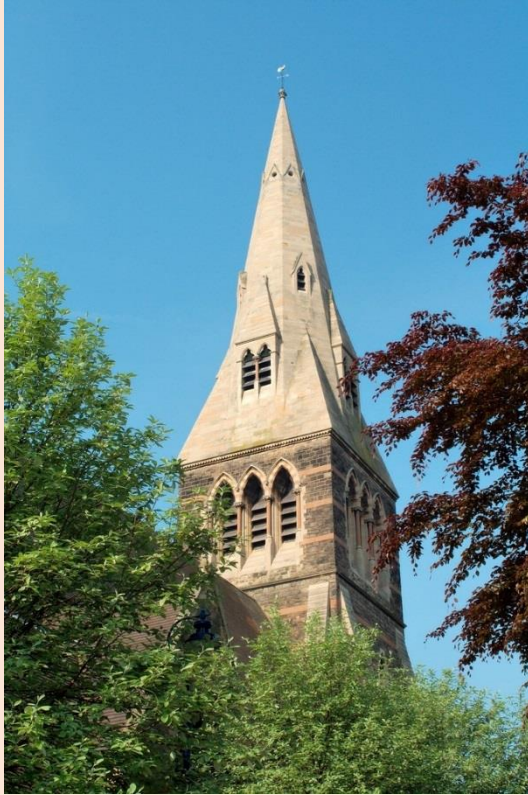


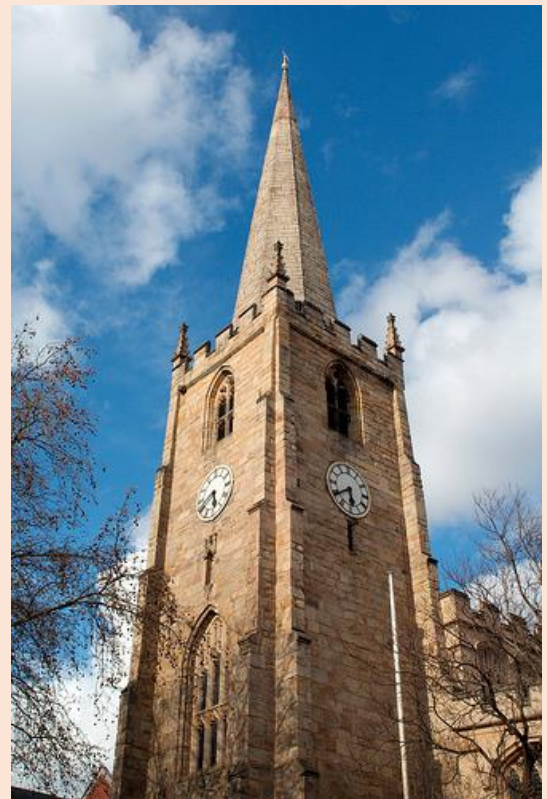


ST PETER & ALL SAINTS NOTTINGHAM



**November
2020**

Parish Magazine



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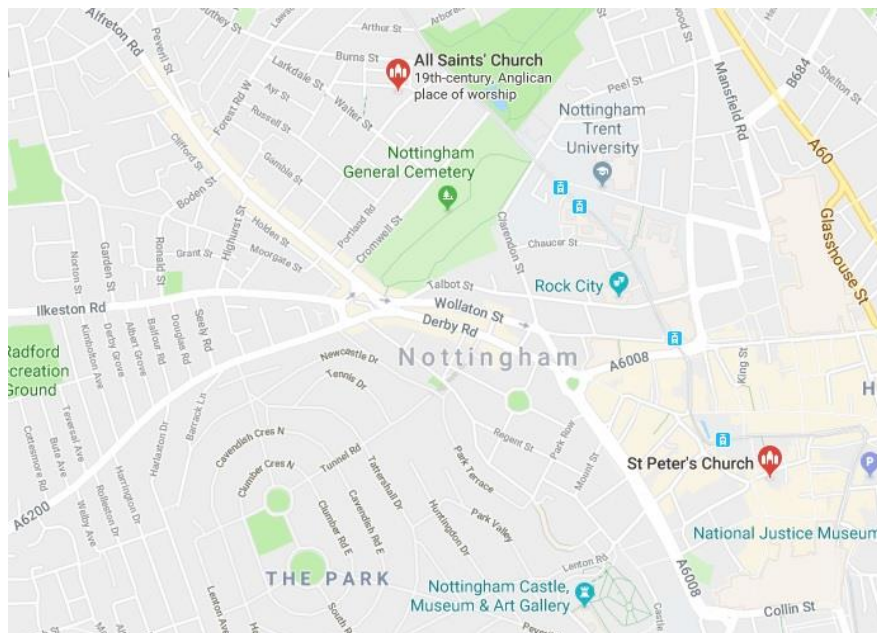
THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ALL SAINTS, NOTTINGHAM



