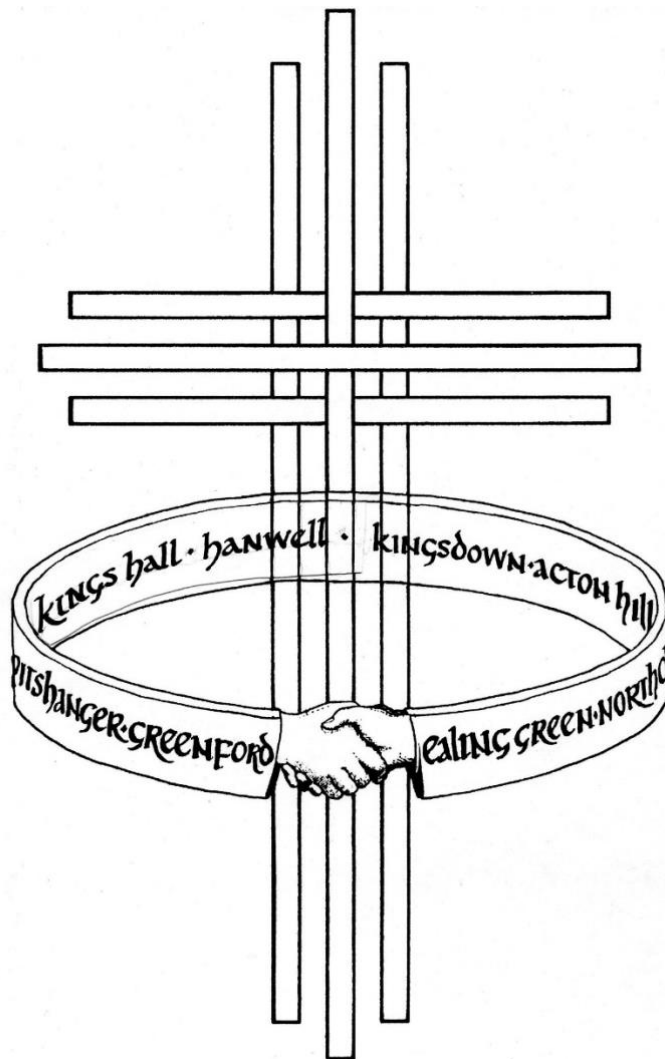


# In-touch

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No 100

December 2023 - February 2024



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The magazine for *all* the Ealing Trinity Circuit.

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**Circuit website: [www.ealingtrinity.org.uk](http://www.ealingtrinity.org.uk)**

*Front Cover designed by Marion Narain*

## From the Superintendent

Dear Friends,

I've been wondering how you would feel if, instead of a page full of text to read, you had opened In-touch to find this page completely blank with a brief invitation to take time to find space for yourself, be still, find wonder in what you see or hear and most importantly listen to yourself.

This season is full of busyness and clutter: some of it joyful, some of it stressful but there is just so much of it. Amongst the noise, the stuff to do, the busyness and the celebrations it's all too easy to lose sight and touch, of ourselves and God.

...so here is that invitation:

Take the time you would have spent reading this letter to do nothing, to stop, to breath, to listen to yourself and God.

And each time you need permission to stop in the coming weeks, turn back to this almost empty page and find space and time for yourself.

And may God continue to bless you

With love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and personal.

***"So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his Heaven."***



**Scratch beneath the surface  
this Christmas**

The Methodist Church 

**Out  
of the  
Ordinary**

## **Dates to Note**

### **Circuit Advent Service**

Hanwell Methodist Church: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 4.00pm

### **'Blue Christmas' Circuit Service**

Greenford Methodist Church: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 7.00pm

### **Circuit Service for New Year's Eve**

Kingsdown Methodist Church: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 10.30am

### **Circuit Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Retreat**

27th February 10.00am-4.00pm – *More details to follow*

### **Circuit Songs of Praise**

With the Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Annual Act of Commitment

Kingsdown Methodist Church: Sunday 11th February 2024 at 6.00pm

*More details to follow.*

## **Rev Sue Male: New Contact Details**

Rev Sue Male has a new mobile number and a new e-mail address. From now on, please use these whenever you contact her:

Mobile: 07852 497070

E-mail: revsuemale@gmail.com

## **Rev Nigel Cowgill**

Rev Nigel Cowgill will be leaving his post as co-Chair of the London District at the end of August 2024. He is moving to take up a position as Justice, Dignity and Solidarity Coordinator with the Connexional Team at Methodist Church House.

