

# Connections



Ashbourne Methodist  
Church  
June 2025



Dear Friends

It was my privilege this week to represent Ashbourne Methodist Circuit at two events in London. First, was the Alpha Leadership Conference, and the second was a Parliamentary Reception for 'Shine your light'. The additional joy was that Chris, and I shared together in both these events.

Bank Holiday Monday and Tuesday were spent at the Royal Albert Hall with 4,998 other people. Together we were leaders of churches small and large, from not only around the UK but all over the world. The biggest blessing came in hearing stories (testimonies) of lives and communities transformed by Jesus. It was clear again and again throughout the two days that God is at work in our world. Some of us will know this personally because of our own circumstances but I am aware of many within The Methodist Church who feel demoralised, that we are a declining membership organisation that has little impact on the world today. Those who heard me share at the recent General Church Meeting in Brailsford may remember me saying that I believe growth is possible throughout our Circuit because Jesus is using us not only to sow seeds but also to harvest them.

Yes, much of the focus of the two days was on The Alpha Course, those who had gone along reluctantly and discovered faith in Jesus, those churches that were growing by regularly using Alpha as part of their discipleship options. Yet, it was also about more than another course, it was about churches working hard individually or with others – just about every denomination imaginable was present – to help in the building of the Kingdom of God here on earth. One of

the speakers, Priscilla Shirer spoke of herself as a satisfied customer of the Holy Spirit. What a wonderful picture this painted in my mind. I wonder what it would mean for the people of our circuit, the churches of our circuit if we were to see ourselves in this way. Perhaps something to think about as we make our way towards Pentecost and celebrating the way the Holy Spirit fell on the first disciples.

The good news is that God is on the move in the world today, God is on the move here in the UK and God is on the move in the communities we represent. As we read in Deuteronomy: 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you'. You and I are not alone, God is with us wherever we find ourselves and I believe longing to reach out through us all to those who have not yet heard the Good News.

Blessings

Nicola

## **Ashbourne Circuit Family News**

As the month of June is approaching, I have just looked in my diary to find out who might have a special event forthcoming. We like to share each other's good news and offer our congratulations. For the first time ever, my diary is empty! Of course, that might just mean that I haven't been party to any

special news. So, if you do have a special event then I wish you a happy time celebrating.

However, sadly there are folk in our circuit who are going through difficult times. This month we continue to pray for all who are anxious, unwell, waiting for procedures or test results and those who are in hospital. We pray especially for Chris D, Nick F and family, Margaret He, Ann O, who is very poorly in hospital and for her husband Andy, Pauline W, and Diana W.

I am writing this on the day after the new Pope was elected and felt it appropriate to share part of the prayer from the Methodist Church, which reminds us all to love and serve one another in the service of Jesus Christ:

*"Bless and guide your servant, Pope Leo XIV.*

*Give him the assurance of your love and pour your Spirit upon him: may his ministry reflect that of your Son Jesus and let him be a bold witness to your love and truth.*

*Bless our siblings in the Roman Catholic Church as they welcome their new Holy Father. May he lead their Church with wisdom and grace."*

Wendy Haslam (Pastoral Secretary) 09.05.2025

## Mambabu – the first 15 years!

A little over 15 years ago, in a deprived and forgotten corner of the world, the early seeds of transformation were sown in what has become a remarkable, self-help development programme - Mambabu. This article is a reminder of some of the highlights and a celebration of what has been achieved. So, today we give thanks to God for Mambabu and to all readers of *Connections* who have supported the project with prayer, encouragement, ideas and gifts of money, thank you for being part of this wonderful story.

To recap, Mambabu is a community development programme, located in three small villages in the Kailahun District of Sierra Leone, in a remote area of jungle not far from the borders with Liberia and Guinea. The villages of Gbangbama, Bendekor and Gbandoma are home to some 400 people, mostly subsistence farmers and their families, scraping a living from what they can grow.



