

TRINITY
NEWS &
VIEWS



**Alleluia Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

April/May 2018 Issue 40

Message from our Minister

Sam, aged twenty-three, was a militant atheist. He associated himself with the teachings of fervent opponents of faith and religion. One evening he went online, and discovered that Alpha was about to start within easy access of his home. He turned up to Holy Trinity Brompton thinking, 'I'm going to take down a few irrational Christians here.'

But his encounter with the teachings and person of Jesus Christ was not what he expected.

On his questionnaire at the end of the course he wrote, 'I found the draw of Jesus irresistible and have gone from [being] someone with no faith to someone with an immense hope. To live in a state of non-truth to living in truth is, to me, the difference between *being bound to complete freedom*.'

Three months later he was baptised. He said, '*I'm free of my previous life. I was a slave to a lot of things. I was a slave to society, a slave to my peers... But now I'm free to live my life. I'm excited to see what God's got in store for me.*'

Salvation means freedom. Sam had an experience of how Jesus Christ sets us free.

(Taken from 'HTB Bible in One Year')

That freedom comes to us just one way: through the death and resurrection of Jesus. For the Christian, it's really Easter Sunday every single day, for we recognise daily all that God has sacrificed and won for us. But Easter

as a calendar date is a special time, reminding us of this truth! Reminding us of the original, once only event; a reminder of 'job done'; a reminder that no matter how illogical or hard to believe, our Jesus really is alive! And why should we not believe? If God is God, he can surely do anything.

The mystery and majesty of the Easter message is that he didn't do this for himself. He did it for you and for me because of his eternal love for even us.

If you are unsure about the story of the resurrection, then be encouraged by Sam. He met with Jesus in a way he certainly did not intend or expect. I pray that many of us will be surprised this Easter, as we encounter our amazingly wonderful God in new and surprising ways. This is my constant prayer for my own life.

Have a very happy Easter!

Paul Chesworth

Early Morning Communion

The dates for our 8.45am service in the coming months are:



22nd April

27th May

24th June

Church Family News

Philip Havelock, husband of the late Alwyne Havelock has died, aged 89 at Ledbury Nursing Home. A service of thanksgiving took place at Ledbury Methodist Church on 8th March.



Our thanks and appreciation are due to the following who are stepping down from positions in the Church.

Edna Evans - for all the work she put into the running and organising of NOELA.

Ian Duncan for the work he has done as our Gift Aid Secretary.

Dorothy Mitchell for all the work and effort she has put in to organising the Women's World Day of Prayer.



We're not listening Mr. Wesley!

In 1706, the book "Wholesome Advice Against the Abuse of Hot Liquors" written by Dr Daniel Duncan was published in Britain, warning against the excessive consumption of tea, coffee and hot chocolate, claiming that the steaming liquid causes one's insides to heat up quickly and that "excess of heat is the most common cause of sickness and death".

In 1748, John Wesley claimed that all should abstain from tea as it "causes one to harbour a nervous disposition", among other health issues. Mr. Wesley even went so far as to counsel abstainers on how to politely refuse a cup of tea, which had become more popular than alcohol. But now, with 165 million cups consumed every day, with a total of 4.28 billion lbs of tea consumed a year, we didn't pay much attention!

Barbara Philips

Neighbourhood Party & Christian Aid Collection

The next Neighbourhood Party will be on Sunday 22nd April from 4-6pm. If you want to help, please use the reply slip in the notices nearer the time, or speak to Henk (W762715).

Christian Aid week 2018 is from 13 to 19 May. It is preceded by the annual plant sale on Saturday 12 May. If you would like to help with the door-to-door collection, please speak to Henk (W762715). If your address is not covered by the collection, but you would like to make a contribution, there will be envelopes available in the pews on Sunday 20 May.

Beyond Trinity

Our Charities for the coming months

April The Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance Trust provides a Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS), responding to patients who have suffered trauma or serious medical emergencies. We operate 24 hours a day, ensuring we can be there for the most critically ill and injured people in the region.



May Christian Aid & Our Plant Sale (see poster & page 5)



June The Wheels for All initiative is a nationally recognised programme that embraces all children and adults with disabilities and differing needs, to engage in a quality cycling activity. By using specially adapted cycles, the activities are both physically and mentally stimulating and above all fun for everyone involved.



Plant Sale

SATURDAY 12TH MAY

**Trinity Methodist Church
Brewery Road
Woking**

9.30am until 1pm

All proceeds go to Christian Aid

**If you're planting seeds for
spring, please consider
sowing a few extra for our
plant sale.
All contributions are
welcome!**

**christian
aid**

Praying Together - Hazelnut Meditation

And in this he showed me a little thing, the quantity of a hazel nut, lying in the palm of my hand, as it seemed. And it was as round as any ball. I looked upon it with the eye of my



understanding, and thought, 'What may this be?' And it was answered generally thus, 'It is all that is made.' I marvelled how it might last,

for I thought it might suddenly have fallen to nothing for littleness. And I was answered in my understanding: It lasts and ever shall, for God loves it. And so, have all things their beginning by the love of God.

