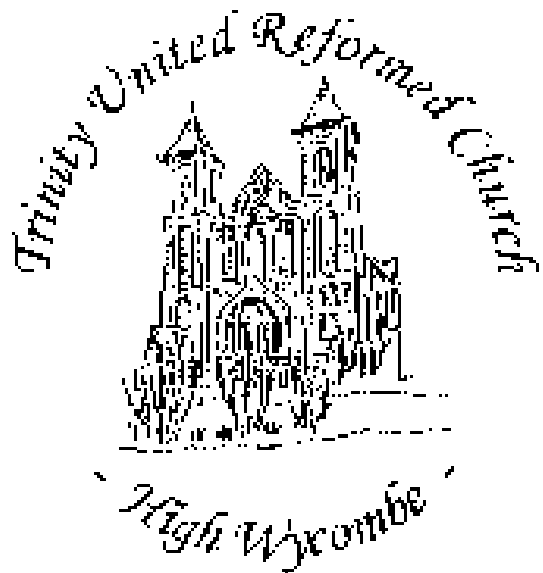


And we bring you the good news that what God promised to our ancestors he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising Jesus. Acts 13:32-33a



*April 2010*

# *The Recorder*

## **Inside - this month . . .**

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An edited version of this magazine is available on the Church Website.

(Personal details are NOT included)

Church web site: <http://www.trinity-urc.org.uk>

**Trinity - A Family Church**

Worshipping together - Caring for one another - Sharing with others

Dear Friends,

This issue of the Recorder is coming out on Easter Day.

The accounts in the Gospels of how the friends of Jesus gradually, and unbelievably, came to realise that the impossible had happened are gripping, thrilling and inspiring. If you have not read them for yourself yet this Easter why not do so now?

My daughter Meg was called in to do a morning's supply teaching with a year 3 class just before the end of term. The class teacher had to be elsewhere that morning but before going he gave Meg a children's Bible and asked her to teach the children the Easter story. She said that they were fascinated by the developing drama of the story and wanted to hear more and more. She was thrilled to have been given that opportunity.

It matters that Jesus lives. It matters that Jesus is Lord of both life and death. And it matters that children know that.

I wonder how we can reclaim the rich Christian Festivals for the children. Spiritually children cannot grow well on a diet of Easter bunny, or Father Christmas for that matter. If you pressed me, deep down, I'd have to admit that I think these two amiable creatures are actually rather sinister agents of materialism. Wolves in sheep's clothing perhaps?

On a different tack, I would like to pass on a few interesting matters from a recent Elders' meeting.

- After Easter framed photographic art will be on display at Trinity. The photos have been taken and printed by Andrew Winton's son Callum, who has pledged 15% of any takings from sales to Revive. Callum has made more of his work available than can be hung all at once, so the display will be changed every couple of weeks and run through into the summer.
- Feedback from the Wycombe Winter Night Shelter guests this year is that Trinity is a favoured venue, very much appreciated. It's not only that people have been physically comfortable here and very well fed, but also that they have appreciated the warm and friendly atmosphere. The coffee bar is a real asset, enabling guests to make themselves a cup of tea or coffee and so feel a bit more 'at home'.
- At March's Church meeting one of our members bemoaned the fact that, whilst lots of really good things are going on at Trinity, people out there don't know about it. We've come up with an idea to begin to address that. June 13 – 20 will be Trinity's Open Week. Everything that happens in our building will be listed, and neighbours will be invited to drop in to any of the groups and events that wish to be included in that invitation. More details to come in next month's Recorder.



Minister : Rev Dr Gwen Collins

e-mail: [gwen@trinity-urc.org.uk](mailto:gwen@trinity-urc.org.uk)

Church Secretary :Mrs Marian Mole,

e-mail: [secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk)

## April Services

**Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30am - led by the Minister unless otherwise indicated**

April 4	Easter Day	Sunrise service at Disraeli Monument
	10.30	Celebration of Christ's Resurrection including Holy Communion and induction of Elders.
April 11		Morning worship led by Revd Jack Ramsbottom
April 18		All Age Worship, with a visitor from Lighthouse
	4.30	Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance
April 25		Morning worship led by Alan Yates

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### Rotas for April

**Not included in this version**

# What's on in April



- Monday 12th April - Church Down Under - Niocolas Fried.  
(Hostess - Gwen C)
- Monday 26th April - Oberammergau Visit / Bring & Buy  
(Hostess - Joan S)

