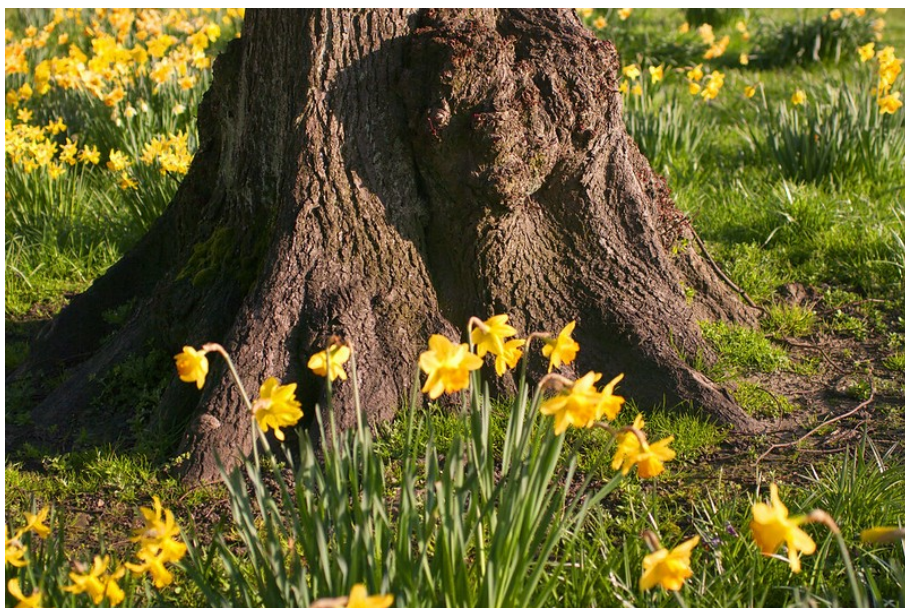




Focus on March 2020



Harrogate Stray

'For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.'

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

The **Methodist Church**



One Church. 14 Locations.

WELCOME TO WESLEY CHAPEL

We really enjoy welcoming visitors to Wesley Chapel and we hope your time with us will be enjoyable and uplifting. If you are new to Harrogate or just new to Wesley Chapel, we would love to welcome you back and tell you a bit more about what we do here and hopefully get to know you a little more.

If you would like to remain in contact with us please speak to the minister, stewards or the person who welcomed you into the church and let us know your preferred method of contact.

Welcome again!

Wesley Chapel Contacts

Ministry Team: Rev. Ben Clowes, Rev. Ann Fox, Rev. Trevor Dixon.

Senior Steward: Les Sudron

Church Council Secretary: Jenny Goodwin

Safeguarding Officer: Christine Sudron

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

Website: www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk

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Administrator: Lynne Close

admin@wesleycentreharrogate.org.uk

Telephone: 01423 509917

Website: www.wesleycentreharrogate.org.uk

Address

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

The deadline for 'Wesley Focus on April' is 23 March. Please send any notices, news, articles, photographs to Judith Yeats: 01423 506014, judithyeats0@gmail.com. Focus is also on the website. If you would also like to receive the monthly newsletter by e-mail please let Judith know.

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear friends

'He leads me beside still waters'" Psalm 23:2b

In case you haven't heard, the Clowes family have grown in number! No we haven't had any more children but we do now have a puppy, Russ. He's a Coton de Tulear and whilst the family do love him, he can be very naughty indeed! As Catherine has been off her feet with a bad knee I've been doing lots of the walking and it led me reflect on the similarities of our walk with Christ.

Dogs like a good walk - already Russ gets excited when we go and get the lead. Let's be honest we do like it when God turns up and we go walking with him. Every year, Catherine and I go to ECG in Scarborough (the successor to Easter People) and we come away refreshed, with the wind in our sails, ready to walk wherever God leads.

