

50 Pence



April 2015

# The Trident



The Parish Magazine of

  
**ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE**  
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CHURCH OF ENGLAND

WE DO HOPE THAT YOU WILL FEEL WELCOME TO COME TO OUR SERVICES

SUNDAY

8.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION (BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER SERVICE)  
10.00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (TERM TIME AND NOT 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)  
10.00 AM PARISH COMMUNION  
6.30 PM EVENING PRAYER (BCP)  
CHORAL EVENSONG FOR SPECIAL FESTIVALS (PLEASE SEE NOTICEBOARD FOR DETAILS)

WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF HOLY COMMUNION

TUESDAY 12 NOON  
WEDNESDAY 2PM  
LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH 7.30PM

MORNING PRAYER

7.30 AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY (8.00 A.M SATURDAY)

EVENING PRAYER

DAILY 5.00 PM (EXCEPT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY)

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS, OR NO FAITH AT ALL, ARE WELCOME AT ANY OF OUR SERVICES. THOSE WHO ARE FULL MEMBERS OF THEIR OWN CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION IN ST. THOMAS'S.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MONDAY	12.30 PM	HANWELL HOMELESS CONCERN
	4.45 PM	RAINBOW GUIDES
	6.00 PM	BROWNIES
TUESDAY	5.30 PM	BEAVERS
	6.30PM	CUBS
WEDNESDAY		11.00AM - 12.30PM
	10.30AM	MOTHER AND BABY/TODDLER GROUP
	7.30PM	STUDY GROUP & COMPLINE (FIRST WED OF EACH MONTH)
THURSDAY	7.00 PM	GUIDES
FRIDAY	10.30 - 12 NOON	'POP-IN'
	7.00 PM	SCOUTS (AT 'THE WARREN' TRUMPERS WAY)
	7.00 PM	CHOIR

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## From our Vicar

Dear Friends

April is always a busy month in the life of the Church. In this month Easter forms the liturgical culmination of a week of solemn reflection, and the local church reflects on its life over the year at its Annual Meeting.

The juxtaposition of these two key, yet superficially incongruent events, points to something significant in the life of the Church, **all things find their meaning in Christ's cross and resurrection.**

There is a wonderful poem by Saunders Lewis called *To the Good Thief*. Here is an extract from it:

You did not see Him on the mount of Transfiguration  
Nor the night He walked the sea;  
You never saw corpses colour when a bier and grave  
Felt the force of His cry.

O master of courtesy and manners, who enlightened you  
Your part in this savage charade?

**'Lord, when you come to your kingdom, remember me,'** –  
The kingdom conquered through death.

O thief who stole Paradise from the nails of a stake,  
**Marshall of heaven's nobility,**  
Pray that we before the hour of our death have the gift  
To see Him and know Him.

In that poem we see the wonderful strangeness of the cross and resurrection that takes the unexpected and transforms it. Here is the thief, who without the gift of discipleship, and the shared pilgrimage of faith, finds himself united to Christ at Calvary. This then is not an apostle sharing a **martyr's crown with his saviour, but one 'who stole Paradise from the nails of a stake'**. Here then we discover something profound about Jesus, **'the kingdom conquered through death' is there for everyone, whatever the time or the place.**

This amazing reality of our faith means then that there is nothing strange about the seemingly odd clash of mundane Church conventions (AGMs) in the midst of weighty spiritual devotions, rather this is how it should be.

**The actions and life of St Thomas's are within the actions and life of the cross and resurrection, and to not see that is to divorce our life together**

from the source of that life. We preach Christ crucified, not simply because St Paul told us to in his first epistle to the Corinthians, but because there is life, there is hope, and there is Church.

My prayer is that the crucified and risen Christ is known in our church and our lives this Easter and for the whole of 2015.

Your friend and priest

Fr. Robert



## Parish News

As I have mentioned in the Letter these next few weeks are filled with what can feel like the ecclesiastical sublime to the ridiculous. We will make our pilgrimage to Gethsemane,

Calvary and Easter with penance and Alleluias on our lips.

This year Holy Week will begin on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March with our Palm Sunday processions and devotions in the morning, and with a Choral Devotion in the Evening. Michael Mappin has worked hard with our choir who will be **singing John Rutter's 'Requiem' and will be joined by a guest organist, cellist, oboist and other singers.** Please join us that night at 6.30pm.

Throughout Holy Week there will be devotions that seek to replicate, symbolically, the journey to Calvary and Easter. Please note especially:

**7.30pm Maundy Thursday which will be the Mass of the Lord's Supper and include foot washing and carrying of Christ's presence under the sacrament** to the altar of repose which represents the Garden of Gethsemane. The Watch will then run to midnight and resume at 6am until the Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday at 3pm which includes holy communion and the exaltation of the cross.

