

Trinity Update

SEPTEMBER 2011



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ALDERSHOT
'Church for Everyone'

WOMEN'S HOUR

Following the August break, Women's Hour starts back on September 1st, when George takes a Communion service.

We would love to welcome new members to our Thursday meetings. We are a friendly group of ladies and you will be sure to get a warm welcome. We meet at 2.30pm in Crossover .

The programme for September is as follows:

- 1st Communion service
- 8th No meeting as we can't use Crossover
- 15th Pat
- 22nd Jan (Martha)
- 29th Helen and friends playing musical instruments

Daphne and Jean

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 October 2011 issue will be in Church on 25th September. The LAST date for October articles will be Sunday 18th September.

LADIES' PRAYER BREAKFAST

Saturday 24th September at 8.30am in Crossover.

Enjoy a relaxed breakfast, chat, perhaps get to know someone new, share prayer needs and pray together.



If you plan to come, please let Joan know in advance on 328984 or joancdavies@hotmail.com

Please also let Joan know if you can help with setting up beforehand or with clearing and washing up afterwards.

Guildford Diocese in conjunction with Acorn Christian Healing Foundation

The Journey towards Healing and Wholeness

Saturday 3rd September, 10.00-4.00 at Guildford Cathedral

See poster on notice board in church

Booking forms and flyers at back of church or available from Acorn (Whitehill Chase) on 01420 478121 or see www.acornchristian.org

Speakers include Revd. Dr. Russ Parker, Jennifer Rees Larcombe and Bishop Michael Baughen. See article by Rosemary in August's Update.

Come For Coffee

Sat 2nd July, 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, relax and maybe chat to others about any issues they have.

This is open to everyone in church, but we would especially like to invite anyone who is having a tough time at present, whether financially or otherwise..

This may not apply to you personally, but you may know someone to whom it does. If you do, please encourage them to come.

SOUL SISTERS

Soul Sisters is Holy Trinity's answer to good fun, fellowship & generally a great laugh for all "the ladies" - young (over 14 years) & more mature.



Our next event, the week-end at Weycroft Hall, Axminster, is now only 3 weeks away. Final preparations are being made. For those who are coming, please remember the briefing meeting on Saturday 10th September from 10 to 11am in Crossover, to pass on final details, arrange transport and answer any questions. Ladies, we hope you have your swimming costumes ready!

In November we are planning to go to a local restaurant for a meal, to which we have invited a guest speaker. Watch this space for more details, but no swimming costumes required for this event.

Jacquie

On behalf of Soul Sisters



Pray for the Aldershot Urban Extension (AUE)

The AUE project started to move again in February with Grainger PLC appointed as the main contractor. At present Grainger are tasked with producing plans to be submitted by May 2012. Since 2003, when George Newton first highlighted the importance of a church at the centre of the new community, the churches in Aldershot have been actively progressing this important task of helping create an active church in the community in the new extension of Aldershot.

We need your prayers to help us (together) to get it right:

- * for favour when we meet with Rushmoor, Grainger & Hampshire
- * that we have wisdom from God to plan, create & relate
- * that we may have a centrally located plot of land to build on in the future
- * that a church school maybe established
- * that a worker & house can be appointed/purchased

from John, KC21

New prayer initiative in Aldershot.

Prayer for the Town Centre Pastoral Team and its ministry.

Thursday evenings 7.30 to 8.30 at Church of the Ascension.

Join us for all/part of the evening and explore whether God is calling YOU to support this ministry.

AFTER THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS – BACK TO WORK

In 1945 the Church of England wrote – “We are convinced that England will never be converted until the laity use the opportunities for evangelism daily afforded by the various professions, crafts and occupations”. In other words, the prime driver of people coming to faith in Jesus will be church members (that’s the laity), individual believers using the daily opportunities that arise in their workplace.

Not George, or those who are in full time ministry. Their principal task is to equip the members of the church so that everyone can play their part (Eph 4 v11,12)

There are 168 hours in a week (7 x 24); assuming that you sleep 8 hours a night each week (that’s 56 hours), that leaves you with 112 hours when you’re awake. Unless you’re George (or Glen or Jonathan), then you probably won’t spend more than 12 hours a week at church, in church meetings or on church business. Which leaves 100 hours when most of us are doing something else! For those in work, the biggest single chunk of time out of those 100 hours will be spent at work. For all of us who are not in full time church work, we will probably meet more people who don’t have faith during a week, than those in full time church work. Because God is interested in all of our lives, we are all on the front line of witness to the world.

