

VALE OF AYLESBURY

METHODIST CIRCUIT

MAGAZINE



Haddenham Church —see page 12 for cover story.

July, August, September 2017

CIRCUIT MINISTERS (until August)

Rev. Helen Kirk (Superintendent) Tel:01296 488963

Email: revhelenkirk@sky.com

With Pastoral Care of the Aylesbury Methodist Church and Community Centre

Rev. Irena Byron Tel:01525 240105

Email: irena.byron@methodist.org.uk

With pastoral care of: Cheddington, North Marston (LEP), Stewkley, Stoke Hammond, Swanbourne and Waddesdon

Rev. Keith Edwards 01296 423363

Email: ulysee798@gmail.com

With pastoral care of: Princes Risborough, Stoke Mandeville, Stone, Weedon (LEP), Whitchurch and Wingrave

Rev Anthony Howells, (Authorised minister),

Tel: 01296 424980

Email: ah@hobbit.ndo.co.uk

With pastoral care of the Ecumenical Church at Fairford Leys

Rev Dr. Romilly Micklem , (Authorised minister),

Tel 01844 202425 minister@rwm32.plus.com With Pastoral care of Thame (Christchurch) Chinnor, Cuddington and Haddenham

CIRCUIT MINISTERS (after Sept. 1st)

Rev. Helen Kirk (Superintendent) Tel:01296 488963

Email: revhelenkirk@sky.com

With Pastoral Care of the Aylesbury Methodist Church and
Community Centre and Wingrave

Rev. Donna-marie Broadbent-Kelly Tel:01525

Email: rev.donnabk@gmail.com

With pastoral care of: Cheddington, Stewkley,
Stoke Hammond, and Swanbourne

Rev. Keith Edwards 01296 423363

Email: ulysee798@gmail.com

With pastoral care of: North Marston (LEP),
Princes Risborough, Stoke Mandeville, Stone, Weedon (LEP),
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Haddenham

**For a full list of ministers and contact details please
see the Circuit Directory.**



PASTORAL LETTER

Rev Helen Kirk

I had been in post as minister of the church for a matter of weeks when, not being planned to preach one Sunday evening, I quietly slipped into the congregation of one of my churches for worship.

It was an anniversary service with an augmented choir and contributions from various members of the congregation. It seemed an ideal opportunity to learn about this community. As I waited for the service to begin I was aware that in the row in front two ladies were having a conversation:

‘It’ll be a shame when the choir stops won’t it?’

‘Why? Is there a problem?’

The new minister.....she doesn’t like choirs evidently’

Where had such a story come from? How had it developed so quickly that it was now being passed on as fact? I was lucky enough to be given the opportunity to say a few words at the end of the service and so I thanked the choir and looked forward to their next contribution and hopefully changed the narrative slightly but it made me think about the stories that we tell and how they shape our future.

So what stories have I heard from churches over the years:

‘My family has sat in this pew since 1832’ (which was strange as the church was only built in 1896!)

‘This building has always been open for worship on a Sunday’ (always??! Most Methodist churches probably began their life in people’s homes with a kitchen table as a pulpit!)

‘We will offend people if we express our faith’. Wearing a dog collar is usually a dead give-away as to my beliefs and so over the years

I have had conversations with people of all faiths and none and I have to say no one has ever being offended!

'Young people don't want to know' - tell that to Justin Bieber who talked openly about God in front of thousands of screaming youths at 'One love Manchester' concert after the dreadful terrorist attack in that city.

'We're an aging congregation'true but then we are all aging; it would be strange if we weren't!

All of these and many other stories provide a narrative that suggests we have no future because we are tied to an unchanging past. It means that we cannot respond to the needs in our communities and the movement of God's Spirit because our stories remind us of an unchanging past that precludes a different future.

So what stories do we tell? What are the narratives that we repeat that shape our future?

