

MARCH DIARY 2010

Trinity Update

March 2010



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ALDERSHOT
‘A Church for Everyone’

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 Groups (Weds)
	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)
	7.30pm	POD Groups (Thursdays)
	7.45pm	Fellowship Groups † (Thursdays)
	7.45pm	Delve Deeper at St Peter's, Farnborough
5	10.30am & 7.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer
	6-7.30pm	Friendlyzy (ages 8 and up) (Fridays in term*)
7		SUNDAY
	9.30am	Morning Praise
	11.15am	Alternative Service with Kids' Praise
8	7.30pm	ALDERSHOT CHURCHES TOGETHER PRAYER at KC21, High St
13	8.20am	HT Mens Breakfast, Cafe Mi
	10am	Praying Wives at HT
	time?	Tech Desk and Worship Team training day
14		MOTHERING SUNDAY
	9.30am	Holy Communion
	11.15am	Alternative Service
15	7 - 9pm	Inclusion (Night Out)
20	8.30am	Ladies Prayer Breakfast, 29 Northbrook Road
	1.30pm	Listening, Loving, Laughing course 3
21		PASSION SUNDAY
	9.30am	Morning Praise with prayer for healing
	11.15am	Alternative Service with Holy Communion
21	7pm to 9pm	Growing Leaders, Crossover
26	7.45pm	TCPT Prayer meeting in Crossover
28		PALM SUNDAY AND BIBLE SOCIETY SUPPORT
		<i>Clocks go forward one hour</i>
	9.30am	Holy Communion
	11.15am	Alternative Service
	3.00-5.00pm	Concert at St Michael's for TCPT (see page 14)
	5.20-6.30pm	Cafechurch at Costa Coffee
	7 - 9pm	Inclusion
29	7.30pm	Children and Youth Leaders meeting, 311 Woodland Walk

* Easter holiday for schools in Hampshire is Fri 2 April 2010 to Fri 16 April

† Check dates of Easter break with group leaders

WOMEN'S HOUR

We started back at Women's Hour on Jan 21st, we had readings and poems. It was good to get back after the snow.

On the 28th of January we had Peter Southon, who talked about Adam and Eve and how the world came to the present day. Peter worships at St Michael's and takes an active part in the church there.

On the 4th February Jean brought a Quiz, which we all enjoyed.

We are now reading the Book of Esther each week and we are finding it such an interesting story.

The following week Rosalie from Revive and Thrive, based at Mytchett, showed us slides of where the goods they collect go to. If anybody has sewing machines, haberdashery, tools or stationery to spare, Rosalie and her team would be pleased to have them. Machines and tools are overhauled by members of Revive and Thrive before being sent to various workshops in various countries.

On Thursday 18th February, Hugh Gibbons showed us slides of Illusions, telling us of how our brain sees things in different ways. It certainly gave us something to think about.

It was sad to hear of the passing of a very dear, elderly member of Women's Hour Madeleine; she had been unwell for some time. She will be missed by all of our members.

Daphne and Jean



Thank you to all who put on their dancing shoes, donned their outfits and boogied away to Mama Mia on Friday night (19th February) – and what an array of outfits - platform shoes, jumpsuits and a yellow wig! We had a fantastic time singing and

dancing along to the film (once we all got warmed up!) and hopefully you all thoroughly enjoyed it. Roll on the next one.

Our next event, which I hope you have already got marked in your diaries, is on Saturday 24th April from 9am-1pm here at Holy Trinity. It promises to be an uplifting morning, when we host "Being a Secure Woman in God" presented by the CWR team, looking at how to find that inner strength to face the circumstances that life throws at us with confidence rather than fear and to realise that we can be women of influence as we find all our security in Him. The event is not only for us here at Holy Trinity, but is being advertised within the Churches in Aldershot, so please encourage any women you know (friends, family and colleagues) to come along. For tickets, which are £5 each, and further information, please speak to either Kris or Trish.

Finally, as you know, we are off again this year to Axminster for our weekend away from 17th to 19th September. Last year many of us found it a time of upbuilding, encouragement and a great way to get to know each other a bit more. More details about the weekend will follow in due course in the meantime, to assist with spreading the cost of the weekend, we are planning to launch a 'savings club' in April. If this is something that you would find useful then please speak to any of the team.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our next event.

Sue

on behalf of Soul Sisters

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue.

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

EXTRA HELP NEEDED FOR THE LARDER, PLEASE

Extra helpers are needed for The Larder, especially in the short term when Dawn will be out of action for a knee operation. If you can volunteer to help, please contact either Dawn (333895) or Jane (320618).