I still work almost full time; I am very aware that it usually seems as if work goes on without reference to God, that there is an assumption on the part of the people I work with that God neither intervenes, nor is interested in what happens at work. It means that work is conducted in what is, to all intents and purposes, an atmosphere of practical atheism. Is that your experience?

Do you feel that the church equips you to live as a child of God in your workplace, whether it’s as a teacher, a doctor, an accountant, a shelf-stacker? Or do you read that first paragraph and feel daunted, feel that you’re on your own? If so, how could the church help you?

If this touches a chord with you, and you’d like to hear more / help more, then please get in touch. If you have ideas of how Holy Trinity can help you more, get in touch. And I have some ideas, which hopefully you will begin to see coming to light over the next few months. If you would like some ideas for yourself, then there are various bodies which provide resources.

One is the LICC (London Institute of Contemporary Christianity) www.licc.org.uk/engaging-with-work Another is Chrism - <http://www.chrism.org.uk/> .

John

POD MEETS FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Jonathan’s POD Group invited the Weybourne Road Fellowship Group to meet them one evening. The POD Group, mostly 11.15 attendees greeted us, women of a “certain age” and mostly 9.30 attendees, with refreshments – a good start !!!

We then had an “ice breaker” where we got to know one another better, and the POD Group told us about some of the people in the Bible they had been studying. We responded by telling them how we could relate to these through our experiences of life.

We really enjoyed the evening, meeting and sharing with the POD Group. Our thanks go to them for their generosity and hospitality and we look forward to seeing them again, even if it is just between services.

Thanks again to Jonathan & Co.

Pat

(on behalf of the Weybourne Road Fellowship Group)

CONTACT GROUP VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED!!!

Contact Group meets in Crossover on Thursday mornings (10-11:30am) during term time. It is a play group for parents/carers with children under 5yrs old. We desperately need people to come and help, as we start back in September.



Help involves setting up and clearing away toys, arranging craft activities, reading a story etc. Also, and just as important, is talking to the mums, being a listening ear and supportive shoulder if necessary. All volunteers will need to be CRB checked, which is arranged by the church.

You don't need to come every week, but we do need your help on a regular basis. Without additional helpers, the long term future of Contact is in question!

If you think you may be able to be involved, or would like to find out more about what is required, then please speak to

Mary (331884)

MESSY CATHEDRAL

Celebrating with children and their families – open to all.

Sunday 2nd October 2011, 4.00 – 6.15pm, in Guildford Cathedral

A time of fun, food, creativity and worship, free and for everyone - young and old alike. If you are a child, you will need to bring an adult with you.

Includes picnic tea, so please email (christine.sweeting@cofeguildford.org.uk) or phone (01483 484925) to help the organisers to gauge numbers!

More information on www.cofeguildford.org.uk/go/messy or on poster at back of church.

SONGS OF PRAISE AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Church Lane East, Aldershot GU11 3SS

Sunday 25th September 2011 at 3.00pm

In aid of St Michael's Centenary Appeal

To sponsor your favourite hymn at the service, use the sponsorship forms at the back of church – they must reach St Michael's by 18th September.

SPOTLIGHT ON TERRY

Terry has been married to Julie for 24 years and they have a son, Gareth.



What are your role(s) at HT?

I'm in charge of the Sound and Projection team, whilst also playing the drums on occasion. I have also produced a number of drama sketches in the past, with hopefully more in the future.

What was your childhood like?

I originally came from the Twickenham area but my Dad's various postings with the RAF and as a Policeman meant that a number of my early years saw a great deal of moving around, including two and half years in Hong Kong. This is evident from one sister being born in Stafford, the other in Woking and my brother in Bedford.

The family moved to Ash in 1982. In fact the house we lived in was demolished shortly after we vacated it in 1985. I've often wondered if that had anything to do with my DIY attempts. It was when Jules and I exchanged rings that we moved to Aldershot, as house prices here suited our pocket.

What's the first news story you remember hearing?

I have to be honest - I can't really recall what the first news story was that I took notice of, but I do recall when the George Best Football Tactics TV series was being advertised. The coal strikes were also in the news and my Dad explained what that would mean as far as power goes. So there was I, hoping that the strikes didn't happen and days before the first programme was to be aired, the strike hit.

Days after the last programme was to be aired, the strike lifted and I had missed the whole series.

What jobs have you done?

