

**APRIL DIARY – 2010**

# Trinity Update

APRIL 2011



**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ALDERSHOT**  
*'Church for Everyone'*

**28 Mar-2 April 9.00am – 9.00 pm Reading of the whole Bible in church**

1	10.30am	Fellowship Group	(alternate Fridays*)
	6-7.30pm	Friendzy (ages 8 and up)	(Fridays in term *)
	7.45pm	TCPT Prayer meeting in Crossover	(also 29 <sup>th</sup> )
	8.00pm	Last of the Lent Lectures at Cathedral	
2	10.00-12.00	Come for Coffee – especially for those struggling	
	10.30-12.30	Flower Workshop (see page 4)	
		2030s Bowling & Nepalese restaurant meal	
3		<b>SUNDAY (MOTHER'S DAY)</b>	
	9.30am	Morning Praise	
	11.15am	Alternative Service	
	7 – 9.15pm	YPOD for 13s to 20s	(also 10 <sup>th</sup> )
4	7.30pm	<b>PRAISE, PRAYER AND PROPHECY</b>	
5	11am, 7.30pm & 8pm	Fellowship Groups	(Tuesdays*)
6	11.15am	Holy Communion, followed by tea & biscuits	(Weds)
	7.30 for 7.45pm	<b>ANNUAL PARISH MEETING</b> (see page 5)	
7	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*)
9	10 am	Praying Wives at HT	
10		<b>SUNDAY (MISSION SUPPORT SUNDAY FOR 'COMPASSION')</b>	
	9.30am	Holy Communion	
	11.15am	Alternative Service	
11	7.30pm	<b>ALDERSHOT CHURCHES TOGETHER PRAYER</b>	
		at St Michael's Church	
	7.00-8.00pm	Inclusion	(also 25th)
13	7.30pm	POD Groups	(Weds*)
	2.30 & 8.00pm	Fellowship Groups	(Weds*)
16	10.00-12.00	Coffee morning for Flower Fund	
17		<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	
	9.30am	Morning Praise	
	11.15am	Alternative Service with Holy Communion	
18		Fellowship Group Leaders at 2 Cranmore Lane	
21	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday: Passover meal (bring and share, see p13)	
22	10.00am	Walk with the cross (p 13)	
	1-4pm	Good Friday Meditations (p13)	
23	7 – 9.15pm	YPOD Food Night (for 13s to 20s)	
24		<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>	
	9.30am	Holy Communion	
	11.15am	All Age Service with Holy Communion	

\* Check with group leaders for dates of Easter break. Easter school holiday in Hampshire is from Mon 11 April 2011 to Mon 25 April 2011. PODs and Fellowship Groups may not meet in the week of the Annual Meeting.

## WOMENS HOUR

On 24<sup>th</sup> February Mr Peter Smith showed us slides of the High Street in Aldershot from many years ago. So many shops have gone since then and new ones have taken their place. Peter belongs to several organisations and loves to share his knowledge with others.

The following week we had music and readings, when some of our members took part.

On 10<sup>th</sup> March we had an alphabet game-cum-quiz, which we all seemed to enjoy.

We are well into reading the book of Genesis, but we have decided to follow the Easter story for the next few weeks, so that those of our members who don't come to our church services will be able to hear the Easter story.

The 17<sup>th</sup> March we had Mick Betts, who is involved with Help The Heroes fund. He showed us a film of Headley Court and the stories the soldiers had to tell of their time in war torn countries. Mick is very passionate about what he does for the Heroes and has raised thousands of pounds to go towards providing aid and help to this charity.

*Daphne and Jean*

Mary writes: "I think all of you are aware that over the last couple of years Garry and I have faced some seriously difficult times financially. We are aware that there are folk in the Church at the moment, who are also having tough times whether it be financially or otherwise.

We feel that we would really like to do something for anyone that this applies to. So we are planning the following: "

## **Come For Coffee**

**Sat 2nd April, 10am-12 noon**

**In Crossover**

**tea/coffee, with some cakes & biscuits.**

**a selection of newspapers**

**toys and craft activities for children**



Our aim is to provide somewhere that folk can chill out and relax, maybe chat to others about the issues they have, if they wish.

We would personally like to invite anyone from Church who is having a tough time of things to come along.

The above may not apply to you personally, but you may know someone to whom it does. If you do, please let them know what we are planning and encourage them to come.



