



**New Malden
Methodist Church**

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



Spotlight

June 2025

Message from Karl

The dawning of summer is often a time of slowing down somewhat, as warm days and long nights come upon us. However, this year is quite busy for me as I prepare to enter into the process of stationing, which is the mechanism by which the Methodist Church will send me to a new appointment in another place and context.

It is never an easy time for Ministers, for various reasons. I have thoroughly enjoyed my almost eight years in Kingston and New Malden, despite the interestingness of a global pandemic unfolding during that period! As such, I will be very sad to leave you behind and move on; I will miss you all very much. However, nine years (as it will be by the time Sally and I actually move on to pastures new) is a long time to be in an initial appointment, and it is important for my long-term development and growth in ministry to experience different settings and challenges.

The best way I can describe how stationing works is that is a bit like 'Blind Date':

- Ministers seeking a move put together a short profile outlining what gifts and skills, passions and areas of expertise they have
- Circuits (groups of churches) seeking a new Minister put together a profile describing their context, and what gifts and skills they believe are needed to take their local mission forward.
- Ministers and Circuits see each other's submissions, and can express some preferences.
- The Stationing Committee, which is a national body, acts like Cilla Black and matches up Ministers with Circuits, based on what they are advised would be a good 'fit'.
- The Minister and Circuit then have a 'blind date', in which the former visits the latter.

- If everyone agrees it has gone well and the match will work, it is confirmed (subject to the meeting of the Annual Methodist Conference, where the matches are all finalised). If not, both Minister and Circuit go back into the 'pot', and another match is sought.

From your point of view, it is important that you have your say in consultations as to what you believe is needed from my successor.

I also ask that you pray for Sally and for me, as we see where God is leading us next, especially as we find ourselves doing so against a backdrop of rising transphobia in society and with the very real possibility that our next move may instead need to be abroad, in order to seek safety.

With every blessing as always, Karl

Spotlight's Safeguarding Space

I will be co-leading Foundation Module Training with Grahame Snelling (Teddington Circuit) on Sunday June 8th 2.30pm at East Molesey Methodist Church & on Monday 23rd June 7pm at Teddington Methodist Church.



If you would like to attend, please see me so that we have an idea of numbers. It is anticipated that another Foundation Module training will be arranged later in the year to be held in our Circuit.

Liz Edwards, Safeguarding Officer

Church Family News

Ian Curry is now back home after his successful quadruple heart by-pass surgery. He has said that the support for him and Greta from the church family has been amazing. Lots of love to Ian for a speedy recovery.

We have had a message from Frances Stenlake to say that her Dad **Anthony Hardy** has passed away. He used to be a regular at Wesley's with his wife.

Please pray for **Monika Shaffer-Fehre** who is in hospital following a fall at home.

Please also remember the Edwards family as it is the anniversary of Marion's death on 31st May. Our love to Clive, Simon, Julie and all their family.

As Karl begins the stationing process for his new appointment in September 2026 he and Sally would appreciate your prayers.

Please pray for **Julie Haines** who will be having her hip surgery on Friday 6th June and for the Walsh family as **Ali** will be having a knee replacement on 12th June and **Megan** will be having spinal surgery on 30th June.

The flowers on Sunday 4th May were arranged by Julia Morton and kindly donated by **Carol and John Dadds** to celebrate 61 years of marriage on 9th May – and, Carol says they are still talking!!

Many congratulations to them.



What a very happy couple they look.

Update from Mary Garrett

My incredible daughter, Sarah Evans completed the London Marathon on Sunday! Yes, she did it! In 5 hours 20 mins. Teaching us about strength, determination, sheer dedication and willpower to get her over the finish line. On the way home with the grandchildren, we saw Karl on the train!

Thank you to all of you who supported Sarah by your donations to Diabetes UK, and prayers. 🙏

Mary Garrett



All change in the office

As you will no doubt have heard by now, I will be retiring on Thursday 5th June after 14½ years as the Church Administrator. I have enjoyed the job immensely but it is time to step down.

Please pop in to the office and meeting my successor Barry Sawyer.

Although you will no longer be seeing me from the view on the right, I will still be around at church and in Wesley's and you are welcome to join me for tea and cake on Thursday 5th June at 4.00pm.



Barry has written this short introduction to himself.

Barry Sawyer

I'm a local lad having been born and brought up in Raynes Park and apart from a year in Milton Keynes and two years living in Rostov-on-Don in southern Russia I've lived here all my life.

I'm married to Janine (a Sheffield lass) and we have two sons. Josh is 22 and works as a Sports coach (mainly football). Luke is 18 and is currently doing his A-Levels at Rutlish School. Janine works part-time in a care home in Raynes Park.

I grew up in The Salvation Army, my family were members at Wimbledon Salvation Army, and have had various jobs within the organisation, starting off as a printer in their central



London headquarters, before working in a team that used to run training events and conferences.

Since 2007 I have been self-employed working as a freelance graphic and web designer. During this time I also worked part-time at Morden Baptist Church for a three-year period before Covid and lockdown curtailed this. The role at Morden was very similar to the one here at NMMC.

My spare time is mostly taken up with football – watching, playing and coaching. I support AFC Wimbledon (so I'm on a high having watched us win at Wembley, again! – I'm old enough to have seen us win the Cup Final in 1988). My Saturday mornings are spent at Raynes Park Little League where I coach an Under 11s football team and afternoons playing for Raynes Park Churches FC (an over-35s team).

