



**WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY FUN DAY
@ BENT'S GREEN CHURCH**
SATURDAY 9TH JUNE 2018 11AM - 4PM

Light Refreshments
(Coffee, tea, juices, cakes)
All Day

Light Lunches
Noon - 2pm

Oughtibridge Training Brass Band

South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue (subject to availability)

Face Painting and
Ball Pool & Bouncy Castle
All Day

ALL WELCOME
Activities will be indoors if raining

Family Fun Day
Saturday 9th June 11-4
Bouncy Castle and Ball Pool
Activities for children
Oughtibridge Training Brass Band
Refreshments and light lunches

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Café worship 10 for 10.30
on the first Sunday of every month
An informal service with breakfast
served from 10 am, all welcome!

Together We Make

A community church sharing the love of Jesus

Church News

Church Fun Day – Saturday June 9th 2018 from 11am to 4pm. Please take a flier to invite your friends and neighbours to this community event. There are activities for all the family of whatever age and refreshments will be served throughout the day.

Girls' Brigade is celebrating two anniversaries – 125 years of GB in South Yorkshire, and, in June, 80 years of GB at Bents Green. See also page 8 for pictures of the display and cake shared with the church!

Action For Children Thank you to everyone who supported the recent coffee morning. We raised a magnificent £1124.05. Also, many box holders signed a Gift Aid form which will add a further £94.14 to this year's total.

We send condolences to the family of **Jeanne Belben**. Jeanne's funeral took place on Wednesday 2nd May with a burial service at Curbar Church, followed by a Thanksgiving Service in Bents Green Church. Jeanne and her husband, Howard, worshipped at Bents Green church for many years following retirement from Howard's role as Principal of Cliff College.

We also send condolences to Audrey Cassidy and her family following the death of **Peter Cassidy**. A Thanksgiving service for his life was held on Thursday 17th May at Bents Green Church. Peter and Audrey worshipped at Bents Green after moving here when Hanover Methodist Church closed.

Many of you will remember **Katie Dolling** who took the lead role in several pantomimes and is now a professional actor. She appeared in "Doctors" (BBC1, 27th April) and was brilliant.

Prayer – If you would like us to pray for you confidentially you can contact us by email reyarp42@sky.com or leave a note in the Prayer Box in the church corridor (side entrance) which is emptied daily.

Talking about our Christian faith

Hi Tricia

Each Sunday morning the young people go out to their own groups while the rest of us stay in church for the service. I asked Sarah, Children and Youth worker, what her group has been discussing recently and she emailed her reply.

On Sunday mornings we have been discussing the problems that many young people face with being a Christian in contemporary society. There is the uncertainty about when and where it is ok to talk about issues of faith, particularly when many people associate religion with negative events such as war, oppression and blind obedience. Living in a multi-cultural society offers opportunities to discuss our beliefs with people of all faiths or none, but getting the conversation started can be difficult.

Many young Christians also find themselves uncertain how faith mixes with some aspects of modern life. Many different issues have been discussed. How should my faith impact upon my view of politics? Why does the church not speak out more about human rights abuses? Why do some Christians judge people based on sexuality, rather than just loving them? Why do many people feel excluded by the church?

There are of course no straightforward answers to these questions. But we must never forget that Jesus befriended those who were outcast by their own societies. He lived in the middle of pain and walked with the poor and bereaved. The idea of creating a better world is an essential part of what it means to be a Christian, and stands against all the fears that make us afraid to talk about faith. After all, the Bible tells us to "let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5: 24).

Thanks, Sarah



Enjoy the game!

Health Warning: for those of a delicate disposition beware that over the forthcoming weeks there will be many opportunities for despair and exultation as teams from many countries play in the World Cup. There will be plenty of pundits adding their views and insights, there will be controversy, there will be disappointment, and there will be celebrations. In his Book *The Song of the Bird*, Anthony de Mello tells this story:

Jesus Christ said he had never been to a football match. So we took him to one, my friends and I. It was a ferocious battle between the Protestant Punchers and the Catholic Crusaders.

The Crusaders scored first. Jesus cheered wildly and threw his hat high into the air. Then the Punchers scored. And Jesus cheered wildly and threw his hat high up in the air.

