



Focus on February 2022



Mamallapuram in Southern India . See page 11

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 service at 10.30am every Sunday. Please visit <https://www.facebook.com/NiddValley/>

Morning prayer at 8am Monday—Saturday led by one of our Nidd Valley Ministry Team.

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

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The deadline for 'Wesley Focus on March ' is 21 February.
Please send any notices, news, articles, photographs to Judith Yeats: 01423 506014, judithyeats0@gmail.com. Focus is also on the website. <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk/our-focus>

WHAT'S ON AT WESLEY

SUNDAY 30 JANUARY 10.30am. Morning Worship led by Mike Greenberg.

SUNDAY 6 FEBRUARY 10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev. Lesley Taylor.

MONDAY 7 FEBRUARY 1pm Lunchtime Recital. Irène Duval (violin), Ariel Lanyi (piano). See p20 for more details.

SUNDAY 13 FEBRUARY 10.30am. Morning Worship. Local Arrangement.

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

SUNDAY 20 FEBRUARY 10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev. Trevor Dixon

SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY 10.30am. Morning Worship led by Rev. Ben Clowes.

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

THURSDAY 3 MARCH. 7.30pm. Piano Recital Stephen Hough. See p21 for more details.

EVERY TUESDAY 10.30am Online Tuesday Coffee. *(Link will be sent out, or contact Les or Judith).*

ADVANCE NOTICE: Wesley Guild/Network meetings have been arranged for Thursdays 10 March. 14 April and 12 May. More details later.

MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTERS AND STEWARDS

At the last Church Council meeting, I volunteered to prepare a report for Focus concerning the long-term outlook for Wesley.

A summary of the accounts for last year (ended August 2021) is below, and you will see that our outgoings exceeded our income by more than £1000. The projection for the current year is even worse, with no obvious way of reversing the trend. When I tell you that, if my forecast is correct, our General Account reserves will be down to a little over £2,000 by August next year, you will see that we can't continue in this way for much longer.

However, the real problem is not the money: that's only a symptom. The real problem is the increasing age and reducing size of our membership. But then I'm sure you didn't need me to tell you that. The other, and more important symptom is that there are fewer and fewer people to fill the jobs that need doing, especially around the preparation for Sunday worship, and also to restart Tuesday coffee, Forward Together and other mission and fund raising activities.

We must always remember that we have some wonderful and precious gifts in abundance. We have a deep well of experience and wisdom to draw on, a sense of gratitude for all those who have helped make Wesley Chapel a success over the years, a loving community of folk desperate to make God's Kingdom a reality for one another and the for the people around us, and the knowledge that, as disciples of Jesus and with the presence of the Holy Spirit, we are not alone.

As to the finance, in the short term I believe that those who can afford to give more will help to keep us afloat, but that's clearly not a sustainable position in the long term and has to be in the context of a clear, viable plan for the future, so more on finance will follow a bit later on, once our future direction has become clearer.

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

Ministers and stewards message continued.

At a stewards' meeting earlier in the Autumn, we concluded that:

.... we need to come back together and devote time to considering what we aspire to for the future of the Wesley Chapel worshipping ministry and mission. We have lost a significant number of members in the last two years and we need to seriously give time, thought and prayer as to what Wesley Chapel worship and mission will/could/should look like in 5 years.

Please think prayerfully and carefully about our options for the future. We are planning a meeting of all church members, probably in the Spring, and your thoughts and ideas are needed.

With love and blessings

Mike Greenberg, on behalf of our Ministers and Stewards

Covid rules and regulations

The national restrictions on wearing face masks and social distancing are easing and the general public are being given the responsibility to continue or not with some of the covid prevention activities we have all come to know and not love.

At a recent Wesley Chapel stewards' meeting we decided that we would encourage all those who come to the Sunday morning worship to continue to wear masks when moving around the church and singing. We will also continue to space out chairs to help with social distancing and encourage our preachers to keep services to the shorter duration that we have followed for so many months ie approx. 45 minutes. We believe this is a right and sensible course of action for now given the many vulnerable members we have in our congregation; we hope you will support these guidelines again.

Many thanks. **Les.**

HARROGATE HOMELESS PROJECT

Mike received a lovely letter from HHP which he read out to us during Morning Worship a few weeks ago. For those who weren't there that Sunday, here it is again. It was dated 21 October.

