

St Peter & St Paul · St Philip · St Andrew · St Saviour MAGAZINE OF TONBRIDGE PARISH CHURCH

perspectives

In this issue:

- A life at sea
- Round the World in 80 days
- NHS at 75
- Youth and children in the church

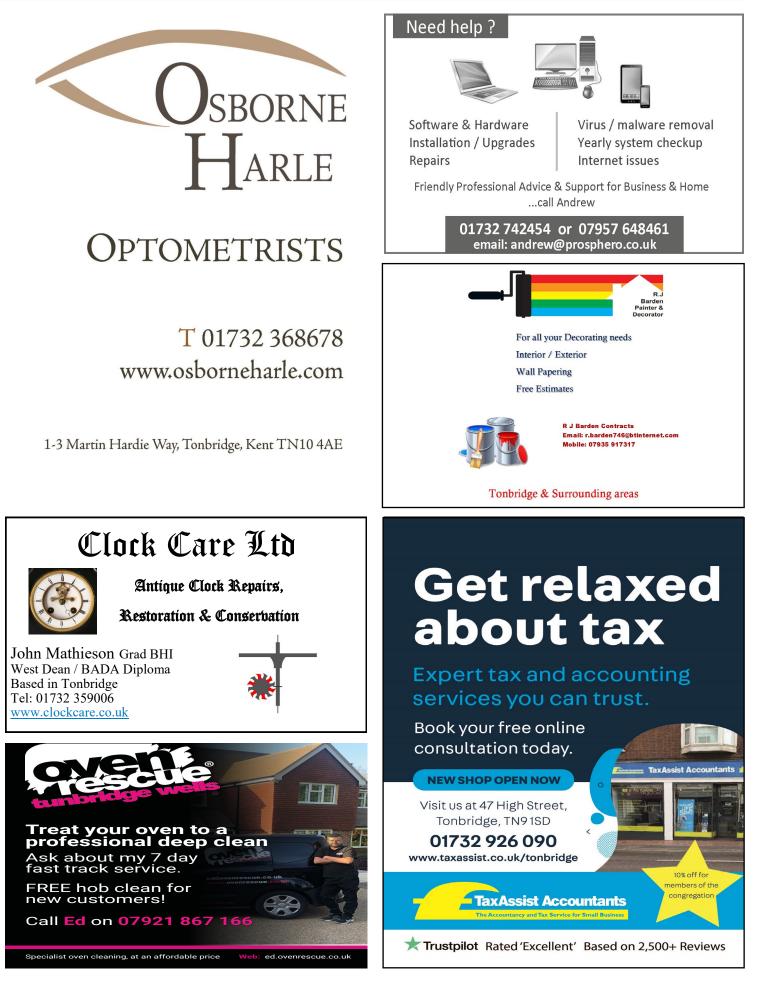








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If you have any comments or questions, would like to make any contribution to the next edition of Perspectives or would like to receive this magazine on a quarterly basis please contact the editorial team via: perspectives@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk

The Changing Seasons

Psalm 19: 1-2 – "The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known."



As spring gives way to summer, it is a reminder that our lives also have their seasons. The spring of preparation and planting gives way to tending and watering which yield the harvest in summer. Autumn follows all too soon, a time of pruning and gradual withdrawal, as many things fall away, and then to winter's darker days and waiting. As nature speaks of our Creator, so the seasons of our lives can point us to Him, who is the source of ultimate hope and purpose.

Are you a glass half-full or glass half-empty person?

Times are tough at the moment. The cost of living is high, the war in Ukraine rages on. We may be facing our own struggles with health, money or relationships.

There is a woman in the Bible called Naomi - miles from home, widowed for ten



years and recently bereaved of her two sons. She feels, understandably, bitter about life. Naomi begins the long journey home with her widowed daughters-in-law. You can read her whole story in the book of 'Ruth' in the Bible.