Dogs also like to stop and sniff. Many of the walk routes I do with Russ I could probably do in half the time if I didn't have a dog with me. I can be walking along feeling the extendable lead stretching out behind me as I leave Russ behind. There's something of our walk with God in this too. Think about the things that distract us on our walk, the moments when we get stuck and we stop noticing that God is walking on ahead.

Dogs also like to run on ahead. There are also those moments when I'm telling Russ to slow down. If the wind is up and it catches his fur he can set off dashing and nearly pulls my arm out of its socket! We can be like this too with God. We feel we have set off in the direction he's leading and we go rushing ahead and sometimes we need the sharp tug from God to remind us to let him lead.

When we've been to training with Russ one of the activities has been getting him to walk beside us. He's not the best at it yet but he is only 6 months old. As Christians we need to learn to walk beside God. Psalm 23 reminds us that "he leads us beside the still waters" and through the darkest valleys of life.

As we prepare once again for Lent, a time to stop and reflect where we are on our walk with God, maybe it's time to put our 20/20 specs on and see if we're ready to walk, whether we've got stuck behind or are running on ahead. Let's pause and reflect and allow him to lead us as we journey on our walk of faith with him. Yours in Christ.. **Ben**

FROM OUR SENIOR STEWARD

A cheese scone moment...

At our last three church councils we have discussed briefly the Methodist Way of Life as outlined in the simple expression of 'Our Calling'. A continued, honest and positive review and discussion of our calling is an important part of the role and leadership of our church council and stewards.

As we all know this year's presidential theme is 'So what's the Story...?'. It's meant to initiate storytelling across our Church in the year ahead, because our voice matters and deserves to be heard.

I was moved and greatly encouraged by Mike Greenberg's story encapsulated in the six words 'I was loved into the Kingdom' that was printed in November 2019 Focus; I re-read it from time to time.

I heard another story recently of two long-time friends; over the years they had shared their stories together mainly of family growing up and covering joys and sadness, hopes and concerns. On one occasion one lady recalled her "cheese scone" moment. It was a very difficult time and she was not eating at all and spirits were low. The other lady came to visit and brought with her two freshly made cheese scones. When her friend had left the lady was made a cup of tea by her husband with his forlorn question 'can I get you something to eat...?' Her totally unexpected response was 'yes please, I think I would like a cheese scone'

A small step forward...

It was many years later that the friend was told about this totally forgotten moment.

As William Wordsworth wrote in Tintern Abbey:

'The best part of a good person's life.

The little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love.'

Have you or do you know someone who has a little 'cheese scone' story that transforms God's love from words into reality: loving people into the Kingdom?

Every Blessing. **Les**

CONGRATULATIONS

Not one, but two. Anita and Malcolm are delighted to announce the birth of twin great-grandsons. George Joseph Simon and Findley Hugo Luke were born to Abigail and Andrew on 30 January. Brothers for Oscar Frederick James
(below right)



IN MEMORY

One of Wesley's longest-standing members Nancy Stuart, born in 1927, sadly passed away on Friday 14 February aged 92. She contributed so much to the life of Wesley over many years and in many different ways.

She was always concerned for the welfare of others, not only within Wesley but also the wider community. Together with Rev. Gordon Lister and Mr Doug Baker, she was instrumental in sowing the seeds for what became the Harrogate Homeless Project, as they were so worried about the number of people sleeping rough.



Nancy with Rev. Gordon Lister and Mr Doug Baker at the opening of Springboard..

Nancy's biggest sadness in her life was losing her daughter Jane, at the age of 21. In memory of Jane, Nancy gave the bench which was outside the front of the church for many years. The bench was often frequented, and sometimes not so well treated, by those whom Nancy had wanted to help. But, despite offers to remove it to protect Jane's memory, Nancy always declined and said it should be used by whoever needed it.

Continued p7

She also took her turn on the rotas for various Wesley activities, in particular Forward Together, in which she was active for many years. She was always ready to help others and visit those who were bed/hospital-bound. However, she didn't like any fuss for herself and was never backward in coming forward to say so! So she had to be firmly reminded on more than one occasion that people must be allowed to reciprocate the care and kindness that she had shown others.

