



## Greetings!

Welcome to the newsletter for the Blackwater Valley Circuit. This is the third edition of the newsletter. As we approach the longest day of the year, it seems good to reflect on the special anniversaries and high days in our circuit and celebrate those who will soon be ordained.



## CHURCH ANNIVERSARIES ACROSS THE CIRCUIT

In the last six weeks, three of our circuit churches have celebrated significant anniversaries.

Hartley Wintney Methodist and Sandhurst & Yateley Methodist both turned 120 years old. Bracknell is the baby amongst our birthdays, with a mere 70 years! Collectively, that's over 300 years worth of Christian witness, service, sharing, prayer and living out faith in their local communities plus many, many cups of tea.

All three churches marked their occasions with a range of events including afternoon tea at Hartley Wintney, a play performed by members of Sandhurst & Yateley, charting their history, whilst Bracknell Methodist held a weekend of celebration finishing with a wonderful lunch after their anniversary church service on 14<sup>th</sup> June.

Greetings from the circuit. I hope that you are well. It's been a while since we last sent out a newsletter, but the circuit has been busy in all aspects of mission and church life. From celebrations of church anniversaries to the preparations for Kyung Mi's ordination later this month there has been much joy amongst us. As I write this, I am aware that for some churches Bible Month is in full swing, studying the letter of Philippians, a letter of encouragement to people in the midst of challenge, finding a harvest of joy and contentment, growth in Christ and unity together. All these themes seem very relevant in this moment, where division, intolerance and blame seem to be more prevalent across society. The church is called to be a church of justice. Justice that enables everyone, and all creation, to flourish. Justice that removes everything that diminishes people, that oppresses or exploits them. Justice that enables us all to grow in relationship with each other and with God. Instead of a far right rhetoric of exclusivity, Philippians invites us to be one, making space for everyone – a space where we believe we belong, and a space where our becoming can begin together bringing our own gifts and talents to the community in good times and in bad.

As you read and reflect on the news from the circuit, it seems to me that we can be encouraged that our churches are places where people are enabled to believe, to belong together, places of welcome and hospitality where our becoming together can flourish. May we continue to see our salvation bring about the best for all of creation across all communities in the Blackwater Valley Circuit.

*Revd Anne Day*



## YOUR CIRCUIT NEEDS YOU!

**WANTED**

**YOU!**

**REWARD: fun,  
fellowship and knowing  
you made a difference!**

### Wanted: More Circuit Stewards

Caring and compassionate people who enjoy working with people to get things done. Must enjoy cups of tea and being with a lovely bunch of people on a variety of projects, which may include property management, health and safety, discussing finance and keeping people safe whilst supporting staff through the highs and lows of ministry. Must be good at being themselves and bringing whatever skills and experience they have from their walks of life.

No experience necessary - all training given. Interested? Please speak to Revd Nick or one of the circuit stewards.



## IMPORTANT DATES

**Circuit meeting** - 8<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm Bracknell Methodist Church

**District Synod:**

**Representative Session** - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September, Trinity Methodist Church, Brewery Road, Woking.

**Local Preachers and Worship Leaders meeting:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm at Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist Church

# GIVING WITNESS

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May, the circuit gathered at Frimley Green Methodist, along side family and friends of Revd Kyung-Mi to give witness to her journey as a probationer presbyter and affirm her as she goes forward to ordination in her testimony service. The church was packed, and we were thankful for Revd Conrad Hicks, our chair of district took part in the service. Kyung-Mi's testimony demonstrated her commitment to ministry, preaching the word, pastoral care and love that she has for those she is serving across the circuit. Kyung-Mi will be ordained as part of Methodist Conference, the annual meeting of delegates from across the Connexion. Kyung-Mi will be joined by Anna Carrington and Julie Hall, as all three are received into full connexion on the morning of Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June at Telford Exhibition. Anna and Kuyng-Mi will be ordained together at Shewsbury Abbey, whilst Julie will be ordained at All Saints, Wellington on the afternoon of the Sunday. For more information about their ordinations and the details of how to watch online, please see here: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/structure-and-governance/the-methodist-conference/conference-2026/ordination-services-2026/>



## MORE HIGHLIGHTS FROM ACROSS THE CIRCUIT

### Armed Forces Day

27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Armed Forces came to Aldershot and Farnborough. On the weekend of 27<sup>th</sup> June, the circuit had a pitch where we'll be able to engage with the many people visiting the area. This was an amazing opportunity to reach out and tell people about the work of the circuit across Hampshire, Surrey and Berkshire. We used Revd Anne's campervan, with a range of fun and thought provoking activities which demonstrated the relevance of Methodism today. Did you spot us? The day was full of fun and meaningful conversations.



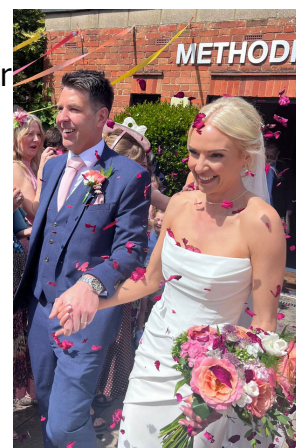
### NEWS FROM THE WEBSITE

Is live! And we'd like you to be part of it.

If you have any photos or news of any events happening at your church, why not let Anne Day or Rowan Handford know - [digital.bvmcircuit@icloud.com](mailto:digital.bvmcircuit@icloud.com)

### Minister marries daughter!

Now and again as a minister you get to do something very special and Revd Sharon Gardner had the immense privilege of marrying her daughter and son-in-law on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at Crowthorne Methodist Church.



### LIVE STREAM ORDINATIONS

What happened on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June?! Two presbyteral ordination services took place. Revd Kyng-Mi was ordained alongside Revd Anna Carrington (former member of North Camp Methodist) and Revd Julie Clark (former member and lay worker from Fleet Methodist church was ordained with the other group of presbyters. We watched KyungMi and Anna being ordained, and the moment where the congregation shouted "They are worthy!" was just as special as ever. Please pray for those newly ordained as they continue their journey into ministry.



### GOT SOME GOOD NEWS?

Contact Revd Anne or the administrators to have it included in the next Circuit newsletter.

Deadline 17<sup>th</sup> August



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