



My journey to Tulse Hill started when the manager of an NHS projected told me 'They can go elsewhere' as they closed down a meeting for fragile people held on the Maudsley Hospital site in November 2017. It had been the part of the support network of a number of institutionalised people for about eight years.

Well I take any idea from anyone, out of the mouths of babies and healthcare professionals and through a chain of serendipity, or the Holy Spirit's best work, I joined the club.

The club copes with real people, warts and all, and it has bonded into a family. One man turned up after not being there for weeks and the room burst into spontaneous applause. Soon he was giving a master class on his special subject, engineering and steam trains, and was surrounded by eager people, entertained to listen to his encyclopaedic knowledge.

Few had been blessed to spend time in this man's home getting his Windows computer working again after a few months off the air. As people turned up, they were generally greeted by name as they walked in, by the people already there.

Last week the self-appointed DJ wound up the stereo and she was told to turn it down. Within five minutes 'I'm Every Woman' came on and three members jumped up and started to sing along and wanted the music up again. The explosion of joy and freedom of expression was something to watch.

Next week should be My Favourite Book or Poem. I might bring 'How to change absolutely everything' by Professor Damien Hughes an expert in HR and organisational management, or Catwatching by Desmond Morris. Or the simple version 'the Ladybird Book of the Cat' which gets to the heart of the matter.

It is a basic need of anyone to be part of a community and you have one happening on a Monday. It's an expression of Jesus' love in caring for the sheep. So take a day off work, see the good work done by your church and rejoice. Sample for yourself what others do in your name and sharing the Kingdom here on earth. So God bless and be blessed by what you have supported in the Undercroft on a Monday. Comparing and contrasting the clubs who are there are reaching out to the disenfranchised, the socially isolated and disabled, it's hands down to Holy Trinity.

Robert Daley



Could YOU help produce TRANSFORMATION next year? Or perhaps write up interviews for our parish newsletters? Talk with Richard if you're interested.

<u>Contents</u>

<u>Page I</u> Trinity Social Club

Page 2 Senior Citizens Being Part Of A Home Group Youth - They Grow Church Chicks Men at the Pub

<u>Page 3</u> Food in my Belly... El Pescador Before & After - the Build

Page 4 Our Church Building Electoral Roll Mission Action Plan

Page 5 Responding to Youth Violence Our Schools Continued Blessing

<u>Page 6</u> Community Money Being a School Governor

Page 7 Trinity Kids Kwik Stats What Has PCC Been Up To? Riddim & Worship Notes

Page 8

Remember This? Deanery Synod Annual Meeting Date Who Are The PCC?

APRIL 2019



One of the most important aspects of our group is celebrating Birthdays.

No matter how old a person is there is something special in birthday. With age comes wisdom and teaching for younger generations to follow. So as Senior Citizens grow knowledge of faith through weekly bible studies, our birthday celebrations allow them to pass on that wisdom and knowledge to the rest of the church.

Life is beautiful because of the relationships and bonds built. Taking a few hours out to spend time with special ones on their special day is priceless. Their happiness and gratitude is proof that we have done something memorable which will last a lifetime.

This year there will be three group members' big birthdays of 75, 80, and 85. Life is to create happiness and spread Love within the splendour of our Lord and Saviour.

We are proud to know in our Senior Ministry Group, we treat life like an ice cream let us enjoy it before it melts away.

Many thanks to Jean Slue, who stood down from leadership this year after many years of service - especially for her organising of trips and events, and much other invaluable help.

Lil McPherson

Seniors Being part of a Home Group Being in a Home Group is like is possible at Sunday services alone.

being part of a family: each member with their own thoughts, ideas and personalities - male, female, older, younger, some with whom you have lots in common, others perhaps very little. But we all meet together to study the Bible, learn from each other, listen to each other, and enjoy our differences and similarities.

Meeting regularly means we get to know people more intimately than

This means that as a group we can offer each other support, both emotionally and prayerfully, when times are difficult, and rejoice together when there's cause for celebration in our lives.

