



Teaching Religious Education

Education Sunday is on the 8th September and Sr Tanya reflects on how religious education is now taught in our schools

Religious Education is a subject which often comes with preconceived ideas from those who make an assumption on what the subject is about from its title, rather than thinking about the bigger picture and what opportunities it can provide us R.E. teachers with in the classroom. I am about to start a new role as Head of Religious Education in Methodist College Belfast, just a short walk from my home congregation of University Road. This new role will bring me plenty of personal new challenges in terms of management but also in keeping the subject relevant and engaging for students, in what is becoming an increasingly multicultural and also secular society. In this article I will give you an overview of how what is taught differs from what is learnt in Church and hopefully show how it

manages to maintain the interest of students.

Gone are the days of Religious Instruction, as it was once known. No longer is the subject about informing students how to conduct their religious behaviour, as it was in years gone by, but now we are about helping students discover the many different aspects of religion in our society and provide an inclusive environment to learn about those of all faiths and none. As R.E. is a compulsory subject until GCSE in Northern Ireland this gives an excellent opportunity to cover a wide range of issues for students, from Christian Church material to World Religions and various ethical issues.

In the beginnings of Junior School, from age 11-14, pupils study topics that we

would be more familiar with from a Church perspective. This includes a history of the Christian Church, looking at the likes of Pentecost and Persecution. Persecution displays plenty of horrified faces from the First Form pupils at the thought of the early Christians being accused of cannibalism and being burnt alive as human torches! They will also learn about the likes of Abraham and Moses, as well as St Patrick. One of the most popular areas of study for this age are early Christian leaders, such as Martin Luther King, Corrie Ten Boom and someone with a connection to Moravians, John Wesley.

As students move up through Junior School, we learn about the Life of Jesus, including Palestine at this time and the calling of the disciples. Students then

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2019**

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Editorial

The theme of this year's Summer Camp was 'Telling Tales' and, as this linked in nicely to the work we do with the Messenger, the Editorial Team were invited up to Dovedale House in Derbyshire to run a session. The young people were split into three groups, within their houses which this year were Aesop, Dahl and Grimm. We talked about the Messenger in the British Province and what other Moravian publications there are around the world, and then gave them a 'spot the difference' puzzle that we took from the Continental Province magazine 'Herrnhuter Bote' which they enjoyed and finished much quicker than we had earlier!

Six articles about former Summer Camps that were written in 1948 (the first Summer Camp at Ockbrook), 1960, 1967, 1981, 1989 and 1998 were distributed and they were asked to put them in date order. This was quite difficult as everyone had to think hard to find clues, but the task was completed after a lot of discussion. We then considered how Summer Camp had changed over the last 71 years and it was interesting to talk about what had changed and realise how much had stayed the same. The main surprise was that there had been a trip to Alton Towers as long ago as 1967.

Earlier in the week, Sr Dixon had led an activity to make collages from old Messengers, showing Dovedale House and the stepping stones at Dovedale. So, having cut up Messengers to make great artworks, they were now asked to create a page giving their highlights so far of the week, with their own photographs. They put a great deal of thought and work into it and produced what you see here.

At the end of the session we talked about what they would like to see on a Youth page in the Messenger and they came up with some great ideas: puzzles were a popular idea, so if any of our readers have any Moravian themed crosswords, word searches etc. we would be very grateful to receive them.

We left with a very real feeling of what a great event Summer Camp is, how engaged and relaxed everyone was, and what a fantastic job all the leaders, ministers and of course, Sr Raynor do to make this such a worthwhile annual event.

As you are reading this many of our young people in the Church including the 'Summer Campers' will be heading back to school, college or university and we wish them all God's blessing in this new academic year.



Sr Lindsey Newens and Sr Lorraine Parsons

Letter to the Editor

For the attention of the Editorial Team,

Subject: Shallowford Weekend

Over the past year I have met many Moravians at various functions. Many have said 'how they miss the 'Shallowford weekends', which were held annually for many years.

If there is sufficient interest I will check if it is possible to reinstate them.

If you are interested please contact me on: Tel: 01274 872633
e mail: paulgreenhough150@btinternet.com

Br Paul Greenhough

Summer Camp 2019



Dovedale House by Team Dahl



Moravian Messenger collages
© Sr Jane Dixon



© Br Phill Battelle

Market Place

This game consists of doing challenges for Sr Joy Raynor who would then give us a certain amount of house points for each challenge. During this game we did tasks such as: a group photo, drawing a picture of Dovedale House with charcoal and for 500 house points we had to take a photo of a bunny in the garden. For our group photo we went to the fire pit.



Team Grimm at the Fire Pit

House Points

During camp you win house points for various different things such as games, helping the leaders and holding open a lot of gates when we are on walks! By the end of the week each team will have accumulated an amount of points and the team with the highest amount of points wins Summer Camp that year.

Team Grimm

Godly Play

Our group were given a parable and a script with an explanation of the parable on it. Each group was given a box with the equipment used to carry out the Godly Play. The audience would interact with the group carrying out the Godly Play by answering questions and suggesting their ideas about the parable. The group would act out the parable using the equipment, such as figures to allow the audience to think about the parable more easily.

