



Focus on April 2023



Rev. Joseph Kwallah

The **Methodist** Church



One Church. 14 Locations.

WELCOME TO WESLEY CHAPEL

We are open for Sunday Morning Worship, 10.30am, see p3 for details of our services.

The Nidd Valley Circuit presents a weekly pre-recorded worship, TED Talk style. Please visit <https://www.facebook.com/NiddValley/>

Circuit Morning Prayer Live runs every morning Monday to Friday at 8am on Facebook. This is available for watching again after the live broadcast/ <https://www.facebook.com/NiddValley/>

All links (and much more) can be accessed via our website <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk>

or if you need more information leave a message: <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk/contact>

Wesley Chapel Contacts

Ministry Team: Rev. Lesley Taylor, Rev. Trevor Dixon.

Senior Steward: Les Sudron

Church Council Secretary: Jenny Goodwin

Safeguarding Officer: Christine Sudron

Weekly Pieces: Les Sudron

Focus Editor: Judith Yeats e-mail judithyeats0@gmail.com

Website: www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk

Wesley Centre Contacts

Premises Manager: Julian Smith
office@wesleycentreharrogate.org.uk
01423 509917

Website: www.wesleycentreharrogate.org.uk

Address

Wesley Centre Harrogate, Oxford Street. Harrogate, HG1 1PP

The deadline for 'Wesley Focus on May is 22 April. Please send any notices, news, articles, photographs to Judith Yeats: 07733064697 judithyeats0@gmail.com. Focus is also on the website. <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk/our-focus>

WHAT'S ON AT WESLEY

SUNDAY 2 APRIL. 10.30am. Palm Sunday. Morning Worship led by Rev. Lesley Taylor. .

MONDAY 3 APRIL 1pm. Lunchtime Recital. See p15 for more details.

FRIDAY 7 APRIL 10.30am. Good Friday Reflective Service.led by Rev. Leonora Wassell.

SUNDAY 9 APRIL EASTER SUNDAY.

10.30am. Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Trevor Dixon.

6pm. Wesley Sunday Share via Zoom. (Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).

THURSDAY 13 APRIL 2pm. Wesley Fellowship. See p7 for more details.

SUNDAY 16 APRIL 10.30am Morning Worship. Local arrangement.

SUNDAY 23 APRIL

10.30am. Morning Worship led by Rev. Trevor Dixon.

6pm. Wesley Sunday Share via Zoom. (Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).

SUNDAY 30 APRIL 10.30am. Morning Worship led by Rev. Lesley Taylor. Followed by General Church Meeting (a light buffet lunch will be provided).

SUNDAY 7 MAY 10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Leonora Wassell

TUESDAYS

10.30 to 2pm. Wesley Wheelie Welcome Café/Warm Welcome. Come and join us for tea/coffee and a chat. Scones/tea cakes will be served at 12 noon.

FRIDAYS 10am Online Coffee Morning. (Link will be sent out, or contact Les or Judith).



EASTER

STARBECK METHODIST CHURCH Holy Week meditations. Lesley will be leading meditations on the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of Holy Week at Starbeck at 7pm. Thursday's meditation will involve communion. Meditations will last about half an hour.

MONDAY 3 APRIL 7.30pm PANNAL METHODIST CHURCH.. Mark's Gospel. A Public Reading. Come and experience the breathlessness of the whole of Mark's Gospel.

MAUNDY THURSDAY 6 APRIL

- Woodlands 6.30pm Maundy Thursday Communion.
- Starbeck 7pm Meditation including Communion
- Gracious Street 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Service
- Trinity 7.30pm Communion led by Rev Ben Clowes

GOOD FRIDAY 7 APRIL

- Harlow Hill 10am Good Friday Reflection
- Park Grove 10am Service led by Rev Diane Hicks with Coffee and hot cross buns to follow
- Woodlands 10am Good Friday Service
- Trinity 10.30am Worship for All Ages led by Rev Ben Clowes and Clair
- Starbeck 10:30am A Service of quiet reflection
- **Wesley Chapel 10:30am Good Friday Service**
- Pannal 12 noon Good Friday Reflections led by Rev Ben Clowes and Clair
- Gracious Street 2:30pm Good Friday Service
- Bilton Area 3pm A Service of quiet reflection
- ◆ Good Friday Service at the Cenotaph see next page.

