



*Book
of
Reports 2018*

*Annual Parochial Church Meeting
29 April 2018 - 1000*

holy|trinity|richmond

a church with an open door



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Meeting Agenda

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2018

Election of Churchwardens by Parishioners

1. Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting concerning the Election of Churchwardens
2. Election of Churchwardens *

* Nomination forms are available on the Welcome Desk.



Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

1. Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting
2. Report on the Electoral Roll
3. To receive the Treasurer's report and
 - a) approve the audited accounts for the year ending 31 December 2017
 - b) adopt the budget for 2018
 - c) appoint an Independent Examiner
4. To elect three PCC representatives to serve for three years and one to serve for two years.*
5. To elect Sidespeople
6. Any Other Business **

As in recent years we are weaving our Annual Meeting into our Sunday Morning Service, so it takes place in the context of prayer, worship, testimony, teaching and encouragement.

Please return completed nomination forms to Keith Nurse

* Nomination forms are available on the Welcome Desk.

** Items to be given to Keith Nurse in writing by Friday 27 April

Curate's Report

Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still" (Exodus 14:13,14)

The past year has been a hugely challenging one for our church. Trevor's sudden and unexpected death last October was a devastating shock to our community here, as well as many others locally, across the country and overseas. Each of us will have our own special memories of him, but as someone who came to HTR as a new Curate, I feel I have lost a wise teacher, a gentle counsellor and a friend who did so much to encourage me in my ministry. I echo words that our Churchwardens wrote back in February, when they said they felt privileged to have shared ministry with him and to have seen our church grow and flourish so much under his visionary leadership.

When we shared a church morning together earlier this year, David Cooke highlighted the verses at the top of this report, which he sensed were a particular word from God for us at this time. The Israelites were being pursued by the Egyptians and, hemmed in by the Red Sea, they wonder where God is in their desperate circumstances and they fear for their lives. But Moses tells them three things - do not be afraid ...



Our responsibility is to actively look to Him and rest confident in Him.

stand firm ... be still. In the midst of our uncertainty, our questions, our fear, the same unchanging God speaks the same words of encouragement to us and gives us hope for the future. He will continue to guide His people, and to watch over and build His church here. Our responsibility is to actively look to Him and rest confident in Him.

While the last few months have been very difficult, it has been hugely encouraging to see how ministry is continuing at HTR during this uncertain time, and I'm grateful for the part that so many of you have played in this. The need to reach out with God's love and power, and to help one another live for Jesus, remains as pressing as ever, and it's a real joy to be part of a church that understands and pursues this, and where so many people serve faithfully and selflessly through a wide variety of roles, groups and activities.

The reports in this book speak wonderfully of a church community in and through which God is at work in a whole variety of ways. The Vision Sunday leaflet we produced back in January focused on some of the highlights of 2017, which included people being healed and coming to faith in church and on the streets, others

being baptised, confirmed and taking significant steps of faith, a continuing deepening of prayer and worship across all of our church life, sharing in exciting ministry with Riverbank Trust and Kick London, our work with children continuing to flourish and our work with young people being given fresh impetus, creative All Age Services helping everyone to worship and learn together, hundreds of people from our local community and schools welcomed here to celebrate Christmas, over £55,000 given away through Gift Day and our church budget to support ministry and mission elsewhere, and a great time again away together at Focus in the summer. What a brilliant community to be part of!

This year we have said goodbye to Mark, Millie, Zoe and Evie Anderson following Mark's ordination last July. Mark is now serving as a Curate in the parishes of Oxted and Tandridge in east Surrey. Mark and Millie were with us for around 15 years, during which they served our church family in so many different ways. Millie also worked with Riverbank Trust, while Mark had a spell as Churchwarden and was on our Staff Team during his ordination training. Two faithful members of our Wednesday worshipping community sadly died during the year. Anne Ewart was a person of great warmth with a keen memory and welcoming smile. And Kay Davidson radiated a trust in her Saviour, not least of all through her joyful singing of the hymns she knew and loved. We will miss them both.

We were blessed to have Txaila Meyer and Abbie Robertson with us for a year as interns, who brought their distinctive gifts and enthusiasm to our Worship Team and Youth & Children's ministry. It was good to see them growth in faith,

The reports in this book speak wonderfully of a church community in and through which God is at work in a whole variety of ways

learn new things and become more confident in ministry. Hannah Helm has taken over where they left off, and is playing an important part with both worship and young people.

I'm extremely grateful for the different ways in which our Churchwardens Mark Lambert and David Ewart and our Operations Manager Keith Nurse continue to support me and our church community. We are also indebted to our Church Council, Standing Committee and Staff Team, who have helped to maintain and further develop ministry and mission in recent months, and for the support they have given me in my additional responsibilities. Each of them has taken on extra responsibilities of their own, and it is great to be part of a church where leadership is shared so widely and people serve so generously. I particularly want to thank my wife Kate for her support, who has balanced working life, taking more of a lead in women's ministry, being a mum to two lively boys and looking out for me with grace, patience and good humour. It has

had a huge impact.

Please pray for Kate and I as we continue to discern God's will for our future ministry, and that He will continue to give us an assurance that He is in control. Please also pray for Kate Patterson and for Johnny, Connor and Ben as they leave us this summer, that our faithful heavenly Father will give them a deep sense of His love for them and an unshakeable confidence in Him for the future.

As I looked back at the report Trevor wrote this time last year, I found his final paragraph both moving and challenging, and it seemed a fitting end for this year too:

"Our God is good and faithful; there is so much to thank Him for as we reflect on this past year. Whatever lies ahead He calls us to come close to Him, as the writer to the Hebrews says, *to hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.*"

Alwyn Webb

Churchwardens' Report

It is appropriate that we begin this report by paying tribute to our former Vicar, Trevor Patterson, and his ministry over nineteen years here at Holy Trinity Richmond. We thank God for the privilege it has been to work and serve with him and his wife, Kate. They

were our leaders, our mentors ... and remain forever our friends in Christ. Our thoughts go with Kate and her sons, Johnny, Connor and Ben, and we pray that the Holy Spirit blesses them with joy, grace and hope for the future.

Thank you to everyone at HTR for the marvellous support we have received following Trevor's tragic death in October. During this period of interregnum we have been bowled over by the selfless service of all those who have stepped up to help seamlessly retain the vibrancy of our Church community. This is both a tribute and testament to the way Trevor's ministry released each one of us to serve according to our gifts, but also a real expression of God's grace to us.

It has been a great privilege to

We acknowledge all those in the past year whose ministries have brought the Kingdom of God to our parish and beyond

serve as Wardens over this last year alongside such an amazingly talented, faithful and committed team of staff and volunteers. Much of this invaluable service continues on in the background with little or no recognition (preparing meals or refreshments for meetings or Services, visiting sick or elderly members of the Church, or setting the Church up for Services and much else), helping our church community to run smoothly.

We are eternally thankful to Alwyn Webb, our Curate, and his

wife Kate for the way in which they have stepped up, albeit on a temporary basis, into leadership roles since Trevor's death, ensuring the continuity of our ministry and community life here at HTR. We pray the Lord will bless them mightily as Alwyn completes his curacy and looks for his next appointment. We will miss them greatly.

We acknowledge all those in the past year whose ministries have brought the Kingdom of God to our parish and beyond - Trevor and Kate Patterson, Alwyn and Kate Webb, and the rest

of our fantastic Staff Team - and would like to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for their guidance, insight, patience, wisdom and love - we have been truly blessed.

We are very grateful to the Welcome Team who greet everyone on Sundays and ensure we are a welcoming and well run church. Thank you to the weekly team leaders: Graham Bamping, Keith Nurse and Jimmie Keesing, and those who help with the evening and Wednesday Services.

It is the stories of lives changed and people coming to know Jesus which put our trials and tribulations into perspective.



Thank you to all the members of our congregation who continue to give generously in financial support of the varied ministries at HTR. A big thank you also to our Treasurer, Mark Johnston, and his finance team, particularly Coleen Keesing and Thelma Pritchard, for all the work they do in managing and reporting our finances so clearly and effectively.

