



# December 2015 Newsletter



**MISSION  
POSSIBLE**

The Hudson family enjoying their afternoon of elegance and relaxation at Tea at the Ritz in October

# Pastoral Letter



Dear Friends,

Most of us probably have memories of nativity plays. We think of angels looking so sweet and innocent, we can hardly believe they are the children we know. We remember a Mary who clutched the baby Jesus and almost tossed him in the manger. Or perhaps we think of a Joseph who held Mary's hand so tenderly. I'm sure many of us have shed a tear as we've watched children we thought we knew become engrossed and transformed (if but temporarily) in the telling of the story.

Nativity plays are, of course, very selective in which parts of the story they re-tell. Mary's disgrace, humiliation even; Joseph's horror at the news of the baby which isn't his; the difficulties of the long journey to Bethlehem on foot; (no, there isn't a donkey in the Gospel story!) are all left out. As for the Magi, who stir up a political hornet's nest, they are changed into harmless 'Wise men' unconnected to the terrible slaughter of the baby boys in Bethlehem.

Yet there is something very wonderful about watching children in a nativity play which evokes for us again the joy and wonder of the God-child in a manger. It's some time since we had a nativity play here, but this year we are anticipating some of our young people leading our Christmas worship through drama and song.\* Perhaps we need this annual reminder so that we too, may bend very low in order to worship the Word-made-flesh.

*Blessed art thou,  
O Christmas Christ,  
that thy cradle was so low  
that shepherds,  
poorest and simplest of earthly folk,  
could yet kneel beside it,  
and look level-eyed into the face of God.*

*Anon.*

Wishing you all every blessing this Christmastide,

\*Sun Dec 20<sup>th</sup> 10.30am



Shalom,  
Sandie

**Minister: Rev Sandie Exley-Watts**

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# News Snippets

## Church Flowers

A huge thank you to all who provide and arrange the flowers in church each week. They are appreciated by all. The rota is now being prepared for 2016 - please add your name to the calendar at the back of church or speak to Kath Batty. Thank you.

## Carols in the Barn

Come and witness the enactment of the nativity scene with children and live animals at this village Carol Service in the Barn at New House Farm on Saturday 19 December at 6.30 pm.

If you are able to provide some mince pies for the refreshments after the Service or to help with serving the refreshments, please have a word with Kath Batty. Many thanks.

# Happy Christmas to all our readers

IS THE CHURCH  
ON YOUR  
CHRISTMAS LIST?



Please place your Gift Envelope  
on the collection plate at church  
or let David have it. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS  
CARDS

Instead of writing Christmas  
Cards to everyone at church,  
would you like to write just one  
card and add it to the display at  
church for all to share?

The money you save could go in  
your Gift Envelope. ✨



Pick up a Christmas Gift Envelope from the table at the back of church.

A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be our  
ruler. He will be called, "Wonderful Counsellor," "Mighty God,"  
"Eternal Father," "Prince of Peace."  
*Isaiah 9:6*



Harvest Festival

Worship



Remembrance



Prize Giving





# Church Fundraising Events

## Yorkshireman Marathon

Another hectic weekend was spent preparing & serving soup, sandwiches and cake to the Off-Road Marathon runners at Haworth. We are grateful for the £750 thank you cheque.

## Autumn Fayre

A big thank you for all the support for the Autumn Fayre. In spite of the weather, everyone enjoyed fellowship as they browsed round the stalls and shared the lunch. £810 was raised for Church Funds and the Panto Parents Raffle raised £65 for **Mission Possible**.



## Sunshine Bags & Coffee

Maureen and Rodney thank all who brought their Sunshine Bags & stayed for coffee. £235 was raised this year.



# Oakworth Methodist Church



Lidget, Keighley Road,  
Oakworth, Keighley,  
West Yorkshire, BD22 7HN

# MISSION POSSIBLE APPEAL

## Oakworth Rugbers Display



## Appeal Launch Event

Many of our Church user groups put on displays showing what they do as church & community members called to look at the **Mission Possible** plans, watch Peter's demonstration on screen and

offer donations and promises to launch the Appeal. Over £17,300 was given/promised at (or just after) the event. Brilliant!!

