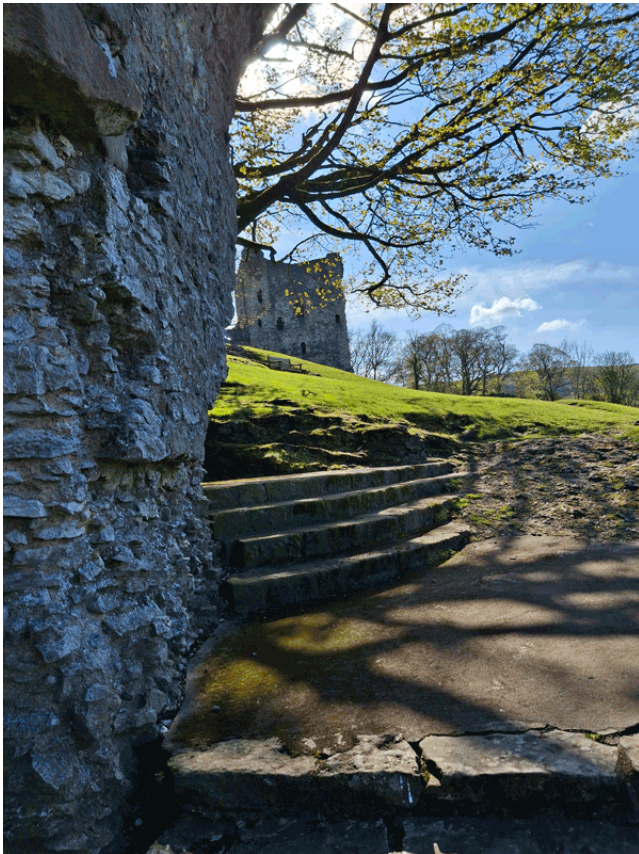



Wesley
CHAPEL
H A R R O G A T E
FOCUS

MAY/JUNE 2026



The **Methodist** Church 

WELCOME TO WESLEY CHAPEL

Our Sunday Morning Worship is at 10.30am, see p3 for details of our services.

Circuit Morning Prayer Live Monday to Friday 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>

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Church Council Secretary: Jenny Goodwin

Safeguarding Officer: Christine Sudron

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Website: www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk

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Charity Registration 1134055

Front Cover. Peveril Castle by Janet Allen

The deadline for Wesley July/Aug is 21 June. Please send any notices, news, articles, photographs to Judith Yeats: 07733 064697 judithyeats0@gmail.com. Focus is also on the website. <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk/our-focus>

WHAT'S ON AT WESLEY IN MAY

SUNDAY 3 MAY 10.30am. Morning Worship. Local Arrangement .

SUNDAY 10 MAY 10.30am.

10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Revd. Ruth Parry.

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

MONDAY 11 MAY 1pm Lunchtime Recital. Hana Chang (Violin) & Jonathan Ware (Piano). Including pieces by Takemitsu and Saint-Saëns. See p25 for more details.

THURSDAY 14 MAY 2pm. Wesley Fellowship. *Nooks and crannies of a big country* with Mary Ann Dimand.

FRIDAY 15 MAY 10am to 10.30am Friday Online Coffee Morning via Zoom. (Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).

SUNDAY 17 MAY 10.30am. Morning Worship led by Andrew Brown.

SUNDAY 24 MAY

10.30am Morning Worship led by Revd. Gordon Hay..

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

SUNDAY 31 MAY 10.30am. Morning Worship led by Revd. Mary Ann Dimand.

TUESDAYS. 10.30am to 1pm. Wesley Wheelie Welcome Café. Come and join us for a tea or coffee, and a chat. Cuppa soup, sausage rolls and toasted teacakes served at 12 noon.



Christian Aid Week 2026

This year, Christian Aid Week is from 10 May to 16 May. For this reason we have a designated collection at church on Sunday 10 May. Donation envelopes can be handed in until the end of May.

We have a local arrangement service dedicated to Christian Aid on Sunday 3 May. Many thanks. Ulrike

WHAT'S ON AT WESLEY IN JUNE

MONDAY 1 JUNE 1pm. Lunchtime Recital. Giovanni Bertolazzi (Piano).

SUNDAY 7 JUNE 10.30am. Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Revd. Leonora Wassall.

THURSDAY 11 JUNE 2pm. Wesley Fellowship. Speaker Nick Garrett. *Mental health in the Harrogate District. What would Jesus do*

SUNDAY 14 JUNE.

10.30am Morning Worship led by Revd. Gordon Hay.

3pm. District Ordinands Service, led by Revd. Ben Clowes. The preacher will be Rev. Dr. Christine Dutton from The Queens Foundation, Birmingham.

(Rev. Ian Bryon has been unanimously appointed to full presbyterial ministry. His ordination will take place on 28 June at All Saints Church, Wellington, Salop.)

