

Connections



Ashbourne Methodist Circuit
Magazine May 2022

Letter from the Minister

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Dear Friends,

“The Cornerstone”

In the late 1990's, our Church had a vision of opening The Cornerstone building to serve refreshments to the community and to share God's love. Since opening in May 1998, we have welcomed thousands of people – locals and visitors alike. Many firm friendships have been made, and we have been able to offer lots of people volunteering opportunities.



The Cornerstone Coffee Shop has exercised a real ministry as part of the Church's outreach. As a Church we are very grateful for the time, dedication and commitment made by so many people over the past 24 years. It has been an incredible journey.

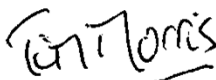
As part of a team, they have given hours of time organising, cleaning, shopping, book-keeping, baking, preparing food and drinks, washing tea towels, aprons and much, much more. A wonderful sense of friendship has been established with customers and staff alike.

The Cornerstone Coffee Shop was the first place Alison and I visited when we came to Ashbourne in November 2006 to look at the Ashbourne appointment as part of Stationing. The warmth of the welcome, the care of those being served and the dedication of those serving was tangible then, and it is today.

So on behalf of the whole Church – thank you! Thank you for all The Cornerstone Coffee Shop has meant to those who have worked there and received hospitality and welcome there.

As The Cornerstone Coffee Shop develops in new ways in the coming months, I know it will be built upon the foundation of prayer, love and service that have underpinned the work over the past 24 years. Details of the new format and work of the Coffee Shop are elsewhere in this edition of Connections, and I am sure we will offer support and prayer to Paul and Bethan as they develop and expand our work in the near future.

Your Minister and friend,



Ashbourne Circuit Family News

Congratulations to Margaret and David Heaton on their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 13 May. Also to Gwenda Alcock who will be 90 on 12 May.

We continue to remember, and pray for, the family and friends of Paul Haslam and Geoff Buckley, as they mourn their loss. Others in the church continue to feel the effects of their bereavements.

Betty Hadley has moved permanently to a care home in Rugby. We hope she will soon settle there.

Many continue to wait for tests, procedures and surgery, and need patience to deal with their long waits. As you read this, please pray for those you know in this position. We pray for Kerry Hall, who will have surgery at some point. Wilf Ward, who used to worship at Stanton chapel, is still receiving cancer treatment. Helen Flinn, Barbara Hollands and Cherrie Broadhurst would value prayer. Some of our members provide 24/7 care for those who live with them, and elderly relatives who live alone for whom they are the first port of call for help. This can be an exhausting role at any age. Again we will know of these people and these carers need in turn a lot of support. With the removal of Covid restrictions, we pray for those who feel unable to mix and are isolated.

Please pray for Tim, Alison, Samuel and Jacob as they prepare for their move to Bingham and for Rev Nicola Briggs as she prepares to move here.

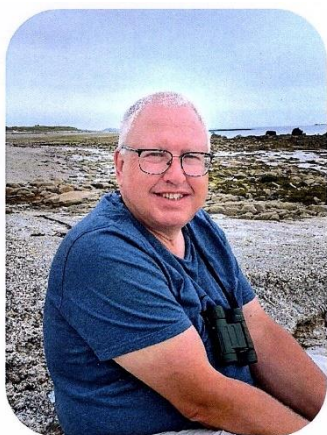
Many of our young people have GCSE's, A levels, University finals this month and next. On 16 May, Joy Mallard will be presented with her Gold Duke of Edinburgh award in the garden of Buckingham Palace.

Many vacancies for jobs in the church, big and small, still remain. Please pray as to whether you might be able to fill any of these roles. Please speak to Robert Sales or Stuart Green.

If I have overlooked anybody I sincerely apologise. If people have news, good or bad to share, please let me know so it can be included in the future.

Daphne Dyster 13.4.2022
(on behalf of Wendy Haslam, Pastoral Secretary)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs Ch 3, v 5-6.