I have been in IT since November 1986, having worked my way up from a Technical Administrator to an EMEA IT Manager, before being an IT Project Manager with IBM. I am now an IT and Certification Operations Manager with The Open Group based in Reading. I have to admit though, that before I embarked on an IT career I was a Butcher, Window Cleaner, Door to Door Salesman, Salesperson, Woodworm exterminator, Trainee Hotel Manager, Chef, Warehouse Administrator, Trainee TV and Radio Repairman and an Electronics Engineer. I'd understand it if someone said that I really didn't have a clue what I wanted to do when I left school. In fact I worked out the other month that I must be close to my 24th job at the moment.

Was there anything in your background which paved the way for you to come to Christ?

Having videoed a testimony for Mohammad recently, I recall how during my younger days (I can recall that far back) my Nan was an avid church goer. Each Sunday she would go to church and took anyone who would go with her; as we stayed with her a number of times, that included me. I wasn't pulled kicking and screaming down, in fact I was more than happy to go as, with my Mum being very much into campanology, I was sometimes allowed to help ring the bells. I could never understand why us kids had to leave at one point in the service. I always thought we were missing something.

How did you become a Christian?

In fact this was down to Jules. At a very early stage of our going together, she mentioned that she was a Christian and she wouldn't have a steady relationship with anyone who wasn't. Instead of frightening me off, this actually made me go to church with her. My

CURATE'S CORNER

sister was already a Christian. One Sunday when the Elder asked for anyone who wanted to know Christ as their Saviour to come down, I was up and halfway down the steps before I had even realised I'd left my chair. I handed my life to Christ that night and realised that I had in fact been close for quite a while. In my amateur dramatics there were always parts I wouldn't play, or plays I wouldn't appear in or lines I wouldn't say, amongst a number of other examples.

Has your life as a Christian been all plain sailing?

No absolutely not. There are times when you know God is on your side, such as when I was made redundant in 1996 and God gave me another job eight hours later. Though last year when I was made redundant two days after my Mum's passing, I really wondered what God was doing, but Jules said it all when she told me that God was giving me time to grieve in peace. Jules going through her fits earlier this year - that was harrowing. God not only made sure I was there at the time to get help quickly, He made sure I was there to be with her as she got well; then He found me a job. Gareth moving out last year was quite a wrench, but you just have to look at what God has done through him to realise that it was part of His plan.

Would you recommend Christianity to others?

Absolutely. There is no other way to live. The worldly way teaches you that expensive cars, money, big houses, un-Godly love is what gives you happiness, but you can easily see around you that that is not true. Having God in your heart, just that, nothing more, is where the happiness generates.

No 2 : Why do people go looting?

I know Enfield town in North London quite well, having lived in the area for the last three years. I have eaten at the Nandos that was vandalised and bought a DVD from the HMV shop that was totally cleaned out by looters. Various arguments have been put forward as to why the riots broke out: welfare dependence, multiculturalism, absent fathers, social exclusion, spending cuts, weak policing, racism, gang culture and consumerism.

The Bible's perspective is completely different. Motives come from the heart. The heart is the wellspring of life (Proverbs 4:23), but by nature it is selfish. 'I want' is the cry of the human heart. Jesus said that "from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly" (Mark 7:21-22). The most effective solution for the future then is not tougher laws, better policing, more youth workers or citizenship classes. If the heart is the real problem, then only a heart transplant will work. Indeed one of God's promises is that when a person becomes a Christian, they will receive a new heart (Ezekiel 36:26). When changed by God himself, the heart's selfish motives are gradually replaced by a desire to love God and our neighbour.

Pray that as a result of recent events many will turn away from their own selfishness and put their trust in God and His promise of a new heart.

Glen



CHURCH ARMY: Mission Sunday 4th September

The society which became the Church Army was founded by Prebendary Wilson Carlile 1882 during his time on the staff of St Mary Abbots Church, Kensington. As a dynamic and unconventional Church of England curate, his vision was to encourage and enable ordinary Christian people to live the good news of Jesus Christ in such a way that others would be attracted to follow Him. Carlile believed that the Christian message had to be shared through words and action and he encouraged grooms, coachmen and other working people to witness to their faith in the open air and at indoor gatherings.

Such was the impact made by this new "Church Army" that Carlile sought official approval from the Church of England Congress in 1883. His suggestion that carefully selected laymen, after a period of training, should be allowed to assist in consecrated buildings was thought of as "dragging the church into the gutter", but Carlile persisted and his proposal was approved in 1885.

Church Army evangelists today are admitted to the Office of Evangelist in the Church of England and are licensed to operate within the Anglican system by individual diocesan bishops. (Our own Jonathan came to HT after training from the Church Army.)

The Vision of the Church Army is "To be a leading organisation in the training, equipping and deploying of Evangelists, to develop appropriate and relevant forms of Christian community for pioneering situations."