This seemed to puzzle the man behind us. He tapped Jesus on the shoulder and asked, "Which side are you rooting for, my good man?"

"Me?" replied Jesus, visibly excited by the game. "Oh, I'm not rooting for either side. I'm just enjoying the game."

The questioner turned to his neighbour and sneered, "Hmm, an atheist!"

We took him up on this after the game. Was he in the habit of never taking sides? "I side with people rather than religions," said Jesus, "human beings rather than Sabbath"

For those for whom football is not of any interest, well there is Wimbledon! Whatever your preference, football, tennis or the garden, may your support for your person or team not get in the way of the enjoyment of the game.

Peace *Tim*



Safeguarding matters in our church

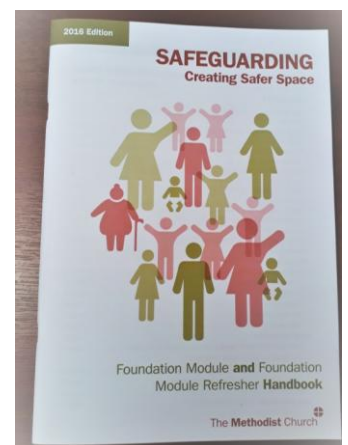
Within the last year 74 people in our church community have completed the latest Methodist training course in safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults. A further 7 people are due to do this before the end of July. Many of these people help with our wide range of children's and young people's activities, while a significant number work with older folk or as pastoral visitors and carers.

The Methodist Church insists that everyone over 18 who helps in these areas has to be formally trained in "Creating Safer Spaces" in our church activities. You are not allowed to help unless you have been both trained and police checked. It is encouraging that in our church family so many people are both willing to help others, and also to give up time in order to attend a training course.

The Christian churches, like the rest of society, have clearly failed to deal properly with child abuse and similar issues in the past, but I think it is fair to say that the Methodist Church has been the first to realise this and to try to do something about it. It was the Methodist Church which first coined the word "Safeguarding", which is now used universally in the context of child protection. The Methodist Church has recently carried out a thorough audit of every single known case of actual or alleged abuse since 1950, both to see if there were any outstanding issues that needed to be addressed, and also to inform the latest version of the safeguarding training that was mentioned above.

The key feature of the training is that safeguarding is everyone's concern. Because we are all made in the image of God, and we are all His children, every single individual matters, from the youngest child to the oldest person. If the church is the body of Christ, our buildings and activities must be safe, and filled with Christlike behaviour by all those who care for others. And we must never become complacent. Every year, our Church Council looks at this area, and updates and improves our Safeguarding Policy, which is displayed in every room on our premises, and is available to anyone on request.

Feedback from the recent training has indicated that it was generally seen as very worthwhile. People like schoolteachers were clearly already knowledgeable in these matters, but for some people, much of it was new. The reactions from these people were particularly positive. **Glenn Evans, Church Safeguarding Officer**





Together we make: <https://jickypeggs.wixsite.com/website/about-us>

We are Jane and Nicky. We met at a craft group at our local church. We have enjoyed trying many different crafts...some with more success than others but always a lot of fun.

Due to various health issues we have both had to give up work but decided to use the opportunity to try a business of our own. Of all the crafts we have tried we have really enjoyed making resin jewellery as it gives us the chance to make a huge variety of unique pieces, so this is where we have decided to focus initially. We started with more traditional looking pieces but soon had the confidence to try different things, including upcycling various electrical items and components. We also upcycle paper to make packaging for our jewellery.

We really enjoy working together and are relishing the opportunity we have been given to try making a go at **Together We Make**.

Jane and Nicky launched their business with their first ever stall at the Action for Children Coffee Morning at Bents Green Church in April. Their display attracted many customers who were interested in the unusual jewellery and their emphasis on using upcycled materials and making affordable, unique pieces.

They say they could not have set up their business without the support from church and especially the Games, Craft and Chatter group. John Hall's technical expertise has been a great help and most Wednesdays John nips home at some point to fetch a tool or something that they need. They are very grateful for the help and encouragement.

They now have plans to take part in several more events and craft fairs, and to rent a shelf in a shop to display and sell their jewellery. We wish them well!

