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Letter from the Editor

Summer holidays have started and the temperature is (slowly) rising and for many people holidays will be just around the corner. Kas and I are starting work on the nursery and I am filled with a great sense of excitement for the future. Not only for my new family; but also for the church. The curry night brought home to me how little I know about many of the church members and how much we have in common, but also I saw just how close many of us are and what we could achieve together.

There did not use to be August editions of the magazine, but what with the Men's Curry night, Youth Net and Pilot parties I thought that it might be nice just to produce a small one so that people could see what we have been up to.

If you are going away I wish you a happy holiday. If (like Kas and I) you are not going anywhere this year, just be sure to find time to relax and enjoy the sun.

Giles Murphy

Do you have something you want to say, something to advertise or talk about? I would love to hear from you; please get hold of me by:

Simply come up to me at church or,
Leave something in the magazine pigeonhole or
Call me or,
E-mail: trinitychurchmagazine@gmail.com

Deadline for the September Magazine is Sunday 28th Aug

Church Contact



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John Goddard
Phil Hooper
Gordon Guile
Joanna Hassan
Tony Bonnett
Jon or Ann
Karen Green

Time of Prayer



Every Sunday there is always a Time of Prayer from 9:45am in the Chapel in the Church. Prayer Ministry is also available after the 10:00am service.

Weekly Prayers are at 9:45am Wednesdays (Communion 4th Wednesday). Also Nursery Service every Wednesday during term time.

The Church

Trinity Church
Chalfont Close
Lower Earley
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www.trinityearley.co.uk



The church office is open: Tuesday 9:15am – 11:15am
 Thursday 9:45am – 11:45am
 Saturday 9:30am – 11:00am

If you would like to arrange thanksgiving for the birth of a child, a Baptism, a Marriage or a Funeral please come and pay us a visit or call the church office.

Rev. Jon Salmon's day off is Friday

If you need to find out whom to contact about what at Trinity, please pick up the latest edition of "Who's Who in Trinity Church". Copies are available in the vestibule

Minister's letter

I feel in holiday mode, though regrettably am not on holiday, but I am greatly looking forward to some time with friends in Cyprus in August. They moved there about 18 months ago and always said we should visit so it's really exciting to actually be going. We've never been before. I'm not going with the express intention of checking out where St Paul went on his missionary travels but it'll be fun to do so. I've really enjoyed reading through Acts on my way through the New Testament as it's given me a fresh sense of the challenges Paul faced on his travels, and made me think about the challenges I face in mine! Do I see myself on a missionary journey in the first place was one question that came to mind? Sometimes. I wonder whether you see yourselves on a missionary journey. With our focus on the work place, or more accurately, a focus on where we spend our time, I hope and pray we'll all come to see that we're all missionaries. I've been talking with other church leaders in Earley and East Reading about the workplace as CTEER is looking to identify some new spheres to focus on. They seem enthusiastic about the workplace which is great and will hopefully mean some new emerging opportunities for working together on this. We are planning some activities for later in the year so watch out for these. A point to make here is that churches are typically not good at affirming their people in what "they do" during the week and encouraging and equipping them in their faith to be effective followers of Christ where ever they may be. We tend to focus instead on affirming them (sometimes not well) in what they do in church. It needs to be both!

Paul benefitted from time spent with Christ and opportunities Christ gave him, as well as some key travelling companions, though not all stuck the course. I would say that Paul, once converted, became the archetype professional Christian. He went for it, whatever it took, whatever the challenge and whatever sacrifice this entailed. He really invested and worked hard. I guess we don't really talk about professional Christians much. We talk about full time Christian workers, like youth workers or pastoral workers or clergy, but not so much professional Christians. Once we've asked Jesus into our lives we all become full time Christians, but I'm not sure we all take this on board, and I'm equally sure we don't take on being a professional. It's simply not part of church culture. Perhaps it should.

