



Wesley Hall

Crookes, Sheffield



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

Palm Sunday 29th March 2015

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** **Preacher** **Rev. John Simms (Holy Communion)**
Worship Leader **Louise Etherington**
 The steward on duty today is Jenny Jones

Sunday 5th April *8:15am Holy Communion & Easter Breakfast*
 10:30am All Age Easter Celebration
Sunday 12th April *10:45am United Service at Walkley* *6:00pm Prayer Service*
Sunday 19th April *10:45am Dr. John Revill*

THIS WEEK...

❖ **Lent Study**

Our Lent Study Group concludes this *Tuesday 31st March* at 7:30pm here at Wesley Hall.

❖ **The Good, The Bad, and the Bible – It's a Mystery**

Presented by the Silhouette Theatre Company at Victoria Hall Methodist Church on *Wednesday 1st April* at 7:00pm. Tickets £4 (£3 concessions), Family Ticket £12.50, please call [REDACTED] or (0114) 272 1749 for more information.

❖ **Easter Breakfast Update**

Don't forget to sign up for the Easter breakfast this morning if you are planning to come. We will be eating around 9am, following our 8:15am communion service. If you don't get chance to sign up feel free to turn up on the day. We will also be serving bacon/ sausage sandwiches as people arrive for our 10:30am All Age service. Thanks to those who have offered to help. Any other assistance, especially tidying up and from 10am, much appreciated.

Holy Week Services

Monday 30 th March	7:00pm	Wesley Hall	Devotional Service
Tuesday 31 st March	7:00pm	Wesley Hall	Devotional Service
Wednesday 1 st April	7:00pm	Wesley Hall	Devotional Service
Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Mary Tozer House	Maundy Thursday Service
Good Friday	10:00am	Wesley Hall	Prayer Walk
	11:00am	Walkley Ebenezer	Good Friday Service
Easter Sunday	8:15am	Wesley Hall	Holy Communion & Easter Breakfast
	10:30am	Wesley Hall	All Age Easter Celebration

❖ **Wednesday Group**

The Wednesday Group are meeting here at Wesley Hall this *Wednesday 1st April* for an Easter Evening.

❖ **Gift Day 2015**

We have raised over £8,000 in each of our last three Gift Days to fund children's work but will need to raise more than this for the next three years to continue this work and also expand our youth provision. In order to help us unlock external grant funding, we need to show local financial support for the project, which we will be doing through pledges.

Pledge forms are available at the back of church and can be used to indicate what you intend to give this year and on the Gift Days in 2016 and 2017. Pledging is not a binding agreement but just an indication of what you intend to give. Please seal completed pledge forms in their envelopes and put them in the collection during any Sunday service. The details of this form will be kept confidential and all forms will be held by the treasurer, Matt Irons. Completed forms are welcome on any Sunday morning and not just on Gift Day.

You are welcome to include your gift for 2015 along with your completed pledge form. If you do this and have previously signed a Gift Aid declaration, please include the date and your Gift Aid number on the outside of the envelope. If you are a UK taxpayer and have not completed a Gift Aid declaration, or have completed a declaration but do not know your Gift Aid number, please see Matt Irons.

We are very happy to accept gifts by cash, cheque, bank transfer or standing order. Gifts are welcome on the Gift Days or spread over the year on a quarterly, monthly or weekly basis. If you have any questions about Gift Day or pledging, please see Matt Irons.

COMING SOON...

❖ **Wesley Hall Annual General Meeting**

Our AGM will be held on *Sunday 26th April*. In the same way as our last congregational meeting, the AGM will be held in the Emmaus Room soon after the service has finished (please feel free to bring your tea and coffee in with you), and will last no more than one hour so there will still be time to get home for lunch afterwards! This meeting is open to everyone.

We are looking for more representatives from Wesley Hall to sit on the Church Council, which meets four times a year. If you are interesting in putting your name forward or would like to know more about what is involved, please speak to John Simms or Andrea Killingsworth.

We are also looking for more worship stewards to look after the practical side of our Sunday worship. This involves liaising with preachers during the week, finding readers for the service and welcoming the preacher on Sunday morning. If you like to know more about what is involved, please see Andrew Gray.

❖ **The Alzheimer's Society - Old Jewellery Appeal**

At their annual conference event at Swanwick in April, Methodist Women in Britain will be launching their new Dementia Friendly campaign for social action on behalf of those living with dementia and those who care for them. During the weekend we will be collecting items for The Alzheimer's Society's Old Jewellery Appeal, which has already raised £900,000 towards their research and support work. If you or your friends or family have any unwanted items of jewellery, Judith Simms would be happy to accept any donated items - not only gold and silver, but also costume jewellery, beads and watches, and even odd ear-rings and cuff-links. These will be recycled, re-modelled and re-sold to raise valuable funds. Please give any unwanted items to Judith, or pop in an envelope and leave in the 'S' pigeon-hole for her to collect, by 15 April. Thanks.

