



November 2025

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

Feel free to take home





Loading up the produce donated to the Welcome Centre at the Harvest Festival



Goods going into stock at the Welcome Centre

November 2025 Church Services

Sundays:

- 2nd November 10.00 am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
(All Saints Day) 10.00 am Holy Communion (Rev. Fran Nunn)
at Netherton Methodist Church
10.30 am Morning Service (Stuart Merry)
at Berry Brow Methodist Church
- 9th November 10.00 am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
(Remembrance 10.00 am Morning Worship (Mrs Suzanne Smelt)
Sunday) at Netherton Methodist Church
10.30 am Morning Service (Rev. David Kent)
at Berry Brow Methodist Church
- 16th November 10.00 am Lay Worship Team at Armitage Bridge Church
(2nd before 10.00 am Morning Worship (Revd. Angela Dick)
Advent) at Netherton Methodist Church
10.30 am Holy Communion (Rev. Fran Nunn)
at Berry Brow Methodist Church
- 23rd November 10.00 am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
(Christ the King) (Junior Church)
10.00 am Morning Worship (own team)
at Netherton Methodist Church
10.30 am Morning Service (Rev. A Roebuck)
at Berry Brow Methodist Church
- 30th November 10.00 am Joint ecumenical service with Holy Communion
(Advent 1) (Revs Francis & Nunn at Netherton Methodist
Church

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 various people's homes until clocks go forward next Spring. Please contact Rev. Debby for details, Tel: 07762236986 - all welcome.

October 2025 Readings

Sunday 2nd November – Ephesians 1:3-23 and Luke 6:12-31

Sunday 9th November - James 3:17-18 and Matthew 5:1-12

Sunday 16th November – Psalm 98 and Luke 21:5-19

Sunday 23rd November – Colossians 1:3-20 and Luke 23:33-43

Sunday 30th November - Isaiah 2:1-5 and Matthew 24:36-44

CONTACTS

Web page: www.theemmanuelteam.org.uk

Ministers

Priest in Charge :	Revd Frances Nunn Fran.Nunn@leeds.anglican.org	07731 861583
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	Revd Canon Debby Plummer	07762236986
	Revd Canon Angela Dick	01484 982057
Methodist Minister:	Revd Tim Francis tim.francis@methodist.org.uk	01484 703955 07443 338697

Churchwardens

Armitage Bridge:	Pamela Thomas	01484 359270
	Tony Crawshaw	07738 068557

Safeguarding Officers

Armitage Bridge:	Pamela Thomas	01484 359270
Berry Brow:	Carol Waters	cmwaters53@gmail.com
Netherton :	Dawne Day	dawne_day@hotmail.com 07733 137779

A VIEW FROM THE CLERGY – Rev. Frances Nunn



November is such a reflective month – not least around Remembrance Sunday. Each of our graveyards in Newsome, Armitage Bridge and Netherton contain Commonwealth War graves. Others who lost their lives during the world wars are remembered in family graves and on the war memorials across our communities. Behind each name is the story of a son, brother, husband, father and in the case of staff nurse Ada Stanley, a daughter and sister. As part of our service, we read aloud the roll call of their names in honour of their sacrifice. It would also be appropriate at this time to have a look at the book of War Memorial Biographies which has recently been placed in church, thanks to some excellent work undertaken by Steve Barker, David and Pam's son-in-law.

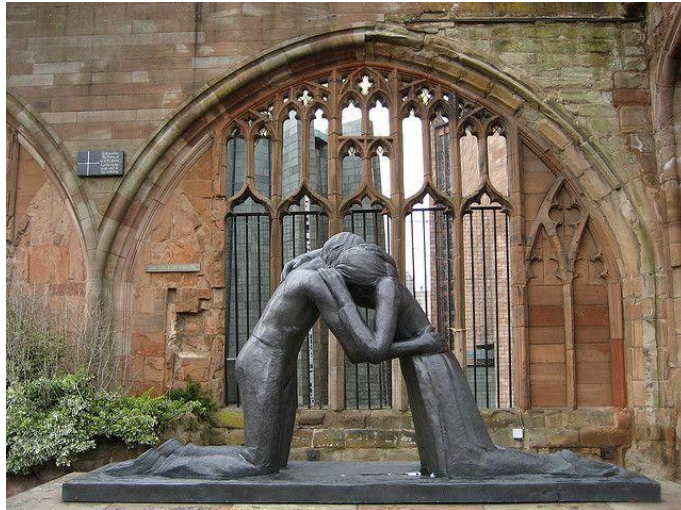
Many people have mixed feelings about Remembrance Sunday – some wear white poppies instead of red as a reference to their commitment to peace. We are acutely aware we still live in a broken world blighted by war and wish it were not so. I am sure all those we recall on Remembrance Sunday would have wished for peace also, would not have wanted to leave their loved ones, but in the face of tyranny and aggression they chose to take a stand.

