

FOCUS

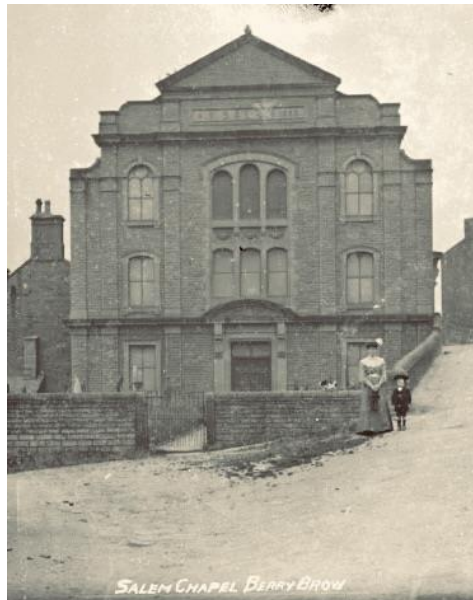


May 2024

FREE: Please take me home.

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

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds



FOCUS

May Church Services

- 5 May 10.00am Morning Worship South Crosland Church
 10.00am Holy Communion at Netherton Methodist Church
 10.30am Morning Worship at Berry Brow Methodist
 Church
- 12 May 10.00 Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
 10.00am Morning Worship at Netherton Methodist Church
 10.30am Service at Berry Brow Methodist Church
- 19 May 10.00am United Service at Netherton Methodist Church
Pentecost
- 26 May 10.00am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church

Every Wednesday at St Paul's.
9.15 Morning Worship, 30 minutes of worship and prayer. All welcome.
Every Thursday at St Paul's
5.20 Christian Meditation. 30 minutes of Quiet Contemplation. All
welcome.

May Mid-week Services

Please contact Stella or Barbara for details.

Diary Dates

18 May : Final date for copy June Focus, 12 Noon.
Items received after this time will probably miss the cut.

May 2024

Dear Friends

This year Pentecost falls right in the middle of the month of May. I do not know about you but that has come as a bit of a surprise to me as in my mind I have the end of May or beginning of June as the date. After All that is when the Bank holiday is!!

Being surprised by Pentecost might not be such a bad thing, after all the day of Pentecost brought a lot of surprises. When people could hear the good news in their own language they were surprised. The way the disciples acted so surprised some they thought that they had been drinking. The Holy Spirit was at work bringing surprises.

The Holy Spirit I believe can still bring surprises, the problem is that so often people cannot or refuse to see them.

I wonder when was the last time that you were surprised? When it was my sixtieth birthday the generosity and thoughtfulness from so many people was a lovely surprise. Moments were created that I will treasure always. Thinking about it perhaps I should not have been surprised at all as the people involved are naturally generous and good hearted. It is the sort of thing they would do. It is in their nature.

It is in the nature of God to be generous too and so we should not be surprised when we experience God's generosity. The gift of the Holy Spirit is only one example of this. As the Holy Spirit works in our lives so our relationship with God deepens and the many gifts we have develop, not just to enrich our lives but also so that we can enrich the lives of others.

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Perhaps the question for us all is how ready are we to acknowledge the surprises God has for us and accept the abundance of blessings awaiting for us. As John Calvin said:

“However many blessings we expect from God, His infinite liberality will always exceed all our wishes and our thoughts.”

So perhaps we should expect to be surprised by God more than we are. Perhaps we should be looking for God’s surprises more than we do, perhaps we might even with the help of the Holy Spirit seek to surprise others ourselves.

As we approach and celebrate Pentecost may we all continue to be surprised by the Love and Grace of God.

Every blessing.

Tim

Rev Tim Francis



Please come and join us for a
CHRISTIAN AID BREAKFAST
At St. Paul’s Church, Armitage Bridge,
On Saturday 18th May 2024, from 10-11.30am.
Bacon and sausage sandwiches.
Or beans on toast.

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 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

CHURCH
COMMISSIONERS

Notice

**Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011
Draft Pastoral Church Buildings Scheme**

10th February 2024

The Church Commissioners have prepared a draft Scheme in respect of proposals sent to them by the Bishop of Leeds for the dissolution of the parish of Holy Trinity, South Crosland and the transfer of its area to the parish of Newsome and Armitage Bridge, the alteration of parish and benefice names, and the church of Holy Trinity, South Crosland to be declared closed for regular public worship.

