

BELOW THE PIKE



SEPTEMBER 2025

THE MAGAZINE OF THE HORWICH AND RIVINGTON TEAM CHURCHES

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BACK TO/START OF: SCHOOL/COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY



It's that time of year when little ones, medium size ones and big ones will be starting or going back to school, college or university! Whichever applies to you (and that includes all the staff involved as well!) we wish you a wonderful time—learning lots of new things, making new friendships, getting used to new surroundings and finding your way around. Nerve wracking and a bit daunting? Well, don't be nervous or daunted, you have your family, friends, wonderful teachers, tutors and other staff who care about your welfare and if you are struggling with anything—speak to

someone, don't bottle it up inside. There's always someone who will be able to listen, advise or help you.

Making new friends isn't easy but universities and colleges tend to have many groups, clubs, social events where you can gradually get to know like minded people.

Most universities have religious groups and clubs for you to join and meet people who share your faith—I know a lot of couples who have met at these get togethers and ended up marrying—though that's more in the future! There are also chaplains onsite who you can talk to in confidence and will understand what you are going through—but above all don't forget God is *always* with you—helping, guiding, supporting and strengthening you—talk to Him!

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." – **Philippians 4:6-7**

All our love and prayers will be with every one of you from the smallest child to the biggest, gangliest teenager!



MISSION COMMUNITY CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Our local confirmation service (for adults and young people in school year 10 or higher) is planned for the evening of **Sunday 9th November 6.30pm at St Thomas & St John's Lostock.** This service will not only include people from our own team of churches but also others from across our Mission Community. The service will be led by Bishop Matthew, Bishop of Bolton.

Being confirmed is **a choice** not a requirement – the Church of England doesn't have a formal membership in that sense - everyone is welcome to come along to church, worship and be a part of the church community. Being confirmed is simply a sign of your commitment and involvement and an opportunity to publicly affirm your faith.

You will need to be baptized before you are confirmed. If you were not baptized as a child and want to make a commitment of faith, you can be baptized and confirmed in the same service, or baptized at a separate service shortly before your confirmation.

Anyone interested in being confirmed should contact Revd Nicola Butterworth (07706 979393) as soon as possible as preparation sessions will be starting in early October.

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OUR CHURCHES

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

Holy Trinity and Rivington:

Revd. Nicola Butterworth on 07706 979393

St Catherine's: Revd. Nicola Butterworth on 07706 979393

St Elizabeth's: Revd. 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 church pages 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.

SERVICES AND FELLOWSHIP THROUGH

THE WEEK

Details of our regular services can be found on the back page of the magazine. In addition to those services we offer:

ALIVE + FREE

1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

7TH SEPTEMBER at St Elizabeth's, Cedar Avenue. 6.30pm for 7pm start. All Welcome. Our new Series:

'Women of Faith in the Old Testament'

Tuesday: 4th Tuesday of month 11am in Rivington Church Hall—Faith and Fellowship

Wednesday, every Wednesday at Holy Trinity, **MIDWEEK COMMUNION** 9.30am, a short said service of Holy Communion. All welcome.

Thursday, every Thursday during term time at St Catherine's 3.45pm. All age service. Families are encouraged to come along and worship together for a short and structured service with drinks and snacks straight after school. If you'd like to learn more, have a chat with Rev Libby or come along

BISHOP MATTHEW NOTICES



<https://www.theboltonnews.co.uk/news> Check out Bishop Matthew's column every other Saturday in the Bolton News.

EMERGENCY SERVICES DAY 2025 - SEPTEMBER 9th 2025



This is the day when we have the opportunity to say a public thank you to all our emergency workers—whether paid or voluntary. So please give them a thought and a prayer for the amazing work they do, day in and day out. THANK YOU!!!

