

ST PAUL'S NEWS



June 2026

ONE POUND

SERVICES

Sunday 7th June

First Sunday after Trinity

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
Minister: Daphne Pilcher
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead: Susan Powley
Link: Karen Miller
- 6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)
Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

Monday 8th June

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

Wednesday 10th June

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

Thursday 11th June

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

Sunday 14th June

Second Sunday after Trinity

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: Rev Nicholas Burton
Minister: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead: Tim Harrold
Link: Rosemary Romano
- 6.30 pm Choral Evensong (BCP)
Minister: The Vicar

Monday 15th June

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

Wednesday 17th June

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

Thursday 18th June

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

Sunday 21st June

Third Sunday after Trinity

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW)
President: The Vicar
Minister & Preacher: Daphne Pilcher
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead: Rev Nicholas Burton
Link: Viv Littlechild
- 5.30 pm Pet Service
Minister: The Vicar
Preacher: Tim Cripps

Monday 22nd June

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

Wednesday 24th June

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

Thursday 25th June

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

Sunday 28th June

Fourth Sunday after Trinity

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

Monday 29th June

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

Wednesday 1st July

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

Thursday 2nd July

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

DIARY

Monday 8th June

8.00 pm PCC Meeting in the Lodge

Wednesday 10th June

3.00 pm Communion to Chamberlain Court
Elaine Bruce

Thursday 18th June

11.00 am Communion to Mt Ephraim House
Elaine Bruce

7.30 pm St Andrews Madrigal Group concert at the Parish Church in aid of the Organ Renovation fund

Saturday 27th June

12 noon – 4pm Rusthall Village Fair

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

From the Registers



We welcome as newly baptised members of the church:

Annie Bay Stafford Muttukumaru

We ask God to bless the marriage of:

Florence Emily North and Samuel David Kerr-Sheppard

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

Betty Doreen Maylam
Zillah Witt
David Robert Ralph
Cornelis (Cees) Fichtmuller
Jane Elizabeth Wharton

Dates for Your Diary

Future events taking place at St Paul's Church

Sunday 5th July

Saturday 11th July

Saturday 18th July

Saturday 8th August

Saturday 12th September

Saturday 7th November

Sunday 29th November

Saturday 5th December

Sunday 20th December

Hymns and Pimms

Grenadillas Clarinet Concert

"I am Mark" play

End of Camp concert

An Evening at the Musicals

Concert for Remembrance

Readings and Music for Advent

Sponsored Sing-a-thon

Nine Lessons and Carols

Magazine Deadlines

Please submit articles for the 2026 magazines in accordance with the following deadlines.

July/Aug 2026 by 14th June

Sept 2026 by 16th August

October 2026 by 13th September

November 2026 by 11th October

December 2026/January 2027 by 15 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 Helen Reynolds at the Church Office (TW 521447) to arrange production and collection/delivery.



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From the Vicarage

Dear Friends

Thank you very much for your continued support and hard work. A very big thank you to all those who attended our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and those who offered to serve on the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Nic Farman's tenure came to an end and didn't put himself forward for re-election. I thank Nic for his contributions to the PCC and the general life and ministry of the parish over the years. Of course, Nic will still be with us and will continue to contribute to parish life, only not as a member of the PCC. I am indebted to May Graves for her two stints as Church Warden. As a parish, we are in a fortunate position to have members who are both willing and able to serve in various positions/capacities, even though we could do with more. A big 'thank you' to Chris Dobson for offering to serve as Church Warden for another year, and an even bigger 'thank you' to David Goodwin who whole-heartedly offered to also serve as Church Warden, thereby ensuring that we have the required quota of Wardens. Special thanks to Susan Powley who offered to serve as our Parish Treasurer.

Although we are in a 'fortunate position' with regards to volunteers, we are desperately in need of a few more, the one topmost in my mind being that of a PCC Secretary. Please speak to me or send me a message if you would like to discuss any volunteering roles.

Some of you may remember that I was the Mayor's Chaplain. Well, that has now ended but one of my roles was to lead the 2025 Service of Remembrance in Tunbridge Wells. At the AGM and Mayor making ceremony in May 2026, the outgoing Mayor, Councillor David Osborne presented me with a photograph of the two of us at the Service of Remembrance. I would like to thank Cllr David Osborne for according me the opportunity to serve as his Chaplain during his Mayoral year, 2025/26. It was a privilege to have been asked and being able to serve the wider community in that capacity. My role as Mayor's Chaplain ended with me saying prayers at the AGM and Mayor making ceremony. I will end my letter with slightly abridged form of that prayer.



No doubt, we've all been watching or listening to the news recently, with all the political shenanigans and repeated calls for the Prime Minister to resign. We know that this is not new and I'm now wondering whether the expected level of broad-mindedness has drastically changed. Whatever the level of change, I hope it will be for the better, increasing inclusion and the general sense of belonging and pulling together.

Loving God, we thank you that you are always with us. Thank you for all those who offer themselves to serve in public office. We thank you especially for the tenure of Cllr David Osborne as Mayor of Tunbridge Wells, and commend Cllr Beverly Palmer to you as she begins her Mayoral year. Please be with her and all those who will serve alongside her in various capacities, that they may continue to work for the improvement and the good of the communities they represent. We also think of those who are no longer with us, and ask that they will experience your eternal bliss, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Ronnie

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Editorial June 2026

What a month of contrasts! I know that I am not the only person to sneak the heating back on and get the winter woollies out when the weather turned very chilly at the beginning of the month – but then suddenly we were in full heatwave mode with temperatures from 28 – 34 degrees centigrade (that's 82-93 degrees Fahrenheit if you prefer). It's very bad for my household management, it's far too hot to iron until late evening and then there's no incentive when the ironing pile is full of jumpers that are of no use now the weather is so hot. Perhaps I'll just put them away and iron them in the autumn.

Sadly, we have lost two stalwart ladies from the parish in recent weeks. You will find an obituary for Zillah Witt in this magazine and we will write about Betty Maylam, who's funeral was right at the end of May, next month. Both will be sorely missed. We have also learned of the sudden death of David Ralph, who for many years has been St Paul's independent examiner, along with several other local churches, guides and scouts.

1st June is Trinity Sunday, the festival to celebrate God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Thereafter the church enters Ordinary Time, when the altar frontals and vestments are green – a symbol of growth and hope. Note that the description of 'Ordinary' is misleading, it comes from ordinal rather than ordinary, so it means numbered and not mundane. Sundays are numbered as the nth after Trinity and this continues until the end of October. We do mark some festivals, however. St Barnabas, apostle, is remembered on 11th June, St Alban, first martyr of Britain c. 250 AD on 22nd June, the birth of John the Baptist on 24th June and St Peter and St Paul, apostles, on 29th June.

