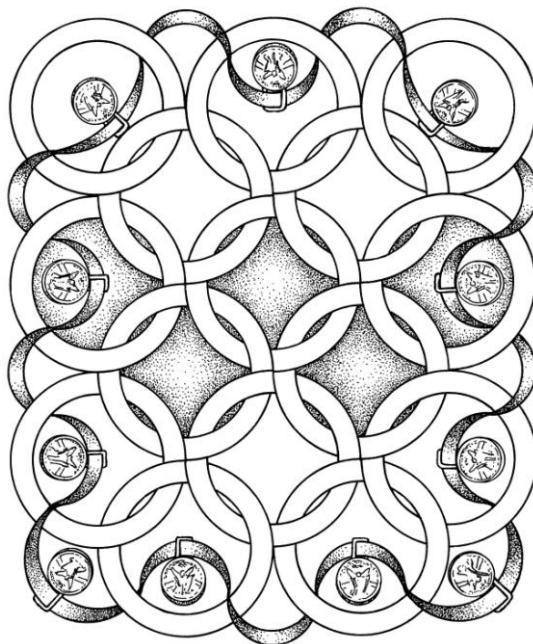


**The Parish Church of St Paul
Ansdell & Fairhaven**

Pews News Extra

Issue No 94 – August 2016



Rio Olympics August 2016

“Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us...” (Hebrews 12:1)

CHURCH OFFICERS

Vicar

The Rev Paul Bye

Tel

Reader

Miss Janet Kimber

Reader Emeritus

Mr Peter Swindells

Church Wardens

Mrs Michele Briers

Mrs Pamela Rowell

Verger

Mrs Carole Johnson

Parish Secretary

Mr Alan Curtis

Treasurer

Mrs Loraine Lee

Organist

Mrs Linda Carrington

For a full list of Who's Who as St Paul's please pick up a list from the Parish Office, Church or St. Paul's Fundraising Shop

Parish Office

Tel No 01253 732939

Fundraising Shop

Tel No 01253 732253

Website

www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com

E-mail

stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com

To hire the Church Hall please contact
Carole Johnson

A few words from the Vicarage...

It is fair to say that this past month has been one of great upheaval for our nation and world. It has been said in politics that the events of a year can take a decade, or a decade's events can happen in a year. Or a month in our case!



We are to leave the European Union. One Prime minister has stepped down and after much turmoil another has been appointed. In other parties the question of leadership is in real flux. It has been a month of uncertainty in everything from the economy to our new relationship with neighbours.

In the wider world, a terrible atrocity took place in Nice. In Turkey there have been threats to the government. In many other countries sadnesses continue without making it to our screens.

Whichever side of the referendum people voted, we have been asking big questions - Where are we heading? What will happen? Who will lead us? Who will protect us? Maybe you have asked them.

It is right we look to human leaders for guidance and direction. They are part of God's gift to us. If you are a praying person, please pray for our leaders in their difficult tasks.

However, there is one person we must look to at this time, and always. Well over 2000 years ago, one of the song writers in the Bible wrote this to a nation in crisis;

'God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear...Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall, He (God) lifts his voice, the earth melts' (Psalm 46:1,6)

It is a needed reminder of the One who is still in control of our world and country. The One to look to when all around seems fearful. The One to put our trust in for true leadership of our own lives. The One to take refuge in rather than our economy or political clout. He is the Lord we know and meet in Jesus Christ.

That is why as a church we would love to invite you to our 'Crossroads' weekend of events from the 8-10th September (see below for more details) – a chance to have fun together and to explore this good news in Jesus – in a time of uncertain and often bad news. Please do come along, we'd love to welcome you.

So this summer, as we look to human leaders and the future, let us first look to One whose voice cuts through even in times when 'nations are in uproar; and kingdoms fall.'

Have a great summer and I hope you are able to rest and relax,

Paul



CROSSROADS WEEKEND



Come and join us for a weekend of fun, and opportunities to explore the best news ever!

Thursday Family Service Special

Thursday 8th September 6.15pm at St Paul's Church Hall
Songs, activities, Bible story, refreshments for the whole family

Men's Breakfast

Saturday 10th Sept (time and location TBC)
Chance to hear how one man's life was changed by Jesus

Community Garden Party

Saturday 10th September 2-4pm at St Paul's Church Hall
BBQ, stalls, activities for the family



A Note from the Editor: If you would like to know more about the Crossroads Mission, please turn to page 7 for more information.