Yet on the journey, one of her daughters-in-law (Ruth) commits herself to Naomi - to be with her and remain with her always. At the end of the first chapter of this true story, Naomi arrives back in her homeland, together with Ruth, just as the harvest is beginning!

Life hasn't turned out how Naomi wanted it. She has experienced some terrible losses. But Naomi has never been alone. Ruth has been with her, walking the journey.

We may understand how Naomi is feeling. Yet there is a beautiful truth to life that, trusting in Jesus, He commits Himself to us, as Ruth did to Naomi. Jesus says to His followers in Matthew chapter 28 verse 20, "I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Even in the mess and brokenness of life. Jesus promises us to bring us to a glorious harvest, saying in John chapter 10 verse 10, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Life can be hard and challenging. Yet it is also true that life is a gift and there are gifts in life. Even if you are really struggling to see that at the moment, there is a certain promise in the Bible. For all those who trust in Jesus, He comes to you, commits to remain with you, and promises to bring you one day to an abundant 'harvest' (in the words of Ruth chapter 1).

We would love to welcome you to think more about the Christian faith any Sunday at any of our churches. Do contact us, or see our website, for more details.

Ben Thorndike Vicar, Tonbridge Parish Church



@TonParishChurch buttle://www.bit.ly/TonParishChurchYT

peterpaulton



@peterpaulton

My faith and my role in the community

Ted and Vera Simpkins came to settle in Tonbridge in 2010, and have belonged to the Parish Church since they arrived.

Tell us a bit about yourselves and how you met

VERA: I trained as a nurse at Liverpool Royal Infirmary for 3 years, followed by a further year's training to be a staff nurse. I then went to London Hospital for a year training to be a midwife. Then I returned to Liverpool where I worked as a District Midwife.

TED: In about 1940 when I was a small child, Liverpool was being badly bombed, so my father moved

the whole family to Banks. When he visited our Liverpool house on his way home from working on the docks, he found that it was the only one in the street that had been bombed. I can see that God had his hand on me from an early age. We continued to live in Banks where I was educated until I was 15 when I had to leave school



as there was nowhere in the area to continue in further education. I went to work at a local butcher's but as soon as I was seventeen and a half, and no longer needed my parents' permission, I joined the navy and trained as an electronics engineer specializing in communications and radar. I qualified as a Petty Officer when I was 23.

We met when Ted's cousin in Liverpool had a baby which Vera delivered as midwife. I was invited to be the child's godfather and happened to take a christening present to my cousin at the same time that Vera was visiting her. After meeting Vera, I asked her out and we were married within a year!

Tell us some of your adventures

TED: After we had married and had had two of our sons, I saw an advert for a volunteer to go to Ghana to help train sailors in the Ghanaian navy, and so we went to live in Ghana for 2 years. During this time I was called to go to sort a problem on a ship at sea off Accra, the capital. The next day I was taken out on a seaward defence boat. We drew alongside and when I asked how I was to board



the vessel, I was told to jump across. I had to negotiate the large swell of the waves. I somehow managed it - and fixed

> the problem. Looking back, I think God must have helped me.

After 9 years in the navy, I continued to work on the early warning radar system. I continued to sail, first building our own dinghy and then



Our yacht in Portugal

upgrading to a larger yacht, which I eventually sailed to Portugal - a huge adventure. Vera wisely decided to fly out to Portugal where we kept the boat for 10 years spending most of each year living on board.

How did you become Christians?

VERA: My family were Presbyterians, with both my parents involved with our local church, and I had a Christian upbringing.

TED: My family lived close to the local Methodist Church, and although my parents didn't go to church, I was sent to Sunday School there. My uncle gave me a Bible, he told me how in WW2 he had a highly dangerous job driving fuel tankers for the 8th Army in the Egyptian desert. When I asked him how he coped with this, he replied that he survived the war because Jesus always sat next to him on the passenger seat. This made a lasting impression on me.

what happened to make a difference?