<https://www.999day.org.uk/>

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; Cynthia Pearcy: 01204 695737; Caroline Wakefield 07812 994516 ; Gill Smart 01204 468271; Carolyn Higson 01204 695450

Jeremiah chapter 45, verses 1 to 5: In the fourth year that Jehoiakim, son of Josiah was king of Judah, Baruch wrote down what I had dictated to him. Then I told him that the Lord, the God of Israel, had said “Baruch, you are saying, ‘I give up! The Lord has added sorrow to my troubles. I am worn out from groaning and I can’t find any rest’. But I, the Lord, am tearing down what I have built and pulling up what I have planted, I will do this to the entire earth. Are you looking for special treatment for yourself? Don’t do it. I am bringing disaster on the whole human race, but you will at least escape with your life, wherever you go. I, the Lord, have spoken”.



The bible is full of very important unimportant people, they don’t get the glory but they play a vital role in God’s work, says C.J. Wright in his commentary on Jeremiah. Think of Moses’ mother and sister who saved the life of one of Israel’s greatest leaders; the slave girl who introduced Naaman to Elisha so he could be cured of his leprosy; Paul’s nephew who gave the tip off that his life was in danger, and one I love is in Romans 16 where Paul is greeting some important people who have supported him and it is Rufus’s mother – no name! “who has been a mother to me”, says Paul, that simple statement speaks volumes.

Baruch was one those very important unimportant people, he was Jeremiah’s secretary. We wouldn’t have the book of Jeremiah in our bibles without Baruch. Jeremiah was not a popular prophet because his message from God to Israel was one of judgement on God’s people who would not repent of their disobedience and idolatry. He was vilified for it and so was Baruch who stood by Jeremiah faithfully. The judgement would come in the form of a brutal war waged against Israel by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, and Israel would lose it and there would be great suffering and death. God, through Jeremiah, told Baruch to write down all Jeremiah’s prophecies on a scroll and read in public before the king – the king rejected it. Baruch was a model secretary, accurate and hardworking and courageous because it took courage to read out those prophecies of judgement before the king; he risked imprisonment and execution. But it all got to him one day, and in these verses Baruch is at a low ebb, he is depressed, weary and afraid, ready to give up. If Jeremiah’s prophecies came true what would become of him and his family? Would they die too? God knew Baruch and how he was feeling and he was not too busy to reach out to him in love and to promise him he would survive, and he did.

The Church is full of very important unimportant people, they are not centre stage, in the spotlight, getting the glory and applause but God’s work couldn’t go on without them. St Paul in 1Corinthians 12 calls them ‘helps’. Our Team of Churches has some very important unimportant people and without them we could not continue God’s work and mission here. The challenge for us is to ask ourselves where and how do my life, gifts and abilities find their place in God’s work in the church. Those who sweep a room because they love God are not unimportant people.

*(Brenda has reminded us that we all have at least one ability/skill that we can put to good use in our individual churches. As we start back after the summer holidays perhaps this is a good time for you to find out what you can do and sign up? - Cleaning, coffee rota, flowers, sides persons, children’s groups, reading, intercessions and so the list goes on! In the words of the wartime slogan (adapted): **Your CHURCH needs YOU!!**). Just speak to a PCC member or churchwarden.*

There is no such thing as a grouchy old person, the truth is once you get old you stop being polite and become honest.

Grandma knows everything; if she doesn’t know she makes stuff up really fast!

Sometimes I talk to myself and then we both laugh and laugh!

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS & THANKSGIVINGS

We welcome to the family of the church:

22nd June Max Michale Lowe and Zara Annie Lowe
13th July Ebony Marie Costello
6th July Zachary Stafford
20th July Millie Anne Crisp
27th July Albie Ralph Stephens
3rd August Tinotenda Takaona
10th August Charlie Gannon



FUNERALS

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

13th June Albert Potter
19th June Reginald New
24th June Janette Staunton
30th June Christine Cornes
30th June Hilary Higham
1st July Jacqueline Ainscough
3rd July Mildred Oldham



BAPTISM PREPARATION

For parents seeking baptism for their child/ren, at Holy Trinity, St Catherine's, Rivington or St Elizabeth's churches, a 'Baptism Prep' session is held on the

2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm at Holy Trinity.



