

# Newsletter

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OCTOBER 2025

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## A Letter from the Superintendent ...

The last few weeks have been a bit hectic. There are so many new things to learn and new people to meet. I've enjoyed getting to know some of you and look forward to meeting you all. It's my intention to continue to lead worship around the circuit on a Sunday morning so I'll probably see you then.

When you are planning a journey you need to know where you are starting from. So, as we look to the future of the United Stockport Circuit we need to know what makes us tick, what is life like for us now?

I know you've already done a lot of work thinking about the future. Over the next few weeks I'll be looking at what the churches have already done in preparation for a Circuit Strategy. I would like to invite you to a Circuit Consultation at Hazel Grove on Sunday 2 November from 4pm when we will dream dreams and think without limits.

On this occasion no one will be allowed to say "That won't work", "That's a stupid idea" or "We tried that in 1972"! Nothing is out of bounds. We might even come up with some amazing, creative ideas.

We will break for food at 5.30pm and lead into a Circuit Service at 6.30pm where we will celebrate All Saints' Day. I will be sending further information to all the churches in due course but please put it in your diaries now.

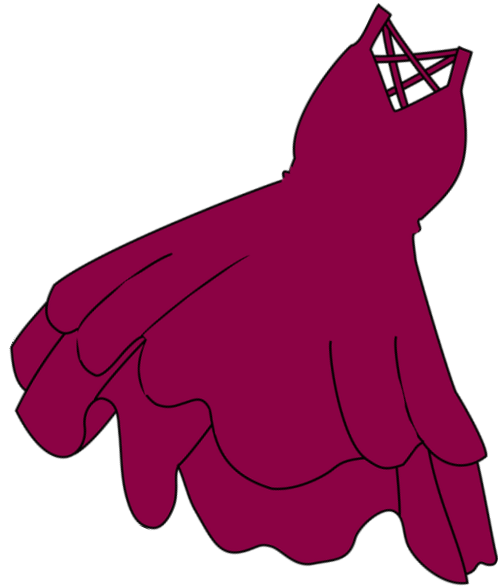
I look forward to seeing you then.

*Jan*

### Woodley Methodist Church

#### Thrift Shop 1<sup>st</sup> Ever Fashion Show:

Well, what a night! We sold 120 tickets, and it was fantastic to see our church so full. The evening was introduced by our Minister Katie Smith wearing a beautiful dress from the Thrift Shop and also in outfits from the Thrift Shop were the presenters Lynne Styles and Elizabeth Goddard. All the ladies who are involved with the Thrift Shop were there helping, selling raffle tickets, assisting the models to dress, or giving out the glasses of non- alcoholic fizz and were also dressed from the Thrift Shop.



The constant stream of models showed 56 different outfits, as well as coats, dresses, separates and accessories. They walked our Catwalk to music and slides put together by John Styles, who had done us proud as usual.

Our models, 12 in total, were 'volunteers' from family, WMC members, Thrift Shop customers, Groups who use our building and even the lovely JoAnne Roy, who we 'persuaded' to join us. They were all extremely nervous but did a brilliant job and were applauded every time they came on by our audience. It really was a wonderful evening and the feedback from everyone involved and those who attended has been amazing.



It also raised the profile of our Thrift Shop and £1,514 which will go into church funds through the Thrift Shop account.

Our Minister did suggest in her introduction that maybe it would be the first of an annual event! Having now had a few days to de-stress and catch up on some sleep we have decided it was so successful we will try to do it again sometime in 2026.

Thank you to all involved, see you all again next year.

## Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

As we continue to meet new people from our local hotel, so there is a continuing need for suitcases. We observe that the turn over is increasing as well, so new people often come with very little in the way of suitable clothing as summer turns to autumn and winter. We are so very



grateful to the people from around the Circuit who faithfully collect and deliver suitcases and clothing across the age and size ranges to support our work at Dialstone Lane Church.

With thanks from Andy and Catriona Stoker and all the volunteers for the Welcome Group.

## Romiley Methodist Church

On Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> September Romiley hosted the Circuit Welcome Service for our new Superintendent Minister (and Minister for the Hazel Grove and Romiley Churches), the Rev. Jan Tate, and her wife Alison. The Church was packed for an Service of warm welcome, at which the Rev Dr James Tebbutt (Chairman of the North West District) was the inspiring preacher. We wish Jan well as she settles into life in the United Stockport Circuit.

Our Annual Model Railway Exhibition on 13th September was a great success and raised well over £2,000 for the Action for Children charity. Our thanks to the men of the Church's Model Railway Club who organised it all, and to all those who supported it on the day and donated so generously.



