

ST PAUL'S NEWS

June 2025



ONE POUND

SERVICES

Sunday 1st June

Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Joint Parish Eucharist at the Parish Church ` with PCC Commissioning (CW)
President: The Vicar
Minister & Preacher: Rev Nicholas Burton
- 6.30 pm Choral Evensong (BCP)
Minister: The Vicar

Monday 2nd June

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer at the Parish Church
Minister: The Vicar

Tuesday 3rd June

- 2.00 pm Funeral of Dieter Teuble at the Parish Church with the Choir

Wednesday 4th June

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer at the Church Centre
Minister: The Vicar

Thursday 5th June

- 11.30 am Said Holy Communion at the Church Centre
President: The Vicar

Sunday 8th June

PENTECOST

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Jazz Eucharist
President & Preacher: The Vicar
Minister: Tim Harrold
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead: Wendy Anderson
Link: Viv Littlechild
- 6.30 pm Choral Evensong (BCP)
Minister: Tim Harrold

Monday 9th June

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer at the Parish Church
Minister: The Vicar

Wednesday 11th June

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer at the Church Centre
Minister: The Vicar

Thursday 12th June

- 11.30 am Said Holy Communion at the Church Centre
President: The Vicar

Sunday 15th June

TRINITY SUNDAY

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
Minister: Daphne Pilcher
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead: Tim Harrold
Link: Rosemary Romano
- 6.30 pm Compline with Homily
Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

Monday 16th June

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer at the Parish Church
Minister: The Vicar

Wednesday 18th June

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer at the Church Centre
Minister: The Vicar

Thursday 19th June

- 11.30 am Said Holy Communion at the Church Centre
President: The Vicar

Sunday 22nd June

The First Sunday after Trinity

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Matins (BCP)
Minister: Rev. Nicholas Burton
Preacher: Tim Harrold
- 10.00 am Family Service with Holy Communion at the Church Centre + Zoom
President: The Vicar, Link: Chris Bassett
- 6.30 pm Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: The Vicar

Monday 23rd June

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer at the Parish Church
Minister: The Vicar

Wednesday 25th June

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer at the Church Centre
Minister: The Vicar

Thursday 26th June

- 11.30 am Said Holy Communion at the Church Centre
President: The Vicar

Sunday 29th June

The Second Sunday after Trinity

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead: Daphne Pilcher, Link: Liz Goddard
- 5.30 pm Pet Service
Speaker: Tim Cripps

DIARY

Tuesday 3rd June

7.30pm 175 Committee meeting – Church Centre

Thursday 5th June

Church decorating for the Festival

11.30 am Communion to Mount Ephraim
– John Bazley

6.00 pm Youth Council meet in the Lodge
7.30 pm Living in Hope at the Parish Church

Friday 6th June

Church decorating for the Festival

Saturday 7th June

10am - 5pm Flower & Wedding Dress Festival
at the Parish Church

Sunday 8th June

12 noon Teddy Bear Parachute drop, BBQ &
cream teas – Parish Churchyard

Monday 9th – Saturday 14th

11am - 4pm Flower & Wedding Dress Festival
at the Parish Church

Wednesday 11th June

3.00 pm Communion to Chamberlain Court
– Elaine Bruce

Thursday 19th June

11.00 am Communion to Rusthall Lodge
– John Bazley

11.30 am Communion to Mount Ephraim
– The Vicar

Monday 23rd June

9.30am – 7.30pm **London Pilgrimage**
Please contact Tim Harrold to register and receive details

Saturday 28th June

11am – 3.30pm Stone Ness Open Day

Wednesdays throughout the month

9.00 – 11.00 am Playtime at St Paul's at the Church Centre

Thursdays throughout the month

12 for 12.30 pm Rusthall Lunch Club
at the Church Centre



Fridays throughout the month

12.30 – 2.00 pm Community Larder
At the Church Centre

Saturdays & Sundays throughout the month

10 am – 4 pm Choristers Café in the Lodge

The aim of this 'café' is to raise funds to support the Choir tour to France in August. Refreshments for those attending Sunday morning services are, as usual, by voluntary donation.

Magazine Deadlines

Please submit articles for the 2025 magazines in accordance with the following deadlines.

July/August	Sunday 15 th June
September	Sunday 17 th August
October	Sunday 14 th September
November	Sunday 12 th October
December/January 2026	Sunday 16 th November

The time between the deadline and magazine issue is to allow for typing, formatting, proofreading, and compiling the magazine. These all take time and have to be fitted around the volunteer editorial team's other commitments. We would therefore be very grateful if you would keep to the deadlines set. Please send items for publication to magazine@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk.

Magazines are posted on the Parish website by the 1st of the month. Photocopies of the magazine can be made available to those who cannot access the magazine online. Please contact Ginette di Palma at the Church Office (TW 521447) to arrange production and collection/delivery.

From the Registers



At rest- the sympathy of the Parish is extended to the family and friends of:

Pamela May Gray
Gladys Dorothy Cooper
Anthony (Tony) Gordon Bourne
Franz Dieter Teubler
Matilda Evie Knight
Malcolm Ferguson

Baptism - we welcome as newly baptised members of the Church

George Henry Stuart
Rose Jean Martin Thacker
Alexander Martin Thacker



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From the Vicarage

June 2025

Warm greetings to you all and a big thank you for all that you have been doing to facilitate and join in the 175th anniversary celebrations of the Parish Church thus far. The month of May has been quite full, with significant events/services.

On Saturday the 10th of May, a group of us attended the licensing of Tim Harrold and nine others by Bishop Jonathan as Licensed Lay Ministers (LLMs) at Rochester Cathedral. Bishop Jonathan reminded the LLMs - and lay workers who were also licensed and everyone at the service that we were loved by God and urged us, as Christ's disciples to be gentle, humble and kind-hearted to one another. A week after this we were delighted to have Bishop Jonathan preside and preach at our Baptism, Confirmation and Reception into the Communion of the Church of England and the dedication of our Processional Banner, which was made by members of the community. From right to left on the photo below are: Freddie Shaw, Eben Northcote, Jessica Overton, Ronnie Williams, Bishop Jonathan, Diana Harris Claire Allwood, Sarah Ann Battison. The other photo is of Bishop Jonathan and Ronnie with the Processional Banner.



Later in the month, we were also given a musical treat by the Choir at the Choir Concert. I was especially captivated by their rendition of Sing a song of sixpence, a well known nursery rhyme. As a parish, we do have a lot to celebrate and for which we should be thankful – and the choir is an invaluable asset and resource. In this month of June we will be having our Flower festival at the the Parish Church with exhibition of Wedding Dresses of some couples who got married at St Paul's, and at 10am on the 8th of June (Pentecost) we will be having a Jazz Eucharist service at the Parish Church followed by BBQ and teddy bear parachute drop. Please go to the parish website www.stpaulsrusthall.org.uk to see up coming programmes and activities. We are also hoping that some members of our link parish in Zimbabwe – St Peter's Mabelreign will be able to join us later in the year.

The period between the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ and Pentecost is dedicated to praying for the coming of God's kingdom. This year, as we pray for the coming of God's kingdom in our lives, homes, communities, country and world I have written a prayer which I would like to share with you.

God of all grace, in Christ you have called us to your eternal glory, and have promised to restore and make us strong, firm and steadfast in our worship of you and our service of one another. As we wait for the outpouring of your Holy Spirit upon us, please unblock every channel within us so that your Spirit may flow through us and permeate all those around us that they too may experience your divine presence and work for the coming of your kingdom . Amen.

