

Transformation

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF HOLY TRINITY & ST MATTHIAS TULSE HILL



I once preached a sermon series entitled "The Person-Centred Church." At the start, some people looked at me very dubiously. "Surely it should be the "God-centred" church or the "Christ-centred" church," they said. But my point was that God *is* a person; Christ *is* a person.

Our church is "Holy Trinity" - and if that name teaches us anything, it is that "people matter" - because the Trinity is three persons in relationship with one another. And their good relationship - lasting from eternity to eternity - spills out into relationship with us. And human beings have also been created as persons, to mirror the relationship of God the Trinity.

So people matter. People matter to God. That's why he came to us in Jesus - because we matter to him in every way. It matters to God when people are uncared for; it matters to God when people are violent; it matters to God when people are in need; it matters to God when people are crushed; and it matters to God when people are far from him through ignorance, fear, pride, or whatever reason.

The gospel - our Christian faith - is a total, transformational, experience of life in all its fullness. Sometimes we lose sight of that. Sometimes we forget the impact that salvation can have on others - not just on the Final Day, but in the here and now. Yet it's called "salvation" for a reason! It "saves" us from self-absorption, which is the enemy of personhood, and it opens us out to God and others. This is the restoration process we are all called to ourselves, and called to share with others.

This year, 2013-14, let "people matter" be your motto; let the central people be God the Holy Trinity; and let it be your business to bring others to them.

Richard

First Sunday

First Sunday is our new Evening Service, held at 6.30pm on the First Sunday of each month. To keep things fresh, we have a pattern that will repeat over a four-monthly cycle.

1. The First Month is "**Noisy**" - in other words the accent is on praise and intercession, with a brief exhortation!

2. The Second Month is "**Quiet**" - in other words the accent is on thought, reflection, and prayerful exploration with God.

3. The Third Month is "**Teaching**" - the format is that of an extended talk with questions, in order to probe a particular topic more deeply.

4. The Fourth Month is "**Healing**" - an opportunity to ask for God's help or healing in any way, with prayer and laying on of hands. This is our most liturgical evening service, but we let the liturgy create and hold a space for the Holy Spirit to minister.

The services have all been well appreciated, no doubt partly due to the cake served beforehand from 6pm! On June 23rd we have a special evening service on Science and Faith, led by Bishop Richard.

Could YOU help produce TRANSFORMATION next year? You need a good level of DTP skill, attention to detail, and a sometimes ruthless ability to edit! Talk with Richard if you're interested.

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APRIL 2013

Trinity Social Club

Trinity Social Club has been going for a year and a half. We have 5 volunteer staff, 22 members, and *you* are most welcome to join us! Most weeks we have 11 members, with some regular and some more intermittent.

First Anniversary

Last November, our first anniversary party was supported by several church members.. At Christmas we provided a hamper for a CAP client living with her son in central Brixton. We also ran a summer day trip to Brighton and had several walks in Brockwell Park. It's good to see people getting to know each other, becoming more confident, and being able to welcome and care for newcomers.

We start each session with lunch together and then go on to an activity. We have watched films, had discussions, enjoyed quizzes and even had a formal debate on 'this house believes IT is a good thing' - which became quite heated! The program is decided on by members and most people contribute.

Community Links

In January we had a visit from Alan Chisholm, course director at High Trees community project across the road, who encouraged members to take up courses there. So far one person is doing this and another is attending creative writing at the Vida Walsh centre in Brixton.

Although only about half the club members are church goers, everyone is pleased to pray together at the close of each session, thanking God for blessing us and asking for things we need.

The Effra Hub mental health information centre is opening soon, and staff there are enthusiastic about **Trinity Social Club** and will be advertising it to people using the centre. We have also advertised at Lambeth Mind and joined Lambeth Healthwatch.

Anne-Marie Harrison

imagine family

One of the aims of **Imagine Family** is to develop more explicit links between the church and our community. Over the past year we have been finding our focus, and that aim is becoming a reality.

Our work with *children* through weekly after-school clubs, school-holiday outings, and Trinity Tots twice a week has continued to grow, and this year we had an "Incredible Journey" Holiday Club in church for about 50 children, many of whom are not regular church-goers.