Hello,

What a busy couple of days we had at the end of June. Our regular monthly meeting was one of our relaxed, get together and chat occasions, helped by jam and cream scones. Final arrangements being made for the next day's Indoor Members Party.

We welcomed over thirty MU members of 80 years and over from our Deanery, along with a number of carers and drivers. We were pleased to see Mrs. Enid Nutland our Diocesan President and four of the Diocesan Committee, also our Deanery President Mrs Elizabeth Carey. Christine brought the MU stall and was pleased to raise over £70 towards the work of the MU. We were delighted to have Paul join us for the afternoon and say Grace. We supplied afternoon tea of sandwiches, quiche and cakes. Entertainment was provided by Ken Dagger and Jacqui Veazey, who both sang songs from the musicals with Ken adding amusing anecdotes and jokes. Our thanks go to the two men who helped set up and clear away the tables and all the members who gave up their time to make the afternoon a huge success. Many texts and e-mails expressing pleasure and thanks have been received from those present.

A Celebration service is being held on Tuesday 9th August at 7.30 pm to mark the MU now being 140 years old. It would be nice to see those of our members who feel able to attend.

Please don't forget to let me know if you are coming to our Summer Lunch, for members, at Fairhaven Golf Club on Monday 22nd August.

My excerpt from "Bacon Sandwiches and Salvation" this month is;

Human Beings: The main reason for God sending his Son, and, coincidentally and ridiculously, the main obstacle to the fulfilment of his plan.

Take care.