It was while we were living in Portugal that we became good friends with Sally and Roger Green, living on a small yacht moored near us. They were retired missionaries from Uganda. We were impressed by the way that they would make meals on board their little yacht and take them to homeless people. After returning to England we moved to Tonbridge to be nearer our family. When Sally heard of our plans, she advised us to join a church and we found that the Parish Church was the nearest one to our flat. It was Sue King who welcomed us and invited us to join her Home Group.

How are you involved in the church community?

TED & VERA: We have been involved in different areas, including the Monday Prayer Group, helping with cleaning and other office jobs, helping with the 8am communion services, and also with the wiring of the PA system, which has become more complex with live-streaming.

Jill Harris

Our Community

Ring For The King

Many of those living near the centre of town will have heard the bells of St. Peter & St. Paul on the morning of the Coronation on 6th May in the bell-ringers' "Ring for the King". The wonderful sound of the church bells has for centuries marked celebrations and mourning, and in particular coronations. They were also traditionally a call to worship for those in the parish - a reminder to everyone that even if they are not there, the church still is – and they would always be welcome!

Following a wide publicity drive, which included leaflet drops to houses around St Peter & St Paul, and adverts pinned up inviting those wishing to learn to get in touch, we attracted 5 new recruits! Lessons have been taking place over several months and we were able to include some of our new members in our "Ring for the King."



Photo: courtesy Dmitri Zhuravia



Angela Clark



Our local Tonbridge and Malling Ramblers group recently celebrated the arrival of a new information board by the Big Bridge over the River Medway at Tonbridge. Sited just below Tonbridge Castle, the new board promotes the three longdistance 'named walks' which intersect at Tonbridge.

Neil Whittall, Chair of Tonbridge and Malling Ramblers, said, "It's great to be able to highlight some of Kent's 'named walks' so prominently beneath Tonbridge Castle".

Tonbridge and Malling Ramblers is one of 13 Ramblers groups in Kent and part of the national Ramblers walking organisation. You don't have to be a Ramblers member to try up to three walks before deciding if you'd like to join Ramblers. There are regular walks on Sundays, and some mid-week walks.

Full details including start times, locations and how to join a walk are at www.tonbridgeandmallingramblers.org.uk.

Wednesday 28th June - (4 Miles) An evening stroll around Yalding. Flat, easy, no stiles.

Thursday 6th July - (5.2 Miles)

Circular walk 'Over the Hill' - from Dunk's Green to West Peckham. One long leisurely climb; wonderful scenery. Moderate difficulty.

Thursday 20th July - (6.2 Miles)

Circular walk from Shorne Woods Country Park taking in Cobham Hall, Ranscombe Farm Reserve, Ashenbank Wood, Jeskyns Community Woodland, the Darnley Mausoleum and Cobham village. Moderate difficulty.



Nicola Brown, Tonbridge & Malling Ramblers

ROUND THE UORLO NO BODAYS Hong Kong Our ship moore



John and Celia Grew have lived in the area for many years, and been together in Tonbridge since 2012. They are both active in the life of the Parish Church. John's career had been in the travel business, and when the opportunity occurred, they jumped at the chance to join a cruise ship in Southampton and follow Phileas Fogg in his ambition to go Round the World in 80 Days. Here are some of the highlights taken from their travel journal:

Egypt

Our first port of call outside Europe was Egypt, where we visited Luxor and the Valley of the Kings, and the tomb and mummified body of King Tutankhamen, a lifelong interest of Celia.

Mumbai



Mumbai - Dabbawallah

Through the huge Gateway to India and into the noisy bustle of the streets of Mumbai, as we dodged the cows and traffic

Egypt - Tutanthamen's Mummy

in the streets, we were impressed by the many different businesses on every side, the "dabbawallahs" – lunch-box dealers (a local equivalent of Deliveroo),

and the largest open-air laundry in the world.