Also, on Good Friday there is the Hanwell Churches Together Walk of Witness. This year it is my privilege to produce the reflections. This starts at 10.45 at North Hanwell Baptist, but you can join us along the way.

**Easter Day in the Lord's Resurrection will be celebrated with full solemnity** at 10am on Easter Sunday.

The APCM (AGM) of the Church will be on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 11.30 in the Church Hall. Please do come along and support this. This year David Jewell is standing down as Church Warden. He has done a lot more than the recommended 7, and so I, along with the rest of the parish, would want to say a huge thank you to David. On a personal level I would like to thank David for all his help and advice which has meant so much to me. I remember before I came to the parish I read on the then website a joking aside made by Nigel Brooks along the lines that it was rumoured by our

young people that David had a bed in the church and lived there. I am not **entirely sure they weren't on to something. He has been a great Church warden** and as a parish we will be always grateful for his ministry. Thankfully he will continue his altar serving and flower duties so that we will continue **to be 'be-jewelled' for some time to come.**

In other news the work on the organ is continuing, although it has had to be rescheduled. This is largely due to the intransigence of some other beneficiaries who have thus created delays in the funds being realised. However, the organ builders are working closely with Michael and myself to ensure that the project continues, if not apace then steadily. The frustration **we feel is tempered, though, with the exciting prospect of the 'King of Instruments' being refurbished and ready to sing from its chamber.** You should notice the pipes and other parts reappearing over the next few weeks.

Finally, on 26<sup>th</sup> **April at 2pm we have the St Thomas's Fun Run, so pop the date in the diary, and pop your running shoes on to your feet.**



## Prayer for the month of April

O God, whose Blessed Son came into the world to do your will and went about doing good: Grant that we may always have the pattern of his Holy life before our eyes, and that it may be our duty to do your will and to finish your work, Through the same Jesus

Christ our Lord.

Amen



Donations of tinned meat, dried milk, instant potatoes, instant custard, sponge pudding are very welcome. Toothpaste and shampoo are also welcomed items. NO baked beans, pasta or tomato soup for the time being.

Collection box in the church porch.

On March 13th we received the following message...

Thank you so much for your recent donation to the Foodbank.

We really do appreciate every tin, carton and packet which means we have been able to help to feed 3015 people, including over 1167 children.

Again many thanks for your generosity

Bridget Ogden

# **St Thomas's Fun Run**

**Back by popular demand!**



**Sunday 26th April at 2pm  
5k or 2.5k**

**Join us for a jog around Elthorne Park.**

**£5 entry fee.**

**All finishers will receive a medal!**

**Suitable for all ages and abilities.**

**Please email [sue.cunningham@mac.com](mailto:sue.cunningham@mac.com)**

**for an entry form or more info**

**or ring 07850 889948**

**Forms also at the back of church.**

**Entries on the day are welcome**

**but we have a maximum of 100 places available.**

## St Thomas' Church Boston Road W7



### Lent, Holy Week & Easter 2015

**Ash Wednesday** 18<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm Mass & Ashing

**Monday Devotional Hour** at 1pm inc. Rosary & Exposition of Blessed Sacrament in the Lady Chapel.

**Stations of the Cross** every **Tuesday** at 7.00pm

**Lent House Groups** see Posters (from 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb to 18<sup>th</sup> Mar)

**Palm Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

8am **Said Mass** (BCP)

10am **Blessing of Palm Crosses & Parish Eucharist**

6.30pm **Lenten Choral Devotion** of John Rutter's 'Requiem' with guest singers and instrumentalists.

**Monday of Holy Week 30<sup>th</sup> March** 1pm **Rosary & Mass**

**Tuesday of Holy Week 31<sup>st</sup> March** 12noon **Mass**

**Wednesday Holy Week 1<sup>st</sup> April** 2pm **Mass**

**Maundy Thursday Evening 2<sup>nd</sup> April** 7.30pm **Mass of the Lord's Supper & Watch** to midnight and from 6am.

**Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** 3pm **Solemn Liturgy**

**Easter Day 5<sup>th</sup> April**

8am **First Mass of Easter** (BCP)

10am **Parish Eucharist & Easter Ceremonies**

6.30pm **Evening Prayer**



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## Launch of the Churches Mutual Credit Union Ltd

Credit unions are not-for-profit financial co-operatives, owned by their members. Fair returns for savers and fair interest rates on loans are two of the aims of the Churches Mutual Credit Union Ltd (CMCU), which was recently given formal authorisation from the regulatory authorities.