With a different hat on, we continue to help *families facing domestic violence* and issues such as lack of food and basic items. One of our partners here is the Gaia Centre, run by Refuge in Lambeth. Other partners include Acts 435, who are able to help financially by channelling donations from Christians across the UK, Christians Against Poverty, and our local Food Bank.

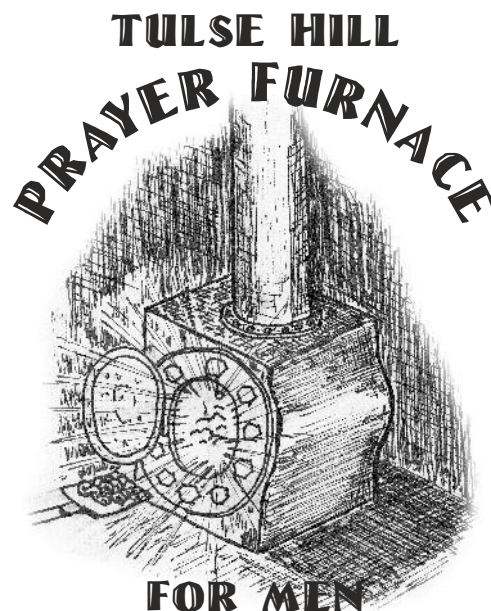
Imagine Family has always been about encouraging and supporting *community volunteers*, and we continue to help people find placements when they are looking to offer something back to the community and sometimes wishing to develop skills for work. Quite often our links are with local schools, which we've been connected with over a long period as Governors and by offering clubs and support for children and families.

Our office and *family centre* is now in the Community Flat, Saxonfield Rd, and we are very grateful to Amicus Horizon Housing for supporting us in this way. Each week we pray with Richard & Susi there, along with someone else from the estate, who is also very active in the Residents' Association. At Christmas the church led carol singing on the estate, in partnership with the residents' association, who organised refreshments.

We have seen God working in many people and praise him for great relationships made. Constantly we try to imagine God's Kingdom here in Tulse Hill, and **Imagine Family** is one way we see it actually revealed.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." (1 Peter 4:10)

Jacky Sutcliffe & Aileen Garden



The **Tulse Hill Prayer Furnace** began stoking up the fire last Autumn. We are currently a small group, but our vision is great!

There is a lot of spirituality and Christian belief in Tulse Hill, but much of it is held by women. Our desire is for men also to rise up and take responsibility - to be leaders led by God in this community.

On the last Monday of each month a group of men from three local churches therefore meet in Pursar House Community Flat to pray for this transformation to happen on Tulse Hill Estate.

Join us! We meet for one hour, 7-8pm, on the last Monday of each month. Richard.

The Shape of Pastoral Care



What does Pastoral Care look like in a local church? In some places it's seen as work done solely by the clergy. Other churches expand that to include licensed lay ministers such as Southwark Pastoral Auxiliaries (SPA's). Some churches have a team of paid pastoral staff.

The shape of pastoral care in Tulse Hill Parish embraces everything that nurtures people, everything that meets people where they are at - be they longstanding church members or new this week.

Here at Holy Trinity, our pastoral work goes beyond the ministries of clergy and SPAs - valuable and varied though that is. Our pastoral ministry calls on a wide range of volunteers, mostly in teams, using the gifts God has given them.

Starting with Welcome

Pastoral Care begins with the welcome a person receives on entering church. This year we've added to our Welcome Team, continued to encourage people to fill in Welcome Cards, and held regular Sunday lunches for newcomers at the vicarage.

Many people find Home Groups an ideal context for spiritual encouragement and mutual support. Including the Senior Citizens, we now have six groups, with a seventh at early planning stage.

Home Groups and SPAs need support. This year we've offered training jointly to all pastoral leaders, as well as a 5-week "Listening Skills" course to the wider Deanery. Most sessions were well attended, covering topics such as "Valuing oneself as a helper" "What do I do when I have done all I can?" We have also made available a Resource List for referral information.

Looking Ahead

Pastoral care also attends to a variety of specific situations: meals for new mums and others; home communions; baptism anniversaries; prayer ministry.

Looking ahead, we'd like to have an area in church for Pastoral Information and also a leaflet on how to request home/hospital visits from clergy or pastoral team.

Ruth Dormandy & Aileen Garden

4 Years With CAP

Are you in difficulty with debt? CAP can help. Are you wanting to manage money more wisely? CAP can help. Are you looking for work? CAP is setting up job clubs across the UK. CAP stands for Christians Against Poverty. Here in Tulse Hill, our CAP Centre focuses on helping people out of debt.

