

St Peter's Church Magazine

June 2017



TIMEOUT

For our next TIMEOUT we are back in The Grapes.
No more tours for the next few meetings!

The next get-together will be on

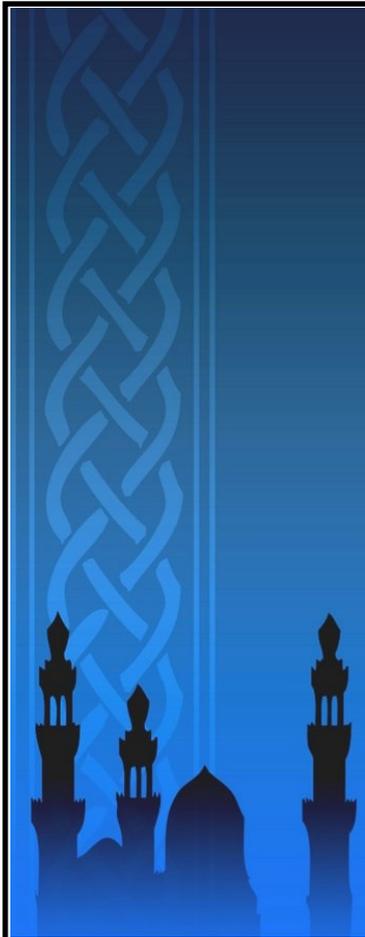
Tuesday 13th June at 8.00pm.

We have asked Paul Whiffing to give us a

Perspective on Islam

as he lived and worked in Saudi Arabia for nearly 10 years. What is it like to live under Islamic rule and what about extreme Islam? How representative of mainstream Islam is it? And what about Christianity in relation to Islam?

It should prove to be an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome for a chat and a pint.



HOTDOG CHILDREN'S SERVICE

A short service for children & young people once a month at 12noon followed by hotdogs.

Due to the Bier House building work the service on Sunday 25th June will be in the Parish Hall, Paradise Lane.

All welcome.



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 – Last 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 st Friday of each month |

From the Editorial Team

As usual we try to include a balanced view of events in the life of St Peter's.

Mike Hastie's article on the installation of new electrical cabling, strikes a humorous, yet serious note by drawing our attention to the contribution made to the life of St Peter's by a large pool of worshippers in the giving of their time and talents.

We look forward to celebrating two notable events in the month of June.

Firstly Ted Woods; whose 50th Anniversary of Ordination occurs on Sunday 11th June, and two weeks later on Sunday 25th, our long-awaited curate Nathan Thorpe is to be ordained at Liverpool Cathedral. Followed one week later, on Sunday 2nd July, when Nathan preaches his first sermon.

We know that these will be the happiest of events.

At the time of writing, work on the Bier House is about to commence, with it being scheduled for completion by the end of August.

We are keeping our fingers crossed that the work will go to plan, because the Bishop of Warrington has kindly agreed to preach at our service on Sunday 3rd September, preceding his opening of the new extension.



Finally, do please note that contributions for inclusion in our two-monthly edition for July and August are requested by 9th June.

The Editorial Team

St Peter's Church was originally "The Ancient Chapelry of Formby, St Peter Apostle and Martyr." It dates from the 12th century and was situated very close to the sea. St Peter's was part of the Parish of Walton, which is why the Rector of Walton is still our Patron. This chapel became "ruinous" and a new church, on the present site, was built in 1746 and consecrated on 19th July 1747.

*Please note that the deadline for the July /August 2017 edition of the magazine is **Friday 9th June 2017**. Contributions to alisonwhiffing@aol.com*

Dear Friends,

We are blessed in St Peter's with the retired clergy who have chosen to worship with us. Trust me there are horror stories of retired clergy who sit in pews loudly tutting and proclaiming "I would never have done it like that!" But not so in St Peter's they are all a great encouragement and support in all that we do.



MILESTONES - For clergy there are milestones that should be celebrated and it is great that as a parish we can celebrate with our retired clergy. We have one such milestone this month. Ted was ordained a Deacon on Sunday 11th June – St Barnabas' Day – 50 years ago in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh. At the 10am Eucharist, on what is also Trinity Sunday this year, we will celebrate with Ted. We will have a visiting preacher, Canon Cecil Hyland, who is a close friend for many years.

But as we mark a 50 year milestone we will also celebrate with Nathan, our new Curate, as he begins on the journey of ordained ministry. Nathan will be ordained in Liverpool Cathedral at 10.30am on Sunday 25th June and you are welcome to attend. The congregation are asked to be seated by 10.15am. In the Anglican Church Petertide, referring to the period around St Peter's Day (29th June) is a traditional time for the ordination of new deacons and priests.

At a time when there is concern about a drop in those entering ordained ministry there will be sixteen ordained on that day so good news for the Church and the Diocese.



Helping someone set out in ministry is a crucial role. The first curacy is a formative time and will lay the foundation for the rest of Nathan's ministry. I know you will support and encourage him and be tolerant as he learns the ropes and your names. The retired clergy will all tell you that the early years in ministry are very important and your words of encouragement and your prayers will be important.

Nathan will be with us for up to four years so plenty of time to learn my bad habits!

