

BELOW THE PIKE

FEBRUARY 2023

THE MAGAZINE OF THE HORWICH AND RIVINGTON TEAM CHURCHES

PRICE 70p

NEXT EDITION: March 2023 DEADLINE: February 12th 2023

PUBLICATION DATE: February 26th 2023

WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF BELOW THE PIKE IN 2023!

First of all, thank you to you, our readers, for your contributions, (more about that further on!), your subscriptions/monthly payments (more about that further on!) and your feedback.

Secondly, thank you to the Editorial Team and our distributors who work so hard to ensure you get the magazine, and to our printers, The Print Quarter, who provide such a reliable and excellent service. Everything about the magazine is a team effort—so many people involved to ensure you have a magazine to read, and hopefully enjoy and be informed.

Re contributions—as always we ask for you to send your stories/poems/photos/ congratulations/ anecdotes/puzzles/ jokes and so much more. Please keep them coming. We will be featuring new themes which we will need you to contribute to make them work! One of these is an article about your work which will be called “All in a Day’s Work”—Rev Nicola Gillard starts us off this month. So please let us read about your work, and, as with any contribution, if you aren’t comfortable writing something it can be done in interview form, please let us know. We are also trialling a slightly different layout—let us know what you think!

Re subscriptions/monthly payments—sadly, from, and including, this issue, we have had to increase the price, this is due to the printers having to sustain major increases in utility, paper and ink prices. The PCCs of the Team churches have approved the increase and we hope this won’t deter you from taking the magazine. The increase is 10p per magazine i.e. from 60p to 70p and therefore, the annual subscription for 10 issues, will be £7.00 p.a. We do hope you will agree it is still good value for money. This price is guaranteed for 2023.

There is always an electronic edition available on the A Church Near You website (details on page 2) which is free but donations would be welcome if that is your means of accessing the magazine, this would help to subsidise complimentary copies given to visitors etc.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the Editorial Team (details Page 2) or a member of the Clergy Team.

Lord of the years

At the gate of this New Year we put our hands in Yours.

As the old tide recedes,

May we plant Your footsteps in fresh sands.

May we travel with less baggage and more wisdom,
and learn from You how our journey should be. Amen.

©Ray Simpson.



IN THIS ISSUE Page 2: Church News; Below the Pike
Page 3: Monthly Musing ; World Day of Prayer **Page 4:** Namibia; Horwich Angels **Page 5:** From the Registers; Youth Report; Bells Appeal **Page 6:** Community & Forthcoming Events **Page 7:** Groups and Sessions for all ages **Page 8:** Congratulations ; Rotary YAA 2022; St Elizabeth's Appeal; Christmas 2022 **Page 9:** Prayer Corner; My Camino **Page 10:** CDOJ 2022; Cost of Living; Carolling; Repair Café **Page 11:** All in a Day's Work
Page 12: Directory

ALIVE + FREE

1st Sunday of every month — come along on:

SUNDAY 5th FEBRUARY AT 7pm AT

ST. ELIZABETH'S CHURCH, CEDAR AVENUE, HORWICH.

REFRESHMENTS SERVED FROM 6.30pm . ALL WELCOME.

We will be continuing our new series : "Fruitfulness on the Frontline" - looking at what it means to be a Christian outside of church and working on equipping us to be good disciples of Jesus and to make a difference and where we already are."

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES



FEBRUARY 22nd

9.30am St Elizabeth's—

Holy Communion

7.30pm Holy Trinity—

Holy Communion

Traditional services to mark the beginning of Lent

OUR CHURCHES

If you have any concerns for yourself or anyone else please contact:

Holy Trinity and Rivington:

Rev. Nicola Butterworth on 07706 979393

St Catherine's: Rev. Michael Behrend on 01204 697162

St Elizabeth's: Rev. Gill Smart on 01204 468271

Due to occasional necessary changes to our service format, please check our fortnightly Team newsletters in our churches or on the **A Church Near You** website for up to date information. To access our fortnightly Team Newsletter online please go to www.achurchnearyou.com/16052 for Holy Trinity; [16053](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/16053) for St Elizabeth's; [16054](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/16054) for St Catherine's and [16056](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/16056) for Rivington Church.

MIDWEEK COMMUNION A said holy communion service is held on **Wednesdays at 9.30am alternating between St Elizabeth's Church, Cedar Avenue and Holy Trinity, Church Street.**

Please check the newsletter for which church on what date.

NEED A HELPING HAND WITH YOUR DAILY DEVOTIONS EVERY NOW THEN?

