



# The Methodist Church

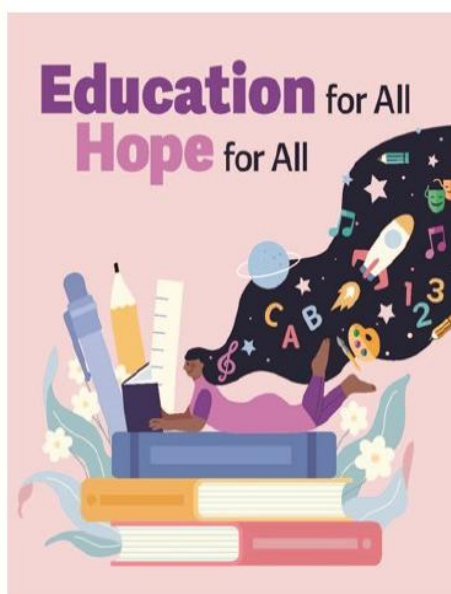


## Circuit Chat

Dear Friends,

Welcome to this edition of the Circuit Chat, which features news from around the Circuit as well as a reminder of our **Holy Week and Easter services** and events. Thank you to everyone who has submitted an article.

During the Easter period we will be collecting donations towards the work of the World Mission Fund of the Methodist Church. Special envelopes will be available in each church. This year's **Easter Offering** focuses on the theme '**Education for All, Hope for All**' and encourages us to consider how education transforms lives and communities, opening God's promise of hope and fullness of life for all people. The gifts received will be dedicated in a joint service ...



**Easter Offering  
Service**

**2pm**

**Tuesday 27th May**

**at Hallcroft**

**Methodist Church**

**Theme:**

**Education for All**

**Hope for All**

Every blessing for the Easter season. Grace and peace, Julie

## Easter services 2025

Corrected Easter Service information – please note there have been some changes from the original data circulated on the preaching plan:

### **Maundy Thursday, 17th April**

**11am at Hallcroft**  
**2.30pm at The Grove**  
**7pm at The Crossing**  
**7pm at North Anston**  
**7pm at South Leverton Parish Church**

### **Good Friday, 18th April**

**10am at South Anston**  
**10.30am Stations of the Cross at Bole**  
**12 noon at Wales Kiveton Co-op**  
**1pm at Clarborough**  
**2pm Storytelling walk around Daneshill Lake, meet in the car park at Daneshill**  
**3pm at North Anston (with Carlton)**  
**7pm Tenebrae at The Grove**

### **Easter Day, 20th April**

**6am Service of Light at Wheatley**  
**7am Easter Breakfast at North Leverton Methodist Church**  
**10am United Communion Service at South Anston (with Wales Kiveton)**  
**10.30am Communion Service at The Crossing**  
**10.30am United Communion Service at North Anston (with Dinnington)**  
**10.30am Communion Service at Clarborough**  
**10.45am United Communion Service at Hallcroft (with The Grove)**  
**11am Communion Service at Carlton**  
**3-3.30pm Easter Family Sing Along followed by Easter Egg Hunt at Hayton**

## News from Wales Kiveton Methodist Church

Our opening message is to say thank you to Angela for being our minister at Wales Kiveton, who signed off with a lovely service on Sunday 23rd February before taking up responsibilities at The Crossing. We welcome Angela back at the end of May to take our service which will also include taking on new members which will make for a special service.

As we move into Lent we also re engage with our Ecumenical friends in meeting together at the 5 churches in rotation with each one leading a study group session. At the same time we welcome Julie Coates who will now be our appointed minister, and Julie attended the first gathering at Blessed William Richardson church where she was warmly greeted by our fellow Christians to share faith and friendship together.

Julie will join us for other Lent study group sessions and host the one held at Wales in early April.

