

TRINITY TIMES

the parish magazine of Holy Trinity

SEPTEMBER 2011

Issue number 79



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PHONE HACKING, ETC



I get the *Guardian* newspaper delivered, and fall asleep over it late at night. It was one of their journalists, Nick Davies, who was instrumental in breaking the stories that eventually led to the closure of the *News of the World* and the many other stories about the nature of our public life. I love to read good journalism, and there is plenty of it about – there was actually plenty in the *News of the World*.

Good journalism is honest, well-researched, well-written and well-argued. One of my current favourites is the *Guardian*'s Amelia Gentleman (good name!) whose articles highlight what cuts in government spending mean to some people at the “sharp end”. Her pieces are factual, human, not sensational but powerful enough to change your mind about things. I like to be surprised by finding something I didn't expect, and often this happens with small pieces tucked away in the “Society”, “Education” or “Media” sections.

Good journalism is crucial to the well-being of society. It is at its best when it challenges those in power with facts and clarity of argument. For me, there is nothing I prefer to read, than a good, interesting, challenging newspaper article.

I don't want to add too much to the millions of words written on these subjects in recent weeks, so I'll just make three points:

- 1) A media organisation should be powerful enough to be fearless and challenging in its work, but not so powerful that other (perhaps opposing) media voices cannot be heard; and certainly not powerful enough to influence who governs the country and how.
- 2) The closure of the *News of the World* was very sad. For all its faults, it was a lively paper, staffed by many people of great skill and integrity, who did not deserve to take the rap for the few who had acted criminally and/or immorally.
- 3) We all need to take a long hard look at ourselves and ask what we really NEED to know about the lives of others; which is not the same as what we may WANT to know. Magazines and newspapers are full of negativity, intrusion, gossip and tittle-tattle – and we are ALL to blame for wanting to read such stuff.

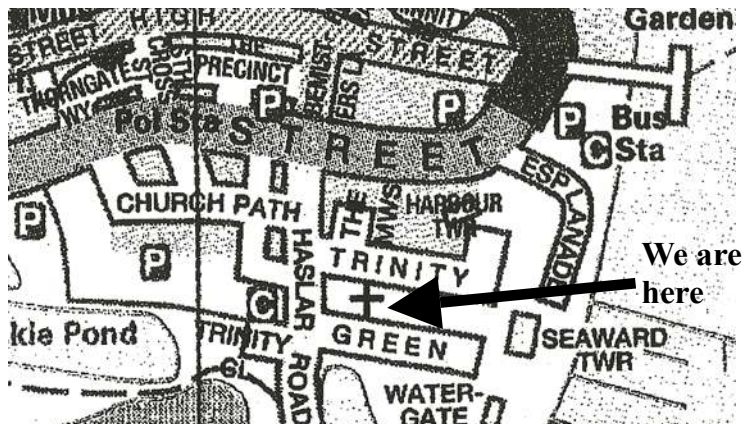
With love

Father Andy

HOLY TRINITY - Your Parish Church

If you are new to the area and/or reading Trinity Times for the first time - Welcome. Set out below are a few details about the Church which we hope you will find helpful

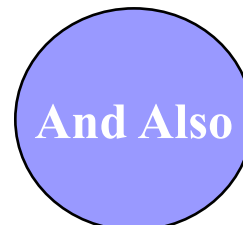
Also check out our website at www.holytrinitygosport.co.uk



You will find us on the east side of Haslar Road; look for the steeple - you can't miss us!

We are a Church of England Church in the Anglican Diocese of Portsmouth and we are linked with Christ Church, Stoke Road.

In addition to the times listed on the following page, we are normally open to visitors Monday to Friday 1.30 to 3.30 pm and Saturday 10.00 am to midday.



We worship 'in the round' which we find is a very friendly way of worshipping - it enhances the feeling of 'family' in the church. We use incense at our Sunday services (only) - in other words we are a "Smells & Bells" church. We have hearing loop and voice enhancement systems installed. This work was funded by the National Lottery through Big Lottery fund

We have 2 meeting rooms available for hire; one holds a maximum of 60 people and the other 12 people. Kitchen facilities are available. There are toilets on the ground floor and a lift to the first floor. Telephone Fr Andy for details.