**A family at work - (from right to left) Jacob Bockarie from Bendekor with his children, Sahr, Salome, Madi and Gbondo, and (at the back) friend Mamie Ishmail, with her daughter Ramatu.**

When Mambabu was conceived, the community was still reeling from the devastation wrought by a cruel civil war during the 1990s, when families and communities were ripped apart and much of the physical infrastructure was destroyed. There was no fresh water in the villages, no electricity and no sanitation. Hardly any of the children attended school, housing and transportation was extremely basic and modern healthcare non-existent. People were struggling, sickness was rife and the prospects for life were bleak. In this desperate situation, Mambabu set out to foster a new vision of the future and over the last 15 years this has been taking shape through initiatives in education, community development, water, health and agriculture.

The idea is to tackle the causes of poverty in the villages and to alleviate hardship, by creating opportunities; to disrupt the destructive cycle of poverty with selective interventions, which not only improve lives in the short term, but which also build community and energise people with opportunities for growth and development. Operating at grass roots level and run entirely by community members and volunteers, Mambabu took its first steps in 2009, supported financially and in prayer from the UK, in particular the Ashbourne Circuit.

Those who have followed Mambabu from the beginning will remember that the early initiatives in education and the construction of a community centre had a galvanising effect on the community. Responding to a growing appetite for change, Mambabu then constructed three wells to provide a supply of clean water. Where previously villagers had collected water from open ponds in the jungle, risking waterborne diseases and other life-threatening illnesses, now fresh water is pumped up from deep underground, each well

dug out by the villagers by hand to a depth of some 40 feet or more.



Access to the villages has been improved by upgrading bush paths and building a new road and, on the plantations, Mambabu has worked with an agronomist to improve farming practices. Yields have increased and the villagers have formed co-operative farming groups to share resources.

Now the villages are lit at night by solar powered streetlights and an array of panels provides power for the Community Centre. A village library has been opened where children can study during the dark evenings and an elementary school runs every weekday for the youngest. A new health screening and primary healthcare initiative has brought modern treatments and medication to the villages for the very first time. This year's visit over a long weekend is providing for some 500 people, including many from surrounding villages.

**"If I can compare the time before the project and now, there is a tremendous difference. I am so happy with it. Now we have light, good drinking water and education for our children."** Fatforma James - Village elder, Gbangbama



**“To me, the Mambabu project is a dream, and this dream is changing the lives of our children. For the first time in our family, we have children in secondary school!”** Baby Monoh - Women’s leader, Bendekor.

Education has always been at the heart of the project. This is where it all started, with just a handful of children released from their domestic duties and farm work, so they could make the six-mile round trip walk every weekday to the nearest school. Here they sat under trees and ramshackle structures and gradually studied their way into a new future. One of those early children was Esther, pictured here in 2024 at her high school end of year Thanksgiving Service, leaving school with excellent results that qualify her for a place at university and hoping to become a doctor. She is the daughter of Jacob, shown with some of his other children in the picture at the beginning of this article.







Big brothers and sisters act as ideal role models for their younger siblings. Relaxing back at home in Gbangbama after school, Tamba Fatorma reads to a group of boys from the Mambabu Elementary School.

**"Mambabu is a good thing because it has kept me in school. I see that Mambabu will grow bigger and change our lives."** (Momoh Allieu - pupil in the first year of Junior Secondary School)

In total, there are now 174 children and young people receiving support for their school education, including some living as far afield as the capital, Freetown: all members of the extended Mambabu community. In addition, 7 grants for further education have been awarded this year to students for university courses.

**"We thank God for the project which has helped our community people for 15 years. It has changed our lives and given us the confidence to keep our children in school. Education is a true blessing from God."**  
(Chief Tamba Tortinor of Gbandoma)

On a wall in the Mambabu Community Centre a plaque bears an inscription, ending with some words which capture what the project is all about and underpin all the developments that have taken place – “Beloved, let us love one another: because love is of God”. 1 John c4 v7. People of faith in the villages, predominantly Muslim and Christian, recognise Mambabu as God’s blessing on their community while volunteers and supporters, both here and in Sierra Leone, see it as an opportunity to share God’s love by contributing time, energy, prayers and gifts of money. It is a rare privilege to to be part of this fantastic work.

