



Latest news items added:

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A BIG THANK YOU FROM ST MARK'S CRESCENT !

On behalf of St Mark's Crescent Methodist Church a heartfelt "thank you" to everyone who contributed their Windsor and Maidenhead recycling points to St Mark's 2020Vision Project.

The project came third on the list at the end of June with over 213,000 points.

As a result, the Project has been awarded £1000 under the scheme. Thank you, everyone! This could not have been achieved without your help!

BOOK THE DATE ... and avoid a clash!

Jill Baker, who will be Vice President of the Conference for the church year 2017-8, will be taking our Thames Valley Circuit Service on the evening of **Sunday, 29th October 2017 at High Street Methodist Church Maidenhead**. Andrew will also be coming and it would be lovely to give them both a warm welcome back!

Our Superintendent Minister, Sonia, says it would be good if as many of the Circuit as possible are able to attend. This date is being publicised well in advance – so please – book this date and do avoid arranging any other events which would clash with their visit.

JILL BAKER HAS NOW BEEN ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE METHODIST CONFERENCE!

In her inaugural address made earlier today, Jill Baker – a former member of our Circuit and now the newly elected Vice-President of the Methodist Conference – reflected on the need for both laughter and lament in the Church's life.



On 24th June, at the Methodist Conference in Birmingham, Jill Baker, a Methodist local preacher and former President of the Methodist Women in Britain, shared a mixture of humorous and touching stories to reflect on how the Church needs laughter and lamentation in its rhythm of life.

Reflecting on the story of how her father was converted through Methodist laughter, Jill asked: "Do we ever consider laughter as a mission strategy? Laughter touches on something important ...

"We love laughter, we need laughter, we accept laughter as a gift from God. Let's make it our aim to laugh more!"

She continued: "Life is not all laughter... Darkness is another arena of God's revelation...

"As a Church too, we need sometimes to express our sense of grief that the world is hurting ... lament may not change the past, but it can change us, which, in turn, can change the future."

To see to the full text of Jill's speech, [click here](#).



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL PREACHER, LIZ !

Fundraising for Macmillan Cancer Support

Liz Tottingham

I am doing the Thames Path Mighty Hike for Macmillan Cancer Support because I want to show that I am fit again!

To donate <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/LizTottingham>



After an unsuccessful lumpectomy I had a mastectomy in June 2015. This was followed by chemotherapy and radiotherapy. After the radiotherapy I did not have a lot of energy and could only manage the 12 minute warm-up section on the Macmillan DVD Get Active Feel Good. I now feel I am back to full strength and to prove it on July 29th I am doing the Thames Path Mighty Hike from Windsor to Henley (26.2 miles) in aid of Macmillan to raise money to help fight cancer.

Event: Thames Path Mighty Hike 2017, 29 Jul 2017

To donate <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/LizTottingham>



SMALLER CHURCHES NEWSLETTER

The Smaller Churches Newsletter for Q4, June – August 2017 is available on the website. You can access it from the OUTREACH page of the website or by clicking [this link](#).

MEDITATION WEBSITE

If you have a few minutes to spare, why not try one of the meditations at “TakeTime”! This is a recently-launched website, www.taketime.org.uk.

These meditations are inspired by the tradition of St Ignatius and the stories of Jesus. They are free and are meant to enable you to encounter Jesus in a new way through guided meditation – all you have to do is listen and relax! If you would like further information, go to the website or contact [Connie Jeffery](#).

£220 raised!

The Lent / Passiontide “**Journey to the Cross**” service featuring Thames Valley Voices (the circuit’s choir) on 4th April raised £220 for *All We Can’s* East Africa Famine Appeal.

Our very grateful thanks go to all who contributed to this memorable evening, including the dedication and hard work of the singers, and the money-raising contributors.

WORLD CHURCH RELATIONSHIPS NEWS BULLETIN

The June edition of The World Church Relationship News Bulletin has stories and information from Fiji, Colombia Myanmar and Zimbabwe Fellowship in the UK. [Click here to see it](#).

PICTURES TO SHARE

The Circuit has two sets of illustrated books which are intended for use with people who have problems in communication, such as those suffering with stroke or dementia.

Each Church in the Circuit has at least one book which is available for use when visiting Care Homes, etc. If you wish to take advantage, please check with your church’s Senior Steward for details of the procedure for borrowing.

THAMES VALLEY CIRCUIT ANNUAL REPORT

The Circuit's 2016 Annual Report, for the connexional year September 2015 – August 2016 is available on the website. You can access it from the ABOUT US page of the website or by clicking [this link](#).

A BIG "THANK YOU"

The Trustees of the London and Slough Run would like to thank everyone who contributed to the **Slough Winter Night Shelter 2017**. The Shelter involved 7 local Churches and over 250 volunteers from all local faith groups. It ended in April. 49 people used the service. Working with Slough Council we have helped find accommodation for 25 and 11 have found employment.

Sadly, some are still sleeping rough in the town. We are continuing to help them with a weekly soup run at St Mary's in Slough, and are working in partnership with the Slough Homelessness forum. The Salvation Army in Slough provide a drop-in service for the homeless every day between 10 am and 1 pm, and a soup Kitchen on Thursday and Sunday evenings between 6:45 pm and 8:30 pm. The Salvation Army are desperately short of volunteers and have appealed to us for help. Training will be provided. If you can spare some time, please contact Lin Anderson on 01753 525819. This year's Slough **Sleep out for the homeless** fundraiser will be at St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School on Saturday 25th November at 7:30 pm. Please see our website www.thelondonandsloughrun.com for further details.

Thank you again for all your prayers and support.

John Power, Chairman

CIRCUIT MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the Circuit Meeting held on 23rd May 2017 are now available, and can be accessed by clicking [this link](#).

PLEASE SEND YOUR NEWS

If you have any news you would like to share with the circuit (and further afield) please send it to the [circuit webmaster](#).

NEVILLE WALTON: "HEADS UP" CHARITY APPEAL

Neville Walton is raising money for 'Heads Up' an Oxford based pioneering scientific research charity, aligned to The Head and Neck Cancer Unit, at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford. His treatment for tonsil cancer was recently carried out by this unit.

Such was the excellent skill and care Neville received, he is asking family and friends to consider making a donation to support their clinical, teaching and research work in the field of cancer of the head and neck.



His daughter, her partner, his grandson and friends, The Pink Mohicans, are committed to cycling more than 500 miles across France in aid of the Charity.

The family would like to thank you in advance for any gift you feel able to make.

Please send your donation to:

Neville Walton (HN)
Benwell House
Cox Green Lane
Maidenhead
Berks
SL6 3EY

or via The Just Giving website <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Gillian-Walton>

AN INVITATION ... IF YOU ARE IN THE LAKE DISTRICT!



Mining for God

2pm : Fridays 21 July, 28 July, 4 August
at Honister Slate Mine

More details and booking from
David : 017687 75818
or email revhasson@aol.com



Keswick Methodist Church
181 Colby Road, Keswick
www.keswickmethodistchurch.org.uk



For further details – e.g. prices and booking application – [Click here.](#)