Jean Lyon

~~~~~

**Editor:** More information about 140 years of the Mothers' Union on p.8.

# PARISHIONER'S NOTES

## *Thank You*

A big thank you to Paul and Ruth for their hospitality in hosting an 'Open Afternoon' at the Vicarage.

A lovely sunny afternoon of fun and fellowship was enjoyed by all in the vicarage garden.

Thank you also to Emily, Anna and Abigail for sharing their trampoline and toys with the younger visitors.

## *Missing ~ A Long-Armed Stapler*

The long-armed stapler has been missing from the Parish Office since the end of April 2016, presumably borrowed but not returned! If anyone knows its whereabouts, please would they return it as soon as possible! Its absence is causing difficulties for the stapling of the PNE and Orders of Service. Thank you.

*Janet K.*

## *Please Pray*

*for Andrew, Anna & Phoebe Beckham*



My Godchild, Anna, is a trained nurse and midwife; and her husband, Andrew, is a doctor.

They are supported by AIM International and are hoping to go to South Sudan later this month, to live with the Laarim tribe in the Boya Hills. They take with them their medical knowledge and Christian mission to work with the Christian Church in the area. This is a huge commitment for them and they will need all our prayers. I obviously will keep in touch with them.

*Sheila Swindells*

## *Help required for our Garden Party*

*Saturday 10th September*

*We need a group of volunteers to co-ordinate this event, which is timed to be part of the Vision 2026 Crossroads event weekend.*

*Please speak to Paul, if you think you can help.*

## *What is Crossroads?*



Crossroads is an opportunity for us as a diocese to unite together in locally organised mission, outreach and evangelism.

Archbishop Sentamu, together with the Bishops of the Northern Province and their teams, will be working in our diocese from 8th – 11th September 2016. We have 23 Bishops, plus the Archbishop of York visiting our diocese alongside teams composed of a mix of lay people, youth workers, ordinands and clergy.

The essence of Crossroads is local churches engaging in local mission. The events and style of the mission are decided at local church and deanery level, with the visiting mission team supporting what has been decided by parishes.



## *Fylde Food Bank Donations*

The red box at the back of church was there so food could be donated for those in need, an odd tin of something if I remembered to bring it. I have recently volunteered to take the donations from St. Paul's to the 'Food Bank'. I knew it was to help people in need, but it was only when delivering our donations I could fully appreciate the vital work that is undertaken on our behalf. Providing a service for adults and children who are in crisis. A total of 3463 adults and children in less than two years.

I have a copy of the Annual Report for 2015-2016 (a short document) and with the permission of Fylde Food bank, anyone who would like a better understanding of what they do and how they operate can read it.

The one thing all the volunteers there would like to say is:

THANK YOU

*Barbara Jackson*



# A Million Gifts to Celebrate the Queen's Birthday

Churches throughout the country who celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday in June by giving away copies of *The Servant Queen* and *The King She Serves* have made it Britain's most popular book this year. Nearly one million copies were ordered in the space of five months.

The 64-page gift book, with a foreword by Her Majesty The Queen, was published by HOPE, Bible Society and the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity, and uses the Queen's own words to draw out the central role of her trust in Jesus Christ.



As Roy Crowne, HOPE's executive director, explains: "The Servant Queen has opened up lots of conversations about the Queen, her service to nation and Commonwealth, and the example of Jesus Christ which motivates Christians worldwide to serve people in their villages, towns and cities."



*Now Available at St. Paul's!*

**The Servant Queen**  
**& The King She Serves**

St. Paul's PCC has agreed to purchase copies of this  
and these will be available at the back of church  
and in the fundraising shop.

Whilst there is no charge for the booklet,  
a donation of £1 per copy would be gratefully received.

*Thank you!*



# Happy Birthday to Mothers' Union!

This month (August) will see the world's largest lay-Christian membership charity, Mothers' Union, mark 140 years of faithful outreach to families of all faiths and none.

Since 1876, when Mary Sumner first brought together parents in her own parish to build their confidence in bringing up their children in the Christian faith, the MU has grown to an organisation of over four million women – and men – in over 80 countries of the world.

Why celebrate 140th, rather than wait for 150th? In the Old Testament of the Bible, in the first book of Samuel, there is the story of Samuel marking an unlooked for victory against the mighty Philistines by erecting a stone between Mizpah and Shen, naming it "Ebenezer" meaning "stone of help" as a permanent reminder of the leading and guidance of God "Thus far has the Lord helped us".

Over the past 140 years, Mothers' Union has faced, and will continue to face, many challenges. Family life is under increasing pressure and the call on MU's resources is higher than ever. But the MU can look at how it is meeting these challenges and say, like Samuel, "Thus far has the Lord helped us."

The same chapter in Samuel recounts how, throughout Samuel's lifetime, the Lord helped him and Israel meet the challenges they faced. As the MU marks its 140th year, the future is very much on its mind. And so this summer's celebrations are not only about celebrating how God has led and blessed the MU so far, but also how He is leading in future ministry, guiding as the MU seeks to discern the needs in our communities that are necessary for stability for both families and society as a whole.

During 2016 over 500,000 people will benefit from Mothers' Union's support for family life. Many more will know the support of its membership without any tally being taken – because in their daily lives MU members support families in prayer, in voicing their support for policy changes that benefit families and in their practical support.

There has never been a more challenging, or more exciting time to be part of Mothers' Union. Find out more from your local Mothers' Union or by ringing 020 7227 0620 or email [communications@mothersunion.org](mailto:communications@mothersunion.org)

## **READERS' ROTA – SUNDAY (10:30am)**

| <b><u>Date</u></b>        | <b><u>Reading: 1st:OT &amp; Psalm, 2nd:NT</u></b> |                                | <b><u>Name</u></b> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 7th August<br>Trinity 11  | 1st                                               | Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22 | Pam Rowell         |
|                           | 2nd                                               | Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16           | Mike Briers        |
| 14th August<br>Trinity 12 | 1st                                               | Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82    | Sheila Redcliffe   |
|                           | 2nd                                               | Hebrews 11:29-12:2             | Richard Redcliffe  |
| 21st August<br>Trinity 13 | 1st                                               | Isaiah 58:9-14; Psalm 103:1-8  | Barbara Jackson    |
|                           | 2nd                                               | Hebrews 12:18-29               | Bryan Nicholson    |
| 28th August<br>Trinity 14 | 1st                                               | Proverbs 25:6-7; Psalm 112     | Sheila Swindells   |
|                           | 2nd                                               | Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16          | Eileen Russell     |

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EVENING PRAYER ROTA – SUNDAY (4:00pm)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Said/Sung</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Preacher</u>
7th August	Trinity 11	Sung	Paul	Paul
14th August	Trinity 12	Said	Paul	Paul
21st August	Trinity 13	Sung	Janet K.	Paul
28th August	Trinity 14	Said	Janet K.	Janet K.

