

# The **Methodist** Church

## **Wesley Focus on February**



*The Magpie by Claude Monet*

Wesley Chapel Harrogate  
February 2019

## 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

**Minister:** Rev. Christine Gillespie until 9 February.

**Team Ministry** from 10 February: 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](mailto:judithyeats0@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk](http://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk)

## Wesley Centre Contacts:

**Wesley Centre Manager:** Philippa French (Pippa)  
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[admin@wesleycentreharrogate.org.uk](mailto:admin@wesleycentreharrogate.org.uk)

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***The deadline for Wesley Focus on March is 21 February 2019***

*Please send any notices, news, articles, photographs to Judith Yeats: 01423 506014, [judithyeats0@gmail.com](mailto:judithyeats0@gmail.com).*

*Wesley Focus on February is also on the website.*

## MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER CHRISTINE

One of the hymns in our last hymn book contained these words...

Lord God, by whom all change is wrought  
By whom new things to birth are brought,  
In whom no change is known...

We rest in our eternal God  
And make secure and sweet abode  
With thee, who changest not.

Spirit, who makest all things new  
Thou leadest onward we pursue  
The heavenly march sublime...

New births of grace new raptures bring  
Triumphant, the new song we sing  
The great Renewer bless...

You will find the whole hymn, written by Thomas Hornblower Gill in Hymns and Psalms number 39.

Whilst I acknowledge that the language is very traditional, the hymn reminds us that God is both creator and changeless and he calls us to be both faithful and journeying people.

As a church you have been a consistent faithful witness in the centre of Harrogate for many years and you have also faced many changes. Perhaps the recent changes to your building and governance will be uppermost in your minds, but a quick look at your history will remind you that you have never stood still.

We come to another time of change as I say goodbye and pass on ministerial cover to Ben, Ann and Trevor. I thank you for the time we have spent together and the opportunities we have grasped. I offer you every encouragement for the days and months ahead as you continue to be a Christian presence in the town and journey on in faith.

Front cover illustration. **The Magpie** (French: *La Pie*) is an oil-on-canvas landscape painting by the French Impressionist Claude Monet, created during the winter of 1868–1869 near the commune of Étretat in Normandy. *The Magpie* is in the Musée d'Orsay, Paris. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Magpie\\_\(Monet\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Magpie_(Monet)). Monet painted more than 100 snow scenes.

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR STEWARD

### Journeying

'Venturing out into the world of school as a five year old is daunting, challenging and incredibly exciting. There are friends to make, skills to learn, facts to acquire, understanding to develop and a huge amount of fun to be had every single day. For the youngest of learners every day is a step on a complicated, delicate and exhilarating journey. It is one on which young travellers may take many different twists and turns along the way. But our challenge and duty to them in Christ is to make sure each child's gifts and talents are fully enabled and that they are watched over in God's love'.

My granddaughter started this journey last September and the above text from an article by James Royal in the current issue of The Connexion magazine of the Methodist Church resonated strongly with me. It also got me thinking about my journeying and I decided to re-read the article from a personal perspective;

'Venturing out into the world as a sixty eight year old is daunting, challenging and incredibly exciting. There are friends to make, skills to learn, facts to acquire, understanding to develop and a huge amount of fun to be had every single day. For the oldest of learners every day is a step on a complicated, delicate and exhilarating journey. It is one on which older travellers may take many different twists and turns along the way. But our challenge and duty to all travellers in Christ is to make sure each individual's gifts and talents are fully enabled and that they are watched over in God's love'.

There is a personal challenge to us all, to see each day as 'God given' and to use it to His praise and glory and there is another challenge for us to enable all the travellers we meet, of any age, to glimpse the Love of God and through His grace to lead Spirit fulfilled lives. And as we sung recently:

'Though we live quietly,  
With no authority,  
Yet feeble faith in us may show your goodness;  
And though we may not see  
How crucial it may be,  
Our faltering love may show your loving kindness'.

