



St. Andrew's Psalter Lane Church
An Anglican Methodist Partnership

NEXUS

Christ in Nether Edge & Us



August 2019 – September 2019

www.standrewspsalterlane.org.uk

Correspondence should be addressed to the Church Office, Shirley House, 31 Psalter Lane, Sheffield S11 8YL

Contents

Who's Who – Contact details	Page 2
Welcome	Page 3
Letter from Gareth	Page 4
Contemplation	Page 6
Talking Point	Page 7
Theology in a post colonial key	Page 8
Racial privilege in Palestine	Page 11
Interfaith news	Page 12
Radical Welcome	Page 13
All we can at SAPLC	Page 14
Single Use Plastic – your ideas	Page 15
Eco Church	Page 18
Food and feasting	Page 16
Gardening	Page 19
Music matters	Page 21
Sunday 2	Page 24
Nether Edge Festival	Page 25
Church and Community	Page 26
Church Diary and Services	Page 30

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(A District Group which meets at Ringinglow)			

Welcome

Finding a cover picture for this edition of Nexus is always tricky, spanning as it does the peak holiday season and the return to school and work, not to say the seasonal transition. Sunshine wins, however, perhaps more in hope than experience. This edition also introduces our new Sunday 2 development. It covers the ever-expanding Nether Edge Festival and showcases two musical events in early November. For those who take their holiday reading seriously we have articles on postcolonial theology from the new Vice President of the Methodist Conference and attention to the topic of privilege, in an article by our youngest contributor, Sabrina Waddon. There is practical guidance on avoiding single use plastic.

Links to further information are within the text and it will be easier to access those links from our web page <http://www.standrewspsalterlane.org.uk/> Nexus is curated by Anne Hollows 07723407054, anne.hollows@gmail.com The next edition of Nexus will cover October and November 2019. Contributions are welcome and should arrive by Tuesday 17th September.

Letter from Gareth

Dear friends,

As an Anglican-Methodist Partnership, discussions about closer union between the Methodist Church and the Church of England are inevitably of considerable interest to us. Conversations about this go back to the 1960s, and a scheme for union was narrowly lost in 1972. Further conversations have taken place since then, and the two denominations have been in a Covenant relationship since 2003.

The most recent plans began to be developed in 2017, and these focus on the possibility, not of full union between the two churches, but of the slightly more limited goal of interchangeability of ministries between our two denominations. This means that Anglican priests and Methodist ministers could perform each other's roles without restriction – an extension of what already happens to a limited degree in Local Ecumenical Partnerships, as we know from our own experience. So what are the difficulties with this idea? Well, one of the barriers in the way of union has always been that Methodist ministers are not episcopally ordained (i.e. ordained by a bishop), and indeed the Methodist Church in Britain has never had bishops, whereas for ordination to be valid in the Church of England, it has to be performed by someone standing in the long succession of bishops (the “historic episcopate”). According to the current scheme, therefore, a Methodist “President-

Bishop” would be ordained as bishop by three existing Anglican bishops. This person would subsequently share with two Anglican bishops in the consecration of her or his successor, and the process would continue until it was possible for all Methodist ministers to be ordained by a Methodist bishop. For those Methodist ministers, like myself, who haven’t been ordained by a bishop, it would still be possible for them to play a sacramental role in the Church of England, and this would be regarded as a “temporary anomaly”. It will be some years before any of this might become reality, and there are challenging aspects of the scheme for both denominations. But there is potential for real progress. While on the theme of ministry, it is important to reflect that, while the focus of these ecumenical conversations is on ordained ministry, ordained ministry is of course only part of the ministry of the church. True ministry is something to which the whole church is called, and a minister is literally someone who serves. The church is here to serve the whole community, and the model for our ministry is Jesus, washing his disciples’ feet and inviting them to follow his example. I’d like to finish with a quote, not from Methodist or Anglican, but from Roman Catholic writings. One of the most significant documents from the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s was *Gaudium et Spes* (Joy and Hope), also entitled the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World. The preface to *Gaudium et Spes* ends with these words, which sum up so much of what the church’s ministry, of all denominations, is about:

“The church is not motivated by earthly ambition but is interested in one thing only – to carry on the work of Christ under the guidance of the holy Spirit, who came into the world to bear witness to the truth, to save and not to judge, to serve and not to be served.”

Love and peace,
Gareth

GOD BLESS DAYS OFF

God bless days off
with no one to call back but
oyster catchers and herring gulls

nothing to pick up but messages left in the landscape

(how life is sometimes like a thousand shades
you could never begin to describe. And
sometimes life is simply blue sky, green grass, white waves)
No one to get in touch with but
myself again

No deliveries to pick up but
what the waves leave at my feet -
(periwinkles, cowry shells, pieces of coloured glass like
precious stones, willow-pattern china)
No details to get lost in but
the business of a rock pool
Nothing to follow up but
the path of a shore-crab

Nothing to file but ideas for poems
Nothing to note but the taste and texture
and salty, sharp smell of the day

God bless days off
and time to retreat into

Time to discover new energy to
take back into work

to serve God more fully

Neil Paynter

Talking Point

This is a strange time of the year if, like me, you are no longer bound by the rhythms of the work place or the school. The roads are quieter in August – even the supermarkets slow down. Fruit and vegetables abound, along with preserving sugar and jam jars. Life seems to be in a sort of suspended animation. And then, almost surreptitiously, the shops fill with winter clothes, new school uniforms, and the makings of a harvest festival: pumpkins, new season apples and late summer flowers.

