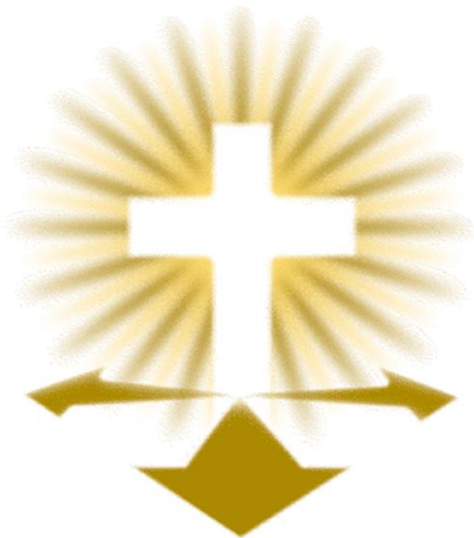


FEBRUARY DIARY 2010

Trinity Update

February 2010



1	7.30pm	PRAISE, PRAYER AND PROPHECY in Crossover
2	11am & 8pm	Fellowship Groups (Tuesdays)
3	11.15am	Holy Communion, followed by tea & biscuits (Weds)
	7.30pm	POD leaders training in Crossover
	8.00pm	Fellowship Groups (Weds)
4	8.30am	Prayer for Renewal (Thursdays)
	10-11.30am	Contact - for parents & toddlers (Thursdays in term*)
	2.30pm	Women's Hour (Thursdays)
	7.45pm	Fellowship Groups (Thursdays)
5	6-7.30pm	Friendzy (ages 8 and up) (Fridays in term*)
	7.30 pm	J-Men Beer & Skittles evening
6	12.30pm	Listening, Loving, Laughing - and 27 th Feb and 20 th March

7 CMS (CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY) SUNDAY

	9.30am	Morning Praise
	11.15am	Alternative Service with Kids' Praise

11 ALDERSHOT CHURCHES TOGETHER PRAYER

	7.30pm	at KC21, High St 7.30pm
13	10am	Prayer Ministry Team meeting in Crossover

14 SUNDAY

	9.30am	Holy Communion
	11.15am	Alternative Service

17 ASH WEDNESDAY Holy Communion

19	7.30pm	Soul Sisters Film Night
20	10am	Praying Wives at HT

21 SUNDAY

	9.30am	Morning Praise
	11.15am	Alternative Service with Holy Communion

22 Fellowship Group Leaders meeting, 2 Cranmore Lane

27	1.30pm	Listening, Loving, Laughing course 2
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28 SUNDAY

	9.30am	Holy Communion
	11.15am	Alternative Service
	5.00pm	Caféchurch at Costa Coffee

* Half term in Hampshire is 15-19 February

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ALDERSHOT
'A Church for Everyone'

WOMEN'S HOUR

Because of the snow, Women's Hour was not able to meet during the first two weeks of January and there is therefore no report this month. We expect normal service to be resumed next month.

Daphne and Jean

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

'Let everything that hath breath praise God'

A service prepared by Christian women of Cameroon

Friday 5th March 2010

St Mary's RC Church, Bellevue Road, Aldershot

Services at 10.30am and 7.30pm.

Local speakers with links to Cameroon

Women's World Day of Prayer is a global, ecumenical movement of informed prayer and prayerful action. Each year women from a particular country organise the service and call the faithful of all ages and both sexes on the first Friday in March for a common day of prayer. During the service we learn from the faith and experience of our sisters and their families in the chosen country.

WWDP services have been held in Aldershot for many years. They provide an excellent way for us to celebrate our membership of the body of Christ and develop ecumenical friendships. The following churches are currently represented on the committee: Holy, Trinity, St Michael's, Church of the Ascension, St Augustine's, Methodist Church, St Joseph's, St Andrew's Garrison Church. We extend a warm welcome to other local churches to provide a representative to the committee.

More information from Alison (Aldershot co-ordinator) or Val and Wendy (HT representatives) or on www.wwdp-natcomm.org

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue.

The March 2010 issue will be in Church on Sunday 28th February.

The LAST date for March articles will be Sunday 21st February.