Singing/Drama with Br James Woolford

On Monday, James arrived as a leader for the next two days. After Monday morning's Godly Play session we were all given a singing workshop by him. It consisted of singing some classic sea shanties as well as a very well known Moravian hymn with separate parts for the boys and girls. The following morning we also played games in the field, and these games were all designed with the idea of building drama skills. One game, for example, involved the campers introducing the person next to them as

the world's greatest at something, then they would have to pretend to act like they really are the world's greatest! From what had been a tiring few days, James knew very well how to wake us up! When we went to Drayton Manor on the Wednesday it wasn't unusual for the campers to break into song, sometimes even during the roller coaster rides!

Team Aesop

Activities

During the day we play loads of fun games in our house groups. This year these are based on authors that go with our theme, 'Telling Tales'. One of the main games that we played was 'capture the flag' which we did after tea on Tuesday. We all had a great night!

Drayton Manor

On Wednesday we travelled to Drayton Manor Theme Park. Juniors and Seniors split up and the Juniors stayed with the leaders whereas the Seniors got to go around the park by themselves. We went on every ride we saw and had a nice lunch together. After that we went on a water ride (Storm Force 10) and got soaked. We soon dried up as the sun was out and it was warm.

Team Dahl



Team Aesop on a fallen down tree in the sheep field

50th Anniversary of Fulneck Moravian Museum



© Br Richard Keighley

This year Fulneck Moravian Museum is celebrating fifty years since its opening on 9th July 1969 when it was officially opened by the Deputy Mayor of Pudsey, Br Henry Miller. Bishop Foy was given the key and he opened the door for the public. It was hoped the museum would have a successful future. Our display this year has included a special summer exhibition about the history of the museum buildings and the years after 1969 which is in the Exhibition Room upstairs in the museum. The celebrations continued on 14th July with a service of rededication and lunch for friends old and new connected with the founding and running of the museum.

For the occasion the church window cills had been decorated by the Flower Ladies with artefacts from the museum which represented the different aspects of Fulneck life and with floral arrangements. A mannequin dressed in traditional costume with a Love Feast cup and saucer represented the church; the anniversary plaque for the 50 years carved by Br Sam Raistrick stood with a Lot Box and Lamb and Flag carving; two leather buckets from the Fulneck fire engine spoke for themselves; and the spinning wheel with lace samples represented how the people earned a living in earlier times.

Many guests had been invited, chief among whom was the local MP, Stuart Andrew and Sr Roberta Hoey attended representing the Provincial Board. An original survivor of the first Museum Committee, Mr N Wilkinson was present as were the children of one of the founder members, Sr Janet Smith and her brother, Mr David Mitchell.

Br David Keighley read the first lesson. The present writer gave a brief history of the Museum and Sr Ros Davey read the second lesson. This writer spoke of the very beginnings of the museum. Mr Norman Wilkinson had furnished him with ideas of how it all began and gave him three words beginning with 'CH': chaos - there was such a lot of junk and furniture and paper rubbish to be taken to the tip before they could settle to collecting the artefacts. Who did

the organising? Srs Harrison and Mitchell. This was where the words Chalk and Cheese came in, referring to their personalities. Srs Eunice Harrison and Kathleen Mitchell were firm friends who had dedicated themselves to starting the museum. They were indeed different types of people, but this difference worked to their advantage. They were unstoppable. Sr Mitchell was highly practical and down-to-earth. Sr Harrison had a more



aesthetic approach. Their skills complemented each other. Eunice would make suggestions and generate ideas. Kathleen picked them up and ran with them. They were the generals on the committee. That first committee paved the way for successive numbers of helpers who have brought us to our present situation.

Br McOwat's address similarly began with his school day memories of the cottages, now used as the museum, when they were occupied by residents of Fulneck, in particular, Sally Lawson, school laundress, standing on the steps of number 55 with her long, grey hair streaming out. As a young man he witnessed the museum being run by that early committee and Sr Harrison presiding in the Victorian Parlour with Sr Mitchell upstairs working the loom. He continued by expressing his gladness that Fulneck has a museum. We should, to

echo a past slogan, have 'Pride in our past - and faith in the future'. This would be a fitting motto for our Fulneck Museum as we thank God for the fifty years of its existence.

Br McOwat went on to mention different aspects of the museum which have proved over time to be an asset. He spoke of people who have contributed skill and energy over the years and described various artefacts. Some of the creative talents displayed by Moravians help to show something of the history of the Moravian Church. As he declared, "This is our history of which we can be justly proud." He followed this up with some thoughts about how history can be manipulated but stressed that Fulneck's treatment of it, as manifested by our museum, is a wholly good and just use of history to give a plain, true rewarding account of what happened to the people of our church, in Fulneck and in the world at large, over time. As he said, "I believe it tells our story in the way we have known and understood it". Br McOwat ended by thanking the museum committee members over the years for sticking conscientiously to the true history of the church. He then looked to the future returning to the inspirational thought that while we have PRIDE IN OUR PAST, we also are part of a continuing story because we HAVE FAITH IN THE FUTURE.

After the service photographs were taken on the pavement whilst the museum was opened for a short while. An enjoyable buffet lunch was served in the Boys' Brigade building. Speeches were given by Br David Keighley, the present committee chairman, and Sr Roberta Hoey who also cut the celebration cake. The museum opened again after lunch for guests to visit.

It was a most successful and enjoyable day.

Br David Ingham
Fulneck



Friends of the Archive Garden Party

On the hottest day of the year to date the Friends of the Archive hosted their first Garden Party on 28th June at Moravian Church House in London. It was an opportunity to thank everyone for their generous support of the Archive over the years and to view some of the work and exhibits at the archive and meet a few members of our newly formed committee.

