



**February 2024**

FREE: Please take me home.

**The monthly magazine of the Emmanuel  
Benefice, Berry Brow Methodist Church,  
and Netherton Methodist Church.**



## FOCUS

### February Church Services

- 4 February      10.00 Morning Worship South Crosland  
                     10.00 Holy Communion at Netherton Methodist Church  
                     10.30 Morning Worship at Berry Brow Methodist
- 11 February     10.00 Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge  
                     10.00 Morning Worship at Netherton Methodist  
                     10.30 Morning worship at Berry Brow
- 14 February  
Ash Wednesday 10.00 Holy Communion at South Crosland  
                     6.30 Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge
- 18 February     10.00 Holy Communion at South Crosland  
                     10.00 Morning worship at Netherton Methodists  
                     10.30 Morning Worship at Berry Brow Methodists
- 25 February     10.00 Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge  
                     10.00 Morning worship at Netherton Methodists  
                     10.30 Morning worship at Berry Brow Methodists

**Please note that from 4 February all Sunday services at South Crosland and Armitage Bridge will start at 10.00am.**

Every Wednesday at St Paul's.

9.15 Morning Worship, 30 minutes of worship and prayer. All welcome.

### February Mid-week Services

Please contact Stella or Barbara for details.

## Clergy Pages

Dear Friends

As the last Focus was a double issue, for December 2023 and January 2024, covering Advent, Christmas, New Year and Epiphany, this one takes us straight into a very significant month.

I am writing this to you at the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Our identity as South Huddersfield Churches Together gives us plenty of opportunity to work and worship together, and to serve the local community through the Together Shop, pop-up shops, Warm Welcome and The Bread and Butter Thing. The centrepiece of our Unity Week is 2 days away at time of writing - the Covenant Service which Tim Francis will have led for us all at Netherton Methodist Church - and those of you who shared in that mighty service will have had the chance to renew your covenant with God in Wesley's memorable words, using either this traditional prayer or more contemporary words:

I am no longer my own but yours.  
Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;  
put me to doing, put me to suffering;  
let me be employed for you or laid aside for you,  
exalted for you or brought low for you;  
let me be full, let me be empty,  
let me have all things, let me have nothing:  
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things  
to your pleasure and disposal.  
And now, glorious and blessed God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
you are mine and I am yours. So be it.  
And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.

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These Methodist words became included in Anglican liturgy in 2006, when the Covenant Service became the New Year part of a book of services called "Times and Seasons". So, it now belongs to all of us. I think it's timely as this is a year in which God will make demands of us and we will need to lean on God to supply us with all things, including faith hope and love. We have said our goodbyes to Julie as parish priest - but she remains our Area Dean while we work our way through a time of vacancy. The community of Holy Trinity South Crosland are preparing to close the church building - but you/we remain the body of Christ and need to listen carefully to God and one another to take the next steps together in accordance with God's will. Lent can help - traditionally the springtime of the church year and a chance to grow in faith and the great spiritual disciplines of prayer and bible reading, both of which undergird good decision-making. Lent starts on February 14th., and there will be 2 celebrations of Holy Communion on Ash Wednesday, including receiving a cross of ash on your forehead. 10am at South Crosland and 6.30pm at Armitage Bridge. We will not be running Lent Groups this year but there will be daily worship in Holy Week. And we all will be watching out for one another this year, right across our 4 congregations, Netherton Methodist, Holy Trinity South Crosland, St Paul's Armitage Bridge and Berry Brow Newsome. Peace and all good

Debby

February 2024

## Coffee Morning

Holy Trinity Church holds a coffee morning on the second Saturday of each month at South Crosland Junior School, Moor Lane, Netherton. The January coffee morning raised £171.70; thank you to everyone for supporting this event.

The next coffee morning will take place on Saturday 10 February 2024.

10 February 2024

9 March 2024

13 April 2024

11 May 2024

8 June 2024

13 July 2024

*Stella*

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## Diary Dates

17 February: Final date for copy March Focus, 12 Noon.

Items received after this time will probably miss the cut.

## HOLY TRINITY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS – DECEMBER 2023

Thanks to everyone's generosity the following amounts were sent to charity:

Christingle Service - £316.04 was sent to The Children's Society.

Christmas Eve Crib Service - £224.81 was sent to Shelter.

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass Service - £64 was sent to Street Angels.

## FOCUS

### Ode to Julie

When interviewing vicars that's for our Emmanuel Team  
We were looking for a person to be held in high esteem  
And this we got, though it was said by those assigned to pick her  
She's just as much a force of nature as she is a vicar.

At coffee mornings she would be there  
Always ready to declare  
She doesn't want coffee from a flask,  
It's a kettle cup; You shouldn't need to ask,  
No Yorkshire tea that you and me would sup  
But that Early Grey "muck" in a China cup.

Between holidays she would come and preach,  
And it must be said she confirmed our belief,  
That she liked a gin in Tenerife.