It's this prayerful support which I have probably valued most about being a Home Group member during my thirty-five years at Holy Trinity.

Pam Wyborn



One thing you can say for certain about young people is that they grow! And so the make up of youth church is always changing. This year it was particularly so, with a large number leaving for University and a good number coming up from Trinity Kids. We have also welcomed new leaders in Abigail and Josh, who, along with the existing team give so much to support this wonderful ministry.

Studying what God did in the lives of Bible characters helps us understand a number of things: that God gives instructions for our lives; that there are warnings to heed and lessons to learn.

Studying Bible characters also gives us hope. They are people just like us, who experience God in their lives. Yet they don't always see immediate results, and so they teach us to trust God as we rely on his promises. Serving the same God, we too can count on him to help us.

Being a member of Youth Church means growing in responsibility. Our older members support as 'youth leaders', and everyone is part of the rota in leading on games and prayers. We continue to enjoy our responsibility of providing church refreshments on the first Sunday of the month, now with the bonus of a cake sale, to raise money for our ministry.

Whether it's going on an outing led by Jo, or on a Sunday in the Undercroft, Youth Church continues to be a vibrant and happy place. It's a place for anyone to develop good friendships and be happy in the company of other young people. In four words; ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY!

hurch Chicks

This year's highlight has been crafting, (Ruth's inspiration!). Each brought a different project – it was amazing to see all the different skills and projects on show!

We had knitting, crochet, quilting, English paper piecing, rag rug making, adjusting clothes to name just a few! And all enjoyed while getting to know each other more over a drink and nibbles!

Bemi Osoba Men at the

Men at the Pub may be a "jolly" but more goes on than just talking: friendships, support, with faith and many other issues discussed.

In March our pub of 20 years was sold. But it has re-opened and we'll be back there again from April.

If you fancy a friendly drink, we meet from 8pm on the First Tuesday of each month at the Crown & Sceptre, Brixton Hill. Do come along!

Adam West

2

Amy Grant

Food in my Belly - Straw in my Shoes | Before

Being the curate at Holy Trinity is amazing. I could have ended up anywhere, but I'm glad I'm here in Tulse Hill. It took me a while to get used to London, but I've landed in a wonderfully diverse congregation who inspire me with their passion and commitment to the church.

I love how warm and friendly people are here, and I look forward to seeing everyone on Sundays. I also love the regularity with which I find myself eating cakes, biscuits and even full meals here!

More than I was Trained for!

As well as preaching and leading, I get the chance to be a debt adviser for our Community Advice Centre, part of our youth church team, a regular helper on our build and other activities too.

The building project is not something my theological education prepared me for at all, but it's fantastic to see so many pull together for a lasting facility for the whole community. I'll be glad when the straw is all covered up though...my shoes seem to be full of it, and my carpets sometimes look like a stable floor!

Whatever my ministry future may hold, starting off at Holy Tulse Hill is a privilege and a blessing. I intend to enjoy every moment I have with you. And every biscuit, cake, and meal too!

Nick Smith



It was only after deciding on a Mexican theme I thought of writing my musical partly in Spanish - and only then that I saw how positive this could be for children with Spanish as their first language.

But this is how some of us are led: the rationale has to catch up with the intuition. I came home having decided on successful after school club and the this course, to find a Spanish neighbour peering in at our Straw Build. She helped with my first song. Soon, we also had a Spanish volunteer on the build, who checked through all the rest.

At the end of the Autumn term during which I had taught Holy Trinity children the songs in Assembly, they were asked what subject they would most like to learn in school that they don't learn currently. The answer was Spanish!

So Jacky Sutcliffe and I ran our most performance was on March 17th. The Tuesday after, one of the parents said something to me at the school gate. I dont know what it was, but I could tell from her smile that it was appreciative.

Richard Dormandy



Our Straw Bale Build is all about using sustainable and upcycled materials. So here are a few "before and after" photos.