WESLEY CHAPEL. SUNDAY 9 APRIL. Easter Day Service with Holy Communion, led by Rev. Lesley Taylor.

Join together with local churches on

GOOD FRIDAY

Local churches will gather outside at the War Memorial in the centre of Harrogate for a service that will include a short talk, prayer and worship. All are welcome to join us.

Friday 7th April,

11am - 11.30am

**War Memorial,
Prospect Square,
Harrogate**

netmakers.org.uk

NETMAKERS
Local Churches For People

CIRCUIT APRIL ONLINE TALKS 9am

- 2 April - Rev. Gordon Hay
- 9 April - Rev. Gordon Hay
- 16 April - Flourish Special
- 23 April - Rev. Lesley Taylor
- 30 April - Rev. Lesley Taylor

WESLEY FRIDAY ONLINE COFFEE MORNING

The Wesley Friday coffee morning Zoom continues to be appreciated by a number of our members. Attendance varies between 12 and 20 and topics of conversation continue to be various and diverse. We recently heard about a new room (and had a guided tour); we hear about visits and outings; we talked about Shakespeare and nudity on stage (we kept this chat very short), we always discuss the weather (Molly had very little snow in South Wales), nothing is off the table when it comes to Friday Online Coffee. Come and join us. Ask Les or Judith for a link.

PIECES

We introduced Wesley Week Pieces nearly two and a half years ago in order to keep us all connected, informed, encouraged as individuals and as a worshipping group; as Covid forced people apart.

The aims of Pieces have been achieved and many Wesley folk have now physically come back together. As we look forward, we intend to keep Wesley Pieces as a middle of the month sharing opportunity for us all. Contributions will continue to be very welcome from everyone and some of them will be reproduced in our monthly Wesley Focus magazine that will continue to be available at the beginning of every month. We will continue to post the Wesley Focus to all our members who are not on the internet or currently cannot make it to Wesley gatherings.

(TUESDAY) WHEELIE WELCOME CAFÉ

Lynne shares a 'thank-you'. 'A friend of mine called in last Tuesday for a coffee and later sent me a text saying "what a welcoming group of people". Jeannette was also well impressed with the posh coffee.

10.30am—12 noon

04 April Wendy & Jean
11. Shelagh & Pat
18. Wendy & Jean
25 Ian & Eileen
02 May Wendy & Jean
09 Shelagh & Keith
16 Wendy & Jean
23 Shelagh & Pat
30 Christine & Les

12noon—2pm

04 April David & Shelagh
11 Shelagh, Laura & David
18 Jenny & Philip
25 Christine & Les
02 May Jenny & Philip
09 Shelagh, Laura & David
16 Mike & Maureen
23 Jackie & Judith
30. Christine & Les

Duty rota continued

10.30am—12 noon

12 noon—2pm

06 June Wendy & Jean
13 Ian and Eileen
20 Wendy and Jean
27 Ian and Eileen

06 June Jenny & Philip
13. Christine & Les
20. Jackie & Judith
27. Mike and Maureen



**WESLEY
FELLOWSHIP**



The snow hindered our new season start on Thursday 9th March and so our first meeting will now take place on Thursday 13th April at 2.00pm when we will have a 'Back Together' meeting. We will have a short time of worship and prayer and then we will have an informal time of planning our year of activities, talks and ideas for our monthly Fellowship gatherings. Our second meeting on 11 May will be a Royal Quiz, by Shelagh, and 8th June John Ogden will lead the meeting on 'John Wesley—'his teachings on health and lifestyle'.

We can try and arrange transport for those who cannot easily make their own way to Wesley. Once again we have the support of Happy Wanderers and our wonderful driver Colin. We look forward to welcoming all our existing members and hopefully one or two new faces.

For further information speak with either Lynne, Mike, Shelagh, Judith or Les. Come and join us!

A THANK YOU MESSAGE

This is from a lady who popped into Wesley after the Sunday service recently: 'Losing access to everything in my life from my home to my possessions, and temporarily accommodated in Harrogate, I called into the Wesley Centre today and found the warmest of welcomes. It meant so much. Thank you to all those I met. I hope to call in again soon. Thank you'. Julie.

THANK YOU

Thank you all so much for the amazing support you have given Mike and I over the past three weeks. It's been a traumatic time, but not a day has passed without cards, messages, visits, emails, telephone calls, books, magazines, chocolates, flowers, posh biscuits, soup and lasagne arriving at our door. We feel truly blessed to be surrounded by such love and care. Top tip: when you're finally discharged



from hospital do not end up a week later back in A&E on the first day of a doctor's strike! Hope to see you all back at Wesley very soon.