### Postscript

When I visited the villages in 2019, I met a woman



called Kumba Nabieu, a hard-working subsistence farmer from Gbangbama; a single mother, raising six children under her own steam. We were a mile or two from the villages on the so-called boli land, which floods every year during the rainy season, leaving behind nutrients which enrich the soil when the waters recede. She was farming a small plot of land there, weeding young vegetable plants, as her young sons trudged back and forth to the river fetching water. It was hot

work but that would be her life until the rains came again. That evening I found her back in the village helping to prepare a meal with several other women. Amongst the clamour and the merry banter, the smell of woodsmoke and the steam billowing from huge pans of boiling rice, she spoke to me through an interpreter.

**“We want to thank God for the Mambabu project. We’ve never had such a project before and just look at us now. We are all eating together, sharing food with our children ... and we’re happy! To all those who are supporting the project, I want to extend my sincere appreciation, even though I don’t know your names.”**

Before the year was out, Kumba Nabieu had died, and her family had dispersed. A life in poverty can be fragile and all too short.

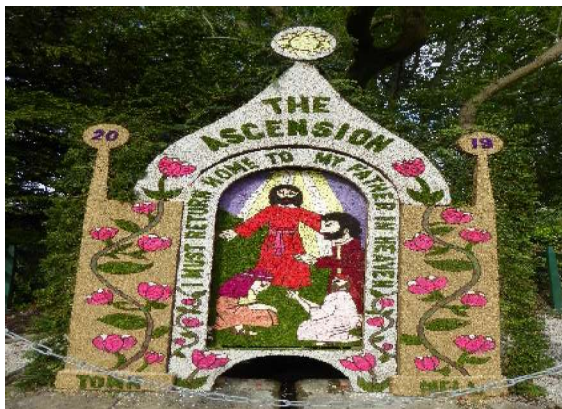
We thank God for Kumba and pray for those villagers like her, who fight against the odds every day. They exemplify the spirit abroad in the Mambabu villages. They are the people who live under the mountain called Mamba: Mambabu.

David Bale

The adult version of “head, shoulders, knees and toes” is “wallet, glasses, keys and phone”

# Tissington Well Dressing

29th May – 4th June



Over the period of the Tissington Well Dressing, Tissington Chapel will be open as usual for visitors.

Could you welcome them to the Chapel during the Well Dressing? Many visitors come into the chapel as they look around the village. We want it to be a time when they can sense the presence of God and enjoy the beauty of God's creation and the peace of the chapel and have the opportunity to take away literature which may be a help in daily living.

Volunteers are needed to help the Tissington congregation to provide a presence at the chapel and be ready to chat.

We would welcome anyone in the Circuit to help.

Can you cover a 2 hour slot from 10.00 -12.00, 12.00 -2.00 or 2.00 -4.00pm between 29 May and 3 June.

There will be a printed sheet to give you information about the chapel and facilities to make yourself a drink.

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Please get in touch with Joyce Odell on 01335 419319 or 07807273095 to book your slot.

## **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

Following a mention at the Annual Church Meeting, we are advertising the exciting volunteer role of Community Partner. This will involve keeping in contact with one of the existing link organisations who used our premises at Church Street before the Link Project. It is a 'keeping in touch' role to keep them informed of progress with the Link and gathering information about what the group would like when the refurbished premises re-opens. We have approached a few people who already have a relationship with a group but are looking for a few more. If you are interested and would like further information, including a copy of the role description, please contact Tim Dutton.