We will have a service of welcome for him on Sunday 2nd July with a party in the vicarage after the 10am service. Nathan will be preaching at all three services so it will be a baptism of fire! Do come along and welcome him to the family of St Peter's.

In between the zero and the fifty years comes the Bier House extension. It was 25 years ago that it was first extended and now work is underway on making it fit for mission for the next 25 years (then we can look at another extension!).

Another important development is the global wave of prayer that hundreds of thousands are taking part in this year to pray during the 10 days between Ascension and Pentecost. Archbishop John Sentamu said: "It is my prayer that we shall continue growing in confidence to share Christ; that we shall see the Holy Spirit bringing joy, healing, reconciliation, and hope to many, and bringing new life both to Church and community, to the glory of God the Father.



Remember, whilst the big events are fantastic, Thy Kingdom Come is really about being part of a movement of prayer – so small is beautiful, for Jesus says 'where two or three gather together in my name...' ” There'll be a live service as part of Thy Kingdom Come on BBC1 at 10am on Pentecost Sunday with Archbishop Justin Welby – set your recorders! Elsewhere in the UK people will gather for 33 special beacon services in Cathedrals and thousands are preparing to pray in churches.

St Peter's will be open each morning from 9am to 12noon so please drop in and take time to pray. There will be prayer sheets available or come at 9am for Morning Prayer. www.thykingdomcome.global

This is an opportunity to have our church doors open and to welcome people in - something we want to be able to as often as possible. Thank you to the volunteers who church sat over the 10 days.

So many milestones to celebrate and mark together as the family of God here in St Peter's. As we celebrate St Peter's Tide we look to the past with appreciation, celebrate the present together and look to the future with excitement.

Anne

P.S. By the way, Ted's is the black and white photo!!!

Please pray for those being ordained
this Pentecost, among them

Nathan Andrew Thorpe

To be ordained a Deacon by
Paul Bayes, Bishop of Liverpool
at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral on the
25th June, 2017 at 10:30 am.

Please also pray for
Rev. Canon Anne Taylor,
the parish and people of
St. Peter's, Formby
whom Nathan is to serve as Curate.

'Do not be afraid; keep speaking; do not keep silent'
(Acts 18:9)

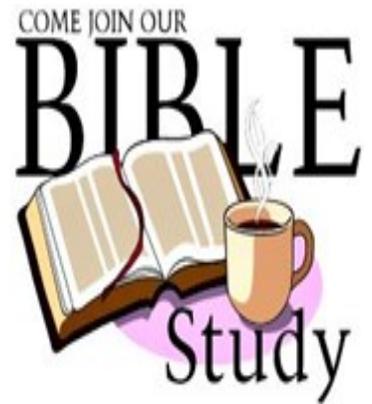


Breakfast Church

Join us at Breakfast Church on Saturday 3rd June at 9am in the Parish Hall (not the Bier House). You will be very welcome.

Tuesday Bible Study Group

As in Lent but with a new course: “**Handing on the Torch**” Sacred Words for a Secular World. The bible study group meets at 10am in the Parish Hall and new-comers are always welcome. There is also coffee afterwards. For further information contact Herbert Blundell (873367) or Ken Ward (871927).



6 th June	Competing Creeds?	Colossians 3:12-17	Parish Hall
13 th June	Handing on the Torch	Philippians 2:1-11	Parish Hall



The modern, tax-efficient and easy way to give to your local church. The Parish Giving Scheme is a way for parishioners to plan and manage their giving through a Direct Debit.

If interested, the full details are at

www.liverpool.anglican.org/parishgivingscheme

Or contact St Peter's Stewardship Team who will be happy to discuss the scheme.

Mike Fletcher 07808 310834

email: stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com

Human nature.

One of the difficulties for those who have worked in the criminal justice system is that they have difficulty in enjoying crime thrillers. So often reality is sacrificed to drama, probably TV is the worst offender but crime books take great liberties too. In the thirties the expert was called in to solve the problem of how Sir Henry died in his study with window and doors locked and the key in his top pocket. Today crime books are more about how one man tries to save the world having overcome past memories and the interference of his ex-wife. One factor is always present in that most of the books deal with greed and the destruction of evidence. Although the setting will reflect current society the story will depend on each of us recognising that people are the same everywhere.

A recent article in the paper looked at the use of drugs and fermented drink in the past. It has been found that “from the Neolithic onwards there is no doubt regarding the consumption of psychoactive plants and alcoholic beverages.” Also, “Wild grapes may have been used in Iran where two pots from 5400-5000BC contained wine.” This goes to show that we have had problems with drugs and such like for thousands of years!

If we accept that human nature has not changed then this acceptance undermines the great movement in the late Seventeenth Century - “The Enlightenment” - when one of the major themes was the idea of ‘progress.’ Rational thought was now to dominate the approach to understanding society, human nature and its place in the world. From this careful analysis would come ‘improvement.’ But this leaves open the question of the difference between progress and improvement. One result is that evolution and society are in a constant state of flux. Whenever we use the term ‘progress’ we should make it clear what exactly is the conclusion at the end of this ‘progress’. Obviously there have been significant changes and improvements in life expectancy and democracy in Western Europe but our human nature has remained the same.