With love Maureen.

(Maureen did indeed come back very soon, and it was lovely to see her.)

WEEKLY OFFERING COLLECTION

After more than two years, we are going to re-introduce a formal offering collection and blessing during our future services rather than continue with our recent retiring collection.

We appreciate that many members of Wesley now provide their regular giving through standing orders and cheque, directly to Mike our chapel treasurer. Please do feel that you can continue to offer your gifts in this way and please just feel able to let the collection plate go by.

We believe that bringing forward the gifts and acknowledging these and gifts offered in other ways, through a formal blessing, will bring back a reflective and sensitive part of our act of worship and Christian stewardship, that will be appreciated by both Wesley members and visitors.

DON'T FORGET!

Our Annual General Church Meeting will be held on Sunday
30th April, after the morning service.

A light lunch will be provided.

REFLECTIONS

Rev. Joseph Kwallah together with his wife Eunice led us in a memorable service on Mothering Sunday. During the service Eunice showed us some optical illusions and we were asked to pick out what we could see from the pictures on the screen. At the beginning and the end of the service we saw video clips of Joseph and Eunice performing the welcome, and the blessing in traditional style. If you copy and paste this link into your search engine you can watch the blessing again

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QV4CIXCOdoQ>



The service left a lasting impression on many of our congregation. Following the service John sent us this piece.

‘Speaking of seeing faces in pictures, here is THE best.

A friend of mine, Jan, had lost her husband after many years of happy marriage and so went to Rome to grieve. She is an artist and was fascinated by the colours in the marble columns in St Peters. Taking random photos of them as she went round.

On her return she had her like minded friends round to share the slide show. Everyone fell silent .when this one came up.’

John Ogden

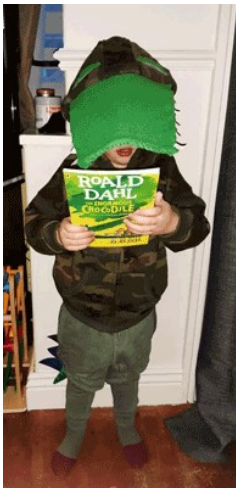


CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Susanna and Mark took Felix to Berlin in March to meet his new cousin Scarlett and see his older cousin Juno as well as Christoph, Anne-Laure and Esther. They had a lovely time together. Here is a photo of the three cousins.



Margaret's great-grandson Benjamin got dressed up as a 'happy crocodile' for World Book Day: After 'Mr Crocodile' Benjamin became Mr Gardner and planted some seeds.



Church Family News continued.



Ricki, Margaret's grandson writes 'On Sunday I was telling Grandma about Izzy getting the headteacher's award at school last week. Only her and one other boy from her year of 90 kids got given an award. As you can see it's for always being a fantastic role model in school and we're both very proud of her for getting it.

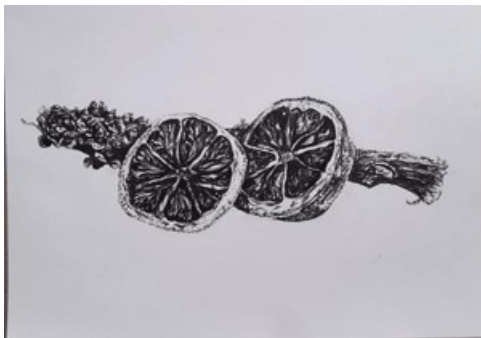
We had parents evening this week and Izzy's teacher said it's an absolute pleasure having Izzy in her class. She's always polite, willing to give things a go, and tries her hardest at everything she does!



Georgia and Eileen (and Ian of course) made one of their regular visits to Hever Castle. This is Hever's Niagra. Falls.



Janet sent us this piece of art by Anna her goddaughter, Lemons and Bark, which has been accepted for exhibition at the David Gentleman Gallery in Ware Hertfordshire. Anna recently visited Harrogate and came to the carol service at Wesley in December’.



IN MEMORIAM

We were sad to learn of the death of our friend Willow Hinks from Woodlands. Willow was a member of Wesley choir a long time ago, and she worked alongside Eileen, Jean and Wendy, and our late Betty, at the Save the Children shop. She often popped into Wesley. We will miss her cheerful smiling face. RIP Willow Hinks 13 March 1935—12 March 2022.