More food donations are also needed (see list at back of church) and also money to cover items (eg bread and eggs), which need to be bought fresh.

The Larder delivers food parcels to people who are suddenly in need, for example because benefit payments haven't come through. Most of them are referred by Social Services or Citizens Advice Bureau.

WITH GRATEFUL THANKS

A few months ago we shared with you all, some of what we, as a family, had been experiencing as a result of the recession. We have been deeply moved by what happened next, as people came to us with offers of help, which was so thoughtful and generous. This help has taken many different forms; it is no exaggeration to say that financially we would not have made it to Christmas without the assistance we received. Added to that, there has been the emotional and spiritual support, we are aware that many of you continue to keep us in your prayers.

In everything we have received we have seen God's timing to be perfect, as provision has been made for the fundamental basics of life, the unexpected necessity and also the non-essentials that make life "normal".

Our Christmas present was hearing our daughter excitedly exclaiming on Christmas morning, "Look Mummy, presents, he did come, Santa did come!" and the reason Santa came for this little girl was because of God's provision for us, borne out by the people of this Church.

God has been at work in the fine detail of our lives, providing presents for a small child, as well as for the needs of her parents. God's timing has been perfect in all that He has set in motion and there has been a constant message to us that all will be OK. Our seas may be stormy, but we are going to the other side.

We can't know what the coming year holds, we pray it will be easier than the last. The recession may officially be over, but we along with many other families across the country continue to experience its effects. We are certain of only one thing, that God knows our needs and He continues to provide for them with perfect timing. To Him and to all you we give our grateful thanks.

In Him do we trust

Garry & Mary

BOOK REVIEWS

God on Mute by Pete Grieg

If we are honest, many of us find there are times when God seems far away, when He doesn't appear to have heard, let alone answered our prayers. This is especially hard when we are going through some kind of crisis.

Pete Grieg was a co-founder of the worldwide 24/7 prayer movement and had seen miraculous answers to prayer, yet in his personal life things were totally different when, out of the blue, his young wife Samie was fighting for her life with a brain tumour. The book tells us something of their journey with God through it all, tying it in with Jesus' experience through the four days of the Easter weekend.

He writes about naked, honest prayer, bringing our real feelings to God, and not the ones we think that we ought to be feeling. He explores what might be going on when God appears to be "on mute". He suggests that these times aren't just a blip, or a sign of our failure in some way, but are a positive part of our spiritual life.

This book is honest, courageous, encouraging, uplifting and full of hope. It is one of the most practical and insightful Christian books I've read and I know I will go back to it again and again. I look forward to reading more from Pete Greig.

Jacquie

Wild Gospel by Alison Morgan

This is an excellent book for those wanting to go a little deeper in understanding our faith, the church and our culture. It looks at the ministry of Jesus, bringing back some of His 'shock factor', then at the history of the church, before turning to our own culture and how we might make His gospel message relevant again. I found it very readable and, for those wanting to delve even deeper, there are lots of books listed for further reading. Lots of key people have given it great reviews and there is now a copy in the church library.

George

WHAT DOES A HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY VOLUNTEER DO?

David Austin, the Lead Chaplain at Frimley Park Hospital is inviting people who might be interested in becoming volunteer chaplains to attend a training course (see opposite page). Here, Ian Vessey (from the 9.30 congregation), who responded to a similar invitation a few years ago, describes his experience of the work.

I have been serving Holy Communion to Patients at Frimley Park Hospital once a month on a Sunday for a little over 18 months. For me it is always a very rewarding experience and I believe it to be so for the patients I come into contact with also.

There are usually 2 volunteers and a member of the Hospital Chaplaincy staff involved. The hospital wards are split up between us and after a short service starting at 09.00 we leave the chaplaincy for the wards at about 09.30.

Sometimes lists are available at the nursing station with names of people who wish Holy Communion. More often than not, we have to go around each bed and ask.

It is an eye opening experience to see the wards, the staff hard at work and the different situations of the patients.

When someone wishes to have Holy Communion, I take a seat and sit by the bed. It is cosier and I don't tower over them. How each volunteer actually gives Holy Communion is down to the individual; there is a training course of a few evenings and initially a new person accompanies one of the Chaplains.