This constant factor in life was well known to Christ and it remains one of the important factors in Christianity. We act now as we did in biblical times but fear, courage and the need for mutual support is the same.

Progress or improvement has not undermined our need for the strength of Christ. The parable of the prodigal son illustrates how well Jesus understood us and shows us how our morality should be shaped.

Rod Jacques

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

“New Beginnings” 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 - BBQ on Sunday 4th June 5-7pm
at St Peter's Vicarage, Cricket Path, Formby L37 7DP**

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



The C Walk at Eyam

Have you been to Eyam? No, and neither had the vast majority of those on the coach on Saturday 13th May. It turned out to be a charming village though with one disadvantage - no, not the plague for which it is usually known - the tearoom and the Miners' Arms are some ¼ of a mile from the coach park. For the C party this added about ½ mile to the proposed walk as the walk left the village close to the coach park. The C walkers do not, repeat do not, like to start walking before coffee/tea and a teacake have been consumed and so a vote had to be taken and, as you might guess, it was coffee and go back to start the walk.

The planned walk followed a trail over pasture and round a disused quarry giving distant views of the landscape. On through Brosterfield Farm to more pasture. A corner of a field inhabited by lots of sheep was deemed a suitable lunch spot with nearly half the walk done. The trail continued on to Stanley Lodge where we turned for home along an old lane between stone walls to the village of Foolow. On the last quarter of the walk a seemingly large number of stiles were encountered - not that a fair collection had not already been successfully crossed - and there appeared to be three varieties. The simple looking stepover stile which can be unfriendly if it has large steps and no pole to hold; the squeeze version looking deceptively simple until you realize that your knapsack makes traverse no easy matter and, lastly, the sheep defying model which can be difficult and unkind as one has to hold the gate against its strong spring whilst clambering through, only to be reminded that you should have held the gate open for longer as it slams into one's hind quarter.

Happily there were no casualties and all eighteen in the party concluded the walk at the tearoom or the Miners' Arms before going back to the coach. Voted a good walk on an overcast day.

John Smith, leader.



Volunteering with The Royal British Legion



The Gild Hall was the venue recently for a presentation event. This event was to present certificates of appreciation for the valuable service given to the Formby Branch Poppy Appeal by volunteers.

Awards were presented to over 40 people who continue to help the Royal British Legion Formby Branch with the Poppy Appeal events, organization or collections. Some people collect house to house at poppy time, others man the stalls in the supermarkets, people help with the organization and delivery of the tins and help to count the money. Some help with the fundraising events during the year. The Awards were presented by Christine Bradford, the Community fundraiser for the Royal British Legion County of "Merseyside and West Lancashire". Branch Certificates were presented and also certificates and medals depending on years of service. This included 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 65 years' service! Those not present were given the awards separately.

St. Peter's people were very much in evidence - Caroline Speakman, Angela Hughes, Ken & Liz Ward, Hilda Stamp, Joyce Sherman, Mike Fletcher, Mike & Val Ward, Myra Kelly, Herbert Blundell, Sandra Houghton, Trish & Peter Shaw and Nick & Ros Philpot.

We would like to thank the public for their support raising over £16,000 for the Poppy Appeal in this area last year.

Although the Formby Branch no longer has its own building it continues to thrive, maintaining fundraising throughout the year and organising remembrance events in the area.



New members are always welcome, ring 871927 or see our web-site www.britishlegion.org/branches/formby



Pet Service

Sunday 9th July at 12 noon

All pets GREAT and small
are very welcome



Pets are a very important part of many people's lives and we will gather to give thanks to God for the role they play and the joy they give.

Dogs are trained in lots of different ways from helping the blind, the deaf and the disabled to acting as companions.

**All creatures great and small are welcome to attend
whether four-footed, two-footed or no-footed!**

As the well-known hymn says; 'All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.'

A service that is for all members of our families!



Election time is here again

General Election 2017

Bishop Paul Bayes is urging all Christians to vote and use their vote well.

The bishop said "Another election, another chance to examine our values and beliefs as we make our choice. We must not make this choice lightly, nor must we shy away from the debate, or avoid the hard work of examining the policies and approaches we will be offered.

Christians are called to be involved in politics because politics is about people, about the society we want, about the love and justice we want in the world. By thinking, praying and voting we demonstrate our love for our Lord and our love for our neighbour. Here is one way where we can indeed make a bigger difference.

So I urge and encourage you to do two things:

Firstly, **vote** and encourage others to vote. You can only make a difference if you vote. It matters. It counts.

Secondly, **use your vote well**. In particular I ask all followers of the risen Christ to think, speak and vote so as to help the poorest and displaced. This year's election is one that can bring real hope to the UK. For us, that hope comes from the power and life of the risen Jesus. As we pray each day, together with all disciples in our Diocese, so once again we ask the Lord - in our public life, in our care for the weak, in our love for one another, as we vote, may Thy Kingdom Come."



There are many passages in the bible that speak about the importance of engaging in civic and political life. We are called to be salt and light in our world and as such we bring flavour and brightness into the important things that impact on the way we live together in community.