But the return to school and work also mark the time when both secular and sacred organisations (and their committees) get back into action. This year the autumn season will without doubt be dominated by discussions about Brexit and it seems as if August is likely to be the calm before the storm. The omens of no deal are increasingly alarming. Food and pharmaceutical security is foremost in many minds, in particular for those people living with minimal income who face sharp increases in prices of every day items. For anyone with connections to migrants, whether they be European Union passport holders or from further afield and whether have leave to remain in the UK or awaiting determination of their status, the problems are likely to be severe and complex. These issues will also face British people living and working in Europe. I was shocked that my daughter, moving shortly to an academic position in Europe, has to complete alien registration forms.

Many of us will be living with the sort of privilege that enables us to manage at least some of the challenges. We may have stockpiled our larders (mine has extra olive oil and parmesan) and worked out how to deal with at least two kinds of international driving licence. And without doubt, those pushing in the direction of the infamous ‘cliff edge’ have plenty of financial protection to cushion their landing – indeed some may even benefit financially. Some of us are still living in hope that something somehow will avert this, while others are eyeing the possibility of a move to another country (indeed, post independent Scotland looks increasingly attractive).

How can we live through this as committed Christians who are active in our immediate and wider communities? My personal belief is that we must heighten our awareness of the needs of the many people who are going to be harmed by a no deal exit. While it may be a truism that those most harmed will be many of the very people who voted for Brexit, that must not prevent us from taking care of all who need support.

But even more serious, we must all be alert to the sort of dangerous populism that fostered the idea of Brexit and be prepared to stand as Christians against any attacks on our values and traditions as a country that respects human rights for all. This is in many ways even more alarming than Brexit itself. There is no doubt that some of those who are most enthusiastic about Brexit are equally enthusiastic about dismantling our cherished health service, our funding of international development and our Human Rights legislation. These paradigm shifts can take place almost without our knowing it when populism fans the flames of change. Martin Neimöller's words should be ringing in our ears lest, when they come for us, there is no one left to speak for us.

Theology in a Postcolonial Key

Clive Marsh.

The challenge to ensure that we are all doing theology in a postcolonial way has been around for many years now. From Catherine Keller, Michael Nausner and Mayra Rivera's co-edited *Postcolonial Theologies: Divinity and Empire* back in 2004, through Michael Jagessar and Anthony Reddie's *Postcolonial Black British Theology: New Textures and Themes* (2007) to Reddie's latest – *Theologising Brexit: A Liberationist and Postcolonial Critique* (Routledge 2019), and with a whole host of other texts from inside and outside theology in between, it's been a hot topic. At the Oxford Institute for Methodist Theological Studies meeting in 2018 it was often on the lips of theological educators. But what does it mean? And what can it

mean for White, male, Western, middle-aged, middle-class, heterosexual academics and churchgoers such as myself? The first thing to say is that postcolonial approaches must be for everyone, though it's probably precisely the likes of me that need to listen up first. The layers of privilege that have accompanied me through life mean that unless I do some hard work, I am less likely to deconstruct my colonialism in order to work out how to be postcolonial. But as a manifesto, postcolonialism has to be a serious call to overthrow any kind of domination in theology. The second thing to note is that there's a narrow and a broad definition of postcolonial. The more precise definition focusses upon imperialism, conquest, and its impact. The focus is on where land has been claimed and people have been colonized (and sometimes enslaved). Postcolonialism therefore refers to how generations of colonial behaviour have to be examined, critiqued and re-thought and what a future might look like in a way which does justice to those who have been colonized, once the powerful have been brought down from their thrones (Luke 1.52). A broader definition may refer to any form of domination so that theology has to be done 'from the underside'. From this perspective, postcolonialism and liberation theologies converge in their interests. There could, though, be the danger of diluting, or spiritualizing, the edge which postcolonialism brings to theological debate. So care is needed, if a broader view of postcolonialism is adopted, that tough challenges are not dodged. Wherever power has been misused, then a re-think and a re-structure are needed. But re-thinking and re-structuring can sound tame where actual enslavement, violence and the crushing of people have been involved. Third, postcolonialism has become a theory. This may be good in so far as it has taken on a life of its own, as a package of ideas and a set of commitments which need to be taken up and not simply 'applied' but used as a thoroughgoing method of thinking and political strategy to change society and behaviour. Yet as a theory, it always runs the risk of being an academic fad. Speaking to Zimbabwean educators recently I discovered some reluctance to accept the way in which postcolonialism has taken shape in the West. Though accurate in its critique of imperialism, it was difficult to applaud all of the ways in which postcolonialism was being used in the comfortable, wealthy

universities of the West. One might have expected it to be welcomed in all respects in former colonies. But it is not so simple when sometimes the colonized have become a new type of colonizer. Postcolonialism needed, and needs, more nuancing. The call for more nuancing raises a fourth point of particular consequence for theology. Postcolonialism can too easily overlook any positive dimension to missionary activity. Because of alliances of varying kinds between imperial domination and missionary activity it is understandable why the notion that nothing good could come from missionaries might be part of postcolonial thinking. Yet the missionary legacy is ambiguous and complex. The same education which transported too much of Western thinking disrespectfully into new places also provided the seeds of thinking which could overthrow the colonizers. Postcolonial theology, then, will need to absorb pre-colonial insights – God was already there before any colonizers came – and to examine carefully and critically how theology takes shape in colonial times, in order to see what postcolonial views of God should look like. But it is clear that postcolonial theologies will need to be quite assertive to ensure that God is still spoken of, and believed in, *at all* when much secular Western postcolonial thought may prefer to assume that God has, and should be, left behind. Theology in a postcolonial key is, then, itself to speak against the grain. But such speaking must be undertaken with great care.

