# Wantage & Abingdon Circuit

## CHILDREY, GROVE & WANTAGE SECTOR



# CGW NEWS



July 2021

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Should you need a Minister when Keith is not available, please talk to one of the Stewards listed below, who will put you in touch:

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Contributions for the **next Newsletter** should be sent to the editor by email, phone

or in writing by <u>Sunday 18th July</u> to <u>wantage.sector.newsletter@gmail.com</u>
Tel: 01235 766655 / 07710 214601
Editors: Gill & Gordon Skidmore

## **Sunday Services and Church Activities**

Please see page 16 for the arrangements this month.

Wantage Morning Worship will be shared each week on Zoom at 10:30 (for access to these please contact Rev Keith Underhill)

Texts for Services at home for each Sunday are posted on the websites.

Grove web site is found from <a href="https://www.wantab.org.uk">www.wantab.org.uk</a>
Wantage web site <a href="https://www.wantab.org.uk">www.wantab.org.uk</a>
Circuit web site <a href="https://www.wantab.org.uk">www.wantab.org.uk</a>

Circuit YouTube channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBpMj71hDzpMhVj6t\_ZQt0w

Each week Wesley's Chapel in London will continue to live-stream worship, adapted for no physical congregation.

Service times: Wednesday 12:45, Thursday 12:45, Sunday 9:45 and 11:00.

All these services will be available at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUAUqhmhevz5sqhh72LIMxA

More information about all of this can be found at
https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/singing-the-faith-plus/seasonsand-themes/worship-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/

### From the Manse.....

A couple of Saturdays ago we were able at long last to take advantage of a delayed Christmas present - the opportunity of walking over the O2 Millennium Dome in London.

Since it was built it has become an iconic landmark in our capital city, instantly recognisable and used in many different settings, from the opening credits of EastEnders to James Bond in 'Skyfall' and 'The world is not enough'.

It was a fantastic experience - with amazing views from the top, including the Observatory where the Prime Meridian passes just to the west of the building. With the home of Greenwich Mean Time being almost within the dome's shadow, it was fascinating to learn about the symbolism of the dome itself.

There are twelve yellow pillars that are key to holding the structure up - each one representing not only a month of the year but also the hours on a clock face. The dome has a diameter of 365 metres to represent the days of the year, whilst the the centre of the dome is a full 52 metres tall to represent the 52 weeks in each year.

As all of this was being explained to us, Chapters 21 and 22 of the Book of Revelation came readily to mind, where the new heavenly Jerusalem is being described. Like the dome, that structure is also symbolic in its importance.

The walls of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia...... and it was 144 cubits thick. The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone, numbering 12 in total with 12 gates.

Within the city itself was the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

With direct references to the Garden of Eden (and its longed for restoration) as well as the importance of numbers (12 in this case and all its variations) John the Divine is reminding us that the importance of the new Jerusalem is about far more than just its physical shape and construction.

Likewise, our churches are important symbols in our midst, far more than just the actual buildings themselves - for they are the ones that point vertically in the midst of a horizontal world.

From the viewing platform of the O2 dome you can see London and beyond - from the top of the new heavenly Jerusalem ..... why nothing less than eternity itself!

With love and God Bless



#### **James Garnett**

We rejoice that Rev James Garnett was received into full connexion on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June at Conference and was ordained at Walsall that evening. James was for many years a member in our Circuit and we supported him in his candidacy. We will remember him and his family in our prayers.

## **Cornerstone Coffee Shop**

John Hogston

The Cornerstone coffee shop is now open normal hours, 9:30 to 4 pm Monday to Friday and 10 till 3 pm on Saturday. Customers will be very welcome.

We are looking for volunteer helpers during the week but particularly Saturdays. This is for wash up and working on the till. Full instructions will be given. If you can help please contact the Cornerstone on 772280.

Unfortunately, due to the current restrictions, prayer breakfast for July will not be held at the Cornerstone as originally publicised but a reflection will be sent to those who are interested. It is hoped that we can meet in August and enjoy fellowship together.

Thanks to all who support the Cornerstone in anyway.

## Thank you from Judy, Paul & Jenny

Judy would like to thank all her friends from Grove, Wantage and the wider Circuit for their cards and condolences following the death of Eric in May. There has been so much support from everyone during the past year when Eric was ill; flowers, shopping, transport to hospital, meals, to name a few. All this in the middle of lockdown when meeting in person has been so restrictive. A very big thank you to you all.

