

SOUTHOWRAM METHODIST CHURCH

WESLEY NEWS

CHRISTMAS 2008

MINISTER: - Rev P Welch, St Ives, 160 Whitehill Road, Holmfield,
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LAY WORKER: - Mrs Paula Prosser, 22 Norland Street, Bradford,
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www.halifaxmethodistcircuit.org.uk/churches/southowramindex.html

As this is our first news letter since the beginning of the Methodist New Year I would like to welcome Rev Paul Welch and his family to our church. I hope by now they feel at home with us and part of our family.

ALL CHANGE

The Methodist Church here at Southowram has undergone a few changes over the last few years, namely moving out of the Church building and meeting every Sunday in the Community Centre. Other changes include a change of Lay Worker and Minister. The new Lay Worker is Mrs Paula Prosser and the new Minister is myself, Rev Paul Welch.

Change is an everyday process because each new day is different from the last in many ways. Some people handle change better than others and whilst it is important to hold onto core values to give some stability and continuity, change is also part and parcel of life.

Things don't always have to be the same as they were. Whilst there may have been many memorable and joyous times in the past that are important parts of who we are, there also needs to be development and growth and that ultimately means that things will change.

A story was once told of a Minister who went to visit a church member at their home. The church member was very traditional in their worship, and all things associated with church and on numerous occasions had told the Minister his views in no uncertain terms. The Minister again listened very patiently to the man's concerns and, whilst doing so, looked around the room. In the man's living room was the largest flat screen TV the minister had ever seen, full surround sound, DVD player and Sky box. The minister could not quite equate the amount of modern technical gadgets in the man's home with his views concerning the church.

Change had certainly taken place in the man's home, yet for church it was somehow different and the Minister left with a warm smile on his face, knowing that in any future conversation he had something to counteract the barrage with.

This story can perhaps be replicated throughout the whole of the church that there may be those who undergo huge changes at home while at church things have to stay the same. The church is a Missionary organisation in that it exists for those who are not yet part of it as well as those who already belong. If we are to engage with the culture and social structure of the day, to engage in conversation about faith and the love of God, then things inevitably need to change. Many churches are looking at different ways in which they can engage with the people who live in their surrounding community; these are called 'Fresh Expressions of Church'. Through a church looking outside its walls and its own congregations there is a love for those who don't yet know Jesus for themselves. This gives a completely new outlook and focus for the church and assists in its missionary responsibility.

I look forward to working alongside you in Southowram and wish you every blessing.

Rev Paul Welch

MOVING

In the world of sport we often hear of players moving from one club to another for various reasons mainly to do with money and vast sums exchanged in transfer fees.

In Methodism we have Minister's moving and Rev Paul Welch has moved into the Halifax Circuit. This September has seen Lay Workers moving to work with different churches and communities within our Circuit. So I have moved from Northowram to Southowram – no transfer fee was involved!

We are at the beginning of a new phase of our journey with Rev Paul Welch and myself getting to know the people in Southowram and you getting to know us.

Let me tell you something about myself. I'm married to Steve (a Cornishman) and we have a 9 year old daughter, Sarah. We live in Bradford and worship at Horton Bank Methodist Church. Steve and I are both Local Preachers.

I was born in Thornton, near Blackpool; I lived there (apart from the year at Bible College) until I married Steve in 1996.

I went to Cliff College in 1994 and it was there that I met Steve (it does have the nickname Bridal College). It wasn't love at first sight, as we didn't like each other to begin with. God moves in mysterious ways his wonders to perform. When we did go out for the first time to Buxton (we go back to the same tearoom as near to the anniversary of our first date each year!!) we knew we were meant for each other.

We were married in August 1996; Steve had got a job in Bradford after we left Cliff so it was there that we began our married life. We spent six months in Scotland but Steve's job didn't work out so we came back to Bradford. I worked at Bradford College as an Exams Officer before and after living in Scotland. I lost my job because of problems with my arm.

I knew I would never be able to go back to an office job, as I can't cope with doing certain things that working in an office entail. I was quite low and was wondering what I could do.

My Minister sent an email to me about the Lay Worker's job which was going in the Halifax Circuit. I felt that was an answer to my prayers.

I began work in September 2005. It was embarrassing that I worked for 12 days then had seven weeks off recovering from another arm operation!

I went to Cliff College thinking that I would look at becoming a Deacon after I left. It wasn't to be - God had other plans. I feel that this is where God wants me to be.