In this little thing I saw three properties. The first is that God made it. The second that God loves it. And the third, that God keeps it. But what is this

to me? Truly, the Creator, the Keeper, the Lover. For until I am substantially "owned" to him, I may never have full rest nor true bliss. That is to say, until I be so fastened to him that there is nothing that is made between my God and me.

This little thing which is created seemed to me as if it could have fallen into nothing because of its littleness. We need to have knowledge of this, so that we may delight in despising as nothing everything created, so as to love and have uncreated God. For this is the reason why our hearts and souls are not in perfect ease, because here we seek rest in this thing which is so little, in which there is no rest, and we do not know our God who is almighty, all wise and all good, for he is true rest. God wishes to be known, and it pleases him that we should rest in him; for

everything which is beneath him is not sufficient for us. And this is the reason why no soul is at rest until it has despised as nothing all things which are created. When it by its will has become nothing for love, to have him who is everything, then is it able to receive spiritual rest. (1st Revelation)

From Revelations of Divine Love written by Julian of Norwich

Intotheexpectation.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/praying-with-julian-of-norwich-and.html

You may like to try a hazelnut meditation.

Get a 'hazelnut'. This can be a real hazelnut or anything similar in size and roundness, e.g., a marble, a small stone, a balled-up half sheet of paper, etc.

Intentionally set aside a period of time - 5 , 10, 15 minutes, or more if you can. And a place where you can be alone and quiet. If you have a timer set it for the amount of time you have set aside so you won't be watching the clock.

Sitting comfortably and with eyes closed, let yourself

relax. Rest your hands open on your lap holding the hazelnut.

Breathe in slowly through your nose and out through your mouth. Pay attention to the breath.

Imagine the small thing in your hands as representing all that it is created. Imagine it representing your own life. Give thanks to God for making it, for loving it, and for keeping it.

Begin repeating 'made, loved, kept' quietly or silently forming the words with your mouth.

When other thoughts arise, do not fight them. Rather, gently let go of them, turn your heart back towards God and the small thing and resume repeating, 'made, loved, kept'.

Return your attention to your breath and remain in silence with eyes closed for a while.

End by again giving thanks to God for making it all, for loving it all, and for keeping it all.

If you like, carry your hazelnut in your pocket or place it where you will see it throughout the day as a token of remembrance of your prayer time.

How can we offer prayer for our church?

Trinity is a welcoming Church seeking to live in the love of God and share the message of Jesus Christ

The mission statement says that we try to be a welcoming Church but how can we do this.

We can pray for Paul and Liz and for the leadership team. We can pray for the various principles of our Church life. These principles encircle both the mission statement and help us create an effective community who live, work play

and pray and share God's love under the sovereign authority of an amazing God.

Worship: inspired and led by the fire of the Holy Spirit

Practical: Ready to take up the work of God with enthusiasm and commitment

Community Links: Serving God's creation in our community with care

Youth and children and family work: Modern, dynamic, colourful and real; attracting all ages

Pastoral: Full of love for each other, the world and all people.

Trinity is a welcoming Church seeking to live in the love of God and share the message of Jesus Christ

Help us to consider these principles and how they depend on each other.

Be alongside us God, prompting leading and guiding us to see how we can be involved in both prayer and action.

Encourage us God as we explore in the preaching series ways that the principles are linked Biblically.

Excite us God as we see how we can be part of a worshipping community who live, work pray and play under the sovereign authority of an amazing God.

May we be open and listening to you God. Let us be bold as we allow God to be transforming us and share how God is at work. Amen

Maybe your prayer could be that you try to find ways to be welcoming to others in the congregation. What action could you take? What prayer could you add?

The following prayer from the Methodist Prayer Handbook for Day 23 has been used in

our Church intercessions and could be used as a base for your own prayer time. This prayer was written by Vision Team at Lindley Methodist Church Huddersfield

Prayer for our Church

God of love,

We pray for this church

Where your love has been known for many years.

We pray that we will welcome everyone in Jesus' name

And that, as your love pours in, it will overflow to our neighbours.

May each person come to know that they are loved by you and to love you in return. May all grow in faith as we learn and pray together,

And may our faith be seen in action. Amen

Ann Dawson



The Feud

There was a feud between the minister and the choir director of a local church.

It seems that the first hint of trouble came when the minister preached on "Dedicating Yourselves to Service" and the choir director chose to sing "I shall not be moved".

Trying to believe it was a coincidence, the minister put the incident behind him. The next Sunday he preached on "Giving". Afterwards the choir squirmed as the director led them in the hymn "Jesus paid it all".

