

*The Magazine* \* May 2011



**s a i n t p a u l ' s**  
s t a l y b r i d g e

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# Mission Statement

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at Saint Paul's we seek to

*Develop our faith through worship, prayer and learning.*

*Grow together in love and service*

*Share God's love with the wider community*

*Welcome others into the church family.*

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find us on the web at: <http://www.stpaulstaley.co.uk/>

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## Sunday Services at Saint Paul's

Sunday	08:00 am	10:30 am	06:30 pm
May 1	Holy Communion: HC2	Parade Service	Holy Communion and Healing Service
May 8	Holy Communion: HC2	Holy Communion: HCI	no service
May 15	Holy Communion: HC2	Morning Prayer: MP:CW	no service
May 22	Holy Communion: HC2	Holy Communion: HCI	no service
May 29	Holy Communion: HC2	Morning Prayer: MP:CW	no service

**HCI** Holy Communion : *Common Worship* Order 1 (contemporary)

**HC2** Holy Communion : *Common Worship* Order 2 (traditional)

**MP:CW** Morning Prayer : *Common Worship*

**MP:BCP** Morning Prayer : *Book of Common Prayer*

**EP:BCP** Evening Prayer : *Book of Common Prayer*

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10:30

**Sunday School (begins in church)**

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# from the **vicarage**

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**W**hen you read this article in all probability *Norma* and I will be (hopefully) sunning ourselves in Turkey. For the first time since I was ordained we have decided to take a holiday immediately after Easter. In a way this is appropriate, it marks one year in ministry at St. Paul's. I have now witnessed the full Christian year, and have always said that after such I would then feel I had fully settled in Stalybridge. A welcome break will thus allow *Norma* and I to refresh ourselves, before throwing our energies into our second year in the parish. I say our energies as *Norma* returns to *St. Paul's* after her placement just down the road in *Holy Trinity*.

In last month's 'From the Vicarage,' and also in my contribution to the AGCM Report, I focussed on the churches GAP priorities for the coming year, but of course, these are not the only priorities in this Church. Other areas of the church should not be neglected, although we must be patient. Indeed, other areas may develop into GAP priorities in coming years.

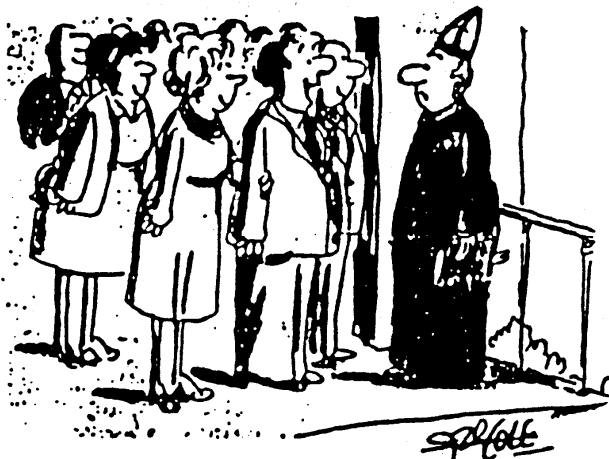
Mission giving is one such area which I feel we could become more involved in as a church. God has been kind to

us; we now have the chance to be kind to others. And this isn't simply giving of money, but also giving of time. I am currently discussing with the clergy (and others) from *St. James, Millbrook* and *All Saints, Micklehurst* about the setting up of facilities to offer food parcels to those in the local community who have been hit hardest by the recession and are struggling to 'make ends meet.' With this in mind there is a meeting at **7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May** for anyone from the three parishes who is interesting in helping to set up such facilities. Any small contribution would be appreciated.

**A**nother area which I feel God has placed on my heart is to do with leadership in the church. Many churches have trained pastoral workers. Our pastoral care can be very good, but it is patchy. I feel we would benefit from someone who has been trained by the diocese as a Pastoral Worker. Also, looking ahead, *Norma* will only be with us one more year (she will not be allowed to do her Curacy with me as I am her husband), and I feel we need a woman's presence on the leadership team, as a Pastoral Worker, or possibly as a Lay Reader.

