

# St Peter's Church Magazine

## September 2016





## Harvest Thanksgiving Service

on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016 at 6.30pm  
in St Peter's Church, Formby.

**Special Preacher –**

**The Most Revd David Chillingworth,**  
Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane  
Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church

*Refreshments afterwards*

## Choir Concert at St Peter's Church

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

Proceeds going to St George's in Madrid.

See page 8 for more details.



## Captain Hugh Daghish ~ Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016

**'The Royal Yacht Remembered'** to be held in Church at 7pm

Refreshments afterwards in the Bier House

There will be a Retiring Collection for Hugh Daghish's chosen Charity the Merseyside Branch of the Soldiers' Sailors' Airmen's Families' Association (SSAFA) and Caroline Hope's Charity, Elizabeth's Legacy of Hope



*Captain Hugh Daghish LVO JP RN was born and brought up in Oxtou, Wirral, and attended Birkenhead School. He joined the Royal Navy when he was 19 and served for 36 years, leaving active service in November 2005. He had 10 ships in all: destroyers, frigates and aircraft carriers. He also served in Her Majesty's Yacht Britannia as the Commander - but more about his interesting career on the night. In December 2014 he was appointed Vice Chairman of SSAFA Merseyside and he was commissioned as a Deputy Lieutenant of Merseyside in April 2015.*

# From the Editorial Team

Welcome back after the summer break – we've got a bumper forty-four page edition to make up for our absence last month!

It's congratulations to Canon Raymond Lee on his 60 years of ordained ministry – a tremendous achievement in an era when so many congratulate themselves on taking early retirement. And yes, we know that behind every great man, there's a great woman – well done, Janet!

In this year of the Centenary of the Battle of the Somme, we have two contributions: one very personal one from Sue Parkes about her grandfather and her attendance at the Commemoration Service in Manchester; the other a piece of research into one of the memorials in church and the wooden cross in the graveyard. It's contributions like this that bring history to life.

It's interesting to read about the Savings Plan for School Children. Time will tell whether it is successful – it's certainly needed. Does it prompt memories of National Savings Stamps? One member of the Editorial Team was savings monitor, responsible for collecting sixpences and shillings, taking them to the School Office, then collecting and issuing the stamps to his fellow-pupils. He ended up as a Church Treasurer for 30 years!



It's been a quiet month on the Back Pew, but we trust that Ted will be back next month with another of his Views.

**Best wishes from the Editorial Team**

*Please note that the deadline for the October edition of the magazine is **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016**. Contributions to [alisonwhiffing@aol.com](mailto:alisonwhiffing@aol.com)*

The magazine is an important means of outreach and keeps everyone informed and in touch with the life of St Peter's Parish. The magazine is free, though it would be appreciated if you would like to give a donation towards production costs. If you would like a magazine delivered to your home, please contact the Parish Office.

Photographs Front cover: Formby Pinewoods, Sonia Greenyer,  
Through magazine Revd Anne Taylor and Andrew Greenyer.

*Dear Friends,*

I hope that you all had a break and a rest over the summer months.

September means schools have re-opened and life gets back to routine. It doesn't really matter what the weather is like – unless of course you are retired, then September is a great time to holiday!

The parish didn't go to asleep totally over the summer months. The work in the Garden of Remembrance has been completed and we thank everyone involved. We hope those who visit the Garden will find it a peaceful place in which to spend time. Plans for the extension to the Bier House continue and we hope to be able to share the final plans with you all shortly. Also in July we have appointed another Parish Administrator. We are delighted that Sonia Greenyer will now be working in the Parish Office on Wednesdays. That means the office will be open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 12noon. We also thank Yvonne Hilditch who served as the Bible notes secretary for 23 years and has now retired from the job. Marilyn Siddons-Smith is now looking after the distribution of Bible reading notes.

Thank you to all who looked after services while I was on holiday and also those who preached on the Sundays after I returned. So everyone had a holiday from me preaching but that is now over - well nearly!

We have a couple of special Sundays in September to note.



**18<sup>th</sup> - Battle of Britain Commemoration Service.**

We will welcome the officers and cadets of 611 Woodvale Squadron A.T.C who will be in attendance along with members of the Civilian Committee. We have a special preacher at the service — **Rev. David Taylor.**

David is Padre in the Royal Army Chaplains' Department currently ministering to Merseyside Army Cadets and the Army Training Unit (NW), - which are the units based at Altcar- and honorary Padre and honorary member of the Liverpool University Air Squadron. He also assists in St Michael & All Angels, Altcar.

## **25<sup>th</sup> - Service of Celebration for 60 years of Ordained Ministry.**

We will be celebrating with Canon Raymond Lee as he marks this important anniversary. We welcome **Canon Bob Lewis** as preacher at this service. More information on page 6.

Then we start preparations for our **Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday** on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. In the morning there will be the All-Age Parade Service followed by bacon butties. Then in the evening we welcome **Bishop David Chillingworth**, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, as our preacher. We do want to spread the word about this service and we are hoping that those who delivered Holy Week cards will be willing to deliver **Harvest cards**. If you are unable to do this in September please let us know, or indeed, if you would like to volunteer to deliver cards in your area, we would love to hear from you.

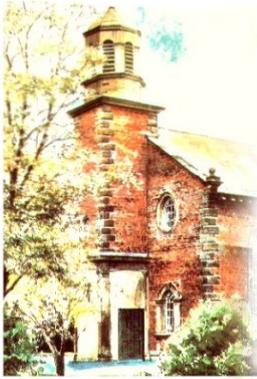
But it is not all Sundays in St Peter's as we have a nearly full coach going to The National Arboretum on the 17<sup>th</sup>. As I write this letter there are a couple of free seats so please talk to the Social Committee if you would like to go. Contact details on page 42.

