

NORA PALMER (1914–2006)

Nora and the Revd George Palmer came to Deddington in 1963. During his 15 years incumbency Nora was a gifted musician, teacher and carer. She operated the vicarage in the open-door tradition where, on entering, one felt engulfed by her warmth, love, sense of humour and Christian understanding. It was there that the DN was first printed. In this way she gave George exactly the sort of support he needed in his ministry.

Nora worked tirelessly to resurrect the Church choir. Through her efforts money was raised for robes, for Church music, for membership of the RSCM. With no fuss she shared with us all her gift of music, at times taking over at the organ at short notice. She and Canon George left the Parish in 1978, and throughout their happy retirement in Benson, Nora managed to support and encourage her old friends in Deddington. She never forgot a name; in fact her wide interest in everything was stunning, in particular her knowledge of Church of England hierarchy, rites and duties.

Canon George died in 1993, but in spite of her grief Nora continued to do what she did best. She poured out her love to her sons, her large family and to all around her. Nora, I know, loved weddings, an excuse to buy a pretty hat. She will certainly wear her best hat now and the heavens will rejoice and sing at her arrival.

Ruth Johnson 2007