



## Winter Newsletter 2024



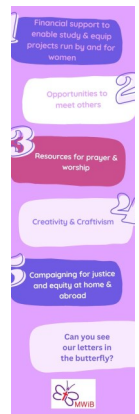
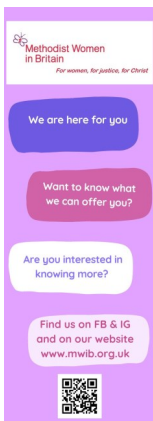
### Editor's letter

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2024—where did the year go?

I think it must be a sign of getting older that makes the months fly by but having said that we have had a busy 3 months in Methodist Women in Britain since our last newsletter was published and you will be able to read about some of these events inside the newsletter.

Our Trustees meeting in early October was the first time for our new look Executive team and Trustees to get together in person and it was a great to start getting to know some new faces and to think about how we continue to move forward in our new look structure. Our thinking is still in very early stages, and the Executive will be meeting early in 2025 to consider carefully all the ideas and suggestions that the Trustees came up with in order to have some definite proposals for the February Trustee meeting to discuss.

One area that all agree on is that we need to get the name of Methodist Women in Britain 'out there' - sadly even within the Methodist Church many people do not know who we are and what we do—but we are working hard to change that. One of the ways will be to develop some publicity packs that can be used to spread the word in your churches, circuits and districts. We produced these bookmarks which were given out at 3Generate. We have received favourable feedback, that they changed the perceptions that some people had of us; this is something to build on.



On behalf of the Executive team - Maggie, Leonora, Sheila, Ruth, Caroline, Barbara & Madeleine— may I wish you a very blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

*Bronwen*

Communications Officer



## Resources Caroline Fillery



Hello from your new resources officer !

It started with a question.....a question asked by Elaine Banks at Swanwick Conference in April.....does anyone have some spare room in their home, garage or shed, to be able to house the resources for MWiB ? At least, that's the question I thought she asked.



God prompted me to say “yes” to that question, and before too long it became apparent that maybe I hadn't heard the question fully in the first place....what had I actually said yes to ? Elaine explained the role of resources officer (it turns out there's a bit more to it than just storing the resources), and I pondered whether it was something I could do, and again God prompted me to say “yes”. And here I am, your new resources officer.

A huge thank you to Elaine for all her hard work in the role, and for her patience and guidance over the summer as we transferred the stock from her home in Devon to mine in Cheshire, and for answering my many questions about the role.

MWiB merchandise is a fantastic tool for us to promote our organisation and to start those conversations with others about MWiB and of course about our faith and our values. Here's a little reminder about the items we currently have in stock:

Notebooks and Pens; Scarves (silk, butterflies)

Wooden items – keyrings, bookmarks and wooden cross on a stand

Bags – jute shopping bag and nylon (scrunchable) bag

MWiB candles; Cork covered folding cosmetics mirror

Thursdays in Black – T shirts and badges

Notelets – a selection of designs – flowers, animals, butterflies

Also, new to our range: A beautiful prayer pack and A prayer labyrinth to sew

You can purchase items at your regional events; via the website where you'll find my email address ([resources.mwib@gmail.com](mailto:resources.mwib@gmail.com)); or at face to face events such as our annual conference. Why not consider having a stall or table at a local event in your church or circuit, and promoting MWiB via our resources. Why not purchase some notelets and write some words of encouragement to those people you keep meaning to be in touch with ? Or just treat yourself to a few items.

I hope to develop the range of merchandise that we have on offer, and will be looking into new items to have available. Do get in touch if you have any suggestions for items you'd like to see in our range. I look forward to meeting many of you at the stall at conference next year, or hearing from you via the resources email.

## CoChair commissioned for Methodist Women in Britain report by Bronwen Braidell

A large congregation gathered in Wesley Methodist Church, Harrogate on Saturday 28th September for the commissioning service for **Rev Leonora Wassell** as CoChair of Methodist Women in Britain. With the theme 'God sees, God hears, God cares' the service was led by members of Methodist Women in Britain executive and outgoing CoChair Ruth Parrott. Past President of Conference Rev Gill Newton preached powerfully on the theme drawing on the story of Hagar from the Old Testament. Leonora spoke of how alongside her fellow CoChair Maggie Woods, she wants to spread the word of all that Methodist Women in Britain can offer. All present were gifted with seeds to plant and new MWiB bookmarks to share the message, and after the service everyone shared in fellowship with Afternoon Tea provided by Resurrected Bites, a charity taking surplus food from supermarkets and using it to prevent it ending up in landfill.



Ruth & Leonora



Pictured L-R: Finance Officer Sheila Hall; Communications Officer Bronwen Braidell; Past CoChair Ruth Parrott; CoChair Maggie Woods; Rev Gill Newton; CoChair Leonora Wassell; Britain & Ireland WFMUCW President Barbara Easton.

**That's Christmas To Me**

A Christmas Celebration for Methodist Women in Europe

Come and meet with Methodist sisters from across Europe

- To share seasonal fellowship
- To learn about our traditions, shared and different
- To celebrate the Advent of the Christ child

11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 7pm UK time; 8pm European time

Join us on Zoom: email [mwibworldfed@gmail.com](mailto:mwibworldfed@gmail.com) to get the link

## **'That's Christmas for Me: a European Methodist Women celebration'.**

On 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm we are hosting a Zoom session for women across Europe. There'll be music and readings, and talks about Christmas in different European countries. Most important, there'll be the chance to meet, chat and pray with women from across the region. Let's re-ignite the spirit of Porto in the spirit of Christmas.

Register for Zoom details by emailing: [mwibworldfed@gmail.com](mailto:mwibworldfed@gmail.com)

### **World Federation News      Barbara Easton**

One of the great joys of being a Methodist Woman (in Britain) is being part of a fellowship that is worldwide. Every year we celebrate this with the World Fed Day – shorthand for the 'World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women'. It's a day that brings together women from all over the country to think about something with a World Church theme.

This year, we did something a little different. Instead of talking with one another about the challenges of global living, we invited a speaker from the Global South to take our day. Our leader was Dr Nancy Day, a British Kenyan woman, worship leader and musician.



The theme was 'embodied worship' under the title of the old song, 'You Put Your Whole Self In'. Nancy has recently completed a PhD in music contrasting the differences in the responses to music she sees in African and European people. She's well placed to know about this as she trained as a classical performer in Kenya, singing Mozart operas on the stage. The differences she sees in the general approach to music she also sees in the way we respond through music in our worship. European people, she argues, do music (and the rest of worship) largely in their heads. But African people live out Paul's words in Romans 12:1 that our whole bodies should be offered to God – 'this is your spiritual worship'.

So we spent the day singing and dancing and praying – giving ourselves permission to be more free in the ways we express our spirituality in church. Actually, for many women it wasn't the physicality that was new; rather, people shared their anxieties about the responses of the congregation around them when they act with greater freedom. The day liberated people to be more confident about their bodies in worship. It also gave us time to enjoy Paul's writing as we used the framework of one of Nancy's African worship songs to set his words to music. St Paul has always seemed a bit severe to me, so I am not sure what he'd have thought to see this roomful of women laughing happily as they wrestled with metre, rhythm and Romans! But, through this, we came to understand



But, through this, we came to understand Paul more deeply...



It also challenged some of our pre-conceptions. Nancy showed a video she had made in her father's village in rural Kenya. A little elderly woman was dancing her heart out, lost 'in wonder, love and praise'. 'How do we react to this?', we were asked. To be fair, I think most of us thought what one bravely said: 'It looks more like she's in a nightclub than in a church'. Nancy helped us to understand that, in this, African perceptions were very different from European perceptions. In a traditional church in England the woman would probably be looked on askance; through an African lens, she was a paragon of spirituality.

I was a great day, partly because Nancy is a great spiritual leader as well as musical genius. She fills her talk with spiritual and scriptural insight, as well as knew knowledge and a lot of fun. At lunchtime, we were delighted to be able to use the Stamford Second Helpings café. The fellowship and the food were great – the puddings came from M&S!

### **MWiB conference at the Hayes Swanwick April 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Plans are well in hand for our annual conference in 2025.

Our keynote speaker is Revd Dr Sonia Hicks and her theme is This Little Light of Mine.

*Jesus encourages us to "...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." [Matthew 5: 16]*

*How can we as women allow our lights to shine? How can a Black woman minister shine her light in the spaces where racism and discrimination lurk? Rev. Dr. Sonia Hicks draws on her own experience as a Black woman Presbyterian as she speaks about the difficulty of letting the light of Christ shine brightly but also challenges us not to allow that light to go out no matter what the cost. Come and be challenged and encouraged. Come and hear how God's light can shine brightly even in the most painful of times.*

Following a suggestion given in feedback some members of the task group looked at alternative accommodation at Swanwick that might be easier to access. As a result we will be based on this occasion in the Main Conference Hall and the Butterley Suite which are level with the dining area. We hope this will make access and registration much easier. Phillippa will be co-ordinating our varied workshop programme.

We would love to see you at the conference in person or on zoom to enjoy the fellowship and worship that makes the conference so special.

**Maggie Woods**

## Swanwick Conference 2025

**this little light of mine ...**

*Rev. Dr. Sonia Hicks draws on her own experience as a Black woman Presbyter as she speaks about the difficulty of letting the light of Christ shine brightly but also challenges us not to allow that light to go out no matter what the cost.*

*Come and be challenged and encouraged.*

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire

with keynote speaker

**Rev Dr Sonia Hicks**

(President of Methodist Conference 2021-2022)

plus worship, workshops, fellowship & friendship

**Cost for the weekend £200 (Bursary's & District help available)**

(Booking opens [mwib.org.uk](http://mwib.org.uk) 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025)



Scanning the QR code on your smartphone will take you straight to the MWiB website where you will find all sorts of interesting items including our Prayer for the Week posted every Saturday, CoChair Blogs and of course all the latest news and events. This is also where you will be able to book your Swanwick place. Our website is also the place to direct people too if they want to know more about the Grant money we have available and to download the application forms. It really is worth a visit!

### **Easter Offering 2025**

**Ruth Parrott**

The theme of the service for 2025, focuses on the right for every person to receive an education. It includes stories from Britain & the wider world showing how Methodists and partner churches have changed lives through their commitment to education. There are countries where families are required to pay for their children's education, so boy's education takes precedence over that of girls. Every day, girls face barriers to education. Ensuring that all children receive a quality education as their human right is one of the United Nations Sustainable Development goals (SDG4), aiming to eradicate poverty. Education transforms lives and communities, opening God's promise of fulness of life for all people. **Please promote the Easter Offering in your area. This service is our gift to the Connexion & all donations should be sent to the World Mission Fund.**

## Helen Kim Memorial Scholar Report Madeleine Reed

As winter now steadily approaches, I have entered into my third year as Helen Kim Memorial Scholar. As of August, I am now halfway through my term.



October is always the busiest month of my year now; this year I had three MWiB events in quick succession, and was left rather winded and exhilarated at the end of it. Firstly, there was the Trustee Meeting in Derbyshire. This was particularly interesting, since not only are we still adjusting to recent changes in the structure of MWiB, but we were also welcoming in Leanora Wassell, our new CoChair, replacing Ruth Parrott.

After spending the weekend with the Trustees up in Derbyshire, I had the Celebration Day for my home district, Southampton, the following weekend. This was held in Verwood, and it was wonderful to see Leanora Wassell there as well, as she had travelled down from Harrogate to share with us! The MWiB Southampton District has named Leprosy Mission as our charity of the year, and we were very blessed to have Gabby North come and speak to us about the work they are doing in India and Nepal, in keeping with the theme of the day, which was *Beauty for Brokenness*. I also had a short segment after lunch where I shared my testimony about how God led me to become a Christian in 2016, and a Helen Kim Memorial Scholar in 2022.

The very next weekend was the World Federation Day. This was held in Stamford, Cambridgeshire, so I booked a hotel and stayed there two nights so I wouldn't have to drive home in the darkening autumn evening. The theme of the day was *You Put Your Whole Self In*, and was led by the wonderful Dr Nancy Day, who guided us through a practice of embodied worship, inspired by her Kenyan background. I was excited for this day as it was unlike anything I've done before, and also spoke to the Methodist heart in me that just wants to have music playing at any given time! I was very moved to see all the women (and men) who had come getting stuck in, dancing to some wonderful Swahili worship songs and a jazz rendition of the *Hokey Pokey* – which led to some interesting conversations about the different names the song is known as in different areas. The fellowship was, as always, exemplary, and we were served, amid laughter, a delicious hot meal by Second Helpings, which is a pay-as-you-feel café dedicated to reducing food waste, open at the church every Saturday. It was a real pleasure worship at a church that had such an inspiring display of dedication to waste reduction and serving the community.

After those three consecutive weekends full of delight and adventure, I am now enjoying the brief respite before Christmas comes crashing in with all the hectic excitement of the season. I only have one World Federation Day left before my term ends in August 2026; I plan to make the absolute most out of the two years I have left, and of course to never forget a single moment of any of it.

In August, I got an email from Maggie saying that the BBC will be contacting me about an interview to do with Primitive Methodism. Not being a Methodist in upbringing I quickly Googled the subject. Fascinating! It turns out I would happily sit with that label. Known as “Ranters” or “Enthusiasts”, I would definitely consider myself as an enthusiast. You hadn’t noticed? I digress.

I first had a telephone conversation with a production assistant and then a zoom call with the producer. I was deemed suitably knowledgeable (thanks Google) and invited to go to Runswick Bay to meet Ben Robinson and be interviewed by him. How exciting. I said yes as I am keen to make MWiB more visible. I decided to make it into a bit of a retreat and booked myself into an AirBnB.

On the day I booked a taxi and set off on my TV debut. When I arrived I wend my way to the High Chapel, now a residence, and met all the team. I was made to feel totally at ease and had wonderful conversations with them all, including the couple who now own the Chapel. I was interviewed for 30 mins by Ben and spoke about the foundation of Methodism as a justice movement rather than a church. Women were included, leading Classes and even preaching, thanks to Mary Bosanquet. However when he died, as a now established church it was deemed unseemly for women to preach. I shared the fact that Primitive Methodism was born out of a desire to return to the roots of speaking in the open air to the working classes and including women as preachers and pastors. Once again, a justice seeking movement. I spoke about how the movement was involved in education, social justice, better wages, and employment rights. That all were welcome in God’s kingdom. Does that sound familiar to you?



High Chapel, Runswick Bay

In the end, the interview was condensed into 3 minutes but it did include the fact that Methodism is a justice seeking movement. The Church and to some extent, Methodist Women in Britain are concerned about falling numbers. That people are not coming to us and joining in our activities is a worrying matter for many. However I was reminded by this experience that we are a movement and not a fixture. So I look forward to moving around the Connexion, sharing our message and mission, to all who will listen.



## Meeting with the Mothers Union

Maggie Woods

Following an introduction from past MWiB President Hilary Evans I have been meeting with the Provincial President for the Mothers Union, Kathryn Anderson. Kathryn attended our conference at Swanwick earlier this year and I was invited to their conference at High Leigh in November. Kathryn had presented feedback from her time with us.

I was given a warm welcome and invited to share in all the activities including MU bingo... not my specialist subject! It was good to explore the similarities and differences between the two organisations. I learned about two current projects, one on domestic violence and one on the family. I was able to meet national and international delegates to discuss areas of common interest. Like us they are still rebuilding post covid and keen to increase the numbers of younger women involved.

I presented a snapshot of MWiB followed by a question and answer session which teased out issues for both organisations. They are a membership organisation and each member pays subs so were intrigued by our automatic inclusion. Both organisations have an emphasis on empowering women and found our approach to empowerment gifts and the role of Helen Kim scholarships interesting.

Sadly as my talk concluded news broke of the resignation of Archbishop Justin Welby which formed a challenging background for a session on safeguarding training.