The Friends of the Archive was formed in 2008 to support the work of the library and archive at Moravian Church House by raising funds for: conservation work, the acquisition of new material, transcription of documents, and purchase of specialist equipment etc. It also seeks external sources of funding and helps to raise the profile of the library and archive. Since then it has raised thousands for the Archive and last year formed a committee to continue with its work and to formulate a strategy for the support of the Archive and Library.



Although a 'Garden Party' had been arranged, on arrival we soon moved into the chapel to move away from the excessive heat outside! After lunch and refreshments in the chapel, the work on the digitisation of the glass lantern slides from the Labrador mission field which was shown through a more modern digital projection. These slides were once used by the missionaries when on furlough back in the UK in 'Magic Lantern Shows' around the congregations to raise funds for their mission work. The quality and clarity of many of the lantern slides

has survived extremely well and has not suffered any loss in the conversion to a digital format. Afterwards we moved up to the library to cool down and examine the variety of material available in the archive and discuss how it can be used - this was followed by a tour of the archives stored in the basement.

We would like to thank everyone who visited that day and would like to plan more events with the Friends of the Archive next year.

Sr Lorraine Parsons
Archivist

Teaching Religious Education *continued*

have the opportunity to discover Judaism, including its foundations and practices. This also covers the Holocaust, an emotive, yet important aspect of the history of the faith for students to understand and consider.

The last year of Junior School is a study of the World Religions of Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism and one of the most important things that we study. Teaching in a school in the heart of Belfast, we have pupils from a wide range of backgrounds and religious experiences. This is the opportunity to embrace each and every one of these and help others to become more tolerant and understanding. In the school year just finished, it was an incredible experience to hear from parents and pupils how important they felt it was to learn about these religions and how they better understood exactly why their friends were fasting during the month of Ramadan or why they left to complete their Salah prayers at lunchtime. It is having conversations like these that show the significance of embracing these religions in the classroom, in a safe and inclusive space.

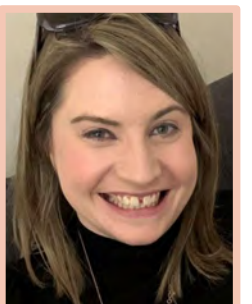
GCSE Level brings with it some of my favourite topics to teach, and we begin to move away slightly from what is studied in church backgrounds. Philosophy of Religion is the first topic my students study at GCSE. Here we get to discuss some very interesting issues, such as the problem of evil and suffering, the existence of God and the afterlife. Not only do students study the Christian and Islamic perceptions on these issues but also look at atheistic and agnostic perspectives, as well as a more in-depth look at the concept of Humanism. These lessons are some of the more challenging to teach as there are many

debates and questions arising that it is not always possible to have an answer to, this is where the useful phrase, 'research that for homework', comes into play!

The final year of GCSE is the Christian Ethics module exploring Christian views on issues such as abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment and marriage. As you might tell, from these topics, there is excellent opportunity for debate and discussion and I am able to conduct some of my favourite lessons that give much more voice to students in considering arguments in line with the different issues. With the continuous discussion in Northern Ireland on abortion laws and same sex marriage it shows the students how what they are studying in R.E. does apply to wider aspects of life. Our students, if they choose to, can further their study of ethical issues and Biblical modules at AS and A2 Level.

It is fair to say that no R.E. teacher would disagree with me when I say that it is a subject that presents many challenges, particularly in keeping the engagement on just how relevant it is to them but when this challenge is fully embraced to give students the best experience they can receive of the subject we can create students who are more knowledgeable, understanding and prepared for the different people and situations they will meet when they leave the R.E. classroom.

Sr Tanya Macartney
Teacher, University Road



6 The Servants of Creation

Behold my servant whom I uphold
My chosen in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit on him,
He will bring forth justice to the nations, Isaiah 42.1.

Isaiah often speaks of a mysterious Servant, and Jesus recognised these sayings as prophecies of himself. At the Last Supper he said: 'I am among you as one who serves' Luke 22.27. He heard a version of these words at his baptism, when the heavens were opened and he heard the voice: 'Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased', Luke 3.24. The first Christians found in Isaiah's Servant poems many prophecies of Jesus.

But what did they mean by a servant? It was rather more than that word means today.

The first Servant was Adam. He was put into the Garden of Eden 'to serve it and preserve it', words that are usually translated 'to till it and to keep it', Genesis 2.15. These words have two meanings, and we need to look at both: first, Adam was to tend the garden and care for it; second - the other meaning of the words - he had to lead its worship and preserve the teachings about it.

In Jewish tradition, Adam the Servant was the first high priest. He was the high priest of all creation, set over it, yes, but not as a ruler in the way we now use that word. Psalm 8 shows how 'the son of Adam' was to rule:

First, he had to look at the mighty wonders of creation, and ask how the Lord could have such a special role for a mere human being:

*When I look at thy heavens, the work of thy fingers,
The moon and the stars which thou hast established;
What is a human that thou are mindful of him,
And a son of Adam that thou dost care for him,*

Psalm 8.3-4, my translation.

Only then could he look at the great responsibility given to him, and the key word here also has two meanings:

*Thou hast made him a little less than God,
And dost crown him with glory and honour.
Thou hast given him dominion over the works of thy hands,
Thou hast put all things under his feet,
Psalm 8.5-6.*

'Thou hast given him dominion' also means 'Thou hast made him a teacher of wise sayings'.

