

*The Magazine*  
of  
*St Paul's Church, Warton*  
~Serving Christ ~ Serving the Community~



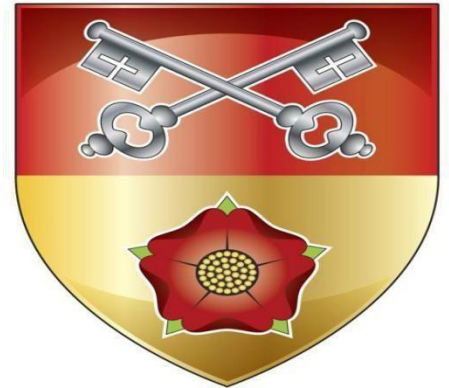
February 2024



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# Church Contacts

THE  
DIOCESE  
OF  
BLACKBURN



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**Link Parish - Timmerlah**  
**in the Diocese of Braunschweig,**  
**Lower Saxony, Germany**



**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent**

**09.45 Parish Eucharist**

Wednesday	7 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Holy Communion
		12.00-	Foodbank
		15.00	
Saturday	10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	<b>St. Paul's Little Cafe</b>

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday next before Lent**

**09.45 All Aboard**

Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	13.30	WI in Village Hall
Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Holy Communion for
			<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
		12.00-	Foodbank
		15.00	



**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Lent 1**

**09.45 Parish Eucharist**

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Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	19.00	History Society in Village Hall
Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	09.30 12.00- 15.00	Holy Communion Foodbank
Saturday	24 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	<b>Holy Trinity Coffee Morning</b>

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Lent 2**

**09.45 Parish Eucharist**

Tuesday	27 <sup>th</sup>	19.30	MU in Village Hall
Wednesday	28 <sup>th</sup>	09.30 12.00-	Holy Communion Foodbank
Thursday	29 <sup>th</sup>	19.30	<b>Men's Pint Night</b>

The **DEADLINE**  
for articles for the  
**FEBRUARY** magazine is  
**FRIDAY,**  
**FEBRUARY 16<sup>th</sup>**

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## My dear friends,

I remember a poem which is apparently about a boy who didn't want to go to school. That is until the last two lines which go:

“Well, you're forty, you fool.  
Besides it's your job,  
you're the head of the school.”

So I thought I would write a similar one about a vicar, definitely not our vicar, of course, and not our church either. It is called.....



### I Don't Want to go to Church

“I won't go to church. I'm staying in bed  
I'm comfortable here so I'll stay here instead.”  
“Come, come,” said his mother, “It's twenty past eight.  
You need to get up or you're going to be late.”  
“Well, I'm not going. I don't think it's fair.  
And nobody really cares if I'm there.  
The sidesmen are bossy - they think they're the police  
And nobody's comfortable sharing the Peace.  
The prayers are too long and the sermons are boring.  
I'm quite sure last week I heard somebody snoring.”  
“Hurry up,” said his mother. “You need to be quicker.  
You've got to be there. After all - you're the Vicar!”

After the pleasure of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, things can seem a bit flat when it comes to February and the congregations tend to be slightly smaller. When the mornings are cold and still rather dark it takes more effort to get up and go to church.

On Monday afternoons, we have a Prayer Meeting, for the Ministry Team and anyone else who would like to join us. I must admit that coming off the tennis court at about quarter past three, the thought of a leisurely shower, a cup of tea and a biscuit is more appealing than a rushed shower and a meeting in Freckleton Church. But I have always been glad that I went.

That, I think is an important point, and it is up to the Ministry Team to make sure that when people do come to church they feel that it has been worthwhile. The days when people would go anyway even if the church was cold and draughty and the minister droned on about some minor theological point are well in the past. Church isn't an entertainment but people should go away feeling that they were glad they had gone.