Our ship moored downtown in Kowloon where the runway used to be for the old airport, which has since been moved outside the city. The



city is as crowded and busy as ever, and our visit included the peak railway with its misty views.



Hawaii

HAWAII

Day 50 of our cruise landed us in Hawaii, the 50th state of the United States, living up to its reputation of bright colours, flowers, volcanic mountains, rainforests and waterfalls. Visits included Pearl Harbour in Honolulu, and also Waikiki beach, famous for its surfers.

SAN FRANCISCO

We made landfall in the USA at San Francisco, passing beneath the magnificent Golden Gate Bridge. The temperature was 13°, a shock after the 38° of Hawaii! We passed the island of Alcatraz and visited the Fisherman's Wharf. Further down the



West Coast we also called in at Dan Diego where

we met John's cousin who we had last seen nearly 20 years ago.

COLOMBIA

We made a brief call in Colombia, docking close to a forest clearing and reserve. No cages, but plentiful wildlife – especially the birds.



Colombia

ST. KITTS & NEVIS - BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

A Caribbean idyll, though a visit on the old railway to the sugar plantations was a reminder of times past.

There is so much more we could write about! 80 days, 27 ports of call, the ship was like a large village and it was a privilege to become part of the community, complete with a ship's chaplain, who held regular services, a choir, dance groups, craft work, lectures on the different ports of call, and the menus to match the different regions. All in all, a truly memorable experience, and we are so grateful to have had the opportunity to make the voyage.



Land of the Rising Sun

Our cruise called at 4 Japanese ports – Hakata, Osaka, Nagoya and Yokohama (near Tokyo). This gave us

opportunities to see something of the country and people, and to gain a sense of what's important there. Osaka and Yokohama are the two largest cities, home to many heavy industries, and we also visited Kyoto, once the capital of Japan, with its imperial palace and Shinto and Buddhist temples Japan is a count



Buddhist temples. Japan is a country which blends the old and the new, with many temples and shrines where people go to ask for good luck and fortune

With all our ports of call in Japan being in the South of Honshu, the main island, we were unable to make it



for learning and working.

Gelsthorpe Family

to Hanamaki, about 500 kilometres to the north of Tokyo. This is where the Gelsthorpes live, a mission family which the Parish Church has been supporting over a number of years. They are working with OMF International, leading a church plant in rural, northern Japan. It takes time to build up a church in a country dominated by the



Shinto and Buddhist religions, where only about 1% of the population is Christian. In addition, it is becoming an increasingly secular society.

But they have been encouraged recently with some new members of their church coming to faith in Christ, and by the way in which others who suffer all the same work and family stresses that we know so well in the West are helped through the teaching from the Bible, and supported



Hanamaki Church Lunch

through friendships in the church community.

John and Celia Grew

75 Years of the

On 5 July 2023, the NHS will mark 75 years of service. Perspectives would like to thank those who have served us so faithfully and to tell some of their stories...

"While witnessing suffering I started to question what I believed about God."

I have much to thank the NHS for; I am grateful to

the NHS for my nursing training in the mid 60s, which I loved. Patients were in hospital for longer Thank You then. It was a privilege building relationships with them. While witnessing suffering I started to question what I believed NH about God. At this time, I was caring for a Christian lady who was dying and who was so peaceful because she knew she was going Home to be with her Lord. I knew I didn't have that assurance even though I called myself a Christian.

Through my colleagues and attending the local Church I learned that because of Jesus's death on the Cross and His resurrection I could be forgiven and assured of a place in Heaven. After accepting His forgiveness and committing my life to God, I realised I could show the love of Jesus in the way I cared for my patients and the more menial tasks were transformed.