Summer sports are in full swing. Athletes have Diamond League meetings in Rome (4th), Stockholm (7th), Oslo (11th) and Paris (26th). That should help get them ready for next month's Commonwealth Games. We are building up to Wimbledon starting on 29th June, with the two warm-up tournaments of Queen's (6-21th) and Eastbourne (20-27th) now both catering for all players rather than the male/female division of previous years. Royal Ascot is 16-20th June, the Le Mans 24-hour car race runs 10-14th, Monaco Grand Prix is 5-7th and there are the Canadian and US Open Golf tournaments on 8-14th and 18-21st June. The big event is obviously the FIFA World Cup running from 11th June to 19th July. Merchandise is now in all the supermarkets! It will be interesting to see how this very spread-out World Cup is run, as the matches are taking place in USA, Canada and Mexico. The final will be at the MetLife Stadium in New Jersey, about 10 miles west of New York City.

Volunteers Week is 1-7 June, a time when we should consider the contribution made by volunteers. Our church relies on them, from Marthas, gardeners, people who make refreshments, sidesmen, flower arrangers to lay ministers and PCC members. Tim Harrold has written an interesting article about the contribution to society made by volunteers at St Paul's. Another huge group are school governors and organisers of PTAs. Some volunteers give time regularly, others at major events, like the helpers at the London Marathon or Olympic Games. Some volunteer work is relatively easy, like litter picking, some is highly skilled, like Samaritans supporting the mentally ill. Managing volunteers is a skill in itself as volunteers' motivation is not the same as a paid employee.

5th June is Sausage Roll Day – surely this is sponsored by Greggs – so treat yourself to a sausage roll, or a vegetarian equivalent, on this day. The King's Official Birthday is 13th June and he will spend it watching the Trooping of the Colour. Bike Week is 9-15th, run by Cycling UK to promote cycling within everyday life. Father's Day is 21st June, not recognised by the church in the way that Mother's Day is, but important to recognise the importance of our fathers and father-figures nevertheless, especially as fathers are taking a much more hands-on role in parenting nowadays. June 21st is also the Summer Solstice, after which the days start getting shorter – now there's a sad thought! June 30th is Asteroid Day. Asteroids are the debris left over from the formation of the solar system and mostly orbit the sun in the asteroid belt, which lies between Mars and Jupiter. However, many get flung around space and some end up hitting the Earth. Mainly these are dust and grain of sand size which harmlessly burn up in our atmosphere, but about once a year a meter wide asteroid lands and causes damage. Fortunately the fact that the Earth's surface is 71% water provides some protection, although tsunamis can be triggered by impacts in the oceans. The real fear is for the one in 500,000+ year event when a 1km diameter asteroid lands, this is the size thought to have caused global destruction leading to the extinction of the dinosaurs.

Our next magazine will be the bumper July/August edition so please think ahead and let us know of any events that you will like included in either of those months. The deadline for articles is **14th June**.

Deborah Bruce and Sue Hare

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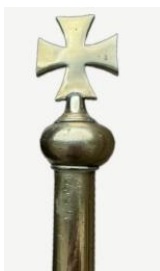


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Churchwardens Report



Greetings from the Wardens,

Although it was sad to say goodbye to May, who is now able to put her feet up and enjoy Champneys, it is with great anticipation that we say hello and welcome to her successor David Goodwin. David has not been with us very long but in the short time he has been here he has already made an impact. Whether it be cutting hedges, taking minutes, reading lessons or with his wife Kim helping in the Chorister's Cafe he is proving to be a marvellous asset to our community. One of the more unusual examples of his skills was being able to identify "the bat" in the church. With the aid of his binoculars, he very quickly discovered that what we thought was "the bat" hanging from the rafters above the lectern was in fact an old pulley that hasn't moved in quite a while. If you are ever in the church and have time to look at it you could be forgiven for thinking it is a "bat". That is my story and I am sticking to it!

On a more serious note, in the next week or so the new pew cushions will arrive and we can hopefully say goodbye to numb bottoms. Keep an eye out for them.

We press on with work on the church roof, getting it waterproof so that when the organ is renovated it stands a good chance of staying in tune.

There are lots of events planned for raising the money we need to fix our beloved organ and I would urge you to please support our efforts in securing that the "Beating Heart" of our very musically blessed church carries on enriching our worship and enjoyment.

I am delighted to report that the Bees continue to do God's work and we look forward to another harvest of honey later in the year. An inspection of the hives will take place on Saturday 29th May and I will update you all on the results of their health check.

Chris Dobson.

A Hello from your new Churchwarden

A huge 'thank you' to everyone at St Paul's who have all made Kim and I so welcome since we started to attend services towards the end of last summer.

When we first arrived at St Paul's, it had only been six months since we had retouched down in the UK, having both been working abroad since 2009. To say those six months had been a culture shock to us would be to understate matters. What we desperately needed to find was a community into which we could refit, and we knew that was going to be our new church –

With our younger daughter setting up home in Sevenoaks, it looked like the Tunbridge Wells area was going to be our new home. Thankfully for us, it quickly became clear that TW was well blessed with some great churches, and each with their own flavour. By the end of our first six months in TW we had tasted a number (maybe too many), but knew that we had still not found our new spiritual home. Despite the wonderful Graeme Kendrick at Christchurch, the masterful organist and tradition at King Charles the Martyr, and the strong preaching at St Johns, none of the churches we were attending were fully touching our hearts. We ended up thinking that we'd have to dip into a number to be spiritually full. But, as God always does with his lost sheep, he stepped in, and placed Deborah Bruce into the path of Kim.

Before we knew it, Kim had a medal around her neck, was dressed in a chorister's cassock and somehow had become a fully-fledged member of St Paul's choir (how that all happened so quickly we still don't know - but a classic example of how God often works). By then we had also moved into Langton Green and as we got to know St Paul's better and better it quickly became clear to both of us that it was a gem of a church – and a God sent one to us!

St Paul's is a church full of passion and God's hand in action; from the wonderful spirit-fullness of Revd. Ronnie and his team of ministers, to its fantastic church choir and musicians, in its impactful local and overseas outreach, to the ladies who bless our Sunday with beautiful flower arranging and those who keep our church spotless. Most importantly it feels like a family, with everyone looking out for each other, mucking in with the chores, willingly sharing their ideas and views and all with the common goal of proclaiming and living God's kingdom on earth.

I just love the mix of people who make up our congregations, they are truly a big mixed inclusive family of God. Each of us is different; with our

own identity, quirks, gifts, strengths and interests which we all toss into the melting pot of God's church in Rusthall where it is lovingly received by the rest of the family.

When you find your spiritual home you know it, and Kim and I are very blessed to have found St Paul's. It is thus my privilege to serve the congregation of St Paul's as their new Churchwarden. I promise to you that I will do my best for you and listen and act on God's will for the church carefully. Together, I am sure that we will do our best to support each other as a congregation and our hard serving ministers.

Wishing you all a blessed summer ahead.

David Goodwin

The Socio-Economic Value of St Paul's

If anyone had asked that question prior to this year, the most likely answer would have either been a shrug of the shoulders or a statement such as "Who cares". This year, for the first time ever, we can begin to give a more thorough response.