One of the traditional roles of a churchwarden is to maintain the fabric of the church. We also aim to ensure the church is organised and administered well to enable the people of God to minister to those within the church and in our community and in this we are very ably assisted by Keith Nurse and Joao Paulo Tavares for which we are particularly grateful. Their behind the scenes oversight of the organisational and planning work is carried out with the maximum of efficiency and the minimum of fuss. They are a blessing.

The process to appoint the new Vicar is progressing well - the post was advertised before Easter, with interviews scheduled for 22 May. We owe a debt of gratitude to all those involved in the process of recruiting the new Vicar,

particularly Keith Nurse and Joao Paulo Tavares for their work in drafting and designing the initial Parish Profile document and related job advertisement. We would also like to express our grateful thanks to John Kiddle, our Archdeacon and the Bishop's representative, and John Fisher, CPAS Patronage Secretary and representative of our church's patron CPAS, for their assistance through the interregnum and appointment process.

Although 2017 was a tumultuous year marked by great sadness, we have seen God do many wonderful things in our midst, even in our time of grief. It is the stories of lives changed and people coming to know Jesus which put our trials and tribulations into perspective.

HTR remains a wonderful place to serve and to serve God, and we look forward with anticipation to seeing what new things God will do through us all in the coming new season.

Mark Lambert and David Ewart

Building Committee Report

We continue to be blessed with minimal buildings and equipment expenditure, there being no major unplanned repairs in the year reflecting our prudent approach to preventative maintenance.

As previously noted we will soon need to address a number of issues pertaining to the fabric of the church building - particularly the roof and stonework - and parts of the Church Centre are showing increasing signs of wear and tear. To this end we redecorated the foyer giving it a fresher, more welcoming appearance.

During the second quarter we said goodbye with heartfelt thanks to our longstanding cleaner, Bridgette Martin, who retired. In light of the ever increasing usage of our church facilities the PCC concluded that we needed to invest in a more extensive, dedicated and (sadly) expensive cleaning service. Despite the extra cost we hope you have noticed and appreciate the improvements.

Although the Committee has not met formally during the year, I regularly

meet with Keith Nurse, Joao Paulo Tavares and Robert Lucas on matters that need addressing. All routine maintenance and servicing has been carried out (including redecoration in the Christ Church and Small Group rooms, and some window repairs costs following a break-in in October). No more substantial refurbishments have been started because of the anticipated major redevelopment noted below.

Every five years, the Church of England requires that every church building must be inspected by an architect or chartered building surveyor to ensure it is kept in good repair. Our latest Quinquennial inspection, carried out in April 2015, identified the roof and stonework as areas for urgent repair and refurbishment before 2020; significant challenges we were already aware of. By year end of 2017 the PCC had set aside £143,000 for the prospective building work, although our architect's estimate of the likely costings is materially in excess of this amount.

We spent 2016 prayerfully seeking God's wisdom and guidance on the direction of our church building redevelopment project. The congregation gave their input and feedback on key themes for inclusion in and exclusion from the specification that will ultimately be presented to our architect. In 2017 the PCC reviewed the feedback and made final recommendations to the Strategy Group (comprised of Trevor Patterson, Alwyn Webb, Kate Patterson

and Keith Nurse) who crafted the final specification document. Several people from our congregation with relevant building and project management expertise were invited to the first project meeting in late July but the project was put on hold in October following the death of Trevor. We await our new Vicar to give new leadership and direction to this vital and transformational project.

I am very grateful to Robert Lucas who gives us the benefit of his professional expertise, meeting and liaising with architects, builders and contractors. I would also like express my sincere gratitude to Keith Nurse and Joao Paulo Tavares for managing the day-to-day repairs to and maintenance of the fabric of the building and the Peldon Court flat so expertly and efficiently. It has been these gentlemen who effectively constitute the Building Committee and therefore deserve the recognition and my heartfelt thanks.

Mark Lambert



Mission Group

The Group is an official subcommittee of the Church Council, its main aim being to raise awareness across our church community of mission both in the UK and overseas. In recent years the Group has focused on two main responsibilities - to review and propose to the Church Council which people and organisations should receive ongoing financial support from our annual church budget, and to

propose to the Church Council how we should use the money raised from Gift Day each year. In addition to over £18,000 of mission support from our annual budget in 2017, our Gift Day once again raised a wonderful total - this time over £41,000 - to support six projects locally and further afield.

In the coming year the Group will spend more time considering how best to encourage active interest in mission, including through campaigning for change. We will especially miss Trevor's heart for mission in his role of chair of the Group, but Sara Kandiah and Liz Green have stepped forward to take the roles of chair and secretary. Thank you to them and to Karin Boyton, Becky Edwards, Robert Lucas and Catherin Tidmarsh for serving our church as members of the Group.

Keith Nurse



Life Groups

Life groups play a key role in our church as we continue to learn more about what it means to live for Jesus. Every group is different, but common to all is learning together through studying the Bible, worshipping, praying for one another and the wider world, caring for, supporting and encouraging each other, and reaching out with God's love to those around us. Hospitality and food also feature highly! Apart from Oasis, our Friday morning women's group, and a Wednesday evening group for men, there is a Tuesday afternoon group and six other evening groups, most of which meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month.

Many of the groups have been meeting for several years, and people appreciate and benefit from the deep friendships that have developed over time. But the groups also welcome new members, and particularly provide a great way for newcomers to our church to feel more a part of the HTR community. Well over 100 people

regularly or occasionally come along to the groups, but there is always room for more! We are hugely grateful to Trevor and Kate Patterson for all they invested in group leaders over the years through their teaching, encouragement and wisdom, and to all those who serve as leaders in this important area of ministry.

Keith Nurse



Alpha

We ran a 9 week Alpha course in the Autumn with 26 people regularly attending. The sudden, sad loss of our vicar, Trevor, who was leading the course along with our curate, Alwyn Webb, Ellie Hughes, Helen West, Phil Kassanis and Annette Kassanis, prompted a short postponement. It is fitting that Autumn Alpha resumed, having been established at our church by Trevor more than 15 years ago as an accessible introduction to the Christian faith and an exploration of the meaning of life. Trevor was a passionate advocate of this evangelistic course which has not only brought people to faith, but also deepened and renewed the faith of church members who have participated and helped form new friendships within our church family.

It is encouraging that the Autumn course, as in previous years, attracted a diverse group of people including invited family,

friends and regular church members as well as interested newcomers. The guest speaker at the Launch Supper was former Cabinet Minister, Jonathan Aitken. Alpha's opening theme, 'Is There More to Life Than This?', was clear as Jonathan spoke openly and honestly about his past life, including divorce,

It was a real joy to see relationships grow over the weeks as ideas and questions are raised in an open, encouraging environment.

prison and bankruptcy, as well as the lasting relationships he made with fellow prisoners and how his Christian belief transformed his life. The launch was well attended and intended not only as a taster of the course but also an event open to a wider audience to hear powerful testimony and ask questions about Jonathan's personal journey of faith.

Subsequent weeks covered areas such as 'Who is Jesus?', 'Why and How Do I Read the Bible' and 'How Does God Guide Us?'. The evenings began with wonderful meals prepared by Richard Jackson and served by Life Groups – greatly enjoyed and appreciated by all and an important part of getting to know each other in a relaxed setting. We then watched a film introducing the theme, presenting key ideas and biblical context. The personal testimonies during each film also gave a moving depiction of faith in action and encouraged interesting and challenging discussions. 13 people were at the Holy Spirit Day, held on a Saturday and providing significant opportunities to

Alpha

explore the power of the Holy Spirit and receive prayer.

It was a real joy to see relationships grow over the weeks as ideas and questions are raised in an open, encouraging environment. No question is too simple or too hostile. More than anything else, Alpha is not about telling people about Christianity but showing what faith looks like: sharing the truth of God's love through friendship and bringing people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus. Whether serving in the kitchen, talking over excellent food or sharing the good news of the gospel and the daily challenges of being a Christian, Alpha continues to impact the lives of participants, helpers and leaders in unexpected and wonderful ways.