Now it's time to say goodbye.  
Our Julie's leaving soon.  
Which means we must find another brand-new broom!



## **Thank you**

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported me over the last 5½ years. It really has been wonderful. I also want to thank you for the amazing gift, and I will let you all know what I buy to remember you all.

God bless you all in the coming months as you work together to share the love of God with one another and with all those you meet.

*Julie*

## **Banners – an update**

In the last edition of Focus, I asked if anyone knew anything about the 21 banners found at St. John's church, Newsome. Following that, I had a phone call from a lovely lady called Jean Broadhead, who now lives in Honley. Jean worshipped at St. Stephen's, Rashcliffe and latterly at St. Paul's, Armitage Bridge, until Covid came and disrupted us. She was part of a banner group at St. Stephen's church, Rashcliffe, together with Marjorie Turner, Barbara Welldrake and Elaine Crabtree. They made many of the beautiful banners and I'm so pleased that mystery is solved!

All the banners can be seen in full colour in the online version of the December/January Focus, and you can see them all "in real life" draped over the pews on the gallery at Holy Trinity church, South Crosland. Do come and see them!

*Caroline Jones*  
07810 323246

## FOCUS

### **Shoebox appeal 2023 – THANK YOU!**

The figures are in and the shoeboxes are being distributed! With your help, T4U have sent over 64,000 shoeboxes to the Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania in Eastern Europe, including over 3,217 from Meltham. Our shoeboxes have gone to the Ukraine.

Here is a short video clip of shoeboxes being distributed in Romania in December 2023:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVgNjTPSbBc>

Just to see the joy on the children's faces is wonderful and reminds us all why we do this! Many thanks for your continued support of this appeal.

*Caroline Jones*

07810 323246

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### **News from Carol Waters**

Coffee and homemade cake at Hall Bower the first Wednesday each month (with a chance to pick up the impossible quiz).

Soup at Hall Bower the second Monday Each month

Hall Bower Ramblers who meet on the Third Monday each month (9.30)

Warm Welcome at Berry Brow. Every Tuesday from 12.30.

Coffee mornings every Wednesday in the Scout Hut.

Aspire Thursday Afternoons 1.30-3.30 at Berry Brow.

Hearts and Hands Community Gospel Choir 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday each month 5.30. Berry Brow Church.

#### **The Bread and Butter Thing**

TBBT Is still thriving. We are very blessed with a strong cohort of volunteers. The programme is proving to be an enjoyable social occasion for many of the volunteers as well as meeting the aims of the project to stop waste and provide reasonably priced food for the members. One of the volunteers said it was the 'highlight' of his week.

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### **Warm Spaces**

Warm Spaces continues to grow and everyone is welcome. We are very grateful for the volunteers who support, with serving on the day, regular donations of soup, stews, lasagne and cakes, they are much needed, appreciated and very welcome.

### **Celebration of 200 years of Methodism in Berry Brow May11th and 12th**

Save the date - Saturday: Coffee morning, historical walk, displays, and concert by Meltham Mills band in the evening, followed on Sunday by a special service with Rev. Peter Hancock followed by a faith lunch.

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### **Sheep Drive**

In 1977 I was granted the Freedom of the City of London; because I had gained the Fellowship of the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers by examination in 1976. In 1997 I was clothed in the Livery of the Spectacle Makers. The Spectacle Makers is one of 110 livery companies; the livery companies provide the City of London with its 25 Aldermen. They also nominate one of these Aldermen to be their presiding officer who is the Lord Mayor of the City of London.

The benefits of having the Freedom of the City are the right to drive sheep and cattle across the Thames via London Bridge toll free, to carry a naked sword in public and if you are found drunk and incapable by the City of London Police, they will bundle you in a taxi to take you home.

The first of these has been on my bucket list for some time and last year I finally drove sheep over the Thames but via Southwark Bridge. (London Bridge is closed). I donated to the Wool Company, and they arranged for the sheep to be available on a sunny day in September.

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A group of Spectacle Makers and their guests gathered at the appointed time; we were given stickers confirming which group we were in for our sheep drive. We walked across the bridge to our given start point and at the appointed time drove our group of sheep along the bridge.

Sheep drive concluded, we adjourned to the north side of the river where we were each given a certificate as a memento of the day.

### *Rena Souten*



February 2024

*Family Easter Craft Workshop*

At St. Paul's Armitage Bridge

On Saturday 16th March 2024

10am - 12noon

Admission Free.

Refreshments included.



***Come along and join the fun!***

Ring or text to register: 07956442001.

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### **Knit along this Lent**

Victoria Methodist Church in Bristol is excited to be hosting another mystery knitalong this Lent!

This year we will be knitting a prayer shawl (or blanket) over the course of Lent: the exact design of the shawl is a mystery and will be revealed as knitters progress through the project!

We will cast on together on Ash Wednesday (14<sup>th</sup> February) and knitters will have their shawl finished in time for Easter day on the 31<sup>st</sup> March.

