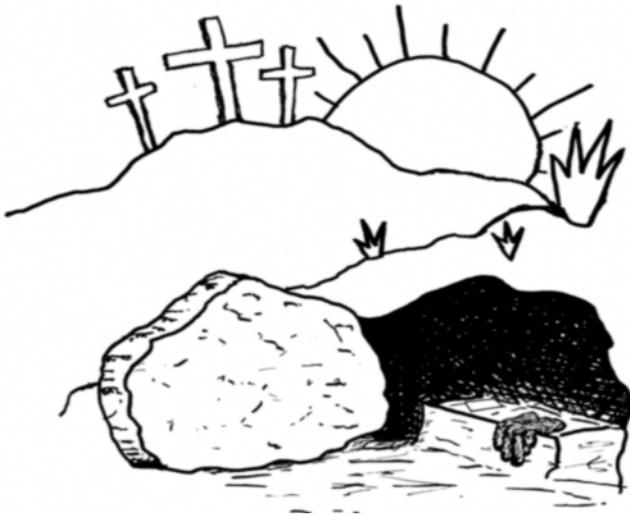


TRINITY *NEWS & VIEWS*



Christ is Risen.

April/May 2015

Issue 22

From Our Minister



Dear Friends,

We at Trinity are currently part way through an experiment to determine whether it is God's will that we hold Messy Church in the Worship Area and the more "traditional" service in the Main Hall.

The benefits to Messy Church are already clear. The setting up is easier, the space is safer, mainly because the toilets are en suite; it is more welcoming; it is more visible to and integrated into the whole church; and it sends the message to the children and their families that we consider them as important as any other section of the church family.

In the Main Hall there are teething problems, but that is what experiments are for: to find and correct those problems. There are benefits here, too, though. The very act of grace in accepting that the whole work of God is better served by our stepping aside a little is a small act of sacrificial love and therefore good practice for us all; the different environment helps keep us a little fresher; and worshipping in a different space helps us to see more clearly what worship is really about.

Forbearance is not a common word in these times, but it can be a great virtue and one that we all need just now. If you find it all a little strange at first, don't worry — it will soon seem as if it was always this way.

The Jesus we serve never seems to have been much concerned with being comfortable himself, nor for those who came into contact with him. Indeed, Jesus often goes

to great lengths to push people he met — and especially his followers — out of their comfort zone and into choppy waters. One recalls the rich young man (Matthew 19.16-30), the Pharisees (Matthew 23 et al), Peter (Mark 8.30-38) and many, many more.

This is an aspect of Christianity we often prefer to neglect, but it is a crucial part of our faith. That is not to say we should be uncomfortable just for the sake of it. However, it does mean that we should not value being comfortable too highly. We are on a journey with God as individuals and as a Church, which means we have to keep moving. Old places and things must be left behind and new places and things embraced; that is what being on a journey involves.

Delightful as it may be to moan about the new and rave about the old, it is not helpful. It can be just as delightful to grasp the new in a spirit of eager discovery and childlike curiosity.

What new things can God teach us about worship in this setting? How can we exploit the different facilities to encourage growth of the faithful and engagement of those seeking faith? How exciting can this be for Trinity Methodist Church?

I urge you, therefore, to pray for that eager, curious spirit, to forbear criticism and grumbling and to delight in the possibilities that are now opened up.

**God Bless
Paul**

Church Family News



Funeral *"May light perpetual shine upon him"*

27th February 2015 Ken Tank



Congratulations - 90th Birthday

15th March 2015 Frank Thompson



Evelyn Tank and family would like to thank all friends at Trinity for their prayers and messages of sympathy following Ken's death. Also for the support so kindly given on the occasion of Ken's funeral. The love and care shown was greatly appreciated.

Sunday 19th April 8.00 am to 9.00 am

Please join us at Trinity for Prayer with a bring and share continental style breakfast. A time for silent prayer and for open prayer.

Any queries: anndawson789@googlemail.com

An opportunity to celebrate Rev. Dr. Mike Deacon's ministry in the Circuit and at Walton will be held at a service on Sunday 26 April at 4 p.m. at Walton Methodist Church, Terrrace Road, Walton. All are welcome and to stay for tea after the service. The Circuit will be making a presentation to Mike and if you would like to contribute to this please send your gift to Carole Steele, Circuit Treasurer.