Ronnie



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Editorial for June 2025

May has been a lovely month, unusually dry and sunny if not always as warm as it looked. My garden has been awash with irises, which I love. I've observed 'No mow May' rather more rigorously than usual at home because my lawn mower gave up the ghost, but it has given the lawn the chance to re-wild and is now full of wild flowers front and back. Like St Paul's, I am lucky enough to have Common Spotted Orchids growing in my lawn and, like at church, they are now marked with sticks to prevent accidental mowing. Apparently these plants require a symbiotic relationship with particular fungi in the soil in order to thrive, something nearly impossible to create artificially, so you just have to cherish those that suddenly appear, even if they don't always pop up exactly where you want them. They seem to produce an additional flower spike each year, so there is a reward for your care. My son had an amazing month, photographing the King and Queen as they visited the National Gallery to re-open the Sainsbury Wing (the extension which, when originally proposed in 1984, Prince Charles described as a 'monstrous carbuncle') and to unveil their coronation portraits.

I hope you enjoyed the Summer Concert as much as the Choir did. It is wonderful to see members of the choir demonstrating their talents as instrumentalist as well as singers. Watching these concerts over the years is a remarkable experience, to see the children developing their skills from beginners to accomplished musicians. Your role as audience is vital and much appreciated – for some of the children this was their first solo performance in front of an audience, especially an audience of adults, and of course it is only by performing regularly that we learn to control our nerves and give our best performance.

175th Anniversary Events continue during June, the Flower Festival runs from 7-14th June with the church open daily (see Services and Diary for details) so there will be lots of opportunities to view the display of Wedding Dresses included with the displays. Pentecost on 8th June will be celebrated in style as the choir will be singing Will Todd's Jazz Eucharist setting, with the service followed by a teddy bear parachute drop – so get going making your teddies flying suits! On Monday 23rd June Tim Harrold will be leading a Pilgrimage Walk along the Martyr's Way in London, and, though not strictly an anniversary event, on 28th June the church will be manning a stall at the Rusthall Village Fete. There is more information about the events in the magazine.

There are a number of historical events remembered during June. 8th June is the anniversary of the death of King Harthacnut in 1042. He was the second son of King Canute/Cnut, a Viking King of Denmark and Norway who successfully invaded England, becoming king and introducing the Danelaw. Harthacnut became King of both England and Denmark following the death of his brother Harold (Harfoot) I (who reigned 1037-40). He was the last Danish king to rule England, his reign lasted only from 1040-42, when he died unexpectedly aged only about 24, and was succeeded by his half-brother, King Edward the Confessor. 14th June is the 380th anniversary of Oliver Cromwell's defeat of the Royalists at the Battle of Naseby, and 15th June is the 810th anniversary of King John's signing of the Magna Carta at Runnymede. 21st June is the 350th anniversary of the start of construction of Sir Christopher Wren's new St Paul's Cathedral.

King Charles will be Trooping the Colour on 14th June, though he celebrates his official birthday on 15th, which is also Father's Day. Come along to Compline in the evening, you can chant some psalms and prayers and generally wind down while singing like a monk! The Epsom Derby is on 7th, and tennis gets underway with Queen's Club Ladies tournament 9-15th, Men's 16-22nd and Eastbourne Open (now a mixed tournament) 23-28th before Wimbledon starts on 30th June. It's Take your dog to work Day on 20th June, but as St Paul's aims to welcome everybody, all pets and not just dogs may come to the Pet Service at 5.30pm on 29th June.

Getting to church will remain a battle with roadworks remaining along Langton Road all month, in fact looking at the local roadworks map for Tunbridge Wells area is quite scary – there are works everywhere!

The next edition of the magazine covers both July and August, so please think ahead and let us know of anything that is happening in either month. The deadline for submitting articles is Sunday 15th June. Please don't be late! By the way – have you spotted David Peacock's wonderful paintings on the covers of recent editions of the Town Crier magazine?

Deborah Bruce and Sue Hare

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Churchwarden's Notes



By the time that you read this magazine we will have had our Baptism and Confirmation service with Bishop Johnathon. While the Bishop was with us, he blessed our new banner. I would like to thank the hard-working ladies that did the embroidery. It is a beautiful banner. It now sits in the Norman Mantle chapel. Please go and look at it when you are able.

We still have plenty of more activities taking place over the next few months as part of our 175th anniversary celebrations.

The next is the Flower festival and wedding dress exhibition beginning on the 7th June, the church will be open all week for people to come and visit.

On the 8th June we have The Jazz Eucharist in the morning followed by the Teddy Bear parachute drop from the church tower.

I hope many of you will be able to attend.

Repairs to the church tower have been completed following the removal of a small tree that had planted itself in the wall. We have had to have some new tiles and some pointing done to the walls.

May Graves

The Perils of Predictive Text

I have long been challenged by predictive text and the warning from Pope Leo XIV about the challenge of artificial Intelligence is timely. Sadly, the caution came too late for Rev. Clair Jaquiss, a Vicar near Manchester, who has reported that she sent a text to as many of her Parishioners as she could on Easter Day to spread some joy. The message "Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia" prompted some very quick responses along the lines of "you sure", "really", "you having a crisis of faith", etc. It was only when the Reverend Lady checked the message that she realised that predictive text had changed 'Alleluia' to 'Allegedly'.

Tim Cripps

Rusthall Lunch Club

On Thursday the 8th June Lunch Club celebrated VE Day with a special meal, music and decorations. Thank you to Geoff (the chef) and the team of volunteers for such a splendid get together.



It was also Ros Rodwell's last lunch as leader/chair. She has done a wonderful job over the last 17 years and we are so grateful for her time and talents. A splendid golfing cake was shared as part of the celebrations. Hopefully Ros will now have a bit more time to enjoy her favourite hobby.



Speedy Decision Making

It seems amazing that the Catholic church already has a new Pope – Leo XIV - when we have been told that the *earliest* we can expect a new Archbishop of Canterbury to be announced is September! I suppose if you lock everyone with a vote in a chapel and tell them they are not allowed out until they have agreed it focuses the mind!

Deborah Bruce

The Beauty Of Faith

To be honest my faith has been tested quite a lot in recent times. I was ok with the passing of my friend Tony Bourne on the basis that our faith in God gives us eternal life. It has inspired my writing for this month's magazine. A more difficult test is seeing my Cousin who is in a home suffering from vascular dementia and an old work colleague whose dementia is deteriorating. When I drive to see them I sit in the car afterwards and give thanks that God, so far, has spared me from the terrible disease that is Dementia. Then of course there are the terrible things happening in the world like the murder of innocent people etc. It is very difficult to see how a compassionate God can let these things happen. I once asked a learned theologian, and now a Canon Theologian at St Paul's Cathedral, Dr Paula Gooder about this and she said the way she looked at it was that God was put on earth to know the sufferings of all people and endure them for himself as they did. I have not heard a better rationale and on that basis my faith in God remains undimmed.

I suppose we all face these challenges from time to time and it is perhaps our central Faith which keeps us going. It seems appropriate therefore that I should write about the beauty of Faith. First of all let me give thanks for Tim, the younger, now that he is licensed. He knows he has my full support and judging by the number who went to Rochester and the celebration the following day he has the parish behind him. I think his first sermon as an LLM was far better than my first effort as a Reader so well done Tim. Tim's Licensing in Rochester Cathedral was a wonderful departure from my Licensing sixteen years ago with much of the formality consigned to history. The one exception was the music. Our choir was prevented from going to Rochester unlike when I was licensed and at least two of the hymns (songs really) were not known by the congregation and with no one to lead the singing it fell horribly flat with even the pianist giving up after two verses of a four verse song. What a shame - but never mind Tim, the younger, is now an active part of the ministry team and I am sure he will do great things. So let me get back to the beauty of faith for the feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, Apostles, which will be celebrated at the end of June.

