

Were you there?

Exploring the People and Places of Holy Week

by Rev Sheelagh Aston



LENT GATHERINGS

WEDNESDAY Evenings at 7.45 pm at St Stephen's
THURSDAY mornings at 10.00 am at St Peter's

March 9/10, 16/17, 23/24, 30/31, April 6/7

QUIET MORNING AT ST STEPHEN'S:
SATURDAY 2nd April at 9.45 am



the link

The Parish Magazine of the United Benefice of St Peter & St Stephen, Burnley

"The kingdom of God has
come near. Repent and
believe the good news!"
(Mark 1.15)



LENT 2022
begins on Ash Wednesday
2nd March

<http://www.stpeterburnley.com>
<http://www.ststephenschurchburnley.org.uk>

Let's do lunch... and it's 'On the House'!

Everyone is welcome!
just come along at 12.30 pm!

fortnightly on
Wednesdays
March
Lunches at 12.30 pm
at **St Stephen's Church**
Oxford Road
Burnley Wood
BB11 3JA



  *Calling all Litterpickers!*

THE NEXT LITTERPICK IN

St Stephen's Parish, Burnley Wood will be on
Saturday 9th April
Meet at St Stephen's at 10.00 am
(Equipment provided but bring some thick gloves)
Children are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent/guardian

 *All Welcome!* Refreshments served after the walk!

WHO'S WHO IN THE BENEFICE?	
Curate in Charge Rev Paul Payton: Email: frpaulp@yahoo.com	
ST PETER'S	ST STEPHEN'S
CHURCH WARDENS: Mrs Sandra Davies ☎ 434763 Mr Jason Walsh ☎ 07554 154240 VERGER Mr Stewart Hacking ☎ 438224 PCC SECRETARY Mr Alan Roadley ☎ 07588 556640 ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER Mrs Joan Ainsworth ☎ 07971 711250 DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Mr Philip Tomlinson ☎ 777132 VISION CHAMPION: Mr Alan Roadley ☎ 07588 556640 MOTHERS' UNION: Mrs Carol Waddington ☎ 07846 139241 SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Mrs Christine Hacking ☎ 07749 626962 SUNDAY SCHOOL (DJs): Mrs Meena Tomlinson ☎ 777132 HEADTEACHER: Mrs Crowther ☎ 426873 FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S: Mrs Heather Slater ☎ 432775 FLOWER GUILD: Mrs Alice Binns ☎ 789632 BELFRY Mr Richard Parker ☎ 619906	CHURCH WARDENS: Mr Keith Pounder ☎ 414390 Mrs Jean Beeston ☎ 432986 ASSISTANT WARDENS Mrs Betty Galloway ☎ 456930 Mr Paul Hannah ☎ 07967 644709 PCC SECRETARY: Mrs Maureen Hanson ☎ 434865 VISION CHAMPION: Mrs Linda Pounder ☎ 414390 MOTHERS' UNION: Mrs Beverley Laycock (Branch Leader) ☎ 543766 Mrs Jackie Cosway (Secretary) ☎ 411967 SUNDAY SCHOOL: Emma Hopley ☎ 07968 782210 Emma Barker ☎ 07789 952470 HEADTEACHER: Mrs Jo Roberts ☎ 427848 SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Mrs Barbara Hasty ☎ 07783006284 VERGER Mrs Edith Meek ☎ 456170 CHURCH FLOWERS: Mrs Elaine Aspden ☎ 413151
CHURCH MAGAZINE EDITOR: : Mrs Pam McGrath: Email: pamelamcgrath1@hotmail.com	

**Don't forget - if you need anything,
don't hesitate to contact us**

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Don't Forget - it's a very tight deadline next month for the APRIL magazine, as your editor is going to be away. Everything MUST be in by 15TH MARCH to be included. Thank you!
 pamelamcgrath1@hotmail.com

Useful Information

THE CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU:

This has reopened but can only be contacted by phone. Opening hours are 9-5 Monday to Friday. They are keen to deal with the backlog of Attendance Allowance claims that have built up during Lockdown, so, give them a ring on 616750 for advice on claiming.

CHILDLINE

A Helpline for young people
 Tel No: 08001111
 24 hours, seven days a week.

SILVERLINE

A Helpline for older people:
 Tel: 08004 708090
 24 hours, seven days a week.

THE SAMARITANS help line is also 24 hours and their number is 116123.

BURNLEY TOGETHER:

Good news is that this is still going strong with its food parcel delivery and has intro-duced a befriending service. Opening hours are:
 9-5 Monday to Friday.
 Phone 01282 686402.

NATIONAL DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE:

This is run by Refuge. It is open 24hours seven days a week. Or contact them online. Freephone: 0800 2000247
 The Men's Advice line number is Freephone 0808 8010327
 Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.

