

Monthly News



We're on the move!
(for 6 months, anyway)

June 2019

Brothers and sisters...one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-14

St Thomas' Trowbridge	St John's West Ashton
Kingfisher Church The Mead School	Holy Trinity Trowbridge

From the Editor

It's good to be back in the office, and my there's a lot going on! Thank you for the lovely welcome back I've received.

Sorry this issue is a bit thin on the ground. Grateful thanks to this month's contributors.

*Next month's copy date is **19 June**.*

Ruth

Don't forget...

**The Church Office telephone number has
changed to:**

01225 777331

**Morning services move from St Thomas'
to Holy Trinity on:**

Sunday 16th June

The Parish Office

Tel: 01225 777331

e-mail: office@stthomastrowbridge.org

Office usually open 9.30am—1.30pm, Tues to Friday

St Thomas', Kingfisher Church, Holy Trinity & St John's Church West Ashton

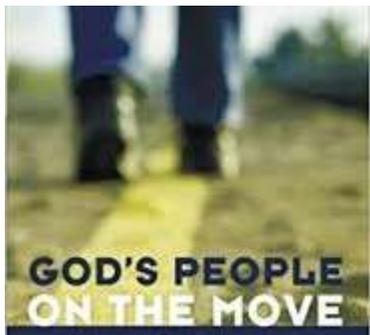
God's people on the move

35 years ago, as a newly ordained deacon, I took up my first post as curate in a housing estate parish on the edge of Loughborough. Almost immediately, the congregation had to move out of our church building, while it was extended and remodeled, to worship at the local secondary school for the next 18 months. It was an exciting time to begin ministry, as that particular church was experiencing a period of growth, attracting many more young families and students.



In preparation for the move, the Vicar, Colin Greene, preached a series of sermons on *'God's People on the Move'*, in which he used the story of Exodus (Moses leading the people out of Egypt and through the wilderness) as an analogy for our temporary uprooting. His message was that God's people are rarely called to be static, but are always nomads and pilgrims, moving on to the next stage, and therefore that *'change is here to stay'*! This, in turn, he used as a metaphor for the challenge faced by the church at that time of remaining relevant in a rapidly changing culture.

The previous 20 years, since the early 1960s, had been a period of great social change; but in one sense we didn't know what was about to hit us with the digital revolution, increasing secularization, the rewriting of many social norms, the rise of militant Islam, globalization, impending environmental disaster and a host of other changes.



So now, 35 years later, St Thomas' finds itself in a similar position – although moving to a familiar building for a shorter period of time. The good news is that our experience back then of moving out of 'our' church building was very positive. We had the opportunity to experiment with new ways of worshipping, without the traditional accoutrements of church; new people started coming; there was a sense of 'all hands on deck' as we coped with setting 'church' up (and down) each Sunday;

and it got us out into the community, holding events in homes and public spaces that otherwise might have taken place in the church. I pray that St Thomas' move to Holy Trinity will be equally positive and that God will surprise us with unexpected blessings as a consequence of worshipping in a different part of town.

One thing, however, is harder for us: the challenge of remaining relevant in a rapidly changing culture is vastly greater even than it was then. As an increasingly grey-haired vicar, I am conscious of needing huge grace to continue connecting with today's culture and that we all need to seek God for ways to do this.

On the positive side, the church still has some big things going for us: a message of hope in a



confused culture; a much-needed sense of community and 'family'; and above all, God's love in Jesus, the greatest need of every generation. So may *'the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us'* as we move to Trinity and as we continue to be 'God's People on the Move' navigating all the 'changes and chances of this world'. Amen!

Allan Coutts

Time for a smile...

Hymns for different professions:

Dentist's Hymn... "Crown Him With Many Crowns"

Builder's Hymn... "The Church's One Foundation"

Tailor's Hymn... "Holy, Holy, Holy"

Golfer's Hymn... "There is a green hill far away"

Contributed by Jean Robertson

Church is on the move! Everything you need to know...almost!

When?	Sunday 16 June 2019
What?	St Thomas' 10.30am Sunday Services
Where?	To Holy Trinity (the Church on the Roundabout)
Why?	In readiness for Phase 1 of the Buildings Project (Roof and Reordering)
How long?	Approximately 6 months

What will the services be like?

Everything that's best about St Thomas'! All the familiar faces will still be leading and there will be coffee and fellowship after the service as usual. Plus we can enjoy the freshness of worshipping in another beautiful building and begin to experience the comfort and freedom of having chairs rather than pews!

