



Cardboard Chairs Assisting Disabled Children in Miathene, Kenya

In 2015, our circuit sent a donation to Miathene, our partner area in Kenya, to provide food and seeds for very poor families, who were suffering famine as a result of a severe drought. This was distributed by a charity working with the Miathene Synod of the Methodist Church called the 'Friends of Kianjai Kenya' www.friendsofkianjai.com. Our gift was very gratefully received and made a huge difference to a lot of people. Recently, a letter of thanks has been received from Friends of Kianjai to all who contributed to raise £234.20 from retiring collections at churches and the last Circuit Meeting and from donations for Richmond pantomime rehearsal refreshments.

In conjunction with Bishop Samuel of the Miathene Methodist Synod, the donation went to support a workshop for church and community leaders and medical personnel to explore ways of improving the lives of disabled children (whose disabilities prevent them from accessing school and lead to isolation). It is also supporting provision of training in the manufacture of aids for disabled children from cardboard.

'Appropriate Paper Technology' has been developed to create chairs and standing frames from resources that are normally thrown away; see www.paperfurnitureenterprise.com. Anyone wishing to support the work of Friends of Kianjai in the Miathene area of Kenya with disabled children can find details in the 'Support us' section of their website: www.friendsofkianjai.com/ or post a cheque to Friends of Kianjai, 31 Fore Street, Bradninch, EX5 4NN. 100% of money sent goes to the point of need.

Beauty from Ashes - Visit of Bishop Nathan from Rwanda

Beauty from Ashes is a multimedia evening with inspirational stories of forgiveness, reconciliation and reconstruction in post genocide Rwanda on Monday 9 May, 7.30 pm at Richmond Methodist Church. We welcome Bishop Nathan Amooti to an interdenominational meeting to speak about Rwanda. He was raised as a cattle herder and worked as a teacher. He is an evangelist and peacemaker in Rwanda, an educationalist and founder of several schools. He is now Bishop of Cyangugu, a remote part of Rwanda bordering the DRC with many challenges including refugees and poverty. He has been called the 'Singing and Laughing Bishop', as sometimes he bursts into song as he shares the passions that God has put on his heart. Refreshments will be served from 6.45 pm. Free admission with an offering towards Bishop Nathan's work. Look out for the posters and flyers; book the date and invite your friends.

Re-building the Church - Kasakunda, The Gambia

From 1990 to 1996 Marion Young and her husband Robert served as Missioners in The Gambia. The Methodist villagers of Kasakunda met for worship under a tree. It was alright during the Dry Season but in the Wet Season not always possible in the pouring rain. The distraction of chickens and piglets running about did not help either. They asked for a church to be built so they could worship all year round.

It fell to Robert to organise the project. He designed a fairly small building and chose suitable materials. He supervised and helped with the building as well.

Finance only allowed mud bricks to be used and after more than 20 years it is not surprising that the building is collapsing. The community would like a more substantial building.

Marion Young has strong connections with the original project and is appealing for funds to help re-build. There is a friend who visits The Gambia regularly and will oversee the financial arrangements.

Marion has provisionally arranged a couple of events; a coffee morning and cake stall at 10am-12.30pm on 9 April at 96 Brompton Park, Brompton-on-Swale; also a 'Soup and Puds' at 12 noon on 25 June at Brompton-on-Swale Methodist Chapel. Marion will greatly appreciate your support in any shape or form.

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge has launched a new app, website and booklet, promoting daily prayers for busy people; '**Prayers on the Move**'. Discover more at www.prayersonthemove.com, including ordering the booklet, which is also available as an e-book and PDF. See all usual social media.

The Regional Learning and Development Team have compiled a daily devotional and small group resource for '**The Great 50 Days**'; Easter Sunday through to Pentecost. Look out for it and consider using it in your daily devotions in the Great 50 Days; it could also be a helpful point of focus for a small group. If your church does not already have one then you may wish to form one for the Great 50 Days. Distribution is underway. Digital copies are available from: <http://darlingtonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/great-50-days/>

All for one, and one for all!

