



## North Kirklees & Morley Circuit December 2017 – January 2018

### Christmas Presence

As you read this, Christmas will be fast approaching. Depending how organised you are you may have bought your presents or be trying to think still what to buy people. If the presents are for small children, then there is always the fear that they may find the box or the wrapping more fun to play with than the present itself. We can feel disappointed so often when then time and effort we put into giving that special something to a loved one of whatever age appears to go unappreciated.

Christmas is for many a time of tinsel, trimmings, trees, turkey and trifle. All these are part of the wrapping of Christmas but we need to hold on to the fact that the wrapping is disposable – something here today and gone tomorrow.

At Christmas we need to remember that God, who created the universe, once chose to come amongst us as a small helpless child, who could do nothing for himself, who relied upon his parents for everything and like all children needed desperately to be taken into their arms and loved. He was not wrapped in the finery and trimmings you would expect of the Son of God but born in pain without anaesthetic into a world of mess and squalor symbolised in a simple stable.

The world as we look at it today still seems to be a mess but there is also hope in love. We need to embrace that hope in the way that we love each other. Let us remember this Christmas that each of us first came into this world as poor helpless children desperately needing love, the one need that for all of us has not changed and will never change. Let us also remember that just as newborn babes we all bear his likeness no matter what our age. And as we embrace each other in love this Christmas let us discover the greatest present of all, the presence of Jesus at the heart of what we celebrate and share, something which people have not discarded for over 2000 years.

Every blessing this Christmas and throughout the year to come.

Nigel Rodgers

The February edition of Connect will be in churches on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February. Please send items for inclusion to the Resource Centre by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 10am.

**Staff days off:** Monday – Nigel Rodgers, Andrew Halstead; Thursday – Alison Crookes; Saturday - Paul Martin, Ray Borrett.

The combined choir of voices from **St. Andrew's Mirfield, Batley and Longcauseway**, led by David Hall – many thanks to all who supported our concert at St. Andrew's for their anniversary weekend. A total of £505 was raised for the Happy Days project.

### The Friends Café at Tingley Methodist Church -*Good company, good food, good fun*

The Friends Café is a joint venture between Tingley Methodist Church and the 12<sup>th</sup> Leeds Boys' Brigade Company. The monthly café is open to everyone although we decided to run it to give older people and people living with dementia and their carers a chance to have lunch, to relax and to meet and talk with other people. Food and drinks are provided free of charge at the Friends Cafe. However, if you feel able, we will be more than happy to accept a donation. All are welcome, please come and join us at our next café

### Events at Birstall Methodist Church – all welcome

- **Community Coffee Morning:** Thursdays 9.30-11am
- **Cell Church group:** Meets on Monday evenings 7.30-9pm. Contact Pat Martin.

### Events at Batley Central Methodist Church

- **The Christian Coffee Break** held at Batley Central Church will not be meeting in December and January but will resume on the second Wednesday in February and each month thereafter up to November 2018. Speakers to be announced later. ALL ARE WELCOME.
- **Friday Coffee Morning** 9.30am-11.30am All welcome!
- **Fellowship Lunch:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, 12.30pm (12<sup>th</sup> November). £4 adults £2 children for a two-course meal. Phone Bev on 07733150203 to book a place.

**West Ardsley** are selling 2018 calendars with 12 views of local scenes, taken by church members. Price £5. Also Christmas cards, 2 designs in packets of 10, designed by church members, £4

**St Andrew's (Liversedge)** has a café on Mondays from 10am to 2pm (not open on Bank Holidays) using food donated from local supermarkets which would have been going to landfill. If you would like to get involved in "The real junk food project" at our **"Waste Not Want Not"** café please come along or get in touch with Caroline Holt at standrewsmeths@gmail.com

### Events at West Ardsley

Messy church for young children & carers from 4 to 6 pm (doors open 3.30pm) for *crafts*, song and afternoon tea, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December, Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January.

### At the Circuit Resource Centre . . .

Our contact details:

The Circuit Resource Centre,  
Batley Methodist Church  
Commercial Street  
Batley WF17 5DS  
01924 442535

email address: admin@nkandmcircuit.org.uk

### Our opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9am – 1pm  
Thursday 9am – 3pm, Friday 9am – 1pm

### Christmas and New Year Hours:

**We close for Christmas at 1pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, and will reopen at 9am on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.**

*It's not too late to order from the Traidcraft catalogue – pop in and have a browse. Free mince pie to all visitors in December!*

**Westborough Methodist Church** are without a pianist/organist for Sunday services for six weeks, from 10<sup>th</sup> December to 14<sup>th</sup> January inclusive. If anyone is able to help, or knows anyone who can help, please contact Shirley Winder 01924-463308.

