

Sunday 1 July	Tom Darwent's ordination, Guildford Cathedral, 10.30 am Celebration & Welcome lunch for Tom at Holy Trinity, 1pm
Tuesday 3 July	Youth update and time of prayer, 9.30 am and 7 pm
Wednesday 4 July	Holy Communion at 11 am, followed by a light lunch
Wednesday 4 July	Mozart concert in church, 7.30 pm (£8)
Sunday 8 July	Farewell Tea for Asa, Church Hall
Saturday 21 July	Claygate Flower Show
Saturday 21 July	Guildford Cathedral Tower Tours (249 steps!) Book in advance
Friday 27 July - 6 August	Summer Mission to Ukraine
Wednesday 1 August	Holy Communion at 11 am, followed by a light lunch
Thursday 2 August	"Dreamworld" Summer Holiday Club
Saturday 8 September	Surrey Churches Bike Ride

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 with prayer for healing
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)
 Alternate Wednesdays, at 10 am: Toddlers' Praise (in Church House)
 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 touch with Holy
Trinity's life and work

HOLY TRINITY GROWS LINKS WITH EMMANUEL HALL

Philip was the preacher at the Sunday morning service at Claygate Evangelical Church in Common Road last month. He received a warm welcome from the congregation there.

Leaders of the church explained to the congregation that they could see no way in which they could maintain the continuing witness of the church as an independent entity over the longer term. They viewed the solution as lying in a closer relationship with Holy Trinity,

For his part, Philip expressed gratitude for the example of Christian leadership which had been demonstrated by the elders of the church and made plain his commitment to ensuring an ongoing gospel ministry at Emmanuel Hall.

The detailed implications of Holy Trinity's involvement with Emmanuel Hall, from both the legal and the practical standpoint, are being explored.

VICAR: THE REVD PHILIP PLYMING
 LAY ASSISTANT MINISTER: VALERIE BAGLEY

CURATE: THE REVD TOM DARWENT

NON-STIPENDIARY MINISTER: THE REVD PROF LINDA MORGAN

COMMUNITY WORKER: STUART WRIGHT

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July promises to be a month of comings and goings. On 8th July we will be saying goodbye to Asa as he responds to God's call and moves up to Cambridge for the next stage in his journey. On that Sunday I will be expressing our shared thanks to Asa for all he has been and done as Youth Worker here at Holy Trinity. In his four years in Claygate he has demonstrated considerable commitment to the work among young people, helped many of them in their walk with Christ and been a good friend to many in the wider congregation as well. He leaves behind a fine team and a solid foundation on which future work can be built. As we wish Asa every blessing as he moves on, I am also clear that youth work remains a priority for us and we will have to consider further investment in the future.

8th July will also be the first Sunday when Tom is among us after his ordination in Guildford Cathedral on 1st July. It is a real gift from God that we have a curate a full year earlier than we had hoped; it is my belief and prayer that as we provide a welcoming and encouraging place for Tom to begin ordained ministry and complete his training, so we will in turn receive and learn much from his experience and gifts. Tom met a number of church members on the Leadership Day Away, and, when I saw him recently on his Commissioning Day at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, he said how much he was looking forward to getting to know the whole range of people in our church

I know Tom is also excited about coming to the church as we begin to implement the vision process which has been our focus for the last few months. As I said at the three services on 17 June, I believe we have seen tremendous unity over the priorities for the next few years; our vision of growing numerically, spiritually and in fellowship is both exciting and demanding, and I look forward to the journey ahead with your support, commitment and prayer (see this month's centre pages for more details)

As we move forward together we can put our trust in the unchanging and faithful God, whose love has been poured into our hearts (Romans 5:5).

With my love, thanks and prayers

Philip



From the Parish Registers

We welcome into the family of the Church:

Megan Olivia Kotze
Phoebe Grace Cottrell
Emelia Felicity Cottrell
Sebastian Oliver Cottrell
(all baptised on 17th June)

We offer congratulations on the marriage of:

Andrew James Burton and
Shona Ann Howe
(married on 26th May)

Lee David Rose and
Lena Clare Thompson
(married on 26th May)

We offer sympathy to the relatives and friends of:

Daniel Mark Gohil-Breeds
(18th May)



Insight

It's now that summer feet-up time for the Magazine Team (hurrah!), so please don't expect another magazine next month.

Contributions for the September issue should reach the Editor please by Friday 17th August.

Parish Personalities

Andrew Tarcy responds to this month's Insight Inquisition.

Where were you brought up?

Mainly in Chiswick, West London.