Our vicar is Rev Andy Davis. (We usually call him Fr. Andy but Andy is OK) As our priest, he is always happy to see anyone who needs to talk with him about anything. He can be contacted at 9 Britannia Way, Gosport. Tel: 023 9258 0173 or Mobile: 077 0991 9602. email@holytrinitygosport.co.uk (He is not usually around on Mondays)

SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAYS**

Parish Mass 11.00 am
Vespers and Benediction 6.00 pm
(A quiet, reflective service to end one week and begin another)



MONDAYS

Father Andy's day off



TUESDAYS

Mass 9.30 am
(30 minutes, quiet, prayerful, peace-giving)



WEDNESDAYS

5.45 pm Prayer Group
*(An informal gathering, to pray – quietly and simply –
For the church, the world and those suffering and in need)*
Mass 6.30 pm
(30 minutes, quiet, prayerful, peace-giving)



FRIDAYS

Mass 5.00 pm
(30 minutes, quiet, prayerful, peace-giving)

On each occurrence of a fifth Sunday in a month, a joint service will be held alternating between Holy Trinity and Christ Church. The next joint service will be held at **11.00 a.m. at Holy Trinity on Sunday 30th October 2011

Trinity Times is published by Holy Trinity Church, Gosport, Hampshire. It is distributed free of charge to more than 1,000 households and 160 shops in the Parish. You can also view in colour on our website: www.holytrinitygosport.co.uk

Editor: Joan Millard

Saturday 10th September

HOLY TRINITY OPEN DAY

10am - 5pm



An opportunity not to be missed - this beautiful church will be open all day as part of HERITAGE OPEN DAYS weekend.

Come and see for yourself the oak trunks (see page 13) and the renowned Handel Organ....or simply sit quietly and soak up the atmosphere.



Ride & Stride

**Saturday 10th September
10am - 6pm**

Cycle, Ride, Walk

Take part for as long or as short as you like!

Help raise funds for the restoration and repair of Hampshire & the Islands' historic church buildings.

Half of what you raise goes to the church or chapel of your choice - in our case, Holy Trinity.

Get sponsored to visit the region's churches - or alternatively sponsor someone with the energy to do it....Mollie for instance!

Contact Mollie's upright on 02392 562526 for more information

THE WAY I SEE IT - AFTER THE RIOTS

‘The sound of violence shall be heard no longer in your land, or ruin and destruction within your borders.’ So promised the prophet Isaiah 2,500 years ago. At least his words prove that violence, ruin and destruction have always been part of human experience.

Nowadays we usually encounter them only through the television screen, but in August we were sharply reminded, in the street riots in many English cities, that they are still part of modern life in what we like to think of as a civilised and liberal democracy. The sight of youths smashing shop windows, torching cars and attacking the police with stones and bottles was bad enough.

Even worse, though, was the footage of many of them, accompanied often by adults, men and women, openly looting shops and department stores. ‘Free stuff!’ was the message on Facebook, though of course it isn’t ‘free’. Someone has paid for it, but not the people who were doing the looting.

For a week or so the thin veneer of civilisation which disguises the potential evil of the human heart was stripped away. Normal standards of behaviour seemed to have been suspended and there were public calls for the Government to send in the Army, use water cannon, tear gas and rubber bullets - anything, to restore law and order to our streets. Happily, they weren’t necessary. The restraint and wisdom of Asian community leaders in Birmingham - Muslim and Sikh standing side by side - after the killing of three young men from their community, sent out the message that violence is not defeated by violence.

Streets were cleaned up, but it will take a long while to heal the fear in many hearts, or repair the damage to homes, shops and businesses. What can we do? We can pray, of course - pray that Isaiah’s vision may be fulfilled. But prayer must be accompanied by action. We have stood by too long while an under-educated, unemployed and largely unemployable under-class has grown up in our big cities.

There have been warning signs - the Brixton riots thirty years ago, Broadwater Farm 25 years ago, gun crimes in Birmingham, knife attacks and gang warfare in London during recent years. Envy mingled with resentment is a dangerous cocktail. Church and community leaders can do much, but they need the support of the whole of society, because a price will have to be paid and in the end we shall all have to help to foot the bill.

David Winter

The well known writer and broadcaster, David Winter, is a former Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC.

TEA TIME CONCERTS 2011

At Holy Trinity we continue our “Tea-Time Concerts” at 3.30 pm on the first Sunday of each month. Admission to all the concerts is free although a retiring collection will be taken for the benefit of the organ restoration project. All the musicians give freely of their talents as their contribution to this project. Afternoon tea is served in the Capper Room after each concert.

These concerts, which last no longer than an hour, present the opportunity to hear fine music in the generous acoustic of this beautiful Church. Why not give it a try? It’s a very pleasant way in which to while away a Sunday afternoon.

Details of the September, October and November concerts are set out below.

SUNDAY 4th SEPTEMBER

ALL THINGS BRASS!

a programme of music from

DOLCE BRASS

with

Adrian Clarke

SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER

A choral delight from the “voices of heaven”

VOX COELESTIS

Musical Director

Nigel Short

SUNDAY 6th NOVEMBER

A programme of music from the

CHOIR OF ST. MARY’S, ALVERSTOKE

Directed by

Paul Pilott

ALL CHANGE IN GOSPORT....