National Churches Trust have created a model that allows each parish to work out their socio-economic value for themselves. They are the first to say that the model does not yet capture everything, it is conservative in its methodology, but it is at least a fair representation based on rigorous economic analysis, using national survey datasets and a wellbeing-based approach endorsed by HM Treasury's Green Book. Social value looks beyond financial returns to measure how church buildings make life better for people and communities. When we put a monetary value on wellbeing, it's to give it an equal footing with financial metrics. The aim of social values is not to reduce our impacts to money, but to make a credible investment case in a way that funders understand.

This provides the answer to those who say "Who cares". There are numerous charities, foundations, and other organisations who will grant or lend pots of money to charities in support of each charities mission. Some are enormous like the National Lottery Heritage Fund, and some are small. Grants can range from a few hundred pounds to hundreds of thousands. Navigating this maze has increasingly become extraordinarily complex, the demands and expectations of these organisations has also risen, and competition for the funds is fierce.

This year we have launched our Organ Renovation Fund for which we will need to raise at least £350,000. Success will depend on our ability to tell

our story and demonstrate that our cause is a deserving cause. Seven factors went into the calculations of our socio-economic value:

1. Total number of attendees at Sunday services
2. Average annual church expenditure
3. Total number of regular volunteers
4. Total number who participate in a choir
5. Total number who use a food bank
6. Total number who attend a youth group
7. Total number who attend a community group (e.g. Lunch Club)

The National Churches Trust model calculated the social economic value of St. Paul's as:

£1,893,983

I, sadly, have yet to find any other local church who has used the model so have nothing yet to compare that number against. However, when I asked the National Churches Trust themselves, they said that is the kind of figure that they would expect from a church such as ours involved in all the areas we are. There are equally some facts that are indisputable. Many parishes struggle to fill their important positions like Churchwarden and Treasurer. In a 2024 survey by the Church Times, it was found that 40% of Parishes had only one Churchwarden. The mathematical mean of Sunday congregations in 2025 across all Church of England parishes was 83. The mathematical mean for our parish (including the Family Service and the three Parish Church services) is over 50% higher. You would have to travel a long way to find a choir the size and ability of ours. In 2025 the Friday larder redistributed 11.28 tonnes of food and drink from the weekly Fairshare delivery - that is the equivalent to just under 27 000 meals for people living in hardship. That excludes the weekly collections the larder receives from local supermarkets which would have taken the aggregate total to well over 15 tonnes.

Our mission is supported by an extraordinary band of over 150 volunteers who give up their most precious commodity, time. This number surprised me so much I had to triple check my maths. We are by no means the biggest parish. But the amount that we achieve with the resources we have is truly remarkable. Our volunteers are the lifeblood that makes that happen and we cannot thank you all enough. Every time I give a Parish Magazine to someone outside our parish, they will always comment on the range and diversity of its content. The testament to the value of our volunteers is that we manage to generate all this value on an expenditure of just £180,000.

We hope the ability to demonstrate a socio-economic number that is based on an accepted economic analysis will be a game changer for how successful we are when we approach funders. Just

as importantly, I hope it also helps to motivate every single one of our remarkable volunteers and increases the support we receive for our Parish. St. Paul's is truly making a difference, and we cannot thank all of you enough.

Tim Harrold



Living in Love and Faith

For many the decision of the Church of England to terminate the Living in Love and Faith (LLF) process was depressing, to put it mildly. The immediate reactions of many understandably were ones of resignation and despair. However, things may not be quite as bad as the initial reactions suggest.

Arising out of the decision to close the process, General Synod approved the following: to commend the House of Bishops in establishing the Relationships, Sexuality and Gender Working Group and Relationships, Sexuality and Gender Pastoral Consultative Group for continuing work. To date there has been little information concerning membership, terms of reference, process and timescales.

Whilst one might postulate that the LLF process is not dead, indeed life is extant in the two groups, nevertheless one would not gamble the home on the assumption that the outcome of the deliberations will lead to greater inclusivity.

There is a body of opinion that the legal advice submitted to the House of Bishops regarding authorisation of stand-alone (bespoke) services of same-sex marriage blessing was deficient. It is argued, persuasively in my opinion, that said services are legal under the provisions of existing Canon Law and, even if not, the likelihood of disciplinary procedures being invoked by bishops against clergy performing said services is minimal. Clergy have indicated a willingness to perform such services and are being encouraged so to do by members of Together for the Church of England and Inclusive Church.

Full inclusion requires the Church of England to authorise same-sex marriage services. This looks a long way off given the decision to terminate the LLF process. Authorisation will require a two-

thirds majority in each of the Houses of General Synod as it is a change in doctrine. Together for the Church of England and Inclusive Church are therefore organising campaigns to secure as many individuals supportive of inclusion elected by Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs) onto deanery synods. Members of the latter elect diocesan synod members and General Synod members. The two organisations are up against the well-organised and funded Alliance, Holy Trinity Brompton network and Church of England Evangelical Council.

My opinion is that the latter three organisations may have their membership of the new General Synod dented a little but nowhere near enough to threaten their blocking vote for doctrinal change. It is my opinion that the way forward is to encourage as many parochial church councils and incumbents to offer same-sex stand-alone services to the extent that they become commonplace. This will lead to public pressure for same-sex marriage in the Church of England and, if needs be, parliamentary legislation to enforce it.

To achieve this will take time but it will probably be a quicker route to full inclusion than the election to General Synod process. A way has to be found to disarm the blocking power of the conservative evangelical group on General Synod.

It will be interesting to follow the steps the new Archbishop of Canterbury initiates to free the logjam.

John Hopkinson





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A Musical Note



The Organ Renovation Fund concert series is already off to a brilliant start, and the good news is that the music continues in June with another very special evening.

On Thursday 18th June at 7.30pm, we're delighted to welcome the St Andrews Madrigal Group to perform at the church as part of their summer tour, which is taking them all around the UK. They are singing 11 concerts in 11 days in Scotland, Northumberland, York, Lincoln, Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire and Cumbria, and, of course, most importantly, in Rusthall! In fact, on the 18th June, they are giving a concert at St Dunstan's in Mayfield at lunchtime and then coming to us in the evening. They are going to be very tired, but I am so glad they could fit us in on the tour.

Many of you will already know the group's Musical Director, Daniel Toombs, who has been part of our church choir since he was just six years old. Over the years, Daniel has grown into an exceptional musician — not only a talented singer but also a gifted organist. He is the senior organ scholar at St Salvator's Chapel in St Andrews and since arriving in St Andrews, Daniel has thrown himself into the university's vibrant musical life and, remarkably, was appointed Musical Director of the Madrigal Group while still only in his second year — an almost unheard-of appointment for such a highly regarded ensemble.

Founded in 1946, the St Andrews Madrigal Group is one of the University of St Andrews' oldest and most celebrated vocal ensembles. Entirely student-led, the choir comprises sixteen outstanding singers who perform a wide range of music, from Renaissance madrigals and sacred motets to contemporary choral works. Although the group began with a focus on sixteenth and seventeenth century English madrigals, its repertoire has grown substantially over the years while maintaining a strong connection to its historic roots. The choir is known for its exceptionally high standard of singing and regularly performs not only in St Andrews but also across the UK and in Europe. We're so lucky to have this remarkable choir coming to sing for us at the church, and it's a fantastic opportunity to hear

one of the University of St Andrew's finest musical groups right on our doorstep.