Maybe instead of the stories of past glories we should decide to tell the important stories of today: stories of welcome, love, grace, justice, peace, hospitality and let these stories shape our future....whatever that may be. Maybe our stories should reflect the fact that we don't quite know what God has got in store for us but we are open to the possibilities!

We are all aging but not we're not dead yet!

A Prayer

God of our future and our past, fill us with your Spirit today that we may be inspired and emboldened to follow wherever you lead.

Stir our imaginations that we may recount stories of hope and so become hope filled communities through such telling.

Encourage our creativity that we might see beyond the obstacles to our vision and have the courage to take risks for your kingdom.

Remind us that we are the story of your good news today.

CIRCUIT PRAYER DIARY

ON THE FOLLOWING DAY EACH MONTH PLEASE PRAY FOR:-

- 1 Aylesbury Church and the community it serves
- 2 Cheddington Church and the community it serves
- 3 Chinnor Church and the community it serves
- 4 Cuddington Church and the community it serves
- 5 Fairford Leys Church and the community it serves
- 6 Haddenham Church and the community it serves
- 7 North Marston Church and the community it serves
- 8 Princes Risborough Church and the community it serves
- 9 Stewkley Church and the community it serves
- 10 Stoke Hammond Church and the community it serves
- 11 Stoke Mandeville Church and the community it serves
- 12 Stone Church and the community it serves
- 13 Swanbourne Church and the community it serves
- 14 Christchurch, Thame and the community it serves
- 15 Waddesdon Church and the community it serves
- 16 Weedon & Hardwick Churches and the communities they serve
- 17 Whitchurch Church and the community it serves
- 18 Wingrave Church and the community it serves
- 19 Our Circuit Leadership Team
- 20 Our Ministerial Team and their families
- 21 Those involved in Hospital, Prison Ministry and Town Centre Chaplaincy
- 22 Our Local Preachers and Worship Leaders
- 23 Youth work around the Circuit
- 24 Relations with local Christians
- 25 Those who have been bereaved
- 26 People who are ill
- 27 People caught up in natural disasters
- 28 People living in conflict situations
- 29 The life of our nation and those who lead
- 30 Action to protect the global environment

Dates For this Quarter:

Sunday 16th July at 6.00pm led by Rev Helen Kirk

Circuit Service at Aylesbury. To Include Circuit Farewells to Rev Irena Byron and Rev Steve Watts and Songs of Praise.

Sunday 30th July at 6.30pm.

At North Marston Parish Church

Farewell Service for Rev Jim Gorringe, the Service will be lead by the Schorne Team.

Tuesday 29th August at Stewkley 7.00 pm

Welcome Meeting for Rev Donna Broadbent-Kelly and Family.

The new chair of the District, the **Rev Helen Cameron** will address the meeting and everyone is welcome.

Thursday 21st September at 7.45pm

Circuit Meeting at Waddesdon

Ministers' Rest Days:

Rev Helen Kirk Friday

Rev Irena Byron Monday

Rev Donna Broadbent-Kelly Friday

Rev Keith Edwards Wednesday

Rev Anthony Howells Friday

Rev Romilly Micklem Monday

Please respect their days off and avoid contacting them except in an emergency.



New faces in the Circuit

Hello, it is with much excitement that from September I will be serving as the minister at Stewkley Methodist Church, as well as Cheddington, Stoke Hammond and Swanbourne.

To introduce myself and my family a little...

I currently live in Church Gresley in South Derbyshire with my husband Dave, three children, Joseph (14), Hannah (9) William (5), our Cocker Spaniel, Gwyneth and cat, Marmite. We moved to Gresley 4 years ago and before that lived in Birmingham which is where I was born and grew up.

I have been training for ministry at The Queens Foundation in Birmingham as a part time student for the last 3 years while continuing to work as a lay worker for the Methodist Church; a job I have loved doing for 12 years. It will be no surprise to say that my faith is very important to me. I grew up in an Anglican church which joined with the Methodists when I was a teenager; both influences have shaped the ministry that I hope to offer. God calls us to be in relationship not only with him but with each other, and so I am very much looking forward to building relationships in the community, and being alongside you.

