

# AROUND THE DALE

The Newsletter of the Calderdale Methodist Circuit

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Number 5

Summer 2014

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## Cross Hills Now Open

The new church building at Cross Hills, Greetland opened for worship on Sunday 15th June in a service of dedication that was led by the Chair of the West Yorkshire Methodist District, Revd Dr Roger Walton. The service was attended by the Mayor of Calderdale Cllr Pat Allen, and her Consort Mr Robert Weeks, representatives from other churches in the Calderdale Circuit and Circuits further afield, the West Yorkshire District and members and friends of the church.



The building is on the site of the former Greetland Methodist Church. The previous building on the site had been of a single storey wooden construction which had been erected 40 years ago when the original Wesleyan church had been demolished. That building dated from 1779 and John Wesley preached there several times in the 1780s.

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**A Service of Welcome for  
The Revd Mark Cheetham  
as a minister in the Calderdale Circuit  
will be held on**

**Saturday 30th August 2014**

**St. Matthew's Church, Rastrick**

**At 6.00 pm.**

The Revd Mark Cheetham will join the Calderdale Circuit team of ministers at the beginning of September 2014. He will have spiritual and pastoral responsibility for the churchgoers at Brighouse Central, Clifton and St Matthew's LEP, Rastrick.

After 3 years of Ministerial training at Wesley House Cambridge and a post-graduate year at Wesley College Bristol, Mark has been a minister in the Leicester Trinity Circuit since 2007. He is also currently the University of Leicester Methodist chaplain.

Please give a warm Yorkshire welcome to Mark and his wife Mariet.

*Cross Hills - from page 2*

The original church buildings closed in July 2013, Lindwell on the 7th and Greetland on the 14th. Since then the church has met for worship in a room at St Thomas' church. Other organisations from Cross Hills have met there over the last year. Revd Francis Neil, the minister of Cross Hills said "We are deeply grateful to the Revd Terry Swinhoe the Vicar of St Thomas' and all our friends at St Thomas' for all their prayers, support and encouragement and we look forward to serving the community together in Jesus' name" (The two churches are entering into a covenant in July which will form a commitment for the two churches continuing to work together in Greetland).



The design of the building was developed by Phil Hawdon RIBA of Hawdon Russell Architects of Sowerby Bridge and in consultation with representatives from the church community. The new building provides multi-use and flexible spaces and has a high level of insulation; the overall performance being 270% above the level required by Building Regulations. All lighting is LED running on very low electrical current.

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Revd Francis Neil said "The opening dedication service was a special day where we were able to give thanks to God and all those people who have supported the development of Cross Hills so that the church can continue and develop to live out 'Our Calling' to be a people who:

**Know** the love of Jesus Christ

**Grow** in the love of Jesus Christ

**Go** and share the love of Jesus Christ"

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## **An Italian Journey A Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi**

with The Revd Graham Smith  
and The Revd David Griffiths  
14th to 21st September 2015

David and I are hoping to take a group to Rome and Assisi next year and you are invited to consider coming with us.

David Griffiths was an Anglican colleague of mine when I was minister at Horwich in Lancashire and we co-led a very moving visit to the Holy Land two years ago.



For further information please contact Graham Smith on 01484 718807 or email at:  
[graham.smith@methodist.org.uk](mailto:graham.smith@methodist.org.uk)

**Graham Smith**

## Southgate Methodist Church Centenary in 2015

Southgate is celebrating the centenary of the Church building in June 2015, although the



Society dates from 1850. The first building on the current site was the Sunday School, (now known as the Christian Centre). It was also used as the Church and was opened for public worship in December

1891. Funds at the time did not permit the building of a separate Church building.

The society always intended to build a Church and this dream came true when at a trustees meeting in 1910 they took the decision in faith to move forward and build the Church which was finally completed and dedicated on 5th June 1915.

The centenary celebrations were launched over the weekend of 12th/13th July which marked the 100th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stones.

There are a number of special events over the next year to celebrate the centenary and the events will climax over the weekend of 5th, 6th and 7th June 2015 with a flower festival, exhibition of memorabilia and a thanksgiving service at which the preacher will be the Revd Dr. Roger Walton – the district chair, with our Minister Revd Colin leading the evening service.

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## Heptonstall's 250th

Our 250th Church Anniversary Celebrations will be on the 11th & 12th October.

On **Saturday 11th October** at 7.30pm we are having a concert by the Elland Male Voice Choir and members of the Hebden Bridge Band.

On **Sunday 12th October** at 3.00pm we have a Circuit Service with the President of the Methodist Conference.

Full details and posters will be distributed soon.

**Margaret Coupe (Senior Steward)**



'I'm afraid the remote doesn't work in church.'

*Southgate Centenary - from page 3*

Whilst the centenary is about celebrating our past, it is also about our present ministry, and planning for our future mission to the community of Elland.

The next 12 months are going to be exciting and challenging times! As a Church we would greatly value your prayers as we look to the future in faith.

Full details of all the centenary events, including a more detailed history, can be found on the centenary section of the Southgate website:

[southgatemethodistchurch.org.uk](http://southgatemethodistchurch.org.uk).

We look forward to welcoming members and friends from around the circuit to any or all of these special centenary events.



**Methodist Relief and Development Fund** has adopted a new name, 'All We Can'. MRDF is more than a fund, it's an active voice for change.

This year they are supporting 'Jubilee Debt Campaign' and 'War on Want'. Cards are available outlining the root causes of poverty and asking for support by completing the two cards and sending them to the UK Government. We are encouraged to return the postcards. Find out more at your local church.

## We are proud to support Fairtrade

[www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)



Many churches in the circuit have supported Fairtrade over many years and have had this commitment recognised by registering with the Fairtrade Foundation as Fairtrade Churches.

At a recent Circuit Meeting it was agreed that the circuit would work towards registration as a Fairtrade Denominational Area. As part of this process we would encourage churches to support Fairtrade as part of their mission and to seek to register as Fairtrade churches.

As part of their work, the Circuit Church and Society Team will support Fairtrade activities across the circuit and can assist individual churches who wish to become Fairtrade churches.

**Bob Young**

It is hoped that Issue No. 6 of this Newsletter will come out shortly after the next Circuit Meeting. Please send material to [graham.smith@methodist.org.uk](mailto:graham.smith@methodist.org.uk) by **Monday 13th October 2014**

### **Around the Dale**

The Newsletter of the Calderdale Circuit of the Methodist Church