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

FRIDAY 19 JUNE 10am to 10.30am Friday Online Coffee Morning via Zoom. (Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).

SUNDAY 21 JUNE 10.30am. Morning Worship led by Deacon Gary Hoare.

SUNDAY 28 JUNE

10.30am Morning Worship . Local Arrangement.

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

SUNDAY 5 JULY 10.30am. Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Revd. Gordon Hay.

TUESDAYS. 10.30am to 1pm. Wesley Wheelie Welcome Café. Come and join us for a tea or coffee, and a chat. Cuppa soup, sausage rolls and toasted teacakes served at 12 noon.

WESLEY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME 2026

Our meetings are on the second Thursday of the month and start at 2pm.

12 March. Welcome back with St. Peter's handbell ringers.

9 April. Stained glass windows at St. Peter's. Meeting at St. Peter's church with Michael Burlison.

14 May. 'Nooks and crannies of a big country' with Mary Ann Dimand.

11 June. 'Mental health in the Harrogate District – what would Jesus do?' with Nick Garrett.

9 July. 'Horizon Life Training' with Gordon Stewart.

13 August. Yorkshire Quiz and 'sayings' with Les Sudron.

10 September. 'Resurrection Bikes' with Roger Elliott.

8 October. 'The Frankfurt Group'. Harrogate's Festival of Music in 1929. Andrew Hitchen introduces us to the music of more composers.

12 November. 'Adventures with my camera' – with Matthew Webber.

10 December. 'Harrogate Brown Heritage Plaques' with Chris Dicken.

COMING UP—MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 6th July 2026 1pm. The final Wesley lunchtime recital of the season. Richard Wetherall Trio. Jazz Concert.

Sunday 26 July 3pm Circuit Farewell Service for Revd. Lesley Taylor at Starbeck.

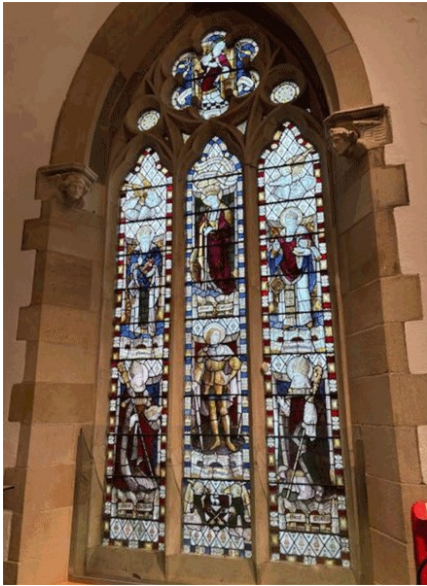
Sunday 6 September. Service to celebrate the restructuring of the Circuit is being planned, to be held at Trinity. More details to follow.

Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th September. Wesley will be open as part of the national Heritage Open Days. More details to follow.

Wesley Fellowship continued

For our March Wesley Fellowship 15 of us went on an outing ...all the way across the road to St Peter's church to learn about the stained glass windows there. Michael Burlison gave an informative talk about how the windows were supplied by the London company of Burlison and Grylls – yes, Michael is a descendent of John Burlison.

For the talk we sat in the upstairs gallery to be close to the stained glass Michael described, and then later he led us around the ground floor pointing out windows of interest. We were made very welcome at St Peter's – they even provided cake for our closing refreshments! Our thanks to Michael and the catering ladies at St Peter's.



Maureen Greenberg

'People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within.'

Dr. Elisabeth Kübler-Ross.

We were sad to hear of the death of our friend and church family member, Penny Sissons. Her funeral is on Wednesday 6 May 2.20pm at Stonefall and afterwards at The Woodlands Hotel. Meantime Janet has been collecting memories of her from her friends at Wesley.

Penny died peacefully on April 2 at Southlands care home which had been her home for several years, and attended Wesley for much of her time there. She was born in Hull to the Sissons family who ran a paint manufacturing business there. Christine B and Andrew M both told me this. An interesting coincidence was that Katharine went to the same school as Penny, and it wasn't local! They were both boarders at Abbot's Hill school for girls, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. Penny was in the year below Katharine, so Katharine didn't know her well but did remember she did well at school! Penny went on to a career in nursing.

Ulrike said she found Penny open-minded, easy to talk to, cheerful and independent. Christine B remembered at a church lunch when Graham had started to ail, Penny and a relative made a point of coming to sit with them to show their support and understanding. Christine has never forgotten this.

Lynne remembered that Penny was the link for getting a Methodist service established at Southlands once a month. Over time four of our ministers were involved and would take along one of our organists/pianists to accompany the hymns.

She was up to speed on modern technology! She could always be relied on to participate in our zoom coffee mornings during Covid and for a good while after that. I was in email contact with her which was a useful way to arrange a visit to see her.

