



June 2026

**The monthly magazine of St. Paul's Armitage Bridge, the Emmanuel Benefice, and the Methodist Churches of Berry Brow and Netherton.**

Feel free to take home



Across to the Moors from Stirley Farm



A couple of photos from the Big Blessing Service at Stirley Farm.

## June 2026 Church Services

### **Sundays:**

7 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church (Junior Church)
	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Rev. Debby Plummer) at Netherton Methodist Church with Berry Brow MC
14 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
	10.00 am	Morning Worship (own team led) at Netherton Methodist Church
	10.30 am	Holy Communion (Rev. Tim Francis) at Berry Brow Methodist Church
21 <sup>st</sup> June	10.00 am	Lay-led service at Armitage Bridge Church
	10.00 am	Morning Worship (Mrs. L Bishop) at Netherton Methodist Church
	10.30 am	Holy Communion (Rev. Fran Nunn) at Berry Brow Methodist Church
28 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
	10.30 am	Joint Morning Worship at Berry Brow MC with Netherton MC

Every Wednesday at St Paul's, Armitage Bridge.

9.15 am - Morning Worship, 30 minutes of worship and prayer.

All welcome.

Every Thursday - Christian Meditation, 5.30 pm. at St. Paul's.

Please contact Rev. Debby for details, Tel: 07762236986 - all

welcome.

## June 2026 Readings

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June - Isaiah 42:1-9 and Matthew 5: 1-16

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June - Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Matthew 5: 17-48

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June - Micah 6:1-8 and Matthew 6: 1-18

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June - Psalm 104:1-35 & Matthew 6: 19-34



## A VIEW FROM THE CLERGY – Rev. Frances Nunn



### **Jesus – Best Teacher Ever!**

We can all probably bring to mind those teachers who had a big impact on us. For me it was my theatre studies teacher Mr Conquer, who encouraged me to combine my love of art, design and drama and study Theatre Design at Nottingham Trent Polytechnic! Good teachers are a real blessing.

In his Gospel account, Matthew draws together many of the teachings of Jesus – most famously in the Sermon on the Mount. Here we come face to face with the upside-down nature of God's Kingdom and what it means to be His people in the world – how we are to think and act and speak. Here we are challenged about our attitudes to money, status and justice. It is full of familiar phrases and ideas – blessed are the poor in spirit, those that mourn, the peacemakers; how we are called to be the salt of the earth and a light on a hill; to love not just our friends, but also our enemies; and not to worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. There is so much in the Sermon on the Mount that the Bible Project Team took a year to explore the context and meaning behind Jesus' teachings in Mathew 5-7. They dive much deeper than we would have time for over the next 6 Sunday Mornings – so if you want to

know more, I would highly recommend a listen:

[www.bibleproject.com/podcasts/series/sermon-on-the-mount](http://www.bibleproject.com/podcasts/series/sermon-on-the-mount)

What comes through is just what an amazing teacher Jesus was; the way he could connect with the people around him, speak to their experience and push them out of their comfort zone. As his disciples today, we continue to sit at his feet, listen, learn and grow together. So, let's raise a mug to the best teacher ever – and to all those that move us forward in our journey of life and faith.

Fran.

**Emmanuel Benefice Sunday Services 10am at St Paul's:  
This month we start a new sermon series in Matthew's Gospel.  
We begin by exploring Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount.**

7<sup>th</sup> June Holy Communion & Junior Church – Matthew 5:1-16; Isaiah 42:1-9

14<sup>th</sup> June Holy Communion - Matthew 5:17-48; Jeremiah 31:31-34

21<sup>st</sup> June Holy Communion - Matthew 6:1-18; Micah 6:1-8

28<sup>th</sup> June Holy Communion - Matthew 6:19-34; Psalm 104:1-35



**The next Emmanuel@6 gathering will be on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June  
at St Paul's Armitage Bridge 6-7pm.**

**We will continue our journey through Paul's letter to the Ephesians.**

Songs for this month will include:

**10,000 Reasons** (Redman/Myrin); **What An Awesome God** (Smith, Wickham, Mullins); **God So Loved** (We the Kingdome); **Christus Victor – Amen** (Fowler, Getty, Bosworth, Papa); **The God We Love – Nicene Creed** (Robinson, Redman, Thompson); **The Lord is My Salvation** (Myrin, Getty, Nockels); **The Blessing** (Brown, Carnes, Jobe, Furtick)



Life Groups are an opportunity to gather mid-week to share fellowship, explore the Bible and pray together. A number of groups launched last month. If you are interested in joining a life group speak to Fran.