I preached on giving a few weeks ago, and the open invitation to discuss with me your personal giving in terms of time and talents remains open. There may, of course, be others areas of service that you had in mind.

Y. Adkinson



*Are we glad to hear you don't know where you will get the money you need - for a moment we were afraid that you wanted to get it from us!*

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## Magazine Plus

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From time to time you will see something like this at the end of an article:

**MAGAZINE+** use the links on our website to read the full article.  
<http://www.stpaulstaley.co.uk/>

We are adding a section to the website where you will find links to websites which give more information

on topics covered by articles in the **Magazine**. Just visit the website and look for the link to the **Magazine** page in the menu on the left.

*As well as links to other resources we will be putting back copies of the **Magazine** on the site in .pdf format at the end of each month.*

# GAP letter from the *Bishop of Stockport*

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Dear Tim  
and Members of St Paul's P.C.C.,

**T**hank you very much for the upbeat review of your first year in GAP and your plans for Year Two. The parish made a good start - not waiting until a Vicar was appointed, but agreeing goals to attempt during the vacancy.

You are now in a position to develop further the opportunities afforded by your Church School. I am sure that growing contacts with St Paul's school will yield important long-term results. This is not a "quick fix", as relationships with staff, parents and children all take time to build. The close proximity of the church to the school will encourage, you to continue patiently with this. The new initiative of a Christian Union group and the involvement of children in Family Parade Services will, I am sure, build the faith of the young people involved, and encourage their families to associate more closely with their parish church.

The major repairs to the church building are an important part of preparing for mission. As you remarked in your notes, there will be times when you face tensions between investing finite resources in growth opportunities and the more tiresome payment of repair and refurbishment bills. However, I encourage you to take the long term view. Your investment in your plant will greatly enhance the facilities you can use for mission for many years to come.

Developing your strategy to welcome and integrate new worshippers into the life of the Family of God will enable more people to "stick." I know that your PCC has looked closely at this aspect of parish development with Richard Burton.....

**P**lease accept my congratulations on the progress made so far. I am particularly pleased that you are making space to celebrate it with your congregation. It is important that everyone is aware of GAP and the positive difference it is making to the parish. I want GAP to feel like "good news", not "yet another chore". Nothing motivates and encourages people like success, so be sure to keep reporting what is going on, and giving thanks to God for his blessing on your efforts. In doing so, the church as a whole will see that you are growing, not only in numbers, but in health and depth too as you draw closer to your vision of a growing, loving and welcoming fellowship.

With my thanks for our partnership in the Gospel,

Yours sincerely



The Rt Revd Robert Atwell  
*Bishop of Stockport*

It's Friday, it's 7 o'clock...so it must be

# Youth Club *writes Suzanne Martin*

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*It's Friday, it's 7 o'clock and it's term time, so it must be youth club!*

This used to be the case but due to a shortage of adult helpers we can now only meet on a fortnightly basis.

We are also limited to 15 children to maintain a safe ratio of adults to children. We take children from the age of 7 upwards and if you have a child who is interested I would be happy to put their name on a waiting list if we are full. *Some new girls would be welcome as we have many more boys at the moment.*

*However, we still offer a range of activities including football (don't worry Tim we use a foam ball), snooker, table tennis and a craft or cookery table. Cookery is always very popular especially anything involving chocolate! During the lighter nights we try to provide*

*outdoor sports on the back car park. Subs are 75p to pay for the room hire and we have a snack shop selling a range of drinks, sweets and chocolate. Any profit made from this pays for the craft supplies and cookery ingredients.*

Occasionally we arrange a trip to the bowling alley or cinema.

It can be very noisy and we sometimes have to remind our children they are in a church but I hope our young people enjoy themselves.

Anyone who thinks they might be interested in becoming a leader, either on a regular or casual basis, please contact me to arrange a visit to help you decide if this is for you. All helpers have to complete a CRB check.