Paul Haslam

1962-2022

A tribute by Robert Sales

On 28th March I had the honour of taking part in the service of thanksgiving for Paul. Whilst personally, and for all present, it was a time of sadness, in realising what we had lost in Paul's passing, it was also a time of thanking God for the privilege of having known Paul in our lives.

In brief, Paul had a strong Christian faith and devoted much of his time supporting the fellowship here in Ashbourne. He gave his time generously: he was a steward, then became Senior Steward, a Pastoral Visitor, and looked after the finances of the church very competently as Treasurer for many years.

Paul, I believe, was absolutely "one of the good guys", and there were many aspects to him. Many will remember Paul as a very convivial host, often sharing his love of red wine with guests. Paul had a quick smile and a ready chuckle, to accompany his dry sense of humour. Whilst Paul had many achievements, he didn't take himself seriously, but warmly encouraged those around him.

Paul was also a great family man. He and Wendy were a fantastic team doing so much for those around them. They also brought two boys into the world, encouraged and nurtured them into two fine young men. They were most pleased when Edward married and they were joined in their family by a lovely daughter in law, Heather.

I believe the following passage in Micah 6 in the Message sums up well how Paul lived:

"But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: do what is fair and just to your neighbour, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don't take yourself too seriously— take God seriously."



Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid is a charity that works to support sustainable development, eradicate poverty, support civil society and provide disaster relief around the world. For many years Ashbourne Methodist Church has worked with our friends at other churches in the town to 'give, act, pray' with Christian Aid during Christian Aid week and during the Tissington Well Dressings. The last two years have been a little different, where we've tried new approaches to our fundraising, so this year we'll be taking the best ideas from past and present! Here's how you can get involved:

- Can you help to deliver donation envelopes to the houses of Ashbourne during Christian Aid week which is 15th–21st May. We aim to deliver an envelope to every house this year, including the new estates, to enable everyone to give if they would like to.
- Can you offer your letterbox as a drop-off point for envelopes? You'll get a small poster to display by your front door, and we'll put a sticker on each envelope to tell people where their local drop-off point is. We aim to have one letterbox for every small area. We'll collect the envelopes from you at the end of the week for counting. If you live in a village and would like to deliver around your village, please let us know.
- There will be envelopes available in Church for personal donations on Sunday 15th and Sunday 22nd May or you can give online at www.tinyurl.com/AshCA22
- Can you bake something for the cake stall at Tissington Well Dressings. This is from 26th–29th May. We normally sell about 800 pieces of cake over the four day period, so we need lots of bakers! Please let us know what day you can bake for and how many portions, and we'll let you know the drop-off location in Ashbourne.
- Can you help to sell the cakes in Tissington? We have 2 hour slots available between 10am and 4pm on each of the 4 days. It's a lovely event and before/after you might like to walk around the village and see the wells.
- Can you pray for the work of Christian Aid? We ask for your prayers for our local fundraising, and for the work of Christian Aid as they support the most vulnerable people and campaign for a fairer world.

Please get in touch with Catherine Green (07531 655998, catherine@greenofashbourne.plus.com) if you can help.

HUGH BOURNE

250th Anniversary

Hugh Bourne, one of the founders of Primitive Methodism, was born on 3rd April 1772 at Ford Hayes Farm in North Staffordshire.

Therefore 2022 is being commemorated as the 250th anniversary of the birth of this remarkable man.

Hugh remained based in North Staffordshire for his ministerial activity, whereas William Clowes, the other founder of Primitive Methodism, based himself in Hull.



For us in the Ashbourne Circuit, Bourne was especially involved with the Weaver villages of Ramsor, Wootton and Ellastone. It was at Wootton that he met, was impressed with, and later cooperated with Elizabeth Evans, the Wesleyan lady preacher characterised in George Eliot's novel 'Adam Bede.'

