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|--|---|
| Monday 4 April                         | Men's Fellowship: the Bridges of Surrey by Hugh Boorman   |
| Wednesday 6 April                      | Holy Communion at 11 am, followed by a light lunch  |
| Friday 8 April                         | Taizé Hour at Holy Trinity, 8 pm  |
| Tuesday 12 April                       | New Marriage course begins  |
| Monday 18 April                        | Anchor: Penny Alpass on Uganda  |
| Wednesday 20 April                     | Annual Parochial Church Meeting   |
| Saturday 23 April                      | 'A Night in New Orleans' jazz concert in church, 8 pm   |
| Wednesday 4 May                        | Holy Communion at 11 am, followed by a light lunch  |
| Monday 9 May                           | Men's Fellowship Annual Service, AGM and closing supper   |
| Sunday 22 May                          | Trinity Tea and Songs of Praise   |
| Monday 6-10 June                       | Seniors House Party at Pilgrim Hall   |
| Tuesday 28 June until<br>Sunday 3 July | "The Life of Christ" - Wintershall's open air play<br>10.15 am - 4.30 pm each day (see page 10) |

### REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

|            | 8 am                  | 10 am                | 6.30 pm              |
|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1st Sunday | Holy Communion (trad) | Morning Praise       | Evening Prayer       |
| 2nd Sunday | Holy Communion (trad) | Morning Praise       | Holy Communion Ord 1 |
| 3rd Sunday | Holy Communion (trad) | All Age Service      | Evening Prayer       |
| 4th Sunday | Holy Communion BCP    | Holy Communion Ord 1 | Evening Prayer       |
| 5th Sunday | Holy Communion (trad) | Morning Praise       | Evening Prayer       |

### WEEKDAY SERVICES

Monthly on a Wednesday (see diary above): Holy Communion (Prayer Book)  
 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, at 2 pm: Toddlers' Praise (in the Church Hall)  
 Every Wednesday, at 7 am: Prayers for 30 minutes (in the Quiet Room)  
 Every Thursday, at 3.45 pm: Intercessions (in the Quiet Room)  
 Monthly on a Thursday, at 11.45 am at Wingham Court: Holy Communion  
 4th Thursday in month, at 11.30 am at the Day Centre: Holy Communion

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and lots more to keep you in the picture

# HOLY TRINITY ACQUIRES A MINIBUS

If you are one of those who has been thinking recently that someone has been cheekily parking a school minibus in the church car park, rest assured: it actually belongs to the church. As a result of an offer made to Holy Trinity, the PCC agreed to acquire the second-hand minibus for church purposes.

It was thought that it would be specially valuable for transporting young people to events, but it is now available for a broader range of purposes across the age spectrum of the church's membership. It would be good for us to make the most of it!

Nigel Watkins has agreed to take on the role of manager of the minibus and its use, and he is therefore the person to contact to find out more, to ask questions or to enquire about booking it for a specific purpose.

VICAR: CANON JULIAN HENDERSON  
 LAY ASSISTANT MINISTER: VALERIE BAGLEY  
 CURATE: THE REVD DAVID KING  
 NON-STIPENDIARY MINISTER: THE REVD PROF LINDA MORGAN  
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'Never trust a doctor whose office plants are dead!' So reads a popular fridge magnet. Trust is a much-debated issue these days, and opinion polls are frequently conducted to discover how much the British public trusts different sets of people. (It seems that doctors, nurses, teachers and judges are still high in the trust stakes, despite many controversies over all their roles – and those at the bottom of the trust polls also predictably remain much the same!)

In the Bible, we see plenty of people entrusted with responsibilities – and also, plenty who betray trust. Jesus entrusts his twelve closest friends with his mission of evangelism and healing, but it's not long before Judas betrays his master's life, or before Peter denies he ever knew him.