CARE FOR ORPHANS IN HAITI

Dear Friends,

I am currently in the US, where Kids Alive International has been finalising its response to the urgent needs in Haiti following last week's earthquake. Thankfully, none of the children and staff from our three Homes and community program in Haiti were hurt or killed in the earthquake, and we are now doing what we can to provide emergency help and support to some of the many thousands of children that have been orphaned and made homeless. Many of these children are aged 7-11 years and are at extreme risk of starvation, disease, and dehydration.

In consultation with the governments in the Dominican Republic and Haiti, we have determined the following course of action:

1. This week we will take 50 children into our current Homes in the Dominican Republic, where they will receive physical and medical care, and counselling. If possible, we will seek to bring a further 50 children that have been orphaned to the Dominican Republic in the coming weeks.
2. In the next two weeks we will construct temporary residential facilities on our compound in Haiti. These will care for a further 50 – 100 children.
3. In the next three months we will purchase land in Haiti and, by the end of 2010, construct 2-3 new, permanent Children's Homes that can provide long-term care to these children as part of the Kids Alive International family.

We have a great team 'on the ground' ready to implement this plan, and a team of volunteers ready to head to Haiti in two weeks to start construction. Please continue to pray for the situation, for the staff and children, and for funding. Do let me know if you have any questions or would like to be part of Kids Alive's relief efforts as we respond to the urgent needs of children in Haiti.

Regular updates can be found on our website: www.kidsalive.org or on our Facebook page – www.facebook.com/KidsAlive

Thanks and blessings,

Matt Parker
Vice President of Operations, Kids Alive International

Matt Parker is the son of a former vicar of HT and an occasional speaker at services here and at Women's Hour. Before becoming Vice President of Operations of Kids Alive International, Matt worked for a number of years in their school and orphanage in Lebanon.

To all those who kindly cooked and served the delicious meals for the last Alpha Course

Thank you very very much – they were greatly enjoyed!

George
 Many Thanks Barry + Claire
 Many Thanks Tina
 Kate
 Many Many Thanks!
 Thank you Tracey
 Thursday's won't be the same without our lovely meals!
 Thank you Kerry x
 Julie
 John
 Rob k
 It's been really great
 Many Thanks
 veeey weee Dowie
 Thank you Tony
 lovely grub - I'm always stayed on Thursdays - the pounds are going to drop off now!
 Thanks for hospitality last night so lovely!
 Thoroughly enjoyed it
 Heidi



SOUL SISTERS

Hello Again Soul Sisters & Happy New Year

This article is for the attention of all ladies, young (over 14yrs) and more mature.

Are you a bit of a "Super Trooper" or a "Mamma Mia" ?
 Do you "Have a Dream" ?
 Are you looking for an "SOS" ?
 Would you consider yourself to be a "Dancing Queen" ?
 Could you do with a bit of "Voulez Vous" ?
 Are you willing to "Take a Chance" ?
 Are you wondering what's "The name of the game" ?
 By now you should be thinking, "Gimme, Gimme, Gimme" ?

Soul Sisters invite you & any ladies you know to our Abba-tastic event:

**Soul Sisters Do.....Mamma Mia!
Sing-a-long, dress-up, film night.**

When: Friday 19th February, 7.30pm.

Where: Holy Trinity, Victoria Road, Aldershot, Hants.GU11 1SJ.

Cost: £4 (includes refreshments - choc ices, popcorn, sweets & drinks, prizes & entrance fee)

This one will have you "Thanking us for the music" by the end of the evening. And if your "Mother doesn't know" about us yet, then its about time she did!

Tickets on the night, sign up sheet at the back of Church (for an estimate of numbers).

More details available from Kris, Susan, Marian, Trish & Heidi.

Heidi
on behalf of Soul Sisters

A TRIP TO GAMBIA

Dear Church

Some of you might be aware that on the 12th February I am embarking on a trip to Gambia to support families and teach in schools in the areas of Banjul and Serrekunda. I am going as part of a Master's degree study, in order to set up links between a community out there and our community of Farnborough and Aldershot here. My aim is to support teachers and people working with families out there - giving them ideas of creative and play-based teaching approaches that we use and methods of supporting families and communities to strengthen them and enable them to support themselves better in the future.