Archaeological research continues at Whirlow Hall Farm

Whirlow Hall Farm's website announces the latest development:

This year, University of Sheffield Archaeology department has moved its field school to Whirlow. Staff will lead students in uncovering more of the farm's ancient past, building on the knowledge gained during previous archaeological projects. The focus of much of their effort will be on the far side of the farm, where there is evidence of an ancient circular monument or enclosure. We're fascinated to see what they will unearth.

A leaflet produced by The Time Travellers and available from the café at Whirlow Hall Farm gives more Information:

The finds from the previous digs have now been examined and many amazing discoveries have been made. They provide evidence of human activity on the fields surrounding Whirlow from the first hunter-gatherers, who followed herds of animals colonising the area after the last Ice-Age, right up to the farm that we visit today. Flint tools were found in the form of blades and scrapers left by Mesolithic hunter-gatherers (9700-4000BC) and from the Neolithic period (4000-2400BC). Scrapers and an arrowhead typical of the Bronze Age (2400-700BC) were also found.

The geo-physical surveys of the fields showed the outline of a large rectangular ditched enclosure from the Iron-Age/Roman period and also the foundations of a Roman signal tower. These surveys have enabled the archaeologists to decide where best to excavate next.

Tricia North

Walking Tours of Sheffield

Continuing the series about local businesses and organisations

In the recent heatwave I went on a walking tour of the city centre with Marcus Newton. Marcus is based in Bents Green and grew up locally. After some years working in a city centre office he felt the need for a change. He researched walking tours in other cities and went on City breaks abroad and learned a lot about the dos and don'ts of being a guide. He now runs a business which offers reasonably priced walks in the city centre and bespoke walks in different areas of Sheffield.

His ninety minute walking tours of the city centre start from the Winter Gardens Surrey Street entrance at 10:30am, Tuesday through to Saturday. He aims to introduce people to both the history and contemporary highlights of Sheffield. He wants to portray Sheffield as a lively city which contributes much to the world. He takes his tour groups into the back streets, on old cobbled squares and through narrow passageways where he points out features, plaques and innovative architecture as well as pubs, music venues and eating places. Famous names such as the Pankhursts, Mary Queen of Scots, James Montgomery, Montague Burton of Burton's clothing firm (and many others) spent time in Sheffield and some are commemorated with a plaque or a statue. I saw many historical sites I had never known existed in Sheffield city centre.

He makes sure that people are aware that cutlery and scissors are still made in Sheffield along with other metal working and he directs them to the Sheffield Scene shop on Surrey St and to The Famous Sheffield Shop on Ecclesall Road. He also advises them on taking trips outside the city centre giving information about bus services, types of bus ticket for each bus company etc and suggesting walks available at the destination.

He wants to show visitors the variety that Sheffield offers and he has developed walks in other parts of Sheffield. For example one walk starts from the Bents Green shops, goes along Trap Lane to Forge Dam and down the Porter Valley to pass by Shepherd Wheel, as well as the Mi Amigo Flying Fortress memorial, with time to relax in Endcliffe Park Café at the walk end. The walk features industrial heritage, wild life, river walk, park and cafes (as well as including toilet facilities, an important factor on all walks). Another walk he recommends is around Low and High Bradfield including the cricket ground, the cafes, and the church with its medieval features and annual music festival. He is now developing walks in less well known Sheffield City Region locations such as Wentworth, Stocksbridge and Oughtibridge.

In addition to the city centre tour, Marcus has led a walking tour for a team away-day and provided guided walks for visiting clients of local businesses. He is also available as a speaker and has given talks to groups such as the WI. Bookings for a bespoke tour have brought some unusual challenges. A fan of Human League came to Sheffield and wanted to be photographed playing his portable keyboard in one of the venues where the Human League had played and Marcus was able to arrange this for him. Another full day tour was booked for the father of someone working in Sheffield. It turned out that he spoke no English and, despite communication being difficult, the tour was a great success.

He stressed that we all have a role to play in making visitors welcome to Sheffield. If people experience friendliness and helpfulness they will carry away that memory of Sheffield. Marcus clearly loves the job and wants to help us all discover the rich variety that is to be found in Sheffield. He is convinced that Sheffield is the best city in England to live in.

