



holy trinity news



FAIRTRADE TEA PARTY

4pm - Sunday 28th February

in Parish Rooms

February 2010

40 Pence

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00 am	Holy Communion	
10.00 am	Main services in Church or Hall	
1 st Sunday	Family Service In Hall	
3 rd Sunday	Encounter Communion Service In Hall	
2 nd , 4 th , 5 th	Scramblers, Connect, Pathfinders	
	Crèche available during 10.00 am services	
11.45 am	1 st Sunday)	Holy Communion
	3 rd Sunday	Healing Service
12 noon	2 nd & 4 th Sunday	Baptisms
6.00 pm		Evensong

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Tues, Fri	9.00 am prayer in Church
Wednesday	10.30 am Holy Communion (followed by refreshments)

The Parish Staff will bring Holy Communion to sick or house-bound parishioners, if asked. It is also helpful to know when new people come to live in our Parish, so please make us aware of your presence.

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

Please contact Mrs Ann Kentfield for Baptisms (825401), or call the Parish Office (822990) for all other enquiries.

SOUND SYSTEM

There is a sound reinforcement system in use in the Church. Anyone using a hearing aid should turn it to 'T' in order to pick up the loop.

VICAR

Revd Canon Richard Bartlett
The Vicarage Tel 825732
Email vicar@htnorthwood.co.uk

Assistant Priest,

Revd Elaine Dando
The Vicarage, 2 Bridle Road,
Eastcote HA5 2SJ Tel: 020 8866 1263
Email: assistantpriest@htnorthwood.co.uk

READERS

Mrs Ann Kentfield
27 Elgood Avenue Tel 825401

Mrs Margaret Nicholson
54 Bishops Avenue Tel 824219

YOUTH MINISTER

Mr Kevin Draper
5 Tanworth Close Tel: 836823
Email: kevdraper@sky.com

CHURCHWARDENS

Mr Barry Southcott
4 Pembroke Road Tel 841584
Mr Andrew Newell
9 Ducks Hill Road Tel 450981

ASSISTANT CHURCHWARDENS

Mr Christopher Rogers Tel 827752
Mrs Hazel Paterson Tel 821417
Mr Richard Read Tel 827196
Mr Brian Watkins Tel 827929

PCC OFFICERS

Chairman – The Vicar Tel 825732
Vice-Chairman – Mr Barry Southcott Tel 841584
Secretary - Mrs Sue Boulbee Tel 822990
Treasurer – Mr Brian Watkins Tel 827929
Planned Giving & Gift Aid - Mr Richard Read
2 St Mary's Avenue Tel 827196
Electoral Roll Officer - Mrs Sue Boulbee
The Parish Office Tel 822990

PARISH OFFICE (open 8.45-11.45am Mon-Fri)

The Church Hall
Gateway Close HA6 2RP Tel 822990
Parish Administrator Mrs Sue Boulbee
Email: office@htnorthwood.co.uk

CHOIRMASTER

Mr Richard Bates
music@htnorthwood.co.uk Tel 824642

CHURCH CHOIR

Thursdays 7.45 - 9.00pm

SACRISTAN

Mr John Heath Tel: 01895 673854
81 Mount Park Road, Eastcote, Pinner

SEXTON

Mr John Chapman
48 Sandy Lodge Way Tel 824542

VERGERS

Ms Katherine Buss Tel 841686
Ms Ann Russell Tel 820409

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

Mrs Jean Steed
21 The Drive Tel 821987

PARISH ROOM BOOKINGS

Parish Office Tel 822990

CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS

Parish Office Tel 822990
Email: office@htnorthwood.co.uk

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***Contributions and articles welcome for next issue. Please send
copy to magazine@htnorthwood.co.uk
or to Parish Office by **SUNDAY 14 FEBRUARY*****

Vicar's Letter

Dear friends,

I was surprised to read an article in the Church Times about the forthcoming season of Lent, which began with the provocative statement, "Lent, if we're honest, is a problem". "In the good old days" the writer continues, "it was enough to give up meat, or maybe chocolate; to turn up to church and to keep your nose clean. Now, each year, the churches make ever-increasing efforts to produce a spiritually more meaningful season". Well, that to me, is not a problem, but rather an entirely good thing, as the whole Christian community, rather than the pious few, is encouraged to use these 40 days to deepen our relationship with God, to cleanse ourselves of some of the unnecessary trappings of life, and to grow together as a community of faith.

The Early Church seems to have done without Lent completely, and probably fasted for only a couple of days at most. It is not until the 4th century that there is talk of a forty day period of penitence; and this seems to have been kept only by a few: Lent was the last stage in the catechuminate: the final hurdle for those who were to be admitted to the Church by Baptism at Easter. Now Lent is rather more the domain of the whole church, and we are all encouraged to spend these 40 days wisely: spiritually, mentally and physically, in preparation for the great mysteries of Easter.



Here at Holy Trinity there are a variety of ways to make Lent a 'spiritually more meaningful season'. Following our Shrove Tuesday party at 4pm on Tuesday 16th February, our two Ash Wednesday Eucharists (at 10.30am and 8pm) provide an opportunity for us to pledge all that we have decided to do (or not do) before God in prayer. Our ecumenical Lent groups will run again during weekdays and on the first three Sunday evenings of Lent (February 21st, 28th and March 7th) at 6pm at I will lead our thinking on the theme of St Paul. On Saturday March 13th we will hold a Lenten Away Day at Chipperfield, which will be led by the Revd Felicity Scroggie, Area Dean of Brent. We will be holding three simple Lenten Lunches, on Fridays 26th February, and 12th and 26th March, at 12.30pm, which will each be preceded by Holy Communion at 12 noon.

In the line of a more physical abstinence during Lent, I along with a few others will be giving up all forms of liquid refreshment apart from water

again this year. We will be doing this once again to support our Diocesan Lent Appeal, which is called 'Transforming Lives: ALMA's Children'. Part of our Diocesan Link with Mozambique and Angola since 1999 the ALMA's Children fund has enabled our partner dioceses to respond to one of the greatest challenges they face: ministry to young people – when over 50% of the population is under the age of 18. ALMA's Children has supported work with orphaned and vulnerable children, the building of schools and nurseries, and funding health centres and health education. Our contribution during this Lent will play an important part in transforming the lives of even more children and also in contributing to the dynamic witness of our partners. If you would like to join us in a 'water only' Lent, please have a word with me, and please sponsor us on the board in church.