## **SOUL SISTERS WILL RETURN**

There is no report from Soul Sisters this month, as the timing of the 'Licence to Chill' Day Away means that the report on that will have to be held over until the May issue. But don't despair – Soul Sisters will be back, with news of exciting events later in the year.



**Verse for the year:**

***'Is not my word like fire . . . and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?'***

**Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue, including to Rob for most of the drawings.**

**The May 2011 issue of Update will be in Church on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April.  
The LAST date for May articles will be Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April.**

*Christine*

## **Mothering Sunday Flower Workshop**

**Saturday, 2nd April**

**Galpin Hall**

**10.30-12.30**

Come and make a basket arrangement of Spring flowers.

Cost £15-20

Please contact:  
Jane (320618)

### **BOOKING THE USE OF CHURCH OR CROSSOVER**

If you wish to book the use of the church or Crossover for a church activity, please use the booking chart on the wall in the office (to your right as you go into the office/kitchen area). The notebook is no longer used for these bookings.

To book use of the hall, contact Jean



### **PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND, OCTOBER 2011**

As announced in the March 2011 Update, The Revd. Haydon Wilcox (former Vicar of St Michael's, Aldershot) will be leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 5th - 16th October 2011.

Carol has a copy of the brochure, is considering going and would welcome a travelling companion from Holy Trinity. If you are interested in joining Carol, please get in touch with her (322013). There are still a number of places left.

To apply for a brochure from Haydon (either for this pilgrimage or for the 2012 holiday to Italy), contact him at haydonwilcox@mac.com or Tel. 01252 621639, leaving your name and address and stating the trip you are interested in.

### **PEOPLE NEEDED FOR TCPT TOWN CENTRE SHOP**

The Town Centre Pastoral Team are currently bidding for lottery funding for a town centre shop based at 29 Wellington Street. They are looking for people with relevant experience to help in the preparation of the bid and (if the bid is successful) will eventually need people with similar experience to run the shop.

Julia says, "We are searching for people with excellent organisational skills, experience of retail management of at least four years, stock control expertise, good people management skills, who also have a heart to share the Gospel. We shall also need those who have retail / refreshment assistant experience, who love God and want to show His love to others, to work for this up and coming project in Aldershot town centre. "

If you have relevant experience and are willing to help with this exciting bid please contact George on 320618 or Julia on [jstevens@milestonetp.co.uk](mailto:jstevens@milestonetp.co.uk)

### **THE VINE NEEDS TRUSTEES**

As reported last month, the Vine Day Centre in Aldershot is looking for new trustees for its Board. The Vine is a registered charity which provides information, advice and help for the disadvantaged, especially the homeless, the unemployed and addicts.



More information, including person specifications for the roles of trustee and chair, are now available from [thevinecentre@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:thevinecentre@hotmail.co.uk) and the closing date for applications is 6<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

Some good news – The Vine has been chosen as the 2011 local charity partner of the Community Matters Partnership, which encourages companies to support their local community.

### **HT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> April 2011**

**7.30pm in Crossover**

## **IN THE SPOTLIGHT – DI**

*Di has been married for 24 years to Chris, a painter and decorator. They have two daughters, Sarah (21) and Kerry (19) and a son, Thomas (15). Di and Tom are part of the 11.15 congregation. Di is on the coffee rota, helps at Contact (Mothers & Toddlers) group and recently began helping with children's ministry on Sundays.*

### **What was your childhood like?**

A very happy one, with such fun and warm memories of camping holidays at Hayling Island and the Isle of Wight. You will NOT believe this, but I was very shy as a child, till I was 14 years old and my beautiful angel of a sister Carolyn brought me out of my shell and encouraged me to interact with people. My dad taught me the time and how to waltz.



After I left home I lived in Ash Vale with my sister Sue and her kids, then shared a house in York Road, Aldershot.

This is when I went on a blind date and met my future husband Chris, in 1985.

### **What jobs have you done?**

When I left school I worked at Unigate Dairies until 1989, when I left to have Sarah. Then I was at Tesco, part time on reception and tills. Then I had Kerry and Thomas. I also worked at St Michael's Pre-school as a deputy supervisor, then I was a carer for Care UK, now I work as a home help for Age Concern UK.

