



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

# NEWSLETTER



Sunday 2 February 2025

## HEADLINES

- Our Upcoming Vision Sunday Services
- Changes to Canon Slade Admissions Policy
- Parish Social – Fish, Chips and Magic Tricks!
- Prayers by Diane Ball on behalf of St Andrew's (Hope Centre)

*Read on to find out more...*

## SERVICES

Sun 2 Feb

*It's Lighthouse week!*



### ST PETER'S CHURCH

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

### SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Morning service and Lighthouse
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### BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

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

10.30am	Vision Service with Communion
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\*Livestreamed search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'

**We are an accessibility friendly parish**

### *Rev Alan writes...*

**Looking back with thanksgiving and forward with faith.**

Our annual vision meetings for each fellowship start this Sunday at St Andrew's. The meetings take place as part of the Sunday worship and provide an opportunity to look back with thanksgiving, to acknowledge and celebrate all God has done over the last year, and to look forward with faith and anticipation for all that God will do over the year ahead. It is also an opportunity to appoint our fellowship leadership teams.



Over the coming weeks, I will be taking part in all our 'Vision Sunday' services at each fellowship. Smithills is Sun 9 Feb, Barrow Bridge is Sun 23 Feb, and for the first time St Peter's is Sun 2 March. Note, there will be no 8.30am service on Sun 2 March as I want to encourage everyone to join the Vision Sunday service at 10.30am. Can I encourage you to prayerfully consider if you should commit to serve as a member of your leadership team and speak to one of your leaders or myself if you'd like to explore the opportunity.

We praise God and offer our thanks and appreciation to St Andrew's leadership team, volunteers and especially their Chair Diane Ball for the wonderful work they have done this last year, especially as they celebrated 90 years of St Andrew's. Please hold them in your prayers this Sunday.

At this Sunday's 6.30pm Parish-wide service at St Peter's, Stephen Brierley is speaking on Abraham and Isaac (Gen 21:1-7, 22:1-4) in the next of our series of The Great Explorers and I will be sharing about my recent visit to Uganda.

## Message Sunday

Thanks to everyone who supported Message Sunday last week. Andy Hawthorne and the team from The Message Trust really enjoyed being with us and were grateful for the opportunity to share their vision and the opportunity partner with us. Just to clarify that they shared plans for a mission visit to Canon Slade High School in the Autumn, this was a little premature as discussions with the school have not yet taken place. We will keep you updated.



## Legacy Update



The PCC (Parochial Church Council) has agreed an amendment to our legacy policy to reassure you that any future gifts remain anonymous unless expressly informed of any specific requirements.

You can view the policy and further details on leaving a legacy on our parish website:

<https://stpetersparish.info/legacy/>

## Funerals in St Peter's Church

**Jean Mort: Tues 4 Feb, 12noon** followed by committal at 1.15pm at Overdale Crematorium. Afterwards everyone is invited to attend the Victoria Inn (Fanny's), 26 Markland Hill, Heaton BL1 5AG.

## Roy Machin

A message from Roy's family: *'Thank you to those who joined in the celebration of Roy Machin's life on Mon 27 Jan. Maureen and their girls would like to thank everyone for the kind and thoughtful messages, along with the special memories of Roy that you have shared. They have been a great comfort and pleasure to receive at this sad and difficult time.'*

## Changes to Canon Slade Admissions Policy from September 2026



Canon Slade's Admission Policy has been changed. Following the required statutory consultation, it has been agreed that for entry from **September 2026 onwards:**

- The number of years of required church attendance will reduce to 3 years
- The number of church attendances counted will reduce to 26

- Deanery points will reduce from currently 20 points to 5

One point will be awarded for each week of attendance at worship (up to a maximum points' allocation of 26 per year) for each of the parent and child over a three-year period from the child being in Year 3. Points will therefore be allocated as follows: Child awarded from 0 to 78 points; Parent awarded from 0 to 78 points. Maximum 156 points for church attendance. Five further points will be given for residence in Bolton Deanery (or any equivalent area if the Bolton Deanery is replaced in any future church re-organisation). The maximum points will be 161. Stamps for attendance in our parish will therefore, from now on, be needed for children in Years 3, 4 and 5 only, with 26 being the maximum number of stamps counted in one year.