There are a number of events taking place:

- The Cloud chapel at Rushton Spencer (the oldest Primitive Methodist chapel in continuous use) is open on Sundays 8th, 15th, and 22nd May from 1-4 pm.
- A Hugh Bourne walk is being organised on the afternoon of Saturday 7th May from the Cloud, to reflect the labours of Hugh Bourne in that neighbourhood.
- There is a two day conference organised at Mow Cop for Friday and Saturday 27th and 28th May, with a Camp Meeting at Mow Cop on the afternoon Sunday 29th May.

The Museum of Primitive Methodism at Englesea Brook (an idyllic rural setting) is open from April - see website for details:

<https://engleseabrook.org.uk>.

On Saturdays, 25th June, 16th July, 10th September, 14th October, Sue and I will be the volunteers ensuring the museum will be open. We would be happy to welcome anyone from the circuit.

David Leese

Ashbourne Methodist Circuit Weekend Away

Friday 18th to Sunday 20th March 2022

The Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick was the venue for our Circuit's weekend away. Forty two folks gathered together for a weekend of worship, prayer, teaching, discussions, leisure activities, fun and fellowship. All these events were sandwiched between delicious meals and an endless supply of tea and coffee.

The weekend was due to be led by Nigel Pimlott – BUT – just four hours before the weekend was due to begin, Elizabeth Hurfurt received a telephone call informing her that Nigel was ill and unable to come!!!

DON'T PANIC was the approach taken by Elizabeth – telephone calls were made to a few gifted people who were coming to the weekend and amazingly the weekend carried on as if this was the original plan!

Robert Sales kicked off Friday evening with discussions centred on what we can give, how can we give generously and how will God bless us as we give?

Our first session on Saturday was led by Helen Walker, who talked about 'coming home to God' based on Matthew 18: 12-13. We talked about what 'home' means to us all and how God longs for us to 'come home' - nearer to Him. We then discussed things that had affected our relationship with God and with each other during lockdown and more recently.

Jeff Ffoulkes led the next session – encouraging us to think about what 'Love in Action' means when meeting the needs of other people.

Saturday afternoon was free time with activities including walks and visits to Crich and Hardwick Hall. The wonderful sunny weather added to the enjoyment of the afternoon.

Saturday evening was a further time to socialise and take part in a general knowledge quiz. Interval entertainment was provided by Jonathan playing some wonderful sea shanties on his accordion – just marvellous!

Sunday morning offered a variety of workshops – giving folks an opportunity to try something new. Workshops included: experiencing Muddy Church, singing or playing a musical instrument, a drama group and book club.

The workshops were followed by a session led by Tim Dutton, who spoke about the Body of Christ – we all need to work together in unity, each of us bringing individual gifts and talents.

Following a tasty Sunday lunch, the weekend was brought to a close with worship and Holy Communion led by Rev Tim.

Summing up – a wonderful weekend enjoyed by everyone. After a difficult two years of coping with the pandemic, what a joy it was to catch up and be together. Special thanks go to everyone who helped in any way to organise this event.

See photo on back page!

Cath Patterson

TRAIDCRAFT - Thank you!

In 2005 the Ashbourne Churches Together Traidcraft Group was formed to promote and sell Traidcraft products in the area. Over the years, a number of people have been involved selling products in various churches and community groups and many people have been our customers, both buying from us occasionally or regularly.

Back in 2005, we decided that the small profits we received from our sales should be donated annually to Traidcraft Exchange, the charitable arm of Traidcraft which works to support Fairtrade producers and provides training and expertise to those who are working towards gaining Fairtrade status. We made our first donation to Traidcraft Exchange in January 2007, and this week I have sent off our donation for this financial year. It was a relatively small one (£250) as our sales and our opportunities to sell at coffee mornings and so on have been hampered by the pandemic, but it took the the total of our donations to Traidcraft Exchange so far to £10,000! This achievement is worth celebrating!

So a very big 'thank you' to everyone who has bought something from our Traidcraft group over the years. Your purchase was important and made a difference to someone's life.

We are still selling Traidcraft goods. Would you like to hold a stall in your village or group? I can provide you with stock or come along to sell for you. I am happy to place orders for you and deliver to you, and I have the latest catalogues available. Please get in touch if you would like to know more.