The wonderful Soup and Song monthly events usually in association with singers and performers from Lost Chord, had a slightly different feel at our March event, and what a cracking success it was with not just one person, but TEN! Philip McDonald and the members of the Retford Ukulele Group thoroughly entertained us with their brand of music and singing, with sessions normally finishing at 2pm, but they were still going strong at 2.15pm much to everyone's delight. We look forward to their return in 2026 as all this years slots have been pre- booked (see flyer photo on the next page with all relevant dates should you choose to come and join us and see what it's all about).



Our May event happens to fall on the same day as the VE 80 commemoration (Thursday May 8th), so please come along and share this special occasion with us at Wales Kiveton.

We will also be holding a concert the following evening on Friday 9th May performed by Harthill Village Voices (see photo image flyer below with the

relevant details shown and how to obtain tickets), with proceeds contributing to help funding more Soup and Song events and for the flat roof work urgently needed. Please contact Paul Joynes on 07990 616545 or [1pjoynes@gmail.com](mailto:1pjoynes@gmail.com) for tickets or further information.



**Harthill Village Voices**  
**VE Day 80 Concert**  
**Friday, 9th May 2025**  
**Wales & Kiveton Methodist Church**  
**7:30pm**

Tickets £8  
Doors open at 19:15,  
show starts 19:30.  
Tickets include food!  
Tea/coffee available to purchase and a  
fabulous raffle!  
(please let us know any dietary requirements when booking)

Tickets via Paul Joynes on:  
 [1pjoynes@gmail.com](mailto:1pjoynes@gmail.com)  07990 616545

Fiona or Neill Radford  
or get tickets through any Village Voices member  
[harthillvillagevoices@gmail.com](mailto:harthillvillagevoices@gmail.com)

We will also be holding a coffee morning on the Saturday 10th May from 10.30am to 12.30pm to further celebrate the VE 80 occasion, and dressing up in old combat gear or any of the services style of clothing is to be encouraged for all three events to give it that special feel of authenticity. You are very welcome to all or any event whatever you decide to wear!

The flat roof section within the main church building requires work, and funds close to £5,500 (plus perhaps another £1,000 for internal remedial and redecorating work), but a recent funding application to the two independent councillors for Rotherham Borough has resulted in a pledge for a very generous donation of £2,643. We have also received £300 from fund raising efforts with

Wales Primary School, meaning we are over half way there! Further applications to other possible funding sources are being looked into shortly.

A funding provision specifically allocated to supporting Soup and Song has realised the first payment of £500 from the Co op and the local causes scheme they support (of which Wales Kiveton was successfully chosen). A further payment of £500 will be received in November, but this can be increased substantially by any Co op members wherever they live by selecting us as their chosen good cause. This can be done whether you live local or not to Wales Kiveton by three easy ways which are shown on the attached image explaining how to do it. If technology is not your expertise then a simple free phone call to 0800 068 6727 will enable you to select us. Can I please ask all our church circuit members and friends and their friends if you could please take just a few moments to do this on our behalf, that would be much appreciated and it won't cost you a penny. Maybe share it with other family and friends who are also Co op members and kindly ask them if they could support this very worthwhile community project that benefits many and is all provided for FREE by Wales Kiveton. We give you our thanks in advance

In order to help promote both the Soup and Song and its awareness as referred above, and to bring attention to people about our church, a display table was created and occupied prime position in the local Kiveton Co op recently, with a certain person present to talk to shoppers and members about what we are doing (see photo below). Further dates will be arranged with the manager to repeat this action and increase awareness.

The local Wales Parish Council and Wales Kiveton Village Hall will be jointly holding an Easter event on Good Friday April 18th and we have been asked if we would like to be present with a similar set up as the Co op to further promote Soup and Song, our church and also have donation buckets if anyone would like to help us raise funds for the flat roof repair work. We have gratefully accepted their invitation.