PLANT SALE

SATURDAY MAY 9TH

AT TRINITY

PROCEEDS ARE FOR

CHRISTIAN AID

*If you are planting seeds please
consider sewing a few extra for the
Plant Sale.*

All contributions will be welcome.



Voice Mail Prayer

Most of us have now learned to live with voice mail as a necessary part of our lives. Have you ever wondered what it would be like if God decided to install voice mail? Imagine praying and hearing the following:

Thank you for calling heaven. For English press 1. For our universal translator, press 2. Please select one of the following options:
Press 1 for requests.
Press 2 for thanksgiving.
Press 3 for complaints. Press 4 for odd-ball needs. I am sorry, all our Angels and Saints are busy helping other sinners right now. However, your prayer is important to us and we will answer it in the order it was received. Please stay on the line. If you would like to speak to: God, press 1.

Jesus, press 2. Holy Spirit, press 3.
Your Guardian Angel, press 4
To find a loved one that has been assigned to heaven press 5, then enter his/her social security number followed by the £ sign.
If you receive a negative response, please hang up and dial area code 666.
For reservations to heaven, please enter JOHN followed by the numbers, 3:16.
For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, life and other planets, please wait until you arrive in heaven for the specifics.
Our computers show that you have already been prayed for today, please hang up and pray again tomorrow.
The office is now closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday.
If you are calling after hours and need emergency assistance, please contact your local pastor.
Thank you and have a heavenly day.

Circumstances become a window to new experiences

I am first born in a family of five with only one girl. Four of us are living and have families of their own. In my culture, being first born comes with a responsibility to keep the family together when parents pass on. I had never imagined the enormity of this responsibility until when my father passed away.

My father was diagnosed with liver cancer in August 2011. I never expected this when he went for tests. We lived apart. My father was back home in Zimbabwe and I was here in England as a political and economic migrant. Life was tough for me for I would have needed to be with my father at this time of need. I informed my father's sister who is living in Zambia about my father's diagnosis. I got all the support from my aunt. My aunt went to live with my mother and help to look after my father. My leave time has always been during December of each year. It was convenient for me because I would meet with my brothers and sister. This time

I had to change my leave time to November because I wanted at least to have some time with my father. My wife had to go at the beginning of November 2011. I could not travel at the same time because I had bought my air ticket from some con travel agency. This I discovered when I went to check in. So I had to stay behind to sort my air ticket. I stayed behind for one week. The one week was a year to me because my father had been given at most six months to live and I desperately wanted to be with my father. In the one week I stayed to sort my air ticket, I prayed hard and told God that I would like to have some time with my father. In my reference to blessings, I would always refer to the wrestling which Jacob did all night with the angel of God. Jacob said I will not leave you until you bless me. I would not stop making the noise in God's ears about my father.

The night before my flight, I spoke to my father and all he said to me was "What are you still doing? You told me you were coming and I am waiting for you, how long are you going to take?"

God listened to my prayers. I was with my father for over a month. We were together through Xmas and he got into 2012. Prayers changed the circumstances and new windows got opened. The time I was with my father made me think of my youth when I was in the village and all the socialisation I got from my father.

I used to hate some of the ways my father used to discipline me and my brothers. I had always thought that my father was a very hard man. He was a no nonsense man. I had grown up to hate his toughness and high handedness. I always did not wish that for my children. When I spent the last days of his life with him I appreciated all he had done to make me who I am today. I could see the sense in all the discipline. "Tame a tree while it is young." We had Christmas of 2011 together and he appeared to be improving. On some occasions he would not be looking good. My father and my mother were living at our house. I organised a nurse to come and look after my father from the middle of November

2011 until he passed on the 9th February 2012.

My father was courageous even when he was dying. On the 28th December 2011, I was to leave for United Kingdom because my leave was over and I was to start work on the 30th December 2011. In the morning of 28th December all family members went to my father's bedroom as had always been to pray. We sang his favourite hymn 'Guide me oh Thou Great Jehovah' then we prayed, my sister first and then my mother and lastly myself. The prayers were filled with emotions but we would all end our prayers by your will be done.