Autumn has come as the nights close in. However to counteract that there is plenty to look forward to in parish life for all ages.

So as holidays become a distant memory for most of us, we prepare and look forward to our active involvement in the life of St. Peter's and journeying together into a new season.

*Anne*





**Canon RAYMOND LEE**  
**60 years of Ordained Ministry**  
**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September**



We will be having a special service of celebration to give thanks for Raymond Lee's 60 years of ordained ministry on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 10am. Of those years Raymond spent 42 years in parish ministry— Tooting, St Nicholas; Muswell Hill, St James; Woking, St Mary of Bethany; Crosby, St Luke & All Saints; Allerton, All Hallows; Altcar, St Michael.

Then in retirement Raymond has assisted in Bootle Team Ministry and of course in St Peter's where he also worships each Sunday. Raymond would like this service to be not only a celebration of his ministry but also a recognition of the importance of parish ministry. It is also a time to give thanks for all who have encouraged him in his ministry and of course that includes his wife, Janet, who has supported him from the beginning.

The special preacher at the service will be Canon Bob Lewis whom he has known for 45 years! Bob grew up in Crosby and was a parishioner of St Luke's while Raymond was Vicar and it was at this time he felt God's call to ordination. Bob is now serving as a University Chaplain and Priest-in-Charge of St Margaret's, Toxteth.

Raymond will be marking the occasion by giving a donation to St Peter's and also to St Margaret's, Toxteth. It is suggested that if anyone were thinking of a gift, it would be appreciated if this could be in the form of a donation to this fund. Blue envelopes can be used and the total will be split between the two churches.

After the service there will be refreshments in the Parish Hall and all are welcome.



# Harvest Festival Giving

This year the parish giving at the harvest festival will be donated to Farm Africa, a charity which provides the basic knowledge, skills and finance to help poor farming families to survive on their land.

The following is an extract from their website:

**Poverty is widespread in sub-Saharan Africa, with more than 40% of the population living below the poverty line, surviving on incomes of less than \$1.90 (£1.45) a day.**

That's where Farm Africa comes in.



Africa possesses 60% of the world's uncultivated land suitable for crop production and has huge capacity for development. Farm Africa believes that Africa has the power to feed itself.

Farm Africa helps farmers grow more, sell more and sell for more. We pioneer techniques that boost harvests, build rural incomes, sustain natural resources and help end Africa's need for aid.

We work with communities, the private sector and governments to make sure we're finding the most effective ways to increase food production.

Typically, our staff are from the local area, can speak the local language, and have a deep understanding of the local context.

Our technical experts closely monitor the results of projects, and adapt approaches as needed. Recognising that the private sector has a huge role to play in developing prosperity in rural Africa, we help smallholder farmers to develop links to markets.

**Rod Jacques**

Breakfast Church meets on the first Saturday of the month in the Bier House and uses the Iona Morning Service and is followed by tea & toast. This provides an opportunity other than on a Sunday to pray together for specific needs. It means we have more time to reflect on the readings and pray for specific needs either in our world, our parish or for those whom we know.



This half hour service has been well attended and we hope others will feel free to join us. The next Breakfast Church will be held on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 9.00am.**

### To Talk About What Matters

**An opportunity to share ideas and thoughts together over a pint.**



There was a very good and enjoyable discussion at our last meeting which was facilitated by Bishop Cyril Ashton.

Our next gathering is on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September  
In The Grapes Pub at 8.00pm.

All welcome.



We are advised by the Foodbank they have plenty of supplies of soup and beans – but they are in desperate need of the following: - **long life milk; fruit juice; jam; tinned cold meat.** Donations can be left in the boxes in the church porch or the Bier House. Thank You for your continued support.

### Treble Club



Treble Club is an informal activity for Primary age boys and girls who like singing. The Club meets in the Choir Vestry every Monday at 4.15pm to 4.45 pm during school term. Newcomers are always welcome. We will begin again on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September.

Further information from Graham Jones 876134

## **Can a robot .....**

We are reliably informed that a driverless car will soon manoeuvre safely through the roads of England, the robot driver having a programme enabling it to act like a human driver. In other words the car would have artificial intelligence. The complex actions of computers are said to have artificial intelligence. There are so many definitions of this term but in effect it is to convey the notion that the machine has sufficient intelligence to mimic humans. The scientist Alan Turing, famous for his work on the German war codes, said *'if a machine behaves as intelligently as a human being, then it is as intelligent as a human being'*.

In a recent article a specialist in artificial intelligence argued that the only consciousness we can be sure of is our own, certainly not the consciousness of others which we can only infer. This leads him to argue that as artificial intelligence becomes more a part of our lives we will see it as more and more human and assume that it has a conscience.

There is a growing acceptance that the human condition is becoming more dependent on computers and that scientific exploration of human behaviour will show that we are the prisoners of electrical impulses. There is a sense that humans are as isolated as machines and many people do feel alone but we only have to see a new child to know how dependent that child is on others and how this need will continue for a long time. The basis of empathy, hope and love is all about a response to our need for others. Even the atheist philosopher Sartre said that *'he can only know himself through others'*. Not a characteristic of robots the Christian message is that we must recognise the need for each other.

We can recognise the needs of another and can differentiate between robot and a mechanic. Robots are isolated machines, humans are not. We must not see ourselves as such.

As John Donne said  
*'No man is an island, entire of it self'*.



**Rod Jacques**



# Concert

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

Capriccio Singers is a mixed voice choir of 16 singers and is based in the Wirral. It was formed in 1991 in Southport by Musical Director Susan Acty, and perform throughout the Wirral, Liverpool, Merseyside and Cheshire areas.

