



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

# NEWSLETTER



Sunday 21 September 2025

## HEADLINES

- Update from our Quinta Weekend
- Disability Awareness Sunday
- Play in St Peter's Next Week
- Alpha Course Starting
- Prayer for the Week from Geoff Gunshon on behalf of the National and International Ministry Team

*Read on to find out more...*

## SERVICES

**Sunday 21 September**  
**It's Lighthouse week!**



### ST PETER'S CHURCH

8.30am	Morning service
10.20am	Lighthouse at Parish Centre
*10.30am	Adult Communion service with 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 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...

#### What I loved about Quinta

It is weekends away like last weekend that make me feel incredibly privileged to be part of St Peter's parish. There was so much to love... the food was great, especially



the abundance of cake! Bishop Matthew led four superb sessions on the theme of **Resilient Faith** which were grounded and practical. He is a superb communicator and I'm delighted that our tech team recorded his sessions for our YouTube Channel [www.youtube.com/StPetersHalliwell](http://www.youtube.com/StPetersHalliwell). The activities and games were brilliant (and team pink won!).

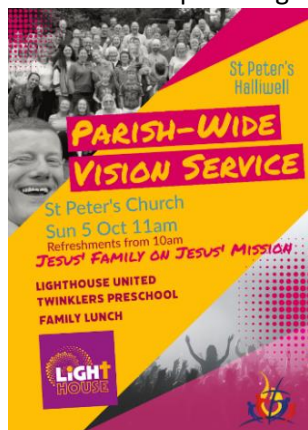


There was something for everyone - an afternoon walk or doing a jigsaw puzzle with friends; toddlers, children and teenagers all having a ball; swimming; an afternoon nap or

just time to relax and chat; a quiz - to name but a few things. But most of all, I just loved being away with such a lovely bunch of people with a passion for Jesus, and I can't wait for the next one! Huge thanks to everyone who helped organise and deliver everything so brilliantly and also to those left behind who put on a great service at St Peter's whilst we were away.



It's our **Parish-wide Vision Service on Sun 5 Oct, 11am** (refreshments from 10am) at St Peter's Church. There will be special Lighthouse United children's



Sunday groups at the Parish Centre and a Twinkler's pre-school session in St Peter's Church Lounge. Following the service, there will be a family lunch for everyone in the Parish Centre. This will be the only service on Sun 5 Oct so as to give everyone the opportunity to come.

## Transport Help Needed



Do you have, or have access to, a long wheelbase van, or a pickup truck?

We are borrowing a

gazebo from Harpers Lane Allotments for our **Vision Service on Sun 5 Oct** (see above) at St Peter's Church but will need help with transporting it as some of the parts are quite big. Also, we will need a team of at least 6 people to put it up and take it down as it has to be lifted with its roof canvas on. With a good team, it'll take an hour to an hour and a half to put up and take down. If you can help, please contact [amanda@stpetersparish.info](mailto:amanda@stpetersparish.info). Thanks.

## Disability Awareness Next Sunday

**Sun 28 Sept, in all services (except 10.30 service at St Peter's which will be held on Sun 12 Oct)**

*At this special service, we will be exploring how we can make church a supportive place where people who are disabled can experience God's love.*

If you have any old glasses or sunglasses you can drop off at the Parish Centre **by Weds 24 Sept**, we'll use them to create some "simulation glasses" (it doesn't matter if they have prescription lenses as we'll wrap them in cling film to simulate glaucoma and it works really well!) Thanks for your support.



## Derek Butler

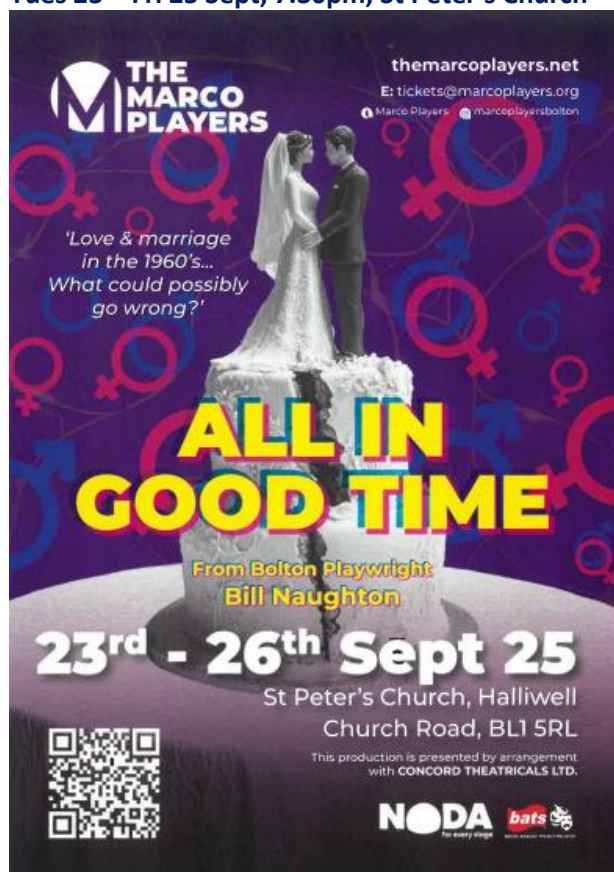
**Fri 10 Oct, 11.30am, Smithills Chapel**