*Alan Gaunt (StheF No. 665)*

# **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

## **Network**

The end of 2018 was a busy time for members. At the end of November Guild and Network members went out to Ascot House and enjoyed a delicious meal and great fellowship and friendship. In early December a Christmas lunch was organised in Wesley Lower Hall for members for Forward Together, Guild and Network followed by a service of Carols and Readings in the chapel and closing with tea. The final meeting for Network for 2018 was held just before Christmas when Christine Littlewood and her daughter entertained members with songs, carols and readings, followed by a Christmas tea.

At our February meeting Judith Yeats will be talking about her missionary ancestors and the March meeting will be our AGM.

We wish all our church family a blessed, peaceful and healthy new year.

**Shelagh Outhwaite**

## **Christmas Day 2018 Lunch party**

On this occasion of the 34th Wesley Chapel Christmas Lunch we fed a total of 102 folks. There were eighty-one at the lunch party, eight homeless folks from Springboard next door, and thirteen meals-on-wheels taken out.

There was a team of twenty helpers, including the three chefs from town for their fourth year of giving up their Christmas morning - and they have booked again for next year! As indeed have half the helper team and over half the drivers. There were 24 drivers, including four who took out the lunches to house-bound folks.

The quiz topic was nursery rhymes, which was good fun, but also, I think, took most of the guests on a happy trip down memory lane. The winning table got every question right. Next year it will be on fairy tales, so get swatting up any prospective guests!

The popular carols were sung with gusto, occasionally in a different key to that being played on the piano.

Finally tea, coffee, mince pies and Christmas cake saw them all topped up before they were taken home.

For many of these folks Christmas Day can be the loneliest day of the year, with all normal facilities closed. Aren't we fortunate in being able to make it so different for them?

**Philip Goodwin**

## Pictures of Christmas Day Lunch



*'There was a team of twenty helpers'*

*'There were eighty-one at the lunch party'*



*'The quiz topic was nursery rhymes, which was good fun'*

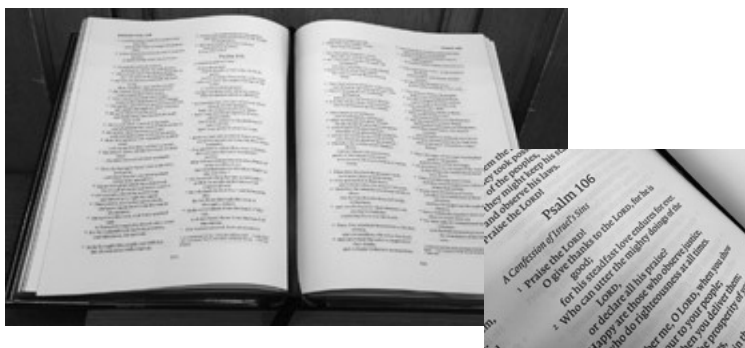
## Book Club : Future Reading

**Monday 8 April:** *Madame Bovary* by Gustave Flaubert. (Classic French novel. Charles Bovary, a good-hearted but dull and unambitious doctor with a meagre practice, marries Emma, a beautiful farm girl raised in a convent).

**Monday 10 June:** *The Citadel* by A.J. Cronin.. (First published in 1937, a ground-breaking novel in its treatment of the contentious theme of medical ethics. It has been credited with laying the foundation in Great Britain for the introduction of the NHS a decade later).

Meetings are at 2pm in the Foyer. You are welcome to join us.

## In Memory of Ray



This Bible was dedicated to Ray Snowden at our Carol and Gift Service on 16 December. Together with Mavis, Ray loved the music in our church, and so it seems appropriate that this lovely memorial to Ray should have been presented in a service filled with carols and singing.

## Bible Study Group

A quote on Facebook from Malcolm Evison reported a 'very stimulating and refreshing house/bible study group meeting (in January) on the topic of prayer (as an imperative - listening & action). Bible readings and discussion just flowed, as did the prayer time, covering a wide range of personal and social concerns. Lovely sense of fellowship. The topic proves well worth revisiting.'