Dear Mike

We wanted to pass on our sincerest thanks to yourself and everyone at Wesley Chapel for the wonderful monetary donations we received from your Harvest Festival collection. *(It was £213).*

You are amazing supporters of HHP and fantastic partners alongside us. The partnership with Wesley Chapel is something we strongly value and hope to continue for many years to come. Please pass on our thanks to everyone involved with the harvest donations as well.

All the money that is donated is amazing and adds up to a substantial amount throughout the year, as I'm sure you know. It's amazing that the local community is supporting one another and works together to be able to provide the services that we have.

Once again, please thank everyone within Wesley Chapel for the contributions and the support that we always receive from you. It's something that we value very much.

Sending you all best wishes.

Kindest regards
Amy, Hostel Worker.

Sunday Coffee Rota.

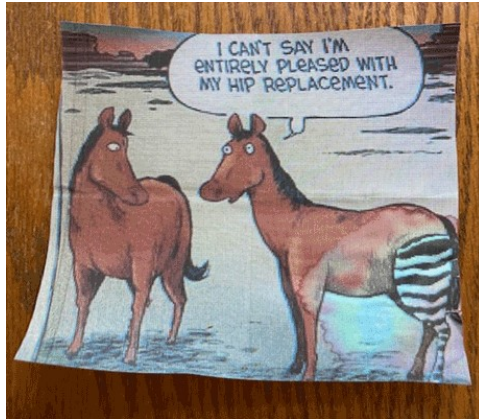
An important part of our Sunday Worship is the time we share over refreshments after the service. However, this is only possible if we have enough people to help with preparing and serving tea and coffee. Please consider if you are able to help with this and get in touch with Ulrike who is organising a rota. .

Email ulrike.hitchen@gmail.com,
or telephone 01423 883618.

LOOKING BACK ON JANUARY

We are delighted to see Maureen back after her hip operation and consequent recovery in December/January. Maureen sent us this message:

‘Unlike this cartoon (sent to me by a friend) I am entirely pleased with my hip replacement. Thank you to everyone at Wesley for your continued concern and support. Maureen’



Ian has a new friend and sent us this story and picture for the Weekly Pieces.:

‘This little fellow has been commenting on the disturbance I have caused by tidying up the garden. He said he would like to be in the Pieces. So here he is, he is a very good singer by the way!’ **Ian**

Les has the little one’s brother in their garden and he often comes and chats when one of them is in the garden.

Tuesday Coffee News

Tuesday Coffee is one of our favourite spots of the week and there is no end to the variety of subjects that we discuss in depth. Over the past month we have chuckled at tales of Sat Nav's in cars with names such as Sally and Camilla. On a trip to Lymme Park, Camilla got Mike and Maureen to a deserted locked gate at the end of a narrow long drive with the words 'you have arrived at your destination'. The actual entrance was miles away! On that day their daughter Sarah rang them to announce that she had just got engaged to Philip. Trevor recalled that Lyme Park was where his daughter was hit in the eye with a golf ball!

We have listened to confessions from Les and Keith about broken windows and collection cards; shared some sad stories of friends who were not well. Molly, recently back from Wales told us about a lovely small Methodist church near where she hopes to move with family and Christine B told us about a walk along The Shawl near Leyburn, in 3 inches of snow that she and Graham enjoyed and the views across Wensleydale were beautiful.

The piano concert by Jean Efflam Bavouzet was discussed and everyone there thought it was wonderful. In the audience was the daughter and son-in-law of the Hungarian/British conductor of George Solti, a great friend of Jean. They all went back to Andrew and Ulrike's for dinner and got to bed by 2am. The taxi came for Jean at 8.00am and a day later he played the same recital at Wigmore Hall, London. Janet was at the concert on Saturday and then at the Pantomime on Sunday...oh! yes, she was!

We talked about books we have read; Killinghall peacocks; newspaper puzzles; a possible new coffee machine for Wesley kitchen; who is the latest to be infected with Covid; dentists, chiropodists, hairdressers, broken lifts, fire escapes and knotted ropes. Lynne shared two new words, '*scurryfunge*' (to dash around the house in a frenzied attempt to tidy up before visitors arrived' and '*coverslut*' (an outer garment worn to conceal untidy clothes eg. an apron to hide a stained dress). Molly shared she had learnt Latin at school and that was not much use as she looked forward to moving to Wales in the coming months.

