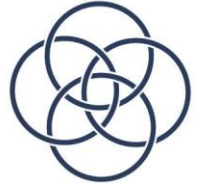




NEWSLETTER



Sunday 25th February 2024

HEADLINES

- **What a Breakfast** – 82 blokes gather at the Parish Centre
- **Bolton Repair Café** – more repairs at second session
- **AYF Ugandan Choir** – update on their visit
- **Ignite** – it's time to relaunch our parish-wide children's club
- **Prayer for the Week** – our Pais team invite us to pray for our young people

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sun 25 Feb

ST PETER'S CHURCH

8.30am	Morning Service
10.30am	Worship for Everyone Livestream: youtube.com/live/MqYKa4GWe8s
6.30pm	Parish-wide Service Livestream: youtube.com/live/2KKIJt58800

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10.00am	Family Service with Communion
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BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

10.30am	All-Age Service
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ST ANDREW'S HOPE CENTRE

10.30am	Morning Service
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Rev Alan writes...

90 Years of Church on Johnson Fold 1934-2024

I love a good celebration and this year is special for two reasons – firstly it's 90 years of St Andrew's Church and secondly, it's 25 years of the new building at Barrow Bridge Mission. Two occasions that can't slip us by, I am sure you will agree. You'll hear more about Barrow Bridge another time, but this week I want to focus on St Andrew's.

Chair of St Andrew's, Diane Ball, and her team have put together plans for a fun weekend of activities – it's a step of faith as they don't have enough help to pull it off – but they are stepping out and believing that by setting the date and asking people to get involved then something amazing will happen. It's the kind of faith that God loves, and I love it too!

Celebrations will take place over the weekend of **Sat 27 Apr – Sun 28 Apr**. Saturday will be an open day with games, presentations and refreshments. Sunday will start with a celebration service followed by a party to which everyone is invited.

Historically, St Andrew's has been a hub of hope for the community providing a variety of activities and social action including a food bank, drop-in sessions, children's and youth clubs, toddler groups – to name but a few! Even with limited resources today, they are just as active providing a toddler group, the Hub drop-in sessions, and recently the new Bolton Repair Café. To use a boxing analogy, you could say St Andrew's is a wonderful fellowship that 'hits well above its weight'!

But this celebration will only be possible if we can all pull together – which is where you come in. I'd love for the whole parish to step-up and help St Andrew's make the most of this special occasion. Read on in this week's newsletter and respond to Diane's appeal on page 2. In the words of our verse for the year: **let's motivate one another to acts of love and good deeds!**

90 Years on Johnson Fold 1934-2024



St Andrew's 90th Anniversary
27-28 Apr – can you help?
Contact Diane Ball

You can help in the following ways: • Helping create a photographic and historical display • With publicity and outreach • Cake making and hospitality • Setting up and chair moving • Prayer • Or any other ideas you might have!

Contact Diane Ball on ball831@sky.com or 07950 244749 or join them at any Sunday 10.30am service. Offers of help are needed preferably by 25 Feb, thank you!

What's Gone On

AYF Choir Return Visit Update

It's been a great first week with the team who are here for ministry and to plan and prepare for a 40th



anniversary UK tour by a bigger team later this year. Andrew, Peter, Mary and Estella arrived last Friday. Andrew and Peter joined us for Breakfast for Blokes on Saturday then travelled to the Isle of Man to meet with churches there. Mary and Estella joined us for worship at St Peter's on Sunday morning and evening. The team have visited a life group, joined our staff team prayers, and paid a surprise visit to the Repair Café at St Andrew's. They have now split into two teams, one going to Bristol and the other to London to meet with churches. We expect them back Sunday afternoon in time to join us for worship at our parish-wide 6.30pm service at St Peter's. Next week they have more meetings with church leaders and schools visits to Lowton CE High, St Peter's CE Primary and Canon Slade. They fly home next Friday.

Come and hear and meet them at Sunday's parish-wide 6.30pm service at St Peter's – it's also the next in our sermon series about **Paul - The Chosen Vessel of My Church**. We will look at Acts 17:16-34 where Paul reasoned with the gentiles in Athens.

Bolton Repair Cafe



Wednesday saw the second Repair Café and the team did a splendid job repairing a variety of items including: a sewing machine, cassette player, iron, PlayStation controller, a wooden stool, glass ornaments, and a couple of necklaces. All while visitors enjoyed a warm welcome with coffee, cakes and conversation. Well done to the whole team! The next Repair Café is Wed 20 March, 10.30am-12.30pm, then every third Wednesday each month at St Andrew's.

Breakfast for Blokes



We were blown away by the response of 82 blokes who joined us for breakfast last Saturday at the Parish Centre. The morning included great bacon and sausage barmes (special thanks to Dave, Ruth and Vicki), games challenges, a presentation and discussions on the theme of 'Chasing the Wind'. Plus, an incredible time of worship with 82 blokes raising their voices in praise in the Jubilee Room! Thanks to Bob Fraser, NW Regional Director from CVM and his team. We are planning future events – and Rev Alan would love to hear from any men interested in taking a lead with organisation.

Carpet-O-Meter

The Carpet-O-Meter has increased to **343 tiles** and **£5,139.38** has been raised - a huge thank you to everyone who has given so far! Total budget including fitting is £24,000, and we need to purchase 1,700 special high-quality breathable tiles. You can sponsor a tile for £15 or a square metre of 4 tiles for £60.