If we look back on our lives we can see God at work with us, we see the changes that have taken place and how things have worked out.

***We'll praise him for all that is past,
And trust him for all that's to come.***

As we journey on together may we be constantly seeking God's guidance not only in Southowram, but also within the Circuit and beyond. In the words of John Wesley '*the whole wide world is my parish*' Every blessing.

Paula Prosser

Safari Supper

Saturday, 13 September, 4.45 pm, sun shining, and we were ready for off – on our Safari Supper.

About fifty congregation members from Southowram, Boothtown and Illingworth Moor Methodist Churches gathered at the community centre for the first part of the 'journey': a starter of delicious soup and rolls prepared by Brenda. The trail then went to Boothtown for the main salad course and, finally, the convoy headed to Illingworth Moor for sweets and a cuppa. Appetites satisfied!

The event was organised to help members of the churches within our cluster group get to know one another (or perhaps renew acquaintances) and to give us an opportunity to meet our new Minister and Lay Worker, together with their families, in an informal setting.

Twelve people from Southowram joined in the safari and enjoyed a very friendly and sociable afternoon.

Margaret Coates

BEACH PARTY

The Fundraising Team held a Beach Party on 2 July to help raise funds for our church - £65.10 was raised, not a lot but more than we started with.

We had different games and a café and the usual raffle. The event wasn't well attended with only ten customers, but they and we had some fun. We thank those ten people who came to help raise much needed funds.

Saturday Matinees

We held our first film show on 28 June - *Persuasion*, a period drama by Jane Austen. Ruth Gee did all the technical side of things and 18 of us sat down to watch. It was an excellent film which everyone enjoyed. We followed the film with scones, jam and cream. As people sat talking we decided to have another film later on.

Film number two was held on 20 September. This time we had *State Fair*, a musical by Rodgers and Hammerstein. Some people hadn't seen this one before. It was a change as lots of films are repeated on the TV. Nineteen people attended and £54 was raised for our funds. We also followed this film with a cream tea.

Both films were shown at the new picture house - Southowram Community Centre!

Our next screening will be held on 17 January when we hope to show the hit musical *Mamma Mia!* Please join us for an afternoon of singing and laughter (dancing and fancy dress optional)!

Linda Bailey (Fundraising Team Chairperson)

Revd Ruth – Durham Cathedral, 1 September 2008

It was quite appropriate that myself and Barry should be on holiday in Northumberland and spent the morning on Holy Island, a place which is very special to us both, before travelling down to Durham to attend the welcome service for Ruth as Chair of the Darlington District.

On the way down we stopped for tea in Morpeth on a very warm and sunny afternoon, it is difficult to believe that less than a week later Morpeth was flooded.

We arrived in Durham just before 6 o'clock and after two trips round the roundabout found the entrance to the Prince Bishops Car Park and then we had the walk up the hill to the Cathedral.

As arranged, we met Ruth Needham and Bill Place outside the Cathedral at 6.30 pm, as we were giving them a lift home after the service. Although there was half an hour to go before the service commenced the Cathedral must have been three quarters full when we took our seats. The Cathedral is a very impressive building and it was a delight to see it full to capacity by the time the service commenced.

On looking round we saw members from Christ Church and Northowram Methodist Church who were also there to give their support to Ruth.

Prior to the service we were entertained with music played by the Leyburn Brass Band.

The service commenced and the Dean of Durham, the Very Reverend Michael Sadgrove, welcomed everyone to the Cathedral.

The opening hymn was 'Jesus is Lord! Creations voice proclaims it', and with many Methodists in the Cathedral it was sung from the heart and with much gusto. The Deputy Chair, Revd Alan Coustick, led the prayers of adoration, followed by the prayer of confession and collect.

The Elm Ridge Worship Group led the next hymn which was 'I, the Lord of sea and sky', after which greetings were sent from the Miathene Synod, Kenya.

There were two readings: one from Revelations chapter 21, verses 1-7 and chapter 22 verses 1-2, and Matthew chapter 5, verses 3-12.

In true Methodist fashion the hymn that followed was Charles Wesley's 'And can it be that I should gain', and no imagination is necessary to say it was sung with true meaning and was a resounding rendition.

The Revd Peter Whittaker, our own Chair of the West Yorkshire District preached the sermon, after which we sang 'Brother, sister, let me serve you'.