Worship and bible studies were available at the beginning and end of each day. I was invited to lead morning prayers on Wednesday morning.

There was a clear desire on the part of the Mothers Union for a continued dialogue with MWiB where similar goals exist and that there is scope for meaningful dialogue in the future.



**We see her here, we see her there, we see her everywhere,**

**Flutterby and her side-kick, The Purple Pimpernel, Leonora Wassell**

It has been a privilege and a joy to go around the Connexion meeting our members on their District Days. I wanted to be more than a name or a face. I wanted to connect and get to know people and hear their hopes and dreams for our amazing organisation. The way each District puts on these events is as varied as our members. I have heard inspiring stories about the projects which they support. The amount of dedication and work involved in the fundraising and prayer support, shows the generosity of heart and spirit which is central to our mission. The faithfulness shown by all is a witness to the One we serve. The sacrifice of time, money and energy is something to be proud of. Each one of our groups, whether small or large carries the light of God's generous love. I have been able to share my dream of a world where all women and girls are able to be their authentic selves. When that happens, they and the community they belong to are transformed.

Flutterby's next adventure is to London for The Grand Opening of Tavistock House, the new home of The Methodist Church.



**Southampton District**



**West Yorkshire District**



**Lincoln District**



**East Anglia District**



**Darlington District**



**Bolton & Rochdale District**



**Newcastle District**

Each year Methodist Women in Britain donates money to give as Empowerment Gifts to projects overseas which will make a difference to the lives of girls and women. They are as varied as each of the recipients involved but all will empower, enable, equip and educate them. Since 2016 MWIB has awarded Empowerment Gifts to a wide range of women and children living in the following countries:-

*Argentina      Ghana      The Gambia      Zimbabwe      Kenya      Pakistan      Haiti*  
*Nigeria      Sierra Leone      India                      Colombia      Liberia      Sri Lanka      Uganda*  
*Zambia      Japan      Tanzania      Gaza                      Cameroon      Fiji      Togo*

The Gifts have ranged between £500 and £5,000 and have covered a multitude of activities to help women and children to be educated, to have better health, to earn a living by learning a trade and to be able to feed themselves and their families and their communities. There have been 43 projects across the countries mentioned previously that have made a difference to their lives.

What an achievement from the women in the British Methodist Church.

And this year, MWIB have awarded Gifts to projects in the following countries – Uganda (3 different Project partners), Bethlehem and Palestine and Kenya with Gifts ranging from £1,050 and £4,600. We will hear more from them next year.

3 of last year's projects were:

**Conece in Uganda.** We gave £5,000 in 2023 to help disadvantaged women with disabilities providing essential resources, skills training and opportunities for them to thrive in spite of the many challenges they face. They state that our support means more than words can convey and serves as a beacon of hope for these resilient individuals striving for independence and self sufficiency.

**Fiji Centre for Gender and Social Justice.** We gave £2,440 in 2023 to help 12 women to complete the Practical Pastoral Care course. They were able to fund another two women from their own resources. Most of the women attended from the Suva region but two travelled from the other side of the island. They thank MWIB for giving each of them the opportunity to receive the training which they will use in their churches and communities they are part of and it has opened doors to women from the wider community and provided a strong connection to the Methodist Church, the largest denomination in Fiji.

**Togo Methodist Church.** We gave £1,981.33 in 2023 to raise awareness of hygiene practices, access to sanitation of drinking water in the Bas-Mono District. This has included treatment of river water into drinking water, the preparation and use of oral re-hydration solutions, household waste management to limit the impact on the environment and climate, to encourage vaccination of children and provide first aid packs.

**What a difference we, the Methodist Women of Britain, have made to women and children who we will never meet.**



*I have just received another couple of messages from Delia who is the new president of the Bolivian women. I have translated the messages (see below)*

Good morning Sister Ruth, I greet you in the name of our Lord. We are almost finished with the kitchen in Tabita. Sister Ruth, I would like to always thank you for doing everything possible for the Bolivian women, beloved sister. We are also holding a Thanksgiving service in Tabita to do the finishing work on the first floor because we need to have the training rooms for the women. We are holding this service, this Thanksgiving service so that the brothers and sisters can help us with bricks and cement with whatever they can and so we will move forward, sister. With your help, we will achieve it. Sister, I am sending you this video to share with you as well, beloved sister, so that you can also share it with the other sisters who do everything possible with their offerings of love for us. May the Lord always be with you and pour out many blessings on all of you, beloved sisters from Great Britain. Thank you all. Receive greetings and hugs from Bolivia.

