MISSION POSSIBLE

# Oakworth Methodist Church

Part of Worth Valley Church, Aredale Methodist Circuit

# Summer 2026 Newsletter



# Pastoral Letter



Dear Friends

As I write we are still having glorious sunshine and the children are on half term break. The gardens are just blooming and the grass seems to grow several inches in each 24-hour period. I am taking part in the 'No mow in May' campaign again this year to allow our pollinators to get on with their vital work. However, the sun has brought the grass on so fast this year, I have put a little sign in my garden explaining the 'No mow in May' so my neighbours don't think I am just being lazy - and inviting them to join in, as it is one small way we can steward and protect creation. Just a few more days of keeping the lawn mower, strimmer and hedge cutters shackled.

***Genesis 1 :11***

*God said, "Let the earth grow grass, plants that make grain, and fruit trees. The fruit trees will make fruit with seeds in it. And each plant will make its own kind of seed. Let these plants grow on the earth."*

We are into exam season, your prayers for all young people, whether they are sitting GCSE's, B-techs, A levels, end of year exams or their finals at University; I am sure will be greatly appreciated.

There have in this warm weather been such sad and tragic cases of young people drowning whilst trying to cool down. As a mother, my heart pours out for their families. I have prayed for each of the families as the sad loss of a child came on the news.

I will be doing assemblies in primary schools in July. I am going to do the assemblies on keeping yourself and your friends safe this summer. I invite you to join with me and pray for the young people in our communities as the long school holidays approach:

*"Dear loving and gracious Lord, please watch over our children and young people, so they may have an enjoyable but safe summer holiday this year. Amen"*

***Mark 10:16***

*"And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them."*

Have a safe and blessed summer.

Love and Blessings,

*Rev Tracy* Xx



**Minister: Rev Tracy Birks**
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tracy.birks@airedalemethodists.org

# Challenge Ministries



Late last year Val and I attended a presentation/concert at Cullingworth Methodist Church. This presentation was given by 6 teens/young adults together with leaders. The presentation was on behalf of Challenge Ministries and their community in Bulembu which is in eSwatini, formerly known as Swaziland, a small independent country within South Africa.

Eswatini has many problems arising from Aids being endemic, resulting in 300,000 children who are orphaned and/or vulnerable living on the streets without any hope for the future. At the presentation there was an appeal for volunteers to go from the UK to work alongside others.

Val and I originally thought about volunteering but decided not to in view of our health issues. Our son Adam said he would go in our place and is scheduled to go in late October 2026. Whilst we have paid for Adam's participation, all donations will be gratefully received and forwarded direct to Challenge Ministries.

Mike Cadamarteri

Val & Mike organised a Coffee Morning last month to raise funds in aid of Challenge Ministries, supporting the orphaned children in eSwatini. Sales of flapjack, cakes, greetings cards, crafts, miscellaneous items, name the dog, raffle, quiz, tea, coffee and donations on the day and since have raised a wonderful total so far of £1,002.50. They send a huge thank you to everyone for all your help.

# *Emma Sutcliffe*
# *&*
# *Peter Howarth*

## 11 April 2026














Thank you to everyone who played a part in making our wedding day so special whether you were celebrating with us or praying for us from further away.
We had a wonderful day and anamazing honeymoon.

All our photos and a video montage including our speeches is available online:

https://johnbellphotography.pixieset.com/emmaandpeter

You will need our temporary email to enter as a Guest:
EmmaAndPeterWedding@outlook.com

*Emma & Peter*

# Pantomime News



Auditions for Aladdin, our special 40th Pantomime for 2027, have now been completed and they have gone really well. Everybody came with one purpose in mind - to do the best they possibly could to secure their dream part - and the Senior Production Team were howling with laughter at some of the interpretations of the characters being performed! All our principals had to choose a song to sing at the auditions to help us choose who would replace the nine who left this year. They all chose something different, performed very well - and some of their songs will now appear in the new script I am working on. We ended up with another strong cast - congratulations to all.

The two girls who took a year out last year are back and we have welcomed six new cast members to join the team, giving us a total cast of 38 this year.

Aladdin was last performed at Oakworth in 2014, with a lot more boys in the cast than we have this time, so there is quite a bit of work to do to update the script to suit our 2027 cast. Contrary to tradition, we have a male Aladdin (Josh) and a female Widow Twankey (Lola) and we are introducing three new principal characters and a group of monkeys into the script! Lillie-Rose is moving across to play Princess Jasmine and Marianne (Carabosse in Sleeping Beauty) is taking on the role of The Great Abanazar.




Work has already started on the new script and Anne, Karen & Dan are working on a brand new list of songs to include for the song and dance routines.

We have some very excited children - and adults - who can't wait for rehearsals to start in the Autumn!!