## **SOUL FOOD**

Thank you so much to the people who engaged with the Lenten theme this year. It was good to do something different and join with the Methodist Church to nourish our souls. The resources were plentiful and we had some memorable services of worship on the themes of Soul Food, Shelter, Rest, Mates, Repair and Songs. Special thanks go to the Seek & Share team who produced a colourful and thought- provoking display each week (see photo below).

The theme extended through Holy Week, with services at Tissington on Maundy Thursday, Milldale on Holy Saturday and Hilltop on Good Friday. Thanks to all those who led and participated. We celebrated Easter Day with Soul Stories and the greatest story ever told, of the resurrection of our Lord. Now that can't fail to nourish the soul.



## Message Bible introduction to 1,2 and 3 John

The two most difficult things to get straight in life are love and God. More often than not the mess people make of their lives can be traced to failure or stupidity or meanness in one or both of these areas.

The basic and biblical Christian conviction is that the two subjects are intricately related. If we want to deal with God the right way, we have to learn to love the right way. If we want to love the right way, we have to deal with God the right way. God and love can't be separated.

John's three letters provide wonderfully explicit direction in how this works. Jesus , the Messiah, is the focus: Jesus provides the full and true understanding of God; Jesus shows us the mature working out of love. In Jesus, God and love are linked accurately, intricately, and indissolubly.

But there are always people around who don't want to be pinned down to the God Jesus reveals, to the Love Jesus reveals. They want to make up their own idea of God, make up their own style of love. John was pastor to a church or churches disrupted by some of these people. In his letters we see him reestablishing the original and organic unity of God and love that comes to focus and becomes available to us in Jesus Christ.

Worth a read!!

### Magazine photographs

Last Month's front cover by Mark was Christ the King Statue in Lisbon, apparently inspired by Rio de Janeiro

Mark has produced Ladybower for this month's feature plus the one of bluebells and Cromford canal on the rear cover, and continues to provide us wonderful photographs and does not claim copyright which is a real difficulty with many images.



## **Kimber's Men in Concert at All Saints Church, Brailsford**

**On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June, we are delighted to be hosting a concert by the world famous Kimber's Men** [www.kimbersmen.com](http://www.kimbersmen.com)



Captivating audiences with their fabulous harmonies and amusing banter since the year 2001, KIMBER'S MEN have performed at folk and shanty festivals throughout the length and breadth of the UK. The boys are regular performers at festivals throughout Europe and Scandinavia, honoured to be invited regularly to the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium and France along with many performances in Ireland and Greece. They have performed in Denmark many times and played in Norway.

They were very proud to have been chosen to headline the first ever shanty festival in Australia in 2019 where they toured the south and west coast

In the UK KIMBER'S MEN have featured twice on Channel 4's Sunday Brunch and also starred in BBC2 and BBC4's production of "Sea Songs" with Gareth Malone. The boys have also, for many years, crewed the Tall Ship Stavros S Niarchos as deckhands and Shantymen on voyages around the UK and Europe although Neil is the only true sailor amongst them.

**JOHN BROMLEY**– Ship's cook- who has probably the finest bass voice on the folk and shanty scene. John also plays guitar, Bodhran and whistle with the band

and is an accomplished folk act in his own right whilst also playing in two other bands, Hebric and The Bromley's.

**NEIL KIMBER** – Ship's Bosun and baritone. Neil plays guitar and together with his wife, Ros, also composes songs for the band including 'Don't Take the Heroes' about the Penlee lifeboat disaster of 1981 – now sung around the globe.

**GARETH SCOTT** – Powder Monkey ( looks after the band makeup ), a man of many hats and facial expressions, Gareth sings baritone with a powerful range that brings a real 'bluesy' feel to many of their songs. Gareth is also a very accomplished guitarist and plays with folk rock band A Rookery as well as being a solo artist.

**STEVE SMITH**– Stowaway and generally the naughty boy of the band! He can often be found in the naughty corner beside Neil. Steve provides the top harmonies and also plays harmonium although he is a multi-instrumentalist and sound engineer and records and produces the band CD's.