We are very sorry to inform you that Derek, husband of Sue, died on Tues 9 Sept. Derek was part of Smithills Fellowship and the Oasis church family. Please pray for their children – Sarah, Helen and Rachael – and the wider family and friends at this difficult time. Funeral details as above.



**Next week!**

**Tues 23 – Fri 25 Sept, 7.30pm, St Peter's Church**



Directed by our very own Ben Latham! *Appropriate for anyone 11+.* Tickets from [themarcoplayers.net](http://themarcoplayers.net) or available on the door on the night. See you there!

## Alpha Course Starts Next Week

**Starting Thu 25 Sept, 8pm-9.30pm, Parish Centre**

This course will be led by Rev Josh Openshaw. It's a series of group conversations that freely explores the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone's welcome. No matter your background or beliefs, you're invited. Info at <https://alpha.org.uk/try-alpha>. Email Amanda in the Parish Office to register.



**Do you have baking skills you'd love to share at Alpha?** Or perhaps you'd like a few eager taste-testers as you try out new recipes? Either way, we'd be so



grateful for cakes or treats to enjoy on Thurs evenings. We're also looking for a few people who could help serve refreshments for just 10 minutes or so at the start of each Alpha session. Alpha runs every Thurs evening from 8pm in the

Parish Centre. If you'd like to bless the group in either of these ways, please email [josh@stpetersparish.info](mailto:josh@stpetersparish.info) or [amanda@stpetersparish.info](mailto:amanda@stpetersparish.info). Thank you so much! Rev Josh and the Alpha team.



## Macmillan Coffee Morning

**Thu 25 Sept, 10am at Oasis in St Peter's Church**

All welcome. Donations of cakes, preserves etc will be very much appreciated. Contact Val Perris on 07984 070364.



## Bolton Christian Meditation Group

**Thu 25 Sept, 2pm-3pm, Parish Centre**

All welcome at this session. No need to book, just turn up. For info, contact [j.wilde.1963@gmail.com](mailto:j.wilde.1963@gmail.com).

## High School Form Signings for 2026 Entry

**Thu 25 Sept, 7pm-9pm, Parish Centre**

Church supplementary forms will be signed but you **must book a timed slot** at [office@stpetersparish.info](mailto:office@stpetersparish.info) / 599900. You'll need to provide: child's name, parent's name, contact details, church you attend.

## Halliwell Local History Society



**(incorporating Smithills)**

**Tues 30 Sept, 7.30pm, Parish Centre**

Steve Irwin 'Early Aviation in Lancashire'. All welcome. More info from [enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk)

## Prayer Zone

**Wed 1 Oct, 7.30pm-8.30pm,**

**St Peter's Primary School (BL1 6LA)**

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



## Tea, Tasty Treats and Testimonies 2

**Fri 3 Oct, 7.30pm, Parish Centre**



All ladies are welcome to join us at our next event. We had fab feedback the last time we did this so we hope you can join us – no need to book, just turn up.

## Out and About Walk

**Sat 4 Oct, meet 9.30am, opposite St Peter's Church**



Bridgewater Canal and Pennington Flash. All welcome. 7 miles, low level walk. Info

from [janeheath@heathnet.plus.com](mailto:janeheath@heathnet.plus.com)

## Café on the Green



**Sat 4 Oct, 9.30am-2pm, St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School, Limefield Road, BL1 6LA**

Delicious food and excellent service. All welcome. All proceeds going to

Operation Smile UK for children with cleft palates. *The last Café on the Green of the year will be on 1 Nov.*

## Calling All Men!

**Sat 11 Oct, meet 1pm, Parish Centre**



It's time for some fun together, so we've organised a 7-mile country walk on Sat 11 Oct, leaving at 1pm from the Parish Centre and arriving at Rivington Brewery Tap at about 4pm where we can enjoy a few

beers, or soft drinks, and food from the outlets, for details visit: <https://www.rivingtonbrewing.co.uk/>. We can organise transport back between us, and it's OK to just meet us at the brewery. Option to go into Horwich for a curry in the evening too! To sign-up message Rev Alan on 07767 643444.

