

# Affinity

*Wishing you all a joyful and blessed Christmas and a Happy,  
healthy and peaceful New Year in 2022*



December 21/January 22

**OADBY TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH**

# June / July 2021

## Oadby Trinity Methodist Church

Minister: Rev Derek McLean

Website: [www.oadbymethodist.co.uk](http://www.oadbymethodist.co.uk)

### Contact details

**Minister:** Rev Derek McLean 0116 2712404

minister@oadbymethodist.co.uk

**Room booking:** Eliza Wilford 07596 904059

bookings@oadbymethodist.co.uk

**Food Bank:** Lesley Green 07723 121794

info@oadbyfoodbank.org.uk

**Zeph's Café** 01162717575 <https://www.zephscafe.co.uk>

Guides/Brownies/Rainbows: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk>

Rainbows: Sue Newman 07597 119817

[Oadby2rainbows@hotmail.com](mailto:Oadby2rainbows@hotmail.com)

Brownies Guides: Nicky Calow 07727432120

[OadbyTrinityGuides@hotmail.com](mailto:OadbyTrinityGuides@hotmail.com)

### Office holders

**Minister :** Rev Derek McLean

**Senior Steward:** Barry Wilford

**Safeguarding Officer:** Michael Elliott. [078834 952263]

## **Associated Methodist Churches**

Affinity magazine is also distributed to Members and Friends at Great Glen Methodist Church;

<https://churchatthecross.info>,

and Houghton on the Hill Methodist Church.

<https://leicestertrinitycircuit.org.uk/circuit-churches/houghton.html>

Rev Derek McLean is Minister for all three churches which work closely together.

### **Editorial Team:**

Rev Derek McLean [Minister]

Heather Corlett [Editor]

Diane Price

Lesley Green.

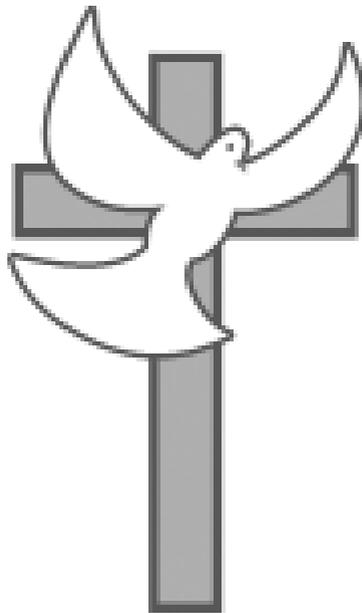
Jon Wilford [Webmaster]



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Article</b>	<b>Page</b>
December services at Oadby	6
January services at Oadby	7
Christmas services at Houghton & Glen	8
Sing Christmas	9
Editorial	10
Greetings from the Manse	11
Some holiday thoughts	12
One Starry Night	14
“Write for Rights” Campaign	14
Advent	15
Zeph’s Café	16
News from Houghton Chapel	19
Belgrave Mission Project	21
Welcome on Wednesday	22
Thursday Fellowship	22
Midweek services & Saturday Prayers	23
Easy fundraising	24
Oadby Church Council report	26

Creative, artistic person needed	28
Book review	29
Church Christmas post	31



## DECEMBER SERVICES AT OADBY

### Sunday 5th –Advent 2

8.30 Rev Israel Selvanayagam –Holy Communion

10.30 Rev Derek McLean

### Sunday 12th –Advent 3

10.30 Rev Derek McLean –Nativity Service

**\*6.30** Rev Peter Brooks –Holy Communion

Sunday 19th –Advent 4

10.30 Heather Corlett

**6.30** Rev Derek McLean –Carol service

### Christmas Day

**10.00** Rev Gordon Webb

### Sunday 26th –Christmas 1

10.30 Service at Great Glen led by Rev Derek McLean

**NO SERVICE AT TRINITY**

**\*Please note that the time of our evening services reverts back to 6.30 pm from 5th December 2021**

### Online circuit services

**5/12** Rev Israel Selvanayagam; **12/12** Rev Israel Selvanayagam;

**19/12 and 26/12 -No service**

## **JANUARY SERVICES AT OADBY**

### **Sunday 2nd –Christmas 2**

- 8.30 Rev Derek McLean - Holy Communion
- 10.30 Service led by our All age Worship Team