We then came to the Presentation and Welcome of Ruth as new Darlington District Chair by the Revd Martyn Atkins, Secretary to the Methodist Conference. It was very moving to hear Ruth respond and make her commitment to the responsibilities of becoming Chair of such a large District.

Ruth was then welcomed by representatives of the Darlington District, Chairs of neighbouring and Connexional Representatives, Ecumenical Representatives and Circuit representatives. During the Welcome Elm Ridge Worship Group sang, 'King of Kings, Majesty and Lord, I come to you'.

Ruth then responded to the welcome by thanking everyone and saying how she was looking forward to working with them.

The service concluded with the singing of 'Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord'.

I hope that this gives you a little insight into the service and the readings and hymns we sang. From all the representatives and people taking part in the service it made me very much aware of the size of Darlington District and the daunting task Ruth has.

One face amongst the representatives was very familiar to me, and I recognised him as the Revd Malcolm Newman from Marske on Sea

Methodist Church, as he had christened my goddaughter's two little girls, Amy and Ellen. As tea and coffee was being served, and after consultation with the driver (Barry), the four of us made a dash to the cloisters for a quick cup of coffee before the long journey home. It's not very often that I am at the front of the queue.

After a chat with the Revd Malcolm Newman, who said he was looking forward to working with Ruth, and my reply to this was, what was their gain was our loss, it was time for us to leave.

We then returned to the Cathedral to say our goodbyes to Ruth, and this I found very emotional, as Ruth had not only been a minister, pastoral carer and friend but was always there to support me in my work with the Girls' Brigade.

It was just 9 o'clock as we left the Cathedral, which looked magnificent in the floodlight, for the journey home down the A1, a two hour journey. This gave Ruth (Needham, it can be confusing) and myself time to have a good chat and reflect on the evening and catch up on news. Needless to say, Bill and Barry in the front of the car could not get a word in. After dropping Bill off at his home in Lindley and Ruth in Skircoat Green, it was just after 11 o'clock when we arrived home.

Yvonne Wood

Ruth's Flying Experience

I received the following account from Rev Ruth on the gift we gave her of a paraglide. I thought you would like to read it.

Dear Friends,

Here are some photos.



What a wonderful experience. The day was warm and a bit cloudy, but we got a good amount of lift and the view as we flew above the birds was fantastic.

It was nowhere near as frightening as I expected. We were

airborne very quickly – before we reached the edge of the hill. It is very peaceful up there – just the noise of the wind in the wing above your head and any conversation you choose to have. Thank you to everyone for a fantastic gift – a great experience.

Ruth Gee

SOUTHOWRAM METHODIST CHURCH LADIES' CLUB

The 2008 programme will close with the Christmas Party on 16 December. The club will re-open after the winter break on 17 March.

Ladies' Club 40th Birthday Party

What a lovely evening was held on Tuesday, 7 October to celebrate 40 years of Southowram Methodist Ladies' Club. The event was held at the New Street Centre.

Guests and members were welcomed on arrival by committee members and asked to sign the visitors' book and were then given a glass of fruit punch and a raffle ticket.

The room was fit out with tables of four and a buffet supper was provided. Around the room there were photographs of members taken in the 60s and 70s.

Joan Firth took us down memory lane with nostalgic memories and anecdotes made by the speakers. Everyone had a really good natter with retired members and people who had moved away and hadn't seen each other for a long time.

Over 40 people attended and the evening was concluded by the cutting of a celebration cake.

Yes, it was a lovely evening enjoyed by one and all.

Pauline Merifield

Ladies' Club – In the beginning

In 1968 a group of ladies decided they would like to start a Young Wives' Club in the Sunday school.

The next step was to find out how to get started, so they asked Margery Brook, who was then secretary for the Co-operative Women's Guild. So she came along for about 12 months to show them how to do the books and get them started. It began with a PARTY and a CAKE! (What else?)

After a while it was so successful more ladies wanted to join who were not married, so they decided to change the name to the



LADIES' CLUB so all ladies, married or not, could come along for a good night out.

Over the years the Ladies' Club has had to move with the

Methodist Church. After the Sunday school was sold it moved to the Chapel in Chapel Lane; when that was sold in 2000 they moved to the New Street Centre where they are today and meet every two weeks.

New members are always welcome!