Passages from the Bible and what it says about politics and political engagement - www.christiansinpolitics.org.uk/politics-in-the-bible

A pastoral letter has been written by the Archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu which they hope will encourage all Christians to play their part at this important time. They urge people to set aside "apathy and cynicism" and draw new inspiration from the ancient Christian virtues of "love, trust and hope". The letter can be read by visiting www.churchofengland.org

Reproduced from Liverpool Diocesan Website

A Prayer for the General Election



Lord, we give thanks for the privileges and responsibilities of living in a democratic society. Give us wisdom to play our part at election time. Protect us from the sins of despair and cynicism, guard us against the idols of false utopias and strengthen us to make politics a noble calling that serves the common good of all. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Micah Lecture



“More justice in the world - impact, thrive and buzz” explores social justice and urban ministry.

**Monday 5th June 7pm to 9pm in
The Lady Chapel, Liverpool Cathedral**

In this, the first of the Micah Lectures - **‘More justice in the world - impact, thrive and buzz’**; Bishop Paul will explore how we as Christians in the community, are called to change the world for the better and make a bigger difference. This will inspire us to think about the impact of the generosity of our service in Christ, how this creates thriving attractive communities that buzz with life.



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.



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Formby Hub invites you to a **STRAWBERRY TEA** for older people in Formby, Ince Blundell & Hightown

To be held on
Monday 19th June 2017
from 2pm 'til 4pm at
Formby Elim Church
on the corner of
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Old Mill Lane, Formby

Sandwiches,
strawberries
& cream,
cakes
Entertainment
provided

To book and for transport contact Jean
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www.stnicholasblundellsands.org

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH Music Festival

24 June - St Nicholas Singers

25 June - RSCM Choral Evensong & Liverpool Bach Collective
Admission free

26 June - David Poulter (organ recital)

27 June - Merchant Taylors Girls School

28 June - St Nicholas School Choirs (4pm)
Admission free

Claire Hyams and Friends (7pm)
'3Harmony'

29 June - Aintree Hospital Choir & Liverpool Chamber Choir

30 June - Maghull Wind Band

1 July - In Another Place Gospel Choir

£5 per concert, £13 for 3 concerts
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All concerts start at 7pm unless otherwise stated

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St Peter's Day Out

Saturday 9th September 2017

Tatton Park's neo classical mansion - Open 1pm-5pm.

Tatton Park's award-winning gardens - Open 10am-6pm.

Tatton Park's working farm - Open 12pm-5pm.



Tatton Park's Tudor Old Hall - The estate's oldest and most haunted building.

Tatton Park's 1,000 acre deer park - A beautiful place to go for a day outdoors.

The Stables - A great place to eat in the Stableyard.

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Entrance to Mansion, Gardens and Farm £10 adults, £5.50 4 - 15 yr olds.

NT Members only pay for Mansion House.

Gardens Entry - Free

£10.00 per person for the coach.

Own Car - Parking £6.00



**Coach leaves 9.00am from the Church and
leaves Tatton Park at 4.00pm**

A reVOLTING AMPUtation in the Vicar's Vestry

For those readers who are expecting a gruesome Agatha Christie type story, you are going to be disappointed!



The story starts with the Inspection of the electrical equipment in the Church at the beginning of the year. It was identified that the terminating box (cut-out box) at the end of the 3-phase electric cable supplying power to the Church and Bier House did not meet current standards and should be replaced. The cable end is housed in a wooden cabinet above the table in the vestry. The cable and the cast-iron terminating box were probably installed in the 1920s and whilst the system is still working satisfactorily, the modern preference is for plastic rather than cast-iron. In addition there was some sign of overheating in the terminating box which had caused the bitumen

inside the box to melt.

We have recently entered into a two year contract for electricity supply with Npower. However, the responsibility for the cable network in the area is with Scottish Power (these Scots get everywhere!), so it fell to Scottish Power to provide the Contractors to carry out the work.

They duly arrived on time on 2nd May and their plan was to identify the path of the incoming 3-phase power cable so that they could dig down and cut the cable to enable the engineers to work safely on the now dead portion coming into the vestry. The live 415 volt cable would be cut using a ceramic, non-conducting, blade with the operator standing on a rubber mat. The engineers were a little concerned with the proximity of some of the graves in the churchyard but they concluded that if they hit any remains it was too late for electric shock treatment to be effective!

After tracing the path of the cable across the grass from the back door of the Church, they dug down to locate the cable. What they found was a mass of tree roots, old gas, water and drainage pipes and they concluded that it



would be too difficult to obtain sufficient room to safely cut the live cable in that area. The decision was made that they had to carry out all the work involved with changing the terminating box with the cable still live.

The engineer tasked to carry out the work donned thick rubber-soled boots and rubber gloves (like Marigolds only thicker!) He got to work with one or two of us anxiously looking on and ready to summon Anne if things went wrong and last rites were required!

The procedure took about an hour and a half. Power was restored and, as you can see from the pictures, a good and neat job was achieved with no disasters and minimum of mess.

This is just another example of the many tasks that are regularly carried out, largely unseen and un-noticed by the majority of the worshippers in St Peter's, which enable the smooth running of the Church throughout the year. Our Church is very fortunate in that we have a large pool of people who are prepared to give their time and talents to support these necessary tasks.