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Tuesday Coffee news continued

We shared the walks some of us had taken in the recent bright and cold weather. We talked about a Vet dentist and wondered how much they charged for a crocodile! Judith reflected that when she lived in Africa, she had to be mindful of crocodiles when she walked alongside rivers. Now you do not have that worry down by the Nidd...

Penny is a regular at Tuesday Coffee and we get frequent updates, mostly she tells us of her frustrations because of Covid restrictions at Southlands. She sent us this photograph following a visit from family (can you spot her waving from the window?) and says:

'Is this the new norm for the New Year? The visitors seem to find it amusing. Hopefully 'A unique New Year memory' for me. My niece is taking the selfie'



The mole asked: 'Is your glass half full or half empty?'
The boy replied: 'I think I'm grateful to have a glass'

'Do you have a favourite saying?' Asked the boy.

'Yes' said the mole.

'What is it?'

'If at first you don't succeed have some cake.'

'I see, does it work?'

'Every time'.

The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse by Charlie Mackesy

Our church always looks lovely, but it was extra special over the Advent and Christmas period thanks to our wonderful flower ladies. Lynne sent this photograph and message after they had spent a long day decorating the church.

'Please see attached Team Flower! It was great to welcome Pat on board. She worked very hard and put in a lot of steps, as did Ulrike, and said she had enjoyed the experience! Priscilla and I were very grateful to have such willing help from both ladies, especially carrying the boxes up and down the stairs to the gallery'.



Lesley sent us these pictures and says: (Recently) 'I went to Compton Verney with friends Carole and John. We enjoyed a lovely lunch, walked round the art exhibitions and had a walk in the grounds. Guess who found the mud?'



Dayspring Trust

Some of our church family generously supported the 'gift box' donations just before Christmas. Here is a message of thanks and some pictures.

Please see attached some photos which we have received from the Dayspring Trust showing the distribution of the gifts for Mamallapuram in Southern India donated by churches across the circuit before Christmas. We are so grateful for your help in encouraging donations and so grateful to everyone who contributed to the gift boxes.

As you'll remember, the gift boxes were designated for school children, for small children and for widows and poor women. We were able to fund 93 boxes.

We would appreciate your sharing the photos and our thanks with your churches – it's been amazing to see God at work in this way.

We know that several churches are planning fundraising events in the spring and are ever grateful for the continued support.

Every blessing, The Dayspring Trust team



FOCUS ON FAMILY



Above. Sudron family playing 'Mouse Trap'

Below. Sending a happy birthday picture to a friend in Germany





Joy and Lynne's visit to London at Christmas. Above. Joy with her two dear little granddaughters, Matilda and Tabitha and below Aunt Lynne with three generations of nieces.



Edinburgh and Harry Potter

Encouraged by recent articles about Edinburgh by Les and Christine, and Shelagh, and following Mike and Maureen's visit to the Harry Potter film set, Janet was prompted to write about her own experiences. .

This is about both Edinburgh and Harry Potter. In the autumn of 2019 (months before the pandemic) I went to Edinburgh with my goddaughter Anna who is the nearest thing I have to a daughter/niece. Anna is that generation of children/young people who grew up with Harry Potter and eagerly awaited the publication of the next book in the series and is a great fan. We went on the Harry Potter walking tour of Edinburgh. The dominating presence of Edinburgh Castle high over the city was pointed out as the likely inspiration for the equally prominent Hogwarts which also towers over its surrounding area. The gravestones of Greyfriars Kirkyard reveal names used in the Harry Potter books. The narrow and curved Victoria Street is seen as the inspiration for Diagon Alley. We were also told of two cafes used by JK Rowling where she actually did some writing of her books. The Elephant House makes much of its JK Rowling connection and the Spoon has been referred to by JK Rowling as the place where she wrote some of her books, it being joint owned by her brother-in-law at the time. Anna and I of course tried out both cafes! There is a sad ending to the story of the two cafes, the Elephant House is temporarily closed due to a fire starting in an adjacent building but the Spoon has had to close down due to the pandemic. Anyway, Edinburgh Castle, Greyfriars Kirkyard, Victoria Street and other connections with JK Rowling are still there to explore.

