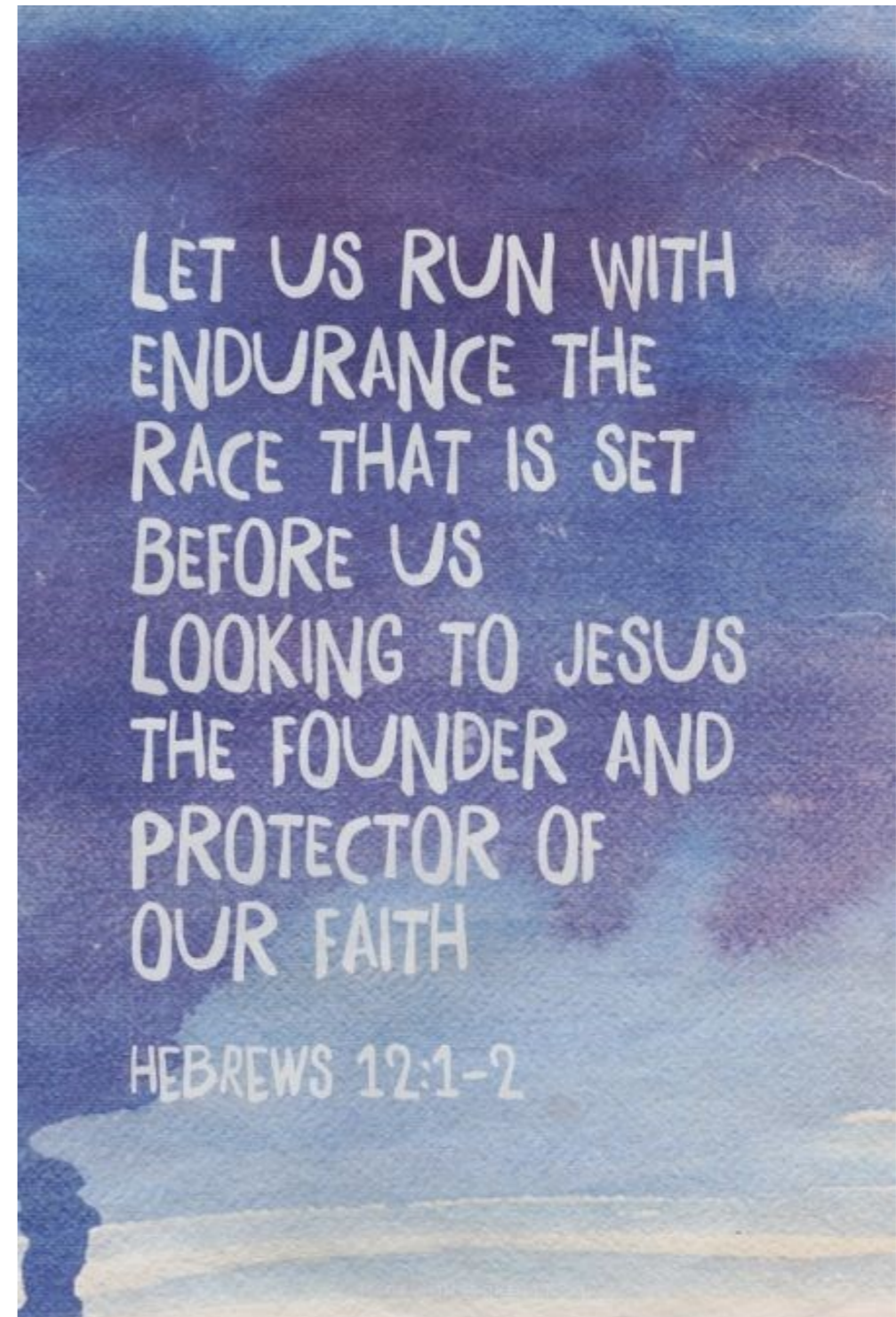




# Circuit News



## Calendar

### December

3	West Bridgford	Circuit celebration of partnership with Malawi through 'All We Can' 6 pm
7	Ruddington	Christmas Village Event
16	Bradmore	Village Carol Singing with the Salvation Army

