

**PARISH CHURCH: Contact Information**

Vicar Rev. Paul Tullett Tel: 0121 730 2081  
Email: paulofwaterorton@hotmail.co.uk

Curate Rev. Peter Norman Tel: 07766 477 188

Lay Reader Stephen Record Tel: 07432 139 849  
Email: stephentrecord@gmail.com

Churchwardens Kim Smith Tel: 07940 541 121  
Email: kimberleypfs@googlemail.com

Kayla Norman Tel: 07766 477 187  
Email: kayla@easycool.co.uk

Church Administrator Judith Fisher Email: waterortonchurch@hotmail.co.uk

Treasurer Deborah Perks Email: waterortonchurch@hotmail.co.uk

Co-ordinator of Pastoral Care Olwyn Powell Tel: 0121 748 7621

The Bridge - Editor Kay Hailstone Email: kayhailstone2014@yahoo.com

**The Link (Water Orton Community Venue)**

Manager Jane Fowler Tel: 0121 748 6360  
Email: bookingsatthelink@gmail.com

Website Church and The Link [www.waterortonparishchurch.org](http://www.waterortonparishchurch.org)

**METHODIST CHURCH: Contact Information**

Ermine Mitchell Lay Minister 07704025401  
Mrs Gill Day Senior Steward 0121 747 9897  
Mr Roger Boulton Bookings 0121 747 8086

Contact telephone numbers for Emergencies etc: (taken from individual website information)

Coleshill Hub: Tel: 01675 462 517

HS2 Complaints: Tel: 08081 434 434

British Gas: Tel: 0800 111 999

National Grid (Electricity problem): Tel: 105

Seven Trent Water (Report water leak): Tel: 0800 783 4444

Potholes (Warwickshire): Tel: 01926 412 515

**APRIL 2024**

# THE BRIDGE

THE GREAT GIFT  
OF EASTER  
IS HOPE.

~ BASIL HUME



Have a Happy and Blessed Easter

**LINKING CHURCHES AND PEOPLE  
IN WATER ORTON**

**Worship at St Peter and St Paul’s Church, Water Orton**

9.00a.m. Holy Communion every Sunday  
11.00a.m. All Age Worship every Sunday  
10.00a.m. Holy Communion every Wednesday

Sunday 14th April Quest –Family 3.30p.m.  
Evening Service of Compline via Zoom, every Wednesday evening 9.00p.m.  
Zoom ID: 508 367 3910

We will continue to Zoom most of our services for the foreseeable future., certainly Sunday 9.00a.m. and 11.00a.m; Tuesday Morning Prayer, Common Worship 10.00a.m; Wednesday - Said Communion at 10.00a.m; Thursday - Contemporary Prayer Meeting, on Zoom only, 9.00a.m. - 10.00a.m. Zoom meeting ID: 508 367 3910

**Worship at Water Orton Methodist Church**

Sunday worship is at 10.30a.m each week and is led by Rev Nick Jones, Mrs Ermine Mitchell our Lay Preacher, Mrs Gill Day, Mr Roger Boulton and visiting Ministers and Lay Preachers.

Contacts:  
Ermine Mitchell Lay Minister 07704025401 Mrs Gill Day Senior Steward 0121 747 9897  
Mr Roger Boulton Bookings 0121 747 8086

**The Good News, the Bad News, the Good News, the Bad News**

1. In 2018, we celebrated 150 years of Methodism in the village, raised the funds and refurbished the church buildings – the Wesleyan Chapel is the oldest public building in the village and a beautiful spiritual sanctuary and the large community hall is light and freshly painted.  
2. Then it rained and rained. The roof leaked and trickled down those freshly painted walls!  
3. We raised the funds and now have a new roof.  
4. We now have to raise funds to repair rain damage and replace a damaged damp course so that the buildings can continue to be attractive, accessible and inexpensive for the whole community to enjoy. Balfour Beatty Vinci Community Team have offered to do the painting for us and we will continue to raise funds through monthly table top sales on the last Saturday of each month. If you are de-cluttering and have good items for sale, please contact Margaret on 07738703376. Thank you

**WHAT’S ON AT THE METHODIST CHURCH**

Monday	9.30a.m. - 11.30a.m. 8.00p.m -10.00p.m.	Child Minders Local Vocals	Debbie Helen Hyde	07961 241 662 07341 935 958
Tuesday	10.30a.m. - 2.00p.m.	Dance Classes	Dawn Bartlett	07847 093 070
Wednesday	10.00a.m. -12 noon 8.00p.m. - 8.45p.m. 8.45p.m. - 9.30p.m.	Dance Classes New Salsa Dance New Argentine Tango	Dawn Bartlett Dawn Bartlett Dawn Bartlett	07847 093 070 07847 093 070 07847 093 070
Thursday	6.00p.m. - 8.00p.m.	Youth Club	Rev. Paul Tullett	07581 544 978
Friday	6.30p.m. - 8.30p.m.	Boys’ Brigade and Girls’ Association	Mr Kim Smith	07940 541 121
Saturday	10.30a.m. - 12.30p.m. Last Saturday of the month	Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale	Margaret Smith	07738 703 376