We are sad to announce the death of Brian Blakey who passed away on Thursday 24 January. Our thoughts and prayers are with Joy and the family, and with Lynne. Brian's funeral will be held on Monday 11 February at 12 noon at Wesley Chapel.

Rest in Peace Brian and Get Well Soon Joy.

## **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** fortnightly on Fridays from 1pm to 3pm in the Lower Hall. Contact Les Sudron for more details, 01423 787406.

See pages 10 and 11 for more details of our activities this month.

Also visit [www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk](http://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk)



# ROTAS

## Sunday Morning Porch Duty

03 February	Janet
10 February	Katharine
17 February	Shelagh
24 February	Nancy
03 March	Sue
10 March	Janet
17 March	Katharine
24 March	Shelagh

## Sunday Worship Stewards

03 February	Christine B & Les
10 February	Jenny & Philip
17 February	Christine S & Les
24 February	Maureen & Mike
03 March	Christine B & Shelagh
10 March	Jenny and Philip
17 March	Christine S & Les
24 March	Maureen & Mile
31 March	Ulrike & Andrew

## Communion Duty

03 March	Anita & Jenny
07 April	Katharine & Judith

## Organist

27 January	Philip
03 February	Graham
10 February	Judith
17 February	Barbara
24 February	Philip
03 March	Graham

## Sunday Morning Coffee

03 February	Anita
10 February	Keith & Katharine
17 February	Shirley
24 February	Jenny

## Sunday Morning Coffee continued

03 March	Sue and Margaret
10 March	Eileen
17 March	Ulrike
24 March	Anita
31 March	Jenny

## Tuesday Coffee

05 February	Jean & Keith
12 February	Judith & Keith
19 February	Jean & Wendy
26 February	Judith & Helen
05 March	Jean & Wendy

## Forward Together

### 31 January

10.30am—1pm	Christine B & Judith D.
11.50am-1.15pm	Jenny
12pm-2pm	Eileen

### 07 February

10.30am--1pm	Christine B & Pat
11.50am-1.15pm	Nancy
12pm-2pm	Hannah

### 14 February

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

### 21 February

10.30am-1pm	Jenny & Pat
11.50am-1.15pm	Philip
12pm-2pm	Hannah & Ann M.

### 28 February

10.30am—1pm	Christine D. & Judith D.
11.50am-1.15pm	Ros. & Jenny
12pm-2pm	Eileen

## Wesley Activities

### Sunday Morning Worship

**27 January.** Morning Worship Rev. Christine Gillespie

This will be Christine's last service at Wesley before she leaves to take up another ministerial role in the Goole and Selby Circuit.

**3 February.** Morning Worship with Holy Communion  
Rev. Arnold Clay.

**10 February.** Morning Worship Rev. Trevor Dixon.

**17 February.** Morning Worship Rev. Ben Clowes.

**24 February.** Morning Worship Rev. Trevor Dixon.

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

### Lunchtime Recitals

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

**Monday 4 February.** 1pm to 2pm. Julien Brocal (France), piano. Winner of the BBC Music Magazine Newcomer Award 2018.

**Monday 4 March. 1pm to 2pm** Michael Pandya on piano, Sabine Sergejeva on violin and Leo Popplewell on cello. Programme will include Brahms Piano Trio No.1 in B major.

### Book Club

**Monday 11 February. 2pm.** In the Foyer. Discussing *The President's Hat* by Antoine Laurain (a modern fairy tale about a hat by the French author. (May be suspended. Watch out for details.

### Bible Study Group

**Monday 18 February. 2pm.** At the home of Helen Evison. Please contact Helen for more details. Tel. 01423 870725.

### Network

**Monday 25 February . 2pm for 2.30pm.** Speaker Judith Yeats. *My Ancestor was a Missionary*. There will also be a bring and buy stall. Everybody welcome

## **Tuesday Coffee**

**Every Tuesday** from 10am to 12 noon.

**19 February:** Barbara Lister will be playing the piano from 10.45am to 11.15am and there will be a prayer meeting in the Green Room at 11am.

