

WELCOME TO

AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

[*See note on following page]

Church Office: 01296 426526

E-mail: office@aylesburymethodists.org.uk

Website: www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk

This Church is God's house.

God loves and welcomes you whoever you are, whatever your age, gender, mental health, physical ability, race, sexuality or financial situation.

You are welcome here, whatever your circumstances; however much or little you wish to engage; whatever you feel about faith.

Sunday 5th May 2024

10.30am: Service of Holy Communion led by Mr Arthur Sara.

If you are visiting our Church for the first time, do introduce yourself to one of our stewards today, who are Frances Aylen and Gill Marks.

Please join us in the Hall after the service for tea, coffee, and a biscuit.

The words of the hymns are projected at the front of the Church.

If you would like to have a hymnbook for the service, please ask.

Hymns	StF 76 372 615 585 418
Readings	Psalm 98 Acts 10: 44-48 John 15: 9-17
Organist	Derrick Matthews
Streaming	To safeguard children and any vulnerable adults, our live-streamed services will not show the congregation.



If your little ones (up to age 3) become restless during services, you are welcome to take them into the creche room in the Welcome Area to play. The service can be heard from there.

All children MUST be accompanied by an ADULT.

**The flowers this week are given by Leah
in loving memory of Michael Clark.**

Our Church Family.

Brenda Horne thanks everyone for their cards, prayers and good wishes. She is feeling slightly better, but it looks like recovery is going to take quite a while.

*** A reminder that Richard Atkinson is currently on Sabbatical until July 8th 2024.**

For pastoral concerns, please contact either:

Rev Heegon Moon: 01844 698237, heegon5@gmail.com or

Rev Noreen Daley-Lee: 01525 240083, noreendaley1@hotmail.com

You are invited to attend the District Ordinands Testimony Service for Reverends James Patterson and Phil Robinson on 19th May, 6pm, here at Aylesbury Methodist Church. Please come along to support James and Phil on this special milestone as they share their testimonies.

See posters on notice boards.

**Tuesday 7th May, 2.30pm: TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP
REV NOREEN DALEY-LEE**

Come along for a cup of tea or coffee, a biscuit and a chat!

ALL ARE WELCOME.

Please ring the bell for Room 4, to be met in the reception area.

For more information, contact Coral Soulsby: 01296 707298.



AMC ORGAN CONCERT
Wednesday 15th May @ 7.30 pm.

For this, the 36th occasion, we welcome the return visit of the outstanding concert organist, **DANIEL MOULT**, reviewed as 'one of the finest organists of our time'. Daniel will present and perform a typical 'Town Hall Concert' programme designed to appeal to all.

Entrance £15.00 or £12.00 if booked in advance. (Students free)

Available at the church office on weekday mornings from 10.30am. Alternatively, direct from Derrick & Janice Matthews (01296 488076)

All profit from this occasion is donated to AMC funds.



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2024 is 12th – 18th May, but we shall be celebrating Christian Aid Sunday on **19th May**, including a retiring collection for their vital work. There will be collection envelopes in the notice sheet, with the opportunity to complete a Gift Aid declaration, which allows the charity to claim back the tax paid on your donation, at no extra cost to you.

SOS ON TOUR! 7.30pm on 11th May at the home of Gill and Trevor Nord, Tel 483157. This evening, food should be 'Thai' which has fabulous names such as 'Tom Yum Goong' and 'Pad Krapow Moo' - sounds delicious.

SOS are a group of people, some regular church-goers, others who are not - it makes no difference - all are welcome. Meeting together at each other's homes and sharing a Faith Supper; sometimes there's a theme to base food around, other times not. The evenings usually start at 7.30pm and finish when the last person goes home. All you need to do is to call the host to say that you're coming.

Prayer Requests. If you have requests for people or situations to be included in the prayers, there is a Prayer Request folder in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space for you to write in, or you could let Richard know in advance.

Our Prayer Group also meets on alternate Tuesdays, 10.45-12noon, and are very happy to receive prayer requests. They would also welcome anyone who would like to join them. Please email Ruby: rubydarku@hotmail.co.uk

DEREK TREKS BRITAIN (continued)

Leg 7, day 8. Friday 26th April

Our intrepid explorer set off early today getting the bus to Blackpool from where he would then be getting another bus up to Fleetwood to resume his walking; but not before locating a Greggs at the bottom of the tower for breakfast! (Recent new readers will, by now, be seeing a recurring theme here!) For anyone visiting Blackpool and fancying a Greggs, they've conveniently placed a rather large tower very close to the store to make it easy for you to locate from a distance!

