

August/September 2026

The ***MESSENGER***



The **Methodist** Church at Bramhope

For details of weekly Worship please check the service list or the church website

SUNDAY @ 10.30am	MORNING WORSHIP - First Sunday in the month with HOLY COMMUNION
MONDAY 9.30-10am 4.30-5.30 7pm	PRAYER TIME in the Low Room FIRST CLASS LEARNING - Maths, English & Science Tuition - 07415 190952 SLIMMING WORLD – 07986 133825
TUESDAY 10.30-12.00 10.30-11.30 4-6pm From 7pm	COFFEE SHOP in the Hall WHAT'S IN THE BOX for pre-school children – term time only. FIRST CLASS LEARNING - Maths, English & Science Tuition - 07415 190952 FILM CLUB – 1 st Tuesday in the month from Oct–April - 0113-2678332
WEDNESDAY 10.15-11.15am 2.15-3pm 4.30-5.30pm	TAI CHI – organised by OPAL Tel 0113-2619103 MOVE IT OR LOSE IT - 07786 393375 MUSICAL THEATRE LIFE - 07814 451017
THURSDAY 7.30pm	THURSDAY LADIES' GROUP - Second Thursday in the month September-May
FRIDAY 9.30-10.30 2pm	ZUMBA – 07887 561908 HISTORICAL SOCIETY – meets twice monthly from Sept–May - 0113-2672906
SATURDAY 9.30am (monthly) 9-10.30am	WALKING GROUP – guided walks throughout the year – meet at Church for car sharing or self-drive to the start. DANCE INC – a range of different dance classes for children from 3 to 10yrs+ - 07707 055491



Words from Wendy

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2026

The Methodist Church at Bramhope

Minister: **Rev Wendy Walker**

wendy.walker@methodist.org.uk

Dear friends,

One of the joys of a church magazine is discovering the stories that shape our life together. This month I especially enjoyed reading Catherine's account of a Camino walk with Richard. Her reflection reminded me that we are all, in our own ways, pilgrims on a journey — sometimes travelling far, sometimes simply taking the next faithful step in the ordinary places of our lives. What struck me most was the companionship, the steady rhythm of walking, and the way strangers became fellow travellers. Their story carries a quiet wisdom: that life is best lived with others beside us, and that perseverance often looks like putting one foot in front of the other.

This is true of our journey together as a church as well. The path is not always smooth; there are moments when we see things differently, or when the way ahead feels uncertain. Yet we remain committed to walking alongside one another with kindness, patience, and grace. Pilgrimage is not about perfection. It is about staying on the road together, trusting that God meets us as we go.

It is a year now since I began serving as your minister. Like any pilgrimage, this first year has been shaped by welcome, learning, shared worship, and the gentle discovery of who we are together. Thank you for the kindness you have shown, and for the many small acts of grace that sustain our churches day by day. May this new church year bring steadiness, gratitude, and a renewed commitment to God's justice and peace.

Yours in Christ, **Wendy**

Please see the Circuit Website for Special Services, News and Events <https://wandamethodists.org.uk> and the Church website for our Services, Events, the Messenger and Bible Verse of the Day www.bramhopemethodist.org.uk

Our Church Mission Statement:

“Together as a Church family we are aspiring to love God, the Community and each other through worship, prayer, learning, service and outreach.”

FLOWER ROTA - August and September

2 nd Aug	J Davidson	6 th Sept	D Whittaker
9 th	M Rider	13 th	N Sykes
16 th	C Birkby	20 th	tbc
23 rd	P Khan	27 th	M Fielding
30 th	J Bosomworth		

The church is open on Saturdays between 9.30 and 10.30am. Please use the Low Room to prepare your flowers where the vases are stored. Ring 0113-2678773 if you have any queries, or would like to be included or taken off the Rota.

Thank you to all those who generously donate flowers, these are distributed to our friends and neighbours after our Services.

Methodist Homes (MHA)

A very big thank you to all who kindly donated to the MHA collection in June, following Rev Wendy's Service. £190.10 was raised and will be sent onto the charity.

HARVEST COLLECTION for the Salvation Army

From Sunday 20th September and up to and including Sunday 18th October, when we have our Harvest Family Service, we will be collecting for the Salvation Army – the usual gifts of dried and tinned foods, tea, coffee, sugar, cereals etc will be most welcome. Thank you in anticipation.