### **Sunday 9th - Covenant Sunday**

- 9.00 Young Families @ Trinity
- 10.30 Rev Derek McLean
- 6.30 Rev Derek McLean –Covenant service

### **Sunday 16th**

- 10.30 Jean Thornton

### **Sunday 23rd –Pulpit exchange**

- 10.30 Helen Swift

### **Sunday 30th –Holocaust Memorial Day**

- 10.30 Tom Wilson

### **Online circuit services**

2/1 Rev Liam Dacre-Davis; 9/1 Dr Miriam Stevenson; 16/1 Rev Derek McLean; 23/1 Dr Clive Marsh; 30/1 Rev Kate Cook

## **Christmas services at Houghton and Great Glen**

Friday 24th December [Christmas Eve] @ 6pm –Carols at Houghton Chapel

Christmas Eve @ 8pm –Candlelit Communion service at Great Glen Chapel.

Sunday 26th December @ 10.30 am –Morning Worship at Great Glen led by Rev Derek McLean



## Getting into the Christmas Spirit with BBC Radio Leicester



**SING  
CHRIS/MAS**

live on BBC Radio Leicester  
7pm Monday 20 December 2021  
Sing along with the broadcast at:

The Dove at Evington

The graphic features a black and white design. On the left, the words 'SING' and 'CHRIS/MAS' are stacked in a bold, sans-serif font, with a white starburst graphic behind the 'I' in 'CHRIS'. To the right, several stylized snowflake icons of varying sizes are scattered. Below the text, a light grey horizontal bar contains the text 'The Dove at Evington'.

Why not take a break from wrapping presents or making mince pies, and join in wherever you are, with singing carols, listening to the Christmas readings and enjoying this seasonal offering from our local BBC radio station.



Heather Corlett: Editor

## Editorial

Welcome to the December / January issue of Affinity. It has been another challenging year for us all as the Covid-19 pandemic is still causing so many problems. However as we enter the season of Advent, we have that wonderful and sustaining hope of God becoming incarnate among us as we await the birth of Christ at Christmas.

Now, for a plea from your Editor! When you are preparing articles for Affinity in MSWord, **PLEASE DO NOT** use indented paragraphs or bullet points. These do not transfer well from Word to Publisher, and the text alignment and line spacing is not easy to correct.

The deadline for the February / March issue of Affinity is **Sunday January 16th 2022**. All contributions to Heather Corlett [Editor], Email: [telroc@talktalk.net](mailto:telroc@talktalk.net) Articles need to be 250 words [1 page], 375 words [1 1/2 pages] and 500 words [2 pages]. **Please** try to keep articles as close as possible to these lengths.

**Heather Corlett [Editor]**



Rev Derek McLean

Greetings from the manse.

Dear Friends

Advent is almost upon us – indeed it will have started by the time you read this. The preparations are underway.

Most of the country's focus appears to be on whether Christmas will be cancelled. Latest news seems to be that there will be plenty of turkey, but less variety than in a normal year.

Our political leaders face difficult decisions: recognising the importance of this time to families whilst ensuring that people stay safe. They will no doubt be criticised whatever guidance they offer.

Most churches are busy worrying how normal we dare to be. Chatting with the other local clergy there is a real diversity of opinion even in local churches. Some are essentially back to normal and worrying about capacity when the Christmas surge happens. Others have much more restricted arrangements with strict booking systems remaining in place.

We pray that the statistics continue to get better, making all these decisions easier.

We will have the usual round of services at all three churches in this section.

Do try and support services other than in your "home" church. We have three carol services in the section. Each will be quite different, especially with the Advent theme at Houghton

We've two services on Christmas Eve – carols at Houghton, candlelit Communion at Glen, two on Christmas Day and a single service for all three churches at Glen on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Add into that the regular activities on Sundays and Wednesdays, various festive events (including Santa's breakfast) in Zeph's, and elsewhere, and it is a busy time.

... But I started this with a reference to Advent. My challenge to you – as it is to me – is to work out how to find time for the Prince of Peace as well as for the festive Joy.