I usually forget to say my name – but some patients make one up anyway! I use their name throughout and start by explaining how I normally proceed. First I engage in some conversation to try and get some insight into their situation. Then we pray, thanking God for the opportunity to be together and asking God to meet their need. Then we both say the Lord's Prayer and with some simple words I administer the wafer, which has a cross made with wine in it. Finally I say a prayer of blessing. Many times I leave them reluctantly; sometimes they won't let me go, being very keen to talk; but if I am to avoid hitting their lunch time I have to complete the assigned wards by about 11.45.

I try to be open to the Lord all the time. Each patient is different and once I have established contact, I pause before praying and listen for the Lord's leading. The wards can be very busy and noisy, but it never really affects the service. Often the person will join in the Lord's Prayer. Sometimes they pray also. I have a cherished hymn and song I have copies of and, when I feel it is appropriate, I give patients a copy; "In Christ alone my hope is found" and "Before the throne of God Above".

I count it a tremendous privilege and great honour to be able to do it once a month. I come away feeling blessed and so pleased that the Lord called me to it.

In the Spring I am going to attend a more intensive course on visiting patients, with aspects of counselling. Volunteers who do this, do it during the week or Saturday usually, but it can be any time. Although I don't have the time for mid-week visitations, it is something further that will inform Sunday Holy Communion and I am looking forward to it.

Ian

COULD YOU BE A HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY VOLUNTEER?

E-mail from: David Austin to local clergy

Subject: Chaplaincy Volunteers training course

Dear Colleagues,

As many of you will be aware, we hold an annual training course for potential Chaplaincy Volunteers who wish to become involved in visiting in-patients (not necessarily from their own parish or church) who are in the hospital. The course lasts seven weeks and takes place one evening each week.

I like to meet those interested beforehand and leave final selection to the end of the course.

The next course starts on Tuesday 6th April from 7pm – 8.30pm and runs until Wednesday 19th May 2009, the last session only being on a Wednesday evening.

I would be grateful if you could make this known and invite those interested to make contact with me on 01276.604184 or by email david.austin@fph-tr.nhs.uk

Thank you in anticipation.

David Austin (Lead Chaplain), Frimley Park Hospital

GEORGE WRITES

Dear Friends,

I believe that this is a key time for us as a church, with the POD groups just getting going. Please pray for them, for their leaders and helpers and for all who are part of them. There are bound to be some teething problems, so we need to pray that they get resolved easily and quickly. The discipline of the POD applications should link well with what Lent is all about and it is perhaps no coincidence that they were getting going around about the beginning of Lent.

Interestingly, in this month of March, we will have contact with both our diocesan bishop and our archbishop. Bishop Christopher (bishop of Guildford) is in the deanery in the third week; he will be meeting with some of us and looking at certain things specific to this area, such as working with the Nepalese, the Army, and he will join the TCPT one evening as well! All are welcome to an open bring-and-share lunch with him on Saturday 20th (12-2pm at St Peter's, Farnborough). I would also value your prayers as I make a presentation to the archbishop (Rowan Williams) on the day he is in the diocese (2nd March). This will be centred primarily on our night outreaches and some of the challenges and vision in and for Aldershot.

On 28th March, the day the clocks go forward (so we have to get up early – don't forget!) we are pleased to welcome a guest speaker from **Bible Society** to both our services. Heather Clements has spoken here before and, I know, will be very engaging. That is actually Palm Sunday, part of our lead up to Easter. The following week, Holy Week, will see services and meditations on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday (1st and 2nd April).

Early in the month, on Thursday 4th March, there is an opportunity for another **Delve deeper** session for those who would like a bit more depth to their study. As usual it will be at St Peter's Farnborough, 7.45 and will be on Paul's Prison Epistles.

In this season of Lent, if anyone wants to join with a few others to **fast and pray** over a day or so, perhaps in seeking the Lord's direction in some way, do let me know, so I can facilitate that.

If anyone is interested in **Confirmation**, I will probably be taking at least one person to the service in the cathedral the day before Easter, so please let me know. We need you to have done the Alpha Course (youth or adult) and we will need to meet up to chat about Confirmation as well, in a small group setting.

Unfortunately, at the end of this month or next month, we have to say Goodbye to Peter and Audrey Blake who are moving to Germany to be closer to family. They have been very central to the life of Holy Trinity for many decades, so we are going

to miss them a lot. Peter has overseen the building and all the work that has been needed on them in a very helpful and professional way and has also kept the archives in order and up to date. Audrey, even through ill health, has continued to be a source of bright encouragement to many. We will all have a chance to say our farewells in a social event - date and time to be announced.

George

Verses and Visions from February's PPP (which was very well attended!)

