



The Methodist Church



Northampton District
Hinckley Circuit **23/11**
www.hinckleymethodistcircuit.org.uk

Information for Church Stewards / Publicity Officers

17th April 2025

Notice for contributors to the Circuit Newsletter

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SABBATICAL



Rev Andrew Lomax is on sabbatical from 21st April to 21st July. Should anyone need ministerial support during this time please contact Rev Patricia Mukorombindo, or one of the local lay pastors.

We wish Andrew a time of spiritual and physical refreshment and blessing.

The Circuit Welcomes New Children and Families Workers

We welcome Helen Coble and Karen Berry to our Children and Families ministry. Helen and Karen both worship at Earl Shilton, and will be taking up their post as a job share from 1st May.



It is with some sadness that we will be saying goodbye to Claire during May. We thank Claire for the fruitful projects and works that she has initiated and supported around the Circuit.

Easter Offering

Despite best efforts, I have been unable to procure any Easter Offering envelopes this year for the Circuit. I did obtain Easter Offering bookmarks, but they are not much use without the envelopes, and there has been no opportunity to distribute them.

There will be no Circuit wide Easter Offering Celebration this year. I have sent out service notes via email to Church Stewards and Local Preachers, if any church wishes to hold a local service, and/or take a collection. The bookmarks are in the office, if anyone wants to collect some.

If there is anyone who would like to take on the annual ministry of preparation for the Easter Offering, then please speak to myself at the Office

Chris

Apologies for the lack of a newsletter last week



Some will be wondering what happened to last week's newsletter? Unfortunately I took poorly on Wednesday evening last week, and was unable to come into the office on Thursday. All better now, I'm pleased to say

Chris

What is happening around the Circuit?

Well-being Walks at Bradgate Park

Dates for the Spring/Summer

28th April

5th and 19th May

2nd and 30th June

Meet 9.45am to 10am at Bradgate Park Newtown Linford Car Park. Car Parking charges apply.

Walk starts at 10am and lasts 90 minutes.

2 walks take place - a gentle stroll along the carriageway or a ramble into the Outer Park.



Claire Sutcliffe's Leaving Event



We will be having a leaving do' for Claire
At Burbage Methodist Church
Friday 9th May. 7pm - until 8.30pm

It will be a bring and share tea - drinks provided, so please come along!!

(If you would like to make a gift to Claire - please give money to Rachel Cobb or send it to the Circuit Office by Wednesday 7th May).

For more info - Contact Rachel Cobb -
repooolehcar@hotmail.com or 07930 628011

Hinckley Area Foodbank Warehouse - Opening Hours over Easter week

Good Afternoon, Please note that the warehouse will be closed on:
Monday 21st April - **CLOSED**.

But it will be open on Tuesday 22nd April from 9:30am - 2pm only.

We will reopen as usual on Thursday 24th April.

Thanks for all you do and the foods you collect and donate.

Kind regards,

Gemma Cisneros on behalf of Warehouse Team at Hinckley Area Foodbank.

info@hinckleyarea.foodbank.org.uk <https://hinckleyarea.foodbank.org.uk/>

T 01455 697390

Hinckley Christian Community Action

The Food Bank Charity - Hinckley Christians serving our Community

Incorporating Hinckley Area Foodbank

Hinckley Christian Community Action, Barleyfield, Hinckley, LE10 1YE



Weekdays Around the Circuit

Monday

BARWELL Play and Stay for parents and young children under school age each week on Mondays from 9.30am to 11.00am - £1 entrance fee.



Tuesday

BURBAGE "CONNECT" Drop-in Tuesday mornings 10am to 12noon during term time. Drop in for coffee; chat; meet a friend; play a board game; do a jigsaw; bring your knitting or a newspaper. All welcome to come and connect.

EARL SHILTON Bookstall, Mini-market and Coffee Morning every Tuesday morning. **The Ark** Every Tuesday 3pm to 4.30pm @ Earl Shilton Methodist Church, Wood Street. Family friendly. Come and share coffee, cake and snacks. A place to meet people

This café does not charge for any of its services. We will accept donations if you are able to.



Wednesday

BARWELL community lunches are held on the second Wednesday of each month from 11.45am to 1.00pm – cost £3.50 per person to include soup, roll, cake and drink. Wednesday **prayer service** each week from 10.00am to 10.30am followed by a **coffee morning**, usually until around 11.30am

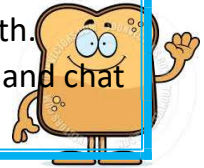
BURBAGE Forget-Me-Not Café 10.30am - 12.00noon 4th Wednesday of each month. Followed by lunch. A friendly and relaxed environment for those living with memory loss, their carers and loved ones to meet and share with others who understand, and a place to find out information on support services in your area.