By this time the minister was losing his temper. Sunday morning attendance swelled as tension between the two built. A large crowd turned up the next week to hear his sermon on "The Sin of Gossiping." Would you believe the choir director selected the song "I love to tell the story"? There was no turning back.

The following Sunday the minister told the congregation that unless something changed, he was considering resignation. The entire church gasped then the choir director led them in "Why not tonight?" Truthfully, no one was surprised when the minister resigned a week later, explaining that Jesus had led him there and Jesus was leading him away. The choir director could not resist "What a friend we have in Jesus."



60th Anniversary Concert

Vaughan Williams
5 Mystical Songs

Chilcott
Gloria

Ian Assersohn
Air and Angels
(world premiere)

EPWORTH CHOIR

Skyline Brass
Samuel Pantcheff *baritone*
Laurence Williams *organ*
Michael Waldron *conductor*

Saturday 21 April 2018, 7.30pm
Holy Trinity Church, Guildford

Tickets: £20 / £15 / £5
Online: www.epworthchoir.org
Telephone: 01483 768136

Some Tales of a Travelling Preacher

This recent spell of winter weather - cold, frosty, snowy and wet - reminded me of some experiences from my years as a Local Preacher.

In 1967, I became a Local Preacher 'On Note'. We were living at Lymington then in the New Forest South Circuit. My mentor was an A Level RE teacher from the Grammar School and he really put me through my paces.

In 1968, I was on my own as a Local Preacher 'On Trial' and I was truly a travelling preacher. I may not have had a horse, like John and Charles Wesley, but I did have a 175cc BSA Super Bantam motorcycle. Together we travelled from Lymington to Barton-on-Sea, Highcliffe, Milford-on-Sea on the coast, then inland to Ashley, Sway, Boldre, Beaulieu, Brockenhurst, Bransgore, Shirley Holmes and Thorney Hill on the edge of the New Forest and across the Forest to Burley, Ringwood, Poulner, Ibsley, Frogham and Stuckton in the Avon Valley.

One summer evening I was planned at Thorney Hill, the smallest chapel with the

smallest congregation in the Circuit. It was 12 miles away across the open Forest. The weather was beautiful when I left at about 5.00pm for the regular 6.30pm service. About half way I was crossing a large area of open common when a violent thunderstorm blew up and it poured with heavy, driving rain. I was wearing some rain gear, but it didn't cover my feet and ankles. My shoes and socks were soaked. When I arrived, there was a congregation of two and I led the service and preached whilst squelching in my shoes. We had no organist and I thanked God that he had blessed me with the ability to sing as I led the singing too. It was a simple service, but Jesus's promise was true,

'For where two or three come together in my name, there I am with them. (Matthew 18:20)

Without doubt he was with us as we worshipped.

The ride home was good, the storm had passed, and it was again a warm summer evening,

and the breeze began to dry me out.

I don't know if John and Charles Wesley had problems with their horses but I know they both fell off a couple of times. Not wishing to upstage them, but so did I. Bransgore was a busy church and in the winter a Youth Fellowship followed the evening service.

One frosty, misty, November evening we had a very good service and I stayed for a coffee and cake with the Young People. I left about half an hour later than usual. By then the mist had come down thickly and it was freezing. I rode carefully and knew that the lane I was on met another where I had to turn left. At the junction, there was a five-barred gate opposite which was a helpful navigation point but I couldn't see it. Then suddenly it appeared out of the mist straight in front of me, fortunately I was travelling slowly. I hit the brakes but the bike skidded on the frozen leaves in the gutter and I knew I was going to hit the gate post. I remember saying 'Lord, I'm going to hit that gate post' and in what seemed like slow motion I did!

I was pitched off into the road and the bike fell over but the engine kept going with the rear wheel still going around. I was

afraid fuel might spill onto the hot engine and catch fire. I turned off the engine, and managed to pick the bike up, got on and rode very gingerly back to the chapel. I checked the bike out. It was ok, and so was I but a bit shaken. On the way home, I started to shake and changed right down to bottom gear and crawled, safely, all the way home. Mum hadn't been too concerned because she thought I had probably stayed to the Youth Fellowship longer than I intended.

I was doing my Old Testament Studies by distance learning and was finding it difficult with working as well. However, I had the opportunity to apply to Cliff College in Derbyshire a well-known Methodist Lay Training Centre. I couldn't get a grant as it didn't fit Hampshire County Council's criteria. Mum decided to go back to teaching to help provide the funds. God moves in a mysterious way as she had been toying with the idea for a while and this provided the impetus.