Emergency Contact Form

We are compiling a file of emergency contact details so that we have someone to contact if we have concerns about your welfare, eg, if we have not seen you for some time and are unable to contact you or if you are taken ill in church. This information will be kept in a file in the locked Church Vestry and will not be shared.

Please pick up a form from Wesley's and return it to Sarah or Barry.

Next Spotlight Issue

Please send all submissions to Barry Sawyer at 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 25th June**.

Wesley's

More volunteers are always welcome so that we can help this vital resource thrive and grow. Going into the Summer months there will be a need for more volunteers as the regulars have holidays.

Please look out for the June timetable of activities.

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/>

Email nmmc.wesleys@hotmail.com

A trivial pursuit.

A few more details have emerged about the quiz in honour of Wesley's 30th birthday on Saturday 14th June. Start time of 6pm was already widely known but now we have a few more tantalising nuggets of information. All questions will relate to the last 30 years so no need to brush up on 60s music or ancient history (unless you think 1995 is ancient history). The rounds will be based on Trivial Pursuit categories so history, science and nature, entertainment, arts and literature, geography and sports and leisure. There's no need to revise anything outside these topics. Hopefully really focussing in like this will make it easy for everyone to reach their potential in be in prize winning territory. [note to self, buy some prizes].

Remember to bring snacks to fortify yourselves or a whole meal if you can't wait. There's a sign up sheet in Wesley's and we hope to see a lot of you there. Maximum of 6 in a team but we can make teams on the night, remember many members of the church have hidden talents. There's nothing on telly so you may as well come and knock the Moore Abells off their perch or wrest the wooden spoon from the Universally Challenged (or whoever lost last time). A good time will be had by all.

Wesley's at 30

The big weekend is nearly here! There are still some jobs to be done which are listed below. Please do help when & where you can.

- Cleaning in preparation for the celebrations. Wednesday 4th June 4pm
- Wives and Friends would like donations of any unwanted gifts for their Sale outside Wesley's on Saturday 14th June. A basket will be in Wesley's on Sunday 1st June & Sunday 8th June. Donations of cakes on the Saturday morning also welcome.
- Look out for the sign-up sheets in Wesley's at the beginning of June to join in with the Quiz, Bring & Share Lunch on Sunday.
- Vote for your 6 favourite Wesley hymns.

Wesley's at 30 Friday 13th June -10am-2pm

Coffee & tea will cost only 30p to kickstart the Wesley's at 30 celebrations. Do come along & invite friends & neighbours. This one-day offer is available only when paying in cash!

Wesley's at 30 Friday 13th June – 5pm

Celebration event for Wesley's Café Team Volunteers and church members. Further details to be displayed on Notice Board & given in WhatsApp message.

Wesley's at 30 Saturday 14th June - 10am

Wives & Friends' Sale in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind 🐾

Come along to browse the stalls outside including gifts, plants & jewellery. Enjoy a drink in Wesley's & buy a cake.

Wesley's at 30 Saturday 14th June - 6pm

Family Quiz in Wesley's hosted by Robert, Caroline & Isabel. Bring snacks & enjoy the quiz. Come with your 'team' or join a team when you arrive & decide upon your team's name. The answers will be on the tip of your tongue! Please see the sign-up sheet in Wesley's.

Wesley's at 30 Sunday 15th June – 10.30am

Service of celebration led by Rev Dr Karl Rutledge & Rev Robert Jones. Do come along to catch up with long standing friends during a time of reflection & reconnection. Robert was the minister here during the period of re-development. The service will be followed by a Bring & Share Lunch in Wesley's. Please see the sign-up sheet in Wesley's.

Wesley's at 30 Sunday 15th June

The **Wesley's at 30** weekend will conclude with the singing of Wesley hymns after the Bring & Share Lunch. How else? Time to be confirmed. Please vote for your best 6 from the choice on sheet displayed in Wesley's.

We asked some former NMMC ministers for their memories of Wesley's as well as our current Superintendent.

David Gillman, Minister 1996 – 2003

When I first visited New Malden as a prospective minister the Welcome Area was up and running. Now called Wesley's it still fulfils its purpose – it is an open window to church life. We sometimes think of Christ's life as being an open window, through which we can glimpse God; to understand the extent of his love through the sharing of his life. If our lives too are open windows, then there are possibilities of realising mission on the High Street.

The High Street continues to change, but there is still a high foot fall, people passing (and if not looking at their phones!) a glance in and a reminder of a church that is looking beyond itself. And for those who dare to come in, then through hospitality, a listening ear, a welcome smile and refreshments, round tables and conversation, the opportunity to meet and perhaps make discoveries.

From the beginning it was anticipated that new connections would be made. It was also recognised how as a church renewal often comes through those new to us. Yes, the Spirit is at work, encouraging and sometimes disturbing our peace and inviting us to look at things differently. I don't know how many shifts each volunteer has given, how many cups of tea and coffee have been served, how much money has been raised for projects here and around the world – how many people have found friendship, acceptance and someone just at the right time in their lives.

There is a long and fascinating history of coffee houses in London that go back beyond the life of John Wesley, may his namesake here on the High Street continue to serve and witness with generosity.