## WOMEN'S MEETING

- Tuesday 6th April *No meeting*
- Tuesday 13th April A light-hearted look at English spelling
- Tuesday 20th April The Lord's Prayer
- Tuesday 27th April The Seasons (DVD)



*All meetings start at 2.30 in the Coffee Bar*

## Diary Dates

- April** 5 - 11 **Gwen on holiday**  
 10 Coffee Morning  
 16 Mission Strategy Group meeting at The Manse 10.30am  
 18 Hustings event at All Saints Church 8pm (see separate article)  
 19 REVIVE Committee meeting 8pm  
 21 Churches Together in High Wycombe meeting 7.30pm at Salvation Army  
 27 Elders' Meeting 8pm
- May** 28 Leprosy Mission supporters' meeting 10.30am  
 2 Prayer Circle For Healing 4.30pm  
 5 WWNS Day Centre starts at Trinity  
 8 Coffee Morning  
 10 - 16 Christian Aid Week  
 15 Peter Twilley 9.30am  
 18 Church Meeting 8pm  
 22 Coffee Morning  
 22 Chiltern Camerata Concert  
 25 Elders' Meeting 8pm  
 29 Fifth Brigade 9.30-12.30 DIY session
- June** 20 Communion Service 5pm  
 26 Early Harps Concert  
 29 Elders' Meeting
- July** 9 & 10 Churches Together Barbeques  
 11 Church Picnic & Songs of Praise on The Rye

April 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Not included in this version

### TRINITY NIGHTBIRDS 'DOWN UNDER'

On Monday 12 April Trinity Nightbirds have been invited to The Manse to hear Nicholas Fried, from Australia, talk about the 'Church Down Under'. Nicholas will be staying with Gwen and Bernie and we thought that others from the church might like to join us to listen to him. Men as well as women will be welcome but please let Lesley B know by Sunday 11 April if you hope to join us.

MM

### Minister's Discretionary Fund

Members who looked carefully at the Annual accounts for last year may have noticed that the Minister's Discretionary Fund is showing a very small balance. This fund is, as the name suggests, used by the Minister whenever and in whatever manner it is felt appropriate. Clearly she cannot make any payments if there are no funds available - so, if anyone feels they would like to make a donation to this specific Fund, please feel free to do so.

Payments are made, only to members of the Trinity Church Family, where Gwen feels there is a need - for example, due to illness, housing needs or hardship.

The Treasurer will be happy to accept any donations, or they may be made by placing a suitably marked envelope in the offertory bag.

# Commitment for Life

## Zimbabwe

**Dabane Trust:** Christian Aid, with counterpart funding from the UK government's Department for International Development (DFID), is funding the construction of six sub-surface dams that conserve water beneath sandy river beds. Once constructed, boreholes and pumps will be installed, and market gardens established, that will draw water from the conserves and bring it to the surface for drinking and to enable people to grow a variety of food all year round.

All six dams are being constructed in Gwanda district in the drought-prone Matabeleland South region. Here, the earth is sandy and there is little rainfall (250-500mm per year). The rain that does come is increasingly erratic and unpredictable, say farmers. Those living near enough to sand rivers are lucky as the water is naturally filtered by the sand and so safe to drink. But many people rely on shallow wells or dams dug by hand which are often shared with livestock and are easily contaminated.

Dabane Trust is constructing two dams per year from July 2008 - July 2010. It's now six months into the second year of funding and with the first two dams successfully completed Dabane Trust is now working on the third and the fourth. Communities are not yet benefiting from these dams. When all construction work is complete, boreholes, pumps and wells will be installed, and six market garden spaces and groups set up. The tangible benefit of the dams will then become visible within the nearby communities. Thanks to previous support, made possible by our Commitment for Life partners, we have seen that this can take place and the beneficial impact on communities felt within as little as three months.

At their on-site workshop at Dabane Trust's base in Bulawayo, where water abstraction equipment including pumps is constructed and tested before being taken to install in communities, Dabane's small team of skilled technicians have recently begun to make their own small parts, such as pistons. These parts used to be shipped in from the United Kingdom at considerably more cost. CA report to CforL January 2010.

## Bangladesh

The World Bank has made a list of the five main threats arising from climate change: droughts, floods, storms, rising sea levels, and greater uncertainty in agriculture. Four of the world's poorest nations top the list of the twelve countries at the highest risk. Bangladesh heads the list of countries most at risk of flooding. Increasing glacial melt from the Himalayan ranges as a result of rising global temperatures is set to swell the Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers and their hundreds of tributaries, flooding thirty to seventy percent of the country each year as the water makes its way to the Bay of Bengal in the south, where the coast is also vulnerable to flooding from rising sea levels. They came second to the Philippines for storms and tenth in most danger due to rising sea levels.