Without doubt God had intended me to go. I started in October 1968 and it changed my life. I had failed my eleven plus because, being left handed I found handwriting very difficult and I wrote quite slowly. I had done well but as there were only

25 places at Wimborne Grammar School and 125 candidates, the authorities thought I would find it too difficult to cope. Cliff solved all that and I took my GCEs there as well as Theology, Old and New Testament Studies and Worship and Preaching which met the requirements to become a Local Preacher

We were out preaching almost every Sunday across the Peak District and the East Midlands. We were transported to the various places by cars or the minibus and sometimes by bus. Many Chapels did not have morning services, but afternoon and evening services and we were invited to tea with a member of the congregation before the evening service which could be at another chapel. Their hospitality was always generous and sincere.

I have kept records, Orders of Service and some Sermons from Bamford (x2), Shirland, Egmanton, Normanton, Newtown, Longnor, Sparrowpit, Winsters (x2), Warslow, Rewlax, Thurgoland, Wisewood (Sheffield), Youlgreave, Elton, Foolow, Moneyash (x2), Penistone, Bakewell, Rowsley, Old Tupton, Flagg, Calver, Hognaston and Clay Cross. At least one a week during term-time and often two. If they were

different chapels then you could use the same service again.

I also took part in Evangelical Missions to Bradford, Colne, Sleaford and Barnet and in the year from September 1968 – July 1969 I preached over a hundred times. I had become a genuine 'travelling preacher' and not yet 'Fully Accredited'.

Three appointments stand out for different reasons. Early in November we had heavy snow and I was planned to preach in the 'White Peak' at Newtown in the afternoon and Longnor in the evening. Those of us planned in the area were taken by Mini-bus to Youlgreave where we transferred to local cars. The Minister took me towards Newtown and when we got to the top of a hill he stopped and told me he had to go on to the church where I was preaching that evening.

He pointed to a farm in the distance and said, 'The key for the Chapel is kept at the farmhouse you need to knock and ask for it. They will be expecting you.' Having said farewell I trudged through the snow to the farm, it took about twenty minutes. When I arrived at the gate a large angry dog came racing down towards me. Fortunately, he was attached to a long wire and couldn't get at me. The lady from the farm gave

me the key. By now I was cold. The chapel was easy to find but when I unlocked it was like walking into a freezer. I had about half an hour to wait for the service.

There was an electric heater on the wall, but I didn't know how to turn it on. I was wearing a thin overcoat and was just getting colder. It was almost 2.30 before a man arrived and turned the heating on. He also informed me that he was my host for tea after the service. Eventually a lady arrived who played the organ and then another lady arrived. I had planned five hymns and I felt it was a bit much for them to sing. I suggested perhaps we could have a less formal service and some Bible Study. My host abruptly told me,

'We've come for t'service lad, get int'pulpit.' I did and preached in my overcoat. We sang all five hymns, one lady played, one lady sang, my host sang, I sang, and we managed to make a 'noise' to the Lord. I'm not sure if it was joyful.

My biggest shock was yet to come, the congregation left quickly after the service and my host, who had a 'gammy leg', led me to his car, a large somewhat dated Riley saloon. This was before seat belts. As I got in he told me it was the only

car he could drive because of his leg. By now it was getting dark and freezing we started off and it quickly became clear he didn't drive the car but aimed it. In the half-light, we had an uneventful but 'interesting' ride to his farm on the top of a hill. The wind was biting cold and as we sat around a lovely warm fire for 'high tea' my face was burning, and my back was freezing.

After tea, we prepared to go on to Longnor. It was about a half-hour drive. It was full dark with brightly twinkly stars and below zero. The snow twinkled in the starlight and the snow packed roads looked like a toboggan run and they were!

We set off out of the farm yard and then sped along these narrow, thankfully, empty roads until we reached the end of the ridge. Then we hurtled down this long steep slope and I suddenly realised the car was out of gear and we were free-wheeling. I prayed that I would arrive at my service in a fit state to preach. My host was oblivious, he was enjoying his toboggan ride. We arrived in Longnor safely, but it was the most frightening ride I have ever had. The church was larger with a larger congregation and warm. We sang all the five hymns lustily and it was a good service.

I was driven back to College very well by a member of the congregation. However, it was after 9.00 when I arrived back. I was the last preacher 'home' and they were getting a bit concerned that I might have been stuck in the snow. They had left me a slice of cold meat, a couple of slices of bread and some lukewarm tea at the bottom of the large, now empty tea-pot.

It was a tradition that after tea we gathered around the piano and sang hymns to welcome the preachers as they returned. I sat and munched my cold meat and drank my cold tea feeling a bit down. To finish we launched into 'Abide with me', it was so moving, despite the experiences of the day I had not been alone. God had been with me and I had taken the gospel to small congregations to enable them to worship.

In March, I went to preach in Penistone Methodist Church. It had been a harsh winter and there was still some snow about. The afternoon service was well attended with some children and it went very well. A lovely, genteel, petite, elderly lady introduced herself as my host for 'tea'. She was charming and so caring. As we chatted I discovered she lived on her own, and I think had been widowed

for quite a long time. To host a visiting preacher was a 'highlight' of her life. She only used her parlour for visiting preachers to eat. It was magnificent, beautifully laid out with bone china, silver cutlery and a full 'Sunday Roast'. It was a wonderful meal and she got so much happiness from providing it.