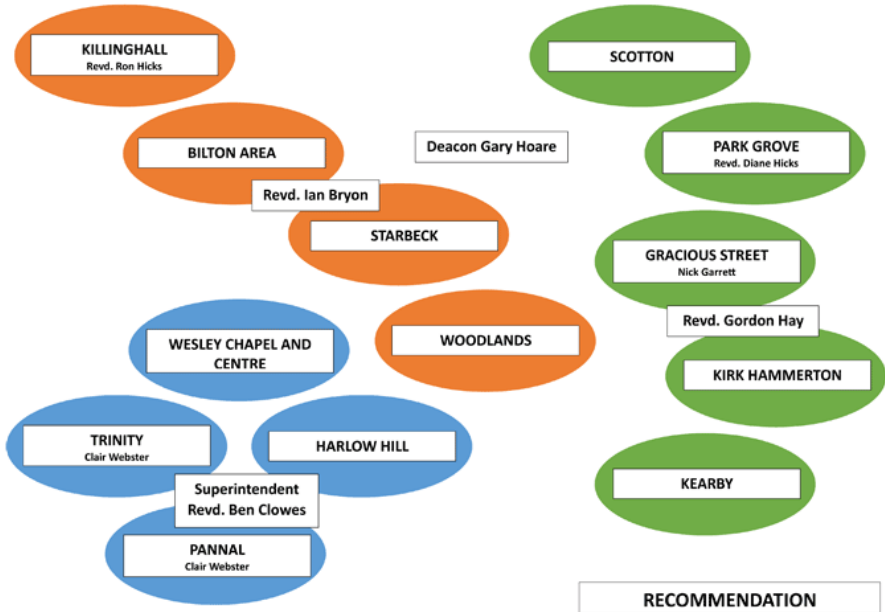
On Mothering Sunday just a few weeks before she died Pat and Andrew delivered to Southlands one of the bunches of flowers prepared by Lynne. On their way home after church Pat and Andrew always delivered the paper version of Focus even though Penny would see a version on line!

I shall certainly miss my visits to her.

Janet Allen

REORGANISATION

There were some last minute changes to the recommendations, and these were accepted unanimously at the Circuit Meeting on 14 April. The latest changes do affect Wesley congregation and an explanation of why this decision was made follows this illustration.



Nidd Valley Circuit Re-grouping of churches for September 2026 Explanation of recommendation

The need for changes to the pastoral oversight of the churches in the Nidd Valley Circuit is the result of the decision of the Circuit Meeting not to seek a replacement for the Revd. Lesley Taylor when she retires at the end of August 2026. In order to prepare for this re-grouping, individual meetings with the leadership team of each church were held (predominantly during August 2025) to determine their priorities and what relationships already existed between congregations. Following these meetings, the superintendent minister and the circuit stewards developed three alternative possibilities for the re-grouping.

These possibilities were then shared with representatives of the churches at an 'Away Day' on 15th November 2025. *Continued*

Regrouping explanation continued.

Each church was asked to indicate which of the three possibilities would be their preference. The results of the 'Away Day' consultation were then considered by the superintendent minister and the circuit stewards and a recommendation for the proposed re-grouping was put forward for consideration by the staff team and the Circuit Leadership Team. It should be noted that this recommendation is not the same as any of the three possibilities discussed at the 'Away Day' and is also different from that circulated in December (see reasons below).

No clear consensus about the way forward emerged from the discussion at the 'Away Day'. Four churches indicated a preference for the first possibility, six for the second, and one for the third; two churches did not express a clear preference. However, two of the churches that thought the second possibility was best for the circuit, were concerned that this placed them in the wrong group. Also, whilst the third possibility was only preferred by one church, a number of others could see that this was likely to be the direction of travel (in view of the possibility that the Circuit might only have two presbyters in the not too-distant future). A number of other factors were also identified as a result of the 'Away Day', including historic links between churches, distances between churches, similarities in activities, ecumenical possibilities, and the risk of small congregations being dwarfed by larger ones.

The recommendation suggests that one group should be based around the two Knaresborough churches but also include Kearby, Scotton, and Kirk Hammerton. This was on the basis that Park Grove and Scotton are already beginning to work together, and that there are established ties between Kearby and Gracious Street. An earlier recommendation has now been changed because Kirk Hammerton is exploring the possibility of becoming a class of Gracious Street and it is, therefore, logical for it to be part of the Knaresborough group. In order to maintain some balance between groups, Wesley (that had been suggested as part of this group) would now be part of a different group.

Continued

Explanation continued

A second group would consist of Killinghall, Bilton Area, Starbeck, and Woodlands. This group was suggested in the first possibility discussed at the 'Away Day' and three of the churches in this group indicated that this would be their preference. Also, there are already some links between these four churches, although it is recognised that the distance between Killinghall and Woodlands may create some problems.

