

offer your time. In return you will be contributing to the local community and be part of the staff team. Ask at the office if you are interested.

Volunteers run the following sessions at the centre:- Computing; ESOL Conversation Groups; Holiday Spanish; Sewing Workshop; Baking; Junior Minecraft club; Gardening.

Celebrating our students

- Did you come and see the amazing cake decorating and sugar craft skills on display for on Tue 20th May. Our next celebration which will be in Adult Learners Week 14-20th June.

Learners will receive certificates for achievements made this academic year.

Look out for posters in St. John’s for some specialist one day cake decorating workshops before the Summer - 3 tier wedding cakes and fairy castle cakes.

Souper Soup - Wow! We raised £172.42 This year by eating soup for Christian Aid.

Thanks to everyone who came and paid for a bowl of soup and to all the staff who provided so many different recipes.

Flood Alert! - You will have noticed that there has bee a lot of disruption in the centre lately. Carpets are up and certain doors can’t be used. What’s going on? Well unfortunately we had a flood. Someone put a plug in the

sink in the men’s toilets and left the tap running. This flooded the toilets, the carpet in the corridor and water managed to run under the floor across the hall, caused a lot of damage to the parquet flooring, and even went into the walls.



Tens of thousands of pounds of damage has been caused. There will be new carpets in the entrances, the parquet floor will have to be relayed, plus the hall sanded and varnished.

If you happen to see a tap left on in the toilets please turn it off - thank you.

Shylarks hit the streets - The **Shylarks** meet weekly in the centre - **Wednesdays 7.30-9pm** - to sing. Anyone can join them, all abilities welcome.

Some of the members are hitting the streets this year on July 12th, to join the Street Choir Festival in Hebden Bridge that runs over 3 days.

Speak to Chris or John Hughes if you would like to know more - they are both Shylarks (and not really all that shy!)

DARK to *Light*

art exhibition

St. John’s Church, Ayres Rd, M16 7GX

you are invited to the launch event
Saturday 21st June 12 noon - 3pm



exhibition runs 21st - 29th June 2014



Digital Photography Course
- Ok so your son bought you a fantastic digital camera - and you have learned how to use it on auto - but you know deep down it could do so much more. Or like me you always seem to cut off someone’s head or arm. You need to join our new photography course. It’s 8 weeks and costs £2 a session. Starting Thursday June 5th 1.30-3.30pm. Register at the office. (if you don’t have a camera there will be some to use on the day).

Summer School 2014 - St. John’s annual Summer School is taking bookings now. There will be 2 weeks of activities for children age 8+yrs.



Week 1 is 28th July - 1st August;
Week 2 is 4th - 8th August.

Activities will run from 10am-3pm Mon-Fri and cost £4 per child per day. Lunch will be provided.

So that families can attend together there will be 10 spaces each day for children under 8yrs old who m must be accompanied by an adult.

ST. JOHN’S CHURCH
- join us in the beautiful setting of our 105yr old church -
Ayres Road, Old Trafford, Manchester. M16 7GX

TABLE TOP & CRAFT FAIR
Saturday 28th June
12 noon-3pm
All the Family Welcome *free entry*
Jewellery
Clothing
Toys
Cakes & Refreshments
BRIC-A-BRAC & KNICK KNACKS
book a table (£5) or find out more
elaine@stjohnscentre.org
0161 872 7795

We are looking for volunteers for the Summer School If you are interested contact staff in the office. Volunteer expenses can be paid and if you have your own children 8+yrs they could attend while you work.



There is a new opportunity to become a Summer School dinner lady this year - which will include some training courses in healthy cooking, menu planning and budgeting. Again contact the office is you re interested

Saturday 12th July at Stretford Leisure Centre
- Please, please, please come and support us on 12th July. It’s that time of year again where we have to `sing for our supper’!

Trafford Council’s Voluntary Sector Grants are out. Old Trafford, gorse Hill & Stretford have £30,000 to give out to groups where we the community decide.

Old Trafford & Stretford tp thrive

Old Trafford and Stretford Locality Partnership
Voluntary Sector Grants Scheme
£30,000 NOW OPEN
is available in your locality for community projects.
The grant scheme is open for applications from 10th June 2014 to 1st July 2014. For more information and to apply visit: [www.trafford.gov.uk/vsg](#)
Applications close on 1st July 2014. Successful applicants will be notified by email and phone.
To apply, please complete the application form and submit it to: Voluntary Sector Grants Scheme, Old Trafford Community Centre, 4-6pm, 21st May 2014, Old Trafford Community Centre, 4-6pm, 21st May 2014, Old Trafford Community Centre, 4-6pm, 21st May 2014.

IMPORTANT - Please come and vote for us on the 12th July - did I mention it was Sat. 12th July at Stretford Leisure Centre?

Enrolment Day Tue 9th Sept 10am-3pm - It seems really early to tell you this, but our enrolment day for the next academic year will be on **Tuesday 9th September 10am-3pm**. You can come on the day and enrol for any of our courses. There will be space on them all as we start our new student intake. We don’t take people’s names before the enrolment date.

If you would like ESOL or cake decorating then please come earlier in the day, as these are our most popular courses at the moment.

If you would like to be reminded about the enrolment day then leave your mobile number at the office and you will receive a text nearer the time.

Tandoor Oven - “What looks like a wishing well but isn’t?” You may have noticed a new addition to our outside space, next to the Centre. No it’s NOT a wishing well! (although if you want to throw money in it please do). It’s our new tandoor oven built by Gavin Wood and Lev Adams - they are taking orders! We would like people to use the oven, so if you would like to use the tandoor please talk to staff in the office. Sunny weather not guaranteed.