Back in December, we had a lovely Advent Carol Service. Unfortunately, it was rather badly attended, quite understandably, as it was wet, windy and icy so actually quite risky for anyone not too steady on their feet. However, I remember an Advent Carol Service in the past, taken by someone who did not prepare services as meticulously as our present vicar, when someone who is usually very complementary about church services came out and commented, "Well, that was dire," echoing my own thoughts exactly!

So it is important that the Ministry Team make people feel glad that they have come to church.

However, the congregation have their part to play too. The service will go much better if the congregation sing and join in the prayers and responses enthusiastically.

So hope to see you in church, even in February, and hope that you go out feeling glad that you had made the effort to go.

Yours in Christ,

*Grace*

# MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL 2024

## Correction Notice

Please note that the renewal subscription for St Paul's church magazine for 2024 is £10 (**not £8 as stated in last month's magazine**). In 2023 we increased the charge from £8 to £10, because of the rising cost of paper.

However, we are maintaining the charge **at £10 for 2024**.

Thank you for supporting St Paul's church through subscribing to our monthly magazine.

### HOW TO RENEW

We are trying to reduce the amount of cash that we handle so the **preferred option** to pay your 2024 subscription is via by **bank transfer** to the church new **Lloyds bank account**. The details are as follows:

Name: PCC St. Pauls Parish Warton  
Sort code: 30-99-50  
Account No: 64364868



**N.B.** So that the treasurer knows **who** has paid by this method please include the **first line of your address** as the **payment reference**: e.g. **11ChurchRd**

Also please ask your deliverer to record that you have **paid directly**.

**NB** If you paid by this method last year, please ensure that you **update the church's bank details** as our old **RBS account is now closed!**



If you are unable to pay for the subscription renewal by bank transfer, your magazine deliverer is still able to accept **cash** or a **cheque** made payable to '***PCC St Pauls Parish Warton***'

**Ian Fraser**

**Treasurer, PCC Warton St Paul**

### **GDPR CONTACT SHEET**

Many thanks for those of you who filled in the Data Protection contact sheets for me. They've been really helpful when I've needed to get in touch with people. I'm hoping at some point going forwards to be able to e mail information out weekly such as the pew sheet, diocesan news etc. If you haven't already filled one in, please grab one from the back of church, or ask me or a church warden for one and let me have it back so I can keep my records up to date. I'm not allowed to store your personal information without your consent.

### **KEEPING ME UP TO DATE**

Many thanks for letting me know when people have been ill or in hospital or are house bound and in need of sick communion etc. It's meant I have been able to pray for them, phone, visit them at home or in hospital or set up visits from the hospital chaplaincy team. Please keep on letting me know, I'd always rather know from 2 or 3 people than not at all.

**Rev Tracy**

## WARDEN'S NOTES

I start my report this month with some marvellous news about our Academy which has had an excellent Statutory Inspection Report (SIAMS) on its role as a Faith School. I am certain that all St Paul's people will want to join me in congratulating the Head, her dedicated staff members, Governing Committee and their chairman on this well-deserved accomplishment.

It was so good to see so many of the Braithwaite family at the rededication by Rev Tracy, of the Side Chapel, now beautifully restored in memory of Barbara who played such a great role in the life of our church over many years. The serious condition of the roof meant it had to be closed and became a storeroom for displaced items during the essential repair work. It is now regularly used and appreciated, especially by the Wednesday Holy Communion congregation and our sincere thanks go to Ray for his generosity.

As ever, the annual service of nine lessons and carols was hugely enjoyable in the beautifully decorated church. Thanks must go to our director of the (augmented) choir, organist, Stewart, for leading us so inspiringly and the lovely, special musical items. This was followed by the traditional mince pies, mulled wine and 'Grand Christmas Draw' with all the prizes generously donated by our own people. These events don't just come about, they involve a lot of effort by wonderful volunteers who unfailingly agree to, for instance, read lessons and help in so many way to remove any anxieties I would otherwise have. My sincere thanks to you all, and a reminder that **everybody** can help in some way -all year round.