God Bless You

**Derek**

---

### **Some holiday thoughts from Rev Derek**

Chris and I had a week on holiday in France in October. Frequently when on holiday, I face the question, "What do you do?" and I always wonder how to respond. Sometimes it triggers some good conversations.

A few unconnected thoughts from that trip:

One of our French guides was talking about the way in which each village has a church which is a visible and powerful symbol of its identity. Mostly they were far too large even when they were built – they were designed to impress the neighbours. They are now much less frequently used but continue as a place of identity/ civic pride. What purpose do our church buildings serve?

We paused at the War Memorial in one of the villages. In England, War Memorials were built following the First World War. We have no other conflict in recent history so it is not surprising that there are no older memorials. In contrast, French history has other recent wars. Why did the pattern of building memorials start then, rather than following a prior conflict?

An American we met still regarded herself as a Christian. She is committed to following the God of the Bible, but she doesn't associate with church because she felt that she didn't encounter that God in the politicised churches she encounters in her neighbourhood. Instead she saw them as insular places out of touch with human reality

We met some American Methodists. They lamented the way in which the UMC (US Methodists) are being torn apart over Same-Sex Marriage. They so wished that they could learn from our example. They would want to be part of a church which would permit Same-Sex Marriage, but more importantly one which could have space to have honest conversations and love shared amongst them – an ability to disagree well.

In each of these individuals, and in each church we visited from grand Cathedral to humble chapel we saw evidence of the Church doing its work ; feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick.

**Rev Derek**

## **One starry night**

Were you there in the fields on that dark wintry night?  
Did you shiver and shake when you saw that strange light?  
And hear angels singing their song of great joy  
Proclaiming to all the birth of a boy.  
Did you rush into town as the angel had said,  
And there find the baby in his manger bed?  
The precious Lord Jesus asleep in the hay  
God's gift to us all on that first Christmas Day.

**Margaret Cartwright**

---

### **Write for Rights Campaign (Amnesty International)**

Many of you have supported this campaign before, by sending cards to prisoners of conscience all over the world, or writing in support of them. This year, there are no paper booklets. If you are online and wish to join in again, please go to <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/write-for-rights> You will find descriptions of prisoners of conscience and how to help publicise their plight, or write to them directly.

Thank you for helping.

**Lesley Green**

## Advent

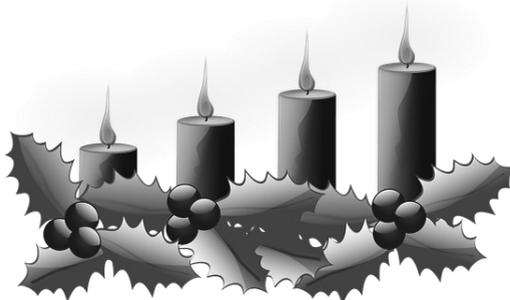
Some scoff at carols being sung on the radio before December 1, I certainly do! But Christians throughout history have embraced this season of spiritual preparation for Christmas with the short Bible passages read during the lighting of the Advent Wreath candles in services each Sunday leading up to Christmas. This sacred time invites us to slow down from all the frantic Christmas preparations, planning, baking, present wrapping and parties, to take a deep breath, and remember the reason for celebrating Christmas – the birth in a stable in Bethlehem of Jesus Christ.

The Advent Wreath first appeared in Germany in 1839. A Lutheran Minister working in a mission for children created a wreath out of the wheel of a cart. He placed twenty small red candles and four large white candles inside the ring. The red candles were lit on weekdays and the four white candles were lit on Sundays.

Eventually the Advent wreath was made out of evergreens, symbolising everlasting life in the midst of winter and death as the evergreen is continuously green. European families often have an advent wreath in the middle of the dining table, generally just evergreens and brightly coloured ribbons and four large fat candles these days. The candles are lit each successive weekend leading up to Christmas weekend when the family are all together for a meal.

The beautiful evergreen circle on the advent wreath reminds us of God's unending love and the eternal life He makes possible.

**Mary Moore**





## BUSINESS BOOMING AND BLOOMING

Dave Smith

Things are happening at Zeph's. Thanks to the efforts of our top class staff and the support of our wonderful customers we have managed to come out of lockdown and back into profit. In no small part has this been due to the initiatives put in place in recent months, resulting in a number of outside catering requests, together with a significant increase in special evenings – not just Fish Frydays but a series of regular themed evenings that have proved to be so popular that we are now selling out well in advance nearly every time.