The Bible in One year gives you daily inspiration from the Bible to listen to or read. Find it at: <https://bibleinoneyear.org/en/>



Lectio 365 is a daily devotional to help you pray. Find it on:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.prayer247>



BELOW THE PIKE

BELOW THE PIKE is published by the Team Council of the Anglican Churches of Horwich and Rivington. Its aim is to link the Team Churches with each other and the wider community of Horwich. The contents are not exclusively religious, but encompass any matters of Christian or local concern. Anyone who would like to make such a contribution, through the Editorial Team, is most welcome (details below). **Please be aware that the articles printed do not necessarily reflect the thoughts of the Editor or Editorial Team who are:** Editor - Margaret Broadfoot 01204 690283 or email: mbroadfoot283@btinternet.com
Nicola Butterworth (Team Rector) 07706 979393; Michael Behrend (Team Vicar) 01204 697162; Gloria Long 01204 692035; David Griffiths 01204 469621; Luca Kelly ; Ian Winnard 01204 694005



FEBRUARY
MUSING

FOUR EYES TO SEE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE
By
Bishop of Bolton Rt. Revd. Mark Ashcroft

I wonder if you ever had one of those teachers who had eyes in the back of their head and knew who was playing up even when facing the opposite direction! I think it would be handy to have four eyes in running the Christian life!



An eye to look back – November is the season of remembrance and it is helpful to look back at the saints who have helped us on the journey and the way God has been at work in our lives over the years. As Sally and I approach retirement we are incredibly grateful for the last 40 years, much of which has been spent in Manchester Diocese, and to the people we have encountered. As a teenager I had an encounter with God that led me to serve in areas of deprivation, whether in the UK or overseas, and I have been grateful to fulfil that call in some measure by God’s grace.

An eye to look up – the church year ends with celebrating Christ the King. In all the uncertainties of life around us, whether it is the immediacy of energy bills or the more long-term challenges of growing the church and fulfilling our vision to be a transforming Christian presence in the heart of every community, it is important to look to Jesus who is the Lord of the Church and the Lord over our communities. He is the King and what a King he is!

An eye to look forwards – Advent will soon be upon us as we look for the coming of Christ among us and to know His presence in our lives. The truth is that Jesus always goes before us and there are exciting times ahead for the diocese and for ourselves. A forward-looking Church is led by vision. It doesn’t forget where it has come from, but is courageous and creative about the new things that God is doing led by His Spirit. People often ask us about retirement plans, but in reality, we simply want to land and stop before discerning where God is leading us next.

An eye to look outwards – one of my hopes for myself and the Church is that we keep looking beyond ourselves to the people around us, especially the least, the lost and the last. When we turn in on ourselves we are never at our best. Jesus said that he came to seek and save the lost – He was always looking beyond himself to the will of the Father and the world he came to save. That is such a good rule of life to follow! We thank God for his blessing over the years and especially for all of you. May you know God’s blessing and the capacity to see with four eyes in the months and years to come.

(This article is from the November edition of the Diocesan magazine, CRUX. However, as February marks the retirement of Bishop Mark, it was felt appropriate for our February Musing. We wish Bishop Mark and his wife Sally, a long and happy retirement. Thank you for all you have done for us in Bolton)

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023



This year’s **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** service in Horwich will be held at **ST CATHERINE’S CHURCH** (Richmond Street BL6 5QT) on **FRIDAY THE 3rd OF MARCH AT 2pm**. It is always a beautiful service and this year’s theme is ‘I have heard about your faith.’ Our sisters in Taiwan are sending us blessings with the service they have prepared for World Day of Prayer 2023. Taiwan is an island rich in natural resources and culturally diverse. The women of Taiwan share the issues faced geographically, politically and socially and also their hopes for the future.

World Day of Prayer is an international, ecumenical, prayer movement that invites women, from a different part of the world each year, to prepare a worship service through which their hopes and fears for their country may be brought before the whole world in prayer.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world --- through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later. Let us join with the women of Taiwan, as we give thanks for the beautiful island and people of Taiwan and encourage one another in our faith just as Apostle Paul did in his letters. What a fantastic opportunity to join with people throughout the world as we pray together. Please join us.

Please feel free to bring children, the service should be finished in time for the school pick up.

NAMIBIA UPDATE—Some positive news from Namibia!