Professor Clive Marsh's 35 years as a Methodist has shaped his work and he has sought to help people think creatively about how faith, life and popular culture interweave, and what happens to theology as a result. Clive has taught in theological colleges and universities and currently is Head of the University of Leicester's Vaughan Centre for Lifelong Learning and an International Research Consultant at the Queen's Foundation. He is a church member, local preacher and tutor in the Leicester Trinity Circuit. Clive is serving as Vice President of the Methodist Conference 2019-20

Ed note Edwin Smith [1876-1957] Methodist minister/missionary and only missionary to be president of the Royal Anthropological Institute said in the 1940s that it was imperative to purge the missionary enterprise of cultural imperialism because when the empires fell Christianity was likely to be discarded with them in the post-colonial era.

Racial Privilege in Palestine – My experience.

White privilege and the injustice surrounding it is an issue we hear about constantly. In my recent visit to Palestine I became extremely aware of this privilege with regards to the situation there. I am 17 years old and I spent a week in the West Bank with 3 days volunteering in the Wi'am Palestinian Conflict Transformation Centre summer camp (a partner of the Amos Trust) in Bethlehem. I spent a further 3 days in Jerusalem and visited other cities in Palestine.

During this time I was welcomed with open arms by everyone I met, and was surprised by the apparent normality of the situation to the people living in Palestine. The children attending the summer camp were not fazed slightly by the wall that surrounds Bethlehem and borders the Wi'am centre. The people in the streets of Hebron were not (unlike me) fazed by the tear gas and live bullets from the Israeli soldiers in response to a peaceful demonstration. This is not to say the people are okay with this treatment. My conversations with one of the Palestinians I met in Hebron showed the extent of the anger within the people towards the Israeli occupation, particularly towards the illegal Israeli settlement in the centre of the Old City of Hebron, and the lack of rights the “citizens” of Palestine have in their own country.

The stark reality was that I, as a British citizen, a foreigner and “tourist” in the country had more rights than the people who lived there. I had more freedom to move within Palestine and could enter Jerusalem without issue; many Palestinians are not permitted to enter Jerusalem, the “capital” of the state. I, a foreigner, was given a blue identification card whilst Palestinians have green identification cards, symbolic of the occupation and unjust lack of rights. This was the privilege I saw and experienced. I felt guilty at my freedom in light of their entrapment. My entire time there I was only too aware of the privileges I enjoyed simply because I was a foreigner.

In our society in the UK, we talk about Privilege and we talk about how it is wrong, unjust and unfair, and clearly there are glaring examples of such injustice here. As a white person in the UK, it can

be easy to overlook this. However, putting myself in a position where this injustice was so stark and undisguised such that I was simply unable to ignore it, created an increased awareness within me of my privileged position in this world.

I encourage everyone to try witness the injustice of privilege in its extremity and hopefully we can all grow in our understanding of it, and work to create a world where no-one holds privilege over anyone in life. We must strive for equality and freedom for all.

Sabrina Waddon

Ed note – A visit to the Wi'am centre is part of the programme for the Palestine Experience tour, which some church members will be joining. There is still time to book: see Anne Hollows for more information.

Interfaith News

News from Shirley House Interfaith Centre

News from Shirley House Interfaith Centre Last Sunday we had our now annual Interfaith barbecue at SAPLC and once again, despite a slightly unpromising forecast, the weather was hot and sunny. This event shows how 'interfaith' works; we respect our differences by providing separate grills for Kosher, Halal, beef, pork and vegetarian foods, but we share our common humanity with bread, salads, puddings and soft drinks that we all enjoy. Our publicity is working too, as a Sufi lady from Bahrain, visiting Sheffield for her son's graduation, had found us via the internet and another local family saw one of our posters. At the end of May the Council of Christians and Jews arranged a fascinating visit to the new Holocaust Centre at Huddersfield. It was created to enable Holocaust survivors in the north of England to share their experiences and 'memorabilia' among themselves while they still can, and to preserve them for future



generations.

Coincidentally, Sheffield Interfaith is planning a visit to the other Holocaust Memorial Centre, at Laxton in Nottinghamshire, probably in late October. Details will be on the website sheffieldinterfaith.org.uk in due course.

During June there were also some thought-provoking talks by Chris Hewer in Sheffield. I attended 'How do we talk about Jihad?' at the UK Islamic Mission, and 'The Contribution of Islamic Social Values to the Future of British Society' at the Dialogue Society in Attercliffe.