The current choir membership is drawn from the Wirral, Liverpool and surrounding areas of Merseyside and includes our own choristers Caroline Speakman and Mike Fletcher. They enjoy performing a wide repertoire of music to suit all tastes with romantic and modern pieces, Victorian part songs, sacred music, "classics" and songs from the shows.

This concert was originally planned as a fund raiser for St Peter's. When the Social Committee heard that the choir were flying out to Madrid to give a concert on the following Saturday in support of Fr Paul's church, St George's Anglican Church, they sought and received PCC agreement that the money raised would be sent to St George's.



The concert will begin at 7.30pm with an interval for drinks and nibbles. There is no cost for admission but there will be a retiring collection on behalf of St George's, Madrid.

**Mike Fletcher**

The MU had a quiet July and then in August we had two events: the Diocesan celebration was on 6<sup>th</sup> August of 140 years of the Mothers' Union with a service, followed by a strawberry tea, at St Paul's Church, Fazakerley, and then, on 16<sup>th</sup> August, Beverley Boden invited everyone to a garden party at her home in Blundellsands.

**On 8<sup>th</sup> September our autumn programme begins with a talk by Nigel Mellor on the 'Emmaus Project' at 2.00pm in the Bier House.**

Our project for the year 2016-17 is the provision of vitally needed toiletries for refugees in Liverpool. Please bring contributions to branch meetings in the Bier House, beginning in September, and they will be forwarded to refugee centres. Items required are soap, face flannels, tooth paste and tooth brushes, combs, etc.

**Please note** the Mothers Union is open to everyone, not just 'mothers'. If you would like to join or want further information, please contact Eleanor, tel. 874112.

Lastly, please see the thank you letter from Buckingham Palace on the Church website.

***Eleanor***

## **MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE**

"New Beginnings" is for those planning to get married in St Peter's or St Luke's. It is a relaxed group where couples can support each other; where the church can offer advice about the practical things concerned with a wedding; and where we can look together at some of the key things which make for a successful marriage.

**Next meeting Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 4pm to 6pm  
in St Luke's Meeting Room.**

More information from Sally Nicol,  
New Beginnings Co-Ordinator Tel. 01704 877655



# BATTLE OF THE SOMME COMMEMORATION

**1<sup>st</sup> July 2016**

*Copies of my grandfather's medals:*

*1914-15 Star*

*The British War Medal*

*The Allied Victory Medal*



My grandfather was killed on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. He joined the Army the previous year 1915 as one of the Salford Pals.

My father was only 4 when he lost his father. As a young girl I recall on Remembrance Sunday standing outside the cenotaph in our church where my father was a member of the choir and I knew my father was very sad on that day thinking about the father he never really knew.

I started researching my grandfather a few years ago and when I realised there was a parade and service in Manchester to commemorate the Battle of the Somme on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016 I thought I would enquire whether I would be able to take part. Patrick searched on line and found you could apply to take part in the parade and we received word back we could take part in the parade and that we could also apply to be part of the service.

On arriving at Deansgate station we saw several young men dressed as WW1 soldiers. These turned out to be actors playing the role of "ghost" to a casualty of the war. Because those who fought and those who died are grandparents of those of us not so young ourselves it is easy to forget how young they were. The youth of the actors was a poignant reminder of how young the soldiers were so many of whom would never grow old.

What an emotional day this turned out to be. As I marched along with all the service personnel I felt very proud and the support we received from the public moved me to tears. I was thinking about my grandfather and my own father. It seemed those who died one hundred years ago were looking down on us. How proud they would be to know that their sacrifice was still remembered.

On arriving at the Cathedral we were given seats near to all the hierarchy

so we felt we were really part of the service. We were very close to Prince Andrew and George Osborne (George was still famous then!).

The service had a great impact on us, particularly a number of readings, relevant to the occasion, mainly read by young people who were members of the armed services. Prince Andrew read the beatitudes and I would have to say he would make a good addition to my readers list at St. Peter's.

Attending the commemoration was an honour and a privilege. It was a day Patrick and I will never forget.

**Sue Parkes**

### **Canon Norman Carter, Vicar of St Peter's 1983—1989**

In July we received the sad news that Norman Carter had passed away. Norman was a popular and much loved Vicar of St Peter's and many attended his funeral service to celebrate his life in August.

'My family and I are very grateful for all the support we have received in so many different ways: prayer, practical help, cards, emails and the presence of so many at Norman's funeral. Canon Rod Garner and the Southport Holy Trinity team worked so hard to make the service memorable and a fitting tribute to Norman. They were helped by those who, at short notice, enabled an organ and choir to enrich the service and those who provided beautiful floral displays in church.

Thank you everyone.'

Barbara Carter



# Primetime



Meeting once a month for fun, friendship and support.  
For ladies in their prime, whatever your age!  
We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month  
in the Old School Room at St Peter's Parish Hall, Paradise Lane.

Our next meeting will be held on  
**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September**  
**Contact: Sonia, Elaine or Ali on 01704 833781**

# THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVERMORE

## ONE OF THE MANY - GEORGE ERIC THOMPSON



As you read this magazine, it will be almost the centenary of the death of one of our parishioners. He was 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant George Eric Thompson, whose brass plaque is displayed on the North side of the nave. He died on the Somme on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1916.

Eric was born in Formby in 1896, and his family lived at a house called Parkfield, which is the little-used name of 54 Freshfield Road.



