



June 2006

The Recorder

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*An edited version of this magazine is now available on the Church Web-site.
(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,

Have you every felt you glimpsed the future? I don't mean via a crystal ball; I simply mean have you ever been in a situation when you just felt you were sampling the future. I hope I can explain myself properly because I'm not talking about a day dream or an 'unearthly' vision, I mean you find yourself in a situation when you are sure that this is what the future's going to be like. Rather like Simeon (Luke 2: 27ff) who when he held the baby Jesus in his arms knew he had "seen salvation". All he had seen was a baby, but in that baby he glimpsed the future: salvation.

I reckon I have glimpsed the future a number of times; and in saying so I'm not pretending to a prophet (at least no more than you!). Some of the glimpses have been trivial; I remember seeing the first Rover 2000 and thinking I'm going to have one of those – mind you by the time I did get one it had turned into a 2600! Some of the glimpses have been more important, such as when I first met Kate.

Now, the point of this introduction is to say that I think I have had another glimpse! And this one was not a one off event – it occurred over three Sundays. It first started on April 23rd when we were led in worship by the junior church. It was an uplifting service, and **not** in an 'oo ah' sort of way. This was a glimpse of the future, not only because these wonderful young people are the future, but also because it was a sign that our vision of the 'Family Church' is coming to fruition. Now if that wasn't enough the same happened the following week, albeit at the other end of the age range! I hope you don't think it is too self congratulatory, but, I felt a great sense of unity and purpose from the Elders' service. Being the new boy to the team I think I can say what a good job the elders are doing. I hesitate to tell you that it happened again the following Sunday! The Rev'd Andrew Busby had the privilege of filling the worship with an adult baptism and admitting four wonderful people into membership.

I am almost pleased I wasn't able to be at Trinity on the 14th May – I'm not sure my heart could take it (although I have to admit I did want to hear Alan Kirkcaldy). So there you have it. I think through those three services I was given a glimpse of what our church can be – a family church that shines with the love, joy and compassion of Christ, and all without the support of our own minister and leader. Just think what we can do when he/she arrives!

It is a while since I have felt and seen such vitality in our church, and it is great to experience it; and it's all due to **you!**

Thank you and Amen.

Alan

Minister : <i>There is no minister in post at present</i>
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Church Secretary :Mrs Marian Mole,

e-mail: secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk
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June Services

Morning Worship at 10.30 a.m.

June 4th - Morning Worship with Communion - Revd Erna Stevenson

June 11th - Revd Greg Hargrove

June 18th - All Age Worship - Miss Hilary Blake (Christian Aid)

June 25th - Mr Graham Wright (Wendover)

Rotas for June

Not included in this version

What's on in June



Monday 12th June - Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance Talk
(8pm. Lower Schoolroom)

Monday 26th June - Meal at The Crown, Penn
(Time to be announced later)

WOMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday 6th June

What is it?

Tuesday 13th June

Women of the Old Testament - Ruth

Tuesday 20th June

Beetle

Tuesday 27th June

Breaking-up Tea Party



All meetings start at 2.30 in the Lower Schoolroom

9th & 23rd June

Scrabble

2pm

Probably too wet to be outdoors - so spend an afternoon in pleasant company instead.

The when - 18th June, after Morning Worship

The where - Hughenden Park

The what - **Church Picnic**

The how - Either under your own steam, or cadge a lift!

The why - (Well, why not?) For a social afternoon.



Not included in this version

Diary dates

Tuesday 6 June - 8pm Elders' Meeting
Sunday 18 June - Church Picnic in Hughenden Park following Morning Worship
Sunday 25 June - Church Lunch following Morning Worship
Tuesday 4 July - 9pm Elders' Meeting
MONDAY 17 July - 8pm Church Meeting

A handy list of excuses for NOT attending Church

A is for Auntie, who will come to tea,
B is for Bed, which won't release me,
C is for Car, - "We need the fresh air"
D is for Dinner that Mum must prepare.
E is for Enthusiasm, which I haven't got,
F is for Foursome, which golfs quite a lot.
G is for Garden, must make a start,
H is for Husband, who won't play his part.
I is for Ironing, there's loads to do.
J is for Jealously, shown by a few.
K is for Knitting which Mums likes so much,
L the old Language, it's so out of touch.
M is for Money, they always want more,
N for New Tunes I've not heard before.
O is for Overtime, double on Sunday,
P is the Preparing I must do for Monday.
Q for the Queer noises that come from the choir,
R for the Rector, he ought to retire.
S is for Sermons as dull as can be.
T for the Telly I really must see.
U for Unfriendliness I sometimes find,
V for the voice of the woman behind.
W for Weather, too much rain or snow,
X is for Xtras, too bust to go.
Y for Young Rowdies who sit at the back,
Z is for Zeal – and that's just what I lack.

