



October 2025

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

Feel free to take home



The Birthday Boy, before the ceilidh.



October 2025 Church Services

Sundays:	10.00 am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
5 th October	(Praise and Harmony Group)
(Trinity 16)	10.00 am Holy Communion (Rev. Richard Oldroyd) at Netherton Methodist Church
	10.30 am Morning Service (Elaine Nixon) at Berry Brow Methodist Church
12 th October	10.00 am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
(Trinity 17)	10.00 am Harvest Festival (Mr John Mason) at Netherton Methodist Church
	10.30 am Harvest Festival (Rev. Tim Francis) at Berry Brow Methodist Church
19 th October	10.00 am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
(Trinity 18)	10.00 am Morning Worship (Rev. Richard Thompson) at Netherton Methodist Church
	10.30 am Holy Communion (Rev. Fran Nunn) at Berry Brow Methodist Church
26 th October	10.00 am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
(Last of Trinity)	(Junior Church)
	10.00 am Morning Worship (own team) at Netherton Methodist Church
	10.30 am Morning Service (Rev. Debby Plummer) at Berry Brow 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 at St Paul's, Armitage Bridge

Christian Meditation re-commences in church at 5.30 pm
onwards with Rev Debby - all welcome.

October 2025 Readings

Sunday 5th October – Psalm 37: 1-9 and Philippians 1:1-30

Sunday 12th October – Psalm 66: 1-12 and Philippians 2:1-18

Sunday 19th October – Psalm 119: 97-104 and Philippians 3:1-14

Sunday 26th October – Psalm 119: 1-16 and Philippians 3:15-4:9

CONTACTS

Web page: www.theemmanuelteam.org.uk

Ministers

Priest in Charge :	Revd Frances Nunn Fran.Nunn@leeds.anglican.org	07731 861583
Assistant Clergy:	Revd David Kent	01484 324049
	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



October means Autumn is well and truly here as the weather turns chilly and the nights draw in. It has always been one of my favourite times of year – the colours of the leaves turn such beautiful shades of red, orange, bronze and purple, and the sky on a good day can be a brilliant blue against the warmer colours of the season. Even when the blessed warmth of summer is gone, there is still so much to enjoy if we take the time to look, and so much of God's good creation to celebrate even as it begins to hunker down and the earth takes a well-earned rest.

Rest for the earth, and rest for ourselves, are part of God's grand design; in Leviticus 25 God says to Moses 'When you come into the land which I give you, then the land shall keep a sabbath to the LORD. Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather its fruit; but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a sabbath to the LORD.' Like us, the earth needs its rest.

It will be very easy in the coming months to forget our need of sabbath rest, swept up in the busy-ness of Harvest, Remembrance and Advent, let alone the run up to Christmas. But this is a season to stop and reflect, to remember and give thanks. I encourage you to make time for such moments of thanksgiving – be they walking through leaves or curled up with a hot chocolate. However long or short a time you have, it will be time well spent.

Fran.

Sham Family Recipe No.4

Afghan Firni (milk custard desert)

Some real comfort food to enjoy this Autumn!



Ingredients:

- 3 cups of milk (any sort of milk will be ok)
- 3tbs of corn starch
- 3/4 of a cup of sugar
- 1/4 tsp cardamom
- 3-4 saffron threads soaked in 1tblsp of hot water
- 2 tsp of rose water (optional)
- Pistachios and berries for garnish (optional)

Method:

1. Mix the corn starch into 1 cup of the milk and fold until lump-free.
2. Heat 2 cups of milk with the sugar on a medium heat and stir until the sugar dissolves and tiny bubbles form around the edge of the pan. Stir continuously.
3. Next, add the corn starch mixture. Stir constantly on medium-low heat until it thickens. Make sure you scrape the bottom to prevent it from sticking or burning.
4. After that, add the cardamom, saffron, and rose water if desired.
5. The mixture is done when it coats the back of the spoon and doesn't runoff.

6. Next, pour the custard into a dish and cover with cling film. Ensure the film touches the custard to prevent a skin from forming on the top. Leave to cool until firm.

7. Top with pistachios and berries before serving.

DIARY DATES

Shoebox appeal 2025



The Christmas shoebox appeal coordinated by T4U (Teams for You) will be going ahead as normal in November 2025. Preparatory work, led by Judith Powell, is already happening at St James' church, Meltham Mills. I know many of you have contributed to this appeal for many years and are keen to get involved again. Many people from our church also help throughout the year and at the warehouse in November.