Adam is the Servant, the High Priest and the Teacher.

The High Priest was anointed and dressed in special garments that symbolised his role. One of these was the ephod, which symbolised a yoke of service. It was a short coat, secured with golden cords and with two huge precious stones set in its shoulders, Exodus 28.5-30. The fabric of the ephod was specially woven from four colours - red, blue, purple and white - just like the veil of the temple.

'We have a great High Priest' ...
Hebrews 4.14.

The four colours represented the four elements from which, as they believed in those days, the creation was made: red was fire, blue was air, purple was water - because, they said, purple dye came from sea shell - and white was the earth because it was linen thread spun from flax that grew in the earth. The four elements woven together represented the fabric of creation. Just as the veil of the temple screened the Holy of Holies, so the stuff of creation screened the glory of God.

The ephod fabric was woven from the same four colours, but it was interwoven with gold thread, Exodus 39.2-5. Gold was a symbol of the divine wisdom, the uncreated light represented by the Holy of Holies [see article 4 of this series]. The one who wore the ephod had to give wise teaching by weaving the wisdom of

heaven into the fabric of the creation. The ephod was the yoke, the sign of the Servant.

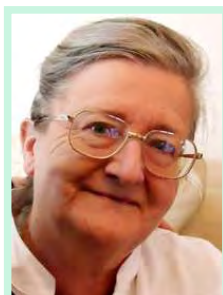
Isaiah described the Anointed One, the Messiah, wearing this yoke of service and wise teaching:

'For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder,

And his name will be called "Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace"', Isaiah 9.6.

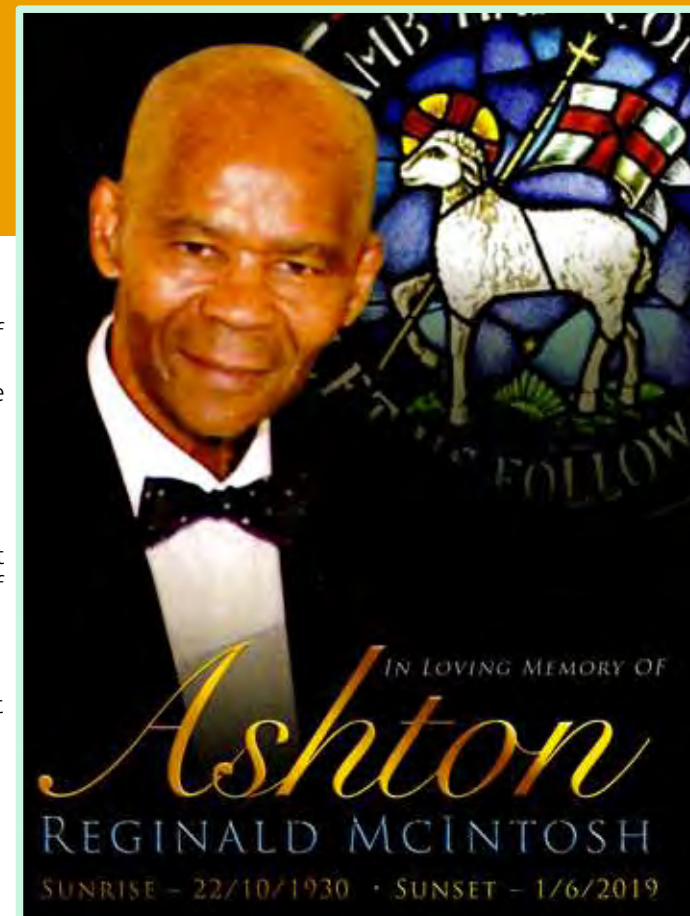
*Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
Great David's greater son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.
He comes with rescue speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong,
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls condemned and dying,
Were precious in his sight.*

*He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth;
Before him on the mountains
Shall peace the herald go;
And righteousness,
in fountains
From hill to valley flow.*



Dr Margaret Barker
Methodist Preacher and Theologian

Ashton McIntosh tribute



In June Hall Green United Community Church lost one of our most important members and the Moravian Church in the UK: a pioneer, a visionary and a faithful servant. Ashton McIntosh was called to higher service on 1st June 2019.

Ashton was incredibly important in my faith life and in the life of the Moravian Church. In fact, there is a very good argument that Hall Green United Community Church, would not exist if it were not for the work that Ashton and others put in back in the 1960s and 70s.

In 1961 the first Moravian service in Birmingham was conducted by the Rev Kirby Spencer but the church didn't have a permanent base until 1963 when a Methodist manse in Anderton Park Road, Moseley, became its home and headquarters.

It was about this time that five year old Selwyn McIntosh asked his best friend's mother to come to his church. She accepted the invitation and so the association between Beryl and Rev David Welbrock with the Birmingham Moravian Fellowship began. The Welbrock's worshipped at Sparkhill Congregational Church, later to be Sparkhill URC and it was that church which the Birmingham Moravian Church would merge with in the 1970s and establish Sparkhill United Church. But how do you put two denominations into one church? Of course we know now that you have high powered delegations from headquarters, you talk about it for years and then, hopefully, eventually get somewhere.

