

# TRINITY NEWS & VIEWS



*God would not spoil what He has made, but we  
uncaring can. Show us the way Lord, teach us your  
paths. For you are God our Saviour.*  
(© Glen Penfold)

**Summer 2021 Issue 55**

## A Message from Rev Sam Funnell

Dear Friends,

As we share this latest edition of TNV, we are approaching the end of my first year with you. It's not been like any other first year in a new appointment and for those that continued in ministry in their existing place, it's been equally strange.

We've wrestled with a variety of lockdowns coming and going; mask-wearing; services in church and on the live stream, or via Zoom; pastoral contact mainly having to be by phone, email or a chat on the doorstep; the suspension of our fellowship and social gatherings and not being able to sing in church!

It's been hard – especially for those that were ill, or lost loved ones; for those living alone or having to shield indoors and any working in the care sector or other vulnerable, front-line work, or having close family or friends doing so.

We've kept our distance, covered our faces, elbow-bumped instead of shaking hands and hugging? Well, out of the question!

And yet – we have kept going.

You have made me welcome and together we have welcomed others in. We have kept our hope alive, along with our candles at Christmas into Candlemas, and we are not defeated – weary of much of it, yes but not giving up – NEVER!

A few weeks back the set gospel reading for the day was Mark 4:26-34 where Jesus talks about what the Kingdom

of God is like with the parables of the growing seed and the mustard seed. I'm always so taken with the aspect of growth contained within passages such as this, that I sometimes miss other details but not this time. In Mark 4:32, when Jesus is talking about the mustard seed growing to make a great shrub, the gospel writer records Jesus saying:

*'[It] puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'*

Forgetting for a moment how large a shrub we actually think a mustard seed might create (and perhaps we should just take Jesus at his most 'pictorial' here – small seed, large bush!), the end result is a plant that offers a safe place, a home, a chance for growth and a shade from the heat of the day.

Even if life has been very different for many of us, and the going has been tough at lots of points over the last year, if we can still be offering a safe place for people to connect (even if it is over the phone or by email), a worshipping home (on Zoom, via the live stream, or socially-distanced, mask-wearing, communion-pot-juggling in church), a chance to grow together as a fellowship (on-line bible studies, prayer meetings by Zoom or WhatsApp) and a shade and shelter from the heat of life (in our pastoral care, careful conversation and support for organisations like Woking Mind along with our Foundry planning and ROC groups) – then I think we're doing what God wants us to. Then, in our own small way, we are playing our part in the in-breaking of the Kingdom of God, right here in Woking, even in the strangest of years.

Thanks for being my 'mustard seed partners in the gospel of Good News'. May God continue to bless and guide us!

**Sam**

## Family news



We thank God for the life of Dorothy Mitchell, a long-standing member of Trinity who died earlier this year. As well as her contributions to church life Dorothy was for many years heavily involved in the voluntary work at Woodbank.

We have been delighted to welcome a number of new people at Trinity in recent weeks: Louisa Nye, Naveen & Bharati Rajput by reception into membership, Marian Nash on transfer from Southgate and David Pearson on his return to Trinity. All of them are already part of our fellowship but it is a pleasure to record this formally.



Henk and Gerda Innemee are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their second granddaughter Gwen, daughter to Johanna and David Perfors, sister to Hanna, on the 12th of May.

Congratulations to Crystal Porter and Ed Mitchell whose wedding takes place at Trinity on Saturday 2nd August.



## Dates for your diary

Our Sunday services continue to be held at 10.00am in church and are also being livestreamed and can be watched at any time via Youtube.

Foundry Worship is held every fortnight starting at 6.00pm through the Summer.

For the time being most of the normal weekly activities are still suspended but there are a number of future events to note, some delayed from earlier in the year:

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Covenant Service
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Pastoral Visitors' Re-dedication Service
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October (subject to Covid rules)	Harvest Supper
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Harvest Festival
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Circuit Mission Study Day (see page 24)
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Neighbourhood Party (see page 9)
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	All Souls Service (3.30pm)
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Sunday
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> November (subject to Covid rules)	Tear Fund Quiz Night

## Trinity tomorrow

We have been working really hard to get Trinity ready for Tomorrow and whatever that might bring, and a great deal has been achieved.