Thank you

First of all, thank you so much to all who have volunteered this year in some aspect of church life. Your many contributions are much appreciated!

The physical fabric of the church

We keep a close eye on our church building, which seems to be in good shape. We look forward to the completion of our new Straw Bale Hall, which will add to the amount of fabric we need to report on at Annual Parochial Church Meetings.

We continue to carry out all the usual inspections (gas, electricity, portable electrical appliances, fire extinguishers, lightning conductors, ...) with health and safety in mind. With a building as tall as ours, regular maintenance that is needed from time to time needs careful planning.

We are currently aiming to do some next year, to fit in with constraints introduced by the Straw Bale project. We are fortunate to have a fund set aside to finance this type of activity. Thank you for your patience and restraint in relation to access to our garden whilst our building work continues.

Looking to the future

Thank you to everyone who helps keep the building in good shape and safe to use, particularly Jim, our Operations Manager, who sorts out keys, external contractors, carpet cleaning, heating and lighting, portable appliance testing and a host of other facets of this side of church life.

Later this year, Jim is planning to step down from many of these responsibilities. Please let us know if you can help. Please also remember that all of us benefit from a healthy and safe place of worship and please take the same care of it as you would do your own home.

Fay Morris and Malcolm Kemp Churchwardens



Our Electoral Roll is being completely revised this year, as it is every 4 years. There are currently 119 members.

Joy Mantell



Learning Together

Over the last year, Holy Trinity has continued to develop its Mission Action Plan. We've recently had a sermon series on the Five Marks of Mission, around which the Mission Action Plan is based. The Five Marks are:

- Tell: To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- Teach: To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- Tend: To respond to human need by loving service
- **Transform:** To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
- **Treasure:** To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Planning Together

We thank God for the many opportunities there are to get involved in God's mission, here at Holy Trinity and elsewhere. Over the past year, as part of the Church Council, we have been meeting to plan our ongoing mission needs. Our current thinking is that we should seek to:

- **Grow** our membership, to improve our numerical capacity for mission;
- **Increase** our members' awareness of the range of missional activities undertaken by the church, to improve our congregational engagement with mission; and
- **Increase** ease of participation in new and existing missional activities, to improve our active involvement in mission

Helping Together

We have various plans for this, over the coming year, but in general, please:

- Continue to pray for God's Kingdom to come, here and elsewhere, to his glory!
- Continue to invite your friends, neighbours, colleagues and others to church so they can find out more about Jesus and experience God's love
- Try to find out more about what we do here at Holy Trinity. If you don't know where to start, please speak to Richard, Nick, William or Gloria or someone on the PCC.
- Get involved in one or more of the Church's activities, if you haven't done so already!

Stuart Robertson and Malcolm Kemp on behalf of the PCC

RESPONDING TO YOUTH VIOLENCE

Last year our parish made headlines for tragic reasons: a 16-year-old boy was stabbed and died on the Tulse Hill Estate.

As a church, we had already been thinking about how we could respond to the challenges of youth violence and gang involvement, and this tragedy made us realise the importance of engaging with our community to support young people and their families.

So to start with, we've assembled a group who wanted to be involved with our response and we are meeting together to come up with a plan.

We are building relationships with local providers and the community, and have been along to Tulse Hill Estate residents' meetings to get a sense from local people of what they think is needed.

We continue to support the work of XLP on Tulse Hill Estate, and had a Sunday Visit from them in January 2019. Next month our Youth Violence Group will meet with others in youth provision to find out how they respond to the situation.

We would value a lot of prayer as we continue to discern how we as a church can best respond to these issues locally. Please pray for wisdom and opportunities. Nick Smith



It's been another year of steady outreach in our local schools, and we have also supported Spinnaker Trust financially.

Richard continues to take weekly assemblies at Holy Trinity. For the fifth year running, Jacky and Richard ran a successful after school choir club (see picture on p.3/7),

Our relationship with St Martin's continues to flourish and there has been talk of a joint confirmation class.