Our thoughts and prayers are also with the family of Gill, Betty Bratley’s daughter, who sadly passed away after a brave fight with cancer.

And a photograph of our dear friend Elizabeth Noble. I received this photograph too late to add to her obituary in the last Focus.





DESERT ISLAND DISCS

This month Pat shares her Desert Island Discs.

1. *Danny Boy sung by Roisin O'Reilly.* I was born in Belfast and later joined the WRAF. I went to Cyprus and met Geoff. Danny Boy was always a favourite song to sing when there was a crowd of us and it reminded me of home.

2. *Eternal Father Strong to Save.....For those in peril on the sea.* We were married in the Flying Angel Club (Mission to Seafarers) in Belfast. Later we went to work in Hong Kong for two-and-a-half years, and became involved in the Mission there. It was an amazing building. Geoff ran a disco and I helped with the dances. We always had a service at the end. Together with some Chinese girls I visited seamen in the hospital. This hymn reminds me of those days in Hong Kong and the Mission to Seamen. We always said a particular prayer at the end of each day. This is the prayer, (*which was also said at the funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II*).

O LORD, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shades lengthen and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done; then Lord, in thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

3. *Pomp and Circumstance.* Geoff had a friend in the Shetlands who he baby-sat for and he would listen to his records, and that is where he got his love of music. He always wanted to start a music shop. When he finished with the RAF and MOD, where he worked as a civil servant, he opened a shop in Wetherby selling classical and jazz, and coffee. We moved to Commercial Street and called it Pomp and Circumstance.

4. *Mozart's Clarinet Concerto.* played by James Galway. This is a beautiful piece of music and reminds me of the film *Out of Africa*.

Continued

Pat's Desert Island Discs continued

5. *Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No. 1* with Stephen Hough. I have seen him playing at Wesley and we are very lucky to have him come to our church many times.

6. *Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah*. It reminds me of a sing-along Messiah in 2002, which was held at Christ Church because the Royal Hall was unsafe. We did enjoy it. It also brings back memories of the Royal Hall, and Lilian Mina who was the force behind the extensive renovations. Lilian Mina was an amazing person and Geoff and her got on so well. Geoff said he got his motivation from her.

7. *Jerusalem* by Hubert Parry. This is a stirring piece of music and I just love the sentiment of the words. We sang it at home and at school and I always enjoy singing it on special occasions.

8. The last one has to be *Sailing By* by Ronald Binge. I remember many times when we had been out and listening on the radio after the last news on Radio 4. *Sailing By* was played by the live BBC Concert Orchestra and was the Shipping Forecast theme on BBC Radio 4.

Thank you Pat for sharing your lovely choices. Next month Les will share his Desert Island Discs.

Please don't hesitate to volunteer if you would like to share your choices with us.



Penguins at Harwood House
By Les and Christine..



2022-23 CONCERT SEASON

The cost of entry is £10, payable at the door.

The lunchtime recital on **Monday, 3rd April 2023 at 1pm** will be given by **Emma Abbate** and **Julian Perkins**, a husband and wife duo. It is a piano recital (piano/four hands) and will include works by Clementi, Schubert, Moszkowski and Stephen Dodgson. More information can be found on the *What's On* section of the Wesley Centre website.

The recital on **8th May 2023 at 1pm** will be given by **Gareth Brynmor John** (baritone) and **Christopher Glynn** (artistic director of the Ryedale Festival). It is a celebration of the Coronation, and the title of the programme is **The King's Musick: My crown is in my heart**. They will perform songs by Purcell, Finzi, Bax, Handel and Parry. At the time of arranging this concert, the date of the Coronation had not been announced. I do hope you will be able to attend the recital, despite it taking place on a public holiday.

The recital on **Monday, 5th June 2023 at 1pm** will be given by the pianist **Susan Tomes**. It will be a celebration of women pianist-composers and will include works by Fanny Mendelssohn, Clara Schumann and Cecile Chaminade.

3rd July 2023 - Jazz concert

For further information, please contact a.hitchen81@gmail.com or telephone me on 01423-883618.

The cost of entry is £10, payable at the door.