Peter Catford, Minister 2003 - 2010

Walking down into the village along the High Street the Cross arrested my view and the open aspect of the glass invited a second look and the sight of people at tables in conversation or just sitting looking was an invitation.

That was my first experience as a new minister. Stepping over the threshold, nervously I found a “Hello” – and as drinks were poured a friendly smile. Over time it was a place that stories, tears and laughter were shared. A brave space for conversation and companionship. The balance of quiet reflection and chats to strangers and friends. The old and new alongside.

I was glad to have a warm space of belonging to offer with a team of volunteers waiting, in the spirit of service and camaraderie, work together to make a positive impact.

Congratulations on 30 years

Bonni-Belle Pickard, Circuit Superintendent 2011

The New Malden MC Welcome Area was always a place where I knew I would find a welcome, some comfortable seating around tables, and some smiling faces. In many ways, it was and is a Sacred Space. Its big windows open out to the New Malden High Street, visually and practically reminding us all of the 'place' of the church in the midst of the community, an essential part of our Methodist 'way of being'.

I remember popping in occasionally when the 'locals' were gathered for cuppas and chats about whatever was going on in their lives. I remember Local Preachers' meetings in the evenings when we moved tables around to suit our needs as we worked through the ways we prepared and presented worship across the circuit. I remember Sunday morning worship and mid-week services and Circuit Welcome and Farewell services which used the Welcome Area for their essential 'after-meeting' conversations, clutching warm mugs of tea in the winter or cool glasses of water in the summer. I remember Angie's funeral and how the over-flow crowd was partially accommodated beyond the glass wall between the Church and the Welcome Area. Sadly, I also remember a serious safeguarding matter which arose in part because the Welcome Area was so welcoming — but I also remember how the church leadership dealt with that situation in a firm but gracious adherence to the highest standards of guarding the safety of all who gathered in that space.

Congratulations to New Malden Methodist Church on catching a vision for Sacred Space over 30 years ago and for persevering to see it continue for the good of us all.

Rev. Soon Cheol Choi. Minister 2012 2017

Greetings from Choi and Sarah!

Dear friends,

It's been quite a while since we left New Malden in 2017. Then, after serving at the Croydon circuit, I sat down (it's a Methodist term) 3 years ago and became a supernumerary, enjoying retirement very much in a country town 'Yeovil' in Somerset.

It was such a privilege as a former minister to be asked to write a message for 'Spotlight', as you celebrate the 30th anniversary of redevelopment of the church and the building 'Welcome Area'. I send big congratulations to you all and give thanks to all those who have been serving at the coffee bar faithfully.

Although I hadn't been involved in that project, (actually I couldn't, because it happened far before my time!), I was one of the beneficiaries who enjoyed the outcome of the project. I loved to go down to the Welcome Area, which is now called 'Wesley's', to have a cup of coffee, and to meet people, not only the church people, but also the people from the community.

It was like a well, as is mentioned in John 4, where Jesus met a Samaritan woman. It was a place of breaking down the barriers: social, racial, or gender barriers. It was a place of meeting people and getting to know more of their concerns and interests, as well as their life stories.

One of the joys I remember was to meet the people on the edge, who found it not easy to cross over the church door: a bit of shy people, doubting people, and strangers from abroad - Iraqi friends, from whom I learned a lot, not only about their history and culture, but also about the sad stories of war.

It was, in a sense, such a blessing to have a space where we could open our arms wide and welcome them as friends in Christ's love, and offer them the 'living water' which can quench their spiritual thirst, as Jesus did to a Samaritan woman. What a joy it is to extend our welcome, generosity and hospitality to the people who feel isolated, vulnerable, or marginalised. I am pretty sure that must be the work entrusted with you in that busy High Street.

I hope and pray that you may continue this precious mission through this place, 'Wesley's'.

Every blessing, Rev. Soon Cheol Choi.

Vindra (Vindra Maraj-Ogden, Kingston Circuit Superintendent)

Dear friends,

Congratulations on your 30th birthday!

I am sure that there are many stories to be told about the birth of this vision. Stories of those who could not see that far ahead, stories of those who could, and guided by the Holy Spirit had the courage to persist. Today you have stories of those who frequent this place for fellowship, companionship and a meeting with God. Not to forget the coffee and cake! You are blessed with an amazing location and a team of willing people and offer a welcome into church space that is loving but not overpowering. As you reflect on the last 30 years, I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide you so that you can take risks for the next 30 years and continue serving the community.

Today, I want to say, well done, as I know that there must be challenges in running a venture like Wesley's and to say thank you to all those who give of their time and abilities. May God continue to bless the sacrifice of your time.

I wish you a very happy birthday, a milestone one, and pray that you and the communities you serve will have a wonderful time of celebration. And so, to the next 30 years all that God has for you. I leave you with the words of Proverbs 5
"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Well done, New Malden Methodist Church!!

Blessings

Knitting Pilgrim

We've become used to seeing knitting as an art-form, and not just for sweaters . . . think of those amazing toppers on post-boxes. But Kirk Dunn takes it to a whole new level.

Kirk is a Canadian actor, playwright, and knitter. Inspired by a stained-glass window, he has knitted an amazing triptych about the three Abrahamic faiths - Judaism, Islam and Christianity. He's a Christian himself, and his father and grandfather were ministers. But he'd always been interested in the other faiths, and how their followers might live alongside each other more peacefully. After 9/11 Kirk found himself talking to Christian friends who didn't think that would ever be possible.

