

S<sub>outh</sub> E<sub>ast</sub> D<sub>U</sub> rham M<sub>ethodist</sub>

# NEWSLETTER

for Bowburn, Shincliffe and  
Elvet Methodists

Sedum:  
a family of  
small plants  
with fleshy  
leaves,  
found on  
rock or bare  
ground.



“....I tell you  
Peter; you are  
a rock, and  
on this rock  
foundation I  
will build my  
church.....”

June - July '07

## *A letter from our Minister*

*Dear Friends,*

“Change and decay in all around I see”, wrote Henry Francis Lyte in what is one of the best known hymns of the nineteenth century, “Abide with me”. Those of us of a certain age may well feel the force of those words. The world as it is now is not the world which we once knew; and in many ways it seems a worse place (though we sometimes overlook the worst features of the past, and the considerable benefits of life today, when we think in this way). As for the Church, in our lifetime we have seen numerical decline and a considerable weakening of the Church’s influence. It is easy to become despondent and to equate change with decay.

If it is any comfort, you may like to note that ours is far from being the first generation of Christians to have thought in this way. “The world is very evil; the time is drawing near”, wrote St Bernard of Cluny nearly nine hundred years ago. And it is not far short of 200 years since Thomas Arnold declared that “the Church of England, as it now stands, no earthly power can save”. Yet the Church of England, presumably upheld by a greater power than the earthly, still exists, and the time that St Bernard thought was “drawing near” has still not arrived.

Change occurs, whether we like it or not, and it is in itself a neutral thing, neither essentially good nor essentially bad. Everything depends on the precise nature of the change and the outcome of it.

A newborn baby is a beautiful and wonderful phenomenon, but no sane person could wish that he or she would remain unchanged.

Growth and development are needed, and that requires change. On the other hand, some changes are neither natural nor desirable. In my opinion, the change in British society that has led to the near abandonment of many of the guiding principles of the Welfare State is deplorable. In the life of the Church, as in the life of the world, change is inevitable, but that does not mean that every proposed change is necessarily for the best (nor, of course, does it mean that every proposed change must be resisted). The process of discernment is never easy, and we shall not all agree about the changes that should be welcomed and those that should be deplored. Those that are forced upon us we must deal with as best we can. Those about which we must make decisions require wise, informed, prayerful and charitable corporate discussion.

Yours sincerely,

*Neil Dixon*

## WORSHIP IN JUNE

### Elvet

- 3rd **Trinity Sunday**  
10.45 a.m. Holy Communion - Rev Neil Dixon  
6.00 p.m. **Circuit Service** at **Brandon**
- 10th 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion - Rev Neil Dixon  
10.45 a.m. Rev Neil Dixon  
6.00 p.m. Rev Dr David Wilkinson
- 17th 10.45 a.m. **Junior Church Anniversary**  
Mrs Norma Nevin  
6.00 p.m. Holy Communion - Rev Neil Dixon
- 24th 10.45 a.m. Rev Neil Dixon  
6.00 p.m. Rev Neil Dixon

### Bowburn

- 3rd **Trinity Sunday**  
10.45 a.m. Mr John Farish  
(6 p.m. **Circuit Service** at Brandon)
- 10th 10.45 a.m. Readers' Service
- 17th 10.45 a.m. Dr Jocelyn Bryan
- 24th 10.45 a.m. All Age Worship - Rev Paul Wood

For details of Worship at both Bowburn and Elvet during the month of July, please see the Circuit Plan.

## Emergency Appeal DARFUR

'I know God doesn't give up on me -  
**we mustn't give up on the people  
of Darfur.'**

*Nigel Timmins, Sudan Operations  
Manager, Tearfund*



Please pray for Darfur and the surrounding region. As intense conflict enters its fourth year, the people of Darfur and neighbouring Chad continue to be forced from their homes to live in fear in refugee camps with scant resources. The resources of host communities are also stretched beyond the limits.