These changes recognise the decline in church attendance over many years. Additionally, family life has changed significantly with more children now committed to Sunday morning activities and families finding it too challenging to achieve 45 weeks' attendance. In fact, the Church of England now defines "regular" attendance as once a month. The school has been acutely aware for some years that many Christian families who would wish to send their children to Canon Slade do not apply, fearful that if they do not put Canon Slade first on the form they will not get a place, and that it is too risky for them to put Canon Slade first on the form if they have fewer points. At present, the school no longer has enough church families to fill the 300 places available. Hopefully these changes will give more church-going families confidence to apply to Canon Slade. Even allowing for these changes, Canon Slade still has the highest expectation of church attendance of any church school in the region.

The new Admissions Policy can be found on the school's website:

<https://www.canon-slade.bolton.sch.uk/>

Info from Liz Nicholls, Chair of Governors



**Do Lunch, Do Life Today in St Peter's**  
**Sun 2 Feb, straight after 10.30am CAP Sunday service, St Peter's Church**

All welcome to join us for sandwiches and cake so please do stay after the service!

## PrayerZone

**Wed 5 Feb 7.30pm-8.30pm,**  
**St Peter's Primary School (BL1 6LA)**

Gather from across the parish for an hour of dynamic prayer and worship.



## Working Party in St Peter's

Sat 8 Feb, 9am-12pm, St Peter's Church

If you are able to help with some cabling in the church cellar, please contact David Cieszynski - [davidczy@stpetersparish.info](mailto:davidczy@stpetersparish.info) - for more details.

Thank you for your support.

## Fish, Chips and Magic Tricks!

Sat 8 Mar, 5.45pm-8pm, Parish Centre



A parish social event, an evening for EVERYONE! We are excited to have professional illusionist and author of 'The Real Deal', Rod Williams, with us for our next church social. All ages welcome! Rod will be performing his stage show as well as entertaining you with his close-up tricks at tables. He will also share his inspiring story of how he was rescued from a life of crime, addiction and prison... children will be entertained upstairs at this point! You don't want to miss this! Details to follow.

## Good News for Romania Fundraisers



Sat 8 Mar, 10am-12pm, Parish Centre  
Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale

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

Fri 14 Mar, 7.30pm, Victory Reform Club, Bolton  
Quiz Night

Tickets are now on sale, £9 each including supper. Please contact Dave or Kath if you would like to book-they are limited to 95 so please book yours ASAP. Tel: 07903 546008.

## Duke of Edinburgh's Award at St Peter's

St Peter's has a long history of delivering the Duke of Edinburgh Award, pioneered in Smithills



Fellowship, now offered across the whole Parish. We believe that by delivering the award we are empowering young people; supporting them as they learn new skills, overcome obstacles, and build confidence and resilience. By completing the programme, they'll develop the skills and attitudes they need to become more rounded, confident adults - qualities that colleges, universities and employers are attracted to. The award has 4 sections and it's possible to count existing extracurricular activities towards the award (eg. if they are in a sports team or play an instrument they could already be on their way). Your child could have their first Award (Bronze) by Nov! **We are currently looking for the young**

people who'd like to take part in the coming year.

Please contact Mark Rigby - 07964329916/  
[markmttl@gmail.com](mailto:markmttl@gmail.com) by 16 Feb for more info.

## Volunteers Needed for Spark

An exciting new opportunity to volunteer at SPARK, a new mid-week children's club for KS1 children at St Peter's Parish Centre! If you would like to invest in the future of our children and would be interested in helping out, please get in touch with Lucy Hargraves on [lucyhargraves@manchester.anglican.org](mailto:lucyhargraves@manchester.anglican.org).