## Guide/Brownie Rainbow Display



## Evening with Ian Dewhirst



A packed church was entertained

by Ian Dewhirst after a pie+pea supper. *Local life between the wars* was his subject this year. £480 was raised.

## Poppy making



## Felt Workshop

Val Cadamarteri led a felt poppy-making workshop raising £100 for **Mission Possible** and the Royal British Legion.

## Singalong Evening



## Singalong Eve

David & Linda Gunn and KYDZ Youth Theatre led a Singalong which we all enjoyed and raised £100.

David &  
Linda  
Gunn



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## Film Evenings

Film/Fish+Chip Evenings are now very popular with over 80 there last month! The first three raised £550.



## Tea at the Ritz

100 guests enjoyed an afternoon of elegance and relaxation in pleasant surroundings with delicious food and beautiful music. As Kath says, without such a brilliant team of helpers, this event would not be possible! Thanks to all who helped us raise over £1,000.





# Ronald in Uganda



You will recall from the last Newsletter that we now sponsor 9 year old Ronald in Uganda. He has recently written his first letter to us:

"How are you? My name is Tumisime Ronald. I am in Primary 2 class. My school is Snap Primary School. I love eating bananas and groundnuts. Thank you for loving me."

Susan Shires continues to act as our contact with Global Care, who deal with the sponsorship scheme and she has sent him a Christmas Card from us all with an extra donation for them to buy some appropriate Christmas presents for him.

To raise more funds to enable us to continue to sponsor Ronald, we will be holding another Coffee & Cakes session after the Mothering Sunday Parade Service on Sunday 6th March. Book the date in your diary!

## MISSION POSSIBLE APPEAL

STOP PRESS NEWS .... 5th December ...  
We have heard this morning that Planning Permission has been granted for the building extension - Brilliant news!! Thanks go to our professional advisors for the robust application.

### Mission Possible Film Evenings

At the October Film Evening, 22 adults enjoyed the Stephen Hawking film "The Theory of Everything" For our November Film Evening, we went for a family film "Nativity 3: Dude, Where's my Donkey?" This proved a very popular choice with over 80 children and adults in the audience. We can now confirm that we intend to show more family films in the New Year. Have you a favourite film you would like to see or a suggestion for a film we could show? Answers on a postcard to Richard, Peter or David!

### Mission Possible Coffee Mornings

Join us for the first of these on Saturday 9th January 10.00-11.30 am.



Please note - Messy Church moves to the Second Thursday of the month from January. The dates are in the Diary on Page 15.



# Hansel & Gretel Word Search

Hansel & Gretel is set in the village of Pumpernickel, where the Villagers are protected by a magic spell cast by the Forest Fairies on the water in an old well, which must not be spilt. However, Demon Discontent seeks to steal all the happiness of the village and Atrocious the Witch entices the children to her Gingerbread Cottage to turn them into gingerbread and eat them!

The Mayor, Sir Rupert de Rottweiler, his wife, Lady Violet de Vyle and their Bailiffs, try in vain to evict Dame Do-Good from her cottage. Dickie & Dilly Dymwit and the Villagers encourage Peter, a young forester, who has fallen for Lucy, the Mayor's kitchen-maid.

Jack & Jill are visiting their uncle, the Mayor when things start to go wrong and calamity strikes when water from the magic well is spilt. They follow Peter down the well to try and make amends and discover a Land of Forgotten Toys, overseen by the Toy Guardian, where they eventually outwit the scheming Demon.

Meanwhile, there is panic amongst the Villagers when the village children go missing but Hansel & Gretel save the day by shutting the Witch in her own oven and everybody lives happily ever after!