Hilya, whom some of you may remember, is the daughter of Father Lazarus, the retired minister of Okathitu Church and she has visited Horwich a couple of times and is a very enterprising business woman! She set up the Outapi bicycle workshop which went from strength to strength and then expanded into a brickmaking works and a solar light sales project. We have provided loans over the years and repayments have been made. All profits are ploughed back into the community. However, the businesses have suffered greatly due to the pandemic and poor harvests due to climate change. Therefore, despite the sad circumstances of the recent death of a member of Horwich Cycling Club, donations in Rod's memory were requested in aid of Hilya's Bicycle Workshop. As a result the magnificent sum of £330 has been sent out to Outapi and will be used to fund community bike races, the prizes for which will be vouchers for bricks, solar lights, bikes and bike parts. Some of the money will also be used to train the children how to maintain their bikes. The Namibia Committee and Hilya are extremely grateful to Horwich Cycling Club, Horwich Festival of Racing and individual donors for donations in Rod's memory while expressing their deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

The local community has also provided a BMX track, designed by Hilya for the children to use (*see photo right, we suspect the ramp may have been made with bricks from the brick making business!*)



Meanwhile, we are still asking for donations to buy food and books for the schools, it is only by education that these children will have better lives and the food keeps them alert through the day and the books expand their knowledge. Namibia Gift cards are an ideal way of donating while solving a present problem for birthdays, anniversaries, Mothering Sunday, Easter etc. Information is in each of the Team churches or speak to your Namibia rep or contact the editor of the magazine, Margaret Broadfoot (details page2). Direct donations can also be made by cheque or bank transfer through Holy Trinity Church: Horwich Parish Church A/C 10050551 Sort Code: 16-21-32 Please put your name and Namibia Food or Namibia Books as the reference. Thank you. Also, if you have books that are in good condition - no scratches, tears, scribbles etc that you would be happy to pass on to raise money for Namibia, please contact Revd. Caroline Tracey on 01204 692303.

HORWICH ANGELS

The Horwich Angels Workplace Chaplaincy for shops and businesses in Horwich Town Centre is now back up and running but with just myself (Keith) visiting staff in shops on one side of Winter Hey Lane at present. We are hoping to add to the team of volunteer chaplains here in the spring and extend the area covered to all of Winter Hey Lane and also to businesses on Lee Lane and surrounding areas.

Ways you may be able to help the chaplaincies:

- i) If you would like to join our prayer support team (by praying for the chaplaincies in your own prayer time or in your church's prayer team) please email Keith at tcc@bolton.gmim.org.uk and you will receive updates about prayer points etc.
- ii) If you would like to find out more about what's involved in being a volunteer workplace chaplain for the Middlebrook or Horwich Angels please contact Keith by email.
- iii) If you would like to support the Middlebrook and Horwich Angels financially donations can be made to our charity, Greater Manchester Industrial Mission (GMIM), using the following details: NatWest Bank, Account name: GMIM Trust, Sort Code: 01-06-39, Account no: 01057308

Many thanks for all your support,

Keith Armstrong (co-ordinating chaplain for Middlebrook and Horwich Angels)

Keith also writes that the Middlebrook Angels are still going strong—they have four chaplains supporting 80 businesses, organising Armistice service and events, 2 Lego building competitions supported by 100 entrants and they offer a listening ear and signpost staff to any services they may need.

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS & THANKSGIVINGS

We welcome to the family of the church:

6th November Amelia May Crompton
12th November Michaela Prescott
12th November Hayley Yates
27th November Thea Callaghan
18th November Maise Gillian Newton



FUNERALS

We offer love and sympathy to the relatives and friends of:

2022

7th November Keith Greeley
10th November Eric Greenhalgh
21st November Karen Milner
7th December David Williams
14th December Eric McKnight
16th December Joan Green
19th December John Lewis

2023

13th January John Shaw
16th January George Robinson
18th January Vera Miller



LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK IN 2023?



Our **YOUTH MINISTER**, Craig, is in urgent need of volunteers to help support our young people at INSPIRE on Tuesday evenings—think it could be something you could do? Contact Craig on 07926 448781 or email: craig.holdenym@gmail.com

Craig continues to work with young people in our churches,, by going into Rivington and Blackrod High School and now working with Yr 6 pupils in Primary School as they prepare to move up to Senior School. Please pray for him as he acts as a living witness to our faith for these young people in such difficult times.

WORDS OF WISDOM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE: “Don’t chase people, be your own person, do your own thing and work hard. The right people who belong in your life will come to you and stay.”

“Don’t pretend to be someone you are not, because they don’t have what you’ve got.”