Knitters will receive daily knitting instructions by email each week; these will be accompanied by daily reflections/meditations which have kindly been written by eight different Ministers and worship leaders from the Bristol circuit and beyond.

The Welcome letter, which includes general information (such as yarn/needles needed etc) and the pattern for a practice swatch will be sent out this Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January, and the weekly emails will go out from the beginning of Lent.

The pattern has been designed to be accessible to knitters of all abilities: if you can cast on and off, and can work the basic knit and purl stitches you should be able to join in!

If you're not already on the mailing list you can sign up to take part by emailing Helen at: [learning@vic-methodist-bristol.org.uk](mailto:learning@vic-methodist-bristol.org.uk)

Facebook users would also be very welcome to join the group 'Victoria Methodist Bristol Knitalongs', where a lovely community of knitters across the world share progress, ask questions and chat about the reflections (and all pattern/reflection documents will be posted on here too).

**Angela Dick**

February 2024



This is what the Christmas knit along item looks like.

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### **The world According to Charles Schulz.( creator of Peanuts)**

- 1.Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America pageant.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday.

These are no second-rate achievers.

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They are the best in their fields.

But the applause dies.

Awards tarnish ...

Achievements are forgotten.

Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier?

The lesson:

The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money ... or the most awards. They simply are the ones who care the most.

February 2024



## **GOLDEN WEDDING SERVICE**

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024 3.30pm

### **Were you married in 1974 or earlier?**

If you are celebrating your Golden Wedding or even a longer time together, Ripon Cathedral warmly invites you to share in this year's special service of thanksgiving and blessing, to renew your vows and to reflect on and celebrate your many years of married life

If you would like to apply for tickets to attend this unique service (regardless of where you were married or where you are now living) please send your name and address to:

Mrs Trina Knockton, The Chapter House, Ripon Cathedral,  
Ripon, HG4 1QT

email: [CathedralAdmin@riponcathedral.org.uk](mailto:CathedralAdmin@riponcathedral.org.uk) Tel: 01765 603462



# Easter Fun!!!



## Free Easter Bunny Trail Monday 1st April

Start and Finish at Berry Brow Church,  
Birch Road HD4 7LP Between 10am—1 pm

**Find the Easter Bunnies and collect their letters.**  
**Entry forms from Berry Brow Church from 10 am.**

- Children's activities!
- Prize draw!
- Raffle

**Or just come along for the refreshments!**  
**Bacon butties, vegetarian options, delicious home made cake.**

In support of Berry  
Brow Carnival  
Contact: 07740425093



# Film Café 2024

At Berry Brow Church  
HD4 7LP

February 17th

March 16th

April 20th

May 18th

**Start: 2 p.m.**

**Come along for family friendly fun,  
With an interval & light refreshments  
for all ages.**

**Free admission**

**Donations welcome**

Contact 07740425093



# **Freshly Cooked Pancakes!**

**Berry Brow Church and**

**Community Centre,**

Birch Road, Berry Brow HD4 7LR

**TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY**

Served between 12 noon - 1.30 p.m.

&

4.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.

**Savoury & Sweet Fillings**

**Vegetarian options available.**

**(Children's juice is free)**

For further info contact 07740425093



## February 2024 Readings and prayers

### **Sunday 4 February 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent Colossians 1: 15-20 & John 1: 1-14**

Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Sunday 11 February Sunday next before Lent 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6 & Mark 9: 2-9**

Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Wednesday 14 Ash Wednesday**

#### **Psalms 38, Daniel 9.3-6, 17-19, 1 Timothy 6.6-19**

Lord Jesus, we pray for people for whom the road is a place of injury or death, and those bereaved by road accidents.

### **Sunday 18 February 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent 1 Peter 3: 18-end & Mark 1: 9-15**

Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Sunday 25 February 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent Romans 4: 13-end & Mark 8: 31-end**

Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## FOCUS

### CONTACTS

Webpage: [www.theemanuelteam.org.uk](http://www.theemanuelteam.org.uk)  
*This magazine may be read in full colour on our webpage!*

#### **Ministers**

Area Dean:	Revd Julie Anderson	962184 <a href="mailto:julie_anderson51@yahoo.co.uk">julie_anderson51@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Assistant Clergy:	Revd David Kent	324049
	Revd Debby Plummer	07762236986
	Canon Angela Dick	982057
Methodist Minister:	Revd Tim Francis	703955 07443338697 <a href="mailto:tim.francis@methodist.org.uk">tim.francis@methodist.org.uk</a>

#### **Churchwardens**

Newsome:	June Richardson	665537
Armitage Bridge:	Pamela Thomas	359270
	Tony Crawshaw	07738068557
South Crosland:	Allan Greaves	662659
	Paul Coldwell	340180

#### **Webpage and Magazine Contact**

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**THE EMMANUEL BENEFICE HUDDERSFIELD**  
*“Offering love and service to our communities in Christ’s*