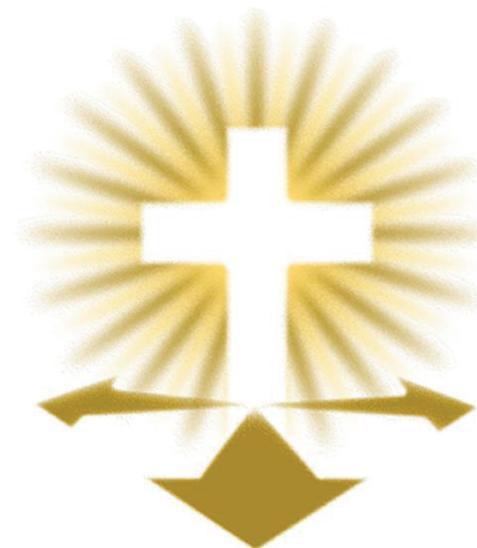


Trinity

Update

August 2018



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ALDERSHOT
'Church for Everyone'

SOUL SISTERS

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



In June we had our annual ladies' weekend away in the very comfortable setting of the Greenhouse Christian Centre in Poole. 31 ladies (including 3 guests) enjoyed a relaxing time of fun, fellowship, great food, inspiring talks on the theme 'Build Up', and encouraging testimonies. We were grateful to Rachel Guilford, Janet Bento and Elena Tonkova for leading our worship, and to Sue Chadwick and Rosie Smithurst who showed us how to make stained glass windows and knitted ducks respectively.

Some ladies carried on the tradition of a swim in the sea and a number also had a dip in the outdoor heated swimming pool. It was a great time of making new friends, relaxing and being 'built up'.

Details of future Soul Sisters events will be available in due course.

Trisha Haley on behalf of Soul Sisters

Verse for the year 2018:

'We will, in all things, grow up into...Christ.

From Him the whole body...grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.'
Ephesians 4:15-16

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue, including to Natalie Mitchell for proof-reading and to Wendy Sear and Heather Baig for final assembly of the magazine and prayer leaflet. Thanks to Tat for ongoing technical help.

Please note that the September 2018 issue of Update will be in Church on Sunday 2nd August.

The LAST date for September articles will be Sunday 26th August.

WOMEN'S HOUR

On June 28th our speaker was Louisa Fagan from Support Hampshire, who gave a very interesting talk about how we can get help and support from different places as we get older. She brought magazines with lots of information. A good afternoon, with many questions being asked and answered.

The following week we had a strawberry cream tea and scones afternoon and four of our ladies told us how they got on at the Soul Sisters weekend. Two of our ladies then gave us their Testimony and our dear Wendy recited a Pam Ayres poem, a great afternoon.

On July 12th Chris Todd from our church gave an amazing talk on "Hats" - the one he wears as the Mace Bearer for the Mayor of the Council and the one he wears as a Fireman and (best of all) how God came into his life - such an inspirational man and much enjoyed by us all.

The following week (July 19th) we had Praise, Prayer and Readings in which many members take part. This is always a fun afternoon.

July 26th was Party Time, with Tea and Cakes.



PLEASE KEEP THE PREMISES TIDY!

Please can you all leave the **kitchen** in the state you would like to find it!! It is very annoying to turn up for a meeting to find you have to put away someone else's dishes, wipe the work surfaces and sort out the tea towels before you can begin to prepare for your own meeting. Incidentally tea towels don't dry if you leave them scrunched up on the work tops so please hang them up!

If you **break** something, please tell some-one what has happened. Don't just walk away and leave it.

Pat

FACING QUESTIONS AND VISITING L'ABRI- THE SHELTER

I recently spent a few days visiting a unique place called 'l'abri', meaning 'the shelter', in Greatham, near Bordon. L'abri was set up around 50 years ago in Switzerland by Christian philosophers Francis and Edith Shaeffer, who opened their homes to people genuinely seeking answers to some of life's most difficult and important questions. Now in eight countries, L'abri is somewhere which welcomes honest questions and seeks to provide honest answers, as well as a place for intentional study, hospitality, deep discussion and prayer. It is grounded on the premise that Christianity is not simply a blind 'leap of faith' but that if it is indeed the 'truth', it should therefore stand up to thorough reasoning and questioning, and should also speak into all areas of life.

