



North Kirklees & Morley Circuit April 2025

From Anthony Crowther, Circuit Local Preachers Secretary:

I will admit to being a bit of a bibliophile. I do like the feeling of having a book in my hands, turning the pages as I read and laying it down by my side when I have finished reading. Indeed, if when we're out Judith and I come upon a good bookshop and craft shop in close proximity the happier we are. Even better if the two are combined into one! And so it was that last year in a charity shop I came across a book entitled 'Downton Abbey. Rules for Household Staff.' Well, how many boxes did that tick for me? I had to buy it. With a Foreword by Mr. Carson dated 1924 its original cost was probably 1/6! What I particularly liked was the wording on the opposite page to the Title page which said, 'containing the most approved directions and guidance for staff in every station within the household in order to discharge their duties correctly and with efficiency.' In other words, we're going to do these things and we're going to do them right. And woe betide you if you go through the baize door when you're not supposed to. It all adds up to doing the right thing.

Doing the right thing. Do you ever get that feeling just below your belly button when you're going to do something? A feeling that something is not quite right. It is sometimes said that if something doesn't feel right then it probably isn't! Of course, that doesn't necessarily mean that we go on to do the right thing now does it. Though often there aren't any real consequences when we don't do the right thing. My birthday is exactly a week after Judith's, so I have to get hers right or there will be consequences! Only joking. But seriously, we have to consider the consequences of our actions. That choice we make to do the right thing or not affects other people.

You might say to me at this point that they're only little things. But small things add up to a whole lot. What about the actions of nations? We see the situation in Gaza between Israel and Hamas. The Americans and the Houthis in Yemen. Continuing hostilities between Russia and Ukraine. I wonder if those countries and groups believe that they are doing the right thing. For their actions affect millions of people.

We strive to do the right thing for God. Sometimes we find it incredibly difficult working out exactly what we should be doing as the right thing.

Continued overleaf...

Continued from front page... That's where that little bit by your belly button is important. Actually, it's a little bit higher and left of that. Your heart. That's the bit that should test whether it's the right thing or not. God will guide you through your heart to do that right thing. For remember that even Jesus had that doubt. In Gethsemane he says to His Father, 'I can't do this. Take it away from me.' But God's answer to this human reaction in his son is to say, 'this is why I sent you in the first place. To die for all their sins.' And look at the consequences of his doing the right thing for God. So if our Lord and Master found doing the right thing for God difficult then why are we so different? When we struggle to do the right thing for God, take heart. His guidance and reassurance will guide you in the right direction. Most of you will have seen on the plan the Local Preachers Reaffirmation Service on May 18th at Drighlington. You might have seen it and thought that it's not a Circuit service that you'd probably go to. I'm here to tell you something different. Yes, it is a service where the Local Preachers promise to continue their ministry. Yes, we will be celebrating the long service of three of our preachers. However, they need your support for without you there would be no service for them to lead in the first place! Indeed, from amongst your numbers could be the next exponents of this glorious ministry. You are out there. I say this regularly and I will continue saying it for which I make no apology. This is from one who twenty years ago never dreamed of standing in a pulpit. So, I look forward to seeing you there supporting us.

Anthony

At the Circuit Resource Centre....

The Circuit Resource Centre,
Batley Methodist Church
Commercial Street
Batley WF17 5DS
01924 442535, email address:
nkmresources@gmail.com

Resource Centre opening times:

Monday – Wednesday 9am – 1pm,
Thursdays and Fridays 9am – 1.30pm

Apart from: closed Friday 11th April, and on Bank Holidays (Friday 18th & Monday 21st April, Mondays 5th & 26th May

Dates and Deadlines

May 2025 deadline: 10am, Thursday 24th April 2025

Email & printed copies ready by: Wednesday 30th April.

Please let Resource Centre know if your church would like more or less copies, or if you would like to be added to or removed from the emailing list. Copies can be posted to churches on request – we will need to charge p&p.

Cleckheaton: Friday coffee every week 10 - 11:30am.
Breakfast Drop in: Thursday mornings 10th and 17th April, 9 am – 11 am - fun activities for kids and free breakfast. **Meeting Place:** Saturday 12th April 11 am - 2 pm - chat, good food, jigsaws and table tennis.
Easter Informal Concert with 5 in Harmony, Saturday 26th April 7pm - 9pm Music to listen to and join in with – pie and pea supper. Tickets £5 – available on the door – or email judith.santry@sky.com

St. Andrew's Liversedge: Café every Monday from 10am until 2pm, followed by **knit & natter** (2-4pm)- everyone welcome. Also on Mondays: **MAGIC group** (Movement And Games In Chairs), 11-11.30am. **First Friday Film Night:** 4th April, 7pm: 'Dream Horse' refreshments will be provided at no cost but a donation to charity would be gratefully appreciated.