So many people have prayed about the financial appeal that we launched and have taken it right to their hearts. It has been really successful and against a target of £20,000, have raised over £28,500! When we claim the Gift Aid due on many of the donations we expect the total to be around £33,500. A great big thankyou to everyone for their generous donations and for working so hard in so many different ways.

The Plant and Craft sale (see page xx) raised over £750 which is fantastic but the Gold Star must go to Daisy the



Daisy enjoying a well-deserved rest!

Dog for leading Rev Sam to walk over 180 miles and between them, they raised over £4000 in sponsorship!! Amazing.

So, the good news is that this money should cover the shortfall we were anticipating

for the current year, and also give us a good start for next year.

As we look confidently towards 'tomorrow' we anticipate that there will be a wider range of activities taking place in the Sanctuary. As well as worship on Sundays, it is

already used for concerts and bible study groups and Holiday Clubs, we expect there will also be conferences and social welfare sessions using it because it is a fantastic space. It is also now equipped with some fantastic new equipment.

- The new lighting is energy efficient, easy to control and capable of many different effects when required.
- Volunteers managed to re-direct the many cables running through unsightly conduit on the walls. It is now beneath the raised stage area and through different routes, so that the conduit has gone.



- Volunteers removed the carpet tiles and parquet flooring and then channelled new routes in the floor for sound, IT and electric cables so that the church is much better equipped.



- The sound control system has been installed within a purpose-built technical desk which was designed and built by volunteers.
- The Narthex ceiling was re-plastered and decorated before the new carpet was laid.

We are learning to use the new equipment to best effect, but to complete the Project we need to install an additional TV Screen about where the clock currently is. We also need to improve the acoustic so that it is suitable for the wide range of events I have already mentioned. As part of that we are selecting material through a local contractor to replace the long drapes at the front of the church and then will work with Sound Analysts to install acoustic panelling on some of the concrete beams.

It is only thanks to a lot of very hard work by some skilled volunteers, we have achieved an excellent result within the agreed budget. Without the countless hours that were freely given, we would not have met the several deadlines that inevitably occur throughout a complex project such as this.

All I can say, is a HUGE thankyou to everyone for their part in what we have achieved recently and I know we can be confident about the future of Trinity.

**John Nelson**

The many tributes to the **Duke of Edinburgh** at the time of his death in April included reference to his steadfast Christian faith. A man known to have strong opinions which he was rarely reluctant to voice, evidently had views about church and worship. The Daily Telegraph quoted this comment from him on the subject of long sermons: *"The mind cannot absorb what the backside cannot endure."*



## **From your Foundry Missioner**

At long last a few things are beginning to restart, but as I write there is a lot of uncertainty in the air. There is much going on 'behind the scenes', but to save taking over TNV I have limited myself to just a few.

### **Foundry as Focus for Mission**

At a recent Leadership Team meeting (now comprising Church Stewards & Staff), it was agreed that missional activities of Trinity would be focussed through the Foundry. We're still working this through, but if occasionally you wonder why something now appears under a Foundry heading, that is probably why.

### **Foundry Worship**

Louisa, Graham, Andy, Annie, Sue – and I'm sure there'll be others soon. I'm referring to those who lead the music at Foundry Worship. At a time when we still can't sing together, God has blessed us with our musicians. Each service we have a short message – thoughts from one of us to make us think. We have recently completed a themed series based on Our Calling – Worship, Learning & Caring, Service and Evangelism. Sadly we are still a little compromised by masks and distance – I am so looking forward to being properly together again – not long now!

### **Intergenerational Music Making (IMM)**

We are hosting a series of six IMM sessions at Trinity starting on 23<sup>rd</sup> June. These involve getting groups of children and adults together to make music. Look IMM up on the internet to see some videos of what they do. At the time of writing I am hoping the delay to 'Freedom Day' won't impact us too much. Since our premises are

particularly suited to this type of event, we are hoping that this event will be the first of many. And a special thankyou to Trinity members who have already volunteered to form our IMM hosting team.



Grace, Emily and Megan from IMM lead our first Music Making session. We sat in the shade of the canopy with the sun shining on the flowerbed. What a wonderful way to start this new venture!

## **Neighbourhood Party (NP)**

It is nearly two years since we held the last one. The current plan is to hold the next on 24<sup>th</sup> October. There has been some deliberation about the future of the NP. I'm not sure of the full history, but it must have been running for 30+ years. During this time we have entertained many guests, who have been served by an amazing team of volunteers. But time moves on. So in October we plan to celebrate all that has been achieved in the past. We will also anticipate a refresh as we move the NP forward into the future. Please mark the afternoon of the 24<sup>th</sup> in your diary – this is a chance for the whole church to celebrate together – noting that many who would have been organising many years ago can now attend as honoured guests.