E	S	F	F	I	L	I	A	B	F	A	I	R	I	E	S	P
T	K	C	O	C	A	L	A	M	I	T	Y	H	N	J	P	E
L	I	I	R	Y	L	L	I	D	C	I	G	A	M	U	R	T
I	T	N	E	T	N	O	C	S	I	D	O	P	M	Y	O	E
P	C	A	S	C	T	T	O	Y	H	A	P	P	I	L	Y	R
S	H	P	T	H	R	I	R	O	T	E	E	I	V	D	A	N
R	E	L	L	I	E	W	T	T	O	R	G	N	I	I	M	O
E	N	D	U	L	P	M	T	H	N	B	A	E	O	C	I	M
G	M	O	C	D	U	Y	A	I	S	R	T	S	L	K	H	E
A	A	O	Y	R	R	D	C	L	A	E	T	S	E	I	A	D
L	I	G	S	E	E	K	F	O	R	G	O	T	T	E	N	R
L	D	O	P	N	E	M	O	V	E	N	C	P	A	A	S	E
I	N	D	E	L	G	U	A	R	D	I	A	N	L	T	E	T
V	O	E	L	Y	V	M	I	D	M	G	R	E	T	E	L	A
W	E	L	L	E	K	C	A	J	I	L	L	H	C	T	I	W

Find all the blue words from the passage above in the grid opposite and then read the message in the unused letters!



## Summary of Oakworth Methodist Church Accounts 2014-2015

Receipts	£	Payments	£
Collections	11,641.70	Circuit Share	18,100.00
Property/Lettings	10,749.50	Utilities	4,790.77
Fund Raising	7,761.00	Property Maintenance	5,858.14
Tax Recovered	3,778.25	Cleaner's Wages	4,086.00
Project Income	2,330.00	Project Costs	2,330.00
Mission Collections	683.55	Mission Donations	1,768.55
Donations/Gift Appeals	672.83	Youth Work	178.75
Investment Income	248.43	Sundry Payments	1,499.51
Sundry Receipts	840.80		
	<b>38,706.06</b>		<b>38,611.72</b>

### Treasurer's Report

We continue to give thanks for the commitment and support of so many people which enables the Mission work of our church.



### Receipts

Collections, Fund Raising and Tax Recoveries were all down on the previous year for various reasons but Property/Lettings were up again, thanks to one or two new regular groups using the hall and an increase in children's parties. Nevertheless, we covered our expenses and we are grateful for this.

### Payments

We were able to increase our Circuit Share by £400 as promised.

Utility costs were well down following a long-running battle with our electricity providers to sort out a problem with the meter readings.

All other general costs were broadly in line with the budgeted figures.



### Project Costs

These covered the cost of Singing the Faith hymn books, decorating the toilets & corridor, new LED lights and further upgrading the sound system.

They were fully covered by the Project Income which is kept separate from the normal budget.

### Summary

General Reserves at the year-end were about the same as last year - just under the three months expenditure figure agreed by Church Council.

Total Reserves were, of course, much higher because they include £104,500 of funds held for the **Mission Possible** building extension project.

Thanks again to everyone for your generosity which has not only enabled us to balance the books but has also provided a substantial base this year for the **Mission Possible Appeal**.

We ask for your continuing prayerful support through the current year so that our general expenses continue to be covered as we concentrate our efforts on fundraising for the **Appeal**.



# Christmas Services



## *Traditional Carol Service*

**Sunday 13th December**  
at 10.30 am

**All Age Worship led by**  
**Rev Sandie Exley-Watts**

**followed by**  
**Christmas Lunch**

Please sign the list in the porch  
if you would like to stay to Lunch

## *All Age Christmas Praise & Nativity Service*

**Sunday 20th December**  
at 10.30 am

**led by Mrs Glenda Coogan**  
**with the Young People**

**Music led by our Praise Band**

## *Village Carols in the Barn*

**New House Farm, Oakworth**

**Saturday 19th December**  
at 6.30 pm

*K+WVR Carol Train*

**calls at Oakworth Station**  
at 8.00 pm

## *Christmas Eve Candlelit Communion*

**Thursday 24th December**  
at 11.15 pm

**led by Rev Sandie Exley-Watts**

**Join us for fruit punch and**  
**mince pies from 10.30 pm**



## *Christmas Morning*

**Family Celebration - 10.00 am**  
at Keighley Shared Church



**Sunday 27th December - NO Service at Oakworth**  
**United Service at Exley Head: Rev Ruth Crompton**

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St John's Church, Newsholme & Oakworth Methodist Church present the



HAWORTH  
UKULELE  
GROUP



## Christmas Extravaganza

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015 7:30 pm start**  
**at St John's Church, Newsholme, Oakworth**

**Tickets £5:00** (includes glass of mulled wine/fruit punch & mince pie)

Proceeds to Yorkshire Rows - rowing the Atlantic to raise funds for  
Yorkshire Air Ambulance and Maggie's Cancer Caring Centre

## Hansel & Gretel

Rehearsals are now in full swing and the cast are working hard on song/dance routines and dialogue and everything is starting to come together.