# Other News

## Lunch Club News

We are delighted to confirm we are back up to full strength in the kitchen - Zara is enjoying helping at Lunch Club so much that she is happy to come in every week and we have welcomed Cath to complete the team. One or two more new diners have joined us as well so things are looking positive just now.

## Mission Possible Film Evenings

We enjoyed another two popular films at recent Film Evenings: '*The Choral'* in April and *'In the Heights'* in May, raising a further £524. *'Mother's Pride'* will be our final film before the Summer break on 26th June and we return for the first film of the Autumn Season on 25th September.

## Mission Donations

These charitable organisations have all gratefully received £80 grants from the church this year: All We Can Methodist Relief, Bible Society, Methodist Homes, Save the Children, Shelter, Sue Ryder Care - Manorlands and Water Aid. We have also sent £240 to Methodist World Mission, £180 to Mission in Britain and £120 to the Leaders of Worship & Preachers Trust. £252.04 has been collected in Action for Children boxes this year and we continue to support Ronald in Uganda by sending £25 per month towards his education.

## In memoriam

We commend Peter Dyson into God's hands, assuring Maureen, the family and other friends of our continuing prayers and sympathy.

## Arnold's Seat

After 25 years of regular use, firstly under the old Vestry window and then under the kitchen window, the seat we purchased in memory of Arnold Sharp collapsed a few weeks ago and had to be dismantled. The good news is that we have managed to design a pair of new braces to secure and strengthen the main frame and so the bench will come back into service as soon as the braces can be manufactured and fitted.

## Worth Valley Church

As most of you will know, the Circuit rationalisation process under the Bright Hope for Tomorrow proposals reaches its climax at the end of June when the Aire Valley Church holds its Celebration Service and is disolved. By then, Eastburn, Ilkley Road, Long Lee and Marsh Methodist Churches will have held their final Celebration Services and closed and Bingley, Cross Hills and Lees Methodist Churches will have become Project Churches led by three new Pioneer Project Workers.

At the same time, Cullingworth will transfer from the Aire Valley Church and become part of the Worth Valley family with Oakworth and Oxenhope. We look forward to worshipping and working with friends from Cullingworth and all the other local churches which closed, particularly as we continue to share together at Worth Valley Services on the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

Revs Clare Stainsby & Nel Shallow will be leaving the Circuit in July - we give thanks for their work among us - and we will welcome Rev Phil Drake as our part time Superintendent minister in September.



# Have you Earned your Tomorrow

Is anybody happier because you passed his way?
Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today?
This day is almost over, and its toiling time is through;
Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you?

Did you give a cheerful greeting to the friend who came along?
Or a churlish sort of "Howdy" and then vanish in the throng?
Were you selfish pure and simple as you rushed along the way,
Or is someone mighty grateful for a deed you did today?

Can you say tonight, in parting with the day that's slipping fast,
That you helped a single brother of the many that you passed?
Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said;
Does a man whose hopes were fading now with courage look ahead?

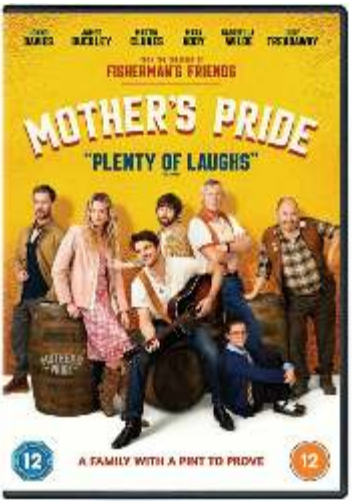
Did you waste the day, or lose it, was it well or sorely spent?
Did you leave a trail of kindness or a scar of discontent?
As you close your eyes in slumber do you think that God would say,
You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today?

*Edgar A. Guest. Family Friend Poems.*

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

| R | E | J | O | I | C | I | N | G | W | O | R | R | O | M | O | T |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | E | E | P | A | R | T | I | N | G | S | P | R | G | E | O | H |
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| R | Y | E | E | H | P | U | O | O | L | U | F | E | T | A | R | G |
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Mission Possible Film Evening

# Mother's Pride

## (2026) (12)

**Friday 26th June *6.30 pm***

on the big screen
at Oakworth Methodist Church

with Fish & Chips in the Interval

All welcome - just turn up on the day

Donations to cover cost of food and film

A grieving family who own a failing pub have their lives changed by brewing real ale and entering the Great British Beer Awards.
*Plenty of laughs from the makers of Fisherman's Friends!*

# Oakworth Gala

## Saturday 4th July

1.15 pm Fancy Dress Judging at Windsor Road

2.00 pm Procession leaves Windsor Road and moves through the Village to the Field

2.30 pm Entertainment starts in Gala Field off Victoria Road, followed by Children's Races