In our culture, people might well trust one another on the basis of shared interest, mutual attraction or family kinship. But this by itself does not make for a healthy society. In God's terms, neither our partnerships, nor even our family units, should become islands entire unto themselves, concocting 'bye-laws', as it were, for their own ends. Euthanasia, for instance, may proceed on the basis of two people 'trusting' each other to hasten one party's death, but the wider implications for the disposability of the sick and elderly are very grave. Mafia members may 'trust' one another to maintain silence about their activities, but the value of such trust is debased by its connection to what God would define as sin – to murder, extortion and fraud. All in all, John Henry Sammis' famous hymn 'Trust and obey' had it about right, capturing well the need to marry trust in others with adherence to God's Word.

In Jesus we see this perfectly. Peter described Jesus on the cross as entrusting himself to God the Father, to 'the one who judges justly'. The sense is of Jesus handing himself over humbly, to God in obedience, to us in service, and to both in sacrificial love. Thanks to this – the greatest act of trust there has ever been – we can trust God for the future. Because of the cross, and the resurrection which followed it, we know that death is not the end, that life has meaning and purpose, that there is hope for the Church and for the world. And so we find Jesus saying to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me'.

We all need to discover afresh, or for the first time, what it means to trust in Christ in the 21st century – to relate to him as a friend, and to follow in his path of obedience. May God help us to fulfil that challenge!

*Valerie*



## From the Parish Registers

### *We welcome into the family of the church:*

Alexander Nicholas George Slater  
Fenn Elise Statham  
Barnaby George Harris  
(all baptised on 6th March)

### *We offer congratulations on the marriage of:*

Colin Michael Butler and  
Joanna Lucy Harris  
(married on 26th February)

### *We offer sympathy to the relatives and friends of:*

Yasmin Williams-Hill  
(2nd December)  
Charlie Scicluna  
(19th February)  
Phyllis Smith  
(2nd March)  
Florence Symonds  
(8th March)  
John Arthur Thomson  
(9th March)  
Joyce Rhodes  
(11th March)  
Gerald Howard Robert Cruickshank  
(14th March)



Material intended for inclusion in the May issue of Insight should reach the Editor by Sunday 17th April.

## Parish Personalities

This month it is Doreen Howells who faces the Insight Inquisition.

*Where were you brought up?*

Carmarthen, SW Wales.

*How long have you lived in Claygate?*

For 20 years.

*What do you like most about it?*

It has two thriving WI groups.

*And if there was one thing you could change?*

I would get rid of the road humps (especially in the Avenue).

*Where would you locate your ideal home?*

Here (with a shorter winter, longer summer).

*What is the least welcome part of your daily round?*

Clearing up after the evening meal.

*Which personal trait do you struggle most to overcome?*

Untidiness.

*What food are you most partial to?*

Sea bass and Dover sole.

*And leave on the side of your plate?*

Plum pudding.

*What do you watch on television?*

I am a bit of a soap addict, but also gardening.

*What would your desert island book be?*

"The Shadow of the Sickle" by Islwyn Ffowc Elis.

*What is your favourite music?*

Les Miserables, and the Pearl Fishers duet sung by Bryn Terfel and Andrea Bocelli.

*And your favourite hymn?*

"How Great Thou art", accompanied by a male voice choir.

*Which passage of the Bible is most telling for you personally?*

1 Corinthians 13, vv 4 - 7.

*Do you have an unfulfilled ambition?*

To play the harp.

## Sailing with the Royal Family

Commodore Peter Swan was a very entertaining speaker at the Men's Fellowship's March meeting. As it was a Ladies Night, a larger audience than usual was able to enjoy his reminiscences of life as an officer aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia, with special responsibility for ceremonial.

Britannia was a new yacht for a new Sovereign, when Queen Elizabeth came to the throne and the previous Royal Yacht Victoria and Albert was pensioned off. This meant that the Queen was able to make an input into her design, unlike any of the other royal residences she had inherited. For Peter Swan, the result, like Concorde, the E-type Jaguar and the J Class yachts, looked beautifully "right".