“Trust your gut. If you ever feel it's not right, then it's not.”

“A smile is a free way to brighten someone’s day.”

“To have a friend, you must be a friend, starting with yourself.” *James Fisher*

DOES THIS ‘APPEAL’ TO YOU?

Holy Trinity bell ringers are looking for new recruits or returners! We have been ably supported by St Katharine’s Church, Blackrod’s ringers, but need new members. Especially to “Ring for the King “ to celebrate the Coronation in May. Interested? Please call at the entrance to the bell tower either just before 11am service on a Sunday or 7pm practise on a Thursday to find out more.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS



HORWICH HERITAGE

**THE CENTRE OPENS MON—FRI 2—4pm and SAT
10am to 12pm**

**MONTHLY MEETINGS AND GUEST SPEAKERS (free
to members, £2 for visitors)**

14th February 2023

"Gardens for Lord Leverhulme" -

Elaine Taylor

EXHIBITION:

Feb – March 2023

'Old Horwich in Maps/Photos'

email: kathleen.arkwright@ntlworld.com or ring:

General Enquiries: 01204 847797

Membership: 07789 367677

Family History: 01204 460010

**Horwich Heritage Centre, Beaumont Road, (off
Longworth Road), Horwich, Bolton, BL6 7BG**



Your Community

HORWICH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Horwich Community Centre, Beaumont Road,
Horwich, BL6 7BG Tel: 01204 668157

www.horwich.gov.uk/community_centre.html

**SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES! CRAFTS; ARTS; UPHOLSTERY;
EXERCISE; TODDLERS AND TINIES; YOUNG PEOPLE;
MORRIS DANCING; LUNCHEON CLUB; OVER 50S CLUB;
WRITING AND LOADS MORE!**

**Also—CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU monthly sessions on
the first Friday of every month at the Community
Centre 9.00am – 12.00 noon. No appointment
necessary, just turn up dates as follows: Feb 3rd,
March 3rd.**

LOOKING FOR A WARM SPACE, COMPANIONSHIP, A HOT DRINK, LIGHT MEAL ? LOOK NO FURTHER!

DAY	VENUE	TIME	INFO	CONTACT
Mon	Horwich Evangelical Church, Wright Street	12pm – 1.45pm	£3 for lunch, hot drink, entertainment. Waiting list	01204 468515
Mon	Talking Tables, Thyme Deli	10.30 – 11.30am	You purchase what you want while you sit and chat	Just turn up!
Tues	Horwich Community Centre, Beaumont Road	12 pm– 2pm	Lunch and entertainment. Small charge.	01204 668157
Tues	Horwich URC, New Chapel Lane	10am – 1pm	Brews, soup, roll, biscuits and games, quiet time	01204 696424
Wed	Rivington Church, Horrobin Lane	11am – 2pm	Peace and quiet, a space for prayer, a cuppa + chat.	
Wed	St Elizabeth's Church, Cedar Avenue	11am – 2pm	Brews, soup or sometimes stew, cakes, games & chat	07967 585670
Wed	The Bridge, Rock Street	9.30am – 12.30pm	Warm welcome and a cuppa	01204 361704
Wed	St Mary's Church, Chorley New Road		Luncheon Club	01204 468209
Wed	St John's Methodist Church, Victoria Road	10.30am – 2.30pm	Food, chat, games and craft	Tel: 07581 181862
Wed	Horwich Community Centre, Beaumont Road	9.30am – 3.30pm	Hot drink, toast and soup	01204 668157
Thurs	Horwich Parish Church (Holy Trinity), Church Street	11am – 2pm	Brews, soup, sandwich, cake, biscuits games and chat	01204 690283
Thurs	Horwich Spiritualist Church, Chorley New Rd	10am	Warm Space	Tel: 07840 240504

Horwich Parish Wiggle Tots



Wiggle Tots ,introducing Wiggle the Bible Bookworm, with crafts, stories, singing and of course toast and drinks served by our wonderful kitchen angels, Kathryn and Susan!
Come and join us **Mondays 9 – 11am** term-time only, upstairs in the **Parish Hall, Church Street.**
£2 for drink and toast.

