

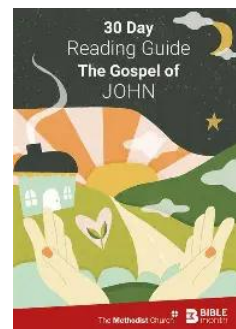
The Methodist Church



Circuit Chat

Dear Friends, welcome to this edition of the Circuit Chat, which features news from around the Circuit. This edition will take us to the end of the Connexional year once more and as we enter the Summer period and perhaps a holiday for some I hope all find some time for rest and relaxation.

I would like to also remind you of the Bible month resources that are available and churches will be following these during August services.



August is usually noted to be a quieter time in church with less meetings giving space before the rush of September. Across the Connexion for ministers who are moving circuits it will be a time of packing and unpacking and settling in and less relaxing.

The new connexional year will bring changes to our staffing team as we say farewell to Rev Meg Burton after three years supporting Carlton and South Anston. As we thank Meg for all her hard work I am sure you join with me in wishing her sometime of relaxation and enjoying the summer. The transition of some of the churches in the circuit and ministerial changes in pastoral charge are complete and ready for the year ahead. As I write this, the Methodist conference is beginning and ordinations will be happening on Sunday 29th June. We pray for those being ordained and also those new probationers who will be entering circuit ministry on the 1st of September fresh out of college, spirit filled and eager to serve their congregations.

Wishing you all a blessed summer, Rev Angela

Updates from The Crossing

As part of Easter celebrations a montage was created to show the various pieces of artwork and craft on display at The Crossing leading up to Easter.

This included many items produced by members of the Church Art Group plus the wooden sculpture built by a member of the church to show the egg broken and the Green Hill and crosses plus the empty tomb. The response was very positive and it was suggested it would be useful to share widely around Circuit friends.

Rev Bob Heathcote



Workshop Model Transport Exhibition

The highly successful Model Transport Exhibition returns to The Crossing on Saturday 13 September 2025 between 10 and 4pm – full details below.

All are welcome with proceeds from the event being raised for church funds.



Workshop Model Transport Exhibition



**Saturday 13 September
10am to 4pm**

*Trains
Trams
Buses
Books
Models*

Refreshments
All day



Adults £5 Children £1

**The Crossing Church and Centre
Newcastle St, Workson S80 2AT
busbob64@gmail.com**

The interview – Peter Farmer

We've recently welcomed Peter to the team as our Community Pioneer Worker based in Dinnington, to help us get to know Peter he kindly agreed to be 'interviewed' for this edition of Circuit Chat!



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

I'm Peter J. Farmer. I live with my wife and three older teenagers in Nottingham and have just started this new role based in Dinnington as a Community Pioneer. My background has been as a Pioneer for the past 25 years – engaged in Pioneer Mission and planting new forms of church of all shapes and sizes!

What's your favourite holiday destination and why?

I love travelling abroad when we are able. When I was younger, I thought I would travel to many 'exotic' places where the landscape and culture were far removed from what I was used to. But I've ended up traveling primarily to European destinations. I particularly like historic cities like Prague.

What's your favourite music and book?

My favourite music is experimental and modern jazz. One of my favourite books is 'Organic Church' about new ways of being church.

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

My Dad was a Hell's Angel whilst my mum was a Sunday School teacher in the local church when I was young. That backdrop has informed most of what I do acting as a bridge between the unchurched who are far-from-God and the traditional settings of the established church!

What do you do to relax?

I enjoy travelling to new places, reading books, going to jazz gigs, eating out and exploring.

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

Being a disciple who aims to follow Jesus and imitate both his ways and his works and in turn make disciples of others

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

Sometimes religious traditions and structures place unnecessary barriers on just doing the simple practices Jesus taught us to do!

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

Make disciples of Jesus where you live, work and play

NB – I'm constantly on the look out for interviewees for future editions, I always learn so much about people, their journey and their faith and it would be great to hear more from friends around the Circuit – if you'd like to volunteer to share your story in the future please drop me a line. Thanks, Richard

South Anston Methodist Church Anniversary Concert

**MUSIC AND READINGS
FOR A SUMMER EVENING**
90TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Meg Burton - Soprano
Jutta Sigmund (Austria) - Organ
and guest readers



South Anston Methodist Church

Church Anniversary Weekend

Saturday 12th July, at 7pm



£7 including refreshments

Tickets available from Meg **07976 597971**
or Anne Duffy **07856 871933**

Wales Kiveton Methodist updates

There have been a few notable things happening at Wales Kiveton since the last circuit newsletter.

The monthly Soup and Song took place on the actual VE 80 day, and it was well celebrated with lots of dress sense of wartime or red white and blue combinations, with songs from that genre.

