

Trinity News

February 2007

We all have part to play

A very happy New Year to you all! One of the activities of the new year is sorting out the busy social life of our children.

There are so many activities and clubs that they can be part of, each requiring commitments of time, energy and money (and often parental chauffeuring) that we have a complicated task of working out what is desirable and possible without completely wearing them out.

In 2007 we are all going to be challenged to think about the consequences of membership of the church family here in Holy Trinity.

Electoral Roll

Every six years the Church of England completely revises its membership information. The official membership is called the parish Electoral Roll (although it sounds the same – this is nothing to do with the electors list which we have to be on to vote in local and government elections!) and anyone who is baptised and either lives in the parish or has been habitually attending worship for more than six months in Holy Trinity (or St. Wulstan's) is eligible to join. 2007 is the year that the old roll ceases and we have to start again. So why is it important for everyone eligible to make sure they are on the roll?

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African Snow

African Snow, a production to mark the 200th anniversary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, will premiere at York Theatre Royal, Friday 30 March – Saturday 21 April. A new play by Murray Watts, it is a collaboration between York Theatre Royal and Riding Lights Theatre Company. The play was originally commissioned and is being supported by the Church Mission Society, founded in 1799 by representatives of the abolitionist movement, including William Wilberforce.

Mothering Sunday

It is Mothering Sunday on the third Sunday in March (18) so Trinity Praise will take place that Sunday instead of its usual spot on the second Sunday of the month.

Church pantomime

The joint youth of Holy Trinity and Heworth Methodist put on a splendid production of Aladdin, largely written by the rector's 13-year-old son, Stephen Woodmansey. All who attended thoroughly enjoyed it and are looking forward to next year's show.

Holy Trinity Services

First Sunday of the month

8am: BCP Holy Communion
10.30am: Morning Prayer
4pm: Sunday Plus meeting in Holy Trinity Church Hall

Second Sunday

9.15am: Morning Prayer
10.30am: Trinity Praise

Third Sunday

8am: BCP Holy Communion
10.30am: Morning Prayer

Fourth Sunday

10.30am: Communion

Fifth Sunday

10.30am: BCP Holy Communion
6.30pm: Heworth Churches Together - rotating around the member churches

Wednesdays

9.30am: Holy Communion

Monday Fellowship

The programme for the Monday Fellowship Group is as follows:

12 February: The Rev Michael Nokes - update on CPAS

26 February: Traidcraft sale - Mrs Jean Frost

12 March: The Church Mission Society - speaker to be announced

26 March: Pedalling paramedics

9 April: Holy week meditation - committee

23 April: Karen Hill Tribes Trust -

News from Thailand

14 May: Day in the life of the Head Verger at the Minster - Mr Carbery

28 May: To be announced

11 June: Flying with the North Yorks Air Ambulance

25 June: Summer outing - venue to be announced.

New members are always welcome, male or female, of any age. For further information, please contact Judy Gill on 01904 656876.

Love, Lent and the Lord

A SERVICE combining Love, Lent and the Lord will take place at St Wulstan's Church on Sunday 18 February, 6pm. It will be a celebration combining St. Valentines and the beginning of Lent. Refreshments will be served after. It would be lovely if our friends from Holy Trinity could come and join us.

Kate Wiley

News from St Wulstan's

From Peter and Winifred Isherwood at St Wulstan's

Winifred and I have been asked to write about our latest adventure. It has all happened very quickly, and was only finalised last weekend.

As most of you will know, for the last few years we have done chaplaincy work with Thomson Holidays as part of their "Young At Heart" programme. It has been organised by an evangelical missionary agency – the "Intercontinental Church Society". We have been to Costa del Sol (twice), Tenerife, and two years ago in Tunisia. We have seen places we would not otherwise have seen. Ministering to holiday makers in informal services in hotels, private conversations, visiting those who have finished up in hospital while on holiday, as well as ministering to Thomson staff, has been most rewarding work. We called it "working in a relaxed atmosphere"!

Sadly, Thomsons decided last year that this chaplaincy work would not continue. The company has been going through many changes recently – cost-cutting we guess – and work of this kind was bound to suffer. The work had gone on for over 20 years during the winter period, November to April, and we know that many people will be sad to miss the presence of a chaplain and the services that were so widely appreciated.

What could we do to fill the gap? One of our former curates from 30 years ago (Robin Brookes) is the permanent chaplain in Cypress. For the past few years, he had worked with his wife Val (under the umbrella of ICS) near Ayer Napa, on the SE coast of Greek Cyprus. But they both felt the Lord calling them to move to new work last January, setting up a new chaplaincy in Famagusta, which is in Northern Cypress under Turkey's jurisdiction.