With a lot of love, selflessness and solidarity together we can do great things, let us remember that the Lord blesses the cheerful giver 🍷💖



Work on the kitchen at Tabita House which MWiB is supporting



Bolivian ladies & some of their handiwork





## Highlights of my first year as London District MWiB President

Lilla Hercules

Greetings to all my sisters,

This is my first contribution since I was commissioned as president of MWiB in London district in October 2023.

I have been privileged to receive tremendous support of many phenomenal sisters within the district, especially my sisters in Sector B. I am reminded and encouraged as I visit Circuit Churches that, together we are doing what it says on the Packet "To know Christ and to make him known" in all our sharing.

At first, the role of President was daunting but I believe I was not alone on my journey, God is leading and showing the way.

The 11th Joint European Area Seminar in Porto in June 2024 was advertised, I took the opportunity to attend. It was there as I shared with the beautiful sisters rooted and grounded in love, I received the word for me! "Take one step at a time" I receive this as a "charge" to work in a way so that I can bear fruits that will last into next generation of MWiB.

The Highlight of my first year is helping to organise a Quiet Day on 27th April 2024 on the Theme, Celebrating our Sheroes influenced by Proverbs 31:10.

The day was very special, we remembered, recognised and appreciated those members who had paved the way for the MWiB Organisation to grow and flourish.

Celebrations-- It is such a joy to be invited to MWiB Anniversary Thanksgiving Services in different Churches. My journey so far has become smoother, perhaps from my belief that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Phillipians 4:13)

I would like to say a big thank you to all the executive team members.

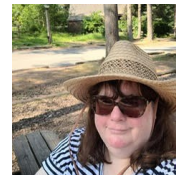
### **A request for help from Methodist Women in Britain**

I am contacting you from the charity Hamlin Fistula UK. We work to end preventable childbirth injuries in Ethiopia by providing women with access to free, life-changing treatment and quality maternal healthcare. Every woman with childbirth injuries we care for and treat at our hospitals receives a handmade blanket upon arrival. These beautiful items symbolise the love and care the women receive during their treatment. These blankets are made by kind hearted volunteers across the UK. Over the coming year we need to send over 3,000 blankets to Ethiopia. We are looking for support in meeting this goal so I am contacting you to find out if this is something Methodist Women in Britain may be able to help with? More information about the initiative can be found here: <https://hamlinfistulauk.org/knitted-with-love/>

Helen Marriott CEO, Hamlin Fistula UK working Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 0121 559 3999

## Social Media

## Ruth Dawson MWiB Media Officer



Most of us are more than aware of the power of social media, albeit that many of us struggle to keep up with the ever-evolving trends, new platforms and new languages that appear alongside each one. MWiB Trustees undertook several discussions over the course of 2024 regarding the use of our social media. We had a closed Facebook page, a twitter account that we couldn't access, and YouTube attached to an previous exec members personal account.

Although all women in the Methodist church are technically members of MWiB, many are unaware of the many different projects currently supporting other women in our own countries as well as more globally. Many are unaware of how they can access financial support from our grants process. Since Elon Musk bought out Twitter there are issues; many people are voting with their feet, leaving twitter for the more modern Threads.

If we are to maintain our presence on an ever-moving playing field, we need, as an organisation, to keep up. If we wish to attract women of all ages, and allies the same, there is a need to ensure we are comfortable in the technological age. The Executive and those who may require it now have free access to the online design tool Canva, which will enable us to create professional-looking media across the social media platforms, as well as posters, slideshows, event flyers, infographics to name a few.

On the 25th November 24, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, MWiB launched both an open Facebook page and a Instagram page along side our first major social media campaign #16DaysOf Activism.

