

# ***VALE OF AYLESBURY*** **METHODIST CIRCUIT** **MAGAZINE**



**Waddesdon Anniversary 2015    See Page 10**

## **JULY AUGUST** **SEPTEMBER** **2015**

## **CIRCUIT MINISTERS**

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With Pastoral Care of the Aylesbury Methodist Church and  
Community Centre

**Rev. Irena Byron** Tel:01525 240105  
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With pastoral care of:  
Cheddington, North Marston (LEP), Stewkley,  
Stoke Hammond, Swanbourne and Waddesdon

**Rev. Keith Edwards** 01296 423363  
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With pastoral care of:  
Princes Risborough, Stoke Mandeville, Stone, Weedon (LEP)  
Whitchurch and Wingrave

**Rev Anthony Howells**, ( Authorised minister),  
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With pastoral care of the Ecumenical Church at Fairford leys

**Rev. Fred Ireland**  
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With pastoral care of: Christchurch (Thame) (LEP), Chinnor,  
Cuddington and Haddenham

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



LETTER TO THE CIRCUIT  
NUMBER 23/29  
Charity Number 1134235  
Website [www.aylesburyvale.org.uk](http://www.aylesburyvale.org.uk)

**Rev Helen Kirk**

### **Circuit Pilgrimage:**



As many of you are aware over the last few weeks I have been walking the circuit. Not all in one go I hasten to add but 3 churches at a time; we have begun with fellowship at one church; walked to the next one for lunch & then onto the third for afternoon tea. In this way I have walked around all 18

churches in the circuit and of course in good Methodist tradition had tea, cakes & worship in them all.

At the very beginning someone dubbed my walks as the 'Superintendents Pilgrimage' and in every way it has been such a journey of discovery for all the following reasons:



1. I have never walked alone; I have always had companions on the way and as we have walked we have shared stories; the stories of people's lives; their faith; their triumphs and their tragedies. To share a

journey with someone is a real privilege and one that is part of our calling in Christ to walk alongside people physically, emotionally & spiritually. So thank you for all who have come some of 'the way' with me.



2. We have always received a welcome. A friend of mine recently walked part of the Santiago de Compostela in Spain. She described how every evening she would turn up at a hostel and, although she had not booked a place to stay, would always get the greeting 'Welcome,

we have been expecting you.' In the same way, whether 2 or 12 in number, those of us who have walked have received a



warm welcome & generous hospitality at every church. It once again highlights this gift of hospitality that is a feature of our faith and a tool in our mission.

3. I have discovered so much about the area that is served by the Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit:

I have heard about local industries and walked the rural landscape; I have seen how history has shaped communities but also how new developments are being built for the future. It has been a fascinating journey enhanced by the local knowledge of those who have met me 'on the way'.

4. Finally I have seen so much good work that is going on across the circuit from lunch groups to children's clubs; mums & tots to fellowships of all description. It is heartening to see the witness & service of the Methodist folk in this area.

However if we are called to be a pilgrim people; a people who are always being led on by God's spirit then we can never be complacent in our mission.

Hans Kung wrote this: 'a church which pitches its tent without constantly looking out for new horizons, which does not continually strike camp, is being untrue to its calling. We must play down our longing for certainty, accept what is risky, and live by improvisation and experiment'

And so the pilgrimage continues in each community that we serve as we find new and creative ways to share stories, offer hospitality and witness to the love of Christ.

Thank you to all who have shared in some way in the 'pilgrimage' and I look forward to the future as we journey on together in the presence of Christ.

Helen

### Prayer for the Quarter

Teach us, O God, to view our life here on earth  
as a pilgrim's path to heaven,  
and give us grace to tread it courageously  
in the company of your faithful people.  
Help us to set our affections on things above,  
not on the passing vanities of this world,  
and grant that as we journey on in the way of holiness  
we may bear a good witness to our Lord,  
and serve all who need our help along the way,  
for the glory of your name.

Amen

## **A Farewell message from Fred and Family**

Dear friends

I write this as the Ireland's prepare to leave after 23 years in this evolving Circuit. Back in 1993 we arrived in Aylesbury and never imagined we would spend so long in the same area...indeed the longest period of time in one place in all our lives.