Clare Sales 342321 gatefarm10@btinternet.com

REFLECTIONS

It has been quite an eventful few days - over the last week and weekend in March. Two funerals of friends from my Ashbourne church, Geoff and Paul, then losing my dear friend Kath from Mayfield Parish Church added to the sorrow of the time.

A rare highlight was that Saturday (26th), Ann and I attended the reception of my nephew, Matt, and his wife Laura, at Styal Lodge in Cheshire. The wedding was last year in March, but the reception had been held over due to the Covid regulations. We had a lovely time, and the unseasonal weather helped the day no end, as we could gather in the open air, prior to the meal.

On the way home, I said to Ann, "All we needed was a baptism that Sunday and a full church ceremonial set would have been achieved."

Once home, we learned that the biker who died in the terrible accident on the Ashbourne bypass was known to my sister, Jayne, Matt's mother. It seemed they had just sorted out a house on the Derbyshire/ Nottinghamshire border and were about to settle in until this tragic loss curtailed their plans.

So you can see that, as I said at the beginning, it has been quite an eventful few days. Not only us personally, but the weather too, having had a spell of lovely warm weather, and almost thinking it was May/June, till one looked at the trees and hedgerow which are still denuded of leaves - and then, within a day or so, wading through a blizzard or two as we fed the animals on the farm!

Life, both personal and of nature, has thrown a lot this way recently, but I suppose it's just life - the life we lead, the path we tread. Its ups, and its downs, it's a winding road and an ever-changing view. In all of it, whatever it throws at me, I thank God for my faith, the faith that faces the loss of dear friends, the faith that helps me in the warmth of the sun and in the blizzard too!

I hope that you have that faith, for whatever the world has in store for you, that faith in God will take you through it and keep you on His path .

God Bless!

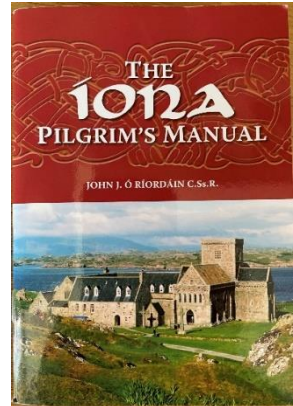
Tom Parkinson.



Iona

This beautiful island is a special place in the Inner Hebrides. It is a place of great Christian heritage and contemporary mission which has recently been visited by Ruth Mallard, and also by Stephanie and Geof Cole, as part of a local group.

Other readers have visited in the past (including the editors!) and others are planning to go this year.



Ruth and Stephanie both give their reflections on their visit...

Ruth

We can have pilgrimages at home or away just by having a focus and taking time out from routine. We were fortunate to be able to have ours in this lovely location, staying at Bishop's House. The view from my little bedroom window across the sea to Mull was wonderful in itself!

Our time was very flexible - we had opportunities to walk and visit sites, including Staffa, with its huge basalt columns like the Giant's Causeway, and Tobermory with its coloured houses around the bay on Mull. Also times to be quiet, worship in the little chapel or the Abbey, to pray on a hilltop, beach, or have social times with others and enjoy the hospitality of the accommodation were all available. Some pursued their art or craft interests.

The quiet of the island, with few visitors as it was early in the season, was a bonus. We enjoyed many days of beautiful sunny weather, turquoise seas, white sands and all the natural beauty of springtime – lambs and daffodils, of course. The scenery was stunning and inspirational, as anyone who has visited the Scottish Highlands and Islands will confirm.

Some reflections on this pilgrimage:

- Imagination for what it must have been like in ages before Saint Columba arrived on the island, and what life and community was like in ancient times.
- Oneness with each other as a group together visiting this special place, reflecting on our oneness with God and ourselves.
- Nature was profoundly beautiful in the many shades of clear, bright sea blue, white sands, bays, hills and birdlife especially.
- Acceptance of who we are and where we are in life. Here, the Abbey life is also very much about accepting and reaching out in God-given ways to the world – its people and the environment. It has an attraction for pilgrims ancient and modern.