Its Values are Listening to God (including being open to change); Respect, recognising that all people are created in the image of God and are valued equally by God; Professionalism, striving for the highest standards; and Partnership, called to work with each other, with compatible agencies and with the wider church.

Church Army trains and sends evangelists to do frontline work, sharing faith through words and action in a variety of contexts across the UK and Ireland. Their research unit, called The Sheffield Centre, conducts ground-breaking research on fresh expressions of church and evangelism.

Church Army evangelists support the ministry of the local church, but believe they are called to work outside church buildings and church culture with people that have little or no contact with the church.

'The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God'

Philippians 4:5-6

REPORTED FROM 'BARNABAS' PRAYER INFORMATION

“Hold onto your faith in Jesus, and we shall meet and never part again.” With these words Nigerian Pastor James Musa Rike comforted his wife as she lay dying from gunshot and machete wounds. Three of their five children were also killed in the same attack by Muslim extremists on Kurum village, Bauchi State, on 4th May. “See how Jesus will save you!” taunted the attackers to the couple’s 13-year-old daughter Sum. With a severe machete wound to her abdomen, she told them that Jesus had already saved her and by killing her, they were enabling her to be with Him. Pray for Pastor James and others bereaved in this incident. Pray also for their attackers that they will recall the testimony of Sum and seek to know her Saviour for themselves.

Thanks to Paul for drawing this to our attention.

The Bishop of Guildford’s Foundation
Evening at Watts Gallery

A very special fund raising evening on 12th October 2011

Private guided tour of the newly refurbished galleries, with exhibitions of the community projects that the Foundation has supported

Performances from Lucy Burrows, a young soprano, training at Glyndebourne and the String Quartet from Farnborough 6th Form college

The opportunity to chat with Bishop Christopher,

Light refreshments included in the ticket price of £40 per person.

Tickets are on sale now. Please contact Jane on 07771591457 or jane.schofield@cofeguildford.org.uk

GEORGE WRITES

Dear Friends,

Although quite a bit of what's involved in leading a church is responding to immediate needs and preparing for meetings and events that might be a day or two away, a very important part is the longer term strategic thinking and planning. This needs to involve others and, more importantly, listening to the Lord. As well as projects and courses that can be run, a more overarching thing is to be considering the long term culture and climate of the church; sometimes trying to change the culture over a long period to be more Christ-like and less worldly.

There are several things that are happening this autumn that are potentially culture-changing and could have a big impact in the long term. The first is the Growing Leaders Course that is starting towards the end of September (23rd and 24th) and which will cover the whole of the next academic year. John and Moira will be heading this up, with help from other staff members and a number of mentors. (There is more about this on page 16.) Please pray for this course and the dozen or so people who will do it. Investment in leadership is vital for long term growth and, as well as equipping those on this course, I very much hope that there will be subsequent courses in the years to come that will greatly strengthen the church at every level.

Just as we hope that within a year there will be those who see the difference it makes in those who do the course and the groups and teams they are involved with, creating a hunger in others to do the course, so I am delighted to see that the Marriage Course that Phil and Jan Wilder headed up through the summer term blessed many couples and families and that others are also wanting to do that course. Therefore another Marriage Course will run this term on Friday evenings with a meal; please see Phil and Jan if you want to

book in. Again, I hope that in the long term this will strengthen the whole culture of marriage and family within Trinity.

The third course to start this month is the Alpha Course which will run on Wednesday evenings at the Vicarage starting with an introductory supper on 21st. This continues our culture of reaching out to those who are seeking for meaning in life and has drawn many both to faith and active service at Holy Trinity. Please do invite family, friends and acquaintances to this and come with them to the introductory supper as well as be praying for it. And if you feel a bit dry and in need of a refresher, why not come along yourself?

Courses and programmes by themselves have only limited value; what is needed is for the Lord to bless and anoint them and those leading, so please, please be praying for these courses and all those taking part. Especially try to get along to the month's PPP on 5th September and the half night of prayer from 8pm on Friday 9th.

All in all I am very encouraged, as this is what having a larger staff team can facilitate - which can, with God's blessing, lead to a positive, deep and long lasting change of culture.

As always, lots of things are starting up this month. Spare a thought and prayer for me as I lead the diocesan cricket team in the national final on one of the Middlesex grounds (Walker Ground, Southgate) on 8th – do come and watch and support! On Saturday 10th Jonathan is leading a team from HT doing a stall at the Go Green Day in town. We are going to be doing four sessions of Prayer Ministry Training through the autumn and into the new year, using materials from Acorn and facilitated by Rosemary. All are welcome and the first session is 10-12 on Saturday 1st October in Crossover. (That is also the start of the Harvest weekend – we will have a supper on that evening and harvest-themed services the next day).