Once more the joyful expectation of the coming of our Saviour was conjured up in differing ways with the lovely Crib service on Christmas Eve. As always, the main characters of the lovely Crib scene were presented by the children who tenderly carried the figures to be placed in the 'stable'. Later in the evening we met again for the first Holy Communion of Christmas about which no words of mine are adequate.

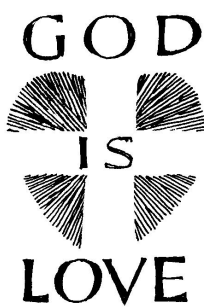
Finally, I thank Rev Tracy for her vital part in all the above. We must not underestimate the workload she has with the two Benefice Parishes to run and at St Paul's we have truly welcomed the many things she does for us.

All the very best for 2024.

*AUDREY*



**FROM THE REGISTERS  
St Paul's Warton**



**Holy Baptism**

**Holy Matrimony**

**Funerals**

Wendy Cummings  
10<sup>th</sup> January 2024



*St Paul's Little Café*



*Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February*

*10.00 - 12.00*

*All Welcome*

# St Paul's Little Cafe – A New Year Dawns

10 o'clock on the second Saturday of January and we opened the doors of St Paul's Little Cafe, almost a year to the day since we restarted the cafe after the Covid pandemic. Unlike last year, when it was dull and drizzly, the weather was dry and cold, but the Church was warm and soon very busy with all the tables occupied and a queue of hungry customers.

To see the Church full of people chatting and enjoying each others' company with the buzz of conversation drowning out the background music is one of the main reasons for running the cafe. It is always difficult to estimate how many people join us, but on Saturday it was certainly at least sixty, and not all of them were members of our usual congregation. Welcoming new people into our beautiful Church and spreading the Christian message of hospitality are other good reasons for running the cafe.



It makes for a very hectic 2 hours, especially for Linda and Alison slaving away behind the servery and trying not to keep the queue waiting too long; but a lot of effort is required behind the scenes. Cooking of fresh scones plus the bacon and sausages starts around six o'clock in the morning, having done the shopping and set up the cafe layout in the Church the day before.

During the morning, while Jack, Simon and Mike are bustling around in their 'Herdy' designer aprons; unseen by most, the 'washer-uppers' [ usually Al and Barbara ] are up to their elbows in suds, keeping up the essential supply of clean cups and plates the cafe could not run without them. Inevitably, after the doors are closed at twelve o'clock, the Church has to be put back to normal for the Sunday service.

Raising money at the cafe is not a principal objective; we want to use our building to boost friendship and social life, not just within our church family, but in the wider community. However, the generosity of our patrons over the last year has realised approaching £2000, not counting the magnificent £779 raised for Macmillan Cancer Support in October – thank you everyone. This fabulous sum will not be ‘lost’ in the general church accounts but will be reserved for improvements in our lovely Church and perhaps some of the ‘nice to have’ things, for example, the large tree we have at Christmas.

The next Cafe is planned for the 10<sup>th</sup> February, between 10.00 and 12.00. Bring a friend – or just come along and make some new ones!

***Mike Willetts*** - on behalf of the Cafe Gang

I'm sure that all of us who have been to the Cafe appreciate enormously the hours of preparation and hard work that is freely given to enhance our church life.

We are so lucky to have many talented, skilled and generous people among us, who are willing to share those attributes. Thank you - everyone.

If you haven't been to the cafe - **DO GO!** Support our events and at the same time - **ENJOY!**

***[Ed]***



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It was with great sadness that on the 10 January, we said our farewells to Wendy Cummings, a dear friend to many of us. I have tried to capture the many outpourings of love and affection to a very special lady:-



“ Wendy was a much loved member of the Mother’s Union and also a long standing member of the World Day of Prayer Committee. I always saw Wendy as a very caring lady with a cheerful personality. She always had time to talk and to listen. Thank you Wendy for your friendship for many years and of course all the laughs we shared”. ( June Wilkins ).

“We both want to say what a privilege it has been for us to know Wendy. She was a very special person and a dear friend to both of us” ( Audrey and Colin Charnley ).

