

Grace and peace be yours from God ...
and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the first to be raised from death and who
is also the ruler of the kings of the world.
[Rev. 1:4-5]



July 2012

The Recorder

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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,

On the Diamond Jubilee Bank Holiday Tuesday I had the interesting experience of being carried on a stretcher by red coated soldiers through the crowds lining the Mall to a St John's Ambulance Tent in St James' Park! Let me explain.

Some of our family put the word round that they would be at the Mall to watch the Queen pass by in her carriage. This would be after the service in St Paul's, on her way back to Buckingham Palace. "Could we join them?" Bernie had a heavy cold (we didn't know then that it was going to turn into pneumonia), so he stayed home and I went in to London to find them.

I attempted to approach the Mall from the Trafalgar Square side, arriving just as all exits from the Square and Pall Mall were closed because of over-crowding at the Mall. So, getting my A-Z out I worked out that I could walk right around the back of Buckingham Palace Gardens to Hyde Park Corner and get into St James' Park from the Victoria side. So that's what I did – enjoying a brisk walk going in the opposite direction to almost everybody else.

Having located the family, with some difficulty, I squeezed my way through to them. We were about 4 people back from the Mall. They had already been there for some time but were in good spirits, and we enjoyed the following 2 ¼ hours standing shoulder to shoulder, with a little oasis at our feet for occasional squats with a child and a story book. Then suddenly it happened – and was all over! A loud cheer moved through the crowd from the direction of Marble Arch. Up on tip toe. Wave flag vigorously. Cheer wildly. Catch a glimpse of horses trotting swiftly by, followed by an even briefer glimpse of an open carriage. Wow! I saw the Queen (well – not quite. I'm too short. But I got the atmosphere!)

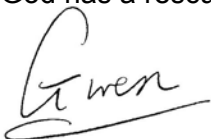
A few minutes after all this exertion I began to feel faint. It didn't pass as quickly as the carriage had! My family made me lie down in our little patch, curled up. Within minutes several policeman and the red coated soldiers + stretcher had parted the dense crowd and were carrying me, regally, to the First Aid tent. Whereupon it started to rain. You can imagine the comments, "Mum! The lengths you'll go to to get out of the rain!"

Was it worth it? Yes, absolutely. Would you do it again? Well – maybe not the Mall – but being there, in the thick of the action when something special is happening. Yes, absolutely. If you are fit enough to do so, being there beats watching it on TV a thousand-fold.

This will now be added to the stock of family stories. "Do you remember the Queen's Diamond Jubilee when the soldiers carried Grandma through the crowd on their stretcher?"

So ... what's the moral of the story? First, if you tend to get faint when you stand up for a long time and then jump up and down, don't stand up for a long time and then jump up and down. But, more interestingly perhaps, if you have a yearning for a first hand experience of something special, go all out for it. Don't miss the moment.

That applies supremely to Christian faith. As someone once rightly said, "It is not a spectator sport." Play your part to the full in thick of the action. And if you do get into difficulties you can be sure that God has a rescue plan in hand!



Minister : Rev Dr Gwen Collins
e-mail: gwen@trinity-urc.org.uk

Church Secretary : Mrs Sue Saunders,
e-mail: secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk

July Services

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30am - led by the Minister and members of the congregation unless otherwise stated

Main theme for July: FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS

- July 1 Holy Communion, with speaker Steve Johnson, Christian Aid Regional Co-ordinator
Followed by our annual Church Picnic on the Rye and ...
- 3.30 Songs of Praise on the Rye with town centre Churches Together in High Wycombe
(bring your own chair). If wet, in our church.
- 4.30 Prayer Circle
- July 8 Parade Service led by Barbara and David Sparks, with Nina Sparks'
Scout Band. All age worship.
- July 15 Morning worship, with feedback from General Assembly.
- 4.00 Holy Communion, with liturgy from General Assembly.
- July 22 Morning worship, with speaker Bishop Wesis Porop, United Church in Papua New
Guinea, and also dedication and prayer for Lighthouse.
- July 29 'Gigantic Welcome' Olympic theme

Rotas for July

Not included in this version

What's on in July

WOMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday 10th July Margaret Lewis invites us to "Wood View",

Tuesday 17th July We are invited to the Manse.