**Contact: Suzanne Martin 01457 764302**



**A**t the church where I play the organ, I often get asked by young couples planning their wedding service for advice on the music and hymns (or “songs” as they invariably call them) they should choose. Very many of them have never been in a church before, have no particular interest in religion and absolutely no knowledge of the hymnody. To be frank, it’s the brides who usually insist on a “proper church do”. Ours is an impressive-looking building in a pretty

them, which you should avoid:

*Fight the good fight;*

*O Jesus, I have promised to serve you till the end,*

*Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways.*

A poor joke and one which means nothing to most of the couples as, more often than not, they haven’t heard these hymns.

## What do you suggest?

organist *Jeremy Nicholas* writes about choosing wedding hymns and the great, but endangered, hymn tradition

location – and the girls want their *Corrie* moment, their *EastEnders* photo opportunity. The blokes generally just go along with it. Soap operas have a lot to answer for.

“Have you chosen what hymns you would like?” I ask. A depressing amount of times, the answer is “Well, we don’t really know any. What do you suggest?” There are several, I tell

**Sing on, with hymns uproarious, / Ye humble and aloof, / Look up! And, oh, how glorious / He has restored the roof!**

(John Betjeman, *Mount Zion*, “Hymn”, 1931)

**T**he first rule, I advise, is to pick something everyone knows. Jerusalem and I vow to thee my country are popular choices,

though some vicars have banned these from weddings for being either secular, nationalistic, inappropriate or all three. *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven* (surely one of the great hymn tunes with one of the great last verse descants), *Lord of all hopefulness* and *Love divine, all loves excelling* are firm favourites, though the last one causes trouble as it can be sung to either Stainer or Blaenwern, depending on how the lyrics are printed (“Which tune would you like?” “Don’t know. You choose.”). *Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning* is often selected (my friend the Archdeacon still winces at the memory of it being sung at a cremation he conducted) as are *Morning has broken* and *Lord of the Dance*, the last a singularly odd choice

for a wedding, in my view, with its final two verses dwelling on the torture of the Crucifixion. I do try and steer them away from *All things bright and beautiful*. Much as I admire its author, Mrs C F Alexander (see also *Once in royal David's city, There is a green hill far away*), I really don't want to sing or play it ever again. Still, as I always say to the happy couples, "It's your wedding. You have what you want".

**T**his scenario would not have taken place 20 years ago – and certainly not 40. In England, at least, every school day started with assembly or chapel where you sang at least one hymn: one hymn a day for every day of your school life. It was a shared, formative experience. No wonder that by the time you left, you had unwittingly learnt a vast number of unforgettable melodies, if not some of the words. It was taken for granted. Hymns were absorbed as readily as nursery rhymes and folk-songs, and like them, those we sang were simply part of growing-up, part of the fabric and thus embedded deep in the national psyche.....

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**MAGAZINE+** use the links on our website to read the full article.  
<http://www.stpaulstaley.co.uk/>

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**Eric Routley** adds "*Turn back, O man*" to the list of hymns which ought to be avoided at weddings.

He also writes about the influence which royal weddings have had on the popularity of wedding hymns. *Praise my soul...* was used at the wedding of the then Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. They also set a trend by including the *Lord's my Shepherd*

*O perfect love* became fashionable when it was given a new tune and used at the wedding of Princess Louise of Wales and the Duke of Fife in 1889.

**W**e will have to see if this year's royal wedding sets any new trends. For non-royals, help in planning a wedding is available from the Church of England's new wedding planning website :

<http://www.yourchurchwedding.org/>

Among other things the site includes a list of popular hymns together with sound samples so that you can listen to them before making up your mind.



**B**renda and I keep remembering the lovely Landmark Trust hideaway we went to up in *Kintyre*. More than a month on from that Scottish trip, we are still regularly mentioning it. I've just thought about it again now, which is why I thought I'd drop a quick email.

Thank you from  
**Richard and Brenda**

It was such a special place, and a wonderfully relaxing break. We thought of you all often up there, and were so grateful again for your fabulous goodbye gift to us!