I want to thank you all for your support and encouragement, prayers and friendship. I've been truly blessed and I hope that my contribution to the life of the variously named Circuits have been considered worthwhile.

Lots of ups and downs, of course. Challenges to physical and mental health amongst the downs, mercifully well in the past. So many 'ups'- too many to recall here, but I guess the work done on Fairford Leys over a ten year period will be an enduring source of delight. To leave with it continuing to go from strength to strength is just wonderful.

But far more important to me as I "sign off" is the privilege of sharing so many years with so many of you. We have worshipped together for more than two decades; we have celebrated together at Baptisms and weddings and shed tears together at the death of loved ones. I want to say "thank you" for allowing me into the rich tapestry of your lives. It has been a privilege to serve amongst you.

O.K. some things I will not miss: like trying to find a car park space at our hospitals when visiting the sick (although I'm sure this will continue to be the case in my next Circuit). I shall not miss BCC's habit of replacing roundabouts with traffic lights that have rubbish sequencing. And speed bumps. And, yes, I shall not miss long, long meetings... sigh... and the M40; horse-boxes and Haddenham's so called "traffic calming solution" that is environmentally irresponsible.

Sad to lose Aston Abbotts, Bishopstone and Bledlow but pleased none since then.

I will miss Coombe Hill and the Wendover woods; I will miss Weedon. I will miss the Thame Food Festival. And the Bucks Balti House; vestry prayers at Swanbourne. Dear friends who have been there for us over many years; great ministerial and lay colleagues past and present; the humour and optimism in many churches and Chapels; the warm handshakes after a sermon well preached; YNOTT; Supper Clubs; SOS; 20 years in prison(!) Ecumenical partners; from "Tragedy to Triumph" on Easter Day;

Aylesbury High and Waddesdon schools; RAF Halton; Coldharbour Farmhouse; Rod's pickled onions; our organists and musicians; Passover meals; Red Kites. The Butchers in Thame. I will miss the churches I have had pastoral oversight down the years. And I'll miss each of you, more than you know.

So off to pastures new; looking back with gratitude and forward in hope, the last words of John Wesley seem so apt:

“The best of all is, God is with us.”

Then, now and always!

Love, prayers and farewell.

Fred, Susan, Daniel, Rebecca and Rachel Ireland



Photo taken January 2015, Sydney, Australia with the five of us and Daniel's Partner Annie (second left)



## Goodbye to Fred Ireland



At the end of July we say goodbye to Rev Fred Ireland after 23 years in the circuit. Fred has served in various capacities throughout the circuit beginning as minister at AMC & the circuit Superintendent he then moved onto begin and develop the Church at Fairford Leys; for the last 5 years he has served as minister in Thame,

Chinnor, Haddenham & Cuddington. Throughout this time Fred has continued in his role as chaplain at Aylesbury prison something that he has an immense passion for. Over all these years Fred's ministry has touched so many lives and here are just a few examples:

Many years ago when we both had a full head of hair, I met Fred at the manse on King Edward Avenue. There was a mixture of church goers and as in my case, the non-going husband of a Sunday regular. As we sat in his home Fred put forward the idea of forming a group to be known as 'SOS', 'Sometimes On Sundays'. His idea was to encourage meetings which would be held in people's homes where fellowship could lead to faith and build pastoral care amongst them. In this Fred has more than succeeded as over the years enduring friendships have been made and many stewards, worship leaders and fund raisers both current, past and most likely future, are SOS regulars.

But the term 'SOS regular' shouldn't be taken to suggest that the SOS is nothing more than a group where the same people attend every event, just as many come only once a year. This is where Fred's vision is fulfilled, all are welcome, all are cared for and each is as important as the other. So sometimes we meet at AMC, sometimes we meet at a home and sometimes a telephone call is all that is needed. Over two decades on from the meeting at K.E.A. the AMC branch of SOS is in good health, Fred has introduced similar groups to Fairford Leys and Thame and soon the community in Carterton and surrounding areas will have the chance to 'just pop round' to Fred and Sue's for a chat about an idea he has had.