I then bid farewell to my father. As I held his hand I began to cry. I could not hold back my emotions for I knew that was going to be the last I was seeing of my father. My father's last words to me at that moment were "You are such a coward. You cannot stop me from travelling my journey. You cannot give life. When my time comes I shall go whether you are here or away. That does not change anything. You go to work and

fend for your family. Your mother will need to be looked after.”

I cried not because I was a coward but I would have liked to be with him when he passed on. Well my wife was and that consoled me because my better half was with her father in-law. My father passed away on the 9th February 2012. I am consoled because I had some time with my father before he was called to the kingdom.

Circumstances are a window to new beginnings. Since the passing away of my mother in law and my father, Vongai and I have one parent each and we both are first born. Culturally we have a responsibility over our parents. We now spend most of the time separate because our parents need to be looked after. While my wife spends most of the time in Zimbabwe, she has also to establish some small business to keep us busy when I retire in four years’ time.

Jesus’ last words to his brother were; “Behold your mother” John 19;26.

In life we have circumstances that lead to changing our life

plans. The circumstances have to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Dr Hope Sadza writes in her book prayer opens the heavens. She implied that whatever you ask in his name, He is faithful and just that He will guide you to achieve what you desire only if you give God a chance to reign in your life. You may have difficult circumstances but remember prayer opens the heavens. Your father will close those hard times and lead you to new experiences.

My father’s passing away makes me work ever more to make my mother happy. I have learnt that there are times when we have to demand God’s intervention in our lives and he will reward those demands. As long as we do not despair, the Lord is just and merciful that he will honour our requests. Very often we find ourselves in circumstances which are not palatable with our strengths and think we can solve problems alone. Circumstances give us an opportunity to trust God and place him in his rightful place as creator and life giver. At times we need other people to invigorate our faith. I have grown of late to

understand that whatever circumstances I get into either as a family or individually, they are a window to blessings and maturity with God.

What is “Y-Group” ?

Rabson Ziso

A Celebration of French Music

The Epworth Choir will be performing a concert with the Orchestra of the Pinnacle Ensemble at Holy Trinity Church at the top of Guildford High Street, on Saturday 18th April at 7.30p.m.

They will perform three pieces of beautiful music by the French composer Fauvé:

Requiem; Cantique de Jean Racine & Pavane.

There will also be solos by Amy Lyddon (Mezzo soprano) by the choir rehearsal accompanist Laurence

Williams (Baritone) and by Jeremy Cole (Organ). Tickets are on sale from the Epworth Choir Box Office on 01483 768136, on-line at

www.epworthchoir.org or from Guildford Tourist Information Centre at 155, High Street, Guildford.

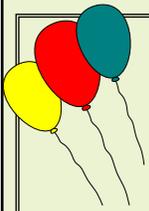
We are a small, friendly house group that meets regularly, twice a month on 1st and 3rd Monday – with a more social session if there is a 5th Monday in the month!

Recently we explored *Life on the Frontline* •- a 6 session course with dvd, based on two firm beliefs: first, that God longs for us, his people, to grow as disciples of Jesus; and second, that as disciples, God longs to use us seven day a week wherever our everyday lives take us.

During Lent we used *Embrace Lent* – a 6 part guide walking through the six days of creation, pausing at each stage for thought, prayer and reflection on the state of God’s world today and how our own lives and situations differ from those in the Middle East.

Our latest course is *Fruitfulness on the Frontline* an 8-session course with dvd, for disciples who want to make a difference where they are.

Do contact Helen Best (W 725098) if you would like to know more and join us on our journey of faith exploration.



TRINITY 50th ANNIVERSARY



SAVE THESE DATES

*Sunday 7th June Service with
Myrtle Poxon*

Saturday 13th June Hog Roast

*Sunday 14th June Celebration
Service*

*Saturday 4th October Harvest
Barn Dance*



*More dates and information will be
available soon*



REDISCOVERING CHRISTMAS IN ROMANIA

For more than 20 years my wife Eleanor and I have enjoyed being local volunteers for Operation Christmas Child, a project of the Christian charity Samaritan's Purse. In 2014 almost 20,000 shoe boxes were collected from the Woking and Guildford areas and sent to 5 countries including Romania. Last December, just before Christmas, I had the opportunity to make a further trip to Romania. I joined a team of 13 volunteers from all over the UK headed by an area manager for Samaritan's Purse.