## The Digital Age arrives . . .

OK, so even at Trinity it arrived several decades ago. I also realise that this headline probably doesn't excite most readers of TNV, but can I urge you to read on? You see, things are changing - I've noticed that more members have quietly gained e-mail capability. And if you can receive an e-mail, it is only a tiny leap to greater things. As an example, during lockdown I helped 'stream' a couple of funerals. By sending a link in an email, anyone could join the services by simply clicking on the link - generally the computer does the rest automatically. Some tried this for the first time- apparently it worked!

In a similar manner we stream services - some Sundays as many people view our morning service on-line as attend in person. So over the next few months we are

going to increasingly start generating more visually based content. Look out for it. Share the links (forward by email). Even give us your ideas - it is surprisingly easy to generate content in this way using a mobile phone. But a library of visual content is only just the start, because with this comes the

ability to better use social networks to reach out - getting our mission into the digital space it needs to be in if we are to communicate effectively with the younger generations. So over the next few months look out for changes to the website, digital display boards and more - and let us have your ideas and feedback.



**Hugh Bowerman**

## Eco Church and Climate Sunday

On June 6<sup>th</sup> our morning service focused on our planet in all its richness and beauty, vulnerability and need. For many of us environmental issues are at the heart of our beings and everyday lives and the service sought to mark and honour that, as well as encouraging us all individually and as a church community to try to speak up a bit more often and call those who are in positions of power and influence to do more to save our planet. As Sam quoted in her opening there is no plan B, there is no planet B.

Daphne introduced the theme with these words:

*"When I was a child my family used to play a game where one person left the room and a small object would be hidden. The point of the game was to come back into the room and find the hidden thing. To help, the family would sing "How green you are" to the tune of "Auld Land Syne" getting louder the nearer you got to the object and going quieter if you moved away. The "green" then meant you were a bit slow on the uptake!*

*If someone today said "How green you are" it would have a very different meaning and is linked to climate change and how "Eco" you are. Some time ago Trinity was an Eco Church but over the last few years we slipped a little, (through no fault of our own) and the Leadership Team asked me to look at regaining our Eco church status. This involved contacting a Christian voluntary organization called A Rocha who are the body who monitor and award the highly coveted gold, silver or bronze attainment awards. A Rocha have a questionnaire which asks how*

*'eco' you are in various aspects of Church life: the buildings, the garden, worship and teaching etc. In most categories we were nearly silver and close to gold in one or two. The questionnaire has now been completed and taking all the categories into consideration overall they will award us a Bronze certificate. This is really good news as it shows we are on the way and gives us something to work towards to improve our Eco status.*



*Along with the questionnaire A Rocha suggested that with the G7 meeting and then the COP26 Climate Change summit later in the year both taking place in the*

*UK, that every Church should hold a "Climate Sunday" service where we could think and pray about this precious planet of ours and how we impact on it and try to improve our relationship with the world around us. We held our climate service on 6<sup>th</sup> June where Glen had written a song especially for the service (see page 14 [Ed]) and also the quartet sang a song suggested by A Rocha ('Have mercy Lord'). (The lyrics of both songs are on pages 15-16 [Ed])*

*If you have any ideas about how we at Trinity can become even more Eco conscious then do let us know – even a simple thing like more car sharing can make quite a difference."*



**Glen writes** - With Climate Change very much in the news recently, because of the G7 Summit in Carbis Bay, Cornwall, it seemed like a good time to release our latest song "Show Us The Way Lord". The song, which uses ideas from Psalm 25, Lev 26 v3 and Amos 4 v 6-11, was written specifically for our Climate Change Service at Trinity and was shared there then. As one or two folk mentioned that they would have liked to have heard it again, here's the YouTube link, with the addition of Claire Tabraham's vocals and a bit more added instrumentation: <https://youtu.be/QGVYqKHrdY>. The lyrics are printed on page 15.

## **The Prayer Walk**

On a glorious Saturday morning in May John and I met Graham (Warr) and Ann (Dawson) for the Tear Fund Prayer Walk round Goldsworth Park Lake. The sun sparkled on the water and the wind gently moved the trees! Thank God for his wonderful creation!