*Both meetings start at 2.30
(Lifts will be arranged. See Olive Shepherd)*



Nightbirds Summer Meal will be on Monday 9th July 7.30pm at OTT - On The Thames, Bourne End

Diary Dates

Steve Johnson, Regional Co-ordinator for Christian Aid	10.30am - Sunday 1st Morning Worship	Sanctuary
Church Picnic	1.00pm - Sunday 1st	The Rye
Songs of Praise on the Rye	3.30pm - Sunday 1st	The Rye
Prayer Circle for Healing	4.30pm - Sunday 1st	Lower School Room
URC General Assembly	Friday 6th – Monday 9th	Scarborough
Scout Band Concert	7.30pm - Saturday 7th	Sanctuary
Parade Service	10.30am - Sunday 8th	Sanctuary
Church Meeting with Guest Speaker Ruth Richey	8.00pm - Tuesday 10th	Sanctuary
Evening Communion	4.00pm - Sunday 15th	Sanctuary
Elders Meeting	8.00pm - Tuesday 24th	Lower School Room

July 2012						
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	31				

Not included in this version



The 2nd Rossendale Scout Group Band
in concert at
Trinity United Reformed Church
Saturday July 7th at 7.30pm

Proceeds to Wycombe Homeless Connection

Tickets £10 — Concessions £6

Available from Wycombe Homeless Connection office, Oakley Hall, 8 Castle Street. 01494 447699

or email: david.sparks@talk21.com

The band performs regularly across the North of England and in recent times has performed with Black Dyke, Fodens, Grimethorpe Colliery, Brighouse and Rastrick, The International Staff Band of The Salvation Army, as well as performances at Windsor Castle for HM Queen Elizabeth II. The band has also performed in many fine concert venues including The Bridgewater Hall, The Royal Northern College of Music, The O2 Arena, and Cologne Cathedral.

ZIMBABWE

This update shares a report from the Matabeleland South Food and Livelihoods Security project in partnership with Zimbabwe Project Trust (ZimPro) in Insiza district and Lutheran Development Services (LDS) in Gwanda district in Matabeleland South province (the second part of this update will be in the July SforC). This project is funded by the European Union Delegation and matched by Christian Aid funds, mainly made available thanks to the generous support of URC supporters. This three-and-a-half year project aims to improve food and livelihood security for 520 households in Gwanda district and 980 households in Insiza district. The project works with vulnerable women, elderly and child headed households, and people living with HIV and AIDS.

The period January to March is usually the wettest in the region but 2012 has been characterized by long stretches of dry weather. This has led to increased food insecurity in the district and grain prices have risen but the political environment was generally conducive to making progress with the project, with peace prevailing in the entire district.

ZimPro operates with the technical support of Christian Aid in three wards (16,18 & 22) of Insiza District in Matabeleland South Province. Here we present the achievements for 2012 first quarter (January to March):

A total of 63 farmers received seed packs during this period. Efforts are still underway to encourage farmers to make best use of these in the next farming season. 4 field demonstrations were held on mulching, weeding and top fertiliser application. These will help farmers adopt the conservation farming techniques. A field day was supported, attended by 34 men, 125 women, 22 boys and 48 girls. This allowed farmers to exchange ideas and experiences on issues like mulch cover, recording keeping and time management. The question and answer sessions from ZimPro project staff and Agritex officers boosted understanding of conservation farming.

The project also monitored the progress of some of the activities which have been introduced. This included visits to 63 conservation farming plots, two peanut butter making processing machines, seven market gardens and 18 rain water harvesting tanks during the reporting period. None of the farmers were ready to pass on goats because they were delivered at a young age but all of the goats were found to be in good health.



Where to find Zimbabwe in Africa

Refuse & Recycling

- From Thursday 31 May we have two large containers outside the west (side entrance), one for general waste and one for mixed dry recycling, to be collected fortnightly.
- Both are clearly labelled.
- The lids will be locked but the number is easily available.
- Mixed dry recycling can be put in the bags on the trolley at the bottom of the staircase near the kitchen, or emptied straight into the Recycling Wheelie Bin by the side entrance.

Mixed Dry Recycling includes:

- Paper and Cardboard
- Plastics including plastic bottles and packaging
- Packaging including yogurt pots and Tetrapak type drink cartons
- Aluminium Cans
- Steel
- Plastic Cups
- Glass
- Metals

A new recycling and refuse policy will be displayed around the building. If you have any questions at any time please don't hesitate to contact me or one of the Lettings Management Group (Simon Evans, Andrew Long, Kay Evans, Sue Thorne).

Kate

Trinity URC Lettings Management Group



For some months there has been a cardboard box in the Lower Schoolroom for the collection of used ink-jet cartridges. These are sent off to an organisation which recycles them and makes a donation on our behalf to a charity of our choice.. Since the beginning of this year, we have raised over £20. Please continue to put your dead cartridges in the box - though regrettably most Epson cartridges are not recyclable. If you are an Epson user and know of somewhere they can be recycled, please feel free to "do your own thing"!

Trinity Bookworms

Trinity Bookworms are now up and running and registered with Wycombe Ubrary as a book club. Our next meeting is on Thursday July 12th at 2 p.m.