So Kirk decided to use knitting to explore his theme. He spoke to rabbis and imams, and to Christian ministers, and so began his epic work. Each of the three panels portrays one of the faiths, with its core symbols at the centre. Around those he represents the positive aspects of the faith, and then some of the less good parts. Unsurprisingly, he discovered that all three faiths have a lot in common.

The Knitting Pilgrim is his one-man, one-act play about his journey. Yes, that's an overused word these days - but it's absolutely appropriate here!

I saw the play at Southwark Cathedral and as I went to my seat I noticed lots of audience members knitting; “oh I wish I’d brought some too” I thought. No matter, in fact it wasn’t their own knitting - Kirk encouraged us to come up, collect some wool and needles and knit along. Not to worry if you couldn’t knit - he offered tips through his “KnitCam”.

The play is funny and touching, and not just all about knitting. On the white sheet screens behind him, we saw projections of an imam, a rabbi and a minister (Kirk’s dad, in fact) telling us about their faith. We saw the funding applications he had to make (funnier than it sounds!); explanations of his techniques; pictures of the work in progress; and pictures of his children. They were babies at the start, when he thought it would take him 10 months to complete . . . one of his sons was graduating just as Kirk finished the project.

Then, as a final flourish, he pulled down the sheet screens, to reveal the work itself in all its stunning glory.

If you’d like to see The Knitting Pilgrim I’m afraid you’ll now have to travel to Ontario ... but at www.kirkdunn.com you can see more about Kirk Dunn and his work (and about his next play, about a WWII heroine who inserted knitted coded messages into jumpers!).

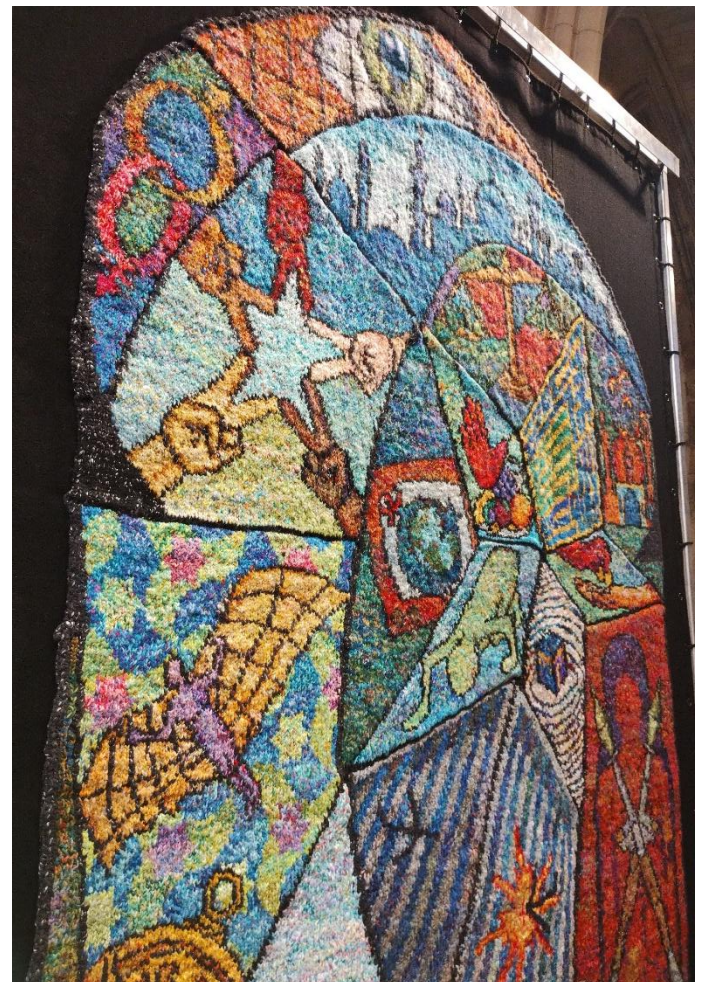
Judith Jewell





These are closer photos of each panel

Judaism left above, Christianity right above and Islam on the right.



Derbyshire Well Dressing

During a recent weekend in the Peak District we were lucky enough to enjoy the Middleton-by-Youlegrave Well Dressing.

Dressing the well is a tradition dating back to pagan times to give thanks for the gift of water and is carried out in many villages throughout Derbyshire during the Spring and Summer.

This photo is Middleton's primary village tap where clean water was available for the village. It was dedicated in 1876 with the title 'The Lord's Gift'. The water was pumped up from a pump house in nearby Bradford Dale – the provision of clear, clean water was a luxury that few could imagine in their homes.



The well dressing process begins when the wooden frame is soaked in the river for about 2 weeks and then packed with clay. The soaking of the wood helps the clay stay moist which allows the dedicated volunteers to make the design from a combination of petals, leaves, moss, eggshell (for the owl), small stones (hares and hedgehog) and in this case wool for the turquoise parts of the kingfisher as turquoise is not a colour that occurs often in nature. The result is very impressive and beautiful. It takes about a week for the design to be finished and it is displayed in front of the original village tap for about a week.