My initial 3-year contract as CAP Centre Manager began in September 2008. I offered a further year as I passionately felt this work remains an urgently needed outreach of God.

In January 2012 I handed in my resignation for December 31. To me, a year seemed reasonable notice for the church to find a replacement and build in a hand over period. I have to say the PCC did everything it could to find my replacement but for a variety of reasons the deadline came - and was extended to April 2013.

It was only when it seemed the centre would have to close that God spoke clearly to me: Once again I was following MY plans and not HIS - that I needed to surrender to HIS timings.

My response was to withdraw my resignation and almost immediately things began falling into place. From May, Vanessa Reuter-Shafeek will join me as Debt Coach one day a week and I will go down to 2 days. The capacity of our Centre won't change and I'll be able to support Vanessa until God says it's HIS time for me to retire!

An Incredible Privilege

It's been an incredible privilege to knock on others' doors, meet them in their hour of need and bring them good news: Hope and a solution to their debt situation.

I've seen over 35 people become debt free and currently Tulse Hill Centre has 74 active accounts.

But it's not just about money. At Holy Trinity we want to be channels of God's transforming love. Along with practical support, people are offered prayer, bibles and an invitation to join us here. Many have done so!

Vital Volunteers

Managing the centre and getting involved in people's lives isn't something I do alone. We have a fantastic group of *volunteers* who work with me, and a network who pray regularly for the work.

There is a variety of ways you can support this outreach - even if you are not available to come out on the actual visits. Please talk to either Vanessa or myself if you want to find out more.

Partner Ministries

A different kind of partner is the Food Bank at St Luke's West Norwood. I often find myself writing out food vouchers for people to use there - a need that is likely to increase in light of the new benefit changes.

In addition to this, Acts 435 has been a wonderful source of funds for anyone in urgent need. Set up by the Archbishop of York - a former Vicar of Tulse Hill - it matches local needs with anonymous donors across the world! Last year Holy Trinity passed on over £12,000 through Acts 435.

God at Work

As I've seen prayers answered and God at work in clients' lives, my faith in turn has been strengthened. God is there, both in the good times and the difficult times too.

Irene Rothwell

Kwik stats...

Since our last Annual Meeting:

- 38 Welcome Cards have been received (last year: 50) Note: some people keep coming regularly, others are visiting or passing through.
- 14 baptisms have taken place (last year: 19)
- 0 people have been confirmed (last year: 14) (note to self: run confirmation class!)
- 8 weddings have been celebrated (last year: 10)

Gifts from the Lord.

That's how the Bible describes children, and that's one of the reasons we cherish children here at Holy Trinity Church. Here are some of our children's activities.

Under 3s - Trinity Tots

Trinity Tots is our group for Under 3s & Carers, each Wednesday and Thursday morning. It provides a warm community for adults along with play and for the tots.

This year, we started a monthly "Upstairs with Joy" when Joy Mantell takes a special circle time in church. **Trinity Tots** is led by Jacky, Yetunde, and Michelle as part of the Imagine Family Project.

Under 3s - Creche

Creche is on Sundays in the Undercroft during the morning service. Led by Angela, and with a staff rota of seven, the children listen to bible stories, sing, colour, play and get to know each other.

3-11yrs - Trinity Kids

On Sunday mornings **Trinity Kids** meet during the service for an hour. In the autumn, the numbers of *Sparklers* (3-4yrs) averaged 13, *All Stars* (5-7yrs) averaged 8, and *Trailblazers* (8-10yrs) averaged 12. The Spring saw in both younger groups increase in number. Well over 100 kids are registered and a third come each week.

Because of this, we have grown our staff team to 27, and you will often hear us calling for more to join. Our Scripture Union teaching materials has a mixture of bible stories, discussions and activities. We recently had Safeguarding Training and are planning a session on Children's Spirituality next month.

Abena and Anne-Marie co-ordinate Trinity Kids.

Homework Club & X-Stream

Homework club continues on Thursdays after school on the Marnfield Estate and is enjoyed by local children. *X-Stream Club* meets on the second Friday of each month at 6.00 pm, and is now open to all primary school aged children. These are led by Jacky with others.

Angela, Anne-Marie, & Jacky

So does the PCC do anything?