Full details of Marcus's tours can be found on his website www.sheffieldtours.com or by emailing marcus@sheffieldtours.com, or by phoning 07804 406827. There is also an information display in the Winter Garden.



L-R Monuments to Thomas Boulsover in Tudor Square and near Wiremill Dam, Shepherd Wheel and Forge Dam Cafe

A Matter of Equality Translating the Bible – 13

The power of speech may be inborn and God-given, but languages are made by humans. They reflect the culture of the people that create them. One way this is clearly shown is by attitudes to gender.

You will remember from school that in most European languages apart from English, pronouns and adjectives are masculine or feminine to match the person they describe:

He is handsome, she is beautiful; il est beau, elle est belle; er ist schön, sie ist schön; el es hermoso, ella es hermosa. Most languages do this much more than English, and they generally give priority to the masculine.

For example, imagine a group of 99 women and 1 very lucky man who are all busy: *ils sont occupés* in French and *ellos están ocupados* in Spanish – masculine plural in both cases. (German adjectives only change when they precede the noun). This same masculine dominance is seen with words like *Mankind* in English, and in the original Greek New Testament books.



Modern Western societies rightly believe in the equality of women and men. This is a concept clearly expressed in Galatians chapter 3 verse 28: *In Christ there is neither male nor female.* It is also a concept that has been overlooked in most cultures, both Christian and secular. But given that our society believes in male and female equality, should a modern translation of the Bible keep the male domination seen in the ancient Greek language of the New Testament? And does it matter?

The King James (Authorised) version of Hebrews chapter 2 verse 10 includes the phrase *Bringing many sons unto glory.* Almost all scholars agree that the word *Sons* actually means *People* in the context of this chapter, but the old language of the King James version keeps the male word used in Greek, as does the Revised Standard Version of 1952, the New King James Version of 1982 (the third best-selling version in the world in 2012), and even the English Standard Version of 2001. However, many new translations change it to *Sons and daughters*, even the New International Version which normally prefers word for word translation. In my view, this is better than the Good News version which says *Children.*

So, does it matter? I would argue that in today's world, it is very important that our message is that Christ brings both Sons and Daughters to glory. **Glenn Evans**

Laughter brightens up the day

"A day without laughter is a day wasted": Charlie Chaplin

Laughter is so important in our busy, not always cheerful lives! Laughing together certainly brightens up the day.

Recently at Friendship Club we were entertained by Pat Hall who came all the way from Ashbourne and, apart from the fact that we knew she was going to be amusing, we had no idea what she was going to be like. As the leader of the meeting said....."Today is a mystery tour". It turned out to be a very funny afternoon. She made us laugh with funny everyday stories, anecdotes and poems. We were certainly entertained.

It's just great to meet up together on Tuesday afternoons, laugh, talk, listen to interesting speakers, listen to lovely music.....and all of these are coming up at Friendship Club.

He puts a smile on my face. He's my God.
Psalms 42:11, The Message

Do join us on a Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. You will be most welcome. **Pat Hutchinson**

The Lord is My Shepherd

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her 2nd grade class memorize Psalm 23, one of the most quoted passages in the Bible. She gave the children a month to learn it by heart. One little boy was excited about the task, but he just couldn't memorize the Psalm. Although he practised and practised, he could hardly get past the first line. The day came for the children to recite Psalm 23 before the congregation. The little boy was nervous. When his turn came, he stepped up to the microphone and proudly said, "The Lord is my Shepherd and that's all I need to know!"

Source: <http://www.jokesclean.com/ChristianJokes/>



Regular church activities and contact details

Services at the Church at Bents Green

All are welcome at these services

Sunday mornings at 10.30 am During morning services there is a crèche for little ones, Sparklers and Sparks Clubs for younger children and Sunday Club for older children and young people.

Sunday evenings at 6.30 pm - An informal service often including tea, coffee and time to chat about the Christian faith.

Wednesdays at 10 am: Midweek service.

Service of Healing:

Sunday 17th June at 6.30pm, led by Rev Peter Edwards.