As a family we cannot wait to get involved in village life, Hannah and William have their names down to join the local Brownies and Beavers, and Joseph is keen to see what the youth of the village get up to! As a keen dog walker Dave and Gwyneth are looking forward to exploring the local fields and muddy puddles, and while they are all off doing that, I'll be found baking cakes – when I'm not ministering of course! The kettle is always on so please knock the door, pop in and say hello

With blessings,

Rev. Donna Broadbent-Kelly

Does what you buy matter?



There is a lot of discussion about mental health issues in the media. How might Fairtrade link with this?

We all appreciate clothing made of cotton, but how much are we aware of issues linked with its production. Also, while all may like a bargain, where the price is not fair to all those in the production chain, it may beg the question who is paying and in what way for that price.

Many companies are moving away from sourcing cotton from Uzbekistan, where there are concerns about employment rights of workers and the means used to achieve and maintain high production and quality. In India, the way markets have worked out for cotton growers over the past twenty years has led to spiralling debts and links to a reported 290,000 suicides of those involved in its production. The choices we make as consumers, and the expectation of what we want and the conditions of production we will accept, impact on how companies source materials for their products and producers.

While Britain has a stereotype of seeing tea as a remedy for troubles, and tea prices are at a historical high, the prices paid to producers is barely different to those paid 30 years ago. Tea pickers are calculated as getting 1p from each 1.60 box of tea. Unreliable, unrewarding and insufficient income adds stresses, impacts on how well individuals cope and level of contentment.

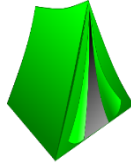
If you want to get info about how ethical a product might be, you may wish to visit www.ethicalconsumer.org which scores various food items against 5 factors. You may be surprised by what you discover and find it helpful to think about what you buy.

To help make a difference why not include or increase the use of Fairtrade ingredients in your cooking? Recipes using Fairtrade ingredients are readily available through searches on the Internet, including drinks, salads, vegetarian and meat dishes as well as sweet dishes and puddings. Eg Indonesian Rice Salad, Carroty Orange Salad, Jamaican Baked Bananas or Welsh Cakes.

Contributed by Rod Thorpe.

The Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit

CAMPING AGAIN!



After the success of last year we are planning another adventure

WHEN? – 7-9th July
(can be extended if you wish)

WHERE? Anita's Touring Park
Just north of Banbury

COST? £22 per unit per night for 2
People including electricity £2
extra for any additional people
or dogs.

We have been allocated a field with just 12 hook-ups and space for tents not needing electricity. We need to pay a £20 deposit per unit by the end of March so please let us know as soon as possible if you plan to join us. All are welcome.

To book or for further information
Contact Chris Sara **01296 484310**
Email chrisara096@gmail.com.

Church and community

DO YOU ENJOY CRAFTS? DO YOU ENJOY COOKING?

Members from Chinnor's Churches meet throughout the year in what we call 'The Ecumenical Focus group'.

The focus is to take the churches into the community, which includes supporting a class in the Chinnor Flowers and Produce show, which was established over 100 years ago as a church based even. In recent years classes supported include both a class within the photography and Flower categories.



This year we will again be supporting a class, either in crafts or cooking. Final details for the event to be held on August Bank Holiday Monday, 28th August, will be made known soon.



Entries into any class is open to all so if you would like to show off your craft, artistic skills, garden or domestic produce please contact Rod Thorpe for details about classes and the regulations that need to be met. Schedules listing all the classes will be available from July through Rod Thorpe or Show committee members.

We'd love you to help support this event and our endeavour to show how church and community can integrate.

