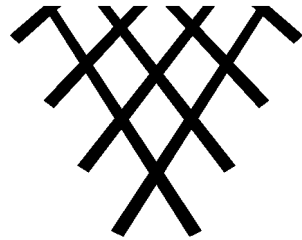
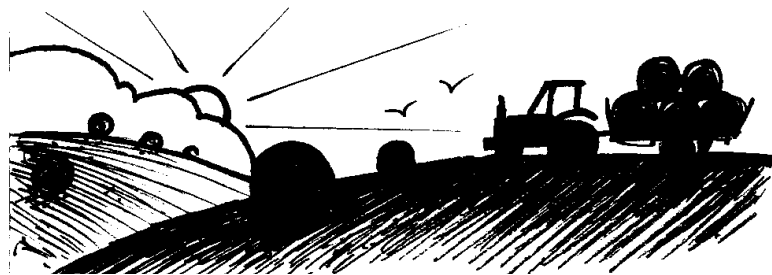


ST PETER'S
CHURCH STANLEY



September 2016
Parish News



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The Minister writes:

One of the great gifts and challenges we face in life is the ability to make choices. Free will seems at the same time to be a wonderful gift and an opportunity for disaster. The choices we make define our character and shape our future. We have big choices about career, relationships where we live. But there are also daily important choices about how we live and relate to each other.

One of the biggest choices we face is about what we believe and what principles we will live our life by. As a young man, fresh out of school, I thought that all this religion stuff was nonsense. One had to be stupid or feeble to believe all this impossible stuff about miracles and Jesus rising from the dead. It all happened so long ago, it can't be relevant to today.

Then I met people who followed Jesus who were not stupid and who were not feeble. I made the decision to look into this Christianity thing. Fortunately at the time a friend of a friend attended a good church in Bristol, where I was working on road bridges—actually it was the A38 north of Bristol where they were testing Concord at the time. The sound of the engines was awesome! At the church they had a discussion group for people wanting to ask questions about faith. I went along, bribed by the promise of a meal of faggots (my friend was an impoverished member of the BBC orchestra). I found the group really helpful and clearly found grounds for faith and a real experience of God's love. As a result of my own experience I am very keen that anyone who is interested in exploring faith has an opportunity to do that in a safe place.

I am starting our next series of Just Looking Groups (a chance to explore questions of faith) in October this year. For people who decide to make a commitment of faith, there is an opportunity to do that when the Bishop of Wakefield comes to lead a confirmation service in November at St Peters. So if you are interested in exploring faith or confirmation, please get in touch. Come along to our group and make your choice.

Rev Bill Henderson

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St Peter's Church Services

*All services are held at St Peter's Church,
Lake Lock Road, Stanley, WF3 4HW*

Sunday	10am	Family Communion
	7.30pm	Holy Space <i>(3rd Sun of month)</i>
Tuesday	2pm	Prayers
Wednesday	9.30 am	Holy Communion
	7.30pm	Taize <i>(1st Weds of month)</i>
Thursday	9:15 am	Children's Ark

Other Christian Worship

METHODIST CHURCH: Lee Mount Chapel

Sunday: 10:30am service

Minister: Revd Barry Owen

email: barry.owen@Methodist.org.uk, tel: 07753 127681

Steward: Mrs Doreen Abson, telephone: 01924 824577

ZION CHRISTIAN CENTRE

466a Aberford Road, Stanley,

www.zionchurch.co.uk, telephone: 01924 872262

Sunday:	10:30am Service
	11:00am Sunday School & crèche
Tuesdays:	7:30pm Prayer meeting
Wednesdays:	7:30pm Bible Study, discussions