Other forthcoming events, to which everyone is invited, are:

- Tuesday 13th August 6.00-8.00 pm Sheffield

Interfaith Food and Friendship

- Tuesday 17th September 7.30 pm in Church

'Sounds of the Spirit'- Part of Nether Edge Festival.

- Thursday 26th Sept 6.00 pm Sheffield Interfaith

Food and Friendship

Radical Welcome Course

This autumn we will be hosting the Radical Welcome Course, on behalf of the Mission Partnership, Highfield Trinity and Nether Edge Quakers starting on Tuesday 3rd September at 7.30 pm.

The 4 session programme aims to help churches begin to focus on what it might mean to go beyond being inclusive – to be Radically Welcoming.

The course is aimed at churches of any size and tradition. All churches think that they are welcoming and friendly; Radical Welcome encourages churches to think through their welcome from the perspective of being inclusive.

It is suitable for traditional churches as well as those operating in a Fresh Expressions mode. The course is ideally suited to a whole church setting, but can also be used in a smaller group.

The first session will be led by Ruth Wilde who is the national coordinator of Inclusive Church.

St Andrews has described itself as an inclusive church for many years but here is an opportunity to spend time together thinking about what that really means.

Save the date and come and join the first session on September 3rd.

All We Can and St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church.



St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church has signed up as an All We Can Partnership Church. In autumn we are planning to be involved in a community, Cherkos, in Ethiopia as they struggle with climate change, poor harvest and lack of resources.

All We Can work in partnership with talented local organisations and individuals whose commitment is best placed to provide help and support.

We are generous at giving help in emergencies but this partnership is different as it is on-going and needs planned support and interest from us. We hope to do this by not only raising money but by increasing our knowledge of the community of Cherkos - both its strengths and challenges. There is information about Ethiopia and Cherkos on the All We Can website <https://vimeo.com/326294014> and we will really welcome your involvement in prayer, planning and fund raising. Let us have your good ideas about how you, your families and groups can help. This could be coffee mornings, open garden event or sponsoring a task.

Look out for further news in autumn

Judith Loveman and Janet Clark, who are leading SAPL's engagement with All We Can.

An end to single use plastic?

Mainstream and social media seem now to have got the message that we cannot continue to despoil the land and the oceans with thrown away plastic. It's challenging though. Particularly after years of cling film, Tupperware and the convenience of almost every household and personal hygiene product being sold in plastic bottles, not to say the millions of plastic drink containers.

Supermarkets have for years wrapped every conceivable kind of food in plastic trays and bags. Always on the look out for good ideas, we challenged the SAPL congregation to tell us more about the ways they have been dealing with this issue. Here are some of the responses and in the next item, there's a recipe for making your own plastic food wraps. Thank you for all of your responses. I will think about ways in which we can document these for wider use. Meanwhile if you come across additional resources please let me know and I will add them into future editions of Nexus.

Plastic dispensers: use bars of soap and shampoo as an alternative. Find places where you can refill existing containers – see below for resources

Cling film: use wax wrappers that can be washed for sandwiches or covering food. Damp cloths work for rising bread. Also many of us re-use the plastic bags that we have after washing and drying. Wash and re-use foil wraps – when too damaged, use to deter birds etc. from growing crops. It also sharpens pinking shears.

Shopping bags: apart from bags for life which certainly last for years, many of us use cloth shopping bags or other bags that can be kept in a handbag or pocket.

Drinking: use of metal straws and permanent water bottles; re-usable coffee cups;

Wrapped products in shops: on the positive side – Sainsbury's will put fish and meat into your own containers; some supermarkets (Morrisons and M&S are leading the charge) are providing paper bags for vegetables. Postera sell packs of 6 vegetable bags called Legooms in 3 sizes. They aren't cheap but

wash perfectly and there's currently a 2 set for I offer on. Hessian bags also mentioned. Some greengrocers are moving towards all paper bags.

Milk: glass milk bottles from home delivery milk rounds; soya and oat milk in non-tetra pack form

Orange juice: squeeze your own

Water: re-using the empty juice bottles at church to collect the water we run off when needing to get hot water, then using it to water plants. Egg timers in the shower last 4 minutes (free from Yorkshire Water). Not overfilling kettles.

Plastic trays of meat etc: wash and puncture bottom to use as seed trays (but not from raw chicken)

Cutlery for parties: wooden, also recyclable paper cups and plates.

Printing: set your printer to double sided printing

The biggest gripes: Supermarket packaging is the number one problem with some supermarkets (Sainsbury's in particular, except for the comment above) doing nothing constructive to avoid plastic wrapping on fruit and vegetables. Residents at Southcroft, who find it very difficult to address many of these issues, mentioned their particular concerns. It would be good to think of ways we could support their efforts.

Resources

– The Body Shop; Lush; Zed at Nether Edge Crossroads; Badger and Bobbin on Facebook; The Bare Alternative at 327 Abbeydale Road has washing liquid, washing up liquid, etc. and more besides. Waitrose is trialling refillable products at their Oxford supermarket with plans to roll out soon. The story of stuff Postera <https://postera.co/>

Food and feasting

How to make a beeswax wrap

INGREDIENTS

2/3 cup grated organic beeswax*
1/4 teaspoon of propolis (optional)
1/3 cup of organic almond oil*

WHAT YOU NEED

3 x 30cm x 30cm pieces 100% cotton fabric, washed, dried and cut into squares with pinking shears to prevent fabric fraying
Small paintbrush
Clothes pegs for hanging waxed cloth

Step 1

Add almond oil and propolis to a clean glass jar with a lid. Place on a sunny windowsill and allow to infuse for at least a week. Shake the jar daily.