Not back then. No, we put six people in a room with a sheet of foolscap paper (before A4!) and let them get on with it. They actually filled 2 sides of foolscap to produce a constitution. I actually still have those two sides of foolscap!

The passage of years and Ashton's passing means that only one of those six is still with us, brother Alan Perkins. Alan's memory of those discussions which Ashton led for the Moravian side was of his willingness to compromise to drive the arrangement through, to always be prepared to find a way. They came to agreements about communion, eldership (very foreign to Moravians) and much much more.

The result was a new church amalgamating the best of the traditions of both. At that time I was a member of the URC but in 1975, like many others, I became a proud Moravian and so I remain.

That spirit of compromise within faith also came to fruition in our present church when Sparkhill 'moved up the road' to join Hall Green Methodists. This church, this building, this congregation are part of the legacy of Ashton McIntosh.

I say part of the legacy because that legacy is broad. Ashton was loved, loved because of his faith, his manner, his own very individual sense of humour, his intelligence. He teased the children in the congregation and they loved him for it. He led worship and we all loved him for his word and inspiration. He helped me as I followed him into Moravian lay preaching and I loved him for it.

His inspiration and service extended well beyond his church work. He served for many years as a Magistrate in Birmingham. The bench benefitted from his wisdom and compassion in equal measure. He was a volunteer with the St John's Ambulance service and his 30 years of work with the Post Office was recognised with a special award. Wherever Ashton McIntosh went his faith went with him, guiding him and being shared with those he met.

In all the years I knew him he frightened me only once. It was my first Moravian lay preachers weekend and at the end of the day I joined the others in the bar. Ashton was playing dominoes, and the way he banged those down frightened the life out of me!

But the overall memory is his kindness, his love of his family, his love of his Lord and his care for our church family. I feel his spirit is embedded in the very walls of our church building in Hall Green, in our worship and our service to the community, in fact, in everything that we hold dear.

Of course, his influence goes much wider than Birmingham. This was witnessed by the visitors to his funeral from across the Province. His fellow lay preachers, Moravian minister, friends from other churches. Especially from URC Churches where Ashton was a popular leader of worship.

He was a very special man and as we, God's church, move forward we should always remember the saints on whose shoulders we stand. Ashton McIntosh is one of those saints.

Br Blair Kessler
Hall Green

Lower Wyke 7th and 8th Sept



Sat 7th Sept - 10am to 4pm
Sun 8th Sept - 12noon to 4pm

Buildings of Historic Interest

Photographic history of the Moravian Church and the Lower Wyke congregation. Present day church activities and memorabilia. Church registers available for study.

Refreshments

Fairfield 14th and 15th Sept



Saturday 14 September 2019 11am to 5pm
Sunday 15 September 2019 1pm to 5pm

Location for Great British Railway Journeys, Peaky Blinders & the film Mrs Lowry & Son Exhibitions incl - Tameside Remembers Peterloo & Banners Ring our bell - wind the clock (*restrictions apply*), Tours, Museum with new for 2019 'Notable People of Fairfield'

Stalls and Refreshments Free Admission

(All parking in Fairfield High School off Fairfield Avenue M43 6ED)



Sr Ingham, Sr Lees, Br Lees, from Fairfield, and Cllr Leigh Drennan, the Mayor of Tameside, at the official launch of the Peterloo exhibition in Tameside. They are stood next to one of the banners they made (other below).

All the banners (12 in total) telling the story of Peterloo plus the Peterloo exhibition will be on display at Fairfield during the Heritage Weekend on Saturday 14 September and Sunday 15 September



Gracehill 14th Sept

A village "open day" has been organised to coincide with one of the European Heritage Open Days.

Sat Sept 14th from 12.30pm to 5pm

Step back 200 years and enjoy the unique atmosphere!

- Talks in the Moravian Church.
- Guided village tours throughout the afternoon.
- Enjoy the Brothers and Sisters Walk.
- Stroll around the restored Village Square
- Discover the plans for the Old Village Shop.
- Film presentations in the Old School.
- Visit the Old School class room & visitor centre.
- Tours of the former Single Brethren Home.
- "Country Markets" (crafts, home baking & teas)



Gracehill Scarecrow festival

A Scarecrow Festival will also take place during the weekend. Come & enjoy a day of fun for all ages!

Fulneck 21st and 22nd Sept

'Inspirational Women'

Sat 21st Sept 2019
10am to 4pm
Sun 22nd Sept
1pm to 4pm

Free entry

Recitals - Activities - Archives
- Refreshments



Ballinderry

Ballinderry is joining with Kilwarlin to promote a three church visit. We are linking with the Middle Church at Ballinderry, the original church of Ireland in the area founded by the famous Bishop Jeremy Taylor. Restored in the 1900's it is a unique example of a Plantation church and still retains its three decker pulpit and small bottle glass windows. It is hoped that this link will encourage people to plan a full day out in the area especially with the work of Zula's garden at Kilwarlin also being highlighted this year.

Br Henry Wilson

Fetter Lane 21st and 22nd Sept



Fetter Lane Moravian Church is set to participate for the third time in the Open House London weekend, giving us a chance to showcase our Moravian heritage through the history of the Close. Information boards will take visitors through major events - its ownership by Sir Thomas More in the 16th century, its sale by Sir Hans Sloane to Count Zinzendorf to create a Moravian settlement and its use as a home and studio for renowned sculptors Ernest and Mary Gillick. Children especially like hearing about Christian the Lion who used God's Acre as a place to exercise. We'll also talk about our present-day involvement in the community, our plans for the future and the importance of the Chapel as a place of regular worship today.