Minister: David Dixon, telephone: 01924 872262

Linda Skelton

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DATES FOR SEPTEMBER

- Mon 5th Sept 1pm** Stanley Community Singers restart after the summer break. See page 12 for details.
- Tues 6th Sept 10am—2pm** Senior Citizens' Lunch club with activities and a hot meal, every Tuesday. See p13 for details.
- Weds 7th Sept 2pm-4pm** Coffee Afternoon at Mount Road Chapel with cakes, refreshments etc. See p10 for details.
- Weds 7th Sept 7.30pm** Taize service with contemplation, prayer and meditative music.
- Thurs 8th Sept 6pm** Moorhouse Community Action Group meeting at St Peter's church. See page 10.
- Fri 9th Sept 7.30pm** Film Club: 'The Walk' based on the true story of high-wire artiste Philippe Petit. See page 14.
- Sat 10th Sept 10am-12pm** Coffee morning at the Community Centre with tombola, cake stall, and much more, see p9.
- Sun 11th Sept 10am** Family communion and parade service with the uniformed organisations.
- Sat 17th Sept 11.30am-4pm** Macmillan cancer research fundraising event with various stalls and refreshments.
- Sun 18th Sept 7.30pm** Holy Space: a relaxed and informal evening service.
- Wed 21st Sept 7.30pm** PCC Meeting at the church.
- Weds 28th Sept 7pm-9pm** West Riding Watercolour society meeting with artist Charles Kelly. See page 14.
- Sun 9th Oct 10am** Harvest Festival family and parade service with the uniformed organisations.
- Tues 11th Oct 12pm** Community Harvest lunch: come and enjoy a free lunch, cooked using our harvest produce.

STANLEY LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Stanley Library offers a wide selection of books, talking books, selected language tapes, DVDs for hire, as well as a photocopier/A4 colour photocopier, fax machine, newspapers and selected magazines. There are also public access computers, offering free internet access, and basic computer programs (i.e. word processing). There are also free UK Online computer courses available offering internet training and Introduction to Computers —please ask in the library.

OPENING HOURS

Monday	9am—5pm
Tuesday	9am—5pm
Wednesday	Closed all day
Thursday	9am—7pm
Friday	9am—5pm
Saturday	9am—1pm

Reading Groups: There are two Reading groups: one meets in the morning of the first Monday of every month, and the second meets in the evening of the first Thursday of every month. Check with the library for times and book details.

Activities for Children: There is a Tiny Tots Storytime for under 5's, 11:30-12pm on certain Mondays: check with the Library for dates. Other activities for children are organised in most school holidays—please ask for details.

Family History Group: Family history sessions take place in the library on Saturday mornings from 10am-12pm.

Coffee Morning: There is a coffee morning every Thursday morning, 10am-12 noon. Come and relax with friends over a cuppa.

The Community Centre: The hall, two rooms and well equipped kitchen are available for hire. Contact the Librarian on 01924 303130 to book in advance.

Coffee morning thank-you

Thank you to everyone who supported the church coffee mornings over the summer. The coffee morning in July raised £191.70 and the coffee morning in August raised £198.60. The next coffee morning will be on Saturday 10th September from 10am—12pm at Stanley Community Centre. There will be lots of great stalls: tombola, raffle, cakes, books, jigsaws, toys, handmade greetings cards, and refreshments including bacon butties. Please join us for a very pleasant morning.



Summer concert successes

Thank you very much to everyone who supported these two summer concerts:

The Stanley Community Singers held a very successful concert on Sunday 3rd July at St Peter's Church. The choir sang a number of popular songs including some from musicals, and were joined by a number of young singers and instrumentalists. The concert was followed by refreshments and a raffle was also held. The concert raised £200, and half of this—£100—was donated to local charity 'Little Hiccups' which supports families with disabled children across Yorkshire.



The Rodillian Singers is an exceptionally good ladies voice choir that rehearses at St Peter's church every Thursday evening and performs regularly in concerts and at music festivals across Yorkshire with considerable success. The Rodillians generously offered to give a concert in aid of St Peter's church to thank the church for allowing them to use their premises. The concert was held on Saturday 9th July at St John's church in Wakefield and was a complete sell-out! Thanks so much to everyone who helped organise the concert, raffle and refreshments and to everyone who came along to support the concert. The Rodillians were joined on the night by the children of St Peter's school who had worked very hard to prepare a number of songs for the concert. The event raised £1,130.50 which was an extraordinary amount. Thanks to the Rodillian Singers for a fabulous concert! It really was an amazing night.

Mount Road Methodist Chapel Events

- The next Coffee afternoons at Mount Road chapel will be on Wednesday 7th September from 2pm—4pm with various stalls and refreshments. All welcome.
- The Harvest Festival service will be on Sunday 18th September at 10am and will be led by Rev Barry Owen.
- There will be a Macmillan Coffee afternoon on Wednesday 5th October at 2pm. This afternoon tea will raise money for the annual Macmillan 'World's Biggest Coffee morning' event.
- The next Jumble Sale will be on Wednesday 12th October at 1.30pm. Donations of jumble are always welcome and can be left anytime at the chapel.



Knit and Natter, Sew and Chatter!

At St Peter's Church Centre, every Thursday, 2pm-4pm

Enjoy a cuppa, company and a 'crafty' afternoon!

Please come and join this established group of ladies as they knit, sew, compare ideas and patterns, learn new crafty skills, and share conversation, refreshments and friendship.

Just turn up: you will be very warmly welcomed

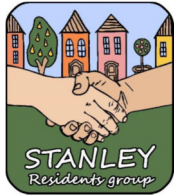


Prayer Meeting—every Tuesday from 2pm-3pm

The weekly prayer meeting at St Peter's Church continues to meet every Tuesday from 2pm-3pm, led by Calli McKenna. Call in to pray for those in trouble, sorrow, sickness or need; for family, friends, the community and the world. Everyone is very welcome; please come along.

Moorhouse Community Action Group

The next meeting of the Moorhouse Community Action Group will be on Thursday 8th September at 6pm at St Peter's Church.



Stanley Gala and Community Garden

Thank you to everyone who attended the Stanley Gala and helped make it such a success. The gala was held on the Lime Pit Lane playing fields on Sunday 31st July. Although the food vendors who were booked didn't turn up! everyone still had a good time and there are lots of great ideas for the gala next year.

Charlie was excellent as always as the compere and DJ for the event. From the funds raised at the gala, the Stanley Residents Group will be providing flower baskets for the village again next summer. Everyone has commented on how lovely the baskets looked this year. If anyone has any ideas or wants to join the group in raising funds for more baskets for next year please contact them by email on stanleyresidents@talktalk.net.

The Stanley Residents Group have also been instrumental in opening the Stanley Community Garden which is located opposite the community centre on Lake Lock Road. The group would like to thank Mark, Pam, Les and the team at Morrisons Logistics of Junction 41 who made the planters and also donated £600 for planting. Steve who works for Paul at First Impressions kindly did all the planting and First Impressions will continue watering them throughout the season. Yvette Shaw and her group The Friends of Stanley Playground organised the land and also provided the kickboards. Thanks also to Street Scene of Wakefield Council for providing the chippings. Many thanks to everyone who helped clear the area and raked the chippings into place.



Stanley Residents group hold an annual gala to raise funds for the hanging baskets throughout the village. However they are not able to put hanging baskets on lamp posts that have a sign on them. Therefore Lake Lock Road could only have hanging baskets at the bottom and the top of the road. Nevertheless, thanks to the Friends of Stanley Playground, Morrisons Logistics and Stanley Residents Group, the community garden provides a focal point for the village.

From the Stanley Parish Register

Funerals

Kenneth Watkins	8 July 2016
Sydney Bond	28 July 2016
Hilda Napier	9 August 2016
Marjorie Marshall	15 August 2016
Dennis Williams	23 August 2016
Joyce Crook	23 August 2016
David Atkinson	30 August 2016
Geoffrey Kale	31 August 2016

Baptisms

Maisie Erin Bratley	24 July 2016
Daniel George Moore	20 August 2016
Samuel Michael Thomas Davies	21 August 2016
Emily Daisy Rose Davies	21 August 2016

Stanley Community Singers

The Stanley Community Singers meet every Monday
(term-time only) at St Peter's Church, 1pm—2pm
with time afterwards for refreshments and chat.

Cost per session = £2.50

Come and join our friendly group of singers!

No previous experience required, just a love of singing!
We sing a variety of different music including pop, musicals,
spirituals and modern classics.

Come and make some new friends and enjoy a good sing!



St Peter's Senior Citizens' Lunch Club



At St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road

Every Tuesday, 10am—2pm

The lunch club meets every Tuesday throughout the year and enjoys a variety of activities, crafts and speakers each week. These activities have included quizzes, cookery, films, gentle exercise, health checks, and talks about the RNLI, railways, family history, and various charities.

