

Who's who @ St Paul's

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

Timothy Crow	01905 25827
Dot Burnett	01905 22022
Phil Haines	07916 584719
Dave Freeman	01905 612904

FUSION LEADERS

Paul and Steph Boyd	01905 726120
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CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Eric Doyle	01905 22022
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ADMIN ASSISTANT

Liz Coward	01905 22022
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ELDERS

Peter Pickering	01905 356230
Roy Smallwood	01886 880858
Mark Pawson	01905 755156
(treasurer)	

St Paul's Services

Sunday

- 9.15am - Worship, ministry and communion
- 10.30am - Kidz Church (Midland Road community centre)
- 10.30am - Refreshments
- 11am - Worship and ministry
- 6pm - Refreshments
- 6.30pm - Encounter

Monday

- 6.30am - Men's prayer meeting
- 7.15pm - Powerhouse - breaking through in prayer

Tuesday

- 9.45am - Parent and Toddler group
- 4pm - HELP
- 7.30pm - Fusion (13-17 discipleship youth group)
- 7.30pm - 18+ discipleship group

Wednesday

- 7.30pm - Worship practice (11am team)

Thursday

- 10am - Bible study
- 11.30am - Silverliners
- 4pm - HELP
- 7.30pm - Encounter Xtra (20+)

Friday

- 9.45am - Parent and Toddler group
- 10am - HELP
- 7pm - Alf and Edge

A first class delivery

Many of you are aware that I used to work for the Royal Mail. This I did happily (despite the weather) for 24 years until I felt the Lord had called me to deliver messages of another kind.

So in September 2009 I began my studies at the newly relocated Regents Theological College in Malvern. What followed was two years of great teaching and hard study during which I felt the Lord confirm His calling on my life. Throughout this time of change Anna has been such a great support and encouragement and I can honestly say I couldn't have done these things without her.

Despite holding down a full time job at the Grammar School, Anna finds time to keep me on the straight and narrow. The next few months will present new and



exciting challenges to us as a family. With my studies at Regents finishing shortly, I'll be coming on board full time as part of the leadership team at St Paul's with a view to heading it up in the first quarter of 2012. Also for good measure our daughter Grace is due to begin her studies at Keele University in September.

As a family we would really appreciate your prayers for protection and guidance for the challenges that lie ahead. I'm confident that as we seek the Lord as a fellowship and are obedient to His call we can impact the city of Worcester for the extension of His kingdom.

Phil and Anna

FOCUS GROUPS

Claines: Ken and Wendy Cartledge. 44 Colin Road. 01905 451775. Thurs - bi-weekly

Encounter Extra: (20-35yrs) Contact church office for venue. Mark and Raquel Hall. Thurs 7.30pm - weekly

Fernhill Heath: Nick and Izzy Carrol. 53 Station Road. 01905 452697 - Tues, 8pm - weekly

Henwick: Terry and Maggie Curtis. 35 Everard Close 01905 425945. Tues 7.30pm - weekly

Home Meadow: Richard and Jennifer Funge. 2 Dady Croft. 01905 726158. Fri 7.30pm - bi-weekly

Lambert Road: Chris and Sarah Stacey. 3A Lambert Road, St John's. 01905 425265. Thurs 7.45pm - bi-weekly

Lower Wick: Brian and Janet Merry. 81 Bromwich Road 01905 425706. Weds 7.30pm - weekly

Malvern/Upton: Colin and Helen Dolding. Curlew, Hook Bank, Nr Welland. 01684 594204. Fri 7.45pm - bi-weekly

Silverliners Xtra: Peter Pickering. St Paul's Church. 01905 356230. Tues 11am - weekly

Spetchley: Anthony and Anushia Goodman. 40 Badger Gardens. 01905 764244. Tues 7.30pm - bi-weekly

St John's: Doreen Porter, 01905 420568

Freedom In Christ: David and Val Roberts, 01905 428512.

Warndon: Mike and Eve Lindley. 39 Langdale Drive. 01905 613159. Weds 7.30pm - weekly.

St Paul's NEWS

The bi-monthly newsletter of St Paul's Church, Worcester

May/June 2011

Parade brings splash of Palm Sunday colour

Our first ever Palm Sunday parade from the community centre on Midland Road to the church building was a colourful success with more than 30 children and their parents putting St Paul's on the map with a noisy procession.



Altogether around 60 people armed with balloons, banners, blowers, and Easter eggs for local children, marched from the community centre along Wylds Lane with a detour into Dent Close.

The week before Dave Collet and Colin Dean had leafleted the flats and homes in the area to let them know we were on our way! "We had a lovely time," said Dot.

"The sun was shining and the balloons were a colourful sight with lots of people bringing their children out to see what the noise was all about.