A staunch advocate of furthering the advancement of medicine, Nancy wanted neither burial nor cremation, instead wishing for an alternative which she has been granted: her body has been accepted for donation for medical research and education.

On a personal note, Jane was my oldest childhood friend and Nancy was a constant reminder of happy memories of my time around Jane. Nancy leaves another daughter Helen, son James, and two grandchildren.

God bless you Nancy, may you rest in peace and finally be reunited with your dear beloved Jane x

Rachel Goodwin

(with thanks to members of the congregation for their contributions)



Memorial seat for Jane

REPORT FROM OUR PASTORAL SECRETARY

In recent months a number of our members have faced serious challenges concerning illness, hospital stays and the deaths of loved ones. Through these times the support of family, carers and friends is vital and makes a real difference.

Personally, over many years, one of the most important aspects of being a part of the family of Wesley Chapel has been the feeling of companionship and concern expressed by so many and so often. Whenever I am within Wesley Chapel I feel part of a warm and upholding fellowship.

Over many years our Pastoral Visitors have been an important part of this expression of Christian Care and their support continues, often quietly behind the scenes.

Looking forward, the Pastoral Visitors have decided to introduce a telephone call system for “keeping in touch” with some of the people under their care. Some of our group are finding it difficult to make visits to people’s homes and equally some house bound friends find it increasing difficult to welcome visitors into their homes.

What will not change is the desire of all within Wesley Chapel to ensure we look out for each other and reflect the Love of God to all.

“May the peace of God my Father
Rule my life in everything,
That I may be calm to comfort
Sick and sorrowing”.

StF 504 – Katie Barclay Wilkinson (1859-1928)

We welcome Shelagh Outhwaite as a new Pastoral Visitor and Shelagh will be attending the appropriate safeguarding course soon...
WELCOME Shelagh!

The community roll stands at 56 members and 40 adherents representing no changes from October Church Council.

The next Pastoral Visitor meeting has been re-arranged from 12 March to 2 April.

Every Blessing. **Christine Sudron.**



NETWORK

We have had a shorter season this year. We started in October with Guess that Tune and sing the first line. At times this was challenging at times to get the words. For November we were going Round the World in 40 minutes, with pictures from Islands which are not normally seen on cruises. It was very enjoyable.

December our friends from St. Peter's came and entertained us with hand bells and poems followed by a Christmas tea. This was enjoyed by all.

New Year arrived and a new decade. Unfortunately our speaker for our January meeting double booked so was unable to attend. Mrs Snowden heard that Mrs Lister was poorly and would not be playing, but with quick action at Forward Together got a replacement, with Mr Thompson kindly offering to play for us. Our Secretary spoke on her younger life in Edinburgh.

Unfortunately a few members no longer attend owing to personal circumstances. One of our ladies who comes from the Catholic Church unfortunately lost her husband before Christmas but continues to support. Another lady was involved in a car crash. Numbers do vary but we usually make sixteen for most meetings and sometimes a few more. **Shelagh Outhwaite. Network Secretary**

WEBSITE

Although the website is not such a popular form of communication as our monthly newsletter, it is just as crucial. It is our window to the outside world. In the past four weeks there have been 204 visits, 163 of these being unique visitors (each visitor is only counted once during the reporting period). We have also recently had 3 form submissions, ie people who have sent in an online form with a query – usually about hiring rooms and in each case I have referred the requests to Wesley Centre.

I am constantly working to add more information about our activities and our people. I urge you to keep on looking – I update it regularly once a week, sometimes more often.

www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk

Judith Yeats

WESLEY CHAPEL REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday Worship 10.30am every week.

Holy Communion included in the first Sunday of the month.

Network 2pm for 2.30pm fourth Monday in the month from October to April.