Essentially, within its integrated whole, Britannia was a palace pulled by a tug. It was a very quiet vessel, with its cruising speed chosen to avoid reverberation, and communication between "yachtsmen" as the crew were called, often being by sign language.

Peter Swan's first experience of the Royal Family was being invited to drinks with the Queen Mother - a daunting prospect, if you had any aspiration to match her intake - and his other reminiscences covered visits to Australia and the Pacific, and also the Caribbean and the West Coast of America, with the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh, cruising to the Maritime Provinces of Canada with the newly-wed Prince Charles and Princess Diana, and the annual rituals of Cowes Week.

## Lordly Anchor

ANCHOR had an excellent evening when Michael Collon spoke about his present job "A Clerk in the House of Lords."

He explained how the House of Lords works and some of the major ways in which it differs from the Commons. Now with a reduced number of hereditary Peers and all the rest people who have achieved high honours in public life, there is a very wide spread of knowledge among the members, which is invaluable on the committees - their informed opinions when Bills are sent up to them can often act as a brake on the House of Commons. As a Clerk, Michael is appointed to a specific committee and is responsible for taking minutes of the meetings and keeping the committee members fully briefed.

## History and the here and now

For their outing on 19th March, members of the Men's Fellowship and their guests had a morning in the BBC Television Centre and an afternoon in the Cabinet War Rooms and the new Churchill Museum.

The BBC tour covered the newsroom, weather and two studios, the floors of which are stripped and repainted after every show. We had the chance to become media practitioners and experienced what would happen if the forecasters wore blue. A difficult journey, courtesy of anti-war demonstrators, found us taken back to the darkest days of the Second World War and the War Rooms beneath the Treasury building. There is, however, nothing old-fashioned about the new museum: it employs a lot of interactive technology to tell the story of Winston Churchill's life.

## Remembering Richard of Chichester

Is the name of the thirteenth century bishop, Richard of Chichester at all familiar to you? Even if it rings no bells, you almost certainly know something of him because, more than 750 years later, one of the prayers he wrote remains as familiar and well-loved as it ever was.

He was born about 1197 as Richard de Wych, of Droitwich, the son of a yeoman farmer. In due time he made his way to Oxford, and later to Paris and Bologna to study canon law. In 1235 he returned to Oxford, and was soon appointed Chancellor, where he supported Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, in his struggles against King Henry III's misuse of Church funds.

After further study to become a priest, Richard was in due course made a Bishop himself. He was greatly loved. He was charitable and accessible, both stern and

merciful to sinners, extraordinarily generous to those stricken by famine, and a brilliant legislator of his diocese. He decreed that the sacraments were to be administered without payment and that the clergy were to be chaste, to practise residence, and to wear clerical dress.

He died in April 1253, and he is depicted in art with a chalice at his feet, in memory of his once dropping one at communion! And he wrote this prayer:

*Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits thou hast given me, for all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for me.*

*O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly, day by day. For thine own sake.*

## For your amusement

*Miss Dunne moved to a retirement apartment in a new community and, when Sunday came, decided to go along the road to the parish church. She liked the building, the atmosphere and the music, but as for the preacher, he appeared not to know when to stop. The sermon seemed interminable and, when it eventually finished, the sighs of relief among the congregation were scarcely suppressed.*

*The other churchgoers seemed friendly so, after the service, Miss Dunne thought she should introduce herself to her neighbour in the pew. She extended her hand and said "I'm Gladys Dunne". The response came quickly: "I'm sure that goes for all of us!"*



*...there was no way out of it, in a weak moment Arthur had agreed to take over the leadership of the Sunday School.*

## Life of Christ at Wintershall

The Wintershall Estate at Bramley, south of Guildford, has become well-known for its large scale open air staging of Christian drama. Of the Life of Christ, Peter Hutley, Wintershall's owner, writes: "When we first produced the Life of Christ we knew we were being audacious but it was only meant to be for two years and it seemed the best way of celebrating the Millennium. It has captured everyone's hearts and satisfied such a need that public demand has encouraged us to produce it year after year since then."