Paul is rescued from jail by an angel, who leads him out of the city to safety. Peter proclaims Jesus the Christ, the Son of the living God, and is declared the rock upon which the church will be built. Moments of epiphany, revelation, insight, and power for these two men, whom we celebrate as saints this day. Yet who and what we celebrate at

this feast is not these moments in themselves, but where these moments led these two men: to their martyrdom in Rome.

As Saint Paul recounts, he is 'already being poured out like a libation'. The lowly are exalted, lifted up, only to be cast down by an unforgiving empire. Jesus, Peter, and Paul, all three are at the heart of the feast day, because without the coming of the Messiah in Jesus of Nazareth, neither Paul of Tarsus nor Peter of Bethsaida would have been raised up and so suffer death for their faith in that very same Messiah.

Such it is with our own lives. We follow the faith handed down to us by Saints Peter and Paul, we learn from their teachings in scripture, and we belong to the Church they shepherded. It is such faith that raises us up out of our daily toil and concerns, that gladdens our hearts in the presence of the Lord. It is such faith that rescues us when we feel trapped, lost, or confused, and don't be ashamed it does happen to us all, but at the end of the day it shows us a path to light and safety. It is such faith that reveals to us the glory of God's creation, the beauty of the lives we share with those we love, and the grace that suffuses all of it.

It is also such faith that leads us to give of ourselves, to follow the call of the gospel to tend to the poor, the sick, the lonely, the dying, giving of ourselves until there is nothing left to give. We know such days when we are at the end of our wits, exhausted and worn down by cares and the needs of others, so much so that it seems our fate to spend our days in misery and suffering alongside those we try to care for again. I have felt part of this.

Such is the beauty of our faith, the faith of Saints Peter and Paul in our Lord Jesus Christ, that we know that suffering, martyrdom, the pain of the cross, is not the final word. Peter and Paul went to their deaths proclaiming their faith in the one true God, in Jesus Christ our Lord, knowing in their hearts and souls that death was not the end. This is the faith they have passed down to us. We, who are given much, are given it so that we can give it away to others or, when we have little to give, we can look to others, motivated by the call of the same gospel, to care for us in turn.

This is the beauty of our faith, the faith of Saints Peter and Paul in our Lord Jesus Christ: that when we are in need we can count on our sisters and brothers in the same faith to be there for us, to help us, to rescue us. And then, when we are filled with the good gifts of God, we put them in the hands of others who are in need. God lifted up Peter and Paul, revealed God's own power and truth to them, not for their own sake, but for the sake of the gospel,

so they could spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to all the world, and thus 'pour themselves out' in the process.

Without this faith, neither of these men could have lasted long in their missions, their journeys and their struggles. Without this faith, they surely would have been lost long before they arrived in Rome to await the fate of so many of the early followers of the Lord. Without this faith, we too would surely be lost, overwhelmed by the tasks and burdens that lie ahead. Yet we know by this same faith, that our God is with us, standing beside us, revealed as the Messiah, ready to send angels to our need, angels that we can be to each other, if we only look for them. This is the beauty of our faith, the faith of Saints Peter and Paul in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Tim Cripps

Recommended Reading:

Acts 12:1-11;

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18;

Matthew 16:13-19



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A Musical Note



For the choir, this has been a very challenging month following the death of Tony Bourne on Palm Sunday. Tony was an incredibly loyal member of the choir for many years, singing for both services on most Sundays, for weddings, funerals, concerts, and cathedral visits. For several years, when I took over the choir, Tony was our only regular tenor. Although he managed to persuade others to come and help out for major services, he often sang alone, but always smiled and gave it his best. He was absolutely delighted when other tenors joined him, and his friendly, chatty nature made any new singers feel incredibly welcomed in the choir.

Tony was extremely supportive of me and my approach to running the choir. He was very encouraging to our younger singers, and, having run choirs himself, he understood that it can be quite challenging to keep everyone satisfied all the time. Therefore, he would always check in to ensure I was okay. He had the most beautiful tenor voice, and we were privileged to hear him sing many wonderful solos over the years. His favourite solos were definitely "In the bleak mid-winter", "Greater Love" and "Thou visitest the earth". Tony recently performed this solo at our Sing-a-thon in February; he hadn't been feeling well for several weeks beforehand, and when I asked him to sing it, he was somewhat hesitant but agreed to give it a try. He sang it beautifully, and it is certainly a memory we will cherish.

It is not possible to put into words how much I will miss Tony. I keep glancing over on Sundays to where he should be standing, and it doesn't feel real that he's not there. I will be forever grateful for his kindness, support, and incredible commitment to our church over many years.

Those of you who remember Alex Robson will be delighted to hear that he recently gave an organ recital at Westminster Abbey, which is very special. You can listen to him playing on a newly released album 'Lament & Liberation' from the choir of St John's College, Cambridge, on which he not only accompanies the choir but also has an organ solo. The album is not exactly easy listening, but

there is some stunning choral singing, and Alex's playing is wonderful, so do give it a listen if you can.

Hopefully, we will see you all at the Jazz Eucharist for Pentecost at 10am on Sunday 8th June. The setting is the Jazz Missa Brevis by Will Todd, with anthems by Bob Chilcott, Iain Farrington, and Sarah Quartel, along with Will Todd's beautiful arrangement of "Amazing Grace" which I know is a favourite among some of our congregation. Additional instruments will help us all to feel the mood of the music. It will be a regular communion service, just with more music than most weeks!

Please also join us on Sunday 6th July, at 6:30pm for Hymns and Pimms; I am taking requests, so let me know if there is a particular hymn or anthem you would like included in this service. Our next choir concert will be on Saturday 12th July, at 6:30pm, when we will preview our concert programme for our tour to Normandy in August.

Fiona Johnson

A modern version of the 23rd Psalm

The Lord is my Pacesetter – I shall not rush.

He makes me stop for quiet intervals,

He provides me with images of stillness which restore my serenity,

He leads me in ways of efficiency through calmness of mind,

And his guidance is peace.

Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day, I will not fret,

For His Presence is here,

His timelessness, His all importance, will keep me in balance.

He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity,

By anointing my mind with His oils of tranquillity,

My cup of joyous energy overflows.

Truly harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours,

For I shall walk in the Pace of my Lord

And dwell in His House for ever.

By a Japanese writer – **Tokio Megashie**

So now what....?

The service is over. The license has been issued. Everyone has made the journey home from Rochester Cathedral, and I have been warmly welcomed into my Parish as a newly Licensed Lay Minister.

So now what.....?

Now what indeed! Over the last three years, I have shared my journey with four people who started off as complete strangers and who have become my dearest and most trusted friends. The “gang of five” as we colloquially call ourselves, all started our journey with no clear view on our ultimate destination. Instead, we rather trusted ourselves to God to show us the way. Now that we are all licensed, the distinction between a Lay Minister and the historical title of Lay Reader may begin to become apparent. Over the next few months, I hope to persuade at least some of my fellow Gang of Five members to share with our Parish Magazine how they see their future ministry developing. For this issue Joan Gould has told her story, but first let me start with myself!