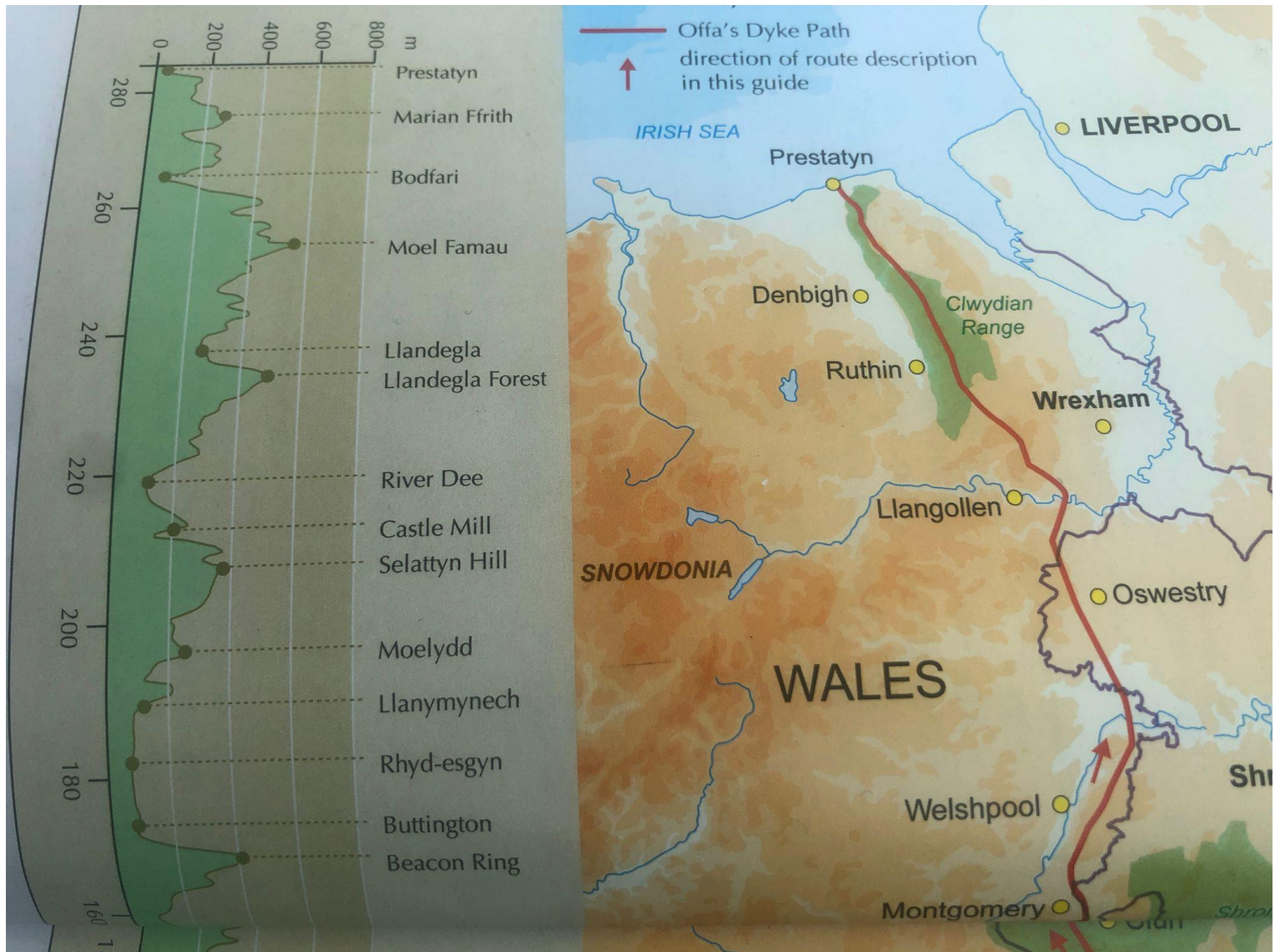


We were lucky enough to watch part of the making of the panel which involved orange petals being pulled off a gerbera and then pushed individually into the clay to form the pot that the robin perched on. This gives some idea of the work involved.





Alison's walk



Last month I walked most of the Northern half of the Offa's Dyke Path with a old school friend who is used to extreme trekking and bushwalking and has boundless energy, a liking for Geography and a clear sense of direction. Had I not been with her, I don't think I would have finished the trail, as I have none of those things.

She had already walked the Southern portion of the Path and so was keen to complete the course. I agreed to accompany her, of my own free will, but made three stipulations right from the outset: there would be no camping, no carrying of luggage and I wouldn't be reading the maps.

All we had to do was to walk for roughly 12 miles a day for 8 days between the designated venues, starting in Knighton in Shropshire and following the white acorn signs. Starting with a photo opportunity at the point where the path crosses the English/ Welsh border, the climbing started almost immediately. They call it The Switchback, but all association with funfairs was lost as we tramped up and down the unremittingly gruelling Shropshire hills. Layers that were essential at the chilly start to the day were shed as the sun and the heart

rate steadily rose. It was beautiful but also Very Hard Work; the Downs as much as - and gradually more than- the Ups. I was glad I'd brought walking poles and a good hat.