On the Aldershot Churches Together front, we have been aware that the monthly ACT prayer times on the second Monday of each month

haven't really worked out and have dwindled to a rather small handful of people, that is no longer representative of all the churches.

As the whole concept of getting as many Christians from different churches to come in unity, agreement and faith to pray for our town is hugely important, we have decided not to cancel those times of prayer, but to re-launch them in a different format. They will still be on the second Monday evening, but hosted by a different church, in a different style, month by month. We are hosting the first one on Monday 12th at 7.30pm and I hope our Worship Team will be there and we will need help with coffees etc afterwards. If we can get a good representative number from all the churches and ultimately get over a hundred praying each month, we will then be able to invite representatives from key parts of the town in (Police, the Mayor, Town Centre Management etc) to interview them and ask what the areas of need are and respond in prayer and then follow up, seeing change in crime rates, prosperity etc. Ultimately, one of our aims has to be to see Aldershot transformed and become more Christ-like. This needs a strong prayer backing.

It was interesting that we, as a church, hit the national news scene with the issue of the font and baptistery (something I consider wholly un-newsworthy) and it was a novelty to have the TV crew filming one of our Sunday services and doing an interview afterwards, and when it got on TV the next week it wasn't too bad!

So may God bless you as you take part in action and prayer with these significant things in the new season of activity. May you not be so consumed with the pressing, but eternally unimportant, things that life throws at all of us, that you miss out on sowing into the things of eternity.

George

Verses and Visions from August's PPP

From Jeremiah 29:11-14 (please read the verses): we and many are to settle in Aldershot, seek its prosperity and serve the town's needs and the Lord.

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down, Oh Comforter and Friend
How we need Your touch again. Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down.
Let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard, Come and change our hearts,
As we stand on Your word. Holy Spirit, rain down.

No eye has seen, no ear has heard no mind can know what God has in store,
So open up heaven, open it wide, over Your church and over our lives

The Lord knows His plans for us even though we don't, but we need to know that He knows.

From the previous Sunday 11.15 service: a picture of an empty earthenware bowl being held by a pair of hands. Then I saw that it was full of crystal clear water. Then I saw the same bowl being lowered into a vast pool of crystal clear water. As it came back up it was overflowing, dripping wet and it was beautiful, just what it was meant to be. We are the bowls, the water is the Holy Spirit and we are beautiful when we are filled up with the Holy Spirit and being what God wants us to be. In the context of the service, that was for those whom God is calling to be prophets, to be filled up with the Holy Spirit so that they can prophesy.

You are all my children and I love each one of you.

Verses and Visions from July's PPP

Isaiah 40 v31: those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength... they will walk and not be faint

1 Corinthians 13: God is love – He keeps no record of our wrongs

Ezekiel 47: the healing waters - but with one side alive, the other dead

Pictures:

1. A field of blue flowers
2. Two fields - one totally neglected, the other fertile, ploughed and prepared, but with nothing growing in it.

HOW DID OUR FONT GET INTO THE NEWS?

It was almost five years ago that we raised the money for the baptistery. At first there was a delay getting anyone to quote for the work. Then in 2007, we had to apply for a 'faulty'. ie permission to do the work. The application went first to the diocese, who looked carefully and agreed to recommend our work to the Chancellor of the diocese. The Chancellor has a legal position, part of which is to oversee faculties for church building work. Normally if the diocese recommends the work, the faculty is fairly automatic, but in this case the Chancellor refused to allow it. The main reason was theological, stating that as it says in Ephesians 4 there is 'one faith, one hope and one baptism', having two distinct places of baptism might give the impression of two baptisms(!)



Having discussed at PCC whether to remove the font (which many churches do when a baptistery is built) or to move it, we reapplied for www.htca.org.uk

the faculty, asking if it would be granted if we moved the font to be adjacent to the pool (not very convenient as it partly obscures the north porch fire exit and the view of those who sit in the 'blue corner'). This was agreed.

By the time we went back to the contractor, they had put the price for the baptistery itself up a fair bit (as almost three years had elapsed) and gave a quote for moving the font. This put us more than £5,000 over what we had raised through the Gift Day. Then the contractors had second thoughts about moving the font and revised their quote upwards by over £2,000!