Financially, alongside the sponsored fast, the profits from the Lent Lunches and a special collection on Mothering Sunday will also be given to the

Diocesan Lent Appeal. Lenten collecting boxes for the Mission to Seafarers will be available for all to take home from Ash Wednesday.

So, how do you react to the statement, "Lent, if we are honest, is a problem"? I hope you see the opportunities for spiritual growth on offer at Holy Trinity this year, alongside your own personal Lenten disciplines, not so much as a problem, but as an opportunity.

May God bless you this Lent – whatever you do, and don't do, for God.

Your friend and Vicar



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Church Cleaning

Does your granny clean your house? No, of course not! Well grannies have been cleaning the church for many years and it is time for them to retire. They have done it with love and enjoyed their time together but we need a new team. The job can be shared amongst many and done at a time convenient to you. Traditionally the cleaning team have met on Thursdays from 2-3pm so that the church is sparkling for Sundays.

If you are interested in leading or joining a team, please contact Sue in the Parish Office.



If you would like to know more, here is a list of jobs to be done:

- *Hoover: Lady Chapel, Choir, Children's corner, porch door, pew seats*
- *Dust: all pews, no polish on back of pews please!, pigeon holes, tables, Lady Chapel, choir stalls*
- *Sweep all aisles, round High and Lady Chapel Altars*
- *Clean: votive candle holder, candle sticks*
- *Brass rail and crosses (some in vestry)*
- *Empty waste paper baskets in upper vestry, clergy vestry, choir vestry, church*
- *Sweep/wash North and South entrances*
- *Change water in carafes*
- *Polish south aisle occasionally (non slip polish), electric polisher in outer vestry*
- *Wash all linoleum floors and altar floors – usually in August each year.*

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Protecting Children

Children are a most important part of our whole church family at Holy Trinity, and it is a responsibility incumbent upon all of us that they should be welcomed, valued, nurtured and protected.

As you will know, we have, like other parishes, a specific Child Protection Policy, made and followed under our

and there will still be no charge made for volunteers for the required vetting process - but as from July there will be registration with the ISA, which includes not only initial CRB checking but also ongoing monitoring, which has not happened before. It will apply to **everyone** in a 'regulated activity'* with children. This will still be done by filling in a form with our Section X



Independent Safeguarding Authority

Diocesan guidelines. This has always included the legally required checking of those who work with our children via the 'CRB' (*Criminal Records Bureau*). In the wake of the Soham inquiry, new legislation has come into force in order to streamline and strengthen the previous system through creating a new scheme: the INDEPENDENT SAFEGUARDING AUTHORITY - 'ISA'.

Parishes will still be operating under Diocesan guidance and coverage,

Checker, Nigel Mundy, but now the process must be all complete **before** starting to work with children. Criminal penalties may arise on both sides if the rules are not followed. CRB checks and then ISA registration will not be what is called 'portable' ie clearance for one organisation will not be transferable to another.

These new regulations will apply to every new person working with children (and, indeed, vulnerable adults) from July 2010 and will be

* *As of now, this means 'any activity bringing an adult into contact with children four or more days a month, or any overnight contact, or an activity taking place at least once every week' - which will include, of course, Holiday Club as well as our Sunday and regular children's work. Further guidance from the Government and Diocese is promised on this complex matter.*

phased in for those who have already obtained a CRB disclosure.

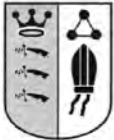
All this will obviously be our practice at Holy Trinity - in particular we will need to ensure that all clearance (eg for Holiday Club) is done in really good time - quite soon in fact - as there will be no question of helpers being able to function while it is still pending.

We are extremely lucky and appreciative to have many younger helpers, especially at Holiday Club. ISA registration for those under 18 was in prospect but, according to press reports, this has now been rescinded, so it looks as though things for them will be unchanged.

I will of course keep us up to date with any more information as the ISA scheme gets under way - and for now I am sure that you will like to know that as well as our wholehearted commitment to the children and to a safe and happy environment for them, we are up to speed with all the regulatory requirements. Do ask me more at any time.

I know too that everyone will want to join me in recording a huge vote of thanks to Kevin and to ALL the many people who give their time, energy and support to children's work at Holy Trinity.

*Ann Kentfield
Children's Advocate*



Holy Trinity C. of E. Primary School Northwood

**A warm, friendly and
nurturing environment in
which to learn**



Come and see for yourself. We would love to show you what is so special about our community. Call the school office on 01923 922529 to make an appointment. We look forward to welcoming you.

South Porch & Welcome Area

My thanks to the 42 members of our congregation who braved the elements to attend the open meeting in Church on Tuesday 24th November 2009 to discuss the latest proposals for changes to the South Porch and South West corner of the Church.

The format of the meeting was a presentation supported by slides and pictures, which conveyed the development of the Church over its

150+ year life, and then some pictures depicting what the Church would look like if the proposed improvements are implemented.

Following questions from attendees on the presentation, refreshments were served and those attending were given the opportunity to discuss the changes in small groups with members of the Working Group on hand to answer the questions. Finally all those attending were asked to complete a short questionnaire.

Questions	Yes	No
1) Do you agree with the PCC's decision to focus on improvements to the Welcome Area and South Porch and not progress the others at this stage?	94.6%	5.4%
2) Do you agree with the proposal to make the South Porch weatherproof rather than creating an inner porch within the Church Building?	97.4%	2.6%
3) Do you agree with the proposal to re-site the font into the newly created Welcome Area?	89.2%	10.8%

Results of the Questionnaire

The questionnaire consisted of 5 questions, the first 3 required yes/no answers, the fourth asked for concerns to be flagged so that these could be considered during the finalisation of the plans, and the final question gave respondents the opportunity to arrange to see a member of the working group to discuss the proposals in more detail.

