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EDITORIAL

Fear not! Despite the cover picture, you are still reading St Peter's Magazine and you're still very welcome at St Peter's Church!



It's just that one of your Editorial Team chanced to be on the Wirral and took a detour to check out Christ Church, Willaston, where our Curate, Revd Gordon MacLeod, will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge on Friday 28th July.

You can see from their noticeboard what a welcoming church he is joining. They have made an excellent choice and our loss is certainly Willaston's gain.

Thank you, Gordon, for your contribution to the life of St Peter's: for your friendship, your preaching skills and for your scrupulous punctuality – one can set one's watch by your appearance through the Chancel door!

Congratulations to Theo Graham on his Pride of Sefton award. What a superb achievement! And as I write this Editorial, he has just completed his 24-hour Danceathon in the Bier House in aid of Alder Hey Children's Hospital. He's indefatigable!

It's not often that an article in our magazine prompts a reaction, so it was gratifying to receive a response to Rod Jacques' "Is History Bunk?" article in the May edition. You can read Peter Andrew's article on page 8.

It's been said before – and will no doubt be said again – that we would welcome contributions from our readers, both literary and financial!

The Editorial Team





St Peter's has a contactless payment machine for donations.







Please note the deadline for the July/August 2023 double edition of the magazine is **Friday 9**th **June 2023.**Contributions to magazine@stpetersformby.co.uk

Dear Friends,

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting gives us a chance to look back and to look forward, which is what we did at the APCM on Sunday 21st May.

Looking back, this last year has been eventful in so many ways but, unlike the address at the APCM in 2022, it has nothing to do with Covid but everything to do with the amazing celebrations we had for the 275th Anniversary of the consecration of our church.



The 275 Committee, along with many volunteers, worked so hard and with such good humour to make it a very memorable year. A Flower Festival, concerts, a Heritage week, coffee shops, a Fun Day plus a number of events we are repeating this year, including the Scarecrow Harvest Festival and the Christmas Tree Festival. And the Bier House Coffee Shop is able to pop up for any event – which it did for the enjoyable occasion of the Coronation of King Charles. And there was another Last Night of the Proms for a packed church. We really do celebration well!

And what celebration does is invite people in – which is what we are all about – St Peter's is for everyone. We are a vibrant, welcoming, caring, worshipping community and to continue to be that, and indeed to build upon it, we will be looking closely at the ideas of the Vision Day Working Groups.

A living community is one that constantly develops and adapts; that is what I believe we are and yet we can become even better. The Implementation Day will hear the findings of the groups; the big challenge is how we act upon them. You will hear more about the plans next month.

Our main aims as a parish are worship, mission and ministry. The challenges we face cannot distract from that; you will have read in April's magazine that we need to do further work on our church roof which is going to cost significantly more than we had hoped. The dedicated work of past generations has put us in a much better financial situation than many parishes, but this restorative work will use up a lot of our reserves.



We need to look at finances, not only for our fabric but for our outreach. Without God's mission and ministry being allowed to grow in St Peter's, the fabric of our buildings becomes pointless. St Peter's is a wonderful place in which to worship – but what worship does is enable us to go out and show God's love in our world.

We have so many ways of connecting with people and we need to use them to stay fresh and to be open to where the Spirit wants to lead us.

A very important part of our congregation is now our At Home Congregation who join us each week on the live stream. This has kept people connected in a way we would never have imagined.

Many parishes gave up live streaming after Covid but I know we have parishioners from Scotland, Wales, across England and in Dublin! The live stream connects the residents of Woodlands Care Home with us every Sunday morning as well as so many others who, for all sorts of reasons, cannot be with us in person but can still join us in worship.

Another unique congregation is that which gathers for the Eucharist on Wednesday. We now have a regular congregation of between 40 and 50, and this number has grown since Covid. Other congregations have grown as well including those who attend our Children's Haribo Service, WOW service, 8.30am Eucharist, Choral Evensong and the Service of Wholeness, Breakfast Church and Morning Prayer. All these congregations have seen an increase in those attending. Some have moved to a different service that better suits their needs but we are also welcoming new people to St Peter's and that is because of the welcome that you are all giving.

We have so many opportunities to worship together. And worship builds us up as a community and sends us out to serve. And to serve our community is our Christian responsibility. We can't sit and wait to care only for those who enter our doors because that will be the end of St Peter's. The outreach that now exists is a beacon of hope. Peter Paine, along with his team, runs the welcome days for those seeking asylum in our country – hospitality and friendship is offered. Newer ventures are the Singing Thursdays and Bacon Barms & Banter – these groups are extremely well attended, helping those who may otherwise be socially isolated and offering care for those living with dementia. We thank Vicky Hall and the volunteers and the singers who keep these groups going. And there are others from the Saturday Crew to Primetime and beyond – thank you and we will build on your outreach.

This past year I have really appreciated having as a colleague Revd Gordon MacLeod. The year has gone too quickly as we will shortly say good-bye as he moves to Christ Church, Willaston, as their Vicar.



I know so many have appreciated his gentle ministry, his thought-provoking sermons and enjoyed seeing him relax into ministry in this past year. Gordon will be licensed on Friday 28th July, so we will be heading over the water to support him in this new chapter of his ministry.

There will not be a new Curate coming to St Peter's this year but I hope that in the next year or two we will have another opportunity to welcome someone in this crucial stage of their ministerial development.

The APCM is a good opportunity to say thank you to so many people who make St Peter's the parish it is, so I end this month's letter by saying thank you. Thank you to everyone who is part of St Peter's in whatever way it is a very special place to be and a privilege to be your Vicar.

Anne



LEAVING

I knew there would come a day when I would have to write something about my departure.