Janet Allen

'Now, you two – this year, you behave yourselves. If I get one more owl telling me you've – you've blown up a toilet or –'
'Blown up a toilet? We've never blown up a toilet.'
'Great idea though, thanks, Mum.'

J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Scarborough

Maureen decided that her 'carer' deserved a break so she took him (OK he took her but it was her idea) to Scarborough for a couple of days in glorious sunshine. Here she is nice and cosy, with tea and cake and an amazing view.



And here she is (below) ...not cosy (even wearing her new winter hat) no tea, no cake but an amazing view. She managed to sit there for 2 minutes before retreating to the car. Maureen says: What is it about gazing at the sea that is so uplifting?"



Elsa and Rowan doing a jigsaw given to them by one of the one of the Greenberg's grand-children

Meat Loaf. Remembering a Gentle Giant

The news that rock 'n roll legend, Meat Loaf had died provoked an outpouring of grief, sadness and nostalgia amongst his many fans. The nicest story comes from Les, who writes:

'The American born singer and actor Meat Loaf died last week at the age of 74. He had a huge following in the UK and sold over a 100 million album copies with his most successful being 'Bat out of Hell' that is still one of the top ten music albums of all time.

Meat Loaf had a powerful and wide ranging voice and began singing gospel songs as a young boy at his parents church.

The Sudron boys all loved Meat Loaf and his high energy performances and saw him live on two occasions. At one in Sheffield, courtesy of the Make a Wish charity, Matthew and his family were invited to meet Meat Loaf back-stage. The experience was wonderful and Meat Loaf was absolutely lovely. Kind, gentle, generous with his time and really interested in Matthew.

Christine was never a fan of Meat Loaf's music but after this meeting she was always an admirer of the man.

It appears that Her Majesty the Queen was also an admirer, as last Monday, the Queen's Guards at Buckingham Palace played a musical tribute to Meat Loaf, playing one of his all-time greatest songs.'

Les.

I was also at that concert at Sheffield. I wouldn't have known the Sudron family then so it is strange to think we were in the same venue at the same time without knowing each other. I found out recently that one of our Circuit Stewards was also there.

My Walwyn boys were also great fans and my son Matthew was inundated with text messages last week from old school friends who wanted to reminisce about Meat Loaf and what he meant to them. My family group on Messenger was hot with tributes from my grandsons who were also fans.

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Meat Loaf remembered. And, since it is difficult to keep 'football' out of conversations with some Wesley folk, Hartlepool Football Club paid tribute to Meat Loaf by playing his hits before the match following his death. Apparently he adopted the League Two club after being asked to appear on Sky Sports Soccer AM in 2003. The players also ran out to 'Bat Out of Hell'

Judith



*Kind, gentle,
generous with
his time and
really interested
in Matthew*

Matthew with Meatloaf at Sheffield Arena

Desert Island Discs

I happened to say to one of my family groups, admittedly a little bit tongue-in-cheek (although I do love the album) that *Bat Out of Hell* would be one of my Desert Island Discs. This prompted one of my grandsons to ask, as a matter of interest, what my other seven would be. So I took up the challenge. It took a while but I came up with the following choices. You are allowed whole albums/works, aren't you?

Rock Around the Clock by Bill Haley and the Comets. I vividly remember hearing it for the first time and being totally blown away by the new rock n roll., Much to my music teacher's disgust.

Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A major K622. It is the piece of music that first got in interested in classical music, and because my late husband Phil and I used to play it as a duet with me on the piano, and because now I am accompanying my son Robert whilst he plays it, written for saxophone.

Fauré's Requiem. Because I love choral music and this piece has the 'tingle factor'; for me.

Bat Out of Hell by Meatloaf. I was listening to my boys playing this album when they were teenagers and I exclaimed 'but this is rock and roll' except more sophisticated. From then on I started to listen to the rock music of the day: Queen, Status Quo, Pink Floyd.

What is life for me without thee by Kathleen Ferrier. When I lost my first husband this was the song that kept me sane and which I couldn't get out of my head, and Kathleen Ferrier has the most exquisite alto voice.