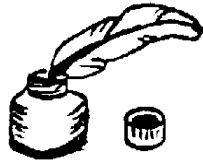
### Please pray

- **for the people of Darfur, Chad and the rest of Sudan.** Those who have been forced from their homes are crying out for protection.
- **for peace.** Pray that governments and rebel leaders will act wisely and justly and for the best interests of the people of the region. At least 2 million people have been forced from their homes and will only be able to return to rebuild their lives when peace comes.
- **for aid and God's love to reach those in need.** Pray that Tearfund and our church-based partners will be able to operate safely and efficiently, so that aid gets through and peace and community can be rebuilt.

The Bishop of El Obeid, Western Sudan, has written this prayer.

***Almighty God, you have seen the suffering of our people in Darfur. We pray for your divine intervention to touch the hearts of people. We pray, Lord God, that the different factions will unite for peaceful dialogue so that the inhuman war atrocity will stop, and that the discrimination between the tribal groups may cease.***

If, in addition to praying, you wish to give money to Tearfund's Darfur appeal, you can do so by contacting [www.tearfund.org/darfur](http://www.tearfund.org/darfur) or 0845 355 8355



## EDITORIAL

Dear Friends,

I was being good and paying the Rotary Club for parking instead sneaking into Elvet pretending to myself that I had church, or at least “religious”, business to attend to. (In my book, taking my cast-offs to the Oxfam shop counts as religious and, therefore, I allow myself to park at Elvet.) Anyway, I was being good.

The Rotarians are always friendly, don’t you find? The day was miserable and I took ages to find my money whilst the volunteers stood in the cold, shuffling from foot to foot.

I can’t remember who started the typically British comments on the weather, but, suddenly, one Rotarian burst into song. Perhaps some of you recognise the song he sang - I don’t. It went:

*I don’t care if it rains or freezes  
I am safe in the arms of Jesus*

I love the sentiment, but doubt its validity. We have entered the days of global warming and the weather matters. We must all do our best to conserve our planet for ourselves and for future generations. It’s a pain, but recycling, sorting our rubbish into different batches, thinking about the air-miles consumed by the delivery of a product to our supermarkets or by our journeys - all these are important. Let’s all try harder.

With Love and Prayers,

*Jackie*

P.S. I hope I’ve caught up with all the information from Bowburn now. Please let me know if I’ve accidentally missed anything.

**Mark Topping**  
as John Wesley

Methodist people from churches throughout the circuit gathered together on March 29th to listen to Mark Topping become, or speak as, John Wesley. Mark's surname gives a clue as to his provenance - he is, indeed, the son of Frank Topping. He is also a gifted, interesting and amusing representative of John Wesley and his thought. How very up-to-date that thought seems!

Mark has promised to return to the North-East with his monologue "My Own Familiar Friend". In this he still plays John Wesley but speaks of John's brother Charles in this Charles's tercentenary year.

I intend to go. I hope that lots of you will join me. On the 28th June, we should all be heading for *High Handenhold* if we wish to hear this skilled actor bring the founders of our denomination to life.

**Please read the following publicity from *The Buzz*, the Methodist information website.**

**BY APPOINTMENT - MR WESLEY**

'John Wesley' takes to the road again, travelling the length and breadth of the country, visiting churches, schools and colleges, by invitation.

Mark Topping, former Curator of Wesley's New Room and Charles Wesley's House in Bristol, presents two dramatic events about the lives of John and Charles Wesley.

In 'An Evening with John Wesley', 'John Wesley' shares stories of his childhood, his search for faith, his field preaching, mob violence, his horseback adventures and his single-minded drive to "advance the kingdom of Christ".

Charles Wesley is the focus of 'My Own Familiar Friend'. The drama explores John and Charles' different temperaments, their common purposes, disagreements and shared vision.

The evenings (or daytimes) are designed, not simply as 'good entertainment' but as opportunities to experience a challenging message. To check if 'John Wesley' is appearing at a venue near you or to find information about how to invite him to your church, school or college, visit:

<http://www.revjohnwesley.co.uk>

### St Thérèse of Lisieux

When I was a student, I lived in France for a year. I made friends in the school that I worked in amongst both the staff and the students. One friend was the “documentaliste”. She was the school librarian, and a gentle character. Her name was Thérèse and she told me that she was named after the French St Thérèse, of Lisieux, a nineteenth century nun.