Once again we ran Christmas Experience for classes from Fenstanton, and this has led to Easter Experience in 2019

As you pray for our parish schools, do remember City Heights Academy where we don't have many links, and Elm Court School where we continue to take a special Remembrance Service each year. Richard



A full set of accounts for the year ending 31st December 2018 are at the back of church.

Our Main Unrestricted Fund financial situation continued its upward trend and in 2018 income exceeded expenditure by \pm 1,237 for which we give thanks to God. This is largely due to::

- i) A generous level of annual giving being maintained by church members including Gift Aid Tax Refunds.
- ii) Receipt of Income from lettings of the undercroft and main church auditorium.
- iii) Receipt of Income from Funerals and Wedding fees.
- iv) Regular robust monitoring of current and future Expenditure.

We would like to say a big thank you to all our church family who have given so generously throughout the year.

It is hoped that in the future we will have an income from our new Neighbourhood Hub, but we still need further funds to be able to complete the project by the end of 2020. We do apply for external funds and in 2018 we received funding from Aviva, Walcot Foundation, and the Co-Op. However, external funding is extremely difficult to secure and so individual donation remains our main source. Thank you for your continuing special generosity in this regard.

The message, therefore, is: please keep on prayerfully reviewing and increasing your giving so that we can continue to fulfil our ministry and build a much-needed financial safety net over a long period.

Georgie Snyder, Jim Maddox.



The Tulse Hill Community Advice Centre has just celebrated our First Birthday. We have a team of nine which includes two receptionists, Aileen Garden and Jenny Dunn; and seven trained Debt Advisors, Andrew Castleton, Sarah Castleton, Adrian Garden, Anne-Marie Harrison, Joy Mantell, Nick Smith and myself. I took over the role of Centre Manager from Joy Mantell in July 2018.

Meeting A Huge Need

Since we started a year ago we have had 174 clients, with issues ranging from benefit form-filling to extensive and complicated debts. During the year we have put one client through bankruptcy and two through Debt Relief Orders. Although the fact of this huge need is disturbing, it is our privilege to go some way towards meeting it.

We have up to 9 appointments booked at each of our Tuesday drop-ins. When dealing with debt clients we need two advisors present but for general benefit form filling or benefit appeals we can work with just one advisor.

We also book appointments on other days when advisors are available - usually Monday, Wednesday am and Thursday pm. Most of our referrals are via Mosaic Clubhouse, Lambeth Living Well Hub and CAP.

With screens we are able to divide the undercroft chapel into three and we also have the office and other parts of the church in which to meet with our clients. We look forward to the space of the new hall!

On-Going Training

All of our Debt Counsellors are fully trained and tested with validated training. It's incredible to think that we have become competent to help others with their financial problems.

We have a regular monthly team meeting held on the first Tuesday of the month to look at issues regarding the centre to help us improve our service. We also have a training meeting once a month and can also access Wiseradvisor, which provides free online and face to face training.

Going the Extra Mile

With Aileen as part of the team we have access to food parcels and food vouchers for our clients, which is a very necessary service. Through the food bank at St Luke's in West Norwood there was a Christmas party for our clients and their families and food vouchers given for Christmas goodies and basic food items.

We also have access to ACTS 435 and we have been able to raise the funds for Debt Relief Order fees, items of furniture and a bus pass. Again, Aileen is the advocate for our church. We have also had two socials one for the team and one at Christmas for our clients.

An Amazing Year

We have had a very exciting and challenging year where we have gained experience and confidence in helping our clients. A number have told us that they have felt welcomed by the team and had a sense of relief at knowing help is at hand. It has been a real privilege to work as a team helping our clients and to do this in service to our amazing God without whose help this would not be possible.



It's coming up to three years since I became a Governor of our church primary school. I have to admit that when I felt the call to do it, I didn't really understand what the role really entailed.

To the uninitiated, one might presume that you get involved in the day to day management of the school, but that isn't the case. We're there to support the Head and his senior team, but day-to-day management is down to them.