Our base for the week was a hotel in the town of Mangalia on the Black Sea coast of Romania. Our hosts for the week were the Speranta ("Hope") Church in Mangalia and Dorel and Mustafa, the pastor and assistant pastor of the church, collected us at Bucharest airport. On our arrival we were given refreshments at the church and for the next 5 days Lidea,

the pastor's wife, invited us all back for a home cooked supper.

Over the next five days, we travelled to a number of towns and villages in the area attending about 30 events. These took place in village schools and churches and in bigger venues such as the civic halls in Mangalia and Constanta. Some events just involved meeting families in the open air in a village or a market place.

In the local town of Medgidia we visited an orphanage, which cared for about 35 children with severe disabilities. We sang carols and played with the children, using the balloons, bubbles and glove puppets we brought with us. At one event in a town hall, we were invited to take part in the nativity play and given a few words to say in Romanian as we played various roles (in my case, a wise man!)

Whatever the venue, the common factors were music, worship and the delight of the children as they opened the shoeboxes lovingly put together by children and

families in the UK. For many children, it was very clearly the first time they had received a present put together especially for them.



Via our translators, at each event we had the opportunity to introduce ourselves and to explain why we had come. The format at most school events included carol singing and a short talk about why gifts were exchanged at Christmas. At the church venues, we were welcomed into a service arranged by the local pastor and there was always a nativity play in full costume and singing by choirs usually including very confident young children.

Our last full day in Romania was a Sunday and we attended a morning service at the Speranta Church. We returned in the evening for a lively joint carol service with other local churches taking part. Between

the two services we were able to thank our hosts and their team by taking them out to lunch in a local restaurant.

The following morning, on our journey back to Bucharest airport, we had time to reflect on how privileged we had been to spend a few days with such an amazing group of Romanian Christians helping to give out shoeboxes to about 4,000 children.

None of this would have been possible without the support of churches, schools and individuals in the Woking and Guildford area whose shoeboxes brought joy and hope to thousands of needy children. What better way could there be to celebrate Christmas and the birth of Jesus Christ!

Stephen Shurville





Charity for April.

Every day brings us news of catastrophes from around the world. We learn of fighting in the Middle East and Eastern Europe, causing huge displacements of ordinary people and the formation of overflowing refugee camps. On the television we see the horrors of epidemics, such as ebola in West Africa, and the results of natural disasters, such as earthquakes, tsunamis or drought.

So many people losing their homes, their way of life, and often life itself.

However, there is one amazing organisation which provides emergency humanitarian help world-wide, and that is the MSF., which 'provides relief to the victims of war, natural disasters and epidemics

irrespective of race, religion gender or political affiliation.'

MSF has pre-packed and customs-cleared surgical kits at centres around the world, and sends them on their way within 2 hours of the disaster striking. Staff are called up and they aim to get medical centres working on the ground within 72 hours of the disaster occurring. Their distinctive flags and T- shirts are often seen on T.V. in the early stages of international relief arriving in stricken areas.

MSF is a truly remarkable organisation. It was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999. I admire the staff who give time and expertise to suffering victims of war, natural disasters and disease, and I am impressed by the administration of the charity. Only 3% of income is spent on office management, 8% on fundraising (and for every £1

spent on fundraising, a further £13 is produced), so that 89% of the money received is spent on humanitarian work.

Last year Trinity was able to send £275 to the MSF to help with their amazing and often very brave work. I don't know whether Trinity's money went to treating T.B. in Papua New Guinea, ebola in Liberia, vaccination programmes, surgery in war-torn Syria or Ukraine or any other of the 60 countries MSF is currently working in, but I believe the money was well spent, and that somewhere in the world there is someone whose life has been made a little easier by that money.