### **How did you become a Christian?**

In 1980, my sister Carolyn (18 yrs) and I (16) were coming home from a night club. There was a car crash and Carolyn was killed on impact, I got out with broken ribs and cuts. Seven months later my dad died of a heart attack aged 49. I feel that only those who have known suffering can understand what Jesus' sufferings were - **for our sake.**

In 1984, I had a near fatal penicillin reaction. I saw a glimpse of heaven - only for a few moments; I saw brilliant white, gold and stretched out arms, then I woke up in Frimley Park on a bed of ice. This was in January 1984 and I started going to the King's Centre.

### **Has your Christian life been plain sailing since?**

No, I kept walking away because of the sinful distractions around me. The closer I tried to get to Jesus or read the word, Satan would try and steal it from me. I ended up angry and confused with God. Since I was a child of 11 until the present day, nine members of our huge family have died. It was not until our son Thomas was born, 15 weeks premature, that I started properly praying again.

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### **What brought you to Holy Trinity?**

My friends Yvette and Lottie used to come to HT and Yvette being very persuasive brought me along – when I walked through the doors, the feelings in me were overwhelming. I cried and laughed for the first month. I knew Carol from years ago and also Terry, Julie and Gareth from Kings (awesome friends, love them).

It was three years ago, in December 2007, that I came to Holy Trinity and I can honestly say, that is when I became a true Christian. Then last year, 2010, when I went to Axminster for the second time, I had an awesome encounter with the Holy Spirit, as many did – it has given me more time to be in God's presence and the courage to face the family issues between my Mum, brother and sister – also to handle Tom's autism and two teenage daughters.

In my first year at HT I didn't get too involved in any service to the Church. The second year I started to be more involved. Now I have stepped out of my comfort zone and am involved in many services to the Church. This year I knew I wanted to be re-baptised and renew my commitment to follow Jesus and I had a reaffirmation on March 6<sup>th</sup>. I also wanted to do tell my story in 'Spotlight' and to try out the Town Centre Pastoral Team.

Because my husband is not a Christian, it has been very hard to share what I have learnt and what I do at Holy Trinity – at my work and amongst neighbours and friends none are Christians, so that is why I keep in touch by e-mail or phone with members of Holy Trinity. I love to involve people around me in Church functions, and have brought many to the events.

### **What do you do in your spare time?**

When I get a chance, I like to read, soak in a bath listening to worship CDs, keep fit at home. I enjoy quiz nights, cinema, doing puzzles, swimming, eating out and Soul Sisters' events.

### **And finally ...**

For such a long time I felt there was a gap in my life, but since I came to Holy Trinity – it has been well and truly filled. The warmth of friendships I have made has been overwhelming: George, Jane, the fellowship/POD groups I am in, are so important to me.

God is my daily Saviour, I love Him with heart, mind, body and Soul.

On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.

*Please pray for Di and Chris; both are self-employed and have not had much work since last November; there are also some health issues for both of them and for Chris' Dad and Di's Mum.*

## COULD YOU EXPERIENCE THE REWARDS OF FOSTERING?

Rainbow Fostering Services Ltd, which is an independent fostering agency working with local authorities, are looking to recruit more foster parents in and around the Hampshire area.

Foster parents look after children who have been taken into care because of problems at home. The need may be short term or long term.. Rainbow Fostering say “Children come into care for a whole range of reasons, including a family member’s short-term illness or a parent’s depression or drug or alcohol misuse. Some children may have been abused or neglected. “

Foster parents are paid a fee and are offered plenty of initial and ongoing support and training. They are assigned their own social worker and have access to the senior management team for help and advice. Rainbow emphasise that they try to match the foster parents to each child’s background and needs, as well as choosing a local placement so that the child does not have to change school.

For more information see the Rainbow Fostering letter on the notice board at the back of church (or email the editors for an electronic copy). This includes contact information for use if you want to find out more.

*Dave and Lindzi, who have two adopted children, would be happy to discuss the approval process with anyone who is interested. Lindzi says “My understanding is that the approval process for prospective adopters and foster parents is the same, even though the job is different. We also know people who are, or have been, foster parents, who could talk to them about the reality of fostering.”*



**“Woman, why are you weeping?” (John 20:13)**

## AN EVENING ON IRAN

222 Ministries is holding an open evening on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 19.30pm-21.30pm, at which they will provide a confidential insight into what is happening in Iran and in particular what progress 222 is making. They say “Iran has been much in the limelight recently with its involvements in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the ongoing nuclear issue. These events present an increasingly challenging climate for Christians living in Iran, and particularly those from a Muslim background.”

The meeting is open to existing supporters of 222 and to any others who may be interested in praying for them and supporting them financially.

