



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 13th September 2026

HEADLINES

- It's Reunion Time!
- 'No More Knives Vision Night' Coming Up
- Our New Finance Officer
- Associate Minister Advert
- Nepal Flood Emergency Disaster Appeal
- Prayer for the week from Chris Winstanley on behalf of St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sun 13 Sept

ST PETER'S CHURCH

8.30am	Morning service with Communion
10.30am*	Worship for Everyone service - Education Sunday
6.30pm*	Parish-wide service - Reunion service

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Family service
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BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

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

10.30am	Morning service
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*Livestreamed, search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'
We are an accessibility-friendly parish

Rev Alan writes...

It's Reunion Time!



It was wonderful to meet so many former members of St Peter's at the diocese clergy conference back in June this year. I'm immensely proud of our rich heritage of sending people out into mission and it's always a huge encouragement to hear stories of how people are getting on and the positive differences they are making in the places God has sent them. That's why I am thrilled to have received such a fantastic response to the invitations for former leaders and their spouses to join us for the Reunion Service at our Parish-wide 6.30pm service this Sunday.

Confirmed attending are **Rev's Paul** (who is preaching) and Kathryn Hardingham, **Vinny** and Ruth Whitworth, **Gilbert** and Uzma David, **Oli** and Jo Preston, Steve and **Steph** Openshaw, **Tony** and Josie Butterworth, **Alison** Bailie, Steve and **Steph** Mawhinney.

We will start a little earlier with refreshments from 6pm to give time for everyone to have a catch-up with our guests.

My hope is that the service is a celebration of our amazing parish – an opportunity to look back with gratitude on all God has done for us and to encourage us as we look to the future.

Please use the opportunity to invite back to St Peter's any old friends or people who may have slipped back from regular attendance - it will be great to reconnect with people.

No More Knives Vision Night



In our screen notices last week, we advertised the '**No More Knives Vision Night**' which is on **Tue 29 Sept, 7-8.30pm at Grace Church**, Somerset Road BL1 4NE. Rev Alan has played a key role in setting up this opportunity to partner with The Message Trust, plus churches, Bolton Council and the Police, to bring the No More Knives Tour to Bolton's High Schools in January 2027. To find out more and to hear about ways you can support this exciting initiative to help tackle knife crime and share the Christian message of hope, please join us at Grace Church on Tue 29 Sept.

Education Sunday

Sun 13 Sept, 10.30am, St Peter's

At today's morning service, Rev Alan will be preaching and Matt Harding, Headteacher of St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School will be leading. This is a special service that we hold to mark the start of the new school year. Please do come and join us.

Our New Finance Officer



We're delighted to introduce you to Joanne Greenhalgh, who has joined our staff team as our new Finance Officer. Joanne is based in the Parish Office and will be working Mon, Tues and Weds each week. Many of you will

know Joanne (daughter of Ann and Phil Berry) as she grew up attending Campers, has lived and worshipped in our parish throughout her life and has also volunteered for many years at various toddler groups, Lighthouse, Tred, in the Parish Office, and also as one of our Duke of Edinburgh award leaders. She is also a childminder so she may have looked after your children over the years too! Please keep her in your prayers as she settles into her new role.

Associate Minister Advert

Advertising is now live for our parish Associate Minister role, a clergy role to support Rev Alan in the leadership of the parish. **Please pray for the right person and share with anyone you think may be suitable.** See the ad on the Parish, Diocese and New Wine Jobs pages. Closing date for applications: 7 Oct. <https://pathways.churchofengland.org/en/jobs/associate-minister-st-peter-halliwell/4101>

Nepal Flood Emergency Disaster Appeal



Thank you for all the donations made to our National and International Ministry team's appeal to provide aid to the Nepali flood survivors. **Overall as a Parish we raised an amazing £6,544.90!** The photo above is of relief bought with some of the funds we sent.

Wedding Congratulations



We are delighted to announce the wonderful news that **Andrew Ehrhart** and **Leonie Smethurst** were married in Smithills Chapel last Saturday (5 Sept). May God bless their marriage in

the years to come. Please also keep them in your prayers as they start out in married life.

Congratulations Mr and Mrs Ehrhart!

High School Form Signings for 2027 Entry

Thurs 1 Oct, 7pm-9pm, Parish Centre

Church supplementary forms will be signed but you **must book a timed slot** at office@stpetersparish.info / 599900. Please provide: child's name, parent's name, contact details, and which church you attend.

Ryan Jetwashes Church Walls for Free!

As part of his initiative to give back to the community, one clean at a time, local business owner Ryan from Elite Jet Washing Services approached us to offer to clean the signs, perimeter walls and cellar steps at St Peter's for free. He has several family members buried in our graveyard so has a special connection to our church. See the before/after photos below. He's done a great job and we're very grateful— thanks, Ryan!



CAP'S 30-day September Challenge!

Various members of our church are taking up a challenge during September to raise funds for the CAP Support Hub in Bradford and we would love it if you would encourage them by donating using the link below. Katie is doing 10k every day for 30 days; Tom and Sam are doing 10,000 steps every day; Sophie, Joel and Reuben are doing 6 x 5k runs over the month and others are doing the 1k per day for the month.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/samantha-wolstencroft-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=LFCFRUK_42DaysToEvent

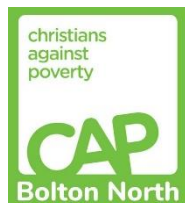
Volunteers Needed for Hub at the Hope Weds, 9am-12noon, St. Andrew's

These drop-in sessions re-started this week. Sadly, due to poor health a couple of volunteers have stood down. Could you consider joining the Hub team? There's flexibility as to whether you help on a weekly or less regular basis. Interested? Please contact Steve (stevetwalsh59@gmail.com). Thank you.