Researchers in Bangladesh are in the final stage of testing three new rice varieties which they say will be able to survive the country's annual floods. Most years more than 20% of Bangladesh goes under water, and millions of tonnes of rice are lost.

Whereas normal rice varieties can die after two or three days' submersion in water, tests show that the new ones can survive for longer than two weeks. Researchers say the new varieties could improve the country's annual harvest.

## **WHO WILL BE THE NEXT MP FOR WYCOMBE?**

**Sunday 18 April 8pm at All Saints Church, High Wycombe**

All the political parties expected to field candidates for parliament at the forthcoming General Election have been invited to attend this Hustings event and candidates from the three main parties have confirmed that they will attend. This is your opportunity to quiz the next MP for Wycombe.

### **Success with supermarkets and causing a stir about tea**

After dedicated campaigning by Traidcraft and others over the past two years, the Government has now committed to setting up a watchdog to ensure supermarkets treat their suppliers more fairly. This unprecedented move is a huge boost to the thousands of people in developing countries who rely on selling products to UK supermarkets.

### **Cluster bombs ban is a success for churches**

After two years of campaigning, the Free Churches are celebrating the passing of legislation that prevents British forces from using cluster munitions. The Methodist, Baptist and United Reformed Churches have praised the Cluster Munitions (Prohibitions) Act, passed on 23 March. The UK military can no longer use cluster bombs nor store them for other nations. Cluster bombs contain many small bomblets that sometimes fail to explode. URC Moderator Revd John March said: 'These weapons are indiscriminate, harming civilians and soldiers alike, and can lay dormant, only to explode years later', maiming children long after wars have ended. Britain can now ratify the international treaty, which will come into force in August.

### **Healing on The Streets of High Wycombe February 2010 Report**

Over the month we have prayed for an average of ten people each Saturday. This month has seen an increase in the number of people asking for prayer concerning financial difficulties. Here are four examples of who we prayed for and what we saw God do...

S: for her back. She felt peaceful and relaxed and it felt better afterwards.

E: Wanted healing from rejection by parents in childhood, which was giving her a false picture of God. She couldn't accept that He loved her, because her parents hadn't; knew of God's love in her head, but not her heart. Prayed regarding rejection; for her physical eyesight (and that the Lord would open the eyes of her heart to His love); for her job and for finances to be released. Afterwards, she said an angel had lifted and healed her past!!!! Went away rejoicing.

C: Drug addiction, wants to be free. Has tried to make that connection of faith in God before. Prayed for God to make Himself real to her - especially to help her to break the addiction.

W: 14, and two friends, stopped to tell us that his Mum had been healed, following prayer on a previous week. They and we sensed the presence of the Holy Spirit. Explained to them about following Jesus. Gave a "Why Jesus" booklet and sent them to find a church.

## TRINITY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

During our refurbishment of the sanctuary the Revive committee and the elders recognised that when we re-opened, the building would be used much more by regular and occasional hirers which is wonderful – we want our building to be used by the community as part of our living out of Jesus Christ's call of service.

A working party was set up to look at how we can best handle our lettings and we developed some 'role descriptions' for welcomer/s, administrator/s and caretaker/s. Rose C has willingly combined these for many years but with more work involved now (and particularly physically in moving chairs in the sanctuary) it is not realistic or fair for her to take this burden alone.

### LETTINGS MANAGEMENT GROUP

Similarly the elders considered that it was important to have a 'management group' for the hire of the premises, and a Lettings Management Group has been formed of Simon Evans (Property Officer), Kate Y (Revive Chair), Sue T (Treasurer) and Andrew L to:

- have a watching brief over the people involved in welcoming, caretaking, administration of hiring the premises and be the first port of call if any difficulties arise
- communicate with welcomer(s), caretaker(s) and administrator(s) when appropriate about relevant issues (e.g. risk assessments, best practice)

### ADMINISTRATION

Simon and Sarah E have offered to provide administration support, taking the bookings and doing the paperwork involved, until such time that someone else volunteers or we can afford to pay someone. Simon E and Tim S are working on an electronic calendar and booking system that can be accessed through our website, although phone bookings via the church answerphone can still be made for those without internet access.