"We gave away loads of balloons and little boxes of Easter eggs which contained cards explaining the meaning of Easter," she added.



Crossroads responds to Japanese earthquake



Japanese earthquake and tsunami survivors are receiving aid from the Crossroads Foundation in Hong Kong.

Helen Dewar is currently working there and says that the bitterly cold weather is making the situation desperate.

"One of the major agencies says thousands of children have no proper protection against the cold and snow. They estimate that 100,000 children are homeless," said Helen.

At Crossroads, they quickly prepared a consignment of blankets for distribution. "The recipients said it was a timely gift as homes were without heating leaving people to huddle around kerosene lamps or rely on layers of warm clothing and blankets.

"We're continuing to work towards ways to assist Japan rebuild, yet, even as we do, a deeper tragedy troubles us," said Helen.

"The headlines on Japan are quickly fading. The world's cameras are moving away; a pattern we have seen happen repeatedly in the lives of hundreds and thousands of others devastated by disasters - for example Haiti and the Pakistan floods.

"Typically, news coverage lasts a few days, but impacted lives struggle for decades. May we be those who stay the course and walk the path alongside those whom we have been called to serve."

Warndon Praise news

Due to the temporary closure of Warndon Community Centre for major building work, the Warndon Praise services in May and June have been cancelled.

Herefordshire calling...



Spring has sprung at Prior's Frome Chapel! (pictured above).

With the return of good weather we are hoping that those living in the villages around will come out to the various events that we have planned for the next few months, including coffee mornings, an Open Day on May 14, community lunches, a "Discovering Christianity" course, keep fit sessions, military gaming evenings, and hopefully some films and other fun activities (see our newsletter for more details).

Please pray for us as we seek to reach out to those who don't yet know Jesus in rural Herefordshire.

We meet every Sunday and there is an open invitation from any of our St Paul's family to pop along and join us on the other side of the Malvern Hills!

Tim Prince



Tim and Helen Prince and family ▲

Charly wants a lotta bottle for CU outreach

Charly Burnett has become the president of the Christian Union at Manchester Metropolitan University's Crewe campus.

The missions-minded CU has already planned its September campaign when the new crop of students arrive during "Freshers Week".

They're hoping to make a splash by giving away bottles of

washing up liquid to the new students. "Each of the bottles will have a sticker on it promoting the CU with a verse from the Bible," said Charly. "The problem is, with the cost of tuition fees, us impoverished

students haven't got much money, so we're asking if our home churches can support by donating bottles of washing up liquid." Donated bottles (or money to buy them) can be left at the information desk.



Which activity has been part of St Paul's Church the longest?

It's probably Silverliners! This group meets on Thursdays, from 11.30am to 1.45pm and is open to all seniors (60+).

So, what's on offer?

Food – an excellent lunch is provided by our dedicated team of voluntary caterers. We also have a monthly preserve stall which

supports Samaritan's Purse.

Friendship – We enjoy meeting up each week for a good old chat!

Fun – A chance to take part in a light-hearted quiz and we also organise occasional outings.

Fellowship – we have a time of praise and prayer, and each week a different guest speaker brings a short talk. Everyone is welcome – if

you're not old enough yet to qualify, do encourage anyone who is!

The cost is £2.50 a week. We'll leave the final words to some of our members:

"Not to be missed!"

"100 per cent good"

"A chance to celebrate birthdays and to pray for one another"

"We renew long-standing friendships"

"Grateful for the kitchen team's dedication"

Silverliners - fun, food and fellowship



Small group leadership training

Between January and April, on six Saturday morning sessions, Peter Read, from Regents Theological College, has conducted leadership training for those who lead small groups and teams in our church. A number of valuable principles were identified:

- Small group involvement is vital for all committed members of a growing church
- That pastoral care is shared by all the members as they care for one another in all kinds of ways – prayer, visitation, acts of kindness for instance. Pastoral care is not uniquely the work of a

professional 'pastor' but the duty of all members of the body

- That meeting together in a small group or team should not try to replicate a Sunday service; those occasions need to be interactive, relational, varied and directed but not dominated by the leaders. This requires a balance of truth (the Word of God) and life (meaningful relationships and community)
- That small groups need to be focused on discipleship and growth: the goal should be to see numbers increase with a view to multiplication and spiritual gifts to be recognised and

developed

- Valuable principles regarding confidentiality and the relationship between the leaders of small groups and the central pastoral leaders in the church were also explained with helpful clarity

This has provided us with a platform to review the small group life at St Paul's with a view to developing it in a way that will enable us to grow as a more fruitful fellowship of God's people in Worcester. Let's believe God for wisdom and help to move forward in His purposes together.