NEW BIGGER FERRY TERMINAL

ENHANCED SUBMARINE MUSEUM

RESTORED ORGAN IN HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

GOSPORT'S FAMOUS HISTORIC ORGAN IN HOLY TRINITY IS TO HAVE A MAJOR REFIT - AND

- A DVD ABOUT IT
- A PUBLICITY DRIVE ABOUT IT AND HOW IT WORKS –

TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE, OF ALL AGES, FROM FAR AND WIDE, TO VISIT IT – HEAR IT – AND MAYBE PLAY IT.

All this is possible thanks to -

- £167,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, and
- £42,000 we have raised through our monthly concerts, by the “Adopt an Organ Pipe” scheme, and by many generous gifts from Charities and individual people - locally, and from far and wide.



The specialist work will start on 24th October and be finished in time for the organ to be heard again on Easter Sunday, 8th April next year. May and June will host 10 great concerts to celebrate the restored organ. Watch this space for details.

Please tell all your friends. There are still people living in Gosport who don't know that the town is home to a fine, historic pipe organ. It has 450 pipes in it from an organ which was built in 1720 by Abraham Jordan for Handel to use, nearly 300 years ago. That organ came here, to Holy Trinity church, in 1748. It was last rebuilt and added to in 1897 and now has some 1500 pipes in it varying in length from 16 feet to a few inches! It is great to play, and to listen to, in our lovely church. Now after 114 years of service, the working parts are worn out and must be replaced. Some of the older pipes need careful restoration work. Then it will go on playing for another 100 years.

Geoffrey Holroyde.



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From: Great Aunt Pru <prudence.little@shewitters.com>
To: Tamsin Ozling
Subject: Choices

My dear Tammy,

As you know, your mum is due to arrive any day now so I thought I'd drop you a quick line before she arrives...we shall probably talk ourselves dry and I'm not likely to look at emails for a few weeks. I hope she brings a variety of clothing with her because we've had such a mixture of weather this summer that there's no telling what she'll need!

The last time we spoke you were worried about the reports of rioting and looting that you had read in your newspaper and seen on television - it must have seemed to you as though the whole country had gone mad but as I told you, frightening as it was for those directly affected by it in one way or the other, it was really comparatively small areas where the worst of the violence took place.

Of course, everyone (I suppose I should include myself in that) has his or her own idea about the causes (unemployment, boredom, disaffected youth, upbringing etc) and solutions and maybe some are right. Whatever the cause(s) there are many others with the same (or even worse) problems but they don't riot or loot, they just get on with their lives as best they can. However, we don't hear about the many young people...who I believe are in the majority...who do so much good; they're often reported in our local newspaper doing the most amazing things to raise money for charity or helping elderly people, but I suppose they don't produce sufficiently lurid headlines for the national newspapers.

The point is, everyone has a choice - whether to do right or wrong - and I believe the majority of young people choose to do right; they choose to go school and study (and not play truant), they might choose to join the scouting movement or various clubs - they choose not to join a gang!

Those who took part in the riots, whatever their age and for whatever reasons, made their choice and in many cases are now having to face the consequences but what I believe is important is that we do not tar everyone with the same brush.

Right, lecture over! I'll say 'bye for now,

from your ever-loving Great Aunt Pru



THIS MONTH'S HIGH DAYS....

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 8th September

In both eastern and western churches, Mary has always been held as pre-eminent among all the saints. The unique, extraordinary privilege of being the mother of the One who was both God and Man, makes her worthy of special honour. Thomas Aquinas believed she was due a veneration that exceeds that of other saints, but is at the same time infinitely below the adoration due to God alone.

The virginal conception of Christ is clearly stated in the gospels. But after Jesus' birth, Mary fades quietly into the background. During Jesus' public life, she is mentioned only occasionally, as at the wedding at Cana. She reappears at the foot of the Cross (John's Gospel), and is given into John's care. In the early chapters of Acts, Mary is with the Apostles, and received the Holy Spirit along with them on Whitsunday. But her role was not the active one of teaching and preaching.

Mary's significance grew with the centuries. By the fifth century she was called *Theotokos*, The Mother of God, and from the seventh century onwards, she was given four festivals: the Presentation in the Temple (2 February), the Annunciation (25 March), the Assumption (15 August) and her Nativity (8 September).

St. Mary's Church, Rowner will celebrate this festival with a Deanery Mass at 7.30 p.m. at which the Preacher will be The Right Reverend Graeme Knowles, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral.

St Matthew – 21st September

Matthew was one of 12 apostles. But he began as a publican i.e. a tax-collector of Jewish race who worked for the Romans, before he left all at the call of Christ. From earliest times, he was regarded as the author of the first of the four Gospels. The Gospel of Matthew is in correct, concise style, very suitable for public reading.

In art, he has been represented as either an evangelist or as an apostle. As an evangelist, he has been depicted sitting at a desk, writing his gospel with an angel holding the inkwell. In the Middle Ages he was even given a pair of spectacles. Matthew was martyred by a sword or a spear, some think in Ethiopia.