*Derek Bernstone*



## **And from Karen Mitchell at Fairford Leys:**

'Over a decade ago and in partnership with the Anglican, Methodist, Catholic and United Reform Church Fred opened Sunday worship in the newly built St. Mary's School. The vision was for the Church on Fairford Leys to be at the heart of the community and Fred led and inspired the Church through this challenging and exciting period including the building of the new Church. Fred ensured that the Church on Fairford Leys was warm, welcoming and inclusive sharing a passion for his faith which is infectious, enthusiastic, meeting people where they are, rather than where he might prefer to find them. He ensured that the Church was more than just a place of worship and place of fellowship, including introducing YNOTT Sunday evening youth group, setting up and supporting the Friday night Fairford Leys Youth Club, bringing together families and friends over numerous occasions to mention just a few. The impressive growth in Church membership, attendance and related activities evidences the virtue of Fred's blend of faith and humanity. The legacy of his time at Fairford Leys continues to be a blessing and inspiration for all'

## **Finally Arthur Sara offers a very personal viewpoint:**

I have known Fred for the whole of the time he has been here. He was like a shot in the arm at Aylesbury bringing in young families and with Sue rejuvenating the junior church. He started a set of new house groups and led us well. He moved on to Fairford leys where he laid the foundation and did much of the ground work that enabled it to become what it is today. Wherever he has been he has brought innovation and improvement and we as a circuit owe him a huge debt for all he has done, all he has achieved and all he has helped us to achieve.

Personally Fred said those few words necessary to show me that I had a call to preach and so for the last twenty years the joy, fulfilment, friendship and fellowship that Chris and I have enjoyed as we have travelled round the circuit have been to a great extent down to Fred.

The icing on that cake came when Fred invited me to join him in a service where I christened my first grandson.

So the circuit owes you a huge debt Fred but it is as nothing compared to the debt that my family and I owe you. Thank you from the bottom our hearts and may God continue to bless you and your ministry in the years ahead.

Fred's ministry among us has being extremely diverse – we could fill this magazine with stories – however we also know that he doesn't really want any fuss made of his leaving. Nevertheless Fred, the Vale of Aylesbury Circuit would like to say a huge 'Thank you' for the many & varied ways you have ministered here and we wish you & Sue and the whole family every blessing for the future as you move on to the Witney & Faringdon circuit.

## Cover picture story

The occasion is a supper and entertainment in the School Hall, as part of the Church Anniversary.

Waddesdon has a reputation for good food from a team who provide very reasonably priced meals monthly on a Saturday and fortnightly on Tuesdays.

This has been part of the fund-raising and they can't seem to stop!

People from the community, other churches ecumenically and from the Circuit, come together on a regular basis and receive a very warm welcome.

**The School Hall** is one of the oldest buildings still in use in the Circuit, originally the chapel, it was replaced by the current chapel in 1877, so it has a long history of serving the community.

Over the past few years the facilities have been brought up to modern standards, so it can continue to be a valuable resource for the church and village community.

This has all been achieved by a great deal of hard work to raise the funds to enable the work to be done and has seen some remarkable co-operation between Church members and the Village Community who have offered voluntary labour and generous contributions of materials and finance and shown how much the hall is valued.

The work continues to improve the Chapel as well, the effort involved cannot possibly be adequately described in these few words.

**You would be welcome to visit for a coffee or lunch or any of the Sunday Services and see for yourself.**

For an idea of some of the fundraising efforts involved visit the Website - <http://www.aylesburyvale.org.uk/waddesdon.htm>



## **You've heard of the Super's walk well now there's the Super's run.**

On 12 July Rev Helen Kirk will be taking part in the London 10k running to raise money for the Karibuni Trust.

If you would like to sponsor her visit the fundraising page:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/HelenKirk3>

Alternatively email her on; [revhelenkirk@sky.com](mailto:revhelenkirk@sky.com)  
or give her a call on 01296 488963

# Good News About The Good News



Since its beginning, the Christian Church has had the challenge of how best to spread the good news of God's love for all. Paul did it with letters, Wesley did it on horseback and preachers did it and still do it from pulpits. But what about the people passing the doors of our churches who cannot hear what is being said?

As we are wont to say in Aylesbury, "How do we put the greatest number of people in the greatest possible danger of finding the love of Jesus Christ?" Like Paul, like Wesley, like preachers, we have to use whatever methods come to hand.