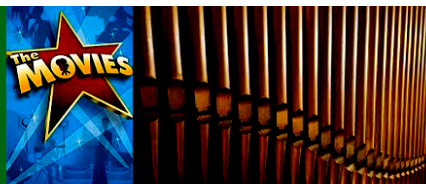
No need to book, just turn up. The preparation covers all four of our churches in the Team. Should you have any queries please email: horwichandrivingtonbaptisms@gmail.com however, please be aware this email address is only checked once a week. Otherwise please contact the Team Rector, Revd Nicola Butterworth on 07706 979393.

LOVE IN A BOX

At the time of writing we are in the middle of yet another heatwave, so it may seem a little strange to be thinking about filling shoeboxes which we invariably associate with Christmas. It is also sad to think that after over 25 years of doing this, the need for wrapping up gifts for those who have nothing, is no less necessary in the world of 2025. I know that some of you, like me, stay on the alert for small bargains throughout the year and there are quite a lot around at this time. I recently bought some pretty children's tumblers and plates – picnic style – which were end of season stock. There are SALE T-shirts and baby clothes to be had, all of which we can include in our boxes. The International Aid Trust encourages boxes for all ages - from babies to the elderly; in fact they distribute them all year round as need arises. We will be filling them once more at Holy Trinity by collecting items week by week, then meeting for a coffee morning in November (date in the next magazine) to fill the boxes. If your church is no longer involved in this, or if you are not a member of this particular team of churches, but would like to lend a hand, then we would love to see you at HT. Details of what can be included in boxes can be found on the IAT website: www.internationalaidtrust.org.uk/ or call in at the shop on Lee Lane. *Jenny Dagnall*



EVENTS FOR ALL IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER



Saturday 11th October 7.00pm

Organstoppers

Sing along to your favourite songs
from the movies

Disney, Star Wars, Harry Potter, Musicals

Alan Beedie, organ

Holy Trinity Parish Church, Church Street,

Horwich BL6 6AA

Adults £5, children free

Hot dogs, popcorn, juice and wine available from
6.30pm!

All proceeds to the Tower Appeal

Holy Trinity Church, Church Street, Horwich

Welcomes you to

An evening of Laughter & Music With Rob Mason

In church Saturday September 27th

Beginning with Pasty & Pea (+ dessert)

Supper at 7pm

Price £10

Tickets are limited - available in church



Proceeds for the
Save our Tower Fund

COFFEE MORNING AT

ST ELIZABETH'S CHURCH,
CEDAR AVENUE, BL6 6HT

Saturday 13 September, 10.00-1.00

COFFEE, TEA AND CAKES, RAFFLE AND
TOMBOLA

CRAFTS FOR CHILDREN



Money raised will go to support a member of a local family suffering from Cancer. She must go to Southampton for treatment.



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
CHURCH STREET, HORWICH

Will be open to visitors as part of this
national scheme

on

SATURDAY

13th SEPTEMBER 2025

10.00am to 1.00pm

Exhibition by Horwich Heritage
Historic registers available to view
Light refreshments available

www.heritageopendays.org.uk

@heritageopenday

#HODs

/heritageopendays

@heritageopendays



SAVE THE DATE

QUIZ NIGHT, FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER St Elizabeth's Church, Cedar Avenue, BL6 6HT Details to follow.

LOOKING FOR A WARM SPACE, COMPANIONSHIP, A HOT DRINK, LIGHT MEAL?

