

# Trinity

# Update

December 2011



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

## DECEMBER 2011 DIARY

1	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 Group	(Thursdays *)
		Growing leaders course	
	7.30-8.30pm	Prayer for TCPT at Church of the Ascension	(Thursdays *)
2	10.30am	Fellowship Group	(alternate Fridays *)
	6-7.30pm	Friendly (ages 8 and up)	(Fridays in term *)
	7.45pm	TCPT Prayer Meeting in Crossover	
3	10.30am	Preparation for Christmas – quiet service	
	7.00pm	20s & 30s Murder Mystery Party	
4	<b>SUNDAY</b>		
	9.30am	Morning Praise	
	11.15am	Alternative Service	
5	7.30pm	<b>PRAISE, PRAYER AND PROPHECY</b>	
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 *)
	7.30pm	Alpha Course, Crossover	(Weds *)
8	7.00pm	Putting up Christmas decorations in church + curry	
10	10 am	Praying Wives at HT	
	2.00pm	Wedding	
11	<b>SUNDAY</b>		
	9.30am	Holy Communion	
	11.15am	Alternative Service	
	7-9.15pm	YPOD for 13-20s	
12	7.30pm	<b>ALDERSHOT CHURCHES TOGETHER PRAYER</b> at the Church of the Ascension, Ayling Hill	
	7.00-8.00pm	Inclusion	
15	7.30pm	ATFC Carol Service	
16	10.00am	Deux Chats Nativity Service	
17	11-1 and 11-4	Carol Singing and 'In the Picture', Wellington Centre	
18	<b>SUNDAY</b>		
	9.30am	Morning Praise	
	11.15am	Alternative Service with Holy Communion	
	6.00pm	Carols by Lantern Light	
21	6.00pm	Carol Singing in Grasmere & Kingsley Court etc	
22	10 for 10.30am	Crib Service	
24	4.00pm	Christingle Service (All Age)	
	11.15pm	Midnight Service	
25	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>		
	10.30am	Christmas Day Communion (All-age)	
31	11.30pm	Prayer service to see in the New Year	

\* Check with group leaders for dates of Christmas break.

## WOMEN'S HOUR

On 27<sup>th</sup> October Jan talked of moving house 18 times. Well, she talked of the first nine, the rest to follow at a later date. It was so interesting, as many of our ladies could relate to stories of so many years ago, when a bath was only to be had in front of the fire in a tin bath! We all had lots of laughs and memories of the past.

The following week our shoe boxes were collected and Glen prayed over them and he also stayed for most of our meeting; our thanks to Glen. We had a total of 34 filled shoeboxes, which are going to Kyrgyzstan and the Crimea.

What we found amazing was the money that was donated to pay for the postage. On Oct 20<sup>th</sup> we started our meeting with £28.50, but by the end of the afternoon we had £87.50. The following week we had a total of £117.50 - how God answers our prayers!

On Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> our curate Glen spoke at our meeting. His talk was really inspiring and made us think. He showed us how to look at problems in 3 different ways, he also spoke of his work with people with addictions. A very good afternoon, with lots of questions afterwards.

On Nov 17<sup>th</sup> we lit our Advent candle, followed by a hymn and prayers. We also celebrated Shelah's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with cake and a toast to her in her absence, as Shelah was not well enough to attend. Wendy Sears entertained us with two Joyce Grenfell poems. We would also like to thank Wendy for her support for the Shoe box Appeal by knitting lots of hats and glove puppets.

Daphne and Jean



Please note that the January 2012 issue of Update will be in Church on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December. (This is a change from our usual pattern of publishing on the last Sunday of the preceding month)

The LAST date for January articles will be Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue, including to Rob for most of the drawings. Our thanks and good wishes to everyone who has contributed to Update during 2011.

## 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.



### Soul Sisters: Coming Event Information

Hello Ladies,

We realise that many people are experiencing financial constraints because of the present economic situation. So with that in mind we thought we would make a positive start to 2012 by hosting an in-house deluxe meal prepared by the committee members!