Several albums are available on Bandcamp or direct from the band at gigs or their web page.

Prepare to sing, laugh, cry and be generally entertained by these unique, talented, and amusing guys.

**Tickets are £20 which includes a ploughman's supper. 16 and under free with paying adult. The cricket club are providing a bar.**

**Tickets can be purchased via [Ticketsource.co.uk](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) search Brailsford or message David 07712 937178 or Jane 07712 937168.**

**We can guarantee it will be a great night!  
Proceeds to All Saints Church**

## IONA

Where the stones speak,  
Where the sunrise and sunset speak,  
Where the mists of Mull speak,  
Where the wind and the waves speak,  
Where the corncrake and the cuckoo speak,  
Where the past and the present and the future speak,  
Where the light speaks,  
Where the living stones speak,  
And they say; 'Alleluia'  
                          'Hosanna'  
                          'Eucharistia'

## HERE

Where we breathe and our hearts beat,  
Where the shadows dance as the bunting blows,  
Where our feet beware the cobbles,  
Where the blackbird sings on the rooftop,  
Where the hills are green and the water flows,  
Is where we say; 'Praise be'  
                          'Save us'  
                          'Thank You'

Alan Coker Mayes.

### **"What's in it for me?" - Inspired by the Iona Community, Rachel Murt**

Every year in Britain, according to government statistics, we use 2 billion sheets of toilet paper, that's the equivalent of 154,000 miles of paper a year or 86 trees felled every day. Maybe it's time to change? Maybe it's time to use recycled paper? There are many firms out there but one that I will use is ECOLEAF, this is part of

the SUMA group which is a worker owned co-operative founded in 1977 in Elland West Yorkshire. You can order on line from [www.suma-store.coop](http://www.suma-store.coop) for £3.20 for a pack of 4 (plus delivery) or you can visit Belper and buy it from 'Eatharmony ' a shop at 2 Queen Street Belper DE56 1NR.

**Psalm 24 - 1:2 The Earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.**



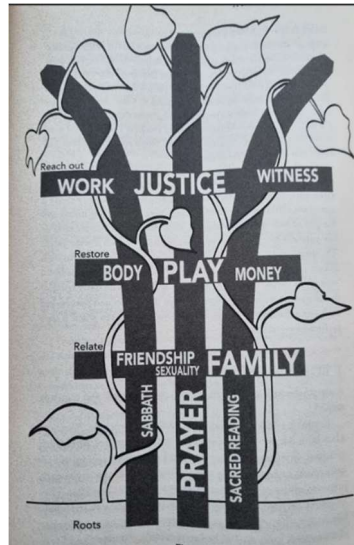
### **"God in my Everything"**

Earlier this year our house group decided to read the book by the Canadian/Japanese author Ken Shigematsu – "God in my Everything" describing itself as "how an ancient rhythm helps busy people enjoy God". Well the title itself already had me on board, but the description fitted me perfectly, I was in!

The book was broken down into 5 sections:

**Rules, Roots, Relate, Restore, Reach Out.**

I have to say that I think we lost 50% of the group at 'Rules' (!) there were a number of us that just didn't like the word 'rule' it implied restrictions and obedience, something that not everyone wanted to read about. We did spend an inordinate amount of time discussing the word 'rule' itself but the members of the group that 'pushed through' this barricade quickly came to realise that whilst we didn't like 'word', we were pretty much in agreement with what that word was trying to convey. Namely that we should construct a 'trellis' to support our lives, our whole lives. The Trellis:



the

Reach Out

Restore

Relate

Roots

*(rooted in your Sabbath, Prayer and Sacred Reading)*

The book states we should create a 'rule' (a trellis) that supports us in having Christ at the centre of all we do so that we are aware of him at all times. The actions that we choose to take 'reading the bible', 'attending church', 'praying regularly' etc should not be spiritual tasks that we 'tick off' like a to do list, but should be used to create space for us to enjoy the company of Jesus, like the book says they are a 'means of grace'. And as our lives change as they invariably do, we have children, we build careers, we retire, we move house, so should our 'rule' change.