I appreciated a couple of the natural labyrinths that had been made on beaches. One was made with seaweed, another with stones. I feel it is all about journeying in our faith, whether we are at home or away.

A phrase that sums up this Iona experience:
“Remoteness and connectedness”.

From a traditional blessing:

*Bless to us, O God
The moon that is above us,
The earth that is beneath us,
The friends who are around us,
Your image deep within us.*



Stephanie

Our visit to Iona was a memorable experience. The island greeted us with sunshine and blue skies as we stepped off the Caledonian MacBrayne ferry at the start of our island pilgrimage. The Hebridean islands share an unhurried lifestyle and sheer beauty of nature, but Iona has a special sense of peace and reflection – a place to be still with God. George Macleod, the founder of the Iona Community, described Iona as “... a thin place where only tissue paper separates the material from the spiritual.”



We started our pilgrimage in the Abbey, a restored Benedictine monastery founded on the site where St Columba is said to have built the first church on Iona in 563AD. The church/monastery had a turbulent history until its final restoration in the twentieth century. The current Abbey building dates only from the last century, a beautiful but simple building with a sense that centuries of worship have taken place on that site and where the presence of God is almost tangible.

Many of the pilgrimage stations are accessible by track but some involved crossing open moor and some scrambling. As we journeyed around the island, the pilgrimage stations of Celtic crosses, of chapels, graveyards, hermit cells, hills and coasts invited reflection. Tramping across the moors to the more remote stations the peace and beauty of the island was evident.

Thanks to a chance conversation early last year, we had been able to join St Oswald's pilgrimage group. We stayed in the Bishop's House, a retreat house belonging to the Scottish Episcopal Church, enjoying the fellowship of our fellow travellers. Having travelled so far from home, the group took advantage of a boat trip to Staffa, where we landed to walk along the cliff face to the majestic Fingal's Cave – quite an adventure on the slippery basalt rock, but well worth it.

Iona did not want us to leave. After days of sunshine, there was a gale the night before we left and a small risk that the ferry would not run. However the ferry did run and, after arriving in sunshine, we left in rain for our journey home.

Cornerstone Coffee House – Bethan and Paul Taylor



We are very excited to be taking on responsibility for the management of Cornerstone and to be able to build on the excellent work that has been done over previous years. We move into Cornerstone on Monday 25 April and, after a refit, aim to open at the beginning of June – you can follow our progress on the Cornerstone Coffee House Facebook page.

We wanted to share with you some of our plans for Cornerstone and, in particular, the three aspirations that underpin our business:

- **Outstanding Products** | To produce and deliver freshly produced, good quality products, meeting a range of dietary needs and created with ingredients sourced from local producers and suppliers and promoting business practices that minimise the impact on God's world.
- **Inspiring Community** | To create a space where all are welcomed and encouraged to be part of a community of hospitality, learning and love, where relationships can be nurtured, developed, and supported.
- **Loving Sustainability** | To operate a sustainable business that treats its customers, staff, suppliers and volunteers with love and care, investing in the local community and empowering staff and volunteers to develop and grow.

Cornerstone will initially be open five days a week, Tuesday to Saturday, offering a range of drinks, breakfast, lunches and cakes. We hope our menu will provide something for everyone with daily specials alongside a standard offer, alongside a range of brownies and other cakes baked on site. If you want to try some of our brownies, then we currently have a stall at the Thursday Ashbourne Market, and it would be great to see you, or you can order the online at www.bethsbakingcompany.co.uk and we'll deliver them to your door.

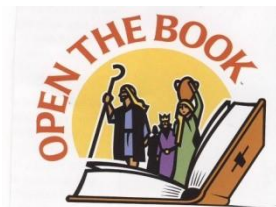
In Cornerstone, over the next six weeks, we will be fitting a new kitchen, as well as upgrading the three inside rooms and creating some outdoor seating on the 'patio' area adjacent to Station Road, which will be accessed via Cornerstone. This will provide a beautiful sunny spot in which to share food and drink and we hope it will be very popular.