Any delay has not been due to reluctance on my part, but more due to the fact I did not have the details myself.

The email inbox, however, rectified that this morning, so further to the announcement in church on Sunday 7th of May, that I had been appointed as Priest-in -Charge of Christ Church, Willaston on the Wirral, I have now been given a start date.

My last service will be on Sunday 18th of June, at St Peter's. Bishop John comes later that day for the Confirmation service, so it will be pleasurable to watch people being confirmed in their faith.

Of course, confirmation is all about making promises. When we are confirmed, we are making a statement that we are committed to live a Christian life, by following the example of Jesus.

Similarly, when I am licensed as Priest-in-Charge at Christ Church, Willaston, on Friday 28th of July, I too am required to make declarations of my faith, and pledge allegiance to both the King and the Bishop of Chester.

But it is not a one-way street, for as part of the service, the people of the parish are also asked to affirm that they will receive the eucharist regularly, be conscientious in studying, teaching and proclaiming the bible, and make God's Kingdom visible in the parish.

In its own way, this is the body of Christ, confirming their faith in unison. In effect, I am finishing my time as Curate, by witnessing a service of confirmation, and starting my role as Priest-in-Charge with a service that renews that confirmation for many, myself included.

I think that link is important, in making the transition between parishes and Dioceses.

For my first Sunday at Willaston, the Lectionary gives Romans 8:26-39, as one of the set bible readings. This just happens to be my favourite passage from the Bible. It finishes by saying that nothing can, 'separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

That is significant, because no matter how we are separated by distance, geography or through time, as Christians we can never really be separated, as we are all brothers and sisters in Christ.

With those thoughts in mind, I just want to thank you all for making my time here at St Peter's in 2018 as a second year Ordinand, and again in 2022/23 as a final year Curate, both a meaningful and pleasurable experience.

I hope in my own small way, I have been able to communicate that nothing can indeed separate us from the love of God.

Amen.

Gordon MacLeod (Revd), Curate

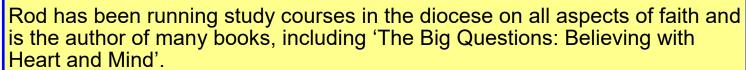
Summer Bible Talk

St Paul is a controversial figure with some very strong views. He wouldn't be the most popular biblical figure yet has been a major influence on Christianity.

To help us understand the complex nature of St Paul we are delighted to welcome back Canon Rod Garner.

Monday 5th June at 7.30pm in the Bier House

The Life and Times of St Paul with Canon Rod Garner



Everyone is very welcome.



Thank you to everyone who donated clothes, bicycles (3), toiletries, food, a donation of £20, and gave up their time for another successful refugee Welcome Day.

Despite the forecasts, we had fine weather on the beach. We collected our guests from a single hotel where, as one commented, "they all think of the future or the past and never laugh but today they have been laughing a lot as they enjoyed the food, games and company."

Our next Welcome Day is on the 14th June.

Peter Paine

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.



I believe in ...

History may be bunk (see May's magazine). How about faith without history? They may be closer cousins than we like to think, and as one changes so the other evolves. I'd suggest that faith is the interpretation of our historical experience evolved over centuries, so that history is linked to faith as the basis of our experience, in the light of reason.

History is an essential aid in understanding scripture, not in the popular sense that 'archaeology proves the Bible' but to see how each affected the other, and avoid the fundamentalist view that scripture – and society – never changes.

Historical experience and belief need to travel in company, e.g. our controversies surrounding the role of women in the Church should take account of the environment in which the Scriptures were written and ask if that world view is a valid basis for faith in a very different social environment. In the notorious passages in Ephesians 5 and 6 concerning domestic relationships, we read that women are not to take a public role in worship and should be subject to their husbands: congregations met in private houses, and in Roman society the husband was the head of the household so that any questioning of his authority if, as was likely, he was the leader of the community, was an attack upon the domestic ethos of the time. Hence the passages in Ephesians, a product reflecting its age, but valid for its faithful insights, from which we have moved on.

As the Scriptures evolved in their interpretation of historical experience, our faith evolved as an interpretation of our ongoing historical experience, never static. History and faith, faith and history, backed by reason, are inextricably linked.

Peter Andrews

From the Church Register

Funerals

19th May Ralph Osborne

26th May Mary Kent

30th May Bryan Andrews

Garden of Remembrance

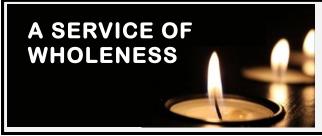
22nd May Ann Spiers

23rd May Isabella Clegg



PLEASE NOTE

we have large print
hymn books, bulletins
and magazines.
Those on duty in church
will be pleased to assist
in providing copies.
Let the Parish
Administrator know if
you would like a
large-print
magazine delivered.



Dates for your diary:

Sunday 25th June at 6.30 pm Sunday 23rd July at 6.30 pm Sunday 20th August at 6.30 pm

Invitation to Morning Prayer

Hopefully everyone knows our Parish has Morning Prayer services on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9.00am in the Bier House?

Here we place the day and ourselves in God's hands and would like to invite more people to join us to allow this quiet ministry to continue and grow.



It's like keeping the candle burning for Christ in the joys and dark times of daily life. We pray also by taking a responsibility for Intercessional Prayer on behalf of our parish and parishioners, our local community, Deaneries, Diocese, Country and World.

At present there are four of us and we take turns in leading each day. As with all things Anglican, there are many versions! On Mondays, we follow the book of Common Prayer and for easy access this is on a laminated sheet; on Tuesdays, we use the Iona Service booklet; on Thursdays and Saturdays we have the Common Worship version, which changes for each day and with the Church seasons, as does our Eucharist.