Karen Block

Pastoral Care

At HTR we firmly believe that care for one another is the responsibility and duty of each and every member of the church and we encourage everyone to be aware of both church members and visitors. At some periods in our lives we will be able to give care and at other times we will need it. This why gathering with others in any of our Groups such as Life Groups , Oasis , prayer groups/ triplets and other groups is so important. This is where we have the opportunity to share and care; belonging to

Jesus taught us to love and care for one another and that our love should be real and practical.

a group continues to be a primary source of receiving the essential support we might need and a means of being able to show God's love to others through difficult seasons.

What is Love if it has no outworking? Jesus taught us to love and care for one another and that our love should be real and practical. We have spent another year of being the hands and feet of Jesus.

Pastoral Care has included:

- listening
- comforting
- encouraging
- practically helping
- praying
- sustaining others through prolonged difficulty or immediate need
- enabling the journey of healing and wholeness
- considering the process of

reconciliation with God, self and others

- offering guidance about other resources of support.

Our outworking of the love we receive from Christ is to see His love expressed in quality relationships and through pastoral care, restoring individual lives, building healing communities and growing disciples of Jesus.

Wednesday Service and Community

We continue to gather around God's word at 1130 on Wednesday. ALL are welcome to join us.

Once again we have been so blessed by those who have cooked wonderful home made meals for our Wednesday Community on a regular basis. This has meant fellowship has been enjoyed, Birthday's celebrated, news shared, all over a tasty lunch. These gatherings around the table mean a great deal to all involved.



Home Communion visits have been a blessing over the winter period, as many folk have struggled with lingering viruses, or simply cannot attend the Service any longer.

Lifts to and from Church, collection by wheelchair, nursing home visits and support at home have continued to be a source of encouragement.

Sheena Marx

Worship

2017/18 has been a difficult year for most, if not all, at HTR. We've been grieving Trevor's death, while trying to make sense of it all and still carrying on with our vision/mission: To be a church with an open door, reaching out with God's love and power, helping one another live for Jesus.

I start the worship section with this, because, in the midst of grief and dealing with change, the

worship team has been a shining light at HTR. We've continued to lead the church in worship at every Sunday and Wednesday Service, focussing on the glory of God right in the middle of our pain.

I found that, even though it is incredibly hard at times, when I worship God and turn my attention to His glory, His power, His love, my circumstances (however bad they may be) are put back into perspective. The worship team has been brilliant in drawing our thoughts back to Christ and helping us find comfort there. This really is a special group of people whose heart to serve this community is an example to us all.

Special mention needs to go to two groups of people: the volunteer worship leaders, and the sound and AV people who operate the tech from behind the scenes. Their faithfulness, creativity and longing to see people worship without distraction has been an inspiration to me.



All Age Service

Co-ordinated by Nico Marais, the All Age Service continues to build on the vision of an all age worshipping community, by encouraging young people to take part in all aspects of the Service. No longer known as a 'Service for children', the All Age aims to be a place where the youngest to the oldest worship God together, (and learn how to worship God together). I'm so thankful for the inspiring team, Nico and Anke Marais, William Edwards, Jenny Trought, Georges Kesrouani, who meet to plan and pray before each Service.

Two more highlights stand out from the past year. First off, it was great to welcome Hannah Helm, our Worship Central intern, in September. She has been a great blessing to our team, the youth and kids teams and to everyone who has met her.

Secondly, we installed a new digital sounddesk in December. We got a new sounddesk for a variety of reasons, the main ones being that it was time for an upgrade and getting a digital sounddesk solved a couple of problems we were having with the old one.

Thank you all for making worship at HTR such a blessing to me. It is a wonderful privilege to worship God alongside all of you.

Nico Marais

Sue Jackson

Prayer

Corrie Ten Boom once asked the question: *“Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tyre?”* I can honestly say that prayer lies at the heart of all we do at HTR. This has become even more evident over the last couple of months.

Though there was a great sense of loss and sadness after Trevor passed away, we found solace in praying for and with each other at our regular prayer opportunities. In some way this cemented the command Paul gives us in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.

There have been a few changes to our regular patterns of prayer. We decided to stop the Call To Prayer meetings and focus on the Prayer Space meetings on Mondays instead. The reason for this is that we found the Spirit leading us to pray for all the things we would have prayed for at Call To Prayer anyway. It was more important for us to have consistency in our Prayer Space meetings, which has been bearing fruit. There is a core group of people who attend Prayer Space regularly and,

more often than not, we have found this specific meeting to be a truly intimate time spent with God and one another.

Prayer For The Nations has also changed its meeting time to 1530 on Friday afternoons. This meeting still has the same focus: praying for the persecuted church and for our mission links abroad.

It was very encouraging to see how people engaged with the various one-off prayer events we put on as well. There was a great turnout for our Autumn Launch event where we focussed on all the ministries being run at HTR and how all of us can get involved.

We also had a wonderful 32 Hours of Prayer during Lent, focussed on the process of appointing the new vicar and what we think God is doing here at HTR. Amazingly, we filled all 64 of the half-hour slots over that day and a half, and I’m convinced that God shifted things because of our commitment to listen to His voice.

During Holy Week we had special early



morning prayer moments which were well attended. We did the Watch & Pray event again this year, where we prayed through the night from Maundy Thursday until sunrise on Good Friday. Though this was not as well attended as last year’s event, we still had a great time of worship, looking at the Word and seeking God’s face for various ministries, people and situations we’re facing now. A group of fifteen students joined us for one of the sessions and it was great to welcome them here.

All being said and done, I believe there is

“Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tyre?”

still room for growth in our general, corporate prayer life. Paul encourages us to be faithful in prayer (Romans 12:12). I think we’ll find that, once we’ve overcome the inconvenience of leaving our homes, we’ll find blessing when we get together to pray, we’ll find change happening and, most importantly, we’ll find a welcoming, loving Father ready to listen.

Nico Marais

Prayer Ministry

A huge thank you to all those who faithfully pray for others at our church. This is a life-changing ministry. Over the past year, we have consistently seen responses to the words of knowledge. Do come and join the pre-church prayer meeting where we invite God’s presence into our Services.

Kate Patterson

Women's Ministry

I am so grateful to have been part of the women's ministry at HTR. I look back to so many special times together over the years.

A special tribute goes to Kate Webb who has quietly picked up so much of the load during the last months, especially in the final organising of our wonderful Staycation last November. It was a great blessing to have Mary Kissell, Cynthia

Peppiatt and Jo Stilwell speaking to us on our theme of *Stronger* while a wonderful team led our seminars and worship and helped practically. Ali Blood made us beautiful fabric purses that spoke of how the Lord carries us close to his heart. Helen West provided some beauty goodies. Richard Jackson, Dot Stride and Kate Thornton pitched in to provide wonderful hospitality and Txaila Meyer created our beautiful picture shown here.

Kate Patterson

Women's Breakfasts

We have had two women's breakfasts in the last year, one in May with Shelly Miller speaking on rest. It was so helpful to think about God's desire that we take adequate rest and time to be still in His presence in the midst of the busyness of life. At our most

recent breakfast, we had a big turnout of around 60 women and were blessed to have some very kind men, Richard Jackson, Graham Bamping and Ian Bridges cooking for us. We were also blessed with beautiful worship from Kate Thornton, Emma Wilson and Alice Huntley followed by an inspirational word from Kate Patterson, who continues to inspire and teach us deep truths about Jesus. These are some comments about Kate's talks from women who attended the breakfast and also the Staycation in November, where we were so privileged to have Kate speak alongside her mother Cynthia.

'Kate Patterson's talk for the Staycation about drawing on the strength and practices we have sewn into our lives, had deep resonances as she lives this out before us in her current grief. Kate's talks are always highly tangible, but acting out the story and taking stones to the Lord in prayer and naming the things we



want the Lord to touch, were really powerful. The evidence of a life lived under the shadow of His wings is evident to all and truly inspiring.'

