



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

# NEWSLETTER



Sunday 7 September 2025

## HEADLINES

- Welcome Back and Welcome Josh!
- Quinta Weekend Away – Help Needed
- CAP on ITV News
- Prayer for the Week from Carolyn Rigby on behalf of Barrow Bridge Mission

*Read on to find out more...*

## SERVICES

**Sunday 7 September**  
**It's Lighthouse week!**



### ST PETER'S CHURCH

8.30am	Morning service with Communion
10.20am	Lighthouse at Parish Centre
*10.30am	Adult 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	Morning service with Communion
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\*Livestreamed, search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'  
**We are an accessibility-friendly parish**

## Rev Alan writes...

### Welcome Back and Welcome Josh!

I'm always tempted to wish everyone a happy new year at this time of year as the schools go back and the holiday season ends for many of us. I hope, like me, you feel refreshed and have enjoyed what has been unusually good summer weather.

As things ramp up in our weekly routines, I'm happy to highlight some things coming up over the coming weeks in addition to our regular activities which can be found inside our newsletter.

- Welcome service for Rev Josh Openshaw – THIS Sunday, 6.30pm at St Peter's.
- Qunita Parish Holiday Weekend in Shropshire with Bishop Matthew – Fri 12 to Sun 14 Sept.
- Alpha Course, led by Josh Openshaw – starts Thu 25 Sept, 7.30pm at the Parish Centre.
- Parish-Wide Vision Service – Sun 5 Oct, 10am refreshments, 11am start at St Peter's. This will be the only service that Sunday.
- Message Mission Week at Canon Slade High School – Mon 6 to Fri 10 Oct.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Parish Centre – Sun 26 Oct, time TBC.

Please do come to our Parish-Wide 6.30pm service this Sunday to welcome Josh, to hear him speak, and learn more of the exciting opportunity for us to work with Josh to plant a new church in Bolton. We will be joining with Josh's family and friends for a special licensing service at a later date. Please do keep Josh, his wife Jess and their children in your prayers as they prepare to move here. See Carolyn Rigby's prayer on the back page of the newsletter.



So, Happy New Year! **(there, I've said it!)** I hope and pray that the months ahead are a time of blessing for you and our parish as we enter an exciting new season filled with opportunities.

## Quinta Weekend Away – Help Needed

Fri 12 – Sun 14 Sept

We're really looking forward to next weekend! If you're going, can you help with the following please?

We would like to provide home-made cakes, biscuits and fruit during the tea and coffee breaks over the



weekend. Ideally these would be individual cakes so that these don't need to be cut up. **If you're able to bake and bring some cakes, biscuits or fruit along, please let**

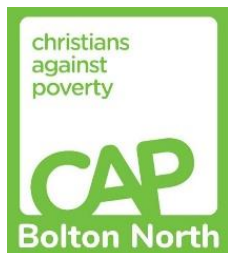
Megan know - [keirandmegan@gmail.com](mailto:keirandmegan@gmail.com).

### Tea / Coffee Rota

We also need volunteers for a rota for serving tea and coffee. **If you are able to help with this, please let Megan know ASAP - [keirandmegan@gmail.com](mailto:keirandmegan@gmail.com).**

### CAP on ITV News

Sam, our CAP Debt Centre manager, recently appeared on ITV News in a segment focussing on the stark reality that 1/3 of parents were planning on skipping meals to cover summer holiday childcare costs. Find out more by clicking on the 2 video clips in the following link: [https://www.itv.com/news/2025-08-21/third-of-parents-plan-to-skip-meals-to-cover-summer-childcare-costs?fbclid=IwY2xjawMaVEBLEHRuA2FibQIxMAABHvgAAUqNHgoyyGHRsc9mg\\_G8McixVshIcIVZKPNHADyJBzX\\_jicBZzhFI4CZ\\_aem\\_CDZuE4Zx20zzlGi0xaTHQA](https://www.itv.com/news/2025-08-21/third-of-parents-plan-to-skip-meals-to-cover-summer-childcare-costs?fbclid=IwY2xjawMaVEBLEHRuA2FibQIxMAABHvgAAUqNHgoyyGHRsc9mg_G8McixVshIcIVZKPNHADyJBzX_jicBZzhFI4CZ_aem_CDZuE4Zx20zzlGi0xaTHQA)



### Wheels for the World



Please pray for Moira Platt, a regular at St Andrew's and member of their leadership team. She is travelling to Uganda 9-20 Sept as part of a programme with **'Through the Roof'**, a Christian charity

that provides wheelchairs and

walking aids for people who do not have the money to buy them. Pray for her and the team, especially for protection and good health, good relationships, wisdom fitting wheelchairs to the client's needs, the opportunity to share God's love and the follow-up work by local Christians in the community. To find out more visit: [www.throughtheroof.org](http://www.throughtheroof.org)