### WELCOMER/S

Rose C is willing to continue to let people in and out of the building if they are not keyholders but with increased numbers of bookings for the sanctuary especially she may not always be available. **We would still welcome offers from additional volunteers for occasional welcoming support for hirers, to let them into the building and lock up when they leave. We want to build good relationships with our hirers.**

### CARETAKER/S

We want to make sure that practical arrangements for hirings work smoothly. This is a role that could be carried out by several people on a regular or rota basis. **Note: there is a possible overlap with other roles which can be sorted out.**

We need to find people who are willing to put chairs out and away, especially in the sanctuary, at various times. Again, the timescales would be much as described above.



## Lone Working at Trinity

**We have developed a Lone Working Policy Statement which legally under the HSW Act only applies to paid employees but is good practice for anyone who is in the building on their own. If you have any questions please talk to Simon E, Property Officer.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Trinity takes seriously its responsibilities towards volunteers and/or staff who might be working alone in its premises, in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (HSW Act) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work (MHSW) Regulations 1999.

Lone working should be avoided if possible to reduce risk by arranging working patterns to coincide with other people being in the building. If lone working cannot be avoided then the lone worker should take reasonable precautions to ensure their safe working in (and leaving) the building. This could include ensuring another person knows when someone is lone working for or in Trinity URC.

Specific Risk Assessment should be made for higher risk activity, such as lone working later in the evening or when undertaking work at height or with tools.

Lone workers should familiarise themselves with this policy statement and assess risk in accordance with the steps of risk assessment:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Identify Hazards  | 4. Record their findings                      |
| 2. Consider what could go wrong or be considered dangerous   | 5. Carry out the activity                     |
| 3. Consider and act where needed to make the situation safer | 6. Review the assessment and update if needed |

The details of any incident or accident a lone worker experiences on the premises and its curtilage must be recorded in the Accident Log Book (Crendon Hall noticeboard and sanctuary corridor noticeboard).

### Generic Lone Working Risk Assessment

Trinity United Reformed Church has considered the general practice of lone working and advises against it if possible, but understands it is possible to lone work in the building if some basic precautions are in place, for general activity.

#### Potential hazards

- Tripping down steps or stairs
- Aggravation or intimidation by a member of the public outside the premises late at night
- Someone gaining unauthorised access to the premises with malicious intent
- Slipping on spillages that have not been properly cleared up

#### Who might be harmed

- Any volunteer (member of Trinity or partner organisation) or paid staff carrying out welcoming, administrative or caretaking duties in connection with the letting of parts of Trinity's premises.

#### The risks and precautions

- If it is dark, lights must always be used in the building
- Entry and final exits should be made through well-lit routes (leave as early as possible in the evening not late at night)
- If in a group the last person to leave should ask for another member of the group to help them lock up rather than leave alone
- Handrails should be used where available
- Lone workers should be alert to unusual activity or gatherings around the premises and if uncomfortable with a situation should ring Thames Valley Police non-emergency number 0845 8505 505 (or 999 in an emergency)
- Lone workers should in advance advise a family member, friend or colleague of their estimated arrival time home
- Lone workers should lock themselves inside the building when they are not sure others are in the same part of the building

#### Implementation of findings

- Anyone working alone in the premises should be aware of the above risks and take appropriate measures
- Should any lone worker or member of Trinity or partner organisation become aware of additional risks or faults within the building they should bring them to the attention of the church contact who will liaise with the Property Officer to take necessary action.

## **Bucks Inspires through Steelpan music**

SV2G has been granted the Inspire Mark- the badge of the London 2012 Inspire Programme. SV2G Steelpan Stepping Stone project funded by the Arts Council England will build the capacity of Wycombe Steel Orchestra and the steelpan development within Buckinghamshire. Wycombe Steel Orchestra will be performing at the Wycombe Community Festival that will be part of the Cultural Olympiad London 2010 Games this year July.

Seb Coe, Chair, London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games said: *"Steelpan Stepping Stones is encouraging young people to fulfil their potential. I am proud that with the help of partners such as SV2G are delivering on our vision to use the power of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games to boost participation in Buckinghamshire"*

The London 2012 Inspire programme recognises innovative and exceptional projects that are directly inspired by the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The inspire mark for this project will aspire and drive through a together message to our young people to be proud of their Country and proud of being part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad. SV2G is further inspired that Carnivals and Festivals that is part of the Cultural Olympiad programme of which enables them to profile the work of our young people and demonstrate to them their creative worth at the Wycombe Community Festival.