Sara Thomson



Tonbridge Cottage Hospital

"Prayer has been very important – for myself in helping me get through some very difficult and tough times and for my patients"

My time in the NHS was mostly as a GP in a practice in West Malling but I worked as a junior hospital doctor during my GP training. I currently have a role as a volunteer at Hospice in the Weald. Over the years I have seen so many changes and developments in treatment that have improved people's lives immeasurably.

Working in the NHS felt like being part of a huge team of hardworking, kind and caring people all with the same aim of helping the sick. I worked with many wonderful and highly skilled staff and had the privilege of looking after many special patients and their families. I consider it a particular privilege to be

doing this now for people at the end of their lives.

My faith has always played a big part in my work. Prayer has been very important for myself in helping me get through some very difficult and tough times and for my patients.

Juliet Roberts

"The challenges which some patients face are enormous, but the Holy Spirit is at work..."

Since 2015 I have served as a volunteer on the chaplaincy team at Tunbridge Wells Hospital. Compared to others I am relatively new to this role. It is a great privilege to serve in this way. On Thursday mornings I visit my allocated ward looking for patients and sometimes staff who might appreciate someone to talk to. The challenges which some patients face are enormous, but the Holy Spirit is at work. I certainly appreciate God's blessings to me. I also witness, and appreciate, the dedicated work of the frontline NHS staff.

My volunteering also involves being on-call, normally evening/overnight on a Friday. Usually call-outs are for end of life or a still-born baby blessing, but I did take an emergency baptism in full PPE!

Sally Musson

"My own prayers helped me to listen to the needs of parents and I believe respond sensitively."



I trained as a paediatric occupational therapist and have worked in five different jobs in the NHS. I was very fortunate in my second job starting in 1979 to work at the Cheyne Centre, a school in London specialising in the care and treatment of children with cerebral palsy. I worked with a team of physiotherapists, speech and language therapists and teachers headed by a paediatric neurologist, doing some ground-breaking work.

Two aspects of the job that were very special to me were helping families to adjust to life with their severely disabled child and secondly doing some of the earliest work developing electronic devices to enable children who were mentally able but physically unable to communicate with speech or sign language. The NHS not only provided daily care but many children needed to board, coming from other counties including Kent. A lot to be thankful for. My own prayers helped me to listen to the needs of parents and I believe respond sensitively.

Heather Seaman

"... my choice of career has influenced the outworking of my faith in concern for the frail and elderly"

In 1957 I embarked upon a 4 year course with Bart's Hospital leading to becoming a State Registered Nurse. After this I went home to Cheshire to work in local A&E until marriage. In 1962, I moved to Tonbridge. Here I worked at Tonbridge Cottage Hospital before and after having my family, finally running the operating theatre until it closed in about 1986, when I retired from paid work!



When I started nursing the NHS was truly able to provide care from the cradle to grave as intended, with no shortage of staff or equipment. However, modern advances (which we are all very grateful for) have made funding the health service more and more expensive. I feel that my choice of career has influenced the outworking of my faith in concern for the frail and elderly where I have been able to offer practical help as well friendship.

Judy Roberts

PRAYER FOR THE NHS

God of healing and compassion, we thank you for the establishment of the National Health Service, and for the dedication of all who work in it: give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who care for the sick, and your wisdom to those engaged in medical research. Strengthen all in their vocation through your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



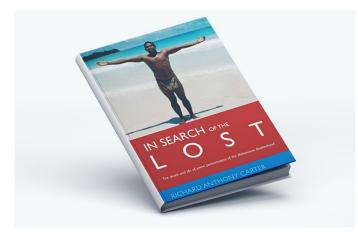
Tunbridge Wells Hospital, Pembury. Photo courtesy NHS Trust

IN SEARCH OF THE LOST By Richard Anthony Carter

Book review by Morwenna Fernandez

"... the story I am about to tell does not belong to one place or one culture. It is, in fact, the story of how God's love is at work again and again and again. It is the story of God searching for the lost."Have you ever daydreamed about leaving the artificiality of the modern western world to live on a far-flung tropical island?