Our customers seem to appreciate the fact that we have kept all Covid safety measures in place, including voluntary mask wearing and social distancing, to provide a safe and comfortable environment to eat and drink in and they have responded accordingly.

We have also introduced the regular use of the garden area under the new permanent pergola. I suppose people may be less inclined to sit outside during the winter months but rest assured that, come Spring-time, the ambience outside will be further enhanced by the introduction of new wooden planters in that area – it really will be “blooming lovely” out there next year.

There are also changes behind the scenes that are afoot. The meeting room behind the kitchen is being divided into a smaller sized meeting area (which will hopefully encourage an increase in hiring) and a new purpose built food preparation area that will support an increase in outside catering events.

In the meantime, plans are in place for a whole host of special events right through to the end of 2022 :

December 3 – Fish Fryday (and on the first Friday of every month in 2022)

December 10 and 17 – Christmas Fayre

December 18 and 20 – Breakfast with Santa, 9:00-10:00am

January 21 – Berni Night

February 18 – Curry Night

March 18 – Spanish Night

April 22 – Mexican Night

May 20 – Italian Night

June 17 – Turkish Night

July 15 – Greek Night

August 19 – French Night

September 16 – Italian Night

October 21 – Pie Night

November 18 – Chinese Night

December 16 – Christmas Fayre

In addition, we are hoping to run our quiz night in support of the annual Church Charity once more, preceded by a meal in Zeph's as an option. A date is yet to be finalised but, hopefully, will be not too far into the future.

As I said earlier, recent special nights have quickly sold out so please make a note in your diary and book early to avoid disappointment.

I should also report that one of the original pieces of Nigel King artwork, recently on display in the café, has now been sold. That, together with healthy gift card sales, continues to provide a useful source of extra income to Zeph's funds.

Finally, as you may have heard through the grapevine, I have to report that two of our directors, Jim Gannon and myself, have resigned from our positions on the board. We wish the business well in future and will continue to enjoy the facility as customers in future.

So, as the quote goes: "It's Goodnight from me ... and it's Goodnight from him."

Goodnight!

**Dave Smith**



---

Jim Gannon and Dave Smith have both resigned as Directors of Zeph's. We are therefore looking for new Directors to cover the posts of Company Secretary, Business Development Director and Outreach Link Director. If you are interested in any of this work then please contact Frazer Robson, Chair of the Zeph's Board of Directors ( email [frazer.robson@btinternet.com](mailto:frazer.robson@btinternet.com) or mobile 07809566442) or Penny Lee, Link Director (email [muppets737@live.co.uk](mailto:muppets737@live.co.uk) or mobile 07736647837) to find out more.

**Frazer Robson**

## **News from Houghton on the Hill**

We were rather pleased with the fact that whenever it has been legal and permitted to do so we have held services in the Chapel, albeit small scale and, particularly appreciated by those of us who were able to be out and about, have been the quiet reflective services on a Wednesday afternoon. The outside of the building, a landmark in Main Street dating from 1852, has been spruced up with the removal by our neighbour of unsightly ivy followed by scheduled painting of the wall. The garden too has been growing nicely with the addition of new planters which have bloomed in varying shades of pink and purple all summer.

Sunday services resumed and it was with great joy that members of our regular congregation who had been shielding were welcomed when they returned to join in. It has been quite an eventful autumn at Houghton, for the Harvest Festival service lovely autumn flowers decorated the Chapel. We were delighted to be able to send a generous harvest of dry goods to the Oadby Foodbank which we know continues to receive referrals and is still supporting quite a high number of families and individuals.

The Chapel has received the gift of a beautiful lectern from Harrison Road Methodist Church which sadly has its last service on 28<sup>th</sup> November. This meant a lot to several Houghton members who had been associated in various ways with that Church in former years, one a former choirmaster there, another who was a regular singer in the notable choral services and concerts which took place in the church over many years, and a third recalled being taken there by his Aunt who was a member and also playing at a concert there.. The lectern was made by a former member of Harrison Road church and has been commented upon as looking as if it has been in Houghton forever.