The evening service was a traditional evening service, I really miss them now. To close I had chosen what is probably my favourite evening hymn: '*Father in high heaven dwelling,*' It turned out to be a fitting end to a lovely day and I wasn't the last one home either.

One of my last preaching appointments at Cliff was at Hognaston near Wirksworth, it was a pretty little chapel on the ridge of a low hill surrounded by farm land and animals. It was a lovely Summer evening and a very poignant service. Sadly, you won't find the chapel today for shortly after that service the valley was flooded to make Carsington Water.

When I returned some years later the road that led to the chapel stops at the water's edge and you can see it continues the other side. It reflects that time passes and things change but God is always with us.

My time at Cliff seemed to pass so quickly. I had learned so much and grown spiritually. And when I finished my final 'Trek' to Barnet I was ready for a rest. We returned to College to pack. After a final worship and prayer time we all set off on our different ways home. A group of us travelled to Chesterfield station and waited for our various trains. As the trains came in on either platform we all sang the Gospel Song,

*Down in the valley with
my Saviour I would go,
Where the flowers are
blooming and the sweet waters
flow,
Everywhere he leads me
I would follow, follow on,
Walking in his footsteps
'til the crown be won.*

*Follow, follow I will follow
Jesus, anywhere, everywhere, I
will follow on,
Follow, follow, I will follow
Jesus, everywhere he leads me I
will follow on.*

*Down in the valley with my
Saviour I would go,
Where the storms are
sweeping and the dark waters
flow;
With his hand to guide me I
will never, never, fear;
Dangers cannot fright me if
my Lord is near.*

*Down in the valley, or upon
the mountain steep,
Close beside my Saviour
would my soul ever keep;
He will keep me safely in the
path that he has trod,
Up to whether they gather on
the hills of God.*

When the trains left the groups became smaller until only a handful of us were left waiting for the Bournemouth train. I don't know what the other passengers on the two platforms thought but it was a very moving and special memory of a page turning.

I returned home and in June 1970 was Fully Accredited as a Local Preacher, following in the footsteps of the many called, by God, to be one of 'Mr Wesley's Preachers.' I received the letter confirming my status from The President, Brian O'Gorman. One of the sentences in that letter says,

*'Go into your task knowing
that Christ has called you,
and that his Word is as
relevant today as ever.'*

Those words were to set the tone for the next chapter but that is for another day.

Graham Warr



Trinity Methodist Church Junior Church

Our vision is for children to connect to Jesus through
a welcoming church

We have adopted the Messy church style this
includes;

singing, stories from the bible, the story in a film,
fun activities, and we pray together

Parents are welcome to stay and worship with their
children or join the adult service.

The worship is held in the small hall at 10.30am

On the 1st Sunday of the month is communion J
church is invited to take bread and wine with the
adult church

2nd Sunday is Brunch Worship

3rd Sunday is Actual Messy Church 10am – 12pm
(buffet lunch)

4th Sunday is worship

If you require any more information, or if you would
like to join the team please feel free to contact:

Sue Waddington

Family worker

Email: waddington.sue@gmail.com

Mobile: 07949 128856

The Garden Club

On February 17th the members of the Garden Club finally got together for their delayed Christmas celebration. As you can see we had a really enjoyable lunch at The Cricketers in Horsell.

This year the stars of the show in Trinity's garden were zinnias. From seeds sown in May, there was a non-stop display of dazzling colours until the frost came. The flowers attracted a huge amount of interest from passers-by with lots of people stopping to chat. We heard how the zinnias reminded folk of their parents, and one lovely lady from the Caribbean got quite homesick, telling us how she used to put the brilliantly coloured petals on her fingernails when she was a little girl, pretending she was a grown-up using nail polish. Zinnias are definitely in the plan for this year.

The clematis seem to be establishing themselves on the trellis and the Advent pots and stable were greatly appreciated by many people, bringing the Christmas Story to the busy folk of Brewery Road.

The scent of the Christmas box is now fading, and we are looking forward to the new gardening season.



Billy Graham

I was around 17 years old when Billy Graham came to London. I was in Woking as a resident N.N.E.B. student at Ashwood Methodist home for children up to five years old. The Methodist Church were a bit uncertain about Billy Graham, maybe suspicious of mass conversions, but our Youth Club leaders Stan Pike & Michael Phelps, took us to hear him.

The venue was packed and plenty of American razzmatazz created an atmosphere of excitement. I remember very little of what Billy Graham said until he said "You are either for God or against Him - no sitting on the fence" This was decision time!!

I felt myself compelled to 'go forward' with many others. Each of us had a counsellor to talk with us, who continued to correspond for many years.