The "Oakworth Haul", the 4 mile annual Village Run, also starts and finishes in the field during the afternoon

Do support the Community Group Stalls in the field

# Sunday Worship



***A warm welcome awaits as we worship together***

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Jun** | 7 | 10.30 am | Norman Clark |
| | 14 | 10.30 am | **Worth Valley Church Service** - at Oxenhope led by Rev Tracy Birks - includes Holy Communion |
| | 21 | 10.30 am | Rev Barbara Walls - Joint Service at Oxenhope |
| | 28 | 2.00 pm | **Circuit Service** - at Cullingworth Celebration of Aire Valley Church & Rev Nel Shallow |
| **Jul** | 5 | 10.30 am | Rev Tracy Birks |
| | 12 | 10.30 am | **Worth Valley Church Service** - at Cullingworth - led by Rev Tracy Birks |
| | 19 | 2.00 pm | **Circuit Service** - at Silsden Celebration of Rev Clare Stainsby |
| | 26 | 10.30 am | **Worth Valley Church Service** - at Oxenhope - led by Rev Tracy Birks - includes Holy Communion |
| **Aug** | 2 | 10.30 am | Rev John Peet |
| | 9 | 10.30 am | **Worth Valley Church Service** - at Oakworth - led by Rev Susan Greenhart - includes Holy Communion |
| | 16 | 10.30 am | Mrs Chris Sheasby |
| | 23 | 10.30 am | **Worth Valley Church Service** - at Cullingworth - led by Maurice Baren |
| | 30 | 10.30 am | Rev Roger Smith |

Oakworth Services will be live-streamed on our Church YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/@oakworthmethodists/streams
and they can also be viewed later if you wish.



**Editor: David J Howarth** ☎ **07966 069057**
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# Diary Dates



**Tuesdays** 12.15 pm Oakworth Methodist Lunch Club
*closed 28th July to 1st September (Summer Holidays)*

**JUNE 2026**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mon | 1 | 1.30 pm | Welcome Drop-in - in Church Hall |
| Mon | 15 | 1.00 pm | Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge |
| Wed | 17 | 7.00 pm | Airedale Circuit Meeting - Steeton |
| Fri | 19 | 10.00 am | Friendship Group - Church Lounge |
| Sun | 21 | 10.00 am | **Fathers Day Breakfast** (Scouts Fundraising) - in Hall |
| Fri | 26 | 6.30 pm | **Mission Possible Film Evening** + Fish & Chip Supper |

**JULY 2026**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sat | 4 | 2.30 pm | **Oakworth Gala** - Victoria Road Field - Procession 2.00 |
| Mon | 6 | 1.30 pm | Welcome Drop-in - in Church Hall |
| Tue | 7 | 7.00 pm | Worth Valley Church AGM - In Church at Oakworth |
| Fri | 17 | 10.00 am | Friendship Group - Church Lounge |
| Mon | 20 | 1.00 pm | Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge |

**AUGUST 2026**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mon | 3 | 1.30 pm | Welcome Drop-in - CANCELLED |
| Mon | 17 | 1.00 pm | Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge |
| Fri | 21 | 10.00 am | Friendship Group - Church Lounge |

**SEPTEMBER 2026**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mon | 7 | 1.30 pm | Welcome Drop-in - in Church Hall |
| Tue | 8 | 12.15 pm | Lunch Club re-opens |
| Sun | 13 | All day | **Catering for Yorkshireman Marathon** - at Haworth |
| Sun | 13 | 1.30-4.30 | **Worth Valley Horticultural Show** - in Church & Hall |
| Fri | 18 | 10.00 am | Friendship Group - Church Lounge |
| Mon | 21 | 1.00 pm | Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge |
| Fri | 25 | 6.30 pm | **Mission Possible Film Evening** + Fish & Chip Supper |

**OCTOBER 2026**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mon | 5 | 1.30 pm | Welcome Drop-in - in Church Hall |
| Sat | 10 | 7.15 pm | **KYDZ Youth Theatre Concert** - on stage in Church |
| Fri | 16 | 10.00 am | Friendship Group - Church Lounge |
| Mon | 19 | 1.00 pm | Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge |
| Fri | 30 | 6.30 pm | **Mission Possible Film Evening** + Fish & Chip Supper |

Check our website for further information:
**www.OakworthMethodists.org**

Find us on Facebook



# Peace

is the fragile meeting
Of two souls in harmony.

Peace is an embrace
That protects and heals.

Peace is a reconciling
Of opposites.

Peace is rooted in love,
It lies in the heart,
Waiting to be nourished,
Blossom And flourish,
Until it embraces the world.

May we know the harmony of peace,

May we sing the harmony of peace,

Until in the last days,
We rest in peace.

Amen