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CHURCHES

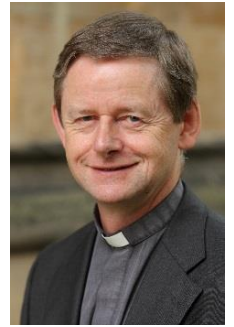
St Peter’s Church, St Peter’s Square, Nottingham NG1 2NW
 All Saints’ Church, Raleigh Street, Nottingham NG7 4DP



From the Rector...

The Reverend Christopher Harrison

On October 20th the delayed Annual Parochial Church Meeting took place at All Saints' Church. I was delighted that quite a good number of our church members attended, notwithstanding all the uncertainties arising from Covid-19 as well as the fact that current regulations meant that we could not offer even a modest social element to the evening. At the meeting we cast our minds back to 2019 (which now feels like a very long time ago); we reviewed recent events in our churches since the March lockdown, and began to look ahead to 2021. We thanked Harriet Ward, who has stepped down from the Parochial Church Council now that her term of office has come to an end, for her valuable contribution and welcomed Resil Jarrett in her place. We also thanked Julia Atkins, who will not be continuing as churchwarden at All Saints although she will continue to support the church in other respects. Since the meeting I have heard that Patricia Coy is also interested in joining the PCC, which is splendid.



Although the PCC has not met for some time, much has taken place in recent months in our churches, including online meetings, prayer and study groups, and a deepening of relationships between many members of our congregations as we explore new ways of keeping in touch and supporting one another. Our worship has also taken new turns as we have developed the live streaming of services at St Peter's; we have also found ways of maintaining the choir's contribution to our worship in spite of the limited number of singers who are allowed to sing at any one time. It is also wonderful that the roof work at St Peter's is now complete, and so the screening has been now removed from the south aisle; do make a point of seeing the interior of the whole church once again, free from the plastic partition which was a necessary but unsightly feature of our worship in recent weeks.

We now embark upon a season of Remembrance in our churches. We celebrate the patronal festival of All Saints' Church on 1st November, All Saints' Day; this is when we give thanks for all the saints, known and unknown, who have contributed to the mission and ministry of the worldwide church through the centuries. Remembrance Sunday follows, on 8th November; our marking of this day will probably be somewhat muted, given the limits on numbers at our worship, but it will still be a profound and sombre moment for us to reflect upon the horrors of war and upon the sacrifice made by so many in the two World Wars and other conflicts. At this time we also remind ourselves of the importance of peacebuilding in a world where tensions have risen in many areas.

On 8th November at St Peter's we will also be offering our heartfelt thanks to Alan Franks, who is retiring from the post of Parish Manager at the end of October. Alan has held this post for almost two years; it has been an extremely busy period for the parish office, and Alan has played an enormously valuable part in many areas of the life of both churches. He has drawn upon his many organisational, administrative and practical skills, as well as his considerable experience of the wider Church and city. While we are sad to lose him from this position, he is now able to look forward to a well-deserved retirement and we look forward to his continuing contribution to the musical life of the parish.

The ongoing Covid-19 crisis and various other factors have persuaded us that, for the time being at least, Adele Siepmann will take on the responsibilities which have hitherto fallen to Alan. Her role as Parish Administrator will therefore be broadened to include these. I would also like to welcome Mike Chappell to the parish; Mike will be working in St Peter's on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays as a part-time caretaker to cover for Lee Chapman, who remains on sick leave.