There are some established and growing links between Pannal, Harlow Hill, and Trinity, and this therefore provides the basis for the third group, which also now includes Wesley. As this group is envisaged as being the pastoral responsibility of the superintendent minister, it is suggested that this should also include oversight of the Wesley Centre (which is a Circuit project and should, therefore, remain the responsibility of the superintendent minister).

Rev. Ben Clowes
April 2026

Message from Christine Dixon

Christine would like to say a huge thank you to all the members and friends at Wesley for their cards, prayers and kind gifts on the occasion of her 'stupid' accident. Everyone and every thing is much appreciated.

The whole family would also like extend their appreciation of the continued love and support surrounding Trevor. He looks forward to attending Sunday services and Tuesday coffee mornings and it is heartwarming to know how well he is thought of.

Special mention and thanks go to Judith and Anita for their transport to and from Wesley - we wouldn't get there without you!

Hope to see you all soon. With much love, Christine

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Matthew Webber visited Selby and Pat thought that it was quite impressive. She said 'It reminded me of when we were Mayor we attended a service there.'



Christine and Les were recently in Germany where they stayed with Ulrike and Andrew at their flat in Wesel. They were all together for one evening, sitting on their balcony and then going out for an evening meal.



Church Family News continued.

While we were in Wesel we visited the cathedral where forty-five years ago we had been privileged to attend Ulrike and Andrews wedding. It was lovely to be back and to remember that wonderful time.

The previous day we had been to the funeral of our dear friend Franz Joseph. While we were in the cathedral we lit two candles to remember both him and Matthew, they were great friends. We bought one to bring home to remember the occasion.

On the Sunday we took Linda to church in Deuten where she lives only thirty minutes from Wesel. This was the Free Christian church, Kirche im Bahnhof (station) As we entered we were each given a little bag to welcome us to the service. On the front it says 'It's lovely you are here' while on the bookmark there is a quote from Revelation 'God speaks : I make everything new '.



Church Family News continued.

From Christine Sudron. 'I bet this piano has a story to tell'.



Janet went to Derbyshire for the day with friends from the walking group, and visited Peveril Castle, Castleton. Below, stunning views of the surrounding countryside. See also front cover.



TULIPS

I have often wondered to myself, whilst watching Gardeners World, what I would choose if I were to own a national collection—there are so many wonderful flowers and plants, it seems to be impossible to choose. Would it be ferns? They are so green and fertile, or roses? or alpines? Now I know, without a shadow of a doubt—it would be tulips. I've always loved tulips, but this spring my garden has had a splendid show, in pots and in the garden, of these most beautiful of flowers. So many varieties, and what I like the most, they are still attractive even when they're beginning to fade—just like us.

Pat and Matthew visited the tulip festival at Farmer Copleys near Pontefract. There were one million tulips and all different colours. It left Pat wondering how they know how they can get them all out at the same time.



Tulips originated in Asia. Persian poets celebrated the beauty of the tulip in the 11th century and, by the 14th century, wild tulips were being taken and planted in Ottoman palace gardens.

It's likely that ambassadors and envoys from Western Europe first saw them in these gardens.

There's no record of when the first tulip left Asia, but its scarcity and beauty led to a huge desire for tulips in 17th-century Europe, particularly in France and most famously, Holland.

Tulips continued.

In Holland in the 17th Century there was a great demand for tulips which led to a craze known as 'tulipmania'. Tulipmania reached its peak in Holland in January 1637 when a single tulip (called Semper August), cost enough money to buy a house and trappings in the most desirable district of Amsterdam. Prices escalated to unsustainable levels, leading 'tulipmania' to collapse in a matter of months. The bulbs lost their value and many people were left in financial difficulty. <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/discover/history/gardens-landscapes/history-of-tulips>.



Judith's Collection



MEMORIES IN THE RIVER STONES

A few weeks ago Robert Dransfield, son of much loved Wesley members Jean and Ken Dransfield, popped into a Tuesday coffee morning, bringing with him this book he had just had published. It features his great-uncle 2nd Lieutenant Donald Simpson Bell VC. We have heard a lot about Donald Simpson Bell in the past few years, and his plaque is in the foyer for all to see. The book is about the Simpson Bell family who lived in Harrogate and attended Wesley. Lynne kindly had the forethought to buy the book, and a signed copy is available for all of us to read. It is a fascinating story about Wesley's most famous 'son' based on letters and memories of family and friends as well as newspaper accounts.

Ulrike has sent a text from the Green Howards Museum in Richmond where Robert Dransfield, is giving a talk on 2nd June at 6pm..

Join Robert Dransfield for a deeply personal and moving talk exploring the experiences of the Simpson Bell family before, during, and immediately after the First World War. Rob brings a unique perspective as the grandson of Dorothy Bell, sister of 2nd Lieutenant Donald Simpson Bell VC.