So do save the date, bring your friends and family, and come along to support both the Organ Renovation Fund and these talented young musicians. It's sure to be a thoroughly enjoyable evening!

We have also been thrilled by the news that Alex Robson, ex-St Paul's chorister and organist, has just been appointed as Assistant Director of Music at Worcester Cathedral from September 2026. Alex has held organ scholarships at St George's Chapel, Windsor and Westminster Cathedral, and was organ scholar at St John's College in Cambridge during his time as an undergraduate. At Worcester Alex's role will be central to sustaining the musical life of the Cathedral, including playing the organ for the majority of cathedral services, and for directing the Voluntary and Youth choirs.

Other dates for your diary:

Sunday 5th July: 6.30pm - Hymns & Pimms

Saturday 11th July: 7.30pm - Grenadillas Clarinet Concert

Sunday 12th July: 10am & 6.30pm - Services celebrating the music of Charles Wood, who died on 12th July 1926

Saturday 8th August: 6.30pm - Junior Choir Concert following Choir Camp

Saturday 12th September: 6.30pm – “An Evening at the Musicals”

Saturday 7th November: 6.30pm - Concert for Remembrance

Sunday 29th November: 6.30pm - Readings and Music for Advent

Saturday 5th December: 10.30am - 9pm - Sponsored Sing-a-thon

Sunday 20th December: 6.30pm - Nine Lessons and Carols

A New Limerick from David Fenner

What a wonderful evening – “Messiah”
With singers both lower and higher
And some in the middle
With Conductor on fiddle
And trumpet and drums to inspire.

 Hallelujah!



Disciples and Apostles - aren't we all?

On St Georges Day we found ourselves in Kendal on the edge of the Lake District paying a visit to Holy Trinity Church on the banks of the River Kent (not named after our County but Kentdale in which Kendal sits). The sheer size of the Church took our breath away as it is one of the widest in the United Kingdom with an outer North Aisle, and inner North Aisle, a Nave, an inner South Aisle and an outer South Aisle. It is very well supported and if you are wondering where the wealth came from Kendal was many moons ago the centre of the wool trade. It was enormous and in one of the four chapels the Vicar was conducting a service to remember St. George. It has been a site of worship since 850 AD and boasts a continuous run of Vicars since 1109. In chatting to the Churchwarden, he said you Apostles are welcome which gave me a hint for this month's writing.

You see there can be a tendency among some Christians to conflate the term 'disciple' and the term 'apostle', to treat them as being somehow synonymous. Sometimes you will hear people speak about the 'twelve disciples' rather than the 'twelve apostles', and, if this isn't imprecise enough, it doesn't help that the Evangelists do this too. To add another level of confusion, 'the Twelve' is a term that also needs to be carefully distinguished from both 'disciple' and 'apostle'. For instance, our Patron Saint Paul was not one of the Twelve, but he was certainly a disciple and also describes himself as an apostle. Saint Matthew is certainly one of the Twelve, but also a disciple, and an apostle, too. And he is also called an Evangelist, just to add to the confusion.

Let's clear this up. A disciple is someone who learns from a teacher. The term has a Latin root, *discere*, to learn; a *discipulus*, then, is one who learns: student, a pupil. 'Apostle' has a Greek root, *apostolos*, meaning one who is sent out for some purpose, like an ambassador. In today's Gospel reading, the Twelve are described first as disciples and in the very next verse as apostles. In their situation as learning from the Lord, they are disciples; once they are sent out by the Lord to do a job, they become apostles. So the terms 'disciple' and 'apostle' are not synonyms. I think in the context of the Holy Trinity visit then perhaps both are appropriate as explained below.

None of us reading this, of course, is one of the Twelve. Those posts have been filled, and the Twelve, whose names we see listed in the reading mentioned below, occupy a special function in the Church as the foundation stones on whom the Church is built by the Lord (Revelation 21:14); they were the first Christians, whose job it was as apostles to begin making others into disciples;

teaching others about the Lord who gave them this role. We learn elsewhere (Matthew 19:28), too, that they have a role in the judgment of the twelve tribes of Israel.

But those twelve Apostles are dead, and still the Church endures, so clearly there is some other mechanism that enables that. Though we can't be one of the Twelve, we can certainly be disciples, indeed we must be disciples. In fact, we will never cease to be disciples; to be in heaven is to be in a process of learning more and more about the infinite riches of God. So, to be a Christian is to be a disciple, and never cease to be that, whatever our other jobs might be. And being a disciple means having a thirst to know more about the things of God.

How are we to slake that thirst? The Scriptures are the first place to look, of course, but it is helpful to read them with the help of a good commentary. If we are not in the habit of regularly reading the Bible, then this is something we should start; only I wouldn't advise starting at Genesis and ploughing through to Revelation – most people get bogged down in Numbers and Deuteronomy. It's best to break it up a bit. There are good reading schemes out there which can help. Other reading is helpful too, both theology and spirituality. The Bible Reading Fellowship's New Daylight offer pint size commentaries on Scripture. Six of our Parishioners including me take these commentaries every quarter and if interested let me know. These days there are great podcasts and audiobooks that you can listen to when doing other things like driving or cooking. These things help us to understand the person whom we plan to spend eternity with; and the more we know, the more we understand, the more we love the One who is Love itself.

So, all of us are disciples. What about apostles? In the Church we are apt to speak of bishops as being the 'successors of the Apostles'. While we believe this to be true, there is surely a wider sense in which all active Christians are also called to be apostles. We seem to be experiencing something of a growing curiosity about the faith in recent years. Perhaps the Gen Z generation is one of the most unchristian and this is not an insult and not universal to everyone, what I mean is that most of our fellow-citizens know very little about our Lord and his message, and what they do know has often come through the filter of people who themselves know little but think they know a lot. The first place people will turn is to their friends whom they know to be Christian, and if one of our own friends wants to know more, we need to supply that want. If we have been good at being disciples, then perhaps we can be good apostles and make a good answer straight away. However, even if we can't, surely it's always acceptable to admit that one doesn't know

right now, but to undertake to find out and report back. The internet can be a very helpful place to get answers but beware of relying on AI – it is not always right.

So: being both a disciple – a student, and an apostle – a teacher, is the calling of every mature Christian. Let's look at ourselves and ask whether we match up. Of course we don't, but we can all always do a bit better. It reminds me painfully of my school reports 'he has the means to understand but he must apply himself' and if I am honest that is still true as I come up, this month, to my seventy ninth year. I have not given up trying.

Recommended Reading: -

Matthew 9.35 - 10.8.

Tim Cripps

St Paul's Church, Rusthall Organ Renovation Fund



Our splendid church organ needs comprehensive professional renovation.

The organ was installed in 1931. Like the best of us, many parts are wearing out. The stop and key actions need a complete overhaul. The last restoration work took place in 1994. Renovation is needed to make the organ mechanically reliable now and for future generations.

We need to raise around £350,000, a major fundraising endeavour.