Worship in August and September

Sunday morning Services all start at 10.30am

August	
2 nd	Service led by Mrs Viv Pitts
9 th	Worship led by the Stewards using a Service prepared by the Rev Tim Perkins
16 th	Holy Communion Service led by Rev Wendy Walker Pool 'Songs of Praise' at 3.30pm
23 rd	Service led by Mr David Tate Norwood Chapel Anniversary Service at 2.30pm led by Rev Tim Perkins
30 th	Chevin Multi-Site Church United Service at Bramhope led by Rev Annie Baker-Streevy
September	
6 th	Holy Communion Service led by Rev Michael Faulkner
13 th	Local Arrangement Service led by the Stewards
20 th	Heritage Open Day Service led by Rev Wendy Walker
27 th	Church Anniversary – 130 years of worship Holy Communion Service led by Rev Annie Baker-Streevy

Norwood Chapel Anniversary

Norwood celebrates 100 years of worship this year on the 23rd August at 2.30pm when Rev Tim Perkins will lead the Service.

Over the years Bramhope has enjoyed many happy days at Norwood serving Bank Holiday Teas and it would be appropriate if some of our Congregation could support the Chapel on this special day.

Tea and cake will be served after the Service.

Norwood Services are at 2.30pm on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in the month.

FINANCIAL REPORT to June 2026



Accounts

The averaged weekly collections for the periods to June were:

	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>
Envelopes, Cash and Standing Orders	£ 527	£ 511

The level of Giving has increased by 3%. We have had the benefit of new members giving in cash terms and by standing order and a proportion of existing members have reviewed their standing orders and increased them. Thank you all for this generosity.

Charity collections have raised £351 for Action for Children, £111 for the Easter appeal for Women in Britain, £257 for Smile and £190 for Methodist Homes for the Aged. Gifts of toys have been made to the Salvation Army and toiletries to St George's crypt. Grants have been made to the Royal British Legion and the Jamaica Appeal.

We have benefitted from a bequest of £5,000.

Ignoring collections, donations and bequests, Receipts are slightly down at £17,600. Quizzes raised £1,088.

Total Income is £54,833 compared to £54,017.

Expenditure is £49,983 compared to £53,562 the reduction is mainly utilities (long winter last year) with gas down and electricity up.

Overall there is a surplus to date of £4,899 compared to £455 last year.

The General Reserve stands at £13,577 and maintenance reserves for the Church at £12,290 and for the cottage £6,000.

Looking forward for the Financial Year to August 2026

Subject to the following I anticipate a modest surplus for the year, however this is after the benefit of the £5,000 bequest. While we have fortunately benefitted from donations and bequests for several years. Ongoing Income and Expenditure, which may not include these incomes, must be monitored to ensure a realistic assessment of the ongoing position.

Heating costs are now stabilising at the higher unit price costs and usage is being monitored to ensure it is kept to a minimum. Repair costs for such an old building can be large and somewhat haphazard timing wise. The Resources Committee deal with repairs promptly and make improvements as circumstances allow. Other costs are being controlled where possible.

Maintenance of Collection Income and the ability to continue providing Special Events is a matter of concern in the longer term. Thank you to those organising and helping to put on Special Events. Continued Giving cannot be stressed too highly. Please continue to Give so generously.

Church Accounts are available to view on request.

Norman Sykes, Financial Representative for Bramhope

News from Pool Methodist Church



The Congregation from Pool who join with Bramhope on the first and third Sundays have all received a very warm and friendly welcome. Thank you and we look forward to sharing these. Here are some of the things that run at Pool.

Our Church Hall comes alive during term time to the chatter and activities of the **POOL SCOUTS** namely the Squirrels and Beavers.

COMMUNITY CHORUS is on Wednesday evenings during term time. No auditions required and no need to sight read, led by Kate Lowe who used to teach at Pool School. It is friendly and fun. I call it 'my happy hour'. We sing general songs - not conventional hymns. Do come and join us!

CAROUSEL is organised by Michelle for children and young people in the hall or out in the community. It is supported by funding from a Youth Club that closed down years ago.

THE RAINBOW CHARITY SHOP, managed by Penny is open every Saturday 10am-2pm and is well worth a visit. They are having a **BIG SALE** on Saturday 5th September 11am-1pm.