MESSY CHURCH



Messy Church normally meets on the fourth Saturday of the month this time on **February 25th.** We meet from **4—6pm** in **St Elizabeth's Church Hall, Cedar Avenue, Horwich.** There will be themed fun, experiments, singing, food, crafts, activities! **All FREE!** Why not visit: **MESSY Church Horwich - Home | Facebook** Any queries please contact Rev Gill at: revgillsmart@gmail.com



BEER AND CHAT We usually meet weekly on **Wednesdays** via zoom as a way to catch up with people. It normally starts at **7.30pm until about 9.30pm** but you can drop in and leave when you want. We talk about all sorts of topics. **Beer isn't compulsory; tea, juice, wine, gin whatever is your choice.** If you would like to join us please email Gill Smart revgillsmart@gmail.com for the Zoom code. We are a friendly and chatty bunch.

FEELING CRAFTY?



Our craft meetings are held on the **first Thursday of each month— 1-30 pm AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH.** Just come along with your craft and enjoy yourself in like minded company.

HORWICH PRAYER HOUSE

Horwich Prayer House is an informal monthly meeting for Christians across Horwich to come together from all the fellowships in Horwich to pray. The mission is very simple - To pray for and encourage each other, to pray for the church in Horwich and to pray for revival in our town. **3.30pm-4.30pm.** We meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month and the next dates are: **19th Feb and 19th March.** We hope to see you at our house soon **Vale Farm Cottage, Vale Avenue, Horwich, BL6 5RG.**

TIME4TWOS

St Catherine's Time 4 Two's parent and toddler group is a time where, within a warm and friendly environment, children and parents together can make new friends while enjoying a range of activities that are fun and enjoyable while helping children to become school ready. **We meet each Friday during school term times starting at 10.30am and finishing by 12.15pm.**



Children aged between 2 and 5 years are invited together with their parents/carer so please pass the word around and keep an eye on the Time 4 Two's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StCatherinesHorwich/>

OPEN DOOR

Usually 2nd Thursday of the month. All welcome in the **Narthex at Holy Trinity Church at 7.30pm.** £3.00 per evening including refreshments.



A variety of speakers and outings throughout the year so please come along.

Next meeting: Feb 9th

'Through the eye of a magician' Peter Turner

TUESDAY PRAYERS

We are a small group who meet over Zoom on **Tuesdays at 7.30pm (not 1st Tuesday of the month)** to pray for mainly local and personal issues but also include national and international issues when needed. For more information or if you would like to join us contact Rev Gill at revgillsmart@gmail.com



CONGRATULATIONS

Belated December birthday greetings to Lynda Gent, on her 60th and Grace Gillard on her 18th, also to Kay Holdsworth, who celebrated her 80th in January. Freya Corlett, Marie Green and Sylvia Morris also celebrated January birthdays. February happy birthdays to Revd Michael Behrend and Lyn Mitchell.



HORWICH ROTARY YAA AWARDS 2022



Congratulations to the thirty young people who achieved these awards at the Achievement Level or the Higher Achievement Level. They included a wide variety of talents and skills: singing; karate; swimming; drumming; gymnastics; dance; Irish dancing; rock music; photography; wrestling; ballet; electric guitar; trampolining; tennis; performing arts and musical theatre and many more. So much talent in our young people and the awards will help towards costs incurred to develop their skills, including equipment and training. Well done to them all and to Horwich Rotary for giving them the opportunity to progress further.

ST.ELIZABETH'S CHURCH ARE HOPING TO IMPROVE THE ENTRANCE TO THEIR BUILDING FUNDRAISING SUGGESTIONS AND DONATIONS WANTED!

A lot of money has already been raised but still a way to go to reach the amount of £110,000 (and rising) needed. All donations no matter how small are welcome and even free loans. Please speak to the clergy or wardens if you have fundraising ideas or need more information..

The front entrance needs remodelling to allow better access for all and replace the doors to meet regulations and make them weatherproof. **Offers of donations or interest free loans can be made via Bank details: St Elizabeth's PCC, Sort Code 01-04-35, a/c number 74765019, payment reference 'Building Fund'**

CHRISTMAS 2022—

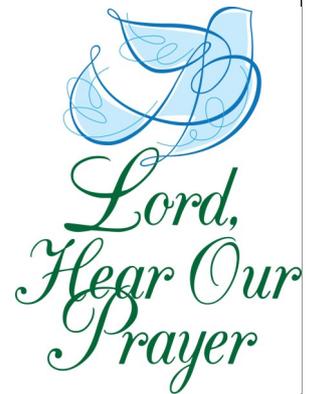


Clockwise from right:
St Catherine's Nativity
Seniors Christmas Tea;
Christingle;
Two photos of
Rivington's Nativity;
Holy Trinity Christingle



FEBRUARY PRAYER CORNER - Please pray for:

- An end to conflict everywhere, within families, workplaces, internationally—internally and between countries, especially Russia and Ukraine as we approach the first anniversary of this devastating conflict.
- A long term, workable solution to the problems within the NHS
- Those who are apprehensive about returning to church after the pandemic, give them the reassurance that all will be well.
- People suffering with mental health issues when there is a shortage of help and support.
- The homeless, particularly during the cold and wet winter months. May there be help, support, a friendly gesture and eventually a permanent home for them.
- Giving thanks for our families and friends and the hope that God's love gives to us.



