

Media questionnaire and brief biography: **Tim Cotterall**

Born and bred in Southport, Tim moved to Kendal in 1986 shortly after marrying Liz before the couple then moved to Manchester where they lived for 15 years and where their two daughters, Becky and Hannah, were born. In 2002 they moved to Chorley where they currently live. In 2011 Tim gave his life to Christ and began worshipping at St Andrew's Leyland where he grew as a Christian and served in many ways before moving on, with Rev. Matt Cook, in 2022 to St Saviour's Bamber Bridge to support the Bishop's revitalisation project. Tim will serve his curacy in Bamber Bridge.

Your age and also your original home village, town or city (i.e. the place you grew up):

Answer: 63 Southport, Merseyside

The church and location in Blackburn Diocese where you are serving:

Answer: St Saviours, Bamber Bridge

Tell us a bit about your family:

Answer: I have a wife, Liz and two grown up married daughters Becky and Hannah

If applicable, what was your former job before entering ministry?

Answer: Working for the Billy Graham Association in Blackpool, prior to which I was a Commercial Director for a SME business in Preston selling books to public libraries

Tell us something about your journey towards ordination?

Answer: Having only been a Christian for 12 years, I have been on quite a journey. Starting to worship at St Andrew's Leyland in 2011 and then growing as a Christian, leading home groups, leading services, preaching and then moving in 2022 to St Saviours. I felt that God was calling me to ordination to serve him at St Saviour's.

What has been a) the most important thing you have learned and b) the most inspiring thing you have experienced during your training? (They can be different!)

Answer for a: I am still in training, so there may be more to come. I am inspired by the teaching from tutors at Emmanuel Theological College, their love for the Bible and their knowledge of theology is humbling.

Answer for b: The most inspiring thing is the friendship with fellow students at Emmanuel, even though we differ theologically and in the traditions of the church of England we are all united under God to help each other and to love and support each other.

Since the pandemic many more parishes have also embraced online opportunities to engage with their local communities alongside their existing services. Please indicate ways in which you may have done this already or what plans you may have to explore ways to reach people in the 'digital space' in the future ...

Answer: Use of social media is our key use of online opportunities

What are some of the personal challenges and opportunities you face in your ministry in the coming year?

Answer: Time management ... because I will be ordained as a Deacon, but still in training for my final year at Emmanuel. This includes finding time for my wife and family.

What do you view as your most significant personal achievement? (This may be connected to your ordination training of course or it could be something else from another aspect of your life.)

Answer: Working as a team player and director at Askews Library Services during a very difficult period over the early 2000s with book fund cuts and most of our competitors going out of business. Being key in the vision and implementation of processes to keep the business thriving and being able to continue to employ over 200 people during this period.

Bishop Philip has said: *"I am committed to continuing the growth of the church in Lancashire, helping to build joyful Christian communities. I would love to see the Church of England in Lancashire being an ever-stronger voice for justice, especially for the poorest. And I believe children and young people need to be at the very heart of all that we do."*

How will you seek to support the Bishop in fulfilling these aims?

Answer: Our prayer is for St Saviours, Bamber Bridge, as part of the diocese of Blackburn, can be a Beacon church, reaching out to the community with the gospel. To be able to offer the right resources so that children's work and other areas of ministry thrive.

Tell us something people don't know about you that might surprise them?

Answer: I have a two seater 'Morgan' Sports car which I have owned for 14 years and is my pride and joy. Even if it is embarrassing to watch when I get in and out of it !!!

Finally, when you get the chance, what do you do you chill out and relax?

Answer: Driving my sports car! My wife and I are fortunate to have a holiday home on a camping site in the south lakes and we go up there whenever we find some time. Sometimes just for one night, other times for a longer period.