



# Wesley Hall

## Crookes, Sheffield



www.wesleyhall.org.uk Wesley Hall is part of Wesley Ebenezer Methodist Church (charity no. 1150284)

## Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021

We hope you find a warm welcome, particularly if you are with us for the first time. All song words are projected onto the wall at the front or can be found in the books provided. Large print hymn books are available at the back of church along with separate printed sheets for songs that are not in the books.

**Today's service**      **10:30am**      **Chris Sissons**  
The steward on duty is Jenny Jones

*Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October*      *10:30am*      *Rev Graham Wassell (Holy Communion)*  
*Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November*      *10:30am*      *Mr Simon ETTY*  
*Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November*      *10:30am*      *Mr Andrew Maxfield*

## THIS WEEK

### ❖ **Worship in the Building**

Please consider taking a lateral flow COVID test on the morning before coming to worship (available free to all adults from your local pharmacy). There is no requirement to wear a face covering, but you are very welcome to continue doing so. Please also be considerate of those who wish to maintain social distancing and ask before sitting close to somebody.

### ❖ **Streets Of Light Trail 2021: Monday 25th to Sunday 31st October**

It is now time to get out and about and enjoy the local streets filled with light from 4.30pm to 9:30pm this week. You can collect a paper copy of the trail map from St Thomas' Church or St Tim's Church, or you can go online to <https://www.streetsoflight.co.uk/routes> and download the interactive map.

## COMING SOON

### ❖ **Perrine's Christening**

We would love you to join us for Perrine's Christening if you are able to on Saturday 6th November at 2:30pm, here at Wesley Hall. A short service will be followed by refreshments and a bouncy castle for the smaller attendees! Please do stay and have a catch up with us after the service. We are lucky enough to not need anything for Perrine - if you would like to give a gift, we ask that you consider donating to Baby Basics, a charity supporting families who are struggling to provide the essentials for their babies and small children. <https://baby-basics.org.uk/> provides more information about the charity, and their social media pages on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter share which donations they can accept each week. If you would like to donate financially, their bank details are: Baby Basics UK No2A/C; Sort Code: 089299; Account: 6588 5927. We hope to see you there! Beth, Tim, Eline and Perrine.

### ❖ **Congregational Meeting: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

On Sunday 31 October, we will be having a Congregational Meeting to discuss the Circuit Leadership Team's response to Matt's role at Wesley Hall. Prior to the next meetings of Matt's Management Committee, Church Council and the Circuit Meeting, which are to be held in November, I would like to update you all on my discussions with Rev. Gill Newton, District Chair and Acting Superintendent Minister, and the Circuit Steward, John Dilkes.

You will be aware that since Rev. Sally Coleman was moved in October 2020, Matt has had to undertake work not covered in his original job description as 'Building Manager'. In January 2021, Rev. Sally asked if I would be Matt's line manager. Immediately, I was concerned that he was having to undertake a complexity of work not covered in his job description. Over the ensuing months, Matt and I had discussions with the Co-Superintendents, Andrew Crawford (the District HR Manager), other circuit members and latterly Rev. Gill Newton in her role as Superintendent Minister. This resulted in a revised job description and job title for Matt, and a recognition that his work now warranted an increase of 6 points on the Methodist Church Lay Workers pay scale.

Matt's revised job description, job title, increase in salary and back pay was submitted to the Circuit Leadership Team in September. At their meeting the team questioned the revisions, and Matt and I had further meetings with Rev. Gill Newton and John Dilkes, culminating in a meeting with them on 17th October. Rev. Gill Newton reported that at their meeting on 11th October, the Circuit Leadership Team were supportive of the changes to Matt's role, had questions regarding the job title of 'Church Manager' but more importantly could not support any additional funding by the Circuit towards Matt's post, nor the paying of any back pay to when Rev. Sally moved.

A number of options are now open to us:

1. To require Matt to revert to his original Building Manager role and to not undertake any additional work.
2. To agree Matt's new job description and for Wesley Hall to find the resources to fund the increased salary.

PLEASE could you attend a short Congregational Meeting after the morning service on Sunday 31st October to discuss all of this and to advise our representatives on Church Council and the Circuit Meeting how Wesley Hall should progress the matter.

Thanks for reading this, Steve Wright.

## **CHILDREN, FAMILIES & YOUTH**

### ❖ **Fun Days**

If you have a child in the 5-11 age range (or have friends with children in that age range) they would be very welcome at Fun Day on *Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October*. The day runs 10am-4pm and pre-booking is essential. The booking link is on the October mailing e-mail, on the church website on the events page or ask Jacque for a link.

### ❖ **Biscuit Drive**

As you may be aware, Drop Inn has restarted in person, and we are very lucky that it seems to be as popular as ever! Therefore, we are having to buy plenty of pre-wrapped biscuits a la Kit-Kats, Rockys, Breakaways or whatever we can find. If you would like to and are able to, please do consider picking up a pack to donate to Drop Inn when you do your weekly shop. The smallest amount would make a huge difference and would be greatly appreciated by the young people attending Drop Inn, and by Sean and those helping at Drop Inn too.

## ❖ TRIBE

If you feel able to do something with TRIBE as a one off, we're very open to ideas (Steve suggested a time capsule could be fun if anyone is interested in doing that). Please keep TRIBE especially in your thoughts and prayers.