**Thank you to everyone who supported the Christian Aid  
Big Breakfast and Sponsored Walk!**

For all those who cooked and served wonderful breakfast butties and the intrepid team that walked circuits between St Pauls, Berry Brow Methodist church and Netherton Methodist Church a huge thank you – a wonderful time was had by all!

We are still waiting on final figures, but so far together we raised well over £1000 for this great cause. Keith's just giving page remains open for a few more weeks so if you didn't have a chance to give, feel free to use the link below!

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/keith-robinson-2026>



**The Course continues - exploring the BIG Story of the Bible:**  
**Monday Evenings 7-8.30pm at St Pauls on the**  
1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> June & 6<sup>th</sup> July  
**Tuesday Afternoon 12.30-2pm at Berry Brow Methodist Church**  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> June; 7<sup>th</sup> July  
**Speak to Fran if you'd like to know more.**

### **Food for thought from Rev. David**

#### **Images of God**

Debby, Pam and I recently attended a talk by Bishop John Pritchard, one time Bishop of Oxford and he posed some questions to us to show how our image of God had changed over time. We found the exercise so interesting and informative that we thought you might like to try it.

#### **CHILDHOOD**

What was important to you and what gave your life meaning? What was your image of God?

#### **ADOLESCENCE**

What was going on in your life? What was important to you and what gave your life meaning? What was your image of God?

#### **PRESENT DAY**

What is going on in your life? What is important to you and what gives your life meaning? What is your image of God?

#### **EMERGING**

What image of God might be emerging?

***When you look in a mirror:-*** What do you most like about yourself?

What do you most regret?

**Know that you are loved**

***Of all the things in your life:-*** Which would you most like to undo?

What is the happiest thing you've done?

**Know that you are forgiven.**

*If you had only one last message to leave to the people most important to you—what would it be?*

**Know that you are wise**

*If this was the last day of your life — what would you do?*

**Know that you are blessed**

**David**

## **DIARY DATES**

### **39th Art and Craft Exhibition – 2026**

This will be held at St. Paul's Church, Armitage Bridge from Thursday to Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026 and the opening times are:

Thursday and Friday - 2pm to 4pm and 7pm-9pm

Saturday - 10am to 4pm

Refreshments will be available each day including lunches on

Saturday, and admission to the exhibition will be £1.00

Entry forms are now available from Armitage Bridge Church,

Huddersfield Library at the Civic Centre, or alternatively you can visit our Facebook page via @armitagebridgeart

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

In addition, we will be glad of help to set up the Church after the service on 31st May, and of course at the end of the Exhibition, help is also needed to miraculously return the church to a place of worship in time for the following day's service.

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

Every week from 11.45 am, at Berry Brow Methodist Church - volunteers are always welcome. Contact 07507 237311 to find out more and if you are interested in helping out.

### **South Crosland Coffee Mornings**

On the second Saturday of each month at South Crosland Junior School, Moor Lane, Netherton, funds are raised charity.

Our dedicated organisers and contributors of baking raised a generous £216 for Kirkwood Hospice, (10<sup>th</sup> May) on what was a very social morning. £10.00 was also raised for the Newsome Community shop from a small pop-up in school.

Many thanks to all who attended, made donations or contributed in any other way.

All are welcome at the Junior School 10.00am -11.30am. It would be wonderful to see more people there - bring your friends!

The next couple of events are:

13<sup>th</sup> June – Alzheimer's Society

11<sup>th</sup> July – School Funds (the second of two of the year to cover costs)

Note: There will be no coffee morning in August

### **Netherton Methodist Church regular events**

#### **Coffee and Chat**

Every Tuesday from 10.30 – 11.30 am

#### **Coffee Morning**

Last Saturday of every month – 27<sup>th</sup> June this month.

Bacon sandwiches, cake and fellowship.