How long have you been at Holy Trinity?

Since 1999, 3 years after moving as a family to Long Ditton from Kingston.

What do you like most about it?

Evangelical focus, great children's activities and other opportunities for families to be involved.

And if there was one thing you could change?

A more "mixed" congregation on occasions.

Where would you locate your ideal home?

It has to be Claygate - to be successfully achieved from September 2007.

What is the least welcome part of your daily round? Getting up for anything before 9 am.

Which personal trait do you struggle most to overcome? Impatience.

What food are you most partial to?

Any roast dinner with all the trimmings.

And leave on the side of your plate?

Bread and butter pudding.

What do you watch on television?

The Apprentice, Andrew Marr's History of Britain - as well as what the children are in to!

What would your desert island book be?

The Trekking Atlas of the World

What is your favourite music?

(Although it shows my age!) It has to still be Pink Floyd and Genesis

And your favourite hymn?

"Dear Lord and Father of mankind".

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

Matthew 25. 14 - 30.

Do you have an unfulfilled ambition?

Too many to think of (to sail round the UK, climb Mont Blanc, even just chill out by the sea for a few months....).

Church members contribute to Vision process

A summary of the responses from small groups and individuals (not to mention a vision exercise completed by Pathfinders) to the issues and questions outlined at the Church Vision Meeting is available in the church foyer to be picked up by anyone interested. Commenting on them, Philip has offered four reflections.

First, there was an overwhelmingly positive tone to all the responses. There was, Philip suggests, a real sense that whatever the challenges which exist, the process was an exciting one and one in which members were pleased to be involved.

Secondly, Philip highlights a shared recognition that the questions we think we need to be asking (about church growth, ministry resources, small groups, teaching, training and communication) are the right ones. That does not mean that everyone feels exactly the same about them, but none of the areas proved to be controversial.

Thirdly, if some areas were found to be daunting, this was less a negative response to the plans than a wariness about how they would be put into action and what the process would be. That some people were conscious of the spiritual cost of the plans showed that they had engaged well with what was being put forward, and this was a good thing.

Fourthly, a number of helpful suggestions had been made, demonstrating the resources available within the church and the value of involving members in developments.

Pilgrim Hall again hosts Seniors House Party

We were indeed blessed again this year by a most enjoyable stay, from 4th to 8th June, at Pilgrim Hall. Fortyone participants shared in food, fun and fellowship - together with good teaching from Philip, Bob Hyatt and Valerie at the three morning services.

The three main afternoon outings were to Bateman's (Kipling's home), Sheffield Park and Merriments Garden. These few days away give us a real opportunity of getting to know one another better as we share time together from 9am breakfast to Scrabble close of play at ??pm.

Thanks to all who came for making it such a happy time.

Rosemary Salter

PS: Next year - 2nd to 6th June 2008. If you are interested, please contact Jem Salter - 464993 - by Christmas 2007.

2007 Annual Giving Review

All members of Holy Trinity should by now have responded to this year's annual Giving Review letter by returning their completed pledge forms for the coming year.

If you haven't got round to it yet, *please* don't think it's too late! Brian Howells, our Pledge and Gift Secretary, is still anxious to hear from you - even if you're planning no change this year.

If you have mislaid the letter and form - or never received them - you can get another from the Church Office (01372 463603). There are spare copies of the form only in the rack on the foyer welcome desk.

Holy Trinity's ministry among children

The main focus of the PCC's discussions last month was Holy Trinity's work with children. This is a summary of the ground covered.

Three papers of substance were before members of the Church Council at their meeting on 11th June. They all dealt with aspects of the activities we provided for children, one on our Sunday groups, another on the Holiday Clubs we organise and the third on the Jigsaw Pre-School, so renamed as it has become more than a Playgroup.

Sunday Groups

Andrew Cowie had drawn on the experience of his first six months as Children's Coordinator to produce a paper under the title "Growing Together", which looked at the aims and objectives for Holy Trinity's Children's Groups. It discussed what the groups should be trying to do, in terms of helping children to grow in their faith, in their discipleship, in their leadership and in their fellowship, and also in helping and encouraging parents to grow their children too. It went on to examine where we were in meeting those aims and what further steps might be considered to enable the church to move forward.

As Andrew pointed out, there is much to give thanks and praise to God for within Children's Groups at Holy Trinity. The vibrancy of all the children's work not only allows us to shine out a Christian light that can attract others to the church, but the Children's Groups will also help lay the foundations of a walk with Christ for our children that will last their whole lives.

