

St Nicholas Church, Laindon

Parish of Laindon with Dunton, Essex



St Nicholas Church, Church Hill, Laindon

Parish Magazine

August 2006

... Hot Summer Days...

20p

Diary for August 2006

Saturday, 5th August:

Working party at the church, see Peter Hartgrove for details

Sunday, 6th August:

8th Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Holy Communion

Sunday, 13th August:

9th Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Holy Communion

Sunday, 20th August

10th Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Holy Communion

Sunday, 27th August

11th Sunday after Trinity

10:00 All Age Worship

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## **Bookings and Surgery at the Church**

Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 7.30 p.m. – **Graham** and **Martin**

Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30 p.m. – **John** and **Anne**

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August Birthdays

Happy Birthday to you,

Happy Birthday to you,

Happy Birthday,

Jordan Turner on Tuesday, 1st

Vera Boatwright on Sunday, 6th

James Knox Jnr on Thursday, 10th

Dorothy Guertin on Friday, 11th

Mary Paul on Monday, 21st

Happy Birthday to you!



As I See It

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Just a short magazine this month, as so many people are away on holiday. Hopefully, all the regular articles will be back in the September issue and possibly some other contributions as well.

If you are going away, I wish you a wonderful and safe holiday.

St Nicholas Angel

I have had two nominations for St. Nicholas Angels and I think that they are very well deserved. Find out who they are next month!

Cup Company Play

Have you noticed that there has been sport everywhere? The World Cup, Wimbledon, Royal Ascot, to name but a few and St. Nicholas Church just could not be left out of the sporting fun!

The CUP Company play for June, was *Sport for All* and the members of the cast, dressed in black showed us how to play their chosen sport—Chess! Or rather, they didn't show us how to play, as no one could be bothered to read the instruction



L to R: Graham, Emily, Stuart, Anne, John, Martin and Benjamin at the front with the unpopular Book of Rules

book, which was passed from chess piece to chess piece until it was decided that since no one could be bothered to learn the rules, they might as well go for lunch!

Who is Granny Moore?

One person has offered me a suggestion as to the identity of Granny Moore but unfortunately, she was wrong!

Do you know who she is?

Thanks to all Contributors

Since this is a smaller issue, all of the regular contributors have the month off!

All except for **Martin**, who very kindly sent me the diary and other regular items and for **Jill Furlong**,

who posts the magazines on our behalf to those who can't come into church to pick one up themselves. **Jill** is still doing this for us, despite being unwell. Thank you to all the regular contributors—the magazine would be empty without you! This month, I have taken the opportunity to include a few items for which there has been no room in earlier issues.

Until next month:
May the God in me see and honour the God in you.

Have a wonderful summer

Dawn

Contact Details for our Local Police

The moves have all been finalized within the police and the officers covering St Nicholas Church and the surrounding area have been established. The 'go-live' date is 23rd June 2006. The details below are those officers who make up the ward, known as Laindon Park, and the relevant contact details.

PS 3208 Simon Mathias
PC 3680 Tracy Schofield
PC 1743 Bonnie Howell
PC 2955 Neil Coalbran
PC 3602 Amy Dijkstra
PCSO Daniel Brady



All officers are contactable at Laindon Police Station which is 01268 410101. In addition to this is a community mobile phone number which has been made available which is 07875 003517. This phone is always held by one of these officers and will enable direct contact with the local 'bobbies'. They also have an external email address which is LaindonPark@essex.pnn.police.uk.

I will still be around Laindon and Basildon but now have a responsibility to a larger area. Any problems then feel free to contact either me or Simon.

PC 1059 Steve Mersh
Problem Solving Officer
Laindon & Basildon Town
Tel: 01268 532212 Ext: 44531
Steve.Mersh@essex.pnn.police.uk

Lessons On Perspective

It's not enough to have a dream,
Unless you're willing to pursue it.

It's not enough to know what right,
Unless you're strong enough to do it.

It's not enough to learn the truth,
Unless you also learn to live it.

It's not enough to reach for love,
Unless you care enough to give it.



Yvonne Friend

August Weddings



The congregation of St. Nicholas Church offer their congratulations to the following couples:

Saturday, 5th August

16:00 hours – Aaron Judge & Lisa Sharp

17:00 – Adrian & Tina Court (Renewal of Vows)

Saturday, 19th August

15:00 hours – Daniel Chittock & Samantha Gibson

Saturday, 26th August

13:00 hours – Eric Brownhart & Caroline Harriott

14:00 hours – Darren Firth & Nicola Benstead

The Art of Aging

Do you realize that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids? If you're less than 10 years old, you're so excited about aging that you think in fractions.

"How old are you?" "I'm four and a half!"

You're never thirty-six and a half. You're four and a half, going on five!

That's the key.

You get into your teens, now they can't hold you back. You jump to the next number, or even a few ahead. "How old are you?" "I'm gonna be 16!" You could be 13, but hey, you're gonna be 16!

And then the greatest day of your life. you become 21.

Even the words sound like a ceremony . . . YOU BECOME 21. YESSSS!!!