## Windlehurst Methodist Church

We are supporting the Christmas Appeal to be launched soon by **Wood Street Mission**. Donations of NEW toys are welcome, for children up to age 16! Toiletry sets were popular last year to donate for the older children both boys and girls.

The toys are usually collected in November and can be left at Windlehurst Church on Thursdays between 9.30 and 3.00.

For more details please see Wood Street Mission's website: [HOME - Wood Street Mission](#)

## Tiviot Dale Methodist Church

### Christmas Hampers for local people in temporary accommodation.

Deacon Janet has committed us to providing a 100 Christmas hampers for those spending Christmas in temporary accommodation. These will go to families, couples and single people, all living in shared or inadequate accommodation that are classified as homeless. Together we can provide a Christmas blessing. Could you give any of the following...

- Biscuits
- Christmas cake
- Christmas pudding
- Chocolates
- Jams/preserves
- Savory crackers
- Sweets



Please give any donations either to Deacon Janet or Maggie at Tiviot Dale. Thank you.

### Tuesday volunteers needed in the Town Centre.

As part of the Town Centre ministry in Stockport we hold a café on Thursday afternoons. It is widely known to support some of the most vulnerable in the area, people living local to the town centre and people coming in on public transport. This is a wonderful café that is a safe place where powerful conversations and life journeys are shared and people make new friends and get support or signposting.

Learning from the success of this, we are opening a similar café on Tuesday afternoons. The Thursday team are keen to support this, but it would be good to have some new volunteers to boost this provision.



Are you a good listener? Do you want to make some new friends? Do you want to get involved in town centre ministry? Do you want to find out more?  
If you are answering yes to any of these questions then please contact Deacon Janet. We would be very grateful for your support.

## Jubilee Methodist Church

As the circuit prepare to sell Jubilee Church, I was intrigued about the gravestone of Tryphosa Woodall, such an unusual name. The name Tryphosa is mentioned in Romans 16:12 and she is described as a Christian woman in Rome.

The Tryphosa in the graveyard at Jubilee was the wife of the Minister, Rev Samuel Woodall. [1853-1920] who was described as 'a leading light of Primitive Methodism'. They had two sons, Samuel [1883-1965] and Ambrose [1885-1974] who both became doctors.



Ambrose. Lord Uvedale.

Ambrose was knighted in 1931 for services to Manor House Hospital and the Trades Unions who were connected to the hospital. It was reputed that he was created 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Uvedale after operating on George VI. Ambrose was childless so the title became extinct on his death.

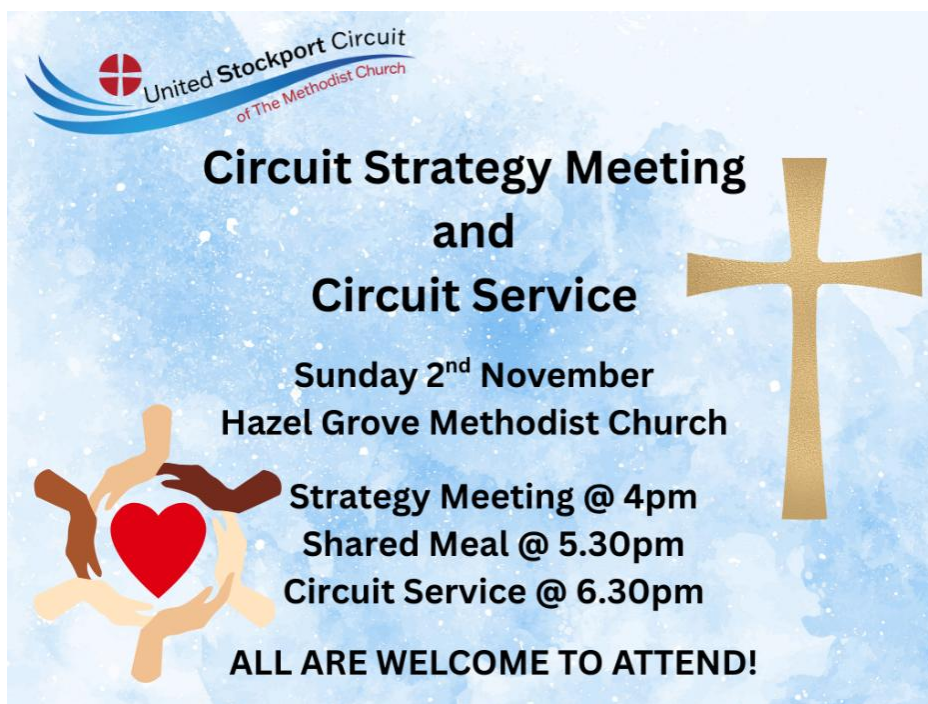
All the Woodalls are buried at Jubilee and Dr Samuel left money in trust to the church stating that two services each year were to be held in remembrance of their parents.