Joan Smith has kindly offered to host us at 11, Bernard's Court, Harlow Road. We should have copies of Barack Obama's "Dreams from my Father" to distribute for reading before the following meeting, date to be decided but probably a Wednesday. Anyone interested in joining us on July 12th or in having a copy to read for discussion, please see me.

Olive S

CHILTERN AREA COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER – May 2012 [Edited]

News from the churches

Beaconsfield

We are well into the Revd Nigel Douglas's second year of ministry.

Worship – *traditional morning worship* which Nigel leads except on the Sunday he is at Holtspur: have had about 60 attendees; *monthly café service* targeted at young families, with quite a few children at that; *occasional evening service*.

Nurture – *three Bible study housegroups* meet regularly, one led by Nigel. Nigel has also instituted some meetings called *Holy Curiosity*, looking at, for example, the Christian faith in the light of recent scientific discoveries; *shared lunches* establish fellowship.

Outreach – there is a *mission morning* on the first Saturday of each month a mission morning with small attendance at present, but some outsiders attend; *weekly mother and toddler group* for people whose contact with the church is tenuous; *Men's Breakfast* takes place on a monthly basis, expanded to include all the churches and people outside; recently started *Messy Church*, one at Holtspur, one at Beaconsfield; also conduct services at *Bradbury House* old people's home on a monthly basis.

Gerrards Cross

Worship – the welcoming and vibrant atmosphere on Sunday mornings is more important than numbers attending but there is a relationship. We have about ten regular worshippers who have been "around the churches" in the Gerrards Cross area and decided to attend St Andrew's because they liked our ambience and the preaching and leadership of Dr David Henry, who now leads our worship on four Sundays each month. A husband and wife have recently been admitted into membership. The Moderator is preaching here on 2 September.

Outreach – The numbers of unemployed attending *Careers Springboard* is a reflection of the current job market. We are having some successes but numbers attending average 40+. David Henry's wife Heather has been building a *choir* including young people from local schools.

Nurture – We are fortunate to have an enthusiastic group of Elders who, with David Henry, recently attended a training session held at St Andrew's by the Revd Anne Sardeson, Synod Training & Development Officer. On several occasions each year we organise a lunch after Sunday morning worship which is usually attended by 25-30.

It would be fair to say that we are a happy church, well-led, and looking to the future with confidence that we are expanding God's work in Gerrards Cross.

Trinity Slough

Outreach and Worship – we have taken four new people into membership, including one who has expressed an interest in taking on the church secretary's role. There have been ten new members since Revd John Danso has been in post. Another person is receiving instruction on becoming a member.

Much of this is down to the 'open church' initiative with big banners proclaiming it is an open church. 'Open church' is now lunch on a Thursday with good numbers attending. and a number of those attending have been worshipping too. We also have periodic family services.

Chiltern Area celebration of the URC's 40th birthday!

Planning is proceeding for this event on Saturday 10th November at Amersham Free Church, with a service led by the Revd Dr Michael Jagessar, Moderator-Elect of General Assembly. More details to follow.



SONGS of PRAISE

Churches Together in High Wycombe Town Centre

SUNDAY 1st July from 3.30pm

on the Rye



if wet in Trinity United Reformed Church
Come and join us

For more information contact Revd Dr Gwen Collins
gwen@trinity-urc.org.uk or 01494 451847

The Christian Aid logo, featuring the words "Christian Aid" in a stylized font with a red cross symbol between the words.

THANK YOU 2012

I would like to thank all those who helped with Christian Aid again this year. Firstly the Guides, and the adults who went with them delivering the envelopes to the houses on our list. This saves time and is a big help to the collectors. And then the collectors themselves who give up time in their already busy lives to undertake this task. This year I thought it would be good to include the collectors names. They are Gwen & Aurelia, Sue Saunders & Kate, Kay, Tony and Janet & myself. We collected £450 and this was added to the £50 donated by the Women's Meeting, £10 which was given to the choir for singing at Hazlemere Methodist church recently and the £160 collected in church. Not as big a total as last year but every penny counts and the financial climate is not good at the moment.

Again my grateful thanks to you all

God bless

Margaret

Housegroup

After a summer break, the fortnightly Tuesday evening Housegroup at Marian and Martin Drake's will resume on Tuesday 4 September. Do come along!



Wesley Methodist Church

PRIORY ROAD, HIGH WYCOMBE. HP13 6SE



Thursday 7th June 2012

Dear Friend,

I am writing to your congregation to ask for your help financially for an organisation which I support as part of my ministry in the town.

In my role within the High Wycombe Methodist Circuit I have developed strong links with Wycombe Women's Aid (WWA). The organisation has three principle services:

The Refuge Service provides support to women and children experiencing the effects of domestic violence by offering safe, temporary and emergency accommodation as well as practical and emotional support within the refuge.

