you have broken all previous records. An amazing £1,200 has been raised which has helped with our donations to the Shin family and to the Moria Refugee Camp appeal.

As the autumn leaves begin to form and fall, we become aware that in a couple of months we will be approaching Advent Sunday- the day when we would normally launch the next year's Silver Smarties Appeal.

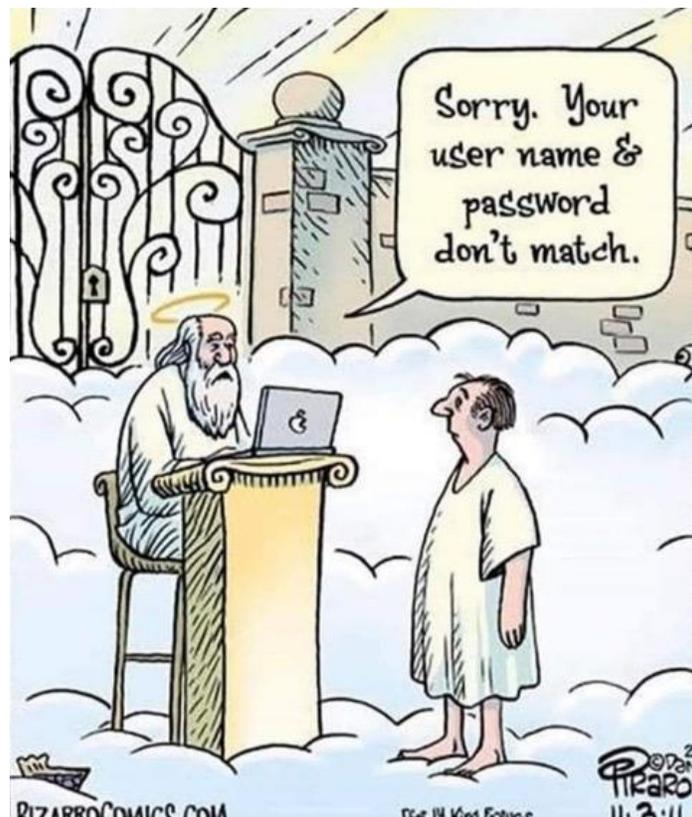
With growing reliance on plastic- to many of us, not all, paying for anything with cash now seems quaintly archaic- you may feel that collecting 20 pence pieces might not be as easy as it was.

Do let us know if you feel that you would still like to have a Smarties Tube to fill, or if anyone has any bright alternative ideas, we would love to hear from you in order to continue to raise funds.

APCM

Annual Vestry Meeting (to elect Churchwardens) and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Following the postponement in April of the above annual meetings due to the coronavirus pandemic, these have been re-arranged for Tuesday 20th October 2020, 7.00pm at All Saints' Church.



Thanks to Robert Field for providing this!

Prayers for October

Mike Ross

Loving God, receive our praise for the human labour that is part of the Harvest - the preparing and sowing, the cultivating and growing, the reaping and packaging, the transporting and selling.

Lord of all, speak to us at this Harvest time, so that our hearts may be stirred, and our consciences quickened. In all the changes and chances of our lives all the many uncertainties we face, we thank you for the assurance, that, whatever we may be confronted with, your love will go on reaching out, your hand go on supporting, and your purpose go on being fulfilled.

Help us to truly believe that, not just in our minds but in our hearts, to put our trust wholly in you, confident that you will never fail us. Amen.

Services in October

Thursday 1st	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 4th Harvest Festival	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	The Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Matins* Responses <i>Ayleward</i> Benedicite in B-flat <i>Sumsion</i> O taste and see <i>Vaughan Williams</i>	St Peter's
Thursday 8th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 11th	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	9.45am	Family Service	St Peter's
	10.30am	The Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist* Missa 'O quam gloriosum' <i>Victoria</i> Rejoice in the Lord <i>Anon</i>	St Peter's
Thursday 15th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 18th	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	The Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist* Missa Brevis <i>Ives</i> Brother, sister, let me serve you <i>Patterson</i>	St Peter's
Thursday 22nd	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 25th	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	The Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist* Messe Basse <i>Fauré</i> Tantum ergo <i>Fauré</i>	St Peter's
Thursday 29th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's

Book of the month

By 'Bramcote Book Worm'

Dear Reader - The Comfort and Joy of Books

by Cathy Rentzenbrink

'Moving, funny and joyous exploration of how books can change the course of your life, packed with recommendations from one reader to another. 'Dear Reader' is a love letter to stories and reading . . . a book to cherish'