This will be held in the Galpin Hall on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2012, with guest speaker Christine Parker from the Aldershot Baptist Church.

Please do make an effort to come along and bring family and friends; we need your support. After all, ladies, this is especially for you!

Lets start this rather important year by sharing our many blessings, by coming alongside each other in hospitality, friendship, encouragement and support and just blessing one another!

Dates for all future events will be released shortly and will also be available on the Holy Trinity website: [www.htca.org.uk](http://www.htca.org.uk)

Nancye  
On behalf of Soul Sisters

### *Please note*

**ALL AGE SERVICE & PPP**

**ON SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY:**

**On 1st Jan there will be just one service, an All Age combined service at 10.30 am, followed by Prayer, Praise and Prophecy at 11.30ish.**

## A MORE POSITIVE VIEW OF AFGHANISTAN

The following Remembrance Day Message from Catherine Royle, British Chargé d'Affaires in Afghanistan, highlights some of the positive outcomes of UK involvement. The message is on <http://ukinafghanistan.fco.gov.uk/en/news>

Thanks to Wendy for drawing attention to this

"People in Britain and across the Commonwealth have gathered throughout the weekend to commemorate the sacrifices made by our armed forces in past conflicts. And to honour those who have fallen in the ongoing campaign in Afghanistan.

We might also reflect this year that 12 November marked ten years since coalition and Afghan forces liberated Kabul from the tyrannical rule of the Taleban. Since then, the people of Afghanistan have experienced real progress in many aspects of their daily lives. Under the Taleban, there were only around one million children in school, almost none of whom were girls. Now there are over five million children in school, a third of whom are girls. In 2002, less than 10 per cent of the population had access to basic healthcare; that figure is now 85 per cent. GDP has tripled from \$4 billion to \$13 billion since 2003. And since the end of Taleban rule, around five million refugees have returned home to Afghanistan – proof that Afghans feel more secure in their own country.

All this is testament to the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to provide security and stability for its people, with the support of the international community. The international military presence here will not last forever: transition is well underway and UK combat forces will have departed from Afghanistan by 2015. But Britain and the international community's commitment to Afghanistan will extend far beyond then. This will include ensuring that the ANSF can provide security on their own. There could be no more fitting tribute to our fallen soldiers".



Verse for the year:

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

Success comes in can's not can'ts

Doing nothing is very hard to do....you never know when you've finished.

*Thanks to Pat for these*

## A VERY SPECIAL DAY

I would like to send a very big thank you to everyone who made the day of my Baptism so special. The 30<sup>th</sup> October 2011 will always remain a memorable day for me.

As I had no one from my immediate family there, it was lovely to have all my 'Trinity family' around me; I felt very blessed.

Thank you also for all the beautiful cards and gifts; they will be treasured forever. Thanks to Phil who took some photos; trust me to forget my camera on such an important a day!

Thank you too, to both George and Jonathan for their prayers and blessings while we were in the Baptistery pool.

I thank the Lord every day for leading me to Holy Trinity and for beckoning me to make a fresh commitment to Him.

Thank you my precious Lord.

Jean



### HELP NEEDED WITH CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

John and team would appreciate help with preparing the church for Christmas on

**Thursday 8th December from 7pm**

**Opportunity to go for a curry afterwards**

This includes putting out extra chairs, putting up Christmas trees and lights and decorating the trees.

If you can help, or want to know more, please speak to John.

## SPOTLIGHT ON IRIS

*Iris has been a member of HT for about 12 years. She has been married to Jim for 48 years and has three daughters (two of them adopted), 8 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren aged from 5 to 16.*

*Until recently they hosted a Fellowship Group in their flat and Iris is a member of Women's Hour and a former member of the Prayer Ministry Team.*



### **Where did you spend your early years?)**

I was born in London, but moved to Beckenham with my mother when I was five. I met my first husband there and my first daughter was born there during the war. Things were very difficult – my husband was away during the war and our house was damaged by a bomb; all the windows blew in and there was soot all over my ironing. After the war we moved to East Grinstead.