When in 1987 Richard Carter, a young English priest, accepts a position with the Melanesian Mission, he finds himself setting off to the remote Solomon Islands in the South Pacific to work as a tutor and a chaplain. What he encounters is a world away from his upbringing in England. Here worship music may be played on bamboo drums and seed rattles, early morning worship takes place on a concrete-floored chapel lit by oil lamps. There is a richness of natural beauty in the voices of songbirds, abundant coconut and mango trees, fragrant frangipani and hibiscus, the stunning spectacle of the tropical night sky. Yet, this is no beach holiday. The vow of poverty that the Brothers live by is very real; they sleep on mats in humid dormitories. Items such as shoes and toothpaste are luxuries. The Community eats simple meals only twice a day, sometimes just once when food is short. It is a life of genuine simplicity and service to the local community, a life that is centred around prayer. However, beneath the surface ethnic tensions are brewing and the nation is about to head into a dark chapter of chaos and violence. The Brothers will be forced to make great sacrifices, to dig deep into the resources of faith and to make almost impossible choices. This powerful account takes us on an honest and moving personal journey through dark days of fear and loss coming at last, at great cost, to a place of redemption. This story is a testament to the raw and costly power of faith to lead both nations and individuals back to the light.



TREASURES OF THE SNOW By Patricia St John

Book review by Bethany Thorndike (aged 11)

This book was one of my Mummy's favourites when she was a little girl so recently, we read it together and I really enjoyed it. The story is set in Switzerland where a girl, whose name is Annette, learns what it means to forgive when a boy called Lucien hurts her little brother called Dani. Through the story we see Annette learning about Jesus' love for her and how his love for her helps her become friends with Lucien again. My favourite part of the story is when Dani finds a tiny kitten named Klaus on Christmas morning in a shoe. Klaus becomes very special to Dani, and he takes the kitten everywhere. Patricia St John wrote many other books including, Tanglewoods' Secret, The Other Kitten and Rainbow Garden which is another fantastic book we have read together. I suggest this book to anyone who hasn't read it and wants to find out more about God's love even when we mess up.



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YOUTH AND CHILDREN IN THE PARISH CHURCH

Having joined the Parish Church in 2002, in January this year Alyson Bleakley was appointed as Senior Minister for Families. She tells us a little about her vision for the work.

How did you come to join the staff at the church?

I have always enjoyed being with people, especially young people, and since 2014 I was teaching geography at Hilden Grange School. I loved working with my colleagues and the children at the school, but when the parish church decided to look for someone to lead the work among families and children, I felt it was right to apply. I was excited to be appointed! The Parish's vision statement: Loving Jesus Loving Tonbridge has 9 focus areas. The work among children, young people and their families fits into every single one of these.

what groups do you have for young people?

We have several groups covering the different agegroups – During the week we have Tiny Acorns, for parents and babies and Teddies for preschool children with their parents, then Sunday Club (Years R – 5) and SOS (Years 6 – 9) during the Sunday morning service at St. Peter & St. Paul, with Refresh on Sunday evenings (Years 10 – 13). We also organise evenings for the young adults from 18 – 30 once a term.

How have you found it since starting?

Nearly six months into the role, I am very much enjoying the work, which spans the age groups from 0 to 30, and in particular those up to 18 and their families. We are seeing a growing number of families coming back into church, and all our children and young people's groups are starting to grow again. We



have a great team of volunteers to help in all the different age groups, and I could not do this without them. I'm always looking for additional helpers who can join the team with a vision to speak the love of Jesus into the lives of our children.



It has been particularly good to welcome groups of children from some of our primary schools visiting the parish church to learn about the building and history, and what we do here.

And what about the families?