Barbara

the link

... your monthly guide, keeping you up-to-date with what's happening in our Benefice and Community

We hope you enjoy receiving your copy of The Link each month. As you know, it's free of charge to anyone who wants to receive a copy, as we see it as an important way of outreach to all.

Many of you who are able to have kindly made an annual donation towards the cost of its production, and this is so much appreciated as these costs seem to escalate.

A huge thank you to all those who have already donated towards the cost for this year. If you haven't so far, and would like to donate, please just pass your donation in an envelope marked 'Magazine' to the Treasurer at either church, and if you can also Gift Aid your donation, that would be even better.

Thank you!

New Congregations

There's a lot of talk in Churches at the moment about new congregations. There are courses, pamphlets and lots of experts who have magically sprung up in the field, some of whom have actually had success, many more who despite being well meaning have only had ideas.

The fact is, our two churches already have experience of what works. We should be proud of our successes and build on them with more.

New congregations can take many forms - new groups of people previously unconnected with Church attending traditional-type services, groups of people working together to do the real hands-on work of Christ, spreading his love far into our communities, young people's groups giving our children a Christian foundation and a supportive peer network for life, social groups of people who already attend church but connect on a different and deeper level in those surroundings, strengthening their support for each other and reenergising their drive and faith.

Church can be a scary building to enter for the majority of the population today who have never attended, more so when the main time of attendance is the main family day in the modern household. We must meet people where they are whenever we talk of planning new events. We can never share the joy with people we never meet. Saturday concerts, Organ concerts, Lunch Club,

/continued ...

Rainbows, Beavers, Guides, Mother's Union, Prayer Breakfast, Litter Pick, Weekend Walks, House Groups, Children's Workshops, Let's Do Lunch, we have a phenomenal range of events that have the potential to bring new people into our fold and find their own niche in our Church. We publicise "Let's Do Lunch" on a number of local community sites and as a result of that the regular numbers have grown from around 20 at the start to almost 40 at the last meal, with some of the newer faces now bringing friends and staying for the service, making our Wednesday congregation swell to numbers approaching the Sunday service.



We have friends who joined us for weekend walks who are now present at other events because of the connections they made.

There are some great initiatives being carried out in other churches with after-School meets with real traction and I'm sure that these are things that we should also explore. Today, however, I feel a focus on publicising our midweek events to a wider audience. Welcoming all comers, understanding what they are seeking and embracing their contributions is guaranteed to add to our numbers and create a whole new pool of volunteers with a whole new pool of ideas and a whole new dynamic for wherever the future takes us. Our foundations are laid, now let's build.

Paul Hannah

(... and while we're on the subject, everyone is welcome to join us on Monday and Friday evenings at 9pm for a short service of Night Prayer to end the day. It's live on the St. Peter's and St. Stephen's facebook pages and our regular audience includes people from the Philippines, Romania and even Yorkshire!)

In The Loop



The winds have certainly been a problem for everyone in February.

Fortunately St Stephen's church hasn't suffered too much from the wind and rain. We look forward to better days though.



Plans are underway to upgrade the telecommunications system at St Stephen's. When finalised by the DAC, we will be hosting an upgraded telecommunications network. This will continue to generate much needed funds for St Stephen's. Hats off to our predecessors with their forward thinking helping us to carry on with much-needed funding for our church.

KITCHEN PLANS:

As our culinary and hosting events have been so successful, we are in the process of looking at upgrading the kitchen in church to incorporate more space. We are seeking funding for this by the means grants and other sources. At the time of writing a grant will has been applied for and we await the outcome. Overton architects have agreed to act and have given us an initial plan of how we can best utilise the much needed space. This of course will be subject to PCC approval and the decision of the

Diocesan Advisory committee along with the Chancellor.

There's a lot of red tape to go through as we try to keep within the guidelines of the Church of England's online faculty system. Spinning plates and jumping through hoops is something that we are used to in the church generally!

This year sees the Queens platinum Jubilee. Her majesty will become the first British monarch to celebrate a platinum jubilee - seventy years of service. There will be many celebrations taking place during the year. Plans are underway to celebrate such an event at St Stephen's. An exiting time for us all in the United Kingdom and commonwealth.



Don't forget the 900th celebrations at St Peters church. Please do take a programme of events. A busy time for everyone. Booklets are available from the book table in church.

As you will have read in quite a few editions of the parish magazine, the organ fund is well on its way. Hopefully in coming months we will be able to arrange classical organ concerts, showing off the organ's capabilities.

In the meantime ...

/continued over ...

.../continued

Chris Powell Organ concert
Saturday Night is Music Night.

Saturday April 23rd will see the welcome return of local lad, organist Chris Powell playing the Roland Atelier theatre organ. This will take place in St Stephen's church. Previous concerts have turned out to be a huge success bringing organ fans into St Stephen's which has fantastic acoustics, to showcase what always proves to be a great night of music.