Bible Study at the home of Helen Evison, usually on the 3rd Monday of each month at 2 pm. Check with Helen to confirm and for further details, 01423 870725

Tuesday Coffee 10am-12noon every Tuesday in the foyer.

Prayer Meeting every third Tuesday of the month at about 11am in the Green Room.

Book Club every alternate month. Contact Judith Yeats for details, 01423 506014.

Forward Together. Coffee served from 10.45 am, lunch at 12 noon.

Journey Group usually on the first Thursday in every month. Contact Philip Goodwin for details, 01423 563990.

Wesley Guild monthly on Thursday afternoons from March to December. Contact Lynne Harvey for more details, 01423 568968.

Wesley Welcome Café First and third Fridays of the month from 1.30pm to 3pm in the Upper Hall. Contact Les Sudron for more details, 01423 797406

See pages 12 & 13 for more details of our activities this month. Also visit www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk

Wesley Chapel Logo. *Have you noticed that we now have our very own logo. (see front cover). It reflects our close relationship with Wesley Centre and our belonging to the Methodist Church. This gives us our own identity and will be used on all communications from Wesley Chapel. Our thanks to Nick Button from Starbeck who has produced this for us.*

Rotas

Sunday Morning Porch Duty

01 Mar. Janet
08 Mar. Shelagh
15 Mar. Janet
22 Mar. Katharine
29 Mar. Shelagh

Sunday Worship Stewards

01 Mar. Christine B & Shelagh
08 Mar. Les & Christine S
15 Mar. Maureen & Mike
22 Mar. Jenny & Philip
29 Mar. Ulrike & Andrew.

Communion Stewards

01 Mar. Anita & Jenny
05 Apr. Christine B & Judith

Organist/Piano Accompanist

01 Mar. Graham
08 Mar. Philip
15 Mar. Judith
22 Mar. *Margaret*
29 Mar. Philip
05 Apr. Graham

Sunday Morning Coffee

01 Mar. Eileen
08 Mar. Jenny
15 Mar. Ulrike
22 Mar. Sue & Margaret
29 Mar. Katharine & Keith

Tuesday Coffee

03 Mar. Jean & Wendy
10 Mar. Judith
17 Mar. Jean & Wendy
24 Mar. Judith
31 Mar. Jean & Wendy
07 Apr. Judith

Forward Together

05 March

10.30am-1pm ChristineB &Pat
11.50-1.15 Jenny
12noon-2pm Hannah

12 March

10.30am-1pm Jenny & Freda
11.50-1.15 Janet & Evelyn
12noon-2pm Eileen

19 March

10.30am-1pm Jenny & Pat
11.50-1.15 Philip
12noon-2pm Hannah

26 March

10.30am-1pm Christine D &
Judith D
11.50-1.15 Ros &
J Bateson
12noon-2pm Eileen

'Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You.' — **Dr. Seuss,**

WESLEY ACTIVITIES

Worship

We warmly welcome any visitors to our services and invite you to stay behind afterwards for tea or coffee and a chat.

Sunday 1 March 10.30am. First Sunday in Lent. Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Ben Clowes. Annual Church Meeting in the Upper Hall, following the morning service. Light refreshments will be served before the meeting.

Sunday 8 March 10.30am. Second Sunday in Lent. Morning Worship led by Rev. Trevor Dixon.

Sunday 15 March 10.30am. Third Sunday in Lent. Morning Worship led by Rev. Colin Lake.

Sunday 22 March 10.30am. Mothering Sunday. Morning Worship led by Rev. Linda Phillips.

Sunday 29 March 10.30am. Passion Sunday. Morning Worship. Local Arrangement.

Sunday 5 April 10.30am. Palm Sunday. Morning Worship led by Rev. Trevor Dixon.

Lunchtime Recitals

Monday 2 March 1pm-2pm. Susana Gaspar (soprano) and Emma Abbate (Piano). Music by Schubert, Debussy Respighi, Rodrigo and Korngold.