A few years later, on holiday in France, I had the opportunity to visit Lisieux and took it. It was awful. I knew that the saint believed in simplicity and piety. The church built in her name was a monstrosity both in its size and its decoration. Even allowing for my Methodist plainness, no-one who knew anything about the saint’s preferences could have actually constructed such a building and filled it with so much kitch.

What a joy then to rediscover the real St Thérèse of Lisieux in David Wilkinson’s Lent book. “Life, the Universe and Everything”. There, we find this prayer: “Jesus, help me to simplify my life by learning what you want me to be and becoming that person”. It’s a good prayer, well worth considering.

So we thank St Thérèse (1873 – 97) for leaving such helpful sentences which can never go out of date or become invalid. Such a short life, it’s true, but, as you can see from David’s selection from the saint’s writings, one which offers us guidance.

My friend Thérèse was as straightforward as her namesake. We’ve lost touch now, but I think she must still be setting an example of calm and gentle living.

*Jackie Fielding*



**NCH Sunday 8 July**

**Who is my neighbour?**

Luke 10: 25 - 37

**'If I hadn't had help from NCH, I'd have probably had the kids taken off me and ended up with nothing. That's the way it was going. I don't want my kids brought up the same way I was, in a children's home.'**

*A parent at one of our intensive family support projects*

**'The families involved are really struggling. By working with each family member and giving them the confidence and skills they need to work through their problems, families can turn their lives around and anti-social behaviour can be stopped. This benefits the children, the family and the whole community.'**

*An NCH intensive family support project worker*

**'NCH works with families to look at the underlying causes of this behaviour, so we can get to the bottom of why it is happening. Working with NCH we can help prevent problems and break the cycle of anti-social behaviour. NCH gets neighbours involved and people feel like they are part of the solution. The whole community benefits.'**

*Anti-social behaviour Unit Co-ordinator working in partnership with NCH's intensive family support programme*

NCH pioneered intensive family support for families at risk of eviction and now runs 14 projects, working with families in their own homes or in special accommodation. Research published last year shows that the NCH approach can turn around anti-social behaviour in eight out of ten cases, keeping families together and saving hundreds of thousands of pounds.

**More information about our work in this area can be found in our worship resources for NCH Sunday available from Supporter Care on 08457 626579 or at [www.nch.org.uk/methodist](http://www.nch.org.uk/methodist)**

BAPTISMS

14th January Caitlin Brown (Bowburn)  
18th February William George Smalley (Bowburn)  
18th March Haydn Dean Stafford  
and Joseph Dillon Cairns (Bowburn)

**Welcome.**

WEDDINGS

We congratulate and share the celebration of those married in our church at Elvet.

24th March Martin JOHNSON and Quing WANG  
26th May David MOODY and Julie WRIGHT

*Congratulations.*

FUNERALS

**In Memoriam**

Our loving sympathy is extended to the family and friends of

Norman Stanley DENNISON  
(whose funeral was held at Durham Crematorium on March 29th)

and

Nora HOWE  
(whose funeral was held at Elvet on April 5th)

**The Open Ground**

*This is my translation of some words of St Augustine. They were on an Easter card I received. (Purists may find my translation inaccurate. I apologise. I'm translating from Italian, though the original text was in Latin.)*

Just as, at the beginning of Lent, the Earth puts aside winter sadness, so we Christians reject the sadness of our sins.

Just as the Earth opens to the plough to receive the seed, so the Earth of our soul, made ready by fasting, opens to receive the seed of God's word.

=====

**Our Senior Citizen Annual Runout 2007  
(OSCAR)**

The date: Sunday, July 1st

Provisional time: 2.00—5.30

Plan: A short drive by car from and back to Elvet, followed by tea.  
We will finish in time for Elvet Evening Service

- Wanted:
- (1) Passengers who would like to partake of outing and tea
  - (2) Volunteer drivers to take two passengers on a route  
(to be divulged nearer the time)
  - (3) Volunteers to be a 'co-host' with drivers
  - (4) Helpers for tea

What next? Please let Barbara Lindsey (384 3937)  
or Dorothy Slater (386 2481)

know if you wish to be involved.