The play, with a cast of over 200, begins with the Nativity and ends with the Ascension. The audience moves with the action through the beautiful grounds of Wintershall in what is a day-long religious experience. The play, which is in three acts, lasts from 10.15 am until 4.30 pm and is being presented on six days from 28th June to 3rd July.

The cost is £13 for adults and £6.50 for children (including all those in full-time education) and you will find booking forms in the church foyer.

In Holy Trinity on Saturday 23rd April at 8 pm

### The French Quarter All-Stars

present

## A NIGHT IN NEW ORLEANS

A concert of Traditional jazz with a spiritual flavour

Tickets £6, from Keith Havelock or Jon Davey or on the night  
in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief

Organised by the Men's Fellowship for everyone

## COMING UP AT HOLY TRINITY

### Men's Fellowship

On Monday 4th April, Hugh Boorman will be coming to give an illustrated talk on the Bridges of Surrey.

### Taizé Hour

For those who recall our Centre Feature on Taizé, the news is that it comes to Holy Trinity on Friday 8th April at 8 pm.

### Marriage course

A final reminder that our second Marriage Course begins on Tuesday 12th April. Book your places with Roger Marsden.

### ANCHOR

On Monday 18th April, Penny Alpass will be showing pictures of her recent visit to Uganda and giving an update on the situation there.

### Trinity Tea and Songs of Praise

Trinity Sunday falls on 22nd May this year and again provides the opportunity for our annual Tea party and the popular Songs of Praise evening service.

## Julian on his way back to Holy Trinity

The Vicar's extended study leave is coming to its end and April will see him back among us. Julian's first Sunday back on duty will be 17th April, when you can expect to see him at all three services.

Julian has spent most of March, including Easter, in Africa, visiting Martin and Lucie Brown in Niamey, the capital of Niger, and then moving on to both central and southern Nigeria, seeing Bishop William Diya in Kafanchan and Bishop Jonathan Edewor in the diocese of Oleh with which our Deanery is linked.

One result of his African experience, Heather tells us, is that Julian has become accustomed to services lasting for 4 hours. Are you prepared?

## Might you stand for election?

Vacancies on the Parochial Church Council and the Deanery Synod will arise this year and will need to be filled at the Annual Meeting on 20th April.

Now is the time for you to consider whether you might offer to serve the church by standing for election this month. Apart from what you can contribute to decision-making on the direction to be taken in pursuing the ministry of the church, it will give you a valuable insight into the many facets of Holy Trinity's life and work.

## Annual meeting needs your presence

The annual Parochial Church Meeting takes place on Wednesday 20th April, and you are warmly invited, nay, vigorously urged to be there. It is an important occasion in the church's year, when we review those things we have been doing, take stock of where we are and are headed and elect those who are to represent us in the way the church is governed over the next year. A strong and representative attendance by the church's members is therefore crucial.

A volume of reports on the activities of Holy Trinity will be available shortly, so that you have a chance to read them in advance of the meeting and identify what are the questions you wish to ask.



## Learning from the Bible

Are you on the run? If such a question causes you to wonder whether your cover has been blown, let's make clear that we are thinking this month of those who are trying to avoid God's claim on them. There are many like that outside the church, but a good number even inside it. For yielding to God can disrupt our comfort and upset the established and even tenor of our lives.

We can see the same thing happening repeatedly in the Bible. Resistance to God can take different forms. It is not just "I don't want to be bothered", but "I am not the right person; I'm not up to the task".

One of the earliest examples was when Moses was confronted by the burning bush. He argued long and hard against God's demands on him, saying "Who am I to go to Pharaoh?", "What if they don't believe me?", "I have a speech impediment" and "Please send someone else" (Exodus, chaps 3 and 4).

Jeremiah was another one. He was, he thought, too young to take on a prophetic role. "'I do not know how to speak", he told God, "I am only a child" (Jer. 1.6).