38 completed questionnaires were received, and the results for the 1st 3 questions are set out in the following table: -

In terms of the other points raised, these were quite wide ranging, and the Working Group has met subsequently to consider all these issues. The PCC will consider all this feedback and the Working Group's proposals to take the plans forward to a further meeting with the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC), the body which approves any alterations to Church premises. This is planned to happen during February 2010, with the aim of finalising the proposals for presentation at the APCM on Wednesday 28th April 2010.

Andrew Newell
Churchwarden

IF by Gary Hamilton

Those of you who know me will be aware that I suffer from a debilitating long-term back problem, which has been a “thorn” for me for over a decade. I have heard elaborate doctrines and teachings that seek to explain God’s healing in some circumstances and not in others, and attended churches where it appears that the stature of a Christian in the eyes of others can be measured by the state of their health. I believe that such attitudes are misguided at best. It seems to me that we as Christians will never understand why God’s hand miraculously heals in answer to some prayers but does not provide the healing prayed for in others.

This poem, “If”, which I wrote during a bout of severe back pain a few years ago, was written at a time when I was desperate and disappointed with God for not healing me “right here right now.” However, as I wrote these words, the anger I felt towards God turned into a realisation that I cannot do without Him, and this poem, which was to contain anger and bitterness towards God, became something altogether different. I hope that it may provide some encouragement to you if you are experiencing pain and suffering-albeit physical, emotional, mental or spiritual at the moment.

*If my days were untroubled
And my mind pure and bright,
Would I yearn for redemption
As I lay crying at night?*

*If I never grew weary
With the weight of my load,
Would I search for peace in Heaven
At the end of my road?*

*If I never knew sickness,
If I never felt pain,
Would I search for His strength
To help me my yoke to sustain?*

*If I walked without sorrow
And lived without loss,
Would my soul seek out solace
At the foot of the cross?*

*If all I desired
Were mine every day,
Would I kneel before Jesus
And try so hard just to pray?*

*I ask myself these questions
And the answer is plain,
If my life were pure pleasure
And I never felt pain,
I'd seek out God less often
And need Him much less.
I should be still with my Saviour
In times of distress.*

*Nobody knows God
Or sees him as plain,
As those who have met Him
On the Highway of Pain.*

Very Model of a Modern Vicar Clerical

I am the very model of a modern vicar clerical,
 I've information spiritual, divine and theological,
 I know the Nicene Creed, the hymnal and 39 articles,
 And act on them in every way quite pure and so impart-i-al.
 I pass my time by visiting parishioners for cups of tea,
 Though something stronger now and then I will accept quite happily
 I read most worthy books until I feel I really need a snooze.....
 Especially the Parish Mag which doesn't have a lot of news.
 When I go out to minister within the London Diocese
 Those clergy with their clamourings, they really do not ever cease



I have to deal with Bishops who
 sometimes are even leather clad
 Archdeacons, Deans and Canons and
 their staff, they really make me glad.
 Then I return to Northwood to my flock
 and the odd funeral
 They range from the urbane to really
 really quite unusual.
 I write my sermons with the help of Hans
 Kung, Bonhoeffer and Kant.....
 Though there are those among my flock
 who say they're just a dreadful rant!

I've spent some time down in Brazil, a-
 learning and a-preaching there,
 I've made friends with the Bishop and his
 son (the one with all the hair)
 Some customs and traditions I've
 brought back to Holy Trinity,
 For Taize and Brazilian beer our church
 shows clear affinity
 And once a year there's Summer Club
 where all the children go quite wild
 There's songs and actions, games and
 makes and all good things to make you
 smile,
 I lead the drama, tell the jokes and try to
 calm the kids by prayer,
 I also often get the gunge, which at the
 time seems quite unfair

The pews are full of people of all ages who can prove their worth
 Of pedants and annoying types there thankfully is a dearth
 The readers do their reading and the wardens do their wardening.....
 They have a nifty sideline in fundrai-sing by laundering!
 I have a team of colleagues (of which I of course, am President)
 My secret'ry, she loves to go to meetings of the residents.
 I li-ve for democracy and always strive for unity.....
 But it doesn't matter as I have freehold in perpetuity!

And so I try in all things to behave in ways synodical,
 But when all fails, and things go wrong, then cheerfully, 'Oh Blow' I call !
 In short in matters spiritual, divine and theological
 I am the very model of a modern vicar clerical!

As performed by The Vicar at the Holy Trinity Family Tea Party

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Holy Trinity Church Hall



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Enquiries:

Lorraine Heaffey

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Altar Servers Required

We are looking for folk to join our team of altar servers. Apart from actually serving during the 10.00am Eucharist on Sundays, duties involve setting up beforehand and clearing away afterwards.

All ages are welcome from about 13 upwards and there is no upper limit as long as you are fit and able. Each server serves about 4 times every 3 months and the rota is arranged on when folk are available to serve rather than on a fixed Sunday each month.

Altar serving provides a good opportunity to see what goes on behind the scenes but also helps to ensure that the 10.00am service runs smoothly.

Training will be provided and you will eased in gently rather than thrown in at the deep end.

If you are interested, have a word with me after the service one Sunday morning (don't worry if I look busy - I'll find time to talk to a potential recruit) or e-mail me at johnheath@freeuk.com

John Heath

TOWNSENDS

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February Quiz - Slogans & Quotations

1. Who said : "I spent all my money on booze, fast cars and women. The rest I wasted"?
2. And who : "In future everyone will be famous for fifteen minutes"?
3. Who wrote (1859) "The first requirement of a hospital is that it will do the sick no harm."?
4. Who was referring to what when they said: "Because it's there"?
5. Whose First Inaugural Speech stated: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself"?
6. What company used as its advertising slogan: "Because you're worth it"?
7. What product was: "Full of Eastern Promise"?
8. What was advertised with the slogan: "Just when you thought it was safe to go back"?
9. Who or what was "Your Flexible Friend"?
10. What organisation claimed to help "Because Life's Complicated Enough"?
11. Which Marque boasted "Vorsprung Durch Technik" and what did this mean?
12. Complete this quotation from Shakespeare : 'Alas, poor Yorick! I knew him....'