THANK YOU

### **No Home, No Justice**

(part of our ongoing series on homelessness)

**Naïve Person:** No-one is needlessly homeless in Britain today - they must have done something to bring it on themselves.

**Young Person:** I am seventeen. My mum has a baby and a toddler with her new partner, Dave. There wasn't room for me. I'm staying with my Nan, though her health's not good, so I'm looking to move out. I'm looking round for a squat to join, but I don't want anywhere with druggies.

**Man:** I spent fifteen years in the forces. My marriage broke up and I started drinking. There seemed to be nothing else for me but the street.

**Woman:** I am married with three children. My husband had a good job, driving lorries, and we had a mortgage. Then, out of the blue, he got epilepsy - he couldn't drive any more. The house was repossessed, and we were put in a bed and breakfast place, twenty miles from family and friends - and I lost my job, too.

**Naïve person:** But what can I do about it?

**Knowledgeable person:** There are lots of things that can be done.

- **You can support the current Elvet Church Project, helping homeless people in South Shields**
- **You can buy a cup of tea or a sandwich, and have a conversation with a homeless person**
- **As churches, we could write to the Council saying we would welcome more houses for rent to be built in our area, especially family houses**
- **Our churches could set up projects of various kinds, from assembling starter packs for new tenants in unfurnished accommodation, a drop-in at the church hall, or a night-stop scheme for vulnerable young people**

**Congratulations**

Mr Michael Cave has won the Geoffrey Gilbert Adult Amateur Flute Competition. Mr Cave, a doctor and worshipper at Elvet, is a member of the Cobweb Orchestra and will perform at the Sage in Gateshead on May 26th.

+++++

**A Prayer for the Very Serious**

Dear God,  
Please, help me to relax about insignificant details, beginning tomorrow at 7:41:23 a.m.  
Please, help me to consider people’s feelings, even if most of them ARE hypersensitive.  
God, help me to take responsibility for my actions, even though they’re not usually my fault.  
God, help me not to try to run everything. But, if you need help, please feel free to ASK me!  
Please, help me to be more laid back, and help me to do it EXACTLY right.  
God, help me to take things more seriously. Especially, laughter, parties and dancing.  
God, grant me patience, and can you do it quickly?  
Please, help me not to be a perfectionist. (Did I spell that correctly?)  
God, help me to finish everything I start  
Please, help me to keep my mind on one thing-Listen, a bird-ing at a time.  
God, help me to do only what I can, and trust you with the rest. And would you mind putting that in writing?  
Please, keep me open to others’ ideas, WRONG as they may be!  
Please, help me to be less independent, but let me do it my way.  
And God, I pray that you will help me slow down and notto-rushthroughwhatIdo.

**VISIT OF ALICE AND JOHN TUMUSIIME TO DURHAM  
FROM RUKUNGIRI, UGANDA**

It was a great pleasure to meet and share table fellowship with Alice and John who visited Durham recently, as well as other places in this country at the invitation of Christian friends, and in so doing, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. It is seven years since we at Elvet supported through our overseas annual project the Primary School at Rukungiri, and the creation of a Vocational Training Centre, so it was good to learn that both are thriving, and to see DVDs of both in action.

This is a development of work begun by John and Alice in 1991, when several orphans came to live with them. In 1992 a Primary School was built to provide for the orphan children i.e. having only one or no parent, many living with grandparents or relatives in extreme poverty. Later, in 2000, a Vocational Training Centre was established on a new site with the aid of Global Care and our Project, so that today skills training in computing, bricklaying, carpentry, typing, needlework, mechanical repairs and metalwork is provided. It was good to see a DVD of the children at work in nursery and primary school, with classes of 70 - 80 in the school, but showing keen interest and achieving very good examination results, comparing favourably with the best in the country. John commented that the vocational students have no difficulty in finding work on completing their vocational training.