The gang of five just before licensing

Up until 2015, Rochester Diocese trained people for three distinct lay ministries – Readers, Pastoral Assistants, and Evangelists. The specific focus of Lay Readers would depend on their skills and backgrounds but in essence their role was to preach, teach and lead worship. At the heart of Pastoral Assistant ministry is the desire to put God’s caring concern into practice, mainly in the context of the local parish and the community. Evangelists were those who have a real “heart” for the outsider, for those who as yet do not recognise the impact of God, through Jesus, in their lives.

The actual wording on the back of my Lay Minister’s license is the same as that on the back of Daphne’s as a Lay Reader. Both Daphne and I, and indeed Tim Cripps before me, are expected to be “theologically articulate, reflective practitioners and leaders alongside others in mission and

ministry”. The difference in name is simply a reflection that the Lay Minister’s role can cover a broader range. There are Lay Ministers for example who may very rarely lead worship or preach in their “home” parish. Instead, their ministry will take them into prisons, hospitals, the armed forces or other workplaces. They may focus on Anna Chaplaincy for example which is directed specifically to the needs of older people. Others may look to focus their ministry on social justice issues where they feel a particular calling.

My current training module is precisely that. Community Engagement is specifically not evangelical or even about the needs of a local parish. Instead, it will be based on the needs of the local community and a response to key social and ethical issues. This could be about poverty and deprivation, loneliness and isolation, wellbeing, domestic abuse or criminal justice as examples.

So, what does this all mean for me and more importantly for you and our parish of St. Paul’s. Well let me start by saying I see my ministry remaining very much centred on our Parish. Whilst there are social issues I am passionate about, particularly the shortcomings of our Criminal Justice system, domestic abuse and the epidemic of loneliness and isolation being felt across all age groups, it is how those issues affect people within our parish that I care most about.



It is difficult to predict where my journey of faith will take me over the next few years, but there are some options that I think I can say are very unlikely. Because my focus is on our parish and the people of Rusthall, I consider it very unlikely I will ever apply for ordination. Such a path would mean almost certainly moving away from the

community I love and who have supported me so willingly over the last three years.

There are equally some options I consider much more likely. I hope that I can encourage people into more discipleship whether that be through groups like our new Living Hope groups starting next month, or by participating in our Pilgrimages or Quiet Days. Every parish needs to nurture and develop its next generation of leaders, and I look at that as being a fundamental part of my role to do what I can to encourage that process. Most of all, I am looking forward to sharing with each and every one of you our journey of faith together. It is a

journey I strongly believe should be grounded in a spirit of openness and debate.

There is one final aspect that I can promise you will be an ever present. I will always remain clay in the potters' hands being moulded day by day and always looking to learn. We are all on a lifelong journey of discovery.

In the Order of Service for my Licensing, I was asked to write a few lines on what the day meant for me:

"The mirror has the potential to be a source of disquiet when you are not comfortable with what you see. In the years prior to starting my training, I came across and talked to many who were struggling with homelessness, addictions, mental health and loneliness. Those experiences combined with a desire to explore the mysteries of faith provided the genesis to my journey. Being licensed is an important stepping stone on that journey. With it comes a recognition that the work of expanding God's kingdom remains as important as ever. There is every reason to be excited about the future of our Church as we seek to grow the body of Christ. Throughout the last three years, I have been humbled by the level of support I have received from my own parish and my license is a tribute to each and every one of them. I look forward to continuing as their servant in Christ."

Let me finish with a quote attributed to St. Teresa of Avila that I am sure is familiar to many of you:

*"Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours."*

Tim Harrold

My Journey to the Lord and lasting friendships

"Are you ready Joannie?" "Yes Mummy", "Have you got your Bible sticker book?" "Yes Mummy". So we left our rented flat, crossed the road and we had immediately arrived at our destination of St John's church, Goose Green, Peckham.

I knew that this would be an hour of fun with the "cruets" (curates) and other young 5 year olds like

myself. So Lord, this is where it all began, you touched my heart without me even knowing.

I continued my faith journey with daily assemblies at the Barnhurst and Dartford schools that I attended, and then in my mid-teens I became a Methodist Sunday School teacher. I had not deliberately chosen the Methodist church, it chose me, but mainly because it had a well-run youth club!

I was the only "religious" one in my family but was never discouraged in my beliefs. Then I met my husband to be, who was quite a bit older than me and more worldly wise yet not a follower of Christ, his excuse was that he appreciated the history of the church more than the God bit.

Fast forward 15 years or so and I am now a regular church attendee at St Nicholas church in Southfleet, Kent with my son Robin. We were both baptised together when he was 10 and I was 34 before my confirmation in Rochester Cathedral by Bishop David Say. Despite my church attendance often being interrupted by my full time employment, God never gave up on me and we trod that often unpredictable path together.

Get on with it, I hear you say. Sorry I shall continue.....

Well finally some 19 years ago, with no fireworks or flashing lights, I just knew that it was time to do something more positive within the church so I attended an "It's your calling day" and decided to start gently and filled in the application form for a basic 2 year part time evening/Saturday course.

This is it finally, I hear you gasp, but no, before I could even send in my application form my husband was diagnosed with Early Onset Dementia and the Lord said whoa, you're going to have your work cut out here and I was still working full time at this point.

This part of our lives did not fast forward as Ian was ill for 16 years until the dementia finally ravaged his body and it was a relief when the Lord took him nearly 4 years ago. Now this part was a revelation when the Lord said, ok now it's your turn. Really, I answered I'm 66 surely not, surely it's too late.

Well clearly it is never too late, as I attended another "It's your calling day" and was fast tracked onto the Bishops Certificate course and although I joined a couple of sessions later than the others, I soon caught up. I joined a large group of approximately 15 like-minded people and we were all anxious to travel this unknown path together. As the Year 2 Bishops Certificate awards drew forever closer, many of our classmates had fallen by the wayside but 5 of us emerged excited yet ready

to begin year 3, working towards the daunting prospects of becoming Licensed Lay Ministers.

The five of us have become very close friends, and are always ready to support each other through illness, bereavement and the ups and downs of studying. Our excitement reached a crescendo when we attended a reflective Benedictine retreat several weeks before our licensing service and we also met the 5 other people being licensed as well.

Now, finally May 10th arrived and I can honestly say that it was a day that I will never forget, I didn't want the day to end. I think it was made all the more special because we were all sharing this day together. We had all worked hard to reach this point. The service was unbelievable, despite a couple of unfamiliar hymns, it was so humbling to see the faces of our friends, family and vicars as we paraded to our front row seats. It also felt quite an honour to be in the presence of Bishop Jonathan, an extremely charismatic man. When we exited the service and were then joined by all our visitors, I don't think I stopped smiling for the rest of the day. It was such a special day for the 5 of us.

So what now I hear you ask, hmmm..... I have been licensed to both very different churches in my joint Benefice and I hope that I can do justice in both places. My new life has taken on meaning and substance and an understanding of others that I felt I had lost during my many years as Ian's carer. I am so desperate to be everything to everybody but I must learn to walk first. Even the Bishop told me to remember that I am equally yoked with God and I'm not to run ahead.

My hope for the future is to continue to spread the good news and to reach out to others who have not yet found the beauty of being a disciple of Christ. I hope that I will help and not hinder my Priest in Charge Simeon as well as being community minded in the village of Bean where I have lived for over 40 years. I am currently undertaking a Community Engagement module alongside Tim, which I know will assist my understanding of the needs of others and continuing to work within the Southfleet parish.

