

## **Making our own history**

### **Covid-19 and St Nicholas', June 2020**

We hope that, by now, you will all have had the chance to read the article we sent out two weeks ago about our new church history project. The response so far has been encouraging but we would love to hear from more of you. At a time like the present, when we are prevented from meeting each other in the ways that usually mean so much to us, this is a great opportunity for us to “meet” virtually, share our experiences of a genuinely unique time in all our lives, and to let those who come after us know how the people of St Nicholas’ managed through it all.

As we enter the second half of June, it is difficult to believe that we have been in lockdown for nearly three months, a strange time of anxious adjustment against a backdrop of permanently blue skies, which somehow added to the unreality. Recent piecemeal easing of these restrictions, while a relief to some, has simply added to the uncertainty for many, uncannily reflected in the current unsettled weather and frequently grey skies.

***Calling all young people:*** *Nowhere have these uncertainties been more acute than in our schools and it has perhaps been too easy to forget what a very disorienting experience these months have been for our children and young people. Those of us whose education took place during an era when schools hardly ever seemed to close for anything, from snow to the three-day week, really need to know how a closure lasting months has felt for you. SATs, GCSEs, A levels, vanished without trace; for Year 6 and secondary school leavers no trips, no proms, hardly any goodbyes, just the abrupt end of an era of your life. For others, home schooling and socially distanced learning: how have they felt? So many questions, which only you can answer.*

So please, send us your thoughts and ideas, your artwork and photographs, anything at all to help us create the fullest picture we can of these times.

Send to: [gillenstone@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gillenstone@hotmail.co.uk)