At this juncture I must issue a warning for all those who recognise a twit when they see one, but may not recognise a tweet. If words like technology, digital and website produce panic attacks, uncontrollable yawning and an instant cure for your insomnia or if you live in a part of the circuit where you cannot get a decent signal for love nor money (Hello Whitchurch!), thank you for reading thus far. Please enjoy the rest of the magazine but as what follows includes words and images you may find distressing, please look away now.

For the rest of us, we know that one important way of communicating who we are and what we are about with those outside the church is through our websites. They certainly get more visitors than our churches do. For instance, in the last 12 months, the Aylesbury church website alone has had 20,023 visitors. Granted some of these were from places like Kazakhstan and the Outer Hebrides. But most were probably local to us. Now your typical website visitor, maybe you included, doesn't stay on a site for more than a few seconds if they don't like what they see, can't find what they want or see it hasn't been updated since Noah was a lad.



If you look at our circuit and Aylesbury websites right now, they both have lots of information on them and lots of pictures too. Yet anyone who believes our cheap and cheerful 'click'n build' site that we have used

since 2004 compares well with professionally designed sites are urged to book an immediate appointment with SpecSavers. Both our sites now look dated, amateurish and in urgent need of a makeover. Well this is where the good news kicks in.

Following investigations and consultation with both the circuit and the Aylesbury leadership teams, it has been agreed that we will change website provider. ThenMedia, a company known to both Helen Kirk and Keith Edwards have offered a cost-effective solution which will give us attractive, easy to navigate and maintain websites for both the circuit and our Aylesbury church. It gets better. The father of the owner of the business is a retired Superintendent Methodist Minister who has developed a way of producing the quarterly preachers' plan in a much easier and quicker way than what we do now. Local preachers who would like to see how this works can go to <http://dappleshire.chrestos.co.uk>, an imaginary circuit site which has a video on the plan-making. And if you, dear reader, would like to see for yourself what an actual circuit site can look like try [www.cheshiresouth.org.uk](http://www.cheshiresouth.org.uk). For an actual Methodist Church site look at [www.altonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.altonmethodist.org.uk). The cost to us of making this change and improving our web presence is only about an extra £5 a week.

As I type this, we are aiming to have the new Aylesbury website up and running by the 1st of September. The circuit website will not be far behind and should certainly be this side of Christmas. So website wallahs like Roy Collis and I will be kept off the streets for a bit. Alas, we both share a major failing. We are not clairvoyant. So if you have a suggestion or idea to improve either site or spot an error or omission, please do let us know. Further, if you have an interest or skill in this area and would like to help out in this transition period or longer, we will be delighted to hear from you.



I was asked to write an article about the new websites. However, as you can see, this is not really about our websites. It is about our mission - our mission to share our Good News with those thousands near our churches with a key pad.

Peter Green

**For information on contributing to any of  
the Circuit Publications please see  
Page 25.**

## ***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

# GARDEN



# OPEN

**85 LOWER ICKNIELD WAY,  
CHINNOR, OX39 4EA**

TEA AND CAKE

**Sunday 26th July  
2 - 6pm**

IN AID OF CHINNOR METHODIST CHURCH  
BUILDING REFURBISHMENT





*Vale of Aylesbury  
Methodist Circuit*

## ***Songs of Praise 2015***

### ***HYMNS SET TO WELL KNOWN TUNES BY THE GREAT COMPOSERS***

*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 19th July @ 6.00 pm*

# 200 YEARS OF METHODISM IN STOKE MANDEVILLE



On Saturday, 23rd May, we held our Barn Dance with live music and a buffet supper. We also held a Raffle and soft drinks bar which raised £75 for local charities and Action for Children.

On Sunday, 24th May, our Anniversary Services were led by Rev. Keith Salter in the morning and Rev. Jim Gorringer in the evening. We were also celebrating Wesley Day and Pentecost. Both

services were attended by friends from other churches in our Circuit and, at the evening service, scrumptious chocolates were distributed and eaten, a gift from a former minister, Rev. Michael Gilyead, and his wife Joyce. Celebration cards were received from other circuits and read to the congregation.

The flowers in the church were simply magnificent.