‘Bach is an astronomer, discovering the most marvelous stars. Beethoven challenges the universe. I only try to express the soul and the heart of man.’ — Frédéric Chopin

THE HARROGATE PROMS

**Saturday 24 June 2023
Harrogate Convention Centre 7.30**

**With Harrogate Symphony Orchestra and Voices for
Harrogate**

Conducted by David Lawrence & Bryan Western

**Highlights include: O Fortuna, The Armed Man, Zadok the
Priest, Polovtsian Dances and other operatic favourites!**

Proceeds to Harrogate Hospital and Community Charity

ARE YOU ARTY?

Our new circuit Deacon, Gary Hoare from September 2023 has asked if we could pass on names of people with an arty background who would be willing to help him with this. I have taken the expression of arty to mean writing, music, painting, pottery to mention a few which I think fit into this category but by no means all.

Please let Shelagh know as soon as possible by email:
southwaite@icloud.com

Thank you in anticipation of a lot of people willing to help in this new adventure.

Shelagh Outhwaite

HAPPY WANDERERS ANNIVERSARY

Happy Wanderers is celebrating its 65 years anniversary this year. There will be a celebration evening at Gracious Street on Saturday 13 May. Book the date in your diary now.



UPDATE FROM THE MANAGEMENT TEAM OF WESLEY CENTRE.

Wesley House. Work has been completed at a cost of just under £20,000. Two floors are now usable and HHP are intending to rent the space from us.

Harrogate International Festivals. (Headmaster's house in Cheltenham Parade). Julian is getting a quote to upgrade the kitchenette. They have pigeons in the roof!

Wesley Centre Manager. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Andrea is unable to commit to a starting date at the present time. The post has been readvertised and Andrea has been invited to reapply if her circumstances change.

HHP. A meeting was held between the Chairman and CEO of HHP and Ben, Les, Ed and Julian from Wesley Management Team. It was a positive meeting, the first of its kind. Amongst items discussed was the problem of debris left by people sleeping rough outside Wesley, and disruptive behaviour in the area, (which is often caused by people from outside Harrogate) HHP has undertaken to work with us to resolve the problem, including the installation of more CCTV cameras in the area. More meetings between HHP and Wesley Management Team will be taking place on a regular basis.

Special Service at Wesley. MHA is holding its annual service at Wesley on 23 September. Rev. Gill Newton, who will then be President of Conference, will be preaching.



NOTES FROM CIRCUIT MEETING

*Selected notes from the Circuit Meeting that was held on
14 March.*

CONVERSATIONS ON THE WORK OF GOD.

Circuit Stewards

The Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) is extremely grateful to Ron Hicks for acting as circuit safeguarding officer and who has moved the Circuit to a better place in terms of compliance. Ron's role, however, was always only temporary. This is a vital circuit role which we legally need to fulfil.

There is still a shortage of circuit stewards, despite asking for volunteers and also specifically asking people personally. Whilst it is understandable that people are busy in their local churches, it is important to understand the role the circuit plays in the life of the churches. A continued lack of stewards will have an impact on local churches. For example the circuit stewards are responsible for ministerial appointments and due to the itinerant nature of Methodism and the size of our circuit team, this work happens most years for us. We need people to do this work.

Next August (2024) Sharon will be stepping down after 6 years in the role, 6 months later Ed will have done 6 years in the role, and 6 months after that Shelagh and Tony will have done 6 years too. Methodist rules say that we need a minimum of two circuit stewards and we are heading towards not being able to fulfil this. Ideally the team would be made up of four general circuit stewards plus the treasurer and property steward. Graham Taylor (Gracious Street) is currently shadowing the team with a view to becoming a circuit steward from September 2023. Two more general circuit stewards to start with Graham (or sooner) to make up for the last two years when we should have had new stewards join us but didn't.

The circuit stewards are now looking at how they can work differently because they can't do everything they have always done with so few of them and there will be some things they just can't do.

Continued

Notes from Circuit Meeting continued.

If the problem isn't solved urgently and volunteers don't come forward, the stewards are at the point where they are going to have to ask churches in rotation to provide a volunteer to join the circuit stewards team. Volunteers will need to be 'released' from their church roles to take on a circuit role. The ministerial staff are on board with this and will graciously release people from their church roles so that the circuit team can be resourced. There is the danger that there will not be a circuit team left and that will in turn impact every church. People are being asked to consider whether they might be able to be a circuit steward or suggest someone who might be suitable for this role.

Staffing.

District has approved the recruitment of a Pioneer Pastor, a 20 hour per week role, with a remit to further discipleship at Gracious Street and its environs.