DAY	VENUE	CONTACT
Mon	Horwich Evangelical Church, Wright Street 12pm – 1.45pm Waiting list	07835-749496
Mon	Talking Tables, Chill at the Cowshed 10.30 – 11.30am	Just turn up!
Mon	KD Over 50s Lads Club, Community Centre, Beaumont Road 2– 4pm £3 subs	Just turn up!
Tues	Horwich Community Centre, Beaumont Road 12 – 2pm Lunch and entertainment. Small charge.	01204 668157
Tues	Talking Tables, Blanco Lounge, Middlebrook 10.30—11.30 am You purchase what you want while you sit and chat	Just turn up!
Tues	Horwich URC, New Chapel Lane 10.30am—12.30pm Brews, soup, roll, biscuits and games, quiet time	01204 696424
4th Tues	Rivington Church, Hall, Horrobin Lane 11am Faith and Fellowship	
Wed	St Elizabeth's Church Hall ,Cedar Avenue 11am – 1pm	07967 585670
Wed	The Bridge, Rock Street 9.30am – 11.30am Warm welcome and a cuppa	01204 361704
Wed	St Mary's Church, Chorley New Road Luncheon Club—waiting list	01204 468209
Wed	St John's Methodist Church, Victoria Road 10.30am – 12.30pm	07581 181862
Wed	Lend-a-Hand, The Crown, Chorley New Road 10am	07939 500591
Thurs	Warm Welcome, Horwich Parish Church (Holy Trinity), Church St. 11am – 1.30pm . Phone: 01204 690283	
Thurs	Talkin' Tables, Brewed Coffee, Lee Lane 11.00am to 12pm	Just turn up!
2nd & 4th Thurs Over 50's Club, Horwich Community Centre, Beaumont Road 12.30—2.30pm 0800 804 4343.		

TAX HELP FOR OLDER PEOPLE -This is a national charity that provides free professional help on personal tax to over 60s on low income (£28,000 or less) who would not otherwise be able to afford it. Appointments are offered at tax surgeries in AgeUK and similar venues. Home visits are available for those with a disability or other difficulties.

To decide if you qualify for support from our specialist tax team, we will ask you about your finances and personal circumstances.

We will ask you about your annual income and whether it is below the individual Minimum Income Standard (MIS) currently £28,000 and we will ask you about any debts or savings you have.

We will ask you about your personal circumstances as you may be experiencing disadvantages or hardships that makes it difficult for you to get the help you need.

We know that there are many reasons that could make it difficult to get help, so please do give us a call and we can discuss your needs and consider your unique circumstances. www.taxvol.org.uk

Tel: 0845 6013321 or 01308 488066 - We're usually available from 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays. Outside office hours, please leave a message on our answering machine and we'll aim to call you back during our next working day. **Or write:** Tax Help for Older People, Unit 10A, Pineapple Business Park, Salway Ash, Bridport, Dorset DT6 5DB



FOUR MONTHS ON

It is with immense pride and gratitude that I took on the role of the Mayor of Horwich. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would end up here! I am truly honoured and look forward to serving the town I have called home my entire life.

It has only been a few weeks since I took on the job but I have already had the privilege to meet so many wonderful groups and attend some incredible events. To name a few, I've been to a variety of church services, brass band concerts, celebrated the 40th anniversary of Horwich Heritage and the 80th anniversary of Horwich Rotary, met the fantastic team at Horwich Repair Café and even climbed a rock-climbing wall in a suit and heels (not the best combination!!).

I will also be spending the year fundraising for my chosen charities: Fortalice, Horwich Foodshare and Teenage Cancer Trust. All three are brilliant causes and deserve to receive as much funding as possible.

Being the Mayor has really opened my eyes to just how many incredible groups and organisations we have in our small town and I really look forward to spending the next year getting to know even more.

ED's note: Victoria also visited the Horwich Showcase at RMI on July 23rd. This was to publicise the shops, businesses, community groups etc here in Horwich—great for newcomers to Horwich (plenty with all the housebuilding!) But also a reminder to long standing residents of what we have on our doorstep and that we should be supporting to keep our town alive. Victoria spoke to every stallholder and made a very supportive speech at the end.