I went to Wimbledon on Friday with Jack, two of his cousins and one of his friends. We had a great day. We joined the queue at 3.45am and left once play had been abandoned due to rain, though Murray was doing battle on a luminous Centre Court. We saw loads of players - Nadal, Hewitt, Scharapova, Gasquet, Venus Williams among others, including Elena Baltacha. Baltacha was on Court 18 and I managed to get a front row seat which was brilliant. What really came across to me watching Baltacha so close up was how hard she worked in each point and how professional she was in the way she conducted her business. You could sense all the years of training and hard technical work that she'd put in. I found myself thinking about all the practical, logistical demands on professional tennis players as

they travel the world. All this was true for her opponent (who won in the end) and all the other players we saw too. It was fantastic watching Leyton Hewitt on an ordinary outside court playing doubles. In the twilight of his career now, this former Wimbledon Champion and World Number One, was still really focussed and so professional in the way he went about his business. You could see in him the consummate professional and man of experience with some stunning flashes of brilliance. Nothing was going to faze him.

I used to play tennis quite seriously as a teenager. My dodgy hips mean I can't play at all now, but as I look back I guess I've something of a regret that I didn't approach my tennis more professionally, even as only an average amateur. I don't want my Christian faith to be like this so I shall ponder on this when I am on holiday - how to be a good professional Christian. Baltacha is never likely to set the world on fire as a tennis player which is a shame, but she is still a good professional. Few Christians are called by God to set the world on fire, but I believe too many Churches and hence too many Christians can be a bit too amateurish and this needs to change. Christ's sacrifice for each of us should stir us to seek to be as good a professional as we can be. I'd like to be clearer about what this could mean and for my Christian faith to reflect this. This isn't about simply copying the ways of the world for the sake of it, not at all, but is about re-appraising how we approach our faith in light of some of the obvious positives that do exist in the world. We should be thankful too that we have the ultimate coach in the Holy Spirit and so we don't have to go it alone, and unlike Baltacha, when she employs a coach, we don't have to pay for ours. We have full and complete access and in fact, our coach has actually paid for us!

Many thanks to Gordon for organising the recent gift day, and many thanks to all who gave. This should enable us to balance our budget for the year which is important for us to do.

Have a great Summer. Whatever you're doing may God really bless you. Please pray for each other, and pray for Anna and the team planning and running the Holiday Bible Club, and if you can lend a hand.

Every blessing,

Jon



A prayer for the people of Norway and for all victims of violence and terror

The following prayers for victims of violence and terror were written for the World Council of Churches following the bomb attack and killings in Norway on Friday 22 July 2011.

As we pray in Christ's name for people in one country at a time of national distress, we also hold the all of God's people in prayer, praying that violence may be overcome and the path to just peace be found.

God of life, God of love:

In the face of unbearable tragedy we turn to you;
hear our cry, listen to our prayers, to our words, to our silence ...



God of healing, God of mercy:

Hear our prayers for the people of Norway;
for all in deep distress, for all who grieve, for the injured and the shocked, for those in despair.

May they be cared for and comforted.

For all in the emergency services working long hours to search, to listen, to care, to protect, to heal.

May they be given strength and also find support.

God of mercy, God of peace:

Hear our prayers for all around the world facing terror and unspeakable violence;
May violence be overcome and the path to peace be found.

All human life is fragile, each of us is precious in your eyes,
Teach us to value one another as you value us.

God of justice, God of courage:

We pray for all leaders in times of crisis,

That they may act for the common good, offering hope and not fear.

God of courage, God of transformation:

We pray for our churches,

That they may be places of openness and forgiveness, planting the values of peace and justice in society.

Transform all fundamentalism and vengeance into attitudes that make for reconciliation.

May we learn to be children of your kingdom of love.

God of all grace and all thankfulness:

In gratitude we pray, giving thanks for the prayers and encouragement which come from so many people and places at this time of suffering, pain and mourning. We learn global solidarity in a time of crisis; may we not forget one another in less stressful times ahead.