A quick turn around will keep everyone on their toes as we are to host a wedding earlier in the afternoon. 'All hands to the pump!' as they say. Offers of homemade cakes would be greatly appreciated. The concert is on behalf of church funds.

At the time of writing it's hoped that a new incumbent has been found for the benefice. Interviews have taken place, so we now pray that we will be fortunate in our quest for a new start.

As we slowly approach early springtime we can look forward to a lovely, hopefully warm summer ahead of us after two years of restrictions.

The Future is Bright!

Keith, Jean, Betty & Paul.



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WHY NOT VISIT TO LOOK AROUND?

St Stephen Street: ☎ 422434
Harriet Street: ☎ 832225



Churchwardens' News from St Peter's

Hello everyone,

We hope you are all well and staying safe. For our friends on the prayer list, please remember we are thinking of you and praying for you.

It is good to see the Lunch Club up and running once again. The food and friendship it provides is much enjoyed by all who attend. Many thanks to the ladies for their hard work.

There are lots of things happening as we enter the season of Lent. The Lent Gatherings, led by a number of people from both churches, start on March 9/10th, every Wednesday at St Stephen's and every Thursday at St Peter's. There will be discussion and activities to partake in as we learn about the people and places of Holy Week. They conclude with a Quiet Morning on 2nd April.

Activities for the 900th anniversary are getting under way. Annette is doing her Book of St Peter project in Burnley town centre on four Saturdays from 26th February. It is a wonderful opportunity to get the church noticed and attract interest in our 900th celebrations and will result in a beautiful book which can be kept for future generations to enjoy.

Monks have been in and completed work on improving accessibility into the meeting rooms at the back of church. The floor has been raised up and the door runners are no longer a trip hazard so we can continue to make full use of the space once again.

Take care,

Sandra and Jason

Summer's Almost Here !!

Remember - Summertime begins on 27th March when the clocks should go **FORWARD**



St Stephen's Branch

Transformation ... Now!



LOOKING BACK

Several of us attended the 'Philomena' film night, with popcorn and choc ices for all, two choc ices for some Paul Hannah! If you've seen it you will know this film, based on true events, deals with heartbreaking issues.

We had been waiting for a while to invite Canon Ed Saville to speak about the Clewer Initiative. Again, the subject matter, modern day slavery, provided us with some tough glimpses into a world that exists all around us. Victims come from all walks of life and from all over the world. However, the majority of people it affects are from our own country. We had an excellent attendance.

ARE WE MISSING YOUR BIRTHDAY OR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY?

I'm sure we don't have all of you on our list. Please let Christine Naughton or me know.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Tuesday, March 8th, 2pm: Tesco in the Community with Billie. Billie will be talking about the many community links that our local Tesco provides.

Tuesday, March 22nd, 7pm: Craft with Vanessa; a good fun and very 'Crafty' evening lies in store.

OUR FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

Happy birthday to Elaine Aspden on the 27th. Have a lovely day. In our thoughts again, I'm sure, will be Edna Saul who will turn 101 on March 24th.

Happy anniversary to Linda and Keith Pounder on the 22nd.

Jackie

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

St Peter's Branch

The Mothers' Union lunch, cancelled from November due to Covid, has been re-booked for Wednesday 2nd March at Towneley Garden Centre at 12.30pm. If you would like to come and haven't yet let me know, please do so not later than Sunday 27th February. Everyone is welcome, you don't need to be a member. There are already several non-members coming.

It seems a long time since we had a Mothers' Union meeting, however, we will be having a meeting in March. On Wednesday 30th March, in church, at 2.00pm. As people enjoyed the Thursday Chat of reminiscences and asked if we could do it again, I thought this would be a good opportunity to do so. People would love to hear them again. Also, those people who missed are invited to bring their memories for us to enjoy and to hear those we've already enjoyed.

As usual, we welcome everyone to our meetings, you don't have to be a member, you don't even have to be female! Come along and enjoy tea (or coffee), cake and company.

Looking forward to seeing members and friends on 30th March.

Carol

ST PETER'S BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

You may have noticed that every week the names recorded in the Memorial Books of both Churches for that week are listed on the respective Weekly Newsletters. They are also read out each Sunday during the Intercessions.

The process by which this works requires input from the person who deals with the Memorial book entries, the Magazine editor, and whoever compiles the Weekly sheet. And occasionally things can go wrong.

Due to several factors, including the fact that it was not possible to fully brief the new custodian of St Peter's Memorial Book about the full procedure, we believe that one or two names, including Eddie Fildes and Keith Clegg, were omitted from St Peter's Weekly News earlier this year. Please accept our apologies for that. A review of names and procedures has now been undertaken.

Do remember that if you wish for somebody's name to be added to the Book of Remembrance, the Wardens at St Peter's should have forms that you can fill in. It is free for Church members, with a donation requested for others.

