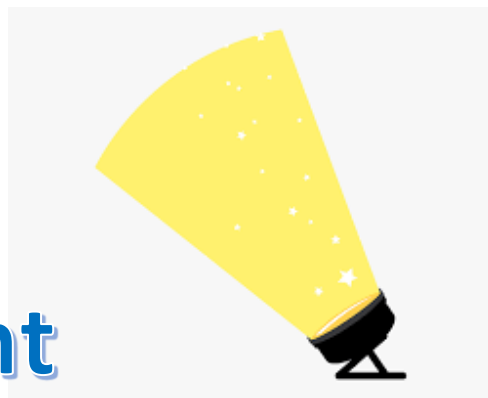




New Malden  
Methodist Church

*At the **heart** of the High Street*



# Spotlight

## July 2024

### Message from Karl

It's hard to believe that the start of July represents the end of my first month back after my sabbatical, and it seems to me like the time has just flown by! It also feels like no time at all since the last major football competition, but 2024 sees the return of the Euros to our screens, and this also of the agony of watching the England team battle through to the knockout stages before quite probably losing on penalties begins again... Whether you love or loathe this whole business, however, there's something in the now clichéd statement that sport has a power to bring people together across boundaries. It enables people to make connections with others.

At the heart of mission is the hospitality of God, and pondering the character of God reminds us that God is by nature a God of connection and relationship. In Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we're swept up into the dance at the heart of God between Father, Son and Spirit. This dance, which is more a fiery and passionate three-Person version of the Argentine Tango than a gentle shuffle on the spot, is a dance of love, the love that transforms lives and which will ultimately renew the face of the earth. That love overflows, and spills out into the world, meaning the Spirit's already at work before we know it, making connections and opening doors.

Our role in proceedings, as part of Christ's Body in this place, is to be alert for what the Holy Spirit's up to, then roll up our sleeves and join in. God's hospitality saw Jesus sit down and eat with people the religious authorities considered to be beyond the pale – outcasts and sinners – and in doing so, affirming their humanity and ultimate value in God's eyes. Hospitality isn't always comfortable; what, Jesus said, is to be gained by only loving people who look and sound like you? (Matthew 5:46). This means we need to be ready to take holy risks, and not just stick to playing it safe, especially in this time of a new government, difficult social issues and a cost-of-living crisis.

In practical terms, then, this business of Godly hospitality requires being both good hosts and good guests. We're fortunate to have the location and facilities we do, and some of our

mission initiatives have naturally involved finding new and creative ways to utilise them. We are very fortunate to have Lee's energy and gifts, as she develops Wesley's outreach and expands its connections. However, some of our missional work in the rest of 2024 will involve the far more difficult and challenging task of accepting invitations to enter the space of others, such as those pushed to the margins in New Malden, and making connections there, too.

So, as we move forward together, let's pray that God will help us to be both good hosts and guests. If we play it so safe that we never take holy risks, and never venture beyond our own doors (either physically or spiritually speaking), then we'll be scoring one great big own goal.

Every blessing, Karl

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## Spotlight's Safeguarding Space

In June I attended a memorial service at a Methodist Church in another part of the country. My eyes were drawn to the safeguarding poster on the notice board in the space between the sanctuary and the 'schoolroom'. It was the same template as we use. It reminded me that all Methodist churches are following the same protocols. Also, in cathedrals I have recently visited there is always safeguarding information prominently displayed which I find interesting as I might get some ideas! These examples show that national guidance is being followed to promote safe spaces. Do look out for safeguarding information displayed in the places you may visit this summer and if you spot a good idea do let me know



Liz Edwards, Safeguarding Officer

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## Sad Church Family News

It is with great sadness that we report that **Marion Edwards** died in hospital on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May after a very short illness. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Clive, Julie, Simon and all the family.

Marion's cremation will be on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July at Kingston Crematorium at 3pm followed by tea and coffee and cake in Wesley's. Anyone is welcome to attend but family flowers only please. Please wear whatever you are comfortable in, especially if it is hot.