I have already been in contact with the 'Home Farm Project' that works towards these aims out there by encouraging young men to remain in their home villages and create their own farms and farming businesses to support their families by growing food and selling some of it. This project tries to offer these approaches as an alternative for many young men who often leave their village and families, travelling to the cities in search for jobs which are often underpaid with high living expenses, leaving little or no money left to send home to their families. As a result, their villages become very poor and children and families suffer from malnutrition and illness as a result of their farms not being kept properly, as there are few young men in the village to keep them.

I am hoping to be able to link with such communities and support them in teaching families and children about healthy diets and sustainable living through perhaps creating farming businesses or such methods that can enable them to remain within the village and support their families and communities.

I am hoping to learn more about the strong sense of community spirit and community cohesion that exists in many of the villages and communities in Gambia, so that I can take these approaches and apply them within our communities in Farnborough and Aldershot - particularly using schools as a way of encouraging community cohesion. The area that I work in, as well as some areas I know in Aldershot, are experiencing a breakdown of community cohesion, leading to a lack of respect, crime, aggression, and such. I am visiting Gambia to learn about how traditional values and morals are still being maintained, so that we can apply these within our area where possible.

www.htca.org.uk

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The schools and communities out there are in desperate need of basic items to help them live and grow. I am writing to ask whether anyone would be able to support this project in one of these ways:

-The children and especially babies are in desperate need of clothes. Babies often die out there or they might not have warm clothes, such as bonnets. If any of you can knit or donate items, this will be much appreciated.

-The schools out there are in need of pencils, colouring pencils, paper and books. If you have any stationery that you don't need and could donate, this will be very much appreciated.

-Tooth decay is a huge problem out there, due to lack of understanding in some areas of healthy living. If you can donate toothbrushes and toothpaste, this will be appreciated.

-Any light, easily transportable toys would be appreciated, as many children have very, very little.

If you would like to support the project financially instead, this would be very much appreciated, please email me at lisagailhoey@hotmail.com

Thank you for reading!

Lisa

NEW LIFE BOOKSHOP CLOSING SALE

We are sorry to report that the New Life Bookshop has announced that it will close at the end of April 2010. Because many customers have moved to buying on the internet, the bookshop can no longer continue in its present form.

A closing sale has begun, with 25% reduction on most existing stock except dated Bible reading notes and Junior Church materials – see notice in Crossover.

New Life Bookshop, 17a St Michael's Road, Aldershot. 01252 311460
newlifebks@tiscali.co.uk

Open Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am to 5.30pm

FROM OUR NEW SITE MANAGER

As you may be aware, the recent Site Manager vacancy was filled by myself (Jax). I hope to keep the grounds, church and hall up to scratch and I would appreciate it if you would all assist me in my new role.

Therefore, if you notice anything amiss with the tidiness or maintenance of the site as a whole, please let me know. I can liaise with tradespeople to get things fixed as required, along with Jean (who does the hall bookings) and the church wardens. I will be available to assist with moving of furniture for special events and car parking during these times. I will be involved with the cleaning, Health and Safety, repairs and disposal of rubbish.

Also, if you know of anyone with a trade who would be able to assist in any repairs (electricians, plumbers, decorators, etc) then please let me know, especially if they are registered!

Thank you and if you have any problems then please let me know. God bless you.

Jax

Church Security

Latest news reports are that five terrorist cell groups have been operating in many of our churches. They have been identified as: Bin Sleepin, Bin Arguin, Bin Fightin, Bin Complainin, and Bin Missin.

Their leader, Lucifer Bin Workin, trained these groups to destroy the Body of Christ. The plan is to come into the church disguised as Christians and to work within the church to discourage, disrupt, and destroy..

However, there have been reports of a sixth group. A tiny cell known by the name Bin Prayin is actually the only effective counter terrorism force in the church. Unlike other terrorist cells, the Bin Prayin team does not blend in with whoever and whatever comes along.

Bin Prayin does whatever is needed to uplift and encourage the Body of Christ. We have noticed that the Bin Prayin cell group has different characteristics than the others. They have Bin Watchin, Bin Waitin, Bin Fastin, and Bin Longin for their Master, Jesus Christ to return.

NO CHURCH IS EXEMPT!

