

Cornerstone

Edition 12 - Autumn 2017

Sheen Park, Richmond, TW9 1UP

020 8404 1112

www.htrichmond.org.uk

Vicar - Rev. Trevor Patterson

Sunday Services - 10.00 and 18.30
Wednesday Service - 11.30

 HTR - Holy Trinity Richmond
 @church_htr

holy trinity richmond
a church with an open door

Riverbank Concert

On midsummer's day, the beautiful sound of the Boy and Girl Choristers of Washington National Cathedral Choir filled Holy Trinity Church as they performed a summer fundraising concert for Riverbank Trust. Over £1,000 was raised in voluntary donations which will make a real difference to Riverbank's work in schools and the wider community.



Organised by tour organiser, Nick Abbott, from ACFEA Tour Consultants, and Michael McCarthy, the Director of Music for the Choir, the children aged 14-18, sang moving choral pieces, accompanied by an organist as part of their first tour outside America in almost 30 years.



As Riverbank's Director, Ellie Hughes, said, "We were really blessed to meet so many of the parents and supporters of the choir as well as local friends who were all so interested and encouraging towards our work."

Riverbank Trust is a Christian Ministry reaching out to vulnerable families in the London Borough of Richmond through



befriending, drop-in groups, schools work and practical and emotional support.

It works in partnership with local and national organisations to bring 'hope in community'.

Bringing Jesus to the Streets

Once a month a group of people from four or five local churches join together on a Saturday afternoon to bring the love of Jesus to people in Richmond town centre. We set up opposite Whole Foods in the Quadrant and Gareth Hides from the charity k180 tells a story

pointing people to God using art and a simple talk in the open air. He doesn't use a PA system but through his artistic gifts engages passers-by on issues of life, how God relates to them and how his son Jesus brings



God alive in peoples' lives. A group of between four and ten people usually gather to support Gareth, create an audience for him and then look for

opportunities to talk to those who have been listening when he has finished.

We have three questions we use to help us engage with people, firstly, 'can I ask you a question?' Then, if the answer is 'yes,' 'if God could do a miracle for you today, what would it be?' Recent answers to this question have been,

'that I would grow in self-confidence and decisiveness' and 'that God would comfort my daughter and me after the death of my wife.' If there is time we ask a 3rd question, 'what do you think is the greatest miracle God can do for you?' It is amazing that people are ready to share such deep

Can I ask you a question?

things, and there and then we offer to pray for them on the streets. We find that people are very willing to be prayed for and are often deeply moved.

Stepping Out in Faith



Back in May we celebrated together as two of our members were baptised by Trevor Patterson and Alwyn Webb, and ten were confirmed by the Bishop of Kingston, Richard Cheetham. After our baptism pool sprang a leak in church(!), we set it up on the play area outside the Church Hall on what turned out to be a pleasantly warm evening.

It was very encouraging to see youngsters and adults publicly declaring their faith and hear stories of God at work in their lives. For Liga Thrower it was a particularly special evening; she said

"A year ago I wasn't even dreaming that I would be baptised and confirmed. But when inquiring about having our toddler

baptised, my own journey to faith started. HTR has given me strength, trust and peace. The support of its community is heartwarming.

I started to come to Sunday Services last November and joined the Alpha Course, and so many of my questions received answers. Baptism and confirmation made me feel almost like being reborn. Next morning when I woke up I wanted to jump around in the same footsteps as our toddler! It can still be hard sometimes to know what is right or wrong and to see when I am tested, but my trust in Jesus and God's promises helps me to move forward. I know that this journey is not for a while but for life."

Interns – Fond Farewell And A Warm Welcome

We would like to give thanks for the hard work, dedication and joy that our departing interns Txaila Meyer and Abbie Robertson have brought to Holy Trinity Richmond over this past year.

We also would like to welcome in Hannah Helm who will join us this Autumn.

Txaila Meyer tells us that “Being with the HTR family was definitely one of the best adventures I had yet.

I never had such a warm welcome anywhere before and I am very thankful to have been able to be a part of the

wonderful team here and to learn and live and laugh with everyone.

As someone from a free church in Germany, one of the highlights was taking part in the Easter celebrations and experience how Anglicans do it. It's hard to leave but I am also excited to start my first job as a Graphic Designer in September.”



Abbie Robertson reflects that “Serving at HTR this year has been such a joy.

Being part of a church that is surrounded by lovely people and serving alongside amazing people in the staff team, who love God with all they have and who encourage and always smile is a real delight.

The youth are an amazing bunch of young adults, who bring joy and happiness to

wherever they are.