We take for granted these days that if we turn on a tap we get water and if we flick a switch we get power and we don't give much thought to how these utilities are actually delivered to us. Some considerable credit has to be given to the engineers of the early 1900s who designed, manufactured and installed the network of pipes, power and telephone cables, many of which are still in operation today after nearly 100 years.



Mike Hastie



Old terminating box



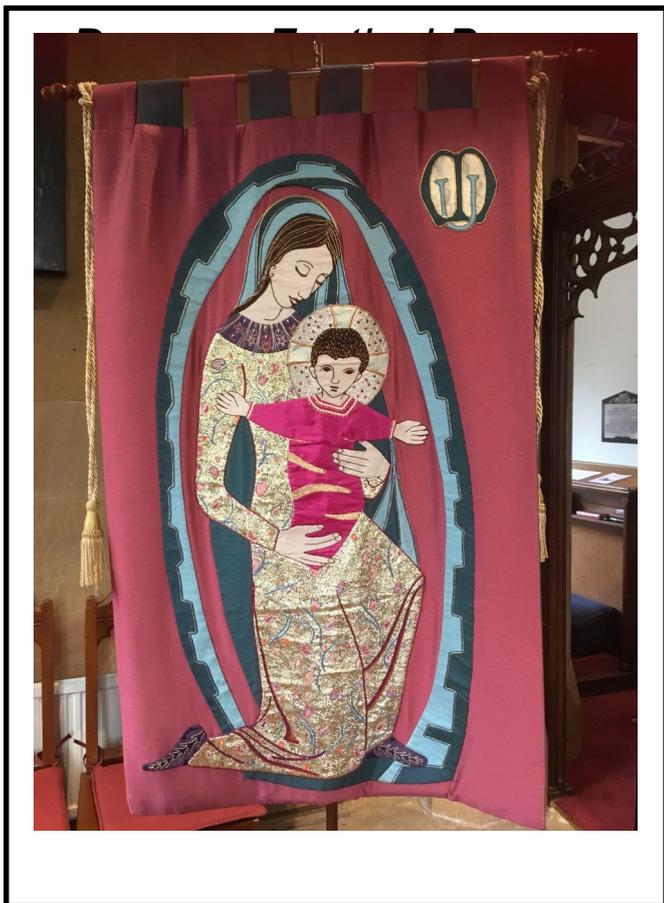
Live cable ends



New plastic terminations

We enjoyed our visit to Clouds Restaurant at Southport College on 5th May, with its lofty views over a tree-clad Southport and hinterland, and as previously had an excellent lunch.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families



The Deanery Festival was held on 10th May. This inspiring service was hosted this year by St. Peter's with MU members attending from branches within the Sefton North and Bootle Deanery. It was led by Revd. Anne assisted by Tricia Shaw, with contributions of prayer and bible readings from the branches, and accompanied by Organist Graham Jones.

Revd. Anne spoke of the example set by four women, the mother of Moses who hid him in the bullrushes and was employed as his nurse by Pharaoh's daughter, Queens Vashti and Esther from the Book of Esther, and Mary the mother of Jesus, as women who

adhered steadfastly, whatever the cost, to what they knew to be right.

Afterwards we had tea in the Bier House and outside in the spring sunshine. Thank you to all who helped.

On 27th May Beverley Boden gave her annual garden party in aid of the Children's Society and we again enjoyed her hospitality at her home in Blundellsands.

We look forward to the Strawberry Tea and Bring and Buy on Thursday 1st June at 2.00 pm in the Parish Hall, Paradise Lane, when we hope to have tea in the garden. The charge will be £1.50 to include strawberries, scones and cream. Please bring suitable items to the Bring and Buy and support this event on which we depend for funding. All welcome. For catering purposes, please let Eleanor know (874112) if you intend coming.

This will be the last branch meeting before our summer break.

Eleanor

Pentecost - a day that changed history

People call it 'Whitsun' because once upon a time it was a day for wearing white and going on church processions. The church, however, calls it 'Pentecost' and it's on June 4th this year. It is a crucial date in the Church calendar – in some ways the birthday of Christianity as we know it. After the crucifixion the followers of Jesus took to meeting in an 'upper room' in Jerusalem, with the doors locked 'for fear of the Jewish authorities'. It was here that the risen Christ appeared to them several times, as well as on a few occasions in other locations when they ventured out. Eventually He told them that He was 'going back to the Father', but that they should stay in the city until they received the spiritual resources to do the job for which He had called them – to take His message to the world. They did as they were told, about 120 men and women, Luke tells us, including the mother of Jesus.

Then it happened, on the Jewish feast of Shavuot, which was 50 days after the Passover. Pentecost was a spiritual experience which transformed their lives. Emboldened, they emerged from the upper room and started preaching on the city streets. They continued to do so even when ordered to stop. What had happened to bring about this transformation? The answer was two words: Holy Spirit. If that sounds very elusive and vague, think of it in its basic meaning in the Greek of the New Testament: Breath – the very source of life itself, the most precious gift of God. At Pentecost the handful of believers were brought to new life because the Holy Spirit of God breathed upon them. The Church was born. Two thousand people were baptised. Wimps became witnesses!

Parish Pump



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Primetime

*Primetime ladies group meets monthly
on the 3rd Wednesday of the month 7.30 - 9.30pm*

in the Old School Room at the Parish Hall, Paradise Lane.