“ I will miss you so much Wendy, my second mum/aunty Wendy. So glad to have called you a dear friend. Our family are deeply saddened by you passing. Glad you are at peace RIP”. ( Alison Eccleston-Preen ).

“So sad to be there to say a fond farewell. It will never be the same without you – your love and special cards, the way you called me Kathleen Mary and I called you Wendy Margaret – our little joke!! Thank you for always leaving special gifts for my mum. I will always love you and never forget you”. (Kate Parker).

“What a wonderful woman, who has played a central role in Warton for so many years. She has been there my whole life as an inspiration as to how to show love and support for others”. ( Emma Hopkins ).

“ Rest in peace Wendy Margaret, you will be very much missed. Thank you for always being there”. (Kathy Baptist).



“So glad to have known you”. ( Deborah Cherry ).

“ We will miss you so much Wendy. I will hold you dearly in my heart forever. So many happy memories of our chats in the car, on our way home from church. It won't be the same without you. Heaven has gained a special angel”. ( Vicky Willetts ).

“ Happy memories of Wendy. She was so kind to my late mother by delivering pot plants etc. Always taken on the bus and a walk to Naze Court and then the Old Vicarage”. (Margaret Jacob).

Wendy was an active member of the Mother's Union and took responsibility for making sure we had supplies of tea, biscuits and milk for our monthly meetings. She also shopped around to get a bargain for our raffle prizes. Everything you did was greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Love and kind regards

**Urmilla**



## # 1 of a series of articles on charities we love



Number 4, Dock Road, Lytham looks like a fairly ordinary office block but in fact, behind the door you will find compassion and respect and if you are 16 to 25, a welcoming home.

This is the YMCA Harbour House and it is home to 12 young people, who, through no fault of their own, find themselves homeless. I spoke with Kerry and Aimee, who both work there, to find out more about this building so close to where we live and about which we seem to know so little.

There are 12 self-contained flats within the building and young people come here either through the care system or through Fylde Borough Council. However they arrive, it surely must be initially a time of distress and disorientation.

There are, at the moment, equal numbers of boys and girls & all flats are occupied. Staff are on duty round the clock and there is an atmosphere of love and caring. The young residents have their own keys and are taught life skills such as good communication; getting along with their mates & neighbours; speaking to other agencies; budgeting their own money and spending it wisely. You'll remember we donated Easter eggs and Christmas parcels last year... they were grateful & loved the hats so much that many of them wear them even indoors. They say it helps keep down their heating costs.

There is also a common room in the building where they can get hot drinks and snacks and hang out and there is always someone on hand to help or give advice & guidance. I asked Kerry what St Paul's church could do to support their work and she thought the following would be good:

- tea, coffee, sugar, UHT milk & snacks for the common room
- hats (but not other clothing)
- hot water bottles
- toiletries
- bric a brac /ornaments for their rooms
- plates, dishes, cutlery (maybe you're having a Spring clean soon)
- but especially TREATS!

Young tenants are not welcome by private landlords and, as we know, there is a dire shortage of affordable rental property in the Fylde. Many private landlords demand a "guarantor" in case a tenant fails to pay their rent and without the bank of Mum & Dad, it's impossible to find one. Aimee hoped that somewhere there may be a compassionate landlord who would give one or two of these young people a new start in life and a chance to have a home to call their own.

Both Kerry and Aimee said they want to send thanks to St Paul's church for what has been done so far. Their young people say that it means so much to know that someone out there cares about them and wants the best for them.

With that in mind, I asked whether this year they would prefer Easter eggs or ( with more chocolate ) maybe chocolate biscuits. They opted for Easter eggs but, as I left, a thought came to me...why not, this year, **BOTH??**

**Sue Parkin**



*Giving  
is a way of  
Living*



**We'll be collecting chocolate Easter**



**eggs** again this year for **The Foxtan Centre** in Preston and for **Harbour House** (YMCA) in Lytham. Both of these charities support local homeless people. Each egg should not cost more than about **£3.00**, to be fair to all.

