

# Project 2019

'... to give you hope and a future.'

## NEWSLETTER #2 – JUNE 2016

### PROJECT 2019 AIMS

**that by our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, on Friday 27 December 2019, to...**

- guarantee the provision of Christian worship in Ravenhead by securing the future of St John's Church for future generations of worshippers

by...

- increasing regular worshippers as measured by our electoral roll to at least 150 - one for every year the church has been open
- achieving 'Child Friendly Church Award' status
- forming an effective and outward looking children and youth ministry
- encouraging a fellowship with a love of Bible study and prayer
- resuming our full contribution to Parish Share, with no, or substantially reduced arrears
- maximising the uptake of Gift Aid donations
- taking a decision regarding the future of Emmanuel
- encouraging a new generation of volunteers in our fellowship
- developing a coherent and standardised recruitment policy and a management and support structure for staff and volunteers
- reclaiming the church's position as a community body
- developing a consolidated communications strategy
- enjoying a series of events to celebrate our 150th anniversary

### Update...

**We launched Project 2019 together on the 146<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of St John's Church in December 2015.**

Project 2019 has played an important role in helping the Diocese of Liverpool recognise that St John's Church is a place with a vision and a future, and this has been reflected in the payment plan agreed between the Diocese and the PCC which will address our Parish Share arrears.

A large amount of these arrears has been written off to help us realistically catch up, but now it's important that we do our bit by paying our remaining arrears and paying our monthly share to support the cost of the ministry of the Church across the Diocese of Liverpool.

We've also seen a number of events organised to bring us together as a fellowship in worship and action – and there's more to come!

**St John's Church  
Ravenhead**

# Project2019 ... to give you hope and a future. WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING SO FAR...



## An Evening with Noel & Tricia Richards

Noel & Tricia played a concert at St John's in April to almost 100 people. Noel & Tricia actually asked if they could return here following their concert in 2014 – they both commented on how much they enjoy playing in St John's.

Thanks to everyone who helped with this event.



## Spring Fayre

We held a Spring Fayre which raised over £500 towards church funds.

There is a real potential for events such as these, and other churches have told us that they regularly attract good numbers and raise good sums towards the work of the church.

Again, thanks to everyone who helped.



### **AN EVENING WITH JIMMY B – ENTERTAINMENT & HOT POT SUPPER**

Friday 24 June 2016, 7:30pm,

Tickets £6 inc. Hot Pot & Apple Pie (Limited availability – book now)

We're looking forward to holding an evening with entertainer 'Jimmy B'. Tickets are £6, including Hot Pot Supper and Apple Pie (bring your own drinks). Jimmy will sing songs from the 50s, 60s and 70s and all proceeds will go towards the church. Please get your tickets from Deryck or John, or by ringing 01744 758991 as soon as possible as they are limited in number.

### **THE HAYDOCK MALE VOICE CHOIR – IN CONCERT**

Saturday 3 September 2016, 7:30pm

Tickets £5

We are delighted that Haydock Male Voice Choir will visit to present a concert at St John's Church, Ravenhead in September 2016. Bringing a varied program of music, the glorious sound of the male voice will resonate within the church. Tickets are £5 and will be available shortly.

### **HERITAGE OPEN DAYS**

Saturday 10 September 2016, 11:00am – 3:00pm

Free Admission, no booking required

For the first time as part of the National Trust's annual Heritage Open Days initiative, St John's Church, Ravenhead will be open for public viewing. You will be able to follow a self-guided tour around the building, viewing information panels and seeing historical items and memorials as part of your visit.

### **HARVEST SUNDAY**

Sunday 18 September

Come, ye thankful people, come, plough the fields and scatter and raise the song of harvest home. It may be a favourite celebration from your school days, but it is still going strong and is celebrated annually in churches across the UK. Come and give thanks for the food we eat and those who provide it for us. We will also take a voluntary collection for charity.

### **ORGAN RECITAL**

Date & Time TBC

We're hoping to arrange an organ recital for later in the year with a professional organist. More details in the coming weeks, but this will be a great opportunity to hear our church organ played to its full potential.

### **BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY**

Date & Times TBC – an opportunity to invite your friends and family 'back to church'

Work towards a number of Project 2019 aims is underway – here's the latest information...

### **Child Friendly Church Award**

Our children & youth leaders are looking at how our church can achieve this accreditation. This will also feed into our aim to be the home of an effective and outward looking children and youth ministry – with lots of great work already taking place at Toddle In. Some of the parents/carers who bring their children to our Thursday Toddle In group have made some encouraging comments online about both this group and its predecessor, Tiddlywinks. Well done to everyone who has been involved.

### **Parish Share Payment Plan**

We have agreed a Parish Share Payment plan with the Diocese of Liverpool to bring us back to full payment by 2019. This year, we will be asked to pay nine out of twelve instalments, with the other three deferred. At present, we are fully up to date and have been able to make five out of five payments. We still need everybody to consider if they can afford to give a little extra, but most importantly, sign up for Gift Aid if you are eligible, so that we can claim extra money from the Government at **no extra cost to you**.

The generous offer made by the Diocese has been partly due to our commitment to Project 2019, so please do get involved in any way you can to help make our aims a reality and Project 2019 a success. Adhering to this payment plan is crucial if we are to get a new vicar – if we do not keep up with this plan, the Diocese may decide to reallocate our clergy member elsewhere.

### **Emmanuel**

Discussions regarding the future of Emmanuel are ongoing at the PCC and we hope to be able to tell you more before too long.

### **Volunteers**

Alongside this newsletter, we are sending out a Volunteering Survey to find out why members of our congregation do or do not volunteer. We want to encourage people into the full life and fellowship of the church, and getting involved by volunteering is a great way to do this. We want to remove any barriers to volunteering, and help those who do volunteer by offering our support. Your participation in the questionnaire is appreciated, and if you would like to be involved in an area of the church's work, please talk to Margaret, our Churchwarden.

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