Alongside the paid staff we will have a range of opportunities available for anyone who would like to volunteer and, if you are interested, please let us know on paultaylor1961@btinternet.com or 07779 241087. For those who want to know more, we will be arranging some meetings in May where we will share more of what we are planning, the roles we have available for volunteers.

The impact of Cornerstone will be evaluated by a small group from both the Church and Cornerstone, using the Church's Mission Action Plan as a measure. We hope that together we will be able to notice where the Spirit is at work and work together to respond to these opportunities.

Bethan & Paul

Sadly, we have had no new volunteer presenters coming forward for



Please consider prayerfully if this might be a way YOU could share the Gospel. Do have a look at biblesociety.org.uk to see teams in schools, and how well the children react to visits.

'Open the Book aligns to the criteria used by OFSTED, ESTYN and SIAMS when inspecting acts of Collective Worship.'

For a 'no obligation' chat, please contact Joy Watts (342542) or Margaret Heaton (343418). We would be very happy to tell you more!

Ashbourne Methodist Circuit

Dedication of Easter Offerings

The Easter Offerings will be dedicated as part of a Circuit Service to be held on Sunday 8th May at 10.30 am at Ashbourne Methodist Church.

All Easter Offerings go to the World Mission Fund to support God's Mission in 65 partner churches outside Britain and Ireland. There will be an offering at the service for this fund also.

Alma Swan

'Lent Reflections'

As I write, there are just five of the 40 days of Lent remaining. Some of you may remember (and still have) a copy of the splendid booklet with the above title which was made available a few years ago. Each of the 40 days had a short contribution by members/friends from within the Ashbourne Circuit. I've been returning to it during this current season and, finding myself again inspired, challenged and affirmed - as Rev Tim hoped for us all, in his introduction.

An added bonus/blessing now - following the various restrictions due to the Pandemic, has been the delight in readily bringing to mind so many of the dear friends I used to see regularly at worship or in other groups. Who was to think, at the time of publishing, there would be that added gift within its pages! Each contribution has truly played its part in my Lent travels this year - with new insights, memories and encouragement on every page.

Surely the planning for its publication can be considered truly God inspired. I'm currently reaping the rewards of those who had the insight, prayed and contributed however best they could - thank you all. The initial Bible quote from 1 Thessalonians 5.11: 'Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing' seems to sum up the essence of my 40 days with Lent Reflections.

Margaret Hasler



THE LINK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The big development this month is that our Link Development Project is a key part of the Derbyshire Dales District Council bid for substantial government Levelling-Up funding.

We have been working with the Ashbourne Town Team, over the last few months, to make links to their two other main projects: traffic management and improving the town's public open spaces. Together, the three projects address the Government criteria of regenerating the town centre, improving both the traffic situation and community and cultural facilities.

The District Council Community and Environment Committee on 6th April decided to back the Ashbourne Strategy, rather than a Matlock alternative, because it met the Government's requirements better and its projects are more fully developed. The bid also had the necessary support of the MP for Derbyshire Dales.

Over the next 2-3 months, we will be working with District Council consultants to fully develop the bid. This will focus on ensuring each of the projects gives value for money, improves footfall (visitors to the town), economic activity in the town and expanding community and cultural activity.

The Link project makes a big contribution to increasing Ashbourne Methodist Church's existing high levels of visitors (to The Cornerstone, Gateway and events and activities on our premises). The main project elements are the provision of a community hub and extended opening of the Cornerstone café, the provision of a 350-seat performance venue, full access for all to activities in all our buildings, additional meeting spaces and the upgrading throughout of our heritage-listed buildings.

One of the features of the Ashbourne Strategy is improving the routes across the town for pedestrians and cyclists, both through the built-up area and along the more open southern side of Henmore Brook. This will improve the access to all the town's existing and new facilities and enable easy access to the Tissington trail and the Peak District.

While the church members' contributions and planned fund raising (currently standing at £947,000) will allow the early phases of the project to be achieved, securing Government funding for the project would also enable the whole project to complete much earlier and also for a number of additional improvements to be achieved.