The Chairs Nominations Committee is meeting to begin the search for a new Chair of District, with the aim of bringing a name to the April 2024 Synod. Please do hold the Committee in your prayers as they go through this process.

## From the Circuit Meeting

The most recent Circuit Meeting was on 13<sup>th</sup> September at Northolt. Unlike the last two meetings which had focussed on thinking about the future of the Circuit and on Pitshanger church, this meeting was concerned with more 'routine' business.

Firstly, the meeting welcomed Vinnette Small from Acton Hill as a member of the meeting and thanked Colleen Hicks and Brian Morris for their service as they were standing down as representatives from Pitshanger following the closure of the church.

As readers of In-touch will be aware, our Superintendent Minister, Rev Rachel Bending will be moving to become Chair of the Southampton District from 1<sup>st</sup> September next year. As a result, the Circuit must go through the Methodist 'stationing process' to find and appoint a new superintendent and minister for Greenford and Northolt. As a necessary step, the meeting was asked to delegate to the Circuit Invitations Committee the authority to progress matters through to appointing a new minister. The meeting noted that there is no guarantee of success as there are currently more vacancies across the Methodist Church than ministers to fill them. If that were to be the outcome then either Sue Male or Ajay Singh would need to take on the role of superintendent.

The Circuit needs to increase the number of Circuit Stewards (we currently have just three including our treasurer) in order to make workloads more sustainable. In order to resolve this situation, the Church Council of each church in the Circuit is being asked to nominate one of its members to become a Circuit Steward. In this context, the meeting also heard that our Circuit Treasurer, Stephen Sears will be standing down in two years' time. It is hoped that a new treasurer can be appointed within the next year so they can 'shadow' Stephen for a time to prepare for the role.

Following the appointment of new Circuit Stewards, it will be possible to offer churches more training for their officers covering for example the role of church stewards, communion stewards, safeguarding etc. In addition, Rev Sue Male offered to arrange training in how to organise and lead 'local arrangement' services. She will be sending out dates shortly.

Whilst on the subject of appointments, the meeting was informed that your long-standing Circuit Administrator will be retiring at the end of March 2024. The Circuit Stewards have begun considering how they should re-shape the role for the future prior to appointing a new Administrator.

The King's Hall congregation began worshipping at Greenford Methodist Church instead of Hambrough Primary School at the start of October. Arrangements are in hand to formalise this change since two churches with two church councils will be sharing the same building.

In the meantime, discussions regarding the re-development of the King's Hall building are on-going. However, the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (who are the formal owners of the building) and the Methodist Church Property Support Team are working with the Circuit to evaluate whether the current proposed scheme with Pocket Living remains viable. Should it become necessary, the meeting delegated authority to the King's Hall Development Group to re-market the site.

The future of the building at Pitshanger following closure of the church for worship is yet to be determined. In the meantime, the Church Administrator at Ealing Green, Sarah Hunter will manage lettings in the building. The meeting agreed to finance a 6-hour per week extension of her hours to cover this work.

On other property matters, the meeting agreed that the tenancies on three of the Circuit's let properties should be renewed or re-let. In addition, it was decided that the manse at 89 Costons Avenue in Greenford would be let following the recent departure of Deacon Theresa Simons-Sam. Agreement was also given to re-decorating and maintenance work on the former manse in Rosemont Road and on two of the flats at Havelock House.