❖ **Songs from the Shows**

We will be holding an evening of 'Songs from the Shows' here at Wesley Hall on *Saturday 25th April* at 7:30pm. Tickets cost £6 for adults (£4 concessions) and are available on the door or by calling [REDACTED]. All profits will go to the roof repair fund.

❖ Weekend Away

We have not been able to find a venue that is available and suits our usual budget for our Weekend Away in 2015. So, instead of a weekend away, we will be returning to the Peveril Centre (Castleton Methodist Church) for a longer Away Day on *Saturday 2nd May*. The outline plan for the day is to meet for a service and teaching/ discussion session in the morning, eat our packed lunches and then enjoy some free time in Castleton before meeting back for a short act of worship followed by a fish and chip supper and some home grown entertainment in the evening. All are welcome to come along so please put this date in your diary.

❖ Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Week this year is from *10th – 16th May*; are you able to help in any way with this? Thanks to those of you involved last year when together we raised a total of £1,486! The main part of this event has always been the door to door collecting but we can fundraise in other ways. Emma came up with a great idea last year of getting the parents/carers from the Toddlers group to bake cakes to sell which they were very happy to do and raised £75. It was a great way of giving people a chance to contribute to a good cause. The University Students Gospel choir also contributed to Christian Aid from funds raised at a concert during the Christian Aid period. Have you got any other fundraising ideas? If so please talk to Andrea Killingsworth.

Please let Andrea know if you would be prepared to collect on a street, help with the counting on *Saturday 16th May* or with the lunch we usually do on this day to raise money for Christian Aid.

AND FINALLY...

❖ Roof Works Update

We have heard back from the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair fund that was announced in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement and then added to in the Budget earlier this month. Our application was successful and we were awarded the maximum grant possible of £100,000. This takes the total raised to just over £265,000 which is enough to complete all of the works identified by our architect which is really great news. Since the project went out to tender last year and we have chosen our main contractor, work should start in next few months. Thank you for all your prayers and support for this project over the last 5 years; we have finally got there!

❖ Children, Families & Youth Work

When the snow abated for long enough for Church Council to meet, it was agreed that we should seek funding for another three years for the children & families role currently undertaken by Liz. We will also be creating a new part time post of a pre-teen and youth worker. This person will work primarily with the 9 to 16 age range; building community, sharing faith and nurturing young people. We already have many links with those at the lower end of this age range through our children's activities developed in recent years, not to mention those within our Sunday congregation and uniformed organisations. They will give us the opportunity to create a coherent programme of activities for young people, mirroring what we have seen blossom with the younger age.

Please consider how you can support this wonderful opportunity through prayer, helping to plan recruitment (speak to Neil Harland), being ready to support the running of events for children and young people, or financial giving (see Gift Day above).

Our half term Fun Day last week was full to capacity, so kids seem to be keen on what we offer. If you can help out at the next one on *Monday 30th March*, please speak to Liz.

A MESSAGE FROM ROY...

Dedication

My wife Audrey dies on Sunday 16th March 2014 following a fatal stroke on the previous Tuesday. Her ashes, held by her daughter Margaret Sidebottom, were scattered on Sunday 15th March 2015 by members of Audrey's family at two scenic spots on the moors adjacent to the Round House at Ringinglow. These places were loved by her family when she was a child and teenager.

I wrote a poem for the occasion. The weather was favourable, cold but occasionally spitting in the wind. I would recommend other bereaved families to do the same. All out extended family thought it had been a very worthwhile thing to do.

Roy Bellamy, March 2015.

Prayer

A year has sped by and it seems like yesterday when Audrey, mum, grandma and firm friend, was cut from our presence and her face not seen doing all the simple things she loved doing for us all. We never forget her and her dreadfully. We praise you for her life and that she did so many things out of love of you and your spirit inside. Help us to rely on that same spirit and be positive at all times. We thank you that so many people loved her and expressed that love to us. We thank you that we have kept together and helped each other throughout this time. We thank you we have had work to do, both paid and unpaid, we have recovered from illness and adversity, that we still enjoy coming together regularly for meals and indeed all the blessings of a normal Christian life. This prayer we offer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Poem (Scatter the Ashes)

Body burnt
Ashes remain
Late full-bodied life
Still strives hard to contain
Memories strong, fond and long
Mutual laughs at our shared gaffs
Joyous thoughts enjoy, her plans employ
Pray-a-while, recall her unique lifestyle.

Ashes Grey
And sombre black
Frail fragile weak white
Colours loving attack
Now they go where wind blows free
Where it wills at Spirit's decree
From the hand of bereavement's cold hold
To living bold within God's Freedom fold.

We return
To loving homes
From God's creation
Not rude isolation
With steel determination
To cement our relationships
To value even more the kinships
That bind us firmly in family love.