

This Month's Worship in Churches Uniting in Central Sutton

Sunday 2 July

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Brigade Awards Service <i>Revd Mike Dales</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>
6.30pm	Trinity	Choral Evensong

Sunday 9 July

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Mike Dales</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	All Age Morning Worship <i>Revd Cécile Schnyder</i>
6.30pm	Trinity	United Service

Sunday 16 July

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship <i>Revd Mike Dales</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Iain MacDonald</i>
	St N	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Sarah Sewell</i>
6.30pm	Trinity	United Service

Sunday 23 July

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Communion <i>Ms Marjorie Marsh</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
6.00pm	Christ Church	United Team Worship Methodist Circuit Service Epsom Methodist Church

Sunday 30 July

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Mike Dales</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Ms Nellie Showers</i>
	St N	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>
6.30pm	Trinity	United Service

for help or information please contact

Revd Mike Dales (Sutton Baptist) 07952 231723
mg.dales@blueyonder.co.uk

Revd Dr David Dickinson (Trinity)
Office: 020 8643 6884
Home: 020 8643 0963
todaviddickinson@gmail.com

Revd Justine Middlemiss (St Nicholas)
020 8642 3499
rector@suttonteamministry.org



July/August 2017

Dear friends

In this season after Pentecost I have been thinking about various symbols of the Spirit and what they might have to teach us: Fire, Wind, Dove, and so on.

Celtic monks centuries ago had a symbol all their own: they thought of the Spirit as a 'Wild Goose.' They often chose their places of prayer in the remotest places in nature. They wanted to pray, and at the same time hear the roaring of the waves. And so it was quite natural for them to think of the Spirit as wild and untamed, unpredictable and even dangerous: not at all like the more familiar symbol of the peaceful and graceful dove.

When the Spirit comes in the Bible, it never seems to be sweet or safe. God's Spirit called the prophets in words that were bold and sometimes dangerous. Ezekiel saw a vision of God's Spirit blowing through a valley of dry bones and bringing them to life. John the Baptist dressed in camel's hair and eating wild locusts proclaimed, 'I baptize you with water but he who comes after me will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.'

It was this Wild Goose that Jesus referred to when he quoted Isaiah, saying, 'For the Spirit of the Lord is upon me for he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of God's favour.'

Wild geese fly in flocks, feed in groups, nest near each other and migrate together - naturalists call this trait their 'colonial' nature. Isn't that just like the Holy Spirit? The Spirit brings us together and makes a noisy community of us. The Wild Goose brings us together in God's special fellowship. We see the same principle at work in the famous "V" formation of their flying. First one takes the brunt of the wind and leads the flock. When it tires, it drops back and the next goose in line takes the front position.

At Pentecost, the Wild Goose led Peter to proclaim, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.' In the Church, the Spirit calls everyone to lead and everyone to serve. Women become preachers, men learn to serve tables, and a little child shall lead them.

I wonder if we have so tamed the Holy Spirit that we cannot hear the call of the Wild Goose. Have we failed to listen for so long that we feel nothing? The Wild Goose is still calling. Can you hear it? I pray that in all our words and ways we will hear the calling and rise up with wings to follow where the Wild Goose leads.

Mike
Revd Mike Dales



News from the Churches

Gardening Party Sunday 9 July



The Friends of St Nicholas Churchyard will be hosting a "tidy up" on 9th July 2017 from 12:30 to 15:00pm.

Bring some garden gear and get ready to clear brambles and overgrown shrubbery. We want to get Sutton's historic town centre churchyard all set and ready for the Heritage Events taking place in August and September. Make sure you share this - and if you don't feel able to do the gardening then we'll need some help in making teas and looking after the workers.

Please find the link below to the event.
www.facebook.com/events/139612879933303

Sunday Afternoon Outing 9 July

Walk and visit to Chatley Heath Semaphore Tower



Meet at the back of Trinity Church after morning service, and bring a picnic and good walking or boots.

We plan a mostly level walk of about 6 miles including a visit to Chatley Heath Semaphore Tower (entrance charge £3 or £2 for concessions and children).

Please let us know if you would like to come and need a lift, or if you are coming and can offer a lift, so we can ensure we have car seats for everyone.