MY CAMINO MAY 2022 by GARY COOPER

“Buen Camino” – the words that bring a big smile to my face and so many happy memories. It does not matter what language you speak everyone knows “Buen Camino” – it is universal and means “Good Way” and is the greeting that all “Peregrinos” (Pilgrims) greet each other with on the Camino and what significance it has on all “Peregrinos” on the “Way of Saint James” on the full Camino Frances from Saint Jean Pied de Port to Santiago de Compostela (a total of 527 miles all the way over the Pyrenees in Southern France west all across Northern Spain to the Atlantic Coast!!)



On the first morning in Saint Jean Pied de Port you make your way to the “Pilgrim’s Office” (*pictured left*) to register for your “Credential del Peregrino” (Pilgrim’s Credential) known as your Pilgrim’s Passport. Getting this stamped at the Albergues, Hostels, churches and other landmarks you pass as proof of your walk and is an important part of your “Camino”.

The thirty-four days it took me to complete the “Camino” were physically the hardest thing I have done in my life but also one of the most memorable and rewarding. I started my walk (“Camino”) on my own in Saint Jean Pied de Port but was never lonely as I met so many “Peregrinos” on my “Camino”, from the American continents, Europe and closer to home, East Anglia and Yorkshire and

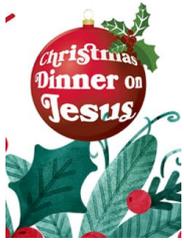
so many more who I had the pleasure of sharing conversations, thoughts, experiences, stories and friendship with.

There are so many highlights of the “Camino” that I will never forget and it is impossible to narrow these down but here are some of the outstanding ones:

- The loveliest ancient octagonal Church of Santa Maria de Eunete near Puenta la Reina
- The “Auto del Perdou” monument to the Pilgrims (Iron Figures) on top of a 770-metre-high ridge with tremendous views overlooking Pamplona. Coded in its name “the height of forgiveness” clearing the Pilgrims of the burdens they have carried up to this point
- “The Bodegas Irache Wine Fountain” just outside Estella that flows with water and wine symbolising the first miracle that Jesus performed. It has become a relatively new tradition for “Peregrinos” to fill their Scallop Shell (*pictured right*, which has become a symbol of the Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela since medieval times) and have a drink of wine that will send them on their way and ensure they complete their “Camino”
- Standing inside the amazing 12th Century Gothic San Anton Monastery ruins near Hornillos del Camino where you walk as the Camino romantically passes under one of the monastery’s half crumbled arches.
- The stunning beautiful Cathedrals of Burgos, Leon and Logrono
- The amazing 13th Century long nineteen arched medieval Bridge at the entrance to Puenta del Paso Houroso
- Watching sunrise/sunset at O’Cebreiro giving you some of the most spectacular views of the whole “Camino”(to be continued next month. There is a moving but uplifting DVD available of the film “The Way” which stars Martin Sheen as a father walking The Way in memory of his son)



CHRISTMAS DINNER ON JESUS 2022 (CDOJ 22)



What a fantastic result! Urban Outreach delivered 1,955 hampers which fed 6,146 people who would not have had a Christmas dinner without the kindness of strangers donating goods and time by filling and delivering the hampers. Bolton (including Horwich!) does it again!

And in those hampers were the After Eight Mints you all so kindly donated. The slight shortfall of the 1,000 we had hoped to donate was made-up with a financial contribution from the team churches. And a huge thank you too, to our church members who helped with packing and delivering the hampers, but also deliver food boxes on a weekly basis.

COST OF LIVING CRISIS—THERE IS HELP OUT THERE

We have been inundated by news, articles etc about this and it is a worrying fact of our current lives.

Please know that there is no stigma in asking for help and advice—it is out there and there are people willing to give or show you where you can get help:

Bolton Guild of Help on 01204 524858 or

info@theboltonguildofhelp.org.uk

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Bolton tel: 0800 328 0006 Monday to Thursday 9:30am to 5pm and Friday 9:30am to 3:30pm **Calls are free from landlines and mobiles in the UK.**

Benefits at <https://www.bolton.gov.uk/benefits> or phone 01204 333333 and ask for benefits advice.