Fundraising for the organ is underway, with three wonderful concerts so far. The Messiah on 4th April was a sublime evening, and raised £2652.00. The Bacchus Wind Orchestra donated £850 to the fund from the proceeds of their concert on 20th May. A further choir concert is pending on 30th May.

Please come and support the University of St Andrew's Madrigal Group, at 7.30pm on 18th June, the Grenadillas Clarinet Concert on Saturday 11th July and "I am Mark" on Saturday 18th July, performed by Stefan Smart.

Thank you for your generous donations.

We are currently focused on raising the first £100,000, which will put us in a strong position to apply for grants from funding bodies.

The Organ Renovation Fund Committee welcomes your fundraising ideas, large or small.



To donate, please scan the QR code. No amount is too small. Just point your smartphone camera at this image and you will be taken to the donation web page.

We are also grateful for your prayers, thank you.

St. Paul's Church, Rusthall Organ Renovation Fund Committee

It's not about you

London cabbies have a way of bringing their passengers down to earth, says the Times. According to his colleague, Stephen Pound, the Labour politician Bob Marshall-Andrews was once en route to Heathrow in a taxi when the driver kept looking in the mirror, before eventually pleading; "Go on, sir, give us a clue." Sensing he had been recognised the then MP obliged. "Pretty famous politician, done a lot of telly, author, senior QC. Does that help?" The cabbie replied, "Look mate all I need to know is which ***** terminal?"

Tim Cripps



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

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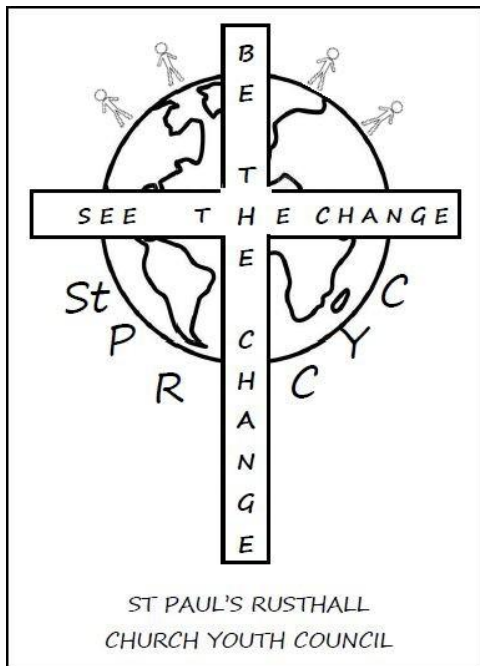
Magazine Easy Payment Methods

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.



We were lucky enough to welcome Anne Krisman Goldstein to our May meeting. Anne shared the extraordinary story of The Beacon and Happy



Valley when it became the place of refuge and hope for both Basque children and the Jewish Kindertransport after these innocent children were



rescued from their war-torn countries and horrendous danger. You could hear a pin drop in The Lodge as Anne described the fear and distress as families were separated and broken apart. Once the wars were over many could not return to their homelands, their families lost forever. The Beacon became home and these children discovered

somewhere very special and thrived on the love, care and understanding they were given. Lifelong friendships were forged and over the years many have returned to the place that saved them and gave hope amid darkness.



Six pizzas, four garlic loaves, masses of cake and twelve apples quickly disappeared as discussions and thoughts were shared. We were delighted to welcome members of our congregation to this meeting and hope they enjoyed their time with us.



One of our members is also a member of the Kent Youth Council. They are exploring the safety of women and children and would be interested to learn of any negative experiences our readers/congregation of all ages may have experienced. Please let Angela or Jean know and we will pass the information on. Please be assured that complete anonymity is guaranteed.

We have just completed our 'Cafe Weekend'. It was extremely busy and with the girls all busy, it was the boys who ran the show. Jean and I were so proud and grateful to them. Their social and organisational skills just get better and better and they fully deserved all the positive praise they received. At times it feels a bit like a comedy show but the customers clearly love them!

The book share proves ever popular and has had a big refresh. Do take a look and we are always grateful to receive any books you have particularly enjoyed.

Future events:

Thursday 4th June

Scavenger Hunt in Happy Valley

Saturday 6th June 12 noon - 3pm

Rusthall Common Fun Day. CYC are responsible for the Coconut Shy and Hook a Duck!

Thursday 2nd July

Swim and BBQ at Churchside

Summer Holidays dates tbc

Trip to Bewl Water Aqua Park

Thursday 3rd September

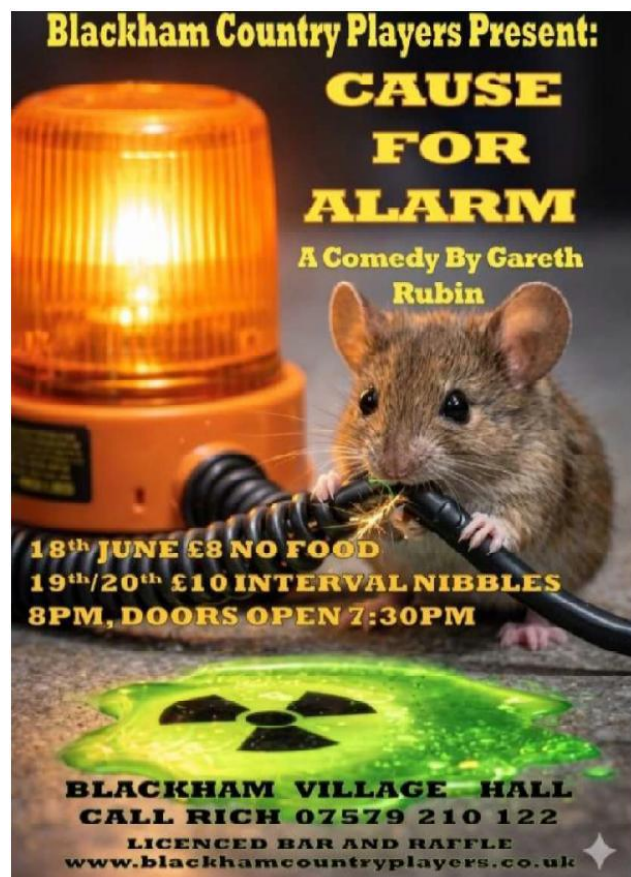
New Year, New Start. Anything is possible

New members are always welcome and Year 6 children can now join us as they prepare for secondary school.

For further information please contact either

Jean Kerr on st.pauls.cyc@gmail.com or Angela Culley on culley.angela@yahoo.com

Tim Cr



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Eulogy for Zillah Witt



14th May 1936 - 26th April 2026

Sadly we have recently lost a very long-standing member of our church, Zillah Witt, who for years could always be found at the heart of any entertainment that needed organisation or catering. At her funeral, held on 21st May, Tim Cripps gave the following eulogy.

Hello everyone, I have the honour of remembering my dear friend Zillah Witt.

Sharon and Elizabeth, Zillah's daughters, would like to thank you for joining them today. We are here to celebrate Zillah's long and happy life. She was a wonderful, remarkable, special woman who meant so much to us all. Sadly, Zillah just missed her 90th birthday.