Another popular session is **TIDDLERS**, fortnightly on a Friday morning now running in the Village Hall mainly by Community volunteers.

Most of these activities are organised by people who don't attend church but they provide activities for the whole community.

And finally **MESSY CHURCH** which is held jointly in our hall with St Wilfrid's Church and covers the Lower Wharfedale area.

NOT FORGETTING SUNDAY 16th AUGUST at 3.30pm – **SONGS OF PRAISE** celebrating the life of Rev Pratt-Green and his association with Pool Chapel.

Mary

NEWS and DIARY DATES

Care for a Cuppa Cafe

A welcoming cafe for those living with memory problems.

Come Join us

for tea, cakes, activities and support

When: First Tuesday of each month

Time: 1:30-3:30pm

Where: Bramhope Village Hall,
Old Lane, LS16 9AZ

Cost: £2 per person



For further information, please contact:



catherinebirkby@outlook.com



**Dementia
Friends**

An Alzheimer's Society initiative

WHAT'S IN THE BOX?

**Every Tuesday Morning during Term Time
from 10.30-11.30 in the Low Room at Church**

Relaxed story based sessions for pre-school children/babies and their Carers. Each week we look at 'What's in the Box' and try to guess what the story is and the children love seeing what's there. We have a story and then we do a craft activity.

WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS to help with this thriving group – please contact Hester children@wandamethodists.org.uk



heritage open days

Sunday 20th September 1-4pm

There have been Methodists worshipping in Bramhope for over 200 years. The present building dates from 1895 when Mrs S Fawcett laid the foundation stone and the opening of the church took place on the 29th September 1896.

This year the theme of the Heritage Open Days is 'Everyday Histories'. Please come in and find out about some of the people who have worshipped in the church during its 130 year history. We do have links to the Fawcett family but did you know about our connection to Bramhope Children's Home (now Hilton Grange)? Come and discover the impact that the church had on the lives of some of these children and their teachers.

Come along and discover why our Church is locally known as the 'Cathedral of the Dales.'

STEWARDS will be required to welcome visitors – please sign up to help.

Prayer, Worship, Study and Mission

PRAYING TOGETHER

A joint prayer time with St Giles is held every Monday morning from 9.30-10am in the Low Room at Church.

This affords the opportunity for members of both Churches to come together, to pray for the village and the work of our Churches. Do join us – all are welcome

VILLAGE PRAYERS – every Sunday, together with our friends at St Giles, we pray for the residents of our Village:

Leeds Road, St Giles' Garth and Glenmore Court	2 nd August
Hall Rise, Hall Close, Hall Rise Close and Hall Rise Croft	9 th
Wellhead Close, Creskeld Drive, Crescent, Garth and Gardens	16 th
Creskeld Lane, Creskeld Park and Breary Lane East	23 rd
High Ridge Way, Kings Road and Kings Drive	30 th
Springwood Crescent, Cardenden Drive, Grizedale Place, Falling Foss Grange and Way	6 th Sept
Heartwood Close, Dalby Fold, Grove, Lane and Court, Keldy Gardens and Approach	13 th
Guisborough Croft and Avenue, May Beck Green and Court	20 th
Eccleshall Grove and Gardens, Hatfield Close and Green and Galloway Croft	27 th

We continue to hold Rev Tim Perkins in prayer as he gradually resumes his Superintendent role. We look forward to Tim's guidance and care as we move forward as a Circuit.

PRAYER DIARY for August and September



Together we pray for:

Monday - All those on holiday. May it be a time of rest and recuperation.

Tuesday - We give thanks for all who create and look after our parks and gardens. They bring such joy.

Wednesday - We lift to you all those people running holiday clubs and those providing meals for underprivileged children.

Thursday - We remember all Ministers and Deacons who will be on the move in the coming weeks, especially their families.

Friday - We ask a blessing on our children who will be starting school for the first time, and those going to a new school. May they feel welcome and secure.

Saturday - As we start a new church year we thank you for all your blessings over the last year, and ask for your guidance in the days to come.

Amen
Joan Bosomworth



INTO THE WORD

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2 v20-21

“You too are built upon the foundation laid by the apostles and prophets, the cornerstone being Christ Jesus himself. He is the one who holds the whole building together and makes it grow into a sacred temple dedicated to the Lord.”