Step 2

Remove propolis from the almond-oil infusion. In a double boiler add the infused almond oil and beeswax. Heat slowly to melt the wax.

Step 3

Lay cloth pieces flat on a clean baking tray and place in an 80°C fan; bake in oven for 10 minutes. Remove tray from oven and use the paintbrush to paint each piece of cloth with the hot wax and almond oil mixture.

STEP 4

Once painted with the wax-oil mixture, lay the fabric pieces on top of each other and return to the oven for a further 10 minutes for the fabric to become infused with wax.

Step 5

Remove from oven and quickly hang each piece on the clothesline. Act fast to prevent the beeswax from cooling and sticking the pieces together (if this happens, reheat in the oven). After three minutes, the cloth squares can be removed from the line and used.

GO ORGANIC Beeswax is fat-soluble which means it quickly soaks up and holds onto chemicals. For this reason, we recommend using organic-certified wax or capping wax when making beeswax wraps.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- Ensure fabric is colourfast otherwise, when dipped in the hot wax, the colours may bleed.
- Propolis is antimicrobial, but it is expensive. The best source of propolis is from a beekeeper or search for 'propolis chunks' online. Many people use pine tree resin (also known as pine rosin**) instead, which is also antimicrobial, but cheaper. The resin also makes the wrap more clingy. However, it's not necessary to use either. If using pine resin, crush it to a powder (if it's not already) and heat it with the oil and beeswax in the double boiler. It has a higher melting point than beeswax – between 100 and 120°C. Beeswax melts at around 62°C.
- You can use beeswax on its own (add in more beeswax if doing so), but without the inclusion of oil the wraps will be stiffer and harder to mould. Remember, too, that oil has a shelf life. As an example, sweet almond, avocado and macadamia oils have a shelf life of about 1 year, olive oil 2 years, and jojoba oil 2+ years.
- As the wax/oil mixture sets very quickly, it may be easier to pour small amounts of it straight from the double burner onto your wraps with one hand while spreading the mixture with a brush using your other hand. In any case, work quickly when it comes to applying the wax/oil medium.
- To ensure all pieces of cotton are fully covered, wax one piece at a time, then place the next cotton piece on top and wax that, and so on.

Eco Church

It is good to report that the problems being caused by environmental abuse and climate change are being kept in the public eye, both by our politicians and by our media. We now have more targets and increasing controls, and one of the aims of our Church's eco-group is to put the "me" into the "we". It is also not so much "how will I be affected?" but "what can I do to help?".

At the beginning of June our Church held our annual Eco-Service to which many of our group contributed. It had been advertised as a

“Sheffield Environmental Weeks” event and seemed to have been well received. Meanwhile progress on the clearing of the Compound behind the church has stalled as the main labourer is for the most part the only labourer! However we have now purchased a garden shredder for garden and eco-area use, which will speed up the clearing of the massive mound of 10-year-old garden detritus, and help us to deal with future garden waste as it arises. The problem remains though: “HELP”.

At our summer meeting the group discussed the Anglican Communion Environmental Networks nine-point resolution which concerns how the Church of England especially, should recognise the enormously worrying threats to our planet and what it can do help address these problems. The resolution mainly concerned the wider Anglican Church, but as the wider Methodist Church is soon to produce an equivalent document, we deferred fuller discussion for the time-being.

Our next meeting will be in September when we will be planning where precisely in the orchard to plant our new fruit trees, and when the writer would love to be reporting the complete clearing of the Compound’s detritus

Anthony Ashwell 255 0568

Gardening Notes

If your tomato plants have had purple or yellow leaves this year don’t beat yourself up about it. The weather has been the problem, long cold, dark periods followed by sudden bright, hot bursts has made life difficult for them. I have had flowers falling off the trusses too. Heart breaking if you let it get to you.

‘Normal’ has become the promise of a warm early spring that fades to a distant memory as eccentric periods of weather follow one another. But what to do now!

Well don’t waste you time watering the lawn. That will be fine whether or not it rains. (Unless you have just laid new turf!) What



needs our attentions are those fruit trees on dwarfing rootstocks and anything else whose roots are confined. Saucers under the plant pots in your patio or yard are essential. Just as holding water on the roots is a killer in winter their absence in summer can be a death knell. Take off the dead heads of marigolds and any other bedding type flower as this will prolong your display. If you committed to sweet peas cutting them every other day will lengthen the reward for your effort. Harvest garlic first, then shallots and onions. After lifting them and the potatoes there is time to put in a green manure. I am going to use Phacelia. I loved the way that bees dance over the tops of the flowers as though they are excited and possibly drunk, when I grew some last year. Keep the green house well ventilated and you should be cropping some flavourful tomatoes by now. I have already had cucumbers. I grew a short fruited all female variety. Less fuss than the older types and earlier fruiting.