Nina Stibbe, Editor, London Review of Books

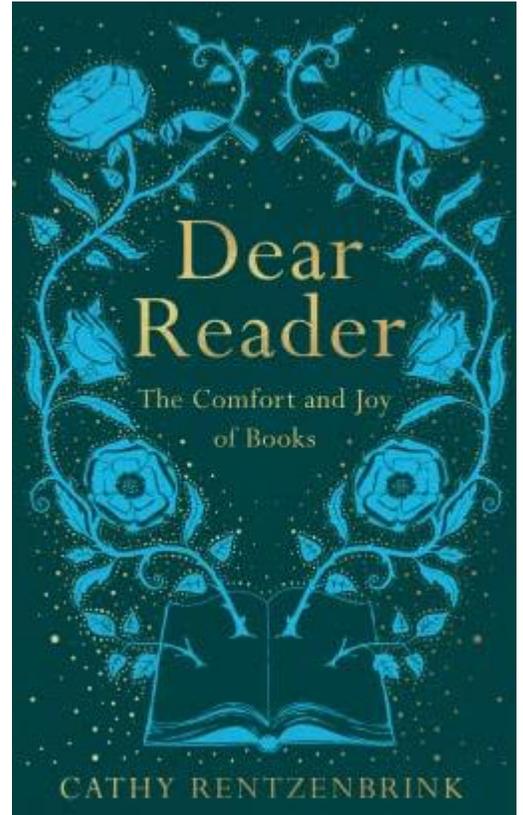
Cathy Rentzenbrink tells us how, from being a small child, she lost and found herself in stories. To have her nose in a book was her default position and reading after lights-out was a given. When her younger brother is badly injured in a car accident with tragic consequences it is reading that sees Cathy through. Her life in books makes compelling reading.

Her thumb nail sketches of her favourite books are reminiscent of the recommendation slips she frequently writes as a bookseller. She takes us her readers down memory lane in the early chapters where she shares her childhood loves but also open up new vistas.

This is a book to cherish, to dip into or read at one sitting. It is both a guidebook and a consolation. 'Dear Reader' is for sharing, as Rentzenbrink shares with us. It is the perfect gift for the 'dear readers' in your life but you will want to give them their own copy lend them yours. It is a book to begin re-reading almost as soon as you have finished it to remind yourself of the comforts you share with the writer and, with paper and pen to hand, to list the joys to come.

The actual volume itself is a tactile experience. It is a slim hardback with an aesthetically pleasing, embossed dust jacket of midnight blue and gold references, perhaps one of Rentzenbrink's quotes from Oscar Wilde: 'We are all in the gutter but some of us are looking at the stars - books help us see the stars'. Rentzenbrink suggests that it is books which motivate such activity.

The sub-title of course is taken, consciously or unconsciously, from 'God Rest you Merry Gentlemen'. It is certainly one for your Christmas list, either as a giver or receiver of the comfort and joy of reading.



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

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

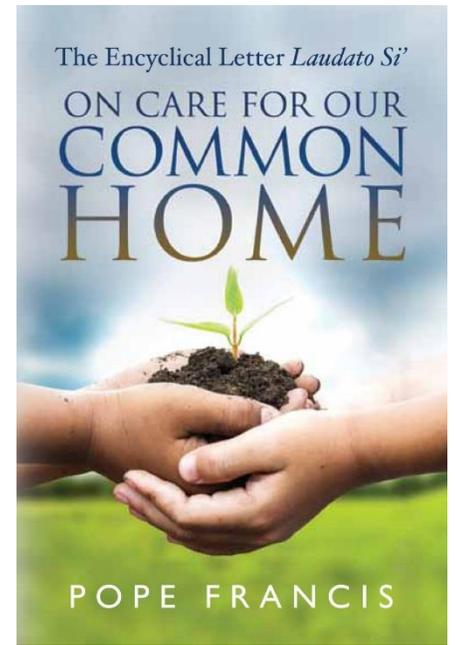
Please note that it may not be possible to include all submissions

On Care for our Common Home

Liz Marsh

As many of you will know, one of my many interests is the environment, climate change, and how these issues can be understood through a theological lens. One of the most valuable and accessible works that I have discovered is the papal encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which is subtitled 'On Care for our Common Home', which was first published just over five years ago. Here, I'm going to summarize some of his key insights, and explain a little about why I think they are important.