~~~~~

### **Parishioner Donations**

This is proving to be very popular way of giving much needed items to church. So, if the thought of donating money towards a specific item, such as a box of candles, wine or wafers, appeals to you, then please speak to one of the Wardens or a member of the PCC.

We would be very pleased to hear from you.

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Many of the articles and pictures in the Pews News Extra are sourced from the Parish Pump Website and the Association of Church Editors monthly edition of "Ideas Forum"



Holidays or Holy Days?

August is a month when many of us go on holiday. The balance of work, rest and play is a biblical one and at its heart lies the Sabbath principle.

God himself established this principle when He rested from His work on the 7th day and made it holy (Genesis 2:2). He set aside a special day for people to gather for celebration and worship. It also provides an opportunity for rest and refreshment, as a break from the routines of life. The Jewish Sabbath runs from sunset to sunset and so begins with food and sleep. However, Christians celebrate the Sabbath on the first day of the week. It is not so much about stopping at the end of a hard week's work, as recognising that the whole of life is sustained by God.

Sabbath is also an attitude not just a single day! It invites us to take the principles of resting and celebration into everyday life. There are sabbatical seasons i.e. periods of extended rest e.g. holidays or career breaks, which aim to positively renew us. Each day we can make Sabbath moments, when we try to be still and appreciate the day. It's a great way of using idle moments eg waiting in traffic! Developing these attitudes will increase our appreciation of God and his world!



Two men challenged each other to a wood-chopping contest. One worked hard all day, stopping only for a brief lunch break. The other took time over lunch and several other breaks. At the end of the day, the man who had worked straight through was annoyed to find that the other had chopped substantially more wood than himself. The winner simply said, 'Didn't you notice? Every time I sat down to rest, I was sharpening my axe!'



Winning Big!

As the eyes of the world focus on the start of the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Debbie Flood retells her own story of being an Olympic medalist.....

Debbie Flood is a World Champion rower (three times over) and an Olympic silver medalist (twice). She competed at Athens, Beijing and London Olympics.

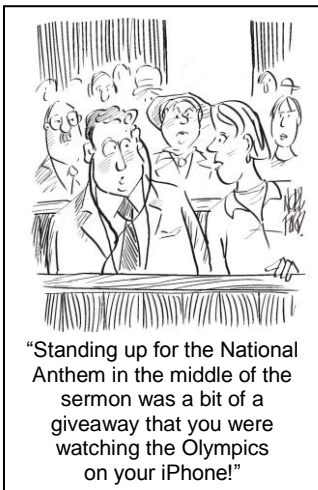
A former coach told her 'You're never going to make it in the rowing world.' But her medals show wonderfully that wasn't true!



Debbie has lived the dream that many watching the Rio Games will have. But Debbie's life is more than just about rowing.

Debbie has said, 'To be an Olympian is a dream come true; I would never have believed it if you'd told me a few years ago I would achieve this. But I have to say, for me it's not about the fame and success. Yes I had to work hard, and naturally I am delighted to get two silvers, but I have something far better than any medal. I want to be the best and win every race I enter, but what's most important in my life is my relationship with Jesus...'

Speaking of Jesus, she says, 'He has given me more than any Olympic medal could ever give me. He has forgiven me, changed me and made me a new person. I still do wrong things that mess up my life. God the Judge says there has to be a penalty for this. But Jesus died for me and paid the sentence for my sin. I am now seen as guilt-free in His eyes. That is something no Olympic success could bring. However sorted my life might be, without Jesus, it means nothing.'



This Olympics, we might not win a medal like Debbie, but we can find that good news like her. To hear more of her story, search 'Real Lives - The Olympian' on Youtube.

(Quotes used with permission.)

Quiet Corner

A Strong Hold

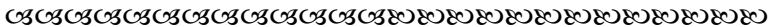
Should I slip and lose the way
The Lord will hold me fast,
Should I chose to walk away
I'm firmly in His grasp.

Though I walk through death's dark vale,
His rod and staff are there
I would not dare to walk this path
Without His loving care.

Although my hold on Him is light
His loving arms are wide,
What He's begun He will fulfil
Till I am safe on Canaan's side.

What God is this who loves us so?
Our future He has planned,
We're ever safe in His embrace
And none can snatch us from His hand.