*JULIE HUDSON
with the help of Margery Brook*

The Southowram Sunshine Club

This poem was written by the late Eveline Shackleton. Eveline was a founder member of the Southowram Sunshine Club

If you should go along Towngate on a Wednesday afternoon
You'll hear the most enchanting sound when near the 'Legion' rooms,
For that's the day the Sunshine Members come to have their fling,
And believe me; between us all we make those rafters ring.

We start our club at half past two, 'though it's sometimes nearer three,
When the chairman welcomes all, and hopes they'll stay for tea.
When Mrs Berry's played her piece of 'Sunshine Song' and 'wishes',
I shout "Eyes Down", and 'Housey' starts, amidst the clatter of the pots
and dishes.

The bingo games are over fast, and prizes soon are won,
Yet every member in the room declares they've been great fun.
By 3.15, or thereabouts, the tables all are laid,
And cups of tea and cakes are served for the sixpences they've paid.

A cup of tea, it does one good; it's won us many a race,
Although this can't be drunk, until we've all sung 'Grace'.
So on the stool our pianist sits and we all sing sentimental,
But from then on, as you would see, it's 'Café Continental'.

Her fingers ripple o'er the keys, the tunes she plays are merry,
We don't do badly on the whole, twixt her and Mrs Berry.
When tea is done and all are full, it's time to make some money,
And so we raffle gifts that range from pot of flowers to honey.

The entertainer next appears, her programme she's been preparing,
She takes a look around the room to see how we are faring.
We then listen to her singing and applaud her every ditty,
We wish that she could stay a while; to go seems such a pity.

But the time rolls on and it's 4 o'clock, so to her we say "Goodbye",
Then we begin to do our stuff – well any way we try!

We've Mrs Ainley doing a dance and Mrs Elsworth spouting,
Or Mrs Richmond with a song, and everybody shouting.

Our pianist is a real good sport, the liveliest we could find,
No matter what the type of song, she doesn't seem to mind.
We dance, we sing, we do the lot, we're such a merry party,
Our members all join in the fun, their laughs are loud and hearty.

And so dear friend, when wondering, you'll know the reason why,
You hear the most enchanting sound that reaches to the sky.
For if what we do cheers them up, and makes their week worthwhile,
It's just because we are their friends and like to see them smile.

For life's so short, that while it lasts, it's good to lend a hand,
It makes you feel you've earned your place into the 'Promised Land'.
And so, my friend, if pondering, one thing you must remember,
That if you wish, when 65, you can be a member!

♪ Church Music ♪

Some of you may have wondered what happened to the cupboardful of anthems and other music, which the choir used to sing, when we left the Chapel. After our organ tuner, Michael Fletcher, had taken some for his Church at Saltaire, I packed the rest into four Avon boxes and stored them in our garage. I offered it to various people connected with local Churches and other organisations but to no avail. Marilyn helped me to count and catalogue it all and make the compulsory computer record. It had been well stored over the years in the Choir vestry. Most of it was in large brown envelopes, many of which had been recycled from the Halifax Building Society, courtesy of Kathleen Wadsworth and a lot had been neatly tied up with string. It languished for a couple of years and I wondered if it would ever be used again or end up being sent for recycling itself.

However, purely by chance at a concert at Southgate Methodist Church in Elland, I met David Hambleton who is an organist for various small Chapels in the Huddersfield area, particularly round Shepley and Skelmanthorpe. He was very interested in the old anthems; still the sort of thing that some of the smaller choirs prefer to sing. Eventually we met up and he took one boxful with him.

Some months later I received a flyer from the West Gallery Music Association (W.G.M.A.) which was formed in 1990 and is an informal group of singers, instrumentalists and scholars who share an interest in the sacred music, psalmody, hymnody, secular music and dance of the men and women who performed from the west galleries of parish churches and chapels and also around the towns and villages of England during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. By the miracles of modern technology (e-mail), I contacted Jenny Ellis who was delighted with the material. She said she knew of several quire leaders who would be intrigued by some of the composers and she would take everything I had left

so that she could pass it on. Some could be archived until required. I delivered it to one of their members who lives in Rastrick.

The music was never going to sell but at least it has found at least three good homes and possibly more. Hopefully it may be given an airing from time to time and bring some pleasure and inspiration to another generation.

B.G.L.

'It seemed like a good idea at the time'
by Vivien Butterworth

At the start of the new year, following the death of my super dad, I was wondering how I was going to fill the void left by his sad passing. I thought that I would like to raise some money for Overgate Hospice by doing something daring. I saw an article in the Courier about the annual abseil down the wall of Baitings reservoir, very good I thought.