Onwards to Fleetwood then, and onto the Knott End Ferry across the mouth of the Wyre where he met fellow walkers Vincent and Ann (see

picture) and also Kaye and her husband; I'm sure there was plenty of conversation to pass the trip!

Quite a few miles covered on a nice day today, Derek made his way to Glasson Dock and beyond to Lancaster.

As he gets closer to the Lake District, more peaks are coming into view, and he thinks he could make out Great Gable today.

Before returning to his digs, Derek visited the Lancashire Museum and read about the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment and their involvement in The Great War. Topped up with a history lesson (he loves history if you hadn't realised by now!), our weary wanderer made his way back to his digs via a really long bus journey.



Photo: Model of TS Lowry and his dog; Lowry painted people boarding the ferry from here.

Leg 7, day 9. Saturday 27th April

Happy but ready for bed, our bearded rambler has just called with today's update! Today started with a bus back to Lancaster (yesterday's finishing point), and he walked down to the coast around Heysham, and was trekking along the northern shore of Morecambe as "the vista opened up" A gloriously sunny / cloudy day, and a gorgeous panoramic scene of the Atlantic reaching towards Lancaster, backed by mountains of the Lake District with clouds rolling across the sky, like a "kaleidoscope". He's gone poetic!

The noise of the wind was drowned out by the apparent battle of the birds, with the local starlings echoing the cries of the gulls.

He arrived in Morecambe in late afternoon, and talked a passer-by into taking a video of him dancing with Eric 😊

He's ready for an early night, ahead of church tomorrow morning and continuing along the coast in the afternoon.

I'll leave you with the delighted words of the man himself: "As ever, the many people I encountered brought another superb layer to the delights of Lancashire".



Leg 7, Day 10. Sunday 28th April

As usual, Derek started his Sunday morning with a Church visit. Today it was to St Mary's Church, Catholic denomination.

After Church he walked to Carnforth, eager to visit the railway station there, made famous by the 1945 film 'Brief Encounter'. The station in the film was called Milford Junction, but was filmed at Carnforth, starring Trevor Howard and Celia Johnson.

The film still generates so much interest that there is now a Heritage Centre at the Station, run by volunteers, and full of memorabilia of the time.

Derek met Hazel, a U3A member, who was showing him around. They were then joined by Brian, also a U3A member, and they kindly invited him to join with the group who were visiting there this afternoon.

Derek has been having some problems with his new phone (whether it is the phone, or user error, we are not sure 😞), but he had tried to call Hayley, the daughter of his childhood best friend and neighbour. He knew Hayley was in the area, and had not seen for many years, but sadly did not manage to get through to her. He was sitting, chatting with the U3A group, when he thought his luck had changed, as a very attractive young blonde enthusiastically rushed to embrace him! Yes.....you've guessed it - it was Hayley, with husband Phil, who had come to the Centre for lunch. So he had his very own 'brief encounter' with Hayley, and a great catch-up.

Derek took the bus back to Morecombe where he enjoyed a meal in the local Wetherspoons, appropriately named 'The Eric Bartholomew' after the late, much-loved comedian who took the name of his home town as his stage name.

Derek was also pleased to note that Morecombe's 1st



World War memorial correctly dates the war from 1914 to 1919. Today's photos show the WW1 Memorial, and, worryingly, the signpost showing the start of the 'Way of the Roses', a 170 mile walk from Lancaster to Bridlington.



Now that he is well into the 2nd half of his Trek, could Our Man be sussing out a few "pleasant strolls" when he has finished? 😞

Leg 7, Day 11. Monday 29th April.

A short and sweet report today, largely due to communication issues. 😊

A mostly wet and miserable looking day, too.

After enjoying a hearty breakfast at the B&B he is currently staying at, Derek caught the bus back to Carnforth, then walked to Lancaster. His intention has been to catch a further bus from Lancaster to Ulverston, but there was a problem with the buses today, Derek thinks maybe lack of staff, so he travelled on to Ulverston by train.

Alighting from the train he asked a lady (Alison) if she knew where the Laurel and Hardy Museum was.

Typical of his luck - Alison was also arriving in Ulverston to visit the Museum! She checked the directions on her phone (a skill Derek has yet to get to grips with - he prefers maps you can fold), and off they went.



The Museum is housed in the old Roxy Cinema. Manager Mark, and his young assistant Joshua, made Derek and Alison welcome.

