



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 19 January 2025

HEADLINES

- News from Uganda
- Message Sunday Coming Up
- Alpha Course Starts Next Week
- Prayer by Sam Wolstencroft, CAP Debt Centre Manager

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sun 19 Jan

It's Lighthouse week!



ST PETER'S CHURCH

8.30am	Morning service
10.20am	Lighthouse at Parish Centre
*10.30am	Adult service with Communion and Twinklers
*6.30pm	Parish-wide service

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Morning service with Lighthouse
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BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

10.30am	Morning service with Communion and Lighthouse
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ST ANDREW'S HOPE CENTRE

10.30am	Café Church
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*Livestreamed search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'
We are an accessibility-friendly parish

Rev Alan writes...

Hello from Uganda!



The Anglican Youth Fellowship (AYF) choir was established 40 years ago by the Anglican Church of Uganda to help reach out to young people in more culturally relevant ways. When AYF started, worship was old-fashioned and the AYF brought a revolution using guitars, drums and electronic instruments. They also specialised in adapting styles of music to represent the rich diversity of tribal cultures across the country. It proved a powerful mix which caught the attention of many including the Church Mission Society (CMS) who, in 1993, facilitated the AYF's first international mission visit to the UK. It was during this visit that I first encountered them; I was a young Cub Scout leader, and I was blown away by their joy and commitment, so much so that I committed my life to Christ. The best decision I ever made!

So, it is a special privilege to be in Uganda to share in their 40th anniversary. It's been a packed programme of activities and rehearsals. I joined the AYF family day which united members past and present to celebrate, share stories, pray and worship. I've spent time catching up with many of the AYF members, some of whom I had not seen for over 30 years. I am excited to see many of their children following in their footsteps.



Ugandan Family TV regularly feature AYF in a weekly show. They recorded a special edition featuring myself

which will be broadcast in the near future, and they also filmed an interview for their news programme, which you can watch here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whhTONxejPE>.

(continued overleaf)

Uganda is an incredible country, being on the equator means it has 12 hours of daylight and it is summer all year round. This means it is always bustling with energy with people and animals outdoors everywhere.

The AYF treated me to a very special experience – a trip to Murchison Falls National Park, it's the biggest park in Uganda covering

over 1,500 square miles and is home to over 144 mammal species including lions, elephants, buffalo, and Rothschild's giraffes. It also has the most powerful waterfall in the world, the pressure is so great that the ground trembles around it! I will have lots of photos and stories to share when I return, so watch out!



Climax of the AYF anniversary celebrations will be a series of services followed by a huge concert at All Saints Cathedral in Kampala at 3pm local time this Sunday, that's 12noon in UK - it will last for several hours, and it will be possible to watch on live-stream. We will try to share a link when it's available.

I'll be back home late Monday and look forward to seeing you all, but not so much the cold weather!

26 Jan is Message Sunday!

We'll be joined by a fantastic team of evangelists from the Message Trust who will speak at all our



services next Sun 26 Jan. Be sure to invite your friends. Our parish-wide 6.30pm service will feature special guest Andy Hawthorne. He is the Message Trust founder, author, evangelist and a superb communicator, it is well worth coming to hear him.

Rev Roy Machin

Roy's funeral will take place as follows:

Mon 27 Jan, 12.45pm St Peter's Church followed by 2pm at Overdale Crematorium

Jean Mort

Jean's funeral will take place as follows:

Tues 4 Feb, 12noon, St Peter's Church followed by 1.15pm at Overdale Crematorium

Paris by the Sea

Please pray for Craig and Elaine Watson as they settle into Algiers. Ask the Lord to enable them to build up positive relationships with the community there, and to guide them to the right place to live and that their residence permit will be forthcoming quickly. Pray for Craig as he goes to Chad for a Diocesan Synod at the start of Feb to select the new Bishop of North Africa.



Alpha Course Starts Next Week

Starting Thurs 23 Jan, 8pm-9.30pm, Parish Centre



Alpha is a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone's welcome. **No matter your background or beliefs, you're invited.** Find out more at <https://alpha.org.uk/try-alpha>. Book your place through the Parish Office.

Accounts for Auditing Deadline

It's that time again! Can all treasurers please ensure they have dropped off their 2024 accounts at the Parish Office by **Fri 31 Jan** please. Any issues, please contact finance@stpetersparish.info



Christian Meditation Group

Thurs 23 Jan, 2pm-3pm, Parish Centre

All welcome to join us for this session. More info from j.wilde.1963@gmail.com

'Love Your School' Initiative

Tues 28 Jan, 7pm-9pm, Harwood Methodist Church

A training and prayer event is being held for this initiative from the Children Changing Places project, which is aimed at encouraging and equipping churches to serve their local schools. We'd love you to support this – everyone welcome. To book on, see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1089855219299?aff=oddtcreator>

Halliwell Local History Society (incorporating Smithills)



Tues 28 Jan, 7.30pm, Parish Centre
Open Evening. A chance to look into the Society's archives. All welcome.
More info from enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk

Café on the Green

Sat 1 Feb, 9.30am-2pm, St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School, Limefield Road, BL1 6LA



Delicious food and excellent service. Raising funds for work in the Diocese of Machakos, Kenya to provide free surgical treatment for children born with cleft lip/palate and other facial deformities. *All welcome.*

The rest of this year's Café on the Green dates:
5 Apr, 4 Oct and 1 Nov.