Monday 6 April 1-2pm. Daniel Tong (piano).

Refreshments will be available from 12 noon in the Lower Hall.

Network

Monday 23 March 2.30pm. Speaker Jennifer Angus. Mission Aviation Fellowship.

Tuesday Coffee

Tuesdays from 10am to 12 noon. Barbara will be playing the piano from 10.45am to 11.15am on 10th March. Come and join us for refreshments and a chat.

Forward Together

Thursdays. Coffee served from 11.15am. Lunch at 12 noon.

Wesley Guild

Thursday 5 March 2pm. David Wilberforce will be leading us in a Sankey Singalong.

Journey Group

Thursday 5 March 2.15pm for 2.30pm in the Foyer.

Wesley Welcome Café

Friday 6 and Friday 20 March at 1.30pm in the foyer.

Please join us for tea, coffee, home baked cakes and biscuits. If you wish, join in a game of dominoes, do a jigsaw, read a book with pictures about Yorkshire, try a simple craft or just have a rest and a chat. Everything is informal and all are welcome, especially people living with dementia and their families/friends. For more information ring Les on 01423 797406 or just pop in anytime; **you will be very welcome!**

PS. Mavis is currently our dominoes champion!

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 3 May at 6.30pm at Starbeck. Leaving service for our minister Rev. Ann Fox

MORE EVENTS COMING SOON

BILTON AMBLERS

Saturday 14 March. All walks start at 9.30 am on Bilton Methodist Church car park where we meet to arrange transport. Winter walks usually about 5 miles. Please bring a packed lunch. Contact Janet Allen, 01423 524634, e-mail, janetallen09@btinternet.com or turn up on the day.

FUNCTIONS FOR FUN & FELLOWSHIP

Saturday 21 March 7.30pm. Tewit Youth Band, Harrogate. Musical Director Martin Hall. Adults £8, children free. Pay at the door. Light refreshments in interval.

HARROGATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MISSION

28 Mar 2020 10am to 12 noon. St. Mark's Church. **Revd Dr Malcolm Guite.** Live Lecture. *Christ and the Poetic Imagination*

VOCALIS

Saturday 21 March 2020 7.30pm. St. Mark's Church. A varied programme of music on the subject of Food and Love. The inspiration for this programme is Purcell's *If Music Be the Food of Love* and the many wonderful choral pieces about food and love which musicians have composed through the ages. Refreshments are available during the interval. Tickets are £12, Under 21s and carers accompanying people requiring assistance free. Please see Christine Bunting for tickets, or on the door.

Wednesday 8 April. Vocalis will be joining with St. Peter's choir to perform Bach's B Minor Mass under the direction of John Longstaff. Excellent soloists, including Dame Emma Kirkby!

HARROGATE CHORAL SOCIETY

Harrogate Choral Society. Saturday 28 March 2020 7.30pm. Royal Hall. Rossini's *Stabat Mater* and Puccini's *Messa de Gloria*. Tickets £15-20. Students £5. Under 16s free when accompanied by an adult. Tickets from Harrogate Box Office 01423 502116 or online at www.harrogatetheatre.co.uk.

SPRING HARVEST

14—18 April. God's Family Together. Spring Harvest is back in Harrogate for the third year. Lot of worship, seminars, workshops and activities to choose from. Day tickets are available. Bookings have reached well over 1,000 but there's still space to attend either the whole event or as day visitors. Visit <https://springharvest.org/harrogate/> for details.

EASTER EVENTS



At Hampsthwaite

Wednesday 8 April 10am-4pm and 7-9pm
Thursday 9 April 1-4pm

Nidd Valley Methodist Circuit offers a self guided space for prayer, and labyrinth walking. Short guided meditations at 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 7.30pm (Wednesday) and 2.30pm Thursday. Come for an hour, or stay the day (bring a packed lunch). Self service tea and coffee available.