Seeing them emerge from their shells and start to really dig deep into God and explore what their faith means to them is definitely the biggest highlight of this year, I am so excited to hear about what God is going

to be doing in their lives and in the life of the church.

The next step for me is a Theology and Worship degree at the London School of Theology. I am so incredibly thankful to God for this opportunity to study what I am passionate about, whilst also exploring my faith and deepening my relationship with God.”

Indian Connection

We have recently returned to the UK having spent 6 months volunteering in Vellore, South India.

Matt is a scientist, and was helping at Christian Medical College (CMC), a large charity hospital. The institution is one of the largest medical facilities in India, receiving around 8000 outpatients per day from across the country. He was helping with the work in one of the laboratories analysing patient samples, and doing some data analysis for a programme to detect metabolic disorders in children.

Sam is a drama teacher and supported a



number of projects within the hospital community and with schools in the area. In the schools, Sam taught drama and spoken English to children of all ages, and had the opportunity to work with children in nearby schools and education projects in the tribal areas. Within CMC there were also a number of drama projects. A highlight was helping to direct the annual Easter play, a drama production of the

A Great British Summer

This summer the HTR community hosted among many things, a super picnic in the vicarage garden and a fantastic BBQ in the church grounds. Blessed with glorious sunshine on both occasions, the



trampoline enabled a good workout, food was shared and good cheer enjoyed by all. Thanks in particular to the wonderful burger flipping team and to Joao for his great foresight to rig up a sound system and provide refreshing ice creams for dessert!

Easter story performed by medical students, staff and their families to an audience of around 700 people.

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KickLondon asks

As many of you will know but not all – Kick London was founded by a collaboration of Tom Rutter, Trevor Patterson and Youth for Christ at Holy Trinity Richmond 15 years ago. This missional charity birthed from HTR has and is having a profound impact across London.

Joe Lowther says: “When I joined Kick London in November 2014 I had to write a fundraising strategy.

In doing this you are meant to ask yourself the above three questions. So I thought our problem is that children and young people have stopped coming to church in their droves.

Today 85% of children in the UK don't set foot inside a church. In the Church of England of those who do attend – you are more likely to have survived the Titanic than survive being at church from

childhood to adulthood.

So what's our solution to this? We need to go out to them, build relationships and invite them to church. 99.7% of young people are in school. We go into schools offering PE National Curriculum,

Street Dance and Mentoring provision to engage these kids with a Christian values application such as perseverance. We then enable local churches to offer extended sport or dance provision at

the weekend when it complements church. The young people receive coaching, linked to a theme, with an inspirational thought from the Bible.

It has been our testimony that “God's work, when done in God's way, never lacks God's resources” (Hudson Taylor). In the past two years we have seen engagement with our young people grow from 2,500 to 6,500 every week in schools. Our coaches



are delivering professional services in 43 schools across London with 24 church based Kick Academies engaging their local young people. We have seen 10% of these young people engage in church through the Kick Academies.

The provision is now in 22 Boroughs across London. It has been a conviction for us as an organisation to sow to alive and not dead works because 1 Corinthians 3:6 “I, Paul plant, Apollos waters, but only God grows.”

We have been blessed to have our HQ at Holy Trinity Richmond and as this church founded our mission want to thank you all for enabling this to happen. Thank you for your prayer, your giving and your support in this important ministry.”

What's your Problem?

What's your Solution?

And what happens if you fail?

Stag Do? No! - Men's Weekend Away 2017

Tristan Blood says, “I don't know what you expect when you hear of a group of 20 grown men going on a weekend away. To many the idea triggers thoughts of a stag do, a city break with mischief, tomfoolery and indulgence. Well the Holy Trinity men's weekend away didn't disappoint, offering all of the above but not in the way you might expect. The genteel setting of the Cotswolds is hardly a top destination for mens' gatherings after all!

The weekend offered the men of HTR the chance to enjoy outdoor activities together, including a countryside ram-

ble or a 5 mile run for the overzealous fitness fanatics among us. It also offered the chance for teamwork as Tom Rutter delivered yet another challenging pub quiz. Most of all it offered us a chance to indulge in time with the Lord as we shared communion, fellowship, teaching and times of worship together. Year after year the

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weekend has become a priority on my calendar and getting away with other men to share struggles and perspectives, to give and receive encouragement, and to develop fresh vision for what kind of man I am called to be has been for vital for my faith and walk with God.”

Pastures New

We bid a fond farewell to Mark and Millie Anderson who left the parish after some 15 years, with their young daughters Zoe and Evie. On 1 July in a moving service at Southwark Cathedral Mark was ordained as a deacon and is now serving as a curate in east Surrey.