There is a basket at the back of church and the closing date needs to be **Sunday 17 March** to give us time to get them to their destinations.

Harbour House would also welcome chocolate



biscuits (more bang for your buck!)

Thank you all in advance.

**SP**



*'If I was enjoying anything, I could give it up for Lent.'*

<b>Thinking Ahead...</b>	
<b>Important Dates of Lent</b>	
Ash Wednesday	The beginning of Lent, a day of reflection and repentance from sin February 14 <sup>th</sup>
<u>Palm Sunday</u>	Celebrates Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem March 24 <sup>th</sup>
<u>Holy Week</u>	The week leading up to Easter March 24 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup>
Maundy Thursday	Commemorates the foot washing and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles March 28 <sup>th</sup>
Good Friday	Commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary March 29 <sup>th</sup>
Easter Sunday	Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and His victory over sin and death March 31 <sup>st</sup>

## A PEEP AT PAST WARTON

Some time ago, a member of our congregation passed me a copy of our Parish Magazine dating from the ministry of the Rev. David Battersby AKC (1962-1972). It really is a very basic production, and its only distinguishing feature is a monochrome and rather dark and wintry picture of the church which is in marked contrast to today's colour photographs to be found on St Paul's website and the superb seasonal vignettes on current magazine covers.

The Vicar devotes most of his letter to the then long-running debate concerning Anglican/Methodist union, which eventually foundered in 1972. He finishes on a note which I am sure we will all endorse, 'we at St Paul's must try to provide a home for Christians from many different traditions.' And certainly we do!

The service of Parish Communion was soon to change its start time from 9.30 am to 10.00am and Sunday school was to be replaced by Children's Church at 11.15am, 'lasting for about half an hour'. Which the Vicar hoped would all 'prove convenient'.

The school Garden Party had raised £160, 'which makes the school building fund look much healthier'. The church floor had recently been sanded and a group of ladies were busy polishing it weekly, to be reduced to once a month when a good surface had formed. Not **too** slippery, I hope?

The church Youth Club were congratulated on their efforts at Club Day when over £7 was collected in support of the *Freedom from hunger campaign* and special thanks were given to Mr Wm Rigby for lending the float.

The vicar announced that he and the Youth Fellowship would be away for a week during August when they would be on the Isle of Iona.

He recalled that our own country was once a Christian mission field and asked readers to be more enthusiastic about foreign missions.

As I closed the old magazine, I couldn't help but feel that both St Columba and David Battersby would find even less evidence of **this** now being a Christian country some fifty years on.

Finally, he reports that the east wall of the churchyard had been put in good order. Ah well, some things never change.

## CPC

# A Lenten Reflection...

Give up complaining; focus on gratitude

Give up harsh judgments; think kindly thoughts

Give up worry; trust divine Providence

Give up discouragement; be full of hope

Give up bitterness; turn to forgiveness

Give up hatred; return good for evil

Give up negativism; be positive

Give up pettiness; become mature

Give up jealousy; pray for trust





## Warton WI Jottings

Fifteen ladies from Warton W.I. met on Tuesday 9th January at The Coach and Horses in Freckleton for our annual meal out. The food was lovely and the service was excellent; enjoyed by all.

Sandra Ainscough had kindly donated a beautiful hand made patchwork quilt for our raffle prize. The lucky winner was Pauline Mayland.

One of the restaurant staff judged our "Wear A Scarf" competition. Most of the ladies entered.

1st - Pauline Mayland

2nd - Gwen D'Arcy

3rd - Rosemary Gilbert

Our next meeting is on 13th February when the speaker will be Emma Cox from Lytham Candle.

