

## The new vicar on the block

Almost a year ago Holy Trinity Richmond received some devastating news: our vicar, Trevor Patterson, had died suddenly. In the middle of the shock and sadness, one of the many processes that had to be put in place was the appointment of a new vicar. Drafts were created, a parish profile designed, interviews set up and after many steps, we are very delighted to announce the appointment of our new vicar, Rev Dan Wells. Well... officially Dan will become the new vicar at the Service of Institution and Induction taking place on Wednesday, 19 September at 19.30 at Holy Trinity Richmond. As many of us are very excited to meet and get to know Dan, we decided to ask him some questions and start the process as soon as possible. Just after Dan and Louise, his wife, moved into the Vicarage, Dan kindly took a break from unpacking and answered a few of our initial questions.

**To start, how would you describe yourself? How would Louise describe you?**

*I'm a sinner saved by grace. It sounds super-spiritual to say so, but it's true and the most fundamental thing about me. Beyond that, I'm a bit of a geek (I love comic book movies and books about science) and like learning new things (for instance, I recently took a class on modern calligraphy). I aspire under God to be a good listener and a godly friend. I enjoy good coffee and drink too much of it. Louise would probably add that I'm a good cook, have a storehouse of useless facts and am not very good at multitasking!*

**Tell us an interesting fact about you.**

*When I was a curate in Plymouth I got abandoned in a studio of Radio Devon.*

**What is your favourite spot in Central London?**

*Scandinavian Kitchen coffee shop on Great Titchfield Street - you can't beat their cinnamon buns!*

**What is your favourite bible verse?**

*Quite difficult to choose just one, but perhaps Nehemiah 8:10, "The joy of the Lord is your strength"*

**What do you do in your free time?**

*I really enjoy baking, so I do a fair bit of that in my spare time. Louise and I enjoy playing board games, so we often have friends around to play a game or two. I love going to the movies to see the latest Marvel film, and I watch American Football, supporting the Denver Broncos.*

**How was your time at All Souls, your previous church?**

*Great, but very busy. All Souls has so many terrific opportunities it can be almost impossible to realise you can't grasp all of them.*

**What are your first impressions of Richmond?**

*It's a lovely place, with a lot more green than we have been used to in central London. On the first two days after we arrived, we got caught in the rain each day, so our very first impression was quite wet!*

**What are you most excited about HTR?**

*Getting to know the church family and hearing about what God is doing in each person's life.*

**Can you tell us what drew you to HTR?**

*To be part of a local church of people who love Jesus and want to reach out with Jesus' love to those*

*around them. That's what being church is all about, and that's what we quickly realised is the heartbeat of HTR.*

**What do you think will be the biggest challenge ahead?**

*Learning everyone's names! Seriously, my memory is very bad so please bear with me as I try to remember.*

Dan will know that these questions were just the beginning, and many more are about to come. However, he is also interested in getting to know us, so be ready to answer some of his questions, too. And as he asked, please let's be patient with him while he learns our names. We don't want to scare him off from the start!

**Joao Paulo Tavares and Dan Wells**



# A manly day - Men's Away Day

On Saturday 23 June 2018, some of the HTR men got together for a day of worship, teaching, community, an afternoon of football and an evening of pizza.

The morning was spent at St Stephen's Church in Twickenham. The day started with coffee and catching up with one another, after which there

was a short time of worship followed by a deeply challenging and inspiring talk focused on 'Running the race: With one eye on the prize' by Alwyn Webb. This was followed by some time to privately reflect on the teaching and spend some time in prayer, walking in Marble Hill Park.



After a lunch with sandwiches Roger Marx picked up where Alwyn left off and continued to inspire from the scriptures and personal experience,

with a focus on 'Building for God: With one eye on the prize'. The morning was beautifully ended by sharing communion amongst one another.

The afternoon saw some brave gentlemen kicking around a football and impressing with previously unseen skills. The day was rounded off by a relaxing evening at Pizzeria Rustica where tales of eye-watering goals and football skills that would make the England squad go green with envy were narrated, maybe

**The day was rounded off by a relaxing evening where tales of eye-watering goals and football skills that would make the England squad go green with envy were narrated, maybe with a pinch of salt.**

with a pinch of salt.

In all, the day was a marvellous time to spend together: as fathers, brothers, husbands, sons and friends; as family in Christ.

*Nico Marais*

## Focus at Focus!!!

The Focus festival in July is a time for our church network to spend quality time together as thousands gather for a week of teaching, worship and fellowship. Holy Trinity Brompton church started

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the event in 1992 and again this year hosted the activities at Somerley Estate in Hampshire. Speakers included Bishop

of London Dame Sarah Mullally and US author and speaker RT Kendall. Holy Trinity Barnes kindly invited HTR to join them along with St Barnabas Church Kensington. 120 of us came together under their huge marquee, for feasting and friendship. Their welcome shelter protected us from the heatwave AND torrential downpours



and high winds which required gazebos and parasols to be taken down, and tents to be re-pegged extra firmly!

**Our time was truly blessed and come rain or shine, we evolved together.**

From 'whooping' in revellers entering the Big Top to worship on the Saturday night, to quiet contemplation back at our base, our time was truly blessed and come rain or shine, we grew together.