*Contributed by Rod Thorpe, Chinnor Methodist Church.
(01844 351565)*

HADDENHAM - Cover Story

Haddenham Methodist Church continues to be a meeting place for many functions.



Maisie's coffee morning (see cover) is a welcome gathering and we often have delicious homemade produce, cakes and jams.

Our church is used for a wide variety of classes, fitness, choirs and talks on a regular basis.



As usual we opened our doors during the Bucks Open Studios from 10th - 25th June from 12 noon until 5pm at weekends and some week days, hosting painters, ceramicists and other artists. We hope some of you came and enjoyed a day out in Haddenham, if not, there is always next year when there will be many Bucks Open Studio venues open (including my own) - all free of charge with a cuppa thrown in.

In August the church will be hosting an art exhibition by our local residential home situated in Woodways. It all happens here.

Jenny Bullimore

**ART EXHIBITION & SALE
of
WATERCOLOURS by R. K. SCOPES**



at The Methodist Church, 62 Station Road,
Chinnor, OX39 4PZ

Friday and Saturday September 8th & 9th:
10 am – 4 pm

ENTRY FREE

Pictures framed and unframed, cards

and refreshments (including lunches) for sale,
ALL IN AID OF



A farewell message.....From Rev Irena Byron



Am I helping you out, helping me out, or is this where I should be? That is the question I ask myself before each change in my circumstances, and certainly before each new appointment as a Minister. Actually, for the move to the Vale of Aylesbury, all three were true; there was a need for someone to be added to the staff team, and geographically it was great for me to be nearby to care for my Dad in his last years. More importantly, it is the place to which God called me. I never cease to be amazed at how God has moved me over the years in secular and ministerial work to fulfil his purpose, and I thank you all that you have been a part of His plan in accepting me and enabling me through these last five years.

As I write, I am also preparing worship in two places for Aldersgate Sunday; what a great heritage we have as Methodists in John & Charles Wesley who responded so wonderfully to their call to serve God. They never forgot that God was in charge, leading them and guiding them. However, for me, as I have read about who they were, with all their flaws, God still used them in a remarkable way, and that is such a great encouragement and re-assurance.

There are many historical figures, including the twelve disciples, who have been used by God despite their seeming unsuitability to the task to which they were called. I will never be famous and what I do is just a small part of God's plan, yet He sees in me what I do not always see in myself and I know that he has used me. If you, under my ministry, have grasped a small part of that, I believe I have done my job. At the Ministerial session of Conference when I was ordained, all those gathered stood, and in one voice declared, 'You are worthy'; I hold on to that, and also to my mantra that, 'God has called me, he will equip me'.

Each church in this circuit has many gifts to offer, a gift of hospitality to each other and the community, a gift of faith to share both inside and outside of the church building, a gift of fellowship to encourage and enable each other to build the Kingdom of God, a gift of love and welcome to all those who come to share in worship, to say farewell to loved ones at a funeral, to give thanks for a new life at baptism, to celebrate the union of love in marriage, or all those social occasions we Methodists seem to do so well. Share those gifts freely, offer God's love in welcome and proclamation.

Never be afraid of the task given to you by God, 'He has called you and He will equip you!'

And please don't forget to pray for me, for those times when I forget that I go in the strength of the Lord. This isn't about me, it is about God and, for some reason, he is placing me in a new land to do His work. Where am I going? I am appointed (subject to Conference) as Methodist Superintendent and Co-leader of Central Sussex United Area of Methodist and United Reformed Churches. I will oversee the 4 Ministers, and lay administrator, of 11 Methodist Churches and some of the 8 LEPs, and share responsibility with the URC co-leader for all of the 27 churches in the area (total membership of c.1400). I will also have direct pastoral charge, with a Deacon, of 3 Methodist churches.

I will miss the canal and Chiltern Hill walks that Bonnie and I have so enjoyed, but I replace that with the joy of the Ashdown Forest, the South Downs and the Wealds, together with the sea not too far away. God is Good!