We were wondering how we could help them, and after a few hesitations, we wrote to them a week before Christmas (along with our Christmas greetings!) asking that very question. We had in mind either March or April, and suggested two or three weeks. In the first week this year, they came back to us and said they would wel-

come us with open arms, but not for 2/3 weeks, but for TWO MONTHS – and with very ambitious plans!!!

This is what they wrote: "Around the Famagusta Bay there is a small place called Bogaz (about 30 minutes drive from Famagusta).

It is a pleasant village with a small picturesque harbour and a number of nice fish restaurants. A Christian couple ... own two or three apartments on a very smart housing development just outside Bogaz.

There are British living here. In the estate next door there are British and other Europeans who would have good English. There are also two other developments nearby and in both directions there are housing estates and continual building and developments, many of which are occupied by British or Turkish Cypriots who have British wives ..."

They continue: "So what we sense the Lord is saying is that whereas we have been so tied up with the student ministry, what we would really like you to come and do is to start to suss out who is there, offer a Fellowship meeting with Bible study, and if you gather a few, there could be an Easter Day communion service there."

There is a two-bedroom flat available for us, along with a car and mobile phone!!

We would not be cut off from Robin and Val in Famagusta because they would want us to go along to things at their end such as Monday morning prayers, the Wednesday lunchtime "Staff lunch and prayer", Thursday evening mid-week Fellowship (they're doing J John's "Ten Commandments").

There would also be opportunities to preach on Sundays at the Church in Famagusta – unless things develop fast at Bogaz!

We fly to Cyprus from Heathrow on Wednesday, 14th February, and will return to York the week after Easter.

This will be quite a challenge for us – very different from Thomson holidays (who covered all our costs – this time we have to fund ourselves)! We need your prayer support to inspire us in our preparations, and to equip us for the task. Will you please take up the challenge with us?

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Name: Rachel Hirst

Role in Holy Trinity: Unofficially on the staff team. My day job is Training and Parish Development Adviser for York Archdeaconry which involves some Sunday commitments, but it's also important for me to belong to a parish and to get involved too. So my input will be ad hoc.

Tell us about your family: My husband Andy is a Chief Inspector with North Yorkshire Police based in York, but doing a job which covers York and Selby. We have three daughters – Katy who is at Kent University, Claire 17 and Helen 14.
Do you have any special hobbies or interests?

I don't seem to have a lot of time for much else except getting to grips with a new job and house. We like to go out into the surrounding towns and countryside on days off. Helmsley is one of our favourite places.

Who would you most like to invite to a dinner party and why?

I'd invite someone who would do the cooking and washing up! Andy would like that to be Nigella Lawson!

If money were no object what would you most like to do and why?

I'd like to find an overseas project to invest in which would help children in the developing world. I went to Tanzania in 2005 and was overwhelmed by meeting a small boy playing with a car he had made. Then I came home to a country full of toy shops, e-bay, catalogues and people wanting more.

If you could make one law in this country, what would it be?

To ban shops from playing Christmas music and having big Christmas displays and visits from Santa before December. Once 1st December comes then that's fine!

If there was one talent you wished you had, what would it be?

I would love to be more musical, be able to play the piano like Jools Holland and I've always wanted to play a saxophone!

How would you most like to be remembered?

For my faith and how it made a difference to me and other people. It's such a fantastic thing to be a Christian and I wish more people could discover that for themselves.

There are two key reasons:

1 You need to be on the roll to stand for church office or vote in the Annual Meeting. Over the next few years we are going to be making important decisions about our buildings and the direction of the church. It is important that everyone has the chance to register their view and may be join the church council to make a difference. If you live outside the parish and want a marriage in Holy Trinity you

“At the heart of church life is our relationship with God through Jesus Christ”

need to be on the roll, and if you want a baptism you ought to be on it.

2 The Electoral Roll is a key statistic used for assessing the state of the church nationally and observing trends in membership. Locally it is one of the factors that is taken into account when it comes to making decisions about clergy deployment.

Confirmation

For those who come to faith as adults, or who believe and are approaching adult life, Confirmation is the ceremony to mark this. In it the candidates are either baptised, or confirm that the statements of faith that their parents made at their baptism are now ones they believe for themselves. Following this proclamation the Bishop lays hands on each candidate and prays that the Holy Spirit will confirm their faith within their life and experience. On March 25th the Bishop of Selby will be conducting a confirmation service in our morning worship and anyone who is 13 or over, and who might be interested in being confirmed, should speak to Michael as soon as possible.

Finance

Membership of any organisation usually has financial consequences and the church is no exception. Many people are unaware that the money needed to pay clergy, keep the buildings going and pay for all aspects of the churches mission is raised by the local congregation. To grow and expand our ministry requires all the church members to take seriously Biblical instruction

on giving. At the heart of this is the understanding that giving begins with regularly giving a proportion of our income (usually 10% although our Archbishop sets a lead by giving 20%) to God. If you are a tax payer it is important that as much of your giving as possible is given through Gift Aid because the government gives us back the tax you have paid on that amount. The pack containing your electoral Roll form will have information about gift aid and about giving regularly through the envelope scheme or by standing order.