Open House London takes place on Saturday and Sunday, 21st and 22nd September and the Close will be open to visitors from 1pm to 5pm.

<https://www.openhouselondon.org.uk>

Sr Cynthia Dize

Gomersal 15th Sept

GOMERSAL MORAVIAN CHURCH

Quarry Road, Gomersal

HERITAGE DAY

SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

1 - 4 pm

- Displays:
 - History of the Church
 - Links with the Taylors of Red House
 - Links with the Brontës & Jane Eyre
 - Gomersal and the Great War
 - Moravian Traditions
- Children's activities
- Refreshments

Cliftonville 8th and 9th Sept

Cliftonville is planning to take part in the Heritage Weekend this year - on 8th and 9th September in Northern Ireland. The theme is 'The art of Sharing'.

We will use a display of illustrations of Moravian History and of the earlier Perth Street premises that was a school on the ground floor with church above. In 1909 the congregation moved to the present building on the Oldpark Road. We will also do a display of the history of the Oldpark area which I researched some years ago and produced a small brochure on the computer.

Sr Edna Cooper

Tytherton 21st Sept



The Leonora Casey Carr Lecture

Prof. Alan Rice, University of Central Lancashire, Memorials and Black Identity

Soloist : Alison Johnson, Real Deal Ministries, Wade in the Water

The Harriet Maynard Exhibition

7.00 pm., 21st September 2019

at Calne Heritage Centre SN11 0SQ

and

10.00-4.30pm., at the Moravian Church, East Tytherton SN15 4LX

for guided tours and an exhibition

Both events are free

Contact: Pococks@rockuk.net for details

Gomersal

We were blessed with beautiful weather this year for the early morning service on Easter Sunday. Twenty-five people attended the service in the Burial Ground followed by a full English breakfast in church, prepared and served by the Brethren of the Church.

On Saturday 1st June an organ recital was given by Br Simon Dunn, entitled 'Every Time We Say Goodbye'. This was very well attended by friends from throughout the Yorkshire District. We had a wonderful evening with a wide variety of music played by Simon on the Nicholson organ with a superb range of refreshments served during the interval. The evening gave us all the opportunity to thank Simon for all he has done for us over the years and to give him our best wishes as he and Kathy prepare for his move south to his new position as Headmaster.



© Br Bob Hopcraft

Our Wellbeing Wednesday activities continue to flourish. The latest walk for health attracted a record number of 25 walkers. We are indebted to our leaders who choose and lead varied and interesting walks around our local area.

Sr Norma Machell

Gracehill

Early in May we were delighted to welcome Srs Anna Sachova and Lydie Halamova, from the Czech Province to Gracehill. Having visited Church House, London and Fulneck, they wanted to look at our amazing archives and see how Johannes Teltschik's work ended in Ireland. It was lovely to hear about their work, as Lydie spoke in Czech and Anna translated it for us.



Srs Anna Sachova and Lydie Halamova

© Sr Sarah Groves

After all the weeks of rain, once again June provided us with the suitably pleasant weather we had hoped for our now eagerly awaited Annual Gracehill Village Fair. The school grounds were once again transformed with colourful streamers, blue and white stalls, dancing, music, pets' corner, games, all day barbeque and afternoon teas served in the school canteen. The crowds from near and far sat relaxing, watching the ongoing events or wandered through the grounds enjoying the sights and sounds of happy children enjoying the huge variety of games. Preserving beautiful historic buildings is an ongoing need so the total money raised, an amazing £10,900 is important. Br Raymond Kitson and his amazing team, which includes all his family, have done it again!



© Sr Sarah Groves

Recently we had a return visit from Rob Christie, an Australian, who first came to Gracehill a couple of years ago to trace his ancestors. On that first visit he became enchanted by the Gracehill Burial Ground and realised that many headstones were becoming or already were unreadable. So, on subsequent visits he took on the major task of photographing every stone and recording what could be read from the stones. Rob and his wife Sian returned in June to re-photograph some stones and presented the Church with the first volume of his photographic research. This work goes alongside the work of Br Anderson Weir who has completed a plan of our Burial Ground and both works will be a great help to others researching their ancestry.

On 1st May Br James Hamill organised a fabulous riverside walk by the River Bann for our Men's Fellowship. This was a new area for most, and included walking past early orchids, traces of older paths, part of the canal, a second world war pill box with the text 1 Peter 5 v.8 written inside, and old eel traps in the river. On this occasion, the Men's Fellowship kindly invited the Sisters to join them, and everyone enjoyed it!

May was also a wonderful time for Sr Joanna Clarke. In recognition of her work with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, where she is the Northern Ireland Manager for the Local Education Authority, Joanna was invited to Her Majesty's Garden Party in Buckingham Palace. The following day she also had to help as a steward at the presentation of awards in the presence of Prince Edward and other members of the Royal Family. For both occasions Joanna took her mother Sr Rhebe Clarke as her special guest. This was an apt choice for, not only does Rhebe support Joanna in all her work, but both are holders of the Gold Award. 55 years ago, Rhebe received her award through the Girls' Brigade at Holyrood House on 22nd July 1964! Indeed, the newspaper photograph from 1964 appeared on Facebook! What a wonderful occasion for them both.