Befriender Training Day

Tues 15 Sept, 11.30am- 2pm (incl lunch), Parish Centre



Centre

Interested in finding out more about helping with the work of our CAP Ministry? Please do come along to this session. More info from Sam: samwolstencroft@capuk.org

Bolton Repair Café

Weds 17 Sept, 10.30am-12.30pm, St Andrews



Bring your items in need of repair and stay for delicious coffee and cake.

Dementia Friendship Support Group

Thurs 18 Sept, 2pm-4pm, Parish Centre

For those with dementia and their carers. Singalong, games, quiz and fun. Tea/coffee/cake and a warm welcome.

Info from joan@stpetersparish.info /01204 840180



Progressive Meal: Only ONE week to go!

Sat 19 Sept, 6.30pm start, Parish Centre

The deadline for signing up is TOMORROW! Book a place at: <https://forms.gle/fU1pF6YtgowNyH4F7>. Not sure what it's about? Loads of people have been before, so just ask someone — or contact Stephen or Rachel (07954 995160 or thebrierleys@proton.me). Worried about allergies? Let us know, we can sort it. Worried about transport? Let us know, we'll organise



lifts for you. Not sure about the £15 contribution? No problem, we'll pay for you. Would like to do it with a friend/as a

group? No problem, we can sort that too. Got another issue? Let us know so we can work round it!! We'd love you to join us so book on now!

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thurs 24 Sept, 10am at Oasis in St Peter's Church (followed by short service at 11.30am)

All welcome. Donations of cakes, preserves etc will be



very much appreciated — please contact Val Perris on 07984 070364. We hope to see you there!



Thank you from Peter and Val Caffrey

"We would like to thank the fellowship for their thoughts, cards, visits and prayers over the last few months. We give thanks that many prayers are being answered. It is so encouraging. Praise God!"

Prayer for the Week



At the start of a new school year, our prayer is from Chris Winstanley on behalf of St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School. See her prayer on the back page.

Looking Forward

Café on the Green

Sat 3 Oct, 9am-1.30pm, St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School, Limefield Rd, BL1 6LA



Delicious food and excellent service. All welcome. Proceeds to Operation Smile UK for children with cleft palates

Good News for Romania Fundraiser Ceildh



Sat 3 Oct, 4pm-7pm, Parish Centre
Fun for all the family! Contact Kath on 07903 546008 or the Parish Office to book tickets — meal included.

Halliwell Local History Society: History Fair

Sat 3 Oct, 11am-4pm, St Peter's Church



All invited to come and support this local history fair where many other local societies will also be present. Displays of old photos, newspaper cuttings and artefacts. Slideshows and stalls selling second hand maps/books/photos. Admission free.

Prayer from Chris Winstanley on behalf of St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School

Father God, at the beginning of a new school year we pray that: the children beginning their school life would quickly settle into their new classes and routines; those children who are moving to new schools, colleges and universities would quickly get used to a new routine and make new friends; you would help all school staff to be effective and enthusiastic in their roles to enable the pupils to be the best that they can be.

Lord, we pray for opportunities for Christians to be involved in our local schools. We ask that you would continue to strengthen the links that we have to make a difference in pupils lives as they hear the gospel message. As the pupils at St Peter's School focus on their mission statement and values, we pray that all our children would shine in whatever they do. Help them to follow the example, values and teaching of Jesus Christ, who teaches us to love one another as He has loved us, and reminds us that He has come to bring us all life to the full! Father, grant that this would be true for everyone at St Peter's – children, staff, parents and governors. We pray that the school would be a happy place full of life and joy! May this term be peaceful, may the staff and children keep well and may there be lots of positive and exciting times ahead for our children and young people. Amen

Coming up

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 14 Sept			
10am-1.30pm 10am-12noon 6pm-7.30pm	Ageing Well with Strength and Balance Coffee Room Weight Management session	office@stpetersparish.info Drop-in for coffee and cake. All welcome www.yhbolton.co.uk / 01204 205090	Parish Centre
Tues 15 Sept			
9.45am-11.30am	Tots on Tuesdays	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am 6pm-7.15pm 7.30pm-9pm	Little Wiggles Toddlers' Group Ignite KS2 Children's Tread Youth Group	office@stpetersparish.info ignite@stpetersparish.info tread@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Weds 16 Sept			
9am-12noon	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session, all welcome	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door Ladies' Group	Bible study – Linda Foster. Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
Thurs 17 Sept			
8.30am-9am	Prayer Meeting	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
8pm-9.30pm	Alpha Course and Life Group	office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
10.30am-12noon	Oasis Coffee Morning and service	Refreshments 10.30am, service 11.30am	St Peter's
Fri 18 Sept			
10.30am-12noon 10am-12noon 7pm-9pm	Friday Life Connect Group Watercolours Class Stressbusters Badminton	denis.collier@gmail.com Lucinda 07977 821119 Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre
Sat 19 Sept			
9am-12noon	INTERACT Performing Arts	Lucy/Emma 07896 724531	Parish Centre

Keep Connected

Parish Business Manager: Amanda Blease

E: amanda@stpetersparish.info / **P:** 01204 599900

Finance Officer: Joanne Greenhalgh

E: finance@stpetersparish.info / **P:** 01204 599901

Vicar: Rev Alan Saunders

E: alan@stpetersparish.info / **M:** 07767 643444 / **P:** 01204 599909

Wardens: Simon Scott and Chris Ward

E: wardens@stpetersparish.info

Pioneer Minister: Rev Josh Openshaw

E: josh@stpetersparish.info / **M:** 07534 309265

CAP Debt Centre Manager: Sam Wolstencroft

E: samwolstencroft@capuk.org / **M:** 07934 716509 / **P:** 01204 599903

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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