Mark updates us following the move, “We moved to Oxted in June and we are loving it – although we do miss our home in Isleworth and our family at HTR. We have been blessed with a new church family who are loving, caring and very supportive of us all. Where we live we have lovely neighbours and it's a short walk to Zoe's

new school (which she has settled in to well) and also to church. Oxted and Tandridge (the two parishes I am working in) have a real sense of community and belonging and we are gradually getting used to country living!

My ordination service was a great occasion. I had a powerful and emotional encounter with God on the pre-service retreat and I felt a sense of assurance of God's love and confidence in God's call on my life throughout the service. I also felt excited about all God has in store for us! We're very much getting going with church and community life here now and we're very happy.”

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Dates for your diary!

Please join us at events in the coming months

Autumn Launch Evening

Friday, 8 September - 19.30
Eat, worship and pray together

Harvest Sunday

Sunday, 24 September - 10.00, 18.30
Celebrating God's goodness to us

Joint Churches Worship & Prayer

Wednesday Evenings - 20.00
on 20 September & 15 November

Alpha Course

A chance to explore the meaning of life
Launch supper
Thursday, 28 September - 19.30
Course
9 Thursdays from 5 October - 19.30

Light Party

Monday, 31 October
Pointing kids to Jesus at Halloween

Leaders' Day

Saturday, 4 November
Worship, teaching, prayer and encouragement

Women's Staycation

Friday, 24 & Saturday, 25 November
A special weekend at church from Friday evening to Saturday evening

Invitation Service

Sunday, 26 November - 10.00
A chance for your friends to hear about Jesus

Please see our Weekly Church Bulletin and website for details of prayer meetings, breakfasts, socials and lots of other events.


Welcome to HTR


Are you new to HTR? We'd love you to join us at any of our events.
Why not join us to our Autumn Launch, when we will kick off the term. Or what about come along to one of our weekly Sunday or Wednesday Services? Or how about exploring the big questions of life on our Alpha Course this autumn? We would love to meet you.

For more information, please call us on

020 8404 1112 or go to

www.htrichmond.org.uk

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The Last Word – Thankfulness

Recently I was in Northern Ireland visiting my Mum; at the end of one evening I caught part of a most moving Documentary on BBC called 'True North – the Mercy Ship (it's on the Northern Ireland part of BBC iPlayer).' What was so striking about this documentary was the vision of Mercy Ships, in their words, 'to sail directly to some of the world's poorest people to deliver life-saving medical care and provide safe, state-of-the-art facilities in which to treat them.' They recruit volunteers from the medical profession and others on both a short term and longer-term basis to achieve

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their aims.
Why the
title of
'thankfulness'
for this
article?

Two reasons;
firstly as we
traditionally
celebrate

Harvest at this time of year, I was struck by how blessed we are in so many ways in this part of the world, including free access to an excellent healthcare system. Too often we don't appreciate what we have. Secondly, the ship during the documentary was docked in a port in Madagascar; for a number of people who were volunteering their motivation came from their thankfulness to God for all that he had done in their lives. They knew God's goodness and wanted others to experience it through generously offering their skills to help those in great need.

Trevor Patterson



Leadership Matters

This past term we piloted a leadership course over four Thursday nights and one Saturday. The course on this occasion was aimed at a group of people who are already involved in some areas of ministry but who have the potential to become leaders.

We recognised throughout that the course was not just aimed at raising new leaders within the church community but at equipping people to lead in other spheres of life e.g. home, local community and work.

The subjects covered included, Intimacy with God – the engine room

for leaders, discerning our call and identifying our gifts, building effective teams, mentoring and raising up others and discerning direction.

We had a great five weeks together listening, discussing and praying as we aimed to become better equipped as leaders.

One course member fed back that she valued "taking time out of my usual routine to consider and start setting personal vision and goals."

Watch the church bulletin and website for information about when the course will be run again in the summer term next year.

Verses to live by

Our week at FOCUS was like being invited to take part in a grand celebration of God's everlasting goodness and faithfulness. We heard testimonies from people of how God is constantly seeking each one of us to know Him deeper so that we can fully appreciate and enjoy His love. We came back with our hearts filled with joy, hope, thankfulness and praise in the understanding that God created us, we are His people, we have a purpose, He sent His Son to redeem us, He is faithful and He is good - all the time!!!

Maricar & Randy Mesina

Psalms 100:1-5

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

³ Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;

his faithfulness continues through all generations.