L'abri welcome visitors for short or longer stays, at a low cost. They have regular Friday evening lectures, on topics ranging from spirituality, to the arts and culture. They also welcome people to visit for the day, or join in with a lunch-time discussion which involves authentically engaging around a particular question.

I found my visit to l'abri helped me engage in a new way with some more of the intellectual aspects of faith and apologetics, having always been someone who has leaned more towards the emotional and experiential dimensions of Christianity. It also gave me space to honestly explore difficult questions, without rushing to fill these with easy answers.

You can read more about l'abri on their website: www.labri.org/england.

If you're interested in visiting l'abri, or talking to me about my experience there, feel free to get in touch or chat to me over a cuppa: rachelguilford@gmail.com

Rachel Guilford

GOLD PROJECT STUDY GROUPS STARTING SEPTEMBER 2018

Course 1: Encouraging Jesus and the Kingdom. A study of Mark and Matthew

Day: Wednesdays fortnightly starting on Wednesday 12th September

Time: 10.00am to 11.15am. Cost: £50 (Bursaries are available)

For further information contact: Joan Bradnam 01252 676667 or David Ball 01252 614323 (davidball@goldproject.org)

Course 2: Discover Life - A study of John

Day: Wednesdays fortnightly starting on Wednesday 12th September

Time: 7.45pm-9pm Cost: £50(bursaries available)

Venue: Stockton House, Fleet

For further information: contact David Ball 01252 614323 (davidball@goldproject.org)

The courses are 20 weeks, so continue until Easter 2019.

Introductory Socials for these groups will be held at 7.45pm on Friday 7th Sept at Stockton house, Stockton Ave, Fleet.

THE SUPER-HERO ACADEMY

Everything is starting to fit into place for the children's holiday club. Today I bought 70 pairs of underpants in preparation... But you will have to wait to find out what exactly they are for!



I am so looking forward to sharing God's love with the children. I am so excited about this year's theme, Superhero Academy, which fits in nicely with the release of The Incredibles 2, Disney's latest superhero film. During this week the children will learn about various Bible heroes, including Gideon and Elijah, and will understand that they could not have been heroes on their own. That it is God's power that makes them brave and strong, and that this is true in their own lives as well.

During the all in services we will be looking at the parables. These stories that Jesus told can be understood on so many different levels. Each time I read the parables, it feels like God challenges me in a new way, or that I understand something I hadn't understood before. I hope this will be true for people of all ages in the congregation.

On a more personal note, I am very excited to actually be moving into Aldershot in the coming weeks. I am looking forward to being able to walk to church and to be hospitable.

Once again I just want to say 'thank you' for how welcome everyone has made me feel. I have loved being part of Holy Trinity over the last couple of months.

Alice

Superhero academy for primary school children

7th to 10th August. 10.00 to 1.30pm

£5 per session or £15 for the entire week

For more information contact Alice Stanford alicestanfordhta@gmail.com

MENTAL HEALTH DROP IN

A few of us met on July 14th, others were overcome by the continuing heat. As usual, we started with tea, cake and chat and then attempted a couple of Pat's quizzes. We finished with a time of prayer. We next meet in Crossover on Saturday September 1st between 10 am and noon.

DEBS REFLECTS

A Second Ordination?

On June 30th alongside fourteen others that I have the privilege to call friends, I was ordained a priest in the Church of England. I am well aware that for some of you there are questions about why and what does it mean to be a priest in the church?

Last year I was ordained a deacon in the Church of England, and I don't stop being a deacon, as Bishop Jo has been heard to say, 'Once a deacon, always a deacon.' It was very moving during the ordination service that Bishop Andrew, the most senior clergyman in our diocese, assisted as deacon and that I was ordained by Bishop Jo, a woman, something completely unheard of until just a few years ago.