As he faced the cruelty of the cross, Jesus said to his disciples 'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.' It is a verse often read at Remembrance Services across the

globe and is part of Jesus' final teaching to his disciples around their call to love and unity, even as he knows they will – in only a few short hours – abandon him, betray him, and deny they ever knew him:

'As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: love each other.' John 15:9-17

As Christians, we believe Jesus took all our sin and shame upon himself upon the cross – he became the perfect sacrifice for sin, laying down his life once for all. His was a call to love one another, including our enemies. He is the Prince of Peace whose Kingdom is one of justice and reconciliation. Such reconciliation, such forgiveness takes much courage and humility, depicted beautifully in the Reconciliation Statue by Josefin de Vasconcellos in the ruins of the old Coventry Cathedral destroyed during the Blitz; one of five such statues globally.



Part of the Cathedrals work on reconciliation has been the following liturgy, which I invite you to pray during this season of Remembrance – holding all current conflict and those that work for peace in your prayers:

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
For the hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class
from class,

Creator, forgive.

For the covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not
their own,

Creator, forgive.

For the greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays
waste the earth,

Creator, forgive.

For our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,

Creator, forgive.

For our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless,
the refugee,

Creator, forgive.

For the pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,

Creator, forgive.

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let us be kind to one another, tender-hearted,
forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave us. **Amen**

Bishop Nick's Final Service

2.30pm at Ripon Cathedral on Sunday 23rd November

**To book contact Ripon Cathedral [A Diocesan Farewell to Bishop Nick](#)
[- Ripon Cathedral](#)**



Please continue to pray for Bishop Nick and his wife Linda, as they move towards retirement and for Bishop Toby and his wife Henriette, as he steps up as Acting Bishop, for wisdom, stamina and joy over this season.

Pray for those involved in the process of appointing a new Bishop for the diocese of Leeds.

Almighty God,
you give us bishops to be shepherds of Christ's flock and guardians of
the faith;
to celebrate the sacraments, proclaim the Gospel, and lead your
people in mission.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this Diocese of Leeds
to guide us in this season of loving, living and learning.
By your grace, may your choice for our new bishop be discerned,
that we may receive them with joy; walk with them in faith; and
serve with them in hope.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DIARY DATES

Shoebox appeal 2025 update

As the deadline for receipt of boxes in church approaches (**2nd November**), please note that there are no more boxes available from church, so if you wish to send one we are afraid you must source your own.

Suggestions for contents of the shoeboxes have been made in the two previous editions of Focus, so if you are struggling to think of items to put in, just have a look back at the previous editions. Boxes can be collected, if you let Caroline Jones know. (Tel: 07810 323246)

Warm Welcome at Berry Brow Methodist Church

Weekly from **Tuesday 4th November** from 12.30 pm onwards – bring an extra layer in case the heating isn't quite on!

Film Café at Berry Brow Methodist Church

Saturday 15th November at 2.30pm.

Come along for feel good, fun films, with an interval and light refreshments for all ages.

Contact 07740425093 for further details

'The Bread and Butter Thing

Every week from 11.45 am, at Berry Brow Methodist
Volunteers always welcome.

Christmas Craft Fair

Saturday 15th November , 10.00 – 1.00 pm (prior to the Film Café) at Berry Brow Methodist Church. This is a fundraiser for Berry Brow Carnival. (See advert below)



CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE

SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER
10AM – 1PM

UNIQUE, UNUSUAL &
TRADITIONAL GIFTS AND CARDS

TEA, COFFEE, BACON AND VEGETARIAN SAUSAGE
BUTTIES + HOMEMADE CAKES & TREATS

BERRY BROW CHURCH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE
BIRCH ROAD, BERRY BROW, HUDDERSFIELD, HD4 7LP



TO BOOK A STALL CONTACT : BERRYBROWCARNIVAL@GMAIL.COM

South Crosland Coffee Mornings

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

The October monthly community coffee morning held at South Crosland Junior School, raised £210 for Dementia UK. An additional £10 was raised for the Charity Shop from a select pop-up- shop at the event. Many thanks to all who helped, provided for and supported the morning. We hope to see you at future events. All are welcome!