**MONDAY**

10.00a.m. - 11.30a.m. KIDDOODLES - Parent & Toddler Group  
12.45p.m. - 1.30p.m. JO JINGLES - mixed age class. Contact Lucy 07976 819851  
1.45p.m. - 2.30p.m. CHAIR YOGA Contact Emma 07861 747448  
3.00p.m. - 4.15p.m. QI GONG with Denise Contact 07454 708646  
5.15p.m. - 6.00p.m. BODY CONDITIONING  
6.15p.m. - 7.00p.m. BODY CONDITIONING with Kathryn - 07786 669688

**TUESDAY**

9.30a.m. - 12noon ART CLASS Watercolours with tutor, Carl 07852 531188  
10.00a.m. - 12noon ART CLASS - All ages and abilities welcome.  
6.00p.m. - 7.00p.m. YOGA with Emma Contact 07861 747448

**WEDNESDAY**

10.00a.m. - 11.30a.m. KIDDOODLES - Parent & Toddler Group  
5.30p.m. and 7.00p.m. SLIMMING WORLD Contact Jayne Reece 07453 348184

**THURSDAY**

9.30a.m. - 11.30a.m. WOMBATS - Parent & Toddler Group Contact Kayla  
email: kayla@easycool.co.uk Tel: 07766 477187  
5.00p.m. - 6.00p.m. KARATE class age 5+ Contact Jason 07515 360586  
6.15p.m. - 7.00p.m. BOUNCE AND BURN Contact Emma 07861 747448  
7.30p.m. - 8.30p.m. YOGA with Emma Contact 07861 747448

**FRIDAY**

12noon - 1.30p.m. MEET AND EAT - Lunch and chat for the retired

**SATURDAY**

9.30a.m. - 12 noon SHINING STAR STAGE SCHOOL  
Shining Tots ages 4 -7 Shining Stars ages 7+  
Email: info@shiningstarstageschool.co.uk

Children’s Parties £45 per hour  
Please contact for availability on 0121 748 6360

*For more information contact The Link on 0121 748 6360  
Email: bookingsatthelink@gmail.com*

*Updated February 2024*

## SPRING CONCERT

Come and join us celebrating Spring in Water Orton Parish Church on the 21st April 2024.

PRESENTING

The Coleshill Youth Band and Church Choir, Bringing music memories.

Refreshments will be served and a Prize Draw comes WITH YOUR ENTRANCE TICKET,

Tickets £7. 00      3.00p.m. Start

All proceeds will go to Sense; Deaf, Blind Children's Charity and Age UK.

Tickets will be on sale in Water Orton Parish Church from Saturday 23rd March, or in church between 10.00a.m. and 11.00a.m. any Sunday morning. after that.

If you have difficulty in getting to church, please contact Trixie on 0121 681 0537.

## WATER ORTON SUPPER CLUB

February was a great evening for Supper Club. We had 81 members plus great entertainment given by Bruce and his one man band. Also the audience participation gave us all lots of great laughs.

April 20th is our A.G.M plus entertainment and a Fish and Chip supper. The Club seems to get really well supported and thank you to everyone who joins us. We welcome new members too. Please telephone Mike for further information on 0121 747 5980

## WATER ORTON LADIES

Our next meeting is on April 18th at the Pavilion, Water Orton Playing Field at 2.00p.m. We will be welcoming Bob and Del Neil who will be talking to us about "Bits and Bobs". The sales table will be "Books" so have a sort out and bring them along. Look forward to seeing you.

## A MESSAGE FROM PAUL, VICAR OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S

### CHURCH, WATER ORTON

Welcome to latest edition of The Bridge.

Most of you who make time to read this (thank you!) will be aware of dementia, through personal experience. As some of you will know my own father, Peter, is currently living with Alzheimer's and vascular dementia. Over time you see changes as the illness makes its presence felt.

On this subject matter I do not claim to be an expert, I am not. When someone suffers from this condition of course tough decisions need to be made, which are never straightforward. I have spoken to a number of women who have reluctantly agreed for their husbands to go into care. They always feel guilty at such recourse. In my capacity as Vicar, I try to tell them that they have done nothing wrong, that the decision they made was no decision at all because it was the only option.