### Musical Treats:

- A Date for your diaries! **'Messiah', TODAY, Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017, 2.15pm** at Batley Central. Adult admission £8, singers £5, children under 14 free.

Come along and sing 'Messiah', or if you prefer, be part of the audience. This is a not to be missed musical event, including some exciting young soloists and Opera North' Paul Gibson singing with a large augmented choir which includes members of a number of local choral societies. The performance will be conducted by Susan Wilkinson and accompanied on organ and trumpet.

- Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup>, 7.15pm – **Mirfield Choral Society present a Christmas Celebration** at Trinity Methodist Church, Mirfield. Tickets £10, students £5, including mince pie and tea/coffee after the concert.
- Friday 15 December at 7.30pm. Hanging Heaton Methodist Church: **Dewsbury Concert Society perform 'Born a king'** by J W Peterson and other seasonal music

### At Drighlington Methodist Church: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the Month

1.30pm – 3.30pm - for people living with Dementia but all are

welcome! Details from Trevor Martin, 01132854165 trevorjmartin@yahoo.com Please note the new opening times for the Coffee Pot:-

Monday & Thursday: 10 am to 11.30 am  
Tuesday & Wednesday: 9 am to 11.30 pm



### Church events . . .

### PLEASE ALSO SEE SEPERATE SHEET OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

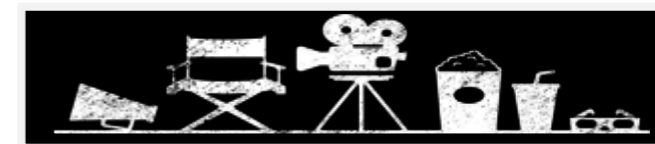
December		
4 <sup>th</sup> , 2pm	Knit & Stitch	Thornhill
5 <sup>th</sup> , 4pm	Messy Church	Batley
6 <sup>th</sup> , 11.45am	Soup Lunch	Trinity
9 <sup>th</sup> 8am	Prayer Breakfast- all welcome	West Ardsley
9 <sup>th</sup> , 10am-12	Coffee Morning	West Ardsley
11 <sup>th</sup> , 2pm	Fellowship meeting – Rev. Alison Crookes, followed by refreshments	Thornhill
12 <sup>th</sup> , 11.45am	Soup Lunch	Trinity
14 <sup>th</sup> , 4pm	Messy Church	West Ardsley
15 <sup>th</sup> 10am	Coffee Morning	Westborough
15 <sup>th</sup> , 7.30pm	Dewsbury Concert Society concert	Hanging Heaton

16<sup>th</sup>, 7.15pm Mirfield Choral Society concert Trinity  
**January**  
13<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 12noon Coffee Morning at 3 Borrowdale Rd in aid of Hanging Heaton wall repair.

**February**  
24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> Morley Men's Weekend: Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>, at Morley Central Methodist. Churwell Community Choir, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>, Service led by Mr John Wilson & Men's Choir.

### Circuit & District events...

**January**  
21<sup>st</sup>, 6pm AWE Service West Ardsley  
27<sup>th</sup>, OneWord Batley  
27<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm OneWord - 'BRAVE' Batley  
Oneworld is an open worship event for all ages. There is a live band, interactive worship that you can be as much or as little involved in as you wish and a great sense of fellowship. email joanne@oneworld.org.uk, find us on our facebook page or www.oneworld.org.uk. We look forward to seeing you there!



**Fancy a film? How about one of these – West Ardsley:** Family Film Evening, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January showing 'Moana' at 6.30pm – donations for refreshments and church building fund.

**Morley:** Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 4pm Film matinee 'Arthur Christmas', a film for all the family – profits from donations split between church funds and Parkinsons UK.

**FIRST FRIDAY FILM NIGHT @ St ANDREWS, LIVERSEDGE Friday 5th January-** if we can get hold of a copy we will be showing The Shack, so watch this space. Other films for the future include Victoria and Abdul, Goodbye Christopher Robin and Hampstead.

**Safeguarding Trainers:** Are you interested in the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults in your church? The circuit is looking for enthusiastic people to help in delivering the Foundation and Foundation Refresher Module training. If you are interested please contact Rev Nigel Rodgers.