CMCU is currently a credit union for the Church of England, the Church of Scotland, the Church in Wales, the Methodist Church of Great Britain and the Scottish Episcopal Church. Church leaders – including the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Justin Welby, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Rt Rev John Chalmers, and the President of the Methodist Conference, The Rev Ken Howcroft, welcomed **their respective churches' collaboration in forming the flagship credit union.**

It is hoped that in due course the CMCU will become a significant financial resource to the church. To start with, churches and around 60,000 individuals will be able to become members and benefit from the financial products. These people will include ordained ministers, licensed lay preachers, elders, employees and trustees of churches and church charities, and the charities themselves. They will be able to open savings accounts, buy bonds or access loans for essential personal items or mission projects and equipment. The Financial Services Compensation Scheme covers deposits up to £85,000.

Archbishop Justin Welby, quoted in the media at the launch of CMCU, said **“Credit Unions are essential. We are trying to build a new financial sector in this country; it’s going to take a long time, but this is the churches putting our money where our mouth is – and it’s a tribute to the priority that this has that we have the churches from around the United Kingdom here today.”**

**“It adds to the ways in which the church is engaging with issues of poverty in this country very actively, and in a very focused and decisive way. That is an important step – it’s not just saying such-and-such ought to happen, it’s saying it ought to happen and we’re going to be part of it.”**

Once the credit union has built up an established track record, it is intended that it will open up to all church members. CMCU aspires to become an **example of best practice in the sector, and aid the Church’s involvement in a critical area of national life.**



## From the Editors

Please don't forget the fun run on Sunday April 26th. I'll have some entry forms with me at Church, but if you'd rather not run or walk, we're in need of marshals, so please don't be shy.

*Julie Sue*

Copy date for the May Trident will be Sunday April 12th

Copy date for the June Trident will be Sunday May 10th

The opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Church, the Vicar, the Editors or of the PCC. The editors reserve the right to edit items sent in for publication.

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## A Child's Description of a Thunderstorm

When you read this, you will never think of thunderstorms the same way again!

A little girl walked to and from school every day. Though the weather that morning was questionable, and clouds were forming, she made her usual trek to school. As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up, and lightning flashed. The little **girl's mother worried that her daughter might be frightened as she walked home** from school, or that the electrical storm might harm her.

Full of concern, the mother got into her car and quickly drove along the route to her **daughter's school. As she did so, she saw her little girl walking along. At each flash** of lightning, the child would stop, look up, and smile. More lightning followed quickly, and with each flash the little girl would look up at the streak of light and smile. When **the mother drew up beside the child, she lowered the window and called, "What are you doing?"**

The child answered, "I am trying to look pretty because God keeps taking my picture."

May God bless you today and every day as you face the storms that come your way!

# Hymn: The story behind ...

## Abide With Me

One of the most famous hymns in the world came out of Brixham, near Torbay, Devon, in 1847. In those days it was a poor, obscure fishing village, and the vicar was the Rev Henry Francis Lyte. It was a discouraging place to be a pastor, but Henry felt that God wanted him there, and so he stayed, though it was lonely work, and he suffered constant ill health. By the time he was 54, Henry had contracted tuberculosis and asthma, and he and his family knew he was dying. It would have been so easy for him to look back on his life and feel a complete failure. What had he ever much accomplished? And yet – and yet – Henry knew that in life it is not worldly success that matters, but how much we respond to Jesus Christ, and how much we follow him. In September of 1847 Henry was preparing to travel to the south of France, as was the custom for people with tuberculosis at that time. One day before he left, he read the story in the gospel of Luke about the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They were met by Jesus on the day of his resurrection, and they invited him to stay with them because it was **getting late**. **“Abide with us”, they said “for it is towards evening.”** **“Abide with us - for it is toward evening.”** **These words struck a chord with Henry, who knew that it was getting ‘towards evening’ in his life.** So he sat down and wrote this hymn as a prayer to God – *(the following are just some of the verses)*

Abide with me

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see;  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.**

*I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.*

**Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?**

*I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.*

Shortly after Henry wrote that hymn, he preached his last sermon. He was so ill he practically crawled into the pulpit to do so. A few weeks later, in Nice, France, he died, and so of course he never knew that his hymn would go on to become world famous, and that nearly 100 years later it would be the last hymn played by the brave musicians on board the Titanic the night it went down.

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### **When Mary Thro' the Garden Went**

When Mary thro' the garden went,  
There was no sound of any bird,  
And yet, because the night was spent,  
The little grasses lightly stirred,  
The flowers awoke, the lilies heard.

When Mary thro' the garden went,  
The dew lay still on flower and grass,  
The waving palms above her sent,  
Their fragrance out as she did pass,  
No light upon the branches was.

When Mary thro' the garden went,  
Her eyes, for weeping long, were  
dim.

The grass beneath her footsteps  
bent,  
The solemn lilies, white and slim,  
These also stood and wept for Him.