..... And we've still got at least one holiday left from your present! If we find another spot as magical as that one, we'll be jolly lucky! Thanks again for giving us such a marvellous holiday.

Have a wonderful joyful Easter, when it comes.

With our love,  
**R&B**

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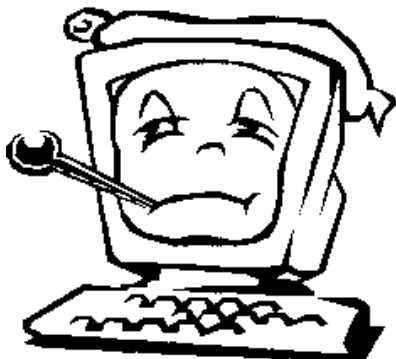
**T**he Sunday following Easter is sometimes called "*Low Sunday*". This may be because it is seen as relatively unimportant after the festivities which accompany Easter Day, but it is possible that "low" is a corruption of the Latin word *Laudes*, which is the first word of a passage used in the Latin Mass for the day: "*Laudes Salvatori voce modulemur supplici*" (Let us sing praises to the Saviour with humble voice)

Low Sunday and  
**Quasimodo Sunday**

The day has another nickname too. It is sometimes called **Quasimodo Sunday** which again comes from the Latin text of the Mass for the day

which begins "*Quasi modo geniti infantes...*" ("As newborn babies...", from I Peter 2:2).

If the name "*Quasimodo*" strikes a chord then you are probably thinking of the hero of Victor Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* who was found abandoned on the doorsteps of Notre Dame on the Sunday after Easter, AD 1467. He was baptised by the archdeacon, his adoptive father who called him *Quasimodo*; "*whether it was that he chose thereby to commemorate the day when he had found him, or that he meant to mark by that name how incomplete and imperfectly moulded the poor little creature was.....*"



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June's

## Magazine

Items for the next edition of **The Magazine** should be received by  
**15 May 2011.**

Please post them in the box in the  
church entrance or give them  
to George Maddock.

You can also email items to:

**[stpaulsweb@gmaddock.plus.com](mailto:stpaulsweb@gmaddock.plus.com)**

Contributions to **The Magazine** are  
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**G**race strikes us when we are in great pain and restlessness. It strikes us when we walk through the dark valley of meaninglessness and empty life. It strikes us when we feel that our separation is deeper than usual, because we have violated another life, a life which we loved, or from which we were estranged. It

## Grace

strikes us when our disgust for our own being, our indifference, our weakness, our hostility, and our lack of direction and composure have become intolerable to us. It strikes us when, year after year, the longed-for perfection of life does not appear, when the old compulsions reign with us as they have for decades, when despair destroys all joy and courage.

**S**ometimes at that moment a wave of light breaks into our darkness, and it is as though a voice were saying: "You are accepted. *You are accepted!*" accepted by that which is greater than you, and the name of which you do not know. Do not ask for the name now; perhaps you will find it later. Do not try to do anything now; perhaps you will do much. Do not seek for anything. *Simply accept the fact that you are accepted.* If that happens to us, we experience grace. After such an experience we may not be better than before, and we may not believe more than before. But everything is transformed. In that moment, grace conquers sin, and reconciliation bridges the gulf of estrangement. And nothing is demanded of this experience, no religious or moral or intellectual presupposition, nothing but *acceptance.*  
Paul Tillich

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*In the beginning,  
Before time, before people,  
Before the world began  
**GOD WAS***

*Here and now,  
Among us, beside us,  
Enlisting the people of earth  
For the purposes of heaven  
**GOD IS***

*In the future  
When we have turned to dust  
And all we know has found its  
fulfilment.  
**GOD WILL BE***

*Not denying the world but  
delighting in it,  
Not condemning the world but  
redeeming it,  
Through Jesus Christ  
By the power of the Holy Spirit  
**GOD WAS, GOD IS,  
GOD WILL BE***

**The Iona Community**

## St. Paul's £10 Challenge

In last year's *£10 Challenge* we had the chance to 'borrow' £10 from the *Restoration Fund* – provided we used it to fund an event that would return the £10 - and more besides - to boost the Fund. To the list which appeared in April's *Magazine* should be added:

**The Lunch Club Kitchen Helpers;** Who had a stall on *Lunch Club Thursdays* during October and November where they sold home made meat pies; cheese and onion pies; soup; trifles; and crumble. They also sold produce from the *Mottram Road Allotments* which had been donated, including tomatoes; apples; etc. ....and *Ruth's* home made jam.