Your thoughts and prayers during this sad time have been a real comfort.

#### **CGW News Publication deadline dates**

I am expecting the Early Summer edition to be something of a supplement. It should only need to cover things arising from the progress of the CV19 easing.

August Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July
Late Summer Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August
Harvest Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September
Autumn Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October
November Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October
Dec/Jan Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November

## President and Vice-President elected and inducted

### The Revd Sonia Hicks

The Revd Sonia Hicks has been elected and inducted as President of the Methodist Conference. The induction took place on Saturday 26 June at the National Conference Centre, Birmingham, during the Methodist Conference which is taking place in hybrid form this year.



Sonia Hicks, who comes from a long line of Methodists as far back as her great-grandfather who was a Local Preacher in Jamaica, has served as a Circuit Superintendent in three connexions: Britain, the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and Americas and the Methodist Church in Ireland (MCI). She is currently Superintendent Minister in Wembley, north London.

In her Conference address Mrs Hicks focused on her theme for the year, "God's Table: An Invitation for All", reflecting on the racism and marginalisation she and her family have experienced and how the Church can respond to injustice and division in society today. She recalled the experience of her Great Aunt Lize, who had arrived from Jamaica with her Methodist membership card only to be rejected from her local Methodist Church because she was black. Sonia and her family eventually found a Methodist home at Walworth Methodist Church in South London.

Sonia, who is the first black woman to be elected as President of the Methodist Conference, speaking about her theme, said:

"In a world where people are excluded because of their ethnic background, their sexual orientation, their gender or simply because, like me, they were brought up on a council estate, I believe that we are called to show God's love for all people. It is a calling that Christian people have always struggled with, but we can and should be better at making God's love a reality in the British Methodist Church, overcoming the systemic discrimination that exists."

Sonia's commitment to oppose all forms of injustice began when she was a member of the Youth Exchange to Zimbabwe. She has since been Convenor of the World Relief and Development Committee for MCI, and has served as a Trustee for both All We Can and Christian Aid Ireland.

Looking to the future, the President said:

"As Christians we are to mirror the grace and the mercy of God. We are to find ways of issuing God's invitation of acceptance to those we meet on a daily basis. No ifs, no buts.

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"I believe that there is a place for all in the presence of God, at God's Table. But, as we acknowledge that everyone has a place, we also must acknowledge that we will therefore live with the tension of not all thinking the same. We will also have to recognise that living with such tension is never the easy option."

#### Barbara Easton

The Vice-President, Barbara Easton, was also elected and inducted on 26 June. Barbara Easton's vocation has been the world of education. Before becoming Connexional Director of Education in 2014 she was an RE teacher, inclusion and interfaith specialist and secondary headteacher in the West Midlands. She now leads the Methodist Academies and Schools Trust, committed to shaping our



schools as diverse communities of empowerment and transformation in their work at the margins of the church. Barbara is also a Local Preacher and has regularly volunteered at 3Generate and Greenbelt.

In her speech to the Conference, the Vice-President spoke of her rootedness in Methodism that began as a baby when she was adopted by a Methodist family. Speaking about how the Church moves forward ecumenically Barbara said: "I am urging you, my sisters and brothers, to see that we still have something valuable to bring to the Church's table and to be confident about the colour and texture that we add to make the ecumenical quilt richer. If the Church is called to be a sign to the world, then we are raised up as a sign to the sign."

The role of President of the Methodist Conference is reserved for presbyters and that of Vice-President for lay people or deacons. During his lifetime John Wesley chaired the Methodist Conference but after his death the Conference determined to elect a President annually.

The full texts of their addresses to Conference are available on the Wantage Methodist Church and Wantage & Abingdon Circuit websites. Printed copies are available from Gordon Skidmore on request.

## Young Christians' Relay to COP26

A group of young Christians from several denominations including the Methodist Church are walking in relay from Cornwall to Glasgow. We're delighted to be able to share some of their news along the way. This week one of the young walkers, Rachel Mander, explains the background to the initiative, the group's aims and how they are getting on a couple of weeks into their journey.

Just after the G7 in Cornwall, we set out to walk all the way to another set of talks - the international climate negotiations, COP26, being held in Glasgow in November. We're walking as an act of faith, hope and love. We have lots of days which we still don't have any offers of accommodation for, and where the route isn't finalised.

Already though, we have seen provision. A beautiful send-out service from Truro Cathedral, offers to meet a mayor, accommodation with views of a sunset over the harbour, rope swings over rivers, and a WhatsApp group with people praying for the journey.