I pray every blessing on you in whatever God calls you to do,
much love in Christ,

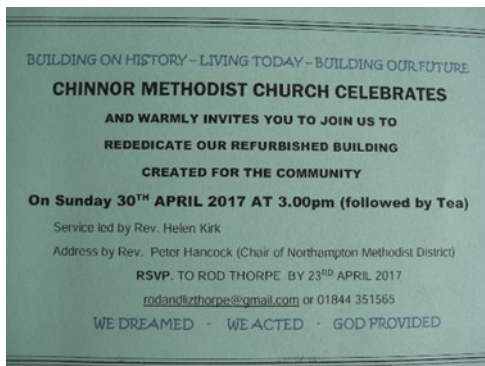
Irena

CHINNOR METHODIST CHURCH RE-OPENS



It was a long while in preparation (first mootings started in 2006) but the dream of revamping the tired looking premises became a reality, initially with our resumption of services in January and then the Rededication Service on 30th April.

Invitations were prepared,



A celebratory tea arranged, and flowers displayed.





The Service led by **Rev Helen Kirk**, with an address from Chairman of the District, **Rev Peter Hancock**.



Music was provided by our resident band.

With the premises having undergone a rebirth in looks and facilities, the address reminded us of the passage of life. Chinnor's building is no exception.

Alongside the renewal comes new hopes, new life, new challenges and new opportunities.

As a fellowship, our focus will be on taking forward visions but not just for ourselves; we want to involve the whole community.

As stated on our invites 'We Dreamed- We Acted- God Provided'. That said, while we have refurbished to 'Build on our history', the task remains to 'Build our future', and to this end we seek your prayers to make this next dream a reality.

If you were not able to attend the Rededication and have yet to visit the premises, please look at our Website pages or the report in the previous Magazine.

There have been many congratulatory comments about what has been done but it is also appropriate to give thanks to the Circuit, along with grant making bodies and multiple individuals, for their financial support. The help which has been offered in getting to the current point is much appreciated.

Rod & Liz Thorpe



WHERE and WHEN TO MEET AROUND THE CIRCUIT


For a chat over a Cuppa or even a Meal



Aylesbury	Mon. To Sat. 10.00 am - 12 noon	Tea and Coffee
Cheddington	Open Doors— Fridays 10.00 am	Tea, Coffee , Light Refreshments & Fellowship
Fairford Leys	Saturdays 10.30 am - 12.00 noon	Coffee Morning coffee/tea and biscuits
Haddenham	Tuesdays 10.00 am - 12.00 noon 10.00 am - 12.00 noon	Maisie's Coffee Morning Fairtrade goods, bring and buy items usually on sale. Choirs use church Sun and Wed evenings. Pilates classes on Wednesdays and Thursdays WEA day school in Oct, Nov, Mar and Apr. plus U3A meetings
Stewkley	3rd Saturday each month 12 noon - 1.30 pm	Treat yourself to a 2 course lunch with tea or coffee for £7.50
Stoke Hammond	Wednesday 10.30 - 11.45 am	Coffee Morning
Stoke Mandeville	Most Fridays 2.00 - 4.00 pm Monthly: First Fridays 12.00 - 2.00 pm	'POP-IN' for a cup of tea/ coffee and a chat. Light lunches £3.00
Thame Christchurch	Tuesdays & Fridays 10.00 am - 12 noon	Coffee Mornings
Waddesdon	Thursdays 10.00 am - 11.30 am Alternate Tuesdays. 11.00 am - 2.00 pm	Coffee Morning Light lunches

Wingrave	Tuesdays 12 noon - 1.30 pm	Nup End Cafe Lunches
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Other Special Gatherings