Much of the public conversation about the climate crisis focuses on the technological solution to the problem, but Pope Francis wishes to challenge this focus, and I think that he is right to do so. He suggests that this type of focus obscures some of the deepest issues that are at the heart of the current crisis. The real problem lies not with the way that we use and misuse technology, the demands we place upon the earth's fragile ecosystems, or the amount of greenhouse gases we release into the atmosphere, though these are undoubtedly the causes of the crisis in the most straightforward sense. Instead, Pope Francis argues, we have fundamentally understood our true place in the world and the true nature of our relationship to the rest of creation.



In order to recover the truth about where we belong and how we are related to other living things, Pope Francis challenges the anthropocentrism, or tendency to place humankind at the centre, elevating ourselves to an undeserved special status, that has so often dominated our theology, in many cases without us really realising. His central insight here is that 'everything is connected'. As such, the relationship between nature and human society is not that nature is simply a setting in which we dwell, a static environment which is unconnected from the intricacies of our lives. Instead, we are joined with the earth and with other creatures in 'a splendid universal communion', and this invites us to develop a spirituality of global solidarity with the whole of creation (human and non-human) that is grounded in the mystery of the Trinity. Such an ecology is therefore not narrowly focussed on what are typically understood as environmental concerns, but instead seeks justice for all who are poor, oppressed and forgotten.

Such an understanding demands far more of us than the type of technologically-focused approach to environmental issues that Pope Francis seeks to challenge. It requires us to fundamentally re-orient our relationship with all other living things, human and non-human and to re-examine every aspect of our lives. This, I believe, is a challenge that we must all take up if we are to live among the rest of creation in a way that glorifies God and safeguards the future of humanity and all other living things. None of this is to say that definitive action towards a more sustainable lifestyle is not required, simply that we must first take the step of examining our understanding of our relationship to the rest of creation. Put another way, we need to think about the why instead of just the how, and make sure to challenge our own assumptions.

In last month's magazine, I talked a little about how the COVID-19 pandemic is something of a moment of reckoning for us: it is both an opportunity and an imperative to not go back to our old ways, but instead build a different future - we are called not just to do things the same but better, but perhaps to change the way we do things entirely. It seems to me that this shift in action requires a shift in our underlying thinking and Pope Francis' ideas can help us to begin to make this shift.

Poem

Ann Parker

When I go back
it will be to hug a pillar.
That enduring feature of our ancient church.
Never mind those humans who long
to meet their grandchildren again
or greet babies born since February -
and who will very likely cry at
some strange looming woman
imprisoning them with cuddles.

I, strange person that I am, want to
hold hands with St Peter's church.
Feel reunited with the building,
apologize for my long - enforced - neglect.
But as I know there are no hands
-and human ones are still off limits-
Clinging to a pillar will connect me
to all those other crises through its life:
as when the priest begins by saying,
' I'm sorry to announce the death . . .'
And many of us think, 'Oh no,
not him Not her!' Or think of lists
of names from -mostly - men killed
in world wars, some inscribed still
on the war memorial. But
there were others in the Blitz or
major battles where perhaps a scroll
was set up on the lectern or the altar
and the name you hoped you hadn't heard
was there. Called Up for certain.

We know St Peter's was closed - and
vandalized in that un-Civil War.
Was it also closed in times of plague,
like Eyam Village church? Were there
eras before this one when Communion
was stopped, fearing cross infection?
When hymns could not be sung and praise,
both sung and played was banned?
As if, beneath official hygiene rules,
there is a deeper need to separate us
physically and congregationally.
The new incoming faith is Thou Shalt
Be Alone - but you can have the telly.
Is Countdown really the equivalent
of Sunday Anthems?

St Peter's has stood there through it all
(and now we've seen the Fifteenth
century oaks to prove it). Still in place,
like faith itself, through wars, diseases
and injustice and now this rather
mucky virus we call Covid.

Hang in there, St Peter's and blessing
on whoever set you up
a thousand years ago, as basic
barnlike structure, maybe only
wood and reeds. Could this visionary
see us now. So big so mighty -
back then the middle of the world
was called Medi terran-ean.
Are we really so much greater now?



The National Lottery Heritage Fund Bid Update October 2020

Dorothy Mountford

Capital Works

The lovely days of late summer have ensured that work has continued on our church uninterrupted. The repairs to the nave roof are complete, and the photograph of the south aisle roof was taken in mid-September. Liz Marsh, our Ministry Assistant and Roshni Khunti our Heritage Officer thoroughly enjoyed their walk on the nave roof and got a wave from the contractors working on the south aisle roof.

