

Welcome to the second edition of the Circuit Newsletter for the Circuit which doesn't yet exist! You will already have noticed the two logos at the top of the page. The first Circuit Meeting of the new Circuit in September will decide which one to adopt, but we want to be guided by your thoughts, so please contact Kate at the Circuit Office on 07578 640013 or email on mwc.katetennyson@gmail.com. In this edition we also feature two more churches (Henley and Warwick), introduce our Circuit Operations Manager, Catherine, and invite you to put your walking boots on.

Logos: The first option, **Logo A (top left, above)** focuses on the familiar logo used by the Methodist Church, including the orb and cross symbolising the world and the Glory of the Risen Lord. The second, **Logo B (top right)** includes St Chad's Cross amalgamated with the Scallop Shell. St. Chad was the missionary to Mercia, and links us to the foundation of Christianity in this area of England. The Scallop Shell appears on the Wesley family crest and is a symbol of baptism and pilgrimage.

Henley in Arden



We are a congregation of about 10 people who all live in or about Henley in Arden. Our Mission is shaped by a number of close relationships with groups in the town. We have strong ecumenical links with other Christian congregations. As Churches Together we share worship often, meet monthly for

prayer and join in various acts of service to the community. The town Library is based in our church hall—an arrangement which is of benefit to both parties. Currently the Library, in partnership with the churches, is looking at starting a monthly Dementia Café. To enable such gatherings to take place. the inside of our church was recently refurbished (the pews were replaced by chairs and the sloping floor levelled). We have just submitted our application for a silver Eco Church award.



Northgate Methodist Church, Warwick



Methodism came to Warwick in 1801 when a Wesleyan Methodist local preacher and stonemason from Yorkshire—Thomas Facer—arrived to

work, renovating Warwick Castle. The congregation has occupied many other buildings in Warwick but has been at the present church since 1893, which was refurbished in the 1990s. Membership is 119 and we have around 60 people at our Sunday worship. We hold a regular Saturday coffee morning, and have several groups: Women's Fellowship, Methodist Guild, Mid-Week Home Groups, Widow's Group, Choir and Community Tuesdays which includes our Bread Church. Our facilities are widely used by the local community. At our official reopening, in January 1993, Dr John Tudor, , gave us a motto: "*Always be joyful, always be prayerful, always be thankful*", we bring this sense of joy, prayer and thanksgiving, to the new circuit.

Circuit News—Staffing

We are pleased that Rev Sam McBratney has been given permission by the church to serve at Roehampton University which also allows him to continue to serve part time in our Circuit—until 2022. He and his partner Rev Mark Rowland will move into the manse at Whitnash. We look forward to seeing Mark in our pulpits on Sundays (as well as Sam, of course!).

It is also good news that Rev Richard Wilde will be coming to live in the circuit from September as a Supernumerary Minister. Richard has agreed to take a part time pastoral role assisting Revs Peter and Jemima in the south of the circuit.

To assist the ministerial team 3 lay workers are being recruited, one for Warwick, Whitnash & Wellesbourne, one for Bidford & Mickleton, and one for Cubbington.

Introducing Catherine Evans-Routley (Circuit Operations Manager)

'I was appointed in September 2018 after 33



years as a nurse. I help to look after Circuit property/churches and support the Circuit officers and ministers in their roles. I am based

in the Circuit office alongside Kate Tennyson. The new Circuit presents an exciting opportunity and challenge.'

Catherine (on the left) is pictured with her wife, Barbara.

South Warwickshire Circuit - Inter-Church Walks 2019

We're planning a series of walks on Saturdays and Sundays in June as part of marking the new circuit. Each walk will be between churches, starting with a prayer at one, and finishing with a prayer and a cuppa at the other. The final 3 walks in July and September are timed to coincide with the special circuit services. Please join in as many as you are able. There are even rumours of one or two planning to do the whole lot! The schedule is

Sat 1st June	Bidford to Welford	4 miles
Sun 2nd June	Welford to Mickleton	6
Sat 8th June	Tysoe to Kineton	5
Sun 9th June	Fenny Compton to Knightcote	4
Sat 15th June	Stockton to Whitnash	9
Sun 16th June	Whitnash to Cubbington via Radford Rd and Dale St	6
Sun 23rd June	Cubbington to Kenilworth	5
Sun 14th July	Mid Warwickshire Circuit—Closing Service 3 pm @ Warwick Kenilworth to Warwick	5
Sun 21st July	Stratford & Evesham Circuit—Closing Service 3 pm @ Stratford Henley to Stratford	9
Sun 8th Sept	South Warwickshire Circuit—Opening Service 3 pm @ Stratford Wellesbourne to Stratford	6