The Church is the Body of Christ, the people of God and the dwelling-place of the Holy Spirit. In baptism the whole Church is summoned to witness to God's love and to work for the coming of his kingdom.

To serve this royal priesthood, God has given particular ministries. Priests are ordained to lead God's people in the offering of praise and the proclamation of the gospel. They share with the Bishop in the oversight of the Church, delighting in its beauty and rejoicing in its well-being.

They are to set the example of the Good Shepherd always before them as the pattern of their calling. With the Bishop and their fellow presbyters, they are to sustain the community of the faithful by the ministry of word and sacrament, that we all may grow into the fullness of Christ and be a living sacrifice acceptable to God.

For the last thirty years I have intentionally chosen to follow God, and He has led me through a variety of callings and opportunities to serve Him and others. Five years ago, I sensed this calling to be a priest in His church, in the Church of England. I can't really put into words how it felt as I knelt and offered all that I am to serve in this way. I can't describe the joy and love I felt to preside for the first time at Holy Communion in our church the following morning. I can only say that I know the joy of being what I am called to be. I pray, as I write this, that all of you, if you don't know it already will know that joy too.

Debs

OPERATION NOAH

A four-week Bible study on Climate change.

Operation Noah is a Christian charity which helps Christians to respond to the climate change crisis. They have recently produced a four-week Bible-based group study called 'Tenants of the King' which has short video clips from leading Christian thinkers, Bible passages, questions and practical activities.

The PCC at Holy Trinity is considering whether our church can become an eco-church, so this course will help us to think more about how we can become more conscious of environmental issues and how we can care for God's world. If anyone is interested in attending this course, please let me know. It may start in early September.

Jane

LEE ABBEY

If you would like a Christian holiday in a beautiful house with incredible views, then do look up www.leeabbeydevon.org.uk. Lee Abbey is situated on the north Devon coast, near Lynton and not far from Dartmoor. You can have a holiday there (lots of wonderful walks), or attend one of their themed weeks or just have a retreat.

I went in April and loved every minute of it. You have a wonderful room, some with stunning views, delicious meals and all hosted by an international Christian community.

If you think it is too expensive, do enquire about bursaries.

To find out more, do talk to me or to Deirdre or others at HT who have also been.

Jane

GEORGE WRITES

For those of you who have been at Holy Trinity for some time, you will be aware of my long-term vision about having a Christian presence and witness in as many hubs and networks as possible throughout our town (which is the front line of our church). You will also be aware that for over a decade I have been looking to get a chaplaincy service into some of our GP surgeries, so that, with a degree of professionalism, but also with Christian compassion, inspiration and Holy Spirit power, we can draw alongside those who are unwell and offer the opportunity of prayer and good listening and to bring something of hope and the transforming nature of Jesus into lives. Although we have trained a team in the past, the door has never fully opened.

But we have received some great news recently and there is now an open door into the Centre for Health (which is the largest health centre in the UK). Please be praying for the negotiations for this wonderful opportunity, as well as for people from the local churches, including HT, to be willing to be part of this new ministry that could have a significant impact on so many people in lots of different ways. Our plan is to start small and see how the Lord works through it and then let it develop. We will need someone to project manage this, as well as capable and caring folk to be part of the team. Let me know if you are interested. As you can imagine, after over 10 years of trying to get this going I am getting quite excited!

It has been great having Debs with us for over a year now and I know that some of you were able to come to her second ordination service in the Cathedral a few weeks ago. I am going to quote a few phrases from the service and we, as a staff team, would very much value you praying for us (and, indeed, all folk at HT) along these lines. Pray this also especially for John, as he starts his three months of ministry in Tongham, leading the parish whilst their vicar takes a sabbatical.