This went on pretty relentlessly for about 9 hours that first day, with very few breaks or even anywhere much to sit and catch your breath. It was wonderful therefore to make contact with and be met eventually by Lynne, the first in a succession of cheerful and charming overnight hosts, who whisked us away to her immaculate Bed and Breakfast establishment in Cwm, a hamlet near Bishops Castle.

Day two was supposed to be substantially easier than yesterday, 13.7 miles heading through the Vale of Montgomery, site of a great battle in the Civil War. Lots of lambs, bluebells, and somewhat surprisingly to me, fields full of golden dandelions. Endless stiles, and various styles of gates where I sometimes caught up with Liz if she waited long enough. I had abandoned the umbrella and the flask of tea anyway. Weight was the only criterion, and water was of course an essential.

Day Three was definitely supposed to be easy, being a mere 10.3 miles largely on the flat. We set off with alacrity, feeling slightly battered but unbowed, you might say, along the Severn River which was quite slow and calm up here. We also walked alongside the Montgomery Canal for much of the time, and a succession of fields where the Dyke was a visible feature. Most of me was now quite sore, shoulders, hips and knees principally, though the feet were holding (me) up quite well. I kept thanking the powers that be for the weather; this would have been deeply unpleasant, verging on the impossible, in the wind and wet with absolutely no shelter for miles on end. The days were so long that breaks were few and far between.

I must have got more sleep than I thought, because I felt I made a good start to Day 4, setting off in already bright sunshine at 8.30. Upwards again, frequently crossing the border between Wales and England, to the heritage area which explores the quarrying and lime-burning history of the village as well as an Iron Age hill fort and a Nature Reserve. So far we had been through absolutely no villages where anything at all seemed to be going on.... I hadn't been expecting park benches, coffee shops and Mr Whippy on street corners, but quite honestly, if you had run out of water, or anything else, it was just tough. A



The Beginning

highlight of the entire week therefore was coming across a farmhouse with a barn where you could help yourself to drinks and home-made cakes. This was indescribably welcome. Another 'light' day followed; just 10 miles to go before we hit Llangollen. This was perhaps my favourite day. The weather was absolutely glorious and the Going was not too bad at all. There were cows, lambs, lovely farm cottages, wild flowers and a riot of birdsong. And it was much flatter! I had by now collected a couple of blistered toes and a sore bunion that I was tending carefully to try and prevent the skin from breaking. Changing the footwear on a couple of days helped a bit. We walked beside the Llangollen canal for quite a stretch, seeing several narrow boats pottering along and with a view of Telford's world-famous aqueduct at Pontcysyllte gradually becoming clearer. It was an overwhelming sight when we at last got there and walked across it alongside the water channel, 126 feet high and 1000 feet long. I hadn't expected anything on that scale.

Another beautiful day followed, as promised. The surroundings were a bit different now... dramatic rocks and huge cliffs to the right and scree slopes falling away to the left. It was reasonably level at first as we contoured round these massive hills, though inevitably there were steep stretches too, leading to an extensive area of moorland where a long concrete path had been constructed right across it. Completely exposed for a mile or so, one could well imagine that without this, the way would have been completely bogged and all but impassable in all but the very finest of weathers.

My feet were getting very hot and uncomfortable but I was spurred on by the promise of rest and refreshment at Llandegla Church, roughly at lunchtime. It turned out there was a community shop there offering all sorts of good things, but I was chiefly interested in cooling my feet in the basin. A mug of tea never goes amiss either, and thus refreshed we started off on the second leg of this 14-mile day. This seemed interminable. Flat fields gave way to steeper and steeper ones until we were faced with the longest and worst climb of the entire week so far. I was definitely struggling by the end of the day. Luckily the accommodation, though remote, was as comfortable as we had come to expect and we were returned to the trail the next morning to start Day 6.

Another gruelling day of challenging gradients, and I was completely exhausted by the time we were picked up and taken to a pleasant Inn on the main Ruthin road. I had come to the conclusion over the previous few hours that I needed a break. I had not enjoyed this very hot afternoon; everything hurt and I could see from the description that tomorrow was going to be almost as long and even higher. So I got myself added to the pile of luggage being transported onwards after breakfast by car with no difficulty... obviously it wasn't that unusual a request at this stage.

Bodfari, our next and final accommodation, was only a few miles away through the Welsh lanes by this route. I briefly thought of Liz powering it out on the longer higher harder route up and down the Clwydian hills, but knew she'd be having a great time, not having to wait at every gate and stile, or phone me up to find out where I was, only to find I was having an unscheduled chocolate break on a temptingly accessible bank. (This only happened once.) Anyhow, I was duly delivered to a lovely house at the top of a pretty village with a thriving

pub and a substantial church just down the road. I spent a very pleasant day relaxing in the beautiful weather with panoramic views and even a massage from a visiting therapist.

Our final destination was Prestatyn station. Liz was returning to Harrow Weald and I was meeting Peter for some more R and R in North Wales. I just had to get there. One. More. Day.

Plodding onwards, it was cheering to see in the distance the 30 giant wind turbines of the North Hoyle wind farm. The end was in sight.

The rain held off and the sun came out. We clambered up to the Prestatyn Nature Reserve, a pleasant enough clifftop walk if you hadn't already walked 80 miles that week.