There will then be a Thanksgiving service at NMMC on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm followed by refreshments.

Sadly, we also heard that **Shirley Stewart** died in early June. Shirley had been in a nursing home for some years but she used to be a very active member of our church as well as a weekly volunteer on the coffee bar with her buddy Andrea Mooton.

Shirley's cremation will be on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 10.15am. The service will be at Randall's Park Crematorium with refreshments afterwards at the Glass House at Mayfield, 139 Reigate Road, Epsom KT17 3DW. Everyone is welcome to attend and are asked to please wear bright colours.

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### **My dear Friend and colleague Marion Edwards**

I have known Marion for nearly 35 years and in three different capacities.

When my girls joined Westbury House School, Amy in 1985 and Sarah in 1988, Mrs Edwards, as she was known by, or Playground Miss, was always there. She reassured, supported and looked after all the children with such kindness and care. Mrs Edwards always had everything you needed in the playground, on school trips or even in the High Street.

I gradually got to know Marion more when I was involved with the fundraising at Westbury House and she was a practical support then.

When I took up the role of secretary at the school, Marion was always there if I needed help or an extra pair of hands. A strong friendship began to form and when I left Westbury House we continued to keep in touch regularly.

I joined the Methodist Church last year and sat with Marion on the Sundays I was at Church. Her advice and support to me over the years will be greatly missed. I feel blessed to have known Marion as a mother, a working colleague and a very dear friend.

Mary Garrett



This lovely photo of Marion was taken in Wesley's earlier this year when Marion was helping out with a children's activity which Mary brought her grandchildren to.

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### **Saturday 6th July Wesley coffee bar and stalls**

There will be a stall on the patio on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July from 10am until 1pm, as well as the usual coffee bar which will be run by NMMC in aid of Melanoma UK.

The panto starts at 2pm – oh yes it does! – so there's plenty of time to do both!!

Wanted items for the stall, plants, books, CDs, toys, ornaments etc. These items can be brought into church from Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June to Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July.



Also needed Staff to run the stall and the coffee bar, 9 30am to 1 30pm plus cakes and sausage rolls, etc.

Julie Haines

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### **Vacancies on Flower Rota**

There is a small band of dedicated flower arrangers who provide the beautiful arrangements like this one that we are treated to in church every week.

After the service, the flowers are distributed to people we know who would appreciate them.

The money for the flowers is provided by different people every week, sometimes more than one person.



There are several vacancies available over the next few months for sponsoring the flowers so if you think this sounds like something you would like to contribute to, please speak to Julia Morton.

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### **Church Garden Party with Cream Tea**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July from 3 pm.

I hope to be able to host this at my home again this year so please put the date in your diary.

Alan Vincent

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### **Music in New Malden**

Music in New Malden is taking a Summer. See the next edition of Spotlight for details of their Autumn concerts and also of the NMMC Lunchtime Concerts.



### **Angel Exhibition postponed (from 13<sup>th</sup> July)**

We hope to run this at a future date. Watch this space. And keep making angels!

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## Alzheimer's Bake Sale

My family and I want to say a huge heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported our bake sale for Alzheimer's on 15<sup>th</sup> June.

To those wonderful bakers (such a blessing), those who served, joined us for tea and cake, and supported us in their thoughts. Your generosity and support mean the world to us.

A special shout-out to Julie and Chris for your amazing help in setting up and closing, including donating £46 from your jam sales, to Liz E for contributing £31 from the jewellery sales, and to Sharon at the gifts corner. Thanks to all your efforts, we managed to raise £370 on the day with donations still coming in. Combined with March's bake sale, we've an impressive total of £810 which has exceeded our target.

With huge thanks, The Monczak family.



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## Pride Postbox Topper

Our rainbow topper has been enjoyed by the people of New Malden. There will be a new one soon so keep an eye out.