These prayers and the heavy silence of our hearts we offer in the name of your son Jesus Christ who trod the path of peace in the face of violence.

Amen

Service Plan for August

Sunday 7th August

8am	Holy Communion	Led by Cath Mackrell & David Payne
10am	Family Worship	Led by Cath Mackrell & Sarah Brayshaw

Sunday 14th August

10am	Holy Communion	Led by Giles Murphy & Cath Mackrell
6pm	Evening Worship	Led by Cath Mackrell

Sunday 21st August

8am	Morning Worship	Led by Henry Stroud
10am	Family Worship	Led by Cath Mackrell & Kate Robinson

Sunday 28th August

10am	Family Worship	Led by Jon Salmon & Joan Guile
6pm	Holy Communion	Led by John Salmon & David Payne



Trinity Church Walk

Sat August 27th

Jenny & Malcolm Iosson



Summer Holiday Fun Day at Trinity

(organised by Anna Meadows)

Wednesday 31 August at Trinity (for children of primary school age)

We will be exploring the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin through art, craft, games, singing and other fun activities.

Please –

- * put the date in your diary
- * ask your children for ideas of what they would like to do
- * can you help, plan, organise, or just be there on the day?
- * do you have any hints and tips from previous Holiday Bible Clubs?

If you can help or would like more information please contact Anna Meadows or Ann Baker



Pilots' end-of-school party

All the kids brought some snacks and drink, we emptied everything from our box into the church and had lots of silly fun for our last pilots this side of the summer holidays.





YouthNet Summer Party

Craft, games, hot food and the making of bridal dresses from bubble wrap and newspaper. What more could you ask for? I turned up in while on duty to make sure that everything was in order. Everyone had a great time.



Men's Curry Night



Part of Trinity's vision work includes 'Men's Work' and trying to reach out to men in our congregation. So on 20th July 16 men from Trinity got together for a curry night at Rajmoni's in Maiden Place. It was brilliant to sit around and talk with people who I have seen around church but never had an in-depth conversation with. I very much hope that this is the start of something that will be a regular occurrence for the men of Trinity.



Sudoku

1		5				6		9
		2	8		6	5		
	6						3	
7				6				4
			9		1			
8				3				7
	1						5	
		4	1		3	2		
6		9				4		8

Solutions to last Month

2	8	7	1	9	5	4	6	3
9	5	3	8	6	4	1	2	7
4	1	6	3	7	2	5	8	9
7	9	8	6	4	1	3	5	2
3	6	2	9	5	7	8	1	4
1	4	5	2	3	8	9	7	6
8	3	4	5	2	6	7	9	1
6	7	1	4	8	9	2	3	5
5	2	9	7	1	3	6	4	8

Please help, I am almost there!

RACE THE SUN UPDATE



I have been writing about an event called '**Race the Sun**' which I am taking part in with three of my work colleagues. I have been attending my local gym, cycling to work and walking whenever I can. The challenge takes place in the Lake District and we will

Cycle 22 miles to a mountain,

Hike up 2,500 ft.

Canoeing 2 miles,

Finally cycling 26 miles back to the finish line.

We start off at sunrise (06:16am) and we must finish the race before sun sets (19:43pm). This gives us 13hours, 27 minutes (and 43 seconds).



We are doing this to support Action Medical Research which is a leading UK medical research charity dedicated to helping babies and children. For more information about Action Medical Research you can visit www.action.org.uk

What do I need from you? Your support! We have agreed to raise £2,000 as a team. That is a lot of money, but it will make a big difference to the lives of vulnerable babies and children. A big thank you to everyone who has already sponsored me. Over the next few months I will be training very hard at the gym and cycling as much as I can.

Please, please, please go to the link below and give something:

www.action.org.uk/sponsor/gilesmurphy

Thank you in advance

Giles