We're walking because at the moment, many countries are being pushed further into debt because of the impacts of climate change. The existing international commitments to provide financial support to the countries most vulnerable to climate change, are being broken by our own government.

We want to pressure the UK government to prepare for COP26. As a global financial player, we should be reversing the recent cuts to aid, delivering on existing climate finance, and ensuring that no country gets pushed into debt because of climate change (the technical part of the UN negotiations for this is ensuring provision for a loss and damage financial mechanism).

A boat is accompanying us on our journey, with sails made from material from around the world. It's part of our acknowledgement that "We are in the same storm, but not the same boat" - just like we have seen with the covid-19 pandemic. As young Christians organising this Relay, we know that the story of our adult lives will be witnessing the effects of climate change, which will hit our neighbours around the world first and foremost.



Many churches around the world have been calling for climate action for decades. A 2004 World Council of Churches statement calls "on our sisters and brothers in Christ throughout the world to act in solidarity with us to reduce the causes of human-induced climate change... and to pay for the costs of adaptation to anticipated the impacts". I personally was just 7 years old when this call was issued. In faith, we ask churches in the UK to respond by joining us in this Relay to COP26.

We have over 100 days of walking ahead of us, and events in 10 major cities across the UK. We would love you to join

us: walk with us, host us in church halls, hold Climate Sunday services as we pass through, campaign with us to ask the UK government to act to ensure no country gets pushed into debt because of climate change.

Rachel Mander

## Wantage & Grove Street Pastors REPORT OF OUR APRIL & MAY 2021 ACTIVITIES

We patrolled once during the national lockdown that started on Boxing Day 2020. In March we began to receive reports of a number of young people out and about in Wantage with slightly longer evenings and warmer weather (although the weather didn't last long) and so we patrolled once at the end of March, but with pubs and restaurants unable to open, it was a very quiet evening for our team.

We are now building up the number of teams patrolling each month and with some Street Pastors re-joining, having been shielding for a year, we aim to patrol five times each month. Details of forthcoming patrols are available on our website: bit.ly/wgsp-patrols

Street Pastor teams have been well received by members of the public, especially with those whom we have helped in the past, and we have enjoyed meeting people and catching up with life.

Because of the changes to how people go out for the evening (eg booking a table in advance, not being able to stand at the bar or move from pub to pub so much), there has been generally less drunkenness. However large groups have congregated in parts of the town with the inevitable scuffles breaking out from time to time. Street Pastors have aimed to be a calming presence on such occasions and encourage people to disperse quietly.

Sadly, we have had to call the police several times when fights have broken out. The police have been very quick to respond and have brought things under control very quickly.

We have noticed these large groups are not now congregating in quite the same way, which helps keep things peaceful in the town.

As well as helping to keep things calm, we have helped charge individuals' mobile phones, chatted to people, cleared litter and broken glass off the streets, dealt with a lost credit card and given out lollies and bottles of water. We also visited Sweatbox Youth Centre and chatted to staff and young people.

	April 2021	May 2021
Patrols	3	3
Hours	38	39
Flip-flops	0	0
Lollies	~75	~80
Water	3	5

**Coordinator: Nigel Watt** 

Email: wantageandgrove@streetpastors.org.uk Website: wantageandgrove.streetpastors.org.uk

Mobile: 07554 655 594

## **Childrey**

For the foreseeable future Childrey will be open for Worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays in the month.

Sunday 11 July: 11:00 am led by Rev Michael Appleyard

Sunday 25 July: 11:00 am led by Peter Hemmings

## **Prayers:**

We remember in our prayers:

Pat Legge, Vicky, Robin and Becky and the Legge family grandchildren.

Keith, Leonora and. Andrea, David, Joy Gee, Jean

and all those unknown to us who are in need of our help.

Christian Love to all.



## Grove

Coffee Morning for Cancer Research U.K., Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> July at 10:00 am on Zoom.

Roger and Margaret Bett are hosting a Coffee Morning for Cancer Research U.K. at 10 am on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July on Zoom. We hope you will join us if you can. Please let Roger know so that he can send you the invitation link nearer the day (telephone 01235 868286, email <u>roger.bett@btinternet.com</u>)

Donations for Cancer Research U.K. can be made in cash or cheque (made payable to Grove Methodist Church), in a sealed envelope clearly marked Cancer Research U.K. and handed in in one of the following ways: to Roger, to Ian Sturt, 2, Collinsmith Drive, Grove, at Sunday worship, or by bank transfer (details from Roger).

