

The **Buzz...**

Hello everyone and welcome to the latest edition of THE BUZZ.

THE BUZZ is a great resource that brings the whole Connexion together and allows us to share successful ideas between districts, circuits, churches and church groups. If you have any success stories you would like to promote and share, then please get in touch and let us know how God is working in your local area.



Dina Lazarus

Four more exciting and encouraging stories from around Methodism. The contacts provided will be pleased to give you more information.

WORSHIP - Baptism on the beach

From **Isle of Man Circuit**, Isle of Man



A stunning beach location, bountiful sunshine and cool, clear, shimmery sea – that was the idyllic setting for our multi-denominational open air baptism on the Isle of Man on a crisp Easter Sunday.

Robert Paterson, Church of England Bishop of Sodor and Man, presided over 25 baptisms of, amongst others, Methodists, Baptists and Anglicans at Peel on the west coast of the beautiful island.

A crowd of around 2,000 people gathered on the golden sands to watch the ritual immersing of adults, babies and children into the translucent ocean, marking their admittance into the Christian Church.

In an area steeped in Christian tradition, it was great to see all the denominations coming together to take part in this most spiritual and atmospheric of occasions.

Our reverend, David Shirtliff said, “It was a tremendous event, wonderful atmosphere, great sense of Christian unity – and, though the sea was cold, the sun shone!”

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SERVICE Spirit of Merseyside recognises young talent

From **The Heath Methodist Church**, Runcorn Circuit, Merseyside

Forget the Oscars, move over the Baftas, a group of Merseyside youngsters have been nominated for a prestigious drama award.

The Heath Methodist Church has been nurturing young talent for 40 years, and now our drama group has been shortlisted for an esteemed Spirit of Merseyside Award.



A sell-out performance of Mother Goose in February and a dance, music and drama extravaganza called 'Memories', commemorating Remembrance Day, last autumn helped us to clinch the nomination.

The award, which is in the children and young people's category, recognises the outstanding work the group has done to improve the lives and educational opportunities of its young members - aged between 7 and 18.

"We're delighted to have been shortlisted for the award as it is a reward for all the hard work and dedication which has been shown by all members and everybody involved in the drama group," said David Bratt, our youth leader.

We're looking forward to the awards ceremony at the Anglican Cathedral, Liverpool in June.

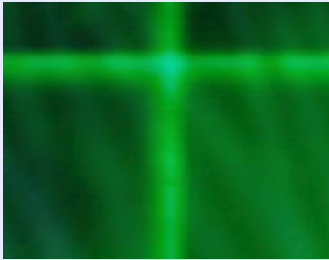
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EVANGELISM - Welsh church goes green

From **St Paul's Methodist Church**, Ceredigion Circuit



With green issues firmly in the public spotlight, we decided to take a good look at how we could slash our own carbon footprint.

So on a beautifully sunny weekend in May we took a stall at our local farmers' market and held a 'Low Energy Weekend'.

Armed with bundles of leaflets, organic tea brewed up in a special energy-efficient kettle called a storm kettle, and with dozens of people taking up our offer to have their carbon footprints calculated, the day proved worthwhile.

Even our local MP took the trouble to call by on the Saturday to enjoy an eco-friendly cuppa. He then joined us for an afternoon talk about alternative technology given by the head of research at the Centre for Alternative Technology.

The weekend has given us loads to think about and we're now focusing on how we can be more energy efficient in the future.

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The BUZZ needs 'good news' stories from you! And don't forget to send images from your event if you have them too!

Contact <mailto:lazarusd@methodistchurch.org.uk> if you have a story for **The BUZZ**.

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