Zillah was born at home in Little Firs Cottage, Langton Green, Kent on the 14th of May 1936. She was a daughter to Pat and Zillah Peel and joined her elder brother Eric, who was nine years older than her. They often played in the garden of the big White House on Langton Green which belonged to Miss Cockroft, where Zillah's Mum and Dad were in service as cook and gardener. Zillah was very proud of her Northumberland roots, and she was honoured to be the daughter of the former cook at Hexham Abbey and a Durham miner.

Zillah lived next door to the school and the church. As her school friend Rosemary recalled, when Zillah was 4 she used to look through the fence eager to play in the playground with the older children. She was persistent and eventually Miss Warmington, the teacher, let her come in and join in the fun.

Zillah had a wartime childhood and shared memories of evacuees at the White House, her Mickey Mouse gas mask, going down into the air raid shelter, which was dark and full of creepy crawlies not one I would have enjoyed. She also

recalled the end of rationing whilst being in the North of England at her relatives' sweet shop. Despite the second world war Zillah had a lovely childhood exploring the fields and countryside around her home. She loved Autumn and hop picking time and recalled taking refreshments out to the workers in local fields. Zillah also always loved music and played the piano. She thoroughly enjoyed playing the organ for some services at All Saints Church, Langton including weddings. Music was indeed a pleasure that remained with her all her life. That aspect of her life was something that I did know. No wonder then that Zillah was so fond of the choir here at St. Paul's and explains the lovely music chosen for the thanksgiving service today.

Following Langton Green Primary, Zillah moved to Murray House in Mount Sion. Murray House was a Church of England School and part of the foundation of Bennett Memorial, Secondary school and until recently Zillah and her school friends attended Founders' Day services. Cookery was a big part of the curriculum there, and she learnt skills that stayed with her throughout her life. She was an amazing cook—her trifles, apple pies, chicken à la Witt, and meat pies were family favourites. I am feeling hungry already. She would always support cake stalls at local coffee mornings with her Victoria sponges and coffee and walnut cakes.

During her school days, Zillah was a keen Girl Guider, enjoying camps at the top of Groombridge Hill and at Corfe Castle. She was proud of her achievements - the Bronze Medallion lifesaving qualification and her Queen's Guide Award; a letter she received from the Divisional Commissioner urged her to carry on showing 'the Guide's spirit of courtesy, friendliness and co-operation'; we all think she maintained these values through her life.

In her early teenage years Zillah joined the Langton Green Youth Club. Here she met Alan, a Rusthall lad. There are many stories from those early days, including a significant trip to Margate Dreamland where Alan took one girl with him and came back with another - Zillah! They were inseparable after that - Alan would follow Zillah's school bus home on his bike, sometimes hitching a lift on the back of the bus. Their courting days included rides on the back of Alan's scooter. Until the scooter was upgraded to a car with the number plate LKL752 or a Zillah used to call it Lead Kindly Light. Don't you just like a love story.

They became engaged at Brighton Lake and on the 14th of June 1958 Zillah married the love of her life, Alan Peter Witt in Langton Green. Janet Henson and Angela Johnson were amongst her bridesmaids, and the reception was held in Langton

Green Village Hall. Their honeymoon, a coach trip to Switzerland, came a few years later.

Married life began in Zillah's beloved home at 121 Lower Green Road, Rusthall. Zillah and Alan built some of the house—carrying bricks, turning rubble into a garden, and even signing their names in the chimney breast. They would dance on the bare floorboards in the lounge as they saved up for carpets.

Zillah had left school at 14 and followed her sister-in-law Molly to work at the telephone exchange and was proud to be a GPO telephonist - an important role which she took seriously. On one occasion she had to man the telephone lines and coordinate emergency services when a plane crashed locally. However, she did admit to sometimes listening in to Alan's conversations, especially if he was talking to other ladies—and occasionally even cutting the connection.

Sharon arrived on the 17th of March at the end of the terrible winter of 1963, which some of us here will remember well, when snow still lay piled high on the common. Elizabeth followed three years later on the 25th April 1966. With their family complete, Zillah and Alan devoted themselves entirely to family life. There are many happy memories of family holidays often by the beach in Southbourne near Bournemouth, paddling in New Forest streams or by the pool in at the Holimarine holiday camp Burnham on Sea in Somerset.

Zillah was an animal lover - and over the years had wonderful adventures with family pets - Sally, her golden Labrador, and later Topsy and Katie, her West Highland Terriers. Zillah even won an 'owner who looks most like her pet' award at the Rusthall Pet show.

Alan and Zillah had a wonderfully happy marriage full of lifelong love, friendship and laughter and celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a lovely party in the garden in June 1983. When Alan died unexpectedly in 1988 Zillah was remarkable and showed incredible resilience. He would have been so proud of how she carried on, what she learnt and what she achieved.

Friends have been very important to Zillah. She loved her trips to London, to Dallington and the farm, visits to the theatre, musicals, the Royal Marine brass band and walks in Shadwell Woods. For a lady who didn't travel widely, she was in fact well-travelled—enjoying trips on the Orient Express, travelling to Paris on Concorde with Aunty Molly and even venturing to Lapland with friends and neighbours. I remember her with Molly and Eric boarding a steam train to Winchester at Paddock Wood.

Zillah was always at the heart of village life. She was involved with the Guides, the Parent Teachers' Association, family service, and was one of the instigators of the memorable family service outings to Pevensy Bay. She threw herself into many things—reading with children at St Pauls CE Primary Rusthall and accompanying school trips; she even shared her wartime experiences as part of the children's history lessons.

Pat and I moved to Rusthall in 1980 and became fully involved with St. Paul's Church with me joining the Men's Fellowship and Pat joining the Women's Fellowship and that is how we came to know and love our dear friend Zillah. To cut a very long story short I eventually became Chairman of the Men's Fellowship with Zillah's brother Eric as Secretary. By that time Zillah was Chairman of the ladies. These days I would have to say chairperson but I always called Zillah Madam Chairman and she called me Sir Timothy.

There was close liaison between the fellowships with many joint events. Breakfasts, outings, talks, the summer barbecue, the new year party and well they were endless. In the end we ran out of men and so I went cap in hand to madam Chairman and asked if she could see any joy in an amalgamation of the Fellowships. Madam Chairman replied 'Sir Timothy I have been praying that you would ask'. So began many years of joy, magnificent fellowship and laughter. The chaps were sorry that we narrowly missed the talk on Knickers and thongs as I am sure we would have learnt much. However, we were there for Post-natal complications which I think was an eye opener for most of us. Zillah had a strong faith imposing a three-line whip on the ladies so that they could attend the Ash Wednesday service. This was always followed by her special Lenten reflections when sundry clergy were asked to come and talk to us about their personal feelings at Lent, not to mention the wonderful prayers that Zillah always began our meetings with.