SAPCOTE Café Worship on the 1st Wednesday of each month

HIGHAM craft group meets Wednesday afternoons 2 to 5 pm



Thursday HIGHAM coffee morning 1st Thursday of the month. Meeting Point 3rd Thursday in the month at 12:30 – soup, dessert and hot drink for £5
NEWBOLD VERDON 'Toasty Thursday' at Newbold. We're open Thursday from 10:30am – 2:30pm. Warm and friendly welcome guaranteed!
STONEY STANTON Coffee Morning last Thursday each month 10to11:30
STOKE GOLDING Messy Church on the 2nd Thursday of the Month.
Chatty Chairs every Thursday 12noon to 1pm in Cameo. Refreshments and chat followed by seated exercise. Free sessions run by H&BBC.



Friday

BURBAGE Messy church-held on the 4th Friday of each month 4.30–6pm.
SAPCOTE Friday Family Fun 5 to 6:30pm

Saturday BARWELL coffee morning 10am to 12noon weekly, and



Blokes Breakfast Club 8.30am 1st Saturday of each month

BURBAGE Farmers' Market 1st Saturday of the month 9am-12noon. The Church is open for coffee, cake and Fairtrade. **Connect at Breakfast** 3rd Saturday of each month

(except December). Every breakfast donates £1 to charity by way of a token given to the customer to choose from three collection pots.

NEWBOLD VERDON Mens Munch breakfast @ the church, 9am to 10:30 2nd Saturday of each month. Cost: £5. Must be booked in advance at church hall or email cyril.fennell@gmail.com. **Coffee morning** 1st Saturday in the month. Hot drinks, teacakes, stalls to browse

HINCKLEY coffee morning every Saturday 10am to 12 noon

EARL SHILTON free **Community Breakfast** on the first Saturday of each month starting at 9:30



STOKE GOLDING CAMEO Café 10:30am to 3pm Tuesdays and Fridays. Drinks, home-made cake, hot and cold meals. Gluten & dairy free catered for. Craft Club on the 2nd Friday each month from 10am.

(logo used with permission)



If you would like to be part of the Creation Care group speak to Rosemary (Burbage), Annette (Newbold) or Chris at the Circuit Office.

Disclaimer: the circuit is not responsible for the content of any website which we review.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/action/climate/monthly-eco-tip/>

Here are five ideas for churches to encourage their communities to embrace renewable energy:

1. **Host Educational Workshops:** Organise workshops to educate congregants about the benefits of renewable energy, how it works and practical steps they can take to incorporate it into their lives. Invite experts to speak and provide hands-on demonstrations.
2. **Install Solar Panels:** Lead by example by installing solar panels on church buildings. This not only reduces the church's carbon footprint but also serves as a visible commitment to renewable energy. Share the journey and benefits with the congregation.
3. **Green Energy Pledge:** Encourage members to take a pledge to switch to green energy providers. Provide resources and information on local renewable energy options and how to make the switch.
4. **Community Renewable Energy Projects:** Partner with local organisations to develop community-based renewable energy projects, such as solar gardens or wind farms. Involve the congregation in planning and fundraising efforts.
5. **Eco-Friendly Events:** Organise events like clean energy fairs, where local renewable energy companies can showcase their products and services. Include activities for all ages to make learning about renewable energy fun and engaging.

These initiatives can help foster a sense of community and shared responsibility towards a sustainable future. 🌍

How do you think your church might respond to these ideas?

Easter Card from Rev Sonia

A vibrant sunset over the ocean. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the center of the frame, casting long, golden rays across the sky and reflecting on the water. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a lighter yellow and then to a soft purple at the top. In the foreground, dark, silhouetted rocks are scattered along the shoreline, with gentle waves lapping at their bases. The overall mood is peaceful and hopeful.

*Christ is Risen!
He is risen indeed
Alleluia*

With every blessing for Easter

Easter 2025

Dear Beloved in Christ,

It seems we have only just begun the Lenten season but already we are at the midpoint. The days rush by and the months come and go. What is the significance of Easter when God's people are crushed daily by hardship and war; by despair and doubt; by loneliness and pain?

At this time of year, I remember the madness of Circuit life and the endless service preparation. I remember the desire to stand still amid all the activity and centre myself once more in God's love.

The message of the risen Christ can seem meaningless as we listen to the news and see media images of bewildered children in Gaza or bombed out buildings in Ukraine and yet, and yet...

We worship a Saviour who came to such a world as this. A man in whom the authority of God could be clearly seen. A person who touched the lives of people around him. A messiah who bore the hatred of the world so that we could know what it means to be loved by the God who chooses to be alongside us.

The Easter message is one that is full of hope in a world that seems forlorn; a message full of love when hatred and mistrust seem to have the upper hand; a message that continues to revive the people of God so that we share the Good News of God's love with our communities and in our world.

Easter powerfully reminds us that the God we worship can burst open all that seeks to imprison and contain the spiritual treasure we hold. Just as the tomb could not imprison and contain the Son of God, neither will we, despite the malicious intent that swirls around, be defeated.