It's been another busy year for the PCC (Parochial Church Council) as we're involved in all aspects of keeping our church running.

Policies & Review

We've updated our mission giving policy and reviewed safeguarding. We've reviewed our links with local schools, and put in place plans to extend our Friday Youth Club.

We've seen the successful launch of monthly evening services, the Parish Weekend at Home, and the many social events revolving around food: the Men's breakfast, Ghanaian Friends Celebration, Entertainment Evening, Alpha courses and Newcomer's Lunches.

Then there's the church budget that we review regularly along with the fabric of the building.

Personnel & Expansion

As employers, we've overseen the appointment of our CAP Centre manager and connected issues. We were also involved in Holy Trinity receiving Susi as curate last June.

We're in the process of looking at various options for phase 3.5 of our building extension work to provide a larger and better kitchen.

We're an active and creative church so there has been plenty of ideas, changes or improvements for PCC to discuss throughout the year.

David Jowsey (PCC Secretary)



It's Party Time!

Socialising is an important part of any community. These are some of the ways we did it throughout this year:

Newcomers' Lunches at the vicarage. We had three, with plenty of guests plus people to host. Many thanks to the cooks and helpers, Ruth and Richard.

Weekend away "at home" in mid June was a weekend of activities for both young and old, including a guest speaker, a film night, topical discussions, a crazy quiz evening and the creation of our "imagine Tulse Hill collage. The weekend ended after the Sunday Service with a Bring and Share Celebration Lunch in the church garden. The food was brilliant and the weather matched it. Thanks to all involved in making the whole weekend such a huge success.

P.S – Have you booked for our church weekend AWAY from 28th June to 30th June this year? Whatever you do - don't miss out!

Bring and Share Harvest Lunch in the church garden at the beginning of October. We had great fun with the kids taking gifts of fresh produce around Deronda Estate. Many thanks to all the organisers, cooks and contributors.

Kids Outing to the Seaside - yes, we really did take two coaches and everyone came back in one piece - even the parents! Thanks to Jo and Abena.

Senior Citizens' Outing to the Seaside - you just can't keep Hyacinth out of those waves! Thank you Jean and Lil for organising.

First Tuesday - aka "men down the pub" once a month - it's good to catch up over a pint and mixed grill; thanks Adam.

Prayer Breakfast held on the 2nd Saturday of each month. An early Morning Prayer time followed by a healthy breakfast; Thanks Jim & Shira.

Fabric

Our church building is a fabulous resource. Legally, the churchwardens have responsibility for it, and they work with Jim, our Operations Manager who has decades of experience and also tremendous love and commitment.

It is very important that the church building is kept in good working order not only for our current needs but also as a long-lasting legacy for the future generations.

General church maintenance was carried out in 2012 including the servicing of Boilers, Electrical & Lighting Systems, Alarm Systems, and Fire Extinguishers. In addition, the annual Portable Electrical Appliance Testing was successfully done, together with the cleaning of carpets in the main auditorium.

Following a flood in the undercroft, the wooden flooring was cleaned and varnished, the cost of which was borne through our Insurance Policy. A new Water Heater was installed in the Ladies Toilet located in the Narthex and New Taps and a New Water Heater were also installed in the Narthex kitchen. A leaky pipe at the back of the church was repaired.

Rolling Stones

The Five-yearly "Quinquennial" Inspection of the church and grounds carried out in September 2011 recommended various masonry and roof repairs and this was duly carried out last year by PAYE Stonework & Restoration Ltd in conjunction with our Architects.

However, completing the repairs revealed that further major repairs were needed. This additional work will be undertaken by PAYE but there has been a long delay due to adverse winter and spring weather conditions. It is hoped to complete the work by early summer.

Here Come the Warm Jets

We are planning to replace the current heating fan convector units in the main auditorium which are nearly 20 years old.

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keeping within our means



In 2012 our "main fund" income exceeded expenses by £917. Praise God, and thank you to all!

Our "building fund" rose by £19,366 to £51,309, in spite of major expenses because we sold the Freehold of 57 Trinity Rise.

Our Imagine Family Project is currently funded until about the end of Feb. 2014.

Our CAP debt relief centre is currently funded until about the end of Nov 2013.

Our Youth Project ended in August 2011 and the balance of funds is £6,092.