Apparently there are millions of pounds of unclaimed Pension Benefits —many people don't think they are entitled to them but may well be—it's worth a try! These include **Pension Credit; Warm Homes Discount; Carers Allowance; Attendance Allowance** and many more.

AND ON THAT SUBJECT: URBAN OUTREACH NEED YOUR HELP donating dried and tinned food, toiletries etc (money is also gratefully received) for the Grub Tubs which can be found in each of our churches. Although we are all having to count the pennies please look to your hearts and purchase one or two extra items for the Grub Tubs, when you are shopping. There is also **HORWICH MINI HUB** serving the people of Horwich, similar list of goods to that above, any of which can be left with **Christine at New Chapel Lane Post Office** or phone **Peter Wright on: 07824 528502.**

CAROLLING FOR CHRISTIAN AID



An intrepid group of carol singers braved the cold just before

Christmas to raise money for Christian Aid. They were welcomed into three pubs and also joined by passers by! They raised the magnificent sum of £119.15—well done for sharing the Christmas spirit.

HORWICH REPAIR CAFÉ

There are branches of Repair Café in many towns.

We now have one in Horwich based at

St Elizabeth's Church Hall, Cedar Avenue,

1.30—3.30pm on the third Saturday of

the month—

February 18th 2023



Anyone can bring a broken item and our volunteers will have a go at repairing it. Our volunteers have a large variety of skills. We are not aiming to undercut local shops and tradespeople. We often suggest that bigger repairs should be done by them. We do not charge for repairs we simply ask for a donation. Do you have something broken? Save the planet, don't bin it, let us have a look at it. **Any questions phone Mike Williams 01204 667162.**

FEBRUARY'S TOP TIP: Rather than throwing it away, how about using the inner wrapper from cereal boxes, rinsed, and opened out if necessary, to wrap food items such as sandwiches or items for the fridge or freezer? A lot cheaper than cling film or foil. **SEND US YOUR TOP TIPS FOR THE COMING MONTHS!**

ALL IN A DAY'S WORK—OUR NEW SERIES FINDING OUT ABOUT PEOPLE'S WORK LIFE

Revd Nicola Gillard writes about Bridging Community and Church. “Just over eight years ago, my attention was drawn to a role in the Children and Families’ Team at Urban Outreach, Bolton. After a few ‘Godly nudges’ and some prompting by church friends I decided to apply to work on a project named Family First which was part of the government’s Troubled Families Programme. Little did I know that this was to become the start of an exciting journey encompassing both mission in community and a journey towards ordination.

Family First was the first national, systematic approach to driving real change in outcomes for families with multiple problems and to change the services that worked with them. Families who participated saw significant improvements in their lives, with children back in school, reduced youth crime and anti-social behaviour, and for many families, adults into work. To be a part of the scheme was challenging and yet rewarding. I have always considered it a privilege to walk a journey with a parent or young person. At times, I was able to be involved in realising positive change and at other points I could stand in the gap for people and be the hope they needed until they could hold that hope for themselves.

The Urban Outreach Mission is to meet the needs of children, young people, families and individual adults through professional practice and the delivery of high-quality services by specialist support staff and volunteers, as a practical expression of the Christian faith. The support we provide is based on the needs of the whole person: physical, emotional, intellectual, social and spiritual. I delighted in being able to invest in community and witness to God’s love in action.

As time progressed, I became the Children and Families’ Team leader and currently oversee two Children and Family projects. The first is RUNA (*Remember You Are Not Alone*). This is a partnership scheme with Bolton Council and Greater Manchester Police wherein we offer an independent return interview to every child who is reported missing from home in Bolton. Our endeavour is to hear ‘the voice of the child’ and provide a bespoke response to their circumstance. This is a busy responsive project dealing with approximately 120 young people per month with a variety of issues ranging from low level behaviour challenges to significant safeguarding concerns such as substance abuse and child exploitation.

Our second project is RISE (*Reaching Inside and Strengthening Emotions*) wherein we are commissioned to work with 50 young people per year. RISE provides therapeutic interventions for emotional wellbeing and regulation in children. This involves sessional work which may include the exploration of: anger management/triggers; self-esteem/ value; relationships; health and wellbeing; anxiety; understanding emotion; developing an emotional health tool kit; cognitive behaviour therapy and goal setting. This is also a partnership programme with Bolton Together, a voluntary and community sector consortium.