Church Anniversary

For one hundred and thirty years.
Our church has witnessed for the Lord.
It has brought forth both joy and tears.
And His Spirit's been out poured.

We think of those from years ago,
Talents and gifts all widely spread.
So many seeds they went to sow,
Many souls were saved and fed.

The Gospel flame burned in their heart.
Scripture was their guiding light.
Prayer and fellowship played their part.
They served our Lord with all their might.

The tools they used are ours too,
Things that we should cherish.
To Jesus Christ we must stay true.
The Gospel must not perish.

In September we lift our praise,
For those who've gone before.
Like them we serve Him all our days
And love Him more and more .

Joan Bosomworth

WALKING THE CAMINO

Have you ever seen the film 'The Way' starring Martin Sheen? It's a fictional account of a man walking the Camino de Santiago de Compostela in memory of his son who died while doing the walk. The Camino is a 490 mile walk starting in St Jean Pied-de-Port in France and ending at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, Spain and usually takes people about 35 days to complete the whole walk. It follows the route allegedly taken by St James and ends at the cathedral where his tomb is situated. There are lots of versions of the walk but this one, the Camino Frances is the most challenging. I first heard of the Camino about 17 years ago when Lucas, a Spanish exchange student came to stay with us. He told me that on his return to Spain he and his family would be walking the last part of the Camino finishing in Santiago. I remember thinking 'I'd like to do that one day'.



Fast forward to 2023 and our friend Mike announced that he was going to walk the Camino Frances in memory of his wife Janet to raise money for the Christie Hospital in Manchester. He invited people to either walk the whole Camino with him or join him for a stage or two. We couldn't commit to the full Camino so Richard and I flew out to meet him in Pamplona and walked with him for 3 days. It was an amazing experience and we really 'got the Camino bug'! The following year Mike invited us to do the Portuguese camino with him and a group of friends.

At this point I will explain that there are lots of Caminos starting in various places but for it to be a true Camino and for you to qualify for the certificate you must walk at least 100km and finish in Santiago. There are Caminos starting in Porto, Lisbon, Irun, Ferrol and Oviedo to name a few.

In September 2024 Richard and I set out from Porto to Santiago, a distance of about 160 miles. It took us 12 days, walking between 7 and 20 miles/day and was a truly life enhancing experience, not only because it rained torrentially for 7 of the 12 days but because of some of the people we met. Many people are walking for religious reasons and just as many are not. Early on in one of the albergues we stayed in we met Wendy. Wendy was from the USA, in her mid fifties and now living in Paris. At the time of our meeting she had already walked over 200 miles from Lisbon. Wendy's story was extremely moving, her friend had died and she was carrying his ashes to be blessed in the cathedral in Santiago. Each night she would Facetime his partner and family in the USA to tell them about her day. She felt honoured to have been given this task but also very responsible as she didn't want to let his family down. She carried the ashes in her day bag with a photo of her friend attached to the bag. Everyone knew Wendy and wherever she went people would say 'Hi' to her. We had lots of lovely conversations and I often think of her. The last day of the walk the rain was so torrential that we didn't linger in the cathedral square so I didn't see Wendy finish the walk. I'm sure that she got to Santiago, what a wonderful friend.

Early this year our friends Sooze and Ian invited us to walk the last 100km of the Camino Frances. Ian had previously walked the Camino Nortes and was eager for Sooze to experience a Camino. We set off on 27th June from Sarria in Galicia and after 114km we walked into Santiago on 4th July in temperatures of 37 degrees!

A typical day on the Camino starts about 7am when we get up and sort out our bag for the day. As we do not carry all our luggage, just a day bag, our suitcase is collected by a courier company. We use a company called Pilbeo and believe it or not, the man we deal with is called Jesus. He does work miracles as each evening our suitcase is at our next destination waiting for us!

What is special about walking a Camino is the comradeship and the simplicity of each day. It's a very mindful experience as all you have to do each day is walk, it's as simple as that. Along the way you meet other pilgrims and you may strike up a conversation with them or



you may just greet them with the words, 'Buen Camino!' The route is well signposted with Camino signs, notably yellow shells either on stone distance posts or metal shells inlaid into the pavement, you can't really go wrong. The paths are easy to walk with flat surfaces of asphalt, gravel or cobbles. (I walk in my trekking sandals). There are also lots of places to get drinks and a bite to eat and it is at these places that conversations are usually started. If you pass someone on the walk you will invariably meet up with them at some point at a coffee stop. By the way coffee is usually 1euro/cup! Many bars and restaurants also offer a Pilgrim's meal, usually 3 courses for about 10 euros. At each bar, café or Albergue there is an ink stamp for you to stamp your Pilgrim passport. The passport is proof that you have walked the Camino and must be produced at the office in Santiago in order for you to be awarded the certificate.