This was the house where Ros and our family lived for nearly 30 years, so I have had an interest in him since I made the connection some time ago. His father was George

Henderson Thompson, a Liverpool solicitor, and his mother's name was Gertrude. Eric attended Rugby and Harrow schools, where he was a keen cricketer and played Association Football. On leaving school, Eric joined the staff of Milligan and Macintosh, cotton brokers, in Liverpool. As a keen sportsman he was a member of West Lancashire Golf Club and Northern Cricket Club in Crosby.

At the outbreak of war in August 1914 Eric joined Kitchener's Army as a private soldier in the King's Liverpool Regiment. This was the first of the Pals Battalions, and was recruited by the then Lord Derby, whose family crest, the Eagle and Child, is included on Eric's cap-badge. Indeed, the battalion trained on the Derby estate at Knowsley Hall. He was obviously 'Officer Material' and was commissioned 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in December 1915.



The 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion was sent to France in July 1916 to reinforce the front after the slaughter on the Somme of the 1<sup>st</sup> July. Aged 20, he was killed after seven weeks in France whilst leading his platoon at Waterlot Farm near Guillemont. His body was not recovered, and he is commemorated with over 70,000 others on the Thiepval Memorial. Tributes from fellow-officers spoke of his calmness and pluck, and how he was well-liked by all ranks. A cross was raised near Ginchy field dressing station in honour of officers of 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion who fell on the Somme. It bore the names of 8 young men, of whom Eric and one other came from Formby.



I am not sure how the cross, which was refurbished a few years ago, came to be in St Peter's churchyard. However, it is assumed that his family paid for it to be brought to Formby sometime in the 1920's.

Eric's is one amongst around 300,000 young lives lost on both sides in the Battle of the Somme. Because of his wealthy background we can find out quite a lot about him, and also Archie Smith-Maxwell of Old Town Lodge, who was killed on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 aged just 18 years and commemorated on the south wall of the nave. Less can be known of those from more humble backgrounds, such as the brothers Samuel, John and Alfred Garrett, all killed in France in 1916 and commemorated in our churchyard. They were all great losses to their family and community.



In preparing this article I acknowledge information and the photograph of Eric from the Harrow School archive, and recent articles in the Formby Bubble from John Phillips of the Formby Society and by Roy Bevan. John Phillips is due to give a talk on the Somme at Formby Library on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm – booking required on 01704 874177. More information can be gleaned at [www.merseyrollofhonour.co.uk](http://www.merseyrollofhonour.co.uk).

**Nick Philpott**

# Bells and Stoles..... at St Peter's

What is a stole?

Whenever a priest puts on vestments or robes to take a service they wear a stole. A stole is a long cloth, about 10cm wide, and worn around the neck like a scarf. It is of the liturgical colour of the day at a Eucharist or Sacramental service or black for the Offices e.g. Evensong.



The stole, like so much else, has its origins in history. The Rabbis wore, and still wear, a prayer shawl with tassels around their necks as a sign of their authority within the synagogue.

The stole is worn to remind the priest not only of their authority and dignity as a priest, but of their duty to preach the word of God with courage and conviction. It is also a reminder to the priest to serve the needs of the faithful. It goes without saying that the wearing of a stole is a reminder of a daunting responsibility and duty that would be undertaken only with a great deal of faith and commitment.

Stoles are often beautifully decorated or embellished with fine embroidery and, although the basic shape remains the same they range from one that is little more than a length of ribbon to those of heavily decorated brocade.

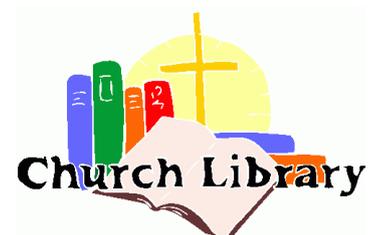
There. That's something else to take a look at when in St Peter's.

**Cliff Cotsworth**

## The Parish Library is in The Bier House

**NOW includes DVDs and children's books**

The Library has a selection of books that include theology, spirituality, prayer and biographies. If you would like to borrow a book please write your name in the notebook provided. We hope this is a useful resource for everyone.



# CONVERT £1000 INTO £18,000!

Yes, you read correctly!

Before Brexit actually happens, the E.U. is offering to match on a ratio of 18:1 any money donated in memory of someone to a Christian Aid project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

The DRC is a complex and challenging country. Decades of armed conflict have left a legacy of poverty, poor governance, displacement of peoples, violence and corruption which still goes on today.

More than 80% of the population live on less than a £1 a day. Access to essential services is extremely limited. Only 22% of Congolese have access to drinking water and just one in ten households uses electricity.

Although many UN agencies and NGO's have withdrawn from the DRC despite the obvious humanitarian need there, Christian Aid is still supporting projects and programmes to improve the desperate lot of so many who live there.

To help convert £1000 into £18,000, parishioner Carol Paine will do a sponsored walk – **“Circle Liverpool”** – for Christian Aid on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October. As part of the EU stipulation of support is that the money raised must be in memory of someone, so she has chosen to walk **in memory of Canon Norman Carter**, a former and much loved Vicar of St. Peter's, who died in July this year. In all Canon Carter served 65 years in Liverpool Diocese including from 1983 to 1989 as Vicar of St Peter's.

Please support Carol and Christian Aid. A sponsorship form is available in Church or donations can be given to Carol.

If Brexit happens soon this amazing offer will not be able to be repeated.



So please let us take full advantage of this remarkable opportunity to convert £1000 into £18,000!

# **SAVINGS PLAN FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN**

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has praised the Church of England's new savings-club programme for primary schools as "at the core of the church's mission at the heart of vibrant and caring communities."