'At the Staycation Kate brought fun and laughter to us as she involved everyone in an action-based bible reading and the bible study she and her mum led was truly a blessing.'



'The Women's Breakfast talk by Kate Patterson was helpful in reminding us of that still place before the Lord, and the different ways we can access it... No reason good enough to not prioritise it! ... Inspiring, clarifying, challenging, encouraging and a still place to hear Him even as we met and listened'.

Kate Webb

Meal out

A women's meal out was arranged at Bill's in Richmond in May. This was a great time for the women in the church to eat together and to continue to get to know each other and build friendships.

Kate Webb

Oasis

This year we have spent time looking at

Oasis is always a great blessing... and a challenge at times too, which is good.

the character of God and the promises of God. On Kate Webb's initiative, we have introduced the blessing of having some worship at the start of every session. I want to say a special thank you to the team of Kate Webb and Catherine Brown who have been utterly reliable in setting the room up and clearing up. I love the fact that we have different people leading every week bringing new insights. We have been so blessed by our times listening to God that the request and plan

is to have even more opportunity for that in the days ahead!

Here are a few quotes from Oasis members about the group:

"Oasis is more than a life group; it's an opportunity to grow real friendships that build and uplift the women who attend. For me it's also been the place where I have been allowed to grow as a leader, not just leading bible study but to



really grow as a woman of faith and authority in Jesus. It's a joy to share my joy and growth with 'kingdom' women who have been there from the beginning of my journey."

"Oasis is always a great blessing... and a challenge at times too, which is good. I value the deepening of relationships that sharing has brought, and the chance to pray for each other. I have valued the worship at the start that has helped me to put aside my own stuff and focus on Him."

"Oasis has always been a deep well, made even deeper by events this year. We are very blessed to have this ministry in our lives; I think the topics and passages covered have taken us all closer to Him and each other. The cakes are amazing, as a non-baker I really appreciate these!!!"

Kate Patterson

Men's Ministry

Men's Ministry is an umbrella term for a number of activities, though it continues to be constructed around two main pillars which are Who Let the Dads Out? and a Men's Life Group. These two activities continue to flourish and are supplemented by other social events and activities in order to bring men (both in the church and outside) together in community. For example, in March we hosted a Men's Breakfast, and the speaker was Colin Burrows, a member of our church family who works in the Movie Industry as a film producer. He spoke with great candour and humour about some of the challenges he has faced throughout his life, along with his resolution to keep Christ at the centre of his life.

At our Men's Weekend away last year, 22 of us gathered in the Cotswolds for a weekend of teaching and fun. Tristan Blood, provided his perspective and summary of the weekend as follows: *'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.'

Alwyn Webb



WLTDO?

Now in its 4th year, Who Let the Dads Out? (WLTDO?) continues to go from strength to strength. We meet on the second Saturday of the month and have over 50 men on our mailing list (this is made up of any Dad that has attended one or more events) and regularly welcome in excess of 20 Dads

each month. It continues to be a great privilege to see the children grow up and spend quality time with their Dads.

I have been hugely encouraged this year through seeing some amazing moments taking place in our church at WLTDO? ... Dads forming friendships, Dads and kids laughing and playing together, more and more men from the church stepping up to volunteer ...

We are always eager to invite the Dads to other church events and we do our best to be open and confident in our faith, and we continue to pray that God would use WLTDO? as a means of reaching these men. We are also thankful to God and the church for breathing life into WLTDO? and for its continued success.

2018 promises to be another great year, especially with our massive new inflatable slide!



James Thornton

Children's Work (0 to 11 Year Old)

As children's work at HTR continues to thrive and grow, with endless testimonies of our young people sharing the love of Jesus in the wider community, I have been reflecting on the impact our teams of humble and faithful leaders and helpers have on those they minister to each week.

On 15 October as our first Sunday groups met after hearing the devastating news of Trevor's death, our extraordinary teams taught our young people and demonstrated what it looks like to live as a community of believers, encouraging one another to live in the hope that Jesus brings.

"Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you

are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates" (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

I'm deeply thankful to God for each one of our leaders, helpers and children. It's a privilege to partner with you.

Sue Jackson

Fledglings

Our Sunday Morning group for babies and toddlers up to three years of age meets in the Christ Church Room during the Sunday morning Service. We have about six babies/toddlers attending on a regular basis. As the children enter the room, they are invited to play freely with the toys laid out. Some parents stay

The children actively ask for prayer and are learning how to pray! What a privilege!

with their babies and toddlers for the duration of the Service, but there are enough leaders and helpers to look after the children if a parent wishes to return to the Service. After free-play, we have 'tidy up time', and then snack time in a circle, with water and healthy snacks being provided by the parent hosting the session. We then lead the group in a 'circle time' following a set programme for the Fledglings age group, which includes interactive singing, activities, and a Bible story. The Fledglings programme themes for the last two terms looked as follows:

- Autumn 2017 - God made everything & God gave us Jesus
- Spring 2018 - God is a promise keeper & Jesus loves everyone

Our current team consists of group leaders Ian Trought, Julie McDougall-Waters, Nicole Stout, and Lindsey Jarrett alongside parent helper Ewelina Gozdzik. A big thank you to all for their help!

Julie McDougall-Waters

Scramblers

Our thriving Sunday group for the 3 to 5 year olds meets in The Lounge. We have 17 on register with an average of 14 attending regularly. Scripture Union material is the launch pad for our teaching session and there is always time for free play at the end of the meeting. The children actively ask for prayer and are learning how to pray! What a privilege!

Once again I thank God for our team that continues to support, encourage and pray for our children and families. They are John Hutchison, Karen Block, Judy Mathieson, Bernie Frith, Elizabeth Lek and Angela Salmeron.

Sue Jackson

Climbers

What a great year we have had in Climbers! We have averaged about 15 children per week, several of whom are very regular in attendance. This was why so many were able to answer all the quiz questions in a game recently. The quiz





at some point. This has been an answer to prayer, but we need more. It would be good to have teenage boys involved as well.

Thank you, Mandie Lambert, for your regular input and support, and thank you to the army of helpers.

There are 4 on the team each week, so that's a lot of volunteers.

Enjoy some pictures of models the Climbers children made of Jacob and Laban farming in Haran, which are spread throughout the Children's reports.

Cathy Hewett

covered 6 weeks of lessons on Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

There have been three areas we have focused on in recent months:

1. Some months ago I was convicted by a passage in Psalm 78 which says we will pass on the message to the next generation. For me the next generation is parents and other young adults. Accordingly, parents have been invited to take turns in teaching the Bible lesson in Climbers. This has been of great benefit. The children enjoy a variety of stories and activities, presented by people who put a lot of preparation into their teaching. It also means that the future of Climbers' leadership is assured.

2. Children are delighted when their parent is part of the team as leader or helper once or twice a term. But we also benefit from having other adults involved, from all age groups. This year two teenage girls are contributing on a monthly basis, which broadens their experience of Christian service and may lead to further involvement in children's ministry.

3. Boys and girls need Christian men to look up to. In recent months we have had four men take part in the programme

Explorers

Explorers has almost doubled in size this academic year and since September we have had over 30 children on our register. On average we have 17-21 lively and eager children in group. Looking back in the register, it is hard to believe that just a few years ago we had single figures attending each week.

While this is exciting and an amazing testament to the children wanting to learn and hear God's word (as they are at an



Explorers has almost doubled in size this academic year and since September we have had over 30 children on our register.