But how to build a rule? Well what works for one will not work for another, we were advised to think of activities that we undertake that 'free' our spirits and make us feel closer to God and connected with him. For some it was walking, talking with friends, music, being still, riding our motorbikes. Then start a small habit of creating time for God, set a chime on your watch maybe, build up slowly and prune your rule regularly, if it's not creating the space you need to feel the awareness of God, then cut it. We were encouraged to 'keep the sabbath' and again this was not 'rigid' and did not have to be a 'Sunday' but should be one day in the week which we set aside to make special in our own way, to do the things we enjoy and to make different from the other days, a day to replenish ourselves. What might your Sabbath look like? A run in the hills? An hour gardening? Work out in the gym? Or a pint in the pub share fellowship with others?

Lots of healthy discussions took place about our potential 'rules' and much was learned about each

other. We are not all the same (thank goodness) and we had some interesting talks around what if you make the space for God, but don't feel him enter that space? "A sailor cannot produce wind" but there is plenty to do whilst you wait for the wind to show up!

Some chapters were easier than others, under 'relate' came the chapter on Sex and Sexuality. The book spoke of longing to connect with others a 'relational intimacy' not just the sexual energy or act. We spoke of giving and 'building up' in others, we also read about how some relationships can move from the relative safety of a loving friendship, towards loving physicality to which the book advised we should have a 'buddy' to call if we felt at risk of this happening. The group then had a bit of fun wondering who they might call if faced with that situation.

I can't condense the whole book into this article, but I can recommend it to you as a good 'practical' read, albeit in another country's dialect and value system. One final section that did make me sit up a little and challenge myself was the section on 'Reach Out', chapter 13 "thank God It's Monday". We were reminded that whilst we don't know much about what Jesus did between the ages of 12 and 30, it is likely that he worked and we know the Holy Spirit is always at work. The book states "when we work we 'co-create with God', we may not feel particularly spiritual in our work but if it is legitimate work, we are co-creating with God". So what? I hear you ask, well it made think about the number of times I had moaned it was Monday tomorrow, or not felt my own values aligned with the company I was working for. Perhaps I should



have been looking for God in my work and how I could serve Him in my work as well as my employer; after all it was God's time I was using.

As a consequence of our group reading this book, we have a number of copies that can be made available. The group felt that a useful outcome from our experience might be to create a 'library' for others to share in, this can be started now and achieved once we are back in our Church building. If you are interested in borrowing our copies for your group, please contact me, Rachel Murt ([Rachelmurtwork@gmail.com](mailto:Rachelmurtwork@gmail.com)). Or perhaps you have a number of copies of a book that your house group has used and could add those to our library?

Did you go to the Methodist school under our church?

When the builders were removing wall panels to striping the Gateway Centre, they discovered these two rulers that someone had tucked down there. Unsurprisingly they are only in inches and are scribed 'Central Educational Co, Derby'. If you lost these all those years ago they are available to reclaim!  
Ian Marsh



## **WW2 80 Years on: A Celebration of VE Day 1945-2025**

All Saints Church, Brailsford was the setting for this 3 day commemorative community event over the Bank Holiday weekend, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> May.

On display were the Poppy Waterfall hanging majestically from the bell tower, WW2 memorabilia loaned by people and the 80 Candles Holocaust Quilt representing another '80' whilst the window sills and pillars were beautifully bedecked with floral displays and bunting.

We had a map of RAF Ashbourne, which proved fascinating, as many of us worked out where our houses are now, and showed just how large an area it was.

A very special part of the celebration was our book entitled, 'Memories of WW2 80 Years On' - a unique compilation of memories shared by visitors to last November's Poppy Weekends. These contributions are varied; some local, others from far afield, some first hand others passed down from one generation to another but all in all it is a fascinating read and a unique testament to a significant time in our history. The support of Alison Woodall with producing the book has been invaluable. We are also extremely grateful to Brailsford and Ednaston Parish Council for their generous sponsorship of the book.