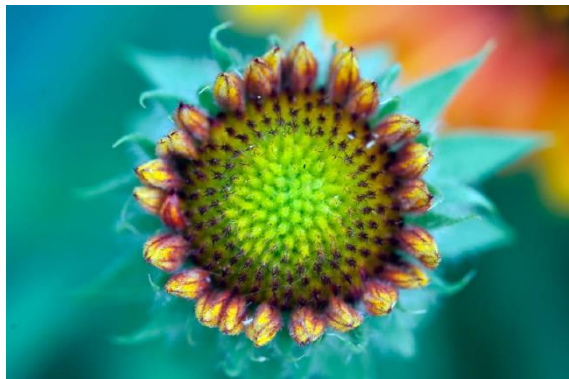
We were there to pray for the climate crisis, which is destroying our world and the lives of many of our brothers and sisters in different parts of the world. We set off to walk round the Lake, stopping at various points to pray, prayers of

- Thankfulness for our world,
- Lament, for those who are least responsible, but who are impacted the most by climate change, resulting in poverty, famine, hardship and homelessness.
- We thanked God for our green space and for our local area.
- For the Church, to respond to the climate crisis, by putting our faith into action.
- For the G7 and COP26 meetings, for world leaders to act to tackle the crisis, leading to a decline in greenhouse gases, particularly in China and the USA.

We ended on a note of hope, realising that prayer is so important in our response to this crisis, so can I encourage you to pray for the problem of climate change and trust in God that attitudes will change and ways will be found to address this critical problem.

*"Lord God, you made the world and declared it was very good. Give us the courage to keep raising our voices about the climate emergency. Amen"*

**Joyce Nelson**



# Show Us The Way Lord

Words and Music © Glen Penfold 29<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Perfectly tilted to protect, God hung the Earth in space  
When far away from the sun, its power heats up the land we  
grace  
When near enough to scorch that earth, cold seas will face cruel  
sun  
Amazing God who holds Earth's course a perfect span away  
Unique amongst close planets the heat is kept at bay

God would not spoil what He has made, but we uncaring can  
He gives us knowledge shows us through other worlds  
destroyed  
We understand but, in our pride, and greed relentlessly  
deployed  
The poor are first to pay the price when others have not cared  
We need to act at this late hour, now we're all running scared

[\*1] *Show us the way Lord, teach us your paths  
Guide us in Your truth Lord remember us in love  
For you are God our Saviour  
We hope in you all day long*

Come nations hear and turn to Him just follow His decrees [\*2]  
Come peoples share the burden's light to care for all with ease  
And disregard all selfish acts, all thoughts of our prestige and  
gain  
to cast self-interests out of play that truth and love remain  
So then we might, yet even now, stop drought and acid rain

*Show us the way Lord.....*

We know He's there and yearns for us to just return to Him [\*3]  
His promise made, rainbows confirm, He'll not destroy again  
Wants us to act across the world that peace and love might  
reign  
A God who stops great winds of power can halt the ice caps  
melt



Will work with us save precious Earth that harsh effects aren't felt

*Show us the way Lord.....*

[Biblical refs: **\*1** Psalm 25; **\*2** Lev 26 v3; **\*3** Amos 4 v6-11]



### **If the fields are parched (Have mercy, Lord)**

If the fields are parched  
And the trees are felled  
Will the rocks cry aloud on  
their own  
If the birds are starved  
And the beasts are killed  
Will the bones in the dust lift  
a song.

*Have mercy, Lord  
Have mercy, Lord  
Forgive our broken ways  
Have mercy, Lord  
Have mercy, Lord  
Renew the world you made.*

As the oceans rise  
And the wells run dry  
Do we care if disaster is near  
If our children starve  
Will they cry to God  
Will they curse us for closing  
our ears.  
*Have mercy, Lord.....*

Still a day will come  
When the Lord returns  
And the earth will be perfect  
again  
No more greed or war  
No more tooth and claw  
For the wolf and the lamb will  
be friends.  
*Have mercy, Lord.....*

On Whit Sunday this year Daphne and I were in Burton Bradstock near Bridport and were able to attend morning service in the parish church. The church has a peal of six bells and we have frequently enjoyed hearing the sound drift across the meadow before morning or evening services - as they will have done for several hundred years. The church was built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century and the bells followed (the oldest one still in use was installed in 1615). In common with many churches they are not able to ring them at present but it was a pleasant surprise on arrival to find the team outside ringing with hand bells. Yet another creative response to Covid restrictions!



