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Summer 2018

**THE NET**  
The Parish Newsletter for St Peter's Church, Harrogate

Welcome to THE NET - the parish newsletter of St Peter's - the church right in the centre of Harrogate beside the War Memorial. This edition focuses on how we try to serve others. Earlier this year the new Bishop of Ripon, Helen-Ann Hartley, visited our Breakfast Club. Here she is with a member - Debbie Maher - read more about the Breakfast Club inside.



## It's great going back to school!



A big part of the life of St Peter's Church is being involved with the life of St Peter's School. Three members of the church congregation serve as Foundation Governors, Jane Morris (Chair of Governors), Linda McPhee (Chair of Teaching and Learning Committee) and myself (Deputy Chair of Governors). It is wonderfully enlivening to be involved with helping children get the best possible start in life – and we very much enjoy supporting Julia Collins, the Head Teacher (pictured) and her great team of fantastically committed and able staff. It is these sorts of connections, between different people fulfilling all sorts of different roles, that make our community strong and resilient. As you'll see from this edition of THE NET, St Peter's makes these connections in many different ways. We love building relationships with all sorts of people - come along and be part of what's happening.

Alan Garrow, Vicar of St Peter's Church

# Welcome to St Peter's Breakfast Club



For the past fifteen years St Peter's has offered a hot breakfast every day, Monday to Saturday, and food parcels every evening to some of the most vulnerable people in our community. Meet one of our Lay Readers, Hannah Beck, who is the coordinator of **St Peter's Breakfast Club**, surrounded by just some of the dedicated volunteers who provide not just food, but support and friendship to all who come through our doors. To her right is her Deputy, Steve Gibb, a former Club member, and on her left are Linda Howell and Ann McGeoch. On her far right is Angela Smith, the Community Champion at Asda Harrogate, who comes once a week to help prepare and distribute food parcels; organises a trolley collection in store; and nominated The Breakfast Club for Asda's green token scheme, from which we recently received a cheque for £200. One of our retired clergy, Graham Cornish, has been the voluntary Asda chaplain for the past 12 years. He visits the store regularly, providing a Christian presence - just to remind staff and shoppers there is another dimension to life - but that doesn't stop people asking him where the baked beans are or to get something off a high shelf!

St Peter's Breakfast Club provides a free, hot breakfast from 8:15 to 8:45 am for all those who are hungry or in need - cereals, orange juice, toast, soup, toasted cheese sandwiches, eggs, bacon and hot drinks are always available. Most of the food is bought locally, so we rely on cash donations. Over the past year over 1,000 people have been served. Some have slept rough, some come from the *No Second Night Out* scheme at the Harrogate Homeless Project or other agencies. Some come only once, while passing through Harrogate, others are regulars - all have very little or no income and without our support would have nowhere else to turn for something to eat that day.

**Food parcels** are available from 4:45 pm every day, except for Sundays, when it's 5:30 pm. Each person can choose three tins from a selection of tinned meat, vegetables or fruit as well as a loaf of bread. The bread is kindly donated by Betty's, but most of the tins are bought using cash donations, which mainly come from our own congregation. Each evening at least six people come and sometimes as many as thirty. Some come every day, some only occasionally - everyone comes with a very real need.

Once a month there is a **Super Supermarket**, when things such as pasta, rice, biscuits, toiletries and sometimes clothing are given out - most are donations from local shops, other churches, visitors, donors and again, our congregation.

# Strengthening Community

A monthly **Sunday Lunch Club** was started in 2017 by Hannah Beck and Yvonne Dawes at St Peter's Church to offer fellowship for our Matins congregation, many of whom live alone. A small band of volunteers cook either a main course or pudding in advance and bring it to Church. Members of St Peter's Breakfast Club come early to set up and lay the tables, work in the kitchen and serve the food - their help is invaluable and between 40 - 60 people are fed each week.



As we were looking to expand this to every Sunday, we were very fortunate to be offered the use of the Lower Hall and kitchen at the Wesley Centre and now a hot Sunday lunch is served there each week at 1:00 pm, except for the third Sunday of the month, when it's still at St Peter's. Anyone can join us, whether in need or not, and we have around 20 - 30 people who enjoy the fellowship as well as the food at Wesley each week.

**Lunchtime RefleXions**, which is held after Communion on Thursdays, has become another popular time in the life of St Peter's. There are uplifting readings and prayers, while a delicious lunch is served with friendship and love. On the menu are homemade soup and rolls, fresh sandwiches, filled baked potatoes, cakes and hot drinks at reasonable prices, with any profit going to support the work of the Church. We welcome old friends and new faces, catering for around 60 people each week. Thank you to all the volunteers who make this time so special.



**St Peter's Home Communion Team** visit the housebound and those in hospital, as well as residential, nursing and care homes to administer Holy Communion. They act as a link between the worship and congregation at St Peter's and the people who, for whatever reason, cannot attend Church. If you would like to receive Home Communion please contact the Parish Office.

Emmaus House, a Christian care home on Valley Drive, offers residential and respite care for the elderly. Sue Pearce, Assistant Priest at St Peter's, is seen here with resident Margaret Farrar receiving Communion at one of the monthly services held there.

# Refreshment Days

St Peter's Church is a centre for many community activities, concerts, exhibitions and civic events each year. On most Saturdays, unless there is a wedding, **Refreshment Days** are held by local charities and community groups. This year *The Boy's Brigade*, *Harrogate Dramatic Society*, *St Aidan's CE High School* and the *RSPCA* have all raised funds in this way. Our own Parish Events Team hold them regularly and organised a very successful event to celebrate the Royal Wedding - over 100 people came in to watch the proceedings on large screens and enjoy the excellent afternoon teas.

The building and all our rooms are wheelchair accessible with a lift to all floors. There are toilets and baby changing facilities. If you, or your group, would like to check availability or make a booking please contact the Parish Office, details below.



## Daily Services at St Peter's

*Morning Prayer is at 8:00 am and Evening Prayer at 5:00 pm Monday to Saturday*

### Sundays

- 8:30 am **Holy Communion** - a traditional said service held in the Choir stalls
- 9:30 am **Family Communion** - a structured but informal service accompanied by our Music Group. There is a Sunday Club for children.
- 11:00 am **Choral Matins** - a traditional service led by our Choir. On the first Sunday of the month this is Choral Communion.
- 4:15 pm **Afternoon Church** - starting with refreshments, a service for all the family.
- 6:30 pm **Choral Evensong** - a Cathedral style service led by our Choir. On the third Sunday of the month we have Choral Communion

### Tuesdays

- 12:30 pm **Healing Service** - this includes prayers with laying on of hands

### Wednesdays

- 10:30 am **Café RefleXion** - coffee, cake and Bible reflections

### Thursdays

- 9:30 am **Parents and Toddlers** - stories, songs and prayers, followed by time for coffee and play
- 11:00 am **Holy Communion** - a traditional said service
- 11:30 onwards **Lunchtime RefleXion** - food for your body and soul: a delicious lunch with readings

### Contact us:

**Parish Office:** Tel: 568218, email: [stpeters.office@ntlbusiness.com](mailto:stpeters.office@ntlbusiness.com) or visit our website:

[www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk](http://www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk)

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The next edition of THE NET will be coming out for the beginning of Advent, on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018.