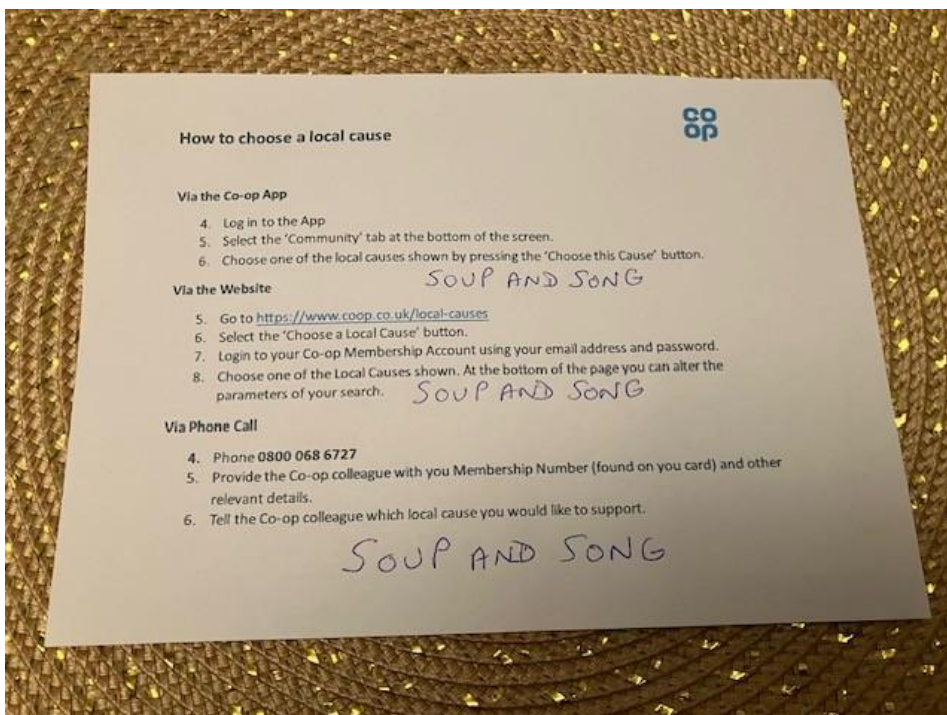
Our close link with Wales Community Theatre Players who hire our church space for rehearsals are only 4 months away from presenting their production of Shrek the Musical at the Montgomery Hall in Sheffield in July. Please see the photo image promoting this family favourite with the necessary details on it.

Thank you for taking the time to read about what the latest updates are and what's happening at Wales Kiveton Methodist Church. Thank you if you can select vote for us with the Co op good cause scheme, and it would be nice to see you at any of our upcoming events.

*Paul Joynes*



# Photos from Wales Kiveton Methodist Church



## An interview with Sue Osborn – Grove Street Methodist



*Tell us a bit about yourself (egs where you live, working life, which Church attend)*

I was born in Barlaston in the house of my grandparents on the Wedgewood estate, needless to say I have a house full of Wedgewood!

Coming from a family of Power Station workers we moved to Retford when I was 7 when my dad took up the position of Mechanical Maintenance Engineer at the newly opened West Burton Power Station, & I have lived in Retford ever since. I married a Retfordian, who also worked at a Power Station.

We have 3 children (1 of whom, also works at a Power Station!) and 6 grandchildren. I feel very blessed in that I get to spend lots of time with them all. Memories are so very important. My mum was a Methodist, so as a way of getting to know people we began attending Grove Street, and 60 years later I'm still there!

From a very early age I wanted to be a teacher & after training at Eaton Hall I began teaching in 1979. At that time there were lots of teachers & not so many jobs so my first teaching post was part-time at Rampton Primary School. I feel very lucky to have been in the profession when I was. I loved my time both in the classroom & then as a Head Teacher, having the responsibility of providing the very best you can for the children and the community has been such an important part of my life. Over my 37 years I have seen so many changes within the education system, but when I began to see things going full circle, I decided it was time for me to leave. I believe teachers need to be driven by a passion and as the head I need to be completely sure of the benefits for all involved & I lost that passion to drive things! I had a wonderful career with many occasions that have made me laugh & even made me cry, & I never wanted to do anything else. It is wonderful & a true blessing to know that you have made a difference to a child, or to a family, or that you have nurtured staff so that they have progressed in their career.