For information contact:
John and Deborah Wroe 020 8642 9064
john.p.wroe@btinternet.com

(look out for information about the **August Walk**, probably on **13 August**, venue tba)

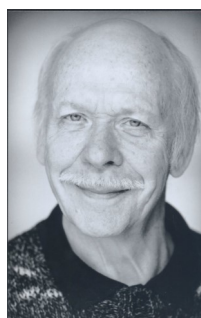
St Nicholas Supper Club Talk

An evening with
Brian Murphy and Linda Regan

Come and hear Brian and Linda tell of their lives and careers at the Supper Club talk on **Friday 21 July** at 7pm in the St Nicholas Community Hall.

Tickets, priced £8.00 are available from Richard West and you are asked to book by Sunday 16 July:
020 8644 7834 richjwest@btinternet.com

Brian Murphy was born on 25 September 1932 in Ventnor, Isle of White. An actor, known for *Last of the Summer Wine*, *George and Mildred* and *Man about the House*, he has been married to Linda Regan since 14 March 1995.



Linda was born in London. She started her acting career in repertory theatre and has appeared in everything from Shakespeare to farce. Her television and film work is extensive and she was regularly in the hit *Hi De Hi*.

Linda is also the author of a series of successful crime novels and her recent books *Dead Like Her* and *Sister Hoods* will be available to buy on the night.

(photograph of Linda Regan copyright John Gaffen of White Windmill Photography.)

Anyone for Tennis?

On **Saturday 22 July** Sutton Churches Tennis Club will be holding its annual finals day at the club, which can be found between 99 & 101 Gander Green Lane, Sutton SM1 2ES.

Spectators will be entertained with some excellent matches which will include singles and doubles at both adult and junior levels. A superb tea with scrumptious cake will also be provided to add to the relaxed atmosphere.

If you would like to know more about the club and the variety of sessions we offer please visit our website at www.myclubhouse.co.uk or speak to David Garratt (Trinity) or Carolyn Graham (SBC)



A Jug of Oil for Sutton by Dave Dickinson



When Elijah was in hiding east of the Jordan, ravens fed him and, when he moved on to another region, God told him a widow would feed him. The widow, however, had nothing prepared, only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a cruse. Nevertheless, she used these to bake a cake for Elijah. From then on neither the jar nor the cruse was ever emptied. This story has been on my mind for over a year while I have been chairing a small group from Trinity working towards establishing a bereavement support network for the people of Sutton, for the story of the widow's ever-yielding cruse of oil supplied the name of the nation's best-known bereavement support group – Cruse.

Our ambition is to launch **Sutton Cruse Bereavement Support** in early 2018. Part of the national network, we will be an independent Area, a community-based service available to people throughout Sutton. Although, if successfully launched, Sutton Cruse will have been seeded by Trinity people, it will serve people of all faiths and none. Our plan is to employ a part-time administrator who will be responsible for recruiting and training volunteers. He or she will have an office base where volunteers can meet clients who may have been referred by GPs, funeral officiants or others. A befriending form of support, tailored for each individual client, will be provided and, if specialist counselling is required, Sutton Cruse will have a gateway of referral to Sutton Counselling. Sutton Cruse will not offer counselling.

Although there is still much to do before we can be confident of launching next year, we would not have got this far without the encouragement and efforts of Briony Thomas, Margaret Reith and Angela Mann who have thought this through very carefully for nearly 18 months, as well as the new enthusiasm of Michael Blackburn who will serve as treasurer and of Diana Burkitt from Sutton Counselling. These comprise the Management Team, whose efforts in the remainder of 2017 will be focussed on raising funds, appointing an administrator, recruiting volunteers and setting up. Still a bit to do! But I am hoping for support from many Sutton churches and I am convinced that, in the long run, Sutton Cruse will help lift the burden of grief weighing down so many people in Sutton.

Johann Strauss Morgenblätter (Morning Papers) by Jeff Richards, Licensed Lay Minister, Sutton Team Ministry

Morgenblätter is a Viennese Walz composed by Johann Strauss in 1863 and the inspiration for a poem by Jacqueline Dunn, a member of St Barnabas Church written in response to an announcement of a poetry competition run in parallel to this year's BBC Proms season. Jacqueline lives with mental health issues and uses writing as a release and has given me permission to share her poem. She has powerful memories of learning to play Morgenblätter as a child.