Uganda is a poor country, and the local authorities have not the resources to fund education, so that the nursery, primary and further education provided by the Rukungiri Partnership which John and Alice have established supports children by providing school fees,

accommodation in term time, uniform, food and medical care. You may well say, "How do they do it?" The answer is through child sponsorship, fund-raising efforts, support through Global Care, or as Alice would say, "We have been living on miracles with no budget, but the Lord has enabled our dreams to be fulfilled.'!!

Alice and John asked me to convey to all the people of Elvet Methodist Church their sincere and grateful thanks for all the help and financial support they provided through the Project, and wanted you to know about the growth and development of the work of caring for needy children that has been possible through the generous gift we provided. If anyone is in the area of South West Uganda at any time, there is an open invitation to call and see the facilities, and stay at the Rondavels Hotel which Alice and John operate in Rukungiri. There are now almost 900 pupils in the school and the vocational training centre, so do remember Alice and John in your prayers as they care for the needy children through the Rukungiri Orphan Partnership.

JOHN FARISH

---

#### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ELVET AND SHINCLIFFE

This year's **pilgrimage** to Holy Island will take place on **Saturday, 9th June**. The coach leaves from Dunelm House at 9 a.m. and returns at about 9 p.m.

**If you plan to walk the Causeway the sands will still be wet - be warned!**

**Tickets are: £9 adults, £6 children.**



**Elvet  
Communion Collections**

Many thanks to all for such generous giving. Please consult the weekly notices for week-by-week information about each month's charity.

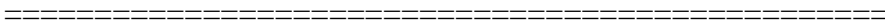
---

**'THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S' - WHAT IS OUR  
RESPONSE-ABILITY?**

This is the challenging title of the Methodists for World Mission Conference taking place at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire, from 1-3 June 2007. Key speakers are the Revd Tom Stuckey, Past President of the Methodist Conference, and Dr Robert Bradnock, expert on climate change.

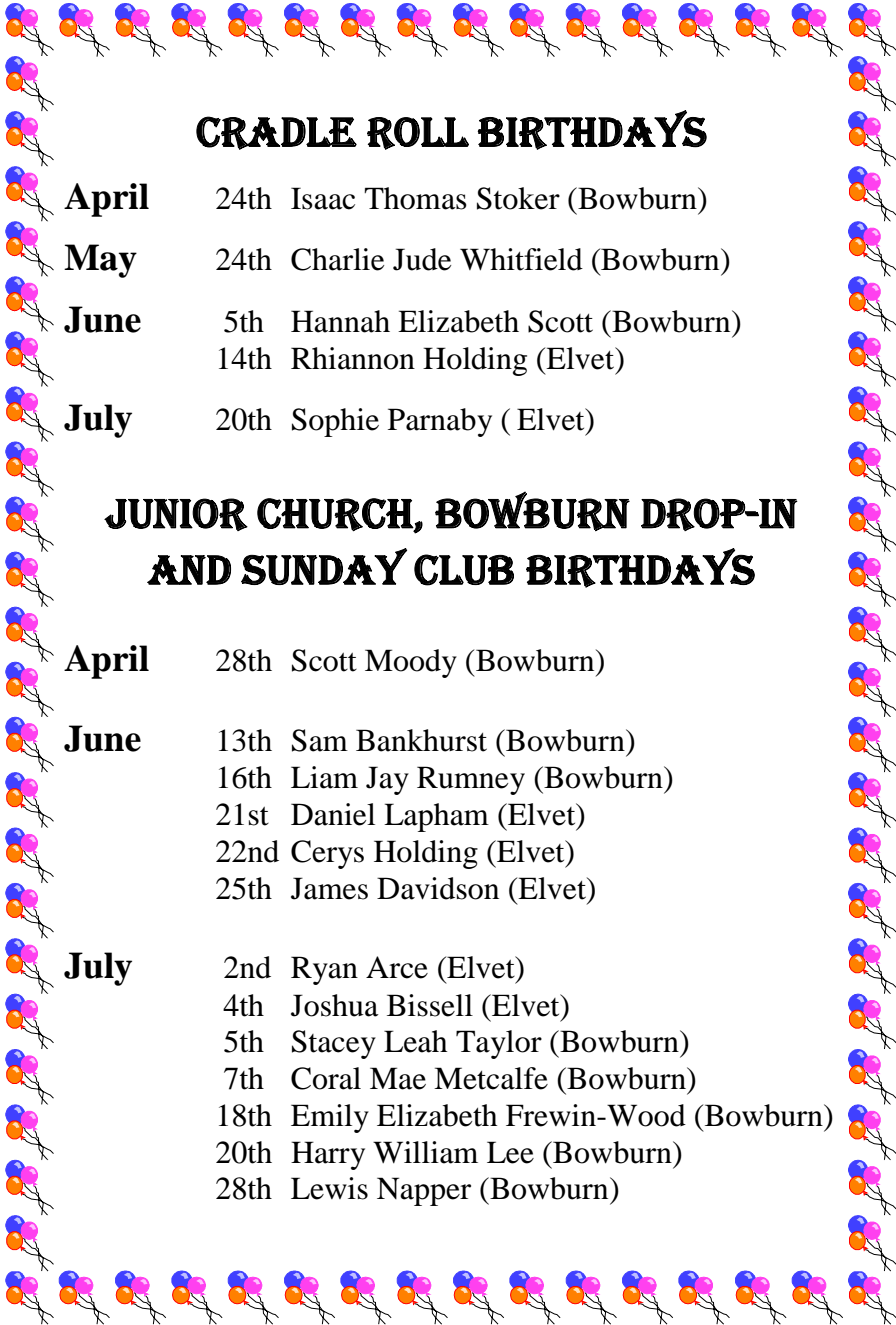
This is an annual conference aimed at all ages, which provides an opportunity for people whose roots are in various parts of the world, to meet together, share experiences, explore issues and enjoy fellowship. A programme for young people and children is a core feature of the weekend. Further information and booking form can be found at:

<http://www.mwm.org.uk>



**Methodist Conference will debate issues  
and a full agenda of business in Blackpool  
from 5-12 July 2007.**





**CRADLE ROLL BIRTHDAYS**

- April** 24th Isaac Thomas Stoker (Bowburn)
- May** 24th Charlie Jude Whitfield (Bowburn)
- June** 5th Hannah Elizabeth Scott (Bowburn)  
14th Rhiannon Holding (Elvet)
- July** 20th Sophie Parnaby ( Elvet)

**JUNIOR CHURCH, BOWBURN DROP-IN  
AND SUNDAY CLUB BIRTHDAYS**

- April** 28th Scott Moody (Bowburn)
- June** 13th Sam Bankhurst (Bowburn)  
16th Liam Jay Rumney (Bowburn)  
21st Daniel Lapham (Elvet)  
22nd Cerys Holding (Elvet)  
25th James Davidson (Elvet)
- July** 2nd Ryan Arce (Elvet)  
4th Joshua Bissell (Elvet)  
5th Stacey Leah Taylor (Bowburn)  
7th Coral Mae Metcalfe (Bowburn)  
18th Emily Elizabeth Frewin-Wood (Bowburn)  
20th Harry William Lee (Bowburn)  
28th Lewis Napper (Bowburn)

**LET'S CELEBRATE - YOUR STORIES NEEDED FOR  
ANNIVERSARY PUBLICATION**

This year's theme for the MMS (Methodist Missionary Society) and God's Mission in Britain reports is *Let's Celebrate!* Celebrating 300 years since the birth of Charles Wesley and 200 years since the abolition of the British slave trade, the publications' editors would love to hear how you or your church will be marking these events. And, as the Methodist Prayer Handbook celebrates its 100th year of publication, your memories and reflections on what the prayers have meant to you are also invited.