Our "Phase Four" appeal fund stands at £54,126. This is *not* the "building fund" above.

These are our other four major funds based on the figures at the end of March 2013.

A full set of accounts can be found at the back of the church.

Throughout 2012 we have maintained the profile of money in our church – continuing to remind people of the opportunities to give regularly, highlighting the offering more during our worship. The experiment at All Age Worship on the first Sunday of the month, whereby collection plates are passed to each individual to make their offering has proved highly effective and is now a permanent feature.

The last thing we want is to be driven by financial anxieties, or for people to think that money is all the church is interested in. Yet certain facts remain:

- i) we need money to fund the many and varied aspects of our outreach and ministry including the upkeep of our church building - and we also need constantly to expand these;
- ii) God calls every member of a church to contribute both generously and as we are able - thinking seriously about money is a spiritual activity;
- iii) the more we can plan our giving as church members the better the PCC can budget responsibly, and the more efficient our giving becomes.

So we pray God will give you prosperous and peaceful year and that you will be blessed as you share with the church here.

Georgie Snyder, Jim Maddox, Richard Dormandy

Men's Breakfast

Over 30 men came to our first Men's Breakfast in February. It was fantastic to see the tables full. Our aim was to gather men for a meeting that would offer a different kind of spiritual opportunity, to complement our more social times at the pub for First Tuesday.

Our speaker was Jonathan Mortimer, vicar of All Saints' Peckham, who brought along a friend to share his experience.

Food was cooked and served by some of the women of the church who live nearby and could bring it in from home. We plan to return the complement at the women's breakfast in June.

We aim to have our second breakfast in early Autumn

Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod is a meeting of the representatives from a local group of Anglican churches, (the Deanery). Some meetings discuss matters of interest to the local and wider church, others are times set aside for us to worship together.

Working Together

There was a common theme to our business meetings this year. Both speakers encouraged us to look for ways in which we can work together as a local group of churches.

In November 2012 the synod heard from Ruth Worsley who was the parish development officer, now Archdeacon of Wiltshire. She pointed to the changes since many of us were children. There are now lots of other activities on Sunday, to draw adults and children away from church.

So her questions for us were:

- How can people be encouraged in their Christian calling?
- How can we develop lay leaders within the church?
- How can Deaneries do things better?
- How can we adjust to working with fewer resources?
- How can we share resources as a Deanery?

Suggestions of areas where we could work together included worship, marriage preparation, food banks and community development.

Extraordinary Mission

In January 2013 Bishop Richard Cheetham spoke to us. Reflecting on changes that had happened over the last ten years, he commented on the diversity of our area and the way churches are

responding with some extraordinary mission projects.

He said that the proportion of people claiming to be Christian had dropped to 59%. However, although regular churchgoers are now a small minority of the population, few people are militant atheists.

The bulk of people do not dismiss religion out of hand, and it is with these people that we need to share our faith. He said we should be clear about our worship, about our understanding of our faith and with the way we live out our faith in action.

Challenges

He also spoke of the challenges facing us as a diocese. The number of clergy will have to be cut by 10% over the next few years. He encouraged us to develop the role of the deanery to help meet this need.

The Bishop asked what kind of outcomes should be shown by Deaneries? Being part of a deanery is an aspect of belonging to one another. Some examples might include shared youth work, wedding preparation, and to support projects initiated by other churches.

When individual churches identify a need. How do they ask other churches for help? The Area Dean responded by suggesting that the planned deanery website might help.

Deanery Worship

Our Deanery Worship this year took place in December at St Leonard's church. It was a celebration of Advent called "Waiting for the Light." It consisted of readings and anthems sung by the choir with seasonal hymns for everyone.

Joy Mantell

E.R.

No - it's not a reference to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, but our Parish Electoral Roll. Although the roll is revised each year for the Annual Meeting, every six years it is completely renewed.

2013 was one of those years, and so, as it says in Matthew's Gospel, "each went to his own town to register" - or in our case, everyone had to complete a new form, even if they had been church members for decades.

The Roll is closed by law, 15 days before the Annual Meeting. There are always quite a few who, for one reason or another, miss the deadline, and get counted in the following year's revision instead.

Although we average around 120 adults in church each Sunday, and the number on our address list is about 240, this year our new electoral roll stands at **121**. Irene

Fabric *from p.5...*

This will make our gas heating system more efficient and less noisy. It is hoped the new units will be in place in time for the beginning of winter.