This year we came across lots of lovely people notably an American man obsessed with Wrexham football club, a pair of German ladies who seemed to stop at EVERY café, a French family pushing a baby in a pushchair, lots of multi-generational Spanish families walking and a man carrying his 2 year old on his back! On one stage of the walk we came across a huge group of people all wearing the same purple T shirts with the logo 'Walking the Talk for Dementia'. They are a global organisation bringing together people living with dementia, professionals and advocates from around the world. Each year they walk four days on the Camino and then come together at the end to reflect, connect and share resources.

We came across lots of schoolchildren doing the walk, most were Spanish children but we did overtake an Irish group of 32 students on their first day and whose teachers were already 'pulling their hair out'! They had a long way to go! We could always tell when we were catching up with the Spanish students as we heard them singing before we saw them! On the last day we walked alongside a group wearing T shirts with something written on the back. Our curiosity got the better of us and we used 'google translate' to find out what it said. I think I'll end my piece with the translation as it exemplifies what the Camino is about: 'Kilometres don't matter if it's you walking right beside me.'

Buen Camino!
Catherine

SACRED SERENDIPITY By Rev David Halstead

THE FAITH JOURNEY of Rev David Halstead

David started sharing the 'story' of his faith journey in the Christmas issue of the Messenger in 2023. He believes that 'faith journeys' are invariably punctuated by sacred moments of serendipity. Unexpected things happen 'out of the blue' which often turn out to be life changing.

He has been sharing 'his story', as a 'testimony' to the involvement of God in his life and in the life of the churches he has served.

He does not want his story to be read as a BLUE PRINT for being the church today. This month's chapter is about a particular church, on the other side of the country, 45 years ago – things were very different then – what worked then would not necessarily work now. The only thing that has not changed is the way God uses serendipity to help us engage with the new ideas which may well be appropriate for today.

CHAPTER 18. We launch the Luncheon Club and Neighbourhood Care Scheme. An older member of the Church Council doesn't like the direction I am leading the church in and resigns!

Apart from a slip up with our domestic arrangements our time in Ainsdale got off to a good start to the extent that five months later I could write in the February 1981 issue of the Newsletter:–

1981 promises to be an exciting year for our church. We finished 1980 with many encouraging signs of growth and renewal. Our congregations are growing - how nice to see chairs in the aisles the other Sunday morning! There has been a dramatic increase in our collections since my appeal in the last newsletter. I'm particularly pleased that the ladies fellowship which meets on Monday afternoon is going from strength to strength.....

I am convinced that we will do better in every way in 1981. There is a real spirit of expectation and an enthusiasm in the church at the moment which I find most encouraging. I believe that God is taking hold of us and equipping us for a vital work in our community. Given a godly spirit of adventure, such as that which stimulated those great periods of church growth and missionary outreach in the past there is nothing that we cannot achieve for God. The way forward at Ainsdale may, of course, mean change. Change of any kind is often difficult to accept. None of us likes to let go of long cherished practises, customs, or institutions even when they have long since served their purpose but change we must if we are to go forward with God.

I like the words John Henry Newman the author of Lead, Kindly light – ‘To live is to change - to be perfect is to change often’. With this spirit we can look forward to a continuation of this period of growth and renewal.

Six months later in July 1981 I was able to write:

During the past 12 months My main concern has been to create a spirit of hope, confidence and togetherness which would enable us to respond wholeheartedly, as a church, to the challenge of the 1980s. For the most part that objective has been achieved. I find the willingness of most of our members to respond to the leadership I'm trying to give most encouraging. We're beginning to see where we are going and to know what we must do to get there. We're beginning to acknowledge our weaknesses (always a good sign) and exploit our strengths. A strategy for the 1980s is emerging. We still have a long way to go but things are beginning to happen. God is moving us on and the evidence is there for all to see and feel. We must be aware however of the dangers which always threaten to disrupt the church on the move. New ideas are not always welcomed and this means that a church can so easily be divided. Therefore, the keyword for the 12 months starting September must be TOGETHERNESS.