We have a lot of elderly folk in Bean (I'm one of them!) so I pray that with all of the life experiences I have endured, I will have enough room in my heart to be there for them all in times of need.

In the journey that I have undertaken, and in which I continue to grow, and make mistakes, there will remain that everlasting friendship of these 4 other "gang" members who have been steadfast and loyal throughout it all.

Joan Gould, Lay Minister

Benefice of St Nicholas at Southfleet and St Barnabas at Istead Rise

The London Pilgrimage

Monday 23rd June 2025

Please join me for a walk along the Martyr's Way across the City of London. We will take a train from Tunbridge Wells to Charing Cross at 9.40 am and then a tube from Embankment to Tower Hill. There we will join the Martyr's Way, a 5.5km (3.4 mile) level walk through the city to the church of St Bartholomew the Great. There will be places along the route where we can sit and rest.

The route passes a large number of points of interest and many churches, including the church used by Samuel Pepys, and the church where Sir Henry Wood, founder of the Proms, learnt to play the organ. I will produce a booklet on the day with some interesting facts about each church which will include some prayers we can use along the way.

We will travel back to Borough station using the Elizabeth Line and Northern Line and join together for a fellowship meal at The Old Thameside Inn, Pickfords Wharf, Clink Street, SE1 9DG. I will circulate a menu to those registered for the Pilgrimage so that we can pre-order and all be served quickly. This will enable us to take the short walk round the corner to Southwark Cathedral in time for Choral Evensong at 5.30 pm.

After the service we will head to London Bridge Station to catch a train back to Tunbridge Wells. If you have other commitments you are free to join or leave the Pilgrimage at any time.

It is important that you register your intention to join the Pilgrimage with me beforehand. We can reduce costs by obtaining group train tickets and I need to book the restaurant and produce information sheets and maps. Please use the sign-up sheets at the Church and Church Centre, phone 07413 805814 or email timharrold@duck.com.

I look forward to welcoming all of you on our Pilgrimage journey.

Tim Harrold



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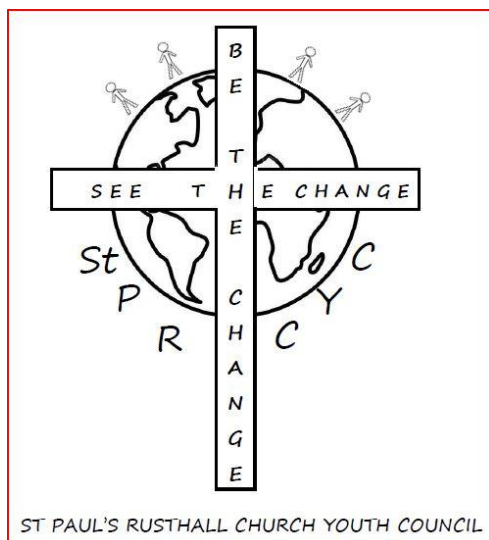
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St Paul's Rusthall Church Youth Council



Our May meeting was during a heatwave and we were out in Happy Valley for a mammoth treasure hunt. It was huge fun! In pairs they had to find thirteen letters by following clues and then solving the anagram to make St Paul's Youth! Frustratingly the first pair back could not find the word Youth, so they missed out on the trophy. Long, warm evenings are a joy after months of being cooped up indoors.



The Youth Council has enjoyed a very busy month. Their 'Bacon and Egg' breakfast was greatly appreciated by many both before and after the Joint Service at the Church Centre. A huge thank you must go to those members who turned up with huge smiles on a Sunday morning to help. It is always wonderful to see all ages of our community communicate together so happily.



Our next meeting is **Thursday 5th June at 6pm in The Lodge.**

We are delighted that John Barber will be joining us to give an update on the A264 speed lowering campaign. We continue to support and promote it in every way we can.

We will also be making the final decision on our honey label design so that this can go to print in time for our proposed first harvest in July.

Queen bees Bertha, Boudicca and Betty continue to be very busy, so much so that Bertha's hive has been split. We are extremely grateful to the enormous support we receive from the Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks Bee Society and to the adult volunteers who are taking the training so seriously and enthusiastically.

The CYC is open to anyone of secondary school age. Pupils in their final term of Year 6 can now join the CYC as part of their preparation and transition to secondary school. Please do see Angela Culley or Jean Kerr for more details or email st.pauls.cyc@gmail.com.



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Tamarix is a 2 bedroom bungalow situated in a no-through road, and set in a large fenced shingle and grassed garden. It is ideal for those looking for a quiet and comfortable self-catering accommodation to enjoy a tranquil break along the stunning Sussex coast. Sleeping four, the cottage can be used for a wonderful family holiday or just a cosy break for two. Pets are welcome by arrangement and Tamarix is perfectly situated for walking, bird watching, cycling, and the beach.

Holidays are on a weekly basis only in high season, but short breaks may be possible at other times.

**Weeks for 2025 (April to October) are available
from £745 per week**

**Please call 01892 528538 or email
karen_miller_2@hotmail.co.uk
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Magazine Easy Payment Methods

Income from magazine sales is important to us at St Paul's. If everyone paid the £1 cover charge we would raise over £900 a year, which would not only cover the cost of producing the magazine but also contribute to other costs such as leasing the photocopier.

If you often find yourself fumbling for the right change, perhaps you might like to pay in advance for a year's "subscription", 10 issues for the sum of £10, (you might even feel tempted to be more generous!) Please make cheques payable to St Paul's Church, Rusthall and send them to the Parish Office.

Alternatively you can use the card payment machines – just choose the £1 donation option.

Your contributions are much appreciated.

Home Life in Old Testament Times

Part 2

The general impression gained is that the majority of people lived in terribly overcrowded and impoverished conditions. A large family would often live, work, have their meals and sleep in a single room. At various times of the year this would also have been shared by one or two sheep and goats. During the dark winter months it was poorly lit and suffocating because there were no chimney for the fire. In summer it would have been infested with insects.

Life was, even then, very different for kings and the well to do and it is about these dwellings that we tend to hear about in the Old Testament. The poorer homes were largely built of mud which was not weather proof. The roof was made of brushwood overlaid with earth and clay and had to be rolled after every downpour. Mud was also the material used for the floor which was stamped hard and sometimes consolidated with limestone chips. Possibly there was a low platform which separated the 'living area' for the animals, but this would not have provided any real protection.

The inside of the house would have been dark with dreary coloured mud walls and only a very few windows which were really only slits, possibly with wooden shutters. Lighting was a small oil lamp which was in reality a saucer with a lip pinched for the wick to rest on. The wick would have been made from hemp or flax and the lamp oil was often the oil from olives. The light would have been very dim. It was always kept burning and one reason for this was that the light – poor as it was – would deter evil spirits.

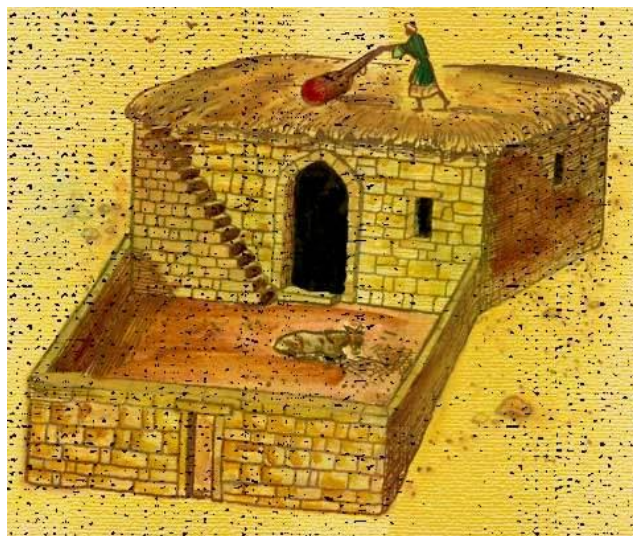
Only the larger houses would have had fire-places. We are told in Jeremiah chapter 36 of a king sitting in front of his brazier in winter. For the majority the fire-place was simply an ash-pit - a hole dug in the mud floor in which wood, thorns and dung-cakes were burnt.