MSF is a really worthwhile charity which we can support with our donations for coffee on Sunday mornings in April. It would be wonderful if we could send them an even bigger cheque this year.

Elaine Slatter.

Viral Bible

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we ought to love one another. No-one has ever seen God: but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

1 John 4 v 7-12

TRINITY GOLDEN JUBILEE QUIZ

... 50 more years ...

*How well do you remember events of the past 50 years
Try this quiz on the next 3 pages
Answers in the next issue!*

EVENT	YEAR
ABBA win the Eurovision Song Contest in Brighton with "Waterloo"	
Accession of the UK to the European Union	
Apollo XVII becomes NASA's final manned Apollo lunar mission	
Aston Villa win the European Cup by beating Bayern Munich 1-0 in the final	
Fall of the Berlin wall	
Bi-centenary of the Basingstoke Canal	
Blackburn Rovers become Premier League champions	
Bletchley Park in Milton Keynes opens as a museum	
British Airways is privatised and listed on the London Stock Exchange	
The centre of the British Museum is redeveloped to become the Great Court	
Linford Christie wins gold on the 100 m at the Barcelona Olympics	
IX Commonwealth Games are held in Edinburgh	
The super-sonic passenger airliner Concorde enters commercial service	
Sean Connery stars as James Bond 007 in Never Say Never Again	

EVENT	YEAR
UK and Ireland decimalise their currencies on D ecimal Day	
Jack D orsey writes the first ever tweet	
The first episode of E ast Enders is broadcast by BBC One	
Queen E lizabeth the Queen Mother celebrates her 100 th birthday	
E ngland wins the FIFA World Cup beating Germany 4-2 in the final	
E ngland wins the Rugby World Cup beating Australia 20-17 in the final	
Bruce F orsyth presents the first ever Strictly Come Dancing series	
Bob G eldof forms Band Aid to raise money for famine relief in Ethiopia	
Spice G irls reach number 1 with their debut single "Wannabe"	
G ood Friday Agreement is signed	
Lewis H amilton becomes F1 world champion for McLaren, Woking	
H eathrow Terminal IV is opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales	
The cross-Channel H overcraft service is inaugurated	
J ohn Paul I is pope for only 33 days	
Ann J ones wins the women's singles title at Wimbledon	
King J uan Carlos I accedes the throne of Spain	
Ellen M acArthur completes fastest solo circumnavigation of the globe	
John M ajor becomes Prime Minister of the UK	
Dick Beardsley and Inge Simonsen win the 1st Men's Elite London M arathon	

EVENT	YEAR
The M military Wives choir is formed	
Opening of the M illennium Stadium in Cardiff	
Andy M urray wins the men’s single title at Wimbledon	
Paula R adcliffe set a world record of 2h17m18s in the Chicago Marathon	
J.K. R owling publishes “Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone”	
Robert R uncie becomes Archbishop of Canterbury	
S cottish independence referendum	
Helen S harman becomes first British astronaut in Soyuz TM-12/11	
Sandie S haw wins Eurovision Song Contest with “Puppet on a string”	
Mother T eresa is awarded the Nobel prize for peace	
T rinity Methodist Church celebrates golden jubilee	
T rinity Methodist Church opens on Brewery Road, Woking	
Beth T weddle wins Olympic bronze on uneven bars	
Virginia W ade becomes Sports Personality of the year	
The new W embley Stadium opens with 90000 seats	
W imbledon beats Liverpool 1-0 to win the FA cup	
Sir Terry W ogan broadcasts his final Radio 2 breakfast show	
W oking Street Angles begin their work	

Green Matters

Use your food waste caddy to turn pizza into power

Did you know that using your food waste caddy helps turn fish bones into fertiliser, apple cores into energy and pizza crusts into power?

In fact, if the 83,000 tonnes of food thrown away in Surrey each year was collected from caddies, it would generate enough electricity to power 10,000 homes for a year, and fertilise enough wheat to bake 16 million loaves of bread.

All cooked and uncooked food waste can be put in your caddy, which is collected from every house in the county every week. The food waste is then transformed into green energy and fertiliser by anaerobic digestion. If you live in a flat, check with your local district or borough council about your food waste collection service.

