

## WELCOME KATY & NICK

From 1 Sep. Katy Morris will be assisting Steve Fisher at Gawcott, Steeple Claydon and Thornborough as a Pastoral Worker. Katy has recently moved to Buckingham from Redditch where she taught 11-13 year olds. She is married to Geoff; they have an 11 year old daughter, Harriet. She is excited about the opportunities and is looking forward to offering support and encouragement to the 3 churches.

On the same day Well Street Church will welcome a new Youth Minister, Nick Francis. Nick comes from Southampton where he has been a youth leader in his church there. He is married to Liz and they have a baby son, Daniel.

## CONTACT MADE!

When the Northampton District was created in 2006 all the component circuits received a twin: ours was Leicester North.

On Sunday 29 June we finally made contact when a few carloads from Leicester visited Silverstone for the joint Circuit event.

It was good to worship together and find out something about the nature of their circuit - rather different to ours.

We have been promised in invitation to visit them in return- so don't miss it when it arrives! (You'll be kept informed.)

### CIRCUIT DIARY

more at [www.bbbcircuit.org.uk](http://www.bbbcircuit.org.uk)

Sep	6 Sat	9.00am	Network Breakfast at Brackley with Revd Carina Shergold
		6.30pm	Welcome to Revds Paul Howes and Colin Jackson at Bicester
	11 Thu	7.30pm	Circuit Local Preachers meet at Bicester
	18 Thu	7.30pm	The Autumn Circuit Meeting at Greens Norton
Oct	4 Sat		Brackley Church Away Day
		10-12; 2-5	Manse Open Day, 9 Fulmar Court, Bicester, OX6 4FG
	25 Sat	6.30pm	Mission Supper at Brackley (Paul Gateley: MAF)
Nov	15 Sat	9.30am	Christmas Bazaar at Brackley
Dec	3 Wed	7.30pm	Circuit Local Preachers meet at Buckingham

To get your church's information into the next "Bulletin" write, by Monday 10 November 2008, to Malcolm Wainwright at 35 Cartwright Crescent, Brackley, NN13 6HA or to [malcolm-w@talktalk.net](mailto:malcolm-w@talktalk.net)

Aug - Nov  
2008

No.39

The Methodist Church

Buckingham, Bicester & Brackley Circuit

[www.bbbcircuit.org.uk](http://www.bbbcircuit.org.uk)

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## THE 3BS' MINISTERS



Colin Jackson  
*Brackley  
Section*

Paul Howes  
*Bicester  
Section*

Steve Fisher  
*Buckingham  
Section*

### Meet them all...

... at Bicester Methodist Church at 6.30pm on Saturday 6 September when there will be a Welcome Service for Paul and Colin at which the preacher will be the Chair of the Northampton District, Revd Alison Tomlin.

Colin's wife, Janet, is to be a minister in the Banbury Circuit. Her welcome service will take place at Hinton (near Woodford Halse) on Sunday 31 August at 3.00pm.

# WORDS OF FAREWELL...

## ...from Nick...

Itinerancy is part of the traditional minister's lifestyle but it is always sad to say goodbye to people who have loved and supported you. Thank you to you all. You have variously challenged me, worked with me, inspired me and even exasperated me - it is all good experience! Barbara has without exception been made to feel welcome amongst us. I think she can now face living with a Methodist minister...

We have emphasized youth ministry. Some of you judge results by whether we see these young people in church on a Sunday. I would rather you saw it as part of our evangelistic mission and, judging by the level of drugs, knife and gun crime, one of our top priorities.

The shape of the church is changing - not just because most young people do not relate to what we grew up with, but also because our structures were set in a different age with larger attendances. There will be challenges to our circuit boundaries. Do not bury your heads in the sand but seek God's will in moving forward. Life means change, and to honour the achievements of our forebears is not to retain what they established but to follow their example in stepping out in faith and doing something new.

So many staffing changes in such a short time is unusual but presents the opportunity for a real refreshing. Work with and pray for Paul and Colin as they share the presbyteral ministry of the circuit with Steve. I shall be welcomed into the St Albans & Welwyn Circuit with Revd Alison Walker at the Western Auditorium, De Havilland Campus, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, AL10 9EU at 3 p.m. on Saturday 6 September. However, your own welcome service for Paul and Colin is the same day at 6.30 p.m. at Bicester and I would urge you to give priority to that.

We will carry you in our love and prayers and look forward to seeing you again sometime.

God bless you all,

*Nick Young*

## ...and Andrew

Not just the end of a period of ministry, but an end of a period of life.

I moved into Buckingham in the February of 1986, quickly becoming established at Well Street. Under the guidance, and spiritual direction of Alan Baxter I answered God's call to preach, was Recognised and Commissioned as a local preacher in 1993; Keith Salter was the presiding minister, and Andrew Mashiter preached.

Following a further time of testing and calling, during which I also married Steph and fathered Nicholas and Rebekah, I undertook Ministerial training at Oxford and was Ordained at Leicester Cathedral in 2004.

So, whilst I have been the Minister of the Brackley Section of the 3B's for 6 years, I have actually been around a great deal longer, the move therefore is, in many ways, quite significant.

Much has changed in the last 22 years, some of it for the good; some of it for less satisfactory reasons, and some things will resolutely and forever be fixed in a bygone age!

I am grateful for the many spirit filled and devoted Disciples of Christ who over the years have encouraged and supported me, and latterly the family, for the enjoyment of shared ministry as we have sought to answer God's call on all our own lives and the life and witness of the local churches.

We remember with gratitude the work of local ecumenical partners in each of the sections towns and villages, for the work in the schools and community based projects.

For the visionary and the inspired, for the cautious and the hesitant, for those we have loved and for those we have lost, we give thanks to God for each of you.

As we say goodbye, it is as ever with mixed emotions, but trusting in God the author and perfecter of our faith, for whatever he has prepared for each of us in the months and years to come. May you continue to support one another, love one another, serve one another, encourage one another and above all, listen to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

So taking the recently adopted phrase at Brackley – We'll praise him for all that is past, and trust him for all that's to come.

We will remember you with warmth and affection.

*Andrew, Steph, Nicholas and Rebekah Bradley*