## **Forward Together**

**Every Thursday.** Coffee served from 10.45am in the Lower Hall Lunch at 12 noon.

## **Journey Group**

**Thursday 7 February.** 2.30pm in the Foyer.

## **Wesley Welcome Café**

**Wesley Welcome Café** – our next session is **Friday 8 February** and then alternate Fridays; 22 February, 8 and 22 March and 5 April. We are open from 1pm until 3pm, just pop in any time and stay for as long as you wish. We serve tea, coffee, home baked cakes and biscuits.

Come and join us for a chat or maybe join in a game of dominoes, do a jigsaw, read a book of poems, 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/carers.

For more information ring Les on 797406 or just come along; you will be *VERY WELCOME!*

## **Church Council Meeting**

**Tuesday 19 February 7.30pm** in the Upper Hall.

### **Christine's Farewell Service**

Saturday 9 February 6.30pm at Woodlands Methodist Church. Preacher Rev. Michael Wearing. Tea and coffee and home-made cakes after the service. It is hoped that all those who are able from Wesley will be present. The Church Car Park will be reserved for those needing a space close to the church but the car park at Willow Tree Primary School next door to the church will be open and available for use.

## More dates for your diary

### Charity Coffee Mornings

Saturday 23 February Harrogate Dramatic Society

### Bilton Amblers.

Saturday 8 February

Saturday 8 March

All walks start at 9.30 am on Bilton Methodist Church car park where we meet to arrange transport. Winter walks generally about 5 miles. Walks usually finish at a pub or café for hot food. Contact Janet Allen, -01423 524634, e-mail, [janetallen09@btinternet.com](mailto:janetallen09@btinternet.com) or turn up on the day.

### Harrogate School of Theology and Mission.

**16 February** 9.30am—12pm at Mowbray Community Church. Revd Dr Andrew Emerton, The Prophets part 1. In this Introduction to the Prophets we will look at the definition of prophecy and explore the role, purpose and place of the Major Prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel) and the Minor Prophets (Hosea, Micah, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Joel, Zechariah, Haggai and Malachi) in both pre- and post-exilic Israel. <http://hstm.org.uk/events/>.

### Starbeck Methodist Church, Fun and Fellowship.

**Saturday 9 February** at 7.30pm. Voces Seraphorum. Musical Director – Kevin Paynes.

Adults £8, children free. Pay at the Door.  
Light refreshments in the interval

### Saturday 16 February 7.15pm for 7.30pm Hampsthwaite Methodist Church.

General Knowledge Quiz. Tickets £4 per person which includes tea and biscuits. Teams of 4, please book by ringing Helen on 01765 677459 or Pauline on 772425. All questions answered as a team.

### Harrogate Choral Society

Saturday 23 March 7.30 at The Royal Hall. *The Creation* by Haydn. With Amici Ensemble, Sarah Power (Soprano), Ben Thapa (Tenor), Miles Taylor (Bass). Conducted by Andrew Padmore. Tickets £15 to £20. Students, unwaged & under 16s £5. Harrogate Box Office 01423 502116

## **'Wonderful things happen when we all work together'**

Lynne Close

Lynne Close was delighted to receive an e-mail from Peter at Mowbray Community Church and has shared it with us.

*'Dear Lynne,*

*A giant thank you to you all at Wesley for allowing us to use the Church for the interact Christmas Shopper which was held on the Saturday before Christmas.*

*We served 130 cups of tea and coffee with additional soft drinks and gave away nearly 350 mince pies and cakes. We had some brilliant chats with many of the folk that came in and tears with others. We also received 5 prayer requests.*

*We did morning and afternoon teams which comprised of 15 volunteers working between 9.30 and 3 pm. It was a tiring day but very fulfilling.*

*Bless you all for the access and use to this wonderful facility that you share with the town.*

*In His Service Peter Ingham.'*

They also gave us a donation of £50.