TIME FLIES WHEN YOU ARE HAVING FUN SO COME AND JOIN US!!!

This year has flown by at Time for Twos! We have had another happy year with all our regular activities, plus "Forest days", Nativity and Christmas party, a trip to Smithills Farm, Bear hunt and Teddy Bears Picnic. Alongside all of that we have been 'growing and planting' to

help children experience harvesting their own vegetables and helping to 'beautify' St Catherine's churchyard. We have had contact with 41 families



including 17 newcomers, with a good core of regular attendees, a number who have been with us for over 2 years. By the grace of God, our regular families and our team of faithful helpers have become more like an extended family!! So it was with mixed feelings that we said "Farewell" to 11 of our little friends at our

"Graduation" presentation on

Friday 18th July, including a lovely family from Austria who said how much they appreciated the welcome and support from T42s as they settled into a new country not knowing the language or anyone in Horwich. So, we now have room for more little people! If you have or know of anyone with a toddler aged rising two to 5 years, please encourage them to come and join in the fun on Fridays in term time at St. Catherine's Church, Richmond Street, Horwich. And if there are any adults out there who would like to join our family of fantastic volunteers please just turn up as well. **Starting back date is Sept 12th.**



I changed my password to incorrect so that each time I log on and I forget what it is the computer will say your password is 'incorrect'!

CONGRATULATIONS



Belated August greetings to Anne Martindale, Dale Farrington, Bren Corlett, Will Burgess, Marjorie Garwood, Diane Thompson, Irene Jackson, Eileen Hartley and special belated greetings to David Crankshaw on his recent 80th birthday. September greetings to: Jean Tomlinson, Elinor Porter, and Barbara Lowe.



HUGE Congratulations to Tom Gillard—recently awarded a BA First in Music from LIPA, Paul McCartney’s Music Institute in Liverpool which is very shortly to receive University status under John Moores University. A brilliant future opens up to Tom—multi instrumentalist and composer that he is! Very well done.

GREEN NEWS—and none of it good news (well there is *some* if you read through to the end of the article!)

EVERY DAY UK homes throw away approximately, 20 million slices of bread, 4.4 million whole potatoes, 3.1 million glasses of milk, 2.7 million whole carrots, 2.2 million slices of ham, 1.2 million whole tomatoes, 920,000 whole bananas and 86,000 whole lettuces.

SARAH Clayton from the Love Food, Hate Waste campaign, says, “Getting to grips with freezing and managing your shopping are big factors in preventing waste. At a time of ever-rising food costs and public concern about climate change, tackling food waste at home is something we can all do to make a difference and save money. **On average food waste for a standard family can cost up to £700 per year!**”

SO HOW ABOUT TRYING THIS FROM THE INDEPENDENT @The i Paper—The six-to-one grocery method is very simple. Popularised by US chef Will Coleman it’s a way to plan your weekly shop using basic arithmetic: you pick up six vegetables, five fruits, four proteins, three starches, two sauces or spreads and one treat. This is theoretically for any household – simply the bigger the house, the more you buy of each. In the end, the volume of each item goes up but the number of different items stays the same. That’s it. Some of these numbers may seem excessive, but if you grab the fundamentals of onions, carrots, potatoes you’re already nearly there on the veg count.

PLASTIC WASTE: this is a message that is still not getting through to manufacturers and big supermarkets. Token attempts are made. But over half of food and drink is packaged in unnecessary plastic. A quarter of food and drink companies are off target for their individual packaging goals. The Materials Change Index, commissioned by the FTSE100 sustainable packaging company DS Smith and conducted by Retail Economics found that 51% of food and drink items found in supermarkets are unnecessarily packaged in plastic and can be safely replaced with alternative packaging. OK—we have plastic recycling bin collections now but there are not enough recycling plants to cope with the amount we produce! And once again—international talks have broken down as no agreement could be reached on reducing the amount of plastic used and disposed of.