Kind regards

**Ann Jackson**  
**President Warton W.I.**



*Be still  
and know that  
I am  
God*

Psalm 46:10





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# My Visits to Old Churches

*By Alan J Cook (GCGI I.Eng MIET MISTC MABSW MSUT)*



Europe has so many old churches that you'll never run out of subjects to photograph. In fact, you're spoiled for choice as there aren't enough years in a lifetime to visit (and to photograph) all of them, even in your own country, unless you're from a particularly small country such as Lichtenstein or Andorra. England has more than 16 000 parish churches and thousands more that belong to other denominations and religions. You may even find a few interesting modern churches but they rarely have the same 'character' as old buildings.

I have always been fascinated by old churches. In fact, the first photographs I ever had published were of Holy Trinity Church in Poynings, Sussex. This would have been at least fifty years ago and I was delighted to receive payment from *'Sussex Life'* magazine for reproducing two of my photographs – one a full-page spread. At the time I was living in Haywards Heath, the town where I was born, and had only recently started 'serious' photography – as a poorly paid young apprentice at the time.

To get to Poynings necessitated a bicycle ride over the South Downs with one of my friends. In those days, churches were always unlocked so access was never a problem – the main problem was trying to find the switches to turn on the lights!

Photography in those days was a luxury few of us working lads, or even many adults, could afford as the cost of film and processing were a never-ending expense and I sacrificed a great deal to be able to take my hobby seriously, despite never having top-notch equipment, so the fee I received from '*Sussex Life*' was a great boost to my wallet as well as my confidence.

As a boy at school, I went on a school trip over a few days and we visited a tiny Sussex church perched on the South Downs – I believe it was Lullington church, not far from Alfriston. I'd taken my dad's plastic 'box' camera with me and took quite a pleasant shot of the exterior of this lovely old church – in black and white in those days. Many years later I printed it in the darkroom of the '*evening class in photography*' I attended for two years and, despite the poor quality of the lens in this camera, I always loved that photograph.

A few years after my visit to Lullington, still a schoolboy, I went on a trip with a group of folk from the church I attended in Haywards Heath to St. Martha-on-the-Hill, on the North Downs, near Guildford where my dad took a few photographs with his 'plastic box' camera.

Still a teenager – an apprentice, my first adjustable camera was bought second-hand for £9 and I paid for it on hire-purchase (a loan) – I think the repayments were 4/6d per week (pre-decimalisation, now equivalent to 22.5p). How times have changed.

Once I'd advanced a little in age and bought my second adjustable camera, this time a very basic SLR, I walked to Lindfield in the snow and took a photograph of All Saints church at the top of the High Street looking wonderful with its coating of snow. I printed this photograph to quite a large size and presented it to my maternal grandmother as a Christmas present.

As a young man I once spent a few days travelling around in my tiny 1967 Morris Mini Van with my beloved Yellow Labrador – sleeping in the back of the van with my wonderful doggy companion to keep me warm.

This would have been around 1970/71 - more than 50 years ago, which I find hard to believe. During this particular trip, I visited Durham Cathedral, Ripon Cathedral and York Minster and took photographs of each - both exterior and interior views.

Now, I'm not a historian, neither am I an expert in old churches, but I do love taking photographs of these wonderful old buildings that are so much part of our heritage. One comment I often receive from viewers of my photographs is that they depict the parts of the church I photograph better than they see it in real life. I try to explain to them the reason is that they are looking at the whole of the church and miss much of the detail, whereas in many of my photographs I try to show a specific detail to the exclusion of whatever else is around it. By taking a large number of photographs of the details they can view the church much more intimately instead of just trying to take in the whole scene – and yes, I do take photographs of the whole scene too – sometimes even panoramic views.

I've sometimes been asked "*Why do you love visiting churches and cathedrals?*"

Of course, I could rattle on about their history or their gorgeous stained-glass windows, but the truthful answer is that I really don't know. It's just something I've always done. I can only say that they have always attracted me in the same way that a magnet attracts iron filings. As you can now understand, taking photographs of churches has always been one of my passions, although I still have no idea why.