Answers Overleaf



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February Quiz Answers

1. George Best (1946-2005) who in 1969 said "I gave up women and alcohol and it was the worst twenty minutes of my life!"
2. Andy Warhol : his view of the media is that they could enable anybody to become famous; he visualised the future with ephemeral, disposable celebrities.
3. Florence Nightingale the opening sentence of the preface to 'Notes on Hospitals'(1859)
4. George Leigh Mallory (1886-1924) when asked why he wanted to climb Everest, in an interview for the 'New York Times'. He never returned from his ascent in 1924. His body was found in 1999 minus his wife's photo which he had promised to leave on the summit.
5. Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945)....nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes efforts to convert retreat (recession) into advance'. (1933 Address).
6. L'Oreal's slogan used to be 'Because I'm worth it '.
7. Fry's Chocolate 'Turkish Delight'. First marketed 1914 and claimed to be 92% fat free.
8. The film 'Jaws 2' (1978)
9. Access Credit Card.
10. Abbey National Building Society.
11. Audi ; 'Progress through Technology'.
12. 'Alas, poor Yorick! I knew him Horatio'. (Hamlet V, 1, 201).

With thanks to Peter Connell

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Legacy

The dictionary definition of a legacy is simply “money or property left to someone else by a will”.

To my mind this rather underplays what a legacy is all about, this simply explains the process that is going on but tends to completely neglect the motives.

I prefer to think about legacy in terms of what sort of a world will we pass on to the next generation, we are after all merely stewards of the resources that God has entrusted to us during this lifetime, will my master see me as a “good and faithful servant” when I am called to account for my stewardship during this life on earth.

Holy Trinity has a proud tradition of leaving a strong legacy for the next generation. We worship today in a Church, which is richer in many respects for the generosity of our forebears. The original Church site and building was provided by Lord Robert Grosvenor, later to become 1st Baron Ebury in 1854. Later generations added first the North Aisle in 1895, and subsequently the South Aisle, Lady Chapel and Baptistry in 1927. Many of the stained glass windows in the Church have been donated over the years, including the depiction of the worship of the Trinity in the Chancel, which was added in 1935. The Lady Chapel as we see it today is largely due to a legacy in the 1960’s which added a new screen, pews and the panelled roof and were designed to lighten the Chapel, and thanks to a

more recent donation the Lady Chapel has recently been redecorated and restored to its former beauty. There are many other objects adorning our Church which result from generous legacies over the years, far too many to cover in this small article, but I do hope that this portrays how the gifts of one generation are taken and used by the next generation.

Holy Trinity Church was established in the middle of the 19th Century, it is really amazing that here we are in the 21st Century enjoying the fruits of the legacy provided by our forebears, of course the community that we serve in Northwood has changed significantly in the lifetime of this Church, what is important is that we have a living Church community that continues to grow and spread God’s word in this place and that it is equipped to deal with today’s challenges and more importantly that we leave our beloved Church in the best shape to continue for the generations that will follow us.

My hope is that future generations will be able to look back with the same kind of gratitude that we are able, and enjoy the fruits of our labours.

If you are interested in continuing this proud tradition and would like to know more about how to make a legacy to Holy Trinity, please feel free to have a word with me. A leaflet is currently being produced, which will be available in Church soon.

Andrew Newell
Churchwarden

Christmas Flowers

Thank you very much to the Flower Team and helpers who made the church look so beautiful at Christmas. Their efforts are greatly appreciated by all.

The church will be decorated for Easter on Saturday 3rd April from 9.30am. New volunteers are welcome, no previous experience is required and help can be given.

For information ring:

Marie-Jo Brown 821530
Jean Steed 821987

Parish Roundabout

Congratulations to the Rev. Olwen Field who is to be made a Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral at Evensong in the Cathedral on the 16th May at 3.15pm. This is in recognition of her work in the Hillingdon Deanery and also for her contribution to the women's ministry in the area.

All will be welcome at the service. If anyone would like further information please be in touch with Mary Martin or the Vicar.

Percussion



Singing



Kodaly

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Games



Movement



Dalacroze

February 2010 Calendar

Morning Prayer in the Church 9.00-9.15am

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

Holy Communion is celebrated Wednesday mornings at 10.30am followed by refreshments in the Green Lounge

Wednesday 3rd February
8.00pm

Men's Curry Night at the Maharaja

Saturday 6th February
2-4pm

Youth Music Workshop

Sunday 7th February
8.00am
10.00am
10.00am
11.45am
5.30-7.30pm
6.00pm

2nd Sunday before Lent
Holy Communion (BCP)
Parish Communion
Family Service in the Hall, Give Way Café
Holy Communion
Marriage Preparation Evening
Evensong

Friday 12th February
9.00am

Coffee followed by Church Spring Clean

Sunday 14th February
8.00am
10.00am
6.00pm

Sunday Next Before Lent
Holy Communion
Confirmation Service and Children's Groups
Renewal of Marriage Vows

Tuesday 16th February
2.45pm
4.00pm

Shrove Tuesday
Pre-School Toddler Service
Pancake Party in the Church Hall

Gally Darvill

THE HAIRDRESSER AT MOOR PARK

26 Main Avenue, Moor Park
Northwood, Middlesex HA6 2HJ
Telephone: 01923 823944 & 824495

Wednesday 17th February
 10.30am
 8.00pm

Ash Wednesday
 Holy Communion
 Holy Communion

Sunday 21st February
 8.00am
 10.00am
 10.00am
 11.45am
 6.00pm

1st Sunday of Lent
 Holy Communion
 Parish Communion
 Encounter in the Hall
 Healing Service
 Lent Special

Wednesday 24th February
 7.30pm

Ladies Chinese Night in the Parish Rooms

Friday 26th February
 12 noon

Holy Communion followed by Lent Lunch

Sunday 28th February
 8.00am
 10.00am
 12 noon
 4.00pm
 6.00pm

2nd Sunday of Lent
 Holy Communion
 Parish Communion and Connect
 Baptism
 Fairtrade Tea Party in the Parish Rooms
 Lent Special

Please Pray for our Confirmation Candidates on 14 February:

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A Letter from South America

An update from Austen and Ashley Southcott who have both been travelling around South America.