## Wesley's Community Hub

We have started trialling our reduced Summer opening hours for Wesley's of 10am to 1pm. We hope that we will have enough volunteers to be able to go back to four hourly opening in the Autumn.

Our outreach programme continues with a full range of activities and opportunities which are proving very popular. Please check the July calendar on the back page.

More volunteers are always needed as people's circumstances change so if you spare a couple of hours a week (or more?) to help, please contact Lee so that we can continue with the great work that is being done in providing this important community resource to the High Street. Please email Lee on [nmmc.wesleys@hotmail.com](mailto:nmmc.wesleys@hotmail.com)

For updates including any changes to the programme, please follow us on Instagram/Facebook.

Your likes and follows on Wesley's Instagram and Facebook mean a lot to us.

For the latest updates and more information, follow Wesley's on Facebook and Instagram:

👉 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wesleysnewmalden/>

📷 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/wesleysnewmalden/>

Stay tuned and be a part of our community's journey!

Every blessing, Lee

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## Cinderella Pantomime – Saturday 6th July

The cast are rehearsing, the staging is set, the music is ready to play  
All that's needed is an audience and what's that I hear you say?  
Where can we get a ticket to see this fabulous show?  
We need to get it soon, as there's not long to go!



So, the cast and crew invite family, friends and associates to join them to this extravaganza at either the 2pm or 7pm performance (or both!). Tickets on sale from Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June.  
Prices £8 adult, £6 concession £4 children under 12.

Refreshments will be available in the interval please bring cash.

It's going to be fun, and the proceeds will be donated to Melanoma UK in memory of Nicky Horton (our stage manager and dear friend) who sadly died from melanoma.



**Please send in any photos you take for the August Spotlight!!**



## Wives & Friends Meal Out

This annual event took place on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June. 16 members of the group had a very enjoyable evening at Topo Gigio in Ewell where they were made very welcome. The menu was wonderful with plenty of choice and everyone had a great evening of food and fellowship and helped Jenny Titterton celebrate her birthday. We don't have pictures of everyone but clearly a good time was had by all.





## The Memorial Window

I'm happy to share an update with you about Francis Keith Curas-Thompson, who is commemorated in our church window.

In April this year, the church received an email from David Curas-Thompson, with a donation to church funds and a request to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his father's death with flowers. That was observed at the morning service on 5<sup>th</sup> of May.

Those of us who were involved in trying to find information had made some progress, not least the circumstances of the accident which caused Francis' death. However, we had not established any connection to his son, who we now know has lived abroad for many years. When I spoke with David on the phone, he was happy to fill in some of the gaps in the narrative, particularly in relation to the family connection to NMMC.



Keith Thompson was born in February 1929 in Mitchum, the first of three children of Charles and Mabel Thompson. The family moved to New Malden in the mid 1930's and lived in Van Dyke Avenue until 1959, when Keith's parents, by then retired, moved to Chaldon in Surrey.

Keith attended Malden Manor Primary School and Beverley Boys School (now Coombe Boys School) before continuing his education at Wimbledon Technical College. In that period he was a keen Boy Scout here at NMMC. In 1945 he joined the Royal Navy and subsequently the Fleet Air Arm. In 1952 he changed his name by deed poll in 1952 to Francis Keith Curas-Thompson.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> May 1954, he died while flying solo from his RAF base near Newark in Nottinghamshire, having, just three weeks earlier, been married to Marion Clarke in Weymouth. Their son, David was born later that year.

A funeral service was held at NMMC on the 12<sup>th</sup> May, followed by a cremation at Putney Vale crematorium. Keith's ashes were scattered by his parents on Wimbledon Common. A year later, on Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup> 1955, the stained glass window was unveiled during the morning service by a member of the Church Scout Group and was dedicated by the Minister, Rev Sidney Fittall. The window was donated to the Church by Keith's parents.