## Do Lunch, Do Life

**Sun 12 Oct, St Peter's Church**

Join us for bacon butties straight after the 10.30am



service and a cake sale to raise funds for **Good News for Romania** – please remember to bring cash! NB: Next GNFR Coffee Morning/ Bring and Buy is **Sat 18 Oct, 10am-12noon, Parish Centre.**



## Prayer for the Week

Today is NIM's World Focus Sunday and we are hosting Compassion -

a worldwide, Christian, child-sponsoring charity - at



the 10.30am and 6.30pm services in St Peter's. **See Geoff Gunshon's prayer on the back page.**

## Looking Forward

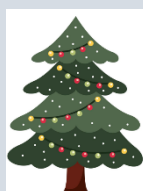
### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations at Parish Centre

**Sun 26 Oct, 10.30am, Parish Centre**

Join us at our celebration service commemorating the re-opening of the Parish Centre on 15 Oct 2000 following its redevelopment and extension. **NB: No 10.30am service in St Peter's on this date**

### Christmas Tree Festival: Join the Team

**Sat 13 Dec and Sun 14 Dec, Barrow Bridge Mission**



The planning team at Barrow Bridge are starting preparations for this year's festival and would love people from other churches in the parish to join the team. Interested? Contact [janetlainsworth@gmail.com](mailto:janetlainsworth@gmail.com) **ASAP.**

## Prayer from Geoff Gunshon on behalf of National and International Ministry team

*Father, we thank you for the work of Compassion. We lift to you the many thousands of local churches that enable their work. We pray for your blessing on their work and on the people in towns and villages all over the world who, through faith in your loving kindness, strive to bring children out of physical, emotional and spiritual poverty.*

*Father, we thank you for the child sponsors whose love for strangers and the needy bring opportunity and potential where there was once only hopelessness and hardship. We pray that you will touch the hearts of your people to join in with this work.*

*Father, we pray for the children involved, those who are being sponsored and those patiently waiting for a sponsor. May they know the gift of your love and the depth of your compassion. We ask all these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

## Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
<b>Mon 22 Sept</b>			
10am-12noon 10am-12noon 5.30pm-7.30pm	AGE UK's Strength & Balance Coffee Room ABL Weight Management	Classes full, contact Parish Office Drop-in for coffee and cake <a href="http://www.yhbolton.co.uk">www.yhbolton.co.uk</a> / 01204 205090	Parish Centre
<b>Tues 23 Sept</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 KS2 Children's Group Tread Youth Group	Suzi 07834 371509 <a href="mailto:ignite@stpetersparish.info">ignite@stpetersparish.info</a> <a href="mailto:tread@stpetersparish.info">tread@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Weds 24 Sept</b>			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session, all welcome	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door Ladies Group	'Talking Heads' - Ben Latham. Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
<b>Thu 25 Sept</b>			
8.30am-9am	Prayer Meeting	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10am-12noon	Macmillan Coffee Morning/Oasis/Service	Refreshments 10am, service 11.30am	St Peter's
2pm-3pm	Bolton Christian Meditation Group	<a href="mailto:j.wilde.1963@gmail.com">j.wilde.1963@gmail.com</a>	Parish Centre
8pm-9.30pm	Alpha Course	<a href="mailto:josh@stpetersparish.info">josh@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Fri 26 Sept</b>			
10.30am-12noon 10am-12noon 8pm-10pm	Friday Life Group Watercolours Class Stressbusters Badminton	<a href="mailto:denis.collier@gmail.com">denis.collier@gmail.com</a> Lucinda 07977 821119 Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre
<b>Sat 27 Sept</b>			
9am-12pm	INTERACT Performing Arts Group	Lucy/Emma 07896 724531	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 599909

**Pioneer Minister:** Rev Josh Openshaw E: [josh@stpetersparish.info](mailto:josh@stpetersparish.info) / M: 07534 309265

**CAP Debt Centre Manager:** Sam Wolstencroft E: [samwolstencroft@capuk.org](mailto:samwolstencroft@capuk.org) / M: 07934 716509 / P: 01204 599903

**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)



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