Due to the sensitive nature of some of the material and also regard to our carbon footprint, the following is an abbreviated version! If you would like to read the unabridged letter please apply to the Parish Office.

Now as we all know, you won't find two people hopping out of bed more enthusiastically than us on a Sunday morning and as such avid Church-goers with nearly perfect attendance records at the weekly Sunday Service we're sure that the fact we've been absent these past few months has been duly noted by one and all.

We spent the first 5-6 weeks travelling up from Argentina, through Bolivia and Peru to our current adoptive nation, Ecuador where we have been since the beginning of December. Upon arrival in Quito it had been intended for us to move on straight away to a volunteer project but it turns out that there was a massive festival for the first week of the month culminating in big celebrations on the 5th and 6th. Fans of "Café L8r" may remember a talk given by Sheila Leech about 7 months ago on her work in Ecuador and her mission in general - Sheila is a trained nurse and currently based in Quito, and has been working as a missionary for around 30 years. On our first Sunday in Ecuador we went with Sheila to her church. It was a melting pot of

expats of various, though mainly American, nationalities. The service was similar to one at HT but there were a few differences. We've been to this church a couple of times and noticed a large number of readings done from The Book of Isaiah - annoyingly pronounced "eee-zay-ah". Also Prayer is done differently. Everyone stands up, the Vicar says a brief prayer and then those in the congregation who wish to say a prayer for whoever or whatever they'd like are able to do so and everyone says "Amen", or something along those lines, after each prayer.

Here, at the start of one service we were all given a sheet detailing the Church's commitment to reducing its "global footprint" e.g. reducing CO2 levels and cutting waste etc, then there were some brief readings/quotes from the Bible highlighting that Man has been charged by God to care for the planet (or the other living species on it). Then the Vicar spoke on taking responsibility for our actions and similar themes. We found it to be a very interesting Sermon, partly as the Bible was being referenced to very relevant issues of the world right now, and without wanting to sound critical of the CofE, at the moment one could argue that the Church in England isn't currently doing enough to connect to young people.

The vast majority of Westerners that we have met have dedicated many

years, if not their whole lives to helping those much less fortunate than themselves, often involving personal sacrifice and we've found them to be extremely admirable and humbling.

Sheila introduced us to Helma, one of the church congregation, a Dutch ex-stockbroker who was setting up a foundation in Ambato (about 3 hours south of Quito) to house children who had been taken from their families by the Ecuadorian Courts as they were experiencing some form of abuse at home. The foundation intend to take a Systemic Approach (no, we don't know what that is either, STILL, but pride wouldn't allow us to ask a foreign person for a definition of an English word). The intention of the foundation was to house the children for a maximum of 3 months, with the children and their families undergoing therapy (provided for by the

foundation) during their time there. The foundation was behind schedule as Ine, a missionary from Belgium coordinating the project, had fractured her arm, so "the deal" was that we'd help decorate the whole place (which was actually a lot more than we'd previously envisaged) and we could stay there and they'd give us some meals (a lot more than they'd previously envisaged I'm sure). We're fairly confident that as we ate so much it would have worked out to be cheaper for the foundation to just employ some locals to paint the place but we try not to dwell on this. The foundation was employing a team of young psychologists, all recently qualified or in their final year of study to do 6 month placements. It seemed like a great relationship for both parties.

The 16th December must be some sort of special day in the Christian Calendar over here (probably at home as well I'm sure anyone reading this is saying) because there were lots of services going on in the evening and lots of posters around town advertising them. Though we couldn't make up our minds about being in Church on a Wednesday Ine took us to the church of one of the psychologists. When I say "Church" it was more of a theatre in the centre of the town. When we arrived people were enthusiastically singing a carol. People really go for their singing with gusto out here, regardless of talent or ability, and they'll even stick someone up front on a mic who can't remotely hold a tune but it actually makes the whole thing much more fun and you look like a complete dork if you try to sing with

(Continued on page 26)



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any decorum. From our experience they don't really sing hymns either, but rather upbeat songs just saying things along the lines of "I love you God" or "Thank you Jesus" etc. and often there's a band with young people playing the instruments accompanying the congregation. Whilst at first we found the repetition a little tiresome, we've come to wholly embrace the method out here; the songs are something to look forward to, as they should be (and not just because they're a break from overly long indulgent sermons).

Then a bit more chat from the people up front and then the curtain of the stage opened to reveal an incredibly well put together set from the Egyptian

times. Around 30 people of various ages came onto the stage and mimed along to a CD acting out the story of Moses. They even had a very believable burning bush, it was only a bush with a flickering light in it but from where we sat you could tell that some of the kids were mesmerized. The story was interspersed with groups of dancers in traditional dress from the area performing as well. We weren't entirely sure how they related to the story of Moses but they were very entertaining. The story with dancing lasted around 20 minutes.

Now our more observant readers may have wondered, as we did not, why 9 days before Christmas the church would choose to act out the story of Moses and the 10 plagues. After

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everyone had calmed down and Jesus been suitably thanked, the curtains unfolded to reveal the continuation of the story of Moses, with our leading hero about to receive “Los Diez Mandamientos” or “The 10 Commandments.” We eventually had pretty much the WHOLE of the Old Testament acted out to us up to the birth of Christ (interspersed with random moments of dancing as well of course). This, as I’m sure you can imagine took a very long time. As well polished as the whole production was, it made us yearn for the blessed HT Instant Nativity, with its approximate half hour run time! But despite our light-hearted comments we did really enjoy it and were thoroughly impressed with everyone’s efforts. At the end of the service everyone was given a lighted candle, the lights were switched off and we all sang “Silent Night” in Spanish. The Church/theatre looked beautiful as the lights swayed from side to side as one. After this the “cast” came back on stage and we all sang Happy Birthday to Jesus in English! We were trying so hard not to laugh as no-one really knew the words (and it was still the 16th!).