The Book of Common Worship is easily recognised, it has a rainbow series of marker ribbons! This can be both confusing and alarming but happily the service is available simply and complete with the relevant Psalms and Readings on the Internet, for every day, at churchofengland.org. Eventually we would hope to have the main Thursday and Saturday Services on laminates for anyone without access to a mobile or tablet. There is one more variation, on the first Saturday of each month, where another team takes over and we worship according to the Iona Tradition and have breakfast together afterwards.

If you have 30-35 minutes to spare after breakfast or school drop-off, for one or more of these four days, we would warmly welcome your company.

Just pitch up at 8.55am!

Thank you for reading this and considering our invitation.

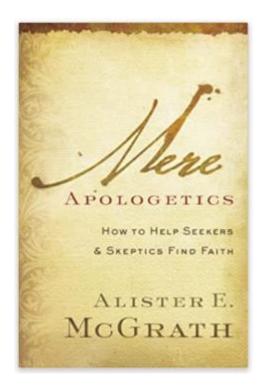
Ken Ward, Herbert Blundell, John Ryan and Toni Ashcroft.

Culture and Belief

In the late 1940s, after he was released from a Japanese prisoner of war camp, a Mr Worcester decided to write up his knowledge of Chinese sampan and junks. Before the war he had been an officer in the Chinese Customs River Inspectorate, concentrating on the River Yangtze. This huge waterway navigable for over 4,000 miles is the main means of South China trade. Over 10,000 sampans were needed to feed the major conurbations at the mouth of the river. Large junks plied the 60 mile width of the estuary with small sampans at the narrow upper part of the river. Major towns would receive over 5,000 boats a year.

The book has pages of diagrams and plans of the many varieties of craft. Most were built to meet the demands of the river which had long passages of rapids. However the author has two chapters on the life of the boat people and their beliefs. Families lived their whole life on these vessels, crews spent weeks together in cramped conditions and this way of life became the basis for a culture of mutual support. Hundreds of thousands of Chinese were totally dependent on the river for their livelihood. Building the boats, acting as crew or in teams skilled in pulling the craft over the rapids in the dangerous gorges.

Their support systems were based on the teahouses which were used for recreation, business and mutual societies. Worcester states, "They were devoid of quality of reverence towards their gods...nevertheless a lively superstition remains...few would be superior to placating the supernatural beings.... The junkmen believed themselves to be surrounded by a multitude of spirits, powerful for evil but subject to bribes, flattery, cajolery and capable of being cheated."



The whole culture of these people is fascinating but why discuss them here in the magazine? Another book called 'Mere Apologetics' raises important points when presenting Christianity to others. The book uses the term 'apologetics' to examine how Christians can project to others the arguments, stories and beliefs of Christianity. The author, Alister McGrath, looks at the atheist approach to spiritual beliefs. An atheist would dismiss such beliefs as having no proper foundation, we live in a world of immediate reality and chance but McGrath wipes the floor with this approach. We all have belief systems which enable us to live together and understand each other but which cannot be subjected to scientific foundation.

The main link with this book and the junkmen is the section dealing with understanding your audience. McGrath is writing about presenting the Christian message but wants to first take in the culture and beliefs of those listening. He uses two examples. The first considers Peter's address to Jews on the day of Pentecost, Acts 2:14-40. McGrath emphasizes the fact that the Jews had a long history of faith in God and a history of waiting for a messiah. "Peter presents the affirmation of the exaltation of Jesus of Nazareth in the light of Old Testament expectations." His second example is Paul's address to the Greeks which uses Paul's knowledge of Greek religious culture to begin to explain the gospel. "Paul connects with existing Greek theistic assumptions, while at the same time demonstrating how the Christian gospel goes beyond them." Paul identifies the Greek statue to an unknown god as leading to Christ; the Chinese boatmen recognised an unknown god.

Where does this meandering discussion take us? It asks us to start from where the members of society are today when explaining Christianity, it must address their needs, and acknowledge their background and culture. We should not offer Christianity as an alternative but as an answer to needs and concerns. It would be interesting to ask groups of our society to explain their values and how they deal with issues of evil, immorality and poverty. From this we should be able to explain how Christianity could provide a way forward.

Rod Jacques

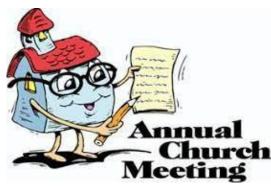
ST PETER'S FORMBY EDUCATIONAL TRUST APCM REPORT

The Trustees are the Vicar and Churchwardens, assisted by Wendy Thorpe (Secretary), Shirley Potter (Treasurer) and Steve Edwards (Assistant Treasurer).

The Trustees continue in their work of managing property comprising of the Church Hall on Paradise Lane and adjacent School Cottage, plus capital and investments, and supporting local schools and young people under the age of 25 living or working in Formby. They welcome applications for assistance for those who qualify under the terms of the Trust. Not everyone realises that the Church Hall is owned by the Educational Trust and not St Peter's Church PCC. All the rental money is used for the upkeep of the hall and for grants. If any young person, youth group or school wishes to apply for a grant they are encouraged to contact the Vicar and Churchwardens. The Trustees will make decisions at their regular meetings. GRANTS

The Trust gave grants to the value of £10,993 in 2022.

The following received donations in 2022: Trinity St Peter's School, Woodlands Primary School, St Jerome's Primary School, 9th Formby Scouts, two young people involved in an educational trip to Borneo and one of the Scouts going to the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea.



APCM Review 2023

At the Annual Parish Council Meeting we report on the events of the past year, adopt the accounts and look forward to the future.

We also make appointments and this year the following were elected –

Churchwardens: Sarah Gorman & Gill Holroyd

PCC Members elected: Jannice Crawford, Shena Edwards, Rod Jacques, Irvine Rawcliffe, Gillian Warr and Michael Warr.