Holiday Club

Holy Trinity's half-term Holiday Clubs have been running for ten years and have

grown in popularity: this year the 90 available places were sold out within four hours of the church office opening for bookings. The paper, presented by Andrew Cowie, discussed the target audience for the Clubs, their content, the criteria by which their success should be judged, how they should be followed up and what new options might be considered for the future (additional clubs, one-day clubs, regular after-school clubs etc).

The PCC broke into small groups for detailed discussion of three aspects of the paper, the target audience, the criteria for success and follow-up options, and it confirmed its enthusiastic support for the Holiday Club and the plans to explore ways to build on the existing format. As a short-term next step, plans are in hand for two one-day Holiday Clubs, one in the summer holidays (being held on 2nd August under the title of "Dreamworld") and one during the autumn half term.

Jigsaw

A discussion paper from the Jigsaw Advisory Group, with input from Andrew Cowie, reviewed its present status (its strong position exemplified by its being over-subscribed, with effective management, well-trained staff and a sound curriculum) and took the opportunity, particularly in the context of Holy Trinity's vision process, to look again at its future strategy. Options to be explored included building on the existing links with the church and the ministry team. There was general agreement that these were the right questions to explore over time.

Golden Tapestry comes to Guildford

The Golden Tapestry, the work of 350 schools in 31 different Commonwealth countries, will be on display along the north and south aisles of Guildford Cathedral from 27th June until 24th August. The tapestry celebrates Her Majesty the Queen's 50 years as Head of the Commonwealth. It is designed to bring together the first generation of primary school children in the 21st Century, and to give them a voice to express what being part of the Commonwealth means to them.

The Golden Tapestry moves around to enable as many people as possible to see it. It was displayed at Buckingham Palace for the Coronation Day Children's Party in June 2003, and was also on show at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, when an estimated 31,870 people came to admire it.

Surrey Churches Bike Ride

We haven't in recent years made much of this annual event, but all the more reason for drawing attention to it this year. You can undertake a cycle tour to as many churches in our county as you like, or can manage, raising money from your sponsors in the process to help church restoration and repair. Half of the money you raise goes to a church of your choice, the other half to the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust to be distributed by their trustees.

The event takes place on Saturday 8th September and a notice in the church foyer gives more information.

Claygate Flower Show

Readers will surely need no reminder that the village's biggest event of the year takes place on Saturday 21st July. But it may be worth reminding you that Holy Trinity will need help at the church's tent - so please look or listen out for the needs to be advertised - and that it would be good for church members to encourage their friends and neighbours to come and see what the church is offering.

"Dreamworld"

Holy Trinity's one-day Holiday Club on Thursday 2nd August will give primary age children a time of fun and good Christian teaching. As always, a lot of adult help will be necessary, and if you would like to be involved in one capacity or another, please have a word with Andrew Cowie, Jill Griffiths or Lorraine Huff.

Tom's ordination

A last-minute reminder that Tom Darwent will be ordained deacon in a service at 10.30 am on Sunday 1st July in Guildford Cathedral, before coming to join us as our new curate. Everyone is welcome to attend, though please note that seating is on a first come, first served basis.

"The Right to Music"

A concert by the
London Mozart Players and
Yehudi Menuhin School students
*including Mozart's Clarinet Quintet
and Oboe Quartet
Stravinsky, Britten etc*

In Holy Trinity at 7.30 pm
Wednesday 4th July, £8 (conc £6)

Next chapter is unveiled

Philip addressed each of Holy Trinity's three congregations on 17th June to introduce the results of the last few months' Vision process. Emphasising that this was all about the direction and priorities for the years ahead rather than tearing things up and starting again. Philip said that he had been struck, and tremendously encouraged, by the sense of unity and excitement among the church's leadership and its members that the steps being taken were the right ones for Holy Trinity's healthy future.

Philip's reflections on the responses received in the wake of the Church Vision Meeting on 22nd April are over the page, and the elements of the Next Chapter are set out on pages 6 and 7.

Ukraine planning going well

Things are falling into place for the mission to Ukraine which sees 40 people from Britain - most of them from Holy Trinity - leaving for Trans-Carpathia at the end of this month. Supplies of medicines have already arrived safely, and a lorry with more supplies was due to leave at the end of June.

Thanks are due for a magnificent response to our Ukraine Focus Sunday in May, which raised almost £7000. The fund is still open and will help to finance the Christian youth worker in the villages being visited, ongoing basic medicines which are out of reach of much of the community, and the finishing off of the local school.