For 8 or 9 days we tirelessly painted the foundation’s walls, of which there were many (that’s a lie – the “tirelessly” part that is, we certainly waddled around with paintbrushes and hammers in our hands for over a week though). We now consider ourselves pros. After our triumphant effort no

wall or column stood without three fresh new coats. We were rewarded (we assumed this was all put on for our benefit) with a BBQ on the day we finished. All the workers at the foundation and friends from the town came to celebrate as the foundation was (nearly) ready. We were later informed that the BBQ had always been planned for that day as a “Welcome” to all the new staff who’d be working at the foundation in January, when it would be accepting the first children, and that our attendance was purely coincidental... we have chosen not to believe this and still like to think the BBQ was in our honour. Everyone was extremely friendly and welcoming to us, something we’ve noted wherever we’ve gone in Latin America.

Once we’d finished all the work that two people so unskilled could do it was time to move on. We’ll be going back there in late January and look forward to seeing how the foundation is progressing.

We are currently in Santo Domingo, 3 hours west of Quito, at the Orphanage set up by John Hart (a.k.a. Juanito), Ana Draper’s father. We have been here for just over 4 thoroughly enjoyable weeks. In next month’s issue we’ll be writing about our time here in Orphids. It’s going to be a cracker that’ll chase away those January blues!


Austen and Ashley Southcott

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Latest News from Haiti

Sheila Leech recently came to speak to us at a Family Service about her work in Central America. Here is a letter she sent from Haiti after being devastated by the earthquake.



Dear friends who pray,

It started out like it would be a good day. After a delay in Florida waiting for Haitian airspace to open up and permission to land at Port au Prince, our team excitedly boarded the Lear jet that would take us down to the quake-stricken island. As we settled into the plush seats of the luxury jet, loaned by a generous donor for the day, we sipped cold cokes and gazed out at the beautiful Caribbean islands 45,000 feet below set like jewels in a setting of aquamarine blue.

At the end of that same day, around midnight, I stood in the operating theater at Baptist Mission Hospital, cradling a dead baby that we had managed to deliver to a mother with eclampsia and I watched my colleagues continue to battle to save the mothers life. We had tried hard to save the baby but at 30 weeks with no special care unit and not even an incubator, we knew it was hopeless. She was to be one of the first patients that we could not save. The day had started well but ended in tragedy.

Haiti is the poorest nation in the western world and even on a good day the country lacks basic infrastructure. Following the earthquake last week, all services were affected. With no power, water or communication, the situation at Baptist mission hospital was becoming critical by the time we arrived. Normally a 100 bed hospital, the facility was overrun with the wounded and injured seeking care, family members seeking loved ones and some people who just had nowhere else to go.

On the Tuesday evening that the earthquake struck, it became obvious very quickly that we needed to get a team ready to go. A request for help came from partner ministries Samaritans purse and from the hospital and so by Wednesday evening we were packed and ready. Max was put into kennels, appointments cancelled and plans changed. I left home at 4am Thursday. There was no time to write you all before I left nor while I was there but I know that word went out and you prayed!! THANK YOU.

The team that God put together was amazing. 1 orthopedic surgeon, 1 general surgeon, 2 GP's an anesthetist and one water engineer who would double as our photographer and media person.....taking that burden off us all. We were 2 Brits, 1 German 1 Ecuadorian and 3 Americans and our mixture of Spanglish was a source of puzzlement at times to those Haitians

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who were translating for us from English into Creole!!!

Friday by mid morning we were in Haiti and very shortly after we were in the operating theater at Baptist mission hospital, taking care of the first of what would be a long list of patients. Open fractures, exposed bone, awful crushing injuries were the order of the day. Supplies were short and we learned to make do with what we had and a heavy dependence on the God who Heals.

Each day followed a similar pattern, early starts and long days- mostly until midnight or later. Horrible injuries- grateful patients. The barrage of patients lying bloody and injured in the hospital corridors, family members waving x rays at us as we passed hoping that sometime it would be their turn to be seen. Every where you looked there were injured people: in the hallways , on the floors, in the dining hall, in every available space....and everywhere the smell of death and, as the days went on also of infected wounds. There were also cries. Cries of pain, cries of grief , cries of loss- as we amputated crushed and gangrenous limbs and as we realized that not all of our patients could be saved. Everywhere, in the eyes of the people, bewilderment, shock, fear and pain - but always trust. They believed that we could do the impossible. They believed that we could undo all the terrible things that had happened. They believed that we could save their lives.

Being unable to speak the language

was frustrating...my rusty French was pitifully inadequate but God provided Madame Cafa for us - 83 years old, illiterate but her wrinkled and wizened face shone with Gods love, she worked tirelessly from dawn to dusk folding and sterilizing drapes and towels and preparing instruments for sterilizing. We went through the supplies as quickly as she could prepare them - and in between she would step out and animatedly sing and share the Gospel with the patients. She knew- they did not- that it is Jesus- not the doctors who can save them. That it is Jesus- not the Drs who can give hope in a hopeless situation.

In the midst of this tragedy we saw God clearly at work. It seemed the every time we ran out of something...God provided it. One morning we got to the hospital and there was no diesel for the generator therefore no light, no water and very few supplies. By the time we had made rounds, diesel had arrived, Martin had got water supplied to the



hospital and supplies had arrived. It seemed that just when we used the last of something...new supplies arrived,,,,,over and over again.

One little girl with horrible injuries was waiting to come into theater. As she lay on her bed she was singing something over and over again and clapping her little hands. We asked our translators what she was singing...he smiled and said "she is singing, I am saved, I am saved, I am saved"

It was a privilege to serve the Haitian people at this terrible time. Help is arriving but will be needed for a long time ahead. Physical wounds will heal in weeks or months but emotional wounds will take much much longer. One poignant moment came for Dr. Nelson as he was asked to take a photo of a dead child....the mother had lost 6 of her 9 children in this earthquake and just wanted a photo

as a memento.