In June we welcomed a lady singer from Lost Chord to Soup and Song, Nicola Mills who we have been trying to book for months and this was her first visit. She was so worth waiting for with the most wonderful voice, singing a medley from The Sound of Music amongst many others, and she received a standing ovation when she sung an operatic rendition of the Italian opera La Traviata. Richard Dearden also came to see what Soup and Song is all about, so when you next see him be sure to ask him about our event. I'm sure he will recommend it's a must visit to experience and share with us.

Our July date is Thursday 10th, (always the second Thursday in the month from 12noon to 2pm), and we will be welcoming another lady singer called Sally for the first time too, and although her repertoire does not include operatic music, she will certainly entertain you.

The UK widely celebrated and embraced the VE Day 80 anniversary, and Wales Kiveton decided to hold a concert to commemorate this very special historical moment. Harthill Village Voices choir and hand bell ringers treated all to an outstanding evening that had everyone singing along with flags waving and patriotism in abundance. The Church was adorned with bunting, Union Jack flags and VE Day 80 banners, with people dressed for the occasion.

There was not a spare seat to be had, with the last two tickets sold to Jake Richards the local MP! At the interval a tasty ham hock broth and crusty roll with soft drinks was served, and We'll Meet Again rounded off the night along with a rousing national anthem which left us all feeling joyous, euphoric and exhilarated!

Ticket revenue, raffle ticket sales and donations raised an amazing £1147 towards the continuation of our Soup and Song events, which we provide totally free.

A huge thank you to Harthill Village Voices and hand bell ringers.



A coffee and cake morning was held too, themed again on VE Day 80 with some delicious treats on offer.



Philip McDonald took our 156th Church anniversary service, with coffee and cake aplenty.

We also had the pleasure of Louise Gee taking a recent service and she brought us a chocolate cake to share afterwards- it seems that cake is a regular feature with us!



Louise told us she was given the opportunity to meet Royalty and receive Maundy money, which is obviously a special honour to have been bestowed on her. The different coinage was interesting, with some being so much smaller than the 5p piece!

The Maundy money Louise was favoured to receive has special value, and so does the successful grant application submitted recently to Wales Parish Council, as they have awarded us the £2,260 applied for to enable our total of £5,500 to be raised so our Church can have the flat roof repair carried out.

Martin Brooks Roofing contractors completed the work by the end of June, so our next step is to arrange for the internal ceiling remedial work to be completed, followed by full painting of the internal decor. This will be paid for out of our church funds, so should be completed sooner rather than later

Rehearsals twice weekly in the church over the last 5 months by Wales Community Theatre Players will very shortly culminate in the performances of the musical production they have worked so hard on.

Shrek The Musical is to be brought to the Montgomery Hall in Sheffield, with shows taking place from Thursday 17th to Sunday 20th July, which will also include some matinee performances.

Everyone has seen Shrek on television, but now is your chance to see Shrek The Musical live on stage at the theatre.



Ticket sale enquiries
Box Office on 0114 249 6000
www.walesctp.com

Don't miss it, get your tickets now and enjoy a great show.

Paul Joynes

Grove Street Methodist updates

News from The Grove

The 24th of May is a special date in the Methodist Church; it marks the anniversary of the occasion in 1738 when John Wesley felt his 'heart strangely warmed' and knew that he was loved and saved by God.

On that date this year members at The Grove welcomed the Thurnscoe Harmonic Male Voice Choir and the audience who had come to share in a range of music including 'Send in the clowns', 'Nessun Dorma', 'When the saints go marching in', 'Unchained melody', 'Bring him home' and 'You'll never walk alone'.

This concert had been arranged in memory of another John – John Carter who died a year ago on 10th May 2024 – and it was the hope that filling the building with music would warm the hearts of all those in attendance. It was wonderful to hear the choir sing, accompanied by Stephen Carey who also played a couple of solo pieces on the organ.



Before and after the concert, images of John were projected onto the screens. The photographs shown included pictures of him playing the organ in the church, accompanying William Lloyd Weber who visited The Grove in 1980, enjoying meals as part of the church family and playing the keyboard for the church music group. Members of John's family were present for this tribute performance.

Memories of John were woven into the concert. We paid tribute to his musical achievements:

- John was the organist at Hallcroft Methodist Church from its opening in 1959 until 1971 when he became organist and choirmaster at Grove Street Methodist Church.
- He accompanied the Retford Male Voice Choir 1968-1983; during this time there were two visits to Northern Ireland and one to Germany.
- In 1983 John formed and conducted the Retford Choral Society (now Cantate Choir).
- He conducted performances of Handel's Messiah with massed choirs.
- During the 1980's he was the accompanist for Retford Ladies Choir; and in the early 2000's John was the pianist for the Bel Canto Singers.