A central voice in this story is Dorothy herself, who was still a teenager when her brothers went to fight in France. She endured profound loss, including the death of her brother Donald at the Battle of the Somme and two cousins in the war. Her husband also suffered the long-term effects of being gassed in France, which contributed to his premature death.

Dorothy preserved her memories throughout her life, keeping Donald's photograph displayed in her home and safeguarding the letters he sent from the front. These treasured items, along with diary entries, photographs, and family reminiscences, form the heart of this talk.

Rob will share insights into the family's life in Harrogate, including their home at 87 East Parade, and will bring along original handwritten letters from Donald himself. The talk offers a rare and intimate glimpse into the realities faced by one family during wartime.

Memories in the River Stones continued

This presentation is based on Rob's book, Memories from the River Stones, which captures the story of Annie and Smith Bell and their eight children, most notably Donald Simpson Bell, a Green Howard who was awarded the Victoria Cross for his bravery at the Battle of the Somme. The book is illustrated by Roger Chapman of the Green Howards and will be available to purchase on the evening.

This is a unique opportunity to experience history through the eyes of one family, told through authentic personal documents and heartfelt storytelling. Book now to avoid disappointment! £15.00 per person with a welcome drink and museum entry.

Thank you to Lynne and Ulrike. Please see Lynne if you would like to borrow the book.



BREATHE OF LIFE

What better way to spend a Saturday than a 'Come and Sing' Day with composer Matthew Coleridge. Harrogate Choral Society was joined by choral singers from far and wide for this special occasion, singing from Coleridge's *Requiem* and a new work *The Breath of Life*—with the composer himself. Those who heard Matthew's *Requiem* performed at St. Wilfrid's will tell you how beautiful his music is and *Breath of Life* is just as spine-chilling. It is a cantata for choir and orchestra that explores human wonder, nature and the divine across a tapestry of texts from psalms and hymns to the writings of mystics, scientists and conservationists. (See p23).

Matthew's *Requiem* was voted in the top 100 of Classic FM's Hall of Fame and he is being hailed as one of UK's most exciting contemporary composers.

It was so interesting to hear from the composer how he came to write the music, and under his baton, to sing it just as he had intended it to be sung. It was truly a magical day.

Judith Yeats

SELECTED NOTES FROM CIRCUIT MEETING

The Circuit Meeting was held on 14 April at Wesley. Revd. Ben Clowes chaired the meeting and there were 51 attendees. See below selected notes of items of interest.

Before the meeting, attendees were invited to a tour of the Harrogate Homeless Project (HHP) in the Lower Hall. Later during the meeting Nicola Ridgeway, Fundraising and Marketing Manager of HHP gave a talk. Nicola stressed that not only did HHP provide a safe place for those experiencing homelessness, but also provides support needed to help build confidence and move towards independent living, and to provide practical help with applications and access to other services. Springboard Day Centre provides food, shower and washing facilities, skills, workshops and activities.

Circuit Stewards. Two of our circuit steward will be retiring this year and it is imperative that new circuit stewards are recruited as soon as possible.

EDI. Church members are encouraged to take this course online. *(Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion is a framework aiming to ensure fair treatment, equal opportunity, and a sense of belonging for all, particularly underrepresented groups.)*

Treasurer. The meeting was asked to approve the appointment of Sue Cutting, (Lay Superintendent of the Bridge Circuit) as Treasurer to Nidd Valley Circuit. This was passed unanimously.

Regrouping Exercise. The final recommendation for regrouping of churches in the circuit was passed unanimously.

Circuit Governance Sub Group. This is on hold due to a lack of volunteers offering their expertise. It was noted that churches may be able to buy the time of Sue Cutting (Bridge Circuit) at a cost of £25 per hour, once Sue has familiarised herself with NVC. Katy (Circuit Administrator) has taken on more work and is doing an excellent job.

Circuit Plan. This a work-in-progress. New local preachers are needed. Churches are asked to indicate when local arrangements will work for them.

Continued.

Notes from Circuit Meeting continued.

Deacon's Work Update. Items highlighted from Gary's report:

Friday evening drop-in at Wesley, where young people drop in from schools to relax, play games and engage in conversation.

Evening worship at Wesley on the first Sunday of the month, largely led by young people.

Monthly clergy breakfast at Wesley to offer prayers for Christian work in Harrogate.

Pentecost Event—see page 25..

NVC will again have a presence at the Ripley Show on 9 August. Gary suggested that churches may want to have an 'Own Arrangement' on that day and come to help at Ripley Show.

Requests have been made for knitted stars. A pattern has been circulated to churches, all colours will be acceptable. These will need to be submitted by the end of November as they will need to be starched. A marathon starching is being arranged.

A prayer group is to be set up in the Castle Inn, Knaresborough on Ascension Day 14 May.