On 2nd June we were delighted to share in the baptism of Joshua Christopher-Mark Armstrong, son of Debbie and Andy, Bishop Sarah's daughter and son-in-law.

Gracehill visit from members of Zeist
Bishop Sarah had announced that we were to have a visit from members of the Zeist Moravian Church in the Netherlands who were visiting Northern Ireland. On Sunday morning 23rd June a coach arrived and the group, along with their minister, Br Marcus Gill, joined us for morning worship. A packed congregation enjoyed hearing hymns being sung in English, Dutch and Sranan Toga! Sarah had printed the Order of Service in Dutch and English for all. What a truly international feel that added to our morning worship. Br Gill brought a greeting and short address and after the service everyone not only enjoyed a very welcome soup and apple pie lunch, beautifully provided by Sr Vera Montgomery and her amazing team, but wonderful chat. There was such a truly international buzz and afterwards the group toured the settlement and then gathered in the Church again to hear more about our history. A wonderful day reminding us of our worldwide links.

Sr Roberta Gray

Ockbrook

Donations in memory of Br Michael Rea

Donations in memory of Br Michael Rea amounted to £2,000 and have now been sent to the Derby & Burton NHS Trust's Heart Failure Clinic. Many, many thanks to everyone for your kindness and support.

Sr Julie Hague



© Sr Penny Weir

Dukinfield Let's get Quizzical

Forget 'Pointless', 'Eggheads' or 'The Chase' - the real general knowledge quiz challenge occurred during July 2019 at Dukinfield Moravian Church.

The second Men versus Women's quiz was held. Two team tables made up from the Men's Fellowship and the Women's Association with friends and family to boost the brain power.

In a hard-fought competition 85 points were on offer over a range of seven rounds that featured topics including: Geography, Now and Then, and Science and Nature.

A well needed interval on the hottest day of the year meant all contestants could share food and bring your own drinks.

Both teams were head to head for scores at the final round: Food and Drink.

The men pipped the ladies by just three points. This is the second win in a row for the men - all to play for the ladies next year.

A fun night of fellowship, facts and fundraising for the Church was had by all.

Sr Penny Weir

Leominster

The Leominster congregation held the second of their series of concerts in aid of their organ fund, a lunchtime duet recital, on 11th June in the Lion Ballroom in Leominster. The sisters provided the refreshments with the whole congregation helping with the arrangements.



Dilys, David and Gwyneth Lloyd

© Sr Dilys Lloyd

The Sisters, Dilys and Gwyneth Lloyd, have been singing duets since they were small children but as they live on separate continents, this was a rare opportunity for them to perform together! They toured Zimbabwe twice and recorded most of their repertoire for the South African Broadcasting Corporation.

Gwyneth Lloyd spent ten years in London where she appeared as a soloist for The London Choral in the Queen Elizabeth Hall and the Purcell Room. She sang the role of Juno in The Tempest for the BBC Time Life Shakespeare Series and toured with Kent Opera. Back in South Africa she won the Nederburg Opera prize for her first two roles back on the stage and won the Premiers' Arts and Culture Award for her work as director of East Cape Opera Company. Her Master's degree researched the application of the Alexander Technique to singing and she has spent thirty years training singers to produce tension free sound. Her students have had study bursaries or employment in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town, Germany, Sweden, the Juilliard and The Met.

After the sisters gained their first degrees and licentiates and Gwyneth had gone overseas, Dilys remained in Zimbabwe, singing the roles of Dido and Carmen and then concentrating on oratorio and recital. She has sung 30 different oratorio roles, performing with all the major orchestras and choirs in Zimbabwe and the Johannesburg Bach Choir, the Pretoria North Orchestra and the Pietersburg City Orchestra in South Africa. She has sung with all the top musicians in Zimbabwe and has also performed on TV and radio, notably the recital with Gwyneth on SABC. In 2004 she won the prestigious Emeritus award for service to music and the community in Zimbabwe. Since moving to Leominster in 2009 she has sung solo here and in Dilwyn.

Sr Lorraine Shorten

Notices

Moravian Advent stars now available at the Book room

The following types of Advent stars are available to purchase from the Book room at Church House:

- 13cm stars are £21.00 each and are available in White or Yellow.
- 60cm stars are £20.00 each; colours available are White, Red, Yellow, Red/White and Yellow/Red.
- 68cm stars are £40.00 each and are available in White, Red, Yellow, White/Red.

We also have power supply cables for the following Advent stars:

- Cable for indoor star (60cm): £9.00
- Cable for outdoor star (68cm): £13.00
- Cable for cribs star (13cm): £12.00

Please contact Church House for more details at: office@moravian.org.uk

From Church House

The Provincial Board are pleased to announce Br James Woolford's consecration as Presbyter by Sr Sarah Groves on Saturday 28th September at Hornsey. The service will begin at 2pm. We hope that many of you will be able to join us to be with Br Woolford for this special occasion.