St. Matthew's Church, Bridgemaury will be celebrating its Feast of Title with a Deanery Mass at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday 18th September

....AND HOLY DAYS

Holy Trinity's 315th Birthday – 24th September

Yes, it was on this day in 1696 that Holy Trinity was consecrated (dedicated) by the then Bishop of Winchester, the Right Reverend Peter Mews. The building of the church had started with the laying of the foundation stone in September 1694 and was paid for by “William Henry Player, Gent, and other inhabitants of the Burro of Gosport...at their own proper cost and by the contributions of other pious and charitable Christians...”. The oak trunks which form the pillars to this day were given by Bishop Peter Mews and were transported at his own expense by oxencart from his park at Farnham. At this time the “Burro of Gosport” constituted the town area only (within the ramparts) so you will see that it is truly Gosport's “Town Church” originally paid for by the local inhabitants.

We shall be celebrating our Dedication Day at the 11.00 a.m. Mass on the following day, Sunday 25th September - do join us.

St Michael and All Angels – 29th September

Michael is an archangel, whose name means ‘who is like unto God?’ He makes various appearances throughout the Bible, from the book of Daniel to the Book of Revelation. In Daniel, he is ‘one of the princes’ of the heavenly host, and the special guardian of Israel. In Revelation, he is the principal fighter of the heavenly battle against the devil.

From early times, Michael's cult was strong in the British Isles. Churches at Malmesbury (Wiltshire), Clive (Gloucestershire) and Stanmer (East Sussex) were dedicated to him. Bede mentions him. St Michael's Mount in Cornwall was believed to commemorate a vision there in the 8th century. By the end of the Middle Ages, Michael had 686 English churches dedicated to him.

In art Michael is often depicted as slaying the dragon, as in the 14th century East Anglian Psalters, or in Epstein's famous sculpture at Coventry cathedral. Or he is found (in medieval art) as weighing souls, as at Chaldon (Surrey), Swalcliffe (Oxon.), Eaton Bishop (Hereford and Worcester), and Martham in Suffolk. Michael's most famous shrine in western Europe is Mont-Saint-Michel, where a Benedictine abbey was founded in the 10th century.

The ‘All Angels’ bit of this feast-day was added in 1969 when Gabriel and Raphael were included in with Michael.

MOLLIE'S TAILPIECE

We were going on holiday and our upright said we had to pack our bags and mustn't forget to pack my toothbrush and toothpaste and my comb. I was thrilled to bits about that!

Upright Auntie Jean said we were taking Tom with us so we didn't get lost, except Tom kept getting muddled and our upright had to look on the map to see where we were.



When we got on the big boat I had to go in the shopping bag because I had to be indognito (I think that's what they said). It was all very odd because the ferry people had said I could go on the boat and then nobody seemed sure whether I could or not. Well I did! Our upright kept saying: "Be a good girl and go to sleep." That wasn't easy because it was very noisy and nobody put the lights off.

Really it was quite confusing from start to finish of the holiday because sometimes we slept in a proper bed and sometimes in a thing called a tent and other times in the car. When we slept in the tent the cat on the campsite kept jumping at the tent because he wanted to play. I wasn't allowed to play because I had to be on the lead.

We went on beaches and I really liked the soft sand and climbing over the rocks and looking in the pools. Then we went to a place that was nearly all rocks and they kept counting all the flowers because there were so many. (*The Burren: limestone plateau containing eleven hundred of the fourteen hundred plants in Ireland*). They kept asking me if I wanted a carry, but I was having such a good time climbing over all the rocky bits that I didn't want to be carried.

We went to a place where someone kept looking at me oddly and said she was looking for my legs. Our upright was very rude and said: "There's not a right lot to see." What she forgot was that Auntie Jean thinks that I've got bees knees so I didn't get into trouble. If our upright had got bees knees she wouldn't have got shouted at so much. She said she was walking on egg shells all the time, but I didn't see any.

When we got home we were really tired. We'd been in the car and on a boat and on a train and on a thing called a tube.

Our upright said she was really proud of me because I'd been so good but it wasn't hard to be good. It was an adventure and I like adventures.

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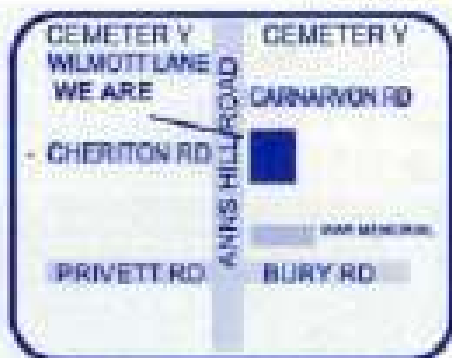
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