The Ghost of Strauss

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|--|---|
| 1. Morning papers - how are you today?
Visions as we speak, it's not so unique
Gratitude for your work.
Inspiration for your soul which is bound to be whole | 2. One's talent is within as you begin.
Note by note you gain a peace.
A peace with your mind as you drain away
All your sorrow into creation and development of tomorrow. |
| 3. I played Morgenblätter as a child
Releasing tension as we abide.
You remain in history as a solemn man.
Yet you produced a peace of art forever with your art. | 4. You're alive today in many ways
And brought music to the life of mankind.
From Punk to Rock you shall ever roll
In the thesis of control |

The act of writing, itself a creative act, allows Jacqueline to structure her thoughts, prioritise her feelings, at the same time reliving the strong sense of peace that the music conjured up within her. There is ambiguity in stanza 2; it is not clear whether she is addressing Strauss, contemplating herself or prompting us to wonder. Simple words can have deeper meanings than we first think.



From the Editor I would be delighted to receive comments and suggestions on the future of *Unite!*. Contact me by email: olwenmedwards@gmail.com or by phone: **8643 2525**. Copy date for the September issue is 17 August. *Unite!* is also available online at: www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk
www.stnicholas.suttonteam.org.uk www.suttonchurch.uk (follow link to Trinity and then News and Events)

Worship in August in Churches Uniting in Central Sutton

Sunday 6 August

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30	SBC	Morning Worship <i>Revd Mike Dales</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>
6.30pm	SBC	United Service

Sunday 13 August

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30	SBC	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Mike Dales</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	All Age Morning Worship <i>Revd David Butlin</i>
6.30pm	SBC	United Service

Sunday 20 August

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship <i>Revd Mike Dales</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Cécile Schnyder</i>
6.30pm	SBC	United Service

Sunday 27 August

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Communion
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Cécile Schnyder</i>
6.30pm	SBC	United Service

DEVOTIONS

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945) was a German Lutheran pastor, theologian, and a participant in the German resistance movement against the Nazis. He was arrested in April 1943 by the Gestapo and executed by hanging in April 1945, 23 days before the Nazis' surrender. Bonhoeffer wrote the prayer below while held in a Nazi prison, uncertain of what his future would hold.

Mike Dales offers us this prayer for uncertain times.

Bonhoeffer's Morning Prayer

O God, early in the morning I cry to you. Help me to pray and to concentrate my thoughts on you: I cannot do this alone.

In me there is darkness, but with you there is light; I am lonely, but you do not leave me; I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help; I am restless, but with you there is peace; In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience.

I do not understand your ways but you know the way for me.

Lord, whatever this day may bring, your name be praised.

Amen

Regular Events

All members of CUCS are warmly welcomed at these activities

Christian Meditation Groups meet twice a month. Contact Pamela Ford: 8642 5914

Monday 10 July 3.00pm

Monday 17 July 6.30pm

No meetings in August

Saturday Prayer Meeting (1st and 3rd Saturdays)
10.00am - 11.00am at Sutton Baptist Church.

St Nicholas' Mothers' Union usually meets on the **first Wednesday of the month** in St Nicholas Community Hall. All are welcome. Contact: Janet Little 8715 6843

Women in Touch (WIT) meets fortnightly on a Monday at 10.30am at different venues, to enjoy a variety of activities including coffee, films and outings. It is open to women of any age. For further details of the programme contact: Carole Adams 07711879645 or see: www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk

Trinity Toddler Group meets on Tuesdays in term time in Trinity Hall, 9.00-11.00am. Contact: Sheila Booth 8715 0514

Bunker, the youth club for CUCS, meets in Trinity Hall on Sunday evenings in term time from 6.30-8.00pm for young people at senior school. A chance to get to know other young people in CUCS and have fun together. Contact Jane Oliver: 01883 346261.

Badminton Club meets 7.45-10.00pm every Monday in Trinity Hall.

Sutton Churches Tennis Club can be found between 99 and 101 Gander Green Lane, Sutton. All ages and abilities are welcome. See our website at www.clubtennis.co.uk

Coffee and Craft meets in the Oasis at Trinity, 10.00-11.30am usually on the third Friday of the month. Meet with others and work on your knitting, sewing, paper craft or other project. Beginners welcomed! Contact: Deborah Wroe: 8642 9064,

CUCS is Sutton Baptist Church, St Nicholas and Trinity URC/Methodist who are churches uniting in central Sutton, and who regularly meet together for prayer, worship and shared activities.



Oasis at Trinity Church is open Monday to Friday from 10am to 2pm for refreshments, light lunches and a chance to chat.