Please email your stories, memories and reflections to  
<mailto:sanusia@methodistchurch.org.uk>

[http://www.methodist.org.uk/index.cfm?  
fuseaction=pandw.content&cmid=1297](http://www.methodist.org.uk/index.cfm?fuseaction=pandw.content&cmid=1297)

**'EVERY BUILDING TELLS A STORY' -  
ESPECIALLY METHODIST CHAPELS AND CHURCHES**

In partnership with The Civic Trust, the Methodist Church is taking part in the Heritage Open Days Scheme from 6-9 September 2007. Why not use this year's anniversary celebrations commemorating Charles Wesley's 300th birthday and the 200th anniversary of Primitive Methodism, to open your church in a different way during the HOD weekend? How about organising a display of your church history or an old fashioned games afternoon with children dressing up as the Wesleys?

For information, ideas and resources for the Heritage Open Day scheme visit [http://www.methodistanniversaries2007.org.uk/HOD\\_intro.htm](http://www.methodistanniversaries2007.org.uk/HOD_intro.htm) where you will also find an ever increasing list of anniversary events being held across the Methodist Connexion and beyond.

<http://www.methodistanniversaries2007.org.uk>  
<http://www.heritageopendays.com>

**Arrgh!! - I'm not sure what a podcast is either!**

However, we do have information here about one of our own local preachers, Dr David Clough, so I thought we should all be willing to follow this up. Responses from readers would be greatly appreciated by the editor.

**THE LATEST PODCAST**

Bishops Rosemary Wenner of the United Methodist Church in Germany, and Patrick Streiff from the Methodist Church in Central and Southern Europe, which covers fourteen countries, share the joys and opportunities of working within diversity. Hear how the Methodist Church in Serbia has recently been given state recognition and how that will open new channels for ecumenical co-operation.

Anna speaks to Dr David Clough, author of 'Animals and Christian Ethics', about our responsibilities towards all creation, especially animals, and how we can influence supermarkets and the Government in our desire for ethically produced food.

Finally, General Secretary, David Deeks, and Coordinating Secretary, Ken Howcroft speak about the changes and challenges facing the Church as they reflect back to the 1950s, celebrating God's faithfulness, and encouraging the Church to share good practice and inspire others as they look forward to the future. Listen at:

[http://www.methodist.org.uk/index.cfm?  
fuseaction=news.webradio](http://www.methodist.org.uk/index.cfm?fuseaction=news.webradio)

You can also arrange to have the podcast downloaded automatically each month if you have iTunes or similar 'podcasting' software on your computer.

**ELVET LUNCH STOP REPORT**

Lovely meals served by a team giving  
Unstintingly of their time and energies  
No offer of help refused  
Choice of menu, changes weekly  
Hard work but rewarding  
Service with a smile  
Time to talk with tea and coffee included  
Over ten years, over 170,000 meals served  
Please continue to give your support and encouragement  
Dorothy Slater

=====

**NCH Step Out for Children**

The NCH Step Out for Children walk will be held at Pitlington on 16th June 2007. This is a circular walk with panoramic views of Durham Cathedral, the Pennine Hills and Penshaw Monument. The walk will start at 10.30 am from the playing fields car park, Littleton (340 433 OS Landranger, Map no 88) and is a distance of 3.5 miles. The organiser is Linda McDonald and she can be contacted on 01325 308180 or speak to Janelle Dundee on 0191 3773228 for further information.

=====

**PRIMITIVE METHODISM**

The birth of Primitive Methodism at Mow Cop, near Stoke-on-Trent, 200 years ago is being commemorated there on Sunday 27 May with a special service.

More information about Primitive Methodism and the 2007 anniversaries can be found at

<http://www.methodistanniversaries2007.org.uk>

**DO YOU CARE ABOUT GOOD RELATIONSHIPS WITH  
NEIGHBOURS OF OTHER FAITHS?**

Would you or your church like to develop closer relationships or new activities to encourage work between the faiths? If so, you might like to know more about the Inter Faith Training for Methodists to be held in Leicester on 25 and 26 June 2007 with a follow-up day on August 22.

Aims of the course include learning more about living out our faith in a world of many faiths, familiarising ourselves with available resources, developing ideas for our own situations and considering strategies to make them work.