I continued my journey home on my own to Woodford Green in Essex. My mother greeted me saying "Hello, where have you been? You look so different."

I feel privileged to have had the opportunity that day to make my decision all those years ago. But to keep that pledge and the aura of excitement is a step by step adventure. I am haunted by the words of the song "Just as I am - I come" etc. sung at the meeting. If we could hug those words close to our hearts, the results would be volcanic.

Thank you Father for speaking through Billy Graham.

Peggy Windsor

Tributes to Billy Graham

The international evangelist, Rev. Dr. Billy Graham died aged 99 in North Carolina in February. He became a Christian at the age of 16 after listening to an itinerant evangelist.

The President & Vice President of the Methodist Conference.

We send our thoughts and prayers to the family of Dr. Billy Graham, without doubt one of the greatest evangelists of the last century. He shared the love of Jesus Christ to millions around the world.

President of the Methodist Church in Ireland, Rev. Dr. Laurence Graham

Through Billy Graham's ministry many of our members came to faith in the Lord Jesus. The Founder of Methodism, John Wesley, once declared "The world is my parish" and this is true for Dr. Graham. He went to the four corners of the earth to share his Christian faith and so from shore to shore many will have reason to thank God for his ministry.

Former Superintendent minister of Westminster Central Hall, Rev. Dr. Martin Turner

Billy Graham was a great and good influence upon my own life and ministry.

General Director of the Evangelical Alliance, Steve Clifford

Billy Graham was one of the most influential men of his generation. I was profoundly influenced by his life from afar. Beside a lake, in large auditoriums and through broadcasts, or watching him on TV, one could not help but be impacted by his passion for God, his commitment to the truth of the gospel and his life of integrity lived under intense media scrutiny.

Archbishop of York, the Rt. Rev. John Sentamu

Christian people the world over would be thanking God at this time for the life of Billy Graham. So often throughout my life I have worked alongside those who have shared with me that their journey of faith in Christ began after hearing Billy Graham preach of the love of God for us sinners and of Jesus' power to change lives and lead us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Billy Graham

One day you will hear that Billy Graham has died. Don't you believe it. On that day I will be more alive than I have ever been.

"My home is in Heaven. I'm just travelling through this world."

The Easter Lily

It is a custom to have lilies in Church for Easter time. The ones I use are *lilium longiflorum* which are a symbol of the resurrection of Christ.

These lilies are purchased as tight green buds and it is notoriously difficult to get them to open on the day. They have to be purchased well in advance and moved from a hot room to a cold conservatory as they decide to open. Some flower arrangers believe a run in the car gets them to open. They are toxic to cats and even licking the pollen off their fur can make cats ill.

After the Easter Sunday service in 2017 I was approached by Helen Cave's mother-in-law who comes from Bermuda. She asked if they were the Bermuda lilies, indeed they are. She told me that every Easter Bermuda sends lilies to the Queen. They are sent on the Tuesday evening British Airways flight and arrive at Windsor Castle the next day. The lilies sent in 2017 were grown on the property of Manuel DeSilva whose family have farmed the land for 40 years.

From 1890 to the early 1920's Bermuda had a thriving export trade of bulbs to New York. The plants can grow from 20 inches to 3 foot 3 inches tall and they bloom from April to June but can be induced to bloom over a much wider period.



Easter Facts

The name Easter owes its origin from Eastre, the Anglo-Saxon goddess who symbolizes hare and egg.

The Easter Bunny tradition made its way to the US in the 18th century. It is believed to have originated in Europe where it was actually the Easter Hare.



The exchange of eggs for Easter dates back to a springtime custom older than Easter itself in which eggs were given as a symbol of rebirth in many cultures.

In medieval times, a festival of 'egg-throwing' was held in church. The priest would throw a hard-boiled egg to one of the choir boys, and then tossed from one choir boy to the next. When the clock struck 12, whoever held the egg, was the winner and got to keep the egg.

Christians consider Easter eggs to symbolize joy and celebration, new life and resurrection.



Other Easter traditions include wearing Easter bonnets, making Easter baskets and having Easter egg hunts.

The UK's first chocolate egg was produced in 1873 by Fry's of Bristol.

The Easter Act

Since the fourth century Easter has been set as the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox – this has long been a source of mingled charm, irritation and, when it falls exceptionally late, downright inconvenience to businesses, schools and the holiday season.

There is, however, a remedy to hand. It takes the form of the 1928 Easter Act, a piece of legislation which is already on the statute book, ready and waiting for a government brave enough to issue the implementation order. The act sets down that Easter Sunday must fall on a fixed day – the Sunday following the second Saturday in April. The effect would be that Easter Sunday, instead of falling on any date between 22 March and 25 April as now, would fall in the narrower window of 9 to 15 April.

What do you think – would you like a more fixed Easter or does it have more meaning when we leave it as it is?