It's not just the children but the whole family which is welcome in our church. We have been organising some breakfast gatherings for the parents of the children in our groups to get to know them better. It also provides an opportunity to discuss some of the challenges of bringing up children in the modern world, and the growing attention children give to their screens (of all sizes). We only see children and young people for such a small part of their week and believe that the family is of vital importance to the growth and nurture of children. We will continue to do all we

can to find ways to support families in this.

Holiday Club in July

We are excited to be hosting our week-

long Holiday Club again this July, and though it is already fully subscribed, we are hoping we will be able to fit in still a few more children, subject to finding more leaders and helpers.







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SAVE THE DATE!

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

KING'S BIRTHDAY SOIREE: SATURDAY 17TH JUNE 2023

5.30pm - about 7.30pm Refreshments (with cheese & wine) and music. Come and sing, play or recite!

SONGS OF PRAISE: SATURDAY 8[™] JULY 2023 at 3.00pm followed by tea in Church.

Join us for selected hymns, prayers and readings. All welcome

ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH

SUMMER CREAM TEA: SATURDAY 15TH JULY 2023 All welcome

ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH

OPEN HOUSE: Every Saturday 10.00am - 12.30pm Hospitality for the whole community with refreshments & activities. All welcome!

ST. PETER & ST. PAUL

COFFEE LOUNGE: Open Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 10.00am - 12.00pm

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Transitions

The one constant in life is change. Understanding the process in our transitions can help us to find a better path through the changes.

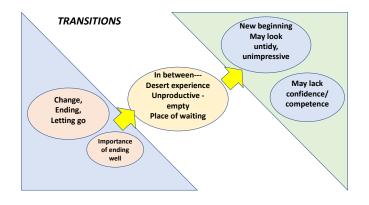
We all experience times of transition, from our first primary school, through education and beyond into the world of work. That's just the beginning. There are transitions in where we live, changing jobs, maybe getting married – or divorced. The arrival of children in the family is a major transition. Then some years later their departure as they fly the nest. Then comes the change from employment to retirement, and the years of declining physical capacity. Some transitions happen through our own choice while others may be forced on us; losing a job, family breakdown, accident or illness all bring abrupt change.

Several authors describe transition as having three main stages. First there is the ending and losing. This involves a disengagement or even the dismantling of things in the past. As with a leaf in autumn, there is an internal process of letting go, the ending of one



phase, which can be both difficult and painful. There is usually some loss and grief. It is important to take care, where possible, to end well, especially considering relationships which may be left behind.

There follows an intermediate or neutral zone, something of a desert experience. This may be shorter if a transition is one of choice, yet it still brings a measure of disorientation. Where a person has been forced on you, there can be a sense of isolation and emptiness, of feeling unproductive – as everything previously nailed down becomes loose.



In the desert of the middle of transition we may meet three "strangers" – inertia, loss and darkness. At these times support of family and friends is important. In our culture which likes instant solutions, the desert of the neutral zone can seem long, a time of waiting - lonely and desolate. It can also be a time of growth, as we reflect on what has gone before, perhaps finding a new openness and vulnerability which can make us more accepting of others.

The third stage is the new beginning which will emerge. With a chosen change, this will have more shape and clarity than if it has been forced upon us by circumstances. In the latter case, what lies ahead may look unexciting, perhaps untidy, even unimpressive. From a place where you had competence and confidence, the future may seem decidedly less so. But as the caterpillar has to pass through the difficult stage of the chrysalis before emerging, with a struggle, as a butterfly, so without our transitions, we may never realise our full potential. The caterpillar must surely have been convinced that eating leaves was the best life had to offer!



Even the most difficult transitions are places where we can learn. When we allow the pain of our transitions to change us, they can make us more compassionate towards others, more empathetic members of society. Where we have faith in God, no matter what has happened, we can trust Him to take us through our transitions to a place of hope and purpose.

John Schluter

Parish Information & Contacts



SAVE THE DATE!

SECRET AGENTS HOLIDAY CLUB

24th-28th July 2023

9.45am-12.15pm

- @ St Peter and St Paul
- Reception to Year 6

£10 per child for the week!