Westborough: Mondays 10am – 12noon, **painting class**; Tuesdays 7.30 – 9.30pm, **craft group**; Wednesdays 10am, **wellness class** (chat-yoga-drink) 1.30-3.30pm **Drawing class**. **Coffee morning:** First Friday of each month, 10.30 till 12, warm friendly space and all are welcome, no charge for refreshments.

Batley: **Care & Drop in**, Mondays- 10am -12noon.
Friday Coffee Morning 9.30am to 11.30am in the Brimer Hall £1.50 for drink and biscuits. Refill 50p.
Lent groups: April 3, 9, 10, 16, 17 in house groups. Please contact Keith Webster for more details if you are interested in joining any of the house groups.
Ladies Circle Cream Tea on Saturday 19 April at 2pm. Admission by ticket only £10 from Resource Centre - Sing Along with Kathie Ryan.

Longcausway: The **Repair Cafe** on the last Saturday of every month in **The 3 Strand Cafe** 10am to 12.30pm. **Tuesday Tonic's In Stitches**, 10.30am-12.30pm. The **3 Strand Cafe** every Wednesday 9am to 1pm and Saturdays 9.45am to 11.45am. Come and see our new recycling hub and drop off your used blister packs!

St. Andrew's Mirfield: **Community Coffee Morning** on Friday 4 April 10am - 11.30am: join us for a chat and cuppa. **Baby & Toddler Group** meets weekly, Friday 9.30am – 11am (no sessions on 18/25 April). All parents, grandparents and carers with children from birth to pre-school very welcome. Free **Easter All Age Activity session** on 4 April at 5pm-6.30pm includes crafts, activities and refreshments. Please view St Andrews f/b page for further information and to book.

Trinity Mirfield: **Soup lunches** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 11:45am to 12:45 donation in excess of £3.50 appreciated. The two teams look forward to seeing you. **Warm Welcome Café:** Fridays, 10-11.30am.

Morley: There will be no Craft, Chat & Sing in April.
Together on Tuesday Group at 7.30 pm – On 1 April – Anne Schofield. 15 April – Kit Owen-Smith from the Leprosy Mission and on 29 April – Geoff Broadhead – Music. **Lunch Club** – Each Wednesday (except 1st of the month) – Please contact Lynne on 07792 996805 for further information. **Coffee Mornings** – Every Friday – 10-11.30 am. **Grief Café** – 10–12 noon on Saturday 26 April – just drop in - all are welcome.
SPECIAL NOTICES: ORGAN RECITAL by Julie Tanner Tuesday 8 April at 7.15 pm Free admission with retiring collection – Followed by Light Refreshments
GOOD FRIDAY MARCH OF WITNESS Friday 18 April Please meet outside Morley Salvation Army at 10.30 am. Refreshments at the Church of the Nazarene afterwards.

West Ardsley: Tuesday **Chat & Crafts** - Every Tuesday - 2 - 4pm. **Mosaic Café** - every Wednesday - 11am - 1:30pm - 'A space to just be'. Serving drinks, light lunches & cakes. *Please watch out on the Mosaic Cafe Facebook page for any closures over the Easter Holidays.* **Messy Church** - Second Thursday of every month (except August). Doors open at 3:30pm to start promptly at 4pm. A light meal is provided and children must be supervised by an adult. **Food Pantry** - Every Friday, 3 - 4:30pm - Food available for anyone going through financial difficulty. No referral needed.
Coffee Morning - Saturday 26th April 2025 and will continue on the last Saturday of every month. For further details on any events Please email - admin@westardsleychurch.org.uk

Tingley Saturday 5th April: **Friends Café** 1 pm to 2.30 pm We are looking forward to seeing you all at Friends Café this month. Monday 14th April: **The Soup Bowl** 12 noon to 1.30 pm: Join us for soup, sandwiches, hot drinks and a snack. Wednesday 16th April: **Be Still** 7pm Our monthly midweek service of quiet reflection.. Continuing on the third Wednesday of each month. **Upcoming Events:** Saturday 10th May: **A Concert Version of HMS Pinafore** 7.15pm Batley Gilbert and Sullivan Society will be returning to perform for us. Tickets are £5 and are available from tingleymc.events@gmail.com or on the door on the night. Saturday 17th May: **Coffee, Cakes & Crafts** 10 am to 12 noon. Come and join us for our Spring Coffee Morning. There will also be a cake stall, raffle and craft stalls. Saturday 14th June: **Gawthorpe Brass Band** 7.30 pm. Join us for a summer concert with the band. Tickets are £10 and are available from tingleymc.events@gmail.com or on the door on the night.