Glow

(Alternate Friday Evenings, 1900-2030, Term Time)

Our vibrant club for 8 to 11 year olds (primary school years 4, 5 and 6), Glow has continued to be the coolest place to be on a Friday evening! We have been moved and thankful to God for His presence as we have seen children impacted and responding to the Bible stories and asking to be prayed for. The number of children that attend regularly averages 65 with 90 on register.

age where if they don't want to come to Explorers they will simply refuse), the high numbers can present a challenge for the leaders. Catherin Tidmarsh, William Edwards and I continue to compete with the acoustics in the room and discipline, high spirits and the wide range of special educational needs can all test our patience and self control at times! Thankfully we have an excellent team of helpers and parent helpers to support us.

We continue to base our sessions on the Scripture Union material, which we adapt and balance according to the group's needs. Where some love craft or drama, others prefer colouring or writing activities. Since Christmas, we have been studying the Old Testament stories of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to explore the notion of faith and God's promises.

We encouraged the children to pray and ask questions in the weeks following Trevor's death and, through prayer and open discussion, we have tried to involve them in the process of finding a new vicar.

Michèle Marcus

It is a huge privilege to serve alongside John Hutchison, Helen Sadler, William Edwards, Tom Rutter, Simon Davis, Maricar Mesina, Steph Patterson, Judy Mathieson, Katy Johnston, Fiona Brown, Kayleigh Butler and Ian Trought.

Please pray for God's wisdom to reveal His plan for this community of children, especially as we seek to encourage year 6 children to make the transition to our Youth Group Collide and how we seek to serve and support children with learning differences.

Sue Jackson



Refresh

(Monday Mornings, Term Time)

Our Christian-themed group for parents and their pre-school children continues to thrive. Deliberately small, we have 17 parents registered, and the size of the group has encouraged

friendship and community that extends beyond Monday mornings. The running order starts with sharing 'breakfast' together, conversation, and playtime for the children, and ends with a Bible passage and singing session aimed at both children and adults. We have also enjoyed seasonal cooking activities together and end of term Service-style celebrations.

It is an encouragement to see parents come to a Sunday Service and ask for prayer. All glory to God.

I'm so thankful to God for Anke Marais, Vivi Henrich Tavares, Ali Blood, Kate Thornton, Diane Bamping, Catherin Tidmarsh, Dot Stride and Kate Chapman who constantly serve, inspire and bless this group.

Sue Jackson



*We will tell
the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds
of the Lord,
his power, and the
wonders he has done.
Psalm 78:4*

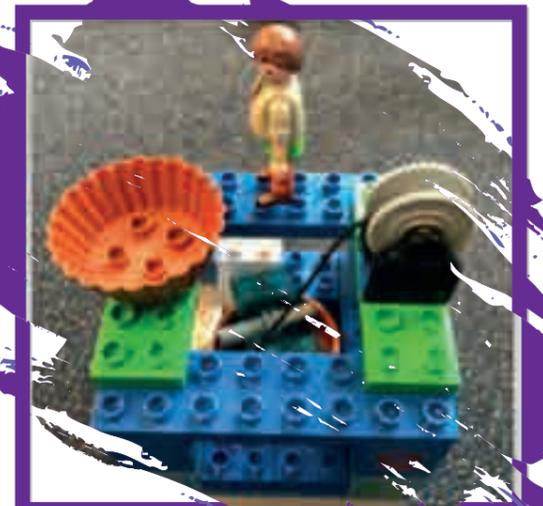
Bible Club at Holy Trinity School

(Monday Afternoons, Term Time)

Our very popular Bible Club meets on Mondays after school, 1530 to 1630. We have 10 children attending and follow the teaching subjects from the Monday morning Assembly. This allows us to 'go deeper' into the Bible Passage for the day.

There is always a waiting list for this club, with requests to run it 5 days a week!

Sue Jackson



Youth Work

It is an immense privilege to write this report as the Youth and Children's Minister at Holy Trinity Richmond for the second time, and I do so with a mixture of emotions as we reflect together on this last year. I am experiencing both a sense of the speed in which this time has

flown by, but also a real sense of stability and family in equal measure. I want to thank every soul for your support, love and belief as we create community amongst our young people, investing both into the Kingdom of God, and our local family.

I want to thank every soul for your support, love and belief as we create community amongst our young people, investing both into the Kingdom of God, and our local family.

This past year has been filled with immeasurable grief, and yet a real, overwhelming sense of God's enduring presence and grace, as often happens in his Kingdom. On a personal level, I found the loss of Trevor very difficult, especially as God had used him immeasurably in my own life. As a minister learning from Trevor, the shock was profound, and for a while I felt very lost, especially as Trevor was the most wonderful co-conspirator



for the advance of the Kingdom amongst our young people. In so many ways, the Lord has been speaking, and challenging me as I wrestle with vision, especially the continuation of the simple vision Trevor had of a Church that was not only catering for young people, but fully embraced what they have to offer. We both shared the value of young people not only being the future of the Church, but a very real, tangible present.

In many ways, my own sense of grief and loss was shared by our young people, especially as they lost a beacon of stability in their own lives. For the vast majority of the youth in our Church, Trevor has been the only vicar they have ever experienced, and so we have journeyed together in learning about growth, and change, and the truth that we are always safe when we are held in God's embrace. But God doesn't just want us safe, but dreaming, building and advancing the Kingdom of Heaven here on Earth.

Our weekly programme

At the moment, our youth programme consists of a three event programme of discipleship and outreach, which we have mostly aimed to maintain over this past year, especially as we were not able to successfully enlist a specific youth intern for this academic year, though our Youth and Worship Intern Hannah Helm has been a wonderful and invaluable support to me over this period. On a Sunday, we are currently running Quest, our 11-14's programme during the Morning Service, and a small community of 14-18's are beginning to become very at home in our Evening Service community. We are also continuing to run two small groups every Monday, and our youth outreach cafe every Wednesday, 'Collide'.

Quest is currently our most attended community where we have seen the

More often than not, this community will dynamically disrupt the Youth Minister's plan

growth over the past year. With a new intake of year 7's, a brand new, exciting community is forming during our Morning Service. As you will probably have noticed, our venue has changed from the Vicar's Office to the Upper Vestry, which is accessed from behind the Worship Team on a Sunday morning. This decision was especially made in order to release the Vicar's Office to create room for a 'chill out' zone for our Children's groups, but has proved very popular as young people feel like they have their own space. Over the past year, we have especially been focusing on 'The Kingdom of God' in our youth work, as we explore the message, cause and revolutionary vision of Jesus, and God has been leading us as a group to look at different ways we can reach out to those around us. More often than not, this community will dynamically disrupt the Youth Minister's plan as they wrestle with different topics that are important to them, such as science and religion, and I am very excited about the potential for growth in faith in this group.

Our Monday boys' and girls' small groups are also doing very well, with a real depth of relationship and seeking God occurring in both. The girls' group

is especially flourishing spiritually as the young women in our Church take on a real mantle of leadership. Led by Ellie Hughes, Kate Webb and Hannah Helm, our girls are marching towards real leadership as they pray powerful prayers, lead each other in Bible study and explore the wonderful plans God has for them! Our boys have got a slightly different flavour as they debate, question, and build relationships with each other, with the flagship 'honesty hour', where we spend time building accountability and transparency with each other, alongside the odd card game!

Outreach and events

On a Wednesday, Collide meets at 1800, and continues to attract a small cohort of young people who have not grown up in the HTR community, alongside the regular membership. We are continuing to wrestle dynamically with the correct balance during this group, and are still dreaming of a quality venue where young people will feel comfortable inviting their non-Christian friends. While we

A few of our Richmond teenagers didn't much appreciate the low-key camp catering, much to our amusement



have not yet fully met this goal, we are passionate about building a space that is owned by and for young people in our borough, that is attractive to those on the fringes and the outside of the Church community. We have, however, built a real 'board game' culture that runs counter-cultural to the trends of today's world. Where young people are continuing to develop in this digital world, we are beginning to cultivate a culture of relationship in a very analogue format! In creating a space where young people are given a space at a table, we are fostering deep relationships with a small group that has the potential of growing into a real spiritual family with time and investment. Our dream is to be able to offer young people a real alternative to a culture of distance, and God is moving us in that direction.