More recently, I've started to build a small, non-commercial website <http://mylancashire.org/> which has caused me to visit numerous old churches in Lancashire – and a lot more to visit in the future. I do hope you'll have a look at my photographs and maybe you'll get the same bug as me!

*Many thanks to Alan for this really interesting article*

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# FEBRUARY SUNDAY ROTAS

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sidespeople</b>	<b>Readers</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Lynne Lake Colin Lake	Alison Eccleston Fred Taylor
<b>11<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Simon Eccleston Sue Parkin	
<b>18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Lorraine Higginson Brian Smith	Margaret Jacob Simon Eccleston
<b>25<sup>th</sup> February</b>	John Leadbeater Colin Bent	June Wilkins Rosemary Gilbert

<b>Date</b>	<b>Coffee</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Vicky Willetts Rob Willetts
<b>11<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Chris Denham Anne Marsden
<b>18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Kathy Baptist Kate Parker
<b>25<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Alison Eccleston Simon Eccleston



Recently, David Forshaw spoke about the Mexico Disaster 1886. In RNLI history this remains the worst loss of crew in a single incident.

The *Mexico*, a Hamburg barque, left Liverpool on 5th December bound for Guayaquil, Ecuador. Four days later she was caught in a violent gale, and amidst the heavy seas and snow showers, she ran aground on the perilous sandbanks in the Ribble Estuary. Lifeboats launched from Lytham, St. Anne's and Southport to rescue the stranded crew.

Southport's *Eliza Fernley* was the first lifeboat to be launched in response to the *Mexico's* distress signals. As the *Eliza Fernley* reached the stricken vessel, the rough seas and terrible gale capsized her. Only two of the 16 crew survived, Henry Robinson and John Jackson, who had been trapped under the boat after it overturned. They survived by clinging to the keel of the boat and swimming back to shore to raise the alarm. Two hours later, the lifeboat was found washed up at Birkdale.

Twenty minutes after the *Eliza Fernley* was called out, the *Laura Janet* from St Anne's was launched. She never reached the *Mexico* and was found ashore the following morning – the entire crew had been lost. It was never known exactly what happened to the *Laura Janet*.

A third lifeboat, the *Charles Biggs*, was launched on her maiden rescue to assist the crew of the *Mexico*. By this point, the *Mexico* has settled on her beam ends and the crew had strapped themselves to the rigging. The *Charles Biggs* rowed for a mile and a half to reach the *Mexico* and successfully rescued all 12 crew members.



27 men lost their lives, leaving behind 16 widows and 50 children without fathers. A public appeal was launched to support those widowed and orphaned by the tragedy. The money raised also went towards a memorial to commemorate the lifeboatmen lost at sea. Six memorials were erected, including on the promenade at St Anne's, Duke Street Cemetery in Southport and St Cuthbert's Church in Lytham, Lancashire, which still stands today.

A Big Thank you to Beryl Hambleton for providing mince pies for us to enjoy with our tea.

**Pam**



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# Organisations

Day	Section Leader	Contact Number
<p><b><u>Monday</u></b>  <b><i>Guides</i></b>            (10-14yrs)            6.30 pm -            8.30 pm</p>	Bridget Davison	01772 671740
<p><b><u>Tuesday</u></b>  <b><i>Cubs</i></b>            (8-10½yrs)            6 pm- 7.30pm</p>	Kate Parker	01772 635514 07788 551100
<p><b><u>Wednesday</u></b>  <b><i>Rainbows</i></b>            (5-7yrs)            5.45-6.45pm  <b><i>Brownies</i></b>            (7-10yrs)            6.30-8pm</p>	Catherine Potter	01772 493475
<p><b><u>Thursday</u></b>  <b><i>Beavers</i></b>            (6-8yrs)            5.45pm -7pm  <b><i>Scouts</i></b>            (10½ -14yrs)            7.15pm -            8.45pm</p>	Amber Chauhan	07468 616692
<p><b><i>Group Scout Leader</i></b>            All Boys            Sections</p>	Darren Clayton	07876 445919

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