The scheme, supported by Virgin Money, entitled LifeSavers was piloted in six schools across three areas of Bradford, Nottinghamshire and South East London, and started in September 2015. The programme has impacted over a thousand students, and on average 1 in 3 pupils offered the savings club has taken up the chance to save. The schools are working in partnership with four local credit unions who are providing the banking services. Local churches are supporting the delivery of LifeSavers, by providing volunteers to help run the savings club and delivering the LifeSavers 'Act of Worship' in schools focusing on three core Christian values: wisdom, thankfulness and justice. The scheme is now being rolled out around the country with the backing of a government grant.

The programme encourages children to save small regular amounts of money. This is combined with teaching resources to help children understand the values that underpin this kind of approach to money. It's not just teachers; parents, carers and the whole community are encouraged to get involved with children's financial education.

The Archbishop added: "The programme is certainly down to earth and extremely practical, and rightly so. Yet it aims at the heart of some of the deepest, most painful and most intractable problems that families can face, and seeks to help put people on a new footing – a footing that Jesus would recognise as healed and renewed."

"The way that money is dealt with is about human flourishing at its deepest level – and it is absolutely right that the church is helping to try and break this cycle before it affects another generation. Meanwhile, on a practical level it makes perfect sense for the Church of England, which is involved in the education of a million children around the country, to be using our particular platform to make this contribution.

"We now know, thanks to academic research, that our thinking and habits around money are formed much earlier than we'd ever assumed. And they are usually formed subconsciously as you observe your parents or guardians, and absorb whatever the culture of your home life happens to be. Both traditional media and social media also play their part.

So what we are doing with LifeSavers is providing serious, early formation of those values of how we handle money – so that children are given the opportunity to learn that it can and should be a servant, not a master. Many things go to make full and contented lives, but without doubt one of them is not being trapped in the lonely, frightening prison of debt. As a society we've become overly accepting of approaches to money that mean it ends up running people's lives; we want to see people running their money."

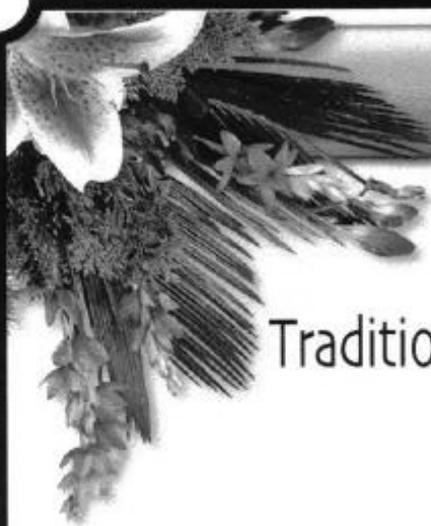


Archbishop of Canterbury's Task Group on  
Responsible Credit and Savings  
[www.archbishopofcanterbury.org](http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org)



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# Refugee Support Group Welcomes Asylum Seekers to Formby



St. Peter's Refugee (Ecumenical) Support Group welcomed fourteen asylum seekers to Formby on 25<sup>th</sup> July.

After protracted negotiations with Asylum Link to find a suitable date the Christian Fellowship minibus brought fourteen asylum seekers to Formby for a vegetarian lunch at the Christian Fellowship Church on Church Road.

The meal was followed by an afternoon visit to Ainsdale beach where our guests enjoyed the sea and cricket on the beach. Those from Eritrea were happy frolicking in the water and predictably the Pakistanis excelled at the cricket. The afternoon concluded with tea and cake back at the church. There were two Pakistani families represented - seven in total, five people from Eritrea and two from Sudan.

Sarah Jope, our contact at Asylum Link, sent the following email: *'I just wanted to say a huge thank you to you all for the day out yesterday. Everyone had a truly fantastic time. They all felt so welcome and looked after and had a lot of fun! The day really lifted people's spirits. It means a lot when people like yourselves offer moral support and friendship to others who are experiencing such difficulty and uncertainty.'*

Nadine Daniel, Bishop Paul's Adviser for Interfaith Matters, also emailed to say that this is just what she hoped local churches would get involved in doing. So a big "thank you" to all those from the Support Group and their families and friends who enabled this to happen.

If anyone would like to join the Refugee Support Group from any of the Formby churches they would be most welcome.

Please contact Revd Peter Paine via [peterspaine@gmail.com](mailto:peterspaine@gmail.com).

# Dementia Friendly Church

June and July have been busy months for our church raising awareness of Dementia. Thank you to everyone who has helped or been involved!

In June, over 40 people, from St Peter's and beyond, came along for two Dementia Friends presentations led by Win Pickering from Elbow Lane Methodist Church. A special thank you to all those from our church who supported this, and to Win for her help and support.

Vicky Hall has completed the training day to deliver the Dementia Friends presentation, if anyone would like a presentation at work, for a group or friends, etc., please contact her through the Parish Office. It is part of the ongoing initiative to make our church and the village Dementia Friendly.

The Alzheimer's Society held a 'Pop-Up' Memory Café in the Old School Room; fifteen people came along to meet up for an informal chat and coffee. Support workers from the Alzheimer's Society were on hand for information and advice.

Beginning on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September, 1 - 3pm, the Alzheimer's Society are also using the Old School Room as the venue for it's course designed especially for carers of those recently diagnosed with dementia. It will run for four two-hour sessions; for further information, please contact the Alzheimer's Society direct on 01704 539967 or [southport@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:southport@alzheimers.org.uk)

On 4<sup>th</sup> December, St Peter's will be holding a special Christmas service for everyone living with Dementia. It will begin at 2pm, and be followed by 'seasonal' refreshments in the Bier House. Please keep an eye open for further details nearer the time!