8th November – Age UK

13th December – Crisis

10th January – School Funds

Beetle Drive and Social – Saturday 22nd November

Tickets for the Beetle Drive are now virtually sold out – just a couple left. Have a word with Graeme if you still want a place. We can start a waiting list if necessary. The quiz team are working hard to top up stocks of wine to share on the day!

Community Charity shop, Newsome

The next pop-up shop will be held at Newsome Scout Hut on Saturday 8th November, 10am-1pm.

This will be another “Christmas Extravaganza”, with all things Christmas – trees, lights, cards, gifts, party clothes, Christmas jumpers, handbags, shoes etc. There will also be books, bric-a-brac, picture frames, jigsaws, games etc on sale, all at bargain prices. The Explorer scouts will once again be providing bacon butties, cakes and tea & coffee. (Have a look at the advert below).

Support your local community and visit the

Together

Christmas Special Pop Up Shop

Newsome Scout Hut

**Saturday
8th November**

10am – 1 pm

Newsome Explorer Scouts raising funds
offering light refreshments including—
bacon butties!

Save the
Environment

Grab some Bargains!

Free Entry

Local churches working together

Contact 07740425093



Christmas Band Concert



Christmas **BAND CONCERT**

with the
**Meltham & Meltham Mills
Band**

Netherton Methodist Church

LIVE MUSIC | RAFFLE | REFRESHMENTS

29 NOVEMBER 2025

3PM - 5PM

**TICKETS - £10 FROM KATIE (07787 171955) OR
PAY ON THE DOOR**



www.facebook.com/NethertonHuddersfield

Family Craft Workshop



Annual Family Christmas Craft Workshop

Saturday 6 December 2025

10am-12.30pm

Lots of exciting Christmas activities for the children and they can take home all they have made!

There will be tea, coffee and home-made biscuits for the adults and juice and biscuits for the children

Come and join us and enjoy a lovely social event for both adults and children

Admission is free but please contact Melody on 07956442001 to register and secure a place.

EVENT REPORTS

Harvest Festival

It seems a while ago now, but we had a real feelgood Harvest Festival Service on Sun. 21st September, led by the lay team and supported by Debbie. Plenty of children were present who helped bring many generous donations of food in support of the Welcome Centre up to the altar. Thank you to all who contributed in terms of the service, donations and of course post-service refreshments. There are a number of photos dotted around the magazine to reflect the day.

'Be Still'

Two simple words, but something most people are particularly bad at and don't practice regularly. Life can be so busy, full of things to do, we may feel guilty if we sit down, even for a short time.

The 'Be Still' course which ran throughout October encouraged us to do just that – find a special comfortable place, free from distractions and give the time to focus on God. Be attentive to him in our daily life, using whatever helped us, for example silence, a verse of scripture, or a mantra.

Each evening started with a tasty meal, prepared and served by Fran. We then moved into church to watch a short video presented by the course leader and a small team of participants, who discussed the topic for that evening.

Then it was our turn, so we formed small groups and got going. The topics for the 5 weeks were:

- Encounter – spending quiet time with God
- Scripture – the significance of scripture in our daily lives
- Wonder – God's Creation – He is in all things

- Hiddenness – the challenges we encounter as we grow faith
- Mission – how our quiet time can help us grow in faith.

The course was very gentle, relaxed and encouraging. If you weren't sure that Bible Study was for you, but felt you'd like to give it a go, this was an ideal way to start, as we listened and learned from each other. None of us are experts, we don't know all the answers, but we are among friends. As we give our time and attention to God we will move along. As we discover more, we will appreciate God in all things.

Thank you to Fran for her generous hospitality and leadership.

Catherine Day

Armitage Bridge Ringers - News From The Belfry

Every year the Armitage Bridge ringers escape from West Yorkshire and go on tour. This year they headed south and west – the roving reporter aka Sally, has produced an account of events. There are also a few photos dotted around to provide a record of the trip.

'Seventeen ringers and Martha converged at a former Youth Hostel in Tyn y Cae, near Brecon, South Wales for the last week of the school summer holidays. The majority of the party had been involved in last year's successful trip to Northern Ireland and knew what to expect, with a few new faces who somewhat intrepidly joined the fray.