And what did Thomas the disciple of Jesus say? "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" (John 14. 5).

The character best known for the lengths to which he went to avoid God's call was

*"I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me."*

Luke chap. 14, verse 18.

Jonah. He was instructed to go to Nineveh and preach against its wickedness, but he turned tail and took a ship heading in the opposite direction (Jonah 1.3).

God is not so easily put off. He can see through human excuses, and knows what he can empower us to do. Moses, Jeremiah, Jonah and Thomas all served with distinction and power, and no doubt surprised themselves by what they were able to accomplish. There are many too in modern times who have found themselves enabled to meet a challenge from which their first instincts made them shrink. With God, we are told, all things are possible, and if we are prepared to put ourselves in his hands, we too can be surprised by the results.

Jesus told the story of a rich man who invited guests to a banquet. A number, however, sent their apologies, offering one excuse or another. The host sent his servant out to bring in all he could find; but those who excluded themselves received no second chance. Jesus told the story to stress the urgency of our response to the divine invitation to the heavenly banquet. It is tragically possible to fail to heed God's call, or to put off a decision, but we might be squandering the opportunity of salvation.

*Scribatus*

*We know not what the future holds, but we do know who holds the future. Willis J Ray*

## Young people today....

This month we have attempted something amazing in Youth Fellowship: namely a Travelcard Treasure Hunt. If you ask any Youthworker up and down the country what would be top of their list of things that were difficult with 20 young people, travelling around central London on the tube performing amusing tasks and collecting obscure clues, all against a time deadline, would be a shoo in.

So with this in mind I embarked along with Tara Watkins, Jon Hidden and Marcus Wood to lead such an expedition as has not been seen since Scott. Some would say this was pure folly, indeed some of those people may well be right, but sometimes you just have to do the impossible to prove that the limits we set on ourselves are foolishness. And so we did. Whether it was or not, is explored below.

It was a bright day full of hopeful promise with the sense of indiscretion ever hanging in the air as we ate our lunch together after church on Passion Sunday. I had managed to get my lunch together from various members of YF bringing me amongst other things a Pastrami Ciabatta and a pack of mini digestives. The day was going well. For me at least. Anyhow we then wandered down to Claygate station where the trains were running on a Sunday, which in itself is a miracle of biblical proportions, and thus began our adventure in earnest.

We reached Waterloo and had four hours to achieve the impossible: a) decipher my dastardly clues to uncover which tube stations to visit and then on arrival b) to unmask the answers to the questions therein.

unmask the answers to the questions therein. As well as these priority tasks there were photographs to take and items to collect and a Monopoly board to fill out from memory. I spent about 6 weeks putting this together with a colleague from Watford and we are considering patenting the material which was consummate, at least according to my colleague. I knew the proof would be in the pudding.

Well with Canary Wharf a main destination (*Clue*: Where Norwich City meets a Klingon from Star Trek), we got to see a lot of London and travel on the DLR. The underused Hammersmith and City Line to get to Shepherds Bush was an experience. The teams also discovered that a few of the locations were a bluff (cue maniacal laughter from me) but judging by how tired they all were when we returned to Claygate I think it can be adjudged positively. It takes a lot to engage a young person's attention and then tire them out and this rare moment of triumph is one that will long linger in the memory.

My personal highlight was when the group that I was with pretended to be my entourage and loudly proclaimed that they were as such. We laughed so often and watching 17 year olds running to find a napkin from Starbucks and asking Japanese tourists if they could take their photograph is so unusual it can only be cherished for its value. Watching young people make the most of their childhood before the crushing responsibility of adulthood engulfs them is precious, and allowing the Youth Fellowship to have that time and space together was definitely the real treasure of the afternoon.

*Asa*

# Pastoral care in our church and community

Since Valerie's arrival at Holy Trinity, the development of pastoral care has been one of her special responsibilities, and the PCC expressed satisfaction that, although there is always scope for continuing advance, some past deficiencies in this field have now been remedied.