We are also looking at the possibility of erecting a separate building on the grassed area at the back of church to provide much needed kitchen and storage facilities. The PCC are currently discussing various options with a view to be up and running next year.

Thank you to Hendy for masterminding the care of our church gardens and thank you also to Mary our cleaner, and everyone involved with the upkeep and care of our beautiful church building.

The church is currently insured for £7,048,111 and the contents for £1,205,879.

Eunice Greenidge-Forsyth,
Lionel Green, Jim Maddox.



Senior Citizens

At Holy Trinity our Senior Citizens Ministry group is highly active, full of life, and very positive about the real difference God makes in their lives.

A number of the group meet weekly at church for Bible Study and prayer, and the whole group gets together after church on a regular basis to review the programme, plan ahead, and discuss things to bring to the rest of the church.

Every other month we sing as the "Senior Singers" in the All Age Service. Whoever thought "All Age" was just for toddlers?

Celebration!

We celebrate birthdays every week in Holy Trinity, and the Seniors are privileged to share some big ones. Among them this year were Derek's 70th, Solomon's 80th, and Hyacinth's 80th - all accompanied by generous parties.

We like to keep our social calendar ticking over, so we've had a number of film nights at church, been out for a post-Christmas meal, and down to the seaside at Bournemouth in the summer. We receive some financial support from church funds, and this was augmented by a cake sale.

In the coming year we plan more of the same, and are researching the costs of an outing to the theatre and a weekend trip to Blackpool Illuminations.

Jean Slue

100,000,000 BLADES OF GRASS

That's a rough guess at how much mowing we need to do regularly during the growing season at Holy Trinity. Our standard machine has been sometimes supplemented by my own "Beast", but now, thanks to Martin, we also have "the Monster" with its 30" blade - a bit bigger than your average Gillette.

Many thanks to all who help with pruning, tidying, weeding. Please do continue in the coming year.

Hendy Layne

Youth Church & Youth Club

Our youth Church is vibrant and full of energy! We have somewhere between 8 and 26 young people attending every Sunday, except for the first in the month, when we stay in church for All Age Worship.

A Great Team

Youth Church has been run by Lorraine Reimmer, Malcolm Kemp and Cynthia Blair, and I joined them as Curate in July 2012. Because of continuing growth we needed more leaders this year, and it has been a great blessing to welcome Bemi Osoba, Naomi Tejan-sie, Tomi Taiwo, and Ebenezer Afeku to our team.

It's such a dynamic team! Everyone brings in their own talents and gifts. We write our own teaching material, sometimes based on the passages used for the sermon series.

Growing Faith

We are aiming to prepare some of these kids for the confirmation service later this year. It's great to see them getting involved in our All Age Worship - leading quizzes, intercessions, bible readings, games and music. It has been such an encouragement to see our young people growing in their faith.

Friday Youth Club

Most attending Youth Church also come to Youth Club which currently meets every 3rd & 4th Fridays in the month. Georgie Snyder, Jo De Souza, Adam West and Stuart Robertson who were running this club made me very welcome in the team!

We now have 29 registered young people, and serve 4-14 each time. Recently the youngsters asked if we could meet every Friday instead of just the 3rd and 4th. Naturally we were keen to meet the demand!

God's Provision for Growth

However, more nights means more helpers, more ideas, more planning, more preparation, more training. Again God has been faithful, bringing in leaders like Luke and Becky Carey, Bethany and Peter Eckley, Loreen Graham and Ebenezer Afeku - all of whom have recently joined Holy Trinity, except Ebenezer, who has been with us for a 2-3 years.

We brought our plans to PCC, who offered some helpful guidance and gave us the green light. With these new leaders joining us, from May the youth club will meet every Friday.

Susikaran James



We are lucky to have such close ties between Holy Trinity School and our church, with lots of church members involved as pupils, parents, staff, governors, leading assemblies and some as part of the new parents' forum. These links have been strengthened recently with Susi and Ruth joining us, with both their boys attending the school.

The school has had some very pleasing results recently (see below: taken from the Department for Education website). We continue to see education as wider than performance tables though, and value our Christian ethos to enable the learning and development of the children in our care.

