
News from the NW Synod 4th May 2016

- 1: Moderator's snapshots
- 2: Fairhaven URC
- 3: New from Elswick Memorial Church
- 4: News from the Goyt and Etherow Pastorate
- 5: Research conference: Rural Ministry: An effective Christian Presence?

1: Moderators snapshot Over the last weekend the Synod Moderators met in Derbyshire (Synod 5: East Midlands), accompanied by their partners. The weather delivered its usual for a British bank holiday, though the sun did shine for us to see something of the beauty of the area. Each year one of the Synods hosts the Moderators & Partners weekend, an opportunity to combine work, ministry, and fellowship together. The image shows the Sunday evening meal and the entertainment with Sarah (East Midland's Synod - Revd Peter Meek's daughter), a professionally trained opera singer, who performed two repertoires, of sacred pieces and then popular folk songs.

- Please pray for the Synod Moderators, with their particular pattern of ministry within each Synod.
- Pray especially for Northern Synod who this month are shortlisting for the second time to try and appoint a Moderator to follow Revd Lis Mullen on her retirement this summer.
- Please continue to pray for the northerly five Synods (Scotland, Northern, North Western, Yorkshire, Mersey) as we look for ways to more effectively work together, and for our meeting together next week at the Windemere Centre followed by a meeting of the 5 Synod Moderators.



2: Fairhaven URC



On a beautifully sunny day nearly 80 members and friends celebrated her Majesty's 90th birthday at an afternoon tea at Fairhaven URC- the White Church. The Minister- David Phillips started the celebrations by reading a letter from the Queen's Lady in Waiting thanking us on behalf of her Majesty for our message of congratulations and her hope that we would have an excellent afternoon; this was followed by the loyal toast. An extra treat was the opportunity to have your photo taken with (a cardboard cut-out of) the Queen!





WINDSOR CASTLE

30th March 2016.

Dear Mrs Aitken,

I am writing to thank you for your letter to the Correspondence Office in which you say you are the Social Secretary of the Fairhaven United Reformed Church, known as The White Church.

It was kind of you to wish to tell The Queen about the fundraising event you have planned on 23rd April to celebrate her forthcoming ninetieth birthday, and Her Majesty hopes all of those participating have a happy and successful day.

Your good wishes for The Queen at this time are greatly appreciated by Her Majesty, and I am to thank you, once again, for writing as you did.

Yours sincerely
Mary Johnson

Lady-in-Waiting

Mrs V A Aitken

3: News from Elswick Memorial Church are holding their 367th anniversary service on the 15th May at 2.30. The guest speaker will be Rev. Lawrence Moore, Director of the Windermere Centre. Afternoon teas will be available after the service & the booking of teas by the 6th May would be much appreciated. There is no charge for teas but a basket for voluntary offerings.

If you are able to join us on this most enjoyable occasion please ring on 01995 670816 or Email: kernohan@hotmail.com.

4: News from the Goyt and Etherow Pastorate



By the middle of June the Goyt and Etherow Pastorate together with Ecumenical partners will have distributed nearly 300 copies of the 'Servant queen', almost 2,000 copies of the booklet for schools and presented a dozen assemblies on the subject of the Queen's faith. If you haven't noticed this book it can be found on the CPO website.

5: Research conference: Rural Ministry: An effective Christian Presence?

20 and 21 July 2016

Where is it?

Cliff College, Derbyshire

What will the conference cover?

The Conference will invite rural practitioners to speak about various aspects of rural mission or ministry. It is hoped to publish a collection of essays from a Methodist/URC background around the concept of rural mission and an Effective Christian Presence.

The Keynote Speakers confirmed are:

Dr Andrew Bradstock - University of Winchester

Rev'd Steve Wild – Ex President of the Methodist Conference

Rev'd Ruth Gee – Chair of Darlington Methodist District and Ex President of the Methodist Conference

Rev'd Elizabeth Grey- King – Artist in residence

How do I book?

To register your interest, please email harmerd@methodistchurch.org.uk

Is there a cost?

Yes, £80 per delegate to cover all meals and single en-suite accommodation