We are:

- to be servants and shepherds among the people to whom we are sent
- to proclaim the Word of the Lord and to watch for the signs of God's new creation
- to be messengers, watchmen and stewards of the Lord; to teach and to admonish, to feed and provide for His family, to search for His children in the wilderness of this world's temptations, and to guide them through its confusions, that they may be saved through Christ for ever."
- to tell the story of God's love, with all God's people
- to walk with them in the way of Christ, nurturing them in the faith. To unfold the Scriptures, to preach the word and to declare the mighty acts of God.
- to bless the people, to resist evil, support the weak, defend the poor, and intercede for all in need."

- *in boldness to try new things. We are also looking to start the Bible Course very soon to discern and foster the gifts of all God's people, that the whole church may be built up in unity and faith.*

As usual, there is quite a lot going on through this month of August, so please be praying (as well as taking part in) the Kids Holiday Week, as well as the Holiday at Home. There are other social events, such as the church barbecue, where we can deepen our fellowship as well as welcome families on the fringe.

I happened to spend eight days away on two consecutive conferences up north in July. The first was the diocesan clergy conference, that happens every three years up in Derbyshire, which was a very special time of fellowship, encouragement, challenge and teaching. I then continued further north to York for General Synod, which took place over five days. This was quite an intense time (especially as I could barely hobble from venue to venue!) There are all sorts of debates, motions, fringe meetings and seminars for 12 hours solid every day. There were some quite interesting and inspiring debates ranging from issues like climate change, nuclear weapons and the NHS, to subjects like cathedrals, safeguarding (including some moving input from a survivor of abuse perpetrated in a church context) and finances, as well as the more mundane changes to canon law and church representation rules!

At this point you might be tempted to give a big yawn. However, I'd like to highlight one particular subject that I find absolutely fascinating and very inspiring, to do with finances and the money the Church of England has invested: they have worked really hard as shareholders to put pressure on oil and energy companies to change their practices and plans and to come into line with the Paris Agreement. Over the last couple of years, that has drawn many other large investing bodies to join in with them and they have ended up leading this global consortium worth over 7 trillion pounds of investment, increasing the pressure over a thousand-fold and making a huge difference. That strikes me as being powerfully prophetic. We are actually part of a wider church that is looking to make a global difference, just as we are looking to make a town-wide difference.

So may this month be a month of refreshing but also of motivation and inspiration for all God has planned for us together.

George

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

We will be hosting and running a **Growing Leaders** course starting in September and following the academic year. If you have any interest or questions about this, please do approach a member of staff.

JOHN KELLAGHER WRITES

As some of you will know, George, Debs and I, along with the great majority of the clergy from the Diocese of Guildford, spent 3 days at Swanwick on a clergy conference. The theme of the conference this year – it's held every 3 years – was 'Traces of Grace' and was all about how to see where God has been at work – where God is at work. That is, after all, what happens when God is at work – there is a trace of grace left.

It's an opportunity for the bishop to exercise his leadership of the church – which I thought he did in a way that was specific for Holy Trinity when he came on June 17th and spoke about the various body languages of the church – and this time he addressed the clergy in terms of looking for grace – and being aware of what is the opposite of grace – at this time, he characterized that as a state of Ungrace, which is characterized by a selfishness, a hardness of heart and an unwillingness to change.

There was also some excellent teaching looking at the story of Ruth and the story of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath in 1 Kings 17, and drawing out that grace there happens as people admit their vulnerability, are in community (even if it's only a community of 2 or 3) and take a risk, even though they are themselves vulnerable. That struck me as being very counter-cultural for us, because we tend to divide society into those who are vulnerable, and who need to be helped, and those who aren't vulnerable and should therefore do the helping. In fact, what comes out of both these stories, is that we are all vulnerable in some way or other, and we all need to open ourselves up and take a risk – and that as we do that, the door is opened to God's grace, which can have unimagined consequences.

That isn't meant to limit God or say that God's providence can only work in situations we create. God's providence is greater than that. We saw a bit of that just recently when we went to help my youngest son move house. He has just finished 3 years at Oakhill Theological College, and has a job at a church in London, who are providing him with a house – itself a sign of grace, as it's larger than the house the minister of the church lives in...