In February, after Peter and I had come off the London Eye, I innocently said to him "do you think that the London Eye is taller than Baiting's wall?"

"You haven't booked it without me have you?" was his hurt reply. So when we got home he was booked in as well.

Between February and 21 June, apart from collecting sponsors, we didn't give it much thought, after all it's only hanging by a rope nearly 200ft. above the ground.

Friday, 20 June, after a dull start the weather was glorious. I thought roll on tomorrow.

Come Saturday 21st it was wet and cold, but what can you do? We set off for Baitings to register and get set up. There were about twenty taking part for Overgate and many more for other charities with our group being first up. We all stood in line and went into a tent for some bloke to harness us in what looked like a truss, very

fashionable!!! Not very comfortable either. With Peter by my side we walked on to the top of the dam wall, or should that be “damn” wall.

Our friends and relatives who could stand the rain had all turned out to watch and Andrew was filming, using Peter’s DVD camera for the first time.

We joined the others on the wall and listened whilst the instructor gave us all the know-how, like “you can’t fall and if you do it’s too late”.

Three of us go down at the same time so I stood next to my ‘expert’, a very nice young man. I don’t think he realised that I was old enough to be his mum.

He roped me onto a blue rope; this is the one that he ‘pays out’ as I descend. He then said “climb over the parapet and stand on the log that is fastened on the other side”.

“Have you got a step ladder?” I asked as the parapet was fairly high and I only have little legs. Without a ladder I climbed onto and then over the wall. Peter was already standing on the log and looking nervous. My young man then clipped a karabiner on to my belt and connected an orange rope to that in a figure eight running through the ring. This is the rope that I pay out to lower myself down the wall.

I leaned back and started to lower myself down. After about 6 feet I swung into space and could not put my feet down, well they are short. Carrying on lowering I soon felt the wall of the dam and made my way down where I saw Peter waiting for me.

I was fair sprinting now and I left him standing, or was that hanging? He told me later that he had trouble with his rope and couldn’t pay it out as quickly as me but I think that my little legs just move faster than his.

Although the wall is very steep at the top, when you near the bottom it does slope out as the wall thickens to take the pressure of the water. As you near the bottom you are standing more upright than at the top.

I reached the bottom and another very nice man unhooked me from the ropes and I set off to join the family, forgetting Peter was still coming down. I waited for him and, very wet and still on a 'high', we joined the rest of the family and friends.

We then all watched as Peter descended on the 600ft zip slide.

I have raised about £900 for Overgate as well as having a fab day out. We then all went home for pie and peas.

Vivien Butterworth

Dear Friends,

Hello!!!

Julie asked me to write a few words for the *Wesley News*, in regard to the very generous gift you gave me last July before I moved from Southowram. I am pleased to do this. Well, as you can imagine, it didn't take long to spend it.

When visiting the Lake District I saw a lovely handbag shop, and I just had to go in. There was a bag with my name on it!! Rather more than I wanted to spend but I used some of the money you gave me and got it.

My other purchase was a Home Communion Set, that I use when giving Extended Communion to people in their own homes. It is a very special gift and I think of Southowram Methodist Church and all my friends each time I use it.

It was a privilege to be part of your fellowship for six years, and it is always good to see you from time to time at Circuit events etc.

Thank you,

God Bless You Always,

Yours in Christian Love, Ruth N

Southowram Girls' Brigade

The summer session came to an end with the Parents' Evening when the girls gave a short display and were presented with their badges. There was also a tinge of sadness as we were saying goodbye to Ruth Needham. Both leaders and girls are missing Ruth for the love she has given us and her sense of humour.

At the invitation of the Rev Ruth, the girls were invited to perform the Millennium Prayer at the Circuit Service in August. The girls were excellent and received many complimentary comments about their performance of the Lord's Prayer.

We commenced our new session in September with a trip to the Deep in Hull. We arrived early and had a very interesting and educational morning watching fish from small reef fish to sharks.

After a picnic lunch we strolled into the centre of Hull to the museum quarter to visit Street Museum, where the girls had hands on experience of using the controls of a tram and trolley bus, riding in a stage coach, visiting shops of yesterday, railways goods yard and signal box, old bicycle shop and amusements, such as the laughing policeman (a little uncanny when you can recall many of the objects seen). The girls did enjoy the afternoon, more so as there was no entrance fee to pay into the museum. Full marks to Hull council. Needless to say, we had a mini bus full of very tired girls on the journey home.