The stage base will be installed in church on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> December 10.00-12.00am. Anyone who is free to help that day will be very welcome to join us. Work has already begun on designing scenery, preparing special effects and sorting out all those wonderful costumes!

Have a go at the **Hansel & Gretel** Word Search on page 9. Booking details are opposite and on the church website.

Book your tickets very soon to avoid disappointment!

Enjoy the show!!



## 30<sup>th</sup> Oakworth Methodist Pantomime

**13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>**  
**February**  
**2016**

a brand new  
fun-packed  
pantomime  
adventure

# Hansel & Gretel



# 30<sup>th</sup> Oakworth Methodist Pantomime



# Hansel & Gretel

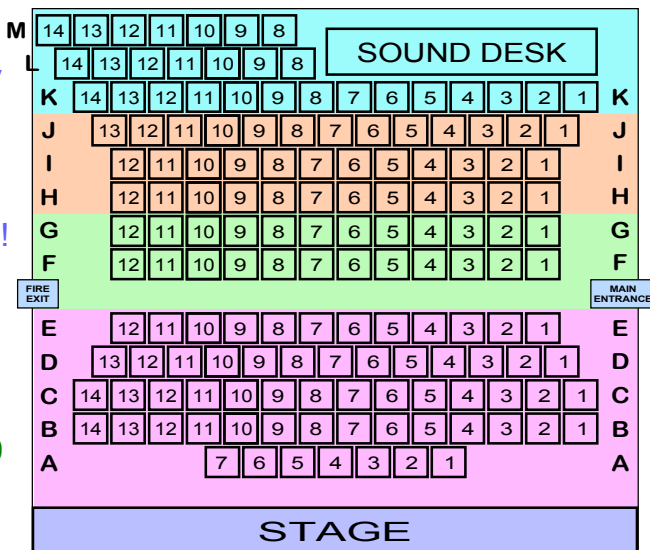
7pm Saturday 13th Feb, Monday 15th Feb  
 Evening Tuesday 16th Feb, Wednesday 17th Feb  
 Shows: Friday 19th Feb & Saturday 20th Feb  
 2pm Matinees: on both Saturdays

Seats are individually  
 ticketed this year  
 (as in most theatres)

The earlier you book,  
 the better your choice!

Booking opens  
 1st January 2016

Adults £7.00  
 Senior Citizens £6.00  
 Children £5.00



Book online at [www.OakworthMethodists.org](http://www.OakworthMethodists.org)  
 or call at Church on Saturdays in January 11.00-4.00  
 or ring: ☎ 01535 642625, mob: 07925 257344  
 or email: [tickets@OakworthMethodists.org](mailto:tickets@OakworthMethodists.org)

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# Sunday Worship



*A warm welcome awaits you as we worship together*

- Dec** 6 10.30 am Rev Terry Porter  
13 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **All Age Carol Service**  
3.00 pm **Carols at Oakworth Manor**  
20 10.30 am Mrs Glenda Coogan -  
**All Age Christmas Praise Service with Drama**  
Thu 24 11.15 pm Rev Sandie Exley-Watts -  
**Christmas Eve Candlelit Communion Service**  
Fri 25 10.00 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts -  
**Christmas Morning Family Celebration at Keighley Shared Church**  
27 10.30 am Rev Ruth Crompton - **United Service at Exley Head**  
NO Service at Oakworth
- Jan** 3 10.30 am Mr Michael Webster  
10 10.30 am Mr Maurice Baren  
17 10.30 am Local Arrangement  
6.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service - Christ Church**  
24 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **Covenant Service**  
3.00 pm **Service at Oakworth Manor**  
31 10.30 am Mr Bernard Thompson - **Reader's Service**
- Feb** 7 10.30 am Rev Marc Pattern  
14 10.30 am Rev Kenneth Beardsley  
21 10.30 am Rev Barbara Walls  
6.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service - Christ Church**  
28 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **Holy Communion**  
3.00 pm **Service at Oakworth Manor**
- Mar** 6 10.30 am **Mothering Sunday All Age Parade Service**



