

CHILDREN OF HOLY TRINITY ELDERS



From left: Barbara Hamilton, Jill De Costa, Waveney Richards, Dr Angelina Osborne (researcher & interviewer), Eamonn James and Veronica Flowers

The next generation of worshippers have been attending Holy Trinity since they were teenagers. Some are children of the elders, others were invited, attended school nearby or brought friends along. Holy Trinity had a thriving Sunday school, and made links with other churches to establish a young community of worshippers that was highly social. Holy Trinity had held a central place in their lives – they married in the church, christened their children here and sent them to Sunday school. Many of them started attending during the time of Rev. Barry Thorley's time and remember him as encouraging a more inclusive communion and them to take active roles within the church – leading the youth and prayer groups and organising trips.

What church means to us:

- Holy Trinity gives me purpose. I organise Wednesday morning service and visit people in their homes who can't attend church.
- Church means togetherness, organising things, getting involved. It's not just about church it's about community and reaching out.
- Prayer group plays a big part in my life. I do a lot of things in the church, like booking weddings and baptisms. I am the choir mistress, and this means a lot to me
- Church to me is about working with people and supporting them the best you can. It's about my faith and spirituality, and I have a strong relationship with the people in this church and the wider community.
- Holy Trinity instils in me a sense of Christian responsibility and is a reminder of how I need to live my life. Coming to church allows me to seek God not just inside church, but everywhere.
- I was baptised, married and confirmed here. Faith is built through the people within the church and through the people you've brought into the church.
- Church is a good way to start the week – I usually hear something in the service that straightens out some query I might have had, or some little issue that might be going on – in a way, it's giving that time to God.