Regular lettings are very important for our churches' finances. Indeed, it would be fair to say that our churches would not be sustainable without income from letting their facilities to external groups. In order to help the Circuit consider how the work involved in lettings can supported, the meeting has asked churches to send details of how they manage their lettings to Rev Rachel Bending and the Circuit Office.

Finally, the meeting heard that Rev Sue Male will be taking sabbatical leave next year from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June.

The next Circuit Meeting will be on 29<sup>th</sup> November starting at 7.30pm at Greenford.

# Sabbatical Report 2022-2023

*Rev Ajay Singh*

During this connexional year 2022- 2023, I have been granted sabbatical. I am so blessed and thankful for the support has been given to me by the District Sabbatical Advisory Group, Circuit Sabbatical support group, colleagues, and the leaders in my section of churches, and obviously the connexional grant is a great support as a gift to the ministers in the Methodist Church.

It's a very special time during my sabbatical, I spent sometime with my connection with God in connecting with all those places where I have started my journey with God in this ministry. It's a great and overwhelming emotion visiting all those places where I have been assigned to the pastoral ministry, and analysing how God has been faithful throughout, caring and protecting me in those 32 years of his ministry. It allowed me to travel various places where I have served earlier. Noticing the growth and the developments. How those churches faced the challenges and issues in their difficult times. Especially, at my home Church in India where the current government is not supporting Christianity in the secular world. Churches are facing persecution, vandalism, and atrocities. We can only pray that God may do the justice.

One of my previous dioceses I visited where the system is failed, and the Pastors have not been given stipends for over the five years. Still the enthusiasm of those pastors are very high and committed with full dedication serving the Lord in reverence. Churches are kind enough in taking the responsibilities to support their pastors financially. It's a learning "how God works with you when you are in deep crisis?"

I can't forget those warm and open-hearted welcomes by those churches who not only welcomed me but provided the hospitality and accommodation while I was there with them. I learnt a lot from their stories of success and struggle which inspired me and gave courage of assurance that God is always there with you when he has chosen you and given a call to continue to be in his ministry.

I have been privileged to visit my parents and siblings in India whom I haven't met for last couple of years due to pandemic and travel restrictions. Also, celebrated Christmas with my wider family. It might sound that my sabbatical was affected due to my mother's illness. But, I count it as a great blessing to me that I had a chance to be with my mother in India whilst she was ill and taking her last breath. May God bless her soul.



The initial part of my sabbatical was interrupted due to my mother's illness and I had to rearrange my travel plan which was scheduled to going to Switzerland for a retreat in L'Abri Fellowship. But I managed to postpone it which I have used it in the month of June 2023. Retreat at L'Abri was so useful as it allowed me to stay there on the basic and very limited resources in the beautiful scenic surrounded by green mountains and on the top of it crown of glaciers. Life there at the centre is very much surrounded by the community where they live and work together in harmony. It was quite open for anyone to visit and explore their understanding and connection with their faith and relationship with God. Mostly people between the age of 18 and 45 were there who came from various places of the world. It's great time with them in learning and sharing and listening to each other's stories of their journey so far.

Using the quote of Rev John Wesley, "The world is my parish". Identified by a quote in Sanskrit in India is, "Vasudhaiv kutumbkam" (World is my family). WE are God's people and God has created us as one global family to love and look after each other in the times of joy and sorrow, health, and weakness, richness or poor.

'May we be blessed and be the blessing to others'.

## **Ealing Foodbank 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

November this year saw the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ealing Foodbank. During that time, people have been served around 185,000 times by the Foodbank. At the outset, the Foodbank provided emergency food parcels on a limited basis to people who needed help for a short time because of, for example delays to benefit payments etc. Since then the focus has shifted towards on-going support to people whose means are insufficient for their needs. As a result the Foodbank is increasingly busy – October this year was 13% busier than October 2022.

Normally we would think of anniversaries as times of celebration. However, while the commitment of the many volunteers working in the Foodbank is something to celebrate, the fact remains that foodbanks only exist in the UK because so many people have insufficient means to support themselves even though that the UK is one of the world's wealthiest countries. That is not something we could ever celebrate.