There remain many concerns in the wider community as Covid-19 continues to spread rapidly and anxiety levels are still high for many people. The economic impact is becoming more and more severe; our own parish finances will no doubt continue to feel the effect of this, not least since the Coffee Room cannot currently open because of the lack of customers. We must nevertheless stay strong in faith and in our determination to hold onto what is important about the life of our churches: the love and friendship we share with one another, the support we show to those in special need, our readiness to stand with others in our quest to build a better world, and in our belief that God is always faithful in spite of all the trials and tribulations which may beset us. A new day will dawn; the storm will abate; and the world will one day celebrate and give thanks for all that so many are doing to help us to travel safely through these deeply troubling times.

Mothers' Union

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Campaign 25th November – 10th December



This is an international campaign which takes place every year from 25/11 (International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women) and 10/12 (International Human Rights Day).

Mothers' Union joins with 6,000 organisations from 187 countries who participate in the campaign to raise awareness of, and call for an end to, gender-based violence in all forms and in all societies.

"1 in 3 women worldwide have experienced domestic or sexual abuse" and Mothers' Union, as a leading women's organisation, believe this to be unacceptable.

The 16 Days Campaign is an extension of the day-to-day work of the M.U. We work alongside communities to help end gender-based violence and to support those affected by it, every day of every year.

Please remember this campaign and the work of M.U. around the world in your prayers.

From the Director of Music

Peter Siepmann

I was delighted by the curiosity and enthusiasm with which the music of Grayton Ives (Mass setting and organ voluntary) was met by members of the congregation on Sunday 18th October (St Luke). I promised I would write with a little background to this enjoyably quirky repertoire!

St Peter's Choir first learned and performed Ives' Missa Brevis when we had the privilege of leading the Sung Eucharist for Corpus Christi at Southwell Minster in May 2018. I had been looking for a contemporary setting of the Mass that would present the choir with a reasonable (but not insurmountable!) challenge, and the Ives (in fact suggested to me by Simon Hogan, then Assistant Director of Music at Southwell) fit the bill very nicely.

Readers may be familiar with the work of Bill Ives, a former member of The King's Singers and, for eighteen years, Director of Music (or Informator Choristarum to use the proper, and wonderfully archaic title) at Magdalen College, Oxford. In fact, they are one in the same man: 'Grayston' when writing, 'Bill' when singing or conducting!

Dr Ives was a chorister at Ely Cathedral and studied music at Cambridge before joining The King's Singers, with whom he recorded and performed worldwide. As a composer, Ives' work consists mainly of sacred and secular music for choir, much of it written for the liturgy at Magdalen.

For his contribution to church music, Ives was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal School of Church Music (May 2008) and a Lambeth Doctorate in Music (July 2008).



Services in November

Sunday 1st All Saints' Day	8.15am 10.30am 10.45am	Holy Communion Patronal Eucharist Matins* Responses <i>Radcliffe</i> Te Deum in C <i>Stanford</i> How beauteous are their feet <i>Stanford</i>	St Peter's All Saints' St Peter's
Thursday 5th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 8th Remembrance Sunday	8.15am 10.30am 10.45am 5.00pm	Holy Communion The Eucharist for Remembrance Sung Eucharist for Remembrance* For the fallen <i>Guest</i> Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei in F <i>Darke</i> Holy is the true light <i>Harris</i> Requiem Eucharist* Missa pro defunctis <i>plain-song</i> Lux aeterna <i>Esenvalds</i>	St Peter's All Saints' St Peter's St Peter's
Thursday 12th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 15th	8.15am 10.30am 10.45am	Holy Communion The Eucharist Sung Eucharist* Missa Brevis <i>Lotti</i> Ave verum <i>Byrd</i>	St Peter's All Saints' St Peter's
Thursday 19th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 22nd	8.15am 10.30am 10.45am	Holy Communion The Eucharist Sung Eucharist* Holy Communion in E <i>Darke</i> God omnipotent reigneth <i>Wood</i>	St Peter's All Saints' St Peter's
Thursday 26th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 29th Advent Sunday	8.15am 10.30am 10.45am 5.00pm	Holy Communion The Eucharist Sung Eucharist* Mass for four voices <i>Byrd</i> Rorate caeli <i>Byrd</i> Advent Vespers* Matins Responsory <i>Palestrina</i> Magnificat quarti toni <i>Victoria</i> O radiant dawn <i>MacMillan</i>	St Peter's All Saints' St Peter's St Peter's