By Megan Carter



Bartholomew (*Mt 10:3, Isaiah 49:16*)

Bartholomew,
Bartholomew who?
Sometimes I feel a lot like you,
A life unknown, but to a few,
And yet, and yet
I read it's true
That God remembers me and you.

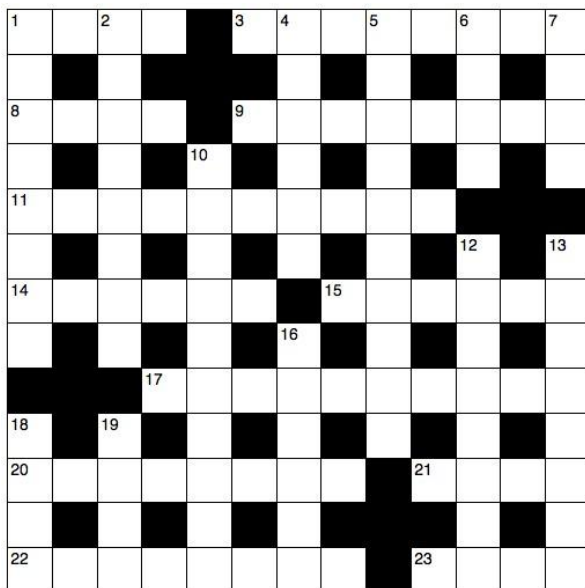
And we, Bartholomew, are engraved on the palms of his
hands.

Wow!

By Daphne Kitching

August 2016 Crossword

(The Bible version used in these crosswords is the NIV.)



Across

- 1 and 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)
- 3 See 1 Across
- 8 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)
- 9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)
- 11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)
- 14 How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)
- 15 In 'The Pilgrim's Progress', the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)
- 17 Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)
- 20 Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)
- 21 Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)

22 'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)

23 Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

Down

1 David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)

2 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)

4 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)

5 Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)

6 Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)

7 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)

10 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)

12 Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)

13 One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)

16 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)

18 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — — , and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)

19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)

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### Crossword Answers for July 2016

**ACROSS:** 1. Sabbatical, 7. Opinion, 8. Laing, 10. Olga, 11. Galilean, 13. Sardis, 15. Severe, 17. Adultery, 18. Flea, 21. Swazi, 22. Acetate, 23. Revelation.

**DOWN:** 1. Sling, 2. Brim, 3. Annual, 4. Ill-timed, 5. Abilene, 6. Colossians, 9. Gennesaret, 12. Diatribe, 14. Roulade, 16. Errata, 19. Learn, 20. Levi.

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Observations on our Christian faith

Don't bother much about your feelings. When they are humble, loving, brave, give thanks for them; when they are conceited, selfish, cowardly, ask to have them changed. C. S. Lewis

If God forgives us, we must forgive others. Otherwise it is almost like setting up ourselves as a higher tribunal than him. C. S. Lewis

Faith is the capacity to trust God while not being able to make sense out of everything. James Kok

Faith is not idle; it works while it waits. Ronald Dunn

The Way I See It : WHO ARE WE?

After the Referendum, Canon David Winter, former Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BCC, muses on the whole question of identity.



All this talk about Europe and the post-referendum arguments about identity have left me, and probably many people, wondering just who I am. After all, this island is home to people of probably the most mixed provenance in human history.

Way back, we were Celts, until our ancestors were driven back into the mountains of Scotland and Wales. Then came the Romans, the Vikings, Angles and Saxons, some to do a bit of pillaging and others to make themselves at home. Then came 1066 and the French invasion, which changed our language for ever.

Over the ensuing centuries we had various refugees from religious persecution, Irish people in huge numbers when harvests failed, and then more recently people from the Commonwealth, starting with the recruitment of workers from the Caribbean in the nineteen-fifties and then those driven from their homes by Idi Amin in East Africa. And so it has gone on.

Yet here we are, quite clearly a nation, even if we don't all look or sound alike. We may feel at times that it would be nice if everyone was just like we are, but deep down we know how boring that would be. It's a nice quiet afternoon exercise to map out our own answers to the question 'Who am I?' What are the things that really make me who I am? I've done my list. I am, I suppose, first and foremost Christian. Then I'm British (English/Welsh), European (geography/culture), and a member of the wonderful, multi-coloured, argumentative, richly endowed but endlessly flawed human race.