- Arrive from 10am-10.30 and enjoy tea or coffee and a chat, followed by the activity of the day.
- Lunch served from about 12:15pm: a freshly cooked hot meal followed by dessert.
- Ideal for anyone wanting a bit of companionship and something to do!
- See poster in the community centre for the programme of events for the next few weeks.

Cost per person = £5

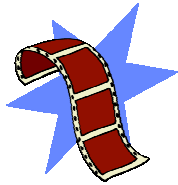
Phone the church office on 01924 835746 for more info.

Pokemon GO craze

Did you get involved in the Pokemon GO craze this summer? The mobile app that gave millions of US and then UK users their first experience of 'augmented-reality games' became an overnight sensation, attracting millions. Even churches got caught up in the



craze, inviting Pokemon gamers to come back for services. One church in Birmingham put up a sign which read: "You are welcome to visit us again for Sunday morning worship at 11am... join us for a cup of tea... Jesus cares about Pokemon gamers."



St Peter's Church
Film Club



Friday evening, 9th September 7:30pm

'The Walk' (2016)



Twelve people have walked on the moon, but only one man, Philippe Petit (portrayed in this film by Joseph Gordon-Levitt) has ever walked in the immense void between the World Trade Center towers. Guided by his mentor, Papa Rudy (Ben Kingsley), and aided by an unlikely band of international recruits, Petit and his gang overcome long odds, betrayals, dissension and countless close calls to conceive and execute their mad plan. Academy Award winning director Robert Zemeckis uses advanced technology in the service of an emotional, character-driven story. "The Walk" is a love letter to Paris and New York City in the 1970's, but most of all, to the Towers of the World Trade Center.

Doors open 7pm, film start 7.30pm

Free admission, tea & coffee; bring your own popcorn!

*West Riding Watercolour Society
& Art Group*

The group meets every month at St Peter's Church for demonstrations by artists, informal painting evenings and to share techniques and knowledge.



Open to everyone; the cost is £3 per session.

Next meeting: Wednesday 28th September 7pm-9pm

*With a painting demonstration by artist
Charles Kelly; all welcome!*



Note that meetings are now taking place on Wednesdays

Report from Stanley Grove School

Aberford Road, Stanley, Wakefield, WF3 4NT, Tel: 01924 303805

Website: www.stanleygroveprimary.co.uk Headteacher: Mrs J Frost

We welcome back to school all our children, their families and our staff after the summer holidays. We also welcome Mr Reynolds, a new teacher who will be teaching Class 5. At the end of last term, Mrs Kershaw was successful in gaining a vice-principal post in Bradford and we wish her every success in her new job.

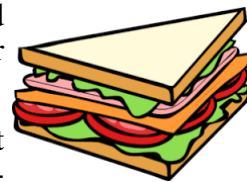
Our whole-school topic for our the new term is ‘Forests’ and we are looking forward to lots of exciting outdoor opportunities around this theme.

At the end of last term we held a number of successful fundraising events. Thanks to Mrs Bell for organising a plant sale which raised £92.75. Also, the new Friends of Stanley Grove parents’ group organised a coffee morning and a disco which together raised £323.60. Thanks to all the parents who supported these events, and we look forward to further events which are already being planned.

Last year’s Year 6 children will be starting in their new high schools this term, but we can remember them by looking at the beautiful cherry tree which was donated by the Year 6 parents and has been planted in the school grounds.

Some health and food news.....

- The old saying ‘breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince and dine like a pauper’ could turn out to be the best advice if you want to lose weight and stay healthy. A recent study by King’s College showed that the modern lifestyle of eating more instead of less as the day goes on is causing havoc to our body clocks and digestion.
- What do you eat at lunchtime when you are at work? According to research by Kantar World-panel, more of us are opting for healthy ‘posh’ packed lunches instead of mass-produced supermarket lunches, or homemade ‘boring beige’ sandwiches. Apparently, plastic tubs are ‘out’; sealable glass jars are ‘in’. Ingredients now include kelp and quinoa, sweet potato crisps and almonds.



Stef Reid – *Christian paralympic athlete on her way to Rio*

Stefanie Reid is a British paralympic athlete, competing mainly in the long jump category T44 (below the knee amputees) and sprint events. She won a bronze medal at the 2008 Paralympics in the 200 metres and won a silver medal in 2012 in the long jump. She has broken the world record for long-jump in her category several times.