*We do something different at each meeting, but you can take part as much
or as little as you like - whatever we do we enjoy ourselves!*

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 21st June.

We always welcome new ladies....why not join us?

Call Sonia, Elaine or Ali

on 833781 / 874635 / 879976 for further details.



*The ladies of Primetime
met in May to create
fresh new floral displays
for outside church.
Watch them bloom and
grow this summer
(we hope!)*

*Thanks for plant
donations both to
Primetime and Porters.*



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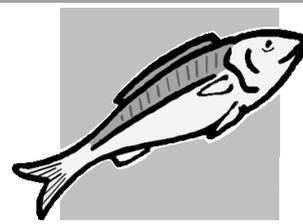
Opening hours:
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If you wish to donate to St Peter's, please send a text to 70070 with the text message STPT99 followed by a space and the amount you wish to give - up to £10 (send in a single text).

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
*	+	#

JOHN'S FRESH FISH



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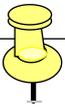
DOOR TO DOOR DELIVERIES EACH WEEK AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:
TUESDAY: 08.30-15.30, WEDNESDAY: 12.00-16.30, THURSDAY 12.30-16.00

***WEDNESDAYS:** Also parked in the Lay-by on Old Town Lane outside the Chemist and Freshfield Surgery between **09.00-12.00**

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REFUGEE AID

We have put a collecting tin in the Church.
Why? because money donated can be used to buy clothing for the refugee centre that we support through
Revd Peter Paine.

Your small change would be very welcome, it would buy warm clothing for people who really need it.

I do hope you will be able to support us.

Phone Sue Jacques 879643 if you would like to know more.



Seen the wall of a pub in Croston Lancs
Submitted by Graham Jones

The Good Old Days

On the May Bank Holiday my son came down from Scotland and took me and my friend back with him for a holiday. May was at its best. The sun shone all the way there, and the Lake District was a picture with the early spring flowers along the road sides. The daffodils were almost past their best, but the bluebells were appearing, eyes closed, waiting for the heat of the sun to waken them into their full glory.

The river outside my son's front door was almost dry, as there had been no rain there for weeks either. The poor heron, (I call him George) was having a thin time of it, and eventually he gave up trying to catch the small fish that come down and get trapped in the stones on the weir, and he went somewhere else to fish. I just love to see him stand there so patiently, then suddenly pounce and come up with a small eel for his dinner. The ducklings followed their parents in the puddles, but they were deleted one by one by something hungry. They are very vulnerable for fish and hawks and mergansers, and few survive to adulthood, but that is Nature for you, the survival of the fittest.

Our holiday was well in progress when I had a letter from a relative telling me that another relative, a teacher, was in hospital. Apparently one of her pupils had bitten her and drawn blood. She got an infection in her blood which almost killed her. She may never get rid of whatever it was that infected her. How times change! It quite spoilt my holiday as I was too far away to do anything or to go and visit her. The world has changed and not for the better for all the education that is dished out on "social media" and in schools. In the past, schooling stopped at the age of 14 or 16, but now pupils stay at school or college until they are 18 and get the best that we can give them. There was not the rebelliousness at school then. We respected our teachers and accepted what we were told and seldom was there a rebellious one in the class.

I have been so lucky in my life, and I hope children have the love and affection that there was in our home. I get embarrassed at times when my son takes me out and introduces me to his friends, as he is so loving and affectionate. I am sure that I do not warrant it, but as he says, he never got anything but love in his childhood, and help in his Teens and later life, so I am reaping the results now.

It gives a warm feeling to be loved. My pupils never bit me either. In our home the Church's teaching was paramount. Religion was not pushed down our throats, but was shown in daily life and behaviour.

Jesus and his teachings do wonders for young children. They show young people how to respect one another, show love for one another and respect for strangers.

Martha.



Here at Trinity St Peter's we're really proud of the way we do things and we would love to show you around our vibrant and forward-thinking school.

For further information including Start Right, Nursery and School's Out (Wrap Around Care) call us on **01704 876391** or email your enquiry to: admin.trinitystpeters@schools.sefton.gov.uk or visit the website: www.trinitystpeters.org