SERVICES

ST PETER & ST PAUL: CHURCH LANE, TN9 1DA

Sundays

8am: Holy Communion

10.45am: Morning Service* (Holy Communion on Ist Sunday of the month) and children's groups (school years R-5 and 6-9), plus crèche for pre-schoolers
6pm: Evening Service (Holy Communion on 4th Sunday of the month).

*Also available online on our YouTube channel

Wednesdays

10.00am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month)

ST PHILIP: SALISBURY ROAD, TNIO 4PA

Sundays

10.45am Morning Service (Holy Communion on 2nd Sunday of the month) and children welcome.

ST ANDREW: HADLOW ROAD, TN10 4LS

Sundays

9.45am Morning Service (Holy Communion on 3rd Sunday of the month).

ST SAVIOUR : DRY HILL PARK CRESCENT, TN10 3BJ

Sundays

9.15am Morning Service (Holy Communion on 4th Sunday of the month)

YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Creche: (0-4 years), **Sunday Club:** (school years R-5) and **SOS:** (school years 6-9) every Sunday at **10.45am** St Peter & St Paul

Refresh: (school years 10-13) meets weekly on Sunday evenings at St. Peter & St. Paul at 6.45-8.30pm. More information can be found on our website or by emailing ycoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk



@TonParishChurch

www.bit.ly/TonParishChurchYT

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Senior Minister for Families Alyson Bleakley	(01732) 770962 ext.22 Alyson.Bleakley@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
Licensed Lay Minister Sally Musson	07713 352017 mussonsally@btinternet.com
Parish Administrator & Vicar's PA Jane Higgs	(01732) 770962 ext. 24 jane.higgs@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
Church Family Administrator Jane Thorndike	(01732) 770962 ext. 24 jane.thorndike@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
Churchwardens David Balcombe, Paul White	(01732) 770962 ext. 24
Parish Treasurer Andy Kirkpatrick	(01732) 770962 ext. 25
Finance Manager Yolanda Roberts	(01732) 770962 ext. 25 yolanda@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
Perspectives Team John Schluter (Chair), Merle Bigden, Pippa Disdel, Jenny Macpherson, Patricia Osborn.	perspectives@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk

Parish Office Hours: 10am–1pm, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

GET INVOLVED!

There is a vast range of groups and activities across the Parish:

- Men's and Women's Ministry
- Tiny Acorns for parents and carers with under 1s
- Teddies for parents and carers with preschool children
- Prayer Gatherings
- Home Groups
- Health Walks
- Stepping Stones Bible Study for women
- Book Club
- Open House at St. Philip

Visit our website www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk to find out more or complete the online form on our Contact Us page:

www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk/contactus

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In times of need, family matters

Let our family, care for your family



Your final farewell should respect your loved one's wishes and comfort those they leave behind. Our family has provided funeral services to families and friends in the Tonbridge area, for 30 years, we know this is a time when a caring family can make all the difference.

Our promise to you:-

- We understand your wishes and we're here to help
- Our emergency service is 24/7 and our phone is always answered personally
- We always provide itemised estimates
- We operate our own mortuary and private chapel of rest
- We're proud members of SAIF and BIFD
- Your family, not profit, is our main priority



Talk to us about funeral plans from Golden Charter



Abbey Funeral Services

is independently owned by Chris,

Jim and Jo Parker.



Your local family Funeral Directors





All welcome to join us at any of our services across the Parish



St Peter & St Paul

Church Lane, TN9 1DA 8am, 10.45am and 6pm



St Philip Salisbury Road, TN10 4PA 10.45am



St Andrew Hadlow Road, TN10 4LS 9.45am



St Saviour Dry Hill Park Crescent, TN10 3BJ 9.15am

For <mark>mo</mark>re informatio<mark>n</mark> see p<mark>a</mark>ge 14