Musical Director's last concert

Elgar The Dream of Gerontius

On Saturday 12 May at 7.30 pm in Guildford Cathedral, Woking Choral Society, together with the Octavian singers, will perform Elgar's best loved choral work, The Dream of Gerontius. The concert will be the last under the baton of Musical Director Ben Palmer, who has led Woking Choral Society since September 2010, and is relinquishing the post due to his increasing commitments as Chief Conductor of the Deutsche Philharmonie Merck in Darmstadt.

The choirs will be accompanied by acclaimed London orchestra Covent Garden Sinfonia, and will feature three outstanding vocal soloists: tenor Richard Edgar-Wilson in the title role, as well as mezzo-soprano Ciara Hendrick and bass-baritone James Birchall.

Tickets cost £22 for front and balcony seats, £16 for rear seats, with students in full time education and children £5. Tickets can be booked online at www.guildford-cathedral.org/events/boxoffice

or by phone at the Box Office: 01483 547881.

Website : www.wokingchoral.org.uk

Twitter: @WokingChoral

Building Development

The Church Council in October believed that the development plan we have been working on should be put on hold because we were not sure that it was the best thing that could be done in support of our emerging Mission and Ministry. It had failed to excite the church at large and was looking very difficult to finance. To reduce the cost, we could leave out some of the new innovative ideas but that has the effect of making it look more like a refurbishment which would be difficult to fund for it would still cost at least £700K.

We agreed that to do nothing is not an option and we also concluded that to either demolish the building and start again on the same site, or try to find a town centre site to move to, were not options as they would take a long time, be hugely expensive and frankly are a step too far for us.

We have worked again with CPL and are now considering a concept that sees us building significant additions at the front of the building where there is a lot of space, so that we could release (some of) the rear premises and car park to become a reasonable site for housing development. That site would be very valuable and could be sold as a major contribution to the building costs.

Church Council on 22nd February discussed the first draft concept and have authorised further limited work to test whether such a scheme could be financially viable and whether we could obtain the necessary permissions. There would of course be necessary sacrifices and it is unlikely that

we could retain all of the tenants that use the premises regularly, but that needs to be secondary in our thinking. From another report to Circuit Meeting, you will know that we are already working to discern our Mission and really believe that this new thinking is bringing a new energy to that process, but it is early days.

I anticipate that by the autumn series of meetings, we should have an outline Project ready for discussion. One thing that is pretty clear is that we will still need substantial financial support from the Circuit, District, Connexion and other grant giving bodies.



John Nelson
Trinity Building Development Group

60th Anniversary Concert

The Epworth Choir will hold a concert on Saturday 21st April at 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Church at the top of the High Street in Guildford. They will be joined by Epworth Brass and the soloist Samuel Pantchaff. The programme will include Five Mystical Sons by Vauaghn William, Gloria by Bob Chilcot and the world premier of Air and Angels by Ian Assersohn, commissioned by the choir to mark the anniversary. The choir will be supporting Surrey Young Carers. Ticket from Epworth Choir Box Office on 01483 768136 or on line from www.epworthchoir.org

Pastoral Work at Trinity

Trinity has a Pastoral network that aims to support the changing needs of our congregation. Pastoral visiting can be done in many different ways, but it offers friendship, prayer, encouragement in faith, and support in times of need.

Our two part-time Pastoral Workers, Allison and Shirley are here to support you with the team of 40 Pastoral Visitors, and we try to give appropriate care. You will be able to chat to Allison or Shirley in Church or at home, but sometimes you will need to speak to our Minister Paul. We put on training for Pastoral Visitors and update our own skills with training. We know that God gives us strength in all we do.

We have a great team of Pastoral Visitors (PVs) and we are supported by Joyce Nelson, the Pastoral Secretary and the Pastoral Working Group. We aim to give a PV to everyone who is settled in the congregation, and these lovely people will bring you mailings during the year, and be a contact with Church in times of joy or difficulty, and hopefully be a support leading to friendship! Our young families are supported by Sue Waddington and Petra Nhamo, but we are all here to help!

We are all here to welcome new people in church, but it is useful if Allison or Shirley are introduced to them too! We support people who are in hospital, bereaved and grieving, facing serious illness or death and also just to befriend.

Upcoming training:

- 1) Christian Mindfulness, on Tuesday 24 April at 7.30, at Trinity – all welcome;
- 2) Pastoral Visitor supper/social and PV update, on Tuesday 12 June at 7.30, at Trinity, for Pvs.

God, you are our shepherd: in your care we will never lack for love; we are guided and nourished, led through danger and distress to wholeness and healing. Amen.

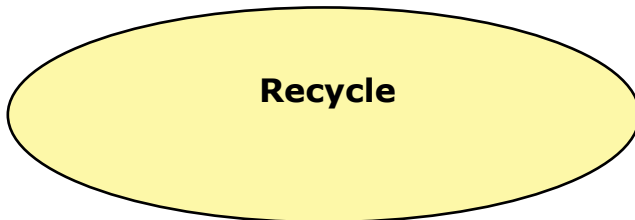
So how can you contact us?