This effort raised a magnificent £157

## £10 Challenge Quilting and Craft

This was an opportunity to make some Christmas decorations, using quilting ideas and materials. Our host and teacher for the session was *Judith Davy*. We arrived at Judith's late morning and started off with liqueur coffees before we turned our minds to our first craft which was a little chicken bean bag in festive material. After producing a peep of chickens (*I believe that is the collective noun!*) and feeling pretty pleased with the result, we shared lunch - a choice of two delicious homemade soups with bread followed by a choice of homemade cakes (thanks to *Fiona Davy*) we returned to making two further Christmas decorations. Mine were a Father Christmas and a Christmas tree. It was a lovely peaceful day and I was able to turn the table on the children by returning home with crafts that they could 'coo' over – as I had with them over the years at St. Georges and Stalyhill!!  
*Jacqui Barker*

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## *Food Hamper Initiative*

There is a meeting at the Vicarage on **24 May** at 7pm to discuss a joint venture between ourselves and *All Saints, Micklehurst* and *St James', Millbrook* to provide food hampers for families badly affected by the recession.

**See Tim if you wish to be involved.**

**G**rowing in containers has become increasingly popular over the last thirty years or so, and some spectacular effects can be achieved. However there are certain principles to be followed. Remember that any plants growing in any form of container are going to be restricted in their root development, and therefore in general will demand more attention to watering and feeding than would similar plants growing in the open ground, where they have a free root run to obtain the necessary water and nutrients.

## in the garden

*With Frank Ashton*

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I might mention at this stage that one of the easiest groups of plants to have in a container are the *hostas*. Despite the reputation of these plants for liking moisture, I have found they stand up wonderfully to my neglect such as forgetting to water them, and feeding them only very rarely. Last year during the very dry April, May and June our *hostas* in clay pots were never watered and yet showed no signs of distress. Bearing in mind that clay pots dry out much quicker than plastic pots, this is a tribute to the toughness of these plants. A layer of alpine grit on the compost

surface also tends to keep them slug and snail free. (I don't recommend such neglect as described in this paragraph, but mention it only because few other plants will stand up to such poor treatment!)

The compost must provide good drainage while holding enough moisture, and also aeration and anchorage. Although many plants are happy in most potting composts, plants which only thrive in acid soils, such as *camellias*, must have an ericaceous compost with a low pH if they are to stand any chance of thriving. In an exposed site using a soil-based compost like *John Innes*, gives an added weight and therefore stability to the container.

When growing several plants in one container, try to ensure that they are compatible with each other and like the same type of compost. It is not much use planting drought-loving plants such as succulents (which require a very gritty loam based compost) with plants that prefer a compost which retains moisture well.

Combining plants in our baskets and containers works better if they are not only compatible in their composts requirements but also in their growth rates, so that you don't find the vigorous ones overpowering others which don't grow as strongly.

Watering sometimes requires fine judgment, and many fail by assuming that because it has rained there is no need to water the baskets or other containers. In many cases this rain will hardly wet the compost especially when the plants are in full growth, as the leaves will cause much of the rain to be deflected outside the container. Also with many baskets on a house wall the rain may not even touch them, depending on the direction it is coming from.

Another thought when watering. If we water until it comes out of the bottom of the container, we are automatically removing valuable nutrients from the compost, so it is a good idea to learn to stop before this point is reached.