**David Lander**

## **The plant and craft sale (not forgetting the cakes)**

A BIG thank you is due to the Plant, Craft and Cake Sale team who made this wonderful event come together. Thank you to everyone who was involved.

About 6 weeks prior to the event, we all had our thinking caps on about how to address the Trinity Tomorrow Fund. Sam and Daisy's walking challenge had already begun and although the weather had not been very warm yet, we were hopeful and a date of 29 May 2021 was set.

The Prayer Ministry Team were on the case and prayed each week about the planning of the sale. As you know, we have had a very cold Spring and my initial attempt at sowing seeds was slow and there were mutterings from other keen gardeners about the slug problem, although nothing as prolific as the mouse plague in Australia by comparison! However, things did grow and we were so incredibly blessed with donations from people's gardens, their seedlings and even contributions from an over-ordering of plants. We had a dedicated herb and vegetable table and a huge variety of very lovely plants both garden and indoor. Special thanks to the team of very knowledgeable plant people who served on the day.

The craft sale had been well stocked with wonderful knitted dolls and animals, crocheted flowers and other pretty items as well as both hand and machine-sewn shopping bags and cushions. Special mention should be given to the beautifully turned wooden bowls. Thank you Lord for blessing our church with such talented people.



Last, but not least, the cake sale was literally the icing on the cake! We started the morning with containers stacked high with goodies and treats, not to mention jars of jam too. There was a super selection of chocolate brownies, flapjacks, cup cakes and celebration cakes. This was a very popular stall and everything was sold out by mid-day! Thank you to all the bakers and creators.

A BIG thank you to everyone who supported the event – it was a lot of fun and gave us a taste of normality after what has been a very strange 18 months with Covid restrictions. The weather was ideal and we were really blessed. The final sum raised was in excess of £750. Thank you everyone. Same again next year? I do hope so!

**Shirley Turner**

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Gathered worship on Easter Sunday. A joy to be back in church and there could not be a more appropriate occasion for 'live' services to resume.

## Praying together

I have quite a large collection of the Methodist Prayer Handbooks and I have been looking at them to get ideas for prayers.

This one written by Jacqueline Taylor from the Peak Circuit caught my eye and it forms the base for the prayer I have written:

*Father, thank you for all you have done  
And above all for being my Saviour.  
Give me grace to thank you at all times and in every  
situation.*

*In Jesus' name.*

*Amen*

[Methodist Prayer handbook 2010 – 2011 For Methodists in Britain and Ireland]

How often do we pause to appreciate what we have in life from people we love to things we have enjoyed and places that we are glad to have seen?

I was reading the 13<sup>th</sup> June church newsletter from Dan and wanted to rejoice at all the good things that were written about and to thank God so here is the prayer I wrote:

*Thank you, God, for the good things that have happened recently.*

*Thank you for the hard work of our leadership team and for our minister Rev Sam.*

*We give thanks for all the hard work that Sam does each week for our church and the Wey Valley Circuit plus her role as assistant chair in the South East District of the Methodist Church. Thank you for the sermon writing and the fund-raising including kick starting the Trinity Tomorrow Appeal and walking many miles each day with Daisy the dog, to raise money*

*Thank you we have exceeded the target for our Trinity Tomorrow Appeal. Help us, God, as a church as we plan how to use the money wisely to help build your kingdom here in Woking. Be alongside the committee and the leadership team that will be working hard. Inspire them with the Holy Spirit.*

*Thank you for the music making at our services. Thank you that as we in the congregation listen spirits are raised and we can offer thanks for the skill and hard work of the musicians. Thank you that we can listen and enjoy, hearing the organ and other instruments being played and hear voices singing to God.*

*As we sit in church or at home, help us to give thanks for other members of the congregation. Some have been part of the congregation for many years and others have recently joined, help us to rejoice that each one is part of God's people here on earth.*

*Thank you for the Climate Change Sunday and reminders of all the things we can do to help the planet. Help us as we work out what we can do as individuals and as a church.*

*Be with our government Lord God as we work out ways to develop a greener economy.*

*Thank you for the various congregations that worship in our church from main service, Foundry worship, Chinese congregation and Junior Church. Help us all to appreciate the different ways of worshipping Almighty God and to rejoice in our freedom to worship in church and at home.*