Going to bed for a large family must have been quite an operation and the stuffiness, snoring and yells of teething babies must have made the nights seem long. Each person would have slept on a rug or

straw mat on the mud floor covered by the cloak they had worn during the day.

There was neither room nor money for any real furniture. Meals were taken squatting on the ground and the 'table' was usually only a mat or skin on which the food was placed. Tables and chairs were known, but were beyond the means of most people. When the woman arranged for Elisha – a bed, a table, a stool and a candlestick in 11 Kings 4 verse 10 she was pampering an honoured guest. The one roomed house was cluttered enough with kitchen utensils, storage jars, food and animal fodder



From the crowded chaos of the house the flat roof provided a much-needed escape and was a great social centre. You might join a neighbour for a chat away from the bustle and noise of the street, or perhaps simple gossip with someone across the narrow gap. To proclaim something from the house-top was paramount to making a public announcement. The roof was also used for drying flax and here washing would be spread out to dry.

The Israelites sometime erected an arbour of boughs on the roof of the house providing a sort of second story. This was certainly the case in bigger houses. In the houses of the rich the arbour was a permanent structure and you reached this by a stone staircase leading out of a courtyard. However, for the poor, the arbour made of boughs was probably reached by a wooden ladder which could be pulled up, making the arbour secure for the night.

On the whole the wealthy built outward rather than upward. This sort of house would be built along three sides of an open courtyard. The rooms on the left and right were used for storing grain, wine and oil etc and the living quarters would be at the back of the courtyard.

Daphne Pilcher

Summer Evening of Poetry in Rusthall

The Kent and Sussex Poetry Society have a fantastic line up of poets to read and speak about their work in a special free event to be held in the heart of the village as part of the celebrations of St Paul's 175th anniversary.

Rusthall's very own acclaimed poet, Jess Mookherjee, along with writer, performer and poet David Smith from Tunbridge Wells, prize nominated poet Mims Sully and award-winning Susan Wicks have signed up to take part.

Poetry is enjoying a real renaissance, with work regularly commissioned for national events and even used in mainstream advertising.

The Kent and Sussex Poetry Society was founded in 1946 by Vita Sackville-West, the famous writer, and the group is still going strong today with many published poets alongside others who simply enjoy poetry.

The evening will also include Open Mic opportunities for members of the community to share their own poetry. So, if you have a poem of your own, or a favourite you'd love to share on the night, get in touch to reserve your spot. The Society say they will need to limit the Open Mic performers to one poem of 40 lines so if you'd like to book a performance slot then please email your details marked 'POETRY OPEN MIC' to office@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Please be aware that poetry performed may contain challenging themes and language so this event should be considered in the terms of a PG rating.

It's first come first served for seats. It promises to be a great evening of poetry in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

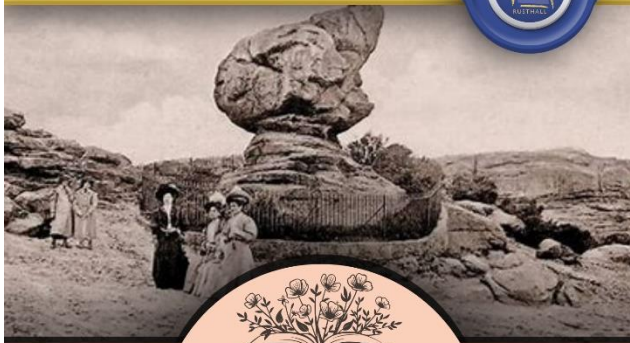
St Paul's Church Centre, Rusthall Road, Rusthall
Friday, 4th July at 7pm - Doors open at 6.30pm

If you'd like to know more about the Kent and Sussex Poetry Society visit www.kentandsussexpoetry.com

**Kent & Sussex
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**• MIMS SULLY • DAVID SMITH •
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We also encourage Rusthall residents to bring an original poem of their own to read
in **Open Mic** (poems of 40 lines or fewer please)

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Only those who will risk going too far can
possibly find out how far one can go.

T. S. Eliot



Poems for June

As the bewildered disciples were struggling in the aftermath of Jesus' death, resurrection and reappearances, Pentecost pointed them in a new direction. Likewise we too are sometimes thrust into unknown and challenging territory. These two poets offer their own suggestions for how we might approach this.

Susan Barber

Start Close In

*Start close in,
don't take the second step
or the third,
start with the first
thing
close in,
the step
you don't want to take.*

Start with
the ground
you know,
the pale ground
beneath your feet,
your own
way to begin
the conversation.

Start with your own
question,
give up on other
people's questions,
don't let them
smother something
simple.

To hear
another's voice,
follow
your own voice,
wait until
that voice
becomes an
intimate private ear
that can
really listen
to another.

Start right now
take a small step
you can call your own
don't follow
someone else's
heroics, be humble
and focused,
start close in,
don't mistake
that other
for your own.

*Start close in,
don't take
the second step
or the third,
start with the first
thing
close in,
the step
you don't want to take.*

David Whyte

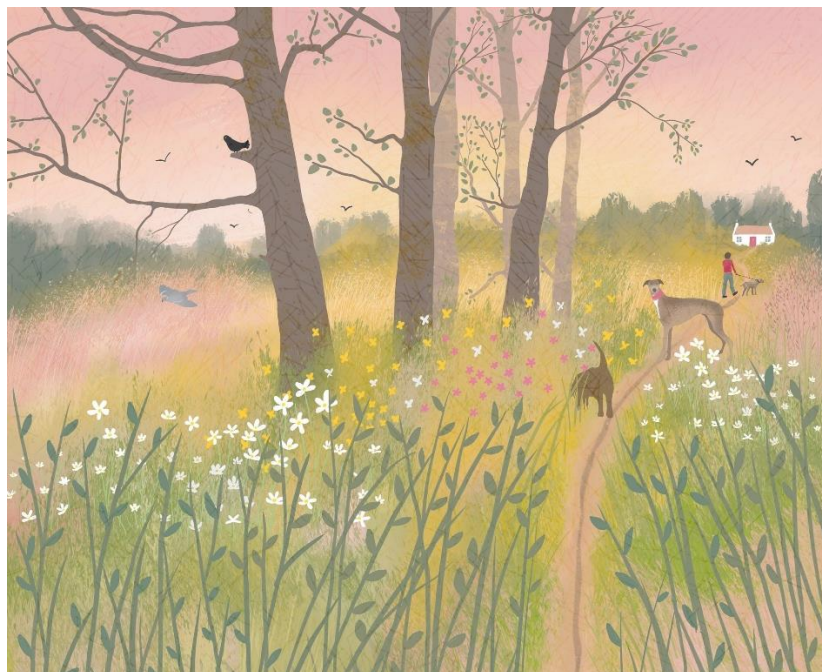
Prescription for the Disillusioned

Come new to this
day. Remove the rigid
overcoat of experience,
the notion of knowing,
the beliefs that cloud
your vision.