Care for our Common Home

Liz Marsh

As many of you will know, I have been endeavouring to write articles for this magazine about the environment and ways that we can think theologically about our relationship with the rest of creation. This month, however, I thought it might be helpful to do something a little different this month and highlight some of the excellent work that takes place in the parish, most especially through the efforts of the Common Home group. It has been a real privilege to join with others in the parish who are passionate about caring for our community and our planet. The work of the Common Home group falls under three headings: our planet; our world; and our community. We aim to give attention to all three if these areas according to the interests of our members and the needs and opportunities of the present moment.

Our planet

There has been considerable work to help our church communities care better for our planet. Last year, Steph Lax did a truly admirable amount of work setting up a recycling scheme at St Peter's, where people can also bring in more unusual items - such as toothpaste tubes - to be recycled. Steph has also written several magazine articles, with practical tips and suggestions of lifestyle changes that we can all make to care better for our planet, and last year she organised a stall at the diocesan Mission Fair.

More recently, I have also begun work in earnest on the Eco Church project, with the aim of building upon the excellent work already done to help our parish community take better steps to care for the planet. The survey audit for St Peter's is now complete and has shown that we are eligible for an Eco Church Bronze Award. There is still plenty of work to be done, but this is a testament to the efforts of the many who have championed this cause over the years. The next steps are to complete the survey for All Saints, which I hope will produce similarly encouraging results; and to look carefully at the result of the St Peter's survey to determine what improvements we might be able to make in the near and intermediate future.

Our world

Of the three areas of focus, 'our world' has probably been the one that has been given the least attention within the group, not least because we are aware of the very capable work of the Overseas Committee in this area. Nonetheless, there have been a few notable events recently, most notably the Inherit the Earth Christian Aid exhibition and launch event, hosted at St Peter's in early 2020.

Our community

As many of you know, there is an ongoing collection box at St Peter's for a local foodbank, and at this year's harvest festival donations were taken at both churches, as we gave thanks for God's abundant gifts by sharing some of what we have with others. Though fewer of us are able to worship in person at the moment because of the pandemic, people gave generously, and Chris has had to make several cycle rides across town to transport it all!

Recently, Chris Ward has been heavily involved with the Nottingham Climate Assembly, a project which is working with local communities on climate issues, with a particular focus on Nottingham City Council's 2028 zero carbon target. The project is still in its fairly early stages, but significantly it aims to represent the interests of the many different communities of Nottingham, including those whose voices are not often heard. Watch this space for updates!

Above all, the group is a space for many of us interested in these issues to come together and reflect on what is going on around us and share with one another some of what we have been feeling. This has been especially helpful during these most recent challenging times: we certainly can't fix all the world's problems, but it's important and worthwhile to be able to come together and discuss the things that we are facing so that we might be encouraged, even in these challenging times.

If you are interested in getting more involved in some of the things we do, either with the group in general, or with a specific project, please do get in touch with either me or Chris Ward - new members are always welcome.

Book of the month

By 'Bramcote Book Worm'

The Circling Year

by Ronald Blythe

This is a book for present giving or personal use. As we approach Advent and then the festive season of Christmas itself Ronald Blythe's collection of stories and poetry and humour could serve as either a devotional aid or a gift.