David Knowles



## Circuit Plan

	<b>CHESSINGTON</b> 10.00 am	<b>KINGSTON</b> 10.30 am; 6pm	<b>NEW MALDEN</b> 10.30 am	<b>SURBITON HILL</b> 10.30 am
	<i>Korean Language Service at Chessington on Sundays at 12.30 led by Rev Paul Han</i>			
07 July	LA at CMC & Wittering OA	D Lloyd	Rutledge: AA	Maraj-Ogden
14 July	M & J Wakelin: HC	Rutledge: AC/HC	Fullbrook	Maraj-Ogden: HC 4.30: Coveney: PP
21 July am	Bridges C	Vernon: AA	Rutledge: HC	M. Wakelin
21 July pm	<i>6 pm: Circuit Farewell Service for Rev Mark Wakelin at Chessington</i>			
28 July	Han	Rutledge: CF	Maraj-Ogden	S Lloyd
04 August	LA	LA/AA	Rutledge: AA/HC	Maraj-Ogden
11 August	D Lloyd	Maraj-Ogden: AA	Halstead: AA	LA
18 August am	Cocking HC	S. Lloyd: AA	LA	Maraj-Ogden: HC
18 August pm		LA		
25 August	Stonehewer	Maraj-Ogden: HC/ AA	Cocking: AA	LA
<b>Abbreviations</b> AA: All Age Worship AC: Action for Children ACM: Annual Church Meeting C: Contemporary Service CA: Christian Aid CF: Café Church HC: Holy Communion LA : Local Arrangement PP: Praise Party OA: Open Air Service				
<b>Online services (follow links):</b> Kingston: Sundays & You Tube: <a href="#">Windows on Worship</a> New Malden: Sundays & You Tube: <a href="#">Windows on Worship</a> Surbiton Hill: 10.30 Sundays. You Tube: <a href="#">Surbiton Hill Methodist Church</a>				

## Farewell to Mark and Judith Wakelin

Chessington Methodist Church extends a warm welcome to Kingston, New Malden and Surbiton Hill Churches, to the Farewell Service for Rev Mark and Judith Wakelin on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 6pm. The Circuit Service will be preceded by refreshments from 5pm. We would be extremely grateful for the donation of cakes which can be received from 4.30pm onwards.

Many of you know that Mark will be "sitting down". In principle, Methodist ministers never retire: a minister who "sits down" in the ministry ceases to have a pastoral charge but is nevertheless expected to continue to contribute to the ministry of the Church for as long as he or she is able.

We hope you will join us in wishing Mark and Judith a happy 'retirement' in Cambridge.

## September event at Surbiton Hill

### Supporting Palliative Care in Sierra Leone

Once again our committee based at Surbiton Hill church, will be holding an Afternoon tea party with musical entertainment at the tennis club in Manor Drive on Sunday, September

15<sup>th</sup> at 2 45pm. This has proved to be a popular event and we are pleased to invite folk from the circuit to this.

Do put the date in your diary. Further details in September.

Thank you, Kathryn Ingham

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## NMMC Diary Dates – July

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	3.00pm	Cremation service for Marion Edwards at Kingston Crematorium
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30 – 11.30am	Walking group
	7.00pm	Panto rehearsal
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	6.00am – 10.00pm	General Election – Lower Hall is Polling Station
	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Creative Arts
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Writers' Workshop – Wesley's
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am – 1.00pm	Wesley's (& stall on patio)
		NMMC for Melanoma UK
	2.00pm AND 7.00pm	Cinderella
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Tai Chi
	2.30 – 4.00pm	Bereavement Café
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	Church Afternoon Tea at Alan Vincent's
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am – 12.30pm	Knit & Natter in Wesley's
	1.00 – 3.00pm	Short tennis in the Upper Hall
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Writers' Workshop – Wesley's
	1.00 – 3.00pm	Volunteers' Lunch – Wesley's
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am – 12.00pm	Wesley's (& Plant sale on patio)
		NM Horticultural Society
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.15am	Cremation service for Shirley Stewart at Randall's Park
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 – 11.30am	Walking group
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Abacus Summer concert
	2.00pm	Thanksgiving service for Marion Edwards
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	1.00 – 3.00pm	Short tennis in the Upper Hall
	2.00 – 4.00pm	Creative Arts
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Writers' Workshop – Wesley's
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am – 12.00pm	Wesley's – Currently vacant – see Sarah to book
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	6.00pm	Farewell to Mark & Judith Wakelin (refreshments from 5.00pm)
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Tai Chi
	11.30am	Wesley's Cancer Awareness Day
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am – 12.30pm	Knit & Natter in Wesley's
	1.00 – 3.00pm	Short tennis in the Upper Hall
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Writers' Workshop – Wesley's
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am – 12.00pm	Korean Food Festival
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Tai Chi