If food waste is thrown out with general waste it's not only bad for the environment, it also costs Surrey taxpayers millions in waste disposal charges every year.

To find out more, and for tips on how the average family could save up to £60 a month by throwing less food away, go to www.lovefoodsurrey.com





Do you have a favourite
prayer?

Can you write a prayer?

We need 50 prayers to make into a
book for Trinity's 50th Anniversary

We would like your own prayers,
prayers you particularly love and
prayers from all ages please!

Please email your contribution to
beard_wendy@hotmail.com or place it
in the prayer pigeon hole in the foyer.

You have until April 19th

Thank you



Thanks to everyone who came to the Dementia Friends evening in March. We had a very interesting talk from Tony Oakden, and I am sure it was useful as general information

for all members of the congregation who attended, and also for visitors from the Woking community. We will all have friends, family or members of the congregation with various forms of dementia at some time, (mainly due to people living longer!) and we hope this will be a helpful information starting point.

- The five main things for us to learn were:
- Dementia is not a natural part of ageing
- It is caused by diseases of the brain
- It's not just about losing your memory, it can affect communications and everyday tasks
- It is possible to live well with dementia
- There's more to the person than the dementia

Further information is here: <http://www.dementiauk.org/>

Fact sheets are here:
<http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/factsheets>

Surrey County Council information is here:
<http://new.surreycc.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/care-and-support-for-adults/health-and-wellbeing/mental-health/dementia>

The Vyne at Knaphill is our Well-Being Centre.



WOKING HOSPICE FLOWER FESTIVAL

"PRETTY PASTELS"

SATURDAY 16TH MAY 2015
10.00 - 2.00

CHOBHAM VILLAGE HALL
STATION ROAD, CHOBHAM

RAFFLE OF TABLE ARRANGEMENTS
CAKE STALL / JAMS & CHUTNEY
PLANTS / ARRANGEMENTS FOR SALE
TOMBOLA STALL

FREE PARKING

ENTRANCE : ADULTS £1.00/CHILDREN 50P

FURTHER DETAILS: CHRISSIE
01276 858067 /(M) 07719 274899

THE GAMBIA WELL, WELL and More WELLS

To continue, my article in TN&V December 2014/January 2015. The main tour operator (Gambia Experience) offered me a very good deal for the week of 05/12 December, which I decided to accept so as to check on the latest re "Water Projects"

Having set up a series of meetings for Saturday 6th, firstly at Nyofelleh I was pleased to note "The well Diggers" had reached a depth of 7.2m, however Ansumana Mendy asked if they could stop at 8m as the ground at that depth was loose also the water pressure was strong, making digging difficult. We decided to fit liners at 8m and temporarily stop any further digging until the water table was lower and move to the village of Falla

My contact at Falla (Pierre Gomez) reluctantly asked if I would consider commissioning a well/hand pump at Kairamanjanfa instead, where some members of his family set up a small Christian

Community in 1981 but things had not turned out as hoped. Kairamanjanfa in Mandinko means, Kaira "Peace" and Manjanfa "Near To", the location near the creek/river. The village is approximately two hours drive inland and from Somita it is only accessible by a four wheel drive vehicle.

Although the meeting at Falla took place on Saturday 6/12, I said I would visit Kairamanjanfa the following Wednesday late afternoon. During the last 28 years with over 50 visits I was not prepared for what I was to meet, it is without doubt the most Primitive/Poorest community I have seen in The Gambia. They have nothing other than an open well and the water drawn when allowed to settle was not only Brown in colour But Alive with movement. To say the least I was emotionally shattered to think they were forced to drink this water as they had no other source of supply.

Instructions were given to start the well digging process as soon as possible before "The Rains" start in June, with a heavy duty hand pump being

purchased the following day ready to be installed once the digging has been completed. The good news, the system is now due for hand over with good constant drinking water available.

During my recent visit in February I was able to give the go ahead for the well at Falla to commence, with a completion date the second week of April. Coming to the end of the dry season is the ideal time for well digging with the water table at its lowest before the "Rain Season" starts in June. In addition to the two wells referred to I will be overseeing a further two wells for Anazao (Julie my Daughter Charity) at Nyofelleh, before considering a refurbishment or new well at Darsilami (5km south of Marakissa) when I next visit during April.