We fought hard to save lives..even to the point that Dr Wolff gave his own blood for one of them.....but we realize that God is the giver of life and we are reminded that He is God and we are not.

Please pray for the people of Haiti and those like MMe Cafa who bring the light of the Gospel into that dark place. I will write more soon but this is the first chance I have had to sit down and write at all. You can see pictures and read more on

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/8466989.stm>

or on the hcjb global website,

Thank you for praying!

Sheila Leech



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Holy Trinity CE Primary School

Mrs McCarthy

Hello, let me introduce myself to those of you I have not had the pleasure of meeting, as yet.

My name is Mrs McCarthy and I am the newest member of Holy Trinity School's staff. I work in the School Office, assisting Mrs Hills and Mrs Smith with administrative duties and, in due course, will become the School's initial welcoming 'reception'.

In my short time here, I can honestly say, I have never felt so welcomed. The staff, pupils and parents are wonderful, and they are all very understanding of the fact that I am still trying to correctly put 'names to faces'.

One factor I am amazed at is the numerous activities the children have the opportunity of participating in, both during the school day as well as after school. The enthusiasm of staff and pupils alike is so uplifting.

I can confidently say that Holy Trinity has outstanding Leadership and a very supportive Governing Body. The School has such a friendly feel. The Christian ethos is very evident and the Church, the School and their families truly share a community spirit and I am very proud to be a part of it.

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Come and Join The Choir

Speaking to a number of members of the congregation recently, I have found that quite a few of you might be interested in taking part in the choir, but feel that the weekly commitment of Thursday evenings as well as Sunday mornings would be too onerous, given your other obligations. I have recently discovered with the Junior Choir that making the arrangements for

rehearsals and service singing more flexible means that it has become accessible for a much larger group of people and so the music has benefited greatly. And so I would like to extend an invitation to those of you in congregation who really enjoy choral singing to speak to me about joining the choir. Knowing that many people have busy professional lives outside Holy Trinity, as I do myself, I would like to be able to come to an arrangement whereby everyone who wants to take part in the wonderful experience of being part of a choir can do so. Therefore, I urge you to get in touch! You can email me at music@htnorthwood.co.uk or simply speak to me after a service, and I shall be happy to answer any questions you may have.



Richard Bates
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Family Tea Party Review

Have you ever sat down to an amateur production and wondered what you have let yourself in for? Holy Trinity's method of bidding goodbye to the year is by way of a monster Tea Party Cabaret. This Year's effort surpassed all expectations ; and I mean that in the most complimentary way.

From 'The Three Little Maids From School' sung so melliflously by Jenny Bartlett, Keren Davies and Vicky Landsbert to Andrew Newell's excellent reading of Betjeman's poem 'Christmas' the afternoon was a riot of fun. Half the delight was guessing who would appear next in what role. Sky Draper appeared as Miley Cyrus singing her song 'The Climb'. Jon Hooper and Carl Landsbert echoed Flanders and Swann so admirably that you forgot part was their own material. Gary Hamilton doubled as a former Poet Laureate declaiming his own emotive verse. The Trinity Songbirds

followed in the same vein lamenting 'Time can bring you down, time can bend your knees' from 'Tears in Heaven' a song of Eric Clapton's mourning the death of his son. The first half of the show was brought to a hilarious close by the vicar sporting a biretta and vestments of a high churchman masquerading as the Vicar General (I am the very model of the Modern Vicar General) singing, Gilbert and Sullivan style, of the travails of running Holy Trinity Parish.

The Tea Interval brought back memories of schoolboy birthday parties with lashings of sandwiches and cream cakes. Unfortunately I was quite unable to resist the variety of the fare and in the words of Sophie Tuckshop (ITMA) "But I'm all right now!"

The second half opened with Tim Gwynne-Evans as Charlie Kunz playing a seamless medley of popular tunes on the keyboard followed by



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Jennie Boulton demonstrating the Cecchetti method of classical ballet taught by Northwood Ballet School. Then Roger Cutcliffe (at least I think it was him) wearing Jenny's dressing gown and slippers and resembling a senescent Japanese sage recited 'Kyoto Crackers'. Two members of the Bartlett family knocked us for six with Thomas's keyboard excerpt from Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' and Jenny's superb rendering of Weill's 'Saga of Jenny' ending with the moral: "Anyone with vision comes to the decision : Don't make up your mind!". Then it

was the Bowen family's turn to wow us with Freya playing an examination piece : 'Bolero' by Hubay on the violin with piano accompaniment and then the girls' string quartet (two violins and cello with Max Delucia on keyboard) played the Disney classic 'When you wish upon a star'.

In an entirely different mode Emily Thomas, (reminiscent of Ivy Benson at 9 years broadcasting), performed a dazzling and difficult showpiece on her trumpet without running out of breath!

Some cricket-themed 'Jiggery Pokery' followed from Carl and Jon then Andrew Newell's 'Christmas'. The audience then had to do some work : singing the carol 'It Came Upon the Midnight Clear'.

It is astounding the quality of talent that exists locally not only on the stage but behind the scenes in the quality of the food, the décor, the efficiency of the waitressing, ticket sales, that produced such a slick performance. I am sure that the 120 members of the audience left with a smile on their faces and could look forward with confidence to 2010. Remembering the poem by Louise Haskins 'I said to the Man who stood at the Gate of the Year...' 'I went forth and finding the hand of God trod gladly into the night'.

Peter Connell

[Ed. - See page 12 for the full text of the Vicar's Song]





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100 years of Girlguiding

Girlguiding in Northwood caters for a wide range of age groups; there are Rainbows for the 5-7 year olds, Brownies for ages 7-10 and Guides for ages 10-14. Girls from 14-25 can continue their interest locally with the Rangers. All the leaders are volunteers, many of whom have been involved with guiding for most of their adult lives. We always welcome girls and adults who would like to join us or would like to know a little more about the organization.

Many of you will be aware that Girlguiding is presently celebrating it's centenary. Guiding has been a part of the Northwood community for a significant part of those 100 years. In celebration of this the Ruislip-Northwood Division are planning an event to be held in June 2010. Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and their leaders will be gathering to discover what it was like for young people to live through the changing decades of the past century.