Birkenshaw and East Bierley: Monday: 9am **Fresh Art Takeaway** (Second Monday in Month - booking required), 1pm **Art Class**, 6-30pm **Brownies**. Tuesday: 11am **Sit and be Fit** with Prinadi - chair exercises + tea and biscuits afterwards with fun and fellowship, 2pm, **Yorkshire Tutors** 4-6pm, **Art Class**, 7pm **Pilates Class**. Wednesday: 10am **Fellowship Group** + Refreshments (First in Month), 12pm **Leisure Inclusive Day Care**. Thursday: 12pm **Leisure Inclusive Day Care** (Dementia). Friday: 10am **"Welcome In" Coffee Morning**.

Birstall: **Coffee morning** each Thursday 9:30 – 11am, with bric-a-brac and book stall, offering a Warm Space in the coming months. **Baby and Toddler Stay and Play** Fridays 7th and 21st, 9:30 - 11:00am. All parents, grandparents and carers welcome. Refreshments, no charge. **Fellowship group** alternate Mondays 2 – 3.30pm: a time for sharing, Bible study and prayer. All welcome.

Drighlington: **Foodbank:** Mondays 12noon – 1.30pm; **Coffee Pot** Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30-11.30am; Wednesday **Girls Brigade** 6.30 - 8.30pm. Thursdays **Free IT training** 10 - 1pm; Thursdays **You're never too old** (YNT0) 1 - 3 pm; Fridays **Memory Cafe** - please check with Trevor Martin for times 07871577891

Gomersal: **Coffee Morning** 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, 10 - 11.30am. Gomersal Methodist Church and the City of Bradford Brass Band invite you to a **concert in celebration of V.E. Day 80 years ago** on Thursday 15th May 2025 at 7.15pm at Latham Lane Gomersal. Entrance is by ticket only, costing £10 each from Pam on 01274 874585 and Wendy on 01274 877465.



Around the Circuit – good news to share – please let us know your good news so that we can all share!

Exciting news – Anna, who is a member at St Andrew's Mirfield and a member of staff at Kirkwood, is taking on a challenge to raise funds for the hospice – she's doing a skydive! If anyone would like to sponsor her to raise funds for this excellent cause, we have a copy of her sponsor form at Resource Centre.

<https://www.thekirkwood.org.uk/>
<https://www.thekirkwood.org.uk/how-you-can-help/events/skydive>

Alternative Worship Experience (AWE)

The next AWE service will take place at West Ardsley on Palm Sunday, 13th April at 6pm. As you would guess, the theme of the service centres around the events of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, closely followed by the events of Holy Week, as they unwind. Those who gathered to cheer Jesus on his way came from all walks of life, but did they really recognise Jesus for who he actually was? Please come along to the service, which is suitable for all ages, and experience the presence of God as Jesus walks past in your life. Is he a prophet, a rebel, a great healer, or an all-conquering king? Or is he actually the true Son of God?

In the service, there is something for everyone; old hymns, modern hymns, reflective prayers, short reflections, amazing drama and videos, not to mention a great band and first-class song group (especially the men's section!!) Oh, before I forget, there will also be an opportunity for great fellowship and refreshments after the service. If you have been to AWE before, we look forward to seeing you again. If you have not been before, it will be great to see you. The service will be a great opportunity to commence our Easter celebrations across the circuit and beyond. Hosannah to the King of Kings!

Further 2025 AWE dates for the diary:

6th July at West Ardsley (6.00pm)
 21st September at Cleckheaton (6.00pm)
 30th November at Batley, Central (6.00pm)
 Happy Easter everyone!
 See you all on Palm Sunday!
 From all on the AWE planning team

Several of our churches are looking at the Eco Church awards ...news

from A Rocha
[\(https://arocha.org.uk/\)](https://arocha.org.uk/)

Some politicians may be rolling back on previous commitments on climate change, yet the ever deepening impact of climate change on people and nature requires that governments and communities everywhere become more 'climate resilient'. But what does this mean? Andy Atkins, CEO, and Andy Lester, Head of Conservation, comment.