Also, we have received donations of £500 each for the Chapel and Centre from Town Pastors, who have ceased their operations largely because their work is no longer required. The letter accompanying the cheques said:

*'Following the cessation of Town Pastors and the sale of its assets the company has a surplus of funds. The directors have decided that Town Pastors would like to honour the support given to the project by both Wesley Centre and Wesley Chapel. Enclosed are cheques for £500 in appreciation of this support.'*

**Mike Greenberg**

## **Mind The Gap**

A team from the churches concerned have been meeting to make arrangements for cover for the six months between Christine leaving and the new minister arriving. The following arrangements have been made for pastoral charge and care during this period: **Harlow Hill** - Pastoral Charge: Rev Steve Barlow, Pastoral Care Rev Linda Phillips. **Wesley** - Pastoral Charge and Care - Revs Ben Clowes, Ann Fox, Trevor Dixon. **Woodlands** - Pastoral Charge Rev Ann Fox, Pastoral Care Revs. Diane and Ron Hicks.



One Church. 14 Locations.

## Nidd Valley Circuit

### A New Minister for the Circuit

We are pleased to announce that a match for a probation presbyter has been made for the Nidd Valley Methodist Circuit. Moses John, who will be minister at Woodlands and Harlow Hill will be joining us, together with his wife Kim and their 4 children aged 9,7,5 and 1.

The family enjoyed a very successful visit to the circuit on Saturday 12 January and the Circuit Leadership Team, Invitations Committee and Moses and his family are all excited about the match. Moses' Welcome Service will be held on Saturday 31 August at 7.30 at Woodlands when we look forward to welcoming the family to our circuit.

### President's Visit

**1-3 February.** Rev. Michaela Youngson will be visiting the Circuit. Her first port of call on Friday 1st will be Wesley Centre when she is going to be meeting with folk from Wesley Welcome Café and chatting about our work with Dementia Forward, as well as having a look at our lovely Centre.

One of the highlights of the weekend will be the District (Yorkshire North and East) Gathering at Ashville College at 7.30pm. The service is aimed at young people but open for all: all ages, all denominations, and all faith backgrounds. Rev Michaela will be preaching; there will be modern worship; food and a chance for people from across the District to come together.

If you would like to help at the service in any way, please get in touch with Poppy Winks: [poppywinks.niddvalley@hotmail.com](mailto:poppywinks.niddvalley@hotmail.com) or the Circuit Office.

Poppy is looking for stewards to help on the night, ideally between 7pm and 9.30pm roughly. If you are able to help please let Poppy know.

On Saturday 2nd at Trinity Methodist Church, Norton, YO17 9JA. 10am to 3pm. *Releasing Creativity in Worship*. An opportunity to look at new ways to enrich worship, led by the President of Conference, who will begin the day with a keynote talk entitled *Weaving Worship—drawing together the strands of God's love*.

For local preachers, worship leaders, stewards and anyone with an interest in developing creative worship. Workshops include: creative prayer, telling our stories with the 'Worship: Learning and Preaching Course'. No charge for the day, bring your own lunch. Drinks available and during the day.

## **Presidents Visit continued.**

**On Sunday 3 February, 10.30am.** Rev. Michaela Youngson will preach at Starbeck Methodist Church, where her mother is a member. Everybody welcome.

## **Flourish. Scarborough 18-20 October 2019**

This is a District Event to be held at The Spa in Scarborough. The programme has not yet been published, but we are promised that there are going to be some interesting speakers and some exciting events taking place. Synod will be held on the Saturday morning for those who normally attend District Synod.

Everyone has been asked to book their own accommodation and make their own transport arrangements. For those attending Flourish please contact Juliana Caukwell (circuit office telephone no 01423 860166) if you need a lift or are able to offer one. Juliana also has additional details about booking hotels in advance (cheaper to book individually than a group booking).

