



## North Kirklees & Morley Circuit July & August 2025

### *From Joanne, Circuit Steward*

A few weeks ago, I went to the cinema with my daughter to watch *The Penguin Lessons* based on Tom Michell's 2015 memoirs, chronicling his experience as a British teacher who travelled to South America to teach at a boy's boarding school in Argentina in the 1970s.

When Michell arrives, he is unhappy in his work and struggles to engage with the boys. When the school is shut for a few days, he takes a trip to Uruguay where he stumbles across many dead penguins soaked with oil. He notices one is still alive, takes it back to his hotel and cleans him up. However, when he tries to return the bird to the sea, the penguin is having none of it, and before he knows it, Tom has returned to Argentina reluctantly smuggling it back to school in his luggage. He doesn't yet know it but this penguin will change his life. Michell adopts the penguin, naming it Juan Salvador. He eventually introduces Juan to his class, which succeeds in making them pay attention and excel in their studies. It is a moving story.

God can surprise us with the things or people he uses to help us change direction. The unplanned

and unexpected events, though sometimes hard and challenging, can also set the stage for growth and change. Rerouted paths can bring us closer to our true purpose and places of joy.

When Abraham was 99 years old, God promised him that Sarah would bear a child, and one day their descendants would number as many as the stars. When Sarah learned of the promise, she laughed, disbelieving that a woman of her age could bear a child. Yet, a year later, Sarah gave birth to Isaac.

When Simon Peter was fishing one night and caught nothing, he had no idea that the next day Jesus would provide a huge catch of fish and then call him to give up fishing and learn a whole new way of life.

When Mary's had a visit from an angel who disrupted her wedding plans, she had no idea that she would become the mother of the Saviour of the world.

When Mary Magdalene went to anoint Jesus' body at the tomb, she was hurt and shocked to find the body gone until a gardener gave her the job of being the first witness to the resurrection.

As we navigate through our faith, we often encounter moments that catch us off guard. These unexpected events can challenge our understanding, deepen our reliance on God, and encourage us to trust in His plan for our lives.

Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Even when we face difficult surprises in our lives, we can trust that God is working for our good. Are we open to the unexpected? I am sure that amongst us there

are lots of testimonies to share with each other. Can you share with someone a time when God did something unexpected in your life and your direction changed for the better? God has great plans for us if we are open to them and trust in him.

With Blessings,

*Joanne*



**North Kirklees & Morley**  
Methodist Circuit

**The September edition of Connect will be a 'fresh start' – we will not be carrying any information forward. Please make sure that we have your refreshed information by the deadline: 10am, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2025.**

**Cleckheaton:** Friday coffee every week 10 - 11:30am. **Breakfast drop-in** All the Thursdays in the summer holidays (24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> July 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> August)- free activities for kids and breakfast.

**Meeting Place:** Meeting Place - Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July - 11 am - 2 pm - chat, company, good food, jigsaws and table tennis.

**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.

**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

**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**  
**Mornings**. Friday 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July, 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> August  
10am - 11.30am. Join us for a chat and a friendly  
cuppa. **Baby & Toddler Group:** meets weekly,  
Friday, 9.30am - 11am. All parents, grandparents  
and carers with children from birth to pre-school  
are very welcome. Includes play, colouring, action  
songs, snacks.

**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:** **Craft, Chat & Sing** will be on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>  
July & 16<sup>th</sup> August at 10.30am. Everyone welcome.  
**Together on Tuesday Group** there will be no  
meetings in July or August, our next meeting will be  
9<sup>th</sup> September. **Lunch Club** – Each Wednesday  
(except 1<sup>st</sup> of the month) please contact Lynne on  
07792 996805 for further information. **Coffee**  
**Mornings:** every Friday 10 -11.30 am, everyone  
welcome. **Grief Café:** 10am –12noon will be held on  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July & 30<sup>th</sup> August

**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. **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 26<sup>th</sup> July 2025 there will  
be no Coffee Morning in August.