Deanery Synod Reps: Cliff Cotsworth, Susan Flaxington, Gill Holroyd and John Ryan.

2023 Electoral Roll - There are 187 names on the Electoral Roll.

The PCC consists of:

The Clergy and Churchwardens, Deanery Synod Reps and Elected Members -

Other Members previously elected:

Mark Andrews, Tricia Barrett, Anne Cotsworth, Joanne Dean, Andrew Greenyer, Vicky Hall, Fiona Martin, Paul McHenry and Keith Millington.

Standing Committee: Clergy, Churchwardens, Lay Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

Sub-committees: each of the PCC members is assigned to a sub-committee – Eco, Fabric, Faith & Outreach, Finance, Horizons (charitable donations) and Social.

Copies of the PCC Accounts are available in church.

At a PCC Meeting the following were appointed -

Lay Vice Chair - Paul McHenry

Treasurer - Irvine Rawcliffe

PCC Secretary – Anne Cotsworth

Electoral Roll Officer - David Manning-Fox

Co-opted members Steve Edwards (Fabric) and Mike Fletcher (Uganda Project Treasurer).

Those serving on the Sides Rota were re-elected.

A full Financial Report will be included in the summer edition of the magazine.

Sefton North Deanery Report to APCM 2023

Whilst there are many smaller items discussed at Sefton Deanery Meetings I have tried to include those with importance that should be brought to your notice. The main item discussed at the Deanery Synod in November 2022 was the Diocesan strategy of "Fit for Mission." This is described as a 'streamlining' operation looking at how parishes within deaneries can work together and be 'streamlined.'

The website link is *https//www.liverpool.anglican.org/fitformission*

Fit for Mission is taking place with Cohort One which are the Deaneries of West Derby and St Helen's. Sefton North Deanery will be in Cohort 3 and the engage phase will be during 2025. In that year clergy will be working to support each other as they engage their PCCs and congregations so that everyone feels they have the information they need to make an informed decision. There will then be a two-year period when any changes that have been decided will be implemented (2026 & 2027).

Network of Kindness – this is a joint venture between the Diocese of Liverpool and the Together Liverpool Network aiming to encourage and support more social action through creating a Network of Kindness. All the churches in our deanery are involved in this project.

PCC Code of Conduct – The Diocesan Synod, then the Deanery Synods asked all the PCCs to take note of this new Code.

Clergy Wellbeing Covenant – this is also a document that all PCCs are asked to take note of in regard to the well-being of their clergy.

Eco Church Awards - St Nicholas', Blundellsands, is the latest church to have been awarded the Silver Church Eco Award. This means that 10 of the 14 churches in our deanery now have an Eco Award.

Clergy Appointments – Revd Keith Thornborough has been appointed House-for-Duty Vicar for St Stephen's, Hightown. All the clergy posts in the deanery are now filled. There are 16 clergy (including 3 curates and 2 self-supporting ministers).

Cliff Cotsworth



I have just returned from the May meeting of the Mothers Union where we had a fascinating talk by our Curate Gordon telling us about his journey to his arrival at the present.

As a teenager, whose father and great grandfather were ministers, he vowed that church ministry was not for him. Then using his stole as a basis he told us about his journey.

The stole in question was designed by Gordon to remind him of the highlights on that journey. The specific items displayed were a cross; a green stone; a shepherd's crook; the star of David and the Saltire of Scotland. It took him a few years to realise what God wanted him to do with his life but on the way he spent some years working with the disadvantaged and also experienced worship in a wide variety of church denominations.

Our next meeting is our annual Strawberry Tea on 1st June at 2-00 pm in the Bier House and as this is the last meeting until September it is hoped that as many members as possible will be there to enjoy the afternoon.

The toiletries for the refugees are building up nicely so many thanks to everyone for their regular contributions and keep up the good work.

Hoping everyone enjoys a pleasant Summer recess and looking forward to seeing everyone in September.

Herbert (873367)



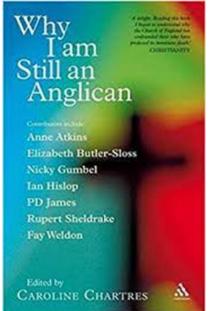
There are lots of books in the Church Library to inspire and entertain and here are two –

Why I am Still an Anglican – This is a delightful collection of short pieces by a broad selection of people – Ian Hislop, PD James,

Rupert Sheldrake and others - who may have been born into the Anglican church or who have converted and are still within it; overall it shows just how broad we are as a church and just how important our church is to us for all kinds of reasons.

How to Be Wise – Growing in Discernment and Love – written by Rod Garner (our June speaker on St Paul). This book shines with Rod's trademark warmth, humour and infectious curiosity. It aims to help us attain wisdom in our own lives through growing in discernment and love.

If you would like to borrow a book or DVD, please record details in the register provided. The Library is situated in the Bier House. We hope this will be a useful resource for all ages.



Bacon barms and banter

1st Monday of each month (except Bank Holidays), 10.30am - 12 noon

The Bier House, St Peter's Church, Green Lane, Formby L37 7DL Bus stop right outside the venue.

Free admission, breakfast butties and hot drinks.

Dementia Vegetarian option available.

friendly church This is especially suitable for carers and their loved ones.

Men, Beer & Topics

Primetime

Monday 12th June Date:

Weds 21st June Parish Hall at 7.30pm

7.30pm Time:

Place: in the Bier House

All ladies welcome

Topic: From Golf Pro to Vicar Speaker: **Revd Gordon MacLeod**

Elaine and





Beer and soft drinks available

All welcome

Volunteers Needed!