There is so much I could say but things change of course and, in the end, for reasons we understood, we could not attract new members or find replacement officers and so what had given so much pleasure for many years sadly ended. Madam Chairman remarked "the trouble is we are all getting past our sell by date." Many a true word spoken in jest. Three things that I think Madam Chairman would have loved me to share with laughter. First her love of fish and chips and whenever we were considering meals it was always Madam Chairman's first choice and the committee had on most occasions to put a gentle brake on her request. However, the very last meeting of the Fellowship Committee in the Lodge across the way was enjoyed with a fish and chip lunch much to Madam Chairman's pleasure and ours. Secondly,

was that for two weeks of the year no meetings could be arranged - during Wimbledon fortnight. Madam Chairman was either there or watching minute by minute on the telly as will be mentioned. Third, I can let you into a little secret, Madam Chairman had something of a crush on Mark Norman, the BBC South East Health correspondent and indeed he came many times to speak and was excellent. I think Madam Chairman would have had him speak at every meeting given the chance. Well, Madam Chairman, dear Zillah, I thank you for the friendship and love you showed Pat and I. You were Rusthall royalty to us and through your fellowship and friendship gave us so many wonderful and happy years.

Zillah loved sport and enjoyed watching major events, like the Olympics and Commonwealth games. She particularly enjoyed her tennis and trips to Wimbledon with Susan Teubler—travelling in style in a vintage Rolls Royce and seeing Andy Murray win on Centre Court was a real highlight. When the Rolls was not available, I once drove her with Pat and Susan to Wimbledon but I could not compete with the Rolls so it was a one off albeit a hugely enjoyable day on Centre Court. Zillah also had a great love and deep knowledge of the Royal Family and enjoyed following their news.

In her later years, the family are especially grateful to Dave and Wendy, who were wonderful friends to Zillah. Dave and Zillah had a warm relationship, full of friendly banter. Zillah was always ready with advice—whether on his gardening or his driving—and that friendship meant a great deal to her. Sharon and Elizabeth are also grateful to Mavis and Rita our neighbours for their support and kindness.

Above all, Zillah was about family, friendship, and care. She always made people feel welcome, supported, and loved. To all those who offered friendship and touched Zillah's heart - we thank you.

Sharon and Elizabeth would like to say: Mum, thank you for everything—for your love, your strength, and for being the heart of our family. We will carry you with us always. We love you, and we will miss you more than words can say. It speaks for us all.

Zillah, rest in Peace and rise in Glory.

Tim Cripps





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Holmewood House Theatre, Langton Green



Voices of Yorkshire

Poems for June

These poets give voice to pain and bewilderment about our world. They remind us too of the awe and healing which is to be found in unexpected places, when we watch and listen.

Susan Barber

The Morning Paper

Read one newspaper daily (the morning
edition
is the best
for by evening you know you at least
have lived through another day)
and let the disasters, the unbelievable
yet approved decisions,
soak in.

I don't need to name the countries,
ours among them.

What keeps us from falling down, our faces
to the ground; ashamed, ashamed?

Mary Oliver

Whistling Swans

Do you bow your head when you pray or do you look
up into that blue space?
Take your choice, prayers fly from all directions.
And don't worry about what language you use,
God no doubt understands them all.
Even when the swans are flying north and making
such a ruckus of noise, God is surely listening
and understanding.
Rumi said, There is no proof of the soul.
But isn't the return of spring and how it
springs up in our hearts a pretty good hint?
Yes, I know, God's silence never breaks, but is
that really a problem?
There are thousands of voices, after all.
And furthermore, don't you imagine (I just suggest it)
that the swans know about as much as we do about
the whole business?
So listen to them and watch them, singing as they fly.
Take from it what you can.

Mary Oliver

Today's Headline

And then one day, while I read
aloud to my husband the news
and felt the widening hole in my heart,
he raised his hand to quiet me.
I followed his gaze out the window
to see in the yard a small fluffy thing
with black and white eyespots on its head.
A northern pygmy owl beside our door,
stout body slightly smaller than my fist.
It turned its neck a full half circle
to look at me with bright yellow eyes.
In an instant, I shifted from disgust
with the world to awe. Awe for this
fierce bespeckled miracle, this wonder
of feather and beak and claw. this
small being in the grass looking back
at me as if to say, *Here is also the news.*
How surprising the world can be.
How quickly, when I let it, amazement
overwrites my fear and makes
of the hole in my heart a home.

Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer



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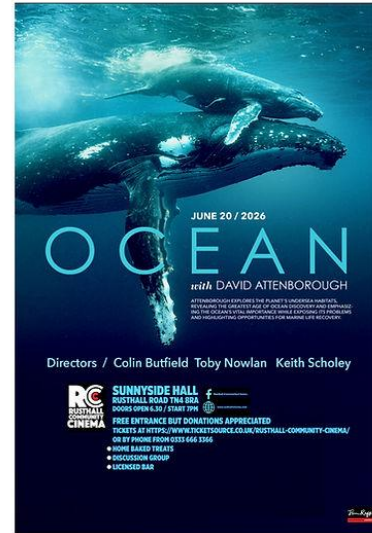
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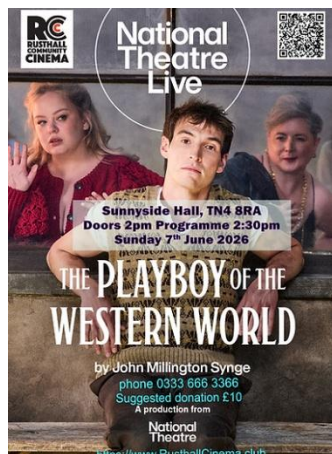


Ocean with David Attenborough (2025) Cert PG

I Swear (2025) Cert 15

Doors open: 6.30pm Saturday 6th June
 Directed by: Kirk Jones
 Genre: Biography, Drama, History
 Runtime: 2 hrs
 Starring: Robert Aramayo, Peter Mullan,
 Maxine Peake

Doors open: 6.30pm Saturday 20th June
 Director: Toby Nowlan, Colin Butfield,
 Keith Scholey
 Genre: Documentary
 Runtime: 1h 25 mins
 Starring: David Attenborough



NT Live: The Playboy of the Western World Cert 15

Doors open: 2 pm Sunday 7th June
 Written by: John Millington Synge
 Director: Caitriona McLaughlin
 Genre: Recorded live theatre
 Runtime: 2 hrs
 Starring: Nicola Coughlan,
 Éanna Hardwicke,
 Siobhán McSweeney



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RUSTHALL'S COMMUNITY LARDER

What is it?

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

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

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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.

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or telephone 07805 475397

Activity Pages

Try this **wordsearch** on items which might be found in a home. The words can be written forwards, backwards and diagonally. At the end you will be left with fourteen unused letters. These will give you two words – the first is an item which might be useful at breakfast and the second will enable you to move things around.

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

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| AIRER | BED |
| BOOKCASE | BOWL |
| BUCKET | CARPET |
| CHAIR | CHINA |
| CLOCK | CUTLERY |
| CUPBOARD | FRIDGE |
| IRON | KETTLE |
| KEYS | KNIVES |
| LADLE | LID |
| MAT | MICROWAVE |
| OVEN | PEN |
| PHONE | RADIO |
| RUG | SAUCEPAN |
| SCISSORS | SETTEE |
| SOFA | STOOL |
| TEAPOT | TELEVISION |
| TINS | TRAY |
| VASE | WARDROBE |
| WASHINGMACHINE | |

A Crossword with a difference where the last letter of each answer is the first of the next. All the answers are names of towns or cities somewhere in the world.