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the M.H.A. Coffee morning in June. A total of £190 was raised. Thank you very much.

**Church Council** will meet on **Wednesday**, **14**<sup>th</sup> **July** at 8:00 pm and this meeting will be on Zoom. All who are part of the worship and life of Grove Methodist Church are invited to attend. The link for joining the meeting will be circulated nearer the date.

**Sunday worship in church** is open for all at 10:45 am and you are most welcome to come and share in it. It is necessary still to book a place in advance by telephoning Judith on 07887 995530. Covid rules continue to be followed, such as the wearing of face masks, hand sanitising and social distancing but worshipping together again is good.

We continue to hold in our prayers all those who are in poor health or have other difficulties and problems compounded by the very different time we have been living through. We are thankful that it is now becoming possible to meet up with our families and friends again and hope that, with care, the way forward will open up steadily for everyone.

**Wednesday Zoom Coffee mornings** each week are open to all. They are a good opportunity to keep in touch, find out news, share your thoughts and listen to what other people have to say. If you would like to join us on Wednesday mornings (usually 10:30 am) please let Keith know. You will then receive a weekly invitation by email and can join in as and when you are able to. Our thanks go to Keith, Ian and Roger for hosting the coffee mornings. They are much appreciated.

## Wantage

## **Morning Worship**

Morning Worship is in the chapel and on Zoom. Services commence at 10:30 am. We continue to observe the same Covid-19 protocols as last autumn to help keep everyone safe.

If you wish to come to the service please would you let Ann Barber know in advance either via <a href="mailto:emailto:

We ask you to wear a face mask at all times (unless you are exempt) and use hand sanitiser on the way in and out. If you have a smart phone, please scan the Covid QR code or tick your name on the list of those attending.

Sadly, we are still unable to sing in church at this time, or have refreshments afterwards. Please be aware of one another as you enter and leave the building.

We are conscious that for a variety of reasons not everyone will feel ready to return to church at this time. Reflective orders of service for use at home will continue to be sent out. The services from church will be Zoomed live for those who wish to join us from home. These transmissions will open at 10:15 and it would help those hosting the service if people could **log in before 10:28 please** so that you can be let in before the service starts. If you arrive later you could have to wait for the host to let you in while they deal with the start of worship and the first hymn. We are working to develop a larger technical support team for morning worship.

We recognise that not everyone has access to internet facilities and even where they do, do not find Zoom works for them.

We shall move to relax the distancing rules and hope to be singing as the summer progresses in line with any advice we receive.

Pastoral Ann Barber

A lot has been happening amongst our Church family since the last Newsletter only a few weeks ago! Some good news to celebrate is a birth within the Skinner family. On 4<sup>th</sup> June Verena, who grew up in our church and was married here, gave birth to a baby girl, Harbour Esther. She is a sister for Joseph, and a second grandchild for Judith and Mike. We offer them all our warmest congratulations on this wonderfully happy event.

During the same week, one of our members became a centenarian. Joan Kidd, who moved to live in Wantage a few years ago, celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. A card and plant were taken to her on the day of her party at Fleur de Lis where she is a resident. Joan's thank you card says: "I had a lovely day on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Thank you to all of you at Wantage Church. I do hope that, before too long, all the activities that normally take place here will be able to happen again." No doubt Joan's hopes are echoes of the thoughts and wishes held by many.

Framland is now home to three of our church family. June Coppock has been joined by Jenny Whymark and, most recently, Marion Jones. All of them have settled happily and are content in their care surroundings, and we remember them with affection in our prayers. June and Jenny regularly ask about church people whom they remember, and send their love to everyone, as does Margaret Watts who worshipped with us while she was a Fleur de Lis resident, but who now lives at Chawley Grove Care Home in Cumnor.

Richard George is much happier now that he's no longer in self isolation at Freeland House, his Care Home just outside Witney. In his words, having filled his room with photos, being able to socialise with other residents, and permitted to receive visits from his family, he is much more content, and sends his love to everyone at church.

We learned with concern that Graham has had three falls recently, of which the third caused most injuries. During the spell of very hot weather, whilst watering the flowers in his front garden, Graham tripped on the drive. He's now recovering from a cut on his head, a dislocated thumb and broken collarbone, plus the frustration of not being able to drive. It may be that people would like to call and see him at home, and Graham would welcome this. If so, please let his daughter Anne know so that she can advise of dates when he won't be at home because of hospital and surgery appointments etc. [07714 181928, or annematthews@hotmail.com]

Finally a message from Sharon in Accra; she is well, and is getting more acclimatised to the Ghanaian heat, but there's no doubt that we, as her greatly missed friends from Church, are very much in her thoughts. In each telephone conversation she wants to hear about everyone, and is equally keen to send her love and inimitable hugs to all of us.

