NEWSLETTER JUNE 2026

This month's reflection is from Rev. Nel Shallow:

Many of you have met my friend Lorna who comes to visit often from her home in Finland. Lorna is an avid fan of parkrun, organising her local run in Finland and running many parkruns herself around the world. She tells me that there is always a Tail Walker, a volunteer who stays at the back of the pack of runners cheering on those who may be going a little slower. The Tail Walker ensures that all the runners complete the race safely and in good company. The Parkrun website states that this 'role is compulsory at all 5k and 2k events globally'.

How wonderful, I love this role. Anywhere in the world you take part in a parkrun, there is always someone cheering you on as a Tail Walker.

I understand from Lorna that some parkruns are harder than others. A parkrun which loops in laps around quite a flat park is perhaps a little easier than one with more twists and turns, or even hills. I understand the parkrun at Cliffe Castle has quite a few steep slopes! Some parkrun courses are challenging.

This is true too of the course we run as Christians. However, we have an even greater blessing than a Tail Walker to encourage us. Hebrews 12 says, 'Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who by faith have testified to the truth of God's absolute faithfulness] … let us run with endurance and active persistence the race that is set before us' (AMP) ~ The Message goes on to say, 'Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed – that exhilarating finish in and with God.'

Some people will finish a parkrun in a super fast time. Others will be a little slower. It doesn't matter. Everyone is in the same race. And each runner is being cheered along.

As we continue to run our own race as disciples of Jesus, sometimes finding the route quite tough and at other times easier, may we know the encouragement of a great cloud of witnesses cheering us on and reminding us of God's absolute faithfulness. May we keep our own eyes on Jesus who has run this race and is The Way. May we know that however slowly we may need to navigate the course The Holy Spirit, our Encourager, keeps company with us each step we take.

Nel

Notice of Circuit Meeting:

17th June

Steeton Methodist Church, 7pm – with cake!



If you need help to attend Circuit meetings or events, please use a taxi!

You can either:
Book a taxi yourself, ask for a receipt and claim the cost back from the Circuit.
Or
Ring Esther on 07904 883288 and she will book one for you, at no cost to you.
(Please give her at least a week's notice as she works part-time)



WELCOME TO KIM AND KARA!

Kim Brown (left) and Kara Horrix (right) started working for the Circuit mid-April as Project Pioneers!
You can contact them using these email addresses: Kim@airedalemethodists.org
Karahorrix@airedalemethodists.org

Here is a hello message from Kara:
Hello! My name is Kara Horrix and I hail from the Midwest region of the United States, more specifically Kansas. I moved here ten months ago to join my husband who was born and raised in Yorkshire. I have a background in Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. I am so pleased to have found a home in my local Methodist community as well as accepting the Bingley Mission Project Pioneer position. As I reflect on Frederick Buechner quote, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." I deeply believe that my vocation lies in building and supporting communities as well as faith formation. I am so impressed by the richness of community and Mission that I have already witnessed in just a little over a week of working. I look forward to the Ministries and Mission that have yet to be built. I leave you with the parting words of one of my favourite poets, Mary Oliver and her poem, Wild Geese:

Wild Geese | Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.

Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting–
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.



WHAT'S ON IN JUNE?

Celebration Services
over the coming months

Celebrating Long Lee Methodist Church
10.30am, 7th June 2026

Celebrating Eastburn Methodist Church
10.30am, 28th June 2026

Celebrating Aire Valley Methodist Church and Farewell to Rev. Nel Shallow
2pm, 28th June 2026,
Cullingworth Methodist Church

Retirement Service for Rev. Clare Stainsby
2pm, 19th July 2026
Silsden Methodist Church

Please keep in your prayers those involved in the upcoming changes as we approach these dates.



in support of Sue Ryder Manorlands Hospice

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Coffee Morning

Saturday 13 June 2026
9:30am - 11:00am at Silsden Methodist Church.

Enjoy bacon butties and delicious cakes.
Plus a variety of stalls including crafts, handbags, Brook Taverner, cards, and Goody Gum Drops.



For more information contact Gill Ross on 07748 195974.

Sue Ryder



Mission Possible Film Evening

Mother's Pride (2026) (12)

Friday 26th June *6.30 pm*
on the big screen
at Oakworth Methodist Church
with Fish & Chips in the Interval
All welcome - just turn up on the day
Donations to cover cost of food and film

A grieving family who own a failing pub have their lives changed by brewing real ale and entering the Great British Beer Awards.

Please keep this page!
If information needs to be updated, a new version will be sent out in a future

Opportunities to pray and worship together (outside of Sunday Mornings):

@ Steeton Methodist Church
Prayer and Praise on the first Thursday of the month, 7pm to 8pm

@ Silsden Methodist Church
Prayer gathering, first Monday in the month, 7pm

@ St Peter's Methodist Church, Cross Hills
Weekday Communion Service, first Wednesday in the month, 10am
Prayer Service, St Peter's Cross Hills every Wednesday, 10am
(followed by coffee at 10.30am)

@ Silsden Methodist Church
Praise Service, fourth Sunday in the month, 6pm

@ The New Place
Way of Life meal and conversation, fourth Wednesday each month, 5pm.

@ Lees Methodist Church
Café Worship, third Sunday in the month, 1pm

@ Cullingworth Methodist Church
second Wednesday in the month
9.30am Prayer
9.45am Communion

@ Silsden Methodist Church
'Born in Song', every Friday, 10.30-11am





Airedale Methodist Circuit
in the Yorkshire West District