Cheddington	Mondays 9.30 -11.00 am (except holidays)	The Toast Baby & Toddler Group
Stewkley	Wednesday 10.30 – 11.30 am Friday 7.30 pm - on 7th and 14th April	Daisy Club for children from birth to school age— term time only.
Swanbourne 	Tuesdays 2.00 pm in the Chapel: stories, songs, prayers & nibbles & play	Pram Service will con- tinue—Next Services: TBA Contact : Frankie Fisher on 720454
Whitchurch .	Wednesdays 10 am - 12 noon 'Little Steps' fun for babies, toddlers and parents. 1st Sunday in the Month 4.00 pm 'Stepping Stones' for young people	A mums & toddler group meeting. With toys, crafts music and snacks. Everyone is welcome. This offers an open invitation for worship time for <u>all</u> the family. Just turn up, you will be very welcome.

LEARNING AND GROWING

Aylesbury

J Team (Sunday School) Sundays 10.30 am
Contact: Mrs. Vivienne Kemp 01296 399315
Girls Brigade Mondays 6.15 - 7.30 pm
Contact: Sarah Davidge 01296 437852
Banner Group Tuesdays 2.00 - 4.00 pm
Contact: Mrs. Brenda Horne 01296 428580
Tuesday Fellowship 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 2.30 - 3.45 pm
Contact: Mrs. Pearl Riley 01296 483547
Boys Brigade: Tuesdays 6.15 - 9.15 pm
Contact: Steve Kemp 01296 399315

Monthly Bible Study:

Dates to be advised on website

Chinnor: Regular Activities

Weekly:

Activity Club (Youth club for 7-11yr olds)
Thurs 6.30 - 8.00 pm (term time)
Traidcraft (Fairtrade) sales
Bring and Buy table for nominated charities (Sunday)

Fortnightly:

Friday 7.00 - 9.00 pm (fortnightly) Friday Night Club (all ages)
Table Tennis, Scrabble, Pizza etc.

Monthly:

Exploring Faith. Monday 8.00 - 9.30 pm

Ecumenical Groups/ Activities:

Fortnightly:

Mothers Bible Study 10.00 am -12.00 noon
on Tues. or Weds. morning for mums
Mums prayer group: Friday 9 - 9.30 am - for those attending St Andrew's School
Ignite - Sunday 7.30 - 9.00 pm for 14yr olds to explore faith and life issues

Princes Risborough

Fortnightly:

SALT (Sharing And Learning Together) Meets in homes on Thursdays

Monthly:

TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP - We meet in homes on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Church at 2.00 pm for a time of Fellowship together with a varied programme, followed by a cup of tea and chat, everyone is welcome to join us.

Contact Pam Scott 01844 346857

—see the **Circuit Website** for details of these meetings

Stoke Mandeville

Fortnightly:

The Open Fellowship meets at 2.30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursday in the month

Everyone is welcome to these meetings for an hour of fellowship, followed naturally by a cup of tea.

Table-tennis may normally be played from 7.00 to 9.00 pm in the main hall on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in most months.

Stone

Monthly:

The Fourth Tuesday Fellowship meets at 2.30 pm

Contact Mrs. Sue Spinks 01296 748369

Waddesdon

Monthly:

1st. Monday Friendship Club especially for the Over 50s meeting at 2.30 - 4.30 pm. This is very much a social get together and anyone is welcome.

/Over

LEARNING AND GROWING

Waddesdon (cont.)

Fortnightly

The Women's Hour meets on Wednesdays in the School Room at 2.30pm. It's an opportunity to meet friends and catch up on their recent activities while enjoying an informal afternoon of favourite poems, readings, and hymns.

Newcomers are most welcome.

Weekly

Wednesdays in Term Time - a Children's Club for 6 - 8 year olds meeting at 6.30 - 8.30pm

[Waddesdon Shell Group] Wednesday Evenings

Contact Barbara Warne 01296 651417.

Weedon

Monthly:

Monday Bible Study Group

Thame Christchurch.

Weekly.

Bible Study on Thursday at 7.30 pm

Fortnightly.