### **Did you have a job before you married?**

Yes, I did a college course in artistic design and then I was a court dressmaker. I worked in a firm just off Berkeley Square and we made dresses for the Debutantes' Ball. Everything was sewn by hand. I met some of the clients (I had to call them "ma'am") and sometimes I had to deliver the dresses to their houses.

Travelling to and from Beckenham was very difficult when the air raids were on, so I often stayed overnight with the firm's owner, Madam Cherqueriah.

Before that I had spent a week working for the Queen Mother's milliner, but I didn't like that job.

### **What happened after the war?**

My first marriage broke up and then I met Jimmy (at a football match). After we married, we adopted two daughters and we also fostered a number of children; I think we had eight at different times.

### **What brought you to Aldershot (and when)?**

From East Grinstead we moved to Ventnor in the Isle of Wight because of Jimmy's work – he did electrical work on oil rigs and submarines. Some of our family were there as well. Then later, after they had moved away, we came to Aldershot to be nearer to our daughter Rosemary.

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

As a child I went to church with my mother and I liked the hymns, but I didn't become a Christian until we were living in East Grinstead. I decided to go to the Art Club on a very cold day and met a rather grumpy lady, who told me not to stand right in front of the radiator, because then other people wouldn't get warm. The following week she invited me to go to tea with her and she started talking about the Lord and said He had told her to invite me. She asked if I was having a lot of trouble (there were some family problems at the time) and within half an hour she had me on my knees and I asked the Lord into my life.

I started going to her church, with Jimmy and the children, and later I was baptised by full immersion. I went on to teach in Sunday School until the girls were about 13. I was filled with the Spirit when I was reading my Bible in the bedroom and afterwards one of the elders said to me that the Lord had things for me to do.

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

When we moved to Aldershot we looked at a number of churches. At HT people talked to us and welcomed us, so we settled here.

### **Would you recommend Christianity to others?**

Of course. I would like to do more and to be bolder. I knew that the Lord was present when I had my stroke, around 20 years ago. I cried because I wouldn't be able to do things for Him, but He said to me very clearly, "You are going to be a prayer warrior" and I am. I also talk to people, even on the bus.

Before that, when we were fostering children, there was one little boy who was brought to us on Christmas Eve and we were told that he had cancer and had only three weeks to live. He didn't die and after a while he went back to school. He was a little terror and after a while we said to the doctor that there didn't seem to be much wrong with him and they investigated and found that the cancer had gone. The doctor said he couldn't understand it, but I said "I've been praying a lot".

### **Verse for the month:**

**'Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds;  
tie them as symbols on your hands  
and bind them on your foreheads.**

**Deuteronomy 11.18**

*(Pause for Thought)*

**Meditation on a brick**

The bricklayer laid a brick on the bed of cement  
Then, with a precise stroke of his trowel, laid another brick.  
The foundation grew visibly.  
The building rose, tall and strong, to shelter men.  
I thought, dear Lord, of that brick, buried in the darkness at the base of the building.  
No-one sees it, but it accomplishes its task and the other bricks need it.  
Lord, what difference if I am on the rooftop or in the foundation of your building,  
As long as I stand faithfully in the right place?

Michel Quoist

*Thank you to Nancye for supplying this*

**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.



**Military warnings:**

"Cluster bombing from B-52s is very, very accurate. The bombs are guaranteed to always hit the ground."

"It is generally inadvisable to eject directly over the area you just bombed."

If you see a bomb technician running, try to keep up with him."

*Thanks to Faith for forwarding these*

**CURATE'S CORNER**

**No. 5: Should drugs be legalised?**

The former head of MI5 believes that the current war on drugs is not working and that it is time to consider decriminalising possession for small quantities. She is part of the All Parliamentary Group on Drug Policy Reform which has called on the Government to set up a commission on this issue.