Leave behind the stories
of your life. Spit out the
sour taste of unmet
expectation.
Let the stale scent of what-ifs
waft back into the swamp
of your useless fears.

Arrive curious, without the
armor
of certainty, the plans and
planned
results of the life you've
imagined.
Live the life that chooses you,
new
every breath, every blink of
your astonished eyes.

Rebecca del Rio





RUSTHALL'S COMMUNITY LARDER

What is it?

A community larder receives surplus short date food from supermarkets to offer to people in our community.

When and where is it?

Our community larder will be in the St Paul's Church Centre every Friday between 12:30pm and 2:15pm.

Who can use it?

Anyone can come and visit the community larder. There are no restrictions, no booking necessary, just turn up with a carrier bag to fill.

How much does it cost?

We suggest a small cash donation of £2, or as much as you can afford. For this, you can take away a bag full of quality food.

Please help us all stay safe by wearing a face mask, respecting social distancing and using the hand sanitiser provided.



WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU!

For more information, please email contact@rusthallvillage.org
or telephone 07805 475397

Activity Pages

Try your hand at this Biblically based Wordsearch. The words are written forwards, backwards and diagonally. At the end you will be left with 9 unused letters. These will give you the name of a Saint which we possibly link to the Christmas season.

Z	E	L	A	M	A	W	Y	H	T	O	M	I	T
A	I	A	M	T	M	A	H	A	G	E	M	A	I
E	N	B	L	E	H	O	M	O	R	E	H	A	S
H	O	A	A	T	L	A	G	R	I	P	P	A	R
S	M	N	I	I	O	A	S	U	A	M	M	E	A
O	R	B	H	B	M	E	S	H	A	C	H	N	E
H	A	S	O	C	H	A	S	H	D	O	D	E	L
T	A	H	A	I	B	O	T	E	B	O	G	E	S
E	E	I	R	A	H	B	N	O	E	Y	A	O	H
R	S	A	L	E	Z	E	O	G	P	M	D	T	A
A	M	A	J	A	E	D	E	T	H	O	O	L	O
Z	K	O	O	A	D	L	D	S	M	B	S	R	N
A	H	B	A	I	L	E	I	S	A	R	Z	E	A
N	E	E	L	I	L	A	G	N	A	O	M	I	M

AGRIPPA	ARMONI
ASHDOD	BALAK
BOAZ	DOEG
EGYPT	ELAM
ELIAB	EMMAUS
EZRA	GAHAM
GALILEE	GEDALIAH
GIDEON	HIRAM
HOSHEA	ISHMAEL
ISRAEL	
JEHOSHAPHAT	
JOHN	LABAN
MAGOG	MALTA
MANOAH	MESHACH
MESOPOTAMIA	MOREH
NABOTH	NAOMI
NAZARETH	NILE
OBED	OMAR
REHOB	REHEBOAM
ROME	SALEM
SHILOH	SODOM
TABITHA	TIMOTHY
TOBIAH	ZIBA

Twenty Questions to Test You

- Number of players in a rugby union team
- For what is Amelia Earhart famous
- Which continent did Columbus hope to find by sailing west
- What is a turbofan
- Name of the film about a talking pig
- Acapulco's country
- Victoria Beckham's nickname
- What kind of farm machine did Cyrus McCormick invent
- Who founded the American state of Pennsylvania
- Which character was created by the Rev W Awdrey
- How many children did Queen Elizabeth II have
- Where are the Crown Jewels
- What is the world's fastest animal
- Which planet is closest to the sun
- In which country could you ride on a Bullet Train
- What was the first antibiotic drug
- Who wrote Pride and Prejudice
- What did Little Miss Muffet sit on
- Who wrote the story of the Ugly Duckling
- What do we use the Celsius scale to measure

A Crossword with a difference

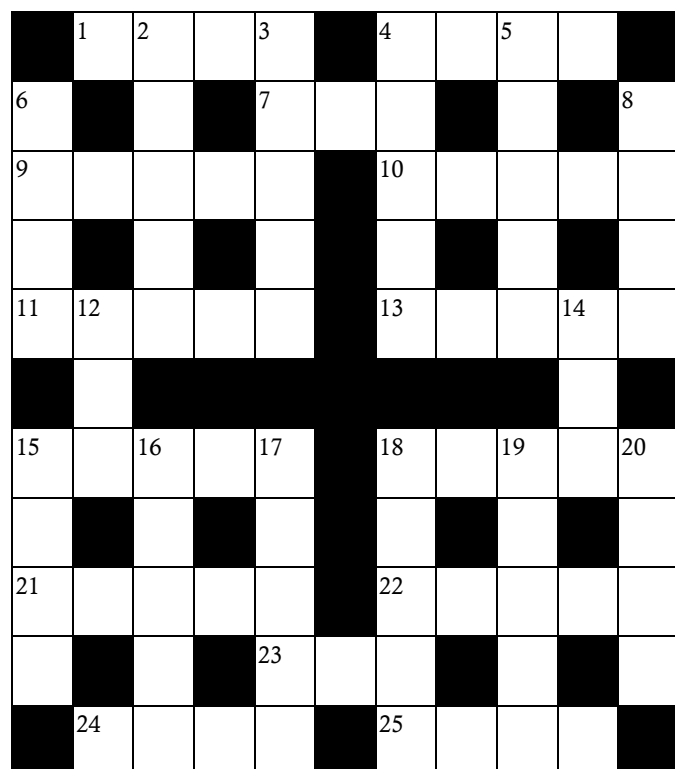
The last letter of each answer is the first letter of the next. All the answers are musically related.

1			2			3				4	
				12				13			
		18						19			
								23		14	5
11			25				26				
									20		
		22				27					
10			24								6
									21		
	17			16						15	
9			8					7			

Clues

- He composed the Brandenburg Concertos and the ST Matthew Passion
- The instrument of angels
- Might be grand or upright
- A dramatic work set to music
- Often sung by the choir during a service
- Percussion instrument often in the form of a hollow gourd filled with peas for shaking
- Composition for instrumentalist solo
- Solo song usually in opera or oratorio
- A voice range
- Church musical instrument
- A dreamy or romantic piece of music for the piano which evokes the night
- A short composition designed to demonstrate the skill of the player
- The composer of the Enigma Variations
- Instrument often taught at Primary School
- Performance by a soloist or small group
- Stringed instrument
- A competitive festival of music in Wales
- Treble melody sung above the bass
- Highest of the male singing range
- Stringed instrument associated with medieval times
- Sometimes called a 'squeezebox'
- Person who provides music for the singer
- Initially this was a popular style of American music from the late 19th to early 20th centuries
- A traditional part of Swiss folk music
- Words of a song in popular music
- Christmas hymn
- Text of opera or other long vocal work

General Crossword



Clues Across

1. 1760 yards
2. Snug
7. Road vehicle
9. Command
10. Subside
11. Mark
12. Tempo
15. Continuous pain
18. Faithful
21. Graceful and elegant
22. Tooth
23. African wildebeest
24. Ado
25. Reckless

Clues Down

2. Country of Taj Mahal
3. French words for jewel case
4. Seahorse crustacean with ten legs
5. Platform
6. Deprivation
8. The flute is this type of instrument
12. Spasm
14. Epoch
15. Smartphone programs
16. 17 syllable poem
17. Remains of a liquid
18. Primate of Madagascar
19. The yellow parts of eggs
20. Nobleman

Find the sport in each of the two grids. To do this you will need to answer the questions all based on sporting personalities. In the first grid your sport will be found in the third vertical column, but you will need to rearrange the letters.