But then you turn 30.

Oooohh, what happened there? Makes you sound like bad milk! .

He TURNED; we had to throw him out.

There's no fun now, you're just a sour-dumpling.

What's wrong? What's changed?

You BECOME 21, you TURN 30, then you're PUSHING 40.

Whoa! Put on the brakes, it's all slipping away. Before you know it,

you REACH 50 and your dreams are gone.



But wait!!! You MAKE it to 60. You didn't think you would!
So you BECOME 21, TURN 30, PUSH 40, REACH 50 and
MAKE it to 60.
You've built up so much speed that you HIT 70! After that it's
a



day-by-day thing; you HIT Wednesday!
You get into your 80s and every day is a complete cycle; you
HIT
lunch; you TURN 4:30; you REACH bedtime.
And it doesn't end there. Into the 90s, you start going backwards; "I was
JUST 92."
Then a strange thing happens. If you make it over 100, you become a
little kid again. "I'm 100 and a half!"
May you all make it to a healthy 100 and a half!!

HOW TO STAY YOUNG

1. Throw out non-essential numbers. This includes age, weight and height.
2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
3. Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle. "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." And the devil's name is Alzheimer's.
4. Enjoy the simple things.
5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
6. The tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. Be ALIVE while you are alive.
7. Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.
8. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
9. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county; to a foreign country but NOT to where the guilt is.
10. Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.



AND ALWAYS REMEMBER:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but
by the moments that take our breath away.
We all need to live life to its fullest each day



George Carlin

In The Hands of the Wind

Like an immigrant from a mad, mad world
There are wild imaginings in my head
Like the keeper of a cage
Holding us together.
Whatever there was has now gone
Leaving my body numb and light all over,
Like a feather, I am floating -
With no idea of where I'm going.
Floating high, floating low,
Fast and then slow,
I'm in the hands of the wind.



Death has brushed it's hands over my face,
leaving it's dark thumbprints under my
eyes.

I try so hard to fly like a bird,
But there's broken wings on this damaged
bird,

So I float like a feather,
with wild imaginings in my head,
but I'm in the hands of the wind.

Yvonne Friend

Life in the 1500's

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married. Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of



the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children.

Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, *Don't throw the baby out with the Bath water.*



Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof.



When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying . *It's raining cats and dogs.*

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house.. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, *Dirt poor.* The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying a *thresh hold.*

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over t he next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme, *Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old..*

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special.

When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could, *bring home the bacon.* They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and *chew the fat.*

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or *the upper crust.*





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Readings for August 2006

Date	Old Testament/Acts of the Apostles	Page	Epistle	Page	Gospel	Page
6th	Track 1 : 2 Samuel Chapter 11, Verse 26 – Chapter 12, Verse 13. Track 2: Exodus Chapter 16, Verses 2-4 & 9-15.	315 74	Ephesians Chapter 4, Verses 1-6.	1175	John Chapter 6, Verses 24-35.	1070
13th	Track 1 : 2 Samuel Chapter 18, Verses 5-9, 15 & 31-33. Track 2: 1 Kings Chapter 19, Verses 4-8.	323 361	Ephesians Ch 4, V 25 – Ch 5, V 2.	1176	John Chapter 6, Verse 35 & 41-51.	1070
20th	Track 1 : 1 Kings Chapter 2, Verses 10-12 & Chapter 3, Verses 3-14. Track 2: Proverbs Chapter 9, Verses 1-6.	336 642	Ephesians Chapter 5, V 15-20.	1176	John Chapter 6, Verses 51-58.	1071
27th	Track 1 : 1 Kings Chapter 8, Verses 22-30 & 41-43. Track 2: Joshua Chapter 24, Verses 1-2 & 14-18.	345 240	Ephesians Chapter 6, V 10-20.	1177	John Chapter 6, Verses 56-69.	1071

Join the FOSN!

Paul Hickman has been very busy reviving the Friends of St Nicholas (FOSN). He has designed a badge for members.

Additionally, Angela Smith, M.P. for Basildon, has kindly accepted his invitation to become the honorary chairperson.

What does it involve?

As little or as much as you are prepared to offer.

In his information leaflet, Paul suggests the following but if you feel that you have

something different to offer, please contact Paul (01268 459124)

- Visiting the church grounds every now and again just to make sure that all is well
- Helping the conservation team with the nature reserve aspect
- Gardening
- Litter picking, confetti clearing, etc
- Giving feedback on church activities
- Offering specialist help at discount rates
- Showing others that the values of the church are worthwhile and appreciated
- Small leaflet drops
- Generating ideas for events
- Aiding the understanding of our local history
- Sharing concern for local people, children, issues so that the church can effectively pray for those involved

So many ways that people can help without being regular church goers. All the above add greatly to the church's value in the parish. The Friends of St Nicholas enables people to get involved in whatever part of church life appeals to them.

There is a minimum, one-off charge of £2.50, which will cover the cost of a badge but if you feel that you are unable to offer any help, as listed above, you are still invited to join as a St Nicholas Church wellwisher with no special commitments. Please contact Paul on 01268 459124 for more details