## **Marriage and Relationship Issues**

The Methodist Conference is currently in the process of deciding whether it is time to review the Church's statement on Marriage and Relationships or not. It was last formally changed at the 1993 Derby Conference. At the Conference this June, the Marriage and Relationships Task Group will be reporting on all aspects concerning Marriage and Relationships including singleness, cohabitation, same-sex marriage, divorce and so on. As part of this process the Conference asked each District to enable conversations to take place. A number of District Conversations have been planned and there is one planned for the Nidd Valley Circuit. On **2 April, 7.30pm** at Wesley Rev. Leslie Newton (Chair of District) along with others from the District team will enable an open and honest discussion to hear the views of the Methodist people. Everyone is encourage to attend and it would help the District to note people's intention to attend. If you would like to attend please register your intention to join the meeting by emailing the District Administrator, Sian, on [yorkshiremethodist@icloud.com](mailto:yorkshiremethodist@icloud.com). You are still able to attend if you cannot let Sian know it just helps the team to know rough numbers in advance. If you have any questions on what this meeting entails, please do speak to your minister.

**Ben Clowes**

## Hope by Rev. Jennifer Potter



'Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.' (Hebrews 11:1-3).

Faith and hope are inextricably linked in this wonderful passage from the Epistle to the Hebrews. Christians are called upon to be people not only of faith but of hope, even in situations of despair when all around seems doom and gloom.

We can cite examples of this in recent history. Christians were at the forefront of the struggle against apartheid in South Africa although we do have to remember that some Christians in that country undergirded the ideology with a religious justification. Nelson Mandela personified this unshakeable hope despite his long years of incarceration.

Last year, with our weeks of hot temperatures and lack of rainfall, we have seen a resurgence in discussions about climate change and global warming, recently revisited at the Conference in Poland. There are people who are 'deniers' and there are people who are prophets of doom and believe that it is too late to stave off the worst effects of climate change. In this context, too, it is important that Christians remain people of hope, as the Methodist Church has tried to do with its discussions about the phasing out of the use of fossil fuels and the advocating of simpler and more sustainable lifestyles. If we lose hope in such situations as these we have no motivation, no agency in affecting the future. If we retain hope we will work to see how that might become a reality however difficult the details.

Last year I was very impressed by an article in a newspaper written by a Muslim about the predominantly Buddhist young Thai football team who became stranded in the cave by a tremendous rainstorm. I think all of us were very emotionally engaged with what happened and have been reminded of the incident recently when the British divers involved received honours in the New Year's List. At the outset it seemed very likely that they could not be rescued. The situation looked quite bleak and hopeless. The boys and their coach were young, trapped in near total darkness three kilometres from the entrance, with little food or water and the route out was flooded, narrow and convoluted.



As the world held its breath the situation indeed seemed pretty hopeless and, as the days went by and the monsoon rain season came closer the prospects for a rescue grew increasingly slim. Yet hope was alive in the attitude of the boys and their coach. Hope against the odds was present in the efforts of their rescuers despite the death of one of the Thai rescuers and hope was in the decisions of the Thai authorities whose every move needed courage. In this case hope was rewarded and there was rejoicing and relief around the world.

The concept of hope, the practice of hope has long been disparaged by serious thinkers. For many people hope is just too 'woolly' a concept, too 'religious' a concept to be taken seriously. Like religion in general some see it as 'the opium of the people' – pie in the sky when you die.



Well it has to be recognised that hope does not always result in the wonderful outcome that we saw with the young Thai boys. To act on hope is always a matter of acting without certainty and to risk disappointment but not to hope is to abdicate our responsibility for trying to make the world a better place, to have agency in our lives and the lives of others. For Christians hope is an essential part of our faith – 'the assurance of things hoped for.' Our hope is based on our understanding of God, on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and above all on the love and grace of God shown to his people throughout history. This hope will not always answer all our difficulties but it will give us the strength to go on when all seems lost. The story of Nelson Mandela, Malala Yousafzai and those young Thai footballers should be a source of encouragement and strength to all of us as we look around at a world where it is all too easy to lose hope in our political and economic systems.

And in our own lives when things seem bleak – hope and faith are what can sustain us. May hope, hope in Christ sustain us whatever the vagaries of 2019 may deliver up for us and our loved ones.