Before the evening service, a Faith Tea was held at which we cut a beautiful celebration birthday cake, baked by our friend, Jan Unsworth. At the Faith Tea, it was a real pleasure to see some of our frailer friends who can no longer attend church on a regular basis.

In the Guild Room, a wonderful display of photographs told the story of our church's history.

I thank those who helped in any way to make our Celebration such a success', the friends who used their creative skills to bake fabulous cakes and/or provide food for the occasion and many willing helpers who gave up many hours of their time. The menfolk were invaluable in moving furniture and setting up tables or, in fact, doing anything asked of them.

We thank Peter Honeyball and the band for making the Barn Dance such fun, not forgetting our caller and her clog-dance!

There was an overall feeling of community spirit and belonging, with everyone working together to make the weekend a tremendous success.

Each and every one of you played an important part in this event and supported us with such enthusiasm.

We have memories to treasure.

The love of God was with us this weekend.

*Yvonne Keep*

## **LEARNING AND GROWING**

### **Aylesbury**

J Team (Sunday School) Sundays 10.30am  
Contact Mrs. Vivienne Kemp 01296 399315  
Girls Brigade Mondays 5.30-7.30pm  
Contact Mrs. Linda Gill 01296 429218  
Banner Group Tuesdays 2.00pm-4.00pm  
Contact Mrs. Brenda Horne 01296 428580  
Tuesday Fellowship 1<sup>st</sup> & 3rd Tuesdays 2.30-3.45pm  
Contact Mrs. Pearl Riley 01296 483547  
Boys Brigade Tuesdays 6-9pm  
Contact Mrs. Margaret Miskin 01296 422919

### **Chinnor: Regular Activities**

#### **Weekly:**

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

#### **Fortnightly:**

On Sundays 6.15—7.15 pm when there is no Evening Service  
House Group: at 16 Old Sawmill Place .  
Contact Elizabeth Wilson 01844 354487  
Fellowship Group: Tuesday from 10.30 am  
Friday 7-9pm (fortnightly) Friday Night Club (all ages) -  
Table Tennis, Scrabble, Pizza etc.

#### **Monthly:**

Exploring Faith. Monday 8.00- 9.30pm

### **Ecumenical Groups/ Activities:**

#### **Fortnightly:**

Mothers Bible Study- 10-12am Tues or Weds morning  
for mums  
Mums prayer group: Friday 9-9.30am - for those attending  
St Andrew's School  
Ignite - Sunday 7.30-9.00pm - for 14yr olds to explore faith  
and life issues

## **Haddenham**

### **Monthly:**

Haddenham Fellowship Group— evening meetings, Contact Mrs Mary White 01844 291677

## **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 2.00pm for a time of Fellowship together with a varied programme, followed by a cup of tea and chat, everyone is welcome to join us at these meetings."

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

## **Stoke Mandeville**

### **Fortnightly:**

The Open Fellowship meets at 2.30 pm. on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays in most months.

## **Stone**

### **Monthly:**

The Fourth Tuesday Fellowship meets at 2.30pm  
Contact Mrs. Sue Spinks 01296 748369

## REPORT FROM SPRING SYNOD HELD AT GREAT CASTERTON IN THE STAMFORD AND RUTLAND CIRCUIT

As usual we started with a short act of worship with three of the newer hymns from Singing the Faith and a formal welcome from the circuit with a lovely story that whilst John Wesley never came to Stamford, he did try to reach Grantham but because of the snow he was forced give up and to spend the night in a local hostelry in Great Casterton, the village where synod was meeting.

The morning session was taken up with business when we heard that Ministers were obliged to attend Synod and also Safer Space Training. We

received many reports from the different arms of the Methodist Church from Action for Children through Education, Methodist Women in Britain, Property, World Church Matters and many more. If you are interested, these reports can be obtained from one of the Synod Representatives.

We watched a DVD on Pioneering Pathways which asked us to pray for guidance as we use our practical skills to encourage engagement with the community with different and pioneering activities. After lunch we had a presentation on 'Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations' based on a book by Robert Schnase. The book gave five headings for things we probably already do. These were: Hospitality; Worship; Faith and Development; Mission and Service and Generosity. The book challenged us to make these the best we can do for God by adding a prefix to these headings to give us **Radical** Hospitality; **Passionate** Worship; **Intentional** Faith Development; **Risk-taking** Mission and Service and **Extravagant** Generosity. Group discussions then followed as we tried to answer:-

What encourages, enthuses or sparks your interest the most?