The PCC, who have stewardship of church money high on their agenda, wondered if there was another way to satisfy the Chancellor's objection. As we were then thinking of re-carpeting, we asked the Chancellor in December 2010 whether we could satisfy his objection by linking the font and baptistery through the use of a very distinctly different colour carpet (red). He didn't reply to that, or to a later query about it, but when we applied for the faculty to replace the door to Crossover with a glass door (Gift Day money 2008), he refused, saying that he would not grant any more faculties until we had moved the font.

This is something we have decided we must do, even though we have almost no reserves.

The Chancellor's latest 'judgement' on the font was spotted by a legal press agency, and that is how it managed to get into the news. Generally the media were sympathetic towards us, seeing the relocation as a waste of very limited church funds.

George

There were articles in the Aldershot News (and its GetHampshire website) and in The Daily Telegraph. On 14th August Meridian TV filmed part of the 11.15 service and interviewed George, airing the item later that week.

GROWING LEADERS

Leadership is important, as illustrated by one quote amongst many from Proverbs – “When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked rule, the people groan”. (Proverbs 29 v2). But are leaders born or made? Is leadership an art or a science? What are the key skills of leadership? What is leadership about, and what is distinctive about Christian leadership? How do you keep going as a leader? These are some of the questions that we will be looking at over the next year in running a CPAS course entitled Growing Leaders. In case the title ‘Growing Leaders’ rings a bell, the course is very similar to the course which Jonathan ran with the young people last year.

The purpose of the course is summed up in the title – to grow leaders, both those who are already in some form of leadership position, as well as those who are not yet in leadership, but who might be in the future. And although the course is focused on Christian leadership – the strap line of the course is ‘to be led more by Jesus, to lead more like Jesus and to lead more to Jesus’ – in fact the principles of leadership taught in the course are applicable in all walks of life.

There are 12 people from Holy Trinity doing the course, and it will run over the coming academic year. There are ten sessions and we will meet approximately once a month, with the first session on September 23rd / 24th. In addition there are an equal number of people from Holy Trinity who will act as their mentors, helping them to think through what the course has been teaching and how to apply it. Moira and I will be leading the course this year, and we would value your prayers both for us, for the 12 who are doing the course and for their mentors. We are really excited about what the course will bring, not just to the people doing the course, but also to Holy Trinity in the fullness of time.

John

themarriagecourse

“The Marriage Course”

The Marriage Course took place for 12 couples recently at Holy Trinity Church. There were seven sessions over 14 weeks, facilitated by Phil & Jan, each session starting with an excellent meal provided by Debbie, followed later by Dot’s scrumptious desserts, tea and coffee, often distributed by Andy. Fortunately the weather for the final session was good, as it began with a BBQ provided by Dot & Joyce.

In church the couples sat at individual tables, decorated with candles and flowers, to eat and then watch DVD presentations. interspersed by times of looking at short exercises from the course book, followed by intimate discussions (with background music).

Titles included: Building Strong Foundations, Communication, Resolving Conflict, Forgiveness, The Impact of Past and Present Family, Good Sex, and Love in Action.

There was homework, too, which consisted of follow-up discussions and “Marriage Time” set aside especially for couples to simply enjoy being together.

Many of the couples commented on how much they enjoyed the romantic atmosphere, being waited on and having time for a meal together.

Many also commented on the importance of communication in enabling them to understand one another’s needs, dealing with any

issues that may have had to be resolved, and in setting aside time to spend just with each other.

So, if you are married or in a long-term relationship and would like to improve that relationship, why not come along to the Marriage Course Party taking place in the autumn; just let Jan, Phil or George know if you'd like to come. We'll also welcome back those who came on the course during the summer, as this is more of a social occasion as well as an opportunity to experience something of the course itself, and talk to others about it. Look out for the invitations on the Welcome Table.

The next course will be in the autumn, starting in October and will be on Friday evenings. Look out for final details of dates and times.

Phil & Jan

CHIEF'S CONCERNS

Holiday at Home, what a great success! I have heard so many encouraging remarks about this venture that I suspect it will become a growing feature on the horizon of Holy Trinity.

I do need to say a personal Big Thank You to everyone who helped in all sorts of ways and made this event all hang together. The Senior Citizens that came for one day or the three days loved being part of it, taking part in the activities, meeting up with friends, some from years back, and making new friends. It is hard to single out one day or event, as there was so much to choose from – 'The Kings Speech' certainly held our attention on the Tuesday afternoon, as equally did 'Aldershot's Got Talent' on the Thursday. We were treated to some skilled flower demonstrations by Jane and Roger's Magic and Jokes.

www.htca.org.uk

On the Wednesday we enjoyed a really nice afternoon at Squires for Cream Tea and large pieces of cake, speaking of which, cake featured strongly and I'm still amazed at how much was 'tucked' away (eaten) by the Seniors.