Anne Goodall



## UPCOMING EVENTS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

### Circuit



In November a Circuit Strategy meeting will be held on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 4pm at Hazel Grove Methodist Church. The meeting will be open to everyone within the circuit and will give you the opportunity to share ideas and contribute to the future plans for the circuit. This meeting will then be followed by a shared meal and the Circuit Service.

**Please Note:** There will be no circuit service in October

### Windlehurst Methodist Church

‘Heartbeat Choir’ are holding a concert on Friday 10th October at 7.30pm. There will also be refreshments available and a raffle!

Due to capacity limits and the popularity of the choir, this is a ticket only event. Therefore tickets will need to be booked using the given phone number.

The money raised will help the choir and Windlehurst Church.



## Romiley Methodist Church

**RAINBOW CONCERT:** This Christian Music Group are coming to Romiley Methodist Church on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> October at 7 p.m. Rainbow Concerts are always joyous events, so make a note of the date! Entry is free, there will be refreshments, and we will have a retiring collection. All welcome!

## Heaton Mersey Methodist Church



## Marple Methodist Church



## REGULAR ACTIVITIES FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

### Hazel Grove Methodist Church

#### Ladies' Fellowship

The Ladies' Fellowship meets on alternate Thursday afternoons in the church building from 2pm - 4pm. Old and new members welcome. Come along and enjoy fellowship and fun and, of course, a cuppa!



#### Knit and Natter

Knit and Natter meets on alternate Wednesdays at 10.00am in the coffee lounge. Everyone is very welcome - to knit, to natter and enjoy a cuppa. The Group Knits all kinds of things, knee blankets for local care homes, hats for premature babies, vests for newborns abroad, Easter chicks for Francis House - anything for wherever there's a need.

#### Chatty Café

A joint venture with the United Reformed Church at the URC's Short Street Site - providing a warm space each Wednesday from 10.00am - noon with tea/coffee and light snacks - toast, teacakes etc for the local community and anyone who would like to call in for a brew and a chat.



### Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

**Dialietots** takes place on Mondays **during termtime** from 9.30 -11.30am.

Come along with your baby or toddler for time to play, enjoy a brew and some toast and finish with a singsong to kick the week off. No need to book. Just come round to the back of the church building for access.

**3Ms (the Monthly Monday Meeting)** is held on the second Monday of the month at 2pm.

A social group which starts with a short quiz, has a speaker or other activity and finishes with refreshments. Open to all.

## Davenport Methodist Church

### Craft Club



1st Wednesday of every month 14.00 - 16.00.

£3.00 per session includes refreshments.

An opportunity to learn a new skill or share a skill you already have.

Come along to a session to find out more.

### Thursday Drop In

Every Thursday 2pm - 4pm.

Come along and share in refreshments and a chat, plus sometimes this includes a quiz.

This is more for fun than competition, as anyone can shout out the answers.

We are having a few more people dropping in which is lovely and very encouraging.

Everyone is welcome to join us!

### Prayer Meeting

Every first Sunday of the month at 10:00am for 15 minutes. All are welcome to join us.

## Heaton Moor United Church

### Dementia Friendly

### Heatons

**Dementia Friendly Heatons** takes place every Friday

(except August and Christmas!) from 13:30 until 15:30

The group is for those with a dementia diagnosis and their carers. We aim to promote a dementia-friendly community by providing a safe, comfortable, and supportive environment that enables friendly social interaction in a relaxed atmosphere. We are a musical group who enjoy singing and dancing and have a weekly chair exercise class.

If you would like more information on the group please contact JoAnne on 07340 269 354 or [dementiafriendlyheatons@gmail.com](mailto:dementiafriendlyheatons@gmail.com)

**Monday Fellowship** - fortnightly gatherings of fun and fellowship Monday evenings from 19:45.

See [www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk](http://www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk) calendar for next date.

## Edgeley Community Church

**Craft group** (bring your own)

Monday 1-3pm - £3 drink & biscuits



## Windlehurst Methodist Church

**Active at Windlehurst**, a dedicated group for people with learning disabilities. Local history, drama, healthy eating and exercise.