Saturday saw a steady stream of visitors serenaded in the afternoon by Osmaston Wind Band with a variety of musical items much appreciated by all. Books were sold, delicious refreshments consumed alongside much perusing of the memorabilia on display.

Sunday was the regular service at the Methodist Church, this was well attended, and in the afternoon it was back to All Saints for a gentle afternoon of tea, cake, chatting and enjoying the displays.

Monday proved to be the busiest day, the highlight being the afternoon performance entitled, 'Bringing our family memories to life through words and music'. The church was packed - standing room only at the back. One of our talented volunteers, Mary, had carefully scripted a narrated journey through the war years, by interspersing extracts from the stories in the book (mostly spoken by the contributors themselves) with historical detail and musical items. We even met a few evacuees and landgirls! A good time was had by all and nobody seemed to want to go home!

All through the weekend delicious homemade cakes and endless mugs of tea and coffee were consumed, made and served by a team of dedicated volunteers.

Personally, I (Sue) felt it was a privilege to quietly and discreetly observe the delight on people's faces as they excitedly thumbed through the display copy of the book to find 'their' story. A recurring question throughout the weekend was, "What page is mine on?"

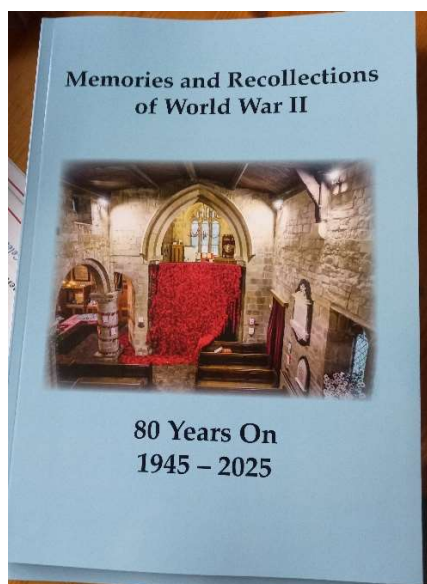
And is if that wasn't enough, on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>, the communion at All Saints was adapted to include parts of the VE Day Service from Westminster Abbey. Hymns, a reading were included, and some special items (home guard tin hat, ration book, army hat, etc) were placed on the altar.

Then it was outside for a lovely community lunch, under the gazebos in street party style complete with bunting and jelly, and lots more delicious food.

The coming together of so many people, giving generously of their time and talents made all this possible. Everyone is welcomed, everyone is valued. We pray that everyone experienced something of God's love.

Sue Leese and Jane Baker, part of the Churches Together Team of Mary Cox, Margaret Crouch, Lucy Thompson, Helen Walker-Foss

**The book can be purchased from Jane 07712 937168 £10 per copy**





**Landgirls**

## **Ashbourne Circuit Church Services**

Please check the website for the most current information,

<https://www.ashbournemethodist.org.uk/news>.

### **SUNDAY MAY 18TH**

Ashbourne	10:30	Allan Shaw	
	18:30	Gareth Rutledge	PRAISE
Brailsford	10:30	Rev Nicola Briggs	
Tissington	10:30	Peter Dawson	

### **SUNDAY MAY 25TH**

Ashbourne	10:30	Rev Nicola Briggs	Holy Communion
Brailsford	15:00	At All Saints	
Kirk Ireton	18:30	Rev Nicola Briggs	Holy Communion Chapel Anniversary
Kniveton	11:00	John Dyster	

### **THURSDAY MAY 29TH**

Tissington	11:00		Well Dressing Service
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### **SUNDAY JUNE 1ST**

Ashbourne	10:30	Paul Taylor	
	16:30	Ruth Barratt	
Brailsford	10:30	Rev David Leese	All Age
Parwich	14:30	Ann Parkinson	