### Bolton Christian Meditation Group

Thu 11 Sept, 2pm-3pm, Parish Centre

All welcome at this session, just turn up. For info, contact [j.wilde.1963@gmail.com](mailto:j.wilde.1963@gmail.com)

### 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

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



For those with dementia *and* their carers. Singalong, games, quiz and fun. Tea/coffee and cake and a very warm welcome. For info, please contact [joan@stpetersparish.info](mailto:joan@stpetersparish.info) /01204 840180

### 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 07984 070364.



### Next Alpha Course Starts Soon

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



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

Our next Alpha course will be led by Rev Josh Openshaw. Interested in finding out more about the Christian faith? We'd love you to come and join us. E-mail Amanda in the Parish Office to register.

### High School Form Signings for 2026 Entry

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

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

## 'Do Lunch, Do Life' and Cake Sale

Sun 12 Oct, St Peter's Church



Today there will be bacon butties straight after the 10.30am service and then a cake sale to raise funds for Good News for Romania – please remember to bring along cash to donate and to buy!

## Booking Now!

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



Directed by our very own Ben Latham! *Appropriate for anyone 11+.* Tickets available from [themarcoplayers.net](http://themarcoplayers.net)

## Job Opportunities – Third Space

Please share the following with anyone you know who may be interested:

**Business Manager** - Passionate about business for good? Third Space Bolton seeks a Social Enterprise Business Manager to help launch and grow life-changing enterprises. Flexible, part-time role (£24–26/hr). Start 1 Oct 2025.

Apply today: [thirdspacebolton@gmail.com](mailto:thirdspacebolton@gmail.com) or download the job role here: [click here](#)

**Job Club Manager** -Do you have a passion for supporting people into work and building confidence in job seekers? We're looking for a Job Club Manager to lead and grow our employment support programme starting 1 Oct 2025.

Apply today: [thirdspacebolton@gmail.com](mailto:thirdspacebolton@gmail.com) or download the job role here: [click here](#)

## Heritage Open Days

Sats 13 & 20 Sept, 10am-3pm, Bolton Parish Church



## Prayer for the Week

Carolyn Rigby, Barrow Bridge Mission, writes "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'. This verse is found in the [Book of Jeremiah](#) and was written to the Israelites who were in exile in Babylon, offering them a message of hope and God's peaceful intentions for them." **See her prayer on the back page.**

## Looking Forward

### Good News for Romania Coffee Morning

Sat 18 Oct, 10am-12noon, Parish Centre

**Save the date!** All invited to come along for the next GNfR coffee morning and bring and buy fundraiser.



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

Sun 26 Oct, Parish Centre

**Save the date!** All invited to join our celebration service commemorating the re-opening of the Parish Centre on 15 Oct 2000 following its redevelopment and extension. Let's reminisce on the past and all the amazing things that have gone on in the centre and look forward to the future with hope and excitement! More dets to follow.  
**NB: No 10.30am service in St Peter's on this date**



## Prayer from Carolyn Rigby on behalf of Barrow Bridge Mission

Lord we pray for our Parish at this time of change, it feels as if we have a lot to be hopeful about ! We ask that you will bless Josh and Jess Openshaw and their boys as Josh begins his new pioneer role in our Parish and within our town of Bolton. Please give them strength , courage and above all faith to do your work.

We pray that a house will soon be found for them and that they make new friends easily . Help us to be welcoming and encouraging to them both. We pray that you would guide Josh's work, open the doors that need to be opened and close those that aren't Your will.

We ask that Josh is able to reach out to those who are searching and develop bonds with the young adults in our town. We thank you for the opportunity St Peter's Parish has been given with this role. In His mighty name Amen.

Have a listen to this song about Hope ! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BwvpW5cV4UQ>

## Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
<b>Mon 8 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 cakes <a href="http://www.yhbolton.co.uk">www.yhbolton.co.uk</a> / 01204 205090	Parish Centre
<b>Tues 9 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 10 Sept</b>			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session, all welcome	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door Ladies Group	Finding Out. Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
<b>Thu 11 Sept</b>			
8.30am-9am	Prayer Meeting	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
2pm-3pm	Bolton Christian Meditation Group	<a href="mailto:j.wilde.1963@gmail.com">j.wilde.1963@gmail.com</a>	Parish Centre
10.30am-12noon	Oasis Coffee Morning and Service	Refreshments 10.30am, service 11.30am	St Peter's
<b>Fri 12 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 13 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

**Warden:** 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 // **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)



St Peter's Halliwell



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