Everyone welcome

Come and join us for a  
**Spring Concert**

with the



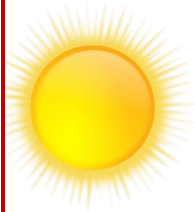
at

**Netherton Methodist Church**

on

**Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 3pm**

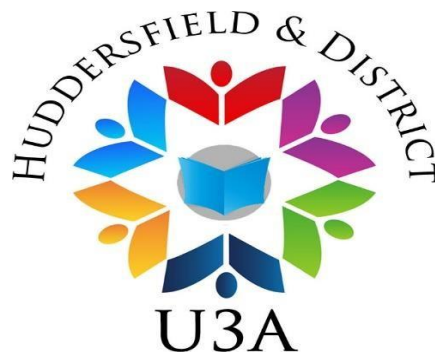
tickets £10 available from Katie 07787 171955



# Summer Concert



featuring



## MIXED BAND

With support from



## Berry Brow Church

On

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30 pm

£8.00 including refreshments

Tickets available from Carol 07740425093 or Astrid

## **Warm Welcome at Berry brow Methodist Church**

This takes place regularly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, this month on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June from 12.30 pm onwards, with quizzes and fellowship.

## **Film Café at Berry Brow Methodist Church**

Film Café is back on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 2.00 pm. Come and enjoy a great film and fellowship.

## **Pop-up Shop dates for 2026**

The 2026 pop-up shop dates are booked and will be held at Newsome Scout Hut on the following Saturdays, 10am-1pm

**22<sup>nd</sup> August**

**7<sup>th</sup> November (Christmas Extravaganza)**

## **EVENT REPORTS**

### **Annual Litter Pick**

On Saturday April 25 this year we held an extremely successful litter-pick in Armitage Bridge and Berry Brow. Picking up litter is something some of us do routinely all year round - with plastic bags and rubber gloves at the ready in our pockets. Our first church litter-pick was in 2023 and a pretty big group of us, including 3 ward councillors, made a big difference, especially to the area behind the Waingate Superstore where hundreds of cider and beer cans had been routinely thrown. 2 big piles of full sacks were left for Kirklees to collect and some sacks of cans taken to people's homes for rinsing, drying and recycling.

In 2024 and 2025, a few of us kept the litter-picking going but this year's team was the biggest yet - 14 of us from very young to pretty elderly - plus our 3 brilliant ward councillors again - Andrew Cooper,

Karen Allison and Sue Lee-Richards. This time we had the pick-power to cover Armitage Bridge as far as the Meltham Road plus Mag Wood and Berry Brow up to School Lane and down to Dodds Royd. Plenty of good conversations were had with local people and many more Waingate cans were taken for recycling at home or to the tip. Kirklees collected our full sacks later in the day. Many thanks for everyone who joined our hardworking team. If anyone has constructive and humane ideas of how to prevent folk dropping litter, and change their behaviour, let us know!! And just to prove the point, there is a photo of just some of the 'goodies' collected at the back of the magazine!!

### **An Appeal from the Junior School:**

At South Crosland C.E.(A) Junior School, we KNOW that reading is an essential life skill and we are committed to enabling our children to become confident lifelong readers. We have a wonderful team of volunteers in school. If you, or someone you know, would like to volunteer to listen to children read, please contact us (Tel 01484 667075) at the earliest opportunity – we look forward to hearing from you. All volunteers in school will receive an enhanced DBS check and be given support for their role.

If you require further information on this rewarding role, speak with Caroline Jones or Helen Pearson who currently listen to readers in school.

### **Stirley Farm Big Blessing**

On Sunday afternoon of 17<sup>th</sup> May the weather was kind to us for a change, as 17 hardy souls donned stout footwear to participate in the outdoor Big Blessing Service at Stirley Farm, just below Castle Hill. Led by Debby the 'congregation' benefitted from a few words

from the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust staff, who manage this delightful amenity. The work they have undertaken for around 15 years is exceptional.

We then meandered through the vegetable garden, herb garden and orchard, stopping regularly for a mix of readings, hymns (acapella of course) and prayers, with various members of the group participating in the readings. And all this with magnificent vistas across the moors to the west (see front page).

At the end of the service we were obliged to have a cuppa and cake (such hardship) in the fabulous recently refurbished barn. Another addition is a new loo! It was even warm enough to consume the provender on the picnic tables outside!

Many thanks to Debby for putting together what was a really lovely event – looking forward to next year...

Graeme Williams

### **Churches Together Charity Shop, Newsome**

After 25 years of its presence in the centre on Newsome, sadly our Charity Shop is to close on the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

About 30 years ago our three churches, St John's Newsome, St Paul's Armitage Bridge and Berry Brow Methodists employed a Community Worker but funding the post through grants was becoming increasingly difficult – so how could we do it? What about a charity shop?

Fortunately, a very convenient property came available for rent in Newsome Village. The Planning Committee saw its opportunity and set the wheels in motion.