Once the bid has been finalised and approved by the District Council in June, it will go forward to the national competition for funds to be evaluated by the Government. It is anticipated that the outcome will be decided in the autumn. If successful, the full scheme would be completed by 2025.

John Barker, Town Team Project Lead, AMC Link Development Team



RAISE ^{THE} ROOF

an inspirational evening with **Hot House
Community Gospel Choir &
Screaming Kicks Big Band**



7.30pm Saturday 18th June
Ashbourne Methodist Church

Tickets £12 / £6 for under 12s

www.ticketebo.co.uk/raisetherooft

call 01335 360308

Refreshments served during the interval

Proceeds to The Link Development - community hub project





Wanted: ACT secretary

Would you like to help Christians from different churches work together? ACT are in need of a secretary from April this year. The role includes taking minutes and circulating. There are three meetings a year. Support can be given.

Please get in touch if you would like more information:
ashbournect@gmail.com

Thank you.

Peace Doves at Derby Cathedral

You won't want to miss this incredibly moving art installation and soundscape at Derby Cathedral 23rd April - 12th June. Peace Doves was created by renowned sculptor and artist Peter Walker. It features around 8,000 paper doves suspended on ribbon above the nave of the Cathedral, accompanied by a soundscape from composer David Harper.



Schools in Derby and Derbyshire, community groups, wellbeing groups and the general public, were invited to decorate the doves that form the artwork with messages of peace, love and hope, creating a unique piece that reflects the thoughts and feelings of Derby citizens, from all faiths, ages and backgrounds. Visitors will be welcomed to appreciate its scale and beauty and experience a sense of serenity and peace.

Entry is free with a suggested entry donation of £3 per person. Booking is encouraged and is available through Derby Cathedral's Eventbrite page. Donations will go towards the care and work of the city's Cathedral, helping to keep its doors open for all.

Kirk Ireton Chapel – Coffee Morning

The coffee morning which had been planned for Saturday, 9th April was cancelled due to high Covid rates in the village.

It will now be held on Saturday, 7th May from 10am-12noon.

This is an opportunity to visit Kirk Ireton Chapel and meet friends from around the Circuit and beyond, over coffee (or tea no doubt!).

All welcome!

ALBERT SHAKESBY – Evangelist

Albert Shakesby was a rough, tough prize fighter in Hull in the early years of the 20th century. He gave an account of his life in a book published in 1910, 'From Street Arab to Evangelist-the life story of Albert Shakesby, a converted athlete.'

This tells how on January 9th, 1904, he went into the Great Thornton Street Primitive Methodist Chapel Hull with the intent of disturbing and stopping the meeting. On entering he felt constrained not to - and left. However he was compelled to return on January 13th, with the result that on that day, at 9.25 pm, he was on the penitent form. He said, 'he was no educated man, but I know the Lord has saved me.' He regarded the chapel as his spiritual birthplace.

Struggling to pass the Primitive Methodist examinations to be a local preacher, he was eventually engaged as a lay worker with much of his spectacular and fruitful evangelism in and around Hull.

Noted for his physical strength and powerful physique, he suffered a major injury whilst trying to catch a man who jumped from a building on fire in Beverley. It made him a cripple.

In May 1907 he was on crutches and leading a mission in Sileby Leicestershire. The superintendent minister encouraged him, and took Albert to the Centenary Camp meeting at Mow Cop. At a prayer meeting there, he was healed, threw his crutches away and returned with the superintendent minister to Sileby as a fully able bodied man - unsurprisingly to great effect.

The superintendent minister at Sileby was Rev Henry Land (1864-1934), the grandfather of our friend, Jacinth Land.

David Leese

Ashbourne Circuit Church Services

Services have restarted in our churches in a Covid-19 secure way, but the pattern of services may have changed. Please check the website, www.ashbournemethodist.org.uk/news for the most current information.