1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						

1. First name of female American tennis player who won Wimbledon in 1974
2. Surname of female British show-jumper who won a bronze medal in the summer Olympics of 1956
3. Cricketer known by his initials of WG who played from 1865-1908
4. Surname of Adam who specialised in sprint breaststroke events
- 5.
6. A boxer, - fill in the missing name Sugar _____ Robinson
7. Surname of George – former footballer who played mostly for Manchester United

In the second grid your sport will be found in the 4th vertical column, but again you will need to arrange the letters.

1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							

1. Surname of a former springboard diver
2. Surname of a former cricketer who played for Yorkshire County Cricket Club from 1934-1955
3. Surname of a Portuguese footballer who plays for the Portuguese National team
4. Surname of an Austrian Formula One racing car driver
5. An English snooker player – first name Mark
6. A Northern Irish golfer – first name Rory
7. A Swiss tennis player – first name Roger

ANSWERS

Wordsearch – the remaining 9 letters give you the saint Wenceslas

Twenty Questions to Test You

1. Fifteen 2. Flying 3. Asia 4. Type of Jet Engine 5. Babe 6. Mexico 7. Post 8.
Mechanical harvester 9. William Penn 10. Thomas the Tank Engine 11. Four 12. The Tower
of London 13. Cheetah 14. Mercury 15. Japan 16. Penicillin 17. Jane Austen 18.
Tuffet 19. Hans Christian Anderson 20. Temperature

Crossword with a Difference

1. Bach 2. Harp 3. Piano 4. Opera 5. Anthem 6. Maracas 7. Sonata
8. Alto 9. Aria 10. Organ 11. Nocturne 12. Etude 13. Elgar 14. Recorder 15.
Recital 16. Lyre 17. Eisteddfod 18. Descant 19. Tenor 20. Rebec 21. Concertina 22.
Accompanist 23. Tin Pan Alley 24. Yodel 25. Lyric 26. Carol 27. Libretto

General Crossword

Across

1. Mile 4. Cosy 7. Car 9. Order 10. Abate 11. Stain 13. Speed 15.
Ached 18. Loyal 21. Poise 22. Molar 23. Gnu 24. Fuss 25. Rash

Down

2. India 3. Ecrin 4. Crabs 5. Stage 6. Loss 8. Reed 12. Tic 14. Era
15. Apps 16. Haiku 17. Dregs 18. Lemur 19. Yolks 20. Lord

Sports Grids

First one

1. cHris 2. sYthe 3. gRace 4. peAty 5. raY 6. jaCkie 7. bEst
The jumbled letters give you Archery

Second one

1. daLey 2. huTton 3. roNaldo 4. lAuda 5. selBy 6. mciLroy
7. fedErer

The jumbled letters give you Netball

Daphne Pilcher

Stone Ness Walled Garden

We offer social and therapeutic horticulture to members of the local community with
learning difficulties and/or mental health issues



OPEN DAY

Saturday 28th June 2025 11.00am to 3.30pm



Visit our website:

www.thestonenesswalledgarden.org

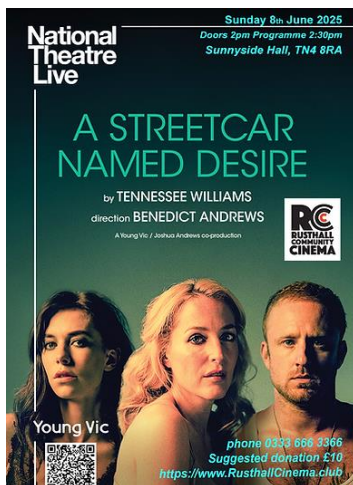


Rusthall Community Cinema



Mr Burton (2025) Cert 12A

Doors open: 6.30pm Saturday 7th June 2025
Director: Marc Evans
Genre: Drama
Runtime: 2h 4 mins
Starring: Lesley Manville, Aimee-Ffion Edwards, Toby Jones



NT Live: A Streetcar Named Desire (Cert 15)

Doors open: 2pm Sunday 8th June 2025
Director: Benedict Andrews written by Tennessee Williams
Genre: Recorded Live Theatre
Runtime: 3 h 23 mins (including interval)
Starring: Gilleen Anderson, Vanessa Kirby and Ben Foster



I'm Still Here (2024) Cert 15

Doors open: 6.30pm Saturday 21st June 2025
Director: Walter Salles
Genre: Biography, Drama
Runtime: 2h 17 mins
Starring: Fernanda Torres, Fernanda Montenegro, Selton Mello

General Information

Vicar Rev. Ronnie Williams, The Vicarage, Bretland Road, Rusthall	521357
Associate Priest Rev. Nicholas Burton (c/o Parish Office)	521447
Reader Daphne Pilcher	521691
Licenced Lay Minister Tim Harrold	07413805814
Churchwardens May Graves Please contact via email to Churchwardens@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk	
Deputy Churchwardens Graeme Anderson Chris Dobson	532922 539539
Parochial Church Council Secretary Mione Palmer	667951
Youth Council Angela Culley	07779 098026
Treasurer and Planned Giving Pat Cripps	521447
Safeguarding Officers Daphne Pilcher	521691
DBS Officer Clive Brown c/o the Parish Office	521447
Bible Reading Fellowship Secretary Vivienne Sharp	543263
Choir Leader Fiona Johnson	07540 273303
Magazine Editors Deborah Bruce and Sue Hare c/o the Parish Office email – magazine@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk	
Flower Team Jill McAllister	532817
Parish Hall Bookings Churchyards Enquiries to Parish Office	521447
Rusthall St Paul's Primary School Executive Headteacher – Mrs Liz Mitchell Head of School – Mrs Lyndsay Smurthwaite	520582 520582

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

All worshippers who are baptised members of the Church of England, and aged over 16, should have their names entered on the Electoral Roll. This entitles them to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Meeting. Forms for enrolment will be found in the Parish Church or the Parish Office and should be sent to the Vicar.

Organisations

Julian Group Pat Stevens	529187
Group Scout Leader Gavin Cons Email – rusthallscoutgroup@gmail.com	
Scout Membership Secretary Juliet Waller Email – rusthallscoutgroupwaitinglist@yahoo.co.uk	
Squirrels: rusthallsquirrels@gmail.com Beavers: beaversrusthall@gmail.com Cubs: rusthallcubs@hotmail.co.uk Scouts: rusthallscouts@gmail.com	
Ranger Guides Gemma Bradley	07377 061398
Guide Guides Gemma Bradley	07377 061398
Brownie Guides Karen Miller (Thurs) rusthallbrownies@btinternet.com Tina Francis (Mon)	545877
Rainbows Mary Saunders Email – saundii@aol.com	319872
Playtime at St Paul's Liz Mankelow	07840 837968
Rusthall Lunch Club Ros Rodwell	01892 618538
Rusthall Community Larder Bjorn Simpole	07900 906294
Rusthall Community & Youth Project Barry Edwards	680296
Rusthall Village Association Alex Britcher	07967 011467
Rusthall Parish Council Council Clerk: Alison Stevens	520161
Rusthall Bonfire and Fete Committee Annie Softley	548366
Friends of TW and Rusthall Common Clive Evans	518975



The Parish Office

Parish Administrator - Mrs Ginette di Palma

St Paul's Parish Office, Church Centre, Rusthall Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 8RE

Telephone (01892) 521447

Registered Charity in England & Wales, Number 1132681

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Magazine email: magazine@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Website: www.stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

The Office is open on weekday mornings (except Tuesdays) between 10 am and 1 pm.