Whilst having a local pastor in every church is still an aspiration, due to financial considerations this has been put on hold for now. However, if anyone should volunteer on a non-payment basis, this would be encouraged.

Diaconal role. Gary Hoare will not be attached to any church, and his role will be circuit wide. His main mission will be to concentrate on new housing, liaising with planners and housing companies, and working with them to try to build up communities. It is unlikely that Gary's work will be completed in the five years that he is here and it is essential that a support team be involved to work with Gary.

At the Circuit Meeting in September the CLT were tasked with providing a way of ensuring pastoral oversight for all the circuit churches from September 2023. The following factors were taken into account. Five supernumeraries have covered the churches that were in Grace Cauldwell's section before she moved last summer and have kindly agreed to continue; Moses is about to enter the reinvitation process and may or may not wish to seek reinvitation. at present the GLOW Circuit Youth work has no presbyteral 'owner'. CLT wished to change as little as possible as constant change is unhelpful for churches.

Continued

Circuit Meeting notes continued.

The circuit meeting agreed unanimously with the following proposal:

Ron and Diane Hicks to continue at Killinghall and Park Grove respectively for 3 years. Linda Phillips and Gillian Robertson will continue on a rolling year-on-year basis to cover Kirk Hammerton and Kearby respectively. In all these cases we're talking about 1 day per week plus Sundays. The circuit team will put a 'presbyter in active service' as a way of keeping contact with the CLT. The on-going support by Trevor Dixon at Wesley was acknowledged.

Ben will lose Killinghall and trusteeship of Netmakers (previously Harrogate Hub) but take on the connection role with Ron and Diane. Lesley who currently has the biggest number of members loses Scotton and Wesley but will gain GLOW and will be the co-ordinator for Gary's support group. Gordon will lose Kirk Hammerton and Kearby but retain the connection role for Linda and Gillian and will also take on Wesley as our other 'town centre' church albeit two very different congregations. This means that Gordon will be a trustee of Wesley Centre. Moses will lose Park Grove and gain Scotton and also be offered to Netmakers as the Methodist Trustee.

For clarity here's who each church/project would have as their Ministry Team:

Bilton Area- Lesley
Gracious Street: Gordon and
Pioneer Pastor
Harlow Hill: Moses
Kearby: Gillian
Killinghall: Ron
Kirk Hammerton: Linda
Pannal : Ben Clowes and Clair
(local pastor)
Park Grove: Diane Hicks

Scotton: Moses
Starbeck: Lesley
Trinity: Ben Clowes and Clair
Wesley Chapel: Gordon
Wesley Centre: Ben
Woodlands: Moses
GLOW: Lesley
Diaconal Support: Lesley
Netmakers: Moses

Worship. Churches are being encouraged to talk about their individual successes at future circuit meetings.

Continued

Circuit Meeting notes continued.

Discipleship. The CLT is keen to increase the biblical literacy across the circuit and is encouraging churches to use their church bibles to read along as the Bible is being read. Trinity is starting a new book club during June, which is Bible month. A minister/local preacher/worship leader will introduce the book of Revelations. All are warmly invited to Trinity to the Good Book Club. This will be followed, probably every 2 months from September onwards. If anyone has ideas on how to increase bible literacy, please let your minister know.

THE JOHN BATCHELOR CHRISTIAN IMPACT AWARD IN MEMORY OF THE LATE JOHN BATCHELOR.

John Batchelor a long-standing member at Trinity and using some of the bequest he left to the church we have created The John Batchelor Christian Impact Award. This is an annual award scheme and is open to all young people across the circuit who are currently in years 7-11. The award scheme seeks to reward a young person's impact on the lives of others with particular note to how this connects to their faith. The scheme panel is aware that the level of impact and what is achieved may be different for different young people.

Anyone can nominate a young person and forms are available from the Circuit Office. Examples of impact could be helping out with coffee or the technology at church or being involved in helping to run a Christian Union at their school. The list is endless but it is also something which could be put on future CVs. The top prize is a £50 voucher and there will be some 'Highly Commended' awards each year.

The closing date for any nominations is Easter Day, 9th April 2023 and the prizes will be awarded at a service in the summer. For nominations forms see Les or Judith.