I decided that toiling onwards to the end-of-trail marker on the promenade at Prestatyn for a final triumphant photo opportunity was a mile I could do without, and I didn't officially qualify anyway. So Liz went on alone to celebrate the end of her completed 200 mile journey, and I slowly hobbled down Prestatyn High Street feeling sorry for myself and literally stopping on every bench until I reached the station. I have rarely enjoyed a cup of tea more.

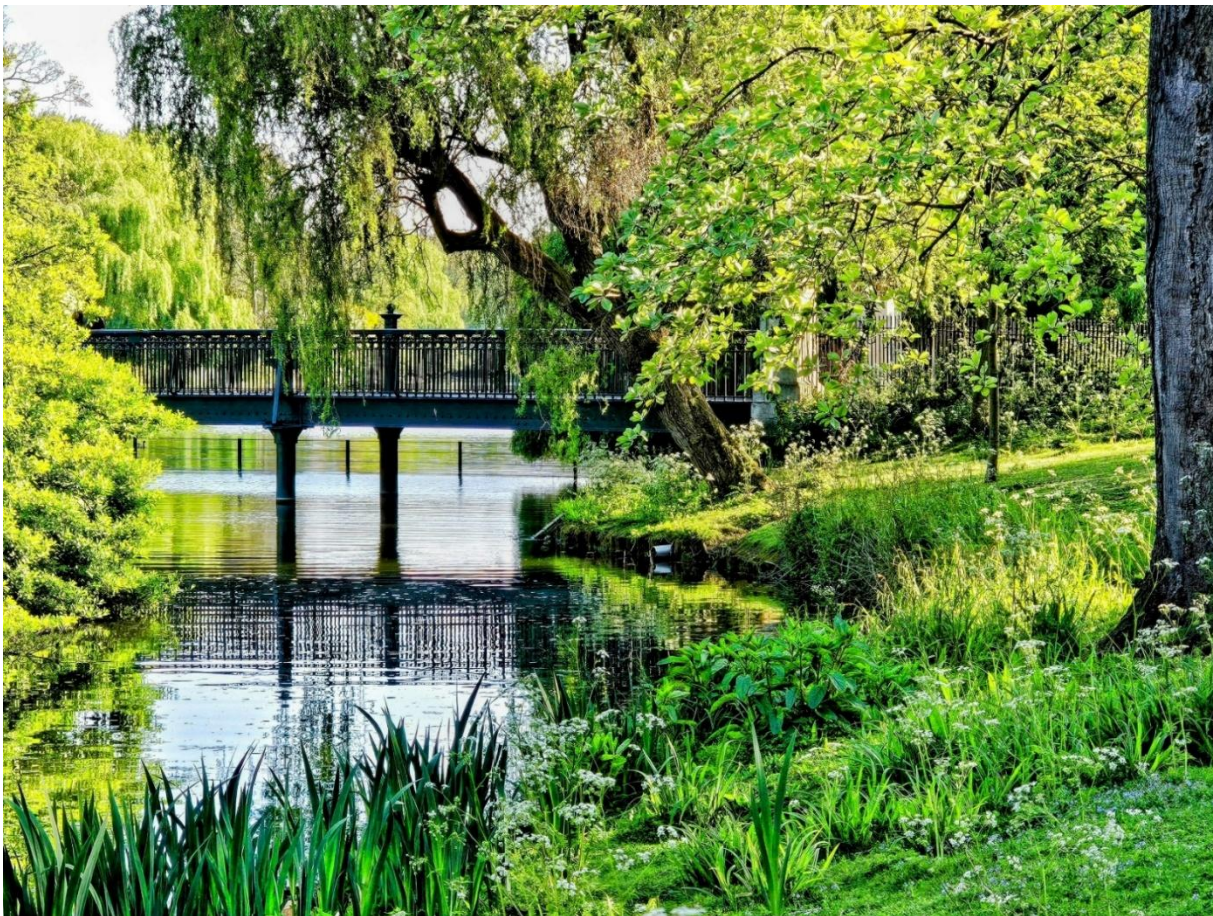
And so ended this epic adventure. I did enjoy most of it and was very pleased to have done it, in spite of how difficult I found it at times. A personal challenge is always good! The scenery, weather and the accommodation were all wonderful and it was great to enjoy the peace and quiet. I just felt the days were too long and therefore rushed; I know there was a huge amount I missed or just didn't notice, and for much of the time I didn't really have a clue where we actually were, just concentrating on putting one tired foot in front of the other.



In conclusion: if you're tempted, take note of the actual figures rather than the books that say that any reasonably fit person can do this easily. I like to think of myself as reasonably fit, and I had certainly got a lot fitter in the 6 months or so before embarking on this trip, but easy? No. I would happily return to any of the accommodation – (except possibly the Bradford Arms in Llanmynech.) And of course I still have the section I missed across the Clwydian Hills to tackle, as well as the entire southern section.

Any takers?