SOME GOOD NEWS! The empty metal canister inside your inhaler can be recycled at the local chemists so please hand them in and **Novo Nordisk pens** can now be recycled (NB PLEASE TAKE NEEDLE OUT FIRST!) - how to do it? Collect a PenCycle return box (holds 12 used pens) from your pharmacist or you can order online from www.pen-cycle.co.uk put your empty pens in the box and when it’s full return it to the pharmacy or mail it back free of charge. Currently, every year, 23,000,000 pens go to land fill. Now they can be recycled the glass goes to make lamps and the plastic goes to make furniture—brilliant!

TEETH—those little inter tooth brushes and toothpicks are now made from plant based recyclable material—so please look out for them when you restock.

GROUPS AND SESSIONS FOR ALL AGES

Horwich Parish Wiggle Tots: Mondays 9–11am (term time), Horwich Parish Hall, Church Street. Sessions include refreshments, free play, creative activities, Storytelling with Wiggle the Bible Bookworm. Free of charge. Email Sue for further information: suzeerayner@yahoo.co.uk

Time 4 Twos! Fridays 10.30am (term time), Children aged between 2 and 5 years are invited together with their parents/ carers, so please pass the word around and keep an eye on the Time 4 Two's .

Time For Twos | Bolton | Facebook!

INSPIRE For those in school years 5 to 9 Now at St Catherine's Church, Richmond Street, on Wednesdays (term time) 7pm to 8.15pm. For more information contact rev.libby@outlook.com or Graham Smith (tel. 01204 699875).

OPEN DOOR Usually 2nd Thursday of the month. All welcome in the **Narthex at Holy Trinity Church at 7.30pm**. £5.00 per evening including refreshments. A variety of speakers and outings throughout the year so please come along. Next meeting—**Thursday September 11th— Speaker - Richard Davies Subject – Bolton Guild of Help**

CRAFT CLUB is held ON THE 1st THURSDAY OF THE MONTH **IN THE NARTHEX AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH FROM 1.30pm to 3.30pm** Please bring your crafts along—all welcome! A light lunch will be available from 12—1pm at Warm Welcome.

BOLTON COMMUNITY WALKS

There is an extensive list of walking opportunities in the Bolton area—some near some further away. Many of these walks, plus many other activities, are listed on the Let's Keep Bolton Moving website: www.letskeepboltonmoving.co.uk **If you don't have access to the Internet** but are interested—for a copy of the list please contact the editor (details page 2) or Keith Armstrong on **07500 928573**.

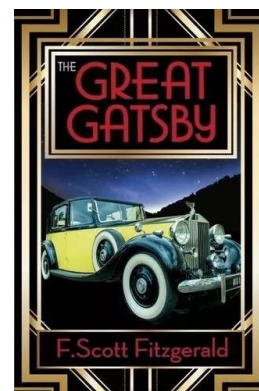
As we know being outside and getting some form of exercise is good for us physically and mentally—why not give one of the walks a try—usually a gentle walk with a guide and plenty of company.

NOVELS AND RELIGION NO. 5: "THE GREAT GATSBY" BY F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

In the distant background of this novel is the journey in 1620 of the Pilgrim Fathers, a group of Puritans from England, to create the first permanent settlement of Europeans in what became the American nation as we know it. Fitzgerald presents a portrait of what that America has come to in modern times.

Set in, and written during, the Roaring Twenties, the novel shows a very glamorous world. Jay Gatsby hosts sparkling social occasions at his large mansion, attended by wealthy, expensively-dressed people. They have luxurious cars, at a time when cars were the prerogative of the rich, and have all the latest mod. cons., such as telephones, in their homes. However, the author looks at this world critically. Gatsby lives in a beautiful world, but behind the glittering surface, from another angle, these people are addicted to hedonism, materialism and conspicuous consumption. They live in a world of conmen and dishonesty. Many people are having extra-marital affairs. This lifestyle leads, by the end of the novel, to a tragic outcome.