If interested, you will need to book in advance; ask George or Christine for the email address and telephone number on which you can make a booking.

***Date for your diary***  
**Holy Trinity Day Away**  
**Priors Field School**  
**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Speaker: Mike Pusey**

## THROUGH THE GATES – HELPING THOSE WITH ADDICTIONS

I was invited to an evening hosted by Viv at the Kings Church in August last year; I contacted her later to get further information about her ministry of setting people free from drug and alcohol addiction.

Viv started off with a word that was first given to her in 1989: Isaiah 62:10

*Pass through, pass through the gates! Prepare the way for the people. Build up, build up the highway! Remove the stones. Raise a banner for the nations.*

In 2001 whilst working in HMP Send with drug dependant women, she had a revelation as to what that word meant and how she could apply it. Eventually in February 2009 Viv started the TTg Relapse Prevention Service for anyone with drug/alcohol dependency at the Hope Centre in Aldershot (since transferred to The Source building at 237 High St). At first she had just one referral; since then she has had over 30.

Viv uses a Christian programme called The Genesis Process, which she feels can be applied to ANY addiction – not just drugs and alcohol. Many operations that deal with helping addicts, are happy with just keeping them safe, but Viv’s vision and purpose is to see people clean and sober; to set them free. Viv’s ministry is about creating a family and providing love, support and consistency to help them gain control of their lives.

During the evening I also heard 4 personal testimonies from people who have been addicted to drugs and/or alcohol and their reasons behind it. I was completely awestruck by the courage of these addicts to get up, probably for the first time, and talk about what they had been through and how it had impacted their lives; the fact that some people, when addicted, feel there is no way out and that they are doomed to die as addicts. To hear about Viv’s vision and passion for her ministry. To see the relationship between this group of people and to hear their stories of how God has changed them gives you a renewed faith. It also taught me more on how NOT to judge people by their appearances or by knowing they have a ‘dodgy’ background, as we are not aware of the facts, there is only one person privy to all of that,. We don’t need to know, we just need to love and support those in need.

*Jax*



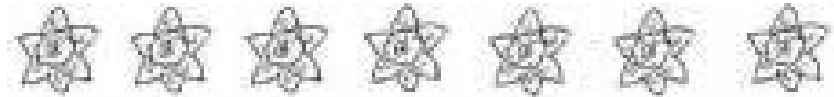
## COULD YOU BE A HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY VOLUNTEER?

Hospital Chaplaincy Volunteers assist the Chaplain of the hospital by visiting hospital in-patients (not necessarily from their own parish or church) and by assisting in the administration of Holy Communion to patients.

As in previous years, David Austin, the Lead Chaplain at Frimley Park Hospital, is running a course for those interested in becoming Chaplaincy Volunteers during May and June. The course has seven sessions on Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 8.30pm, commencing on Tuesday 3rd May and ending on 14th June. Selection is left until the end of the course.

Anyone interested should make initial contact with him on 01276.604184.

Ian (of the 9.30 congregation at HT) is a Chaplaincy Volunteer at Frimley Park and would be happy to talk to anyone who would like to know more. He wrote about the role in the March 2010 issue of Update, which is available online or by asking one of the editors.



## FLOWER LADIES’ COFFEE MORNING

The Flower Team invite you to a Coffee Morning with cake stall and fruit and nut stall on:

**Saturday 16 April**

**10am to 12 noon.**

to raise money for flowers for Easter.



*Dawn*

## GEORGE WRITES

Dear Friends,

In many ways it has not been an easy year so far for many folk in the church, although it has been good to see that when people have been open about their needs, there has been a tremendous response from their brothers and sisters in Christ. I am not a prophet, but I am thinking what God's plan is in all this. I am certainly comforted by the fact that when we gathered right at the beginning of the year to seek Him, He warned us about this with the implication that there was a meaning and a positive end to it.

The images of the big earthquakes in Japan and in New Zealand a month or so back are still fresh with me; indeed I have a lot of cousins in Christchurch and some of them have had their homes badly damaged or destroyed. Where foundations were weakened from the first quake last autumn, houses and buildings were devastated by the second. There are, of course, many biblical analogies here, especially about building on solid foundations. Jesus ends the Sermon on the Mount with the parable of the two builders, one of whom built on the sand, so when the storms came the house fell with a great crash (unfortunately many of the suburbs of Christchurch are built on sand and there was a huge amount of sandy 'liquefaction' that came up into houses and gardens as a result of the quake). The other built on the rock, something that involved a lot more preparation and hard work, so in the same circumstances, it stood firm. What was the difference? The answer is in our verse for the month, still on the subject of God's word, Matthew 7:24-25:

**“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.”**

It is in times that are difficult that we need to be applying God's word and, as Jesus says, that makes all the difference in terms of whether we stand or fall.