On a company night the girls have been working very hard completing their spiritual part of the badge work. In a week or so the girls will begin rehearsing for our annual Carol Concert. As the girls do not attend church it is important that they all have a part to play in the concert. An invitation is extended to all to join us for this event; the date will be in the church notices nearer Christmas.

Yvonne Wood
Girls' Brigade Leader

Night at the Abbey

As many of you will know, one of my many hobbies which I took up when I retired almost 10 years ago is singing with the Elland Male Voice Choir. Over the years there have been several low lights and many highlights. Since the Halifax MVC choir disbanded and joined us lock, stock and barrel nearly two years ago our singing standard and reputation have improved significantly, which has also helped us to attract several new members. The enjoyment from making music is a wonderful experience and surprisingly there are several large Male Voice Choirs mainly around the Huddersfield area doing just that.

One of the memorable occasions was last April when we joined with five other choirs and the YBS Brass Band in the Huddersfield Town Hall for a concert in aid of The Forget Me Not Trust which raised about £6,000.

On an earlier occasion in 2006 we took part in the Cancer Research concert in The Royal Albert Hall. Along with 40 male voice choirs, 19 ladies choirs (approximately 1400 singers) and two brass bands, we literally raised the roof in a memorable event. I was fortunate to be on the front row of the second tenors just off the side of the organ, one of the best positions to be in. What a view and what an experience. The rafters rang and the floor literally shook when the organ joined the massed choir, audience and bands for Jerusalem and Land of Hope and Glory.

However, on Saturday, 11th October our own choir had another memorable evening. We had been booked to take part in the series of Floodlit Concerts organised by the National Trust at Fountains Abbey. It seemed a long way to go for an hour's non-stop singing programme, but Marilyn and I set off early and spent the afternoon in Knaresborough. We arrived at the abbey car park around 6.30 pm. It's a very long time since I went there and Marilyn had never been. I'd forgotten what a wonderful setting the abbey is in and even at this fairly early hour it was just coming

dusk and the floodlights were already switched on. It was splendid and peaceful. Fortunately it was a fine, calm and mild evening, because although we sang in the refectory, which is roofed, the rest of the building is open to the elements. The concert time was 8.00 – 9.00 pm. Our conductor was satisfied with the performance so we must have sung well. The audience of around 400 certainly seemed to enjoy listening to the varied programme as much as we did singing it. Afterwards we were able to walk round the magnificent ruins and feel the atmosphere. As I said, another memorable occasion which singing has brought me.

Next year we are looking forward to singing with the Hospice Choir, joining in a concert at the Victoria Theatre and taking part in another concert at the Albert Hall.

If your hobbies give you as much pleasure as this gives me, then you will be well rewarded.

B.G.L.

Carol Singing

Carols have been part of Christmas since around 1300. Originally a French tradition from the Middle Ages, carols used to be sung on all the feast days of the year, including Easter, May Day and Christmas. As they sang, carollers also danced in a ring, hence the word 'carole', French for ring.

Forthcoming events

6 December, 12 noon	Santa Sat'day , at the Community Centre, Law Lane
19 December, 7.30 pm	Christmas Party in the Community Centre, Law Lane Tickets £5, children under 14 yrs £3
21 December, 3.30 pm	Christingle and Carol Service
24 December, 6.00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
17 January, 2.30 pm	Saturday matinee – <i>Mamma Mia!</i> at the Community Centre, Law Lane

The weekly freewill offering envelopes are now available. If you would like to take part in this scheme please see Joan Firth.

Flower Plan 2009

Date	Flowers supplied by	In memory of
4 January	Mr & Mrs R Veal	Mother and father, Mr & Mrs Thornes
11 January	Flower Fund	
18 January	Mr & Mrs T Clayton	Albert and Bessie Webster
25 January	Mrs & Mrs Broadbent	Parents
1 February	Mr & Mrs C Hood	Mother and father, Mr & Mrs Markwick
8 February	Dorothy, Freda, Elaine and families	Dad and granddad, Arthur Coates
15 February	Mr & Mrs John Blackbond	
22 February	Mr A Firth	Betty and parents
1 March	Miss Elsie Halliday	Jessie Palfreeman and Mary Edmondson
8 March	Mr & Mrs J Hudson	Dad, Mr J W Crabtree
15 March	Mr & Mrs J Hudson	Auntie Margaret, Mrs M Goodison
22 March	Mr Roy Wilson and family	Barbara, wife, mum and grandma
29 March	Mrs Hilary Gill	