Don't just take my word for it, to find out more chat to anyone who attended - watch this space for future developments!

'Go Green', Aldershot Town Centre, Saturday 10th September, Environmental family fun day! See rushmoor.gov.uk/gogreen You might recall that in previous years we have supported this event by having a stall in Princes Hall. Well, Rushmoor are doing things differently this time and holding 'Go Green' in the town centre, which will include live music and dance, arts and crafts, children's farm, global fair-trade market, in various locations in town – Princes Gardens, Wellington Centre and Union Street.

This is a great opportunity for us to profile our church community and connections we have through ACT (Aldershot Churches Together), I need some people to help out with brainstorming some ideas and our best approach to this opportunity. Speak, call, email me please, we will need to be talking and planning by start of September.

MEN Keeping Fit! Are any of you guys struggling with your waistlines or your fitness or both? (Not judging)

If you would like to see this change, how about joining me for 5-A-Side Football (hopefully indoor), nothing too serious, just some social, fun exercise, drop me an email or text if interested (18 and over)



Jonathan

FEEDBACK FROM HOLIDAY AT HOME

We asked some of those who took part in Holiday at Home and also some of those who helped, to tell us what they thought about it. We also had a couple of unsolicited letters. The responses from the seniors who participated were:

- * A great time. Thank you for all the hard work.
- *
- * I really enjoyed the Holiday at Home. Thank you for all you did.
- *
- * Wonderful – good food, good fun, lovely to meet the younger members.
- *
- * It was a great idea and many thanks to everyone who organised it and did lunches.
- *
- * A really enjoyable three days – meeting up with folk from other churches.
- *
- * Wonderful – a lovely opportunity to meet new people and catch up. Thank you so much for all your hard work organising everything.
- *
- * An excellent three days. Thank you to everyone who gave their time in whatever way. A special praise for the lovely young people, so different from the news of the riots that week.
- *
- * A really wonderful and well arranged event. We came Wednesday and enjoyed a lovely cream tea in good company. Thanks to all who organised everything.
- *
- * It filled a huge gap in August (some people don't see anyone in August). Well worth doing.
- *
- * I enjoyed it very much, especially the quiz and the singing.
- *

- * I gave a lift to someone who can't get to HT very often. She had a 'wonderful time' catching up with old friends.
- *
- * I would like to say a huge 'well done' for Holiday at Home, it was a great three days. A tremendous effort went into the organisation and execution of the whole thing; it was a really lovely experience for which I for one say a big THANK YOU.
- *
- * Thank you everyone concerned for a very enjoyable and relaxing three days 'Holidaying at Home' in Aldershot. The whole idea was ambitious and very well thought out. It had been well organised and provided fun and food for all. I enjoyed meeting some old pals and getting to know some new ones. Thanks for the lunches and cakes, for the varied programme and for the chat and the laughter. Hopefully you will have the energy to do it all again next summer! Well done, everybody.

And from one of the young helpers:

- * It went really well, good turnout, well integrated, everyone smiling, everyone got involved. A good experience.
- *
- * Finally - It was great to have so much help from people in the church – of all ages. People helped with lunches, coffee, cakes, lifts, entertainments and just being around to chat.
- *
- * Thank you to everyone involved.

VISION DAY – FRESH EXPRESSIONS OF CHURCH

The Diocese of Guildford is holding a Vision Day on Fresh Expressions of Church – new ways of “being church”, including “Café churches, Messy Church for children and carers, youth churches, churches arising from community initiatives, school based churches”.

See poster on notice board in church. If interested in going, liaise with Jonathan.

When: Saturday 5th November 2011, 09.45-16.00
Where: St John’s Church, Stoke Road, Guildford GU1 1HB
Info & booking: Louise at Diocesan House; 01483 790328 or
louise.redfern@cofeguildford.org.uk

DIOCESAN DAY ON PRAYER

Saturday 24th September, 2011, 9.:30am—4:00pm

at Saint Thomas on the Bourne,
Frensham Road, Farnham, GU9 8HA

Booking fee of £5 per person

Further details from Louise at Diocesan House on 01483 790328 or
email louise.redfern@cofeguildford.org.uk

The day will consist of a selection of interactive workshops designed to strengthen, extend and invigorate prayer life.

COULD YOU BE A MENTOR FOR THE SOURCE?