Born in New Zealand to British parents, the family moved to Toronto, Canada when she was 4, and she suffered a life-changing accident in her teens as she describes: “I was in a boating accident when I was 16. The water around me was blood red and we were three hours away from a half-decent hospital.

“I survived but unfortunately my leg was so mangled that it had to be amputated below the knee. So I was really thankful to be alive. But with my love for sport, I was absolutely devastated. The stuff that you love to do, you are told that you cannot do it any more.

“I don’t come from a Christian family but my parents sent me to a Christian school. We had Bible classes. I had a very good head knowledge of the Bible but it wasn’t a major part of my life.



“Everything changed when I was in the accident. I remember lying in the ambulance. I was scared because I knew in my heart that I wasn’t going to heaven. I did not know God. I had never asked Him what His plan was for my life. I remember praying for a second chance. It was a complete miracle that I survived the accident. I know that God had a hand in that.

“I also know that by me not dying, I still had a purpose here. There is a reason for me to be here and it completely changed my perspective. It changed me as a person and I committed my life to Him in the ambulance. Now, I look at things from the perspective of hope. I have always got hope. I think that is the biggest difference”.

Stef is married to Brent Lakatos, a Canadian wheelchair racer, and the couple have settled in Loughborough where they train. As well as being a Paralympic athlete, Stef also has a biochemistry degree and works as a professional speaker, model, and lay preacher.

15th Anniversary of “9/11”

Fifteen years ago, on 11th September 2001, terrorist attacks demolished the Twin Towers in New York. The attacks killed 2,996 people and injured more than 6,000. Terrorist atrocities like 9/11, natural disasters and personal tragedies closer to home raise the inevitable question: ‘Why does God allow such suffering to take place?’

There are no easy answers to this question! We cannot fully understand why such things happen, although we live in a fallen world, where people make real choices. Yet the Bible affirms that God identifies with our suffering, supremely when Jesus experienced suffering and death.

It is on the Cross that God knows what it is to lose a loved one in an unjust attack. ‘I could never myself believe in God if it were not for the Cross. In the real world of pain, how could one worship a God who was immune to it?’ (John Stott). What does this mean? We cannot know why God allows evil and suffering to continue, but we do know that He does love and care for us: ‘For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.’ (John 3:16). God loved us enough to fully engage with the mess of the world.

We also can view such events in the light of resurrection. Jesus said: ‘I am the Resurrection and the Life. The one who believes in Me will live’ (John 11:25). Resurrection points to the restoration for us of the life we lost. New heavens and new earth point to a world and relationships restored and perfected! In *The Lord of the Rings*, Sam Gamgee exclaims: “Gandalf! I thought you were dead! But then I thought I was dead! Is everything sad going to come untrue?” The answer of the Bible is ‘Yes!’



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The Great Fire of London – 450 years ago

Just after midnight on Sunday 2nd September 1666 a fire started in a bakery in Pudding Lane in the old City of London.

By the following Wednesday it had destroyed 13,200 buildings, including the Royal Exchange and St Paul's Cathedral. 70,000 people were homeless, some of them on the banks of the Thames or having fled to the fields of Islington and Highgate. The entire city within the Roman walls was derelict, a sea of smoking debris. The Great Fire of London, 450 years ago this month, was a catastrophe unparalleled in peace-time English history. Yet it seems that fatalities were few – possibly no more than a dozen or so.

Even before the smoke had cleared the search for people to blame began. God was high on some people's agenda. The fire was obviously His judgment on the indulgent life-style of some of its residents. More common, however, was the belief that it was all the work of immigrants. The Papists, with their supposed allegiance to a foreign power, were high on the list. So were the Dutch and the French, with whom England had recently been in conflict.

The Monument erected to mark the spot where the fire began carried the totally unproven claim that it was the work of Roman Catholics – the allegation was not removed until 1830.



It's a strange truth that we tend to feel better if there's somebody to blame. After all, it couldn't just happen, could it?