On a Monday I am continuing to support Tom Rutter and the Chaplaincy at Christ's School, where we offer a lunchtime club for young people. This is one of my favourite times of the week as I spend an hour with around 20 year 9 boys, where I feel like I have built great and lasting relationships with a real sense of camaraderie and trust. We continue to dream and vision for this space to develop more spiritually as we

continue to introduce Christ into the lives of these young people.

In August 2017, we partnered with Bless Community Church in Ealing to deliver our Soul Survivor Residential, where we joined 8,000 other Christian young people, which was largely successful, especially as several members of our community responded wonderfully to calls to follow Jesus. Moreover, many of our young people had wonderful encounters with the real presence of God and learned a huge amount about faith and scripture while having a lot of fun, though a few of our Richmond teenagers didn't much appreciate the low-key camp catering, much to our amusement! It was also a wonderful opportunity to make lasting friendships with other local Christians from down the road. In 2018 we are planning on returning to Soul Survivor, this time expanding our partnership to include St John's Church in Ealing, who have offered to take on the huge job of catering, making the Youth Minister at Holy Trinity Richmond far less stressed!

The future

This period of adjustment has been difficult for our youth ministry in many ways, but God is speaking, and we are beginning to get very excited. I have spent a considerable amount of time dedicated to visioning alongside our young people as they step up into spaces of leadership, and we believe God is calling us into a new vision, and I want to take this time to report what I believe is a prophetic moment for our young people.

As we have journeyed together, we have especially sensed God speaking to us about the journey itself, and how

change and transformation mirrors our own journey with God, which is why a particular theme has arisen! We have, after consulting our young people, decided to relaunch our youth work programme in September with a new vision, and a new name! While reflecting on the theme of moving from one space to another under God's leading and pastoring, our wonderful Operations Manager helped us to come up with the name 'The Crossing', which speaks into our call to cross boundaries, to cross from death to life and from the

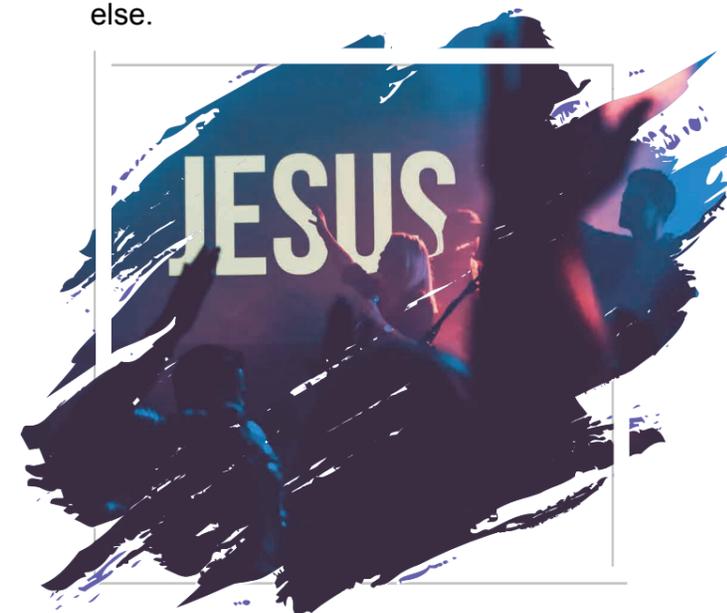
How is God leading us, and what is He shaping us to be?

inside out, but it also encapsulates our devotion to a life signed by the Cross, of dying to ourselves and being raised to new life in Christ. We are praying that The Crossing will not be a youth group, but a real movement of young people eradicating boundaries and advancing the Kingdom in our borough. We have been especially influenced in this by meditating on the similarity with the story of Israel crossing the Red Sea from slavery, and the Jordan into the Promised Land!

Alongside this, we are launching a new 11-14's programme, which we are calling 'Liberate', alongside this same theme. Israel, after crossing into the Promised Land, were called to Liberate it in the same way they had been liberated from Pharaoh. In the same way, we believe God is in the business of liberating our young people from the things that our culture imposes on them, and that he is also calling us to partner with him in liberating others. This reflects the organic movement of our youth group into a real interest in seeing 'Kingdom Come', in

seeing the poor liberated and justice to come. Our new 14-18's programme will be called Dwell, as we learn to dwell in the promised land, and especially as we are called to be 'Salt and Light' in our society, where our dwelling changes the atmosphere of the spaces around us.

We reached this vision by asking ourselves specifically how we, as a Church, are different from everyone else.



How is God leading us, and what is He shaping us to be? We know that we are an outward looking Church who alongside our partners like Riverbank Trust and Kick London, are influencing and liberating those around us. We believe that our youth work should be doing the same, and want to honour God in his vision for our Parish. I am extremely excited about where God is leading us, and hope you are too! If you are as excited as me, let me know! We are looking for partners and leaders from our Church to come alongside our young people as they seek to shift the culture around them! We are thankful to God for Trevor's leadership of us, and with great conviction want to take the baton and run the race to Kingdom Come.

In His great Love,

Georges Kesrouani

Holy Trinity School

The School's Vision:

"At Holy Trinity Primary School we welcome you to an exciting world of learning, discovery and friendship. We are passionate about nurturing every child, helping them to find and develop their own talents and be the best that they possibly can. Children will learn within a Christian community, surrounded by support, kindness, respect and fun; and will leave with fantastic memories to cherish forever."

The school is blessed by the involvement of many members of Holy Trinity Richmond. Helen Sadler is a faithful friend who comes in weekly to support and work with the children. Sue Jackson continues to run her ever popular weekly Bible Club. Michèle Burrows, Georges Kesrouani and Peter Frith are all current governors. Dave Petrie has also very recently joined as a governor. Claude Scott has

been a governor for many years; we are delighted that he is going to continue with us as an associate governor. The work of the school benefits greatly from the knowledge, dedication and skill of its governing body. We are very blessed to have such strong representation from Holy Trinity Richmond.

Some of the Church's Staff Team plan and deliver our Monday worship

We are very blessed to have such strong representation from Holy Trinity Richmond.

assemblies and Michelle Rutter works in the school through Riverbank.

Kate Patterson's work as Chaplain continues to deepen as strong relationships are made with parents and staff. Kate will leave us this academic year; we are hugely grateful for all that she has accomplished and we pray for her next steps .

All the children and staff were devastated when they heard about Trevor's death. They responded through prayers of thanks and messages of encouragement for Kate and the boys. All the children have contributed to a collage of the Prodigal Son returning home and this will be hung in our school hall to remind us all of Trevor's inspirational love for Jesus.

Our most recent venture was to put on a week long "Prayer Space" for the children. This meant that every child from Reception to Year 6 had the opportunity for quiet reflection and prayer. This wouldn't have been possible without the skilled and kind volunteers from Holy



Trinity Richmond.

Please continue to pray for God's blessing and protection over the whole school as we strive to honour Jesus. If you would ever like to visit please don't hesitate to contact me at the school, at church or by e-mail – p.cox@holytrinityrichmond.sch.uk or visit our website – www.holytrinityschool.org.uk

Mrs Penny Cox
Head teacher

Riverbank Trust

I was recently clearing out some old paperwork (our administrator Reni will be delighted to hear) and I came across a document I had written back in 2010 to be presented to HTR's Standing Committee outlining the vision for a community outreach project that would seek to reach out to the most vulnerable families and young Mums in our community. I remember that

And through the power of the Holy Spirit we rejoice as our families are growing in trust and confidence.

meeting. Over the last 6 months I have thought a lot about the conversations I had that year, starting with a lunch in a café in Richmond with Trevor and Kate Patterson where I shared some of the ideas I felt God was laying on my heart, about what it might look like if the Church was to wrap itself, unconditionally and lovingly, around broken, hurting and isolated families in our community. As we have faced some of our biggest challenges so far in the last few months, particularly with regards to funding, I have thought a lot about the ridiculously brave and faith filled way this Church grabbed hold of this vision with both hands and on a tidal wave of generosity and prayer launched us into being. As we have watched fruit grow amongst our families, relationships deepen and hearts soften, even in the middle of trial and struggle, I have thought a lot about the way God moves, when His people seek justice, love mercy and commit to walk humbly with Him.