Northwood District especially is looking back to the 1940s and 50s. For today's youngsters we are compiling a timeline to show local

events from that time. If any of you have photos, stories or memorabilia from that time that you would be prepared to lend to us we would love to hear from you. Anything you lend to us will be scanned and returned before the event.

We also would like to hear from anyone who was a Brownie or Guide in the 1940s and 50s, and/or was evacuated during World War II, or who attended a street party for the Coronation in 1953, or took part in any other memorable event from those decades. If you can share with us your photographs or give us a commentary of these experiences then we can give girls of today an idea of how life was lived in earlier times. Please contact either:

Sally Shipman 01923 821705
sallyshipman@tesco.net

or
Peggy Lovett 01923 825534
peggylovett@btinternet.com

If you would like to know more about Girlguiding in Northwood either as a member or volunteer then please call either of the above.



Greetings from Tanzania



It is six months since we left England and we now feel quite happy and well-settled in Dar es Salaam. We have adjusted and adapted well to our new routines and surroundings at work, school and home. The incredible heat and humidity is a novel change from both England and Canada for us and perhaps next year it will seem more normal to have ever-increasing temperatures as we approach Christmas!

We live in a lovely house overlooking the Indian Ocean but, regrettably, on a stretch of coastline that is not considered safe for us to walk along. Generally, security is not too much of an issue but one needs to be vigilant. We live in a peninsular suburb of Dar es Salaam that is very much a bubble, largely sheltered from the abject poverty that makes Tanzania one of the poorest countries in the world. From the comforts of Greater London, can you imagine your home being a mud-and-stick structure or under a tumbled-down baobab tree, with no furniture or possessions and no regular income?

We are able to take advantage of some wonderful opportunities (safaris, school trips, climbing Kilimanjaro, etc.) but are also trying to help those who are much less

fortunate and privileged than we are. Through work, Bob is involved with Canadian development projects across the country, while David teaches disabled youngsters to swim and Anne helps at a school for deaf children – as part of the school curriculum. Judy has become active in a group that raises money and dispenses funds to disadvantaged women, children and disabled groups throughout Tanzania. These activities are enabling us to see how much of sub-Saharan Africa exists. We are constantly reminded that our lives are so much the result of where we happen to have been born.

On Sundays especially, we often find ourselves thinking of you all at Holy Trinity, which was so much part of our lives in the UK. While we didn't expect to find a church similar to what we had been used to, we certainly didn't expect it to be so difficult to find a place of worship where we feel comfortable. We are still looking but, in the meantime, were particularly grateful to be able to read Brian Draper's daily Advent messages and are looking forward to some more online sermons!

We all wish you a Happy New Year and shall be in touch again in a future magazine.

Judy, Bob, David and Anne Orr

The Parish Registers

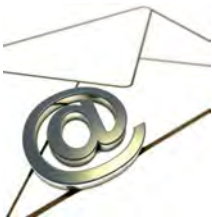
BAPTISM

10 January Matthew Robert Clifford Pearson

FUNERALS

23 November	Patricia Richardson
22 December	Bryan Wheeler
9 January	Sheena Robathan
21 January	Christopher Barrow
25 January	Bridget Forbes
26 January	Keith McDonald
27 January	Dora Lockett MBE
1 February	Leonard Hall

“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength”
Isaiah 40.31



Notices by Email

Are you already receiving our weekly notices by email? If not just email notices@htnorthwood.co.uk and we'll send you the news every Friday!



Holy Trinity News on the Web

Did you know that you can read this magazine for free? Go to <http://www.htnorthwood.co.uk/parishnews.htm>

Save postage and paper if you no longer wish to have your copy posted - just let Sue in the office know.

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Mr Nigel Washbourn
'Kenilworth' 13 The Fairway Tel 826365

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE

Mrs Joan Peet Tel 823584

TALKING POINT

Weekly on Friday mornings
Mrs Leigh Ralphs Tel 825826

TRINITY TODDLER CLUB

Tues & Thurs mornings 9.45 - 11.30 am
(term time only) in the Church Hall
www.trinitytoddlerclub.com
Parish Office Tel: 822990

CONNECT (Junior Church)

Groups for Children from ages 3-10
10.00 am every Sunday
For further details contact
Mr Kevin Draper Tel 836823
Mrs Lesley Southcott Tel 841584
Mrs Sarah Teboul Tel 820684
Mrs Charis Burland Tel 842766

ROCK SOLID

Years 6, 7 & 8

Kevin Draper Tel 836823
Meeting in the Green Lounge

PATHFINDERS

Years 9, 10 & 11

Kevin Draper Tel 836823

FRIES

Years 6 - 8

Meet most Fridays in the Church Hall
and for trips out
Kevin Draper Tel 836823

SHAPE

Year 9+

Meet most Sundays from 7-8.30pm.
Sessions are a mix of social and spiritual
activities, discussions and films.
Kevin Draper Tel 836823

SEEKERS

Years 6-8

Meet most Sundays from 7-8.30pm.
Sessions are a mix of social and spiritual
activities
Kevin Draper Tel 836823

PARISH NEWS

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

email: magazine@htnorthwood.co.uk

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Rickmansworth Road, Northwood
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School Secretary: Mrs Sandy Hills
PFA Secretary: Mrs Mary Leach
Clerk to the Governors: Mrs E Denning

NORTHWOOD CHORAL SOCIETY

Welcomes new singers and instrumentalists
and non-participating members
Mrs Gaynor Turner Tel 828576

1st NORTHWOOD GUIDES

Meet in the Church Hall on Wednesdays
7.00 - 8.30 pm
Guider:- Miss Karen Venables Tel 844076

1st NORTHWOOD BROWNIES

Meet in the Church Hall on Wednesdays
5.30 - 7.00 pm
Brown Owl:- Mrs Sally Shipman
20 Highland Road, N. Hills Tel 821705

Website: www.htnorthwood.co.uk

***The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
Holy Trinity Northwood. Registered Charity No. 1131724.***



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