

Update

Volume 2, Issue 1

April 2019

Special points of interest:

- New Building Task Force appointed
- Eco Church
- New Mission Focus Programme

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Welcome back Update! After an 18 month break due to the interregnum, St Peter's own magazine returns with lots to tell you about! Inside you'll find updates and important information about exciting developments at St Peter's. Enjoy!

Westgate Family Supporter Team Expands

On Weds 27th March we were delighted to be joined by Bishop Mike Harrison, at St Mary's, for the commissioning of three new Commissioned Visitors (lay Elders). Caroline Anderson, Jan and Roger Cole will now join Caroline Vallance, Julia Alexander and Nick Alexander on the Westgate Family Supporter Team

(WFSS). Caroline Vallance was also commissioned at the same service for her role at Café Church. Anne Dixon is stepping back from most of her role with WFSS to concentrate on her role as Pastoral Team Co-ordinator.

WFSS is a partnership between St Peter's and Westgate CP School to

provide non educational pastoral support to parents and children at the school. Over the past 2 years the team has been involved in providing bereavement and loss services as well as general assistance to a range of families. The work is greatly appreciated by the school, being included in their pastoral care plan.



St Peter's aiming to become an Eco Church



Over the last 6 months, Duncan MacInnes and David Ayrton have been working on improving our 'green credentials' at St Peter's. Eco-Church is an initiative of Christian organisation, A Rocha, who provide a scheme which helps churches practically review not just the way they use their buildings but the way they go about their activities.

The aim is to see if improvements and adjustments can be made in both these areas, reducing a church's impact on the environment. With St Peter's being a 160 year old listed building there is a limit to what we can do to the fabric of the church but there are lots of other ways that we can make a difference. Two immediate actions we have taken have been to offset our carbon footprint so that the church is now

carbon neutral and to twin our toilet with a village in DRC. We are progressing towards Bronze award but there is much more that we can do. We would love other church members to be involved, particularly in initiatives in the garden. If you are interested in helping out, please grab Duncan over coffee on a Sunday. One immediate contribution you can make is bringing your own re-useable cup for coffee at church.

*'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it
Psalm 24:1*



Pastoral Care at St Peter's

With quite a few new people joining St Peter's we thought it would be good to repeat here the arrangements for pastoral care.

Nick is primarily responsible for the pastoral care of members of St Peter's but is assisted in this role by the Ministry Team (David Crofts, Lionel Simpkins, John Fulton and David Husell) and the Pastoral Team (Anne Dixon, Julia Alexander, Cindy Hudson). Home groups and the Link Contact system also form an important part of the pastoral care offered by St Peter's.

Anne Dixon is the Pasto-

ral Care co-ordinator. Julia leads Little Fishes and focuses on young families we come in contact through this work and other children's activities. Cindy focuses on visits to the elderly and housebound.

The Ministry Team assist Nick by performing home communions, funeral follow ups and ministry in care homes in the District.

If you would like a member of the Pastoral Team to visit you, then, in the first instance please do contact Anne Dixon on 01359 270601 or email her at annedixon27@gmail.com.

The prayer chain (for urgent prayer requests) is now operated by Julia. To activate the prayer chain call her on 767042. We now also run a 'WhatsApp' prayer Group and if you would like prayer for a non-urgent matter, this group can be activated through Julia as well.

Signing up to Link Contacts puts you in touch with another member of the congregation who will, in a non-obtrusive way, keep an eye out for you. Link Contacts do not visit as part of their role. Contact Anne Dixon if you would like to have or be a Link Contact.

Mission Focus Update

In March the DCC approved a new approach to our Mission Focus Programme. The Mission Focus Group has felt for sometime that, for our support of mission charities to be most effective, we need to concentrate on a smaller number of charities where there are 'live' links with St Peter's. A new programme was proposed by the group including 3-4 special mission focus services per year (normally on 5th

Sundays). There will still be a mission focus on 3rd Sundays but this will be for information rather than fund raising



(although members will be given information on how to give). The programme for 2019 is...

2019 Programme (Special services in Bold)

May—Intro to new programme

June— A2B (5th Sunday)

July—CAP

August—Climate Sunday

Sept—Westgate Family Supporters and BCY (5th Sunday)

October— Bury Drop-in

November—Care

December—Emergency Appeal

Fund for People in Need

Kickstarted by the very generous donation from a couple of members of St Peter's, we now have a special fund for the support of 'people in crisis' (rough sleepers, people with unmanageable debt, people who have been hit by a major health or employment shock) and for people who are 'just getting by'. The DCC has also

agreed that a percentage of our tithe will be used to top up the fund on a monthly basis.

Applications can be made to the fund via Nick or one of the church wardens. The DCC has agreed a set of set of conditions for the allocation of funds.

The fund will also be used for the holding and transmission of funds that have been donated during special appeals i.e. for places at Christian camps.

If you would like to make a donation to the fund, please contact our Treasurer, Barbara Unwin.



Improvements to the Building

Thanks to the very generous legacy of Mrs Peel, we are starting to make some improvements to the fabric of St Peter's.

We soon hope to follow up the recent construction of a new pathway at the front of church with external lighting. In the summer the sound and projection system will be replaced

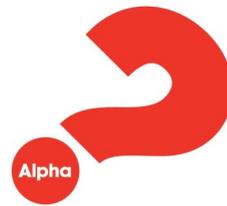
with new equipment that will significantly improve audibility and visibility of services.



We are also delighted to announce that, in March, the DCC appointed

a task force to look into the feasibility of extending the church to the North to include new toilets, a kitchen and a meeting/creche room. The team members are Ian Nurcombe, David Ayrton, Rob Bream and Gillian Fulton.

A consultation with church members will be one of the first tasks of the group.



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*Gathering, Greeting, Growing,
Going*

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. Each session includes food, a short talk and a discussion where you can share your thoughts. There's no pressure and no charge. What have you got to lose?

***Mondays: 29th April; 13th May;
20th May; 3rd June; 10th June; 24th
June; 8th July; 15th July. 1.15pm to
2.45 (prompt)***

*The Hyndman Centre, For more infor-
mation contact Julia and Nick on 01284
767042*



In Brief...

Living in Love and Faith Project. At the March meeting of the DCC, Nick gave a brief presentation about progress made by the Church of England with regard to it's deliberations over the matter of human sexuality. The findings of the project will be presented to parishes in 2020, for discussion, and Nick suggested some ways in which the DCC could start to prepare for this debate.

St Peter's faces funding challenges. At the Annual District Meeting, Treasurer Barbara Unwin gave a very helpful (and simple) summary of how the finances at St Peter's are arranged and the challenges that we face over the next 18 months. If you would like a copy of Barbara's presentation, please do contact her.

Glastonbury Court Service. Nick and John Fulton have taken on the monthly service that Eric Russell started in 2016. There is a new time and day. Most months it will be on the second Wednesday of the month at 11am.

Lettings policy. The DCC approved a new lettings policy for St Peter's at its March meeting. This has been in response to small rise in requests to hire the building.

Thy Kingdom Come 30th May to 10th June. Look out for details of this exciting event in forthcoming weekly bulletins,