Having worked for over six years at a drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre, I have viewed first hand the lives that drugs have destroyed. My view is that legalising drugs would be totally insane. If many people were breaking the law on guns, would we be better to legalise all guns to take them out of the hands of the criminal element? The fact is that drugs are illegal, because they are dangerous. Take cannabis for example. What Queen Victoria or the ancient Hindus did with it is totally irrelevant. Even looking at those who smoked it in the 1960s is stupid, because cannabis back then had just 0.5% THC (the active ingredient), whereas now it is up to 27%. Cannabis is made up of 400 chemical compounds, up to 2000 when lit (a McDonalds strawberry milkshake contains 49 chemical compounds). It retards learning, causes psychosis, schizophrenia and brain damage. It contains 50-70% more cancer-causing compounds than tobacco (which incidentally is being more and more restricted). It also can be a gateway to harder drugs such as heroin.

Cannabis laws have already been relaxed in places such as Holland, China, Sweden, Spain, Japan and the United States. The results have been pretty similar. At a time when cannabis cafés were widespread in Holland, the Dutch Minister of Justice described his country as "the crime capital of Europe." In 1981 Alaska legalised cannabis, in 1993 this was reversed after legalisation produced massive and unforeseen social and health costs.

It is interesting to note the biblical perspective as well. Christians are instructed not to get drunk, but instead be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). Christians are not to be under the influence of drugs, but instead under the influence of the Spirit. Drugs are mind-altering substances. Christians are to be transformed by the renewing of the mind (Romans 12:2). This transformation comes about not through chemicals, but through knowing the grace and mercy of God in the Gospel.

Glen



To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.

Consciousness - that annoying time between naps

## GEORGE WRITES

Dear Friends,

Coming from a scientific background, I still have a passing interest in the research that scientists are doing, and occasionally look on with bemusement. For a few generations, scientists have been looking for the Grand Unifying Theory: essentially the theory that will explain the universe and its workings. Not all expect to find it, but it would be seen as the 'holy grail' of scientific or mathematical theorems. The Large Hadron Collider that was built fairly recently is all part of this: looking for the 'god particle'. (Christine has come up with a great potential sign-board on this: 'CERN scientists search for god-particle. DisCERNing scientists search for God'!)

The search for the Grand Unifying Theory is the latest stage of the search for the 'meaning of life', which is part of what philosophy is historically about. It is interesting that many of the greatest early philosophers were Greek and lived several hundreds of years before Jesus. They too were searching for the ultimate meaning; both to the universe and to what it is to be human and to exist. One of the words they used for what they were searching for was the 'Logos'.

In one of the readings we often hear at Christmas, right at the beginning of John's Gospel, we read this, 'In the beginning . . .' (echoing Genesis 1 right at the start of the Bible and indeed of the universe) ' . . . was the Logos.' (This is usually translated as 'Word'.) John proceeds to tell us that the Logos is eternal and pre-existent and is God and that this Logos has come to earth as a man, whom he introduces to us as Jesus.

This is really significant. By taking this word, Logos, and making it a title for Jesus, he is saying that if we are searching for meaning to life and to our own existence, we need look no further than Jesus. It is Jesus who is the meaning of life and, ultimately, the Grand Unifying Theory to everything (although He is much more than a theory!)



As we approach Christmas, let's remind ourselves of this enormous truth and make Him absolutely central to our lives. But also, as those around us are getting caught up in the hectic hassle of this time, let's point them to Jesus, the Logos, who, whether they know it or not, is the one they are searching for. Why not invite them to one of our services, so they can find out for themselves? We will have plenty of invitations that can be taken in bulk, and if you feel you can put them through the doors of a road or two in the parish, so much the better!

December is a busy month, but let's pray that it is fruitful as well. Over the first week or so, the assembly team will be in eight schools and has the opportunity to share something about the truth of Jesus with several thousand children and staff, so please pray for us. We could do with help putting up the decorations, which will be on the evening of 8<sup>th</sup> December, followed by a curry for anyone interested.



We are very aware that not everyone finds Christmas an easy time; for some it is very stressful and busy, for others it is lonely, particularly if a loved one has died in the last few years, for others it brings extra financial worries and for others there may be worries about relationships getting frayed. With this in mind, we are putting on a short service, which will be fairly quiet and meditative, on the Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 10.30 in Crossover, to help all of us prepare and keep the true focus, but with those in mind who may find even the thought of Christmas painful.