The memorabilia inside started as the private collection of one man, Bill Cubin, an ardent fan of Stan and Ollie, initially in his home. Bill, who sadly passed away in 1997, is Mark's grandfather.

As Bill researched more about their lives, he discovered that Stan had not been born in North Shields, as first believed, but at his grandparents' house in Ulverston!

Derek thoroughly enjoyed his time in the museum, watching films that brought back childhood memories.

Stan and Ollie transcend time, and even today's 'cool' youngsters can't help but be entertained by their antics, as were their parents, and grandparents before them.

A perfect way to pass a wet afternoon.

Derek, spirits raised by this happy interval, then walked back to Morecombe.



Leg 7, day 12. Tuesday 30th April

Today was a relocation day for our intrepid explorer, as he bid thank you and farewell to his hosts for the past few nights, Mal and Collet (and thank them very much for their contribution to the fundraising efforts!).

His target was Ulverston and due to the paucity of bus routes in the area, this meant he had to go all the way up to Kendal in order to drop back down again! Luckily, he's an early riser, so he still left himself time to get some walking in after he'd dropped his full kit bag at his new digs.

Keen to stretch his legs, Derek set off from Ulverston and made it all the way to Barrow today - he described it as a beautiful bit of coastline. Weather was good - no rain - and he can sense the tranquility of the Lake District drawing nearer.

On his walk to Barrow he was joined by John, a former Barrow Parks Keeper who was happy to jump off of his bike and walk and exchange stories for a while.



As he entered Barrow, he could see what looked like a lighthouse on top of the hill. This highly visible structure stands on the summit of Hoad Hill, overlooking the town of Barrow, and is easily seen for miles around.

It is actually a monument and was erected in 1850 in memory of Sir John Barrow, a native of Ulverston and one of the founders of The Geographical Society. This is now known as the

Royal Geographical Society and you may not be too surprised that our rugged wanderer has been a Fellow for some 40+ years now.

He found another monument in the town, this one commemorating the Industrial Heritage of Barrow-in-Furness.

He headed back quite soon after arriving and plans to spend a bit more time exploring Barrow tomorrow; top of his list is to visit their RNLI station, but in a very close second place is to find their Greggs!



Leg 7, day 13. Wednesday 1st May.

Off to an early start today, and carrying his lighter backpack, our intrepid adventurer managed about 20 miles of trekking! And a bit by train ... read on...

Derek began the day by walking to Askam in Furness, across fairly boggy land, as lots of water runs to the sea here, from the local rivers and peaks.

At Askam he was very strongly advised not to walk any of the routes across Duddon Sands (see photo), but to instead take the local train, which he did; perhaps the first sensible decision he has made for a long time!



He then walked to Millam, which has an excellent little museum about the area, including the WW2 airfield, and then to and around the bird reserve and Hodbarrow. Fact fans: a hodbarrow is the little cart that brings coal from inside the mine to the surface, and this is a former coal-mining region.

The nature reserve was fantastic apparently, with about 15-20 species of bird, and he enjoyed meeting Doug, a former warden who is now a voluntary guide.

There were superb views from Hodbarrow Point to the Lakeland Peaks, including the Old Man of Conistone, and England's highest mountain, Scafell Pike. He said Toby would be jealous of that, as he's the adventurous type. He knows I'd be more jealous of a view of a massive sofa!

On his way home he encountered a Mr and Mrs Canada Goose and their six babies, trying to cross the road. Derek, of course, stopped the traffic and ushered them to safer ground!



He also enjoyed meeting Mandy and Richard, and of course, a trip to Greggs. He finished walking today at Kirkstanton (see photo), and said today was good weather, if a bit warm! He sends love to all, and thanks you for your continued support 😊



Leg 7, day 14. Thursday 2nd May.

We've not managed to speak to Derek today but we know he's back safe at his hotel. Judging by the pictures, he's been to the Ravenglass and Eskdale Steam Railway! We will update more tomorrow.

Just to remind everyone of the fundraising Derek is trying to achieve: £10,000 to be divided across his chosen three charities: RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution), BHF (British Heart Foundation) and CRUK (Cancer Research UK). Any donation to get him closer to his target is very much appreciated. <https://justgiving.com/team/DEREKtreksBRITAIN>

or donations can be given direct to Derek's wife, Sue.