But I wonder, with this verse and the earthquake in mind, is God allowing this time of 'shaking' for us now to help us to see where our foundations are not right and to strengthen them, so (changing metaphors quickly) we are being refined and pruned back for fruitfulness and purity and readiness for something else? Maybe (and to reiterate, I am not a prophet, but I do need to 'watch the signs') there is a bigger time of shaking for our town or nation coming up. Maybe we are being shaken first, so that we are given the opportunity to strengthen our foundations and to work out how to put His word into practice in difficult times. Then, when or if such a bigger 'shaking' comes we are ready, we are secure and we will shine out as having a sure and certain hope and faith when those outside Christ are in

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despair and thus, in the distinction that will be seen in response and attitude, we will be used to draw hundreds and hundreds to Christ.

God's word is powerful and equipping. It gives us the tools for difficult times, and I trust that there will be some major encounters with God through the reading of the whole Bible through from 28<sup>th</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Do join the venture. Do come and listen. Do come in and make refreshments for folk. Do invite people along.

A few other things this month. 3<sup>rd</sup> April is **Mothering Sunday**, and we look forward to some of our younger children taking part up front in the second service that day.



Then we have our **AGM** on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April. I suggest that most POD and Fellowship Groups don't meet that week, to enable as many as possible to come along. There are a few formalities to the meeting and we have some spaces on PCC and Deanery Synod and the need of two churchwardens; we need people willing to be nominated for these positions. But the meeting also has a chance to look back with praise and thankfulness to all that God has done over the previous year and to look ahead with prayer to the vision that God is giving us and to looking to how that can be brought into reality.

Then we have the very important season leading up to and including Easter. On **Maundy Thursday**, 21<sup>st</sup> April, we will be having a full **Passover Meal** in church, which will lead into Communion. The main part of the meal will be bring-and-share, starting at 7. We will then use a Passover liturgy to give us a feel of what Jesus and His disciples did at the last supper and what the Jews have been doing for well over three thousand years and we will use the different symbolic elements to that meal. We will see many of the links then with Jesus and His death, which will lead us into the Communion.



The following day is **Good Friday**. At 10am I will be taking the big cross out through town and everyone is welcome to join me and to take turns in carrying the cross. Then from 1pm to 4pm (the sixth to ninth hour, when darkness covered the land at the time of Jesus' crucifixion) we will have Meditations on the Cross in church. These will each be half an hour long with a hymn on the hour and half hour.

Please come to one, some or all of these and, if coming and going, please do so only during the hymns, so that we can keep the quiet. We hope Easter Day will be a time of great celebration in our services at the normal Sunday times. If you want to be part of a drama, let me know.

Looking beyond Easter, two new and key things are starting up. First, we will be running a new **Alpha Course** on either Wednesday or Thursday evenings. Do be

inviting friends and thinking whether this is something you might like to do. I am after an assistant for the course, so if that grabs you, let me know.

Then we will be running **The Marriage Course** on some Friday evenings in church. This is a seven session course (but spread out over about 12 weeks) for couples to help enrich their marriages. For those of us who are married, this relationship is the second most important one we have, and yet there are a lot of pressures on marriage generally and we can easily neglect to put the necessary time and effort into it, which can then be very much to our loss and the loss of our families and even society around us. The format of the evenings will be refreshments, some DVD clips and chances for the couples to talk through a few of the common issues relating to the evening's subject using a manual. The topics are: Building Strong Foundations, The Art of Communication, Resolving Conflict, The Power of Forgiveness, Extended Family & Family Influences, Good Sex and Love in Action.



If you are married, whether recently or for many years, this could be a real blessing and time of enriching, whether you feel you have a strong marriage, one that may have gone a bit stale or even one that feels under serious pressure. Do sign up in church and chat to me, Jane or any of the staff team if you have any questions. I know of five couples so far who are planning to do the course. The first session will be 6<sup>th</sup> May.

So may God bless you and may you keep your eyes fixed on Him, who endured such pain, that you will not grow weary or lose heart (Hebrews 12:3).