So, how can you help? You could fill a shoebox for a child. I have access to plenty of shoeboxes already covered in Christmas wrapping paper, so if you need any to get started, give me a shout. I also have a stock of leaflets with the label to put on the shoebox lid, which I will take to our churches. You could also contribute items ("fillers") for the packing team at St James' to put in shoeboxes.

What to put in your box or provide as fillers (examples)

Practical supplies

- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Hairbrush/comb
- Facecloth and soap
- Stationery/pens/pencils/paper
- Gloves/hats/scarves
- Craft Pack
- Sewing Kit.

A few small gifts

- A soft toy
- A doll
- Ball
- Game or puzzle
- Bubbles
- Musical instrument i.e. harmonica/recorder

St James' church will be open 3-21 November for us to deliver your boxes, so I would be grateful if you could get them to me by **Sunday 2nd November** I can collect them from church or just let me know if you want me to collect from your house. We are always grateful for people to come and help process the filled shoeboxes before they are sent abroad, even for an hour or two. Please ask me if you need more details. Refreshments including lunch are always available!

If you don't feel you can fill a shoebox but would still like to help, you could pay £20 for someone else to fill a shoebox on your behalf or pay £3.50 to help with the ever-increasing transport costs.

Last year, T4U sent over 60,000 shoeboxes to various countries in Eastern Europe, including nearly 3,500 from Meltham. This year, the shoeboxes will be heading to the Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania, and we are hoping to bring "love in a box" to even more needy children.

More details can be found on the
website: <https://teams4u.com/shoebox-appeal/>

Many thanks for your continued support of this appeal.

Caroline Jones (Tel:07810 323246)

Warm Welcome at Berry Brow Methodist Church

Tuesday 14th October and weekly from **Tuesday 4th November**
from 12.30 pm onwards.

Film Café at Berry Brow Methodist Church

Saturday 18th October at 2.00pm

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 (prior to the Film Café) at Berry Brow
Methodist Church. This is a fundraiser for Berry Brow Carnival.

Art Exhibition

Friday 17th – Sunday 19th October at Hall Bower Methodist Church,
with special service led by Rev. Tim Francis at 3.00pm

Simeon Wood in Concert

"Exceptional Musician"

Simeon Wood

"A show filled with music and laughter"

"Very funny and hugely entertaining, a great night out"

Simply Breathtaking

There's something for everyone in this show that promises to enthrall your socks off.

St Paul's Church
Armitage Rd., Armitage Bridge, Huddersfield HD4 7PD
Sunday 26th October @ 2.30pm
Tickets: £12 (Under 16s £5)
Tickets available from Berry Brow Church or St Paul's
Or call Carol 07740 425093, Astrid 01484 537687
Pam 07949 810088
www.simeonwood.co.uk

Simeon is an acclaimed flautist with a huge reputation who has also appeared locally with Honley Ladies Choir

This is a fund-raiser for a new heating system at Berry Brow, so please support the event if you can.

Tickets from Melody Hirst or Carol Waters - £12.00 (£5.00 for 16s & under).

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. In September the terrific sum of £260.00 was achieved for RNLI – an impressive effort. It was a lovely morning. The school hall full of people – regulars and newcomers. A huge thanks to all who supported the event, especially to the cake bakers (and cheese cake maker!)

We hope to see you there for coffee, cake and chat at forthcoming events.

Please note the dates of subsequent coffee mornings and designated charities are:

11th October – Dementia UK

8th November – Age UK

13th December – Crisis

10th January – School funds

BEETLE DRIVE AND SOCIAL – Saturday 22nd November

Back by popular demand (well 3 people thought we should!), and as an antidote to Christmas shopping, we are reprising the Beetle Drive which last took place in April. Since then, the bellringing quiz team have been assiduously squirrelling away bottles of wine which have been won at Berry Brow Liberal Club. These will be shared on the night, but if wine is not your thing, please feel free to bring your own poison. There will probably be a table quiz to have a go at while we gather and eat, before the main event. If the last version was anything to go by it will be a fun family occasion, some people got quite competitive, so the ringers hope you can make it. Details are shown in the advert over the page.

Armitage Bridge
BEETLE DRIVE &
PIE AND PEA SUPPER

(Meat and potato pie and mushy peas

Vegetarian option available)

SATURDAY 22nd NOVEMBER

**6.00pm for the pies, games to follow (until
the wine is done!)**

Cost: £7.50 per head

**Contact Graeme Williams to book your places and order your food
requirements.**

Email: williamsgraeme400@gmail.com

Mobile No: 07805 875379

Family Christmas Craft Workshop



Our annual Family Christmas Craft workshop on

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 07956442001 to register and secure a place.