Sunday May 1st

Ashbourne	10:30	Allan Shaw	
Brailsford	10:30	Rev Tim Morris	All Age service
Parwich	14:30	Rev David Leese	

Sunday May 8th

Ashbourne	10:30	Rev Tim Morris	Circuit Service Easter Offering
Kniveton	10:30	@ Ashbourne	

Sunday May 15th

Ashbourne	10:30	Paul Taylor
Brailsford	10:30	Ruth Barratt
Tissington	10:30	Rev Tim Morris

Sunday May 22nd

Ashbourne	10:30	Rev Mark Broadhurst	Communion
Kirk Ireton	18:30	Ann Parkinson	
Kniveton	11:00	Steve Haines	

Sunday May 29th

Ashbourne	10:30	Peter Dawson
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Sunday June 5th

Ashbourne	10:30	Rev Tim Morris	Pentecost Communion
Brailsford	10:00	@ Village Hall	United Service
Parwich		No service	

Changes to normal service are in bold

Dates for your diary and your prayers

Some church meetings are resuming while others are still taking place on social media.

MAY

Thu 26th 11:00 Tissington Well Dressings service

JUNE

Wed 1st Cliff Festival at Cliff College

Wed 1st 19:00 Milldale Summer Service

Mon 8th 19:30 Ashbourne Church Council

JULY

Wed 6th 19:00 Milldale Summer Service

Sun 31st 10:30 Rev Tim Morris leaving service

AUGUST

Wed 3rd 19:00 Milldale Summer Service

Sat 20th 9:00 Ashbourne Show

Wed 31st 19:30 Rev Nicola Briggs welcome service

Methodist Prayer Handbook 2022-23

An order for copies of the Methodist Prayer Handbook will be sent off over the summer. This resource will help you with your prayer life and the cost is about £4.25. If you would like a copy, please contact Carole Thorpe on 346535, cethorpe@hotmail.com or at 12 Cavendish Drive, Ashbourne DE6 1SR.

Ashbourne Show – 20 August

The Ashbourne Show is on Saturday 20 August. This is part of our outreach & witness to the community. Please keep the date free. Are you able to help serve tea and coffee or welcome people and get them sat down? Please contact Carole Thorpe on cethorpe@hotmail.com or 346535 if you are willing to help.

A Prayer for Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is reported as currently having the worst economic situation in Asia. This economic crisis has been fuelled by Covid and exacerbated by various political agendas. The suffering caused by the crisis has led to widespread protests against the government. This prayer has been received by the Methodist Church from Rev. Maxwell Doss, General Secretary of the National Christian Council of Sri Lanka (7 April 2022):

Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord' (Psalm 130:1) 'My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth' (Psalm 121:2)

O Pilgrim God, who journeys with us in this pilgrimage of life, harken thou to our prayers as we lift up our nation in agony and despair, clamouring for an end to the oppressive and exploitative rule that has battered and bruised our lives.

God of Justice and Mercy; be Thou our Hope and Strength, so that in our collective efforts as a people, may we in this struggle come to experience the much longed 'Exodus', as a nation, the 'Passing Over' from 'Slavery to Freedom, Darkness to Light and Death to Life'.

This we ask in the Gracious and Mighty Name of Jesus the Christ. Amen

From the editors

Many thanks to everyone who has sent us contributions for this issue. We are grateful to those who were able to send them early, in response to our request. Front cover photograph: Children's Well, Tissington Well Dressings 2014.

The next edition: **June 2022**

Last date for contributions: **Wednesday 18th May**

Publication date: **Sunday 29th May**

We rely on the contributions we receive! Please send us your articles and photos. We can't include items which are copyright unless permission is obtained from the copyright-holder. If you have an idea, but you're not sure, give us a ring to talk about it.

If possible, please e-mail your items to us at dysters@tiscali.co.uk -but if this is difficult, please ring us on 01335 344086.

If you would like your own paper copy of the magazine each month, or have any queries about distribution, please contact Carole Thorpe (346535 or cethorpe@hotmail.com).

Daphne and John Dyster

Ashbourne Methodist Circuit Weekend Away