There is still lots to do in the garden, hedges to manage, paths to clear and fruit to pick. But take time to see other people's effort. There are wonderful gardens both private and those run by the National Trust. A personal favourite is Biddulph Grange in North Staffs. Lots of steps and parts of the garden are kept separate from one another by dramatic theatrical devices. "China" is entered through a tunnel that puts you on the landing of the house in the 'Willow Pattern' plate. A set of steps down from a half timbered cottage deposits you in "Egypt". If open spaces are your thing Blakemoor will be resplendent in its heather bloom very soon. Access from the Stoney Ridge car park for the shortest walk in. If birds interest you I cannot speak highly enough of the RSPB centre at Old Moor at Wombwell in the Dearn valley near Barnsley. Good wheelchair access unlike my other suggestions. There are extensive pools that are a magnet for birds I did not expect to see in 'industrial South Yorkshire'. Common Tern, Gulls, 2 sorts of Grebe, Avocets, lots of waders and more ducks than there is space to list! I still haven't seen the Bittern though we did see an Egret last time we went.

Bill Atherton

THE HARDY PLANT SOCIETY

South Pennine Group

www.southpenninehps.btck.co.uk



AUTUMN PLANT SALE 2019

Sheffield Botanical Gardens

Sunday 15th September

11.00 am – 3.00 pm

Wide selection grown by our members

Drinks and homemade cakes available

Free admission : Everyone welcome

**TO HELP US REDUCE THE USE OF PLASTICS
PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BAGS TO TAKE
PLANTS HOME. JUTE BAGS AVAILABLE AT A
LOW COST.**

COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

CLIFFORD ALL SAINTS C of E Primary school

In September last year Clifford Infant school expanded from a popular infant school and is growing into a primary school for

children up to 11. In February year 2 and 3 children moved into the newly refurbished site on Ringinglow Road. It has great facilities and lots of space ideal for the children and for community activities. One of these community activities is the Community Orchestra. The Orchestra is growing each week and now has over 40 members from age 7 to 70+ Clifford All Saints pupils and family members make up the core, joined by students from nearby primary and secondary schools.

The Orchestra performed for the first time on May 1st with its Spring Celebration. It was a great evening, much enjoyed by all. The orchestra would welcome more adult musicians who would like to come and play. Many people have played in their youth and then have had no opportunity to be part of an orchestra. Now is the time to rediscover lost talent!

Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 3.30 at Clifford All Saints school on Ringinglow Rd for an hour.

What does the orchestra need?

Mrs Rachel Atkinson, music teacher says

“We need more instruments – I am sure there are many good instruments tucked away in attics just waiting to be used.

We need a person who can repair clarinets – we have 3 already which we can't afford to repair. We need a really good piano and we are raising funds for one. The whole orchestra is buzzing with enthusiasm.”

If you would like to come and play or have an instrument you would like to donate or

lend please contact us at –

enquiries @cliffordallsaints.sheffield.sch.uk , tel 0114 266 2977

Coming Soon

Margaret Fingerhut 'Far From the Home I Love'

On 6th November at 7.30 at St Andrews Psalter Lane Church, acclaimed international pianist Margaret Fingerhut will be touring the UK with a special **concert** called 'Far From the Home I Love'.

The concert will raise awareness of refugee needs as well as collect funds for Sheffield City of Sanctuary. Through music and words, Margaret tells the stories of some of the many composers who were refugees or who migrated for their work. Her programme includes Chopin, Grieg, Handel, Haydn, Prokofiev and Rachmaninov, and a new piece by Arian, a Kurdish Syrian composer who wrote the refugee anthem for the 2016 Olympic Games. This concert is one of a series throughout the country dedicated to raising money to support refugees through Cities of Sanctuary. Tickets will shortly be available through Tickets for Good.

ST ANDREW'S MUSIC FESTIVAL 2019

The 2019 St Andrew's Music Festival is in its 6th year. Running from Friday 8th to Sunday 17th November we welcome wonderful youthful talent from Sheffield (8th) and the Peak District (14th) to stand alongside outstanding professional ensembles. And the dazzling violinist Lizzie Dawson will be giving a recital on Saturday 16th. On Saturday 9th the inaugural concert is being given by the Pennine Quartet whose members have played for Opera North and other prestigious ensembles with music by Ravel and Beethoven. The final concert on Sunday 18th will be given by the superb local pianist, Kaoru Bingham, with music by Schubert, Chopin and others. Sunday 10th sees the return of the greatest Klezmer duo in the world today. Merlin & Polina Shepherd come back to the city where the UK Klezmer revival began in the 1980s. This Jewish folk music from Eastern Europe has a huge following and Merlin & Polina's popularity seems to grow year on year – not a concert to be missed! But if you really want to let your hair down, try the Dodworth Colliery Band on Tuesday 12th November led by our local music teacher, Eliot Darwin. Everyone is welcome and all tickets are only £5 at the door (children free).



Change to the pattern of Morning Worship.