MARCH IN THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE AT ST PETER'S

1st	Shirley Lacy, Matthew C Rochester
2nd	Jenny Jackson
3rd	Alice Senior, Walter Bernard Smith, Sarah Ann Mitchell
4th	Daniel Middleton Partington
5th	Roy Travis
6th	Fred Dodd, Wilfred Smith, Dorothy M Cox
7th	Polly Wells, Ellen Ann Harling
9th	William Pixton, Alan Billington
10th	Doris Foulds
11th	Lily Walker
12th	Robinson Batey
13th	Muriel Alice Lovgreen
14th	Bertha Barlow Hadfield, Ethel M Tomblin
15th	Reginald Edomondson, Susannah Duerden
18th	George Altham, Kai L Lovgreen
19th	Herbert Holt
20th	John Gent, Edna Murtagh
22nd	David Lavery
24th	Frank Dodd, Rhoda Dodd
28th	Mabel Annie Bellinger
29th	Fanny Leaver, Horace Walker
30th	Ada Nellie Forsyth



*"I am the resurrection and the life
The one who believes in me will live,
even though they die."*

(John 11:25)

MARCH IN THE MEMORIAL BOOK OF ST STEPHEN'S

1st	John Margerison Balderstone, Muriel Ward
2nd	Rose MacGowan
3rd	James Wood
4th	John Whittle, Mary Alice Cocker, John Muir Davies
5th	Alice Lawson
6th	Alfred Wilkinson, Rev Peter Charles William Walker (Priest)
7th	Derrick Tate
8th	Margery Corless
9th	Lucy May Marshall, Elsie Unsworth
10th	Robert Haworth, Harry Burton
11th	Anyon Webster, Florence Taylor, Marjorie Coolican
12th	Richard Kazy
13th	John Walmsley, Nan Barnes, Ellen Miller, Edna Mellor, Muriel Jobling
14th	Elizabeth Berry, Mary Leyland, Jack Hindle, Harold Cox Charlotte Astwood, Alfred E Brown, Elsie H Bartram
15th	Sarah Whitehead, Arthur Kevin McGuigan
16th	John Thomas Seddon
17th	Mary Elizabeth Baldwin, Dorothy Skirrow, Harry Barnes, Muriel Gibson, Malcolm Kay
18th	Fannie Elizabeth Sagar, Simon John Spencer
19th	Margaret Alice Whitaker, Gladys Evelyn Corner, Rose E Shaw, Lawrence W Wilkins, William John Baker
20th	John R Mills, William L Smith, Gertrude Waldman, Albert Lawless, Lilian Hartley, Albert Healey, Evelyn Tighe
21st	William Corner, Jacqueline A Lord, James Edward Bates
22nd	John Taylor Whitaker, Geoffrey Booth, Annie Lord
23rd	Annie Thornton, Herbert Dawson, Marjorie Pickup, Irene Proger
24th	Thomas Hargreaves, Alice Ann Lord, Henrietta Healey, Martha Dewhirst
25th	Harold Leyland, Thomas Campbell, Nora Leighton, Mary Watson, George William Jobling, Frederick Harrison Nellie Heaton, Geoffrey Cummings (Priest), Winifred Dand, Reginald Middleton
26th	William George Astwood, Parker Chadwick
27th	Haworth Lord, Lily Meredith, Mildred Pickles, Percy Singleton, Arthur Landles
28th	Harold Bartram, John Atkinson, Ann Smith
29th	Hilda Mary Boden
30th	Hilda Draper, Kathleen Blott
31st	Ada Chadwick, Bertha Greenwood, Nellie Garnett





Springwood Road, Burnley, BB10 4HR

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Pendle

Sculpture Trail

... Come and join us



Don't forget, our walk programme begins again on Saturday 5th March with a stroll around the Pendle Sculpture Trail. We set off from the car park in Barley at 9.30 am returning to the Cabin at Barley for coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cake!



The entire walk is on well surfaced paths but comfortable walking footwear is recommended.

If you are going to need a lift to Barley, please let Paul Hannah know asap (☎ 07967 644709)



St Stephen's Organ project so far...

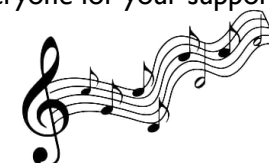
Now that our replacement organ is in place we are looking to finalise the covering of the speakers that are placed in the clerestory area of church. Bespoke screens have been made to cover the speakers with a more aesthetically pleasing look. It's hoped that this will fit in with the décor and not be too out of place when viewing the WWI east window in church.

We will now look at placing an additional speaker behind the organ pipes, in the old organ chamber. This will allow the organ to speak not only from the rear of church but also allow sound within the choir and chancel area. This will be discussed at the next PCC meeting to ascertain people's thoughts and views. Please let us know what you think by having a word with Jean or myself to allow a decision to be made.