Will there be groups for children and young people?

Junior church Groups will continue as usual – the younger ones in different parts of Holy Trinity, the older groups in the adjacent Scout Hall (many thanks to 1st Trowbridge Scouts). We plan to make the monthly All Age Services special 'Come and Try Church' Events – starting on 16 June (Trinity Sunday/Fathers' Day). As in previous years, we will run a summer holiday programme of alternating All Age Services and Junior Church Specials.

Where can I park?

Selwood Housing and Dorothy House are kindly letting us use their parking spaces on Bryer Ash Business Park (next to the Railway Station). Please make sure you only use Selwood and Dorothy House spaces and not those any of the other businesses. If you don't mind a slightly longer walk, County Hall Car Park (both sides of Bythesea Rd) is free on Sundays. For safety please cross the road only at the lights or discretionary crossings.

What about disabled access?

We will try and keep a few spaces in the layby adjacent to Holy Trinity for disabled parking (but as this is a public car park we cannot guarantee this).

Members of the welcome team will be on hand to assist wheelchair users into the building.

What opportunities will this move give us?

Primarily, it will bring us into contact with people in a different part of town – especially the Broadmead area. Holy Trinity is a very visible local landmark (the Church in the Roundabout) and we plan to make the most of this to make our presence known and reach out to the local community (see separate article for more details).

What can I pray for?

- God's kingdom to come and His will to be done through this move
- New people to come and join us for worship
- The opportunities for outreach to the local area
- The practicalities of vacating St Thomas' and getting it ready for the contractors to move in.
- The logistics of doing church in a different place (setting up on Sunday mornings, Worship Teams, Sound and AV, Welcome teams, Service Leaders etc.)
- Please make this a special focus of prayer during the Thy Kingdom Come season of prayer between now and Pentecost (9 June)

How can I help?

- **Practicalities:** Mandi and Geoff (the Churchwardens) would love to hear from anyone willing to help with setting up the building every week, lifts to church, welcoming, making coffee etc.
- **Mission:** David Goldstone is co-ordinating the group looking at the outreach opportunities (coffee mornings, invitation distribution, big events etc.) so please contact him if you are able to help.
- **General:** the Parish Office will continue to be our communication hub so feel free to contact Ruth with any queries on our new phone number (01225 777331) or by email office@stthomastrowbridge.org

We are planning a series of special services:

- 16th June "Come and Try Church" Fathers' Day Family Service
28th July "Come and Try Church" All-Age Service
15th Sept "Come and Try Church" Harvest Festival
20th Oct "Come and Try Messy Church"
17th Nov "Come and Try Church" Songs of Praise

Poem

A PRAYER OF NEED

Oh Lord, I come to you on the eve of this night,
with a feeling of inner bodily plight,
for some time now
Oh how
for a period of time stretching almost six months long
While I don't feel ill
and don't require a pill
I have not known what is wrong
(But soon perhaps I will)
I have known that something is not right.

So, as I await appointments
with Doctors,
Specialists,
And Consultants,
Let me not speculate upon the cause
But let my Will mirror Yours

Written by Neill Cadmore 6th May 2019



Thy Kingdom Come 2019



Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an

invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

The hope is that:

- people will commit to pray with God's world-wide family - as a church, individually or as a family;
- churches will hold prayer events, such as 24-7 prayer, prayer stations and prayer walks, across the UK and in other parts of the world;
- people will be empowered through prayer by the Holy Spirit, finding new confidence to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

This year we are having a Whole Church Prayer evening with Holy Communion at 7.30pm on Ascension Day (Thursday 30 May) at St Thomas' to launch Thy Kingdom Come, and are encouraging as many people as possible to attend the events organised in Salisbury Cathedral, and the youth event nearby.

People are also encouraged individually to "Pledge2Pray" for five people to come to know Jesus as their Saviour. If you sign up, on each day of Thy Kingdom Come you will be invited to say a different prayer. To take part or to receive a daily email and video prayers from international church leaders simply register.



#PLEDGE2PRAY

To register go <http://thykingdomcome.global> and sign up to receive the daily email. Each day of Thy Kingdom Come, there will be an invitation to view very short videos with prayer guidance from international and ecumenical church leaders, as well as a special video for youth.

My week at Broads Adventure: Isaac Bull

From 13th to 20th April I went sailing on Broads Adventure. Broads Adventure is a Christian holiday run by West Runton Holidays. We learn to sail, and we also learn about Jesus. The people who went from Kingfisher & St Thomas' were: Lucy, Charis, Hannah, Michael, Peter, Isaac and Jamie Farnell.