So we went up to help him move. He had hired a van to transport his stuff (and his wife's). The van people said that they'd given him a slightly larger van than he asked for (at the lower price) – and the result was that we moved all the stuff that had to be moved in two trips and the timing of the day worked well – if the van had been smaller, it would have been more than that, and the timing of the day might not have worked as well. But there was grace in the fact that when he brought the van back to the house they moved from, there was a large enough parking space just outside to accommodate the van and enable us to load it easily.

Sometimes though it's easier to see traces of grace than others. And it raises the question – how do we spot traces of grace? Well it's something that we can learn to do. Periodically – perhaps at the end of each day, look back over the day and see how you felt about the various episodes. What lifted your heart, made you glad, brought a smile and lightness to your heart? Somewhere there, probably, is a trace of grace. Was there something which depressed you, was a heaviness on your heart? That may be a sign of ungrace. With time you will get to see patterns and be able to recognize traces of grace.

But we need to remember that these traces of grace may not be in the places that we expect. The story of Jesus' relationship with the Pharisees is an example of how grace was there, but was missed. Read, for example John 7. They didn't get it because they were so focused on what they thought the Messiah should look like and where he would come from, that they missed the actual Messiah. And they were so busy focusing on Jesus, that they missed what he actually did – despite Jesus saying to them – look at what I do, not at me. Isn't that a sign of grace, of his love for them, that even when they were against him, he was trying to help them see that what he did, showed who he was.

And we need to remember that we are more likely to see grace when we are looking to be gracious and be a channel of grace to others, than when we are trying to grab hold of grace. Grace is what we are given when we try to help others. May this summer be a time of grace for you.

John

GRANT APPLICATION SUCCESSFUL

You may remember that a month or so ago we asked people to pray for a grant application we were making to a fund for a grant towards the Crossover refurbishment. I'm pleased to say that our application has been successful and we have been awarded a grant of £10,000.

Thank you for your prayers - and let's give thanks to our Father for his provision for us.

There is still work to be done on the Crossover Refurbishment project - please continue to pray for Dave Haley and Don Payne who are heading this up - for wisdom for them and for the PCC

Many thanks

John



HOLIDAY AT HOME

There will be two “Holiday at Home” events during August this year, a time when many regular activities shut down.

On 2nd August, from 12 noon until 3.30pm Cara is organising an Old Time Music Hall event, described as “an afternoon of fun and fellowship for senior citizens who are still young at heart”. There will be lunch, singalong and craft activities. All are very welcome. If you would like to attend then please let Daphne Inglis, Jean Vivian or Cara know, as this will help us with the catering.

Cara has asked Carol Edgoose to assemble a display of royal memorabilia, especially those manufactured during the Queen’s reign, and including decorative objects such as mugs, books, pictures and tea towels. Books given to school children at the time would be especially welcome.

Bring Union Jacks etc and prepare to be very patriotic!

Carol

There will be an open afternoon on **Thursday August 30th, from 2.30 until 4.00pm** with tea, cakes & chat and our Vicar George will give us a Thought for the Day.

More royal memorabilia

To celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953 the Staffordshire County Education Authority decided to present a New Testament (Authorised Version, of course) to every child in the County who attended an infant or junior church school.

I still have mine.

Christine



Holiday at Home
Afternoon Tea & Chat
Thursday 30th August
2.30 - 4pm

Holy Trinity Church Aldershot
Victoria Road GU11 1SJ

For more information contact Daphne - 328 205
or Jean - 409 032

NEPALESE LADIES CLASSES

After weekly English speaking classes spread over the whole term, the English classes for Nepalese ladies (about 100 in all) “broke up” for the summer holidays in mid-July. Each of the pupils, in their colourful clothes and with their cheerful chatter, received a “Certificate of Attendance” to mark the end of the course. They showed their appreciation of their teachers with great affection.

Some of these ladies have had no formal education; others are doing “irregular verbs”. They all work diligently. They showered their teachers with bouquets, lovely cards and numerous scarves. Then they gave us a lovely Nepalese lunch – such variety, such hilarity.