We are really thankful to everyone who has made it possible to finance this extremely important part of St Stephen's church. Over £14,000 has been raised so far with extra monies gained through gift aid contributions - this figure is thought to be somewhere in the region of £1,000 so far. Donations are still being accepted should you wish to help with the ongoing costs.

Thank you everyone for your support.

Keith





900th Anniversary

After a lot of hard work by several people, a brochure of our programme for the anniversary year has been produced. There will doubtless be changes and additions, but it will be basically as published. If you haven't already picked up a brochure from the back of church, please do so.

Not long now to the first of our anniversary services,

Palm Sunday, 10th April at 11.00am, led by Bishop Philip

Please come along to this very special service. There will be a buffet lunch after the service. Food will be provided, but if you can give a donation towards the cost this will be gratefully received. A list will be going up at the back of church soon and we are asking people to indicate if they will be staying to lunch in order to assist with catering.

A reminder of other services and events in April.

- Thursday 14th April: 10.00am to 12.00pm - Children's workshop
- Friday 15th April: 12.00pm to 3.00pm - Good Friday service with Bishop Philip
- Saturday 16th April: 6.30pm – Easter Vigil and Confirmations with Bishop Philip
- Sunday 17th April: 11.00am – Easter Day Eucharist with Bishop Philip
- Wednesday 20th April: at 7.30pm – “Poverty and Social Justice”

A talk by Andrew Pratt MBE, Deputy Police and Crimes Commissioner. This will be a short talk followed by a Q & A session over refreshments. Please come along.

There will be more in the April magazine.

Carol W



Are you Year 6 or above?

**Thinking
about being
Confirmed?**

Then come along
to our

Confirmation Activity Days at St Peter's Church

There'll be **Fun Workshops** with **Crafts**
exploring what it means to be confirmed

SATURDAY 26th March: 10.00 - 2.00 pm

SATURDAY 9th April: 2.00 - 4.30 pm

Speak to Meena at St Peter's or
Linda at St Stephen's for more details

Confirmation will be at
St Peter's Church
6.30 pm on Saturday 16th April
by The Bishop of Burnley

ADULTS thinking of being confirmed should speak to Fr Paul or

- Meena or Alan at St Peter's
- Linda or Christine at St Stephen's



Sunday School News from St Peter's

We have an exciting couple of months ahead for our Sunday School. Alisha, Ana, Ami, Nobuhle and Baran will be confirmed in April. They are really excited and are looking forward to the Confirmation Workshops. They have all attended regularly and their developing faith, excitement and growing knowledge is such a joy.

We are really proud of you !!!!

During Lent we will take part in the Diocesan 'Cross ' challenge. More details are to follow but we are encouraged to look for crosses everywhere , photograph them , spread the word, make, bake and design crosses . Exciting !!!

We will make a wilderness scene for the children to retell the story of Jesus in the wilderness .

As a Benefice we have met to chat and share ideas . It is really positive and encouraging . We are working together for all children's Workshops and Emma and I have attended the Children's Ministry Conference .

Father Paul recently mentioned how one goal of Vision 2026 is to inspire children in their faith but he said what an inspiration they are to us each week ! How very true .

We keep all our wonderful children and their families in our prayers .

from Meena



Blessing Gift Bags for the Congregation



Fishing for People



Bp Philip at the joint service sporting his special gift from the children



Fr Paul at Wednesday Communion with some of the Sunday School children



We had an extremely interesting and enjoyable Thursday Chat on the 10th February somewhat different to our usual discussions.

We talked about memories of St Peters. Alice Binns and Andree Eastwood have both worshipped at St Peters for around 60 years and entertained us with stories about people and events from the past. Andree told us of the first time she attended St Peters, how every pew was full, all the women wore hats and all the men suits and ties. Very different now.

Barbara Fildes then talked about her family's association with St Peter's for over 100 years, she herself having attended St Peter's since before she was born, been baptised, confirmed and married here. Her father was verger and both she and Eddie worshipped here and were involved with church organisations for very many years. She showed us photographs of her husband, a particularly treasured photograph of him meeting the Duke of Edinburgh when he was a leader of the Church Lads' Brigade and Youth Club.

Other people also spoke of memories of not so long ago. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed reminiscing and a few other people wished they had come.

Carol W



A Mother's Prayer



LORD, WHO AM I TO TEACH THE WAY
TO LITTLE CHILDREN DAY BY DAY,
SO PRONE MYSELF TO GO ASTRAY?

I TEACH THEM KNOWLEDGE, BUT I KNOW
HOW FAINT THE FLICKER, AND HOW LOW
THE CANDLES OF MY KNOWLEDGE GLOW

I TEACH THEM POWER TO LEARN AND DO
BUT ONLY NOW TO LEARN ANEW
MY OWN GREAT WEAKNESS THROUGH AND THROUGH

I TEACH THE LOVE OF ALL MANKIND
AND ALL GOD'S CREATURES, BUT I FIND
MY LOVE COMES LAGGING FAR BEHIND

I TEACH THEM, LORD, TO LISTEN TO ME,
BUT EVERY DAY I PLAINLY SEE,
HOW I DO NOT LISTEN TO THEE.