Date for your Diary: Saturday 27th September - Film  
Night - 'King of Kings'- 6pm  
For further details on any events or to just double  
check openings throughout the holidays, please  
email - [admin@westardsleychurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@westardsleychurch.org.uk)

**Tingley:** Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July & 2<sup>nd</sup> July: **Friends Café**  
1pm - 2.30pm. Join us for Food, fellowship &  
Friendship. Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July & 11<sup>th</sup> August: **The**  
**Soup Bowl** 12 noon to 1.30pm: Join us for soup,  
sandwiches, hot drinks and a snack. Everyone  
welcome. Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July & 21<sup>st</sup> August, 7pm:  
**Be Still:** Our monthly midweek service of quiet  
reflection. Everyone welcome. Continuing on the  
third Wednesday of each month. Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July  
**Coffee Evening** 7 pm to 8.30 pm: This will be run by  
our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. Admission is  
£1 and includes drink and biscuits. All proceeds for  
Church Funds. Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July: **Coffee Morning**  
10am-12noon. Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July **Film Night**,  
7:30pm, join us for a showing of Paddington 3 (PG).  
Admission is free with donations for refreshments  
gratefully received. For more information, please  
contact [tingleymc.events@gmail.com](mailto:tingleymc.events@gmail.com)

**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, **Baby and**  
**Toddler Stay and Play** Fridays 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July, *no*  
*meetings in August* 9:30 - 11:00am. All parents,  
grandparents and carers welcome. Refreshments,  
no charge. **Fellowship group:** *No meetings until*  
*Sept.* **Light Lunch** Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 12noon –  
Quiche, potatoes & salad followed by fruit flan and  
cream

**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; Saturday **Coffee**  
**Morning** 12<sup>th</sup> July & 16<sup>th</sup> August 10am-12noon

**Gomersal:** Coffee Morning 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, 10 -11.30am. **Strawberry Cream Tea** - July 12th 2.00pm and 3.30pm Tickets £6 mainly available for 2.00pm sitting. Phone 01274 877465. Doors open from 1.30pm. Stalls for Cards, Books, Crafts and Chocolate Tombola

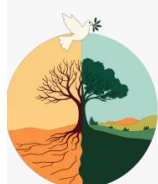
### Several of our churches are looking at the Eco Church awards...news

from A Rocha

(<https://arocha.org.uk/>)

#### Season of Creation

From 1<sup>st</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October, Season of Creation is an annual, ecumenical celebration of prayer and action for creation. This year's theme is 'Peace with Creation'. This is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home.



**PEACE  
WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Garden of Peace  
Isaiah 32:14-18

### Circuit Information, Services and Events

6<sup>th</sup> July, 6pm: AWE at West Ardsley  
12<sup>th</sup> July Circuit Youth Sponsored Walk (*See below*)  
24<sup>th</sup> Aug, 10:30am: United Service at Longcauseway

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

#### Circuit Youth:

Sponsored Walk – 12<sup>th</sup> July, to raise funds for their residential weekend in September  
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.

#### “Out of your comfort zone”

The next AWE service on 6<sup>th</sup> July at West Ardsley focuses on this very subject, using Luke 10: 1–11 as our text and study guide (the commissioning of the 72). When I personally answered Gods call to preach some 20 years ago, I definitely felt very much out of my comfort zone, but thankfully I had the benefit of an excellent mentor (Douglas Perry), a fully supportive team of Ministers and the encouraging support of a wonderful group of Local Preachers.

This letter, therefore, is a personal invitation to everyone in the circuit to come along on the 6<sup>th</sup> July and support those who are taking part and to offer their worship to God. The service includes a personal testimony and a short reflection, not to mention a great band and song group.

*Stephen Stokes*

### Safeguarding:

**CONTACTS:** DSO, Emma Goodley: Tel: 07743 006413, email: [dso@ywmethodist.org.uk](mailto:dso@ywmethodist.org.uk)  
Assistant DSO, Laura Tunnacliffe: Tel: 07354 862617, email: [adso@ywmethodist.org.uk](mailto:adso@ywmethodist.org.uk)  
Circuit safeguarding officer, Judith Crowther – Tel: 01924 442535 (circuit office), email: [safeguardingnkm@gmail.com](mailto:safeguardingnkm@gmail.com)  
**Foundation Module** – more sessions to follow later on in the year.

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 who would benefit from the gift of a Prayer Quilt? Nomination forms are available on the Circuit Website, from [tingleymc@gmail.com](mailto:tingleymc@gmail.com), or from Resource Centre.