In the evenings we had a meeting. We called it squash because the whole cruise is squashed onto one boat. We sang songs (a lot of which most people knew), were told the results of inspection (each boat is inspected each morning and the cleanest boat wins a prize), and one of the skippers gave a talk.

This year's theme was *Life as an Adventure*. In the mornings we had quiet time when we discussed Bible stories with theme of adventure. These included; Esther, Jonah, David and Goliath and the parable of the lost son.



On Sunday morning we all squashed into the boat again for a morning service in which we sang songs and listened to a talk. Also, on Sunday we walked to the beach. On Horsey beach there are lots of seals.



We learnt how to hoist a sail, how to steer a yacht, how to tack and gybe, how to row and sail a dinghy and how to moor among other things. We also learnt how to tie some knots including: round turn and two half



hitches, reef knot, bowline and clove hitch. We cooked our own food and slept on the boats.



This year (2019) was the 100th year of West Runton Holidays, so we had a barbecue on Tuesday. Some of us even dressed up! It was great fun and we all had a laugh. There were 100 sausages (including vegetarian) and the challenge was to eat 100 sausages between the 32 of us (which we did!). We then sang round the campfire.



We saw lots of swans and at least one heron. We even did some synchronised sailing. On Friday we had a dinghy regatta.

Hannah said her favourite part was seeing friends from the year before and being bosun (you can boss your other crewmates about).

My favourite parts were meeting new people, seeing friends from the year before, sailing and learning more about God.

Many thanks to Jamie Farnell (Commodore) and all the other skippers for organizing such an amazing holiday.

Isaac Bull



Sunday Services Plan June 2019

10.30am Services

Date	St Thomas'	Kingfisher	St John's
2	Morning Service	Service of the Word	Holy Communion BCP
	Lead: Allan Coutts Preach: Allan Coutts	Lead: Steve Hockett Preach: Steve Hockett	Martyn Whittock
9	Holy Communion (pulpit swap)	Service of the Word	Service of the Word
	Lead: Jane Palmer Preach: Alison Bennett	Lead: Steve Hockett Preach: Allan Coutts	John Self
16	All Age Service at Holy Trinity	All Age/Youth Service	Holy Communion
	Lead: Allan Coutts Preach: Allan Coutts	Lead: Ed Greening Preach: Ed Greening	Andy Yorke
23	Morning Service with Mission Focus on MAF	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer
	Lead: Allan Coutts Preach: Kevin Crook	Lead: Reuben Dunnings Preach: Reuben Dunnings	Angela Grist
30	Morning Service	All Age Service	Morning Prayer
	Lead: Martyn Whittock Preach: Martyn Whittock	Lead: Alison Bennett Preach: Alison Bennett	Allan Coutts

Children and young people at St Thomas' meet as follows:

- Holy Communion – start in groups, join at approximately 11.30am.
- Family Service – all together (with their families) throughout service.
- Morning Service – in service for the first 20 minutes, then into groups.

6pm Your Kingdom Come, Holy Trinity

**Church Barbecue
& Farewell to
Jane Palmer
5pm on Sunday 30th
June
at Holy Trinity**

Date	Preacher
2	Judy Wright
9	Pentecost Celebration and Youth Event at Salisbury
16	Allan Coutts
23	Allan Coutts

Dates for your Diary June 2019

<i>30 May – 9 June Thy Kingdom Come - Global Prayer focus</i>			
Sun	2	5pm	Prophetic Encouragement, Holy Trinity
Weds	5	2.30pm	Mission Prayer meeting, St Thomas'
Sat	8	9 – 11am	Ladies Breakfast at The Civic
Sun	9	7-9pm	Pentecost Sunday Beacon Events, Salisbury
Tues	11	7pm	Deanery Synod at Holy Trinity
Wed	12	2pm	Holy Communion BCP, St Thomas'
Sat	15	10am	Working Party at St Thomas'
		10am	Coffee & Cake at Holy Trinity
Sun	16	10.30am	FIRST SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE AT HOLY TRINITY <i>Father's Day and Trinity Sunday</i>
Tues	18	10am	Residential Homes Team Meeting, St Thomas'
Sat	22	2- 3.30pm	Toddler extra, HT
Sun	23	12.30pm	Bread and Cheese Lunch, St Thomas'
Sun	23	10.30am	Mission Aviation Fellowship Mission Focus, St Thomas'
Sun	30	5pm	Church Barbecue and Farewell to Jane Palmer