I TEACH THEM HOW TO SPEAK KINDLY,
YET I USE LANGUAGE MOST UNHOLY,
AND SAY THINGS THAT ARE UNGODLY

I TEACH THEM ANGER NOT TO USE,
YET SO OFTEN I MY TEMPER LOSE
WHEN I AM HAVING A DAY OF BLUES.

LORD, IF THEIR GUIDE I STILL MUST BE,
OH, LET MY LITTLE CHILDREN SEE,
THEIR MOTHER LEANING HARD ON THEE.

-Unknown



Mothering Sunday - 27th March

...From our Vision Champions

Making Disciples, Being Witnesses, Growing Leaders, Inspiring the Young



Linda writes ...

Hi everyone,

Last month I wrote that part of vision 2026 is to make new disciples and new congregations. That to many the traditional Sunday morning is not always a convenient time and that we should think about, and look for opportunities for services at a different time and in a different way and perhaps in a different venue.

An example of something different is the Ladies' Prayer Breakfast. In February we welcomed 24 people from 4 different churches. From the comments, it would appear that this different form of worship and fellowship is something people enjoy. Why not give it a try and despite the name, men do come along and are always welcome.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Confirmation this year will be at St Peter's **16th April 6pm**. If you are considering confirmation please see Fr Paul, Christine Harbour or myself.

Starting Wednesday **9th March to April 6th at 7.45 pm** and every Wednesday until April 6th we will be holding our Lent Gatherings. Entitled "Were you there?" Exploring the people and places of Holy Week. This a new resource written by Rev Sheelagh Aston. I would encourage you to attend and if you cannot make it on Wednesday evening there is another opportunity the following morning at St Peter's.

LITTERPICK - APRIL 9TH 10AM

Last year we met together to Litter Pick around the Parish. Some might say this is a pointless exercise and I might agree seeing all the litter that is so obvious as you travel to church. However it is not pointless. It is one way of showing that we care about our Parish and the people who live there. It is also another way to meet together to enjoy conversation and laughter while hopefully making a difference. Please come along and I can promise a cuppa and biscuits at the end.

Linda Pounder (Vision Champion, St Stephen's)

And let us consider
how we may spur one another on
toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together,
as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—
and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
(Hebrews 10:24-25)



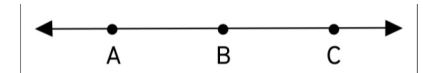
Alan writes ...

"Healthy Churches
Transforming

Communities." That was, and still is, the mission statement underpinning Vision 2026. It just so happens that, as a supporter of that excellent organisation Christians Against Poverty (CAP), I get literature in the post every so often updating me on what they are doing. And it seems that they have adopted a new strapline; "Transformed Lives, Thriving Churches, An end to UK Poverty." You'll see that the intent is somewhat similar. You'll also maybe note the use of the concept of "Transforming".

To Transform means "To make a Marked Change" or "To Change a Thing into a Different Thing". That maybe frightens some of us, although it shouldn't. It sounds like a big leap, and human nature sometimes makes us wary of big changes. But you can transform by stages. There's no compulsion to get straight from A to say, F. Start by making a short leap

from A to B. Then when that works, it might give the confidence to go from B to C, or even straight to D.



Eventually you will end up at point F. Got it?

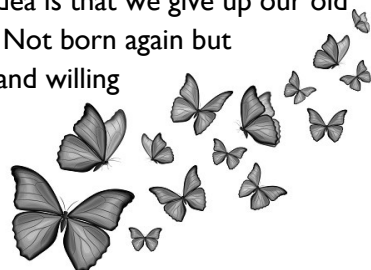
The problem sometimes is, that we take the short step from A to B, feel quite good at having done that, then sit back and fail to get any further. And that's not transformation! But enough of that ...

Have you noticed the subtle difference between our Vision strapline and CAP's? Ours is Churches going on to transform communities. CAP's is transformed LIVES going on to make thriving Churches. The suggestion there is that we, individuals, need to look to ourselves first. What might be holding me and you back from being part of a healthy, outgoing, thriving Church, a Church based on a body of passionate, Christ-centred people committed to reaching out beyond the four walls of the building? We can have loads of meetings producing .

loads of nice ideas. But if we really want to make a difference, maybe the first thing to transform is ourselves. So what I'd like to do is put the two straplines together and with a bit of poetic licence it might come out as something like:

***"Changing Ourselves to make Thriving Churches
that Transform Communities."***

Christianity is a transforming faith. The whole idea is that we give up our old selves and become new, born again, in Christ. Not born again but just the same. Born again but better, changed, and willing to keep changing as we grow in faith. It's said that one of the most satisfying things about Church life is seeing people change. People inside the Church and outside of it. The more we ourselves change because of what Jesus is doing in our lives, the more healthy our Church becomes, and the more able we are to transform lives.