*Helen West*





# #CHANGE

The Bridge and The Crossing  
Hello! As the term is about to start it is great to spend a bit of time updating everyone on some important and exciting changes taking place in the Youth Ministry life of HTR.

First of all, a whole new youth group is starting! We are really excited to announce that a new fortnightly group is starting called 'The Bridge'. This is going to be a group for new year 7s that are graduating from Glow, and the dream is that it grows until they are in year 9! It's going to be a really fun, social setting for younger youth with the same games, consoles and cool equipment that they are used to from Glow, but with a mixed team of old friends and new! Myself and Sue Jackson will be heading it up, so if you want to attend, get in touch! It's happening on the Friday nights that Glow isn't on, and the first one will be on Friday, 21 September at 18.00!

Secondly, Collide is having a name change! I spent some time dreaming with some of our lovely young people, and we really felt that God is calling us to

cross over from the old to the new! From September, our work with years 10+ will officially be called 'The Crossing'! This will still be happening every Wednesday from 18.00!

Another thing to look forward to is our youth weekend away! We will once again



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be joining with our friends from Bless Community Church as we head over to Saffron Walden for a great weekend of worship, fun and games. The weekend away will be called Kaleidoscope and will happen in early November! Watch this space!

*Georges Kesrouani*

## Summer + heatwave

Back in July, following a wonderful Service at HTR where we bid an incredibly fond farewell to the Pattersons, a BBQ was enjoyed in the vicarage garden.

The turnout was huge and bumper numbers of sausages and burgers were barbequed and munched upon. Followed by ice creams eaten in record time to avoid melting in the scorching mid-day sunshine. Parasols and trees were used to shelter from the sun's strong rays. And when all else failed? The hosepipe was switched on and came in very handy for cooling down the crowd!

*Helen West*



## A year to remember

I loved my year at HTR. It was full of all the emotions and all different lessons to learn. Looking back on this year I am just so grateful that God led me somewhere so completely unexpected and yet so profoundly right for me at this particular time.

When I think of my most precious moments during my internship at HTR I find that the majority of them are seemingly small moments such as having a dance party in the office, laughing in a staff meeting, being encouraged, being silly during worship band practice, dancing in church after youth band practice, almost slipping in the slums of Kampala,

having heart-to-hearts with the most amazing girls who so quickly became true friends, and simply being so loved and deeply blessed again and again through being part of this community!

**This year has been special to me in so many ways and I will honestly treasure and remember it all!**



This year has been special to me in so many ways and I will honestly treasure and remember it all! Thank you all for being part of this journey of mine and I am certain I will see you again!

*Hannah Helm*

## Dates for your diary!

Please join us at events in the coming months

### Dan Wells' Institution and Induction Service

Wednesday, 19 September - 19.30

### Harvest Service

Sunday, 23 September - 10.00

### Alpha Supper

Thursday, 27 September - 19.30  
followed by 10 Thursdays

### Women's Breakfast

Saturday, 6 October - 09.00

### Life Group Leaders' Evening

Wednesday, 17 October - 20.00

### Light Party

Wednesday, 31 October - 17.00

### Men's Breakfast

Saturday, 3 November - 09.00

### Youth Weekend Away

Friday to Sunday  
Early November

### Alpha Day

Saturday, 17 November - from 09.30

### Joint Churches Prayer and Worship

Wednesday, 21 November - 20.00

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 come to our Harvest Service during this Autumn season. Or how about coming along to one of our weekly Sunday or Wednesday Services?


Holy Trinity Richmond is an Anglican parish church, with strong links to the local community.

For more information, please contact us.

020 8404 1112

[www.htrichmond.org.uk](http://www.htrichmond.org.uk)

 HTR - Holy Trinity Richmond

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# A generous day in 2018

We've been hugely encouraged once again this year by a wonderful response to our Gift Day in June. We received almost £23,500, which has been split evenly four ways as follows:



**Riverbank Trust** - To continue and further develop their work with vulnerable families



**LVA Trust**  
- To support Relationship and Sex Education work  
loved · valued · able in local schools

**Prison**  
FELLOWSHIP

**Prison Fellowship** - To fund restorative justice programmes at HMP Feltham



**Democratic Republic of Congo**  
- To help the local church support people in Bunia displaced by violence.

Thank you for your tremendous generosity!

*Keith Nurse*

## Verses to live by

In John chapter 15, verse 4 Jesus says *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."*

I find this verse a comforting assurance of God's love and promise, though it is also a challenge. At the evening Services earlier this year we had two talks on John chapter 15. Both speakers pointed out that these verses speak about trusting God to take control and to let go of our independence, which is not easy. Sometimes it is difficult letting go, but in doing so we allow space to receive God's goodness. While Jesus enables this, we have a part to play in making sure we allow the environment to thrive and grow, both on our own and with other people.

Another memorable talk at the evening Service was on John chapter 14, verse 6 where Jesus says of himself, *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me"*. I found it encouraging to hear that 'the truth' in this verse means a trustworthy way, rather than talking about a singular philosophical truth. This was a new perspective on this verse for me.

Jesus promises us a good and trustworthy way which brings life. Although I might not see the way ahead I can let go and trust Jesus. God doesn't require perfection, but encourages us to allow space for his goodness. It is through his grace we can grow into our best selves, just like the branches in the vine. He can also grow our trust too.

*Claire Stansfield*