Let us remember that we are all fellow workers for God trying to work out together His plan for Ainsdale and that this will call for a generous and loving spirit towards each other especially on those occasions when we might not agree with each other. There should be no place in the church for the language of confrontation such as is often found in the boardroom, the shop floor or the Houses of Parliament!

I include these ‘quotes from these 45 year old Newsletters because they are just as relevant today as they were then. I finished the July letter, appropriately for this time of year, with:

In the meantime enjoy your holidays, recover your strength and energy. There will be a lot of work to do when you get back!

Yours affectionately David

It was during this period that, after much consultation, we decided to have two morning services - so in September we started having a successful ALL AGE SERVICE with an average attendance of 50 at 09:00am, as well as a 10:45am SERVICE with average attendance of over a 100.

During my first twelve months we had spent a lot of time, as a church, thinking about what we could do to make a difference in our village and we had decided that our emphasis should be on CARING for the people of our COMMUNITY in a very pro-active way. We had some basic ideas but we did not really know how to go about it. That is when SERENDIPITY played its part. The Government had launched, through the Manpower Services Commission, Community Enterprise Programme – providing temporary paid work for long term unemployed individuals. We applied for funding to employ a full time Community Worker and a full time

Secretary to work with the Minister. We were successful and set about recruiting our first workers and by December we were up and running and by February we had launched a **Senior Citizens Club**, which initially was quite modest, with a daily POP-IN CENTRE, a LUNCHEON CLUB serving a hot two course meal for 50p on Tuesdays and Thursdays and SOCIAL AFTERNOONS on Tuesday and Thursday (Sequence Dancing). In the March 82 Newsletter our new Community Workers reported:

At least 100 people each week are enjoying pleasant company and having a jolly good meal at the same time. The whole atmosphere is friendly and it is obvious that new friendships and acquaintances are flourishing.

It was a small beginning but in the years which followed the Senior Citizens Club also became a Neighbourhood Care Scheme and daily Luncheon Club. The other churches in the village supported the initiative and there was no shortage of volunteers for the many tasks that needed to be done. More on the new developments later in the series save to say now that each improvement enabled us to minister to the people of the village in a way which enhanced their physical and spiritual well-being and our congregations grew.

Sadly, these significant changes in the life of the church did not go down well with everyone. One or two people, who had been pillars of the church in the past and done so much to 'keep it going', were very much against it – one in particular wrote me a letter resigning his position as Church Treasurer saying he could no longer serve on a ship when he did not agree with the direction it was sailing in.

Fortunately, the ship is still sailing, as is the Community scheme, which is now called AINSDALE LUNCH AND LEISURE run as an independent charity but is still very much part of the life of the church.



Ainsdale Lunch and Leisure



COMMUNITY CAFÉ
MONDAY TO FRIDAY
10AM – 2PM



ACTIVITIES SUPPORTING
PHYSICAL & MENTAL
WELLBEING



LUNCH CLUB
MONDAY TO FRIDAY
12 NOON

A welcoming space where you can relax, with no pressure at all to be anyone but yourself.
A place where you can meet with existing friends, or even find new ones.
We will provide you with access to activities that support your physical and mental wellbeing,
and also to fabulous food, available via our Luncheon Club and Community Café.

Church Family



Congratulations and Welcome

Jack & Betty are pleased to welcome a new Great Grandson, Albert (Bertie) James Richard, born to Stuart and Stephanie on 25th June 2026 in Harrogate Hospital. A brother for Rory.



Birthday Blessings

To Beatrice Emma Long who will be celebrating her Second Birthday in September. Happy Birthday Beatrice.

In Memorium - Douglas Roy Sykes

It is with great sadness that we learnt that Roy Sykes died at home on 29 May 2026. Ray was 91 years old. His funeral service was held here in our church on Friday 19th June, and was led by our minister, Rev. Wendy Walker, with contributions from Roy's son, Chris, and a poem read by his granddaughter, Amber. The service was attended by his family, friends, and former work colleagues.

Roy, with his wife Anne and daughter Jill, moved to Bramhope in 1985. He began worshipping with us here after Anne died.