New Places for New People application for a grant to be made to the District to enable continuation beyond Gary's term of office.

Tesco. Gary was planning to have a small group meet in the property shop in Tesco. Whilst this is still on the agenda Gary is concentrating on looking for other places to meet, not in churches.

Staffing.

Circuit Invitation Committee. The process will begin in May to work out whether Ben will be staying or leaving. The meeting agreed that a Circuit Invitation Committee be formed of the following: 2 members of staff not involved in the process; 2 circuit stewards; 1 representative from each of the churches four church involved. Gordon to chair the committee. This committee will have the delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the Trustees.

Continued

Notes from Circuit Meeting continued

Sabbaticals. Gary will take a three-month sabbatical after the Ripley Show. Gordon, scheduled for a sabbatical next year, has requested a deferral.

Safeguarding report. The District Safeguarding Group is auditing 10 churches, which have been chosen at random. There is one change to the Safeguarding Policy: The title of District Safeguarding Officer is changed to Regional Officer of Safeguarding. The new Safeguarding policy was formally adopted by the meeting.

Local Preachers and Worship Leaders. Worship leaders should be recredited every 3 years at Church Council meetings and Anna Cooley informed that this has been done. If they haven't been credited since 2023 this needs to be done at a Church Service. A Local Arrangement bank is being prepared. To adhere to copyright issues users are advised to check that the material can be used freely. There is a list of material that can be used on the District website. If anyone is aware of someone who has relevant material for the resource bank, please make it known.

Wesley Centre.

New lease for Jinnahs is in the process of being completed. There is much work that needs doing at the Cheltenham Parade building. Due diligence is taking place to enable the right decision as to whether to re-let the property at Cheltenham Parade or to sell. This information will be brought to the Trustees meeting in July.

Sue Cutting (Bridge Circuit) was formally appointed as Treasurer to Wesley Centre, taking over from Ed Walton. Ed was thanked for his many years of service to Wesley Centre and was presented with a gift from Wesley Centre Trustees in gratitude for his service to the Centre.

Manse. From end of July when Lesley Taylor retires there will be a spare manse. It will be vital to purchase a property on the new Maltkiln development.

*The full minutes of this meeting will be available shortly. If you would like a copy please let me know. **Judith Yeats***



AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Bilton Methodist Amblers.

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

The next walks are: Saturday 9 May. Saturday 13 June,

Future walks: Saturday 11 July, Saturday 8 August, Saturday 12 September, Saturday 10 October.

Gracious Street.

May 18, 1-3pm Digitally Connected Knaresborough offering a free digital help clinic and informative brief on 'Security 101: Basic Tips on Passwords, Security Settings, and Best Practices To Stay Safer Online'.

May 23, 10am-12pm Coffee Morning

Harlow Hill

Coffee Morning. Every Monday from 10am to 11.30am. Everybody welcome.

Little Beans Playgroup. Parents and toddlers playgroup. Every Wednesday Morning. Drop in between 10am and 11.30am for play, coffee and a chat. £3 per family.

Safeguarding Foundation Course

Saturday 20 June 9.30am to 12.30pm at Starbeck Methodist Church.

To book on to the course contact:

Revd. Ron Hicks. E-mail: safeguarding.nvmcircuit@gmail.com

Around the Circuit continued.

Trinity.



Live Web Seminars with guest speakers about either their specialist area or personal experiences. On the 3rd Thursday each month 7.30pm – 9.30pm in the Batchelor Room, Trinity Church Refreshments provided.

May 28th – Immigration
June 25th – Gender & Sexuality
July 23rd – Faith & Politics

Woodlands.

Woodlands Community Gardens Come and discover our wonderful community garden behind Woodlands Church.

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Harlow Hill. 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, at the church. Every week during Advent and Lent.

Kearby. Approximately every 3 weeks with Colin Lake at Gracious street Priory Room.

Trinity. Once a month on Wednesday evening. House Group at member's home.

Park Grove. 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month 10 to 11.30am. At the church.

Woodlands.

Women of Woodlands. 1st Monday of the month at 7,30pm

Bible Study at members' homes. Thursday mornings.

John Bachelor Award. Nominations for any young person (years 7-11) across the circuit, who has contributed to the life of their church across the circuit to be sent to Katy or someone from Trinity.