### February

1	Bradmore	Rainbows Quiz Night 6.45pm in the Community Hall
2		8:23 Nottingham and Derby District Youth Event

### Advance Dates

7 March: Family Fun – Illusions, 2pm in the Community Hall at Bradmore

3 May 8:23 Nottingham and Derby District Youth Event

### Methodist Women in Britain Diary dates for 2020:

Willersley Week 23rd to 26th March -Speaker Anne Browse

Willersley Afternoon Tea - Wednesday 13th May - Speaker Rev David Leese - 'Gospel Magic'

Quiet Day Monday 6th July - Harrowby Lane Church, Grantham, led by Nell Shallow

Quiet Day Saturday 11th July - Allestree Church, Derby.

District Day Tuesday 6th October - Nuthall Methodist Church.

Please send any articles, dates and other information for the March to May 2020 Circuit News to Nikki Geeson by email

[nottinghamcircuitnews@gmail.com](mailto:nottinghamcircuitnews@gmail.com) by January 31st, 2020

The next edition is expected to be available in churches on: **Sunday 16th February,**

Would you like to get the Circuit News up to a week earlier?

The Circuit News is also available electronically as a PDF file. If you would like to receive a copy please send an email to [nottinghamcircuitnews@gmail.com](mailto:nottinghamcircuitnews@gmail.com) and you'll receive an electronic copy up to a week before the paper copies arrive.

## News from around the Circuit

### Cotgrave

In the last Circuit News we were just getting over the excitement of reopening the building and now another Methodist New Year is upon us .

We are still getting used to the refurbished building and there are a few jobs around the premises that remain to be done. During the summer we replaced the fence at the rear of the hall and completed the paving on the Lawrence Close side. The garden below the fence has been covered with broken recycled slates, as weed control, as has the circular border on the Bingham Road entrance. Thanks are due to all those who turned out and worked in some extremely hot conditions. We are also grateful to those who provided plants and shrubs.

During September we launched Toddler Café and this has been greatly welcomed by those parents and grandparents who attend. Numbers have proved to be quite promising, to what we see as a valuable form of outreach.

Transform (Year 6 children) began with almost overwhelming numbers of children from both Candleby Lane and Church of England School attending! Numbers at the other activities for youth and children are also quite steady.

We have been successful in attracting some new groups who wish to hire our building on a long term basis. When we were fund raising and applying for grants we stressed that we wanted the premises to be used by the community so this has proved to be a promising start.

During July it was wonderful to welcome the family and friends to the wedding of Sapphire and Josh. This was our first wedding in the refurbished premises. Hopefully we will prove to be an attractive venue for similar events.

Early in September we were privileged to hold the Civic Service for the Mayor of Rushcliffe Councillor Christine, who is a Methodist and a Cotgrave resident. This was followed by a buffet tea. It was good to be able to show off our refurbished premises to our civic leaders as well as those from around Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. We were also able to acknowledge the financial assistance we had received from our local authority.

In my last article I omitted the name of Reverends Andy and Helen from the list of former Ministers. It was good to welcome them both to our opening service.

We are now beginning to think about Advent and Christmas particularly the Christmas Journey for the two primary schools. Exciting if busy times ahead!

Ian

## A Note from our Superintendent

The recent Rugby world cup has reminded me of my most thrilling moment playing the sport. Playing for the 2nds against the school 1<sup>st</sup> XV I was amongst a group of players pushing each other in a maul in the middle of the pitch. And then in front of me I saw the ball. So I picked it up and began to run. No one was expecting this and because it took a while for others to see what was going on, I was out there, running on my own as fast as my legs could carry me towards my moment of glory. I ran half the length of the pitch, but with the try line in front of me I heard the thump of footsteps behind me, and then I was flattened. It was Gary, an England school boy international, the only one fast enough to catch me and as solid as a brick wall. I didn't quite get to the try line, but I remember the moment, because in a rugby career that was full of a lot of pushing, this was the only moment where I was running free.