We have decided this year to put our main Christmas and Carol services as near to Christmas as possible, so many are later than usual, hopefully meaning that more people will be able to come along. The main ones are:

Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Aldershot Town Football Club Carol Service	7.30pm
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Carols and 'In the Picture' – Wellington Centre 11am – 1pm/4pm (see page 15)	
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Carols by Lantern-light	6.00pm
Weds 21 <sup>st</sup>	Carol singing in a few 'homes' in the parish	6.00pm
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Crib Service (for families)	10 for 10.30am
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Christingle Service (All-age) Midnight Communion	4.00pm 11.15pm
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day Communion (All-age)	10.30am

Many of these services draw in those from 'outside' who may be seeking and it gives us quite an opportunity with the Gospel. But, with the busy-ness of Christmas, we have often seen the seeds sown not 'take'. So, like last year, I would love to find three or four people for each guest service who would be willing to spend the time interceding together in the Outcasts Room as the service happens. Let me know if you would like to be part of this. Prayer like that can make all the difference!

As we mentioned in last month's Update, we as a family are not 'doing Christmas' this year (in terms of presents, decorations, trimmings etc), but will be putting on a meal for those on their own or even possibly homeless on Christmas Day around 1pm in the Hall. If you are interested in coming or helping, do let Jane or myself know.

Also, if you want to give something to one of the residents of Step-by-Step, do bring it and place it under the Christmas tree, marking the parcel 'male' or 'female'.

On New Year's Eve we will have a short prayer service to see in the New Year at 11.30pm. New Year's Day is a Sunday and, instead of our normal times of services, we will do a fairly short combined service at 10.30 and, after that and a cuppa, have a shortened PPP for as many as are able to stay for another half hour or so.

One other thing: I have recently been appointed as Rural Dean which means rather more responsibilities in the wider church. In one sense this is a privilege, but in another it is a bit of a burden and I would value your prayers in getting the balance of commitments right, as well as for wisdom in this.

So may you know Jesus, the 'Logos', God with us, through this season, so that others too may find Him whom their hearts are searching for.

*George*

## **ALDERSHOT CHURCHES**

### **PRAYING TOGETHER**

**Your town needs you!**

**Pray and see things change!**

#### **When?**

The ACT monthly prayer meetings are on 2nd Monday in the month and are hosted by different churches.

7.30pm – 9pm followed by light refreshments

#### **Where?**

**12th December at Church of the Ascension,  
Ayling Hill GU11 3LL**

## REMINDER TO 20S AND 30s: MURDER MYSTERY PARTY

**What:** Murder Mystery Party: 'Murder at Merkister Hall'

**When:** Sat Dec 3rd, 7pm

**Where:** HT Crossover Lounge

**Who:** 20s and 30s!

**Dress:** 1920s/30s theme

**Cost:** £5 per person

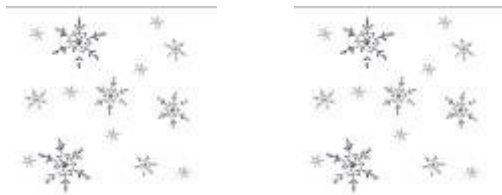
Drinks and nibbles provided.

**RSVP:** Speak to Belinda or Lisa or email [belinda.hyman@gmail.com](mailto:belinda.hyman@gmail.com) or [lisagailhoey@hotmail.com](mailto:lisagailhoey@hotmail.com)

*For a longer description see November Update, available on [htca.org.uk](http://htca.org.uk)*

## CHRISTMAS STAMPS

Carol would like to draw everyone's attention to the fact that, for the first time in years, the seven Royal Mail Christmas stamps each feature a nativity scene from the Bible, with the chapter and verse also shown. This is in recognition of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of the King James Version of the Bible in English.