Meet during term time every Thursday from 9:00 - 15:00, for more information contact Val Rowlands on 0161 427 6807

**CAMEOS (Come And Meet Each Other & Sing)**

Friendship, refreshments and a jolly good sing! All are welcome. We meet the first Wednesday of every month from 13:45 for a prompt start at 14:00.

## Heaton Mersey Methodist Church

### Tuesday afternoon Fellowship

We have a small group who meet every Tuesday afternoon between 2pm and 3pm for Bible study and discussion, followed by a time of prayer from 3.10pm. The group is open to everyone who would like to take part.



### Chatterbox and Craft

Chatterbox and Craft meets every Monday (except Bank Holidays). Drop in any time between 1 and 3pm to knit, sew, paint, draw, play music or whatever you would normally do at home alone. Or just come along for a good chat.

### Monthly Communion

This thirty-minute communion service is a lovely opportunity to meet for a short thoughtful service and is followed by refreshments and time to chat.

**Friday Communion**  
**October 24<sup>th</sup> 2.00 pm**



**Tea & Coffee available after the service  
if you wish to stay for a chat.**

## Romiley Methodist Church

Our **October Saturday Filmshow** (4<sup>th</sup> October) is in fact a photographic presentation. “**THE BOLLIN VALLEY**” is the title of an illustrated talk by **Christine Birchall**, starting at 2 p.m. With a selection of her own superb photographs (on our cinema-size screen), Christine will take you on a journey with the River Bollin from its source in the moors above Macclesfield Forest along 30 miles to the Manchester Ship Canal. About half way along the journey, there will be an interval, when you will be invited to partake of a cuppa and a cake. Entry by donation, as usual!

Looking ahead, the November Filmshow (on 1<sup>st</sup> November) is the 2004 British drama “**The Rocket Post.**” Based on fact, it tells the story of a German scientist in the 1930s who goes to an island in the Outer Hebrides to develop a rocket that will be used to deliver mail between the islands. As he’s German and it’s the late 1930s, the islanders don’t initially greet him with unbounded enthusiasm - but one young woman then falls in love with him, and things start to change. And the Hebridean scenery is of course wonderful!

**“Music for Pleasure” on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October** is at 2 p.m. in the Church, when **The VariVocals Choir** will present a Concert with the theme “Stage and Screen.” The Concert will last around an hour, followed by refreshments. Entry by donation, and all welcome!

## **Woodley Methodist Church**

**Thrift shop and café OPEN WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS 9.30am to 12.00 Noon**

**95% OF OUR STOCK IS BETWEEN 50p and £3, MOST OF OUR CLOTHES ARE £3 or two for £5**

Come and pay us a visit, we have bargain's galore, probably the cheapest charity shop in the area and we only sell good quality clean goods. AND you can visit our excellent cafe for drinks and snacks for which donations are gratefully accepted. ALL donations from the cafe are donated to local and national charities.

Bargains for all, come and have a browse!

**ARE YOU A KNITTER?** Why not come and join our **Knit & Natter group**. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month (March to October) at Woodley Methodist Church at 10.00 till 11.30. You would be very welcome. We are knitting various items for the Teams4U shoeboxes which we organise and send each year in November. Wool, needles and patterns provided.

## **Funday Mondays**

Woodley Methodist Church invites you to our monthly fun times exploring seasonal topics and bible stories.

These are open for all ages from the very young to the not so very young - all are welcome.

There will be a time to meet people, have a snack and a drink, to play, to chat, and to craft, all with the topic in mind.

There is no charge for these events - we would just love you to come and join us.

Where - Woodley Methodist Church

When - Next meeting 20<sup>th</sup> October from 3.15 to 5pm

For more information contact our minister, Katie Smith.



**Musical Memories** are a group who have always loved playing music and singing together. We started Musical Memories in order to create social singing sessions to help bring people of all ages together for the simple pleasure of singing, talking, remembering and enjoying each others company - not to mention the cuppa and biscuits!

Studies into singing sessions for older people have shown that singing together can boost levels of immunity, reduce stress, and improve mood and memory leading to a positive impact on overall health and well-being

We meet on the last Friday of the month 2-4pm in the Church Hall and we “Welcome those with or without Dementia” This month we welcome the ‘Rainbow’ band!



### **Dates for 2025 are:**

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October - Rainbow

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November

26<sup>th</sup> December - **NO MEETING - HAPPY CHRISTMAS!**

If you would like to join us or know more about the group please go to the Woodley Methodist Church Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/WoodleyMethodists> or telephone Phil on **0161 430 8518**

## **Marple Methodist Church**

**The Seed Community Cafe** is open every Thursday morning and Friday afternoon.

Opening times are-

Thursday - 10am to 1pm

Friday - 1.30pm to 5pm

Teas, coffees, toast, tea cakes, soup.