In the Message, part of Paul's letter to the Corinthians is translated as 'I don't know about you, but I'm running hard for the finish line. I'm giving it everything that I've got'. It's one of a couple of times in the New Testament where the Christian journey is described as running a race. Hebrews tells us to run with perseverance as we fix our eyes on Jesus. Following Jesus is not always easy. There are times when we feel like a brick wall has landed on us. But alongside these there are also times when there is the exhilaration from the feeling of running free, knowing we are going the way God wants us to go. We face plenty of challenges in this circuit, but I know we are going in the right direction and I see signs that the Holy Spirit is moving in so many different places.

So let's keep on running together, fixing our eyes on Jesus and encouraging each other as we go. I am encouraged by all those great things that go on in this circuit, some of which are described in this circuit news, and I look forward to finding out where God will take us next.

Mark

## Our Christmas Services

### Christmas Eve

Clifton 4pm – Carols – Simon

Keyworth 11.30pm – Communion – Simon

West Bridgford 4pm – Christingle – Mark

Radcliffe on Trent 6pm – Carols – Mark

Cotgrave 7.30pm – Carols – Mark

West Bridgford – 11pm – Communion – Marian

### Christmas Day

West Bridgford 10am – Louise

Radcliffe – 10.30am – United Service at St Mary's

Cotgrave – 9.30am – Mark

Bradmore – Simon

Keyworth – Led by Baptist Church



## News from around the Circuit

### Keyworth

Our new prayer zone is now available after every Sunday service. This special area set aside in a corner of the Church is available for prayer or quiet contemplation. Several members have been trained to offer prayers, if requested, and have debated and reflected on the sensitivities and some of the practical issues when praying for and/or with others. Prayer shawls and crosses are also available. We trust this will enhance the opportunities to deepen faith in our own members and will be available for visitors. Also it is another outreach to people of faith or none whom we are able to offer an additional aspect of worship and service.

Our own Peter was leader of our all age harvest worship service using a well planned variety of methods to reflect on harvest and faith that really enhanced our worship. A collection was made for Framework and gifts of food and dry goods were sent to The Friary. The Stewards thanked everyone for their generous gifts, which this year included unused and surplus tools of all types for Tools with a Mission [TWAM] a Christian charity who collect unwanted tools, refurbish them, and send them to African countries.

We have held several events recently a Charity Card sale and two Keylink events, a Mable's Market and a Team Quiz to support Harvest Help and to attract those on the periphery of our church. In November we have the Bridge Singers in concert.

Preparations are well underway for our Christmas Fair to be held in the Village Hall on 9<sup>th</sup> November and our Remembrance Sunday service when some members may attend the commemorations around the village memorial gates.

Our Property Committee continue to work to achieve a well-maintained and cared for appearance of our church premises, for both our own church members and those who hire and use the premises throughout the week; of whom there are many. Our premises are in constant use and some redecoration and repair works have been identified, it is hoped to start the work sometime in December

Finally we said goodbye to two of our much loved and faithful members, whom many readers of the Plan will know, Les & Derrick. Les, who reached the age of 101 years, a man of great faith and knowledge of Methodism and Derrick our organist and music maker over several decades. We shall miss them both.

Alan

## News from around the Circuit

### West Bridgford

Circuit celebration of partnership with Malawi through 'All We Can'  
West Bridgford Methodist Church Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 6.00pm

'All We Can' helps people in some of the world's poorest communities to become all that they can, by investing in partnerships that improve quality of life and create positive, long-term change for individuals, families and nations.

During the past year our Circuit has had the exciting challenge of partnering communities in Malawi. The highlight of our fundraising was our Circuit Malawi Day in February when we had fun with craft activities, jigsaws, baking, drumming as well as sharing food and conversation. The day culminated in a worship led by Tim from 'All We Can'.

There have been many other fundraising activities throughout the Circuit and together we have raised £8,614.37 which is a tremendous achievement and something to be celebrated.

Please come and join in a Circuit celebration to be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at West Bridgford Methodist Church. Tim will be joining us. We will gather from 6pm for drinks and cake and to chat with Tim and with one another. Please come with news and pictures of your fundraising efforts. We will share in a time of worship at 7pm which will include a time of update from Tim on how the families that we have supported in Malawi have coped since the recent flooding and with the ongoing challenges of Climate change. We aim to conclude the evening by 8pm.

Thank you for your generosity. May we continue to do all we can and to pray for those working to lift their lives out of poverty.