## Three new church members and the new lectern



The end of September saw a special service at which three new members were welcomed to Houghton Chapel. They were asked to choose the hymns for the service and, all three being musicians, there was a lot of singing, and one of our new members also played the organ for the service. It was a particular pleasure after this service to serve tea and cakes for the congregation and some guests in the School Room for the first time since 15 March 2020. Coffee and biscuits after Sunday services have now returned so it seems almost as if we have never been away.

We've recently been spring cleaning (OK - autumn cleaning) in the Chapel and, amongst other things, had a look at the carefully stowed away Christmas decorations. The Advent Wreath is going to be refurbished by one member and, like excited children, some the rest of us are planning which decorations will go where in the Chapel. We are now making a plans for the coming of Advent and Christmas with an Advent carol service on 5 December and the traditional service of Christmas carols and readings on 24 December.

**Mary Moore**

# Belgrave Mission Project

Leicester Trinity Methodist Circuit



## CHRISTMAS 2021

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December 11 am**

**Carols at Claremont Street**

A small brass band and singers will lead us in Carols.

We are hoping to

Give out mince pies (wrapped)/hot drinks

Children's craft activity

Any other ideas? Help needed to advertise event

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December 11 am**

**Carol Singing at Harrison Road**

The other Church that meets in Harrison Road will lead Carol Singing.

We are hoping to do the same as at Claremont Street

**What we need for these events to happen is people, is YOU!**

Planning and prayer meeting on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec. 10 am at  
Claremont Street.

If you can't make the meeting but are able to help at either or both  
events, please let me know.

**Deacon Sharon Dilley 0116 277 0317**

**sharondilley@hotmail.co.uk**

## **WELCOME ON WEDNESDAY**

**Open to everyone**

**Winter programme 2021/2022**

December 15th –Entertainment with Graham, Nicky and John

January 12th – New Year meal [in church hall]

---

## **THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP**

9th December: Christmas Praise - David Adams

***What to expect at our meetings:***

***A warm welcome***

***Worship and Prayer***

***An interesting talk***

***Fellowship***

Following David's "stepping down" from leading Thursday Fellowship, there are no dates for meetings in the new year, unless a willing volunteer can be found to lead the group. Could that be ***YOU?***

## Midweek services and Saturday Prayers

### Oadby

Midweek Worship on 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month at 11.30 am.

December 8th: Advent -Mary

December 22nd –Christmas

January services on 12th & 26th

### Houghton on the Hill

Midweek service each Wednesday @ 2.30 pm

#### December

1/12 Peter Brooks [HC]\*; 8/12 Philip Norwood; 15/12 and 22/12  
Derek McLean [HC]; 29/12 **NO SERVICE**

#### January 2022

5th & 12th Rev Derek [HC]; 19th John Aldridge; 26th Kate

Cook [HC]

\*HC = Service of Holy Communion

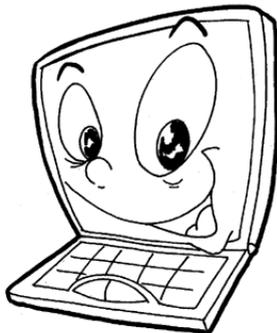
### Saturday Prayers

**Oadby:** 10.15-10.45 am [led]

**Great Glen** 10-11 am [private prayer]

Everybody welcome at both churches.

## WILL YOU BE BUYING GOODS AND SERVICES ONLINE THIS CHRISTMAS OR IN THE FUTURE?



© [www.ClipProject.info](http://www.ClipProject.info)

If the answer to the above question is 'no', then you can move on to the next article in this Newsletter. If the answer is 'yes', please read on.

If you buy goods and services online, are you registered with [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)? If 'yes', give yourself a huge pat on the back; if 'no' please read on.

**Easyfundraising** is a website through which you can buy goods and services from hundreds of retailers online and, at no additional cost to yourself, give a percentage of your total spend to a nominated charity. Trinity Methodist Church Oadby is one of the registered charities on this website. So, if you buy online from Amazon, Argos, Asda, Apple, asos, AA and hundreds of others through to Zavvi, Zizzi, Zooplus you could at the same time raise funds for TMCO.

## **How do you do it?**

First, go to the website, and select 'Support a Cause'

In the Search box type Trinity Methodist Church Oadby and Select. The screen will change to show TMCO; click on the pink box 'Support this Cause'

The screen will change to enable you to 'Create an Account'. You will be asked for a password for use in the future.

Once registered, happy shopping.

For all future online purchases, go first to the **easyfundraising** website, choose your retailer from the alphabetical list [obviously not every online retailer is listed, in which case you will have to order direct from them as before], open the link and start shopping.

**Gillian Austen**

## Oadby Church Council Report

The October meeting of Church Council was held in the Worship Area, commencing at 7.30pm and finishing on the stroke of 10.00pm! The meeting was faced with a weighty agenda and made some important decisions.

Following the decision of the Methodist Conference earlier this year to permit same-sex marriages in Methodist Churches the meeting approved a resolution to register the building for the solemnization of such marriages and also consented to services of blessing of such marriages to be conducted at Trinity. The Council agreed to apply to register Trinity with the *Inclusive Church* network.

Council unanimously agreed to appoint Heather Corlett as an additional church steward and welcomed the appointment of Marion Poppleton as a Communion Steward. A vote of thanks to the team of stewards for their leadership during recent difficult months was unanimously and enthusiastically endorsed by the meeting.

In presenting draft accounts for 2020/21 to the meeting, the Church Treasurer, David Frost, voiced his pleasure and surprise at the unexpected outcome. He expressed the thanks of the Church for generous donations which had contributed to a 'surplus' of £9,297. It was agreed to donate £1,000 from church funds to the current Church Charity, *After 18*, and to make a one-off 50% increase in the annual donations made to benevolent causes. (These include *Action for Children*, *Bible Society*, *Christian Aid* and *Overseas and Home Missions*.).

On matters relating to Worship, the success of the fortnightly Wednesday morning services was noted, and it was agreed to revert to **6.30pm** for Sunday evening services. Arrangements for Christmas services in the Oadby/Great Glen/Houghton section of the Circuit were noted. The annual Covenant Service at Trinity would be held on 9<sup>th</sup> January at **6.30pm**

On pastoral matters the meeting gave thanks for the lives of two members and one adherent who had died since the previous meeting: June Aldridge and Joan Upton, and Margaret Rawson respectively. David and Jane Calow had transferred their membership to Trinity from Wigston Magna.

Council considered proposals brought to it jointly by the Property Team and the Directors of *Zeph's*. It was agreed, in the light of their advice, to approve a scheme to divide the Meeting Room, thus creating additional working and storage area for *Zeph's*, and providing a small and more intimate meeting space alongside the existing kitchenette. The budget for this work totalled £17,075. It was agreed to divide the cost between Church and *Zeph's* accounts. Council re-affirmed the principle that ultimate responsibility for matters relating to the fabric of the cafe rests with the Church Council. The meeting expressed its thanks to the café Directors and to Michael Whitmore (Café Manager) for the way in which they had responded to recent challenges.

In other business the need for more volunteers to assist with Junior Church was noted. The Food Bank had experienced extra demand for its services and Council once again expressed its thanks to Lesley Green and the team of helpers.

***Howard Smith (Church Council Secretary)***

## **Creative, artistic person needed**

At Trinity we have been blessed with many donations large and small during the last 90 years. Some of those have been used as part of the funding for significant work, others for external charitable activities and still others used in running costs. We've also been blessed by those able to offer practical skills. As in the story of the "Widow's Mite" we acknowledge that it is sometimes smaller financial donations that have involved the greatest sacrifice.

There is a long tradition that we've not used plaques on the walls to record this kind of benevolent giving because it is so hard to determine the threshold of what should be recorded or how to do this consistently and well. There are plenty of foundation stones, and the like, but they predominantly precede the 1970s redevelopment.

At the October Church Council we faced a tough decision: we are really blessed to have the fabulous Sarah Kirby picture of the Church and to acknowledge our gratitude that it was given in memory of the wonderful contribution of Helen Smith. We discussed whether we should add a label to that effect. We decided instead that we would prefer to have an album available where we recorded our thankyou. We could then use such a resource much more flexibly in telling our story.