EVENT REPORTS

Rocks and Reels

Our PCC lay chair, Ian Hales, reached a milestone birthday which he, Helen and family celebrated in style with a ceilidh. Was the church free?... 'Yes!' so a local band, 'Rocks and Reels' were booked, coming recommended by Robin. They certainly didn't disappoint. The music was great with a fabulous selection of dances – some energetic, some less so. The excellent caller gave clear instructions but if we can't work out our left from our right then chaos ensues, particularly in 'Strip the Willow' – much hilarity. There was something for everyone, from Quinn (aged 2) to those of 80+.

A tasty and substantial supper was laid on by Helen and family – it was a wonder anyone could dance afterwards, but dance we did!

Ian was joined by friends from his sporting activities (hockey and cricket), by his extended family and church family. All enjoyed the celebrations. The 'Strictly No Presents' request was largely observed but donations were made in lieu of gifts, raising £500 for the charities closest to Ian's heart, The Welcome Centre Food Bank and Prostate Cancer UK.

Many thanks to **ALL** involved – definitely a birthday to remember. (There are a few photographs of the event dotted around the magazine to give a flavour of the fun and frolics!).

We are very blessed to have such a flexible church space, which is ideal for different styles of both worship and fellowship, that is also so well used by local organisations and the wider community (choirs and social groups of all ages). It is a safe place for quiet reflection and prayer primarily but is also a space for music, noise and laughter.

Hopefully we offer a warm welcome to our many visitors, and pray that they feel God's Holy Spirit in this special place and leave wanting to know more.

Catherine Day

Ed: Look out for a future similar event for church members in the New Year!

Community Charity shop, Newsome

Thank you to everyone who was involved in any way in contributing to the pop-up shop on 6th September, whether as a helper, a customer, or even both! It was a resounding success, with lots of happy customers clutching their bargains, buying raffle tickets, eating bacon butties and chatting to friends and neighbours. After costs, we managed to add £719 to the much-needed Community Shop funds and the Explorer scouts made about £200 on refreshments. So, we were all happy!

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.

Don't forget to go to the Community Coffee Morning at South Crosland Junior School first (10-11.30am), raising funds for Age UK, then come and grab your Christmas bargains!

Caroline Jones

Armitage Bridge Ringers - News From The Belfry

As ringers it is not very often that we get the opportunity to have a leisurely look inside a church where we are visiting to ring. However, on our recent visit to South Wales we had the pleasure to have a look inside St. Meugan's, in Llanfeugan, situated in the middle of nowhere about 5 miles south east of Brecon near to Pencelli.

The church dates back to the 13th century and was reputedly built by Ralph de Mortimer of Pencelli Castle. It sits in a hollow in the Brecon Beacons and is surrounded by ancient yews. As churchyard trees, yews are seen as guardians of the dead, yet as evergreen trees they also symbolise hope and renewal. The yews at Llanfeugan are large imposing trees at the eastern end of the churchyard and are estimated to be over 2,000 years old and probably planted on a sacred site pre-dating Christianity.