### **WEDNESDAY JUNE 4TH**

Milldale	19:00	Rev Nicola Briggs	Chapel Anniversary Summer Service
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### **SUNDAY JUNE 8TH**

	10:00	Muddy Church	Hulland area
Ashbourne	10:30	Rev Nicola Briggs	All Age
Brailsford	10:45	At All Saints	
Kniveton	14:30	Rev Nicola Briggs	Holy Communion

### **SUNDAY JUNE 15TH**

Ashbourne	10:30	Rev John Hellyer	
	18:30	Paul Taylor	PRAISE
Brailsford	10:30	Peter Dawson	
Tissington	10:30	Tom Parkinson	

### **SUNDAY JUNE 22ND**

Ashbourne	10:30	Allan Shaw	
Brailsford	15:00	At All Saints	
Kirk Ireton	18:30	Rev Nicola Briggs	Holy Communion

Kniveton	11:00	Tracy Dawson	Chapel Anniversary
<b>SUNDAY JUNE 29TH</b>			
Ashbourne	10:30	Fiona Green	
Brailsford		Rev Bex Allpress & Rev David Leese	Benefice United Service at Saracens Head, Shirley
<b>WEDNESDAY JULY 2ND</b>			
Milldale	19:00	Rev David Leese	Summer Service

## Dates for your diary and your prayers

### **MAY**

Fri 23rd	10:00	Circuit Leadership Team Meeting
Wed 28th	19:30	Local Preachers & Worship Leaders meeting
Thu 29th	11:00	Tissington Well Dressing Service

### **JUNE**

Tue 3rd	19:00	Ashbourne Church Council, St Oswald Hall
Wed 4th	19:00	Milldale 190 <sup>th</sup> Chapel Anniversary
Sat 7th	10:00	District Safeguarding Conference, Nuthall Church – Memory Loss & Dementia
Thu 12th	10-12	Advanced Safeguarding training (online)
	7-9pm	Advanced Safeguarding training (online)
Sat 14th	19:00	Kimber's Men in Concert at All Saints Church, Brailsford
Tue 24th	19:30	Circuit Meeting at Tissington Chapel
Sun 29th		Parwich Wakes begins

### **JULY**

Wed 2nd	19:00	Milldale Summer Service
Thu 3rd	10:00	Circuit Leadership Team Meeting
Sat 19th	10:00	Advanced Safeguarding training at Beeston Methodist Church

### **AUGUST**

Sat 2nd		ACT Summer Fun Day
Wed 2nd	19:00	Milldale Summer Service
Sat 16th	9:00	Ashbourne Show @ Osmaston Polo Ground

If you would like your event in this diary, please let Carole Thorpe know at [circuitadmin@ashbournemethodist.org.uk](mailto:circuitadmin@ashbournemethodist.org.uk) or 346535.



### **What is My Story? Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

Do you struggle to share your faith journey with others? What does the Bible say about testimony? The District has arranged an event at The Hope Centre, Derby DE1 1LL to give you some ideas. It starts at 10am until 4pm with lunch included.

To book or for further details email Suzanne Morton - [dme@methodist-nd.org.uk](mailto:dme@methodist-nd.org.uk) or find via Eventbrite.

### **2025 Safeguarding Conference**

Will be held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June from 10am until 1.30pm at Nuthall Methodist Church, NG16 1DP. The theme of this year's is **"FORGET ME NOT? A SENSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE RESPONSE TO MEMORY LOSS AND DEMENTIA"**.

If you would like to attend and would like transport, contact Carole Thorpe on [circuitadmin@ashbournemethodist.org.uk](mailto:circuitadmin@ashbournemethodist.org.uk) or 346535.

Connections for July will be published in time for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June with a deadline for items to be with Cliff Lewer [clifflewer@aol.com](mailto:clifflewer@aol.com) by the afternoon of the 15<sup>th</sup> June.