Alan Roadley
Vision Champion, St Peter's

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THE BOOK OF ST PETER

THE SECOND CHAPTER

This next Chapter is all about us – the adult Congregation of St Peter's and St Stephen's, the United Benefice.

For this Chapter I would like you all to think about one of these two questions:

- 'What does St Peter's Church mean to You?'
- 'How did you come to the Christian faith?'

I'm hoping these questions will make you contemplate or take you back in time. I hope they will bring back happy memories and thoughts. What are your answers and recollections? Was an act of kindness given to you here that you've never forgotten? Has it been a place of sanctuary for you through the bad times? Did you become a Christian because of a certain event in your life? Could you write them down on paper and bring to Church to copy into the Book of St Peter for us all to share?

No fancy pen is required just a desire to commit your kind thoughts, memories

to paper and be part of history. A short paragraph, or poem is all that is needed. If you would like to draw a small illustration with your written words that is fine too.

I will be at the back of St Peter's Church, after the Service with paper, pens, pencils and paints on the 1st May, 8th May and the 15th May.

Thanking you in anticipation.

THE THIRD CHAPTER

This Chapter of the book will be entitled 'The Future' and it is going to be specifically about our young Worshippers and their teachers - St Peter's Primary School and the Sunday Schools of St Peter and St Stephen – our United Benefice.

Exciting times ahead. Let's be part of history!

Annette Roadley





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St Peter's Flower Rota - March



Due to not being allowed to have flowers in church during lent, the Flower Guild will be arranging flowers for Mother's Day in church on Saturday 26th March at 10.30 a.m. Come along all offers of help will be greatly appreciated.

A list regarding Easter lily's will be put at the back of the church shortly, further notice will appear in the April magazine.

Alice & Maureen

Adventures in The Dales

During my lifetime I have done several different jobs. Two of my jobs involved working in the Yorkshire Dales driving through all that magnificent scenery, verdant fields, and grazing sheep, under the magnificent limestone rocks near Malham cove. The first job was when I owned a tea shop near Skipton, but also did outside catering for the owner of several large holiday homes in those glorious dales. My brief was to welcome the guests (who were often disabled) cook them an evening meal and then drive home. The problem was that I was often driving home in the dark — in wind and rain and having to open gates to allow me to exit the gated fields. I was usually soaked to the skin and those fluffy white sheep then became bedraggled wet bodies nudging my bare legs with their wet woolly coats, whilst the lush grassy landscape had turned into a veritable bog.



Sometimes life seems like that doesn't it? Everything seems rosy and bright and then something comes along and turns that light into darkness and despair. A Christian is certainly not spared the difficulties and trials of life! Christianity is not an insurance, but an assurance that God himself will be at our side in all circumstances. Jesus promised that he will never leave us or forsake us.

Several years later when I worked alongside people with mental health problems, God took me again along those Yorkshire roads to people who were isolated in the countryside with few resources to meet their needs. Even in the most beautiful of places people can feel alone. How sad I am that all those little village churches have closed. A bad reflection on our society is how people now seem to rely on their inner self instead of turning to the Lord for his love and never ending mercy.



I remember also one night driving again over the moors, this time into Lancashire. It was fairly late but snow, had been forecast for the following day. I was going to see my daughter who was in pretty dire circumstances living alone with two babies. When I started to ascend the hill the snow started to come down. Thick great blobs came down with a very rapid delivery. I decided it was too far to turn back, and that

I reckoned if I drove on I would soon be on the motorway which would have surely been cleared by the snow ploughs. As I got to the top of the hill I found myself gliding off the road rather like a slalom skier. I seemed to see a small hole appear in the dry stone wall. It was weirdly all in slow motion, until I realised that I was stuck in a deep ditch and my car embedded in the stone wall! I tried to scramble up the embankment but I kept slipping downwards. Eventually I managed to hold onto a prickly bush and saw the lights of a small farmhouse. It was before the days of mobile phones and I asked the very inhospitable farmer if I could ring for help. There was no offer of a cup of tea or a warm by the fire!

I was sent out into the freezing night to await for my rescuer to appear. About a mile later John, a good friend, appeared in his car. He hated that particular road and had given no thought to his fear of driving in snow, but had willingly come to my aid. John died two weeks ago. I will never forget his kindness

Jesus too died unselfishly for us on a cross, leaving his tears and fears in the garden of Gethsemane. His flesh died but his Spirit can live in us again. Soon we will be celebrating his resurrection and the new everlasting life that he promised his followers.

He rose to heaven in Glory to be seated at the right hand of the Father. As we come into this period of Lent let us ponder on his great sacrifice and endeavour to live lives of love for Him.

Love and blessings. Christine H.