The modern America the author portrays is a betrayal of the high moral and religious principles of the Pilgrim Fathers, and of the noble ideals of the later Founding Fathers. Gatsby typifies this. He has lived the American Dream, rising from humble beginnings to great success, but by following a false version of religion, with false, superficial values and false aims: "He was a son of God...and he must be about His Father's business, the service of a vast, vulgar, meretricious beauty." *Robert Butterworth* (Book cover: ©Wordsworth Editions)



WHAT'S ON IN THE COMMUNITY



HORWICH HERITAGE

THE CENTRE OPENS MON—FRI 2—4pm and SAT 10am to 12.30pm off
Beaumont Road, Horwich. email: kathleen.arkwright@ntlworld.com or

ring: General Enquiries: 01204 847797 Membership: 07789 367677 Family History: 07784 737660

MONTHLY MEETINGS AND GUEST SPEAKERS (free to members, £2 for visitors) : 9th September—
Mark Olly - The Real Da Vinci Code

EXHIBITION: 23rd AUGUST TO 20th NOVEMBER “THE 1980s”

HORWICH REPAIR CAFÉ - HELD THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH -at Brazley Community
Centre, Cedar Avenue from 1.30 to 3.30pm.

-Don't throw it away—Whatever is broken don't throw it away—take it along to be repaired, they love a challenge and you can enjoy a cup of tea while you wait. Repairs are free but donations towards overheads very welcome.



HORWICH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Your Community

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; LUNCHEON CLUB; OVER 50S CLUB AND LOADS
MORE!

CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU ON 1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH 9.30am to 12pm. NO APPT NEEDED

HORWICH LIBRARY, JONES STREET, HORWICH SO MUCH GOING ON! NOT JUST ABOUT

LENDING BOOKS OR USING PCs: (PHONE 01204 332347) FOR MORE INFORMATION)

QUIZZES; BREAST FEEDING ADVICE; CANASTA; TODDLER TALES; KNITTING GROUPS READING
GROUP AND COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES—CALL IN FOR A LEAFLET;



FOODBANKS AND GRUB TUBS

There is an overwhelming demand for foodbanks due to the current cost of living crisis—even a donation of a tin of beans is welcome. Please only donate tinned or packet foods, toiletries, sanitary and baby products. Financial donations are also welcome to help plug any gaps. There are grub tubs in each of our churches and some shops and there is a donation day at St Elizabeth's every Monday fortnight, please see in churches for dates.



During the summer Jenny Dagnall hosted a very relaxing, enjoyable combined BBQ and Afternoon Tea.



Absolutely delicious and waiter/waitress service was very welcome! Jenny's garden stole the show—it is amazing what she has achieved in just a few years.

CELEBRATING 28 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP: HORWICH & RIVINGTON'S BOND WITH OKATHITU & RUACANA, NAMIBIA

For nearly three decades, a very special link has blossomed between the churches of Horwich & Rivington and the parishes of Okathitu & Ruacana in Namibia—a relationship built on hope, resilience, and mutual support which continues to grow stronger each year.

Life in these Namibian communities is exceptionally challenging. With relentless sun and infrequent rains, droughts frequently turn the land into a barren, desert-like landscape. In this harsh environment, unemployment soars as high as 85%, leaving many families dependent on subsistence farming just to survive. Necessities many of us take for granted—clean water, electricity, adequate housing, and sanitation—are elusive luxuries for many people living in northern Namibia.

Yet, amidst these difficulties, the success of the pigeon pea plant - *introduced by the Namibia Committee* - has provided a bountiful supply of nutritious food which has supplemented the diets of the school children. Building on this success, plans are underway to expand the gardens at the two schools in Okathitu. (*Photos were in the July/August magazine*).