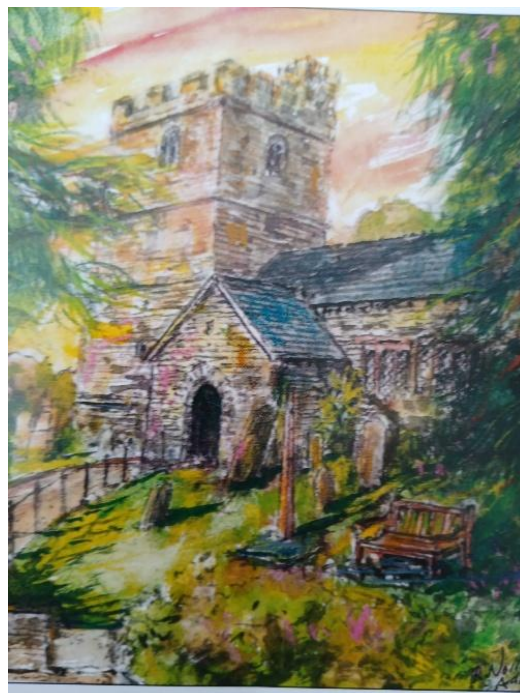
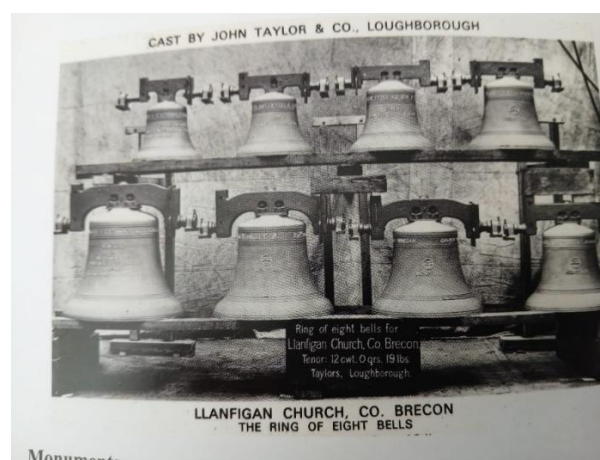
Back in the day a popular pastime in Wales was that of "handball", which was played at St. Meugan's in an area west of the tower. This area was kept free of graves to allow the game to be played. A 19th century parishioner recalls the time when the rector and his cohorts played together until the church bells stopped ringing. They would adjourn the game for the duration of the service and resume it again afterwards. Behind the ball-court was a pit where cock-fights were held, especially on Holy Days - the very idea !!!

The bells themselves are now a superb ring of 8, tenor weighing slightly over 12cwt (600 kilos) and are tuned in G. The original 4 bells were recast with 4 more being added in 1921 by Taylors of Loughborough. They were again restored following a bell fund appeal in 2004. Ringers from all over the world travel to ring at Llanfeugan which have one of the finest rings of 8 bells anywhere.

However, the most fantastic aspect of the tower is that it contains hundreds of bats. We were given special permission to view these bats, with the bells ringing out we had to ascend the tower quietly

and in small groups to observe what were probably common pipistrelle bats hanging upside down within the bell tower. Although "bats in the belfry" it is a well-known saying they are not usually found where bells are rung regularly as they do not like the vibration. In any case this was a sight that none of us present had seen before and was something we will remember for many years to come.

If anyone is interested we do have a booklet in our tower "The Story Of Llanfeugan"



Alan and Lorraine

Over the last few months we have had an occasional poetry feature in the magazine. The latest offering comes from Paul and Anita, who acquired this when at a service on their recent cruise.

Life can seem ungrateful

Life can seem ungrateful, and not always kind.
Life can pull at your heartstrings, and play with your mind.
Life can be blissful, and happy and free.
Life can put beauty, in the things that you see.
Life can place challenges, right at your feet.
Life can make good, of the hardships that we meet.
Life can overwhelm you, and make your head spin.
Life can reward those, determined to win.
Life can be hurtful, and not always fair.
Life can surround you, with people who care.
Life clearly does offer, its ups and its downs.
Life's days can bring you, both smiles and frowns.
Life teaches us to take, the good with the bad.
Life is a mixture, of happy and sad.

So...

Take the life that you have, and give it your best.
Think positive, be happy, let God do the rest.
Take the challenges, that life has laid at your feet.
Take pride and be thankful, for each one you meet.
To yourself give forgiveness, if you stumble and fall.
Take each day that is dealt you, and give it your all.
Take love that you're given, and return it with care.
Have faith that when needed, it will always be there.
Take time to find the beauty, in the things that you see.
Take life's simple pleasures, let them set your heart free.
The idea here is simply, to even the score.
As you are met and faced with, Life's Tug of War. (Unknown author)

Quiz Questions

And to finish off this month's Focus, here are a few brain-teasers – no peeking at the answers now!

1. Chatsworth House in Derbyshire is the seat of which Duke?
2. Which British track and field athlete holds a world record?
3. What is the last verse in the Bible?
4. What is the longest of William Shakespeare's plays?
5. What is the current cost of a colour TV licence?
6. Who is pictured on the reverse of the £50 banknote?
7. What is the longest river in Scotland?
8. Which Monarch preceded Queen Victoria to the British throne?

Closing date for November 2025 issue: Monday 20th October 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

8. William IV

7. The river Tay

6. Alan Turing

5. £174.50

4. Hamlet

3. "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen"

2. Jonathan Edwards – Triple Jump 18.29 metres

1. Duke of Devonshire

Quiz Answers:

Here are a couple more photos from Ian's ceilidh.