*What's your favourite holiday destination and why?*

This has changed over the years. As a child we used to spend a week every year at Butlins. Spending times with cousins, grandparents. I loved this as being the oldest I had to look after the youngsters! We would go swimming, go to the fair, go to the theatre at night after buying sweets. We would only see our parents for mealtimes & bedtimes – how different the world was then!

When my children were young – Florida was the favourite, again with my parents & sister & her family. Obviously, Disney was the draw & we spent lots of wonderful days there. The weather & the cheap Nike trainers were a bonus! Nowadays we are lucky enough to have a caravan at Mablethorpe & this is my go-to happy place. Walking along the beautiful beach listening to the sea, it really doesn't matter what the weather is like, it resets everything.

*What's your favourite music and book?*

I grew up in a house full of music. Mum listening to the likes of Nat King Cole, Guy Mitchell, Cliff Richard to name a few, whilst Dad listened to lots of Jazz! Dad was Chairman of Retford Male Voice choir so that introduced another type of music into the mix. As a result, I like lots of different types of music! It's a family joke with my grandchildren that I have a song for every occasion!

I love musicals & have been fortunate to see lots over the years. I really enjoyed Colour Purple, Come From Away, Lion King, Hamilton, Chitty, Chitty Bang, Bang & 6 to show the diversity of my taste! I love to sing so depending upon what kind of mood I am in depends on what kind of music I attempt to belt out. I've always enjoyed reading but I've never been a reader of serious books. I like easy reads that don't make you think but make you feel good. I always said this was because I had to read so much during my career. I have recently read all the Richard Osman books & loved them. I did read 'The tattooist of Auschwitz', not my usual kind of book but very powerful read.

*Tell us something about you that we don't know!*

In my Youth Club days I was Miss Sheffield MAYC. I know, hard to believe but it afforded me the opportunity to visit different churches in the Sheffield District, talking about my faith. On a lighter note when Richard (my husband) & I were younger he had a Matchless 350 motorbike which we went everywhere on & I have been known to fall asleep on the back!

*What do you do to relax?*

I'm not very good at this but I do love to read. I enjoy knitting & sewing & making individual cards for my family. I enjoy going to the cinema & theatre. I really enjoy my Tuesday nights singing with Edwardian choir & this is 1 thing I try to do just for me.

*What does being a Christian/going to Church mean to you?*

A lot. I started attending The Grove as a young child & I know that the church isn't the important part of my faith, but it has afforded me the opportunity to come into contact with people who have modelled, supported & strengthened my faith. Over the years I have been involved with, & held roles in so many different areas within the church – Youth Club, Sunday School, Cradle Roll, Mothers & Toddlers,



Steward, Leadership Team, Safeguarding Officer, Star Team, Events planning but they've all given me the opportunity to show my faith through actions.

I love this verse from Proverbs ***'As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart.'***

*What do you find the most difficult things about being a Christian now?*

I don't think its just about being a Christian – it's about having a faith. An act that causes hurt which people then attribute to being in the name of religion can cause so much harm & distrust.

*What would be your message for the World in 10 words or less?*

A film I enjoyed was Pollyanna, a little girl who despite illness always looked for the best & this was a bit of a mantra for me at school 'look for the Pollyanna'. So in 10 words 'always look for the good – it will be there somewhere'

## Update from The Grove

Even before the redevelopment work was completed in 2024 we had a key booking in the diary. One of the local High Schools – The Elizabethan – wanted to use the venue for their musical performance of The Hunchback of Notre Dame.

The planning became a reality at the end of March with four sold out performances, ending with a standing ovation and some very moving speeches on the last night.