Audiovisual plans get green light

Holy Trinity's plans for new audiovisual facilities in the church, as demonstrated at the end of March and beginning of April, have received the approval of the Diocesan Advisory Committee. We are now in the middle of the formal process to obtain a faculty for the necessary changes, and the hope is that the work might be completed before the summer is over.

Large churches meet in Claygate

For the second time, the leaders of the largest churches in the Guildford diocese gathered at Holy Trinity on 19th June for a training day, sharing experience and ideas about the needs and challenges of a large church. Both our bishops were among those who attended.



...it's a security camera. I got the idea from a Salford traffic warden....

Learning from the Bible

"The Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

Acts, chapter 2, verse 47.

I was once accosted on the train into Waterloo by two eager young men who wanted to know if I was saved. My caution in responding was not entirely due to the suspicions lurking in my mind about which far-out cult they represented (or are such suspicions when matters of faith are raised between strangers the kind of English reserve in talking about religion that we should be struggling to escape from?). I replied, not quite directly, by saying that I was indeed a Christian.

The incident comes to mind in the context of Holy Trinity's recent concentration, as a model for our own development, on the example of the early church described in the final verses of chapter 2 of the book of Acts. Verse 47 tells us of the church's constant expansion, in the words at the top of this page.

There are different ways of reading those last five words. One view is that they emphasise that being saved is not a once-and-for-all step; the fellowship of believers consisted of individuals each of whom was in the process of being saved.

Others argue that the words describe not a process of salvation in each individual but a continuous procession of individuals who were each accepting the offered salvation, as if the words said "their numbers increased as each new person was saved". So were they all then and there saved? Are you saved? Would you, as I did, hesitate before answering the question?

It is clear that God's saving work has been

done. Christ died once for all on the cross. Salvation is held out to us. But we have to respond. More than that, we have to keep responding. Paul was clear in his understanding that although God had nothing more to do to facilitate our salvation, we certainly had. Coming to faith was not the end of the matter.

He wrote to the Philippians (3.12-14) "Not that I have already obtained all this I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus". When he wrote his first letter to the Corinthians, he likened the process we face to running a race: "Run in such a way as to get the prize" (9.24).

When Paul wrote to the Corinthians, he was concerned that some of them regarded their conversion as final; they thought it no longer mattered what they did, or didn't bother to do, their salvation had been achieved. So he went out of his way to emphasise that even he could not afford to run the race aimlessly; he wanted to be sure that he would "not be disqualified for the prize" (9.27).

Paul understood, as we must, that there are many hazards in our path. There were many enemies of the cross of Christ, he told the Philippians, with their mind on earthly things, their god being their stomach and their destiny being destruction. We need to stand firm and live out our faith. Our own complacency could yet deprive us of the prize of being saved.

Scribatus

A moment of commitment will lead to a life-time of adjustment. - John Stott, Basic Christianity

Young people today....

Andrew Cowie takes over Insight's regular page 5 report.

Summer is a special time of year, and this is also true for those who attend Youth Fellowship at Holy Trinity. Now that the small matter of exams are out of the way, there is a chance to relax and enjoy.

June saw a visit to YF by Jenny Grove, who works for Tearfund. Jenny led an excellent session on Justice. We looked at whether justice is something we should be concerned about as Christians, and then considered justice (or lack of it) in the areas of Trade, Debt and Climate, and what practical steps we can take as individuals to do something about it – including short term mission work at a number of Tearfund projects around the world.

As I write, plans are afoot to give Asa a send-off party to savour. I can't say too much about it, it's all top secret – but suffice to say a few surprises are in store for Asa. There is also the annual YF trip to Goring-by-sea to be experienced. So it looks like being a fun time for all, tinged with some sadness at having to say farewell to Asa, and wishing him well as he moves up to Cambridge.

So what next? Well, with the wider church going through a vision process, using the example of the early church in Jerusalem as described in Acts 2:42-47 as a model, we will be reflecting on what God's vision is for YF too. We know that the focus of the early church was on more followers of Jesus; deeper followers of Jesus and closer followers of Jesus. We will be spending some time thinking and praying

what this means for us, and discerning what God's plan is for YF.

Personally, I'm very excited at the prospect. Living out God's plan in our life is the best thing we can do. Knowing God's love for us is the most reassuring thing we can have. Sharing our faith with our friends and welcoming them into God's family is what we are called to do. Seeing how we can achieve more in all these areas is something to look forward to. God can work in powerful ways as we open up our lives to what he wants to do through us.

August means summer camp at the Royal School in Haslemere. YF always sends a healthy contingent, and this year will be no different. It's a great time to meet with other young Christians in a beautiful setting, and get involved in lots of fun activities and games, and well as finding out more about God.