I have every confidence that all five wells will be fully operational and providing drinkable water before the end of May, this work would not be possible if were not for the generous support I receive. My grateful thanks to those concerned; many, many lives are enhanced through and by the support given.

Bill Lindop

03/15

From the Editor

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this issue of TNV.

Jenny Kember has stepped down as distribution manager, and we thank her for all her hard work in the past. We welcome Tarina Berry on board as she has volunteered to take over the job. Thanks are also due to Sue Waddell and John Craig.

We've had a few teething problems with our new printing company, but hopefully these are all resolved now.

Let's celebrate our 50th anniversary in the next issue, so **PLEASE** think about what you might contribute.

Articles and contributions for the June/July 2015 issue should be submitted by:

24th May 2015

Trinity Methodist Church Woking visit to The Gambia

Thirteen people from Trinity Methodist Church and its Friday Night Open Youth Club went to Gambia during the half term, to work in the Methodist Lower Base School in the village of Marakissa.

After many months of planning, fundraising and injections we finally arrived in Gambia on the 13th February in the afternoon, to blazing sun and warm welcomes.

Our planning included working in the school, assisting teachers in the classroom and redecorating a school block with the help of the Marakissa Boy's Brigade.

We also sent out old Laptops and USB sticks with teaching installed onto them, enabling children in the school to learn about computers for the very first time.

We achieved all the above and more. We worked together with the local community as friends learning from each other and discovering the needs of others.

In the UK we take so many things for granted - clean running water, NHS, Education, and Transportation. In the Gambia life is so different with many things unavailable or beyond the financial reach of ordinary people. Life isn't easy and it has been made harder as many Gambians depend on the tourist trade for their livelihood. Because of the outbreak of Ebola people have stopped coming even though there was never Ebola in their country and the tourist industry slumped. Yet these people keep smiling even though they are well below the poverty line. They have no food banks, no benefit system, or NHS. Everything has to be worked for and

paid for or they go hungry and untreated.

They believe in strong families, they support and love each other - education is a luxury and is enjoyed. Families have to provide school uniform and a pencil and a writing book. At Trinity we sent out pencils and writing pads to the Head Teacher to give the children who could not afford to buy these two simple items and provide a chance of an Education.

We left The Gambia on the 20th February with sad faces, wishing we had more time but leaving funds to complete the decoration of another classroom block, and plans and funds for installing electricity into the school for the IT unit and the teacher's house.

Our plans are to continue supporting our friends in the Gambia with water supplies, medication and education. The fundraising that we do goes directly to the project and we believe in

sustainability in everything we do.

Bill Lindop, a member of Trinity Methodist Church has carried out much work in The Gambia over many years in providing a clean water supply to many villages, along with other work school and clinics. Our group has been privileged to provide some practical assistance, and support Marakissa School.

Together we hope and pray we can make our friends' lives a little easier in The Gambia.

Sue Waddington
Youth worker at Trinity
Methodist Church
Woking





Exploring the Bible
For Families

Messy Crafts, Cooking, Games
Songs, Story time

Sharing “The Good News” Of Jesus

Future Messy Church Dates:

To Celebrate Easter
There will be an Easter Egg Hunt and creative activities
Easter Morning

19th April
Be a Witness

17th May
Jesus taught us how to pray

Trinity Methodist Church
Brewery Road
Woking
Surrey
GU21 4LH





Saturday 27 June 2015, 7:30pm

**H. G. Wells Centre, Church Street East, Woking,
Surrey GU21 6HJ**

RUTTER The Sprig of Thyme

CECILIA McDOWALL A Fancy of Folk Songs

RAVEL Introduction and Allegro

**BEN PALMER New Work WCS Commission, world
premiere**

Woking Choral Society

Orchestra of St Paul's

Ben Palmer conductor

**Tickets: £15 adult | £5 student | £14 parties of 10
or more | £14 Key Card holders**

**TRINITY NEWS & VIEWS is the magazine of
TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH WOKING**

**“Trinity is a welcoming Church seeking to live in the
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