*Thank you for the work with young people in Junior Church and Bible Investigators. Thank you for the leaders and helpers and all the young people that gather on zoom or in church. Help them as they learn about loving you Almighty God.*

*We want to express our gratitude, God, for the colourful flowers at the church. For the hard work of the gardeners, thank you creator God. Thank you for the fragrant pink roses at the front of the church and for the blue flowers that the bees enjoy as well as us.*

*Thank you for those working behind the scenes dealing with the church resources and finances.*

*Thank you for the weekly newsletter and those who write articles or create the quiz.*

*Over lockdown the tech team have enabled Zoom meetings and Youtube services. Thank you for all the hard work so that those of us who have watched services at home have been able to do so.*

*Thank you for plans for the future of the church and for the Foundry worship along with the Foundry Project.*

*Thank you, Lord for the work done in this country to developing the Covid vaccine and then getting it to vaccine centres all around the world.*

*Thank you, for the G7 meeting of leaders in Cornwall and for all the decisions taken there.*



*Thank you for our Royal family. For the Trooping of the Colour this year thank you God. We are grateful it can take place.*

*Amen*

Please add your own thank you thoughts to this prayer to make it your own and share if you wish with a close friend or at the My Story slot in church or Foundry worship.

You may like to think of moments in life where you have been grateful? Give thanks to God who is able to listen.

You may like to think of moments in your own life where you are aware of great sadness and loss? In the difficult moments in our lives we may not feel grateful but God is still alongside.

Talk as you want to God.

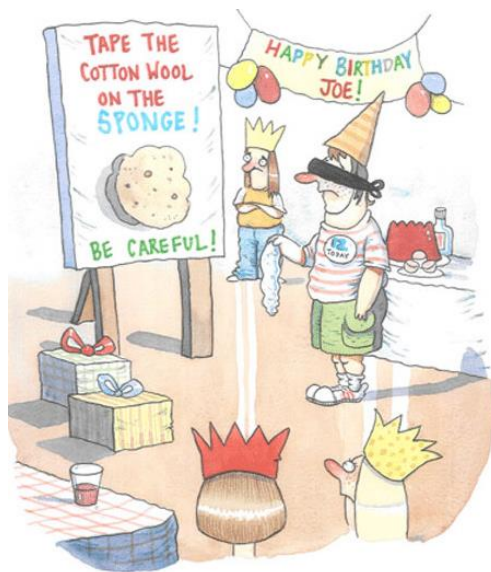
**Ann Dawson**

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October Trinity will host the **Circuit Mission Day**. We are privileged to welcome **Andrew Roberts** to lead the session. Andrew is a Methodist minister, formerly part of the Fresh Expressions team. He developed a programme of 'holy habits', practices which we can all adopt as part of daily life, based on St Luke's description of the early church in Acts 2. In 2016 **Holy Habits** was published in book form and has gained widespread acclaim as a model for Christian living and an inspiration to deeper discipleship. More details of the event to follow.

## To risk or not to risk – that is the question!

At the start of lockdown I like to think I'd have scored 75%'ish in a test on 'what are the lockdown rules?' Today I think I'd be doing well to get 50%. I am suffering risk confusion. I struggle to understand why a few dozen vaccinated people in a spacious church are not allowed to sing, whilst football fans shout and sing in their 1000's. The logical part of me is challenged!

Speaking recently to a Vicar, she related problems getting her congregation back into their 'safe' church. Meanwhile she regularly encountered them in the super-market. We shared notes on the illogicality of it all. Maybe her congregation were right - don't do things you don't have to – which makes for some interesting thinking about the relative importance of physical and Spiritual food and where we get our supplies!



What concerned 'Vicar' and I was the impact a heightened sense of risk has on how people feel. Many seem anxious and fearful where objectively they don't need to be. It's as

if Covid anxiety is infectious into other areas of our lives. Someone who before lockdown regularly walked alone told me they now feared doing so in case they were attacked. What's happening?

Sharing these thoughts at a ROC meeting, someone said they thought it would take a couple of years for our sense of risk to get back to 'normal'. We speculated whether the government would run a campaign to help society get back there quicker. I don't think we were filled with optimism! I also raised the issue with a contact in Woking Borough Council, who confirmed that similar concerns were being shared.

