

# men@trinity

## Newsletter

April 2006

- Mulching beds, border and even containers and baskets with a thick layer (2" or more)
- Before planting newly created borders and beds apply a landscape fabric, plant through it and then mulch on top
- Use water retaining gel mixed into composts for pots and baskets
- Grow more drought tolerant plants such as grasses, Phormiums, Yuccas and Pelargoniums
- Water in the cool of the evening so the water doesn't evaporate quickly and water thoroughly rather little and often
- Collect rainwater into as many water butts as possible
- Use "grey" water for watering whenever possible or store it in butts

Once the weather warms up the soil there will be plenty to do in the garden, so here's a list of a few jobs for the next few weeks;

- Mow the lawn regularly reducing the height of cut over several successive cuts
- Keep on top of the weeds by hand, weeding perennials such as dandelions and docks and hoeing off annuals regularly
- Dead-head spring flowering bulbs and feed them with bone-meal. Don't cut off foliage for 6 weeks after flowering
- Plant out summer flowering bulbs such as gladioli, onion sets and seed potatoes
- Sow hardy annuals and sweet peas directly into prepared soil
- Sow vegetable seeds such as radish, leeks, salad crops, leaf beet, peas, carrots and broad beans
- Sow French beans, courgettes, cucumbers and squashes in a heated propagator
- Keep mail-order plug plants under cover and pot on as necessary
- Put plant supports in place before it's too late

Here's praying for a late but great spring.  
Happy gardening!

### In this issue

Boys toys

Book Review - "Me and my Bleeding Mouth" - Gary McCormick

Film review - Walk the Line

Thoughts for the month

From the potting shed

### Big Boys Toys event

5th May 8.00pm

Leaflets are available in the welcome area.

### Book review

"Me and my Bleeding Mouth" - Gary McCormick

Gary McCormick hails from Northern Ireland and was born at the beginning of the Irish troubles. "Me and my Bleeding mouth is his story through his excursion in to the penal system and involvement with Para military organisations until he found faith in Jesus Christ. As a book it is easy to read but for some it will be difficult to understand but each person will have their own view. You will find it fascinating and may well identify with the struggles Gary experiences.

A book that after you have read it you will want to pass on to a friend who is not yet a believer

Published by Day Three Editions ISBN 1-904459-1-45 and can be ordered through the Lighthouse Bookshop

A selection of books for men are available from the LightHouse Book shop, 2 Railway Approach, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 1BP  
[www.lighthouse-centre.co.uk](http://www.lighthouse-centre.co.uk)  
01342 302660

## Film Review

### Walk the Line

It will take some outstanding performances to better those of Joaquin Phoenix and Reece Witherspoon. Although neither have a musical background their performances as Johnny Cash and June Carter are perfectly pitched- both musically and dramatically in a well paced film that has a lot which can be taken from it.

No doubt in some Christian quarters the failed marriages and adultery in the film will garner criticism at the expense of all else, although it is worth observing these- Carter and Cash first fall for each other whilst they are married to other people. It's worth also noting about the effect a father can have on his son-Cash's troubles are linked back to his alcoholic father's verbal abuse towards his son, especially after the death of Cash's older brother. Yet by the end it is not the failed marriages or abuse that the viewer is left with an impression of. It is of a roller coaster journey, where financial success doesn't equal happiness, the initial high of drug taking soon takes a nasty turn, and the only way out is love, forgiveness and redemption.

There are differing examples of Christianity on show- during one scene June Carter is berated by a lady in a shop for her failed marriage, who

comments that as her parents are "good Christians" she is surprised they even talk to their daughter any more. In another Jerry Lee Lewis is seen raging about how they are all playing "the devil's music"- he was thrown out of bible school for playing rock 'n' roll versions of hymns in church. Yet the dominant example by the end of the film is from June Carter towards Johnny Cash- despite his failings she loves him, forgives him and encourages him that God has given him a second chance.

Towards the end of the film Cash decides to record a live album in Folsom prison. (It would go on to be of the most successful albums ever made). The record company executives are happy to put out a live recording but don't want one recorded in a prison, commenting that a lot of his fan base are Christians who don't want a record of him singing to murderers and rapists at a maximum security jail. Cash simply replies "Well they aren't Christians then".

The line says so much. There is a lot more to Cash's life story (particularly his later life, as the film begins and ends with his Folsom Prison concert in 1968), yet here is an excellent way to find out about a large part of it, and should leave a lot of viewers with plenty to consider.

## MEN@TRINITY thoughts for the month

Recently Geoff had a visit from the Methodist Relief Fund representative to help in the service. They gave us a very clear picture of the relief in part of India where the Tsunami had struck.

The whole service took the theme of how small things can add up to something really quite wonderful in the lives of people who otherwise found their lives shattered in a moment by this gigantic surge of water.

When we think of our lives, however mundane they may be, we all need to know that God is interested in each one of us. This is a very personal interest and whether we acknowledge this or not the fact remains that he has shown his love to everyone on the planet in the person and work of Jesus. He longs for relationship with each of us. He is near each one of us. Recently I, as is my habit, mislaid the first page of an important letter. Search as I may I could not find it. It had an important phone number I needed to ring.

Is God interested in such a small thing? Yes, he is since when I asked him where it was I woke up in the morning to 'hear' the words "look in the document case under banking"

I went and found it immediately! Coincidence – I think not – just more evidence of God's love and personal concern for me. You're no different!

## FROM THE POTTING SHED

Brrr! It's cold out there whilst I write these notes. Still, spring must be round the corner - surely! When it does arrive the weeds will grow like crazy and we'll all be moaning, so why not mulch your beds and borders to suppress the weeds and save work. Also, mulching helps conserve water and save on the need for watering - especially important in these times of drought. There are other measures that can be taken to conserve or store water and I've listed a few tips on the next page: