

# NOTICES & NEWS

Minister: Revd. John McNeill,  
[john.mcneill@methodist.org.uk](mailto:john.mcneill@methodist.org.uk) 01452 855477  
 Senior Steward: Lynne Cooke, [lynnecooke65@aol.com](mailto:lynnecooke65@aol.com), 07729774204  
 Other enquiries: [info@hucclecotemc.org.uk](mailto:info@hucclecotemc.org.uk)  
 Notices: Items to be sent to [notices@hucclecotemc.org.uk](mailto:notices@hucclecotemc.org.uk)  
 Website: [www.hucclecotemc.org](http://www.hucclecotemc.org)

## Worship in Church and Online Preachers and readings for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7;

Psalms 32;

Romans 5: 12-19;

Matthew 4: 1-11

**Worship in Church: 10.30am**

*(Sunday Fun sessions are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday each month at 10.30am)*

22<sup>nd</sup> Feb Liz Ledger

1<sup>st</sup> Mar Keith Linzner

8<sup>th</sup> Mar Rev John McNeill  
 (Holy Communion)

15<sup>th</sup> Mar Robert Carr

**Flowers in Church for this Sunday  
 are kindly provided by  
 Hilary & Christine  
 Daughters of Dan & Thelma Jones**

### Weekly Programme

#### *Monday:*

**Badminton Club** 9.30-11.30am

**Carers Coffee Morning** 10.30-11.30am  
 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon)

**Friendship Club** (2<sup>nd</sup> Mon) 2.30pm

**BB&GA Anchors/Juniors** 5.30-8.00pm  
 (termtime)

**Welcome Cafe** (termtime) 5.30-8.00pm

**Monday Makers** 7.30-9.30pm

#### *Tuesday:*

**JellyTotz** 10-11.30am

Parents & Toddlers (termtime)

**Men's Social** (2<sup>nd</sup> Tue) 10-12noon

**The Chosen** (Study Group) 2-4pm

**Step'n'Style** (termtime) 4-8.30pm

#### *Wednesday:*

**Welcome Cafe** 10-12noon

**Welcome Garden** 10-12noon

**Tech Support** 10.30-12noon

(in Welcome 1<sup>st</sup>&3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Supastrikers**(termtime) 1.30-2.15pm

#### *Thursday:*

**Welcome Cafe** 10 - 12noon

**Craft Group** 10 - 12noon

**BB&GA Company** 7-10.00pm

(termtime)

#### *Friday:*

**Friday Lunch Club** 2<sup>nd</sup>&4<sup>th</sup> Fri

#### *Saturday:*

**Welcome Cafe** 10-12noon

(1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> of month)

**Foodbank** – The collection crate is  
 available in the church entrance.

## Church & PFA Events 2026

**April 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Jumble Sale (Church) – 2pm**

**May 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Plant Sale – 10.30am**

**May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Jumble Sale (PFA) – 2pm**

**June 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Model Railway Show - 10am-5pm**

## World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer is organised by a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer for peace and justice on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

This year's service has been written by women of Nigeria. The theme – 'I will give you rest, come' – (Matthew 11: v28-30), includes the story of four Nigerian women and their experiences of how God provides rest in difficult times.

In Brockworth, local churches take turns in planning and organising the services in our area.

This year it will be at:

**St Patrick's RC Church, Brockworth, GL3 4HL**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 10am in the church hall**

All are very welcome to the service, both men and women, and it will be followed by refreshments. It is a wonderful opportunity to join with local Christians and people across the world to pray for peace and justice and to celebrate the difference God makes in our lives.

If you would like to attend and require a lift please see Loraine Shaw, 07707 640916

## Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)

We will be meeting in the church hall at 11.45am on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February where we will enjoy pancakes and a cuppa. Not to mention a time of Fellowship.

**All are welcome, please come along.**

## Jigsaw Sale

The Jigsaw sale last Saturday was a tremendous success raising over £460 for church funds. Many thanks to all who helped in any way.

## Announcement from the Circuit

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### **Statement to be read out in church, by the duty steward, this coming Sunday - 15.02.2026 regarding stationing decisions pertaining to Rev'd John McNeill**

Some of you will already have heard that the Rev'd John McNeill has been appointed by Conference to serve as a Superintendent in another part of the District from 2026. This means he will be moving a year earlier than we had expected, rather than going through the usual process of re-invitation or stationing next year.

This has not been John's choice. It is part of a wider movement across the Connexion as the Stationing Committee responds to the current shortage of ministers, and especially Superintendents. From time to time, the Church needs to make these changes for the good of the wider mission, and there is provision within our Standing Orders for this when circumstances require it.

Of course, we feel this news deeply. John has given so much to this Circuit, to his churches, and to his colleagues, and he will be greatly missed. I think we would all have loved another year together. John himself feels very torn, but like all Methodist ministers he lives out the call to itinerancy, and he has responded with generosity and faithfulness.

The District has reassured us that arrangements will be made to ensure continued pastoral leadership here. I know some have wondered whether this might mean a gap for a time, but I want to be clear that this will not be the case. Conversations are already underway with the District and the Stationing Committee to make sure the Circuit is well supported. We don't yet know exactly what this will look like, but we will share more as soon as we can. In the meantime, John remains with us until the end of July.

If you have any questions, please do speak with me or with the Rev'd Dr Marcus Torchon. While discussions are still ongoing we may not have every detail just yet, but we will always be as open as we can.

Above all, I know you will want to hold John in your prayers, and to thank him for all he has given among us, as he prepares to follow this next step in God's call.

Rev'd Jayne Webb

Superintendent - Gloucestershire Circuit

Editors Note:

Many of you will have heard the announcement on Sunday when the above statement was read out. John will be leaving us in July, which is a year earlier than we would have hoped. He has worked very hard for HMC, together with Lonsdale and Churchdown, and he will be sadly missed by all.

As the statement says, this is not John's choice. There is a shortage of Ministers and, in particular, Superintendants.

We will have the opportunity to discuss this further with John and amongst ourselves. Please also feel free to contact Jayne Webb directly.

## Lent Services etc - from Rev John

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Following the Ash Wednesday service on the 18<sup>th</sup> February at Churchdown Methodist at 10am, I will run two Lent series.

- Showing of 'The Chosen' season five (Holy Week events) at the manse from Friday February 20<sup>th</sup> to April 3<sup>rd</sup> 7-8.30pm with refreshments.
- Lent talks 'All shall be well' based on Mother Julian of Norwich's Revelations of Divine Love at Lonsdale Methodist starting Tuesday February 24<sup>th</sup> from 12-1pm.
- Maundy Thursday service at Hucclecote 7pm 2<sup>nd</sup> April
- Good Friday service at Lonsdale at 10.30, as well as the Walk of Witness in Churchdown.

## Lonsdale Road Closure

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Following on from the notice in previous issues (copied below), the church will become known as **Lonsdale Church at St Oswalds**.

Services will be held at St Oswalds Village, with the first service on 19<sup>th</sup> April commencing at 11am. Further details will be made available nearer the date. The final service at Lonsdale Road will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> April commencing at 10.30am. This will be followed by a buffet lunch.

### **Celebration Service April 12<sup>th</sup>**

The stewards are starting to plan for the Celebration Service to mark the life, people and events that have made Lonsdale Rd Methodist church such a lovely welcoming community. With that in mind I am hoping to put together a powerpoint presentation that will, with your help, feature photos of people and events to celebrate and reflect life at Lonsdale over the years.

If you have photos that I could borrow to scan and include, or even better send them to me electronically by email then I will do my best to include them. I may not be able to include them all but I will try and include a wide range of events and people. Please include your name and the event either on the back or with the photos so I can return them safely to you.

Thank you in advance, Julie  
[juliegillard58@gmail.com](mailto:juliegillard58@gmail.com)

## Safeguarding

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The Gloucestershire Circuit has arranged two zoom Creating Safer Space Foundation level safeguarding training evenings for Church Volunteers on the following dates:

- Wednesday 19 March 2026 at 6:30pm to 9pm
- Thursday 25 June 2026 at 6:30pm to 9pm

All Church Volunteers who have never attended a Methodist Church Safeguarding Training Course or who have not attended any Safeguarding Training within the last five years, are invited to attend the Foundation Training Course.

To book a space, please email [safeguarding@glosocircuit.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@glosocircuit.org.uk) and the Zoom meeting invitation will be sent to you nearer the time. Debbie Long will also arrange for the latest Creating Safer Space training handbook to be provided.

# Women's Day

LIVING WATER  
*"Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them" John 7:38*

**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH  
CHURCHDOWN  
GL3 2JT**

**MARCH 7TH  
9:30-4PM  
SATURDAY**

WITH GUEST SPEAKER  
**BECKY HARCOURT**

TICKETS COST £15  
LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

For more information, visit [www.stastb.church/events](http://www.stastb.church/events)  
or scan the QR code