The Mentoring project at the Source Young People’s Charity is designed to “provide one-to-one support for those struggling with barriers in their life”. It aims to “provide young people with someone who will support, befriend, listen to, value, enable and advocate for them, with the aim of empowering them to make good choices about their lives, to build self confidence and skills ... and to fulfil their potential.” Most of the young people involved are aged 10-14 (though the project goes up to age 18) and many of them attend Ketchup, the Source’s After School Club.

Liz, who took over the running of the Mentoring Project in April of this year, reports that there are now 21 mentees on the books, with another 3 or 4 in the process of being referred, and a continuing increase in numbers.

Liz says “In the 3 months since I started, I’ve brought one relationship to a successful close; the young man in question had gone from being excluded from school 9 times in one term to being excluded once in a school year! I’ve also had the massive privilege of setting up 4 new relationships, which I’m very excited about, and am hoping for lots more to come!”

If you are interested in volunteering as a mentor, please get in touch with Liz on 333330 Mob: 07805 401762

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 1 October **Harvest Supper, time tba**
- 10 October **ACT Prayer @ New Testament Church of God**
- 14 October **PhatFish at KC21; info from Terry/call 07554769395**
- 19 October **Delve Deeper, Farnborough: Phil Plimming on Corinthians**
- 14 November **ACT Prayer at the Methodist Church**

50th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS AT THE CATHEDRAL

- 10 September Study Day - Sir Edward Maufe and the building of Guildford Cathedral
- 2 October Messy Cathedral - a celebration for children and their families, 15:30
- Talks by the Dean - Gospel in the Gallery Thursdays at 20:00
- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| 6 October | The British Museum; |
| 13 October | The Victoria & Albert Museum; |
| 20 October | The National Gallery; |
| 27 October | The Wallace Collection |
- 4 November Golden Jubilee Youth Rave in the Nave, 19:30
- 20 December Golden Jubilee Christmas Concert, 19:30

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 James).

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

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

BOOKINGS (CHURCH, CROSSOVER OR HALL)

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). To book the hall, contact Jean.

SEPTEMBER 2011 DIARY

1	2.30pm	Women's Hour	(Thursdays except 8 th)
	7.30-8.30pm	Prayer for TCPT at Church of the Ascension	(Thursdays)
2	10.30am	Fellowship Group	(alternate Fridays)
	7.45pm	TCPT Prayer Meeting in Crossover	
3	10am-12noon	Come for Coffee	
		Healing Day at the Cathedral	
4		SUNDAY - Church Army Support Sunday	
	9.30am	Morning Praise	
	11.15am	Alternative Service	
5	7.30pm	PRAISE, PRAYER AND PROPHECY	
6	11am & 7.30pm	Fellowship Groups	(Tuesdays)
7	11.15am	Holy Communion, followed by tea & biscuits	(Weds)
	2.30, 7.15 & 8.00pm	Fellowship Groups	(Weds)
	7.30pm	POD Groups	(Weds)
8	8.30am	Prayer for Renewal	(Thursdays)
	10-11.30am	Contact - for parents & toddlers	(Thursdays in term*)
	7.30pm	POD Groups	(Thursdays)
	7.45pm	Fellowship Groups	(Thursdays)
9	6-7.30pm	Friendzy (ages 8 and up)	(Fridays in term*)
	8-12pm	Half night of prayer (come & go on the half hours)	
10	10 am	Praying Wives at HT	
	10.30 am	Aldershot Town Centre, 'Go Green' in Rushmoor	
11		SUNDAY	
	9.30am	Holy Communion	
	11.15am	Alternative Service	
	7-9.15pm	YPOD for 13-20s (also 18th)	
12	7.30pm	ALDERSHOT CHURCHES TOGETHER PRAYER at HT	
	7.00-8.00pm	Inclusion (in Hall)	(also 26 th in Crossover)
16-18		Soul Sisters Weekend Away at Axminster	
18		SUNDAY	
	9.30am	Morning Praise	
	11.15am	Alternative Service with Holy Communion	
19	7.30pm	PCC Meeting in Crossover	
21	7.30pm	Alpha Supper, 2 Cranmore Lane	
23-24		Growing Leaders Course, Crossover (23 rd) & Stockton House Fleet (24 th)	
24	8.30am	Ladies' Prayer Breakfast in Crossover	
25		SUNDAY	
	9.30am	Holy Communion	
	11.15am	Alternative Service	
	3.00pm	Songs of Praise at St Michael's	
26	7.45pm	POD Leaders, 2 Cranmore Lane	
28	7.30pm	Alpha Course, 2 Cranmore Lane (Wednesdays)	
30	7.45pm	TCPT Prayer Meeting in Crossover	

* The school Autumn Term in Hampshire begins Monday 5th September.