We are very blessed to have a great team of leaders at YF, a number of whom are ex-YF members themselves, and who know the ropes very well. We are planning to send a number of leaders to a Youth Ministry conference in Eastbourne in November – which will be a fantastic opportunity to meet with other Youth leaders, and find out what other churches are doing that we might be able to draw on at Holy Trinity. The conference is run by Spring Harvest, so you can be sure there will be time for worship and prayer.

So there is much to pray for and give thanks for at YF over the summer months.

The story of Lot's wife turning into a pillar of salt when she looked back rang a bell with young Jason. "My mummy looked back when she was driving", he told his Sunday School teacher, "and she turned into a telegraph pole!"

Opening the next chapter for Holy Trinity

The story so far

In these pages in January, Philip introduced us to the process of seeking to find out from God where Holy Trinity should be heading in the years ahead. He spoke at Sunday services on 7th January and described what he saw as the process by which we might discern that vision. He urged church members to pray that our hearts would be prepared for God to speak to us. Prayer of this kind was made a special feature of the season of Lent, especially during a 24-hour prayer vigil preceding a special meeting of the church on 22nd April.

At that Church Vision meeting, Philip shared in detail his own reflections over the months since he arrived in Claygate, as refined in discussions with the Parochial Church Council. What he had to say on that occasion was summarised in the centrespread of the May issue of *Insight*. It fell into three parts, first asking about the current state of Holy Trinity, what we had to be thankful about, what we should be cautious about and what our opportunities were; secondly, looking at what the Bible - especially Acts 2. 41-47 - told us of what the church should be like; and thirdly, posing the questions which he thought Holy Trinity needed to ask, namely how can we create more space for growth at Holy Trinity, how can we help people grow as disciples of Jesus, and how can we better model a community of faith?

At the Church Vision meeting, members gathered into small groups to discuss the issues and to offer feedback for input into a Leadership Day Away on 19th May, at which 35 members of the PCC and others discussed where we were being led by God. They noted that the response of members was overwhelmingly positive - grateful to have information about where we are as a church, fired by the possibilities before us, in agreement that the questions being asked about our future were the right ones, and excited about the future while being conscious of the demands this will place on us as individuals and as a church.

How do we best continue the development of Holy Trinity and its work towards God's kingdom? That has been the question behind the Vision process on which we have been focussing over the past few months. Now the picture is becoming clearer.

Holy Trinity's priorities for the future

The Leadership Day Away has endorsed the following three priorities for the church over the next five years:

- to see more followers of Jesus
- to see deeper followers of Jesus
- to see closer followers of Jesus

So how are these aims to be pursued? Taking each in turn -
More followers of Jesus

We need to create more space for growth.

There are two aspects to this. The first is that, recognising that our 10 am service is nearing capacity, we will work towards planting one or two congregations, and Philip will chair a working party to conduct research and explore possibilities. The possibility of using Emmanuel Hall might be part of this.

The second is we need to ensure that our leadership structures and staffing resources are capable of sustaining growth, and the PCC will be discussing this at their September meeting.

Deeper followers of Jesus

We need to help all to grow as disciples.

There are three aspects to this. First, it is agreed that growing small groups is vital for the long-term health of the church, and there is a commitment to finding ways of building on the existing

homegroup structure and also embracing new patterns of small groups. Linda Morgan will chair a working group exploring future options.

Secondly, we want to introduce new ways for church members to access teaching on issues that affect them in the modern world. Plans are in hand for an autumn programme to reflect this.

Thirdly, we hope more people will have access to training on Christian leadership and ministry. A pilot Growing Leaders course will be run in the autumn, and external training opportunities will be made available.

Closer followers of Jesus

We need better to model a community of faith

Two aspects of this have been identified. First, we want to see information for prayer and fellowship shared effectively across the church family, and will therefore be reviewing our internal communications. Mark Chapman is working with a small group on this and is to bring proposals to the July meeting of the PCC.

Secondly, we want to do more to welcome and integrate newcomers into the church family. Tom Darwent, our new curate, will be working on this with Philip over the summer with a view to some new initiatives happening in the autumn.

Things to be looking out for

In September:

- a questionnaire on possible new congregations
- the launch of a new Alpha course

In October:

- a new opportunity to access teaching on issues facing Christians today
- a themed weekend on 'hearing and responding to God's call'

In November:

- breakfast before a 10 am service
- 'Come Home for Lunch' Sunday
- information about the Church Weekend Away (but note the dates now - 25-27 April 2008)