He and Anne loved the outdoors and they had holidays in many countries overseas. They were very keen golfers, being members of Headingley Golf Club.

He was an enthusiastic gardener, a keen walker, and a bird watcher. He enjoyed attending Ilkley Playhouse with friends up till earlier this year. He also enjoyed the local ABC dining club. Roy was a member and regular attendant of our Film Club.

Roy will be sadly missed, and we send our deepest sympathy to Chris, Jill, and their families.

Stephen LeBeau

We were shocked and saddened to learn of the death of Stephen.

Our thoughts and our prayers are with Margaret, Emma, Sophie, his grandchildren, family and his many friends at this time.

RIP Stephen

News from our Church Groups

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

What's in the Box continues to run on Tuesday mornings during term time. We have had a great year with a core group that attend regularly. The parents have really got stuck in this year helping and even offering to lead the sessions. Sadly, we will be saying farewell to two members of our group as they transition to Primary School in September.

We have had some great help from church volunteers, particularly Norman and Marion providing a specific link with Bramhope. Marion is stepping down from helping in September and we want to thank her again for all the time she has volunteered. We have two new volunteers starting in September who we are in the process of getting sorted. We will also be on the lookout for new recruits to our small but friendly group. Please contact Hester if you are interested or have any questions about the group at: children@wandamethodists.org.uk

THURSDAY LADIES' GROUP

Our Group currently has 21 Members. We have enjoyed a varied and interesting programme this session. We have learnt about Lineham Farm, a holiday centre here in Bramhope, which gives underprivileged Leeds children a week's holiday in the countryside. Enjoyed slides, "What a Wonderful World" set to music, of animals, flora and fauna in various countries around the World and heard about the work of the Commonwealth War Graves.

Our Minister, Revd Wendy gave a personal insight into her early life in her native South Africa. She also spoke of her family and her ministerial life that she now enjoys in the U.K.

We have also enjoyed three Members' Evenings: - Poems, Holy Beetle and our usual Christmas Evening with a Quiz, Readings, Carols and seasonal food.

We have enjoyed two outside visits, lunch at Otley Golf Club and a guided tour around Goldsborough Hall and Gardens followed by refreshments in their Orangery.

Our new session will start on Thursday 10th September 2026 at 7.30pm, with a speaker, Stephanie Ferguson - Topic 'My life behind the headlines'

Further meetings on the 2nd Thursday in each month until June 2027.

New Members will be made very welcome.

Betty (Chair)

TUESDAY COFFEE SHOP

Coffee shop, by the nature of being always open, is an important weekly diary landmark for lots of people and continues to flourish on Tuesday mornings. It provides a focal point for new and old friends to meet together, chat and laugh in a warm and friendly environment, whilst enjoying toasted teacakes with tea or coffee.

Without the wonderful commitment of our helpers we could not provide this service and I do appreciate the time they give to coffee shop.

Many thanks for your support one and all and if you've never visited Coffee Shop, why not give us a try.

Margaret

FREEDOM FOR GIRLS GROUP

For a few years the Freedom for Girls (F4G) sanitary kits project has been holding sewing workshops at Church during Thursday, mid-morning to early afternoon, once a month in the summer and twice monthly during the autumn and winter months.

There are over dozen ladies, giving their time, carrying out sewing processes to help make a number of washable items, including draw string toilet bags, washable pads and waterproof liners for girls and women in Kenya.

Tina Leslie, CEO of the F4G charity helps provide a number of the necessary resources, including sewing machines, underwear, haberdashery and some of the fabrics. Other fabrics used for making the draw string sanitary bags, and liners are kind donations from the ladies, their friends or family members. Some of the group members also actively collect clean used bras, that have been expressed to be an asset for personal safety of young girls and women in Kenya. The sewing workshops at Church not only help in production of the sanitary kits but offer an important venue for the members to learn, share and support each other. Peer coaching to acquire new skills or overcoming technical sewing problems in a non-judgemental and supportive way. As well as providing opportunities for social interaction and conversations.

The Bramhope Methodist Church sanitary kits group continues to produce over 500 completed sanitary kits each year. These help to make a difference to young girls and women in Kenya who, without them, would not be able to complete their education, thus hindering their chances of acquiring work or life skills, or becoming financially independent.

Bagshur

BRAMHOPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY GROUP

Over the last year the Historical Society, who meet in our Hall on Friday Afternoons, from September to May, has continued to grow, with now some 40 Members, along with guests who join us from time to time.