## Hannah Moore's Adventures

Thank you to everyone who has asked me how Hannah is getting on. I am not the only one who is travelling vicariously through her! She has now been away for over four months but the flight home is booked for mid July! She spent several weeks in Australia, including a dog- and house- sit in Tasmania, before touring around New Zealand. A sky dive was one of the highlights there (I was glad when that one was over).

She is now island hopping in Fiji enjoying swimming and snorkelling in beautiful crystal clear warm water and waking up to see spectacular sunrises. Yesterday she swam with manta rays having been summoned by the conch shell alarm which alerts everyone to their presence in the seas off the shore of Mantaray Island. OK, I'll stop now!

Here are some of the sky diving pictures!

Before!







And  
After!



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### Next Spotlight Issue

Please send all submissions to Sarah Moore at [nmmc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nmmc@hotmail.co.uk) (or in my church pigeonhole). Please send me anything you think might be of interest: memories, news of members, advice for life, poems, photos, recipes, etc, by Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July.

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## Another Quiz from Liz

Did you get all these English holiday destinations!



HSTNGS	HASTINGS
TGNMTH	TEIGNMOUTH
FLY	FILEY
TRQY	TORQUAY
CLTHRPS	CLEETHORPES
BRDLNGTN	BRIDLINGTON
STBRN	EASTBOURNE
FLTWD	FLEETWOOD
TYNMTH	TYNEMOUTH
STHPRT	SOUTHPORT
SHSS	SEAHOUSES
PLE	POOLE
LNMTN	ALNMOUTH
ST L	EAST LOOE
LFRCMB	ILFRACOMBE
BRDSTRS	BROADSTAIRS

## July Quiz

Overleaf, you'll find cryptic clues to London Underground stations. What could be simpler?

1	ALPINE RESIDENCE .....
2	ROYAL RESIDENCE .....
3	UNIVERSITY ENTERTAINMENT .....
4	ELLIPTICAL .....
5	TOOL TRADE .....
6	1815 .....
7	DIRTY HABITS .....
8	ROYAL ANGER.....
9	ANCIENT ROAD .....
10	ST MICHAEL.....
11	ROUGH CHANNEL CROSSING .....
12	CHARRED WOOD .....
13	PLUM .....
14	VULGAR APPLAUSE .....
15	PARTHENON .....
16	UP THE WRONG TREE .....
17	PEERS WOOING .....
18	STONE VAULTING .....
19	BATTERY .....
20	WHAT THE RIVER DID .....
21	BEAR .....
22	NOBLE LINK .....
23	OLD FASHIONED RANGER .....
24	1500m TAPE .....
25	A LONG WAIT FOR FLOWERS .....
26	A LONG WAIT FOR THE BATHROOM .....
27	NOBBLY LAIR .....
28	HALLOWEEN VETERAN .....
29	HUGE .....
30	SOVIET PIG .....



## Balloons of Happiness



A teacher gave a balloon to every student, who had to inflate it, write their name on it and throw it in the hallway. The teacher then mixed all the balloons. The students were then given 5 minutes to find their own balloon. Despite a hectic search, no one found their balloon.