(However, you can spot them if you bin lookin and bin goin.)

WHAT DOES CMS DO ?

The Church Mission Society (CMS), which we support on February 7th, describes itself as “working to see our world transformed by the love of Jesus.” It describes its core values as being:

- **Evangelistic** – “Evangelism is not a dirty word”. It is not coercion; it is about “sharing Christ’s love on other people’s terms, across frontiers”
- **Pioneering** – “someone who breaks a path and establishes a way”
- **Faithful** – which may mean “just keep going”, sometimes, in the face of a disaster, “the only faithful answer is practical”
- **Relational** – God is relational and CMS sees this as essential to its mission; “If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go with others.”

CMS mission partners work in the UK and all over the world, for example:

- Andy is a vet in Tanzania, working to improve the health of rural families’ livestock. His wife, Susie, is a textile artist and teacher
- James Pender is assisting the Church of Bangladesh’s Social Development Programme to battle arsenic poisoning and human trafficking
- Ventzislav and Zlatina Karavaltchev are moving from Georgia to teach in a mission training college in Kiev; their subjects include church history, mission and Islam-Christian relations.

From 1st Feb, CMS is integrating with SAMS (South American Mission Society)

ARE YOU ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL ?

The Electoral Roll is the church’s official membership list, entitling the people on it to vote at the Annual Parish Meeting (which is on 21 April this year) and to stand for election to the Parochial Church Council.

If you think of Holy Trinity as ‘your’ church, can I encourage you to sign up? Under Church of England rules you need to:

- be aged at least 16
- be baptised (not necessarily in the Church of England)
- **either** live within the parish **or** have worshipped here for at least 6 months.

If you are not already on the electoral roll, please ask me for a form.

Existing members: please make sure I have any changes in your contact details

Christine

GEORGE WRITES

Dear Friends,

Well, we have had an interesting time with the snow: it has been good to see a lot of practical help and care amongst the congregation, especially in favour of those less able to get out and about. A number of meetings and services were cancelled or postponed and the Sunday we met in Crossover gave a very different feel to the services. We were rather surprised by the number that came to the 11.15 which packed it to the gunnels, but it was too late to move back into church! We have since had fun and games with the church boiler seeming to explode; it was a shock walking into church for the midweek Communion to find the place filled with acrid smoke, but we thank God that it has been able to be repaired.

The month of February sees the launch of something that, in theory, has the potential to bring deep and lasting change to the depth and growth of the church – that is our **POD groups**. This could help revolutionise our discipleship and growth together. The first batch of these will be starting in the middle of the month, a little later than planned, after all the snow delayed our training for the leaders.

With their six-weekly cycle of application as a team, this has the potential to help us grow in :-

- character, as we step out of comfort zones into new challenges
- experience, as we do things we haven't done before
- unity, as we do these things as a team together
- obedience, as we put into practice what we read and study
- discipleship, as we become accustomed to thinking how we can put into practice what we read in the Word
- maturity/completeness.

Please do be praying behind this significant launch and, of course, I hope that as many as possible will actually join in. We assume that most will be on evenings, but there are a few folk who work evenings, so let me know if you would like to be in a day time POD, and I'm sure that that can be arranged, if we have enough people.

Many thanks to our youth and their leaders for organising and executing the New Year Ball which many of us enjoyed and which was a great social occasion for the church family of all ages – even those of us that can't dance! The whole building was transformed with a lot of artistic skill, and so many styles of dance were taught and offered. There was a great crowd of people in, lots of dressing up, good food and a fun atmosphere. I know a lot of time and effort went into its planning and execution, so do keep thanking those who organised it.

The first J-Men outreach of the year is on 5th February with the beer and skittles evening. The man-sized buffet defeated most of us last year and was great then, so please pray for it and the Christian input in the form of 'Grill the Vicar', and men, do invite your friends/colleagues.

Our congratulations to Bert as he reaches and celebrates 90 years in the first week of February – fantastic!