## **The Crisis in the Holy Land**

As Christmas approaches and we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the 'Prince of Peace' we cannot forget the dreadful ongoing conflict in the Holy Land. The next three pieces seek to remind us to keep the Holy Land in our thoughts and prayers:

A prayer for the Holy Land written by Rev'd Dr Emma Pennington who is Canon Missioner at Canterbury Cathedral

The statement issued by the President and Vice President of the Methodist Conference on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023

A paper by Steve Hucklesby, a Methodist Church Policy Adviser outlining the background to the Hamas attack on Israel on 7<sup>th</sup> October

## **A Prayer for the Holy Land**

Almighty God, hear the cry of our hearts,  
as we hold before you the people of the Holy Land.  
Be near those who have lost lives and loved ones,  
and be a sure rock to those who are in terror this day.  
We pray that through your spirit of wisdom and mercy,  
conflict may cease,  
and that the leaders of the nations  
may work together for peace and justice  
between Israeli and Palestinian.  
As you wept over Jerusalem  
so we ask that you hear the prayers of those  
who weep this day for your Holy Land  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*Rev'd Dr Emma Pennington,  
Canon Missioner, Canterbury Cathedral*

## **President and Vice-President update on the situation in the Middle East**

*The Revd Gill Newton, President of the Methodist Conference  
Deacon Kerry Scarlett, Vice President of the Methodist Conference*

*19<sup>th</sup> October 2023*

As deaths and injuries of civilians continue to rise in the Israel-Hamas conflict, we are heartbroken to see the devastation this is having on so many people living in the region. We believe in a God who weeps, and, alongside the Holy Spirit our Comforter, our hearts are breaking with all those whose loved ones have had their lives brutally cut short, for the terror felt by Israeli families, and the unimaginable wait that many face for news of the people being held hostage. We watch in horror as Gazan civilians flee for their lives, unable to leave Gaza and trapped in the midst of a violent and unpredictable conflict.

The situation may feel overwhelming; so much information, so much misinformation and so much misery. Where is our hope? Watching and reading news reports can leave us confused and feeling helpless. What can we do? As members of the Methodist Church we have witnessed the plight of the Palestinian people's oppression for many years and have sought to encourage those on all sides who are working for lasting peace with justice in the region.

Now we pray for all those people and groups we have met: Daoud Nasser from the Tent of Nations and the recipient of the World Methodist Peace Prize in 2018; Rabbi Nava Hefetz from Rabbis for Human Rights, the Wi'am Peace and Reconciliation Centre in Bethlehem; the staff of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme for Palestine and Israel, and the countless people and families in Gaza and the West Bank who we, as a Church, have supported over the years. We uphold them, praying for their safety, asking for God's protection and comfort. And we pray for those who have the power to effect change – that they will use this privilege wisely and well to put a swift end to this violence and aggression. We undertake to continue to pray that the beautiful peace of the Prince of Peace will manifest in our world, and we pledge ourselves once again to respond to the Gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out this discipleship in our worship and mission.

We call on the UK Government to do all it can to encourage dialogue between Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Egypt and states in the wider region. We urge our Government to use its influence to end the siege of Gaza that is depriving its population of water and food, and to call on all parties to abide by international humanitarian law.

As well as praying, we ask you to consider doing the following:

- Supporting Christian Aid's appeal and/or signing a petition calling on the UK Government to establish safe routes out of Gaza for people left homeless or caught up in the violence
- Find out more about the situation
- Write to your MP to ask them to act to protect civilians in Gaza and to support a lasting peace
- Be generous to those who you may not agree with, and try to find common ground. Pray for those people and, if appropriate, pray together. Be aware of those in your church or community who are particularly impacted by this situation, whether they have a connection with Israel or Palestine or because this is a painful and traumatic reminder of their own experiences of conflict. And please pray for those in leadership who are being called to offer support to the people who are impacted by the ongoing situation.