Here is a reminder of ways to give:

- Online: www.stpetersparish.info/carpet
- 'On the plate', or at the Parish Office in an envelope marked 'New Carpet'. Cheques payable to 'St. Peter's Halliwell'
- BACS transfer (Ref: 'Carpet') to 'St. Peters Church Halliwell PCC', Sort Code 16-00-06, Account No. 16734849. Please email finance@stpetersparish.info if eligible to reclaim Gift Aid

Coming Up

Ignite Weekly Children's Club

Some of you may remember a few years ago we had a weekly children's club called Ignite – well we are about to



relaunch, or rather, reignite it! And there is an exciting new opportunity to volunteer. It is parish-wide and is aimed at KS2 children (primary school junior ages) and will meet at the Parish Centre. The timings are most likely to be Tue or Wed about 6pm-7.15pm. Staff from Manchester Diocese Children Changing Places team are supporting us with the relaunch. Please get in touch with Lucy Hargraves lucyhargraves@manchester.anglican.org if you would be interested to explore getting involved.

Quinta Parish Weekend Away

Save the date! The next Quinta parish weekend away will take place **Fri 12 Sept - Sun 14 Sept 2025**. Coming up are two Quinta fundraising events: Do Lunch Do Life at the Parish Centre on **Sun 17 Mar** and a Progressive Meal on **Sat 6 Apr, 6.30pm** – see below.

Progressive Meal 2024

It's back! — by popular demand! And this time, it's bigger than ever! We're starting to raise money for Quinta 2025... and what better way to do it than with a meal together?

This year's Progressive Meal will take place on **Sat 6 April, 6.30pm**. All guests start at the Parish Centre, and from there go out to one of our hosts for a starter. Guests then move to another host's home for a main, and a third for a dessert, each with a different

group of guests. It's a great way to get to know people, raise money, and have a great meal!

This year it's a parish-wide event, with hosts from across the parish. Guests (aged 11+) from all of our congregations are very welcome — it's a *parish* weekend away we're raising money for!

No transport? No problem — other guests will be able to give you a lift. Allergies or dislikes? No problem either — our hosts can accommodate. Can't afford it? No worries — please just give what you can, if anything! (Suggested cost is £15 per head but the fellowship is more important than the finance!). Any questions? Please contact Rachel or Stephen Brierley on 01204 433810, or thebrierleys@proton.me. To sign up visit <https://forms.gle/Dx6PMcm85L62T8SHA>. Thank you!

Out and About Group Walk

Sat 2 March. Meet opposite St Peter's at 9:20am prompt, or at Westhoughton train station at 9.45am. We will get the 9.55am train to Wigan and walk back to Westhoughton along the canal towpath and through Borsdane Wood, along the community rail trail, 7 miles - www.southeastlancscrp.org.uk/community-rail-trails/ Train is £4.80, unless you've got a railcard or bus pass with the rail addition. Park in Westhoughton 'park and ride' car park (free parking). For details contact Rick and Jane Heath on 07472 926650.

And also...

PRAYER by our Pais Team

We pray especially for our children and young people, that they may be inspired to seek truth, justice and love in all their actions.

We pray for broken hearts before you Lord, for soil where the seeds of the gospel will fall there may be healing and bear much fruit.

Strengthen them on their journey, give them courage to face the challenges they encounter daily and wisdom to make choices that lead to growth and fulfilment. May they feel your love embracing them and guiding them every step of the way.

We pray for open doors in new schools and for a generation of young people standing before your presence, full of boldness, authority and anointing to follow and proclaim your truth.

And over this nation Lord we declare, in the name of Jesus, words of life, hope and salvation. **Amen**



Can you help our Pais team?

To volunteer contact
pais@stpetersparish.info

Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 26 Feb			
10am-12noon 9.30am-12noon 7.30pm-9pm	Coffee Room Age UK Strength & Balance Classes Girls Discipleship Group	Drop-in for coffee and cakes Classes are full - contact office for info All girls in Year 9+ welcome.	Parish Centre
Tue 27 Feb			
9.45am-11.30am	Tots Toddlers	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am 7.30pm-9pm	Little Wiggles Toddlers Tread Youth Group	Suzi 07834 371509 Ben 07512 753201	Parish Centre
Wed 28 Feb			
10am-11.30am 8pm-9.30pm	Open Door Ladies Group Alpha Course	Guide Dogs for the Blind (donations please) 11-week faith course	Parish Centre
9am	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session	St Andrew's
Thu 29 Feb			
10am-11am 8pm-9.30pm	Aerobics Thursday Night Life Group	Paula 07913 408141 Contact office for info	Parish Centre
10.30am-12noon	Oasis Coffee Morning and Service	Refreshments followed by service at 11.30am	St Peter's
Fri 1 Mar			
10am-12noon 10.30am-12noon 8pm	Watercolours Class Friday Life Stressbusters Badminton	Lucinda 07977 821119 denis.collier@gmail.com Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre
Sat 2 Mar			
9am-12pm	Interact Performing Arts Group	Emma 07896 724531	Parish Centre

Keep Connected

General Enquiries E: office@stpetersparish.info / P: 01204 599900

Parish Business Manager: Amanda Blease E: amanda@stpetersparish.info

Vicar: Rev Alan Saunders E: alan@stpetersparish.info / M: 07767 643444 / P: 01204 848624

Wardens: Elian Winstanley and Phil Weaver E: wardens@stpetersparish.info

CAP Debt Centre Manager: Sam Wolstencroft E: samwolstencroft@capuk.org / M: 07934 716509

Caretaker: David Park E: david@stpetersparish.info

St Peter's Parish Centre
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www.stpetersparish.info



St Peter's Halliwell



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