One of the school governors sent us this message afterwards:

I just wanted to say a big thank you to you and your team for being fabulous hosts for the Elizabethan Academy production this week. You could not have been more helpful and welcoming, and I know that all of the students, staff and support team loved being there. That sense of belonging was vital because this was the first production off the school site and certainly helped make it a huge success.

Esmeralda said on entering the cathedral "This place is amazing" and the same was said by many members of the audience who were experiencing Grove Street Methodist Church for the first time.

On Mothering Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March, when we were joined in worship by friends from Retford Little Theatre, we dedicated the recently replaced foundation stones at the front of the building, the repaired and replastered staircases and the five panel timeline which tells something of the faith story of The Grove. The latter was funded by a UKSPF Arts and Heritage Grant.



During Lent we have studied the book 'The Sound of Musings' by Retfordian Rev'd Bryony Wood. It has been fascinating looking at how the themes and songs from the film 'The Sound of Music' speak to our faith experience today – and learning a new blessing to the tune of Edelweiss!

*Rev'd Julie Coates*

## **South Anston Methodist news**

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025 our church was the venue for a charity evening of entertainment with Anston Male Voice Choir and special guests "Harmonix" Upper Voice A Capella Choir (which meant they sang unaccompanied.) Both choirs sang a variety of songs culminating in singing together You'll Never Walk Alone before an interval where drinks and biscuits were served in the hall. The raffle was drawn before the second half which once again brought us a wide variety of songs and both choirs ending the concert singing together An American Trilogy which brought a lovely evening to a close.

Over £1000 was raised which will be shared between each choirs chosen charity. Rotherham Hospice being the Anston Male Voice Choir charity and Parkinsons UK, Doncaster Support Group as Harmonix chosen charity 2025.



for

### **Forthcoming Services and Events**

Good Friday Service @ 10am – 18<sup>th</sup> April led by Rev Meg Burton

Easter Day Worship and Holy Communion @ 10am – 20<sup>th</sup> April led by Rev Meg Burton

Tabletop Sale – 10am-2pm (see more info below)

Christian Aid Coffee Morning – 9.30-11.30am – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May

90<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary Concert with Rev Meg Burton & Jutta Sigmund – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July @ 7pm

Anne Duffy

### **South Anston Table top sale**

South Anston Methodist Church is hosting a "Table Top Sale" on Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> May. 10am to 2pm. Anyone having something/anything to sell may book a table for just £10. The Table Top sale will take place in our newly refurbished church. Please contact Pat for further information 01909 562361.

Pat Broskom



## Carlton Methodist news

### CARLTON

#### Operation Purple Pinky

This was briefly mentioned in our report in the last Circuit Chat, but here is a bit more detail.

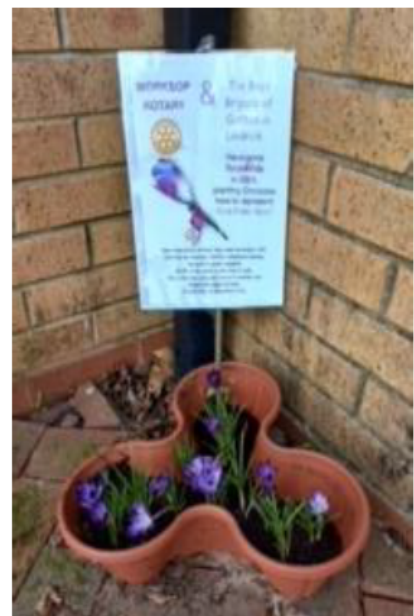
Operation Purple Pinky is an educational project jointly carried out by Rotary International and the Boys' Brigade nationally. Worksop Rotary and 1<sup>st</sup> Carlton-in-Lindrick Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association have been working together.

During October 2024 the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and BBGA members planted bowls of blue and purple bulbs to start the project.