WHAT'S ON AT OUR OTHER CHURCHES

Bilton Methodist Amblers. There will be no walk on Easter Saturday (8 April). The next walk is **Saturday 20 May** (not the usual second Saturday of the month as some people want to go to hear Rowan Williams speak at St. Mark's on the 13th).

All walks start on the car park of Bilton Area Methodist Church where we meet to arrange transport at 9.30am. Summer walks generally about 5- 6 miles. Please bring a packed lunch but we normally go on to a pub or cafe at the end.. All welcome. If interested please contact Janet Allen, T: 524634 E: janetallen09@btinternet.com

Future dates are: Sat 10 June, Sat 8 July, Sat 12 Aug, Sat 9 Sept.
Sat 14 Oct.

Bilton also have a coffee morning on the first Saturday of every month with tea cakes, bacon and sausage butties and a raffle, 10.30 am till 12. All are welcome.

Killinghall Methodist Church. 23 April 3-5pm. Chapel warming. Resurrected bites. will provide refreshments. Come and have a look around this lovely 'new' chapel.

Gracious Street Methodist Church is starting a monthly coffee morning in The Bridge on the 4th Saturday of the month. The first one will be Saturday 22 April 10am-12 noon. Each month will support a different charity/good cause so please come and have a drink, cake and a chat. More details from Jeanette Mowat (01423 867511).

Park Grove Methodist Church. 22 April 7pm. Dr Paul Whittaker OBE is a profoundly deaf musician. He will be visiting Park Grove on 22nd April along with the Hull Visual Choir. This choir is a signing choir which will be a first for Park Grove. Paul visited Park Grove last year and gave us a wonderful and memorable afternoon, he is funny and inspirational. If you care to join us you will be in for a treat. Tickets £8, including refreshments, available from:- Margaret Grant 07521 175783. We look forward to seeing you.

Starbeck Methodist Church. 13 May 7.30pm. Tewit Youth Band in Concert. Tickets £8 on entry at the door.

St, Mark's Church. Sunday 28 May at 6.30pm. Kingdom Come Prayer and Worship. Joint churches prayer and worship night. This is Pentecost Sunday and comes at the end of Thy Kingdom Come's global 11 days of prayer.

Harrogate School of Mission and Theology.

Saturday 22 April 9am—1pm. Is religion bad for you? Part 2. Mowbray Community Church.

Saturday 13 May 10am—12pm. Bishop Rowan Williams (Archbishop Emeritus of Canterbury).

'We are delighted to welcome back the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, who delighted us with back in 2014 with his lecture on the Gospel of John. This lecture addresses some intriguing issues in modern contemplative spirituality and its missional opportunities. Bishop Rowan tells us, "We will look briefly at three twentieth century figures – Russian, French and American – who attempted to live out a contemplative vocation in the setting of modern urban poverty, and will ask what we can learn from them about integrating contemplation and action."

Venue: St Mark's Church, Leeds Road, Harrogate (& Zoom option)

Date: Saturday 13th May, 10.00 – 12.00 noon with breakfast available from 9.30 am

Booking: STILL ONLY £8.00 per session (price held since 2013) including a continental breakfast and mid-morning refreshments; students: £5 per lecture; under 18s free.

Fees payable on the day by contactless card, cheque (to Harrogate School of Theology and Mission) or preferably in advance by the online booking system EventBrite

Zoom live-stream of lectures: £5 per person, under 18s free. Booking via EventBrite



Flourish 23 | Rooted in Love – District Event. Friday 14th to Sunday 16th April 2023

Flourish: Rooted in Love. Have you booked your tickets?

“Flourish”, our Methodist Weekend, is fast approaching! A weekend gathering of celebration, inspiration and learning together - with a diverse range of worship and sessions to choose from.

Flourishing in God’s great love for us and all the world. Join over 1,000 friends from churches across Yorkshire for a fun all-age event open to all. Our brochure and full programme is now out and available to view online – discover sessions, workshops, speakers, music and more. (physical copies will be available in local circuits shortly, and at the event).

View the programme: www.yorkshirenemethodist.org/flourish23

Book your tickets: bit.ly/Flourish23Tickets

Confirmed speakers and contributors include: John Bell, Paula Gooder, Rachel Gardner, Clive McKie, Paul Kerenza, Matt Beckingham, Graham Thompson & Anthony Boateng (President & Vice-President of the Methodist Conference).