In the first two months of 2025 the climate records have continued to tumble. January was the warmest start to a year on record with temperature over 1.7C above the long-term average. What this means is that

the impact of climate change, through phenomena such as super-intense rainfall, more frequent floods, prolonged droughts, wildfires and killer heatwaves, will get worse. That is scary.

When we look at the climate data alongside some of the global political trends, it is easy to despair. Yet, we read in the Bible of men and women of God who overcame overwhelming disasters and odds: Nehemiah, when he worked to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem despite intense opposition; Ruth, as she fought back against hunger and poverty to be accepted by Boaz; and Paul, preaching the gospel from prison with the looming prospect of torture. This is resilience, a word derived from the Latin verb 'salire', or somersault. It implies the ability to somersault backwards, or 'bounce back' and recover quickly to a blow or shock. And that is what society is going to have to learn to do in the face of climate 'shocks'.

Of course governments have the greatest power to act; but local leadership and knowledge are needed too. In response, A Rocha UK is about to launch a pilot community climate resilience project, based at our Wolf Fields reserve in West London. Our aim is to train at least two hundred people from three boroughs neighbouring Wolf Fields, in climate resilience techniques which they can deploy at home and in the local community over the next two years. In the process we will develop tools which can be used by others, such as groups of Eco Churches working together, to increase the resilience of nature and people in their own communities.

One workshop will focus on how to manage gardens and other outdoor spaces to help nature adapt to changing weather patterns, including heatwaves and droughts. That means looking at new ways of planting, deploying new varieties of plants, creating shady spaces and catching and conserving rainwater. Other workshops will focus on subjects such as food growing (as climate shocks increase food prices) and creating new habitats for nature.

With climate change the odds are now stacked against us in so many ways. But as Christians we can take inspiration from the biblical characters such as Nehemiah, Ruth and Paul, whose determination, faithfulness, hope and trust in God made them resilient – and God did more than each of them could have imagined.

<https://arocha.org.uk/what-does-it-mean-to-be-climate-resilient/>

In other Eco-related news – our District has been awarded a Bronze Eco Award!

Circuit Information, Services and Events

13th April, 6pm: Palm Sunday AWE at West Ardsley: 'Who is this'

27th April, 6pm God's Xperiment: 'Anything is Possible'. Batley Central (Brimer Hall)

18th May, 6pm: Local Preachers Reaffirmation Service at Drighlington

Check the calendar on the Circuit website for more dates: <https://www.nkandmcircuit.org.uk/whats-on/events-calendar.html>

Circuit Youth:

6.30 – 8pm, for ages 10 – 18 years. £1 subs per person please contact Heidi Curry (or see the Circuit website, <https://www.nkandmcircuit.org.uk/>) for more dates & details.

Safeguarding:

CONTACTS: DSO, Emma Goodley: Tel: 07743 006413, email dso@ywmethodist.org.uk

Assistant DSO, Laura Tunnacliffe

Tel: 07354 862617,

Email: adso@ywmethodist.org.uk

Circuit safeguarding officer, Judith Crowther – tel:

01924 442535 (circuit office), Email:

safeguardingnkm@gmail.com

Foundation Module – please book at least a week in advance through Circuit Resource Centre.

Saturday 12th April, 9.30am at Morley Central

Saturday 10th May. 9.30am at Longcauseway

Tuesday 1st July, 7pm at Trinity (Mirfield)

Advanced Module training is arranged through District. Follow the link at

<https://ywmethodist.org.uk/safeguarding-training/> for more details of online and face to face training.

Prayer Quilts:

Do you know anyone in your church who would benefit from the gift of a Prayer Quilt? Nomination forms are available from tingleymc@gmail.com, phone Victoria on 07981557029, or from Resource Centre.

Staff days off:

Monday – Marian Olsen, Nick Cutts

Wednesday - Alex Yesudas

Thursday – David Barker

Website photo challenge

We would love to see what the Circuit means to you – in pictures! At the top of our website home page is a rolling banner of pictures taken within our Circuit. We would like to keep the site 'fresh' by changing these frequently... see the feature at <https://www.nkandmcircuit.org.uk/whats-on/latest-news.html> and our poster for details.