The closed Facebook page, though useful for many, only allows those who are members access. This makes it impossible to share projects & ideas across other socials, into church pages or other Facebook pages which maybe useful allies. It also mean individual members cannot share their work across multiple sites as they may wish.

The Open Facebook page will enable others to see the wonderful projects many MWiB Groups are undertaking, it will be easy to share across multiple sites and into Church / Circuit / District and dare I say it even Connexionally! Those who are allied with the work we undertake will be able to view the work we do, and offer advice and support where needed. As an open page, we cannot prevent anyone from observing the work we are undertaking. There is the risk of those who don't agree with us making their point. We are not against this challenge; in fact it is often in challenge that many projects develop and move forward. We are aware that we may be open to challenge that is inappropriate to the site. As Admin to the page we will endeavour to ensure that any inappropriate remarks or behaviour are removed and blocked as soon as possible.

To coincide with the launch of the new Facebook page, we also launched a new Instagram (IG) page. These two pages are linked to each other, making sharing of news easier. For those who prefer this method of social media can find all the information they need to support the projects they are undertaking.



On the day that both of these two new social media were launched, MWiB launched their support of the #16DaysOfActivism.

The 16 Days of Activism start each year on the 25th November – International Day of the Elimination of Violence Against Women, including all gender based violence. MWiB will support the national and international campaigns, giving daily information on each of the socials, with an invite to light a candle at 19:00 each evening and share the prayer which will be attached to each of the daily posts.

Each day will also ask you to take part in an activity, maybe to watch a film, or a clip, to learn something new about women around the world or to simply reflect. I am looking forward to the discussions these posts create and viewing all your pictures and ideas. The next task will be to sort out YouTube...ever onwards and upwards!

You can find our new Facebook page -

[https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61569162727684)

[id=61569162727684](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61569162727684)



## Brian E Beck Memorial Lecture

Join Wesley House for the rescheduled **Brian E Beck Memorial Lecture** on **Saturday 14 December**. There is the option to attend in-person or online. This year's lecture will be provided by **The Revd Dr Julian M. Pursehouse** and the

lecture title is *The Complete Art of Happiness – Engaging with Wesley through a Theology of Happiness*. For further information and to register visit - <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wesley-house/brian-e-beck-memorial-lecture/e-vkjldd>

### Don't Forget

Booking opens on our website on January 2nd 2025 for our Swanwick Conference with Rev Dr Sonia Hicks, 4th-6th April 2025.

Mary Bosanquet Lecture at Methodist Conference 2025 in Telford will be given by Kathy Galloway from the Iona Community—more news in our next newsletter.

**Contact us at the addresses overleaf with your thoughts and ideas for MWiB**

## MWiB Area Trustees

East Anglia and Lincolnshire - Rita Rowe

Scotland and Shetland - Barbara Harrison

Cornwall, Plymouth & Exeter - Elaine Banks

Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury, Birmingham and Mid Wales - Diana Bosman

London, Beds Essex & Herts, South East—Annah Mwadiwa

Yorkshire North & East, Yorkshire West and Sheffield -Janice Clark

Darlington, Newcastle and Cumbria - Debs Coggrave

Notts & Derby and Northampton - Mary Gill

Bolton & Rochdale and Lancashire - Philippa Hill

Liverpool, Chester & Stoke, North Wales, Manchester & Stockport - Margaret Lindley

Bristol & South Wales - Gillian Pengelly

Southampton & Channel Islands - Liz Chick

**Next Trustee meetings: 13th –14th February at Launde Abbey; 10th—12th October at St Katherines, London**

Please use [communications.mwib@gmail.com](mailto:communications.mwib@gmail.com)

initially to make contact with your area trustee and let them know what's happening in your local MWiB group.

### Contact us: PLEASE USE THESE EMAIL ADDRESSES

MWiB Co-chair's: Maggie Woods and Leonora Wassell— [cochairs.mwib@gmail.com](mailto:cochairs.mwib@gmail.com)

*If your contact is person specific please put Maggie or Leonora in the subject line*

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