Afterwards Ursula prayed for them in their own language (and translated for me afterwards). This is a labour of love, done in Jesus’ name and has been faithfully carried out over eight years.

May it long continue and may God bless all who take part in this work of love.

Carol Edgoose

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There is a **hearing loop** in the main church building and also in Crossover.
 To tune into the loop use the "T" mode setting on your hearing aid.

UPDATE IN LARGER PRINT

A small number of copies of Update and the Prayer Diary in larger print are available at the back of church. Please tell Christine Ward (01252 320210) if more copies are needed.

Large print **hymn books** are also available at the back of church – if you need one, please ask a sidesperson.



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.

RELIABLE IRONING SERVICE.

Your ironing done in my smoke & pet free home. Very reasonable rates. Please ring Cathy Hawkins on 07792 913553 for details.

Whom do I tell...

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

When **something is broken** or needs replacing, tell **Don Payne** (01252 653182).
 For toilet rolls and paper towels – tell Jean Embelton. (01252 320926)
 Claire Oak is HT's new cleaner; phone 404508 or barryoak3@googlemail.com

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, ALDERSHOT

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 Church Office (when manned)

Vicar: Rev'd George Newton: (Tuesdays off duty)
 2 Cranmore Lane, Aldershot GU11 3AS g@gjisk.prestel.co.uk

Associate Minister: Rev'd John Kellagher (Tues & Fri off duty)
 Amberley, 19 Hillside Rd, Aldershot GU11 3LX cjbk99@gmail.com

Note new address for John & Jacquie Kellagher

Curate: Rev'd Debs Wignall, email: debs.htca@gmail.com Fridays off duty

Children & Families Minister Alice Stanford
alicestanfordhta@gmail.com

Pioneer Minister, Rev Jackie Maw, The Wellspring Aldershot
 45 Scarletts Road, Wellesley, Aldershot GU11 4AE

Licensed Lay Ministers: Jean Embelton
 Ursula Johnston

Minister in Training: Cara Kear Cara.kear@gmail.com
 (Saturdays off duty)

Wardens - -Alan Barber Flat 5, 59 Lynchford Road, Farnborough GU14 6EJ barber.alan1@gmail.com

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HT Site & Buildings Manager: Don Payne
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Hall Bookings: Jean Embelton

Women's Hour: Daphne Inglis daphneinglis@btinternet.com & Jean Vivian, j.vivian940@btinternet.com

Contact (Parents' & Toddlers' Group): Joan Davies, Pat Clare and Debs Wignall (see above)

Pastoral assistants – see opposite

Fellowship Groups: please see separate leaflet

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AUGUST DIARY

1	11.15am	Holy Communion with Prayer, Praise & Prophecy	
2	12.00 - 3.00pm	Holiday at Home for senior citizens	(See page12)
5	SUNDAY		
	9.30am	Morning Praise	
	11.15am	Open air service in the park, followed by picnic & games, organised by 20s30s	
c			
6	7.30pm	PRAISE, PRAYER AND PROPHECY	
7-10 th	10.00am to 1.30pm	Super Hero Academy - Holiday Club for School Age Children	
10	5.00pm	Church Barbecue	
12	SUNDAY		
	9.30am	Morning Praise	
	11.15am	Alternative Service	
15	11.15am	Holy Communion (also 22 nd & 29 th)	(Wednesdays)
17	8.00pm	TCPT meeting in Crossover	
19	SUNDAY		
	9.30am	Morning Praise	
	11.15am	Alternative Service	
24	7.45pm	Worship Team practice	
25	10.00am to 12.00	Mental Health Drop In	(See page 5)
26	SUNDAY		
	9.30am	Morning Praise	
	11.15am	Healing Service	
30	10am–12noon	Prayer ministry team gathering	

The Summer term in Hampshire schools ended on Monday 23rd July 2018. The Autumn term begins on Monday 3rd September 2018 and ends on Friday 21st December 2018. The Half Term break is from Saturday 20th to Sunday 28th of October 2018.

Most Fellowship Groups and POD Groups do not meet during August. Please check dates with group leaders.