Partnership is a key element of the Children and Families’ work and there is ongoing contact and liaison with Schools and Pupil Referral Units, Voluntary Agencies, Health Providers, Social Care, Bolton Council, Local Businesses and Churches.

As I developed in mission and leadership, I became more aware of God’s call on my life to serve in a wider context. I was generously supported by the Horwich and Rivington team to explore ordination and, after being accepted, trained for 3 years at All Saints Centre for Mission and Ministry. It was hard work at times – working alongside studying, experiencing bereavement, and supporting family but God showed His love and care by His empowering Spirit. I am now serving my curacy in the team and feel an ongoing call to bridge community and church. This gives me great joy and I consider it an honour to serve within church and I love being a part of Urban Outreach. Thank you to all who have supported me. I give glory to God. “



He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field” Luke 10 v.2

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, Church Street, Horwich BL6 6AA:

SUNDAY SERVICES:

2nd and 4th Sundays: 8am Holy Communion
Every Sunday: 9.15am Informal Worship (occasional United Services at 10am)
1st and 3rd Sundays: 11am Holy Communion
2nd and 4th Sundays: 11am Morning Prayer
Weekdays: Alternate Wednesdays of the month: 09.30am Holy Communion

RIVINGTON PARISH CHURCH, Horrobin Lane, Rivington, BL6 7SE:

SUNDAY SERVICES:

1st Sunday: 11am Family Service
2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday: 11am Holy Communion BCP (with occasional service of Morning Prayer)
Weekdays: Last Saturday of the month 10.30 a.m. Matins
Forest Church will be back! Watch this space!

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH, Richmond Street, Horwich, BL6 5QT:

SUNDAY SERVICES all at 10.45am

1st Sunday: Sunday Worship with Communion
2nd Sunday: Informal Worship
3rd Sunday: Sunday Worship
4th Sunday: Sunday Worship with Communion

ST. ELIZABETH'S CHURCH, Cedar Avenue, Horwich, BL6 6EU:

SUNDAY SERVICES:

1st Sunday: 8.30am BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Pulse
7pm Alive+Free
2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays: 9.30am Holy Communion (occasional service of Morning Worship)
Weekdays: Alternate Wednesdays of the month: 09.30am Holy Communion
Church Hall Bookings: Sharon McGovern: 07854 430010 or sharonchbookings@yahoo.com

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT GROUPS FOR: BABIES; TODDLERS; YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS PLEASE SEE THE RELEVANT PAGES IN THE MAGAZINE.

THE MINISTERIAL TEAM

Team Rector: Nicola Butterworth
07706 979393 Email: n.butterworth@outlook.com
Team Vicar: Michael Behrend
01204 697162 mail: m.behrend@ntlworld.com
Minister in Secular Employment :
Nicola Gillard 01204 227648
Email: nicola.gillard@talktalk.net
Associates: Peter Harley 01204 694611
Email: revpdh@hotmail.com
Caroline Tracey 01204 692303
Email: caroline.tracey@gmail.com
Gill Smart 01204 468271
Email: revgillsmart@gmail.com
Honorary:
Glenda Bush 01204 691539
Brenda Craston 01204 699972
David Griffiths 01204 469621
Michael Williams 01204 667162
Readers:
David Hawes 01204 693727
Dr Ron Knott 07719 274700
Youth Minister:
Craig Holden 07926 448781
Email: craig.holdenym@gmail.com

THE TEAM CHURCHES:

Holy Trinity

Church Wardens: Chris Knowles 07833290498
Grenville Hartley 01204 279365
Treasurer: Lesley Greenhalgh 693973
Secretary: Susan Kerr 692760

Rivington

Church Wardens: Peter Holden 01257 482451
David Hawkins 07710 563678
Treasurer: David Hawkins 07710 563678
Secretary: Brenda Craston 699972

St. Catherine's

Church Wardens: Ian Winnard 694005
Kath Jackson 770598
Treasurer: Vacancy
Secretary: Ian Winnard 694005

St. Elizabeth's

Church Wardens:
Graham Smith 699875
Sharon Sharrocks 07854 130010
Treasurer: Richard Skidmore 693415
Secretary: vacant post

BAPTISMS: Initial enquiries for baptisms to Emma Shawcross:

horwichandrivingtonbaptisms@gmail.com

WEDDINGS: Initial enquiries for weddings to Revd. Caroline Tracey 01204 6923903 or email: caroline.tracey@gmail.com