Jacqueline Roberts, Chair of SV2G said *"We are excited by London 2012 to see the Games not only for London, but for everyone in the UK. We feel it would be an ideal chance to grow, shine, express, and promote our sense of pride, being British. This is a unique opportunity where we all can be part of welcoming the world to our British rich mix."*

[Readers may not realise that SV2G was the first organisation to make use of our improved facilities created under our Revive project.]

### **Detention of children**

Every year around 1,000 children in the UK are detained for the purposes of immigration control. They are sons and daughters of asylum seekers or migrants and are detained with their families. They are the only children in this country who can be locked up indefinitely without the oversight of the courts and without having committed any crime.

The Children's Society has joined with others to campaign against this practice. It says, "Taken from their communities, with little understanding of what they have done to deserve being locked up, detention has a devastating impact on children. Scared and anxious, children we work with have experienced insomnia, weight loss, bedwetting, depression and self harm while in detention. The government believes that families run away if they are not detained. There is simply no evidence for this. As anyone with children will know, their education and health needs, friendship ties and the desire to be settled in the UK all prevent families 'disappearing'."

Our Synod meeting in March heard about what our Church and Society Consultant, Geoffrey Duncan, is doing to challenge the government on this including meetings at the House of Lords.

For more information or to back the campaign contact Geoffrey at Synod office, email - [world.churchandsociety@urcthamesnorth.org.uk](mailto:world.churchandsociety@urcthamesnorth.org.uk)  
And visit The Children's Society campaign website: [www.outcrycampaign.org.uk](http://www.outcrycampaign.org.uk)





# Happy Birthday



This month we would like to wish

Norman G (9<sup>th</sup>)

Erin L (21<sup>st</sup>)

Sam G (13<sup>th</sup>)

Ella T (23<sup>rd</sup>)

Rebekah S (15<sup>th</sup>)

Alex F (25<sup>th</sup>)

Katie H (19<sup>th</sup>)

a very Happy Birthday

# Birthday Congratulations



to

Yan W (24<sup>th</sup>) & Pat W (29<sup>th</sup>)

on celebrating their respective 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> Birthdays

# Congratulations



With Best Wishes to

Steeve & Shevonne J (3<sup>rd</sup>)

Marian & Michael (25<sup>th</sup>)

on celebrating their Wedding Anniversary

**with love from us all at Trinity.**

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*The next edition of the Recorder will be published on 25th April.  
Closing date for contributions is Friday 16th April*

Recorder Editor : e-mail : [editor@trinity-urc.org.uk](mailto:editor@trinity-urc.org.uk)

Church web site: <http://www.trinity-urc.org.uk>

# prayer page

Open our eyes, Lord  
Open our hearts  
Open our mouths to talk about ... you.  
You, Jesus, risen, ascended, glorified  
Jesus, our friend, our lover, our Lord  
Jesus living in us by the Holy Spirit  
That we might tell what you have done for us;  
Tell our friend, our neighbour, the person we chat with in the bus queue, the world.  
You tell us not to fear.  
Lord, forgive our fear, heal us, change us.  
Forgive our churches, change us and fill us with your Spirit  
That we might live, ever, only, all for you.  
And Rejoice.



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2010

Breath of God,  
breathe new life into our spirituality and singing  
our hospitality and hoping  
our preaching and praying  
our building and bread-breaking  
our cherishing and creating  
our baptising and bible studying  
our imagining and including  
so that the communities we're part of  
will breathe your Spirit's life and hope for all people in all places.  
Amen.

Kate Gray – from A Chair pulled to the Place of Prayer © URC Prayer Handbook 2008

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Teach me, O Lord, in the midst of noise,  
the bustle of business,  
that you are there, near, close by, even within the creative noise  
I sometimes cannot bear:  
That I can find quietness and peace within,  
to regain my strength and offer it to you,  
for your glory's sake. Amen.

© Roger Bush – Prayers for Pagans

Goodness is stronger than evil;  
love is stronger than hate;  
light is stronger than darkness;  
life is stronger than death;  
victory is ours through Him who  
loved us.

© Desmond Tutu, South Africa –  
from 'Bread of Tomorrow'

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May the road rise to meet you,  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
the rains fall soft upon your fields and,  
until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of his hand.  
*An Irish blessing*

Sunday	Give thanks for Easter and the death and resurrection of Jesus
Monday	Pray for our farmers and growers of food
Tuesday	Pray for your neighbours where you live
Wednesday	Be aware of God's involvement in your life today
Thursday	For those enduring family rifts and relationship difficulties
Friday	Meditate on God's faithfulness
Saturday	Pray for students and lecturers at Bucks New Uni