*George*

### **MEN AT TRINITY - 'F1 LIVING': RE-LAUNCH**

**Men's activities will be re-starting after Easter with a Men's Breakfast 8.30am on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Venue tba. This coincides with the launch of CodeLife.**

**Come along with your appetite and ideas!  
More information next month.**

## **VERSES AND VISIONS FROM MARCH PPP**

There was a real sense of the Lord being present, not just in worship and silence, but in prayer times as well. There were about 25 people there and when we divided into groups, there was a lot of praying going on...

- The world as a whole as seen from space - full of black dots - on zooming in, the black dots are seen to be individuals. When God comes and touches them, they light up, and as they then touch other black dots, the black dots become light..
- Ps 119 v 105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path
- A sense of the Lord's presence, but Him then saying - come on, wake up, get out and do something
- Nehemiah being sad before the king, and the king then asking him "Why are you sad?" We should perhaps take the time to ask people what the matter with them is - and also the reason Nehemiah is sad is because Jerusalem is in ruins - compare Isaiah and the promise to rebuild the ruins...
- Luke 11 v34 – Jesus' words about no-one lighting a lamp and putting it under a bowl.
- We are the light and need to let our lights shine.

## **READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?**



If you have read a really good Christian book recently and would like to share your enthusiasm with others, why not write a book review for Update? It can be as short or (within reason) as long as you like, but do check first that it hasn't already been covered in Update.

If you are looking for recommendations for a good Christian read, Nancye, who runs the library, will be able to help.

## **CHIEF'S CONCERNS**

### **YPOD, blue in the face!**

Do look out again for the YPOD team in both services on Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup>; our 'App' is linked to Compassion UK's campaign Blue in the Face. This will be our April Mission Support Sunday, when we are raising funds for, and awareness of, Compassion UK.

Compassion UK is an international Christian child development and child advocacy ministry. Partnering with local churches, they are committed to the spiritual, economic, social and physical development of children living in extreme poverty in 26 of the world's poorest countries, enabling them to become responsible, fulfilled Christian adults. Compassion currently supports over 1,000,000 children through their local church partners, ensuring the children have access to education, healthcare, food, clothing, social care, vocational training and that they have an opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel.

Compassion's holistic child development programmes focus on the spiritual, economic, social and physical needs of children through all stages of development. Their programmes are unique in that they are Christ Centred, Child Focused and Church Based. Their mission - releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name in response to the Great Commission. Compassion International exists as an advocate for children, to release them from their spiritual, economic, social and physical poverty and enable them to become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults.

As a result of their ministry to children in poverty, Compassion is trusted by the Church worldwide as the leading authority for holistic child development and provides a global benchmark for excellence in child sponsorship. Compassion is a Christ-centred organisation committed to the Church. As such, they value: Integrity, Excellence, Stewardship and Dignity. Take a look at the testimony from former Compassion-sponsored child Peace Ruharuza (below).

If you want to know more about Compassion UK and how to get involved please speak to Belinda, as she now works for them full-time.

### **Human Trafficking**

The other day I caught the end of a film called 'Taken'; in it a former spy relies on his old skills to save his estranged daughter, who has been forced into the slave trade. The film's ending is, as usual, farfetched with our hero single handedly taking on all the bad guys and of course winning!

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What the film does do, though, is to raise the very real issue of human trafficking – modern day slavery. Exploitation, abuse, manipulation, there are millions of victims of human trafficking, with 161 affected countries. Trafficking generates double the annual revenue of Coca-Cola. There are 27 million slaves today – people being treated as nothing, ignored as humans made in God's image, perceived and traded only as possessions.

If you want to add your voice to the rising shout that people are priceless and should not be treated as anything less then take a look at <http://www.treatsomeonespecial.com> for ideas.

Happy Easter

*Jonathan*



## **SOAPBOX SHORT-TERM MISSION TO TANZANIA**

This summer I am hoping to spend 3 weeks in Tanzania, from 20<sup>th</sup> July to August 10<sup>th</sup>. I will be going with a Christian organisation called SoapBox who are part of a registered Charitable Trust specialising in taking teams on practical aid and mission projects to some of the poorest areas of the world.

I will be part of a team of about 10 people and we will be continuing the building work of a school which was started in 2000. SoapBox teams have been back each year to help build much needed additional accommodation and classrooms. We will be based in Southern Tanzania and living in an African village amongst the local people.