The cost is £135 non residential; £150 for the three days, including one night resident with local people. Grants are available. For full information contact:

E-mail contact: <mailto:jill.marsh51@btinternet.com>



---

**Splash Out for Scriptures**

**Exciting New Recipe for Lunchclub?**

From Monton, Salford Circuit

Twenty Turkish Muslims, committed to improving inter faith relations, joined us for morning worship. They shared the Peace, came to the communion table and received a blessing and brought a delicious 'Noah's pudding' for everyone to eat after the service. This is a delicacy made with beans, barley, chickpeas, fruit and walnuts and is traditionally shared with family and friends. We ended with a reading and prayer from both Christian and Muslim traditions. You can see photos of our time together at: <http://aolpictures.aol.co.uk/galleries/rogerstubb/>

Phone contact: Revd Roger Stubbings 0161 7891869

E-mail contact: <mailto:Rogerstubb@aol.com>

+++++

**WHAT'S IN YOUR POCKET?**

A few coins, a used bus ticket, or even a fluff covered half sucked gobstopper - maybe not. But, you could add something really useful - **a little booklet, called Prayer in your Pocket.**

This pocket sized, 16 page gem, is beautifully illustrated and contains an inspiring selection of prayers for all circumstances. Drawn from a wide range of sources, the prayers include some which are familiar, written hundreds of years ago, others from around the globe, and some brand new prayers.

Research has found that 72% of people in Britain pray at some point, but many struggle with prayer. Prayer in your Pocket is a gift from the Methodist Church. Why not give it to users of your church premises, distribute it in your local neighbourhood or use it in a pastoral care setting?

### THE WEEK IN BOWBURN AND SHINCLIFFE

Sundays	9.30 am	* Sunday Club (Shincliffe)
	<b>10.45 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> (Bowburn)
Tuesdays	5.30 pm	* Kid's Club (Bowburn)
Wednesdays	2.00 pm	Women's Fellowship (Bowburn) (1st and 2nd in month only)
	<b>2 - 3 pm</b>	Prayer & Fellowship Meeting (Bowburn), <b>last Weds of month.</b>
Thursdays	9.00 am	* "Drop-in" (Bowburn) * <i>term-time only</i>

### THE WEEK AT ELVET

Sun	8.30 a.m.	Second Sunday, Holy Communion
	<b>10.45 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning Service &amp; Junior Church, including Crèche</b>
	<b>6.00 p.m.</b>	<b>Evening Worship</b>
	7.30 p.m.	MethSoc (term-time)
Mon	2.00 p.m.	Prayer Meeting (2nd & 4th Mon)
	5.45 p.m.	Brownies (Open Group) [Girls 7-10]
	6.00 p.m.	Cubs (Open Group) [Boys 8-10½]
	7.30 p.m.	Guides (Open Group) [Girls 10-16] <b>meets at St Giles'</b>
	7.30 p.m.	Explorers (Open Group) [14½ - 18]
	7.45 p.m.	Newton Hall Housegroup (alternate wks)
Tue	10.15 a.m.	Halliday Grove Housegroup (alternate weeks)
	5.30 p.m.	Beavers (Open Group) [6-8]
	7.15 p.m.	Scouts (Open Group) [10½ - 14½]
Wed	2.30 p.m.	Women's Fellowship (1st & 3rd wks)
Thurs	10.00 a.m.	Arts & Crafts Workshop
	7.45 p.m.	Thursday Club for All (alternate wks)
	7.45 p.m.	Shincliffe Housegroup (alternate wks)

**ELVET and BOWBURN METHODIST CHURCHES**

**Ministers:**

Rev Neil Dixon BA, MPhil


Tel: 384 8755

and

Rev Julie Lunn, BEd, MA

Tel: 377 8089

**DON'T FORGET**

Copy for the **August-September**  sletter  
should reach Jackie Fielding by

**July 1st,**

via the pocket in the rear entrance hall at **Elvet**,  
by phone on Durham 384 7305  
or by e-mail at [fielding@durhamcity.org.uk](mailto:fielding@durhamcity.org.uk)

Alternatively, those at **Shincliffe** can contact  
Jim Harper on Durham 386 4360.  
Those at **Bowburn** can contact  
Liz Atkinson on Durham 377 0687.