In the words of the old Church of England catechism, which older readers may remember, the answer to the question 'Who are you?' is 'a child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven'. Put it all together, and I'd settle for that.



Time for a Smile

Reward

A father of five children came home with a toy. "This is a reward for being good," he said. "Who is the most obedient one here? Who never talks back to Mum and does everything that Mum says to do?"

There were a few seconds of silence, and then all of the children said: "You play with it Daddy!"



'Bishop's Selfie'

Grave warning

Road sign outside the gates of a cemetery: Drive carefully. We don't mind waiting for you.

True story

A vicar entered a Christian bookshop to buy a popular book title. "Do you have 'Time to Embrace' please?" he asked. The astonished elderly lady assistant responded by slapping him across the face.

Move it

A South London clergyman who was appointed to another living received a letter from a firm of furniture removers. It assured him: "Dear Sir, We would like to remove you. In the last year we have removed 40 South London clergymen, to the entire satisfaction of all concerned."



The start of the football season was the cause of universal joy.

True Story

My father had a medical condition that meant regular visits to hospital. The local funeral director was a family friend, and had been very helpful giving dad lifts to and from the hospital. On one occasion, a few hours before he was due to come home, the ward sister approached my father with a grin. "Your wife is on the phone," she said; "She wants to know what time you will be ready for the undertaker to collect you?"

Come and Join Us! Everyone is Welcome!

Regular Church Hall Activities

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Organisation</u>
Monday	2:15 - 4:15pm	Mothers' Union (4th Monday)
	7:30 – 8:30pm	Zumba Class
Tuesday	6:00 – 8:15pm	Beavers & Cubs (Term-Time only)
Wednesday	From 10:30am	Church Coffee Morning
	6:30 - 7:30pm	Zumba Dancing
Thursday	6:15 – 7:30pm	Family Service
Friday	5:00 - 9:00pm	Rainbows, Brownies & Guides (Term-Time only)

Other Regular Church Activities

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Where</u>
1st Saturday	8:00-9:00am	Prayer Breakfast	In the Shop

St. Paul's Fundraising Shop

(Woodlands Road)

Opening Hours

**Monday to Saturday
10:00am until 4:30pm.**



Volunteers are needed. If you can help in any way please contact the Volunteer Managers on 01253 732253.

Ansdell and Fairhaven St. Paul

Church Services

Sunday

8:30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10:30am	Parish Eucharist (CW)
4:00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)

Wednesday

10:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
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Thursday

6:15pm	Family Service
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(A service for the younger members of our church, including songs, Bible Stories, prayers and activities.)



(BCP ~Book of Common Prayer; CW ~ Common Worship)



'Parish Surgery'

If you would like to discuss any matter with Paul, the Vicar, you are welcome to attend the following surgery:

Wednesday ~ 9:00-9:30am at the Parish Office



Weddings, Thanksgiving, Baptisms etc.

Thanksgiving/Baptism

If you're interested in finding out about the possibility of having a thanksgiving service or baptism for your child or yourself, please contact Paul, the Vicar where he can explain the process more, or join us on a Sunday morning at 10.30am.

Weddings

If you wish to arrange a wedding, please contact Paul, the Vicar.

You can contact Paul about these, and other matters by:

- telephone on 01253 734562, or
- email at vicar.stpaulsaf@gmail.com

Dates for Your Diary

August 2016



Saturday 6th

Men's Prayer Breakfast

8:00am ~ in the Shop

Tuesday 9th

Celebration Service for Mothers' Union

7:30pm ~ (Please contact Jean Lyon for venue.)

Monday 22nd

Mothers' Union Summer Lunch

Fairhaven Golf Club



*A Special
Date for
Your Diary*

Crossroads Event Weekend

8th – 11th September

A weekend filled with fun and fellowship!

(More details on page 4)



Activities are available for children who attend the 10:30am Service on Sundays.

Willing helpers are also required!

Ask Paul or Ruth to tell you more.



ARTICLES FOR THE SEPTEMBER PNE

If you have an article for inclusion in the September PNE, please make sure that I have it by **Monday 15th August**.

Thank you.

Janet Kimber



*For more information about our
Weekly Services and Activities
please see pages 18 and 19*