In reporting to the PCC, Valerie addressed the church's ministry of care under a series of headings.

## *For older people*

Holy Trinity's Care Team has now been in operation for over a year. It comprises 17 people, all of whom have had basic training with a member of the Guildford Diocesan Department of Social Responsibility. They meet together regularly for feed-back and on-going training. The brief for team members is to befriend someone referred to them by either Valerie or Holy Trinity's Pastoral Assistant and the team leader, Margaret Mathew, and to visit them regularly, following them up through hospital visits etc, and through any change from private to residential accommodation.

There could be the opportunity at some point to expand this support to cover other vulnerable groups in the community. For this to happen, however, the need would have to become clearer and more volunteers available from a younger age bracket. This type of pastoral care involves demanding long-term commitment, which not everyone is able to give.

## *For families*

Parenting courses were started at Holy Trinity two years ago, initially using leaders from the Practical Parenting organisation. We have been able to run three courses for parents of pre-school children and two for parents of teenagers. Two leaders from Holy Trinity have now completed the Practical Parenting training course, with another in training. The hope is to run another course for parents of teenagers in the summer. Those attending have so far been mainly drawn from the church family, their personal contacts and Jigsaw parents, but if there is to be a rolling programme of courses, they will need to be promoted more widely to bring in broader-based participation.

*The Church Council recently reviewed Holy Trinity's pastoral care, based on a report circulated to them by Valerie Bagley. This edited version of Valerie's paper describes the position for our wider readership.*

The Marriage Course, using material from Holy Trinity Brompton, ran for the first time last year, led by three couples from the church family. It had a full complement of participants and was very effective. The second course starts this month, and the plan is to run two courses a year.

## *For the bereaved*

The ministry of the Bereavement Visiting Team, more than anything else the church does, seems to make a significant difference to the way that Holy Trinity is perceived in the community. About fifty funerals are conducted by Holy Trinity staff in the course of the average year and where the next of kin is local, members of the Bereavement Visiting Team follow up those who have been bereaved. Most of the contacts made are short term, but some result in longer-term relationships. All of those followed up are invited to the May Tea for the bereaved and to the Service for the Bereaved held every November. Both of these are very well attended and are much appreciated. The health problems of its former leader has meant a difficult year for the Team, and it is currently being led by Valerie in conjunction with Laura James, one of the team who does all the referrals and keeps in touch with the members. The members meet together regularly for feed-back and on-going training.

The Bereavement Support Group has been operating, fortnightly, for eighteen months under the leadership of Sarah Collins, a professional counsellor, and Barrie Railton. It is most effective for those who are in the secondary stages of bereavement, although some who have been recently bereaved also find it helpful. Some people link in with the group long-term, others only in the short term. This is a small-scale but influential ministry which could beneficially be expanded.

## *For the mentally vulnerable*

"DASH" - Depression, Anxiety, Stress - Hope - met for several months to provide an informal group forum for those suffering with depression. After very small attendance, however, the leaders' committee decided to discontinue group meetings, but still to be available as individuals. There seems to be little demand for a group forum but there is now within Holy Trinity a pool of expertise on mental health issues, particularly depression, which can be drawn on in the future.

## *For Home Group members*

Much of Holy Trinity's pastoral care takes place in the Home Groups. Valerie has led a brief training session on pastoral care at a Home Group Leaders' meeting, and further initiatives may follow.

## *For everyone, through finance*

The Claygate branch of the Elmbridge Credit Union has continued its slow expansion and, under the leadership of Bill Lowe, has opened up a new venue for fortnightly collecting in the Firs, which has proved popular. There is also now the opportunity every week for the lads of DV8 to contribute. The weekly venue in the Claygate Village Club continues to operate. The Credit Union has proved to be an effective help to people who can develop the habit of saving regularly, even in small amounts, and who can then borrow without high interest rates.

Do come to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 20th April to hear more!