Karl's picture taken in Regent's Park



Church contact information – website www.newmalDENmethodistchurch.com



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)

Charity Registration Number 1176621

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nmmc.wesleys@hotmail.com

juliamorton@virginmedia.com

lizedwards513@gmail.com

juliehaines53@gmail.com



Lunchtime Concert

Tuesday 17th June 1.10 pm

New Malden Methodist Church KT3 4BY

The Malden String Quartet

Stefan Bown, Martin Liebeck (*violins*)

Elizabeth Hart (*viola*) Norman Starritt (*cello*)



Haydn Op.20 No.1 in E flat

Allegro moderato – Un poco Allegretto (Minuet/Trio)
Affettuoso e sostenuto – Presto

Dvorak Op.51 in E flat

Allegro ma non troppo – Andante con moto (Dumka)
Andante con moto (Romanza) – Allegro assai (Finale)

40 minutes of music

Retiring collection to help defray expenses



Music in New Malden

16th Series

Sunday 8th June at 3 o'clock

New Malden Methodist Church KT3 4BY

Keith Hearnshaw

Concert organist



*Including major works by
Bach, Boëllmann and Widor*

Tickets £10

www.ticketsource.co.uk/musicinnm

Wesley's, NMMC 10am – 2pm M – F (cash)



An hour of music, followed by tea and cake

Plan Details for the Churches				
Date	Time	Chessington	Kingston	New Malden
01/06/2025	AM	Stonehewer	Rutledge: HC	Vernon: AA
Bible Month	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
08/06/2025	AM	Maraj-Ogden	Rutledge: AA/JMA	LA
Bible Month	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
15/06/2025	AM	D&S Lloyd: C	Zihle	Rutledge: W
Bible Month	PM	No Service	Rutledge	No Service
22/06/2025	AM	Maraj-Ogden: HC	S. Lloyd	Rutledge: HC
Bible Month	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
29/06/2025	AM	Rutledge	Fullbrook	D. Lloyd
Bible Month	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
06/07/2025	AM	LA	Rutledge: HC/AfC	Maraj-Ogden
	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
13/07/2025	AM	Cocking	LA/AA	Rutledge: AA
	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
20/07/2025	AM	Maraj-Ogden: HC	D. Lloyd: CC	Stonehewer
	PM	6pm Circuit Service at Kingston		
27/07/2025	AM	D&S Lloyd: C	Bridges	Maraj-Ogden: HC
	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
03/08/2025	AM	Han	Rutledge	Stonehewer
	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
10/08/2025	AM	Maraj-Ogden: HC	Rutledge: AA/HC	LA
	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
17/08/2025	AM	D&S Lloyd: C	Maraj-Ogden: AA	Rutledge: AA/B
	PM	No Service	Rutledge: HC	No Service
24/08/2025	AM	LA	Bridges: AA	Rutledge: AA/HC
	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
31/08/2025	AM	Han	LA/AA	Maraj-Ogden
	PM	No Service	No Service	No Service
Ministers' Day Off: Karl and Vindra - Monday Circuit Meeting: 8 July at Chessington				

Notes
AA = All-Age Worship ACM = Annual Church Meeting AfC = Action for Children Sunday B = Baptism BL = British Legion Service C = Contemporary CC = Café Church HC = Holy Communion JMA = Junior Mission for All LA = Local Arrangement O = Oasis 50th Anniversary PP = Praise Party W = Wesley's 30th Anniversary Service

Chessington (10am)
Bible: NIV MWB: HC Only Music: StF, H&P, SoF 1 - 3 Korean Language Service 12.30pm
Kingston (10.30am & 6pm)
Bible: GNB MWB: HC Only Music: StF, SoF 1 - 3 Online: Windows on Worship
New Malden (10.30am)
Bible: NRSV MWB: Complete Music: StF Online: Windows on Worship
Surbiton Hill (10.30am)
Bible: NIV MWB: Complete Music: StF, H&P, Let's Praise 1, 2 Online: Live Stream

NMMC Diary Dates – June

Saturday 31st May 10.00am – 12.00

Tuesday 3rd June 10.30am

Wednesday 4th 4.00pm

Thursday 5th 10.30am

2.00pm

4.00pm

Friday 6th 11.30am

Saturday 7th 10.00am – 12.00pm

Sunday 8th 3.00pm

Tuesday 10th 10.30am

2.30 – 4.00pm

Thursday 12th 10.30am

2.00 – 3.30pm

Friday 13th 11.30am

Celebratory weekend (see page 7)

Friday 13th

5.00pm

Saturday 14th 10.00am – 12.00

6.00pm

Sunday 15th 11.30am

Tuesday 17th 10.30am

1.10pm

Thursday 19th 10.30am

2.00pm

Friday 20th 11.30am

Saturday 21st 10.00am – 12.00

Friday 27th 11.30am

1.00pm

Saturday 28th 10.00am – 12.00

Tuesday 1st July 2.30pm

Wesley's – Cancer Research UK – Bowel Baby Campaign

Walking Group

Cleaning in Wesley's

Knit & Natter

Creative Arts

Tea & cake for Sarah's retirement

Writers' Group

Wesley's – SSAFA

Music in New Malden (see page 22)

Tai Chi

Bereavement Café

Knit & Natter

Short tennis in the Upper Hall

Writers' Group

Cuppa for 30p in Wesley's

Wesley's volunteer celebration

Wesley's & stall for Guide Dogs for the Blind

Quiz

Bring & Share lunch after service

followed by 30 hymns

Walking Group

Lunchtime Concert

Knit & Natter

Creative Arts

Writers' Group

Wesley's – Guides fundraising for Jamboree

Writers' Group

Cancer Connection Group

Wesley's – Our Woofs & Miaows KR/UK

Wives & Friends Cream Tea – all welcome

Please scan this QR code if you wish to donate online to the work of New Malden Methodist Church.