## OH, THE JOY OF COMPUTERS!

Update Contributor to Editor: I hope this attachment comes through, as BT have changed my email layout

Update Editor to Contributor: Thank you very much. No problem with the attachment (except that I have a new computer and I keep forgetting where it puts the link for saving the attachment!) [Clicks on 'send']

Thunderbird email software to Editor: Did you forget to add an attachment?

Editor to Thunderbird (aloud): No you stupid software, I didn't

Editor to Contributor: PS: The software then very helpfully asked me if I had forgotten to attach something. [Clicks on 'send']

Thunderbird to Editor: Did you forget to add an attachment?

## CHIEF'S CONCERNS

### What have you done with your life? And what will you do with your life?

Have you ever noticed how young children when given a present get really interested and fascinated by the wrapping paper? The bright and sparkling colour, the ability to crinkle noisily in tiny hands, makes it very attractive indeed.

Of course as children grow older, they very quickly realise that the wrapping paper, while in bright and attractive colours, is masking what's inside, and the paper is quickly discarded in their excitement to find out what the present is – so children grow to recognise the relative values of the present compared to the paper.

### I wonder if the same can be said of us regarding the real values in life.

Perhaps we put our entire hope in life on the material things wealth can bring us. Perhaps we are entranced by the allure of the bright lights this world can offer us. Could it be that we are not recognising the value of the promises Jesus offers, and relatively speaking, still playing with the things of little value?

At Christmas, it is so easy to get caught up with the peripheral, the tradition - there's nothing wrong with it, but it's not the main event!

If you have never got past the wrapping paper so to speak, then it is time to ask Jesus to show you in detail the gift inside. It's of priceless value. Jesus Himself died to provide it.

### Jesus has changed the life of millions!

He comforts the broken hearted, He gives new power and life to the faint and weary of heart, He can set free those who are tortured in mind and spirit, He heals sick bodies and breathes new life into the dying, He brings happiness instead of worry, confidence instead of fear and anxiety, joy instead of sadness.

A wealthy executive said on approaching retirement, 'I've got the nice house, the executive car, the yacht, a lovely family, a luxury home and luxury holidays, but you know, deep down inside, I'm empty.'

**The Bible puts it this way** – you can gain the whole world but lose the most vital part of you. (Matthew 16:26)

We can never be complete outside of a relationship with Jesus Christ. Never know that real sense of peace, contentment, security or lasting happiness until we know Him.

**Are you prepared to push past** the outside layer and make room in your heart for the true gift of Christmas – relationship with Jesus Christ?

If while you are reading this you are thinking, yes, I want to know this Jesus, but are not sure how to go about it, well, don't put things off, drop me an email or give me or the vicar, George a call (all our details are at the back of Update or on the church website [www.htca.org.uk](http://www.htca.org.uk)) - or sign up to an Alpha Course in the new year.

### **'Get in the Picture'**

This is an opportunity that Aldershot Churches Together are going to make use of, the idea is simple, and will be fun to do!

Together as local churches we are going to build a nativity scene in the Wellington Centre, passers-by will be encouraged to 'get in the picture' by putting on costumes and having their photo taken in the scene, the participants are then given an invitation to visit the 'Get in the Picture' website to download their personalised Christmas scene; they can also receive information about the meaning of Christmas and times of local services.



This will take place on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December. If you would like to be part of this Christmas fun, please chat to me, I'm going to need help with painting a large background nativity scene and some people on the day to chat to passers-by to encourage their involvement, this can be done in 30 minute or 1 hour slots - we will probably be handing out edible Christmas goodies!

Happy Christmas  
Jonathan

-----  
OK, so what's the speed of dark?

The hardness of butter is directly proportional to the softness of bread.

I would like to help you out. Which way did you come in?

"Careful with that light at the end of the tunnel, it might be another train coming."