For Riverbank, as for many across our church community, we have grieved over the last 6 months for Trevor, not only one of our founding trustees but so often our loudest and greatest champion. I have reflected on the many moments over the last 8 years when my

head has dropped, when I have doubted God's goodness to us, and time and time again this faith filled man came back at me with assurance that God is with us, God is for us and we trust not in the plans of men, not in our own efforts, but in His steadfast love, His plans and His goodness to us.



Last summer, as we stared down the barrel of yet another funding shortage, Trevor shared with me a memory that the Lord had reminded him of. Almost 15 years ago, a visiting preacher (I forget his name) spoke prophetically that this was a church where many would come from the outside and that God was drawing people to our church who at the moment were far away. I am sure and certain, as Trevor was, that this is being fulfilled at Holy Trinity Richmond in many, many ways, but as Trevor prayed over Riverbank that day last

July he spoke with joy and excitement that the Lord was fulfilling this word in Riverbank; this ministry that God has called into being to welcome the outsider, to find a place for the one who seems far away and to pursue them relentlessly in love and enduring relationship, to welcome them back home.

This last year we have been so thrilled to see more of our families take steps of faith, to have more opportunities to pray for them, to invite the Holy Spirit into our times with them, and of course, with peace and joy, He always comes. And through the power of the Holy Spirit we rejoice as our families are growing in trust and confidence. We have been overjoyed at the response to our new Parenting programme; a queue to be part of it is already forming! We are so thankful that the Lord has been re-opening doors in the Queens Road Hostel and for the relationships that we are building once again there. We are continuing our quest to become Community

Sponsors in order that we might welcome a refugee family in the coming year. We are excited about re-entering Darell School this Summer and the continuing support we are able to offer vulnerable families in Holy Trinity School and Marshgate. Many of the families we are meeting in our local schools are beginning to take part in other areas of HTR's life which is such a joy – this has

I am encouraged and humbled that this ministry entrusted to us is ultimately the Lord's work and all that is happening is His plan and is for His glory.



to tell through the precious families we know and love, and we pray earnestly for a continued outpouring of His Spirit and favour on this ministry. I am personally so thankful for the team that serves alongside me and the incredible volunteers and supporters from HTR who have joined us along the Riverbank in various ways over the last year – there are never enough words to tell you what you mean to us.

always been our mission and ultimate vision - to see the Church Community as the place that lonely and struggling families can call home, where they can find peace, can find rescue.

So what's ahead of us? So much I believe. There is so much more I believe the Lord has for Riverbank, many more stories of salvation and saving, of redeeming and rescue. We believe this is always the story that God wants

So whatever is ahead, today as I look at that piece of paper we presented to our brilliant Standing Committee almost 8 years ago, I am encouraged and humbled that this ministry entrusted to us is ultimately the Lord's work and all that is happening is His plan and is for His glory.

Ellie Hughes

Traidcraft

What is Traidcraft? It is an independent trading company with a linked development charity. It was started nearly 40 years ago by Christians who were inspired by Jesus' love to work towards justice, and who wanted to use fair trade to enable people to work their way out of poverty.

Why is Traidcraft important when we now have Fair Trade items in supermarkets? Because Traidcraft trades with and supports people who are living in the most severe poverty who cannot cope with the demands or scale of supermarkets.

How does Traidcraft work? There is an office/warehouse in Gateshead. Traidcraft workers visit the farmers, beekeepers, and artisan groups from whom they purchase goods. Traidcraft Exchange, the linked charity, gives advice and helps to improve working conditions. There has traditionally been a catalogue in the Spring and Autumn of each year, but now there is the website as well. Because of the Christian basis one of the ways Traidcraft has worked is

in churches, with volunteers setting up a stall. They also sell to other organisations - check at Kew Gardens shop for Traidcraft's "Artisans Fair" range!

When is there a Traidcraft stall at church? We have a Traidcraft stall every month, usually on the 4th Sunday morning, with more stalls before Christmas and Easter.

What do we buy most? Some of the most popular items are bars of chocolate, dried mango, chocolate raisins, and biscuits, plus craft goods such as the small decorated boxes, bags and beautiful earrings. We also buy the Real Advent Calendars and Real Easter Eggs which Traidcraft was involved in introducing, so that children can know the real meaning of Christmas and Easter.

How much did we send to Traidcraft in 2017- 2018? Thank you to everyone who has bought Traidcraft goods over the past year. In the last 12 months we have bought £2,125.76 worth of goods on the stall which we have paid Traidcraft.



As well as our monthly stall we use Traidcraft tea, coffee, sugar, paper handkerchiefs and toilet rolls in the Church Centre, separately ordered by the Church Office.

A special thank you to Myrna Blair,

Nima Shrestha and Sara Kandiah who helped to set up and put away the stall in December when I went to Costa Rica for 2 weeks on a Traidcraft Meet the People Tour. This was a wonderful chance for me and a group of other

Traidcraft supporters to meet the

farmers producing cocoa, coffee, sugar and pineapples, to share together as Christians, as well as have a wonderful holiday.

Please contact me if you would like a Traidcraft catalogue or would like to order anything, or would like information about the Meet the People Tours.

Rosalind Ambrose

*Traidcraft
Meet the People Tour:
a wonderful chance to meet
the farmers producing cocoa,
coffee, sugar and pineapples,
to share together as
Christians, as well as have
a wonderful holiday.*

Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod met 3 times in the last year. There is usually a main event speaker and also a business part of the meeting. The latter includes deanery news such as the comings and goings of clergy as well as anything else which is current and ecclesiastical! There is also a chance for churches with a particular interest to give reports on issues as varied as the Glass Door project, climate change/churches' ecological response, and Welcare charity, to name a few.

Trevor had initiated singing a hymn as a collective act of worship to open

I came home from it positively buzzing (yes, true!)

and close the meeting. This has been much appreciated by all and the habit has continued. It adds a warmth and togetherness which we need (coming from churches with such a diverse variety of worship styles). His loss has been felt keenly by all, and he was remembered with words, prayers and silence at the meeting on October shortly after his death.

Main topics/speakers have included an excellent evening hearing from 3 people involved in children and young peoples' work (who are delivering this in varied ways), the work of the Church Commissioners and hearing from Archbishop Dr Josiah Idowu-Fearon, Secretary General of the Anglican Communion Office.

I must admit, hearing from the Archbishop was my favourite evening - and one which I came home from positively buzzing (yes, true!). He is an extremely enthusiastic speaker who spoke about the nature of the Anglican Communion, with the kind of authority that comes from experience, years of

The Anglican Communion has mechanisms which enable it to remain together despite its diversity

study, wisdom and a very deep faith.

I am useless at remembering details, but the gist of his message was to place the activities of the Communion in the context of the relationship with the Church of England. He spoke of Communion as a biblical term which is more than just an agreement, and we

have to find ways to live together despite our differences.

He commented that the range of churchmanship within the Communion is wide and the Communion has mechanisms which enable it to remain together despite its diversity. He was keen to place emphasis on finding similarity and bonds to strengthen and not break up. He also mentioned the

Lambeth Conference, next due in summer 2020. The Archbishop asked us to pray that bishops will accept invitations to this.

I could easily have listened to him for another hour!

Karin Boyton





Minutes of the 2017 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The 2017 APCM took place within the 1000 Morning Service on Sunday 30 April 2017. The Service included worship, prayer, a reading and talk as usual, but also testimony and the business items necessary as part of an APCM.

ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS BY PARISHIONERS

1. Minutes of the 2016 meeting - Approval was proposed by Mark Lambert, seconded by David Ewart and agreed by the meeting.
2. Election of Churchwardens - Two nominations had been received for the role of Warden for the coming year, for David Ewart, proposed by Roger Marx and seconded by Mark Johnston, and Mark Lambert, proposed by Jimmie Keesing and seconded by Regina Gössel. They were duly appointed. Trevor thanked David and Mark for serving during the past year, and for the many ways in which they contribute to the life of our church. Mark prayed for our church, thanking God for His faithfulness to us and for our life together, and praying especially for wisdom as we take forward a building project. He also prayed for Trevor and other leaders in some of the challenges we face, and for us all to discern God's will and vision. Trevor in turn prayed for David and Mark, thanking God for their leadership, integrity and wisdom.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Testimony

Mille Anderson and Jake Butler each spoke about how God had been at work in and

through their lives over the past year.

Millie spoke about a year of change and planning for change as she, Mark and their two daughters move to Oxted for Mark to take up a curacy. She has been at HTR for around 16 years, and with the prospect of moving coupled with her father's death a year ago she has faced anxious times. She has continued to discover that it's only through God's grace and actively trusting in Him that she can cope. Psalm 121:8 is a reminder that God watches over us, which was a meaningful promise both when it was read at her father's funeral and as she now faces the changes and uncertainties of the coming months. She has also been encouraged by some of the words of the song You make me brave - You call me out beyond the shore and into the waves ...

Jake spoke of how he felt he has experienced God's grace in so many ways through being part of our church community. He felt he is increasingly learning to be dependent on God and is growing in His relationship with Jesus, particularly through experiencing His forgiveness and learning to be like Him. He spoke of having a real sense of hope for the future in a God who answers prayer.

Trevor Patterson's talk

Trevor spoke on Joshua 1:1-9. Our focus this year is Live for Jesus. At the start of the book of Joshua Moses had just died and a new chapter was beginning as Joshua took over leadership, and God had promised to give the people of Israel territory. We are called to be kingdom-bringers, and our prayer as a church should be Thy kingdom come - let up there come down here. Joshua could have been overwhelmed by following in Moses' footsteps, but God told Moses He would be with him (Joshua 1:5). We've known God with us in the past year in so many ways,

indirectly through ministry and mission we've supported through the likes of Karis Kids, Wycliffe, Interserve, Riverbank Trust, Kick London, Vineyard Lunches and Street Pastors, and directly through our youth and children's work, work with the elderly and in a vast range of other ways. We are making a difference and are called to continue doing so. This calling is for all of us, with both our strengths and our weaknesses.

We can learn two particular things from this passage. First, as we serve God we must trust and obey Him (Joshua 1:8). We need to be devoted to Jesus and His word, and there are lots of ways for us to do this. Our Staff Team is an example being this, and Trevor said he was very pleased that Alwyn and Kate Webb have been given permission to stay with us for up to another year. Secondly, we must remember we are not alone; God is with us wherever we go. The incident in last weekend's London Marathon of one runner supporting another who was almost collapsing as he approached the finishing line was a wonderful example of standing alongside one another. But the Swansea runner who offered help still kept going as well. God's promise is to people who keep on moving; Joshua's choice and God's provision come together. Trevor encouraged those not yet in a Life Group to join one as they are a great help in supporting and encouraging one another in following Jesus.

As we face the coming year we can be absolutely confident that God will be with us.

Apologies for absence were received from Kate Bertaut, Sara Kandiah, Smriti Prasad-Halls and Tom Rutter.

- 1. Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting** - Approval was proposed by David Ewart, seconded by Sheena Marx and agreed by the meeting.
- 2. Electoral Roll** - The Roll is an indicator of membership of our church. Over the past year there had been 15 deletions from the Roll and 14 additions to it, giving a new total of 163, 113 of whom live outside the parish. Sadly five of our more senior members had died in the last year - Marjorie Peters, Betty Smalley, Ann Watson, and Astley and Jean Wylde.
- 3. Treasurer's Report** - Mark Johnston explained that managing our finances is a big operation, with around 10,000 transactions a year. He thanked David Ewart, Thelma Pritchard, Coleen & Jimmie Keesing, Keith Nurse, PCC and Standing Committee for the different roles they play in this. He showed a graph of donations over the last 15 years. These had peaked before our church plant in Barnes in 2012, had then dipped as we lost several generous donors who moved to be part of the plant, but had gradually recovered to a record level in 2016. He also showed a chart of how expenditure breaks down between staff cost, the Parish Support Fund, outreach, buildings and other costs. After anticipating a deficit as we approached the end of 2016, a wonderful response to an appeal in December 2016 for donations to cover this had led to a surplus for the year of around £12,000, £10,000 of which has been placed in our Building Fund.

Our 2017 budget is a break-even one. Although donations remain flat, this is against the background of 2016 being a record year for giving. The loss of donors who have died or moved also means we need to find new donors, or existing ones who

will increase their giving. Through Giving Sunday we have reached our regular giving target for the year, but remain around £35,000 short on one-off donations for the year. We need to continue to plan for income to match expenditure, rather than drawing on our reserves. This looks daunting, but we have seen God provide wonderfully in the past.

- Approval of the 2016 Accounts was proposed by Mark Lambert, seconded by Judy Mathieson and agreed by the meeting
 - Adoption of the 2017 Budget was proposed by Ellie Hughes, seconded by Liz Green and agreed by the meeting
 - Appointment of John Helm as our Independent Examiner was proposed by Katy Johnston, seconded by Ian Bridges and agreed by the meeting.
- 4. Election of PCC members** - Trevor explained that we need to elect three PCC representatives to serve for three years. There were three nominations - Kate Bertaut (proposed by Sue Jackson and seconded by Joao Tavares), Mark Johnston (proposed by Mark Anderson and seconded by Keith Nurse) and Sara Kandiah (proposed by Michelle Rutter and seconded by Karen Block). They were duly elected.
 - 5. Election of Deanery Synod members** - Trevor explained that we need to elect four Deanery Synod representatives to serve for three years. There were four nominations - Karin Boyton (proposed by Tom Rutter and seconded by Nima Paribag), Judy Mathieson (proposed by Sara Kandiah and seconded by Jean Tan), Sue Reed (proposed by Sue Martin and seconded by Keith Nurse) and James Thornton (proposed by Dorothy Stride and seconded by Graham Bamping). They were duly elected.
 - 6. Election of Sidespeople** - Trevor briefly explained the role of Sidespeople and said that we are electing members to serve through both our Sunday Morning and Sunday Evening Teams. Sacha Williamson proposed the appointment for the coming year of Diane Bamping, Graham Bamping, Diane Bridges, David Ewart, Duncan Gibbons, Elaine Gibbons, Coleen Keesing, Jimmie Keesing, Mark Lambert, Sue Martin, Keith Nurse, Helen Sadler, Nicholas Smith, Fiona Wade, Liz Assmann, Patricia Gomes, James Hallam, Patricia de Jong, Brian Lockerby, Thelma Pritchard, Daphne Rowan, Claire Stansfield and Helen Towers-Evans. This was seconded by Jean Tan and agreed by the meeting.
 - 7. Closing remarks** - Trevor gave huge thanks to the large team of people who share in ministry in and through our church in such a wide variety of ways. He particularly acknowledged their generous service, and looked forward to another exciting year. He especially thanked Kate Patterson and their boys, Keith Nurse, Joao Tavares and the whole of the Staff Team. Mark Lambert in turn thanked Trevor for his leadership and vision, and for the way that, like Joshua, he guides and encourages our church.



Our hearts are filled with thankfulness for all God has done in the last 12 months at HTR, in our own lives, and in the lives of the new people He has drawn into our community. The last year has been unique in its own way, but so has God's care, love and faithfulness.

Many people have contributed to this book and we are extremely grateful for their devotion and service. The words here written express the wonderful work which goes on at HTR, and we would not be able to do it without your support and God's guidance.

*Do not be afraid.
Stand firm and you
will see the deliverance
the Lord will bring you today.*

*...
The Lord will fight for you;
you need only to be still”
(Exodus 14:13,14)*

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a church with an open door

*reaching out with God's love and power
helping one another live for Jesus*