- A picture of a new birth
- Just as at the Exodus, God put a protection behind the Israelites as they ventured out, so God is protecting us as we move forward.
- Picture of new wine being poured into new wineskins – this new year there will be new wine, new wineskins and new fruitfulness.
- The Father is opening His heart and inviting us close; if tired, to receive rest, if in need of wisdom, to receive that – He gives good gifts.
- Ephesians 2:11-22
- The disciples, who had been with Jesus, returned from their mission in twos, very enthusiastic. As they stepped out doing His will, even more happened than they thought possible.
- A picture of large mountains in the hazy distance. 'I will sing of your love for ever.'
- Although the angels rejoiced when we were converted, the Lord has rejoiced over us all the days of our life... 'I have been like a mother to you & have gently kissed your sins & tears away to the place of never remembered... but now, like a father, I am calling you to maturity, to stretching, to more.
- Do not get to eternity & look back wishing you had trusted more, prayed more, loved more, did more. Seize the gift of each day & don't miss the opportunities.
- I felt God show me that there is a very ready and ripe harvest, that just needs picking in Aldershot. I felt him say that there are people who are completely ready for salvation and just need leading. I saw 3 people (who might signify 3 groups of people) - one was a single and stressed mother pushing a pram outside Costa, one was a nameless/faceless man outside Costa and one was someone on the Vox nightclub staff, maybe the manager or owner. I also thought the Lord was confirming Isaiah 62 and saying that these people (maybe also Aldershot in general) had been deemed "forsaken" and "desolate" and that the Lord was saying that He will change their status to "married" and "her in whom I delight".
- I saw a bright light come out of the front corner of Costa coffee shop as people were meeting there and falling into the path of those walking by.

SPOTLIGHT ON BERT

Bert (Cuthbert), the father of Dawn, celebrated his 90th birthday recently. He is a member of the 9.30 congregation and of the Place Court Fellowship Group.

Bert made the copy of the HT logo which is on the front of the lectern in church.

Where were you brought up?

Here in Aldershot. I was born in Mount Pleasant Road and went to East End school.

The family originally came from Bardwell near Bury St Edmunds. My father was a blacksmith, making horseshoes and wrought iron gates and things for ploughs.



Our family always raised geese. When we lived in Mountpleasant, we grazed them on the open land at the top of the road. When we lived in York Road, we had them in the garden. They were very good guards.

What was your first job?

I did an Apprenticeship as a motor mechanic at Fawn's garage in Aldershot. I also joined the Territorial Army, so I was called up as soon as the war started in September 1939. They sent me on a course to learn about guns and I worked as a gun fitter as well as a motor mechanic. I did a lot of work on 25-pounders, like the one that's outside the station in Aldershot.

So, did you serve abroad during the war?

To start with I was posted to Folkestone and manned guns there and in Hythe. I met Eileen at a family wedding just after the war started and we got married in August 1941, just before her 21st birthday. She was from an army family which had been posted to Aldershot.

After that I was posted to Iraq and was there until nearly the end of the war. We visited Baghdad as well. The British Army was welcome in Basra, because they had helped to rebuild it after it was damaged in the First World War.

Towards the end of the war we went to Alexandria in Egypt and then to Italy – landed at Salerno and up to Rome. At the end of the war I had to 'pickle' the guns [ie prepare them] ready for the move back to England.

After the war did you go back to being a motor mechanic?

I carried on working for the government as a mechanic in Folkestone and then my Dad told me there was a job going at the Ordnance Depot here. I applied for it and got it and moved back to Aldershot and looked after vehicles and washing machines.

Then I transferred to Pyestock, to the research and development section and worked on the development and testing of helicopters.

At what stage in your life did you become a Christian?

I was baptised at St Michael's church. As a boy I joined the choir at St Augustine's and stayed there until the vicar decided he wanted to be called 'father'. My mother said that wasn't right and forbade me to go any more, so for a long time I wasn't a church-goer.

When Crossover was being made, we [Eileen and I] came and helped to scrub the pillars, taking on the job of church cleaners, and then we decided to come to services. We came on an Alpha course (that was in Richard Parker's time) and after that we decided we would like to be confirmed. The service was at St Mary's, Ash Vale. I was well over 65 then.

What difference does it make to your life, being a Christian?

I've got so many friends at church. And there's the weekly Fellowship Group; actually, it's fortnightly now.