We are looking to run the short marriage/relationship course called '**Listening, Loving, Laughing**' which is an excellent three session (each about two hours) enrichment course. We hope to run these on three Saturdays over February and March (on 6th Feb at 12.30, 27th Feb and 20th March at 1.30). Our marriages are the second most important relationship that we (married folk) are in (after our relationship with God!) and it is always good to invest into those relationships. The sessions are easily accessible and fun and help us understand and weed out things that may make the relationship less than good as well as offering things that will enrich it. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to come along and if you need a crèche with it.

Our hearts have gone out to the people of Haiti after the terrible tragedy there. It has been wonderful to see over £1400 come in through the retiring collection which will be going to help, half of it through TEAR Fund and half through Kids Alive (run by Matt Parker, formerly of HT) who have an orphanage there. We know that money will bring much needed blessing, but it will also be clearly in Christ's Name.

So may the Lord bless you all in your walk with Him, as you choose to step out into new adventures with Him, that you may grow and bear much fruit for Him.

George

Verses and visions from January's PPP

As we prayed for the POD groups, there was a picture of a very close group with light emanating from it into the darkness/shadows around it.

There was a picture of an open road ahead with a sat nav giving direction – as the Lord guides us when we are close to Him.

A picture of a white search light shining down onto Holy Trinity.

From Psalm 3 – 'How many are my foes?' The foes are lies from the enemy/world but, as it says in the Psalm, as we cry to Him He is our shield, He will bestow glory on us, He will lift up our heads, He will answer us and He will sustain us so we don't need to fear.

As the Lord spoke to Joshua – do not be afraid for I will hand them over.

We must persevere, like the persistent widow, in issues like linking with the NHS.

CHIEF'S CONCERNS



For you who have been following the Caféchurch story unfold I can now confirm that we will be starting Sunday 28th February, 5pm. If you want to be part of this exciting opportunity come and have a chat and join with the others getting involved.

Church @ Costa will be a very different format to traditional church, approximately an hour long, very informal and relaxed, accessible to anyone with Costa staffing and serving refreshments.

Prayer and Friendship

Came across this really pertinent snippet on friendship by Jeff Lucas

'Friendship doesn't just happen – it comes as a result of extended investment of time and effort. Great friends have to steer together through misunderstandings and conflicts; to learn to listen as well as share their own concerns; they may have to travel many miles in order to continue to build friendships'.

'Paul loved his friends – that much is very clear from his letter to the Philippians. In the first chapter, he celebrates them and the partnership in the gospel that they share with him. Towards the end of the letter, he seems to stumble over his own superlatives as he thinks of them: 'Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends!' (Phil 4:1).

'But all this has happened because Paul has invested heavily. He has them in his mind, on his heart, and in his prayers. Perhaps it's a simple equation, but we could do worse than make sure that we empathise with our friends; that we practically care for them and frequently bring them to God in prayer. That way, true kingdom friendships can be built'.

Oh What a Night!

A Big thanks goes to all (and that is quite a few of you) who helped with the New Year Ball. Judging from the comments, everyone had a great time, even those who don't do dancing!

Young people, you excelled and pulled out all the stops – your hard work behind the scenes, on the day and on the night, plus you all looked real smart.

I also want to thank everyone who came and supported the event; without you it would not have happened and been such fun.

'Elvis has left the building'

Jonathan.

Church Day Away

SUNDAY 20th June

@ Aldro School

Please put this date in your diary now!

GOOD NEWS FROM THE SOURCE

Regular readers will remember that in the November 2009 issue we reported that The Source Christian charity in Aldershot was in desperate need of funds and in danger of closing if it could not raise money to cover the 'core' costs, which include utility bills, insurance, and wages.

We are delighted to report that the target was reached and The Source stays open. Richard Cooper, the Director, writes:

Hi there!

Thank you for all your support in so many ways over the last year!

We made it, thank God! I would like to take this opportunity to thank those that got behind us and our work in the last three months (October - December). We were running literally hand-to-mouth on your donations, and ended up smashing our target by Christmas! That target, as you may recall, was to raise £20,000 between October and Christmas or close down... And the figure raised? An incredible £32,000! This was made all the more significant as it is TOTALLY at odds with the "headlines of the world", in a recession, in the run-up to Christmas - an amazing story that is testimony to the faith that everyone has in The Source and its work. Thank you. Having literally run out of money in October, the cash raised allowed us to survive the three-month period (and the first few months of the year), and hopefully we can bring you news on those big funding grants that are still 'out there' very soon.