Is this the world we created by Queen. I became obsessed by Queen and this song is so poignant and relevant to the problems we face today with climate change and all.

African Sanctus by David Fanshawe. It combines choral music with the sounds of Africa, and living in Africa was a very important part of my life. And the Lord's Prayer is particularly beautiful.

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Desert Island Discs continued.

Piano Concerto No 5 by Beethoven. I have to have something by Beethoven because he is my favourite composer. This piece is specially beautiful.

If I were only allowed to take one it would have to be the Faure. I would have the time to thoroughly learn my alto part, and if I were not to survive the ordeal of being stranded on the desert island I could have *In Paradisum* at my funeral.

What would your Desert Island choices be? Are you willing to share them with us? Barbara Lister is going to share her choices in the next Focus. I look forward to volunteers for the following editions.

Judith Yeats

Poem for Lent

by

Robert Herrick (1591-1634)

Is this a fast, to keep
The larder lean?
And clean
From fat of veals and sheep ?

No; 'tis a fast to dole
Thy sheaf of wheat,
And meat,
Unto the hungry soul.

Is it to quit the dish
Of flesh, yet still
To fill
The platter high with fish ?

It is to fast from strife,
From old debate
And hate ;
To circumsise thy life.

Is it to fast an hour,
Or ragged to go,
Or show
A downcast look and sour ?

To show a heart grief-rent ;
To starve thy sin,
Not bin ;
And that's to keep thy Lent.

'Forgiving is not forgetting; it's actually remembering – remembering and not using your right to hit back. It's a second chance for a new beginning. And the remembering part is particularly important. Especially if you don't want to repeat what happened.' Desmond Tutu

Belinda is a regular reader of Focus and has written this lovely reflection for us. Her eldest son is living in Australia and she misses him very much indeed. She lost her mum last summer. Thank you Belinda for sharing your thoughts with us at such a poignant time

It is time to count your blessings

There comes a time when you realize that it's time to count your blessings. It really doesn't matter what you have or haven't got, be it possessions, money, what matters is how you feel, how happy you are, that you are contented in your life and that you love yourself. Once you love yourself you are free to love others.

We are surrounded by pressure to conform to certain standards, none of which is important when you boil it down. We are all united in our aims to be successful, but happiness is the basis of everything.

At Christmas time the distance between you and your family seems further. Perhaps it is because you'd so much like to just be together. It is good to remember that for every time/opportunity spent apart you are always closer to the next meeting. Those living abroad are no longer uncontactable for years on end, instead we have the benefits of the internet with zoom calls, telephone/video calls and instant messaging like WhatsApp. How lucky we are!

Having reached middle age (well 50 something!), it is rather an interesting position to view life. You have the older generation, your parents, and then the younger generation, your children, and you are sitting right in the middle of it all. You can see how you were 30 years ago and empathize with the younger generation. You can see how you might be in another 20 or 30 years yourself and try to understand the older generation. It's a unique standpoint and I don't really think it's going to be easy to move on from here. But move on I must obviously. Despite this, I am excited to experience the next stage as life seems to me to go in chapters, our children getting married maybe or starting families. Myself and my husband having time to pursue individual hobbies in more depth.

So, let's count our blessings at this strange, difficult time and keep looking forward with positivity at whatever life has in store, for we know that being loved is all that matters in the long run and in the bigger picture.

Belinda Walwyn

Dates for your diary.

Forthcoming concerts at Wesley Centre.

Monday 7 February 2022 at 1pm. Lunchtime recital. Irène Duval (violin), Ariel Lanyi (piano)

Programme

Schubert: Sonatina No.2 in A minor for violin & piano, op.137

Reynaldo: Romance in A for violin and piano

Schubert: Sonatina No.1 in D major (D.384)

Fauré: Sonata No.1 in A for violin and piano, Op.13

Entry £10. Pay at the door. There is no need to book in advance.

