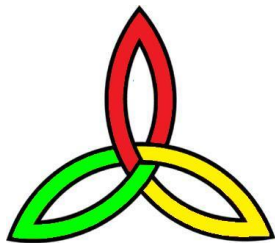


# Trinity Times



July 2021

Issue No 244



Trinity Times is the newsletter of Trinity Church, Park Lane, Knebworth, Herts, SG3 6PD

**Minister: Position vacant**

*Please contact one of the Elders or via the church website or office telephone*

Church Website: [www.trinitychurchknebworth.org.uk](http://www.trinitychurchknebworth.org.uk) Tel: 01438 210321

***Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the United Reformed and Methodist Churches. Similarly, they do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor***

## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Because of the continuing Covid restrictions on certain activities, your editor is still not ready to put the “Diary” onto the front page of our newsletter, but it could possibly return next month. So again we have a seasonal photograph – roses, this time, (obviously!) – I’m sorry, I can’t name the variety, but it looks like a floribunda rather than a hybrid tea, and that’s about the limit of my knowledge of roses!

*Graham Fothergill*

## TRINITY SERVICES

**We are now able to return to Trinity Church for Services and these are the ones that have been arranged for July and August:**

11th July at 10.45 am: Morning Worship, live-streaming of the Service from the URC General Assembly

*(Duty Elder: Rosie Berry)*

*Please contact Kay Loveless at [21kayloveless@gmail.com](mailto:21kayloveless@gmail.com) or 01438 815414 if you wish to attend this Service.*

25th July at 10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Jackie Hall

*(Duty Elders: Camilla Straughn and Rosie Berry)*

8th August at 10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Deacon Marcianne Uniwama

22<sup>nd</sup> August at 10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Rev’d Nicholas Young

***We hope that Covid restrictions will be ended by the date of these Services but, if not, further messages will be sent out.***

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# Trinity@25

1996-2021

## Trinity@25 - Silver Anniversary Celebratory Service

As a result of the extension of the Covid restrictions, regrettably this event scheduled for Sunday, 11th July, has been postponed until Sunday, 12th September. Similarly, the Open Day and barbeque planned for Saturday, 10th July, has been rescheduled to Saturday, 11th September. To keep up to date with developments, go to the church website, [trinitychurchknebworth.org.uk](http://trinitychurchknebworth.org.uk), click on the drop down menu “Church Life” and then the last tab, “Trinity@25”.

In due course, full details of the September weekend will be sent out by email and will be featured in a forthcoming issue of Trinity Times.

## “Trinity@25, 1996-2021; A History of Trinity Church, Knebworth”

Neatly-bound printed copies of this booklet are still available. It describes the events leading to the formation of Trinity Church and relates some of the happenings during the subsequent 25 years. To purchase one, at £3.00 a copy, please email [trinityat25@trinity.org.uk](mailto:trinityat25@trinity.org.uk), including your address; alternatively, phone Peter Bodden on 01438.811949 or Graham Fothergill on 01438 813371.

### PARISH NEWS ARTICLE

This is the text of the Trinity article that has been prepared by Rosie Berry for the July edition of the Knebworth Parish News. (*Ed.*)

What is your favourite bird? Mine is the red kite, a relatively recent addition to the Knebworth skyline. It is known to nest in Knebworth Park and I often see it mobbed by crows over Kerr Close. It was released near Watton-at-Stone many years ago; I have a friend there who keeps me up to date with sightings. The record is seven, just beyond the back garden.

I feel a sense of uplift as I watch its aerobatics, seeming to rest on its forked tail. My first sight of a red kite was many years ago in mid-Wales, where they were slowly building numbers.

I can't find a biblical reference to this bird of prey, but eagles feature several times. In Deuteronomy 32, verse 11, we are given the picture of “the eagle stirring up its nest, hovering over its young as it spreads its wings, takes them up and bears them aloft on its pinions.” I take that as a metaphor for God's loving-kindness towards his children. In Isaiah 40, verse 31, we are encouraged “but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” If you feel jaded following lock-down, this is the verse for you.

Now an update on my Irish family. The holes in the gravel remain untended due to lock-down. A second Tesco delivery driver managed to pull off part of the guttering. Helena and Damien await an email reply from the local Tesco manager. The good news is that their house martins have returned. Fortunately the nest is nowhere near the guttering! It's a year since the zebra finch, Dave, arrived. The family are doing well.

Another encouraging verse as we recover from lock-down: “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” 2 Corinthians 12, verse 9.

Have a good summer.

*Rosie Berry, an Elder at Trinity*

## MISSION AND CHARITY NEWS

### Christian Aid



#### Christian Aid Coffee Morning – Save the Date

All being well, we will be able to hold the annual Christian Aid Coffee Morning again this year. St Martin's Parish Hall is booked for **Saturday, 16th October** – yes, that's still a few months away, but now is the time to put the date into your diaries.