At Wesley

Good Friday 10 April 10am, Service of reflection and meditation.

The Walk of Witness will leave Wesley at 11.15 a.m. to walk to the War Memorial, where a service will be held at 11.30 am.

Easter Sunday 12 April 10.30am. Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Trevor Dixon.

There are lots more services taking place throughout the circuit, have a look at the latest circuit plan for details.



Learning how to tell our stories
through the eyes of Ruth

By Ben Clowes

STUDIES FOR LENT 2020

TUESDAYS 2.00pm
10th, 17th 31st MARCH
and 7th APRIL
at THE BISTRO, MARTIN GRANGE,
OTLEY ROAD, HARROGATE

TUESDAYS 7.30pm
3rd, 10th, 31st MARCH
and 7th APRIL
at STEPPING STONES,
MALTHOUSE LANE, PANNAL

ALL ARE WELCOME AT EITHER SET OF
SESSIONS. COME AND JOIN US.



GOD IN LOVE UNITES US CIRCUIT CONVERSATIONS—REMINDERS OF THE DATES

14 March 10am—12noon Gracious Street
15 March 6.30pm—8.45pm Bilton Area (will include communion)
15 March 7-9pm Starbeck circuit youth conversation hosted by
ProjectB

28 March 10am-12noon Woodlands

Also Circuit Consultation 2 April 7.30 at Hamphswaite

This meeting is open for everyone within the circuit
to attend and speak.

For more information please contact Circuit Superintendent
Rev. Ben Clowes 01423 870977 revbclowes@gmail.com

*[https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/news/latest-news/all-news/
update-on-the-god-in-love-unites-us-consultation-from-the-revd-dr-
jonathan-hustler-secretary-of-the-conference/](https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/news/latest-news/all-news/update-on-the-god-in-love-unites-us-consultation-from-the-revd-dr-jonathan-hustler-secretary-of-the-conference/)*

BOOK CLUB REVIEW

Suffragettes – (the fight for votes for women)

(edited by Joyce Marlow)

“Promise me you will always use your vote”, my mother said. ‘Too many women suffered too much for you to waste it’. It’s not a promise many mothers would ask of their daughters today, but that was in 1951 and aged twenty-one I was newly eligible to vote.
(Joyce Marlow)

This is a book full of personal accounts, letters written and newspaper articles. Outlining events from 1832 when the first women’s suffrage petition was presented to the House of Commons through to 1928 when women were entitled to vote in the same way as men.

*I wonder, Mr Editor,
Why I can’t have the vote:
And I will not be contented
Till I’ve found the reason out.
I am a working woman,
My voting half is dead,
I hold a house, and want to know
Why I can’t vote instead.
I pay my rates in person,
Under protest tho’, ‘tis true:
But I pay them, and am qualified
To vote as well as you.*

(Sarah Ann Jackson – letter published in Leeds Express 4 March 1868)

Interestingly, the book states that the focus of the movement was not wholly and solely on getting the vote! For most activists the vote was the first essential step on the hard, high road towards greater sexual equality. Many of them worked for causes and reforms outside the suffrage arena. The National Union of Women’s Suffrage Societies’ newspaper, **Common Cause**, produced articles on: Massacre of the Innocents – Mortality rates in Workhouses; Anti- Sweating Bill; Child Murder; Partition of Bengal; State Registration of Nurses; Payment of MPs; Nameless Cruelties to Pit Ponies; Free Libraries; Public Nurseries; National Equine Defence League. **The vote was the means, not the end...**

Continued p18

Suffragettes continued.

Militancy only stated in 1904. In 1906 the Daily Mail coined the word “suffragette” to differentiate the old style “patiently and persevering” from the new style of “deeds not words”. Suffragette denoted any women campaigning for the vote with a suffragist being the most violent militant – but the words were often interchangeable.

Both groups claimed that it was their actions that gained women the vote in 1928.

There were also a number of anti-suffrage movements.

