



## Haverhill Methodist Church

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## Connect Issue 122

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

*Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.*

*Psalm 95:6-7*

**Prayer Chain:** If you'd like to request a prayer for yourself, or for someone you know, please email [kathy.cohen@btinternet.com](mailto:kathy.cohen@btinternet.com) (or phone 01440 762536) and your message will be forwarded to all those on the prayer email list (about 80 people).

**Prayer Ministry:** This is available after morning service each Sunday. Please approach someone wearing a lime green lanyard which has the words Prayer Ministry Team printed on it. Please remember our Churches Together online Prayer Wall [here](#).

**Hearing Loop:** We have a hearing loop, switch your hearing aid to the T position if available.

**Mobile Phones:** Please make sure your phone is off or set to silent before the service begins.

- [Gwen Bowers](#)

It is with sadness that we heard the news that Gwen Bowers was called to her heavenly home this morning.

We give thanks for Gwen's long life and Christian faith and for her special place in her family and our church family.

We pray for God's peace and comfort at this time.

- [Sunday Club Anniversary & Picnic](#)

This Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> September, is the Sunday Club Anniversary.

You are invited to join in a church picnic on the Recreation Ground after the service & coffee time. Bring food, blanket, chairs etc and if you have an outdoor game we can play so much the better!

- Wednesday Fellowship

Wednesday Fellowship will re-open on 7<sup>th</sup> September at 2,30pm in the Church Lounge. Meetings will be monthly on the first Wednesday in the month from September to December initially, to see how it goes. Please speak to Win Franklin if you want to know more about this group.

- Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride 10/9/22

The sponsored bike ride (or walk or horse ride) round local & not so local churches will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September. This is a fund raiser for both the Historic Churches Trust and for ourselves as half of what we raise comes back to this church.

We are looking for (i) riders/walkers to visit other churches

(ii) people to welcome & sign in riders & walkers from other churches (on a rota basis)

(iii) lots of people to sponsor our riders/walkers

Abigail & Stuart Britten & the boys will be taking part again this year, their donation page is here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/abigail-britten2>

Please speak to John or Sandra Loader if you can help

- Haverhill & District Youth for Christ

HDYFC (aka Sarah) have a couple of events coming up.

➤ Mocktails & Nibbles Party – 7.30pm on 27<sup>th</sup> September at West End Congregational Church

➤ Bake Off! 3-5pm on 16<sup>th</sup> October at Haverhill Methodist Church Hall

- Harvest Meal Saturday 1st October at 5.00pm in the Church Hall

This will be a bring and share event called 'Your favourite dish from around the world'. Sweet or savoury. We invite you to share with others any dish from anywhere around the world and bring it along on the night already cooked. There is a Flip Chart in the foyer for you to put your name down and the dish you will be bringing and how many it will feed. There is also a form attached to the Flip Chart for you to take home and list ingredients contained in your dish for anyone with allergies (please bring it back on the night with your

chosen dish)

For catering purposes please sign the list at the back of the church stating how many of your family are coming also if you are able to help set up the hall from 3.30pm or help after the meal. There will also be a plate available for any donations which will go to 'All We Can', formally MRDF – Methodist Relief & Development Charity). Further details from Janet or Susan.

- Harvest Festival Service

You are invited to join us for our all-age Harvest Festival service on Sunday 2nd October at 10.30am.

Your harvest gifts of dry goods for the Haverhill Foodbank will be gratefully received.

A list of urgent goods needed will be made available when known. If you would like to make a financial harvest gift to REACH Community Projects, these will also be gratefully received and designated for the Winter Crisis Fund.

- Link to Hope Shoeboxes

Don't forget to start putting your shoeboxes together ready for the last Sunday in October. Leaflets are available in the church foyer. More info here: [www.linktohope.co.uk](http://www.linktohope.co.uk)

- Prayer Handbook

I have now received the second batch of Methodist Prayer Handbooks 2022-23, still at the bargain price of £4.15 (rather than £4.50).

See me if you would like to buy one or just to discuss it.

Every blessing, Ken Nicholls

*Information for publication in Connect, or on the Sunday Morning Scroll may be emailed to: [kathy.cohen@btinternet.com](mailto:kathy.cohen@btinternet.com) or handed directly to Kathy. Please try not to leave it to the last minute to send things.*

• Dates for your Diary

<b>September</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
4 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – Sunday Club Anniversary, All Age Worship followed by a picnic on the Rec for all the church family Flowers: Mrs L Arrowsmith
	3pm	Baptism of Michael Guilfoyle
	6.30pm	Come & Sing resumes
5 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout resumes
6 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
7 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart resumes in the Church Hall – for everyone!
	2.30pm	Wednesday Fellowship resumes in the Church Lounge
9 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter with Holy Communion      Flowers: Mrs P Hall
	3pm	Baptism of Nevaeh Quartey
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
12 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
13 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
14 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!
16 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
18 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah      Flowers: Vacant (Peter preaching in Bury St Edmunds Circuit)
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
19 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
20 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
21 <sup>st</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!
23 <sup>rd</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Cham      Flowers: Mrs G Bowers
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
26 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
27 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
	7.30pm	HDYFC ‘Mocktails & Nibbles’ Party @ West End Church
28 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!
30 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
<b>October</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	5pm	Harvest Meal in the Church Hall (Bring & Share International)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter All Age Harvest Festival
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
3 <sup>rd</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
4 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)



As part of our Summer Appeal, we're sharing how your previous donations have helped spread a little sunshine to people who are dealing with a major change in life circumstances made all the more stressful by an acute lack of money.

One story is about John. He'd applied for health-related benefits but the Dept of Work and Pensions had rejected his claim. Thanks to your previous donations, we helped him to appeal that decision, with dramatic results!



John has worked hard all his adult life. However, in 2018 he was diagnosed with COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) which has left him struggling for breath. He was forced to give up work for good.

John managed to secure benefits to pay his rent and £409 a month of Universal Credit to live on. But when he applied for PIP (Personal Independence Payment – a disability benefit) he was turned down. Without it, he simply didn't have enough money to get by. He lost loads of weight – and a lot of his hair - because of the stress and because he couldn't afford food.

He came to us for a food parcel. When we discovered why he needed one, we helped him apply for PIP again. His application was turned down a second time, and a mandatory reconsideration was rejected too. Poor John's physical and mental health have really declined during this ordeal, and he was so tired that he was ready to give up. By this time he could only walk or talk, he didn't have the breath to do both.

But we persuaded him to challenge the decision and helped him do so in February. The case was finally heard in July.

A couple of weeks ago, John rang us to tell us the wonderful news that he had been awarded PIP of £679.25 a month PLUS backpay of £8197. He was absolutely jubilant! He said, "I won't have to sit indoors anymore. Now I can get one of them little electric scooters. It will keep me

independent, and I can get out to get me own little bits of shopping. And I can afford to eat, it will stop my hair falling out. It should help with the heating and that. (In winter), when it gets down to five degrees, I don't work. I just stand and shake.” (The cold weather makes his COPD worse, so having a properly heated home is vitally important).

But more than this, it's about John being believed and getting justice. He has had so many bad experiences of statutory services, so finally securing PIP has given him a sense of vindication, which will really help with his mental health and wellbeing.

Too often, people with disabilities have their PIP applications rejected. Yet when we help them appeal the decision, we are often successful.

Dozens of other local people are waiting for help to get the benefits they are entitled to. Please, if you are able and if you haven't already donated to our appeal, would you make a gift and help them in their hour of need?

**A gift of £27 a month could help someone else like John to get justice and secure enough to live on.**

You can make a regular gift or a single donation for the amount of your choice right now on our website: <https://bit.ly/3B8wDEw>

Or if you'd rather give direct to our bank, here are our details:

Account name: Reach Community Projects  
Bank: Natwest, Newmarket (A) Branch  
Account number: 90193717  
Sort code: 60-10-21

Please do help if you possibly can. Every gift really will make a difference, as it did to John.

**Thank you so much** – in these difficult times, we appreciate your generosity more than ever.



**Henry Wilson MBE**  
Chief Executive Officer, Reach Community Projects

You can read more stories from people REACH has helped in times of difficulty here: <https://bit.ly/3KGxGPa>