Date	Flowers supplied by	In memory of
5 April	Mrs Sylvia Boddy	Mother and father, Rene and Sydney Horton
12 April	The Coates Family	Ann, Laurence and Eric
19 April	Church Anniversary Mr & Mrs Hemingway	Keith, Lily and Herbert Hemingway
26 April	Mr Colin Oldfield & Mrs Joyce Atkinson	Kathleen Oldfield and Kenneth Atkinson
3 May	Mr & Mrs Alan Gill	Father and mother, Arthur and Amy Dawrant
10 May	Mrs Mildred Bancroft	Wilfred and Michael
17 May	Mrs Rita Winstanley	Parents, Granville and Edith Farnell
24 May	Mrs Doris Gill	Hermon
31 May	Mrs Jean Shaw	Thanksgiving
7 June	Mr & Mrs Peter Butterworth	Mother and father, Gladys and Albert Gomersal
14 June	Mr & Mrs D Dixon and Mrs N Clayton	Parents, Nancy and Ernest Hogg
21 June	Mrs Chressy Hall	Mother and sisters
28 June	Mrs Sylvia Williams	Hugh

Date	Flowers supplied by	In memory of
5 July	Mr & Mrs J Hudson and Julie	Marian Crabtree, mum and grandma
12 July	Mrs Joan Milnes	Michael
19 July	Mr & Mrs B Morris	Mam and dad and grandparents
26 July	Mr John Cooper & Family	Connie
2 August	Mrs M Dinsdale	Jim
9 August	Mr & Mrs J Hudson and Emma	Janet
16 August	Mrs Elsie Clingo	Mother
23 August	Mr & Mrs B G Lister	Parents and Jeffrey
30 August	Mrs Joan Firth	Parents and brother, Arnold
6 September	Mr & Mrs J Hudson	Wedding anniversary
13 September	Dorothy, Freda, Elaine and families	Grace Coates, mother and grandma
20 September	Mr & Mrs E Hemingway	Parents, Mr & Mrs I Kitchen
27 September	Mrs Hilary Wilkinson Mrs Judith Wilkinson	Auntie Kathleen, Miss K Wadsworth
4 October	Harvest	Mother and father,

Date	Flowers supplied by	In memory of
	Mr & Mrs D Hinchliffe	Mr & Mrs John Bolton
11 October	Mr & Mrs B Farrar	Wedding anniversary
18 October	Mr Colin Oldfield, Mrs Joyce Atkinson	Mother and father, Mr & Mrs Wallace Atkinson
25 October	Mr & Mrs R Whitehead	Wedding anniversary
1 November	Mrs Joan Firth	Willie and his parents
8 November	Linda and Richard	
15 November	Donation	
22 November	Miss Jean Hartley	Mother and father, Irene and John Hartley
29 November	Mrs Alice Wade	
6 December	Mrs Joan Sharp	Derek
13 December	Mr & Mrs K Crabtree	Wedding anniversary
20 December	Mr & Mrs P Waldron	Brother, Philip Drake
27 December	Mr & Mrs R Field	Dad, Willie Firth and Auntie Betty

Once again, thank you to all the people who have contributed the lovely flowers. I can assure you they have been very much appreciated by the people who have received them afterwards.

Joan Firth

Leavers' Lunch

On Sunday 15 July, members and friends enjoyed a special lunch at the Auctioneer Restaurant. It was arranged as a celebration treat and presentation to the two Ruths – Rev Ruth Gee, our minister and Miss Ruth Needham, our lay-worker – as they were about to move on to pastures new.

The first presentation was on behalf of the Girls' Brigade to Ruth G who was very well known to Officers and girls alike. Yvonne, accompanied by little Ellie, gave her a scarf and a paperweight. Ellie is the daughter of Samantha who from Ellie's age has been a member of the Girls' Brigade along with Lisa and they are now both Officers. Isn't it marvellous in these very difficult times when we can appreciate a wonderful achievement in our own Church? Maybe this is the time, on behalf of the Church, to say a big thank you to all the leaders and helpers of the Girls' Brigade who have brought this about over the years. This brings me to Ruth N who has been a tireless worker for them and I know that they are missing her dreadfully. A special presentation was made to her at one of their meetings so that all the girls could be there.