Mara's Fair
MONDAY 6TH MAY
12PM TIL 4PM

CASH ONLY
FREE ENTRY

A TRADITIONAL FAIR FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY INCLUDING YOUR FURRY FRIENDS

Interactive Theatre Group, Live Music, Children's Author, Children's Activity Tents, Stalls, Raffle, Tug-Of-War, Children's Games, Tea and Cake Tent, Coffee Van, BBQ, Pizza Van & Ice Cream Van

THE REC, WHITCHURCH, HP224TL

PLEASE BRING PICNIC BLANKETS AND CHAIRS!

FOR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T SEEN THIS FROM 2 WEEKS AGO:

Dear All

Emma runs the Little Steps Toddler Group at the Methodist Church in Whitchurch and she is asking the Circuit if we can help one of her youngsters raise funds for medical treatment.

Emma and other supporters have organised a **May Day Fair, (Mara's Fair)** which sounds like an excellent day out for all the family, with a variety of sideshows and attractions - **see poster on previous page and on notice boards.**

Please try to support little Mara and help her obtain this desperately-needed treatment. Emma's contact details are shown below - she would love to hear from you now!

Pete.

Mara is a two, almost three, year old little girl from Whitchurch, whose family have regularly attended our Little Steps toddler group, since we started almost ten years ago.

Mara has a very rare neurological disorder, which drastically affects her ability to eat, sit, stand, walk and talk. She has been fortunate to have had a week's course of Stem Cell treatment, which allowed her to focus her sight, sit a little unaided and start to grasp things with her hands; it also started her path to communicating.

But she requires further treatment, and unfortunately this comes at a huge financial cost to her family. We are trying to support her by fundraising.

*The first thing on our calendar, is a **May Day style Fair**, in the village, on **Monday 6th of May - Mara's Fair.***

We desperately need company sponsorships** (to purchase resources for the fair, including food and beverage), and **high-end Raffle and Auction prizes.

***We'd also love an old-fashioned carousel**, if anyone knows of anyone?! If you feel that you are in any way able to help, please get in touch. Or, come along on the day to support Mara. God willing, it'll be a great day.*

With hope and thanks,

Emma Foulger-Clarke Tel: 07538 200091



'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

WINGRAVE

Dear All,

This Sunday, 5 May, Wingrave is the focus of our Circuit Prayers and we join Mary as she shares her journey with us. Mary has been



blessed with a rich variety of churches in her journey and we rejoice that she ended up with us in the Methodist Church, but I just wonder how much Mary has touched the churches that she visited over the years. We tend to judge a church by its welcome and the gifts that it offers us, we forget that the giving of gifts and love works both ways. I am sure that many of those churches were blessed by Mary's stay in their midst, in exactly the same way that we are blessed today by visitors who call in on us. Please pray this week for all those who, for whatever reason, visit a variety of different fellowships, and also pray that the enrichment and offer of gifts is mutual and beneficial to both, revealing to both the wonderful love of Jesus.

Pete

My mother attended a Baptist Church when I was a child. My father didn't go to church. I didn't attend Sunday School.

I started going to church after I was married, attending the Church of Scotland. I moved to England in 1983, and while staying with my mother-in-law, I went to the Anglican Church. Shortly afterwards, we moved to Farningham and I went to the Anglican Church, but I was not comfortable there. In the next village there was a Baptist Church; I liked it. In 1989 we moved to the Ashdown Forest and went to the Baptist Church in Forest Row.

When my husband retired, we decided to move to be nearer our son. We moved to Wingrave, Buckinghamshire, and went along to the Methodist Church and I was made very welcome.

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

*Blessings,
Mary.*

Don't forget your donations for the Aylesbury Foodbank

Currently, the need is for donations of: *UHT milk, tinned meat, fish & fruit. Sponge/rice puddings, small jars coffee, long life juices, pasta sauce, tinned meals (eg chilli, curries). Tinned soups, jam & spreads, as well as toiletries, together with washing up liquid & laundry detergent pods.*



Next Week

Mon	6 May	6.30 - 8.00pm	Food Hub
Tues	7 May	10.45am 2.30pm 6.00pm	Prayer Group Tuesday Fellowship Boys' Brigade
Thurs	9 May	10.00am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
Frid	10 May	2.30pm	Friday Feathers – Badminton Club

Sunday 12th May 2024

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Rev Carina Shergold.

The designated fire officers are the Duty Stewards
First Aid boxes are located in each of the kitchens
Fire doors are not to be wedged open, except those fitted with Dorgard (Please ensure other doors close behind you after passing through
Duty Manager (Roger Kirk: 01296 415312 Mobile: 07484 392734)