## **Hamas Attacks in Israel**

*Steve Hucklesby Policy Adviser, Methodist Church*

We have seen in the last few days the most significant attack on Israel since the October 1973 'Yom Kippur' war when Egypt and Syria launched a surprise attack in the Sinai Peninsula and Golan Heights. The Hamas assault this weekend occurs 50 years and a day after the start of the 1973 war which eventually caused Israel to give up its occupation of the Sinai. Undoubtedly there is symbolism in the timing.

The Government of Israel appears to have been taken by surprise on Saturday although it is clear that the operation has been planned by Hamas for months. Israel flies drones over Gaza on a daily basis and yet preparations for this invasion seem not to have been picked up. The onslaught was reportedly well coordinated by sea, land and air (through the use of motorised hand gliders) and appear to have involved thousands of Hamas fighters who killed over 1,200 people. The accounts of the full and awful horror of the killings are beginning to emerge and no doubt more will be revealed over the coming days. Others were abducted from their homes and taken to Gaza as hostages. Hamas are holding over 200 Israeli men, women and children in Gaza at this time. The anguish of hostages and that of their families is clearly intense beyond imagining. These horrific actions could hardly be a starker violation of fundamental principles in international law, which require the protection of civilians.

It would seem that over the past year Israel's security focus has not been on Gaza but on the West Bank, as the deepening occupation impacts on the lives of more and more Palestinians there. A delegation of the Methodist Church in Britain, United Methodist Church and World Methodist Council visited the region in October 2022 and have described their shock at the increase in violence, the growth in the number of illegal settlements, and the number of young Palestinians who are being forced to leave their homes. August 2022 saw the advent of the Lion's Den, a particularly capable Palestinian militia group. Well organised and equipped, they have been targeting Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) and military posts. Meanwhile militant Israeli settlers have become more violent. In February this year, 200 settlers attacked the Palestinian town of Huwara, setting vehicles alight and torching 30 Palestinian homes. IDF forces have also increased their actions in Palestinian towns in the West Bank. At a UN Security Council meeting this year, the UK's Political Coordinator to the UN, Fergus Eckersley, responded to a report on the settler violence and other developments. He acknowledged that the report demonstrates the damaging effect of what it calls the "relentless expansion" of settlements on the prospects for peace.

The focus on the West Bank appears to have caused the IDF to divert attention from Gaza. Their reaction to the Hamas attack has already been devastating. The response, says Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, "will change the Middle East". An overwhelming and crushing response from Israel is already underway but in other respects the path that lies before us is not easy to foresee. On past occasions Israel has made it clear that attacks by Hamas would be met by a "disproportionate response" in order to deter such attacks in the future. So why has Hamas not been deterred and what are they hoping to achieve?

Years of blockade and conflict have left 80% of the population of Gaza dependent on humanitarian aid. Gaza is one of the world's worst humanitarian disasters but, unlike most others, its causes are entirely human induced. Electricity has been available only 4 to 8 hours a day. The water and sewage system has been damaged by Israeli shelling and suffers from a lack of materials and funds for repair. Consequently 95% of the population do not have access to clean water. Livelihoods are severely impacted by restrictions on the movement of people and goods. While the situation has deteriorated in Gaza, the Government of Israel has sought to normalise relations with Saudi Arabia and other states in the Middle East. Hamas has probably calculated that intensification of hostilities would prevent such normalisation of political relations with Israel. Most Palestinians would not be in favour of normalisation while occupation deepens and conditions in Gaza become unliveable. The calculation of Hamas in this respect is proving valid. The politics behind the ongoing competition between Hamas and their political rivals Fatah, who

dominate the Palestinian Authority, also has a bearing on the decisions of Hamas leaders.