The annual Richmond Methodist Church pantomime rolled into town again this year, with three very successful performances over Friday 12th and Saturday 13th February. 'The Three Musketeers', an original stage play penned by Martin Ash, and severely edited by his family and the cast, told the story of D'Artagnan, a young Frenchman seeking to join the King's musketeers. Played alongside the drama of the imprisonment of Queen Marie Antoinette, and her improbable affair with the Duke of Birmingham (no, we don't remember him in the story either), the pantomime took viewers on a thrilling ride through Paris, Versailles, and the café from the popular 1980s sitcom 'Allo 'Allo. Your confusion deepens.

The Cardinal was realistically portrayed by the ever-popular circuit steward Jonny Staley, ably assisted in his foul deeds by three stunning young supporting actresses. Brian Robinson, and Michelle and John Emptage were invaluable newcomers to the stage, both in the acting and wardrobe departments. The stand out drag performance of the show was undoubtedly Gez Cornish, whose rendition of the Weather Girls classic 'It's Raining Men' was barely recognisable from the original. There was even a return appearance from the Rev Les Nevin who, rumour has it, only agreed to take part on the condition that Rhoda Fraser would sit on his knee. His accordion-playing abilities remain a mystery.

The sell-out shows raised a superb total of £1300. Next year's pantomime, Aladdin, will take place on Friday 17th and Saturday 18th February, 2017. See you there for more mind-bending mystery, side-splitting hilarity and a cream pie in the face! Jenny Ash

Diary Dates for full listing see www.nydalesmeth.org.uk/aboutus.htm

Wed 30th March 7.30pm West Burton 'Talking together- marriage & relationships' led by Rev Ruth Gee.

Sunday 17 April Easter Offering Services of Dedication

10.45am Brompton-on-Swale

6pm Gayle

2pm 'Songs of Praise' service at Tennants, with Leyburn Band

Saturday 23rd April Darlington District Synod

Sunday 24th April 3pm District Service at Richmond led by

President Steve Wild & Vice President of Conference Jill Barber, together with Rev Ruth Gee

Thursday 5th May 7pm Ascension Day service in Jervaulx Abbey

Wednesday 1st June 7.30pm Local Preacher meeting at Reeth chapel

Monday 6th June 7.30pm Circuit Meeting at Middleham Chapel

Thursday 9th June 1.30pm Catterick Management Meeting

Sat 11 June 10.15am—4.00pm Fresh Expressions Vision Day; Hexham Abbey. For information contact:

pamela.wilson@durham.anglican.org Tel 0191 374 6024 freshexpressions.org.uk/vision/Hexham

20th-21st July 2016 Cliff College 'An Effective Rural Christian Presence' conference. To register your interest, please email harmerd@methodistchurch.org.uk

Sunday 28th August- Circuit Service Day

10.30am Reeth

6.30pm Richmond evening communion service

8pm Marsett singalong

Methodist Website Re-Design—Your views are wanted. Please make sure you have your say today at www.methodist.org.uk/websitesurvey.

Brompton on Swale Chapel Lunch Club

At the suggestion of Rhoda Fraser it was felt we would like to do something for the Community. We decided to hold a lunch club on the second Wednesday of each month and hoped to reach the people who were living on their own and would enjoy a two course hot meal plus good company. It was agreed that there would not be a charge for the meal. The December lunch had a Christmas theme and on offer in January was haggis remembering Robbie Burns. We have been greatly encouraged with this new venture, having an increase in numbers and also very kindly leaving donations for Chapel funds.

Circuit Team

Superintendent : Rev Janet Park superintendent@nydalesmeth.org.uk - Leyburn, Harmby, Carlton, Middleham, Melmerby (*inc W Scrafton*), Gayle (*inc Hawes*), Aysgarth, Bainbridge, Marsett, West Burton.

Rev Les Nevin richmondrev@nydalesmeth.org.uk - Richmond, Barden, Brompton-on-Swale (*including Colburn*), Hunton, Scorton, Ravensworth, Reeth (*including Arkengarthdale*), Gunnerside .

Deacon Joy Sykes jascmc@aol.com - Catterick Garrison

Circuit Stewards: John Ridley, Tony Simons, Angie Bailey, Jonny Staley, Graham Di Duca

Circuit Treasurer: Pauline Beckett treasurer@nydalesmeth.org.uk

Circuit Admin Asst : Kevin Pellatt, nydcpaperclip@gmail.com