As a response to the concern for many members of the church over the lack of families and children at our main Sunday worship the ECC has agreed a change to our regular morning worship. This is what we envisage:

- We are aiming to create an informal service with plenty of music and activity, as well as time and space for prayer and reflection. It will deliberately be suitable for children of all ages, but not childish or simplistic.
- On the second Sunday of each month the service will start, informally, from 9.00 with breakfast served in the Narthex. To start with we think this will consist of toast and pastries, with *real* coffee, tea, milk and juice, and possibly, fruit and cereals.
- We will set out the chairs in a café style, rather than in rows, so people can continue to eat and drink if they feel comfortable doing this.
- The music will be provided by our band, rather than the organ, and we hope that other people will join in. We will get out the percussion basket so the children can join in the more energetic songs. We hope to have a singing group, of all ages, to lead the singing.
- We will start the service about 9.15, with about 15 minutes of singing, to bring people in and let the children make music together. We will aim to finish by 10.00.
- We will use the screens rather than service sheets, which will give us the opportunity to use other visual prompts and aids
- Each service will have the opportunity for people to make a creative response to the theme if they would like to but this will

be for each person to take part in or not as they choose. There will be scope for reflective prayer and quiet.

- This will need to be a team project with many people being involved, both in taking part in the service, but also in the providing of breakfast, the welcome and the setting out of the church.
- We hope that most people in the church will feel that they can invite other people to come and try it out and see whether they like it.
- It is an experiment, and we hope that it will change and evolve, depending on the people who start to be part of the congregation and the things that we decide to do together.

Please think about the role that you could play in helping this come to life and let Imogen or Gareth or..... know if you would like to take part in any part of the organising and setting up of Sunday2.

The first Sunday2 service will take place on 8th September

Nether Edge Festival 2019

I can't believe another Nether Edge Festival is fast approaching, and I feel very privileged to have been involved from its second year. Once again our SAPLC family is involved with the Planning Group, organising and helping with events, and SAPLC and Shirley House are the venues for several events. It is great that we can welcome Festival-goers to our regular weekly events such as Knit and Natter, the Tuesday Cafe and the Parent and Baby Group, as well as to special events created for the Festival like Sounds of the Spirit on Tuesday 17 September.

The Community Art and Craft Fair on Saturday 21 September is my main focus, and I couldn't run it without all the lovely volunteers who help with setting up, clearing away, and making and serving the renowned refreshments. You know who you are, and so do I ...

Each year the Planning Group tries to involve as many of the groups that make up Nether Edge as possible, and to reflect the growing diversity of our area. There are activities for all ages, from walking to axe throwing (not at the same time), from Bollywood dance to felting, from poetry writing to yoga. We are always keen for people with ideas for new events to come forward, and we can offer support in organising them.

We start on Saturday 14 September with a joyous Carnival at Common Ground and end with the wonderful Party in the Park on Sunday 22 September at Chelsea Park. In between, there are over 50 different events and special Festival offers.

Cafe #9 and the Nether Edge Bowling Club are putting on a variety of events as usual - there is a taster session of croquet (plus a cream tea) at the Bowling Club which particularly appeals to me. Naturally it's the croquet rather than the cream tea which is the attraction ...

New this year is a day trip into the beautiful Derbyshire countryside, including lunch, for older members of our community who would not otherwise be able to leave their homes. There is a cost for this, but it is being subsidised by the Festival Committee.

Details of all the events can be found on the Festival website, Facebook page and Twitter, and at the beginning of September dozens of lovely volunteers will be delivering 20,000 Festival programmes to as many houses in Nether Edge as possible. Do come to events, join in, and think about getting involved next year. You never know where it might lead ...

Church and Community

Heritage Open Days

The church will be open on Friday 13th September (12.00 – 4.00 pm) and Saturday 14th September (10.00 am – 4.00 pm). Talk to our volunteers about the building, take a short tour or just enjoy the beautiful space. Refreshments available

Young Artists Exhibition, Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th September Our annual exhibition of art created by local young people has become a Festival fixture, supported by many local primary schools and at least two secondary schools. Light refreshments available, and a craft activity to keep our young visitors busy! A Nether Edge Festival event in conjunction with Heritage Open Days

Community Art and Craft Fair, Saturday 21st September 12.00 – 4.00 pm The annual showcase for artists and craftspeople from in and around Nether Edge, with dozens of stalls to tempt you. Stalls include: cards, ceramics, child and baby clothes, embroidery, glassware, hair and bridal accessories, hand dyed yarn, homeware, jewellery (new and upcycled), knitwear, paintings, photography, prints, upcycled and repurposed furniture, wall hangings, and much more! There will also be stalls from local community groups and charities, and music from members of the Nether Edge Folk Club. Homemade lunches, teas, and other refreshments available. The Festival Raffle draw will be at 3.45pm. A Nether Edge Festival event in conjunction with Heritage Open Days

Regular Groups

Knit and Knatter

Mondays 10-12 noon Knit and Knatter. In Shirley House. Contact: Alison Gregg, 266 5638.

Parent and Baby Group: New baby in the family? Join our friendly group of parents - Mums and/or Dads with babies up to 12 months. Friday mornings during term time 10.00 – 11.30 at St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church. It's a chance to meet other new parents in friendly relaxed surroundings. Refreshments teas, coffees, other beverages and home made cakes. Cost: £1. 50 per family per week Contact Muriel on 2551473 or Jean 2550198

17th Sheffield Monday Brownies

Mondays at St Andrew's Hall from 5.45pm – 7.15pm. If you are at all interested, please contact Chris Venables. 07950 432487 for further information.