We need somebody with creative and artistic skills to pull this together. Could this be you? Please contact Rev Derek McLean if you are interested in fulfilling this role.

## **Book Review: Sex Robots and Vegan Meat by Jenny Kleeman**

The attention-grabbing title of this book is not perhaps what you might expect your minister to choose as his holiday reading. The shocking title will no doubt have increased sales, but the content is much more thoughtful than it might suggest.

Kleeman examines four subjects: the rapidly evolving technology of sex robots; the development of lab-grown 'meat'; rapid advances in technology around birth; and machines to assist with death.

Despite the title, this is deeply grounded in science journalism and Kleeman fiercely interrogates the people developing these technologies and products and challenges their purpose. The result is a serious study of ethics, of how technology should be used, and of what it means to be human.

In all four areas, technology is changing at an extraordinary pace. We cannot ignore the ethical issues which will arise.

The book is also underpinned by a clear understanding of how the science is driven by the economics: in all four fields, entrepreneurs can raise vast amounts of investment based on slick sales videos even where they effectively have no viable product to deliver. Kleeman is also pessimistic about the way in which the technology, when it is successful, will become dominated by global corporations.

In each area, she broadly concludes that technology is solving problems which shouldn't exist. Demand for sex robots comes from men who are unable to form relationships with women. (Yes, she does note that the market is almost exclusively heterosexual men.) This creates the substantial demand for a product, but reinforces the factors which cause the failure to establish proper relationships.

The lab grown meat presents a particular example. On the face of it, it fixes a problem because we eat too much meat which places an unsustainable strain on the environment. Sadly, the product isn't really vegan, tastes terrible because it is being developed by vegans who don't know what meat should taste like, and even when fully developed is likely to be more resource intensive than chicken.

Developing ways to ensure that pre-term babies can survive in an artificial environment sounds like a good solution to the problem that medical science is keeping babies alive at much younger gestation, but leading to significant disability. That might be exciting, were it not for the much wider uses of the technology which Kleeman identifies. Medicalising birth raises many issues: detaching the birth from the mother transforms conversations around surrogacy for those women who do not wish to bear their own children, and in those instances where society judges mothers unsuitable.

I don't share Kleeman's view that legalising assisted dying would be a major positive step, even though it would remove the demand for some of the death products, but I do share her concern about technology which allows people to choose suicide when they no longer feel they have value.

I was pleased to see that a book on science, ethics and economics does contain one piece of Scripture. Abraham and Sarah are used as an illustration of the earliest form of surrogacy with Hagar appointed to bear "Sarah's" child. Kleeman notes that the experience did not end well.

Well worth a read.

**Rev Derek**

## Church Christmas Post

Our Church Christmas post will be in operation from Sunday 28th November. Donations may be made to Action for Children as in previous years. Gift aid envelopes will be available for you to use.

Please use the Church post **ONLY** for friends who are likely to be attending church in person over the next four weeks. All cards must be collected from the tables in the church hall by the evening of Sunday 19th December. To help with sorting the cards, please put your cards in alphabetical order of names and secure them with a rubber band before posting them.

The timetable for our Christmas post is as follows:

28th November –**POST ONLY**

5th December - post and collect

12th December –post and collect

19th December **COLLECT ONLY**

Assistance with sorting the cards after the services on 5th, 12th and 19th December will be very much appreciated.

Our grateful thanks go to Philip Sutcliffe who has organised the Church Christmas post for several years.

**Heather Corlett**

## Deadlines for Affinity in 2022

February /March '22 –January 16th 2022

April / May 22 –March 13th

June /July - May 15th

August /September –July 17th

October /November– September 11th

December '22 /January '23 –November 13th

***Steele-Elliott***

***School of Dance***

RAD and BTDA registered teachers

**Ballet - Tap - Modern - Lyrical**





Classes from 4yrs to teens  
Pre-school classes from 2½ years  
(including Melody Movement)

Classes held Fridays at  
Trinity Methodist Church Hall,  
Oadby LE2 4LA

Classes also at Leicester and  
Broughton Astley

Contact us to book a place  
t: 0116 2833964  
e: [info@steeleelliottschoolofdance.co.uk](mailto:info@steeleelliottschoolofdance.co.uk)  
[www.steeleelliottschoolofdance.co.uk](http://www.steeleelliottschoolofdance.co.uk)

 <sup>®</sup>

Melody Bear, Milligan  
Bear and Melody  
Movement are the  
registered trade marks  
of Jill Ewing.