At that point, the teacher told the students to take the first balloon that they found and hand it to the person whose name was written on it. Within 5 minutes, everyone had their own balloon.

The teacher said to the students: "These balloons are like happiness. We will never find it if everyone is looking for their own. But if we care about other people's happiness, we'll find ours too."

May your day be filled with happiness.



## Wesley's Calendar - JULY 2024

Date	Day	Time	Social Connection &	Wellness Activities
1/7/24	Monday	10-1 Coffee Bar		
2/7/24	Tuesday	10-1 Coffee Bar	10:30 Walking Group	Wives Cream Tea
3/7/24	Wednesday	10-1 Coffee Bar		
4/7/24	Thursday	10-1 Coffee Bar		2-4 Creative Arts Group
5/7/24	Friday	10-1 Coffee Bar	11:30 Writers Workshop	Crime Prevention Stall
6/7/24	Saturday	10-12 Bake Sale	NMMC for Melanoma UK	Pantomme Cinderella
7/7/24	Sunday	10:30-11:30am Sunday Service - All Age Worship		
8/7/24	Monday	10-1 Coffee Bar		
9/7/24	Tuesday	10-1 Coffee Bar	10:30 Tai Chi Qigong	2:30 Bereavement Cafe
10/7/24	Wednesday	10-1 Coffee Bar		
11/7/24	Thursday	10-1 Coffee Bar	10:30 Knit & Natter	1-3 SHORT TENNIS
12/7/24	Friday	10-1 Coffee Bar	11:30 Writers Workshop	Wesley's Lunch event
13/7/24	Saturday	10-12 Bake Sale		Horticultural Society & Plant Sale
14/7/24	Sunday	10:30-11:30am Sunday Service		
15/7/24	Monday	10-1 Coffee Bar		
16/7/24	Tuesday	10-1 Coffee Bar	10:30 Walking Group	
17/7/24	Wednesday	10-1 Coffee Bar		Marion Edwards Thanksgiving 2pm
18/7/24	Thursday	10-1 Coffee Bar	1-3 SHORT TENNIS	2-4 Creative Arts Group
19/7/24	Friday	10-1 Coffee Bar	11:30 Writers Workshop	
20/7/24	Saturday	10-12 Bake Sale		
21/7/24	Sunday	10:30-11:30am Sunday Service - Holy Communion		
22/7/24	Monday	10-1 Coffee Bar		
23/7/24	Tuesday	10-1 Coffee Bar	10:30 Tai Chi Qigong	Cancer Awareness Day (tbc)
24/7/24	Wednesday	10-1 Coffee Bar		
25/7/24	Thursday	10-1 Coffee Bar	10:30 Knit & Natter	1-3pm SHORT TENNIS
26/7/24	Friday	10-1 Coffee Bar	11:30 Writers Workshop	
27/7/24	Saturday	10-12 Bake Sale		Korean Food Festival
28/7/24	Sunday	10:30-11:30am Sunday Service		
29/7/24	Monday	10-1 Coffee Bar		
30/7/24	Tuesday	10-1 Coffee Bar	10:30 Tai Chi Qigong	
31/7/24	Wednesday	10-1 Coffee Bar		

Wesley's Community Hub, for more information please contact Lee on  
[nmmc.wesleys@hotmail.com](mailto:nmmc.wesleys@hotmail.com)  
 New Malden Methodist Church, Admin: [nmmc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nmmc@hotmail.co.uk) Tel: 0208 942 1288



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NMMethodists

Revd Dr Karl Rutledge (Minister)

n/a Monday

Mrs Sarah Moore (Administrator)

(Mon & Wed 10am - 2pm, Thu 12 - 4pm)

Mrs Lee Monczak (Development Officer)

Mrs Julia Morton (Senior Steward)

Mrs Liz Edwards (Steward)

Mrs Julie Haines (Steward)

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