I'm a member of the finance committee as that's my background. (I know you all think I'm a builder but really finance is my thing..!) So with that background, I can bring to our meetings my experience re budgeting and questioning of spending etc.

Current falling rolls in the majority of Lambeth schools have meant big changes. For example, we've gone to a $1\frac{1}{2}$ forms for years 2 and 3. But the indications are that

the children of both year groups in this joint class are actually thriving.

I've also been fortunate to sit in on other committee meetings, and hear first hand how the subject leads push their subjects.

Actually just being there for a Governor day, attending assembly, walking round the school, having a school dinner with the children – is amazing. Two of my children are still at Holy Trinity & they're really happy, it has always felt a 'family' to them.

Nicole Lyon



Could you become a School Governor?

Being a School Governor is one of the ways you can serve through Holy Trinity Church.. We often need new governors for our own Primary School or St Martin's Secondary School.

As a Governor you will ensure the quality of education for all pupils, holding the head teacher to account for the school's performance, and make sure that the school's budget is properly accounted for.

You will receive high-quality training and have around 6 meetings to attend per year. Many employers give paid leave for school governor duties.

If you are interested, please speak with Richard.

Trinity Kids

At Trinity Kids there are lots of fun things to do like activities, learning about the bible and lots more. We also get work sheets to do. They are always really fun but still have a life lesson - basically a moral.

Every week we read a part of the bible and say a prayer.

I LOVE Trinity Kids. The teachers give us exciting things, and once a year we do a nativity play; last year's was great! We've also started a Trinity Kids choir which I really enjoy too!

You can make a lot of new friends and listen to their ideas and questions.

Lucy Lyon, aged 8

Hello, my name is Ronnie. I have been a part of Trinity Kids for about 5 years now, and I have really enjoyed my time there. I like Trinity Kids because it is a chance for me to make new friends.

In Trinity Kids, we learn about different stories from the bible and do activities based on the story we've read. At Christmas, we do a play of the Christmas story which is usually a lot of fun. Last year, I was Joseph.

We have a variety of different leaders and helpers and I'm really grateful to them.

Ronnie Radcliffe, aged 10



Since our last Annual Meeting:

- 5 baptisms have taken place (last five years: 12, 19, 11, 7, 16 so a low year).
- 4 weddings celebrated (last three years: 4, 3, 10; 2 planned for 2019).
- 19 adults and 16 children have joined the church in the last year, but many people do not attend every week.
- 4 people left our Tulse Hill church last year, two of whom rejoice in their higher calling to be with the Lord.

What has PCC been up to?

As your PCC (Parish Church Council) we are responsible for overseeing all aspects of our church fellowship, building, finances and policies, including supporting our leadership and ministry teams.

There are always plenty of new ideas in our church and many of these come to the PCC for discussion and support. We hope that you've benefited from some of them over the past year.

Most of the activities you read about in this edition of Transformation will have been overseen by the PCC.

Some Highlights

We held our "Bring a Friend Weekend" with a film and guest speaker from the Church Army.

We made policy updates on safeguarding and also GDPR (data protection), as well as detailed work on our Mission Action Plan (MAP), to our local mission priorities.

We've supported Nick and the team who have been looking at our church's response to youth violence, and liaising with other local community leaders.

Our oversight of the Straw Build continues, enhancing our site management and procedures.

We have had updates on our many links with our local schools including hosting school services and concerts in our church. We've had a new homegroup started (Hope), bringing us up to 5 homegroups in our fellowship.

We have reviewed and continued to support mission partners both local (Prison Fellowship and Operation Smile) and further afield in France (Youth with a Mission), Ghana (Teshie Orphanage) and Latin America (Peace & Hope); and also added a new partner, Eagles Malawi.

Staff Changes

After 9 years in the Operations Manager role (and many more before the formal title), Jim Maddox is moving to focus more on working on the church's finances.

Joy Mantell, has moved from leading Community Money and Georgie Snyder has taken over the reins. Joy remains on the CM team.

