

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
BANBURY CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER
JULY/AUGUST 2010**

Getting balance into our lives

Rev Rob Anning, Superintendent Minister, writes:

“A Mars a day helps you work, rest and play” – so went the advertising slogan. I’m not sure how successful a Mars a day was in doing that but what the slogan did have right was that we should be seeking a balanced lifestyle of work, rest and play.

I don’t know if Jesus liked Mars bars but I do know that from the gospels, it is clear that he sought a balance in his own life between work and rest and play – and a time for worship and prayer too.

As his disciples, his followers, we need to strive to emulate Jesus in bringing balance into our lives. This means taking seriously “quality time” for each element of our lives, and then within those elements, seeking variety and balance too.

With the Summer upon us, now is the time to redress the imbalance of a shortage of rest and play.

We should have no conscience about taking a break or doing some different activities in order to refresh ourselves, so that we can do God’s work more effectively in the future.

Even if we can’t get away for a holiday or short break we should remember the saying: “A change is as good as a rest”. Try to go for a daytrip to somewhere you have never been before. Try to find something new to do which you haven’t done before. It is amazing just how much a “change” can make to our view of our normal, usual world.

Jesus is often found going up a mountain to find some peace, crossing to the other side of Galilee in a boat to get away from the crowds, seeking out a quiet time for prayer. That’s how he recharged his batteries and ensured he was physically, mentally and spiritually balanced and ready to do his Father’s will.

So this Summer, commit yourself to setting some time aside to at least reflect on the balance of your life, and perhaps for a change, give some time to yourself!

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JULY/AUGUST 2010

July 4th

Isaiah 66:10 – 14
Psalm 66:1 – 9
Galations 6:(1 – 6) 7 – 16
Luke 10:1 – 11, 16 – 20

July 11th

Deuteronomy 30:9 – 14
Psalm 25:1 – 10
Colossians 1:1 – 14
Luke 10:25 – 37

August 1st

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
Psalm 49:1-12
Colossians 3: 1-11
Luke 12:13 – 21

August 8th

Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

August 15th

Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

July 18th

Genesis 18:1 – 10a
Psalm 15
Colossians 1:15 – 28
Luke 10:38 – 42

July 25th

Genesis 18:20 – 32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6 – 15 (16 – 19)
Luke 11:1 - 13

August 22nd

Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

August 29th

Sirach/Ecclesiasticus 10:12-18
Or Proverbs 25:6-7
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

CIRCUIT PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2010

This year we are dividing our competition into four categories.

1. Lands afar
2. Great Britain
3. Everyday life
4. Nature

There will also be a general category for those 12 years old and under. Closing date is Sunday 5th September. Please mount prints on a piece of A4 white paper or photographic paper. These will be displayed at a date to be announced later. Entries, with your name, address and telephone number, to be sent to Mrs. P. Giles, (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*) after the 1st August (or they can be left in the office at Marlborough Road) entry fee again £1.00 per print and 50p for the junior entrants.

HYMNBOOK COMPETITION & SPRING COFFEE MORNING

Val Trinder would like to thank everyone who supported the Spring Coffee Morning at her home on 31st May. A total of £145 was made for the manses fund so a big “thank you” goes to everyone who came or made cakes, and also to all the indefatigable helpers!

You are invited to explore Hymns & Psalms, delve into its hidden depths and perhaps find some undiscovered gems, and probably have some fun too, in the process of “having a go” at the Hymnbook Competition launched at the Coffee Morning. Entry fee is £1.50 with all proceeds going to the Manses Fund. Copies will be available after the Circuit Services on 27th June at Marlborough Road and 8th August at Brailes. The closing date is Sunday 5th September. The results will be announced at the Talents Day on 2nd October. Further details from Val Trinder (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*)

CIRCUIT TALENTS DAY - SATURDAY 2nd OCTOBER

On Saturday 2nd October we are holding a Circuit Talents Day. The results of the Circuit Photographic Competition and the Hymnbook Competition will be announced, followed by a Craft Fayre. The photographic entries will be on display. The event will be held from 10-30 until 4-00 pm. at Marlborough Road. Refreshments and light lunches will be available all day. If you would like to book a table, or have further details, please contact Mrs Cicely Lewis on (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*). Please mark this date in your diary as it promises to be a good day out as well as offering opportunities to do some early Christmas Shopping.

CIRCUIT DIARY FOR 2010

Sunday, 8th August: Circuit Service at 6 pm at Brailes.
Sunday, 5th September: Circuit Covenant Service, at 10.30 am at Marlborough Road.
Sunday, 26th September: Back to Church Sunday.
Sunday, 14th November: Remembrance Sunday.

In addition to these dates, there is a Coffee Morning and Circuit Holy Communion every Thursday morning, to which everyone is welcome, and monthly Circuit Suppers on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm. All are at Marlborough Road.

CIRCUIT QUIET DAY

Venue: Wroxton Methodist Church
Date: Saturday, 25th September, 2010

Please make a note of the above date in your diary. If you would like to book a place or more details please contact me.

