

Churches Together in Wetherby and District Annual Report 2025-26



This past year saw a wide range of activities and events organised by our churches working together as partners in Christ and representation on various groups. These included:

- World Day of Prayer service held at Wetherby Methodist Church on 7th March
- Knitted Bible display from 24th March to 7th April shared across church buildings in the town
- Participation in the Mayor's Civic Service on 6th April at Wetherby Methodist Church
- Good Friday Walk of Witness on 18th April, followed by a soup lunch at Wetherby Methodist Church - £117.60 raised for All We Can charity
- Christian Aid Week observed in individual churches 11th-17th May with coffee mornings at St James' and Wetherby Methodist churches, and a market stall on 22nd May – over £3,000 was raised for Christian Aid.
- Promotion/participation in Prisons Week (HMYOI service held on 16th October) – £50 donation was made
- Remembrance Day parade at Bridgefoot and Remembrance Day service at St James's church on 9th November
- Christmas Appeal organised by The Salvation Army in partnership with the Food Bank
- Christmas banners displayed throughout the town to direct people to the Churches Together website where there was information about the Christmas services taking place in individual churches
- Nativity figures were displayed in the Salvation Army Community Hub and the Library
- Prayer cards given to local businesses during the Advent period
- Representatives from the local churches attended the HMYOI carol service on 16th December
- Chair hosted the Wetherby Business Association Town Carols on 17th December
- Churches Together carol service in the Horsefair Centre on 24th December
- Financial contributions towards YOI Christmas gift bag in partnership with In2Out
- Promotion of church events including visit of Masai Dancers to Wetherby Methodist Church on 16th March
- Representatives on Better Wetherby Partnership, Boston Spa, Wetherby and Villages Green Group, Wetherby and District Food Bank steering group and the Local Care Partnership continued to provide updates
- Providing a weekly 'Thursday Thought' on Tempo FM in the studio
- Ecumenical prayers provided by email
- Monthly prayer meeting held on 1st Wednesday of every month at 9am at The Salvation Army Community Hub

I am grateful to Joyce Harrison (Secretary) and Anthony Ryan (Treasurer) for keeping our administration and finances in good order. A special thanks to Chris Bishop for organising many of the activities detailed above, including logistics for Good Friday Walk of Witness, Easter/Christmas banners, Horsefair Carols, and rotas for Tempo FM.

The Executive Committee includes representatives from churches in Wetherby, Collingham, Spofforth, Kirk Deighton, Little Ribston and Follifoot to provide co-ordination, support, publicity, and resources. The Executive met in March, June, September, November, and January. Joyce kept us in touch at other times by email. I offer my sincere thanks to all members of the Executive and to everyone who helped to ensure communication continued throughout the year. This group has been a source of encouragement and enabled us to share what was happening in the individual churches in response and service to our local community.

Captain Yvonne West
Chair
22nd January 2026