When Mary thro' the garden went,  
She sought, within the garden  
ground,  
One for Whom her heart was rent,  
One Who for her sake was bound,  
One Who sought and she was found.

*Mary Elizabeth Coleridge*

## 7<sup>th</sup> April, World Health Day

World Health Day, on 7<sup>th</sup> April, celebrates the founding of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in 1948. The theme this year is food safety. Unsafe food kills an estimated two million people annually – including many children. And no wonder: food that contains harmful bacteria, viruses, parasites or chemical substances is responsible for more than 200 diseases, ranging from diarrhoea to cancers.

New threats to food safety are constantly emerging. They emerge because of changes in food production, distribution and consumption; changes to the environment; new and emerging pathogens; and antimicrobial resistance. As our food supply becomes increasingly globalised, the need to strengthen food safety systems in and between all countries is becoming more and more evident. That is why the WHO is promoting efforts to improve food safety, from farm to plate (and everywhere in between) on World Health Day, 7<sup>th</sup> April.

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## For the love of chocolate

Are you going to indulge in Easter chocolate this year? Ever wonder where it first came from? We have the Aztecs of equatorial Central America to thank: it was they who discovered that a certain tree, later named *Theobroma Cacao*, was well worth cultivating. The Aztecs considered chocolate the ‘**drink of the gods**’ (*Theo* means God, *broma* means drink; hence the name). The Aztecs credited chocolate for everything from spiritual wisdom to sexual prowess; Emperor Montezuma is reported to have drunk more than 50 flagons of the stuff each day.

**The Spanish explorer Cortes also called it ‘the divine drink’, and the conquistadors brought chocolate back to Spain.** From there it travelled north, and reached England about 1849. It was first served as a drink, until during the Industrial Revolution it caught the attention of several leading Quaker families, (including the Cadburys, the Frys, the Rowntrees and the Terrys. **It was the Fry family who created the first ‘eating’ chocolate... and the rest,** as they say, is history. Today the world eats about 600,000 tons a year. Enjoy your Easter egg!

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We can only accept smaller items that can be collected in a car, not furniture. No jumble, clothing or broken items please. For local collection phone David Clarke on **07952 011543** to arrange a timed evening or weekend visit. E-mail David at [david-clarke28@sky.com](mailto:david-clarke28@sky.com). If bringing items to the church, please arrange with David Jewell or Michael Mappin to take them from you.



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Thursday	10am - 7pm
Friday	10am - 8pm
Saturday	10am - 8pm
Sunday	CLOSED

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## POP-IN



\*POP- IN ON FRIDAYS\*  
AT ST THOMAS'S CHURCH HALL  
FROM 10.30AM TO 12 NOON

- \*COME FOR TEA, COFFEE, BISCUITS AND A CHAT
- \*MEET YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES!
- \*STAY FOR TEN MINUTES OR THE MORNING!

### April

3rd - CLOSED

10th - tea, coffee and cakes

17th - tea, coffee and cakes

24th - tea, coffee and cakes

The POP-IN is run by the Hanwell Neighbourly Care Scheme.

## Terracycle recycling for Organ Fund

We can no longer collect yoghurt pots as these are collected by the council in your green boxes and we can no longer collect baby wipe packets

We have collected 20,000 Tassimo pots and have raised a total of £700

We are still collecting  
Coffee bean packaging  
Coffee jar lids  
Tassimo pods and foil bags  
Biscuit wrappers

**Ella's kitchen baby food pouches & lids**

Find out more at [www.terracycle.co.uk](http://www.terracycle.co.uk)



# Diary Dates



## MARCH

29th Sun Palm Sunday

## APRIL

2nd Thurs

Maundy Thursday

3rd Fri

Good Friday

5th Sun

Easter Day

12th Sun

2nd Sunday of Easter

Copy date for June Trident

19th Sun

3rd Sunday of Easter

Annual Parochial Church

Meeting at 11.30

26th Sun

4th Sunday of Easter

Fun Run at 2pm (meet in the hall carpark)

## MAY

3rd Sun

5th Sunday of Easter

10th Sun

6th Sunday of Easter

Copy date for June Trident

14th Thurs

Ascension Day

17th Sun

Sunday after Ascension Day

19th Tues

PCC meeting 8pm

24th Sun

Pentecost

31st Sun

Trinity Sunday

*Baby/Toddler  
Group*

**St Thomas's Hall**

*On Wednesdays*

*from*

*10.30am until*

*11.45am.*

*All are welcome.*

*Free.*

*Our vision is to be a place of welcome to all, sharing the joy of our Christian faith, and building on over 80 years of service within our community using our gifts for the benefit of all people.*

[www.thomashanwell.org.uk](http://www.thomashanwell.org.uk)



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