Many members from around the Circuit will remember his involvement, first as accompanist and then conductor, with the Trinity Circuit Choristers prior to covid.

In both 1970 and 1971 John played the organ at Westminster Central Hall as part of the Methodist Association of Youth Clubs (MAYC) London Weekend. Correspondence from the time shows that he was paid £3 and 3 shillings for providing this service in 1970. By 1971 the fee had been decimalised, so he received £3 and 15 pence.



One of his most precious memories came from 1970 when he was presented to HRH Princess Anne at the 25th Anniversary MAYC London Weekend, when she was the guest of honour at the lunch he attended.

The highlight of our concert came when the audience joined in with the singing of 'Guide me O thou great Jehovah' to Cwm Rhonda – this was a genuine tribute to someone who always wanted The Grove to resound with praise to God.

Members at The Grove are delighted that the renovated building is now being used in many ways. During May and June, we hosted a range of events including:

- The Retford Arts Society's Exhibition.
- Musical entertainment during Charter Day and Make Music Day.
- The Historical Society's guest speaker 'The Yorkshire Auctioneer' Angus Ashworth.
- A Communi-TEA as part of our Wellbeing/Mental Health Awareness Week.
- The Rotary Club's children's art exhibition on the theme of Peace, with a presentation evening when the church was filled with families who had come to view the work and see their children receive awards.
- Several events held as part of the Retford Book Festival with authors and musicians.

In 2020, we planned a special service for the 40th anniversary of the ordination that was held at Grove Street Methodist Church on 1st July 1980. One of the ordinands from that time was Rev'd Dr Inderjit Bhogal OBE, who went on to be the founder and president of the City of Sanctuary and work for a culture of welcome and hospitality for all.

Due to covid restrictions that service was unable to go ahead – though some of you may remember that Inderjit did record a message for our online services.

On Sunday 22nd June we were able to gather for a 45th anniversary celebration. Although many of those ordained at the time were unable to be with us physically, due to age or ill health, many joined us online as we streamed the service which can still be viewed on our YouTube page

<https://www.youtube.com/@TheGroveRetford/streams>

Here is a photo of Inderjit with a few other faces that you may recognise ...



Rev'd Julie Coates

A message from Alan Laurie, member at Grove Street Methodist

The last month or so has been horrendous. A week in the Royal Hallamshire having a subdural hematoma drained after a fall down a flight of stair, two visits to A and E at Bassetlaw followed by a 3am transfer back to Hallamshire for follow-up observations.

I was sustained throughout this by visits from my niece who lives in Glasgow but who just happened to be on holiday in Staffordshire, by my partners daughters from Leicester and Chester, by cards, phone calls and prayers from church members, by Julie and Neville. At times the phone never seemed to stop ringing.

This support and prayers from church members was impressive, raising my spirits and helping me through a very difficult and dark time. A grateful thank you to you all. I felt the Lord and you with me at all times

My duties as church treasurer were taken up by others. Thank you in what I know is a never ending ask.

Alan

Grove St Flower Festival 5, 6 and 7 July

Please see full information below regarding the Grove Flower Festival which is taking place on the 5th 6th and 7th July. As well as the Festival which runs over 3 days there's a concert with The Allegra Voice Choir and 3 Piece Suite on Saturday 5 July. Concert tickets (at £10) available on the door. For further information please contact Sue Rich suerich1646@gmail.com

The Grove Methodist Church and Centre

will be open
for our **Flower Festival**

Theme: Around the World in 80 Days

10am-5pm
Saturday 5th, Sunday 6th
and Monday 7th July

Free admission
Refreshments available



Grove Street Methodist Church Retford



The Allegra Voice Choir & 3 Piece Suite
Saturday 5th July 2025
7.30pm

Tickets £10 to include Refreshments
Available on the door or from Sue Rich
Barbara Wilson or
Saturday Coffee morning 10 - 12





Action For Children

Diana and Geoff Carswell hosted an 'at home' event on Wednesday 25 June 2025 – we were blessed with good weather and many visitors and a wonderful total was raised for Action For Children of £900.

Thanks to all who supported the event and to all the hard workers who helped to make this such a successful day. Our grateful thanks for Diana and Geoff.

Mission to Seafarers

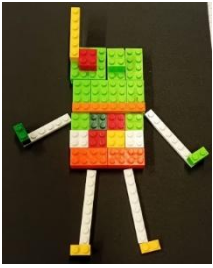


Thanks to all the knitters for the hats for Seafarers. This year I've posted off 66 hats and always receive a grateful acknowledgement from the Mission. Please keep up the good work!

Doris Maw.