Many thanks to our volunteers who are already helping out at our Singing Thursday groups. We have 3 groups, on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Thursdays of the month, but really, really need a couple of extra volunteers who could help out on a rota basis, but especially for our 4th Thursday group.

We need volunteers to help welcome our guests, chat with folks who may be new or on their own, serve refreshments and put tables out and put them away again. If you think you would like to help can you contact Caroline at the office please? You don't have to commit to everything, but a couple of hours now and then would help enormously and lighten the load!

Thank you, Vicky Hall

Parish Office on 01704 871171 or email office@stpetersformby.co.uk

Singing Thursdays!



All groups will meet at 2pm and finish approx. 3.30pm.



St Peter's Parish Hall Paradise Lane Formby L37 7FH

2nd Thursday of every month 3rd Thursday of every month

Singing's Good for Your Brain with Maggie & Mandy Singing's Good for Your Brain! Singalong Thursday

4th Thursday of every month

Lighthearted singing suitable for everyone.

Everyone welcome, no special skills required so join us.

Fun and free event, & refreshments in a warm space.





Theo Graham (one of our Confirmation candidates and a Y5 pupil at Trinity St Peter's CE Primary School) had been shortlisted out of over 1,200 nominations for a Pride of Sefton Award.

The ceremony took place at the end of April at The Grand in Southport.



The category Theo was shortlisted for was the Child of Courage Award.

It was wonderful news to hear that he won on the night. He was given a fantastic trophy that looks like an Oscar award and a family pass to Southport Pleasureland, as they very kindly sponsored the category.

Weekly Prayers for our Parish

Each Sunday we pray for the residents who live in our parish and during the year every road is included in our prayer rota.

During June please pray for all who live in -



4th June Harington Green, Warren Green, Ince Crescent

11th June Wicks Green, Wicks Crescent, Wicks Green Close

18th June Larkhill Lane, Dunes Drive, Blundell Avenue **25th June** Gorse Way, Proctor Road, Squirrel Green

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS

SAVOURY CRACKERS

PASTA SAUCE

TINNED MEAT E.G. CORNED BEEF, HAM

TINNED FRUIT

TINNED TOMATOES

INSTANT NOODLES

TOMATO SAUCE, BROWN SAUCE, MAYO

LONGLIFE JUICE AND CORDIAL

THE FOODBANK

The Church Porch is open everyday from 10am to 5pm for donations.







June Bible Readings

4th June – Trinity Sunday

'FREE FROM' ITEMS

UHT MILK

JAM

Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-31 / 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 / Matthew 28:16-20

8th June – Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion

Genesis 14:18-20 / 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 / John 6:51-58

11th June – Barnabas the Apostle / 1st Sunday after Trinity

Job 29:11-16 / Acts 11:19-30 / John 15:12-17

18th June – 2nd Sunday after Trinity

Exodus 19:2-8a / Romans 5:1-8 / Matthew 9:35 - 10:8

24th June - Birth of John the Baptist

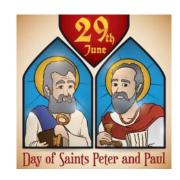
Isaiah 40:1-11 / Acts 13:14b-26 / Luke 1:57-66, 80

25th June – 3rd Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 20:7-13 / Romans 6:1b-11 / Matthew 10:24-39

29th June – Peter and Paul, Apostles

Zechariah 4:1-6a, 10b-14 / Acts 12:1-11 / Matthew 16:13-19







Bingo Group for the elderly which is held twice a week in the Parish Hall on Paradise Lane. The Bingo group runs on

> Sundays at 8pm - 9.30pm and Mondays at 2pm - 4pm Tickets are 50p each

Refreshments are available – 20p for Tea and Biscuits. Contact Pat Boardman office@stpetersformby.co.uk



Breakfast
Church at 9am
in the Bier
House
Saturday
3rd June

Join us for a short service (about 20 mins) in the form of the Iona worship. This a small gathering in the Bier House. You will be made very welcome.

The service is followed by tea, coffee, toast, crumpets etc. Give it a try!
Susan Parkes



Little Fishes Pre-School Group

Little Fishes is a pre-school drop-in group that meets on a Friday morning in school term time from 9.30 -11.30 in St Peter's Parish Hall (opposite Trinity St Peter's School).



Parents, grandparents, guardians with children from 0-3 welcome for play, organised craft, songs and stories, together with a light snack and drink.

Space for children and carers to play and support each other. There is a voluntary donation of 50p to cover snacks.

Little Fishes dates - 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th June

Dates: Sunday 11th and 18th June



Children start in church (10.00am) and then move to the Bier House for lots of fun.

An adult comes with the child and can join in the activities.

All children are welcome, though it is designed for the younger age group (up to Yr3). We also have children's puzzle sheets each week; please ask those on duty at the church door.

Worship On Wednesday

designed for pre-school children.

A short service followed by refreshments. The children from Nursery and Reception from Trinity St Peter's join us for this service.

Everyone is very welcome.

Date: Wednesday

28th June

at 2pm



Bible Study enables us to see how scripture can help us in our everyday lives. It is more fun to study and journey together and all that is needed is a willingness to read the passage.

There are three groups, meeting at a different times in the Bier House.

So if you haven't already thought about it, please consider joining a group.

Please approach one of the group leaders to say that you would be interested.

Tuesday Bible Study Group (weekly) at 10am

Every Tuesday Contact Ken Ward on 871927

Wednesday Bible Study Group at 7.30pm

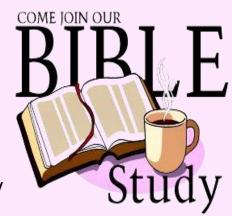
Dates: will recommence in September.