## Fundraising for Macmillan Thanks

Val Perris wishes to thank all who have supported the invaluable work of Macmillan nurses. At Christmas, her sale of knitted Christmas puddings raised a whopping £972.64! Last year, together with the sale of knitted Easter chicks and the coffee morning held in St Peter's Church, an amazing total of £4818.92 has been raised.

A huge thank you for your support.



## Quinta 2025 Parish Weekend Away

Fri 12 – Sun 14 Sept

Don't miss this fantastic weekend away for the whole church family! You're all invited. Quinta is a beautiful 50-acre estate, situated in north-west Shropshire, close to the Welsh border. It's located in unspoilt countryside but is easily accessible being about 1.5 hours drive from Bolton. More details can be found at

<https://stpetersparish.info/quinta-2025-booking/>



## Prayer for the Week

Diane Ball, Leadership Chair for St Andrews (Hope Centre) says 'This Sunday is our Vision Sunday (Annual Church meeting) and election of Leadership Team. It offers us as a whole fellowship a chance to look back at God's provision in the last year and look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead of us as we endeavour to Hear God's voice and follow his lead.' **See the back page.**

## Looking Forward

### 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 Diane Ball on behalf of St Andrews (Hope Centre)

These are words from our St Andrews's Annual Review document, would you pray with us: -

We are Jesus' Church on Jesus' Mission in this area, as the Vicar and our text card remind us...

We don't know what is coming, but we pray, as Jehoshaphat did when faced with a difficult situation in 2 Chronicles 20:12, "We do not know what to do, but we are looking to you for help."

Lord, find us ready and prepared for all you have for us and for your Kingdom in this area. Thank you for your faithfulness over so many years. Keep us firmly trusting in you through the 'green pastures' and 'deepest dark valleys' of what may lie ahead in the future. We are excited to see what you have planned.

Amen

## Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
<b>Mon 3 Feb</b>			
9.30am-12noon 10am-12noon 1.30pm-3.30pm	AGE UK's Strength and Balance classes Coffee Room Weight Management Programme	Classes full, contact Parish Office Drop-in for coffee and cakes <a href="http://www.yhbolton.co.uk">www.yhbolton.co.uk</a> / 01204 205090	Parish Centre
<b>Tue 4 Feb</b>			
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 <a href="mailto:ignite@stpetersparish.info">ignite@stpetersparish.info</a> <a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Wed 5 Feb</b>			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door	Lucy Hargraves, Children Changing Places Project Worker. Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
7.30pm-8.30pm	PrayerZone	Dynamic prayer and worship	St Peter's Primary School
<b>Thu 6 Feb</b>			
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
8pm-9.30pm	Alpha Course and Life Group	<a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Fri 7 Feb</b>			
10am-12noon 10.30am-12noon 8pm-10pm	Watercolours Class Friday Life Group Stressbusters Badminton	Lucinda 07977 821119 <a href="mailto:denis.collier@gmail.com">denis.collier@gmail.com</a> Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre

## Keep Connected

**Parish Business Manager:** Amanda Blease E: [amanda@stpetersparish.info](mailto:amanda@stpetersparish.info) / P: 01204 599900

**Finance Officer:** Elaine Vincent E: [finance@stpetersparish.info](mailto:finance@stpetersparish.info) / P: 01204 599901

**Vicar:** Rev Alan Saunders E: [alan@stpetersparish.info](mailto:alan@stpetersparish.info) / M: 07767 643444 / P: 01204 848624

**Wardens:** Phil Weaver and Simon Scott E: [wardens@stpetersparish.info](mailto:wardens@stpetersparish.info)

**CAP Debt Centre Manager:** Sam Wolstencroft E: [samwolstencroft@capuk.org](mailto:samwolstencroft@capuk.org) / M: 07934 716509

**Caretaker:** David Park E: [david@stpetersparish.info](mailto:david@stpetersparish.info)

St Peter's Parish Centre  
347 Church Road, Bolton BL1 5RR  
[www.stpetersparish.info](http://www.stpetersparish.info)



St Peter's Halliwell



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