These lines were written by a lady in Douglas, Isle of Man.

Commitment for Life

Jonathan Flint from Dorking URC tells his experiences upon his return from the FURY trip to **Jamaica:**

Before the trip, when I heard the name, Jamaica, I would have pictured a lush and beautiful island with attractive scenery and a rich culture. The reality though is not so enchanting. Granted, the island is a stunning and beautiful place and in some areas there is some divine scenery, but when you see the other side of Jamaica and begin to learn that inside this lavish country there is major poverty and people in desperate need of help, your view radically changes.

Throughout the trip, we received talks from the partners on how they are helping the local people. Although it was inspiring to hear what they do, it was even more inspiring when we went out to actually see the different projects that they run. We talked to the people benefiting from the projects' work, and saw that these partners are making a big difference.

On the Friday when we went to see the work of Jamaica AIDs Support for Life (JASL), I got the opportunity to talk to a man, called Lynton, who was living with HIV and who had been introduced to the work of JASL. Through JASL's lifestyle programme has is now going to a high school doing a 3-year course in electronics and has also been put into the candle making scheme.

He said to us, "JASL has taken me from the grave and given me a second life. I am very grateful." This is exactly what, not just JASL, but all of the partners that we visited are doing for so many people; these organisations are giving the people of Jamaica hope and ambition for the future.

Johnston Simpson writes in his newsletter:

Meanwhile thousands of ordinary Zimbabweans strive to exist any way they can by eating roots, berries and drinking polluted water. Silvera House, a Commitment for Life focus partner, stated, "we now have abundant rains in Zimbabwe, thank God, but severe flooding in neighbouring Malawi and Mozambique. The water table across our grounds is slowly rising, and we expect the two dormant boreholes to yield water again by the end of February. What a pity, the new farmers had neither seeds nor fertiliser to plant. The country could

have harvested a bumper crop. Instead, another year of famine looms ahead."

Zimbabwe: Average Adult Lifespan Drops Below Age 40, says UN report

Zimbabwean women have the shortest lifespan in the world, according to a new report released by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Neither men nor women in one of the world's fastest shrinking economies are expected to reach the age of 40, according to the 'World Health Report 2006' based on the statistics for 2004. (*IRIN* and *WHO*)

Campaign Actions

8th July -The beat goes on

In 2005 the UK government seemed to say that poor countries should not be forced into free trade but they are still funding the IMF and WB so therefore are doing just that. Christian Aid is asking groups of people to have an event on this day and at 12.noon for 5 minutes, drum home the message. It is hoped that thousands of people will make this the first ever-drumming petition.

With events happening throughout the summer on this theme there will be a culmination of events on Thursday 14th September in London. It has to be a weekday because there is a much better chance of getting to the government then. This rally will have a more serious element than the 8th July, as it will be a reminder to both Gordon Brown and Hilary Benn that we are still here, before they go to the crucial IMF and WB meetings. The march to the Treasury will start from Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park at 12.00 noon. There will be a service and speakers at the end destination (still to be confirmed). Full information packs will be available soon

WDM have joined up with Investing Ethically, an independent financial advisory firm, which provides advice for those who wish to make a positive contribution with their money. They will donate 10per cent of any commission received through WDM referrals.

If you would like to take a stand for social justice please mention WDM if you contact them www.investing-ethically.co.uk

Revive



Building for the future

There is a limited amount to report this month, as much of the “work in progress” sits with our architect, Jeremy Bell, who is preparing the application to the Listed Buildings Advisory Committee for presentation to their June meeting.

Funds stood at £128,000, at the end of April and we will be launching the new Special Envelope Scheme from the beginning of July. We have ordered 70 packs of envelopes in the earnest hope that all of us who voted to proceed with the project and all of us who will benefit from the re-development will feel ready and willing to commit an additional contribution to the funding of the project, according to our means. You can, alternatively, contribute by monthly Standing Order Mandate and we have a facility on our Accounts package to split the amount you are contributing between normal offertory and the Revive project. We simply need your instructions on the split of your increased contributions. **However you choose to pay, please remember to Gift Aid your contributions, if you are a UK taxpayer. Please see Tony H for details.**

Finally, a small team of “serially deranged” Scots are planning a St Andrews Night Dinner and Dance for late November 2006 (date to be confirmed in the July Recorder). We hope that everyone will support the event and invite their friends along. Based on around 100 people attending we would hope to raise around £1000 for the project.

Sincere thanks to everyone for their magnificent support to date.

June 2006 internal fundraising report

I'm afraid I've not been in church much this last month and I need to get myself up to date with any updates!

I've put a sheet of paper on the notice board in the Lower School Room indicating events where people have volunteered to help, plus some other information, and I'll keep this updated regularly as it will also give us a 'diary' of events.