In December, Geoff Lewis from Worksop Rotary visited the youth groups and described how Rotary were attempting to eliminate polio from the world. He described to everyone those parts of the world which are free of the disease and those where work was being done. He also brought along a new supply of crocus bulbs to be planted for Spring 2025. These were planted in four trefoil shaped planters by the BBGA members.

Early in December the bowls of bulbs were handed to members of the church and Warm Welcome coffee morning to see if they would flower, although they were not great! When this happened a visitor, Richard, was present and told us that he had caught polio when he was 4, along with his family, and spent time in an iron lung. He called in to the BBGA Christmas Party and told us all how his mum, despite having no car, daily visited her three children who were being cared for in different hospitals.

The four planters have now been placed on display in the Civic Centre, St John's Church, Cleveland Close Community Centre and Carlton Methodist Church and Centre, together with explanatory information. The photo shows the one at Cleveland Close.



Eddie Croot  
BBGA Captain

## Volunteer Coordinator project completion

You will recall that we were successful last year in securing some funding through Bassetlaw's allocation of UK Shared Prosperity funding to enable us to run and deliver a project at The Crossing and Grove Street. This was a 12 month project that completed in March 2025, part of the project was the recruitment of a part time Volunteer Coordinator and Joe Hicks joined us in March 2024. Joe has recently left us and I thought it would be useful for friends across the Circuit to see the following email which has recently been circulated around the volunteer teams at Grove Street and The Crossing.

### Email to volunteers at The Crossing and The Grove

I think by now most of you will be aware that Joe Hicks will be leaving us at the end of March. Joe joined us in March 2024 on a year's contract to deliver the funded Volunteer coordinator project. Joe has done an excellent job for us and has delivered the project very well and the funder has been very pleased to see us achieve everything we promised to do over the last 12 months, indeed with Joe's hard work we've actually over delivered on some areas.

As well as doing a great job for us Joe also has been a great member of the team and it's been lovely having him around The Crossing and The Grove, we're very sorry to see him go!

Joe leaves with our grateful thanks and best wishes for the future, we do hope to keep seeing him around and we've told him he's always very welcome to pop in at The Grove or The Crossing.

As part of the planning process for Joe finishing the project with us he has sent me the following message to share with everyone:

### Message from Joe

Dear Friends at The Crossing and Grove Street Churches,

As my time with you comes to an end, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt thanks for the kindness, support, and sense of community that I have been so fortunate to experience.

From the very beginning, I have been welcomed with open arms, and it has been a privilege to witness the dedication and generosity that make these churches such special places. Whether through the warm greetings at the welcome desk, the laughter of little ones in the toddler group, the hard work that keeps the café

running, or the care and compassion shown in supporting those in need, every effort has made a difference.

The work you do in both churches is a testament to the strength of true community. From shared meals to moments of reflection, from offering comfort to providing opportunities for connection, your kindness extends far beyond these walls.

I will always carry with me the friendships, memories, and lessons I have gained from my time here. Though I may be moving on, I leave with a deep appreciation for everything you do and the impact you have on so many lives.

Thank you for everything. May your work continue to flourish, and may your kindness continue to touch the hearts of many, as it has mine.