1										2			3
12			13							14			
	20		25							26			
11			30							31			
		24								27			4
			33										
				34							21	15	
10	19												5
										32	28		
		23		29									
	18						22						6
			17							16			
9			8							7			

Clues

1. Major city in the north-west of England
2. Capital of Morocco
3. Island linked to Trinidad
4. Capital of Norway
5. Resort town within the area of Argyll and Bute.
6. Cathedral town by the river Wensum
7. In the past, well-known for parchment manufacturing
8. Cornwall's only city
9. England's oldest university
10. Well known for its white cliffs
11. Where St Paul met his death
12. Town whose name is linked to magnesium sulphate
13. Home of the Kremlin
14. St Swithun was an Anglo-Saxon bishop here
15. Town close to the Magna Science Adventure Centre
16. Home of the famous 'Golden Triangle of Art' which includes the Prado museum
17. Capital of Bangladesh
18. Home of the Taj Mahal
19. Home of the Acropolis

20. Shakespeare's birthplace
21. Suffolk town connected with horse racing
22. Seaside resort in Devon
23. Town close to the Fleet Air Arm museum
24. Capital of Peru
25. Kentish town on the river Great Stour
26. Capital of Qatar
27. Berkshire town hosting horse racing
28. Administrative capital of the Netherlands
29. Home of the Palace of Holyrood
30. Home of our link church in Zimbabwe
31. Can be described as the gateway to Devon
32. Capital of Iceland
33. Spa town on the river Nidd
34. Famous public school

Twenty Questions to Test You

1. What article of clothing is given to winners of the US Masters Golf tournament
2. What other name is often given to cheese on toast
3. In which year could under eighteens first vote in a UK General Election
4. From which hymn does the line 'And did those feet' come from
5. Complete the saying 'A bird in the hand is worth
6. For what is Bletchley Park famous for
7. Where specifically might you find the Woolsack
8. How is Stalingrad now named
9. In Cockney rhyming slang to what does 'a basin of gravy' refer
10. Mary Ann Evans is the birthname of which novelist
11. What was the name of Queen Victoria's youngest daughter
12. How many years did the Israelites spend in the Wilderness
13. A munchkin is a breed of which animal
14. Where is Horatio Nelson buried
15. When did the mutiny on the bounty take place
16. In which book do you read of the 'delectable mountains'
17. In which country would you sit on a Chrysanthemum throne
18. Complete the words of the old song 'Oh I do like to be beside
19. Which football names has the nickname 'The Cherries'
20. In which functional suburb of London is Eastenders set.

Answer the clues in the grid and then re-sort the letters in the fourth vertical column to get the name of the Jewish Seven Day Festival commemorating the forty years of the Israelites wandering in the Desert. Any references are taken from the Good News Version of the Bible.

1							Wife of Abraham
2							Queen from this area came to visit King Solomon
3							Son of Jephunneh from the tribe of Israel (Numbers Ch 13)
4							Important mountain for Moses (Exodus Ch 19)
5							Brother of Lazarus and sister of Mary
6							Father of Esau and Jacob
7							Book in the Old Testament
8							He defeated the Midianites in Judges Ch 7
9							He, together with Deborah, was successful in battle (Judges Ch 4)
10							His strength was in his hair
11							A river in Babylon (Ezekiel Ch 1)

ANSWERS

Wordsearch based on items found in and around the house. The remaining 14 letters made up TOASTER and TROLLEY.

A Crossword with a Difference

- | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 1 Manchester | 2 Rabat | 3 Tobago | 4 Oslo | 5 Oban |
| 6 Norwich | 7 Havant | 8 Truro | 9 Oxford | 10 Dover |
| 11 Rome | 12 Epsom | 13 Moscow | 14 Winchester | 15 Rotherham |
| 16 Madrid | 17 Dhaka | 18 Agra | 19 Athens | 20 Stratford upon Avon |
| 21 Newmarket | 22 Torquay | 23 Yeovil | 24 Lima | 25 Ashford |
| 26 Doha | 27 Ascot | 28 The Hague | 29 Edinburgh | 30 Harare |
| 31 Exeter | 32 Reykjavik | 33 Knaresborough | 34 Harrow | |

Twenty Questions to Test You

- | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------|
| 1 Green jacket | 2 Welsh Rarebit | 3 1970 | 4 Jerusalem | 5 Two in the bush |
| 6 Code breaking centre in the 2 nd world war | 7 House of Lords | 8 Volgograd | 9 Baby | |
| 10 George Eliot | 11 Beatrice | 12 40 years | 13 Cat | 14 St Paul's Cathedral |
| 15 1789 | 16 The Pilgrim's Progress | 17 Japan | 18 The Seaside | |
| 19 Bournemouth | 20 Walford | | | |

The Jewish Seven Day Festival is Tabernacles and the answers to the grid questions are:

- | | | | | | |
|---------|----------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 1 Sarah | 2 Sheba | 3 Caleb | 4 Sinai | 5 Martha | 6 Isaac |
| 7 Micah | 8 Gideon | 9 Barak | 10 Samson | 11 Chebar | |

Daphne Pilcher

RUSTHALL ST PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Open days for children
starting reception in
September 2027




Part of the
Inspire
Academy
Movement
Trust



Thursday 2nd July 9.30 am
Thursday 17th September 9.30am
Wednesday 7th October 1.30pm
Tuesday 3rd November 5.00pm
Thursday 12th November 9.30am

Contact the school office to
book your place

📞 01892 520582

✉️ rusthalloffice@inspiream.org.uk

🌐 www.rusthallstpauls.org.uk

Open Mornings - Rusthall St
Paul's CE Primary School

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
Licensed Lay Minister Tim Harrold	07413805814
Churchwardens May Graves Chris Dobson	gravesmay7@gmail.com 539539
Deputy Churchwarden Graeme Anderson	532922
Parochial Church Council Secretary Mione Palmer	667951
Youth Council Angela Culley	07779 098026
Treasury and Planned Giving PCC Finance subcommittee c/o the Parish Office	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
Guides Gemma Bradley	07377 061398
Brownie Guides Karen Miller (Thurs) rusthallbrownies@btinternet.com Tina Francis (Mon)	545877
Rainbows Liz Mankelow	07840 837968
Playtime at St Paul's Liz Mankelow	07840 837968
Rusthall Lunch Club Helen Foster Richard Brook	01892 535159 01892 862677
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 Roger Barton rogerbarton@gmail.com	524795



The Parish Office

Parish Administrator - **Mrs Helen Reynolds**

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

Telephone (01892) 521447

Registered Charity in England & Wales, Number 1132681

Office email: office@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Magazine email: magazine@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Website: www.stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

The Office is open on weekday mornings (except Tuesdays) between 9 am and 2 pm.