## Coming to Harrogate in 2019

**Spring Harvest 13 - 17 April.** The Spring Harvest programme will be held at the Harrogate Convention Centre. Day visitor tickets are available. Visit the website for information and full details of what is going on each day. <https://www.springharvest.org/harrogate/>

**The UCI Road World Championships September 2019.** This will probably be the biggest event Harrogate has ever known and we can expect some sever disruption when our town will truly become the centre of the sporting world when the best cyclists of the world travel to Yorkshire to compete for the highest accolade road cycling can bestow – the title of World Champion, and the iconic 'Rainbow Jersey' that accompanies it.

The Championships take place 21 – 29 September with races starting in towns and cities across Yorkshire, and every race will make its way around Yorkshire before heading to one ultimate finish line in Harrogate.

Races will come to Harrogate through the towns of Boroughbridge, Masham, Pateley Bridge, Ripon and across the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – and will include some of the most popular roads and climbs from the previous five years of elite cycle races in Yorkshire

**Harrogate Welcomes The World.** In a build up to this great event there will be a year of installations and events to celebrate Harrogate's place at the centre of the 2019 World Championships. *Harrogate welcomes the World* will run from January and culminate in the week of racing around Yorkshire where Harrogate will take centre stage as the finish line destination where every race of the championships will end.

*Harrogate Welcomes the World* will include some of Harrogate's most popular annual events and some special events taking place to celebrate Harrogate's place in the Yorkshire 2019 championships.

The year will begin with iconic buildings around Harrogate illuminated in the rainbow colours of the championships. There will be film events, music festivals, food festivals carnivals and more. Check on the website for information. <https://www.visitharrogate.co.uk/events/uciworlds2019/harrogate-welcomes-the-world>.

Almost all of our churches in the circuit will be affected by this event, but in particular the town centre churches. We will keep you informed of anything that will effect our regular activities, but it is advised that events during the period of the championship should be suspended as there will certainly be severe disruption in our town and on our roads.

## Prayer Corner

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire  
Uttered or unexpressed  
The motion of a hidden fire  
That trembles in the breast

*James Montgomery StF*

### **Please remember in your prayers:**

Joy and family and Lynne as they come to terms with losing Brian after his long illness.

All those members of our church family who are unable to join us for worship and activities because of illness or infirmity.

The 20Plus team who are looking into the viability of bringing a diaconal minister to Nidd Valley Methodist Circuit to further town centre work and in furthering Christian mission with the advent of new housing developments.

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*The Methodist church celebrated the 350th Anniversary of the birth of Susanna Wesley on 20 January. Jenny Carpenter, Vice-Chair of Trustees at Epworth Old Rectory wrote this prayer specially for the anniversary.*

Living, loving God, Trinity in Unity,

**Susanna  
Wesley**

We praise and thank you for the life of Susanna Wesley,  
Mother of Methodism.

**1669 350 2019**  
ANNIVERSARY

Inspired by her regime of private prayer and meditation,  
may we grow in our devotion to you.

Following our conscience as she did, may we think for ourselves and dare to act on Kingdom values.

Aware of her programme of teaching her children, girls and boys alike, may we value and nurture all in our care, sensitive to individual needs.

Encouraged by her determination to build up the faith of her family and the parish of Epworth, may we lead others to follow Christ more closely.

Discerning the Holy Spirit moving powerfully in the life of the nation as she did, may we be open to new challenges and expect great things from you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ and in the power of the Spirit. Amen.

# Lunchtime Piano Recital

by

## *Julien Brocal*

*Winner of the BBC Music Magazine Newcomer Award 2018*



*"I urge you not to miss the opportunity to hear this singular talent."*

*Gramophone Magazine*

### Programme

*Paisajes*

*Miroirs*

*Variations Chopin*

*Mompou*

*Ravel*

*Mompou*

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 1 – 2pm**

Wesley Centre, Oxford Street, Harrogate. HG1 1PP

**Entry on the door £8.00**

For more information Tel: 01423 883618 or 01423 509917

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