The failure of the international community to act with respect to a resolution in Israel and Palestine has facilitated the downward spiral. When Donald Trump was US President he proposed a plan that sought to legitimise the annexation of a large part of the West Bank by Israel. Our own government has negotiated a new trade agreement even while Israel unilaterally imposes a de facto annexation on most of the West Bank. The UK Government has been at pains to separate its condemnation of the expansion of settlements from its effort to continually strengthen partnership and trade relations with Israel (including defence relations). Many former Foreign Ministers and seasoned diplomats have long been critical of approaches that place national interests above respect for International Law. Where in the past the US took the lead, now governments in the Middle East could be crucial in brokering peace, and they are more likely to gain the respect of both sides. With a two-State solution further away than ever, our governments must determine whether they are able to be more pragmatically engaged by demonstrating that international law is universal and applies to all parties. Israelis and Palestinians desperately need peace, and need our prayers at this time.

### **And finally a Prayer** *(from the Methodist Church website)*

In a world that God made good  
let us pray for people seeing things  
no human being should see  
for people seized by terror  
no human being should experience  
for people whose depths of suffering  
no human being should know.  
God of unquenchable hope  
Confirm our belief that  
this is not how things should be;  
Affirm our belief that  
things can and will be different;  
Strengthen our belief in  
Jesus  
who opens the way from  
death to resurrection, and  
Help us, as his disciples  
to be your  
agents for change  
in our broken world.  
**Amen**

# The Sacred Mount of Orta

*Gerald Barton, Editor*

Above Orta, which sits beside Lake Orta in the northwest Italian region of Piedmont is a 'Sacred Mount', one of a number in Piemonte and neighbouring Lombardy. Looking at Orta from a boat on the lake you would not know it was there as it nestles in a park on top of a long hill above the town hidden by trees. Indeed, I imagine that many visitors simply would not notice it – certainly our friends from Milan whom we met in Orta at the end of our holiday around Lake Maggiore and Lake Orta in September were unaware of it.

The Sacred Mount of Orta, '*il Sacro Monte di Orta*,' is a devotional site consisting of 21 chapels dedicated to the life of St Francis of Assisi. The chapels are laid out along a winding path set in gardens and follow through events in the life of the saint. Almost all the chapels are frescoed and have polychrome figures representing a stage in the life of the saint from his birth to his death, his funeral and his canonisation.

The Sacro Monte of Orta is one of nine such sites in Piedmont and Lombardy – at Belmonte, Crea, Domodossola, Ghiffa, Oropa, Orta and Varallo in Piedmont and Ossuccio and Varese in Lombardy. As a group they were designated by UNESCO as World Heritage sites in 2003, thus underscoring their importance as part of humanity's cultural and artistic heritage.

The idea of the Sacred Mount arose in the late 15th century when pilgrimage to the Holy Land was becoming more difficult in view of the rapid spread of Islam. The aim was to replicate a part of the Holy Land so that pilgrims could feel that, although the Holy Land may no longer have been accessible, they would nonetheless be able to follow in the steps of Christ. The choice of location was therefore very important as they needed to have similar topography to the Holy Land. Following the Council of Trent the idea of the 'sacred mount' took on greater significance as the Catholic church attempted to counter the growing influence of the Protestant Reformation.

Initially, three sites were chosen – at Varallo in Piedmont, Montaione in Tuscany and at Braga in northern Portugal. The first to be built in Italy was the one at Varallo in 1480/81. Its layout of devotional chapels set in gardens, each depicting one aspect of the unfolding story of Christ became the model for later sacred mounts.

Although originally the Sacred Mount of Orta was planned to have 33 chapels, a total of 21 were eventually built. Nineteen of these were built between 1591 and 1660, the two remaining chapels being built between 1660

and 1795, the last one remaining incomplete as work was interrupted by the suppression of the monastic orders by Napoleon in that year.

A path leads up from the town to the Sacred Mount through an alley of hornbeam trees and under an arch before passing the church of St Francis and St Nicolao. The route proper lies a little further on and begins with a chapel dedicated to the birth of St Francis. As you follow the route winding its way through the garden each chapel unfolds a stage in the life of the saint illustrated by frescoes and polychrome figures.



Chapel I is dedicated to the birth of St Francis



Chapel II: Christ speaks to St Francis from the cross



Chapel VI: St Francis sends out the brothers to preach





Chapel VII: Innocent III approves the project of St Francis

Chapel IX: St Claire takes the habit



Chapel X: St Francis struggles with temptation by the Devil.