**Monica**

## News from around the Circuit

### Bradmore

We are delighted that Steve has stepped forward to share Church Steward activities with Anne. Anne continues to cover the many tasks that make Sundays run smoothly at church, but is relieved not to be attending Circuit Meeting in future – there comes a point when age takes its toll and sitting in evening meetings is best avoided. We are very grateful to Anne for her decades of service, and for the many ways she continues to serve our little community.

By the time you read this we will have celebrated Remembrance Sunday with the aid of the Ruddington Cadet Drum Band. After performing outside the church to a good crowd of villagers, they will join the parish representatives at the war memorial inside for the laying of wreaths. This year, for the first time, the parish council have their own wreath which will be laid on behalf of the village by the parish Chair, Margaret, one of our members.

As we gird ourselves up for Christmas, we hope to use the opportunities provided by village carol-singing with the Salvation Army and our own carol service to get to know the new families in the village.

Looking forward to 2020, our annual Rainbows Quiz Night scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> February will be fun for all the family, and the next Family Fun afternoon in March will be themed on "magic" illusions and how they work, which should be an education to us all.

**Sheila.**

## News from around the Circuit Youth



On Sunday, the 22nd of September we held a District Youth Event for all the young people across Nottingham and Derby. We started the evening with a few activities. We decorated glass and wrote books about our Christian lives and the things that brought us close to Jesus. As well as arts & crafts we had other various activities such as football, dodgeball, table tennis, pool and a few board games. After all this fun we had a meal. It was jacket potatoes with beans, chilli or curry and a salad to keep us healthy. But being healthy didn't last for long since we ended the meal with cookies, cake and doughnuts. We finished the evening with worship together.

A student pastor named Cori joined us for this event. Since she lives in Dallas, Texas she came to see the difference here in Nottingham. She said its a great way for youth to connect. She never gets to see this happen in America since its such a big area. She really enjoyed it and hoped it carried on.

**Andrea**

## News from around the Circuit Ruddington

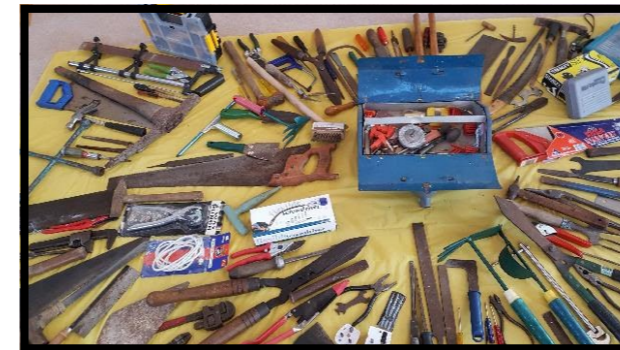
"Bloomin' Dementia", a Ruddington organisation supporting and advising people living with dementia and also their families, received the sum of £355 raised at our July concert featuring Ruddington's very talented Community Choir.

In September we began to hold monthly open prayer meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday from 2.00pm to 3.30pm led by Simon or Janet.

We annually support The Friary Drop-In with monetary and food donations collected during our Harvest Festival week-end. Nearly 50 folk enjoyed a jacket potato lunch efficiently prepared by Ruddington WI ladies. Songs from "Eclectic Harmony" with the bonus of guitar music filled the gap between the main course and a fruit platter, cakes and tea for dessert. Our theme was "Harvest of Skills and Talents."



Continuing the success of "Building Bridges - where older Church members join the "First Steps" toddlers, dates have been planned in November and December.



The number and variety of items collected for "Tools with a Mission" which were displayed in Church as part of our "Own Arrangement" service in October, overwhelmed the local representative. These tools will be cleaned or sharpened at the Ipswich HQ of TWAM before finding their way to other countries where they are needed.

On Remembrance Sunday the Ruddington Churches will worship together at St. Peter's Church following a short service at the War Memorial.

Simon has invited us all to a meeting on 28 November to hear about the report "God in love unites us" adopted by the Methodist Conference concerning such issues as cohabiting and same-sex marriage.

Saturday 7 December will see us once again joining other local organisations and shops in the Village Christmas Event. We shall be offering refreshments and running various stalls - something for everybody.

**Kathy**