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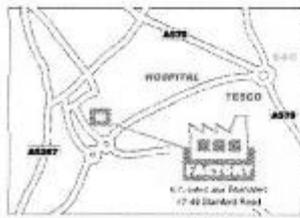
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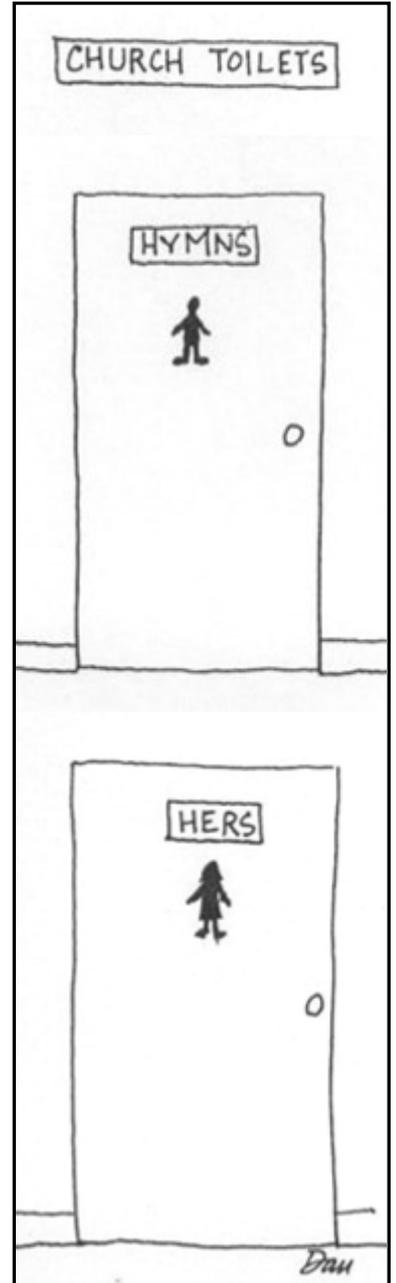
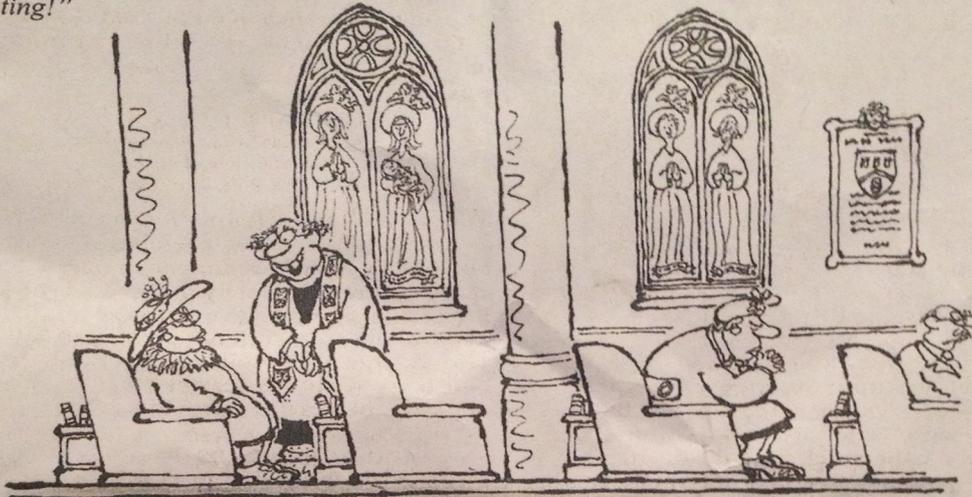


"David, I want you tested for steroids."



"BUT IF YOU DON'T LEARN TO READ AND WRITE, HOW ARE YOU EVER GOING TO TEXT?"

"You're very impressed with the new underfloor heating...? We haven't got underfloor heating!"



Pentecost

The words below are taken from Acts 2, where we read the story of Pentecost. Circle the words as you find them in the puzzle.

P P R O S E L Y T E S A S S W
 T A T N E P E R C Y R E N E I
 H M E S O P O T A M I A A U N
 O P E T E R E Y P I I T I G D
 U H S S D F B L P B G P H N E
 S Y G A L I L E A N S Y T O Z
 A L V O L R V R D M N G R T I
 N I J U D E A J O E I E A H T
 D A R P E N T E C O S T P X P
 R P O N T U S W I T H R E E A
 O R O M E D E S A I S A X S B
 L E G A U G N A L S E T E R C

PENTECOST
 GALILEANS
 MEDES
 MESOPOTAMIA
 CAPPADOCIA
 ASIA
 PAMPHYLIA
 LIBYA
 ROME
 PROSELYTES
 ARABIANS

LANGUAGE
 PARTHIANS
 ELAMITES
 JUDEA
 PONTUS
 PHRYGIA
 EGYPT
 CYRENE
 JEWS
 CRETES
 DAVID

LORD
 WIND
 TONGUES
 FIRE
 REPENT
 BAPTIZED
 SINS
 PETER
 THREE
 THOUSAND

Here's the final word on nutrition and health:

The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British.

The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British.

The Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British.

The Italians drink a lot of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British.

The Germans drink lots of beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than the Brits.

Conclusion: eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills you.

The Pensioner



From the Back Pew Ted Woods

CHEERING STATISTICS

Amid all the election and cyber-attacks news in mid-May, a very interesting, and indeed, encouraging study was reported in the national papers.

And that was the findings of The British Social Attitudes Study which was examining data sourced in 2015. And contrary to all the doom and gloom about falling numbers in the Church of England, it actually showed that there was an increase in those attending church compared to a similar study in 2009.

In 2009 16.3% said that they were members of the Church of England and attended church, while in 2015 that figure had crept up to 17.1%. Admittedly in 1983 that figure was 40%, but a lot has changed in three and a half decades.

Interestingly, in commenting on the findings, the Professor of Theology and the Sociology of Religion in St. Mary's University in Twickenham, Stephen Bullivant, put the large drop in those identifying themselves as C of E in 2009 down to the publication in 2006 of Richard Dawkins' book *The God Delusion*.