A copy of the draft Scheme may be inspected at the church of Holy Trinity, South Crosland and Netherton Post Office (315 Meltham Rd, Netherton, Huddersfield HD4 7EX).

The draft Scheme is on our website www.churchofengland.org/consultation or you may obtain a copy from me. **Large print and/or audio copies are available on request.** Anyone may make representations **for** or **against** all or any part of the draft Scheme (please include the reasons for your views) preferably by email, or by post, by email to reach me no later than midnight on Tuesday the **28th May 2024**. If I have not acknowledged its receipt, please ring or e-mail me. For administrative purposes, a petition will be classed as a single representation and we will only correspond with the sender of the petition, if known, or otherwise the first signatory for whom we can identify an address – “the primary petitioner”.

- When making a representation, please indicate the nature of your interest in the proposals (e.g. parishioner, member of parochial church council, etc) and whether you would like an opportunity to speak to the Commissioners regarding your representation if they decide a hearing should be held regarding the case.
- If we receive representations against the draft Scheme, we will send them, and any representations supporting the draft Scheme, to the Bishop whose views will be sought. Individual representors and the primary petitioner will then receive copies of the correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations) and will be told whether a hearing is to be held. They and individual petitioners may comment further to the Commissioners. Copies of all of the representations received and associated correspondence will be published on the Commissioners' website if the matter needs to be considered by the Commissioners.
- If a hearing is held, anyone may attend the meeting of the Commissioners' Committee that considers the case and representors may have an opportunity to speak to it. Otherwise, if a hearing is not to be held, the case will be considered in private and you will be informed accordingly.
- When we acknowledge representations we will let individual representors (and the primary petitioner) know the next few dates of our Committee's meetings. We will confirm the actual date if a hearing is to be held nearer the time.
- The Committee will decide if the draft Scheme should proceed when it considers all the representations on the basis of a paper prepared by the Commissioners' staff and any points raised at the meeting. The Commissioners will notify all representors of their decision and give a statement of the reasons for it.
- If they so decide, any representor or petitioner against the draft Scheme may seek leave from the Privy Council to appeal against the decision.
- Please see www.churchofengland.org/consultation for further information about the procedure.

Joanna Chandler-Clarke
Case Officer

Tel: 020 7898 1732

Email address: joanna.chandler-clarke@churchofengland.org

Church Commissioners, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ

Thirty Seventh Art and Craft Exhibition – 2024

This will be held at St. Paul’s Church: Armitage Bridge from Thursday to Saturday, 6th-8th June 2024 and the opening times are:

Thursday and Friday - 2pm to 4pm and 7pm-9pm
Saturday - 10am to 4pm

Refreshments will be available each day and admission to the exhibition will be £1.00.

Exhibits for either the Art or Craft sections must be delivered to Armitage Bridge Church on Tuesday, 4th June 2024 between 2pm and 8pm.

Entry fees are £1.00 per exhibit in the Art Section (maximum ten exhibits) and 50p per exhibit in the Craft section. (No maximum).

Artists are requested to collect their works and sales proceeds (less 15% donation to Armitage Bridge Church) on Saturday evening, 8th June 2024 between 4.45pm and 5.30pm.

Entry forms are now available from Armitage Bridge Church, Huddersfield Library at the Civic Centre and Calder Art Supplies in Byram Arcade or alternatively you can visit our Facebook page via @armitagebridgeart or the Emmanuel Team website www.theemmanuelteam.org.uk

Exhibitors are asked to adhere strictly to the times and dates specified above.

Come and visit us and help us make the thirty seventh Art and Craft Exhibition a great success!

May 2024

Please join us for a
Celebration!
of
200 years
of **Methodism**
in **Berry Brow**

1824-2024

Saturday 11th May

10 am Coffee morning with local history display
Historical Walk

7 pm Meltham Mills Band £10 a ticket incl.
refreshments. Children free. (Contact **07740425093**)

Sunday 12th May

10.30am Service with Rev Peter Hancock
followed by a faith lunch.

Looking forward to seeing you over the weekend!

200 years of Methodism in Berry Brow

In the second half of the 1700's Wesleyan Methodism was growing throughout the country, and it was no different in Berry Brow.