**J.I.G.S.A.W. also meets at 10.30 am**

- All Children and Young People are welcome

Creche facilities are available when required



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# Diary Dates



**Tuesdays** 12.15 pm Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club  
(closed 8th-29th December & 9th+16th February)

## DECEMBER 2015

Tue	1	12.00 pm	Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch
Wed	2	7.30 pm	Wed Club - <i>The Cripple of Inishmaan</i> - Keighley Playhouse
Sat	5	2.00 pm	<b>Village Society Christmas Fair</b> - Holden Hall
Tue	8	1.45 pm	Ladies' Group Christmas Party - at Church
Sun	13	10.30 am	<b>Christmas Lunch</b> - <b>after Carol Service</b> - Church Hall
Sat	19	6.30 pm	Carols in the Barn + refreshments - New House Farm
Sat	19	8.00 pm	K+WVR Carol Train + Brass Band - Oakworth Station
Mon	21	7.30 pm	Celebration of Christmas with <i>Living Waters</i> - Christ Church
Thu	24	10.30 pm	Fruit punch + mince pies followed by Candlelit Service
Mon	28	10.00 am	Stage erected in church for pantomime preparations

## JANUARY 2016

Mon	4	4.15 pm	Pantomime rehearsals commence on stage
Sat	9	10.00 am	<b>Mission Possible Coffee Morning</b>
Tue	12	1.45 pm	Ladies' Group: " <i>World in Bloom</i> " - Maurice Baren
Wed	13	7.00 pm	Wednesday Club Bowling Night - Shipley Bowl
Thu	14	3.15 pm	<b>Messy Church</b> - in Church Hall
Fri	29	6.30 pm	<b>Mission Possible Film Evening</b> + Fish & Chip Supper

## FEBRUARY 2016

Sat	6	2.00 pm	<b>Ladies' Group Brunch</b> - in Church Hall
Thu	11	3.15 pm	<b>Messy Church</b> - in Church Hall
Sat	13 - Sat 20		<b>30th Pantomime - Hansel &amp; Gretel</b> - on stage in Church
Fri	26	6.30 pm	<b>Mission Possible Film Evening</b> + Fish & Chip Supper
Sat	27	2.00 pm	Wesley Historical Society - Speaker: Tony Holden

## MARCH 2016

Tue	1	7.30 pm	Church Council - in Church Lounge
Sun	6	11.30 am	<b>Coffee &amp; Cakes after Mothers Day Service:</b> for Ronald in Uganda
Tue	8	1.45 pm	Ladies' Group: " <i>Memories</i> " - Keith Barber
Wed	9	7.30 pm	Wednesday Club Planning Meeting
Thu	10	3.15 pm	<b>Messy Church</b> - in Church Hall
Fri 11-Sat 12		7.15 pm	KYDZ Youth Theatre Spring Show
Fri	18	6.30 pm	<b>Mission Possible Film Evening</b> + Fish & Chip Supper

Check our website for further information:  
**[www.OakworthMethodists.org](http://www.OakworthMethodists.org)**



# Oakworth Methodist Church



Lidget, Keighley Road,  
Oakworth, Keighley,  
West Yorkshire, BD22 7HN

# MISSION POSSIBLE APPEAL

We had a brilliant Launch Event on 3rd October - with good representation from church, community groups and others who called in to encourage us. The Ian Dewhirst Evening, Tea at the Ritz, Singalong Evening, Rainbow/Brownie/Guide Open Evening and 3 Film Nights were also well supported and enjoyed by all. A Mission Possible Pantomime Parents Group is also organising various fundraising initiatives to swell the coffers.

In just two months - donations, promises & gift aid have raised a staggering £20,200 for the church/community fundraising appeal (target £33,500) - bringing the total amount raised/promised to date for the whole project to £143,850 (total cost £260,000).

We are absolutely delighted.

Donations and Promises to the Mission Possible Appeal Fund are always welcome - or why not sign up to the Mission Possible £10 Challenge - just complete one of the forms in the Appeal Leaflet.