**Church flowers:** As mentioned in the previous Newsletter, the provision of cut flowers in church is difficult because of Covid rules and restricted access to the building. The current alternative solution is a pot plant. I would be delighted to hear from anyone who is willing to be part of this new plan and to provide a plant. We can make arrangements for collecting from non keyholders, and taking the plant into church the day before the Service. [Telephone:01235 767152, email: annbarber7@gmail.com]

## Praying for each other:

In July the people listed below will be included in the prayer time when all of the members of Eileen Rennie's House-group, 'meet' to pray in their individual homes. On **Alison Phillips's** list: Jill Bunney, Jan Abrahall, Rob Charles, Janet Charles, Anne & Doug Hatto, Marion Jones, Brian & Jane Soffe and Evelyn Osei-Akowuah.

In addition to the names listed above, those in our church family, who through frailty or ill health can no longer worship with us on Sundays, will also be prayed for by name at Eileen's house-group.

Prayer list Eileen Rennie

Loving God, we have so many blessings in our lives to praise you for. Thank you that you have a purpose for us all and we pray that you will help us to understand your calling for our life and guide us to carry it out willingly and lovingly. Thank you for the support and encouragement of other Christians. Help us to worship, work and witness together for you and to look for opportunities to share our faith so that others may come to know and praise you. We thank you for shared fellowship with others even if at present it is socially distanced. Bless us and and guide us to strengthen and encourage all who share fellowship with us. Amen.

## Please pray for:

Bethan Grant, Jane, Alan Bunn and family, Carol Mackinder, Emma Wright and family, Anne, Betty, Alex and Brian, June Coppock, Alastair Wright and family, Caroline, Adrian, Richard, June C., John and Val Broadbent, Melanie and Vicky, John Morton, all at Bullingdon Prison, staff, prisoners and visitors, our Ministers, Deacon, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, YMOSES, kids@church and Street Pastors. Those members of our church family who, through frailty or ill health, can no longer worship with us.

If you or the person/people you have put on the prayer list would still like to be in the August Newsletter, please let me know by **Friday 16**<sup>th</sup> **July** in order for me to meet the Newsletter deadline.

Telephone: 01235 224284, email <u>eileenrennie@icloud.com</u> (Please note change of email address)

## **Tuesday Afternoon House Group**

Eileen Rennie

With the month of June nearly over we give thanks for all the good people and things that have been there for us including summer sunshine and showers.

Hopefully by the time you read this some of us will have been able to take advantage of meeting up in the Church Hall on  $29^{th}$  June to rejoice in physically seeing each other, although still socially distanced, and pray together as well as plan and catch up with each other. It is our aim, if all restrictions allow, to then meet weekly in the **Church Hall at 2:00 pm each Tuesday**. Details of how we have agreed to move forward will then be forwarded to all within the group. If you are interested in joining us any week you will be most welcome.

It is appreciated that some people may still not be ready to meet up in the group but they will be kept in the loop with what is happening and details of prayers can still be sent to them each week. Please let me know if there is someone or some situation you would like us to pray for.

We do all look forward to the time when we will all be meeting together again. In the meantime pleased be assured that you are all held in prayer.

If you have any queries you can contact me (Eileen Rennie) by telephone on 01235 224284 or email: <a href="mailto:eileenrennie@icloud.com">eileenrennie@icloud.com</a>. Please note the new email address.

## **Knit & Chat**



At long last we have been able to meet together in the church hall. We ensure there is good ventilation, all wear masks and sit suitably spaced apart. It is really good to be able to sit and knit together and to catch up with each other's news.

Several people are now knitting the bottle green school jumpers for Future Pillars Zambia. There were also some lovely personal projects to admire, including a pretty bed jacket and a colourful crocheted lap blanket. I hope to be moving back to angels soon although it is taking me a long time to knit the green jumper - mainly due to having to knit the front three times. The first time I had accidentally not cast on enough stitches, the second time I had dropped a stitch so far back that it was impossible to pick up!! Thank you to all those adding to the host of angels – only six months until they will fly!