Most mornings we will be involved with the building work and in the afternoons we'll spend time among the many local children, playing games, doing craft activities and the occasional drama, as well as visiting the nearest town, Iringa, and local homes of Tanzanian friends. We will also have a 24 hour visit to Ruaha National Park, one of Tanzania's biggest games reserves.

I have to raise £1590 so I would be very grateful if you could support me financially, as well as in prayer.

Thanks,

*Kate*

## **MISSION SUPPORT SUNDAY - MORE ABOUT COMPASSION**

The core programme through which Compassion fulfils their mission to 'release children from poverty in Jesus' name' is individual child sponsorship. An individual sponsor in a country like ours chooses to sponsor a child in poverty through Compassion, providing financial support (in the form of a monthly £21 donation), but also, just as vitally, letters to the child, who is also able to write to their sponsor through the help of Compassion's team of translators and church partners in the field. Via the letter writing, a relationship is built, through which the child has someone outside of their situation who is praying for and encouraging them, helping to lift their eyes from the despair and hopelessness that true poverty brings. It's a simple programme that has been bringing lasting and radical change to children's lives during the last 50 years Compassion has been running it.

You can read more about Compassion in Jonathan's article and will be hearing more about them from the young people during the next YPOD App on April 10<sup>th</sup>. For now, here is the story of one formerly sponsored child, Peace Ruharuzi - whom I now work alongside at the Compassion UK head office in Weybridge!

### *Belinda*

#### ***Peace Ruharuzi***

When she was just five-years-old she was scavenging for food, now Peace Ruharuzi is a passionate spokeswoman for children in poverty.

#### **Daily Struggles**

Peace was born into a family of 14 children in southern Uganda, and following the separation of her parents and her father's unemployment, she was passed between relatives and family friends. At the age of five, whilst staying with her mother's cousin, her home was the goat shed and her room-mate the family goat. But that was nothing compared to the abuse she received at the hands of the family.

She frequently got into arguments with the other children and it was after one such fight that she decided to run away. It was a 20-mile journey back home and yet she considered her chances of survival greater than if she stayed.

#### **Instability**

No sooner did she arrive, she was moved to live with another family friend. After just six months, Peace moved yet again, to live with her older sister, Joy. This time it looked like her luck was changing.

For the majority of her life, Peace had been wearing discarded rags and eating scraps, so to be given a new dress, a clean shower and the opportunity to go to [www.htca.org.uk](http://www.htca.org.uk)

school by her sister was overwhelming. She beams as she remembers: "I became a child again."

However, when Joy's husband lost his job, the family were forced out of their home into a tiny grass-roofed shed. At night when the rain lashed down, Joy would hold a piece of corrugated iron over Peace, to prevent her getting wet as she slept.



#### **Driven and Determined**

Determined that her dreams would not be washed away, Peace took herself off to the local Baptist church. The church, in partnership with Compassion, ran programmes to help the poorest children in the community. It was with great delight that Peace became one of these children.

The next few years, were some of the happiest of Peace's life. Not simply because of the opportunities that were available to her, but because of the people she met.

By the age of 14, Peace was spending her lunchtimes in the local hospital befriending patients, many of whom were AIDS victims disowned by their families. "What I learnt from my project tutors was that you have to express your love through action," says Peace.

Peace's determination to make the very most of the opportunities available to her resulted in her securing good enough grades to attend university and became one of the top students in her class.

#### **Bright Future**

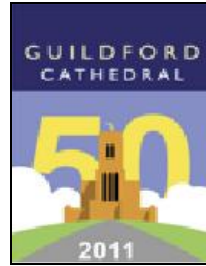
When she graduated, Peace became a Compassion child development officer. Once again she found herself in a remote impoverished community. She says: "To encourage the children I would tell them my testimony and they would say 'Auntie, can we be like you?' and I would say, 'Yes. You can be even better'".

Peace and her pastor husband Patrick moved to the UK in 2000 when Patrick took up a preaching position, before going back to Uganda to set up their own foundation, working with orphaned children in Uganda.

Now, back in the UK with their two-year-old daughter Angel and a baby son, Prince, the couple continue to educate more Christians about their responsibility to the poor and introduce them to the work of Compassion. Peace, is currently working full time for Compassion UK and speaks at countless events across the UK and Ireland, and internationally.

## GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

1<sup>st</sup> April, 8.00pm Faith in Politics, Rt Hon. Frank Field, MP  
(last of the Lent Lectures: Faith in the public arena)



### Other events, April-June 2011

- Sat 16<sup>th</sup> April, 19.30 Bach's St John Passion, Cathedral Choir Concert
- Fri 6<sup>th</sup> May, 19.30 Golden Jubilee Ball in the Nave
- Sat 14<sup>th</sup> May, 15:00 Golden Jubilee Thanksgiving Service - the diocesan family celebrates
- Tues 17<sup>th</sup> May, 17.30 Consecration Anniversary Eucharist
- Sat 21<sup>st</sup> May, 19.30 Choral Jubilee – Five organists and a choir
- Sat 11<sup>th</sup> June, 11:00 Jubilee Summer Fair – fun for all the family
- Sun 12<sup>th</sup> June, 10:30 Whitsunday - Patronal Festival Eucharist and Cathedral Community lunch
- Fri 24<sup>th</sup> - Sun 26th June National Gathering of The Federation of Cathedral Old Choristers' Associations
- Sat 25<sup>th</sup> June, 13:30 Exploring Wisdom - musical celebration of the National Society for Education, with Cathedral choristers, Surrey Songsters and choirs from local C of E schools

There are no special anniversary events in July or August. The celebrations resume in September. There is a full programme of events on the notice board at the back of church (on the right as you enter) and there will be more information in Update as the year progresses.

Tickets for events can be booked online at:  
<http://www.guildford-cathedral.org/worship/boxoffice>

## BRING & BUY PLANT SALE

Organised by Rushmoor in Bloom and Rowhill Nature Reserve Society

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2011, 11am - 3pm

at Rowhill Field Centre, Cranmore Lane, Aldershot

Just bring along your surplus plants.

Light refreshments available

More information from Rowhill Nature Reserve Society



01252 319 749



## DELVE DEEPER

At St Peter's Church, Farnborough

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> May 2011, 7.45 to 9.45 pm

**“How do I get from here? - Interpreting the Bible”**

Speaker: William Challis, Diocesan Director of Ordinands and former Vice-Principal of Wycliffe Hall, Oxford



For those who missed the March 'Delve Deeper' event, when Michael Baughen, former Bishop of Chester, spoke on Suffering, you can listen to the talk online at <http://www.stpetersfarnborough.org.uk/online-audio.html>



## QUIZ NITES AT ATFC

Aldershot Town Football Club is now holding regular Quiz Nites, at which they would “be delighted to see new faces”. The next two dates are **Thursday 14th April** and **Thursday 12th May**, starting at 7.45pm.

The quizzes are held in the Xfor lounge, which is through the gates at the Football Club grounds. Car parking is available inside the ground around the back of the Stand.

The quiz is for teams of up to five persons, with an entry donation of £2.00 per person. There are various types of quiz questions, including picture quizzes, and each month is different. There is an instant 50p raffle during the evening and a ‘reasonably priced’ bar is open during the quiz. The profits go to a Football Club project.

### **Whom do I tell...**

**...when something needs to be done in the HT building or site?**

For problems with **cleaning**, tell **Pat** (336683), the Cleaning Supervisor. She buys cleaning materials and oversees the cleaners (James and Robert).

When **something is broken** or needs replacing, tell **Don** (653182), the Site Manager. He liaises with Wardens and George, organises contractors, etc.

For **toilet rolls** and **paper towels** – tell **Jean**. (320926).

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1 May 9.30am	Memorial Service
1 May 6.00-7.00pm	<b>PRAISE, PRAYER AND PROPHECY</b>
6 May	Marriage course begins
14 May	Men’s breakfast
16 May	PCC meeting
21 May 8.30am	Ladies Prayer Breakfast, Crossover
25 May	Delve Deeper, ‘Interpreting the Bible’ at Farnborough
28 May:	2030s attend the Big Church Day Out
10 July	Church Day Away
17th June	Soul Sisters’ Olympics
1st to 5th August	Young people at <u>Viney Hill</u>



## 2030s Bowling

**Saturday 2nd April:** Bowling at Aldershot Bowling centre and a Meal at a Nepalese restaurant in Aldershot.

Cost-around £20 maximum. If you want to come to just the bowling or just the Meal, or would like to bring your children bowling, that would be great!

For more information, please speak to:

Lisa: Home: 01252 513711 Email: lisagailhoey@hotmail.com or  
Belinda: Home: 01252 328335

**Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue, including to Rob for most of the drawings.**

**The May 2011 issue of Update will be in Church on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April.  
The LAST date for May articles will be Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April.**

*Christine*