Church Singers on 2nd and 4th Monday at 7.45 pm

Monthly.

WIT (Women in Thame) on Monday at 7.30 pm Varied programme of talks, activities, and a visit to the theatre.

ARE YOU ALWAYS TRYING TO FIND A SPEAKER?



Pauline Linton, a friend of Margaret Colver at Stoke Mandeville, has recently returned from the Gabon, where she has been training local people to translate parts of the Bible into their local dialect.

Pauline has indicated that she would like to give a talk to any church or house group etc who might be interested. No fees are asked for but donations would be gratefully accepted.

Her contact details are:

Pauline Linton 07904 720094

pauline_linton@kastanet.org

Pauline is a missionary with Global Outreach Mission in Gabon, West Africa, and will only be back in the UK for a few months

Global Outreach Mission is administered from the USA & Canada; part of their Mission Statement says:

“Evangelical in every way, Global Outreach Mission is solely concerned with the propagation of the Gospel of the grace of God as revealed in the Word of God. Our primary objective is the winning of Souls for Jesus Christ. We enjoy fellowship with Christians of like faith, crossing many denominational lines. In all of our programs, the Gospel is to be proclaimed, the Scriptures are to be taught, converts are to be disciplined, and indigenous churches are to be organized.”

THE CIRCUIT WEBSITE

www.aylesburyvale.org.uk

The Website enables information to be exchanged between the Churches and the Circuit Administrators; it also informs non-connected readers about what we do and care about.

Many members can access the 'Cloud' where all the detailed information is stored, they can also contribute to the efficient production of the Preaching Plan. This is particularly important during the 2nd month of each quarter.

Requests are sent out for various actions towards the end of the first month in the quarter. Having all information to hand speeds up the process; a lack of essential information leads to delays and more importantly errors, when the plan is put together. **If you receive a request please respond to it.**

The Website also needs to be constantly updated, this can only be done if information and pictures of events round the Circuit are submitted for publication. (a request for new pictures to be displayed on the HOME PAGE was virtually ignored so they remain out of date!)

Posters in .pdf format can easily be made available on the website, as can dates for future events, These will appear in the list of **COMING EVENTS** on the HOME page with links to any relevant posters. Longer term and more eye-catching notices can be created as **NEWS** items.

PLEASE READ, USE, SUPPORT AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE WEBSITE AS MUCH AS YOU CAN. IT IS YOUR WEBSITE!

Roy Collis—Website Editor

All Change!



This summer we have to say goodbye to three people who have offered valued ministry across our circuit:

Irena Byron has served for the last 5 years as minister at Stewkley, Stoke Hammond, Waddesdon, Swanbourne, Cheddington, and North Marston. Irena's gifts have

enabled many new initiatives to flourish and helped develop excellent ecumenical and community relationships. We give thanks for her ministry among us and continue to hold her in our love and prayer as she takes on the role of Superintendent Minister in the Central Sussex United Area.

Steve Watts is also moving on. After supporting the Amersham Circuit during this last year through a period of interregnum Steve has decided to go back into circuit ministry and has been stationed to Southend and Leigh circuit. Over the last few years Steve has contributed immensely to the life of this circuit especially through his preaching, musical skills and leadership.



He & Valerie go with our thanks, love & prayer as they begin this new adventure together. - We will be saying 'goodbye & thank you' for this ministry at the Songs of Praise at Aylesbury 6pm on 16th July.

Why not come along to share in this event.



Jim Gorringer is retiring again! For the last 5 years Jim has ministered in a 'house for duty' capacity at St Mary's in North Marston and has been pivotal in developing the newly refurbished Wesley Centre in the old Methodist Church.

Although essentially part of the Anglican team we have gained greatly from having him residing in the circuit. Jim & Pamela will be retiring to Bedford and they also go with our

thanks, love & prayer.