This year we took in the stunning views of the Brecon Beacons as we travelled to Swansea, Cardiff and Abergavenny amongst other less well-known towns and villages. We drove on hair-raisingly narrow country lanes, dodged sheep atop mountain roads, all the while scouring cars for the complete alphabet of Welsh numberplates. Who said bellringers don't know how to have a good time? We rang the twelve bells of Llandaff Cathedral in the scorching heat and the ten at

Brecon Cathedral in the pouring rain, enjoying weather typical of the British summertime. Highlights of the ringing were scoring the elusive quarter peal in methods of 'Belfast' at Pontypridd and 'Bristol' at Sketty. More bizarre moments included (on Oliver's recommendation) ringing on knees at a tower where the ropes were exceedingly long, bats flapping round the ringing room after someone left the door ajar and an almost lockout where the tower contact had forgotten about our booking and gone on holiday! It wasn't all ringing. Without a doubt the best bit about these trips is the opportunity to socialise, make friends and get to know each other better. The base was the perfect place to do this with plenty of open spaces both inside and out, enabling us to enjoy barbecues, 's'mores' around the campfire, table tennis and pool – there was even a trampoline for Martha (and maybe a few of the more adventurous adults!) For the more sedate...actually, there was nothing sedate about the competitive jig-sawing taking place in the dining room for the first four nights...

Out of the house, we picnicked every day, explored a multitude of quaint villages, travelled the Brecon Mountain Railway (with a stop off to enjoy the views and have a cheeky ice cream) and spent a very pleasant afternoon and evening on one of the Mumbles beaches, finishing with fish and chips on the pier.

Our final day, and thanks were given to Andrea for organising the ringing and Carole for arranging accommodation and shopping. A great time was had by all and I'm sure when next year rolls around, we will reunite to explore somewhere fresh.'

Have a look at the photos of the tour, just to prove it wasn't all ringing!



And closer to home...

The 150th anniversary of the church building of St. Matthew's, Lightcliffe was celebrated on the 21st of September 2025, St. Matthew's Day. The church was open all day and a service of thanksgiving attended by the Bishop of Huddersfield, Rt Revd Smitha, was held.

Our part in these celebrations involved some church bell ringing which started the week before with 2 Tower Open Days. The public were given the chance to ascend the tower visiting the ringing chamber (from whence the bells are rung "English Full Circle Style"), the clock chamber, the bell chamber (containing the 8 Taylor bells), and a view from the roof.

On the way down there was the opportunity to have a try on the end of a rope (under close supervision). Both days were popular and a success.

The current 8 bells at St. Matthews are relatively light for church bells, but this by no means makes them easy to ring, great care and attention is required to master the smallest bells. Historically church bells are weighed using imperial measurements, Hundredweights (cwt) Quarters (qtrs) and Pounds (lbs). Lightcliffe's smallest bell is 0cwt 3qtrs 19lbs which is about 7st 5lb or in metric 46.75 kilos. The heaviest is 4cwt 1qtr 21lbs about 35st 7lb or 225.50 kilos which is more or less the weight of our smallest bell. Put that against

York Minster tenor of 59cwt 1qtr 23lb or 6659lbs (3020 kilos) you can get some idea of the scale involved. The Lightcliffe bells were cast in 1970 by Taylors of Loughborough using metal from existing bells which were too heavy for the tower causing structural damage. Having booked the bells for a peal attempt 12 months prior to the 150th anniversary and having secured 8 capable ringers for the attempt, things started to fall apart a little. The organiser (Peter Kirby) started having medical problems with his hands and had to replace himself, and the day before both Lorraine and Oliver had heavy colds, which is not ideal preparation when you are expected to ring non-stop for a long time. Not to worry, all was well in the end with the peal successfully completed in 2hrs and 40 minutes. After the service we met up for quiz night at The Sportsman in Huddersfield. All we can say is our ringing that day was better than our quizzing.

Alan and Lorraine

You're having a laugh... a couple of jokes for your amusement...

Why did the vampire need mouthwash?

Because he had bat breath

What do rich people say when they tickle babies?

"Gucci, Gucci, goo."

What do you call a fish with no eyes?

A fsh

(Apologies – ed)

Closing date for December 2025 issue: Thurs. 20th November 2025.

Copy contact details to Graeme Williams at

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



Picnic on tour



...and a trip on the mountain railway!