The cream teas/craft fair event will have happened by the time this edition of The Recorder goes to press, and the Caribbean evening will also be a distant memory. Thanks to all those who have been involved in these events both for the fellowship and the fundraising!

The elders have agreed that each elder's group should take responsibility for one fundraising 'project' and I hope this will enable those less involved in the life of the church to be involved and feel included.

Alan and I are planning to take responsibility for the summer church barbeque, so keep your diaries free for Saturday 15 July! More information will follow.

Many thanks for your prayerful and practical support.
Kate Y

There is nothing to report from either the External Fund-raising "correspondent", or the Architect this month.

Wycombe Sharing of Faiths

High Wycombe

10 May 2006

Trinity United Reformed Church
London Road
High Wycombe

Dear John and your Elder colleagues

“The Art of Giving”: a faiths fair

Friday 7 July and Saturday 8 July 06 at the Guildhall in High Wycombe.

Wycombe Sharing of Faiths—the local interfaith group— together with Wycombe Race Equality Council and the Minority Ethnic and Traveller Achievement Service (Metas), are organising a Faiths Fair to be held on 7 and 8 July in the Guildhall, High Wycombe. The theme of the event is The Art of Giving.

Bill Moore, the County RE Advisor, has given us his support and encouragement for this project.

We invite members of your church community to participate in a way that is fitting for you and your resources. If you are Interested please let me know how you might engage with the theme of the event: we have listed some possibilities on the accompanying statement. The detail could come later but I would like to have your Initial response soon. I will be pleased to discuss any aspect with you—you can contact me on 01494 564445.

This is an opportunity for you as a Christian community to share your ideas and understanding of *Giving* or *The Art of Giving*, and shape a creative presentation for the people of High Wycombe.

We are pleased that Wycombe District Council is supporting the event. I look forward to hearing from you.
Yours sincerely

Anne Bowker, Chair of Wycombe Sharing of Faiths

Friday 7 July 12.00 to 5.00
Saturday 8 July, 10.00 to 3.00

- Wycombe Race Equality Council (WREC)
- Minority Ethnic and Traveller Achievement Service (Metas)

Purpose of the event

We want to reach Out to the wider community of Wycombe including schools to celebrate diversity by means of a faiths fair. The chosen theme *The Art of Giving* will be interpreted across a multi faith multicultural front. Schools and faith groups are invited to interpret the theme from their particular perspective, and produce material for exhibition.

Alms of Wycombe Sharing of Faiths

Wycombe Sharing of Faiths

- Promotes friendship, understanding, peace and harmony between peoples of different faiths and cultures.

Displays might include

- Artwork
- Poetry
- Dance
- Drama
- Story
- Music
- Artefacts
- etc!
- Live performance

Members are committed to entering into dialogue and celebrating shared spiritual values. This is done through

- Meetings to listen to each other and explore their various traditions
- Inviting speakers
- Parties and shared meals
- Praying together
- Visiting places of worship
- Outings
- Engaging in community action

Partners In the project

- Wycombe Sharing of Faiths

- is affiliated to the national body. The Inter Faith Network

Outreach BBQ on **June 29th/30th** between 12noon and 2pm (both days) in Parish Church grounds.

A request for the loan of PLASTIC garden chairs and tables has been made, please let John Standfield know if you are willing to lend any furniture.

Funding for above to come from existing funds with perhaps a small donation from each church if required.

Rev David Picken of All Saints is to be chaplain to the new town mayor.

All Saints also have a new curate undergoing training - Paul Willis.

Union Baptist will have paid off their debt for the Hub building in June.

Saint Augustine's have a Father Sam from Africa working with them for a year.

Wycombe Quakers have just completed a 5 session outreach and have received 5 applications for membership.

Wycombe Sharing of Faiths are to hold an event in Wycombe Guildhall called THE ART OF GIVING on 7th and 8th of July. *(see full page article on page 8)*

SURVIVAL KIT

Items Needed:

Toothpick
Rubber Band
Band Aid
Pencil
Eraser
Chewing Gum
Mint
Candy Kiss
Tea Bag

Why?????

TOOTHPICK - to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others. – *[Matthew 7:1]*

RUBBER BAND - to remind you to be flexible. Things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out. - *[Romans 8:28]*

BAND AID - to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's. - *[Colossians 3:12-14]*

PENCIL - to remind you to list your blessings everyday. - *[Ephesians 1:3]*

ERASER - To remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and it's okay. - *[Genesis 50:15-21]*

CHEWING GUM - to remind you to stick with it, and you can accomplish anything. - *[Philippians 4:13]*

MINT - to remind you that you are worth a mint. – *[John 3:16-17]*

CANDY KISS - to remind you that everyone needs a kiss or a hug everyday. - *[John 4:7]*

TEA BAG - to remind you to relax daily and go over your list of blessings. - *[1 Thessalonians 5:18]*

More quotations from these little darlings . ! . !