Knit & Chat will hopefully meet in the hall on the first and third Mondays of July and if not we will meet by Zoom. Do let June G know if you wish to join our Facebook group and keep a lookout for photos and news on the church website.

If you need wool, have any other queries or just fancy a chat do please call me.

## Community Drop In Café

Eileen Rennie

Lots of positive news still continues in the roll out of the vaccine with already over 80% of people in the UK having received their first vaccine and over 60% having received their second dose. It is particularly encouraging that so many young people are taking advantage of their opportunity to receive the vaccine. Having been patient thus far I am sure we will all be prepared to take the cautious approach for a little longer.

As always it is good to be able to keep in touch with some of you through phone calls and also to see you sometimes when we are out for our daily exercise and now we may even be able to sit and chat a little longer. We know how much so many people are looking forward to the time when we can once again join together on Monday mornings for chat and refreshments. Please be assured that as soon as we have some definite news on re-opening we will be letting you know. You are all held daily in prayer.

When the happy day comes and we are able to meet again the donations will be going to Clean Slate, a low cost, long term listening and support service for all victims of abuse and mental illness. Our sincere thanks to our willing volunteers waiting in the wings to be able to resume service again. They too have missed seeing your friendly faces and hearing your news. When normal service is resumed we look forward to welcoming you all back.

For further information contact either Eileen Rennie or June Grunwald.

## **Church Bank Account – Important**

Wantage Methodist Church is currently in the process of changing its bank account. If you make payments by regular Bank Standing Order or intend to make occasional payments by Bank Transfer and have a note of the current (old) bank account details you should stop using those and should **ask me for the details of the new bank account**. Currently we are in a transition stage but I hope that all payments from July 1<sup>st</sup> will be made to the new account. You can contact me by email (candaphillips@gmail.com) or telephone on 07730 779960 or 01235 760335. I have written to all members and friends who have Standing Orders or use Bank Transfers to give them the new details but I may have missed some.

To explain the reasons for this change: About 40 years ago, when the Circuit contained many more small churches, the circuit and church treasurers set up a collective bank account (Giro) for the circuit churches. A circuit giro treasurer was appointed (Eric Thomas) and through his diligent, active management he was able to facilitate easy transfers of funds between the churches and circuit and increase the interest received by the churches. In recent years these advantages have diminished and the additional management has become a problem. Two years ago the circuit and church treasurers agreed in principle that each church should have its own separate account and that eventually the giro account would be used only by the circuit. Regrettably this has now become urgent but fortunately the new account is available. The next few months will be a transition stage as Wantage Methodist Church gradually moves from using the giro account to the new account. The sooner we can disentangle the two, the better. If you have any questions about this, or need help, please do not hesitate to contact me. I apologise for the trouble that this will cause. Many thanks.

## **Users: Weekdays in the Hall**

It is intended to bring things back into use in a controlled way. The programme for the next few weeks is as follows:

Mondays July 5<sup>th</sup> ,19<sup>th</sup> Knit & Chat in the hall in the afternoon

Tuesdays July 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Afternoon House Group in the Hall (tbc)

Fridays July 2<sup>nd</sup>,9<sup>th</sup>,16<sup>th</sup>,23<sup>rd</sup> Mother & Toddler group on the hall in the morning

Fridays in July & August Community Larder in the Hall in the afternoon

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## **DIARY for JULY**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm Knit & Chat in the Hall (also 2:15 pm on Zoom)

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Grove Fund Raising Coffee Morning – Zoom

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> 8:00 pm Grove Church Council – Zoom

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm Wantage Church Council – Zoom

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> DEADLINE for AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm Knit & Chat at church (also 2:15 pm on Zoom)

**Services during July** 

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Rev Eileen Appleyard

10:45 am Grove Rev Keith Underhill

This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Helen Carter

10:45 am Grove Barbara Kershaw

11:00 am Childrey Rev Michael Appleyard

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Stephen Atkinson

10:45 am Grove Local Arrangements or via Zoom (tbc)

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Deacon Selina Nisbett

10:45 am Grove Frederick Obeng11:00 am Childrey Peter Hemmings

**Smiles & Groans** 

Thanks to Rev Tony Buglass on Facebook

Don't you hate it when someone answers their own questions? I do.

I know they say that money talks, but all mine says is 'Goodbye.'

Q: Why are Helium, Curium, and Barium the medical elements?

A: Because if you can't heal-ium or cure-ium, you bury-um.

What do you call a camel with 3 humps? Humphreys

What do cows do for entertainment? They rent moovies!

If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is it naked or homeless?