Thank You

It's such a blessing to see the purpose and enthusiasm of all our groups and their activities. On behalf of the PCC, thank you to everyone that has been involved with running these.

And a huge thank you to everyone who has served on the PCC this last year and for all your contributions, in particular to those PCC members who come to the end of their term this year.

David Jowsey



The bass guitar is a curious instrument, thrubbing away in the lower frequencies, it's muddy intonations felt deep in the bowels Holy Trinity. To get a sense of the flavours of our bass players, one might compile a Spotify playlist of: Chris Squire (Stuart) Jah Wobble (Mike), Melissa Auf De Maur (Big Dave) and Roger Waters (Stephanie).

Joyce is our main front woman mixing vocals with latin percussion. This year she has been ably joined by Jessica Grant, while Jess Verri has been coming through to join Richard on guitar. Garry, Stuart, Joyce and Richard continue to choose songs and lead. Christmas 2018's Carol Concert had a distinctly flared-trousered feel with "Once in Funky David's City".

Richard.



Beer & Carols Elm Park Tavern 76 Elm Park SW2 2UB Wednesday 12th December 8.30pm

Beer & Carols @ the Elm Park Tavern







Bring-A-Friend Weekend



Our Annual Church Meeting (which includes both the APCM and the Meeting of Parishioners) will take place on **Sunday 7th April** during our 10.30 service.

We will elect the new PCC, there will be some verbal reports and a chance to ask questions, along with the Vicar's Vision.

Deavery Shooq

The Deanery Synod is the meeting of about a dozen local Anglican Churches to exchange ideas and to work on joint ventures. Joy Mantell and Adam West are our reps, but there is room for two more.

Our first meeting of 2018/19 was a joint one with Lambeth North Deanery, for an inspiring presentation by "Citizens" charity who enable community groups to organise themselves for social change. It is worth looking at: www.citizensuk.org/london.

In February we learnt about support given to prisoners. Wendy Stevens gave a moving account of her work as a SPA in Wandsworth Prison. Then the new Chaplain from Brixton Prison talked giving prisoners news about the death of a close relative. Finally, we heard from organisations who support those leaving prison: First the Nehemiah Project, which aims to give a fresh start to people with addictions; Second, Woman in Prison seeks to give a voice to woman prisoners.

Our local Deanery Synod also has a voice at the Diocesan level, and four people were nominated this year: Gareth Powel, Martin Gordon, Esther Moorey, and Margaret Hedley.

For the third year we joined with Lambeth North Deanery to run a stand at the Lambeth Country Show. I, (Joy) went for the first time ever to help with the children's work. The stand was divided into three areas. One part had tables, chairs and an invitation for drinks and cakes: Very welcome on a hot afternoon, and great to offer free refreshments in an increasingly commercial setting!

The centre section was used for singing and sharing. Hymns and free ginger beer was very popular!

The third section was for children. It was very relaxed with plenty of craft materials. The children made their own version of Noah's Ark or anything else their imagination suggested! It was a good afternoon.

Deanery Synod continues to be an opportunity for us to meet with other local churches and to cooperate in meeting the needs of our area. Please consider joining Adam and Joy as we work together with our neighbouring parishes.

Adam West & Joy Mantell



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.

Amy Grant Adrian Garden Anne-Marie Harrison Hendy Layne Jamie Lobban Jenny Dunn Lionel Green Nicole Lyon Pete Lindsay * Stuart Robertson * Jim Maddox * (Operations Manager) David Jowsey * (Secretary) 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.

Georgie Snyder * (Treasurer)

Adam West Joy Mantell Vacant	(Deanery Synod Rep) (Deanery Synod Rep) (Deanery Synod Rep)
Malcolm Kemp * Fay Morris *	(Church Warden) (Church Warden & VC)
William Sharpe Richard Dormandy Gloria Otu-Simon	(NSM clergy) (Vicar & Chair) (Reader - co-opted)