Suburbia - where they cut down trees and name streets after them

*Thanks to Glen for these*

## **POINTS TO PONDER**

We now have to stand up for everything that is being taken away from us. It's done by stealth because we don't say anything....! Apparently the White House referred to Christmas Trees as "Holiday Trees", for the first time this year which prompted CBS presenter, Ben Stein, to present the following on CBS, Sunday Morning Commentary:

I am a Jew, and every single one of my ancestors was Jewish. And it does not bother me even a little bit when people call those beautiful lit up, bejewelled trees, "Christmas trees". I don't feel threatened. I don't feel discriminated against. That's what they are, Christmas trees. It doesn't bother me a bit when people say, 'Merry Christmas' to me. I don't think they are slighting me or getting ready to put me in a ghetto. In fact, I kind of like it. It shows that we are all brothers and sisters celebrating this happy time of year. It doesn't bother me at all that there is a manger scene on display at a key intersection near my beach house in Malibu. If people want a crib, it's just as fine with me as is the Menorah a few hundred yards away. I don't like getting pushed around for being a Jew, and I don't think Christians like getting pushed around for being Christians. I think people who believe in God are sick and tired of getting pushed around, period. I have no idea where the concept came from, that America is an explicitly atheist country. I can't find it in the Constitution and I don't like it being shoved down my throat. Or maybe I can put it another way: where did the idea come from that we should worship celebrities and we aren't allowed to worship God? I guess that's a sign that I'm getting old, too. But there are a lot of us who are wondering where these celebrities came from and where the America we knew went to.

*Our thanks to former HT member Paulette for passing this on*



### **Hampshire Constabulary**

## **Christmas Carol Service**

Music by the band of the Hampshire Constabulary

Sunday 4th December 2011 at 7.30pm

St Andrew's Garrison Church, Queens Avenue, Aldershot GU11 2BY

There will be a collection for police charities and the Women's Royal Voluntary Service.

## REQUEST FOR PARTY PROPS - reminder

Carol would be grateful for the loan of 1930s items (eg books, magazines, adverts, radio, gramophone) for her birthday celebrations in December. There is a fuller list on the board in church (on the right as you enter church from Crossover). If you can help, please speak to Belinda or Jonathan, who are co-ordinating this, or leave the item in the Outcasts room with a note for their attention.

Carol would also be grateful for the loan of 1930s photos for display – for example, photos related to Aldershot or HT or very typical of the '30s. Please give these to Christine Ward, marked with your name on the back.

**To allow time for sorting, please could we have contributions by Dec 9<sup>th</sup>.**

### Learning to Heal

New Wine Training Day

28<sup>th</sup> January 2012, 9:30am-4:30pm at St John's Stoke, Guildford

Cost: £10

For Booking/Enquiries contact: Fiona Simon, [fiona@stjohnstoke.com](mailto:fiona@stjohnstoke.com)  
Tel. 01483 569862 [www.stjohnstoke.com](http://www.stjohnstoke.com)

See poster on notice board in church

## HELP WITH CLEANING OR IRONING

Deirdre Baker, a member of HT, offers a cleaning and/or ironing service, which can be for a short one-off blitz. If interested, contact Deirdre on 317833.



## UPDATE ON THE WEB

A reminder that copies of recent Updates and prayer diaries are available on Holy Trinity's website, so if you missed a copy or want to look back at a previous one, go to:

<http://www.htca.org.uk/update.htm>

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Jan 16 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	PCC meeting in Crossover
21 <sup>st</sup> 8.30 am	Ladies Prayer Breakfast in Crossover
28 <sup>th</sup> time tba	Soul Sisters meal, Galpin Hall

## DECEMBER EVENTS AT THE CATHEDRAL

**December 20, 19:30, Golden Jubilee Christmas Concert**

**December 22 19:30, A Christmas Carol** by Charles Dickens, Tickets from Cathedral Box Office on to [www.guildford-cathedral.org](http://www.guildford-cathedral.org). or 01483 547870.



### Whom do I tell...

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

For problems with **cleaning**, tell **Pat** (01252 336683), the Cleaning Supervisor. She buys cleaning materials and oversees the cleaners (James and James).

When **something is broken** or needs replacing, tell **Don** (01252 653182), the Site Manager. He liaises with Wardens & George, organises contractors, etc.

For **toilet rolls** and **paper towels** – tell **Jean**. (01252 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