**Dementia**  
*friendly* **church**

## ***“And Is Accepted Everywhere”***

No doubt the billionaires of this world usually find that they are ‘accepted everywhere’ as did Hilaire Belloc’s Miss Charming (for whom the above line was written) in ‘Cautionary Tales’ after she unexpectedly inherited a vast fortune in the place of the serial juvenile stone-thrower, John Vavassour De Quentin Jones.

However, acceptance of ourselves, as we are, by family, friends and acquaintances is core to our mental and physical well-being whether we have distinct advantages or not.

One group for whom such a state of ease with the people around them is about as achievable as standing on the top of Everest is the LGBTI\* community. This group is treated as 2nd class in the hierarchy of the Church of England and frequently suffers much opprobrium elsewhere.

I read the other week in our paper of a young man in the prime of life, who works for a major charitable organisation. He described living in an evangelical household, where being gay was understood to be a sin. As he grew up he unhappily discovered that he himself was gay, and that this was not a state of being that he was able, despite help and his own best efforts, to grow out of.

He was writing under a pen name because, having confided this information to just a few Christian friends, some had turned away from him permanently. He feared that if he were to be entirely open about himself, he could well have to leave the satisfying job he so much enjoyed.

What was so infinitely depressing about this young man’s life experience thus far, was that he felt permanently lonely, for he could not enter into a stable relationship even if he wished to, because he would thereby let out information about himself which he felt it necessary to hide.

*I was reminded of my five short years on General Synod, where, in the human sexuality fringe group, I heard several people describe similar experiences of loneliness as they battled to live the necessary double life to make themselves acceptable as lay members of some church congregations or to remain in the Church of England’s employ.*

That was why it was good to read in the July/August edition of our magazine

about a collection of essays entitled '*Journeys in Grace and Truth*' with a contribution from the Bishop of Liverpool among others in which he concluded that it was evident to him that the Church needed to be welcoming and inclusive.

What can our church community do to minimise the distress caused to LGBTI faithful Christians, some of whom have even felt that they have to choose between their faith and their longing for a companion in a stable same-sex relationship?

Firstly, it is very reassuring to hear the Revd Anne remind everyone every week at St Peter's that all are welcome to take part in the Eucharist without exception. Secondly, the parish does anyway try to be welcoming to newcomers, so might it not be our next step to make it obvious to the LGBTI community, who have not tried us out, that there are, indeed, no exceptions to our welcome. One way to do this would be for us to join, as a church, the on-line organisation ***Inclusive Church***. Then people could look us up and know that we would be glad to see them at Formby St Peter's.



The Church in our country is having enormous difficulty, as we all know, over the general cultural shift, both outside and to a lesser extent within it, towards the acceptance of same-sex relationships. It still does seem to many, however, an insoluble issue. That is why the Church of England instigated 'Shared conversations' which have been a feature of this Summer's General Synod in York, where the main task was to listen to the experience of LGBTI Christians.

What seems to be vital is that, whatever our own opinions on this issue, we accept one other in love because that is what Our Lord does for us. He told us to love God and our neighbour as ourself. In sum what binds us together is that 'Christ died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again'. This is what really matters, for it is the very kernel of the Christian faith.

\*Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI)

**Jane Pitts**



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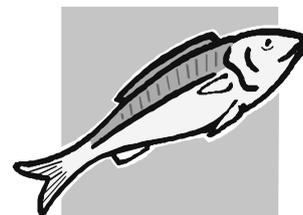
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# Hearing and Listening

We are so lucky if we have perfect hearing. There are many people in the world who are deaf. Nowadays there are hearing aids to assist with sound, but it was not long ago that nothing could be done for a deaf person.

I had two cousins who were born with a hearing defect. They were not totally deaf, but very hard of hearing, and as such, they were considered to be stupid. At school they could not hear the teacher, so learned very little and when the time came for them to leave school at the age of fourteen, all they were fit for was a "Sweat Shop" sewing clothes. The sound of the sewing machines did not upset them you see, they did not hear them. In later life when hearing aids became available, they could not believe it when they heard a baby cry or a tap dripping. It was like a miracle to them. Of course, neither of them was stupid, but their disability made them appear so when they did not respond to a question.

Sound is all around us constantly. We don't always hear it, because we are not listening for it. Bird song in my garden is continuous, but unless someone asks me "what sort of a bird is that?" I just don't listen to the song. I recognise the bird by its song.



At the beach the sound of the sea is different on shingle and on sand, and the ripple of the river is different altogether. I am used to the sea whooshing in and out, but when I hear a river it is constant and unrelenting. The walks in the pinewoods I used to take daily with my dog made me aware of the wind song in the trees. Sound is all around us all the time, even the sound of silence.

I had a pain so went to see a doctor. "It is coming from your back," he told me. I didn't think it was, so told him so. He looked at me over his glasses, a withering look, as if to say, "But the computer says it is" and reached me a prescription. He heard me tell him I had a pain, but he didn't listen to me. After a few weeks I took the bull by the horns and went to see another man, who listened and agreed with me and in minutes he cured my pain. You see, he listened as well as heard. It takes empathy and sympathy to listen to someone. A telephone conversation about a complaint is soon forgotten, but a letter has to be read and digested for the complaint to be dealt with if no one has really listened to you.

Listening to someone when they really need to talk is important. They may be telling something of great importance to them, and often it can be a cry for help. If we really listen to someone it can ease their anxiety, and a trouble shared is a trouble halved they say, and it does you good to get it off your chest.

As we get older and lonelier it helps a great deal when a friend phones to see how you are and if you need anything. They listen to you as well as talk to you and it helps to feel that someone cares.