Dorothy Hewitson

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN POINTS OF BUSINESS FROM THE JUNE CIRCUIT MEETING

The meeting was held at Chacombe on 15th June 2010 and chaired by Rev. Rob Anning. A roundup of news from across the Circuit brought a wide range of summer fundraising activities and forthcoming special services to our notice. We were also reminded that we still need someone to take on the role of Circuit Archivist – anyone interested should contact Rev. Rob Anning.

Circuit review – This was the major item of business. Rev. Rob Anning reminded us of the decision at the previous meeting to move to two full time ministers and a half-time Active Supernumerary from September next year. The Rev. Dorothy Hewitson was unanimously appointed to work in the Circuit as the Active Supernumerary from September 2011. After that date she will continue to be the minister for Easington, Bodicote and Adderbury, with Cropredy transferring to Rev. Rob Anning, and Hornton and Wroxton to Rev. Janet Jackson. Rev. Dorothy will take a Sabbatical from June to August 2011 which will help us to adapt to the new arrangements. More details will appear in the newsletter during the next year about the new ways of working.

The meeting agreed a new purpose statement as follows: *“The purpose of the Banbury Methodist Circuit is to support, enable and encourage our churches in worship, learning and caring, service and faith-sharing.”* The ways in which this will be carried forward were outlined and will now be further developed by the Leadership Team. Rev. Rob Anning will be attending Church Council meetings as they think about where their church is in relation to the four “Ps” (see previous newsletter). He also explained that following chapel sales, and the likelihood of a District grant, we will soon be able to appoint a lay worker. They would be employed to assist a small number of our rural churches in developing outreach work. He asked everyone to think about what type of help their church needs.

Safeguarding – Maurice Humphris gave a brief update on safeguarding. The new government intends to amend the planned new vetting and barring scheme but until we know the details the advice is to “carry on as before”. Church safeguarding representatives will hear what new action we need to take once it is known.

Finance – Julie Moore reported that the Circuit budget for the current year is on target and there are no major problems. The former Circuit Youth Council accounts have been closed and funds of £233.43 transferred to the Circuit. The meeting agreed that they should be earmarked for youth work. Churches were invited to make requests for their use.

Circuit property – Jean Swift reported on a few items of minor work done to the manses. The District inspection of the Stroud Close manse had gone well with only minor matters reported as needing attention. We are obtaining quotes for replacing the central heating system at Sycamore Drive as the boiler is well out of date.

Tony Swift reported that the sale of Chipping Warden chapel was now complete, the building having been sold for the full asking price. Val Trinder reported that a buyer has made a full asking price offer for Balscote chapel and the sale is proceeding. The Planning Authority (Stratford DC) for Warmington is insisting that attempts to find a “community use” for the chapel be made. If the Parish Council confirms that they know of no such use the chapel must then be advertised for sale as a commercial building for a minimum of six months. If that is unsuccessful, only then can we submit the planning application for conversion to a dwelling. Brailes Church Council has requested permission to sell the chapel once worship ceases there at the end of August. Our Circuit Solicitors are working on lifting the restrictions on the use of the Fairway site so that we can obtain a valuation and then explore possible partnerships for taking forward some redevelopment. Rev. Janet Jackson emphasised that the church is not closing and a space for use by the congregation would be included in any new buildings.

Property Stewards are asked to send information on useful tradespeople to Cicely Lewis (contact details on the Plan) who is compiling a database of them.

Local preachers – Hazel Stagg reported that Ian Hearle has reached the halfway point of his local preacher training with his studies progressing well. He had given his testimony at the Preachers’ Meeting.

Website – The Circuit website is now up and running (see June newsletter) and churches are asked to send anything to be included to Rev. Rob Anning or Ian Philipson. Any church wanting to include people’s names and phone numbers (addresses will not be given) must ask the person concerned for their permission to do so under Data Protection law.

Charity registration – The Circuit is now registered as a charity. Any changes in representation from churches to the Circuit Meeting should be notified to the secretary so that our register of trustees is kept up to date. Substitute representatives can be registered. Churches should continue to use the same national exemption number as previously for their own claims under the Charities Act, but for Circuit events/funds we should now use the new Circuit number.

The next Circuit Meeting will be on Tuesday 14th September at Hornton.

Banbury Floral Art Group Flower Festival 9th- 11th July

ALL PROCEEDS KINDLY DONATED
TO KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE

This year's Theme: Around Banbury

- Annual competitions
- Floral displays
- Photography display



**The
Katharine
House
Hospice**

Registered Charity No 297099

All are welcome!
Entrance is by programme and includes
light refreshments £2

Marlborough Road Methodist Church
Banbury OX16 5BZ

Fri 9th July 10.30 am - 4.30 pm

Sat 10th July 10.30 am - 4.30 pm

Sun 11th July 1.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Katharine House Hospice wishes to thank Banbury Floral Art Group for their support.