Discover booking info and more: www.yorkshirenemethodist.org/flourish23

We would like to help out anyone who might not have transport and this might help out others as well. If you do find anyone who offers space, or who needs transport, please get in touch with either myself or Rev Ben Clowes. Many thanks Katy Morley, Circuit Administrator

‘Whenever you feel like criticizing any one (my father told me) remember that all the people in this world haven’t had the advantages that you’ve had.’ *Scott Fitzgerald The Great Gatsby*

‘Isn’t it funny how day by day nothing changes but when you look back everything is different. *C.S.Lewis*

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Lynne found this poem about the books of the Old Testament in a very old bible. It's a great guide to the Old Testament. .

In **Genesis** the world was made by God's creative hand;
In **Exodus** the Hebrews marched to greet the promised land!
Leviticus contains the Law, Holy, Just and Good;
Numbers records the Tribes enrolled – all sons of Abraham's blood.
Moses, in **Deuteronomy**, records God's mighty deeds;
Brave **Joshua** into Canaan's Land the host of Israel leads.
In **Judges** their rebellion oft provokes the Lord to smite;
But **Ruth** records the Faith of one well pleasing in his sight.
In **First and Second Samuel** of Jesse's son we read;
Ten Tribes in First and Second **Kings** revolted from his seed.
The First and Second **Chronicles** see Judah captive made;
But **Ezra** leads a remnant back by princely Cyrus' aid.
The City walls of Zion, **Nehemiah** builds again;
While **Esther** saves her people from plots of wicked men.
In **Job** we read how Faith will live beneath affliction's rod;
And in The **Psalms** are precious songs for every child of God.
The **Proverbs** like a goodly string of choicest Pearls appear;
Ecclesiastes teaches men how vain are all things here.
The mystic **Song of Solomon** exalts sweet Sharon's Rose;
While Christ the King and Saviour the rapt **Isaiah** shows.
The warning **Jeremiah** apostate Israel scorns;
His plaintive **Lamentations** their awful downfall mourns.
Ezekiel tells in wondrous words of dazzling mysteries;
While Kings and Empires yet to come, Daniel in vision sees.
Of Judgement and of Mercy **Hosea** loves to tell;
Joel describes the blessed days when God with Man shall dwell.
Among Tekoa's herdsmen **Amos** received his call;
While **Obadiah** prophesies of Edom's final fall.
Jonah enshrines a wondrous type of Christ our Risen Lord;
Micah pronounces Judah lost – lost, but again restored.
Nahum declares on **Ninevah** just judgement shall be poured.
A view of Chaldea's coming doom **Habakkuk's** visions give;
Next **Zephaniah** warns the Jews to turn, repent and live.
Haggai wrote to those who saw the Temple built again;
And **Zechariah** prophesied of Christ's Triumphant reign.
Malachi was last who touched the high prophetic chord;
Its final notes sublimely show The Coming of The Lord.

TAPESTRIES ON SHOW AT GRACIOUS STREET



The tapestries were created by textile artist Jacqui Parkinson who exhibited at Ripon Cathedral in October. The ten banners entitled 'The Servant King' and were on display at Gracious Street during March. Christine and Les popped in to see the display and took these photographs.

Jacqui is currently working on 18 large panels for 'Threads through the Cross'. She will start with the birth of Jesus – through the cross and resurrection – to Pentecost. The sequence will be completed by 2025 and will create a dramatic link between 'Threads through Creation' and 'Threads through Revelation'. Initially, it will not be displayed by itself: instead we are planning to take all three exhibitions together on tour, under the title 'Threads through the Bible'.

For more information about the work of Jacqui Parkinson visit: <https://www.jacqui-textile.com/>

Prayer Corner

A Prayer for


Flourish

**Creator of all, we pray with expectant hearts,
anticipating “Flourish”, our District Gathering,
and looking forward to all it offers.**

**We pray for the work of the planning team
as they attend to all the arrangements.**

**May all the speakers and contributors
be inspired in their preparation.**

**May we all be prepared by your Spirit as we gather:
ready to discover more of what it
really is to be “Rooted in Love.”**

**May “Flourish” fulfil all our hopes, offering us fresh
inspiration, encouragement and motivation.**

We pray, in the name of Christ.

Amen.

**Flourish: Rooted in Love
14-16 April | Scarborough Spa
www.yorkshirenethodist.org/flourish23**



Photographs of the month



A swan swimming at Hever Castle by Ian



Sunset near Scotton by Christine and Les