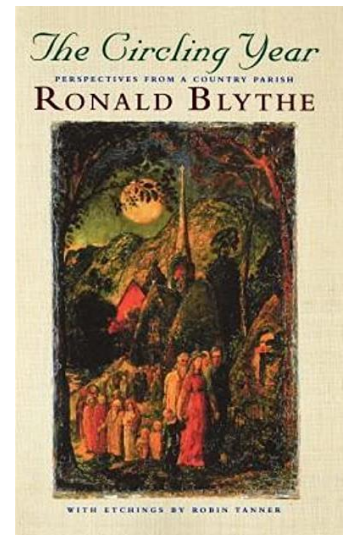
'Open the ancient door of an old church' says Ronald Blythe 'and framed in the silence is a house of words where everything has been said: centuries of birth, marriage and death, words, gossip. Poetry, philosophy, rant, eloquence, learning, nonsense - all of it spoken in one place'

'The Circling Year' contains some of the words Blythe himself has spoken in the ancient churches in which he served as a reader for so many years. What recommends it is his love of language, his sense of humour, his tales of the rural life and of friends and neighbours and perhaps, most of all, the hopes he has found in faith.

The first, short reflection entitled 'Advent', with its wonderful etching entitled 'December Elogy for the English Elm' by Robin Tanner, serves as an indication of further joys to come.

Which reader of this column can resist the lure of the title 'Something to Read' or the equally intriguing: 'Holy Cats' or 'On Not paying Attention'?

Robin Tanner's illustrations are an integral part of the what Ronald Blythe calls the ancient spiritual values and sacred metaphor of countryside. Judging a book by its cover is highly recommended in the case of 'The Circling Year': Samuel Palmer's 'Coming from Evening Church'. This is one of Blythe's favourite paintings and he quotes from Charles Causley's poem of the same name in his introduction. A treat indeed.



Cards for Good Causes

Charity Christmas Cards are on sale at St Peter's through Cards for Good Causes, who we host every year. The stall (this year situated at the West End under the Workers' Memorial Window) will be open Monday - Saturday, 10.30am-3.30pm. Please support them if you can!



Prayers for November

Liz Marsh

Loving God,
As autumn fades to winter,
the trees stand bare of leaves and the nights draw in,
may we know your light in the midst of darkness.
May we find refuge under the shadow of your wing,
safe from fear, and plague, and pestilence.
Give us the assurance of your perfectly abundant love
and help us to live so that this love may be revealed to others.
Keep us firm in our faith,
always reminded of the hope we have in your faithful promises,
knowing that you will never fail us.
Amen.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund Bid Update

November 2020

Dorothy Mountford

The Church Roof

On Thursday 22nd October the congregation at the 11am Communion Service were bathed in the sunlight which poured in through the windows of the south aisle. Ever since the church reopened for worship the south aisle has been screened from the main body of the church by polyethene sheets while the south aisle roof repairs were completed.

We are (completely) Watertight

Thanks to the dedicated work of Midland Stone Masons the roof repairs funded by the lottery came in under budget and ahead of time. After negotiations with our investment manager the National Lottery Heritage Fund allowed us to vire the underspend to cover work on the north aisle.

The Final Touch

Lead plaques recording the work done have been placed on the roof and these will be ceremonially unveiled in due course.

The Heritage Outreach Project

Now stage one of the project has been completed all our energies are turned towards the extensive programme of outreach that impressed the Lottery sufficiently to grant us the £251K which has been a major part of the capital works. The match funding, the volunteer hours and the monetary contribution from parish funds will now be used to further the following

Virtual Tour of the Church

You may remember that originally we had planned to install a Touch Screen Kiosk at the west end of the church to allow virtual visitors to experience our architectural heritage and history. The Steering Group who meet to report on progress agreed that in these Covid times, touch screens were perhaps best avoided. Instead the virtual tour will be available on the Church web site or a mobile app.

Early in the new year the interior of St Peter's will be professionally scanned and the images worked on by Heritage Interactive. At the same time we hope that some high quality still images will be taken which can be used in the new Guide Book which is currently being drafted by Ellie Gray our Heritage Officer (see Ellie's Hello on the next page).

Our New Heritage Officer

It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to Roshni Khunti who we appointed in August as the Heritage Outreach Project Officer. Roshni had been offered a permanent, full time job; our post was for 2 days a week for one year.

It was with great gladness that we welcomed Ellie Gray who took over seamlessly from Roshni. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to them both: Roshni for the work she did for us: Ellie for the way she has picked up and ran with the project and the amount of ground she have already covered in the few weeks she has been with us.

