

# Trinity News

**No. 490 October 2019**



**Trinity United Reformed Church,  
Mansel Road, Wimbledon**

# Minister's Letter



*Dear Friends,*

*For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. (Jeremiah 29.11)*

If you were to walk into Tolworth's *Re:fresh* Bookshop (or any other Christian bookshop – I'm not on commission!) and look at the racks of greeting cards, there's a fair chance that as many as one in eight of them might carry this Bible verse printed within. It's a beloved assurance of God's purpose and grace, God's sovereignty over all our circumstances.

Indeed maybe, like me, you have sent such a card and message to a friend or loved one – or have received it from others as an expression of their encouragement to you.

Beyond the comfort that's brought when we remind one another of this verse, perhaps it has something to say to the Church as a whole. We celebrate the first Sunday of this month (6 October) as **Rededication Sunday**, committing ourselves afresh to share in Trinity's worship, work and witness. In our determination to pursue the opportunities and targets we've identified for Trinity, this word of assurance from Jeremiah's prophecy reminds us that *our* plans must always be subsidiary to *God's* plans. It's only as we ensure that our agenda is brought into line with God's intentions that our true welfare and hope can most fully emerge.

What's more, the surrounding context for this one verse in Jeremiah chapter 29 goes further – providing us with a trio of helpful principles:

- Be **engaged** (verses 4-7). God's faithful are instructed not to retreat from the world in a 'holy huddle', but rather to keep active in seeking the welfare of the city where God has placed us.
- Be **patient** (verse 10). Even if we find our present situation is not quite as perfect as we might wish(!), that's OK: God's

purposes do not rely upon our 'quick fixes'.

- Be **prayerful** (verses 12-14). Certainly, God has equipped us with individual gifts and talents which, deployed in the church, enrich our fellowship and energise our work; but all this counts for nothing if we simply rely on our own abilities. Instead, it is when we are intentional in seeking God's presence that God will graciously consent to be found by us (what a beautiful, winsome image!).

I do hope you'll be present to share in our Rededication Sunday service on 6 October and look forward to seeing you there. In the promises we make and renew on that day, and in the plans, we put in place whether for our church or indeed our homes, let's resolve to encourage one another. More than that, let's resolve together to be earnest in prayer; to be rich in patience; and to be faithful in active engagement for the welfare of our church and of the community in which we have been placed.

*Every Blessing*

*Dominic*



## ***CHURCH FAMILY NEWS***

### **Congratulations**



Isobel and Norman Angus celebrated 60 years of marriage on 5 September. They were married in St Peters Presbyterian Church in Tooting, where they met.

They moved then to their marital home in Wimbledon, where they started attending Trinity, and have worshipped and been heavily involved in the church ever since. Their three children were christened, two of them were

married, and all four of their grandchildren were christened in Trinity.



## 100 years

Vera Broadbridge was born on 5 October 1919 in East Finchley, North London.

Vera lived with her parents and elder brother Bert. Both Vera and Bert were competitive ballroom dancers so "Strictly" is a must see.

After attending school, Sunday school (as many prizes testify) becoming a Sunday school teacher, and being involved in other church activities, she began work at the Hospital Saving Association (now Simply Health).

This was interrupted by the outbreak of war during which she worked in the Army Pay Corps. During this time, she met her

husband, Bob: they married in 1951, a marriage that lasted happily for 44 years. They had a daughter Anne and as a family, they moved firstly to Kensington (where Vera returned to the HSA), and then in 1971 to Wimbledon, when they began to worship at Trinity and to serve in various areas of Trinity's life. Vera still attends the Sunday Morning service regularly and enjoys her coffee afterwards. Vera enjoys trips to the theatre, cinema and visits to Italy.

It is a joy and an honour to have in our congregation such a charming and spirited Christian lady. We send her all our love and best wishes for a very happy birthday. Congratulations, Vera.

# Reminders and Notes for Your Diaries

## Wednesday Social Group



The Social Group will begin its new session on Wednesday 2 October at 2.30pm and would like to invite any member of the congregation to join us for an afternoon together, followed by tea.

This month we will start with a "Holiday Memories" afternoon - everybody is invited to come with a memory or story of their summer holiday, an exciting or memorable experience or, perhaps, to show us a picture or memento that has meaning for them. Or just come and listen!

On 6 November we look forward to welcoming Robin Goodchild who will tell us about his recent visit to the Holy Land.

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### *Happy Birthday in October to*

24	Kate Mansfield	(15)
29	Elijah Siphika	(4)





## OCTOBER

1	Tue	19:30	Lectio Divina
		20:00	Queens Road Housegroup
2	Wed	14:30	Wednesday Social Group – “My Holiday Memory”
		20:00	Elders’ Council
4	Fri	10:00	Trinity Toddlers
		20:00	Friday Fellowship
5	Sat	10:00- 16:00	Annual Elders’ Conference
		16:00	Pilots
<b>6</b>	<b>SUN</b>		<b><i>Rededication Sunday</i></b>
		10:30	Elders’ Meeting
		<b>11:00</b>	<b>Morning worship with Holy Communion</b>
8	Tue	19:30	Pastoral Team
9	Wed	20:00	Church & Society
11	Fri	10:00	Trinity Toddlers
		20:00	Friday Fellowship
12	Sat	10:30	Synod Together
<b>13</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>11:00</b>	<b>Morning worship with Confirmation</b>
15	Tue	19:30	Lectio Divina
		20:00	Mission & Outreach Team
17	Thu	20:00	Speaker Evening: “Merton Street Pastors”
18	Fri	10:00	Trinity Toddlers
19	Sat	16:00	Pilots
<b>20</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>11:00</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>11:00</b>	<b>Morning worship</b>
29	Tue	19:30	Lectio Divina
31	Thu	20:00	Finance Team