Yvonne also presented Ruth G with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the Church and Shirley gave her a book token and a money gift on our behalf too. Brenda, courageously, gave Ruth G a 'Paragliding 2 Up' experience voucher. Ruth once mentioned that she thought it was something she would like to do and Brenda had kept it in mind – so be careful what you wish for, especially if it's spoken out loud. On second thoughts, perhaps it was Ruth that needed the courage and not Brenda!

Julie presented Ruth N with a bouquet of flowers again on behalf of the Church and Shirley gave her a book token and a money gift.

It was thought a fitting time to thank Mrs Mary Howell, our 'stand in' organist, for her help with Sunday Services and she too was given a floral bouquet by Brenda.

By now, the two Ruths will both be well into their new posts and getting used to life without us at Southowram. I think that we can safely say that we all considered them as friends and will miss them very much.

Our thanks go to Brenda and John for organising this most enjoyable and memorable occasion.

Marilyn Lister

Christmas Greetings

Joan and Eric Hemingway would like to send all their friends best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.



ALPHA COURSE

St Andrew's held an Alpha course earlier in April this year. Me, my mum and dad went along as I had heard about it before and wanted to see for myself.

The evening would start at 7.00 pm with a meal cooked by a member of St Andrew's. This would then be followed by a Welcome and short DVD by Nickie Gumbel.

We would have a short break, before getting into smaller groups for a discussion. You could either join Irene's, Stella's or Judith's.

At 9.20 we would all come together for a short prayer before going home at around 9.30 pm.

On Saturday, 31 May we had an away day at Blackley from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm where we were to discuss the Holy Spirit, which is one of the hardest things to understand. It was a lovely day. On arrival we had a coffee, then it was time to have the DVD. I found it very interesting. (Unfortunately nobody started talking in tongues, so I was a bit disappointed, but yet I was a little unsure.) After lunch we had time to look round the grounds and contemplate the day's events, before final hymns and prayers and home.

I found it a very good day.

Julie Hudson

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Answers to the Southowram Quiz

Here are the answers to the quiz published in the last edition of the *Wesley News*:

1. Hamlet on the south bank
2. Magna via
3. Cleveland
4. Peacocks
5. Bottom of Pinnar Lane/ Yeadon Drive
6. Ramsdens
7. Towngate
8. Albert Naylor
9. 1971
10. MIT (for cats and dogs)

Just as a reminder, the questions were:

1. What does the name 'Southowram' mean?
2. What is the name of the Roman Road which goes through Southowram?
3. The former garage and filling station in West Lane sold a brand of petrol named after a county, which county?
4. A former licensee of the Manor House (1960's-70's) had rather unusual animals/pets, believed to be the only person in Southowram to have this type of pet. What were they?
5. Fred Lees had the Greengrocers shop in the terrace at the end of Law Lane. Where was the shop prior to this?
6. Prior to being a Tetley's House which brewery owned the Pack Horse Pub?
7. Southowram (Village) Post Office was not always in Law Lane – what was its previous location?
8. Who was the last Greengrocer to deliver by horse and cart in Southowram?
9. In what year was the last murder in Southowram?
10. What was the pet food brand – produced at the Bone Yard (Mitchell & Broadbent) in Beacon Hill Road?

FLOWER FESTIVAL

Flowers bring beauty and happiness to any event, and they certainly did at Southowram Methodist Flower Festival held at the Village Community Centre. Arrangements were displayed in two rooms. These had been provided and arranged by 10 churches in our circuit, plus the Girls' Brigade, Southowram Horticultural Society, St Anne's Church and sponsors from local businesses



No1 was a real introduction to the Harvest Season. Straw bails, grain in small sacks, vegetables, even tiny mice and a rabbit. Then we followed on with different interpretations of the Harvest Theme. Such a wonderful display.

Refreshments were served and enjoyed by many. All this was achieved through good team work.

The weekend ended with our Harvest Festival Service on the Sunday morning at 10.45 am led by our new Minister, Rev Paul Welch. This included the HYMNS AND HERS CHOIR from Illingworth Moor Methodist Church who sang three songs.

As it was Bethany Welch's birthday we were all treated to chocolate cake with our cup of tea provided by her mum - a very fitting end to a lovely weekend.

Joan Firth

The next edition of the *Wesley News* will be published at the end of May 2009. Please let Julie have your news by 26 April.

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