‘The Queen is most anxious to enlist everyone who can speak or write to join in checking this mad wicked folly of “Woman’s Rights”, with all its attendant horrors on which her poor sex is bent’. (Queen Victoria 1870)

It was grueling to read of the imprisonments of both women and men and the horrific conditions surrounding force feeding. The ‘cat and mouse’ clause allowed for women to be released if they became ill while refusing food but then re-imprisoned when their health improved outside of jail.

During our discussions members of the Book Club reflected for a while on the question – ‘what would you do ...for your rights?’.

In summary comments from the group included:

‘a book for the book shelf’
‘interesting’
‘did us good to read it’
‘liked the chronology of the pieces and articles’

The book certainly introduced us to many ordinary women who had the courage to stand up and be counted, no matter the consequences.

Christine Sudron.

Next reading:

Thursday 23 April : *Two Brothers* by Ben Elton

Friday 12 June : *A Brand from the Burning. The Life of John Wesley* by Roy Hattersley

Thursday 20 August : *The Painter of Silence* by Georgina Harding

SELECTED NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL 18 FEBRUARY 2020

- Rev. Ann Fox is moving to the Tadcaster circuit early, and her final service will be at Starbeck on 3 May at 6.30 pm.
- Rev. Lesley Taylor (at present Wharfedale and Aireborough Circuit) will be joining this Circuit from September 2020 and will be in pastoral charge of Wesley, Starbeck and Bilton. Her welcome service will be on Friday 4 September at Wesley. It is hoped that Wesley will have its own Lay Pastor from September.
- The Circuit Prayer Sessions have been cancelled due to lack of support.
- The morning service on 29 March will be a local arrangement, which the stewards will arrange, based on Our Calling - 'so what's the story?'
- Reports were received from the Senior Steward (see p4), the Pastoral Secretary (see p8), the Prayer and Bible Study Groups, Forward Together, Tuesday coffee, Communications (website (see p9) and Focus), the Book club (see p17), the Wesley Welcome Café, Network (see p9).
- Treasurers Report (see p21)
- Wesley Centre Report (see p21)
- Easter events (see p15)
- Recognition was made to a number of people who, although not attending Sunday service, contribute to the life of Wesley by either visiting members of our congregation at home or in hospital or by bringing them to church on a Sunday. Appreciation to all those who work behind the scenes was recorded. (*You know who you are*).

Date of next Church Council: Tuesday, 13 October, 2020 (NB change of date from 6 October).

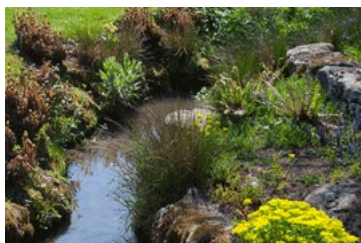
Jenny Goodwin



New addition to the Clowes family

*‘whilst the family do
love him, he can be
very naughty indeed! ‘*

Living simply



How can we help to save what God
created?

What can each of us do now?

Could you....

‘buy local produce for a least 2
meals a week’?

‘try 2 vegetarian meals a week’?

‘use less water’?

‘reduce plastic waste’?

‘recycle more’
‘use your car less often’?
‘use fewer air miles’?
‘wear a thicker sweater and turn
down the heat by 1 or 2 degrees’

THINK—ACT—SAVE

Time is running out

***Think of our grandchildren
and their children***

‘Live simply that others may
simply live’
Mahatma Gandhi

*Adapted from a bookmark published by
the Uplanders’ House Group, Truro
(with Tresillian) Methodist Church,*

TREASURERS REPORT

The provisional accounts reported at the October meeting have now been audited and there are no changes. They show a deficit over the year of nearly £2000. We are still more than viable because at the time the Chapel became separate from the Centre we had a cushion of £10,000. However we have no income other than collections and Forward Together, both of which are reducing.