Your ministry and gifts

God has given us all gifts and ministries which enable us all to take part in the wider ministry of the church. On May 19th we are planning an away day for the whole parish. In this time Rachel Hirst will lead us in exploring the gifts that God has given us.

Membership of the wider church

As members of a local church we are also members of Christ's body universally. Part of the expression of this is working with our brothers and sisters in neighbouring churches. As well as our commitment to Heworth Churches Together I have been thrilled to see our links with the Methodists grow through sharing children's and youth work and shared services; and to work with them and the Community Church in events like Pentecost in the Park (May 27th this year) and Alpha (which will be in the Church Hall again this Autumn).

Prayer

At the heart of church life is our relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Just as we need to make time with each other to build relationships so we also need to make time to allow God to build his relationship with us. During Lent we will be encouraging everyone to follow a 40-day prayer guide. This will be available from Church and our time will be commissioned on Ash Wednesday, Feb 21st.

It is now 5 1/2 years since God led us to be part of the church family here in Heworth and I remain so very grateful to him for doing so. I am convinced that if we are willing to commit ourselves first to him and then to the church family here, we will see Him do great things in Heworth in 2007 and beyond.

With every blessing in Christ

Michael

Postcard collection raises £22,000

Heworth Branch Mothers' Union meets on the first Thursday of each month in the church hall at 2.30pm.

Although quite a small group, and ladies of a certain age, we are friendly and welcome visitors.

Our meetings begin with a short, informal service and this is usually followed by a speaker.

The meetings end with tea, biscuits and a chat.

We try to follow the objectives of the Mothers' Union.

During the year we hold fundraising events and we donate the money raised to the various Mothers' Union projects around the world.

During the last two years, the Mothers' Union Diocese of York has been collecting postcards. These are sent to a collection point in the south where they are sorted and sold at fairs. The proceeds are donated to Episcopal Church in the Sudan and are used to support their many projects in that

very poor country. To date £22,000 has been raised.

If you have any postcards to donate, please put them in the box on the bookcase at the back of church.

If you would like to know more about

the work of the Mothers' Union, I can be contacted on (01904) 622889 or why not come along to a meeting?

May I wish you all a happy and Healthy 2007.

Pauline Clark

What is the Mothers' Union?

In 1876, filled with awe at the enormous responsibility motherhood brings, Mary Sumner set up 'a mothers' union wherein all classes could unite in faith and prayer'. Could she ever have envisaged the MU as it is today?

● An organisation with 3.5 million members in 75 countries, all working towards improving family life in our communities through practical action and prayer.

● A global voice, influencing issues such as international debt and family welfare.

● Vital outreach projects - in prisons, in contact centres, in hospitals, in refugee camps, in fact, wherever there is a need.

● Members worldwide united in prayer and fellowship.

The MU continues to care for families worldwide and remains a relevant and active organisation in many communities around the world.

Membership of the MU is open to all who have been baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and who declare their support for the Aims and Objectives of the Society.

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Trinity News

The next edition of the newsletter will be as follows:

Distributed: Sunday 25 March

Submission deadline:

Friday 16 March

Please send all submissions to:
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E: emma.edmunds@fsmail.net
T: (01904) 415431

Funerals

Our sympathy goes to family and friends of those who have recently died:

Dec 1: **James Robson of Fourth Avenue.**

Dec 12: **Robert Dennis of Bowes Avenue.**

Dec 19: **Betty Hurworth of Pennyghent Avenue.**

Dec 20: **Evelyn Newstead of Woodlands Grove**

Dec 22: **Harry Lamb of Sixth Avenue**

Dec 22: **Betty Carter of Glen**

Lodge

Jan 10: **Mary Widdowson of Woolnough House**

Jan 17: **Mary Hunt of Field Court**

Baptism

We welcome the following into the family of the church:

5 Dec: **Finlay Alexander Warne**

12 Dec: **Hannah Catrin Griffiths
Matthew John Bonarius**

Mid week events in Holy Trinity Church Hall, Melrosegate

Monday (2nd & 4th): **Monday Fellowship:** 2.30pm-4pm

Tuesday: **Play and Praise:** 1.30pm-3pm (term time only)
(worship and play for all pre-school children and parents/carers)

Kids Plus: 5.30pm-6.30pm (term time only)
(6-11-year-olds)

Wednesday: **Brownies** 5.45pm-7.15pm (term time only)

Thursday: **Mothers Union:** 2pm-4pm (1st only)
Guides: 7pm – 9pm (term time only)