Contact Ted Woods 872824

Friday Bible Study Group at 2pm

Date: 2nd June and then on the 7th and 14th July

Contact Peter Paine 07722 127791





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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 **office@stpetersformby.co.uk**.

This is a way to help us keep in touch.

Email addresses will be used only by St Peter's.

From the Church Register ~ Baptisms 30th April 2023







Caitlin Jessica & Lucas Kenneth Weir, the children of Jayne & Gregg

Chloe, Jack, Joshua & Sophie Kefford, the children of Nicola & Jonathan

Tomas Odin Furlong-Coey, son of Hayley & Scott



CORONATION PHOTOS



A special guest at the Brownie Coronation party





The Coronation of King Charles III

was live-streamed in both the church and Bier House for people to enjoy the spectacle together.



The Joy of January

For many, the dark winter days of January are something to be endured as we look ahead to the promise of Spring and brighter days. But if you are a fan of homemade marmalade, as soon as the decorations are taken down, and the joy of Christmas is behind us, excitement begins to stir. Seville oranges begin appearing in the shops in December and have a relatively short season until about the end of January, early February. The Seville, with its sharp, bitter flesh is unrivalled for many marmalade makers. It has a distinctive orangey citrus flavour which does set it apart from other citrus fruits.

So it is with great anticipation that for me, the first few weeks of January are spent tucked away in the kitchen, the aroma of oranges and other citrus fruits taking over the house completely, as I aim for the perfect blend, or set, or potting up or labelling.



Because I also have something else in mind. The World's Original Marmalade Awards held each year at Dalemain Mansion in Cumbria. Each year, entrants from all over the world, including Australia and Japan send their beloved jars of orange nectar to Dalemain to enter the competition. There are categories to suit everyone, from First Timers, Octogenarians, Man-Made, Children's and always new ones too.



This year there was Marmalade Fit for a King, Generations Together, and Honey Marmalade. The Generations Together category caught my eye, as I had promised my friend Gem that one day, I would introduce her to marmalade making, and Honey Marmalade. Gem was up for the challenge and together we produced a blend of Seville with Rum, which was named after my dog Murphy who had brought our families together as friends. And her husband's Rum provided the flavour!

Gem is a natural at making marmalade and also produced a Seville with Grapefruit for the First Timers category. We decorated our jars and happily sent them off to Dalemain. They are judged for several qualities including presentation, colour, set, flavour etc by an army of volunteers including the WI and Rotary. Most of the entry fee for each jar is donated to the local Hospice, though you can nominate your own local hospice too. And there are awards for amateurs, artisans, Best Japanese marmalade, among others.

Dalemain is a lovely Grade 1 listed mansion, and very easy to get to from here in Formby. It has been in the same family for generations and the Awards were started by Jane Hassell-McCosh, the current owner. It is well worth a visit, their website (www.dalemain.com) has details of all the events held there, history of the house and information on the Marmalade Awards.

Awards day, on the 22nd April, found me, Gem, her hubby Jonathan and Murphy heading up the motorway in great anticipation, excitement and anxiety. Jonathan was excited to get breakfast, having been awakened at some ungodly hour to get us there.



As 'Marmaladies' we were both ridiculously giddy to see how our marmalade had fared. And Murphy was excited, simply because everyone else was!

We arrived bright and early. I felt quite underdressed. Having realised it was going to rain all day (it is Cumbria) I had dressed for the weather. But unlike most there I wasn't wearing anything orange, did not have a hat adorned with oranges, orange wellies, handbag etc. The bell ringers were ringing handbells, there were numerous stalls with produce, toast was flying out of toasters so you could taste the winning entries. It was a great coming together of marmalade madness. Paddington Bear was tootling around, and the biggest 'Red Squirrel' I have ever seen. Jonathan muttered something about 'unbelievable' and headed off with the dog to find food, while we headed into the house to learn our fate.

We were both overtaken by the moment as we discovered we had both won Silver Awards for our individual entries, and a Bronze for our Generations Together. We toured the tables looking at all the entries laid out around the house, marvelling at the creativity. We were particularly struck by the category Marmalade Fit for a King. The jars were decorated with an array of crowns, corgis and one had been transformed into a letterbox with a knitted cover bearing the CIII moniker.

At the end of the day there is a highly amusing closing category 'the Marmalashes' between England and Australia, who won it this year! The overall competition winner Tom Nind produced a lovely Seville with Ginger which is now available from Fortnum & Mason, one of the competition sponsors.

Exhausted but happy we spent our return journey planning combinations for next year's competition. We have a supply of Sevilles stored in our friends' freezers and will practice once we have recovered. Thank you to our friends who have collected jars, taste-tested, and joined us in our madness.

Vicky Hall

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Matthew Dean Branch Director



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St George's Day Parade



Members of the 9th Formby Squirrels, Cubs and Scouts, joined other Sefton North Scout groups in Southport for St George's Day.





St George, as well as being England's Patron Saint, (and many other countries) was chosen by Lord Robert Baden-Powell to be the Scout Movements Patron Saint. He felt the qualities of the legendary Roman soldier were the same qualities that reflect a good Scout.

Baden-Powell wanted St George's day to be a time to reflect on being a Scout and the Scout Promise as well as celebrating Scouting.





Just over 500 Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers joined their Leaders in the first all-District Parade since Covid.

Starting at Princess Park and then winding its way around King's Gardens and alongside the Marine Lake to District Headquarters at Waterside Lodge.

Once we reached Waterside Lodge we formed up in our groups and each section renewed their Promise, with our very own Theo Graham leading the Cubs in their Promise renewal.



As the photographs show it was a fantastic sight, with every Group in the District represented.