Carlton in Lindrick Methodist updates

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association (Spring Term)



We began the term with chocolate themed activities - a chocolate wrapper hunt, a chocolate bar quiz, and a Smartie prayer. Next, we had a Lego evening, which included a Lego Binary Challenge and Lego Mosaics. In January we had a Family Night at Carlton Youth Centre using their facilities and having relay races in the barn. The next week we completed making Calendar Cubes and then before half-term we needed to use three laptops to have a Coral Adventure and make Ocean Craft.

We watched videos about some of Jesus' miracles – Bartimaeus, walking on water and the raising of Lazarus.

On the Thursday of the half-term holiday some of us joined the Family Film and Craft Afternoon at the Church & Centre.

For the next few weeks we considered Bible Heros such as Daniel and David, and the Armour of God as we followed a Gladiators theme. We drew large pictures of the fallen Goliath and sang 'Only a boy called David'. We met the Gladiators, had Gladiator Challenges and made Gladiator Mosaics. This theme was split by a visit again to the CYC on Pancake Day when Rev Alan explained why we have Pancake Day at the beginning of Lent. The 'Gladiators' had a Tug of War in the barn.

On Saturday 29th March we had a fund-raising event for BB&GA funds. This was a Mothering Sunday Celebration and Lunch. During the previous weeks we made crafts and cards for Mother's Day and Easter. Some were taken home, and many were sold at the event. On the last meeting before Easter, we watched the 'Easter Story' and made Stained Glass Crosses, which made up part of the Easter display in the windows of the Church & Centre.



*Items we made for our
Mothering Sunday Celebration*

After two weeks holiday, we held our annual BB&GA sponsored walk, which this year went around Wallingwells. It was followed by a baked potato lunch. This has so far raised over £200 for BB&GA funds.



The Easter Celebrations concluded with a joint event with the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, when many Easter and Spring Crafts were made, following Rev Meg's story of the hen who sacrificed her life in a farmyard fire in order to save her brood's lives.



Eddie Croot (Captain)

Window Displays

Fr Barry from the Good Shepherd Church came up with the idea of using the first window of our building, nearest the bus stop, as a way of advertising Christian Festivals or some of our events etc. So far he has done Holy Week, VE Day 80 commemorations, and Pentecost.



VE Day 80 Commemorations

The church was decorated with bunting, our previously mentioned window display, and flags were placed in all the remaining windows. Our first event was Sunday worship on 4th May, when we celebrated our Church Anniversary and also marked the 80th anniversary of VE Day. At the beginning we set up a simple drum-head altar, and the service included stories of military personnel and civilians during the war.



The BB&GA made lamps to go in the windows, using clear tumblers with silhouettes of soldiers in them, which were placed over battery operated tealights. These were lit on the evening of 8th May to tie in with beacons being lit nationwide.

On Monday 12th over 40 people enjoyed a VE Day 80 concert by 'Nostalgia'. There were songs from the era with accompanying film clips, and plenty of audience participation and flag-waving.

We began with a quiz, and during the interval Afternoon Tea was served. A raffle raised £44 for Help for Heroes. The Parish Council had loaned us two 8' tall soldier silhouettes which formed part of the concert backdrop.



Family Film and Craft Afternoons

In each half-term holiday we aim to have one of these afternoons. Numbers have varied and we are learning as we go! The last one was the best one yet. We had the largest turn out so far, got through the most pizzas and pop-corn, and generally had a good time watching Wallace and Gromit films, making Gromit faces from slices of brioche bread and chocolate spread, plus themed button badges.



Helen Hindmarch

Important dates – Sheffield Methodist District

There's some important events happening within the District over the next couple of months, please see further information below.

CHAIR'S FAREWELL

You are invited to attend Gill Newton's farewell service at **Greenhill Methodist Church, School Lane, Sheffield**, at **3pm on Sunday 20th July 2025**.
Preacher will be Deacon Kerry Scarlett, ex Vice President of the Methodist Conference.



CHAIR'S WELCOME

You are invited to attend Vicky Atkin's welcome service at **Central Methodist Church, Saltergate, Chesterfield** at **3pm on Sunday 31st August 2025**.
Preacher will be Revd. Barry Lotz.



Chair's Leaving Service - Sunday 20 July at 3pm

All are welcome as we say goodbye to the Revd Gill Newton at Greenhill Methodist Church, Sheffield. The service will be followed by light refreshments.

If you would like to contribute towards her leaving gift, you can do so online <https://app.collectionpot.com/pot/3358452>

You can also leave a message for her, which we will print out for her to read later. This collection will close on Wednesday 9 July.

**Thank you once again to everyone who has
contributed to the Summer 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

by....30 September 2025



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