Already, land adjacent to the schools has been secured and fenced to protect crops from wandering animals. The next stage is to connect a water supply from which water tanks can be filled. Then work will begin to prepare the soil for planting vegetables and fruit trees by adding fertilisers and pesticides. This will provide a much more varied diet for the school children.

In a proud new chapter, the Namibia Committee decided to take an ambitious step. To ensure sustainable support, they have established '**The Mopane Tree**' as an independent charity. This will secure vital funding for both existing and future projects. Visit <https://themopanetree.co.uk/> to learn more, subscribe to updates, and stay connected with the ongoing work in Okathitu and Ruacana.



You are invited to the **first Mopane Tree Bring & Buy Coffee Morning**, which will be held at Caroline & David Tracey's home (4 Evanstone Close, Horwich, Bolton BL6 5SQ) on **Thursday, September 18th, from 10 am to 12 noon**. It will be an opportunity to support our friends in Namibia and make a real difference—one cup of coffee at a time.

DID YOU KNOW? Vocables: The 'na na na' and 'la la la' in song lyrics that don't have any meaning.

Interrobang: A punctuation mark combining an exclamation point and a question mark (!!).

Columella nasi: The space between your nostrils.

Armscopye: The armhole in clothing where the sleeves are sewn.

Crapulence: The feeling of being sick after eating or drinking too much.

Purlicue: The space between your thumb and forefinger.

Nurdle: A tiny dab of toothpaste.

Lunule: The white, crescent-shaped part at the base of your fingernail.

Philtrum: the dimple between your nose and lip

Aglet: The plastic or metal tip at the end of a shoelace.

Agraffe: The wire cage that holds the cork in a bottle of champagne.

Tines: The prongs on a fork.

Phosphenes: The light spots you see when you close your eyes and press on them.

Do you know any strange words for everyday things—if so please send them in!

FOR STUDENTS HAVING A DIFFICULT TIME UNDERSTANDING COMMUNISM, SOCIALISM AND FASCISM ETC:

Communism: You have two cows. Give both cows to the government, and they may give you some of the milk.

Socialism: You have two cows. Give one cow to your neighbour.

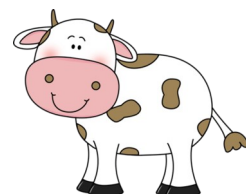
Capitalism: You have two cows. Sell one cow and buy a bull.

Fascism: You have two cows. You give all of the milk to the government, and the government sells it.

Anarchism: You have two cows. Keep both of the cows, shoot the government agent and steal another cow.

Surrealism: You have two giraffes. The government makes you take harmonica lessons.

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

SUNDAY SERVICES:

4th Sunday: 8am Holy Communion

Every Sunday: 9.15am Informal Worship (occasional United Services at 10am)

1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays: 11am Holy Communion

4th Sunday: 11am Morning Prayer

5th Sunday: Holy Communion with Healing

Weekdays: Every Wednesday at 9.30am a said service of 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: 4th Tuesday of each month 11am in Church Hall

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

SUNDAY SERVICES all at 11.00am

1st Sunday: Sunday Worship with Communion

2nd Sunday: Informal Worship

3rd Sunday: Sunday Worship with Communion

4th Sunday: Morning Prayer

Weekdays: 3.30pm Thursdays—All Age service (Term time)

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

SUNDAY SERVICES:

1st Sunday: 8.30am BCP Holy Communion

9.30am All Age Worship

7pm Alive+Free

2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays: 9.30am Holy Communion (occasional service of Morning Worship)

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

With many thanks to The Print Quarter for their excellent service & the quality and printing of this magazine

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BAPTISMS: Initial enquiries for baptisms to Emma Shawcross:

horwichandrivingtonbaptisms@gmail.com

WEDDINGS: Initial enquiries for weddings to Revd. Peter Harley at 01204 694611 or email:

revpdh@hotmail.com