The Children's Services provides opportunities for children to work through their experiences of domestic violence through play, individual and group work. Child Development Workers support mothers in their parenting skills as well as helping those with school age children to find appropriate places. This also offers significant support to young people coping with living in a refuge.

The Outreach Service provides support for those in the community who are either living in a violent situation or who are working through the effects of past domestic violence. This is delivered by providing support and information in one to one counselling sessions, one to one support sessions and via the telephone. In the year ended March 2011 1,402 counselling sessions had been attended and over 300 women had been in direct contact with WWA. The numbers this year, although not yet published, are even greater.

A significant, positive and often life-saving difference is made for many people as a result of the support given by WWA. Women and children's confidence and self-worth is heightened and they become emotionally stronger and more able to form strong and healthy boundaries in future relationships as well as becoming active and positive members of the community. I consider it a great privilege to be invited to work alongside them as a Christian minister.

As you may be aware, The Priory Centre (Priory Road) has now closed. This centre provided a much needed public facility for the Outreach Services of WWA. The refuge does not have the room or the facilities to house the counselling, play therapy and one to one sessions for those who benefit from the support of the Outreach Team. Neither is it appropriate for the strictly confidential address of the Refuge to be known publically. While Wesley Methodist Church have been very supportive in giving space to WWA they need a venue which is available to use at any time, night or day, and dedicated for their use as these services are offered 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

Premises have become available, which is good news; however these will need to be altered in order to meet the needs of the organisation and the women accessing the services. The cost of the necessary alterations is £5,000.

The organisation does receive some grants from Wycombe District Council and South Bucks District Council; however it relies greatly on charitable giving. As with all community organisations, they have experienced cuts in grants and donations and may not be able to take up the opportunity of the premises if the cost of the alterations cannot be met.

I hope that this background information has been helpful; however now to the real substance of my contacting you.

Please would your church, or individuals within your congregation, consider making a donation towards this vital work as a "one off" donation to help to meet the costs. The funds are needed as soon as possible. Due to the confidential nature of the contact address, donations can be sent directly to me at my home address as detailed below or addressed to me at Wesley Methodist Church as detailed in the letter header.

Cheques to be made payable to Wycombe Women's Aid Ltd.

Unless you wish your donation to be anonymous, please would you include contact details as I am sure that the organisation would want to acknowledge your support.

We are all aware of the vast diversity of needs of so many in our town, and there are many very worthy organisations needing our financial help to give their help and, of course, we are not able to respond to them all. Nevertheless, any donation you may feel able to give would be most welcome.

Many thanks for taking the trouble to read this letter.

May God bless you in His service.

Yours sincerely,

Deacon Ruth Richey.

Contact details:- 9, Rye View, High Wycombe. Bucks. HP13 6HL Tel: 01494 526747 Email: ruthrichey@aol.com



Happy Birthday



to

Luke K (9th)

Jan L (14th)

Olivia P (24th)

Sue T (24th)

Congratulations



and best wishes to

Julia & Tim on celebrating their Wedding
Anniversary

with love from us all at Trinity

*The next edition of the Recorder will be published on 29th July.
Closing date for contributions is Friday 20th July*

Recorder Editor : e-mail : editor@trinity-urc.org.uk

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

prayer page

These prayers all come from the URC's "General Assembly 2012" booklet

Challenging God, encourage us through your Holy Spirit, so that our conscience is convicted with the love of Christ.

Let us, as living stones, cry out.
Let us, by living humbly, find abundance.
Let us, with living conversations, come alive.
Let us, through living together, encounter Christ.

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2012

Listening God, you hear our cries;
loving Christ, you know our wounds;
leading Spirit, you light our ways.
Help us be open to your leading way,
to share more fully in your love
and be guided by your beating heart.
We pray for discernment and revolution
for change in the blink of an eye
to become healing, reconciling and reforming communities.
Press us in our vulnerabilities to own your strength
to stand for justice and mercy
to seek your Word in the words of scriptures
and to mirror you better in all our relationships. Amen.

God of the outcast,
we pray that as we reach into urban wildernesses,
suburban deserts,
and rural wastelands,
you will reach out and grab our hand,
guiding us into those places where we will find you.

Crucified God,
Yours is the broken body, scarred yet sacred.
Yours is the broken church, scattered yet sanctified.
Help us to witness to the resurrection life of a body reborn.
Help us to witness to the resurrection life of a church reconciled.



God, we commit to talking and praying together,
questioning and reflecting together,
hoping and dreaming together.
Give us vision and confidence now
to find our way forward
as your people
following your vision and walking in your way.

Generous God,
as we wrestle to reform our habits of hearts and minds,
help us consider whether our habits of purse and pocket
conform to your economy of love.