The Tuesday Café

The Tuesday Café, our café for people living with memory loss or dementia and their carers opened in the middle of March. The café takes place in the narthex in church on Tuesday mornings between 10.00 a.m. - 12 noon . We intend that it will be open every Tuesday of the year (except Christmas Day!) The café offers hot drinks, biscuits and homemade cakes, music, memory activities, and the opportunity for a chat. The café already has a good group of volunteers from the congregation and we are also grateful to those who have offered to bake for us. If you know anyone who might be interested in coming to the café, do please take flyer with all the information. If you are interested in helping, please speak to Judith Roberts.

Church Family

We remember with gratitude the life of John Naylor, and hold John's family in our prayers

We record with sadness the death of Alan Smith, a customer at our Tuesday Café, who delighted us all with his music.

Congratulations to

Martyn and Lesleyann Holland following the marriage of Richard and Beth

Our thoughts and prayers are with

those with health concerns or recently in hospital: John Kenward, Chris Lowry, David Chapman, John Booler, Pat Tang, Joan Francis, Peter Rothwell, Serafina Body, Pam Frost, Hilda Muntz, George Glover, Pauline Mottershead, Lisa Solk, Fiona Needham, Margaret Abbey and Alexander Snook (son of Barbara)

Moving on: Caitlin Procter to Florence to take up a post-doctoral research fellowship at the European University Institute (happy to meet up with visitors to Florence)

Young SAPLC

Junior Church: (Pebbles 3-5, Stones 6-10,) is during the main service at 10.30. Children between 2 and 3 can join in the youngest group (Pebbles) with a parent/carer)

About our services

Sunday Services

Normal pattern: 10.30 am Service: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays Holy Communion service; 4th Sunday, Morning Worship

Monthly services: 2nd Sunday: Sunday2 – Breakfast and family service from 9 am

4th Sunday – Holy Communion at 9.15 am (using Common Worship and the Book of Common Prayer)

2nd Sunday – Holy Communion at Southcroft, 6.30 pm

Please note that the bread used in our communion services is gluten free. Both fermented and unfermented communion wines are used.

Wednesday Services

At the 10.00 Communion service on Wednesdays, we reflect together on a piece of spiritual writing. This may be from one of the Christian traditions, or sometimes from another tradition of faith. The person leading the service will make copies of the piece of writing to give out to everyone. Come and enjoy an oasis of reflective calm in the middle of a busy week, and join us for coffee or tea afterwards

CHURCH DIARY

AUGUST

Saturday 3 rd	9.30 am onwards	Working Party	
Thursday 8 th	9.30 am onwards	Working Party	
Tuesday 13 th	6.00 - 8.00 pm	Sheffield Interfaith Food and Friendship	Interfaith Centre

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 3 rd	7.30 pm	Radical Welcome Discussion Group (1 st of 4)	Church
Wednesday 4 th	7.30 pm	Eco-Group meeting	Narthex
Thursday 5 th	7.30 pm	Worship Planning	Interfaith Room
Saturday 7 th	9.30 am onwards	Working Party	
Wednesday 11 th	7.00 pm	Property & Finance Meeting	Interfaith Room
Thursday 12 th	9.30 am onwards	Working Party	
Thursday 12 th	7.00 pm	Leadership Team meeting	Narthex
Saturday 14 th – Sunday 22 nd		Nether Edge Festival	
Friday 13 th	12.00 am - 4.00 pm	Heritage Open Day	Church
Saturday 14 th	10.00 am - 4.00 pm	Heritage Open Day	Church
Sunday 15 th	12 – 4 pm	NENG Farmers Market	
Tuesday 17 th	7.30 pm	Sounds of the Spirit – a Nether Edge Festival Event	Church
Wednesday 18 th – Thursday 19 th	3.15 – 6.00 pm	Young Artists Exhibition – a Nether Edge Festival Event	Church
Tuesday 24 th	7.30 pm	ECC meeting	Narthex
Saturday 21 st		Community & Craft Fair – a Nether Edge Festival Event	Church
Thursday 26 th	6.00 - 8.00 pm	Sheffield Interfaith Food and Friendship	Interfaith Centre

AUGUST – SEPTEMBER SERVICES

August 4th	Seventh Sunday after Trinity	
10.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
August 11th	Eighth Sunday after Trinity	
10.30 am	Morning Worship	<i>Imogen Clout</i>
6.30 pm	Holy Communion at Southcroft	<i>Revd Anthony Ashwell</i>
August 18th	Ninth Sunday after Trinity	
10.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>Revd Anthony Ashwell</i>
August 25th	Tenth Sunday after Trinity	
9.15 am	Holy Communion	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
10.30 am	Morning Worship	<i>Judith Roberts</i>
September 1st	Eleventh Sunday after Trinity	
10.30 am	Holy Communion.	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
September 8th	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	
9.00 am	Sunday2	<i>Imogen Clout</i>
6.30 pm	Holy Communion at Southcroft	<i>Revd Michael Wildgust</i>
September 15th	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	
10.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>Revd Mike West</i>
September 22nd	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity	
9.15 am	Holy Communion	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
10.30 am	Shared worship at the Quaker Meeting for Worship	
September 29th	Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity	
10.30 am	Holy Communion and Harvest Festival, followed by a Soup and Puddings Lunch	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>

Last words

“You can have the other words- chance, luck, coincidence, serendipity. I'll take grace. I don't know what it is exactly, but I'll take it. ”

— **Mary Oliver**