As well as the drinks and cakes for you to enjoy whilst having a chat with friends, there will be the opportunity to do a bit of Christmas shopping! Pam Thompson will have a large selection of Christmas cards, Advent calendars, 2022 calendars, notecards and gift ideas on her Traidcraft stall. There will also be the usual range of Fairtrade food products.

#### House-to-House Collection

In early May, Christian Aid envelopes were delivered to every household in the village. Those that were returned to the collection points at the Co-op and the Post office raised £692.61 and there was a further contribution of £261.25 through the Christian Aid e-account. Gift Aid from these donations should bring in an additional £181.25.

As the result of a number of Christian Aid events over the past few months, such as the Knebworth Knowledge Trail and the Big Brekkie, together with other cheques received, we have raised a total of just over £2,000 – a marvellous amount considering all the difficulties caused by Covid.

We are grateful to all who volunteered their time and who donated to this charity that changes lives across the world.

#### Christian Aid Quiz 2021

A reminder that, as part of this year's fund-raising activities for Christian Aid, Colin Stringer has put together another quiz with 100 cryptic crossword-style clues, each of which leads to the name of a different UK coastal town or village. Titled 'Oh I do like to be ...', this quiz can be downloaded by visiting the following site:

[www.parascosa.com/CAQuiz.htm](http://www.parascosa.com/CAQuiz.htm)

We hope that you will enjoy the challenge that this quiz will present. This year there is a logical sequence to the clues; once you have solved what that sequence is, the individual clues should be a lot easier.

*Graham Fothergill, on behalf of the Knebworth Christian Aid Committee*

## July Outreach Charity



Our outreach charity and anniversary offering for July is '**MIND in Mid Herts**'

MIND in Mid Herts is an independent charity affiliated with National Mind. They are a local, innovative and experienced mental health provider for people aged 16 years and over. They aim to empower people in Hertfordshire take control of their mental health.

They support positive mental health working across three themes; prevention, social support and recovery. They understand the different needs of people and work in a person-centred way to ensure the mental health of the people of Hertfordshire is supported and respected so that no one has to face a mental health problem alone.

This charity has been chosen by the Trinity@25 Steering Group with the realisation that as we all journey through this pandemic and the impact of being locked down for nearly a whole year, the situation has taken its toll on the mental health of several individuals in our communities.

We realise many households are facing financial hardship during this period, however if you feel you are able to donate, this charity needs your support now, more than ever.

With the extension of the Covid restrictions, we have had to postpone our open weekend on 10th July, when Mind was due to have a stand at church, but we hope they will be able to do that on the new date of 11th September.

In the meantime, for July donations, here are their contact details:

Website: <https://www.mindinmidherts.org.uk/>

Email: [admin@mindinmidherts.org.uk](mailto:admin@mindinmidherts.org.uk)

Telephone: 03303 208100

*Camilla Straughn*

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## **KNEBORTH FAMILY OF CHURCHES**

### **KFC Coffee Mornings**

Unfortunately, you probably know what I'm going to say! Because of the extension of the Covid restrictions for a further month, we have had no alternative but to push back the plans for this year's first Knebworth Family of Churches Coffee Morning yet again. So instead of 19th July, it will now be **Saturday, 17th August**. The venue will, as usual, be St Martin's Parish Centre, with a start time of 10.00 am. Please put the date in your diary and then come along and enjoy drinks and cakes, and a good chat with friends old and new!

*Graham Fothergill; Secretary, The Knebworth Family of Churches*

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**You are invited to attend  
Free Church Services  
in the Lady Chapel on:**



THE CATHEDRAL AND  
ABBAY CHURCH OF  
SAINT ALBAN

**Wednesday, 7th July at 11.00 am**  
Preacher: **The Reverend Stephen Copson**  
Regional Minister, Central Baptist Association

Free Church Ecumenical Chaplain: Reverend Simon Carver,  
Email:simoncarver@btinternet.com

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## **METHODIST NEWS**

### **Message from Rev'd Malcolm Peacock**

Are you a person whose cup is half full or half empty? Perhaps like me, you go from being half full to half empty depending on the latest news. With the road map out of lockdown seemingly in place and going well, we optimistically booked a holiday, planning to visit our family who are in the Isle of Man, hoping that the relaxation of regulations would continue as they have done for the last few weeks.

In recent days we have seen the number of Covid cases creep upwards, there is talk of a third wave and optimism has turned to pessimism and we wonder if we will be able to have the holiday, have the family celebration planned at the end of June.