I would like to invite you to download our 2009 Newsletter from our the homepage of our website (www.therealsource.co.uk) to see everything we've been up to in 2009... (Just click on the "Download" button on the right of the homepage)

I hope you enjoy reading about it all, and I look forward to making it happen again (and more) with you in 2010.

For those who do not have internet access, here is a selection of what The Source offers to young people:

- the Youth Café, safe and drug-free, attended by 680 different people in 2009
- R.E.A.L. – where young people explore spirituality in a safe environment
- mentoring and anger management sessions
- teenage parent mentoring
- a successful football team
- Ketchup after-school club for 10-13 year olds.

Thank you to everyone who gave to, or prayed for, The Source.

www.htca.org.uk

J-MEN 2010

Men, Happy New Year!!



The first J-MEN event of 2010 is coming up on Friday, 5th February. By popular demand, we have arranged another Beer and Skittles evening.

PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO THE WEY INN CANCELLING OUR BOOKING IN ERROR THE VENUE HAS NOW CHANGED TO "THE KINGS CROSS" OR, MORE SIMPLY, CROSSOVER AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH IN ALDERSHOT!!

Date - Friday, 5th February.

Time - Arrive at 7.30pm.

Cost - **NOW ONLY 5 Pounds!!!!!!!**

What's included in the price? Skittles and a 'man-sized' buffet.....so don't have any tea!

What's not included? Drinks (These will be available by donation)

Who would this appeal to? All ages. There will be a short Christian talk during the course of the evening.

Please start inviting your men friends and register a.s.a.p. as the event is just around the corner

PLEASE BOOK YOUR PLACE ONLINE www.htca.org.uk/jmen2.htm

Please do speak to any of the J-MEN team (Peter, Martin, Dave, Chris or Jonathan), if you have any queries about this event.

The J-MEN team

IN THE SPOTLIGHT – CAROL

Current Family: Widow of David – four children Rachel, nearly 50, Judith, 48, Jonathan, 47, James, 45, all married in church, with ten grandchildren in all.

Roles at HT: I am a trained Reader, still leading and preaching at the first service, and also a Fellowship Group leader and member of PCC.

What was your childhood like?: I was from an army background. Father was a regular soldier (RASC) and Grandmother was an Army School Headmistress of formidable intelligence. Mother had spent time in Bangalore as a child. I was taken round the “School of Cookery” when small – there was a wonderful smell of Christmas Puddings - and I cut my teeth on “Bully biscuits”. Father went to France at the start of the War and escaped from Dunkirk. We then moved from Aldershot to Scarborough and loved the place.



What are your earliest recollections? They are of holidays in Portsmouth with Grandma in Penny Street, which was bombed in the War, like the Garrison Church that we attended – it is still roofless. I have an early memory of singing “Eternal Father Strong to Save” there. Also, at the age of four, I was in a Nativity Play in Aldershot Garrison Church. Being bored, I licked the artificial grapes that were for the baby Jesus and was sick!

I was the middle child of three, with an older sister Ann, who decided to follow Jesus at age 12, and has influenced me spiritually ever since. We were at a Methodist Sunday School at the time (we went to the nearest one – always). We had an influential Quaker teacher at school and I was usually top in RE and in English. I wanted to be an opera singer at 11! I applied to St Hild’s College Durham to do a degree in English and changed this to do Religious Knowledge, English and French. I later taught all three subjects. My first year was quite “worldly” – I acted in a Chekhov play, in the College entertainment, and in Gilbert and Sullivan; we did “Yeomen of the Guard” and even put it on in the High Security Durham Jail – quite terrifying!

How did you become a Christian? In my second year at Durham, influenced by DICCUCU (Christian Union) friends, I went to Swanwick – to a conference on “The Way of the Cross”. I was struggling with Paul’s theology at the time and prayed hard for a conversion like his. What an answer I got! I found it in Isaiah 53 (“the suffering Servant” and saw Jesus dying for me on the cross and knew His forgiveness. It was passing from “darkness to light” and back at college I could not stop talking about it. About three months later, I went on a mission to Bootle for a week and led my first person to Christ.