Organ repairs may prove expensive and the PA system needs attention (both of which are used mostly by us rather than other groups). Although we no longer have responsibility for the upkeep of the building, we make a contribution to the Circuit of £5500. We had talked at the last meeting about a Gift Day, but no further action so far. These matters will be discussed by the stewards.

It is hoped there will be a Christmas Coffee morning in aid of church funds on either 14 or 21 November depending on when the Harrogate Christmas Market will be, as this brings in extra visitors.

Mike Greenberg



- Both Lynne and David are off work at the moment, recovering from operation/sickness. *Our thoughts are with them.*
- A new security door is being fitted in the Lower Hall.
- The letting income is mostly coming from charities, so therefore not as large as commercial bookings.
- Funding is being sought for more up-to-date signage and also for a new kitchen.
- On 9 March at lunchtime at Wesley there will be a screening of a Ken Loach film at which he will be present and the proceeds will go to the Homeless Project. 200 tickets have already been sold.
- Saturday, 12 December at Wesley the RSC will be presenting two performances of *A Christmas Carol*, at; 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Pippa French



WESLEY GUILD

Programme for 2020

5 March	<i>A Sankey Singalong</i>	David Wilberforce
9 April	<i>The work of the Harrogate Lions</i>	Carol Houseman
14 May	<i>Gurkhas</i>	Dr Ian Bagshaw
7 June	Guild Anniversary Service led by Rev. Tim Simms Lunch at Ascot House	
11 June	Afternoon Tea/Members afternoon Celebrating our 25th anniversary	
9 July	<i>My Life in Teaching</i>	Don Rolls
13 August	<i>Trash to Treasure</i>	Chris Powell aka Capt. Rummage
10 Sept.	<i>Living & working at Windsor Castle</i>	Stephen Caldwell
8 October	<i>Life before Harrogate</i>	Members afternoon
12 November	<i>Life in the Voluntary Sector</i>	Judith Simpson
3 December	Christmas Lunch with Forward Together followed by Carols.	

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Lynne Harvey

ADVANCE NOTICES ABOUT FLOURISH

- There will be a Circuit event of 'Flourish' on 18 October. Different types of service will be held throughout the circuit on that day and will include lunch at Wesley.
- The next District 'Flourish' will be 17-19 September at Scarborough 17-19 September, 2021, at Scarborough.

ADVANCE NOTICE ABOUT WELCOME SERVICE

Friday 3 September 7pm at Wesley

Welcome Service for Rev. Lesley Taylor who will be joining the circuit to be minister at Starbeck, Bilton and have pastoral oversight of Wesley.

Focus on prayer

Please remember in your prayers: All our friends and church family who are unwell at this time, either at home or in hospital. We miss them greatly and they are ever in our thoughts.

1st Sunday in Lent

Lord, as we enter Lent help us to draw near to you in praise, stripping away all that distracts us from worship. **Amen**

2nd Sunday in Lent

As Jesus resisted temptation by the devil in the wilderness, help us reflect on his faithfulness to God, his rejection of worldly values and hold these thoughts in our hearts throughout Lent and beyond. **Amen**

3rd Sunday in Lent

Jesus, you prayed and fasted. As your disciple teach me about spiritual discipline in my relationship with you. **Amen**

4th Sunday in Lent. Mothering Sunday

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Loving God, We thank you for our mothers, who gave life to us, and who cared for us. We remember their self-sacrifice and love.

5th Sunday in Lent. Passion Sunday

Thank you Lord for desert experiences, when being confronted with myself makes me realise my need of you. **Amen**

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind
In purer lives thy service find,
In deeper reverence praise.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020



Praying with Zimbabwe

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH



2pm

ST ROBERT'S R. C. CHURCH

Robert Street, Harrogate HG1 1HP

In attendance: The Worshipful Mayor,^a
the Mayoress of the Borough of Harrogate;
Councillor Stuart Martin MBE and Mrs April Martin

Refreshments will be served after the Service

A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE

**Rise! Take Your
Mat and Walk**

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