Work in Progress

Photography Tutorials with rough sleepers

Exhibitions for photographic work

Written Histories - Congregation and Gateway

Heritage Events The work piloted so successfully with Victoria School is still on the books against a day when, once more we have free movement.

City Arts Ellie and I are working with Kate Duncan from City Arts to put on some special sessions for Older People using the adapted Art and Architecture and Horrid History materials.

Evaluation

We have appointed Culture Syndicates as our professional evaluators. Hollie Davison will produce regular reports that we can use both as evidence for the National Lottery of having met our aims but also as a jumping off point for further outreach work within the city.

1. The Evaluation report will be given or made accessible to the following

- The PCC
- The congregation
- The Southwell and Nottingham Diocese
- Our Project Partners: NHS/ Framework, Jagdish Patel and the Recovery College
- The Gateway Group , Victoria School and City-Arts
- The City Council, Tourist Information and City Of Literature
- Angel Row Library and Bromley House Library

2. What will to be evaluated?

- Our mission, as church, to the city
- How we recognise and celebrate diversity in our church and outreach
- How we recognise and further inclusivity in our church and outreach
- Our wider outreach work with rough sleepers, The Gateway Mental Health Support Group, Inner City Schools
- Progress with City Arts and their celebrating Older People initiative.

3. What other things do we wish the evaluation to inform?

- Future bids e.g. for funds to support making the West End porch more inviting to visitors
- The development of outreach work – e.g. how our outreach activities can be improved under current conditions
- What our strengths and missed opportunities have been in delivering the outreach and how we can build on them to continue to contribute to improve the well-being of the people of Nottingham through the sharing our significant heritage.

Hello from Ellie Gray Heritage Outreach Project Officer

Hi, I'm Ellie and I'm delighted to be joining the team working on the 'City Stories' project. I have a background in heritage and most recently worked at the Royal Collection Trust. Prior to that I achieved an MA in Decorative Arts and Historic Interiors and my interest in community engagement comes from my experience working with volunteers at a number of National Trust properties. I look forward to getting to know the history of Nottingham and St Peter's Church so I can share their stories.

Fun fact about me: I'm probably one of the few people in the world who has forgotten how to ride a bike.



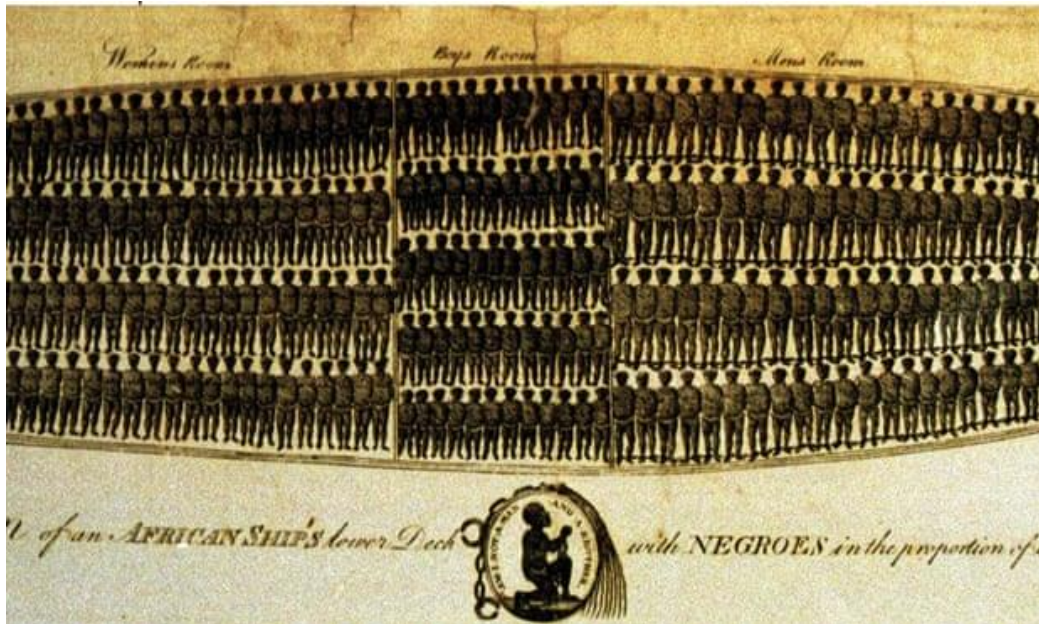
Black Lives Matter

Dorothy Mountford

In October, Black History Month, we were alerted to the University College, London's data base: Legacies of British Slave Ownership.