I have the radio on quite a lot during the day and always try to hear the weather forecast, but unless I sit down and really listen to it, I could not tell what tomorrow will bring as it goes in at one ear and out at the other, as I have not really listened.

I light candles and say prayers for my sick friends and have Faith in the fact that God not only hears my prayers and troubles, but He really listens to them.

*Martha.*



*...er, if I could just tear you away from your mobile phones for a moment...*

**From the Back Pew will return in October**



# Kids Bible Wordsearch

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

Men of the Old Testament  
Puzzle #6

AARON  
ABEL  
ABRAHAM  
ADAM  
AMOS  
CAIN  
DANIEL  
DAVID  
ELIJAH  
EZEKIEL  
GIDEON  
GOLIATH  
ISAAC  
JACOB



JOB  
JOEL  
JONAH  
JONATHAN  
JOSEPH  
JOSHUA  
LOT  
MOSES  
NIMROD  
NOAH  
SAMSON  
SAMUEL  
SAUL  
SOLOMON

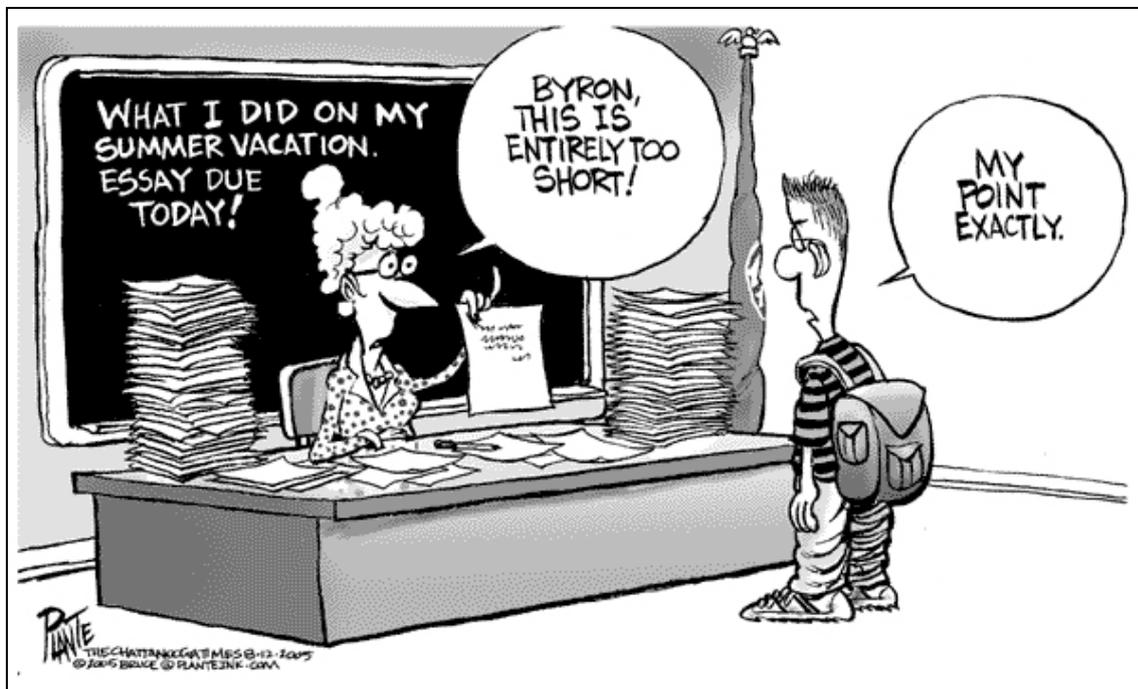


## EMAIL DIRECTORY

We have a parish email directory which is used once or twice a month to send out dates for the month and also when a special event is coming up. If you would like to be added to the email list please send an email to [revannetaylor@gmail.com](mailto:revannetaylor@gmail.com). Email addresses will only be used by St Peter's. This is a way to help us keep in touch.



'Baby McBabeface' - are you really sure?



## True Story

My father had a medical condition that meant regular visits to hospital. The local funeral director was a family friend, and had been very helpful giving dad lifts to and from the hospital. On one occasion, a few hours before he was due to come home, the ward sister approached my father with a grin. "Your wife is on the phone," she said; "She wants to know what time you will be ready for the undertaker to collect you?"

## Game rules

During the local football game, the coach asked one of his young players: "Do you understand what cooperation is?" The little boy nodded yes. "Do you understand that what matters is winning together as a team?"

The little boy nodded yes. "Okay," the coach continued, "do you also understand that when the referee makes a decision, you don't argue or curse or threaten to attack him, right?" Again, the boy nodded vigorously. "Good," said the coach. "Now go over there and explain all that to your mother."



*The start of the football season was the cause of universal joy*



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# Photos from the Pet Service on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2016



## **HOTDOG CHILDREN'S SERVICE**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 12noon.**

The September service will have a sporting theme so please feel free to wear any sports clothing (football shirt, scarf etc)

This is a service for children and young people once a month followed by hotdogs in the Bier House. **All very welcome.**

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – SEPTEMBER 2016



2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday	6.30pm	First Friday Eucharist	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	9.00am	Breakfast Church in Bier House	
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>		<b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>	
8 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	2.00pm	Mothers' Union in Bier House	
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>12noon</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> <b>Children's Hotdog Service</b>	
12 <sup>th</sup> Monday	4.15pm	Treble Club restarts in Choir Vestry	
14 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	11.00am	Eucharist with the Mothers' Union	
17 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	8.00am	Outing to "The National Arboretum" Staffordshire	
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> <b>Battle of Britain Service</b> <i>Preacher – Rev. David Taylor</i> <b>Sunday Club Party</b>	
21 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	7.30pm	"Primetime" Ladies Club in Old School Room, Parish Hall	
<b>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> <b>Service of Celebration –</b> <b>Canon Raymond Lee's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination</b> <i>Preacher – Canon Bob Lewis</i> <b>Sunday Club</b>	
	4.00pm	Marriage Course 'New Beginnings'	
	6.30pm	Service of Wholeness	
28 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	9.00am	School Harvest Service	
	2.00pm	W.O.W. Harvest - a service for pre-school children	