Of course we want to do things that are safe and of course we will abide by the guidelines that prevail at the time. Equally though, like everyone else, we want to have the family celebrations, the holidays, the chance to visit and be with people who are important to us and who we miss. There are times when we have to let our wants take second place, the needs of society and the common good.

This is where being a Christian begins to have a significant impact on us. We make choices where we consider what is good for the wider society rather than simply what is good for me as an individual. We do so because we know that it is a consequence of the faith that we have in God.

As we live through the coming weeks and months, we will have a number of different experiences. We are all wanting to see life resume in as normal a fashion as possible. As the promise of normality is held out in front of us, our desire to recapture what life used to be like only grows. The scares and worries only make things worse, especially if we have had vaccinations and trust all we have been told about the safety they bring.



We are tempted to take things in our own hands and do those things that will please us, especially when we think we are safe and when we think we have had enough of not seeing friends and family. As the people of God, we are to behave in a way that is safe for the majority of people. We may feel ourselves to be OK, but we have a duty to care for the vulnerable among us and in our wider society.

St Paul makes this clear in 1 Corinthians 8, we who are confident and strong need to modulate what we do so that the vulnerable may be cared for. Paul was talking about food offered to idols, but the principle of the strong doing what they can to protect the vulnerable remains an important principle as we live our Christian life in the present.

I am hoping for a good summer, and an autumn that looks like almost every other autumn we have had. I am looking forward to singing hymns in church with great gusto. I am looking forward to coffee mornings and meals together. My glass is half full as I have those levels of anticipation. Yet I know that even if my hopes are unfounded, that God will bring blessings to us all when we live as best we can for him.

*Malcolm*

### **Good Friday Walk**

We have now collected all the sponsorship money from the Good Friday Walk and it is very pleasing to be able to report that our experimental dispersed walk has raised a record £3600. This will be divided equally between our nominated charities, Bridge Builders in Stevenage and Friends of Udobo School in Durban, South Africa. It includes £672 in Gift Aid which we will collect in due course.

Thank you to everyone who took part by going on their own walk, and the many others who sponsored them. Of course, this walk was highly unusual in that we could not meet as a large gathering so everyone was left to "do their own thing" and devise a walk of their own. We had no idea how this would work out, but in the event about 55 people took part and walked all over the lovely countryside in our Circuit, and in some cases further afield. The last "proper" walk, two years ago, raised £2700 and we thought if we were lucky we might make £2000. So the eventual figure of £3600 was a wonderful result and proof, if it were needed, that the Holy Spirit still works through us.

I will be very unfair and mention three people specifically for praise. First, Jackie Hall at Trinity, whose idea it was to hold the event in this format. Secondly, Deacon Marcianne at Arlesey who flew the flag for her part of the Circuit and was definitely the "best newcomer" in terms of amount raised. Finally, John Sharman who apart from doing all the hard work collecting the money and accounting for it, also went on the walk with his wife, Jill, and collected the highest amount of sponsorship, so John wins the trophy for the best effort of the year!

Thank you everyone.

*Roger Harrison, Walk Organiser*

*{The above items were reproduced from the June 2021 edition of the North Herts Circuit Newsletter}*

## **A Visit to See Hans**

As you will be aware, our friend and church member, Hans Meister, has now been in Wymondley Nursing Home for almost two years. As with all similar establishments, the Covid pandemic put a block on virtually any chance for him to have visitors but, as we ease out of the current restrictions, there is better news on this front. In fact, he is now allowed up to two visitors at a time, although under fairly restrictive conditions.

Anyhow, about three weeks ago, and having made the necessary appointment, John (a neighbour of Hans when he lived on Pondcroft Road) and I went along to see him for a statutory half-hour visit, expecting to find that we had to meet him within the confines of a small marquee in front of the main building. Fortunately, we had chosen a sunny and very warm afternoon, and so we were invited to sit outside and chat with Hans in a shaded part of the grounds. Furthermore, instead of having to leave after thirty minutes, we were permitted to stay for almost an hour!

Hans was looking very well and, as usual, was in good spirits. He was keen to show us the four fruit trees that he had purchased and which are planted in the lawn area in front of the main building in memory of the many residents there who had died from the effects of Covid.

Hans is being really well looked after at Wymondley, he is enjoying all his meals – he has put on a bit of weight – but he could do with the stimulus of a few more visitors. John and I will be going to see him again soon, but meanwhile if you have a bit of time and are able to conveniently get over to Wymondley, why not give the Nursing Home a call on 01438 312434 and arrange a visit. It could be very rewarding.

*Graham Fothergill*

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***Please send items for the August issue of Trinity Times to  
Graham Fothergill by Thursday, 22nd July:***

***E-mail [gafothergill@gmail.com](mailto:gafothergill@gmail.com)***

***Telephone 01438 813371***

***or drop them in at 7 Stockens Dell, Knebworth***

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