There are a good number of charities that offer support, some well known. One charity which is less well known is Independent Age. They were founded over 150 years ago and can be found at [www.independentage.org](http://www.independentage.org) Their free-phone number is 0800 319 6789. They have free guides on: -

- Advice for later life
- Behind the wheel
- Being winter wise
- Choosing where to live
- Coping with bereavement
- Dealing with depression
- Getting help at home
- How to find the right care home
- If you're feeling lonely
- Moneywise
- Scamwise
- Staying in control when you're older.

We have some copies in the Robert Lloyd Room at church. Please feel free to call in for a copy. Tuesday morning would be a good time.

God Bless

Paul



## **Christian Aid Week 2024 May 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> - heads up!**

Water Orton has the wonderful tradition of young people's groups, their leaders and parents taking a lead in this annual campaign, raising funds to support our global brothers and sisters affected by the life changing effects of brutal wars, food, inequality and the impact of climate change.

However little, each of us can make a difference. Donation envelopes will be delivered with your May Bridge. Please deal with them straight away, so that they are ready for collection, or they can be left in designated drop off points. Please fill in the Gift Aid form that will add 25% to your donation.

We still need willing collectors to join our teams to ensure all roads are covered during the week. If you can give one or two evenings, please contact Margaret on bandm7@talktalk.net Every year our generous village gives more. Please be part of this.

### **The Pilgrimage - a Moving Journey**

Coming home from church a few weeks ago and putting on the TV, I caught the end of a programme called, "The Pilgrimage" and became instantly absorbed in the magnificent scenery and the courage of a disparate crowd of walkers who were walking the Pilgrim Way across the Alps to Rome. Among the group were a lapsed Jehovah's Witness, a singer, a TV presenter, a non practising Jew, two actors and a black, gay comedian called Stephen. They travelled over high mountain passes, through ancient forests and medieval towns. One pilgrim said, "There were times when I was very aware I was walking in the footsteps of other pilgrims". They were all moved by the distant view of the Holy City and when eventually they reached St Peter's Square described the feeling as "awesome". They were given a beautiful testimonial which officially recognised their pilgrimage; the Jewess said she felt renewed energy, cleansed and decluttered.

All were all astonished when they were told they were to be given a private audience with the Pope. Stephen, the black, gay comedian, told the others he wanted to tell the Pope that he felt rejected, and to ask him "Where do I belong? Is there a God? Would he care for me?" The others thought it was ok to ask a question but it must be done with respect.

The Pope received them with humility and showed a special interest in each one of them as he shook their hands, sending a blessing to one man's mother and congratulating them on completing their long pilgrimage. They sat quietly in a private room and Stephen got a chance to ask his question. He said, "I have always felt rejected by the Church because I'm gay. I lost my mother and 3 months ago I buried my twin sister, they were both very religious. I came looking for answers but as a gay man, I don't feel accepted".

The Pope said, "Giving more importance to adjectives than nouns is not good. We are human beings and have dignity...there are people who prefer to select or discard people because of the adjectives.....these people do not have a human heart. I feel myself among brothers and sisters. I have not asked any of you what your faith or belief is because you all have a basic faith in humanity"

The Pope hugged each one and tears were in Stephen's eyes. He said, as he wiped his eyes, "How candid and honest a response...blowing my mind, that's what I've been searching for, for a long time". Blessed and affirmed by a Pope, a fitting end to Stephen's search for acceptance.

## **EVENTS FROM THE PARISH CHURCH CALENDAR**

**Open Café in the Robert Lloyd Room** - open every Tuesday 9.00a.m. - 11.30a.m.

**Food Bank** - Open for collection and distribution, Tuesday and Saturday mornings 10.00a.m. - 11.00a.m.

**Memory Café - Robert Lloyd Room** Meetings will be held on 1st Friday in the Month 2.00p.m. - 4.00p.m. For further information please contact either The Hub - Coleshill, on 01675 462517, or message Peter Hyde on 07443 614254.

**AA Meeting - Robert Lloyd Room** Every Monday at 7.30p.m.

### **MESSAGE FROM STEVE STUART, ONE OF OUR COUNCILLORS**

Dear Fellow Villagers,

On the 18<sup>th</sup> May there will be the Annual Parish Gathering held in Water Orton School hall between 12noon and 5,00p.m. This is the opportunity for you to engage with groups and clubs in the village. There will also be the opportunity for you to detail what you want to see in (and for) the village in the months and years to come. More details to follow - keep your eyes peeled - but do take this opportunity to get involved.

My weekly Tuesday surgeries (Robert Lloyd Room 10.00a.m. - 11.00a.m.) will recommence on 16<sup>th</sup> April after a little Easter break. My next Saturday morning at the library (10.30a.m. - 11.30a.m.) will be 20<sup>th</sup> April and fortnightly thereafter.

Happy Easter!

Steve