Adam West

2012 KS2 Performance Tables last update : (14 Mar 2013)

Percentage achieving Level 4 or above in both English and mathematics

	2009	2010	2011	2012
School	67%	65%	71%	87%
Lambeth	71%	76%	78%	84%
England - All Schools	72%	73%	74%	79%

CHURCH CHICKS

In case you thought that it's just the men who have fun, 2012 saw the revival of the Holy Trinity's Women's group **Church Chicks**.

Our aims are:

- To develop friendships – meeting with and getting to know women in the church and local community;
- To grow deeper - learning more of God and the amazing work He does;
- To reach out - to our community and be involved in charity work.

On the purely social front, we enjoyed the delights of James Bond's Skyfall and Pizza Express' menu. Holly led us in a session of Bokwa (a fitness workout that mixes South African Kwaito Dance and light boxing.) These have been great opportunities to get to know each other better and there have been a mix of women attending the different sessions.

To help us deepen our faith, we had a visit from the London Prison Fellowship (PF) who inspired some of us to get more involved in the ministries of PF such as Sycamore Tree courses for offenders, and Angel Tree which supports offenders' family relationships at Christmas. These ministries are proven to be effective and give us opportunity to show God's unconditional love to those inside. The result is often eye-opening - for all of us.

We're now planning a women's breakfast for June on the topic of 'Lost for words.... Sharing our faith in a secular world.'

As charity work, we've have spent 3 sessions learning how to make a quilt for the Linus Project. This organisation aims to provide security and comfort to sick and traumatised babies, children and teenagers through the provision of new home made patchwork quilts. For lots of the group it was their first venture into needlework, so new skills were learned whilst getting to know each other more.

Amy Grant

Curate's Confession

On Sunday 1st July 2012 I was ordained deacon in Southwark Cathedral. Moving to Tulse Hill and joining Holy Trinity has been like a homecoming after two years at Cuddesdon Theological College, where the style of worship was much higher church. My wife, Ruth, and our boys, Jonathan and Jeremiah, have been particularly aware of this.

All of us love to join in the lively worship and Bible-based preaching every Sunday. We especially enjoy the freedom of clapping hands while we sing! The boys have made lots of friends and look forward to Sunday School every Sunday.

It has been a great pleasure to work along with Richard and William and during our last 7 months we have developed good friendship and fruitful working partnerships. I have relished the challenges and opportunities in ministry and outreach - there have been so many in such a short time.

Taking funerals and being involved in marriage prep has been a privilege and a joy. Our Halloween activities were original and gospel-based, and I wrote this up as part of my Initial Ministerial Training. Involvement with the youth ministry has been a highlight along with a place in the diocesan cricket team.

The Church family have been very encouraging and we have managed to make so many friends and it has been great to meet many people who are very committed to pray. It has been a such a blessing to realise that we as a family are in the middle of God's will and very much looking to continue to enjoy what God has got in store for us.

Susikaran

ACCIDENTAL MISSIONARIES

January saw three special mission preachers booked in quite by chance: Ben Enwuchola of the Nigerian Chaplaincy, Penny Parker of Prison Fellowship, and Dan Tansey of CAP.

It felt such a good thing to do that I hope to make January a regular "missions month" - in addition to hearing from others we support, such as "Peace & Hope" and Teshie Orphanage throughout the year.

Richard



WHO ARE THE PCC?

The job of the PCC is to initiate, to manage and develop the whole mission of the church - pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. This involves prayer, planning and overseeing buildings and finances.

We meet about 9 times a year.

Some PCC members are directly elected, others attend by holding another office such as clergy or church wardens.

The term of office is 3 years. Below is a list of current members. Those starred end their term this year.

Jenny Dunn	Malcolm Kemp (Deanery Synod Rep)
Adam West	Joy Mantell (Deanery Synod Rep)
Fay Morris	John Rothwell (Deanery Synod Rep)
Cynthia Blair	Gloria Otu-Simon (Deanery Synod Rep)
Adrian Garden	
Hendy Layne	Eunice Forsyth (Church Warden & Vice Chair)
Isabella Riby Williams *	Lionel Green (Church Warden)
Jim Maddox * (Operations Manager)	
David Jowsey * (Secretary)	William Sharpe (NSM clergy)
Georgie Snyder * (Treasurer)	Susikaran James (Curate)
Lorraine Reimmer (Co-Secretary)	Richard Dormandy (Vicar & Chair)
+ one place vacant	