In what was to be a best-selling book, Dawkins argued that belief in God was both irrational and infantile. He strongly advocated atheism as better for both the individual and society. Religion, he argued, fuels wars, foments bigotry and abuses children, and he caricatured images of God to be found in Scripture.

According to Professor Bullivant, Dawkins' views "stopped a lot of latent Anglicans describing themselves as Christians." And he defined 'latent Anglicans' as "Those who said they were C of E but didn't really believe in God!"

I have often wondered whether being a member of the Church of England was, for many generations, the unthinking default position for many people. When forms had to be filled in or when religious persuasion was asked for, how many just put "C of E", even though they never attended, just because the Church of England was, and is, the established church in the land and visible everywhere?

But nowadays it's acceptable and trendy, and even expected, for people to state that they are of no religion or atheist when these questions come up, whereas before many unthinkingly and without any sense of commitment reverted to their default position as members of the C of E just because it is the national church.

So, perhaps, 17.1% is a more accurate statistic of those who are active members of the Church of England.

According to Professor Bullivant that figure is the "bedrock of genuine believers", and maybe it was never, in modern times, as high as the default figures seemed to indicate.

So, it's time to take heart and be encouraged. Even the numbers of those professing no religion or atheist has dropped from 50.6% in 2009 to 48.6% in 2015.

And according to Professor Bullivant, "efforts to attract new members could be working".

There is no room for complacency in the figures but a gentle encouragement. And for us in St. Peter's to continue to be an open, welcoming and inclusive church, where all ages are catered for, where services are accessible and understandable, where you don't have to leave your mind at the door, and where an effort is made to relate and apply the faith to daily life.

As an established church, the Church of England parish ministers to all within their parish boundaries, and it's important that those looking for the church's ministry are treated with respect and given time. We must never pre-judge people's responses. I know that sometimes we can be disappointed, but at times we can also be surprised!

For most people the primary experience of the national church is through their local church, and the Christian faith is incarnated in and by the members of the local church. That's a great privilege but also a great opportunity and a challenge.

So, for once there's something to be happy about in recent statistics, and something to encourage us trying to be a church that reflects the love and grace of God, where everyone is respected and cherished and where meaningful connections are made between faith and life.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Please note the Bier house is closed for refurbishment.

1 st Thurs	2.00pm	Mothers' Union "Strawberry Tea" in the Parish Hall, Paradise Lane	
2 nd Friday	6.30pm	First Friday Eucharist	
3 rd Sat	9.00am	Breakfast Church in the Parish Hall	
4th Sunday		Pentecost	
	11.15am	The Curate's House (3 Kenton Close) open to view until 12.30pm	
	5pm – 7pm	New Beginnings Marriage Group BBQ in St Peter's Vicarage	
6 th Tues	10.00am	Bible Study Group in the Old School Room, Parish Hall	
11th Sunday		Trinity Sunday	
	10.00am	50 th Anniversary of Ordination of Rev Ted	
Woods		Preacher - Canon Cecil Hyland Sunday Club will be held in the Choir Room	
13 th Tues	10.00am 8.00pm	Bible Study Group in the Old School Room, Parish Hall Timeout in the Grapes (see page 2 for details)	
14 th Wed	2.00pm	WOW pre-school service in church	
15 th Thurs	2.30 - 4pm	Halcyon House Summer Fair	
17 th Sat	12noon to 4pm	TSP School Summer Fair	
18th Sunday		1st Sunday after Trinity	
	10.00am	Sunday Club	
	12noon	Baptism of Benjamin Jones	
	6.30pm	Corpus Christi - Sung Eucharist	
21 st Wed	7.30pm	Primetime in Old School Room, Parish Hall	
25th Sunday		2nd Sunday after Trinity	
	10.30am	Ordination of Nathan Thorpe as Deacon in Liverpool Cathedral	
	12noon	Hot Dog Service (in the Parish Hall) –	
Caroline Collins			
	6.30pm	Service of Wholeness	
29 th Thurs		St Peter's Day	
	2.30pm	Halcyon House Eucharist	
	7.30pm	Deanery Synod Eucharist in St Peter's Preacher - Archdeacon Jennifer McKenzie	

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - JULY 2017

The summer edition of the Parish Magazine will be available on 9th July

1 st Saturday	9.00am 2.30pm	Breakfast Church in the OSR, Parish Hall Wedding of Philip Ditchfield & Nichola Finegan
2 nd Sunday	10.00am	St Peter's Day All-Age Parade Service & Welcome to Rev Nathan Thorpe <i>Followed by refreshments & bouncy castle in the Vicarage Garden.</i>
7 th Friday	6.30pm	First Friday Eucharist
9 th Sunday	10.00am 12noon	Sea Sunday / 4th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist & Sunday Club Pet Service

From the Church Registers

Baptism

30th April

Charles Albert Allingham
Smith

Son of Derek and Gillian
with his grand parents
Derek and Linda Smith



Funerals

15th May

Maureen Alderson

18th May

Les Stead

24th May

Dorothy Hope

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

Confirmation Photo - Sunday 4th May

Pictured with Bishop Cyril Ashton are Rev Jan Ashton, Vicar of Stephen's, Hightown and Rev Anne Taylor.

Candidates - Thomas, Natalie, Kyle, Matthew & Bobby.