Mark Sheil, Cub Scout Leader, Assistant Scout Leader 9th Formby (St Peter's) Scout Group





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Caroline Speakman

Member of the Society of Willwriters

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Phone: 07926 587776 www.southportwills.com







Trinity Sunday Word Search

U 0 C Z Т 7 Z Х S Х S Q т C Е Q E 0 S 0 В S R 0 G. E S P E S Z 0 D C o Z Y Т Т o Q. N т Т

Almighty Communion Baptism Christ Confirmation Covenant Creating Empower Holy Spirit Father Glory God Reception Perfect: love One Relationship Send Song Spirit Sustain Three Trinity of Persons Truth

Unity of Being Welcome Worship

Someone said "30 years ago," and my mind went "Ah yes! The 1970s." But they meant 1993, and now I need to lie down.

Bible Puzzle

Can you find the names of twenty-five books of the Bible concealed in this passage?

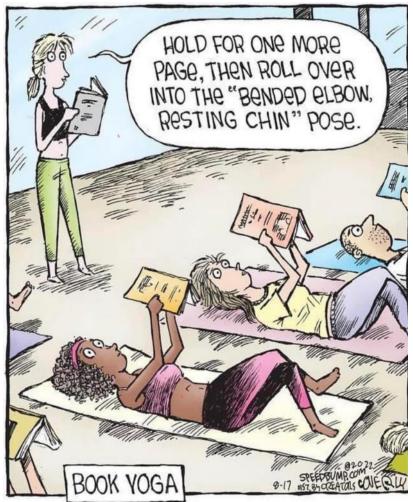
This is a most remarkable puzzle. Someone found it in the seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping himself occupied for hours. One man from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Roy Clarke studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Viets mentioned it in her column once. One woman judges the job to be so involving; she brews a cup of tea to help calm her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot – that's a fact. Some people will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. The truth is, from answers we get we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have. Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation may help. Books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers, and punctuation or spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete. Remember there are twenty-five books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this passage.

ANSWERS BOTTOM OF PAGE 35

The key to getting through life is to always have a holiday booked.

Did you hear Julie Andrews will no longer endorse cheap lipstick? It crumbles easily and makes her breath smell. She explained, "The super colour fragile lipstick gives me halitosis."







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ANSWERS TO BIBLE PUZZLE ON PAGE 33

This is a most remarkable puzzle. Someone found it in the seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping himself occupied for hours. One man from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Roy Clarke studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Viets mentioned it in her column once. One woman judges the job to be so involving; she brews a cup of tea to help calm her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot that's a fact. Some people will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. The truth is, from answers we get we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see who have. Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from some of them at the worst. Something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have. Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from and Samuel may occur without their numbers, and punctuation or spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete. Remember and Samuel may occur without their numbers, and punctuation or spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete. Remember there are twenty-five books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this passage.



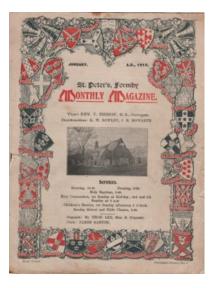
From the Back Pew Ted Woods

PARISH MAGAZINES

The first known parish magazine dates from January 1859 and was produced by the Revd John Erskine Clarke for St Michael's, Derby. Since then, parish magazines have played an invaluable and informative part in the lives of parishes up and down the land, including our own. The earliest copy of a magazine for St Peter's in the archive room dates from January 1912, but from a note on the inside cover telling readers that "some of our subscribers are in arrears"(!), there must have been earlier editions.

The former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, has praised parish magazines as "the most widely read Christian publications in the country." They are read not only by church members but by many who have never put a foot inside a church. St Peter's magazine ends up in all kinds of places — in the library and doctors' surgeries and other public places. Magazines are read by more than just the people to whom they are delivered.

It has been estimated that, in total, parish magazines have a readership of 1.3 million – greater than some national publications!



Covid presented problems for parish magazines as there was a reluctance in the early days to handle anything in case of spreading infection. Numerous parishes went on-line or digitally produced shorter bulletins.

As a result, many now debate the value and future of the printed magazine. In the digital world, is there still a place for hard copies? Digital copies are certainly cheaper to produce, but it's so easy for them to disappear from our screens as our inboxes get flooded with countless communications. It can be a case of 'out of sight, out of mind!' Those in favour of digital editions say that people can read them on their phones and iPads on public transport on their way to work, and that folk are screen orientated rather than paper orientated.

In true Anglican fashion, the future may not be either/or, but both/and! Parish magazines should be produced both digitally and in print.

There's certainly a great value in being able to hand someone a magazine with information about the parish, and when magazines get left around the home, all sorts of people can pick them up and browse them.

The church consultant, John Truscott, has said, "I have this sense that e-letters and texts just do not get their message through in quite the same way as print because there is such a crowded marketplace." And he added, "I was in a church the other day where

they had a Welcome Pack for newcomers which had a range of literature in an envelope, plus a bar of chocolate. You can't do that online!"

As a curate, I remember long hours spent turning the handle of an inky Gestetner, printing out hundreds of indistinct pages, replenishing the drum with ink when the print began to fade! Then there were more long hours collating and stapling and putting them into bundles for delivery. The only colour was the paper on which they were printed.

Compared to those early home-produced magazines, today's editions are so professional. But still a faithful few have to sit by the photocopier in case there is a jam! Pages are crisp and clear and multi-coloured, and the machine does the stapling! We are so lucky in St Peter's to have Alison Whiffing as editor. She brings flair and imagination to each edition, making each issue attractive and one to be proud of.