Contact the Pastoral Team Allison & Shirley: You can contact either of us direct, or use this email:
pastoralworkers@trinitywoking.org.uk

Contact our Minister Paul Chesworth: For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals contact minister@trinitywoking.org.uk

Contact Chris Waddington: For Safeguarding issues contact
waddingtoncj@gmail.com

Contact Children & Family Worker Sue Waddington: For young families and young people in church contact
waddington.sue@gmail.com



It's finally time to start putting those winter clothes away and dig out your spring and summer wardrobe! But if your clothes have seen better days or they're just not hitting the spot anymore, then remember that all your old clothes as well as home textiles can be recycled.

Here are some top tips to help you make sure they don't go to waste:

1. Keep a carrier bag under your bed to gather any clothes you don't want

Whether it's an odd sock, some laddered tights or a top you don't want any more, keep a bag handy so you can drop items in when you need to.

2. Find out if your local council has a collection service

Many local councils in Surrey offer a regular collection of clothes and home textiles. Check what you can do where you live on the Recycle for Surrey website. If your council does not have a collection or you have larger amounts to get rid of, please take them to a textiles recycling bank or a community recycling centre. Please put your items in a tied carrier bag to keep them dry.

3. It's not just clothes that can be recycled

All kinds of textiles can be recycled, including belts, pairs of shoes or boots, sheets and towels, they can be past their best but need to be clean and dry. It's only stuffed items like cushions, pillows or duvets that can't be recycled – animal charities may take them for bedding.

4. Is there anything else you can do with it?

From turning t-shirts into superhero capes for the kids, to old bedspreads into floor cloths, is there anything else that your old clothes and home textiles can become? If you fancy learning how to transform your clothes into something new, try a course from Surrey adult learning

Once collected, your old clothes and home textiles are sorted based on their condition. They could be sold on or recycled into materials like felt, insulation or stuffing. But your clothes and home textiles won't be recycled if they go in your rubbish bin or your recycling bin or box.

To find out more about clothes and textiles recycling, visit the Recycle for Surrey website. www.recycleforsurrey.org.uk



Social Media

Love it or hate it it's here to stay,
so come and find out how you can use it
to the best advantage for your church

The Connexional Team's Digital Media Team

will help you make sense of it all
with useful tips and pointers.

Presentation and Q & A session

Saturday 9th June 2018, 2pm — 5.30pm

Merrow Methodist Church

Bushy Hill Drive, Guildford, GU1 2SH

To book your place please contact Sue Howson, Circuit Administrator
by 20th May 2018

circuitoffice@weyvalleycircuit.org.uk or 07808 046451

What's on at Trinity

Prayer Group	Sunday (weekly) 9.45am Friday (weekly) 9.45am	Ann, W 770400
Y Group	Monday (1 st & 3 rd) 8pm	Allison W 725439
Coffee & Chat	Weds (weekly) 10.30am	Margot, W 762059
Bible Study Fellowship	Weds (weekly) 10.30am	Sarah Jo W 892067
Bible Study	Friday (monthly) 10.30am	Peggy, W 763605
Phornix	Friday (fortnightly) 8pm	Joyce, 722457
Quest Group	Sat (monthly) 9.30am	John, W 762059
Family Club	Friday (weekly) 5pm	Sue Waddington, 01932 859636
Junior Church	10:30am	Sue Waddington, 01932 859636
Messy Church	3 rd Sunday 10am	Sue Waddington, 01932 859636
Trinity Toddlers	09:30:00	Kim Wilson,, 07791 763241

A note to contributors

It is our practice to publish each edition of TNV on the Trinity website. It is an important source of information about church life at Trinity and something we want to share with others. At the same time we recognise that some contributors may be uncomfortable for their personal details to appear on the internet in this way. We will be happy to omit names and any other personal details in any future issue if requested to do so.

From the Editor

Thanks you to all who have helped with the preparation and distribution of this issue of TNV.
I will be editing the next edition

Jean Normington

**Articles for the June/July issue should be
submitted by**

Sunday 20th May 2018

**TRINITY NEWS & VIEWS is the magazine of
TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH WOKING**

**"Trinity is a welcoming Church seeking to live
in the love of God and share the message of
Jesus Christ**

Church Address

Brewery Road Woking Surrey GU21 4LH

Telephone (01483) 730754

Email office@trinitywoking.org.uk

Web Address www.trinitywoking.org.uk

Minister Rev. Paul Chesworth

Editors Jean Normington & David Lander

**Contributions to Trinity News & Views can be
written, typed, left in the newsletter
pigeonhole at the Church or emailed to
tnv@trinitywoking.org.uk**

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