What seems the most challenging?

Is there anything you would like to add?

What could you take away and use right now?

The whole exercise was challenging and I would challenge our local churches to review some of our practices and see how we can change our church life to include the prefixes above in heavy type in what we do.

## **Dates for your diary:**

**TUESDAY JULY 28th.  
JOIN US FOR A DAY TRIP TO OXFORDSHIRE &  
BERKSHIRE  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

**SPEND A LITTLE TIME IN HENLEY-ON-THAMES,**  
including a boat trip on the River Thames, plus time to either  
look around the fascinating River & Rowing Museum and  
Wind in the Willows Exhibition, explore the town, or just picnic  
by the River.

After leaving Henley we will continue to the Methodist Church  
in Caversham, Reading for HIGH TEA where we will be  
greeted by **DAVID & PAULA JENKINS**

Full details & booking form available from the AMC Church  
entrance by end May

Or contact Pauline/Tony Noble – [a\\_p888@btinternet.com](mailto:a_p888@btinternet.com)  
or call 01296 484940

**Sunday August 9th 2015  
2.45 – 5.00 p.m.  
at Peter & Pamela Farmer's home  
43 Dobbins Lane, Wendover, HP22 6DH**

**Cream Teas**  
and an afternoon of fun & fellowship  
for the whole family

**For up to date details on these and other events watch the  
Church & Circuit Website**



## 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. to 12 noon	Tea and Coffee
Cheddington	Open Doors—Fridays 10.00 am	Tea, Coffee , Light Refreshments & Fellowship
Fairford Leys	Saturdays 10.30 am. to 12.00 noon	Coffee Morning coffee/tea and biscuits
Haddenham	Tuesdays 10.00 am. to 12.00 noon  10.00 am to 12 Noon	Maisie's Coffee Morning Fairtrade goods, Home made jams & garden produce usually on sale. Museum open in Old School room
Stewkley	3rd. Saturday each month 12 noon to 1.30 pm.	Treat yourself to a 2 course lunch with tea or coffee for £7
Stoke Hammond	Wednesday 10.30 to 11.45 am	Coffee Morning
Stoke Mandeville	Most Fridays 2.00 to 4.00 pm. First Fridays 12-2pm	'POP-IN' for a cup of tea/ coffee and a chat. Light lunches £2.50
Thame Christchurch	Tuesdays & Fridays 10.00 am. to 12 noon	Coffee Mornings
Thame Christchurch	Mondays 10.00 am. to 11.30 am.  Tuesday Safari Cafe 2.00pm - 4.00pm	Family Pop-in for Parents and Toddlers. Playtime & Light Refreshments
Waddesdon	Thursdays 10.00 am -11.30 am Alternate Tuesdays. 11.00am.to12.00pm.	Coffee Morning  Light lunches
Wingrave	Tuesdays 12 noon to 1.30 pm.	Nup End Cafe Lunches



## OTHER SPECIALGATHERINGS:

Cheddington

Mondays 9.30—  
11.00 am  
(except holidays)

The Toast  
Baby & Toddler  
Group

Swanbourne



Tuesdays  
2.00 pm in the Chap-  
el: stories, songs,  
prayers &  
nibbles & play

Pram Service will  
continue—Next Ser-  
vices are on **7th July**  
and **Sept. 8th.** for  
details Contact  
Frankie Fisher on  
720454

### STOKE MANDEVILLE CHURCH

After a successful 'trial run' on 5th. June **Stoke Mandeville** will be serving Light Lunches from 12.30 to 2.00 pm on one Friday each Month.