## AND FINALLY

### ❖ Message from Sally

To everyone at Wesley Hall, first, thank you for the lovely book of thoughts and memories, for the card and generous gift; I will buy a hammock for my garden and will think of you when I use it. Second, thank you for your love and support for me as your Minister. Every blessing, Sally.

### ❖ Request from Neil Harland

Neil recently attended a JPIT (Joint Public Issues Team) webinar about the Nationality & Borders Bill currently undergoing scrutiny by parliamentary committee. Significant fears expressed by many churches that this bill will create more injustices in the asylum system, increasing the trauma and pain experienced by asylum seekers attempting to reach safety in the UK, are described at <https://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/nationalityandbordersbill/>. Paul Bloomfield (Sheffield Central) is a member of the scrutiny committee, and so potentially has some opportunity to mitigate the worst elements of this legislation. JPIT are very keen to speak urgently with any of Paul's constituents who would be willing to contact Paul and express their concerns to him, especially if they have experience or knowledge of the asylum system. If anyone is willing to do this, please could they contact Steve Tinning from JPIT at [stinning@baptist.org.uk](mailto:stinning@baptist.org.uk) who can speak with them about how best to articulate specific concerns to Paul.

A number of members at Wesley Hall will be constituents of Paul's. This new legislation would have made it much harder for people such as Moj and Mehrab, who many at Wesley Hall know, to have received permission to stay in the UK. If there are many people willing and able to help, it may best if one representative from the congregation arranges a conversation with Steve.

### ❖ We Are Recruiting!

We are now advertising for a part time (22 hours a week) Families and Community Co-ordinator to cover Jacque's maternity leave. Please pass this on to anyone you know who might be interested and pray that God will provide the right person to fill this post.

### ❖ School Governors

Sean has recently spoken to Cath Jackson of King Edwards School in Sheffield, and they are looking for extra governors for the school. If you are interested in this role or more information, please contact Sean on 07401980794 or [youth@wesleyhall.org.uk](mailto:youth@wesleyhall.org.uk).

### ❖ Stationing

We are really pleased to say that both Wesley Hall and Walkley Ebenezer will be going into stationing this year. The Circuit have grouped Wesley Hall with Totley Rise and Dore Methodist Churches, and Walkley Ebenezer with St Andrew's Psalter Lane and Highfield Trinity. Your prayers for this whole process would be very much appreciated.

### ❖ Flower Rota

The flower rota is now up at the back of church. If you would like to contribute to the flowers, please add your name to the list at the back of church and then give your donation to Sue Mills a week or two before your chosen date.

❖ **From daffodils . . . . . to stars**

Last Easter we created a witness to the people of Crookes by making and distributing handmade daffodils to people with a connection to Wesley Hall, and into the community in general by hanging them on railings etc around the area for people to take. We gave away nearly 300 daffodils, and several people saw and heard appreciative messages in different ways.

The Leadership Team have given their consent to our doing something similar at Christmas, using stars as our theme. We hope that people might knit, crochet, sew, or create stars in paper, card, wood, metal or any other medium, so that we could turn them into something that would hang on a tree or in a window or anywhere the recipient chooses. If we start thinking and planning now, then we have some time to create the stars before we distribute them in the week before Christmas. If you're not one for making, then maybe you could think of a message that could accompany them, to remind people of the significance of the star; or you might suggest ways and means of distributing them. If you have any thoughts, please see Liz Jenkinson or email [REDACTED].

❖ **Andrew's 10k Hat-trick!**

Andrew has now completed his 10k hat-trick, with help from Joseph & Benjamin, raising over £500 so far for Cancer Research. If you feel you could donate, please do so on the Just Giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/andrewgray20>. Alternatively, please see Andrew.

❖ **Cuttings, Seeds, Compost or Pots for the Community Garden**

Autumn is when many flowers are going to seed, so I thought this would be a good opportunity to see if anyone might have some seeds or cuttings they could donate to our community garden. Stephen Ingamells has done a fantastic job of taming the lockdown jungle, so there are some cleared beds in need of plants. It would also be nice to gradually get some potted plants around the edges of the carpark/around the Brick Street entrance and church in general so if you have some unwanted containers and compost/spare soil, we'd love to relieve you of those too! Let Liz know if you have something to donate. Thanks very much, Liz (Harding).

## **PRAYER POINTS**

- ❖ For the recruitment of Jacque's maternity cover, that God will provide the right person to fill this post, and for Jacque, Ben and Brendan as they prepare to become a family of four.
- ❖ We are struggling to find people who feel able and willing to help with TRIBE each week. We are so blessed within our church community with a really wonderful group of young people, so please hold them and the TRIBE leaders in your prayers.
- ❖ For stationing, and for Wesley Hall and Walkley Ebenezer as we both seek a Minister.
- ❖ For those involved in the review of the Circuit Superintendency, and for Rev. Gill Newton as she oversees the process and keeps everything running while it is in progress.
- ❖ Pray for our grant applications to Methodist Youth Activities, the Jerusalem Trust and the Bramall Foundation for funding towards our continued youth work over the next three years and for the generous grant we have recently received from the Church Burgesses.

**If you have any prayer points to include in the newsletter, please pass them on to the Editor (see contact details at bottom of page).**