With gratitude and warmest wishes, Joe

## **Future dates for the diary and information**

### **Music at The Crossing**



**Anston Male Voice Choir** Saturday 17th May with the Major Oak Ladies Pop Choir

**Musicality Singers** Friday 27th June.

**Anston Male voice Choir** Saturday 13th September with Simply Swing (Worksop's U3a band)

**Salvation Army** Saturday 18th October - Sunday 19th October International festival

**Musicality Singers** Friday 5th December

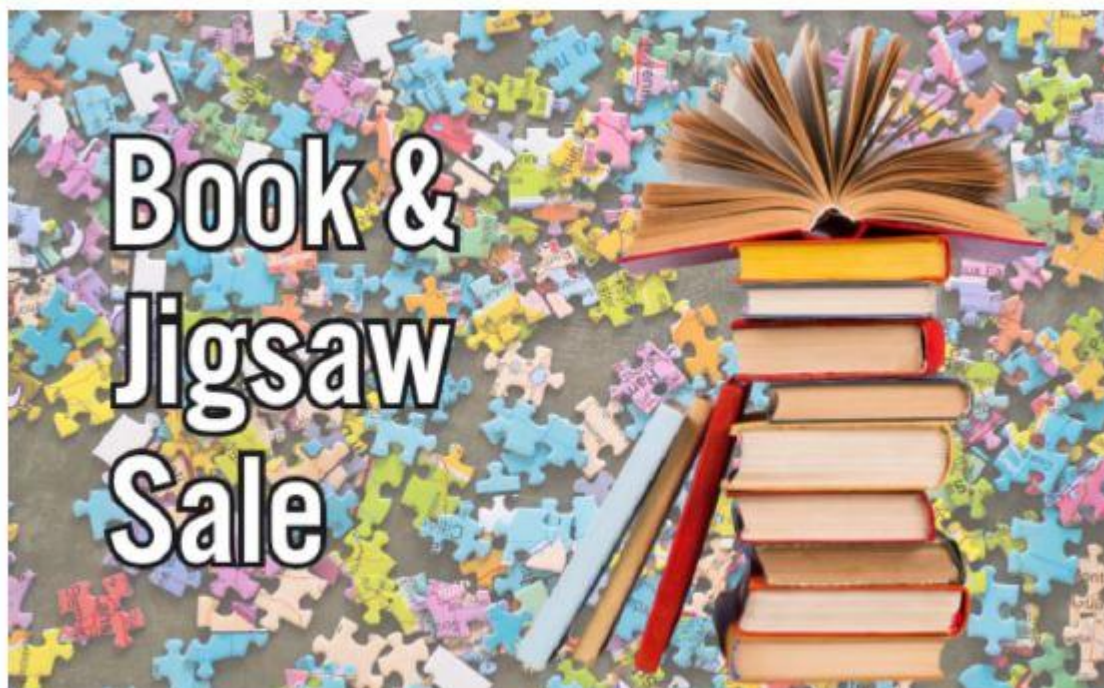
Ticket for all concerts (except Salvation Army) will be available from the choirs themselves (not the Welcome desk). For any enquiries please contact The Crossing Tel: 01909 473375

## **GDPR Annual Checklist**

A brief reminder that the annual GDPR checklist is due for submission by 31 May 2025. Further information and guidance can be found here

<https://www.sheffieldmethodist.org/what-we-do/data-protection.html> or alternatively please contact the District Data Protection Officer Katrin Hackett at [katrin@sheffieldmethodist.org](mailto:katrin@sheffieldmethodist.org). I'm also happy to help if I can.

Richard Dearden



**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

**2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Hallcroft Methodist Church**

**Refreshments available**

**Free admission**

**Proceeds divided between  
the Church &**

**Mel Nathan Education Centre**



*Thank you*

**Thank you once again to everyone who has contributed to the Spring edition of our Circuit Chat Newsletter.**

**The aim is to produce quarterly Circuit Chats, could you please send any articles for the next edition to.....**

**[richard.dearden@trinitycircuit.net](mailto:richard.dearden@trinitycircuit.net)**

**by....30 June 2025**



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### **Rev'd Angela Pothecary- Presbyter**



01909 567371



[angela.pothecary@methodist.org.uk](mailto:angela.pothecary@methodist.org.uk)

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01909 579022



[emilyhoecrook@trinitycircuit.net](mailto:emilyhoecrook@trinitycircuit.net)

### **Rev'd Meg Burton**



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07895553224



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Please note that Rev'd Julie Coates now has pastoral responsibilities at Wales Kiveton Methodist Church in the place of Rev'd Angela Pothecary, who has taken on a leadership role at The Crossing alongside Deacon Emily Hoe-Crook.