In Christ, we have the victory, for as St. Paul tells us: "...neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."
[Romans Chapter 8: verses 38-39]

May this hope give you peace this Easter and always.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Samia', with a stylized, flowing script.

14th April District Diary Launch Information

Our New District Diary is Live

I am delighted to announce that our new Northampton Methodist District Diary is officially launched today!

The District Online Diary will serve as a central hub for key events, meetings, training sessions, and activities across our District, making it easier for all of us to stay informed and connected. Whether you are looking for upcoming gatherings, important dates, or training opportunities, the diary will be a valuable resource for all. (Do look again at the launch letter, attached).

To view the diary and start using it, please visit:
<https://www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/news-events/calendar.html>

Join the Celebration – Children's Competition

To mark this special occasion, we are inviting children aged 11 and under to take part in an exciting competition to help us name the diary and design its logo! The winning entry will be announced at our Representative Synod on Saturday, 10th May, at Oadby Trinity Methodist Church, where the winner will receive a £50 prize presented by myself. If travel to Leicester is a problem, we can present the prize virtually (and the winner will be notified before the event.)

We would love for as many children as possible to take part, so please share the competition flyer with your churches, families, and children's groups. Full details, including how to enter, please see the attached letter (including the competition rules) and the competition flyer.

Thank you for your support in making this a shared resource for the whole District. I look forward to seeing how it grows and becomes a tool for greater connection and engagement.

With every blessing,

Sonia Hicks

Chair, Northampton Methodist District

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Training and Unconscious Bias Training 2025

We are running some in person Training in our circuit this year.
As Methodists we say that 'all are welcome', that 'all can be saved' and
that 'God is for all', and yet we do not always live this out.

This training will not be a tick box activity and it won't be like EDI training
you might have done somewhere else. It will:

- remind us why commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion is
part of our discipleship
- help us to think about how the law applies to the church
- encourage us in our commitment to reach out in mission to all people

Venues:

Bedworth Methodist Church, Mill Street, Bedworth CV12 8JZ

Woodside Avenue Methodist Church, Woodside Avenue South, Coventry, CV36BE

You will need to attend both the afternoon sessions or the whole day on
Saturday.

Bedworth Methodist Church

Tuesday 6 th May	Unconscious Bias module, 12–1pm EDI Module part 1, 1.30pm–3.45pm
Tuesday 20 th May	EDI Module part 2, 1.30pm–3.45pm

Woodside Avenue Methodist Church

Saturday 26 th July	Unconscious Bias module, 10am–11am EDI Module part 1, 11.30am – 2pm EDI Module part 2, 2.30pm – 4pm
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please bring your own lunch, drinks will be provided

To register for this training please contact office@covnunmethodist.org.uk

Working towards a fully
inclusive Methodist Church

www.methodist.org.uk/inclusive-mc-strategy



Methodist Women in Britain Upcoming Events



Friday 27th June at 7.30pm



Our 3rd Mary Bosanquet Lecture will be given by

Kathy Galloway from the Iona Community

Pay Attention Be Astonished Tell About It

A Fringe event at Methodist Conference, Telford



World Federation Day

with a South American flavour



Saturday 18th October 2025

At Starbeck Methodist Church, Harrogate

See Summer newsletter for more details

Butterfly Movement Service of Affirmation & Thanksgiving

Tuesday 25th November 2025, 10.30am – 12.30pm

Wesley's Chapel, City Road, London

Swanwick Conference 2026

10th – 12th April SAVE THE DATE

Fraudulent letters targeting charities



The [Charity Commission](#) has issued a warning about fraudsters targeting charities with fake letters. These letters may request actions such as removing trustees or executives, releasing funds, or providing personal documents like passports or utility bills. They may be signed as coming from 'the Commission,' Chief Executive Officer and/or its Directors.

It is important that your Church Council, as a charity, is aware of the risk of fraud.

It's not always easy to tell if correspondence is real or fake, however please note we:

- will only send you a letter just by post only if we do not have your current email address. [Check and update your details](#)
- rarely address letters generically, for example 'to whom it may concern'
- do not write letters or emails of certification on behalf of UK charities regarding tax exemption or any other matters
- do not issue requests to authenticate an account online by supplying personal identity documents
- will not ask you to provide banking information

In the rare circumstance where we might send you a letter by post it will:

- be franked – not stamped
- normally have a case number or reference on it
- be unlikely to be marked as 'Strictly Private and Confidential'
- come from the Charity Commission for 'England and Wales', not the 'UK' or 'England'

It is unlikely that any serious allegations against individuals would be detailed in a letter, or that we would name individuals before there was clear evidence of wrongdoing.

Matters to do with casework or investigation would normally come from a caseworker or a team at the Commission .

If you are in any doubt, [contact us to check](#).

If you receive a suspicious letter, please contact the Charity Commission to verify its authenticity. The Commission has reported these incidents to Action Fraud and will continue to monitor the situation.

For more information click [here](#). [Fraudulent letters targeting charities](#)