Christine H x



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EXCERPT FROM - 'LOCAL GOSSIP',

The following true story is about a Service Man called into Service on 3rd September 1939.

Mr. MacVicar, The Vicar of St Bartholomew's, Colne, recorded the following, as reported in the Express and News, January 24th 1940. Mr Macvicar records that when the man was married in Colne Parish Church some months previously, he discussed confirmation with him. When the man and his wife later called at the Rectory to see him about Confirmation, he was away ill, but on his return wrote a letter giving the date of the men's Confirmation classes. His wife replied that he had been called up, but was attending Confirmation classes at a church near where he was stationed.

Mr. Macvicar was also told that the soldier had to go overseas before he was able to be Confirmed, but would be in Colne on Christmas leave, before beginning Foreign Service.

"I rang the Bishop of Burnley to ask him to hold a special Confirmation for this one soldier," states Mr. Macvicar "Of course he would" was the answer. "A few days before Christmas the soldier was on my doorstep, complete with pack and equipment, on his way home from the railway station. Next day he was confirmed with, as congregation, just his wife, Mrs. Macvicar and my family, in St Peter's Church Burnley. Clergymen often complain that some people forget the oath they take at confirmation, we are sure that this soldier will never forget."



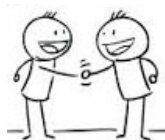
This soldier never did, I know because – he was my dad.

Margery Peel

Services & Rotas for March at St Stephen's

If you are unable to be in church when you are on the rota, please let the Wardens know.

Date	Services	Sidespeople	Reader	Tea/Coffee	Cleaning
6/03	9.45 am Holy Communion	Judith & John Hughes	Anne	Pauline A & Pam	W/C 7/03 Team 3
13/3	9.45 am Holy Communion	Philip & Shirley	Jean	Christine H & Christine N	W/C 14/03 Team 1
20/3	WUAW 9.00 am Breakfast 9.45 am Holy Communion	Christine N & Christine H	John C	WUAW	W/C 21/03 Team 2
27/03	9.45 am Holy Communion	Betty & Ralph	Maureen	Elaine A & Brenda	W/C 28/03 Team 3
3/04	9.45 am Holy Communion	Geoff K & Judith K	Shirley	Pauline L & Shirley	W/C 4/04 Team 1



Services & Rotas for March at St Peter's

Date	11.00am	Sidespeople	Reader	Intercessor	6.00pm
6/03	Choral Matins	M Eckersley H Slater	Diana Harris	Adrian Norris	BCP HC
13/03	Holy Communion	J Hacking Bea	Stewart Hacking	Carol Pike	
20/03	Holy Communion	S Dixon S Hacking	David Smith	Joan Ainsworth	
27/03	Family Service	C Hacking S Hacking	Child	Child	
3/04	Choral Matins	M Eckersley H Slater	Carol Pike	Alan Roadley	BCP HC



Recipe Of The Month

Rhubarb Curd

(makes 2 jars)

The sharpness of this pink fruit works wonderfully in a buttery curd - serve on warm scones, crumpets or in pastry tart cases

INGREDIENTS

- 600g forced rhubarb , washed, trimmed and roughly chopped
- 4 large eggs
- 200g butter , diced
- 4 tsp cornflour
- 175g caster sugar
- splash of grenadine (optional)



METHOD:

- ♦ Put the rhubarb in a blender or food processor and whizz until as fine as it will go. Set a sieve over a bowl, and tip in the rhubarb, pushing pulp with a wooden spoon to get through as much juice as you can.
- ♦ Add the eggs, butter, cornflour, sugar and 250ml rhubarb juice (save the rest) to a pan and set over a very low heat. Whisk until all the butter has melted, then, using a wooden spoon, stir constantly until the curd has thickened to a consistency a little thicker than custard. Don't be tempted to increase the heat to speed up the process, as the eggs will curdle; make sure you stir right around the edge, too, as this is where it might catch first.
- ♦ Sieve the curd into a clean bowl to get rid of any eggy bits that may have curdled. Stir in 100ml more of the reserved juice and a small splash of grenadine if you would like your curd a bit pinker, before chilling. Once cold, taste – add a splash more rhubarb juice if it needs sharpening, then spoon into jars. *The curd will keep, stored in the fridge, for up to a week.* Eat on scones, crumpets or hot buttered toast, or dollop into sweet pastry cases to make mini curd tarts.

(BBC Good Food Recipes for March)



Children's Page

ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



Ash	Holy Week	Palm Branch
Wednesday	Holy Thursday	Forty Days
Sacrifice	Good Friday	Jesus
Almsgiving	Holy Saturday	Passover
Prayer	Easter	Foot Washing
Fasting	Palm Sunday	Resurrection
Lent	Purple	Love



*St Peter's Church invite you
to a School Workshop all about ...*

Moses



Friday, 18th March
from after school in St Peter's Church

Crafts
Bible Story
Fun

**& Light
Refreshments**