A recent article in The Church Times said, "Evidence that print may be making a comeback comes from Parkrun, an organisation that puts on weekly running events at hundreds of locations across the country. It recently launched a new paper (saying) it had chosen to go into print as a way of encouraging people to find time away from their screens." Parkrun's head of communications went on to say, "The magazine is a tool for us to engage those who might be on the fringes of society, who might be thinking of the first tentative steps into getting active or being part of their local community."

With little adaption, that could be one of the purposes of our parish magazine.

And some titbits from the early magazines for 1912 in our Archive Room: -

The Vicar was Revd Thomas Bishop and the Churchwardens were G. W. Rowley and J. R. Howarth. The organist was Thomas Lee, Mus.B.(Cantab) and the Clerk was James Barton.

Mrs Formby of Formby Hall presented Formby Hall's watch to Nellie Balshaw for the best girl in the school, "never late, never absent during 1911." Mrs Formby also awarded a watch to the best boy in the choir who that year was Robert Mercer.

Three baptisms were recorded in late 1911 – November 29th William Hubert Lionel Lister, December 7th Alice Baker and December 10th Ronald Benjamin Smith. There were two burials – December 9th Martha Alice Kennerly and December 18th Thomas James Cowl.

The Bishop, Dr. Chavasse, visited St Peter's on July 16th 1912, and "expressed himself well pleased with all that he had seen."

An American Tea, "a novel and interesting event," took place at The Dunes, Formby, the residence of Mr & Mrs J. W. Clayton. £40 was raised towards the debt on the "New Victoria Hall."

In November 1912, a Bazaar was held to help pay for The New Victoria Hall. The next magazine reported that "the astonishing sum" of £767 14s 9d was raised. *And it really is astonishing because that is the equivalent of over £112,000 today!*

The bulk of the monthly magazine was provided by a substantial "Home Words" supplement.

So not a patch on today's St Peter's Magazine! Long may it be published!

June Diary Dates 2023

Thursday 1st

2.00pm Mothers' Union Strawberry Tea - in the Bier House Friday 2nd No Little Fishes Pre-school Group – school half-term 2.00pm Bible Study Group with Peter Paine in the Bier House

Saturday 3rd

9.00am Breakfast Church in the Bier House 10.00am Saturday Crew in the Bier House

Sunday 4th **Trinity Sunday** 8.30am **Eucharist (BCP)**

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Choral Evensong 6.30pm

Monday 5th

10.30am Bacon Barms and Banter in the Bier House

Talk – 'The Life and Times of St Paul' by Canon Rod Garner in the Bier House 7.30pm

Tuesday 6th

10.00am Bible Study Group with Ken Ward in the Bier House – every Tuesday

Eucharist at Woodlands Care Home 11.00am

Wednesday 7th

11.00am Eucharist followed by refreshments

Eucharist in Halcyon House 2.00pm

6.30pm Confirmation Group in the Bier House

Thursday 8th

2.00pm Singing For Fun in the Church Hall

Friday 9th

Little Fishes Pre-school Group in the Church Hall - every Friday 9.30am

Saturday 10th

Wedding Blessing – Adam Farrell & Taylor Maahs 4.00pm

Sunday 11th 1st Sunday after Trinity / St Barnabas Day

8.30am Eucharist (CW)

10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday Club followed by refreshments

Confirmation Group meet in Church 11.30am

Choral Evensong 6.30pm

Monday 12th

7.30pm Timeout – Men, Beer & Topics in the Bier House

Wednesday 14th Refugee Welcome Day

Eucharist followed by refreshments 11.00am Confirmation Group in the Bier House 6.30pm

7.30pm Archdeacon's Visitation Service in Holy Trinity Church

Thursday 15th

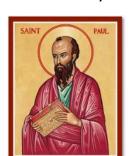
2.00pm Singing For The Brain in the Church Hall

Friday 16th

12.30pm Wedding of Andrew Hardaker & Kate Quinn

















Sunday 18th 2nd Sunday after Trinity – Revd Gordon Macleod's Farewell

8.30am Eucharist (BCP)

10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday Club *followed by refreshments*

4.00pm Deanery Confirmation Service and Eucharist

No Choral Evensong

Wednesday 21st

11.00am Eucharist followed by refreshments

7.30pm Primetime Women's Group in the Parish Hall

Thursday 22nd

2.00pm Singalong Thursday in the Church Hall

Sunday 25th 3rd Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Eucharist (CW)

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

12.00 noon Haribo Children's Service6.30pm Service of Wholeness

Monday 26th

7.30pm PCC Meeting in the Bier House

Wednesday 28th

11.00am Eucharist followed by refreshments

2.00pm WOW – service for pre-school children in church

Future Dates to Note

Saturday 1st July - Patronal Festival Concert in Church

Sunday 2nd July - 10am Patronal Festival Eucharist. Special preacher

Rt Revd Dr John Perumbalath, Bishop of Liverpool

Friday 28th July at 7pm - The Licensing Service of Revd Gordon MacLeod as

Vicar of Christ Church, Willaston, Wirral CH64 2TL.

Wednesday Eucharist -

there is a Eucharist held every **Wednesday** at 11am in the **Church**.

Morning Prayer -

there is a short service of Morning Prayer in the Bier House at 9am on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday.

For further details please refer to our website: www.stpetersformby.co.uk

Church Flowers



Many people have special days in the year which they commemorate, and flowers on the altar of St Peter's Church can fittingly mark the special event.

We invite you to remember your family and friends with a donation towards our Church flowers.

Suggested donation is £25. The occasion would also be printed in the Sunday bulletin.

Please first contact Caroline in the Parish Office on 871171 for more details and to reserve your date. Thank you to everyone who has already given donations towards the weekly flowers.





St Peter's Church Green Lane, Formby L37 7DL

St Peter's Day Concert

a concert of popular choral and organ music

Saturday 1st July 7:30pm

Refreshments available