Is there anything we can do as a church community? At the time of writing we are giving thought to this. An idea is to hold a 'de-mystifying risk' event. We'd find a few experts, and in a light-hearted and engaging way explore and compare different risks with a view to re-calibrating our sense of what is risky and what is not. So can I request some feedback? If you think you or people you know would be interested in such an event (think 'fun quiz' with time to chat rather than 'lecture'), can you let me know? Perhaps this is something we should consider doing?

**Hugh Bowerman**



***Why don't owls date  
in the rain?***

***It's too wet to woo.***



## Artaban

Some readers will have heard of Artaban, the rock musical which Daphne and friends have created. It tells the story of the fourth wise man who failed to make the journey to Bethlehem with the others because he was repeatedly waylaid by deeds to help the needy. Down-hearted by having to give away the gifts that he had intended for the baby Jesus (three gemstones – sapphire, ruby and pearl) he nevertheless perseveres, fired by a conviction that there is to be a new king who will bring light back into the world. Ultimately he reaches Jerusalem at the time of the crucifixion and comes to realise that, far from failing in his quest, he has achieved all that God could ask of him by the kindness and care he has shown for others.

It is an uplifting story (originally written by an American author Henry van Dyke over a hundred years ago). Daphne has written the libretto with song lyrics and music by two friends. A short workshop event was held in Pimlico in 2019 and now, delayed by lockdowns, the team are staging a showcase production at the Actor's Church in Covent Garden in November with a professional cast and director. Needless to say it would be great to see friends from Trinity in the audience. Details of dates, times and how to obtain tickets are on the flyer on the next page. It may be a long way off but as we don't anticipate another issue of TNV until November/December please make a note now!

**David Lander**

# ARTABAN THE MUSICAL



*The Story of the Fourth Wise Man*

**Three Gemstones Productions present  
The showcase of the new Rock musical "Artaban"  
with West End cast**

*Adapted for the stage from the book "The Other Wise Man" by Henry van Dyke*

The Actors Church, St Paul's, Covent Garden,

London, WC2E 9ED

**23 Nov 19.30 24 Nov 15.30 & 19.30**

*Music: Rick Radley*

*Director: Ron Aldridge*

*Book: Daphne Lander*

*Musical Director: Kipper Eldridge*

*Lyrics: Anne Jones*

Tickets £20 please visit <https://actorschurch.ticketsolve.com/shows/873618294>

Visit our website to hear the music now [www.artabanthemusical.co.uk](http://www.artabanthemusical.co.uk)



## Circuit news



There is one stationing change in the Circuit this Summer. Rev Asif Das 'sits down' to use Methodist parlance and we wish him and Martha a long and enjoyable retirement. The Circuit has been fortunate to secure the services of Rev George Quarm who will have pastoral charge of Sheerwater (alongside Rev Gillaine Holland), Merrow, Stoughton and West Horsley. Originally from Ghana, George and Ama move to the Circuit from South London where he is currently involved with the work of the Battersea and Valley Circuit.



The entire team of Circuit Stewards – Linda Weedon (Weybridge), Carol Steele (Sheerwater), Philip Beastall (Stoughton), Helen Belsham (Merrow)

and David Lander (Trinity) – are due to stand down in Summer 2022. We already have one vacancy and we still need to fill the post of Circuit Property Secretary. The Circuit needs to identify volunteers to fill these roles and we ask members of Trinity like every other church in the Circuit to consider whether this is a role they would be willing to take on. If you would like more information please speak to David Lander.



### **A note to contributors**

It is our practice to publish each edition of TNV on the Trinity website. It is an important source of information about church life at Trinity and something we want to share with others. At the same time we recognise that some contributors may be uncomfortable for their personal details to appear on the internet in this way. We will be happy to omit names and any other personal details in any future issue if requested to do so.

### **From the Editor**

Thanks to all who have helped with the preparation and distribution of this issue of TNV. We are planning that the next issue will be a Christmas/Winter edition and it will be edited by Jean Normington.

**David Lander**

**Articles for the next issue should be  
submitted by**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

**TRINITY NEWS & VIEWS is the magazine of  
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**“Trinity is a welcoming Church seeking to live  
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Jesus Christ”**

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**Contributions to Trinity News & Views can  
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pigeonhole at the Church or emailed to  
[tnv@trinitywoking.org](mailto:tnv@trinitywoking.org)**

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