*** PENTECOST BBQ AT KMC ***



FREE

(While food lasts)

Saturday 23rd May 12 Noon till 3.00pm



Come and join us for a pre-Pentecost Celebration

@

Killinghall Methodist Church, Ripley Road

Hot Dogs



Drinks



Cakes



(Gluten Free Food)



Quotes from the cantata *The Breath of Life* by Matthew Cole-ridge

'The breath of life is in the sunlight
And the hand of life is in the wind.' *Kahlil Gibran*

'And our bodies are the instruments
through which our souls play their music'. *Albert Einstein*

'Beauty beyond thought everywhere; beneath, above, made, and
being made forever. *John Muir*

'Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for the Lord to hear.' *William H Draper*

'Be still, my heart,
These great trees are prayers.' *Rabindranath Tagore*

'I said to the trees : "show me God"
And they blossomed'. *Nikov Kazantzakis*

CUORE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Saturday 9th May 7.30pm at St. Wilfrid's Church. A celebration of Joseph Haydn. Conductor William Dutton

In a season of firsts, this concert features both Haydn's first Symphony and Cello Concerto, interspersed with British works by Edward Elgar and Malcolm Arnold. The programme concludes with an eternal audience favourite – Mozart's 'Eine Kleine Nachmusik'. The concert will feature the appearance of the first 'Cuore Future Star' – international cellist Cansin Kara. Price: £5 – £30. <https://cuorchamberorchestra.com/>

HARROGATE CHORAL SOCIETY

Saturday 27 June 2026 3pm. St. Wilfrid's Church. *Voyage Spiritual*. A programme of beautiful French composers including Faure and Durufle and an organ solo by our Assistant Director and Accompanist Tom Moore. Tickets £18.

Book online at <https://harrogate theatre.co.uk/> or ask Judith to get a ticket for you.

VOCALIS

Sunday 12 July 4pm St. Wilfrid's Church, Deep River. American Spirituals, Folk Songs and Songbook Favourites. Tickets: Adults £15; Students £7. Book online at harrogatevocalis.co.uk.

HARROGATE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Saturday 23 May, 6.30pm, with Knaresborough Choral Society and Asaph's Choral Society. *The Creation*, Joseph Haydn. Daniel Rodriguez Soloists: Eleonore Cockerham, Toby Ward, Andrew Greenan. Tickets via link below or on the door at Ripon Cathedral. <https://riponcathedral.org.uk/events/haydn-the-creation-40th-anniversary-celebration/>

Saturday 11 July 7.30pm St. Mark's Church. Summer Concert. A colourful and elegant orchestral programme featuring: Emmanuel Chabrier – Suite Pastorale, Claude Debussy – Petite Suite. Louise Farrenc – Symphony No. 1. Conductor: Tim Gillies
From pastoral charm to impressionistic beauty and symphonic brilliance, this concert highlights some of France's most distinctive musical voices.

Tickets available via the HPO website (£15, free entry for under 18s)
<https://www.harrogatephilharmonicorchestra.org.uk/>



FROM DEACON GARY: A REAL WORKING OF INSIDE OUT!!

Netmakers and I are organizing a Pentecost event on Sunday 24th May 2.00pm central Harrogate. The exact location to be confirmed asap....

We were considering doing a Circuit Service as May 24th is the Conversion of Wesley Day and it coincidentally comes on a Sunday.... to make it ecumenical would be great.... Netmakers were considering putting on the Pentecost Celebration.

So, putting it all together....

It seems, to do something together would be really wonderful... This year is also the 500th Anniversary of William Tyndale translating the Bible from Greek into English...so we have a lot to celebrate!!

As the song says:

Come and join the celebration

WESLEY LUNCHTIME RECITAL

On **Monday 11th May at 1pm**, Wesley Centre hosts a recital by a current BBC New Generation Artist, the Estonian flute player Elizaveta Ivanova. Elizaveta is making a special trip from Germany to play for us, as besides being one of the world's finest solo flautists, she plays principal in the Frankfurt Opera House orchestra.

In 2023 Elizaveta won first prize in one of the world's oldest and most prestigious music competitions - the Concours de Genève, and she's received many other awards, both as a solo flute player, and as a chamber musician. For her Wesley Concerts appearance, she teams up with Belgrade-born pianist, Sanja Bizjak, to play an enchanting programme of music for flute and piano, by Debussy, Poulenc, Reineke and Gaubert. *Tickets £12. Doors open at 12.15pm.*

Pentecost from The Bible Retold by Andreas Kevington

From the fields it came: the first sheaf of barley cut for that year's harvest. It was carried high through streets crammed with visitors, and on to the Temple. And then the priest offered it to God, giving thanks for the good land, and for the gift of harvest. For that day was the celebration of the first fruits. It was Pentecost.

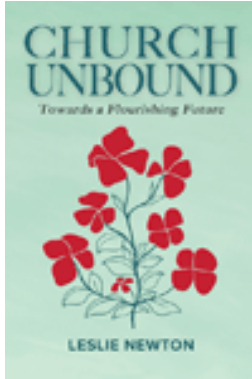
Meanwhile, the disciples were all together, waiting. Then, suddenly, it began. It started with sound – a sound like the wind – but this was no gentle harvest breeze. This was a shaking and a roaring: a sound of power, whooshing and howling about the house, rattling every door and shutter. The sound seemed to come down from heaven itself, and filled the house as the wind fills sails. Then, the disciples watched wide-eyed as something that looked like fire came down, and tongues of flame peeled off it and rested on each of them without burning them. All of them were filled, for the Holy Spirit had come. And as it happened, their tongues were loosened, and they began to speak as the Spirit gave them words. These words were not Aramaic, their own language, but in languages that were unknown to them.