At the end of August we will be saying 'hello' to Donna and David

Broadbent Kelly and their family. Donna is coming to minister to Stewkley, Swanbourne, Cheddington & Stoke Hammond

as a probationer minister. Her welcome service is on 29th August 7pm at Stewkley. All are welcome! Due to Donna's appointment there will be changes in the ministry of the circuit as Rev Keith Edwards takes on responsibility for Waddesdon & North Marston whilst Rev Helen Kirk takes over at



Wingrave. With the help of Arthur Sara & Jennie Mariner Kyle we are hoping to develop a team ministry at Wingrave which may be a model for other parts of the circuit.



Aylesbury Methodist Church and Centre

Family & Youth Worker - £20,000- £24,000

The Opportunity: The aim of this three-year funded full-time post is to creatively increase the engagement, involvement, spiritual and 'whole person development' of children, young people and young adults within the life and mission of our church and the communities we serve. After getting to know people you will suggest development strategies to the minister and her Leadership Team and help to implement agreed plans.

About You: You will have a nationally recognised qualification in Children's, Youth or Community work or strong evidence of relevant experience. You will relish the opportunity to help enhance people's self-worth, Christian faith and ability to meet life's challenges. You will enjoy organising and leading children's and young people's events within a supportive environment and relate well to people of all ages, beliefs and origins. Social media skills will be helpful.

About us: We are a multi-racial, inclusive, town centre church and community centre with growing numbers in our Junior Church, Brigades, Youth Choir, Messy Church and German Youth Exchange. Our mission is to help people find the love of Jesus Christ.

The rewards: Apart from the chance to grow your own faith, confidence, initiative and skills, the salary of £20,000-£24,000 will depend on your qualifications and experience. We expect you to work a 35-hour week, including some evening and weekend work. Due to the nature of the role, there is a need for you to attend most of our Sunday morning services. There are 28 days' annual leave, reimbursement of agreed expenses and a small pastoral support team to help ensure you have a good work-life balance.

How to apply: Download an application form from the Home page of our website (<http://www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk>) where you can also find the full job description, person profile and project plan. Please send your completed application by email to revhelenkirk@sky.com or by post to Rev. Helen Kirk, Aylesbury Methodist Church, Buckingham Street, Aylesbury HP20 ZNQ.

The schedule: Interviews will be held on Tuesday 18th July and the appointment is from 4th September 2017 after enhanced DBS and reference checks.

The closing date for applications is Friday 7th July.



Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit

Songs of Praise 2017

CALLED BY CHRIST

TO BE DISCIPLES

A celebration of service & ministry

Congregational hymn singing

***presented by the Circuit Choir together with friends from
other local choirs.***

Great Hymns

With Great Tunes

Come along for a Great Sing

Led by Rev Helen Kirk

Aylesbury Methodist Church

Sunday 16th July @ 6.00 pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

ITEMS FOR THE MAGAZINE:

Items for the October—December 2017 issue should be forwarded to the following Email addresses:

Solomon Awadzi 01296 489384

Email: solokawadzi@hotmail.com

Items for the Magazine should be copied to Roy Collis see below.

Please submit Magazine Items by the 15th August 2017

AMENDMENTS to CIRCUIT DIRECTORY:

Details of changes to existing information in the **Circuit Directory** should be sent immediately they occur to:
Rev Helen Kirk: revhelenkirk@sky.com and to:
r.collis245@btinternet.com

ITEMS FOR PUBLISHING ON THE WEBSITES:

WEBSITE ADDRESSES:

Circuit: www.aylesburyvale.org.uk

Aylesbury: www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk

Fairford Leys: www.fairfordleyschurch.org.uk

All enquiries or suggestions should be addressed to::

Peter Green for the **AMC Website** : pe-
terb.green@ntlworld.com 01296 424653

Roy Collis for the **Circuit Website**:
r.collis245@btinternet.com 01296 630989

or

Rev. Keith Edwards ulysee798@gmail.com
01296 423363