HONESTY

My son Zachary, 4, came screaming out of the bathroom to tell me he'd dropped his toothbrush in the toilet. So I fished it out and threw it in the garbage. Zachary stood there thinking for a moment, then ran to my bathroom and came out with my toothbrush. He held it up and said with a charming little smile, "We better throw this one out too then, 'cause it fell in the toilet a few days ago."

OPINIONS

On the first day of school, a first-grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, "The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents."

KETCHUP

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup to come out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. "It's the minister, Mommy," the child said to her mother. Then she added, "Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now she's hitting the bottle."

NUDITY

A little boy got lost at the YWCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, "What's the matter haven't you ever seen a little boy before?"

ELDERLY

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to the housebound. I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. The various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs, unfailingly intrigued her. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"

DRESS-UP

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, "Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit."

"And why not, darling?"

"You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.."

DEATH

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased. The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his Father always said: "Glory be unto the Faaaather, and unto the Sonnn . . . and into the hole he gooooes."

SCHOOL

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. "I'm just wasting my time," she said to her mother. "I can't read, I can't write and they won't let me talk!"

BIBLE

A little boy opened the big family bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. "Mama, look what I found", the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear."

New Church Directory

Many members have already given the necessary authority to the church to comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act by holding and publishing personal details in the form of the Trinity Directory. However, more recent members may not have been asked to complete the relevant form. These people will shortly be receiving (via their Elder,) a letter & form requesting permission for your details to be entered in Trinity's new Church Directory. We would be grateful if these could be returned to your Elder as soon as possible. The directory will then be circulated to everyone included.

Marian Mole

Shake a leg . . .

Do you need to get trim for the summer ? - (if it ever arrives) – and is Keep Fit not quite what you are looking for ?, then you are in luck. Starting on Wednesday 7th June there will be weekly Line Dancing sessions in Crendon Hall from 7.30 – 8.30 pm. Don't worry if you haven't had much or indeed any experience of Line Dancing, our lovely instructor, Peta, will soon remedy that. So why not come along, and bring your friends, and enjoy a fun evening. If you need any more information, please have a word with Rose Cornwall.

The Age Gap

- At 4 Mum knows everything.
 - At 6 Mum knows a lot.
 - At 8 Mum does not know everything.
 - At 10 Well, Mum will not know anyway.
 - At 15 Mum is hopelessly old-fashioned.
 - At 20 Mum's time is long past, how would she know?
 - At 40 I'll just hear what Mum's opinion is.
 - At 50 I wonder what Mum will say.
 - At 60 Mum, in actual fact, knew about most things.
 - At 70 I wish I could have discussed it with Mum.
-

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

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

prayer page

I run for dear life to God,
I'll never live to regret it.
Do what you do so well:
get me out of this mess and up on my feet.
Put your ear to the ground and listen,
give me space for salvation.
be a guest room where I can retreat;
you said your door was always open!
You're my salvation – my vast, granite fortress.

My God, free me from the grip of Wicked,
from the clutch of Bad and Bully.
You keep me going when times are tough –
my bedrock, God, since my childhood.
I've hung on you from the day of my birth,
the day you took me from the cradle;
I'll never run out of praise.
Many gasp in alarm when they see me,
but you take me in stride.

extract from Psalm 71 in
The Message by Eugene Peterson

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In the depth of silence
no words are needed,
no language required.
In the depth of silence
I am called to listen ...
Listen to the beating of your heart.
Listen to the blowing of the wind,
the movement of the Spirit.
Be silent – said the Lord
and know that I am God.

And listen to the cry of the voiceless.
Listen to the groaning of the hungry.
Listen to the pain of the landless.
Listen to the sigh of the oppressed
and to the laughter of children.

For that is authentic communication;
listening to people
living with people
dying for people.

By an Indonesian author (International Association
for Mission Studies) from *Bread for Tomorrow*



Holy God,
whose name is not honoured
where the needy are not served,
and the powerless are treated with contempt:
may we embrace our neighbour
with the same tenderness
that we ourselves require;
so your justice may be fulfilled in love,
through Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

From *All Desires Known* by Janet Morley

Before the ending of the day,
creator of the world we pray,
That with Thy wonted favour thou
wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

From all ill dreams defend our eyes,
from nightly fears and fantasies;
tread under foot our ghostly foe,
that no pollution we may know.

O Father, that we ask be done
through Jesus Christ, thine only Son;
Who with the Holy Ghost and thee,
doth live and reign eternally. Amen.

From the Order of Compline