When the Deadmanstone Estate at Berry Brow was bought by Mr Timothy Bentley (of Bentley and Shaw, the Brewers at Lockwood). This spot became a Methodist Centre for the district; and in the very early years of the 1800s local preachers from Birstall, Tong from the widely scattered and rapidly growing Huddersfield circuit, came and preached the Gospel, standing on a chair in the open air under the shadow of the rocks. Class meetings were established at Armitage Bridge, Taylor Hill, and later Newsome. About 1820 Mr Bentley, who had responsibilities in connection with the erection of Queen Street Chapel determined that something should be done at Deadmanstone, so he gave the land by the rocks for a chapel to be built on, the very place where local preachers had preached the Gospel in the open air. The Chapel opened in May 1824 and became known as Rock Chapel and had seating for 200 people.

However, by 1890 Rock Chapel was not big enough to accommodate the whole congregation and so with reluctance they knew they needed another larger building. A plot of land was found on Birch Road, next to the Huddersfield School Board Public Elementary School. Birch Road Wesleyan Chapel opened in October 1893. After various name changes and alterations with the congregations of local churches which had closed invited to join, in 1980, worship is still being carried on here. We have been further enriched by the presence of ministers and members from the Anglican congregation of St John's.

Please come and join us as we celebrate 200 years of Methodism in Berry Brow on the 11th and 12th May. There will be a display and coffee morning, an historical walk around important places of note, a concert by Meltham Mills Band in the evening and on Sunday a joint service with Rev. Peter Hancock followed by a faith lunch.

Armitage Bridge Ringers

Although our main activities in bell ringing revolves around church bells there is another alternative hobby that of handbell tune ringing. A number of years ago when reorganising our ringing room and the kitchen area below it, we came across 2 large chests which were both full of handbells. Not knowing anything about these bells we made contact with a friend of ours – John Atkinson of the Beverley Handbell Ringers. Having sorted through the bells we emailed a list to John who advised us that these were part of a larger set of bells which were rung by “The Armitage Bridge Handbell Ringers”. This would not have necessarily been a church team but more of a village recreation for the area’s youth. Regretfully there is a chest of bells missing, which we assume were lost in the fire, those we do have are in need of restoration, apart from 19 bells which John repaired and cleaned allowing us to ring some tunes and change ringing.

During the 19th and early part of the 20th century the North of England had some of the best handbell tune-ringing teams in the world. These teams were male dominated and would have centred around the local pub or working men’s club. These groups rehearsed, performed, and competed in competitions which were just as serious as those undertaken by more famous brass bands. Handbell sets could have comprised of well over 100 individual bells, with the arrangements being made from sheet music which would have included popular songs and more complicated classical pieces. These days the practice is managed by The Handbell Ringers of Great Britain who hold meetings up and down the country.

From the North of England, the practice spread throughout the world with teams touring foreign lands. A team from Todmorden for example toured the USA in 1889 and 1891, filling concert halls, while “The Crossland Moor” ringers ventured across the Pacific to perform to great success in Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania from 1911 to

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1912. Although there is no record of an Armitage Bridge team playing abroad, nationally they were well known and successful.

The halcyon days of the art was from about 1855 to 1926, after 1914 however, many bands declined and disappeared altogether as members went off to fight in The Great War. However, their story is not forgotten as a fascinating display depicting mass musical entertainment and local rivalry is being housed here in Huddersfield at the University's Schwann Building located in the Heritage Quay.



Lorraine and Alan

May 2024

May 2024 Lectionary Readings for Sundays.



Sunday 5 May	Acts 10:44-end John 15:9-17
Sunday 12 May	Acts 1.15-17,21-26 John 17.6-19
Sunday 19 May Pentecost	Acts 2.1-21 <i>or</i> John 15.26-27;16.4b-15
Sunday 26 May Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 6.1-8 John 3.1-17

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 April coffee morning raised £177.50; thank you to everyone for supporting this event.

The next coffee morning will take place on Saturday 11 May 2024.

8 June 2024

13 July 2024

CONTACTS

Webpage: www.theemanuelteam.org.uk
This magazine may be read in full colour on our webpage!

Ministers

Assistant Clergy:	Revd David Kent	324049
	Revd Canon Debby Plummer	07762236986
	Revd Canon Angela Dick	982057
Methodist Minister:	Revd Tim Francis	703955
	tim.francis@methodist.org.uk	07443338697

Churchwardens

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 name.”