Some Background Abolition of the Slave Trade 1807

In 1807 the Slave Trade Act was passed, which abolished the slave trade in the British Colonies and made the carrying of enslaved people in British Ships illegal.



Abolition of the Slavery Act 1833

However, the abolition of slavery itself didn't occur until 1833, the end of a system that millions of people had come to regard as abhorrent and a national disgrace.

The abolitionists, led by William Wilberforce, agonised over the fact that compensation was the mechanism by which this would be achieved. They felt that to accept the principle of compensation was at odds with their fundamental moral position: that it was impossible for one human being to own another, to hold "property in men", as they put it.

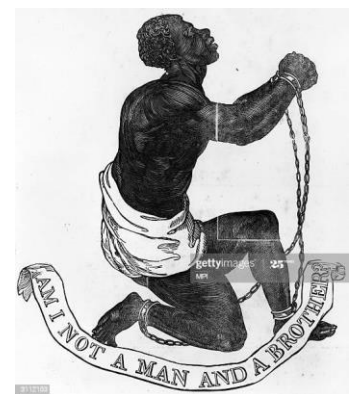
The only people who saw the payment of compensation as a positive were the people who had spent three decades campaigning for it and would be the beneficiaries of it - the slave owners.

Compensation to Slave Owners

In 1833 the British Government took out a loan from Rothschilds of £20million (the equivalent today of about £2.4 billion) to compensate the slave owners. This is the largest loan ever taken out in our history and was only repaid in 2015.

What happened to the enslaved people?

Although the Abolition of Slavery Act set out that freedom should be granted to slaves in most British Territories the next year this freedom did not mean that former slaves could travel, live and work freely. Instead, an apprenticeship system was put in place which meant that most former slaves still had to work without pay for about 4 to 6 years.



Our Links with That History

In David Olusoga's gripping documentary 'The Forgotten British Slave Owner' he makes the telling point that we are all tainted with the after effects of the Slave Trade: from National Trust Properties, Art Galleries and Museums to Banking Institutions and Academic Institutions.

In 1837 the Rector of St Peter's Church, Rev Robert White Almond received compensation of £4,320 13s 10d (around £261,043.23 in today's money) under the Slave Compensation Act for 220 enslaved people in Plantations in Jamaica.

Acknowledging the History and Legacy of Slavery

The commodifying of people as property has cast a long shadow on how black people are still perceived and treated in many parts of our world today.

We are learning more day by day of the way in which the money gained through the enslavement and brutalisation of people has been used.

Cities like London, Bristol Glasgow and Liverpool grew from this lucrative trade. Our own city benefited from the reparations made to Revd Robert White Almond, Rector of this parish and his family for the 220 enslaved people of Russell Place, Vauxhall and Hanley Plantations in Manchester, Jamaica.

A Conflict of Kindness

The relationship between the Christian Church and the slave trade reveals both shocking complicity and enlightened humanity. We feel that we, as a church, should take this opportunity of sharing this with visitors to our church, in support of the enslaved people in today's society and in remembrance of those 1000s of enslaved people who suffered in the past and whose children still suffer from the prejudices slavery created.

Some Plans and Proposals

- In honour of those enslaved people whose lives were linked with the history and heritage of our church and city in this way an interpretation handout will be available in the back of church for congregational members and visitors to learn more about the situation.
- Installing an interpretation plaque in the Chancel near The White Almond Memorial
- Discussing with our congregation, particularly those who have all their working lives in this country been paying taxes to help pay off that enormous debt - not a penny of which went to their ancestors - the way in which we can pay homage to those who lived and died in brutal circumstances in Jamaica. Much as we remember the dead of 2 World Wars.



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

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