PROPERTY STEWARDS

Can you recommend a tradesman? We are looking at compiling a list of tradesmen to circulate to all churches. Can you please let Cicely Lewis know by the end of July? You can contact her on (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*)

NEW VENTURE AT ADDERBURY

The Adderbury congregation is starting a monthly Saturday coffee morning as a new way of opening the church doors to the village community. This will take place on the first Saturday of the month from 10.30 am to 12 noon and includes a bring and buy stall. Friends from the Circuit are very welcome to join us. We apologise to the friends at Hinton who do the same thing on the same day but we think there is room for two given that we are some 15 miles apart!

CROPREDY

We have Bible study meetings every Wednesday, for details of time and venues please contact Hazel Stagg.

Cropredy Chapel will be open for tea, coffee & homemade cakes, also homemade soup and crusty bread from 9 am to 3 pm on Thurs to Saturday 12th, 13th and 14th August (Cropredy Fairport weekend). Please make a note in your dairy. Parking is restricted but there will be a drop point at the chapel.

Chapel Anniversary on Sunday 4th July 10.30 am

Preacher Revd Micheal Langley

Continued on

Tuesday 6th July 7.30 pm

Speaker – Revd Martin Welling

Chair – Revd D Hewitson

With entertainment from Wesley Memorial All Age Singers from Oxford

BODICOTE PRAISE EVENINGS

Spend an hour of hymn singing, prayers and readings, followed by a welcome cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. We gather at Bodicote Chapel at 7.30 pm, on Thursday evenings once a month. All are welcome. The next meeting is on the 22nd July

Dorothy Hewitson

FAIRWAY

We will be holding our flower festival week as usual. Dates are as follows: -

Sunday 4th July 10:45 am with a Flower Festival Service

Monday 5th July 2 – 4 pm Strawberry teas £3.00 there will also be a raffle and bring and buy stall

Wednesday 7th July 2 – 4 pm Beetle Drive with tea and biscuits £2.00 there will be a prize for the winner and a Booby prize for the loser

Saturday 10th July Craft Fair starting at 10:00 am. (Anyone interesting in having a stall the cost will be £10.00 please contact Marilyn Nutt (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*))

HINTON METHODIST & ST MARY'S CHURCH COFFEE MORNINGS WOODFORD HALSE

Gods love is free
So is our coffee and tea
(And cakes and biscuits!)

You'll be very welcome to come and relax and chat between 10 and 12 o'clock in
Hinton Methodist Church
On the first Saturday of every month

MIDDLETON CHENEY

We have no organist at Middleton Cheney, and use a Hymnal Plus computerised music making device. Our usual operator is Nigel, and he is of course keen to get the very best results. Therefore, he needs to programme the services in. As Nigel works full-time, he usually does this on Saturday morning preceding the Sunday service. We would be very grateful if an order of service, or at very least the hymn numbers are given either to Mrs. Iris Bean (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*) as early in the week as possible please. Thank you very much for your co-operation.

UPPER BODDINGTON

Thank you to all friends in the Circuit who supported our Plant Sale. We made a total of £1515, the highest amount we have ever raised from plant sales.

We are organising an 'Open Garden' event in the village on Saturday, July 10th and Sunday July 11th hoping to raise more money to help repay the loan we had for our roof repairs. Gardens will be open from 11 am till 5 pm both days. Programmes, costing £3 for each adult, will give access to all the gardens and will be on sale (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*). If you plan to look at the gardens please call in

and pick up your programme before you start round the village. Ploughman's lunches and light refreshments will be available at Heritage House during the hours the gardens are open and there should be parking space available at the same place. Plants will be on sale in two of the gardens. We will close the weekend activities with an open air Songs of Praise at Heritage House at 6 pm on Sunday 11th. Members of the Church thank David and Daphne Adkins for allowing us to use their premises for the 'Garden' event. It will make a lot of work for both David and Daphne, but will give plenty of space for catering and parking.

MARLBOROUGH ROAD THURSDAY CLUB 7.30 pm

Enquiries: – Shirley Davies, *(contact steward or see paper copy for contact details)*

1st July – Meal out (venue to be arranged) – 5th August – An evening in Shirley's garden

JOY IN A GARDEN

As we look out on our small garden we have many happy memories. John remembers shrubs and plants chosen there by his wife Veronica. Then there are the plants and shrubs, (including some roses grown from seed), and garden furniture, resulting from gifts for our wedding two years ago.

But this year we really feel we should say thank you to all at Upper Boddington who have such a wonderful choice of plants at their annual sale. Our hanging basket and our daughter's too are the result of hard work by Boddington friends through a difficult spring and our pots are bright and beautiful with varied plants all of which are healthy and strong. Many thanks to you all.

John and Katie Lee

**DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER EDITION
THURSDAY 12TH AUGUST
CONTRIBUTIONS TO MARY TANNER,
*(contact steward or see paper copy for contact details)***