Contact Details:

Lay Assistant Minister: John Wilkins

Tel 0114 2361306 (First contact)

Email: johnwilkins73@googlemail.com

Minister: Rev Tim Crome

Tel. 0114 4389012

Email: Tim47Crome@msn.com

For Room Bookings contact:

Peter Larder Tel. 0114 2686507

Church website:

www.bentsgreenmethodist.org.uk

Church office answerphone:

0114 2361912

Activities for Children and Young People

New members are welcome at these activities at the church.

Contact the named person for more details.

For younger children

Crèche	0-3	Sun 10.30	Ruth	2686507
Sparklers	4-5	Sun 10.30	Ruth	2686507
Sunbeams	0-4	Wed 9.15-12	Katie	07464 824462

For children and young people

Sparks	5-11	Sun 10.30	John	2307556
Fireworks	12-14	Sun 10.30	Emma	07707 500226
Sunday Club	15-18	Sun 10.30	Sue	2307556
Girls' Brigade	5-18	Thurs evening	Marian	2361316
Lighthouse	5-11	Wed 3.45	Sarah	contact Glenn 2351057
Lampstand	12-18	Fri 8-10	Sarah	contact Glenn 2351057
Craft Services	3 -12	Festivals	Sue	2307556
Drama group	All ages	Various	Glenn	2351057
Pantomime	All ages	Annually	Glenn	2351057
Musical	All ages	Special events	Christèle	07912207661
Holiday Club	4-11	August 6 th -10 th	Lesley	2686461

Regular church activities

Games, chat, crafts

Wednesdays 12.30 to 3 pm in the church.
Indoor bowling, scrabble, chess, dominoes, jigsaws and cards, knitting and crafts.
Contact Ruth: 0114 2686507

Coffee Mornings in the Church:

On the first Saturday of every month
from 10.30 am – 12noon

Harbour Coffee

On Wednesdays in term-time from 3.30 – 5.45 pm in the Music Room

Tea, Toast & Time 4 Thinking:

Thursdays @ 10.30 am each week. Upstairs in the Church Lounge.

A time to reflect on what following Jesus is all about. A place for all those seeking answers. Carers of young children especially welcome.
Contact Sue: Tel 0114 2307556

House groups

Many people in the church belong to a house group and meet regularly to pray together, read the bible and talk about the Christian faith. If you are interested in joining a house group contact Sue: Tel 0114 2307556

Friendship Club Programme:

Tuesdays at 2 pm in the Church Hall (enter by side door opposite the shops). A warm welcome awaits any who would like to come along – especially men and women over 60.

Tues 5th June	TOFFEE MUSIC
Tues 12th June	OH MUM WHAT HAVE YOU DONE
Tues 19th June	JOHN WILKINS talks about work as a street pastor
Tues 26th June	LONGSHAW
Tues 3th July	FRIENDS IN HARMONY
Tues 10th July	RON CLAYTON
Tues 17th July	PALM COURT

**For more information contact: Pat Hutchinson: 0114 2497280
and Jackie Smith: 0114 3483069**

Hilltop Editor:

Tricia North Email: tn-bg@live.co.uk

Please send material for the next issue to the editor by Sunday 15th July 2018.

If you would like to receive **Hilltop** by email please email the editor.



Girls' Brigade celebrates 125 years in South Yorkshire and 80 years in Bents Green



Action for Children coffee morning

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Action for Children coffee morning on Saturday 14th April. Through the collectors boxes and the coffee morning we raised a fantastic £1124.05!



Sunlight

You lightened my room.
 Distilled the gloom.
 Banished doom.
 Quelled shadows of night.
 Bringing forth light.
 Stepped upon the stage.
 Into a world beset by rage.
 Drove winter into retreat.
 So did defeat
 Turned all that was grey.
 Into radiant new day.
 Raised birds from their rest.
 Coaxed them to nest.
 Hastened Spring on its way.
 Held darkness at bay.
 Earth's champion star.
 So near yet so far.
 Melting the snow.
 Onwards as you go.
 Raising the mood.
 Of the human brood.
 So let us dance.
 Locked in romance.
 You with your light.
 Us with our plight.
 Battling darkest night.

Ken Windle