**The next lunches will be on the 24th. July.**

**There after the aim will be to serve Light Lunches on the First Friday of each month commencing on 7th. August**

### Waddesdon Methodist Church.

**In the next quarter the Tuesday Light Lunches will commence on Tuesday 7th. July and then alternate Tuesdays through to 29th September.**

**On Monday 31st August Cream Teas will be served from 11.00am. To 5.00 pm.**

**Friday September 25th—Harvest Supper with**



Helping children from the  
streets and slums in Kenya

[www.karibuni.org.uk](http://www.karibuni.org.uk)  
Registered UK Charity Number 1044872



## **HELP US CELEBRATE OUR 20th. ANNIVERSARY**

### **AT THE KARIBUNI TRUST FUN DAY!**

Join us at this  
**FREE EVENT**  
at

Stoke Mandeville Village  
Community Centre & Playing Fields  
18th JULY 2015

10am - 4pm

Circus Workshop, Mad Mark, Sublime Science,

Stoke Mandeville Combined School singing  
and recorder groups, AHS Music Group,

Rowsham Band,

Bouncy castle, Children 's sports,

Cake stall, Kenyan crafts stall

B-B-Q and refreshments

(charges made for food and drink)

## **ITEMS FOR THE MAGAZINE -- Oct-Dec. 2015 issue**

should be forwarded to the following Email addresses  
Solomon Awadzi. 4 Plover Walk Aylesbury HP19 0FQ 01296  
489384 Email: solokawadzi@hotmail.com Items for the Magazine  
should be copied to Roy Collis see below

**Magazine items not later than 1st. August 2015**

**DATES OR REQUESTS FOR THE PREACHING PLAN should be sent to:**

The Plan Making Team: voaplanmaking@gmail.com

**Not later than ...1st August 2015**

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**

Items for publishing on our websites can be sent at anytime to the  
appropriate Editor who will be delighted to hear from **you!**

**WEBSITE ADDRESSES** Circuit: www.aylesburyvale.org.uk  
Aylesbury: www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk Fairford Leys:  
www.fairfordleyschurch.org.uk

### **WEBSITE EDITORS**

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**NB. More volunteers as Sub Editors would be more than  
welcome. ( contact Roy)**

## Some Homespun Theology from the Bible Belt?

### THE LORD'S TEST

I woke up this morning and knew that today,  
the sun would not be shining and the clouds would be grey.  
As I stepped outside, rain fell upon my head.  
My car wouldn't start, so I walked to school instead.  
I forgot all of my assignments; I failed all of my tests.  
I dropped my head in disgust and asked the Lord for one request

'Lord, why is it that things won't go my way?'  
He gently replied, 'Dear child it is because  
you didn't thank me yesterday'.

I woke you up and enabled you to see the sun again.  
I gave you shelter, protected your family, and even let  
you make a new friend.  
I blessed you far greater than I ever had before.  
But you were too busy to thank me once more.  
You didn't feel sick because I maintained your health.  
You had money in your pocket because I maintained your wealth.  
You had shoes on your feet and clothes to wear too.  
You had plenty of food to eat and what did you do?  
You ignored me and went about your tasks.

But when you wanted something you never hesitated to ask.  
I was there when you needed me and that wasn't too long ago.  
But when things started going your way it was me you did not know.

As if that weren't enough, I provided our favourite luxuries.  
This was something I didn't have to do; they weren't even necessities.  
And when it was time to get on your knees and show your gratitude,  
You decided that after such a fulfilling day, you weren't in the mood.  
So I decided to give you just a little test.

To show you how it would feel to stop being blessed.'  
I began to realize what the Lord was saying.  
And when I got home, I fell to my knees and started praying.  
He said, 'My child, you have learned and you know I do forgive.  
But remember to remember this day as long as you shall live.

I love filling your life with joy and your pain I'll alleviate it.  
**But just a simple thank you would show how much you appreciate it.**

(from an anonymous Email)

**Ministers Rest Days:**

Rev Helen Kirk - Friday  
Rev Fred Ireland - Monday  
Rev Irena Byron - Monday  
Rev Keith Edwards - Wednesday  
Rev Anthony Howells - Friday

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

**Is this the space that  
your item or  
advertisement you  
forgot could have  
filled?**

**Do not worry you can still  
get it put on the Website.  
See page 25**

This is a detailed road map of the Taunton area in Somerset, England. The map shows a network of roads, including the A41, A418, A419, and A413. Key locations marked include Taunton, Bishops Cleeve, and various smaller villages and hamlets. The River Taunton is shown flowing through the area. The map is credited to Google Maps.