**Lydia's Place** - craft group every other Thursday





**NORTH WEST ENGLAND  
METHODIST DISTRICT**

The District has a weekly newsletter which you can sign up to via the District website.

The District website is now live and can be accessed at <https://nwedmethodists.org.uk>.

### Events from across the District

**Wholehearted monthly mission series:** This month we'll be joined by Steve Chalke (14th October)  
What is *Wholehearted monthly*? Think community organising rally meets immersive spiritual laboratory. It's for anyone committed to a vibrant friendship between "Church" and "World" - and a desire for both to flourish. Each month, testimony from local innovators, input from a renowned guest speaker, and wisdom-sharing in networks around Gospel justice, inclusion, evangelism, and growth. Click [here](#) to register.



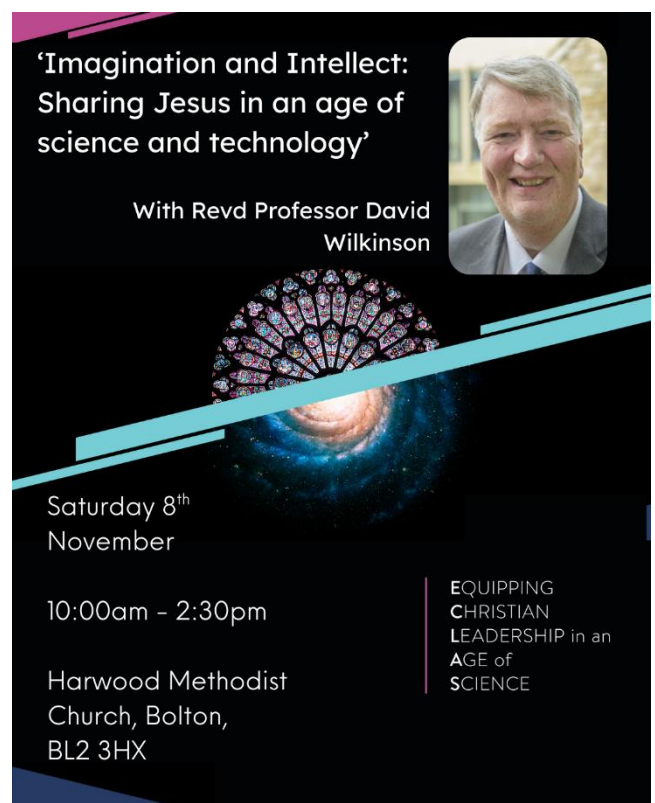
### 'Imagination and Intellect: sharing Jesus in an age of science and technology'

The North West England District is hosting a training and development day for ministers, local preachers, leaders.

The event is open to all on Saturday 8th November 2025 at Harwood Methodist Church in the Bolton Circuit, from 10.00a.m. to 2.30p.m.

We are thrilled to have Revd Prof David Wilkinson returning to the North West, under the organisation 'Equipping Christian Leaders in an Age of Science'. The event is FREE to attend, and we ask you please to book in via this Eventbrite link:

[Imagination & Intellect: Sharing Jesus in an age of science and technology Tickets, Sat, Nov 8, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)



This Advent and Christmas season, the Methodist Church invites you to join ‘**Gifted**’ with resources to support your worship, welcome, and witness - including service outlines, small group materials, outreach ideas, posters, postcards, digital assets and more.

*Gifted* is a message of good news to a weary world...

*Gifted:*

- is for everyone in our churches and beyond: both believers rejoicing at God’s gift of Jesus, and those who might find the season more wearying than wonderful.
- reaches out to people longing for transformation but feeling stuck. For those searching for something more, something real - but unsure where to look.

*Gifted* is the Methodist Church's open invitation, speaking the good news to people that they matter. That they are Beloved. Created with infinite care. A gift to the world, just as they are. For more information and resources: [Advent and Christmas Resources - The Methodist Church](#)



**An invitation from MWiB, Greater Manchester + Mission Area:** Never heard of Methodist Women in Britain? Well, here’s your chance to learn more about us on a fully catered weekend away in the beautiful setting of the Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick.

Thanks to the generosity of the North West England District we can offer 3 free places, (preferably to younger women!), to the MWiB Conference in April 2026. The only qualification needed is for you to be a woman, a Methodist, and that you haven’t been before. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Liz Stuart by 15th November at [lizstuartlp@aol.com](mailto:lizstuartlp@aol.com) or by phone 07821 190322.