REMINDER - CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

If you think of Holy Trinity as 'your' church, please consider signing up to the Electoral Roll, the church's official membership list. To be entitled to vote at this year's Annual Parish Meeting (21 April) you need to do this by 5 April.

Under Church of England rules you need to be aged at least 16, be baptised (not necessarily in the Church of England) and **either** live within the Holy Trinity parish **or** have worshipped here for at least 6 months.

Please see either Sue or myself for a form.

Christine

SPONSOR LIZ IN RUN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

I am writing this to ask all you kind and lovely people out there if you would be able to sponsor me. I am running the London Marathon on the 25th April 2010. The charity I'm running for is called Shaftesbury Young People and I have a target amount of £1500 to raise. Obviously I would love to be able to meet this target and if possible raise more.

If you would like to sponsor me, the easiest way to do it is on-line at www.justgiving.com/elizabeth-reay. If, however, you do not have access to a computer and wish to sponsor me, there will be a sponsor form at the back of the church.

Let me tell you a bit about Shaftesbury Young People. They support young people in care and in need to find their voice, to be healthy, to learn, develop and achieve and to gain an independent and positive place in society. Shaftesbury Young People provides residential homes for children aged 11 to 17, services for young people leaving care, supported housing for young people and venture activities for personal development. Shaftesbury Young People is the new working name of Shaftesbury Homes and Arethusa.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all in advance for supporting me in this venture.

Liz

Church Day Away

SUNDAY 20th June

Aldro School

Please put this in your diary now!

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SOCIETY DO ?

March 28th is the day when we remember the Bible Society in prayer and support them with our giving.

The Bible Society was founded in 1804 and its first Scripture translation was completed during that year. It was John's Gospel in the Canadian Indian Mohawk language. But what does the Bible Society do now and why is it needed in the modern world?

The answer is that millions of people don't have the Bible in a language they can understand, in a format they can use or at a price they can afford. The current work of the Bible Society therefore includes:

- supporting more than 550 Bible translation projects, which will provide parts of the Bible in some of the 4400 languages which don't have even one book of the Bible and will also provide more accurate translations in some other languages
- providing the Bible in audio or Braille for those who cannot read or are blind or partially sighted
- providing free or inexpensive Bibles for people in poor countries, which is often where the church is growing fastest (a billion people in the world live on just 60p a day).

In the UK the Bible Society works with influential people in the media, education, politics and the arts to help them to see the Bible's connection with today's issues, aiming to reverse the trend for the bible to be dismissed as irrelevant.

DELVE DEEPER

- Who is it for?** Anyone who wants to go deeper in their understanding and faith
- Where is it?** St Peter's Church, Farnborough,
7:45 to 9:45 pm
- What is it?** Speaker, Discussion and Questions

Thurs 4 March 2010

Paul's Prison Epistles

Julian Henderson is Archdeacon of Dorking and lecturer in New Testament on the Local Ministry Programme in Guildford Diocese. He will help us to look at some of the purpose and themes of Paul's letters from prison.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 1 April - Maundy Thursday Holy Communion and Meditation, 7.00pm
- 2 April Good Friday;
10am Walk with the Cross and 1-4pm meditations on the Cross
- 4 April Easter Day, morning services at usual times
and 6.00pm Praise, Prayer and Prophecy
- 21 April, Annual Parish Meeting
- 24 April, Seminar, 'How to be a secure Woman', speaker Lynn Penson, CWR, **at HT (not at KC21**– apologies for error in the February Update)
- 20 June HT Day Away at Aldro School
- 26 June Aldershot Churches Together Fun Day

HELP THE BROWNIES TO HELP HAITI – DONATE A RECIPE

In association with the recent Thinking Day, a local Brownie pack has decided they would like to raise money to help the people of Haiti. As part of their Centenary Challenge they are aiming to collect 100 recipes (and test some of them out). They hope to put the collection together on a CD or in a paper booklet and sell copies to raise money to send to one of the charities working in Haiti.

If there is a recipe which maybe you invented or maybe has been passed down through family generations and you think others would like to try it, then please give a copy to Julia Cave, a member of the 9.30 congregation (or leave it in the C pigeonhole at the back of church). Don't forget to include your name and maybe a memory of the first time you tried the dish.

AN INFORMAL CONCERT FOR TCPT

Palm Sunday, 28th March, from 3pm to 5pm

at St Michael's Church, Church Lane East

To celebrate the arrival of 'Mahogany', a reconditioned baby grand piano
and to raise funds for the Town Centre Pastoral Team.

More information from Alison on 337189 or aliblenk@hotmail.com