Over the last season we have had a varied programme of speakers talking on Antiques & Collectables, Buried Treasure, the History of Harlow Carr, Medieval Leeds, The Mounted Police, The Princess of Wales' Leeds connections, The Barenblum and the Bari bombs, the Origins of Temple Newsam, The Fewston Assemblage, along with Malcolm Johnson talking about 'Preserving your Memories through Charting the 60's' and Judge Michael Heath speaking on his experiences. A varied programme, which also included two visits to Salt's Mill and the Kirkstall Abbey Museum.

The 2026/27 programme is now being planned and the first meetings of this season will take place on:

Friday 11th September - Speaker Peter Spedding 'The Golden Age of Piracy'

Friday 25th September - Speaker Diane Fox 'The Rhodes family of Bramhope Hall'

All meetings commence at 2.00pm. Guests £4.00 per session. New Members will be given a very warm welcome

For further details contact the Chair - Jack on 0113 2672906

BRAMHOPE FILM CLUB

The Film Club had a successful season with some very enjoyable films, notably 'Mr Burton' (the film of Richard Burton's early life and the influence of his English teacher). 'The Penguin Lessons' and of course, the Oscar winning 'Conclave' being the most appreciated. At the other end of the scale, 'Black Bag', a spy story, was the least popular. This was unfortunate because that evening saw the highest attendance! However, we ended on a high with the telling of the story of Bob Dylan's transformation from folk to pop music in 'A Complete Unknown'.

The Committee has met twice over the Summer and have settled the programme for the next season, starting with 'The Choral' on Tuesday 6th October. The full schedule will be published in the next Messenger, and letters inviting people to join will be circulated at the beginning of August with a return date of 31 August. You will be pleased to hear that we have decided to keep fees the same as last year - £29 for the full season; £23 for up to five films and £5 for guests.

The film club invites *anyone* who has a love of film to join us, and if you are new to the Film Club then please register your interest with Jane Sykes at sykes_jane@hotmail.com

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you all in October. Rob (Chair)

N.B. If anyone has missed seeing any of the films we have shown and would like to watch them at home, then please let a committee member know, as copies can be loaned out.

WALKING GROUP

We are a small friendly group of walkers, who live in a beautiful area and it's always a joy to get out for a walk and share time together.

This year two new couples, who have no church connections, have joined us and it's been really good to have their company.

You'd be more than welcome to join us on a Saturday once a month.

Our next walk will take place on Saturday 26th September - details tbc

Margaret

LADIES AT THE FOX GROUP

The Fox has generously opened its doors for us every fourth Monday of the month from 10.30-12noon. This is so that all ladies can come together to be treated to a lovely cup of coffee and biscuits. We chat, laugh, share our frustrations, as well as our sorrows and find refreshment, not only in the coffee, but in the sharing and enjoyment of each other's company.

Beryl

BERNARD'S HOMEMADE MARMALADE & JAMS



Bernard was awarded another Silver Certificate for his entry in the 2026 Dalemmain World Famous Marmalade Awards Festival this year.

WELL DONE BERNARD!

At just £3 a jar these are a delicious bargain and all sale proceeds go towards Church funds.

Pick up a jar after Sunday Service, or from Tuesday Coffee Shop, or phone 0113-2678169 to arrange a home delivery - you won't be disappointed.

WHO'S WHO?

CHURCH CONTACT LIST

FILM Club THURSDAY Group WALKING Group	Rob Handby Betty Foster Margaret Fielding
Action4Children/MHA & MWinB Coffee Shop Communion Stewards Cradle Roll Facebook Finance Representative Flower Rota Gift Aid Secretary Room Lettings Messenger Mission in Britain Organist Outreach Committee Secretary Pastoral Committee Secretary Resources Committee Safeguarding Representative Senior Steward Website What's in the Box World Mission/All We Can	Margaret Fielding Margaret Fielding Catherine Birkby Sarah Fletcher Tonia Clifton Norman Sykes Gillian Acomb Bernard Neville Jack Foster Susan Ward Outreach Cttee Jack Foster Susan Ward Catherine Birkby Jack Foster Margaret Fielding Marion Rider Susan Ward Hester Ayling Outreach Cttee

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www.bramhopemethodist.org.uk

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