Somewhat ironically, Chapel X is adjacent to the café where you may be tempted by coffee, cooling drinks and gelati.....



Chapel XVII: Death of St Francis



Chapel XX:  
Canonisation of St  
Francis

At first, visiting all 21 chapels seemed rather daunting on a hot day in September. However, once we had started, fascination soon set in. I don't suppose that many visitors to Orta find their way to the Sacred Mount, which is a pity as they don't know what they are missing. This is how the Community of Franciscan Friars, who care for the Sacred Mount of Orta describe it in their guidebook.

*“(The Sacred Mount) relates the mystery of redemption, lived by St Francis, the ‘other Christ’ and by Mary, the mother of the Redeemer. Orta is the image of the garden planted by God; the park of the Sacred Mount is the centre, the heart of the garden, where the tree of good and evil and the tree of life are growing. The harmonious unity of nature with the chapels and the church-sanctuary recall the mystery of creation, sin and redemption.”*

And finally - *“The message of the Sacred Mount is Redemption.”*

## Christmas Services around the Circuit



### Acton Hill

24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00am	Morning Worship
	7.00pm	Worship for Christmas Eve
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.30am	Christmas Morning Worship

### Ealing Green

17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.00pm	Carol Service
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00am	Carols on the steps

### Greenford

17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.00pm	Carol Service
21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	7.00pm	'Blue Christmas' Circuit Service (Thursday)
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00am	United Service at Northolt
	11.15pm	Christmas Eve Communion

### Hanwell

17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.00pm	Carol Service
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00am	Morning Worship
	11.15pm	Christmas Eve Communion
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.30am	Christmas Morning Worship

### Kingsdown

24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.00pm	Christmas Eve Communion
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am	Christmas Morning Worship
31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	10.30am	Circuit Service

### King's Hall

24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2.00pm	Carol Service
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	1.00pm	Worship for Christmas Day
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan	1.00pm	Worship for New Year's Day

### Northolt

10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00am	No service
	4.00pm	Carol Service followed by mince pies
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00am	Morning Worship
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am	Christmas Morning Worship

## Forthcoming Events around the Circuit

[as notified to, or discovered by, the Editor]

### December

3<sup>rd</sup> Sun 4.00pm **Circuit Service for Advent Sunday at Hanwell**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sun 4.00pm **Iris Axon Concert Series at Acton Hill**  
Lewis Kingsley, piano  
Adults £6.00; Concessions £5.00; Children £2.00 (cash only)

21<sup>st</sup> Thurs 7.00pm **'Blue Christmas' Circuit Service at Greenford**

31<sup>st</sup> Sun 10.30am **Circuit Service for New Year's Eve at Kingsdown**

### January

7<sup>th</sup> Sun 4.00pm **Iris Axon Concert Series at Acton Hill**  
Amber Emson, violin

### February

4<sup>th</sup> Sun 4.00pm **Iris Axon Concert Series at Acton Hill**  
Evgeny Soifertis, piano

11<sup>th</sup> Sun 6.00pm **Circuit Songs of Praise Service at Kingsdown**  
*With Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Annual  
Act of Commitment*

27<sup>th</sup> Sat 10.00am **Circuit Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Retreat**  
4.00pm *Details to follow*

### March

2<sup>nd</sup> Sat 10.30am **Ealing Animals Fair at Hanwell**  
4.00pm *Stalls – guest speakers – live music – admission free*  
[www.ealinganimalsfair.london](http://www.ealinganimalsfair.london)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sun 4.00pm **Iris Axon Concert Series at Acton Hill**  
Alice Jones, cello with Tara Clifford, piano

Articles for **'In-touch' Issue No 101 (March - May)** should be sent by e-mail headed **'In-touch'** to the Editor, **Gerald Barton**, or as hard copy to the Circuit Office.

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**Deadline for next issue: 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024**