Provincial Diary for September

- 10-14 Unity Executive Meeting, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania (Sr R Hoey)
- 15-20 BMB visit to Tabora, Tanzania (Sr R Hoey & Br D Howarth)
- 21 PYCC, Church House (Sr Z Taylor)
- 25-26 PEC
- 28 Consecration of Br J Woolford as Presbyter, Hornsey

Congregational Register

Baptisms

28th July 2019 Daniel Thomas McCord Gracehill

Funerals

25th July 2019 Geoffrey Hirst Fulneck

The following people were listed under the incorrect congregation in the August issue and should have been listed under the Hall Green Congregation:

Adult Baptisms

9th June 2019 Aamir Samson Hall Green

Reception

9th June 2019 Esther Walker Hall Green

9th June 2019 Neil Walker Hall Green

1	Muharram/Islamic New Year - Muslim
13-26	Heritage Open Days (www.heritageopendays.org.uk/)
8	Education Sunday (www.cte.org.uk/Groups/234838/Home/Resources/Education_Sunday/Education_Sunday.aspx)
	Ability Sunday (https://livability.org.uk/event/clone-of-ability-sunday-2019/)
17-23	World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel (www.worldweekforpeace.org)
21	UN International Day of Peace (www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/)
23	Autumn Equinox

Dates to remember!

From the Sanctuary



When my dad came to live with me - now three years ago - I was keen that he didn't stop doing things that he previously enjoyed.

One thing that he enjoys is growing vegetables - albeit his way of doing so is rather more unorthodox than mine, which can cause some disagreement at times. So, last summer, a small plot in an

existing bed was duly allocated, and dug over, at the bottom of the garden. Bulbs were moved to other areas of the garden, and other plants shifted into other beds, or thrown away if they hadn't been 'successful'. The trees that overhung the garden bed were cut back to allow more light and rain through, to benefit any plants

that were sown. At my father's request, a copper strip was placed around the garden bed to deter slugs (even though it is utterly useless, but my father doesn't like using slug pellets. He's a bit more 'organic' than I am). Spinach, radishes and red cabbage were duly planted and 'caged' to deter the cat from

digging in the freshly turned soil. Each day, we have enjoyed looking to see what is happening. Now, much of the produce is ready to reap.

Over the same period of time, I enjoyed watching documentaries on TV, detailing how much of our food is 'manufactured'. The factories are enormous (the size of several football pitches); the design of the machines involved has been amazing; the infrastructure involved from getting the raw materials to the factories, to delivering the end products of crisps, biscuits, bread etc., to supermarkets, is utterly mind-boggling. I have been struck by how awe-inspiring it all is. From seeing little seedlings emerge from the soil in the garden to grow into food we can eat, to looking at how our food is produced on a national or global scale - it has all been amazing.

It is easy to see how removed from nature (or 'how things were meant to be') the food factory process is. However, God is certainly in the human ability to design such machines, structures and transport systems to feed the world. God is also in the small radish that is pulled up from my dad's garden. At this harvest time, let us enable ourselves to see that God is in all that is - whether it is the tinned food, or fresh vegetables; the blossoming flowers or freshly baked bread that we bring to Harvest. I personally find it harder to believe that all of this awe-inspiring wonder happened from random chaos (which some scientists claim). For me, faith in a creative process - and therefore a Creator - makes much more sense.

Br Peter Gubi,
Dukinfield

The British Province - Future Directions and Sustainability

Do you have a view on the future direction and sustainability of the British Province?

If so, read on, this is your chance to give your views...

There was a Synod Resolution in 2018:

"... the Provincial Board appoint appropriate persons to assess the strength, sustainability and future direction of the British Province, and report back with recommendations to the next synod."

PEC has set up a Taskforce, to implement the Resolution, and also decided that if the Taskforce was to do a proper job, a full Report would be made at Synod 2022.

PEC asked the Taskforce to make information gathering its first priority. More information about the Taskforce will be given at District Conferences in the autumn of 2019.

INFORMATION GATHERING

The Taskforce will meet with each Congregation in the autumn of 2019. Congregation meetings will be open to all members of that Congregation, and will be arranged by the Taskforce member with your Minister. The Taskforce has also met with the Ministers as a group, and will meet with Youth representatives, the MWA, and the Men's Fellowship.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Each Congregation will complete a Questionnaire which asks for the Congregation's views on:

- its strengths and weaknesses
- on any actions in response to Congregation opportunities and challenges
- the strengths and weaknesses of Districts as organisational units

YOUR CHANCE TO COMPLETE A QUESTIONNAIRE AS AN INDIVIDUAL

You can also give your views as an individual. Contact the Taskforce Secretary Sr Jane Dixon* and you will be sent a copy of the Questionnaire, which is the same as that which Congregations will complete. All individual responses must be returned to the Secretary, who will collate them.

You will not be identified in any way to the Taskforce.

All Questionnaires must be completed and returned to the Secretary by 31st December 2019.

The Taskforce expects to meet early in 2020 to consider all the responses, and to start to consider next steps.

Please note, the Taskforce will only accept submissions made on the Questionnaire form.

***Sr Jane can be contacted (preferably by email) at jane.dixon@moravian.org.uk, or at: 1, Mayfield Grove, Bailiff Bridge, Brighouse, West Yorkshire HD6 4EE.**

Any questions? ... ask Sr Jane!

The Moravian Messenger

Official Journal of the Moravian Church in the British Province. Published monthly by the authority of the Provincial Synod.

Advertisements and all communications concerning distribution and supply should be sent to the Editorial Team.

Editorial Team, Church House, 5 Muswell Hill, London N10 3TJ
editorialteam@moravian.org.uk

Contributions for the Messenger should reach the editorial team by the 7th day of the preceding month.

Design & Artwork
David Bull
dave@redragdesign.co.uk

Printed & Distribution
G. R. Walkden
Tel 01253 681338