Outreach Project

Jagdish Patel from the Nottingham Photography Hub has completed his first photography tutorial with people from the rough sleeper's support group, who in pre-Covid times met on a Wednesday morning in the St James's Room. Jagdish is planning to run a couple of smaller, shorter sessions and is in liaison with The Recovery College about working on a Heritage project with them and with some of the Gateway Group.

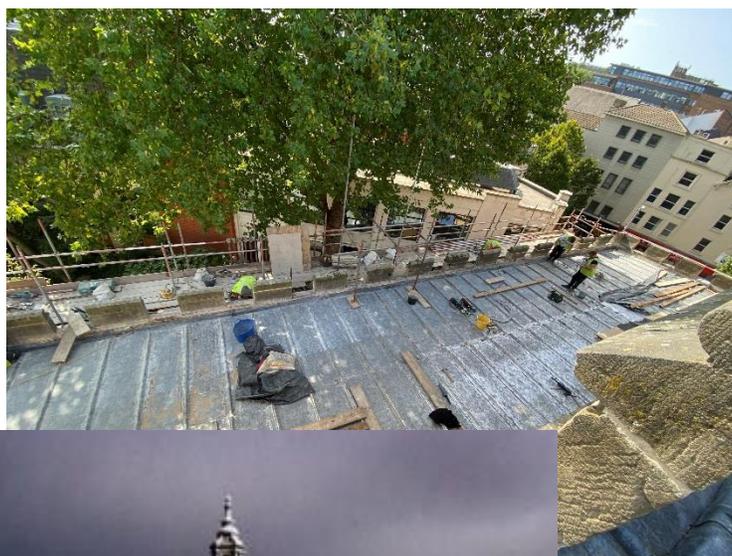
Roshni and I met with James Brearley from Heritage Interactive who are designing new interpretation boards. We are delighted that he was very taken with David Marshall's drawings on the current boards- at the moment wrapped in polythene and stored behind the font. Such are the ways of modern technology they can be copied and refreshed and given a new lease of life on the new elegant display unit James is designing.

While Covid-19 may seem to have had a negative impact on our plans, the alternatives we have drawn up seem to be giving us some very exciting opportunities. As well as the shorter, more frequent photography tutorials, we are now working with Kate Duncan from City-Arts on a project whereby we use the work we did with the school children- 'Horrid History' and 'Art and Architecture'- with small groups of Older People who will be invited to afternoon tea in the Coffee Room and an interactive session about the heritage of the Church and the part it plays in the story of the city. The oral histories with which, sadly, we were unable to continue are now written histories. Very many thanks to those who are contributing- we have some amazing stories about how people in our congregation came to Nottingham from far away. How they, and more local people, then found their way to St Peter's are stories which are equally fascinating. A warm welcome, as always, to anyone who would like to join in telling their stories.

Roshni and Liz on the roof



One of the many photographs from the photography session, courtesy of Dean



Work progressing on the South aisle roof



MUSIC AT ST PETER'S NOTTINGHAM

(next to Marks & Spencer)

SATURDAY SERENADES

Concerts start at 11am and last for about forty minutes

Admission by donation on the door, online at [easydonate.org/StPMusic](https://www.easydonate.org/StPMusic)
or text **StPMusic** to **70331** to donate **£3** (70201 for £1 • 70970 for £5 • 70191 for £10)

All concerts will be live streamed at [nottinghamchurches.org/webcasts](https://www.nottinghamchurches.org/webcasts)

Saturday 3rd October

Carmen Flores, viola



Photograph: Andrej Grlic

Saturday 10th October

Stephen Cooper, baritone
Paul Hale, piano



Saturday 17th October

Michael Leuty, organ



Saturday 24th October

Tre Voci



Saturday 31st October

Peter Siepmann, organ

Due to the ongoing pandemic, audience capacity is currently heavily restricted at St Peter's. Please book to avoid disappointment: online at [nottinghamchurches.org/booking](https://www.nottinghamchurches.org/booking) or by phone on **0115 948 3658**

Fundraising, payments and donations will be processed and administered by the National Funding Scheme (Charity No: 1149800), operating as DONATE. Texts will be charged at your standard network rate. For Terms & Conditions, see www.easydonate.org

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Regular Activities in our Churches

All currently suspended during the closure of our church buildings

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.
- The Bridge Community Gospel Choir meets for rehearsals on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month from 5.00-6.30pm.

St Peter's:

- Rough Sleepers' Drop-in: Mondays (women only) from 10.30am – 12noon;
Wednesdays from 11.30 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

ST PETER'S CENTRE

ST PETER'S SQUARE

NOTTINGHAM

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