A crowd had gathered by the house because of the extraordinary sound, but then they heard voices. There were pilgrims in Jerusalem from all over the known world, and they recognized the words the disciples were speaking.

'He's talking Egyptian!' said one. 'That one's talking my language,' said a visitor from Crete – and the same was true for all. Each person heard God's praises in their own tongue. 'What can it mean?' they asked each other. But others among the crowd joked that the disciples had been drinking.

The Twelve heard what they were saying, so Simon Peter stood up to speak to the crowds. 'Listen, I'll tell you what's happening. We're not drunk! It's too early in the day for that! This is God's promise come true. Do you remember what one of the prophets wrote long ago?

*I'll pour out my Spirit on everyone – young and old.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
young men will have visions, and old men dreams.
All who follow me – men and women – will
be given my Spirit, and there will be wonders!*



PRAYER CORNER

Prayers from the newly released book by Revd. Leslie Newton, Chair of Yorkshire Noth and East District

God of time and eternity
slow our racing hearts
Steady our anxious thoughts,
and open us to the possibility of new beginnings.
Teach us to trust your timing.
Amen

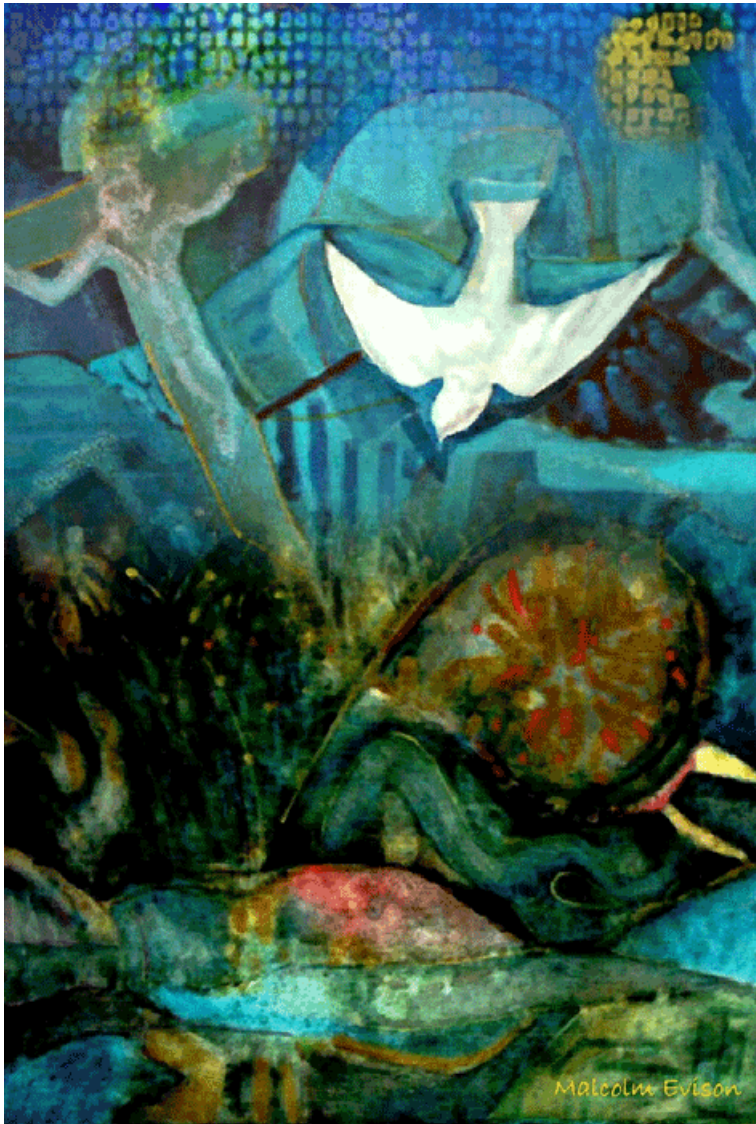
Spirit of Grace,
renew our hearts and reorder our life.
May all we do be shaped by love,
and all we build be rooted by you. Amen

God of seeds and seasons,
Help us rejoice in small beginnings
and trust your gentle work of growth. Amen

Gardening God
teach us to prune with wisdom
to plant with hope
and to tend your church with gentleness and grace. Amen

God of unbounded grace
shape us into a people of hope
root us in humility
And lead us in courageous love.

Make us a church unbound



*Watercolour by Malcolm Evison
(A merging of two paintings).*