**Oadby Trinity Methodist Church**

**Harborough Road LE2 4LA**



**In our newly refurbished premises with  
Projection and Wi Fi facilities**

We have Large or Small rooms for Hire at Competitive Rates.  
For Regular Meetings, or Single Bookings

Please contact: Eliza Wilford.

**Email: [bookings@oadbymethodist.org.uk](mailto:bookings@oadbymethodist.org.uk)**

**Website: [www.oadbymethodist.co.uk](http://www.oadbymethodist.co.uk)**

To check the prices that we charge for hiring rooms in our church please either contact Eliza or come into the church where we have a leaflet stating the prices that we charge for various rooms including hourly rate. We do have a Safeguarding Policy to protect children and vulnerable adults that we expect you to adhere to and uphold.

If you wish to advertise your business in our magazine our rates are £42 for a quarter page advert, £72 for a half page and £144 for a whole page. We have 6 issues a year and our distribution covers houses in Oadby, Wigston, Knighton, Great Glen and Houghton on the Hill.

**Please contact Anne Dodge; Telephone 0116 271 6638**

Email [terando@live.com](mailto:terando@live.com)

For more information.

# **TM** Asset Management

## Independent Financial Advice

- **Savings & Investments**
- **Pensions**
- **Inheritance Tax Planning**
- **Protection**

### **CLEAR UNDERSTANDABLE ADVICE**

**Matt Raine      07885 593 175**

**Tim Rodgers    07885 593 174**

**matt@tmam.co.uk**

West Walk Building

110 Regent Rd,

Leicester. LE1 7LT

**0116 2542255**



**[www.tmam.co.uk](http://www.tmam.co.uk)**

Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority



**20%  
donation\***

**Looking for home insurance? We've got you covered**

**Protect your home and contents and help your favourite charity**

When you take out a Methodist Insurance Home Shield policy, we'll give you back **20%** of your first year's premium for the charity or church of your choice. Your Methodist home insurance policy not only protects your home but also supports the Methodist community.

*Recommended by church members.*

**For a quote:**

**Call; 0345 606 1331**

**email;**

**[enquiries@micmail.com](mailto:enquiries@micmail.com)**

**Visit the web site at**

**[www.methodistinsurance.co.uk/home](http://www.methodistinsurance.co.uk/home)**

*Minimum premiums apply.  
Subject to terms and con-*

# A.J.ADKINSON & SON

## Funeral Directors

Family Owned & Run. Established Over 100 years

**Private Chapels Of Rest, Floral Tributes,  
Monumental Work, Catering,  
Ample car parking  
24 Hour Service**



### Pre paid Funeral Plans

**PERFECT CHOICE**

**12 London Road, Oadby, Leicester LE2 5DG**

**Tel: (0116) 271 2340**

**E-mail: [funerals@ajadkinsonandson.com](mailto:funerals@ajadkinsonandson.com)**

**Website: [www.ajadkinsonandson.com](http://www.ajadkinsonandson.com)**



- 24 Choice** Living independently and choosing the right care for you
- 24 Comfort** Enjoying familiar surroundings
- 24 Close to loved ones** Remain at home with your partner, pets and close to family and friends
- 24 Simple contract** No hidden fees or extras
- 24 Recommended** 80% of doctors surveyed recommend being cared for in your home\*
- 24 Regulated** Promedica24 is proud to provide a fully regulated care service, giving you peace of mind that we provide a consistent care service that is inspected by the CQC

\*The National Institutes of Health

## Live life as you choose with live-in care & companionship

If you are struggling to look after yourself, your house or a loved one, Promedica 24 can give you full time assistance to continue living a safe and independent life at home.



**Call 07500 703 460**

visit [www.promedica24.co.uk](http://www.promedica24.co.uk)

email [L.Colver@promedica24.co.uk](mailto:L.Colver@promedica24.co.uk)

**PROMEDICA24**  
Live-in companionship & care