Feeding is always worthwhile once the containers are in full growth. Use a standard liquid feed at the rate and intervals suggested by the manufacturer. (A standard tomato is very good for most flowering plants.) Alternatively slow-release fertilizers can be added to the compost before the plants go in and water-absorbing gel can be mixed in at the same time.

So good luck with this year's containers. I must admit some people are extremely green-fingered with containers. A

number of years ago while judging Trafford M.B.Cs garden competition I came to a small front garden in Stretford full of flowering plants in containers. I have rarely seen such a stunning display and the first place award was very richly deserved.

*Mottram Road Allotments Association's 32nd annual Plant Sale* takes place as usual at the end of the month over the Bank Holiday Sunday and Monday. Opening times are 11:00am to 3:00pm on Sunday the 29th and 10:00am to 3:00pm on Monday the 30<sup>th</sup>. As usual a wide range of bedding and container plants will be available at the right time for planting but for those who want them earlier, advance order forms are available. These need to be in by *Sunday the 15th of May* so that the plants can be collected on *Sunday the 22nd of May*.

Enjoy your May garden.

**Frank**

# from the Registers

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## Weddings

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Carl Davis and Stephanie Robinson 23 April 2011

## Baptisms

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Grace Olivia Chesterton 10 April 2011

Sonny Allan Maden 10 April 2011

Maisie-Cay Green 10 April 2011

Annie Ray Grace Taylor 10 April 2011

Pamela Lynne Catlow 10 April 2011

Katie Louise Holt 10 April 2011

Thomas Chesterton 10 April 2011

Joseph William Edwards 10 April 2011

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**TRAIDCRAFT**  
Fighting poverty through trade

A *Traidcraft* stall selling **Fairtrade** produce is usually held in the Lounge after morning service on the **Second and Fourth Sundays** in the month.

## **C h r i s t i a n   A i d** **Lunch**

Sunday 15 May after the Morning Service  
**at 12 noon**

# through the week at **St Paul's**

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<i>Weekdays</i>	Funtasia Kids' Group	
<i>Monday, Wednesday, Friday</i>	Teddies Playgroup	9:00-11:30 *
<i>Monday</i>	Choir	19:30
<i>Tuesday</i>	No. 2 Brownies	18:30-20:00 *
<i>Wednesday</i>	Prayer Group - 4 Early Bank	
<i>Thursday</i>	Mums and Tots	13:00 –15:00 *
<i>Thursday</i>	Rainbows	18:15-19:15 *
<i>Thursday</i>	Brownies	18:30-20:00 *
<i>Thursday</i>	Guides	19:30-21:00 *
<i>Thursday</i>	Bell Ringers	19:30-21:00
<i>Friday</i>	Flower team	11:30-14:30
<i>Friday</i>	Church cleaning	18:00-18:45
<i>Friday</i>	Youth Club - every other week	19:00-21:00 *
<i>Saturday</i>	Prayer Group	09:30-10:00

**\* Term time only**

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## flowers in **May**

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<i>1 May</i>	<i>Vacant</i>
<i>8 May</i>	<i>Doreen Williams</i>
<i>15 May</i>	<i>Vacant</i>
<i>22 May</i>	<i>Vacant</i>
<i>29 May</i>	<i>Alan Clegg; The Ball family</i>

# diary for May

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01 **First Sunday after Easter**

03 Weight Watchers 17:30-9:30

08 **Second Sunday after Easter**

10 *Mothers' Union* trip to Southport 10:15

Weight Watchers 17:30-9:30

11 PCC meeting 19:30

12 Lunch Club 12:30

14 Coffee Morning 09:30-13:00

15 **Third Sunday after Easter**

*Christian Aid* Lunch 12:00

17 Weight Watchers 17:30-9:30

22 **Fourth Sunday after Easter**

24 Weight Watchers 17:30-9:30

Meeting to discuss Food Hamper initiative: *Vicarage* 19:00

26 Lunch Club 12:30

29 **Fifth Sunday after Easter**

31 Weight Watchers 17:30-9:30

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***In a Gallup survey 12 percent of Americans asked thought that Noah was married to Joan of Arc.***

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