After much research, and questioning - e.g. would we have enough volunteers, enough donations, enough customers? But as an act of faith and with some trepidation it was decided to go for it.

We were very blessed in every respect – what a success it has been.

With income generated we were able to employ a Community Worker, make contributions to the three churches involved, give donations to local charities and good causes, as well as being a 'Central Hub' where local families were able to purchase recycled clothes and household items etc. helping to stretch their budget.

So many people have been involved in the project over the years and as a way to 'Thank Them' and to celebrate the success of the shop over the years an afternoon tea was held in the Newsome Centre. It was good to chat to colleagues old and new, some who are still volunteering after 25 years!

Rev. David welcomed everyone, thanking them all for a splendid effort, their loyalty and generosity of their time. He told them to be proud of what we achieved together. Linda, our Shop Manager was presented with a token gift of our appreciation for her hard work, patience, sense of humour, completing staff rotas and ensuring the smooth running of the shop including stepping in when staff members were not able to work in the shop.

So it's the end of an era. It has given us a sense of purpose, we will miss the shop, our friendships, fun and bargains. However a number of Pop Up Shops are still planned, the next being on 30<sup>th</sup> May at 10am in the scout hall, if you miss that one there is another one on 22<sup>nd</sup> August, which isn't too long to wait.

**So a Big Thank You again to Everyone involved.**

Catherine Day

### **A word of thanks...**

A little while ago Carol Waters was presented with a retirement gift, to mark her wonderful service to the church and community. She has put together a few words of thanks to those who contributed. Carol says: I would like to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone for the many kind words, thoughtful messages, cards and the exceedingly generous leaving collection of £250. It was very unexpected and quite overwhelming. Thank you so much. I am thinking of putting the money towards a retreat, now I have time. I am hoping to continue to be of service to the churches and community in a voluntary capacity and work with all of you in the future. God bless you all,  
Carol

### **Armitage Bridge Ringers – News From The Belfry**

Looking after a building and grounds the size and age of St. Pauls', Armitage Bridge is a never ending task, the hidden parts or sections of the building that are not on show are quite often neglected and are not checked regularly.

As ringers and churchgoers we often visit other towers and churches which gives us a good idea of the problems facing them and where accidents or disasters have occurred. Over the last couple of years St. Chad's at Saddleworth and Halifax Minster have both been caught out by not clearing debris off their tower roofs.

As leaves, moss and other detritus gather up it blocks the drain pipes, rainwater gathers on the flat or sloping roof and as water will, it finds its way into places you do not want it to, resulting in expensive damage to the ringing room and in Saddleworth's case the the church nave and transept.

Fortunately for us we have been alerted to this issue and have been able to deal with it. I will be the first to admit that climbing the ladder up to our tower roof is not my idea of fun, luckily for us Daniel

Thomas (Beverley's son and Pam's grandson) has very kindly performed this service for us now twice, clearing the roof and securing the ladder tightly and safely to the framework to the roof access hatch. The opportunity was taken to brush out the chamber above the bells, checking and securing where necessary the metal mesh against the louvres to keep pigeons out.

Carrying out these tasks should keep us safe and dry, satisfying ourselves plus future "quinquennial" requirements.

I think we should all be aware that there are a number of jobs in the church that need to be done, for which, we are either not qualified or physically able to do ourselves. Without the help offered by Daniel and others like him, to perform these tasks for us free of charge, we would struggle to keep our building and grounds in good order.

A generous act of giving, both ourselves and the Diocese of Leeds should be more than grateful about.

Alan and Lorraine

#### Note from the incoming Churchwarden

As part of my induction process, and generally getting to know the church and surrounding environment a bit better, I took the opportunity with Richard Nunn to go up the tower and on to the roof. It's a bit of a tortuous climb up the spiral staircase, but the views at the top are stunning. A couple of photos were taken, (shared below), which give a very different perspective to the normal one at St. Paul's.

Graeme



Thanks to Alan Trebble for giving us access and note also the newly cleared gutters courtesy of Daniel Thomas



A wide range of ages were involved in the Annual Litter Pick!



David making the presentation to Linda at Churches Together afternoon tea.

**Closing date for July 2026 issue: Saturday, 20th June 2026**  
**Copy contact details to Graeme Williams at**

**[williamsgraeme400@gmail.com](mailto:williamsgraeme400@gmail.com) or Tel: 07805875379**

This magazine may be read on-line in full colour. If you would like a copy, please let Graeme have your email address to be included.