And how did you come to Holy Trinity? In the DICCUCU, I was made Missionary Secretary and was convinced I would be sent abroad, but CMS thought I was not mature enough and a proposed job in Japan did not happen. The following year, my parents moved from Scarborough back to Aldershot while I was at Swanwick again. In a queue for coffee, I told a friend I was going to travel to Aldershot and was uncertain of the house; when a young man behind me exclaimed “Aldershot. You must go to Holy Trinity; I am in King’s Own Bible Class and live in Deepcut”, and promptly escorted me to my new home.

I have not left Holy Trinity since! I was a girls’ leader and in King’s Own, responsible for eight girls in my tent at camp, met David, dumped my lovely friend Ron and married David in 1958 – the rest, as they say, is history.

Did you have a career after your marriage? My 20s and 30s were spent in hectic activity, having four children under 5 – there was no crèche at church in those days and children were not encouraged until they could sit still in rows at Sunday School. I also did some teaching intermittently. There were lots of influences that led to my “conversion”, which was simply a “Crossroads” of direction that involved choice and God’s direction thereafter. He is always right. In my 40s to 60s I took up service in public life, a lot of it sheer hard work, and served 22 years on the Local Council, where I became Housing Chairman and then Mayor (1983/4). Overlapping this, I was a County Councillor for eight years, serving on the Social Services and Education Committees, and as Governor in lots of schools.

The next phase of life came in my 60s and 70s, when I felt the call to preach and teach in the Church where God had placed me. I had to take the sometimes arduous training to become a Lay Reader, with lectures in Guildford and sometimes weekends away. In all this, David supported me. I had never stopped speaking regularly at Women’s’ Meetings. I also sang in the Church Choir when Don Sturt was Organist for 40 years. His son Tim, who is also an Organist, married our Rachel when she was 21, and she is now training for the ordained ministry (which I had dearly wanted to do). Our second daughter Judith, fulfilled my other ambition, to go abroad; in her case, to Zimbabwe where she married fellow-student James in the Cyrene Mission Chapel near Bulawayo. We went out three times to stay with them. Son Jonathan totally supported his father in business and has charm and reliability. James our youngest son got his degree in Northern Ireland (Coleraine), another troubled place I never dreamt of going to!

Would you recommend Christianity to others? I feel greatly blessed, being a King’s daughter! And am held continually by my loving Father in a Church I have loved and hopefully served and which has always supported me. My faith is my life; I totally support our motto and believe that our mission is to the world - and Aldershot is our world – and the place for us is out there in the community and in the town, doing what He calls us to do, as well as inside the church.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

5 March,	Women's World Day of Prayer
7 March	(provisional) Speaker from London City Mission
14 March,	Mothering Sunday
20 March,	Ladies Prayer Breakfast, 29 Northbrook Road
20 March,	Listening, Loving, Laughing course 3, 1.30pm
21 April,	Annual Parish Meeting
24 April,	Seminar at KC21, 'How to be a secure Woman', With speaker Lynn Penson, CWR
20 June	HT Day Away at Aldro School

BARN DANCE FOR UGANDA

When:	Saturday 13th February 2010 from 7pm to 10:30pm
Where:	Ash Centre, Ash Hill Road, Ash
Why:	To raise funds for St Mary's (Ash Vale) Uganda 2010 project, in which 25 people from the parish will be visiting Uganda to help with charity projects.
Cost:	£10 per adult (£5 for children under 16)

For more info see poster in Crossover

Help needed: the organisers are asking for donations for raffle prizes, perhaps unwanted Christmas Presents or donated items from local businesses

To reserve tickets for the barn dance or to offer donations for the raffle, contact: Neil on 07988 804684 or nsanderson0@hotmail.com

Job Vacancy at The Triangle Café

The Triangle Christian Café and Bookshop in Kingsmead has a part-time vacancy for a person to work in the servery & kitchen. The position is for approximately 12/16 hours per week and hours are flexible, but are for weekdays, and could involve some 6 p.m. finishes.

For further details please contact Mel or Teresa on 01252 519172.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue.

**The March 2010 issue will be in Church on Sunday 28th February.
The LAST date for March articles will be Sunday 21st February.**