LOTS TO LOOK OUT FOR IN THE CHURCH

Dark to Light - On Saturday June 21st (Summer Solstice) our art exhibition in church was launched.



About 200 people viewed the work by local artists and groups from St. John's. We were able to fire up our tandoor oven outside, and along with the BBQ, food was served. The exhibition runs for two weeks and is open Mon-Fri 10-5pm. Please go in and take a look around - don't forget to leave a comment. Dark to Light poetry book on sale £5 - see St. John's staff in office.



Coffee Mornings - On the **last Tuesday each month - 10am-12noon** you need to come to



church. Ladies who bake have been busy each month making the most fabulous

cakes, scones and sweet treats. All money raised goes to the church and you pay as much as you like for a cuppa and cake. Take slice out of your day and join us.



Reception - Seymour Park's reception classes (children age 4-5yrs old) will be visiting church at the beginning of July. They will

walk from school to come and see what the church looks like inside and learn some of the names of items used for in Christian worship - like Bible, Pew, Cross, Candles. For some children this will be the first time they have been inside a church - it's usually all very exciting.

St. John's Sunshine - Let the sunshine on **6th July** as lots is happening the Sunshine scheme will be announcing how much it's giving out in community grants this year, and to whom. We will also be having a BBQ to welcome Peter Scott as our new assistant curate and will be using our new community tandoor oven.



If you are a local Old Trafford group who benefits the community you can apply for a Sunshine grant from June 1st. Let the Sunshine.

Jamaica Day Service will be held on Sunday **10th August @ 10am** in the church. Manchester's Jamaica Society will be joining us to give thanks and blessings for Jamaica and her people.



Christine Aspinall has had a busy year this year! Not only has she reached a significant birthday this year, she has been accepted onto training as an Ordained Local Minister. This will make her a volunteer priest, once she

has qualified. Congratulations to Christine and best wishes for her 3yr training course ahead.

Chris is presently our Vocations Champion who sign posts people to training opportunities exploring their 'calling' - talk to Chris if you feel you are being 'called'. There's a special service on 23rd July in St. Clements, Urmston 7.30pm to celebrate vocations.



W.W.W. - Look out for a new addition to the world wide web on **July 13th**

when St. John's Church will come crashing into the present century with a new web site. Time to join a computer class if you don't know how to get online yet!

This is one of the many poems in the Dark to Light poetry book. Tony was very touched by the many stories shared during his workshops. Nasim is part of one of St. John's ESOL classes that Tony worked with.

Dark to Light - Nasim Faroud
My husband died two years ago. I was very sad. Before I had no friends, I stayed in all the time at home. This is my dark side. One day I thought I should go out into the light. I started English classes. I meet my friends, I make my garden nice and I listen to good songs. I like snow. I go to the sports centre. Now I feel free. I pray to God.

St. John's Newsletter

find out news from St. John's Church & Centre

ISSUE 2 - June - August 2014. A quarterly newsletter to let you know some of what's going on. Still keep an eye on the noticeboards though. Produced by Elaine Eland - St. John's Development Worker.

Welcoming new faces



You may have noticed that Diane Browne is in the front office quite a lot recently. Not only does she love being here but she has

taken on some administration hours. Diane was our volunteer, volunteer coordinator (yes it did say volunteer twice!). She is now a temporary, paid member of staff while we await decisions on further funding. Diane will still be responsible for volunteers at the centre.

We welcome Peter Scott to St. John's - he has written to introduce himself.

My ordination as deacon is set for the end of this month, and I very much look forward to joining St



John's immediately after that as an assistant curate. I've been asked to write a few words about myself—so here goes. I've been thinking about ordination for ten years and more. However, I only began the formal process in September 2011 when—after some encouragement from fellow Christians at St. Chad's Church in Withington—I summoned up the courage to fill in a form

and send it to the Diocese. I was approved for training in June 2012, under the sponsorship of the Bishop of Manchester. Throughout this period, I've been living in Withington, sharing a house with my teenage children—one of whom is now away at university, and the other attends Trinity Church of England High School in Hulme (where I'm a parent governor).

I hold a high view of priesthood—which has nothing to do with being unapproachable and everything to do with living out a special responsibility. Moreover, my own faith is about making connections. Incarnation is at its heart. Making connections with the Church's past, making connections with the wider culture in which we live, making connections among ourselves—and putting all this at the service of others. It's hard as well as joyful work, and the work of all Christians. Yet a priest may be a focus for such labour.

Part of that labour is theological, in the largest sense of that word. (During the day, I teach theology at the University of Manchester.) It has to do with reminding the culture in which we find ourselves, and ourselves, that human beings are never 'mere business'. In a period which privileges productivity and effectiveness—although not, it

seems to me, efficiency; we are an enormously profligate culture—the recovery of gift, trust, and peace is both vital and difficult. More than this, over the next few decades we humans will have to find ways of working out how non-human creatures should not be treated as mere business. Quite an agenda!

Discerning mere business, and working to overcome it, is work for the long term and requires communities committed to working in their locality over the long term. I look forward to learning from you about this work and working with you. See you next month!

Peter Scott

Waving goodbye! ... Amit Chawhan has now left us and continues his training at St James with St Clement Church, Moss Side.

LOTS TO LOOK OUT FOR IN THE CENTRE

Volunteers - Our centre wouldn't run without our volunteers, and you are welcome to

St. John's Centre, St. John's Road, Old Trafford, M16 7GX
St. John's Church, Ayres Road, Old Trafford, M16 7GX.
www.stjohnscentre.org info@stjohnscentre.org
Centre - 0161 872 7795 Church - 0161 872 0500