Home for Good Peer Support Group

Sat 1 Feb, 12.30pm-2pm, Parish Centre

For adopters, foster, kinship carers and families.

Bring and share

lunch. Info: Fiona 07786 844141



Out and About Local Walk

Sat 1 Feb, 9.30am, meet opposite St Peter's Church

Sizergh along Scout Scar.

An easy walk of 8 miles. All welcome. Info from Jane Heath on 07472926650



Oasis Mid-week Service



This takes place every Thurs morning in St Peter's Church, starting with refreshments in the

lounge from 10.30am followed by a short service from 11.30am-12noon. At this service we usually have a few hymns and a short talk from different speakers each week and sometimes we take Communion together. You are most welcome to join us for coffee and also stay for the service, if you choose to do so. We'd love to see you so please just turn up!

Keyholders for St Peter's Church

If you have previously been issued keys for St Peter's and are no longer in need of them, **please return them to Amanda in the Parish Office.** They can then be re-allocated, as necessary, thus saving church funds on duplicating costs. Thank you.

Christmas Dinner on Jesus

A **HUGE** thank you to everyone in the parish who in some way played their part in Christmas Dinner on Jesus 2024. Whether you donated money or food items, nominated someone to receive a hamper, helped pack hampers or even delivered them, this was a fantastic example of teamwork and God's love in action to bless those that needed it - thank you!



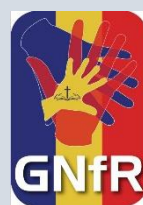
Pray

Prayer for the Week

Our CAP Debt Centre Manager, Sam, helps us focus on the opportunities and blessings that we have at the start of the New Year. **See her prayer on the back page.**

Looking Forward

Good News for Romania Bring and Buy Sale and Coffee Morning



Sat 8 Mar, 10am-12pm, Parish Centre

Raising funds to support the fantastic work of GNfR. Come along to grab yourself a bargain and enjoy refreshments and company too.

Church Social with Food and Magician!

Sat 8 Mar, 5.45pm, Parish Centre

A tea-time social event for everyone. More details to follow and tickets available soon. Save the date!

The Brixi Singers Concert

Sat 29 Mar, 7.30pm, St Peter's Church

Come and see this highly regarded Bolton-based choir perform a concert for the Lenten/Passiontide season. Tickets available soon. Save the date!

Prayer from Sam Wolstencroft, CAP Debt Centre Manager

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the opportunities and blessings of this new year. As we think of how we can use our time to build your kingdom, we put you at the centre of it all and give you the glory of all we set out to achieve. Help us to humbly put our hands into Your hand, and to trust You and to seek Your will for our lives during this coming year. In the midst of life's uncertainties in the days ahead, assure us of the certainty of Your unchanging love. In the midst of life's inevitable disappointments and heartaches, help us to turn to You for the stability and comfort we will need. And in the midst of our daily preoccupations, open our eyes to the sorrows and injustices of our hurting world, and help us to respond with compassion and sacrifice to those who are friendless and in need. Help us to be Christ-like in the challenges that might lie before us, knowing that you walk beside us and before us in all that we go through.

Amen

Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 20 Jan			
9.30am-12noon 10am-12noon 6pm-7.30pm 7pm-9pm	AGE UK's Strength and Balance classes Coffee Room Weight Management Programme Farnworth Performing Arts Group	Classes full, contact Parish Office Drop-in for coffee and cakes www.yhbolton.co.uk / 01204 205090 office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Tue 21 Jan			
9.45am-11.30am	Tots on Tuesday	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am 6pm-7.15pm 7.30pm-9pm	Little Wiggles Toddlers Group Ignite Tread Youth Group	Suzi 07834 371509 ignite@stpetersparish.info office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Wed 22 Jan			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am 7pm-9pm	Open Door Farnworth Performing Arts Group	Rev Hannah Lane, Vicar of Bolton. Val 07902 167971 office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Thu 23 Jan			
8.30am-9am	Prayer Meeting	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10.30am-12noon	Oasis Coffee Morning and Service	Refreshments 10.30am, service 11.30am	St Peter's
2pm-3pm 8pm-9.30pm	Christian Meditation Group Alpha Course and Life Group	j.wilde.1963@gmail.com office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Fri 24 Jan			
10am-12noon 10.30am-12noon 8pm-10pm	Watercolours Class Friday Life Group Stressbusters Badminton	Lucinda 07977 821119 denis.collier@gmail.com Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre
Sat 25 Jan			
9am-12noon	INTERACT Performing Arts Group	Lucy/Emma 07896 724531	Parish Centre

Keep Connected

Parish Business Manager: Amanda Blease E: amanda@stpetersparish.info / P: 01204 599900

Finance Officer: Elaine Vincent E: finance@stpetersparish.info / P: 01204 599901

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

Wardens: Phil Weaver and Simon Scott E: wardens@stpetersparish.info

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

Caretaker: David Park E: david@stpetersparish.info

St Peter's Parish Centre
347 Church Road, Bolton BL1 5RR
www.stpetersparish.info



St Peter's Halliwell



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