**Save the Date: Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

# From the Church Registers - Baptisms

Sebastian Felix Jones  
son of Chris & Lisa



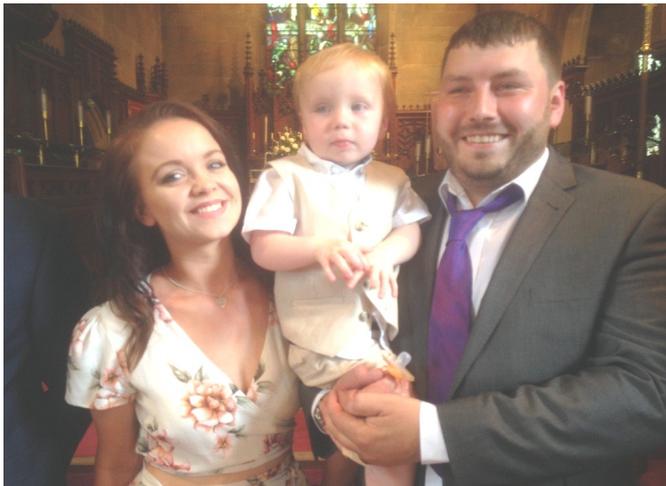
Henrietta Mabel Norah Parr  
Freda Honey-Bea Jean Parr  
daughters of Don & Rachael



Amalie Kathleen Bateson  
daughter of Matthew & Amy



Joshua Walker  
son of Neil & Abigail



Ezra Benjamin Weston  
son of Matthew & Lindsay



# From the Church Registers - Baptisms

Elkie Bo Gray  
daughter of Stuart & Jennifer



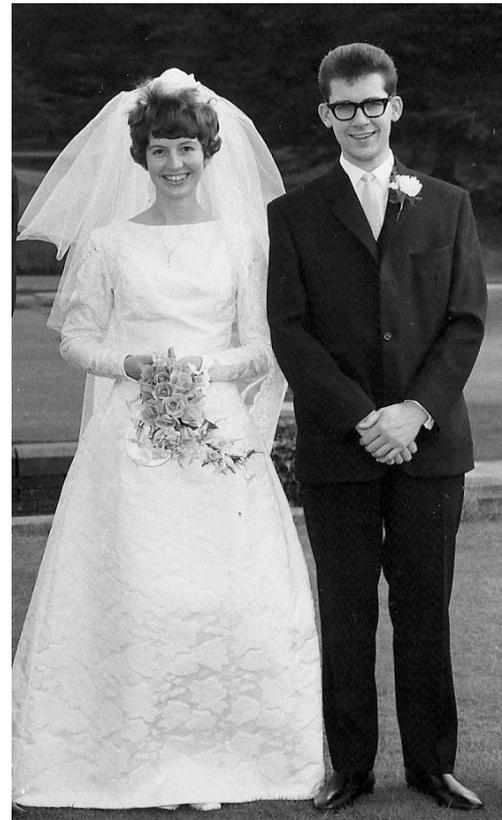
Bailey Alexander Murison  
son of Scott & Danielle



## Wedding Blessing

25<sup>th</sup> June

Nick Palmer & Helen Tait



## Wedding Anniversary

Kath and John Medley celebrate their Golden Wedding. Their wedding took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1966 at the Methodist Church in Disley, Cheshire.

# From the Church Registers - Summer Weddings

25<sup>th</sup> June  
John Elcombe & Alison Holt



2<sup>nd</sup> July John Rackstraw &  
Rachael Chambers



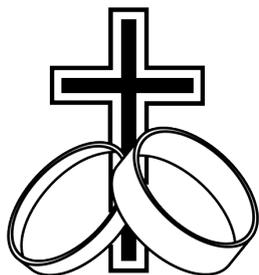
23<sup>rd</sup> July  
Nick Tierney & Jenny Nelson



27<sup>th</sup> August  
Koby Gyasi & Tamara Pawson



# From the Church Registers - Summer Weddings



22<sup>nd</sup> July  
Stephen Marsden &  
Elizabeth O'Donnell

## From the Church Registers



### Funerals

8 <sup>th</sup> July	Brian Church
11 <sup>th</sup> July	Kenneth Jackson
	Ronald Turnbull
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Frank Noble
12 <sup>th</sup> August	Jane Jones
19 <sup>th</sup> August	Margaret Elliott
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	Alan Thirlwell

### Interment of Ashes

7 <sup>th</sup> July	Brian Hazard
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Jennifer Williams
16 <sup>th</sup> August	Brenda Bourhill
18 <sup>th</sup> August	John Yates

We would like to include the announcement of births, engagements and special anniversaries etc. **so please let us know—[alisonwhiffing@aol.com](mailto:alisonwhiffing@aol.com)**

# Trinity St Peter's School Leavers photo



## Church Services

### Sundays

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662)
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist (Coffee afterwards)
- 12.00 noon Baptisms (as arranged)
- 6.30 pm Choral Evensong
- 6.30 pm Service of Wholeness –  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of month

### Weekdays

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
- 11.00 am Wednesday Eucharist (Coffee afterwards)
- 6.30 pm Eucharist 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month