Rowan Williams calls for 'urgent action' to help South Sudan

The recent fighting in South Sudan claimed nearly 300 lives and forced thousands of people to abandon their homes. Many have sought refuge in church compounds across Juba. Now the former Archbishop of Canterbury, who visited South Sudan with Christian Aid in 2014, has echoed a call for peace.

“As the South Sudan Council of Churches says: ‘The time for carrying and using weapons has ended; now is the time to build a peaceful nation.’ I affirm and echo their cry for peace. I stand with them in praying that parties, communities and leaders do everything in their power to ‘create an atmosphere where violence is not an option’.”

Prayers for this month

Do you still love me?

A fire was lit as the night was long and cold,
He moved towards it as he tried to warm his hands,
'You were with Him, I saw you' the girl called out,
'I don't know Him' he cried 'What are you talking about?'



Three times he was asked and every time he denied.
And then the cock crowed and he remembered it all too well
Then Jesus turned slowly and looked into his face,
And Peter ran out weeping in abject disgrace.

Another fire was lit with fish on the coals
The Lord called out to His disciples to come and eat,
Three times He asked Peter 'Do you still love me today?'
'You know that I do' was all that Peter could say.

The Lord is gracious and knows in ourselves we are weak,
But He loves us, forgives us, and then He fills us anew
Enabled by His Spirit we can stand firm on His word,
So that like the disciples we continue to follow the Lord.
By Megan Carter



Prayer of thanks for teachers

Dear Father,
Thank you for teachers. Thank you for their gifts of knowledge and communication. Please give them patience and understanding in their work and most of all the wisdom to listen to you and to be directed by your Kingdom values. Thank you for Jesus – the best teacher of all. Help us all to learn from Him that greatest of all lessons, that you are the living God, His Father and ours, and that you love us and want us to know you.

Father, as we pray and trust in the name of Jesus, our teacher and Lord,
may that close knowledge of you become our reality.
Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

*Please contact the editor, Eleanor Plant, with items for the next magazine on
01924 835746, or by email: churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk*

Cartoon Corner



"It's Mrs Filby with her hard-as-concrete home-made rock cakes for the Harvest Festival. Let's pretend we're not in."

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Cllr Jacqui Williams
Tel: 01924 278007
Email: jacquelinewilliams



Cllr Matthew Morley
Tel: 07719 904085
Email: mmorley@wakefield.gov.uk

1st & 3 rd Tuesday of each month	6pm—7pm	Stanley Community Centre
2 nd & 4 th Saturday of each month	9:30—10:45am	Stanley Community Centre
2 nd & 4 th Saturday of each month	11am—12 noon	Bevin Close Community Centre, Outwood

Excludes bank holidays, no appointment necessary, home visits can be arranged

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Enquiries to Kathryn
Mobile: 07711538258

Wednesdays, 7.30pm—8.30pm

**at Stanley Methodist Church,
Mount Road, Stanley**

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WITH FRENCH NATIVE SPEAKER

Fully qualified, many years experience in pre
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ST PETER'S CHURCH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev W Henderson	822143
	379 Aberford Road, Stanley	
Assistant Minister	Rev David Teece	
Readers	Vicky Wilson	
	Calli McKenna	
Lay Pastoral Minister	Margaret Woffendin	
Church Wardens	Jason Plant	
	David Sunderland	
Church Office	Eleanor Plant	835746
	churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk	
Treasurer	Contact Rev Henderson	
Church Flowers	Angie Daniel	376343
Musical Director	Julie West	829098
Electoral Roll	Eleanor Plant	835746
Prayer Chain	Glenda Oakes	820222
House Groups	Rev W Henderson	822143
Ladies Society	Contact Church Office	835746
Magazine Editor	Eleanor Plant	835746
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Calli McKenna	07557 735610

YOUTH GROUPS

Children's Ark	Viv Henderson	822143
Creche	Rev W Henderson	822143
Sunday Gang & Explorers	Viv Henderson	822143

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Cubs/Scouts (boys & girls)	Mark Pringle	07450 953744
	firstyorkshire@gmail.com	
Brownies	Via Church Office	835746
Rainbows	Via Church Office	835746

For information regarding weddings and baptisms please contact the Vicar after any church service or by telephone on 01924 822143.

Contact the Church Office on 835746 (answer phone out of office hours) or by email: churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk

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