**Lunchtime Concerts in Autumn  
at New Malden Methodist  
Church High Street KT3 4BY**

**Tuesday 8 October at 1:10 pm -John Paul Etkins – Piano**  
*Music by Mozart and Liszt*

**Tuesday 19 November at 1:10 pm**  
**Diana Hoy Mezzo Soprano Wendy Watts-Piano**  
*Some of our favourite songs*

**Tuesday 17 December at 1:10pm**  
*Music for Christmas*

*The following concerts feature students from the Royal College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music*

**Wednesday 9 October at 1.10 pm Olivia Carstairs - Soprano**  
**Wednesday 23 October at 1.10 pm – Solaro Piano Trio**  
*Piano, Violin and Cello*

Lunchtime concerts take place generally on the third Tuesday of each month 1:10 – 1.50 pm from September to June. You are welcome to bring your packed lunch to eat during the concert. Hot and Cold drinks are available in *Wesleys* the church café, beforehand and afterwards and can be served in concert-friendly cups. The hope is for you to attend in your lunch hour, but you are welcome to arrive and leave between items.

There is a retiring collection to support the costs of the concert series. The church is three minutes' walk from New Malden station and the 213 bus passes the door, with the 131,265 and x26 busses stopping at the Fountain Roundabout only five minutes' walk along the High Street.

For further information and for any last minute alterations or cancellations, please visit the church website

<https://www.newmaldenmethodistchurch.com>

Please visit <https://musicinnewmalden.wordpress.com> for information about their MiNM Sunday afternoon concerts

## Property news

During August, while the Centre was a little quieter than usual, we took the opportunity to do some necessary maintenance work. We hope you have noticed!

The Old Hall floor surface was stripped back and re-coated to bring it back to its original condition.

The toilets were renovated and re-decorated with new sanitary fittings, tiling around the basins, new door locks and new flooring. This included the sluice room.

Our evening caretaker Mark Reddy redecorated the disabled W.C. and various areas of the downstairs meeting rooms that were in need.

A large self-sown ash tree, that was causing potential danger, particularly to the High School children, was removed but will be replaced by some ornamental trees when the garden is rebuilt, hopefully this month.

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## Thank you from Anni Struthers



I would like to thank everyone who supported my fund-raising abseil for London's Air Ambulance.

The sum raised to date (15 September 2019) is £560 and a few more donations are pledged.

I successfully abseiled from the helipad and was even able to enjoy the views around London on a beautiful, sunny, blue-skied morning as I descended!

## From the Archives

### Through the decades No 8: 1950s



This photograph of Trinity's chancel area was taken soon after the war damage repairs, and refurbishment were completed in October 1955. For the first time the chancel is carpeted in 'Presbyterian Blue' (although the aisles are not yet carpeted) and the walls have been painted white, replacing the old cream coloured brickwork.

While the Communion Table, font and pulpit are familiar there have been many changes in the intervening sixty-four years, not least the removal of all the pews seen in the picture and the construction of the chancel stage. See if you can spot the other differences.

*We have come across several copies of 'Trinity Wimbledon - The first hundred years', published at the time of our 1984 Centenary. If anybody would like a copy, please speak to Alan Young.*



## Be A Steward of God's Creation Make an Eco-Brick

*The photo is of eco-bricks that the children and young people made before the summer holidays.*

### What is an ecobrick?

An ecobrick is a building block made entirely from unrecyclable plastic. It's created by filling a plastic bottle with clean, dry plastic until it's packed tightly and can be used as a building block.

Ecobricks can be used in all sorts of sustainable building projects, which makes them a great way to dispose of plastic waste that would otherwise end up in landfill, and potentially, the ocean.

### What are ecobricks used for?

The plastic in an ecobrick is very durable and will never break down, making it an ideal building material. They're used in developing countries to construct furniture and even buildings, and [they're also used in the UK](#) to build children's playgrounds.

In South Africa [there are many sustainable construction projects underway](#), including outdoor classrooms, community gardens and a composting toilet, and in Guatemala there are a number of schools built from the plastic bottle bricks.

1. **Choose a bottle.** This is really important because you need to get the perfect bottle to build the perfect ecobrick. The key thing to think about is size. Any size bottle will work as an ecobrick, but the average size tends to be between 500ml to 1.5l. You should also make sure that you're using a bottle from a product that you use regularly – you don't want to end up having to buy a plastic bottle just to make an ecobrick!

2. **Prepare your plastic.** Any plastic that you put in your brick needs to be clean and dry – any dirt can lead to microbiological growth and methane forming inside your brick. If you put dirty plastic inside your ecobrick it can make the bottle bloat and the cap can even pop off – not to mention it won't look very nice!
3. **Get a stick.** You'll need a stick to poke the plastic in your bottle down so you can fit as much as possible in! A bamboo or wooden stick will work best, and it should have a rounded tip to make sure it doesn't pierce the bottle when you are squashing the plastic down.
4. **What not to put in your ecobrick.** Remember – the things you put in your ecobrick can't be recycled or won't break down, so be sure not to include metal, paper, card, food waste or glass.

Here are some of the items you can put in your brick:

- Plastic bags
- Photo paper
- Crisp packets
- Food containers
- Straws
- Plastic cutlery
- Cling film
- Plastic fruit and vegetable packaging
- Polystyrene (or Styrofoam) – this is a petroleum-based product that can't be recycled. Lots of products are made from this including food containers and packaging.

The next step for us is to a) find out more about how to put the bricks together to make things, e.g. chairs or tables and b) to identify a way of managing the collection and distribution to the companies who use ecobricks- **Claire Wood**