Tim Crow

Jeanette and Ron wrestle with a new language

It's mid April and we are still enjoying some very pleasant weather of about 26°C - it's a blessing that our flat faces east so we'll be protected from the hot afternoon summer sun when the temperatures reach the high 30s°C.

Recently we stopped our formal classes at a private language school and started informal classes with a tutor. After a period of learning language this way we may look into the university language centre.

When we visited here three years ago we met Sis K from the Catholic church. She's what I imagine a young Mother Theresa was like.

We went to see Sis K a few weeks ago and she was so happy to see us and even remembered our names!

She told us that she learnt English in the Philippines by sitting in

(Jeanette and Ron's location has been kept out of the article to protect them)



primary school children classes - so I've joined her in teaching English with 3-5 year olds.

As the children learn their English words by rote hopefully I'll learn their language too! Ron teaches English with a young man named Dung who then teaches him some key words and phrases.

A couple of weeks ago

we bought a 110cc motorbike. Having the bike has given us the chance to get out and see the countryside.

The drive along the beautiful coastal road makes us feel like we are back in the Mediterranean again. Thanks for your letters and support.

Love

Jeanette and Ron

Eva's Nepalese adventure begins...

Hi all. Well this is it – I'm in Nepal! I'm going to be working in a pre-school as well as travelling into deprived villages to work with children and the adults. I think the Lord has got a real plan for me in Nepal as He took me there last year for two weeks and He is now taking me there for a year!

I want to thank all those that have helped me with the finances or by praying or just by encouraging me.

I really do appreciate all your support and feel very blessed by it. Please continue to pray for me for all that the Lord is going to be doing out there. Pray that I will have ears that are willing

to listen and obey, that I will settle into a new culture, that I will make friends and that my work will be a blessing to all the children that I will be trying to help and love. May God bless you all. I will miss you but look forward to seeing you in a year's time.

Eva

Katie prepares for Albania mission trip

Dear Friends at St Paul's I've just got back from a week away in Huddersfield with the FP team on our UK Mission week.

We were supporting a new church there called The Ark, which was planted about a year ago and we had a busy and exciting few days with them.

We spent a lot of our time in Huddersfield town centre giving out

leaflets and doing cold-contact evangelism, which was a little scary to start with but very fruitful.

Although not everyone was receptive, we got the opportunity to tell many people the gospel and invite them to church.

Some people allowed us to pray for healing for

them and one girl who was limping due to a foot injury got healed!

Over the next few weeks we are preparing for our overseas mission trip to Albania. We are praying that God will use us effectively as a team and that the hearts of the Albanian people will be open to the gospel.

We know that God goes before us in all things and that he is at

work even now preparing the ground in advance for us.

Your prayers would be appreciated for this trip - we are expectant for God to transform this nation!

Much love,
Katie



Katie with fellow FPers on Castle Hill, Huddersfield

GREATWOOD UPDATE

Huge thanks for donations to help towards the cost of this year's weekend away with our youngsters at Greatwood.

Nearly £1,000 was given, which means we're able to take several children who would otherwise have missed out.

Thank you so much.

Dot

Shoebox stories

If you've ever made up a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child and wondered what happens when it reaches Belarus, now's your chance to find out.

Nicolai Balbutski manages the warehouses which receive the shoeboxes and has some fantastic stories to tell of how the shoeboxes are received. He's at St Paul's on Monday, June 6, at 8pm. Refreshments will be served and information leaflets will be available. For more information speak to Joan Hatfield.

Oasis is a small group of parents or spouses whose children or partners have serious and long-term challenging behaviour, or life-threatening illness. The group meets monthly to share, think, discuss and pray.

For more info, contact Liz in the church office on 01905 22022



I was first approached about Oasis on a visit to St Paul's when we were in between churches. On that evening I made very polite noises and said I might come along, but to be extremely honest, I had no intention of ever coming to such a group. However...as we settled and made St Paul's our home I was amazed at the support I was given with Lois' illness, with genuine concern for us as a family, and saw God's love in action.

Liz showed me wonderful love helping me to trust God in our situation, something I have never experienced before. After a period of time I decided to go along to the Oasis group, an evening I will not forget. I was surrounded by folk who, though having problems themselves, showed me love and concern.

What has flowed from that evening is amazing...

I now have folk who text me on a regular basis, I can have a coffee with and chat or just to share Lois' problems with others who have similar burdens etc.

I see Oasis as an answer to my son's prayer; he had been praying for years for me to have friends to share and to pray with as in the past I bore this burden alone.

I now look forward to Oasis meetings - my prayer is I will not just be a taker from this group, but will be able in some way to contribute and be able to support others in similar situations.

Rosemary McGrath