Thursday 3 March 2022 at 7.39pm. Evening recital .Stephen Hough (piano)

Programme

Alan Rawsthorne(1905-1971) Bagatelles

Robert Schumann (1810-1856) Kreisleriana, Op. 16

Stephen Hough (b1961) Partita

Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849):

Ballade No. 3 in A-flat. Op. 47

Nocturne in F-sharp Major, Op. 15, No. 2

Nocturne in E-flat, Op. 9. No. 2

Scherzo: No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 31

Tickets £16 (£8 for aged 16 and under). Tickets (numbers) in advance can be obtained from Andrew Hitchen (Tel. 01423-883618 or email a.hitchen81@gmail.com). Please pay by cheque (payable to **Wesley Centre**) and send to Andrew Hitchen, 15 St. Ronan's Road, Harrogate HG2 8LE. Cheques will not be presented until after the recital.

Lent Study Course

Lent Study Course. Lesley will be running a Lent Study Course for 5-6 weeks beginning on Monday 7th March at 2pm. The sessions will alternate between Bilton and Starbeck, beginning at Starbeck on 7th March. Transport can be organised. Please let Lesley know if you'd like to join the group or if you'd like a Zoom group to be set up.

Harrogate Choral Society

Saturday 19 March 7pm at The Royal Hall. Rossini *Stabat Mater* and Puccini *Messa di Gloria*. With the Manchester Camerata/
Soloists: Sarah Power, Soprano; Adriana Festeu, Mezzo; , Austin Gunn, Tenor; Stephe Gadd, Bass. Andrew Padmore, Guest Conductor.

Tickets £25. Students, under 16s or IBA £5. From Harrogate Box Office 01423 502116, or online at www.harrogatetheatre.co.uk.

Starbeck Methodist Church.

Saturday 12 February 2022 7.30pm Saint John Fisher Catholic High School with Mr Craig Ratcliffe, Head of the Music Department

Saturday 12 March 2022 7.30pm The Chorus Crew with their captain Don Mason

Saturday 9 April 2022 7.30pm Tewit Youth Band with musical director Martin Hall.

Wesley Chapel 160th Anniversary

Here is an idea regarding 160 years of Wesley Chapel/Centre. In October 2002 BBC Radio 4's 'Any Questions' was broadcast from Wesley Chapel, ie. in its 140th year. The panel was George Osborne (then a relatively new MP), Arthur Scargill, Michael Meacher and the journalist Ann Leslie. Perhaps we could invite 'Any Questions?' again. It may be that generally the BBC do not go twice to the same venue, although 'Any Questions?' has been broadcast on two occasions from St. Aidan's School, Harrogate. If the BBC would agree to broadcast the programme, it would raise the profile of Wesley Chapel/Centre within the town and nationally. Perhaps readers of Wesley Pieces (and Focus) might like write to the editor to express a view!

Andrew Hitchen

Les responds: Thanks Andrew that is something we will look at. It is a special year for Wesley and we would like to know if any of our members have any ideas on what we should do to celebrate and promote our presence in the centre of Harrogate. If you have ideas and could help by doing something yourself or linking us to people or groups that perhaps could help deliver some activity that would be very special and appreciated. Ideas please. Thank-you... **Les**

Prayer Corner

Every great movement of God can be traced to a kneeling figure.

D.L. Moody

The President and Vice President have expressed their concern over the situation in Tonga caused by a volcanic eruption on Saturday and subsequent tsunami. They ask the Methodist people to pray for those affected.

Loving God, we stand in awe at the power of creation seen in volcano and tsunami, recognising the smallness and weakness of our own existence. Yet you tell us that each person is special and important to you, and in that confidence we hold before you the people of Tonga as they deal with the aftermath of the volcanic eruption.

We are still waiting for details, but you know the feelings and needs of each person there, and we pray that you would grant calm and courage to those directly involved, and the strengthening of bonds as people support each other. Especially we ask for wisdom for national and community leaders as they look for a way ahead, and for religious leaders, including President Finau Ahio and ministers of our Methodist Partner, The Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, as they try to offer spiritual and emotional support.

We pray also for the peace of your presence for all those around the world waiting for news of family and friends, wanting to believe that the reports so far of little damage and no loss of life are true, but fearful of different news when the situation becomes clear.

We give thanks for the moves within the Pacific and the wider international community to provide support for Tonga, and pray that there will soon be opportunity to allow appropriate relief to be channelled quickly, especially the provision of clean drinking water. And although now everything is dismal and grey from volcanic ash, may the people of Tonga be able to hold on to the hope of the return of colour and joy to their land.



Harlow Carr in January by Christine Sudron



Come and Join us! Tuesdays at 10.30am