Competition Time!

To promote Holy Week and Easter, we challenge you to take a photograph of a cross. This can be an arrangement you've created, drawn, or found. Be creative!

Could you please send all entries to: admin@ringsashcircuit.org.uk, or via hard copy to Emmanuel Office by **Friday 22nd April**.

The winning photographs will feature in the next preaching plan. We look forward to seeing what you come up with.



Thank you to everyone for your contributions in this plan.

If you have any good news stories to share from your churches in the next plan then please send it to me by **Friday 22nd April**.

(Contact details below or c/o Emmanuel Church)

Feedback is very welcome. If you have any comments or suggestions then please let either myself or Ken know.

Finally, thank you for making me feel so welcome within the circuit. I look forward to meeting even more of you over the next quarter.

Megan Heath, Circuit Administrator

Useful Contacts

Minister: Revd. Ken Gowland 01363 877281 gowlo@hotmail.com

Circuit Safeguarding Officer: Mr Darren Henson 07720 610430 darrenhenson@icloud.com

Circuit Administrator: Mrs Megan Heath 01363 877823 (Office) or 01363 877555 (Home) admin@ringsashcircuit.org.uk







If the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?
(1 Corinthians 14:8)



Ringsash Preaching Plan March 2022 to May 2022

Message from the Minister

Welcome to Ringsash Quarter 3 Preaching and Worship Plan.

I want to begin with a huge THANK YOU to you for all your commitment and hard work as we journeyed through our last quarter plan together as a circuit. The nation was uncertain if Christmas was on or off again this year, but for the Christian, Christmas will never be cancelled and the Ringsash Circuit ploughed on in faith, to fulfil all of the plans which many had worked so hard to put together. Carol services, concerts, tree festivals, nativity services and walks all went ahead as planned and were appreciated and inspired many - well done each and everyone of you.



This quarter our preaching and worship plan takes us on the journey through the season of Lent and into Holy Week. This Holy season covers 46 days which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter Sunday. It's intended to be six weeks of self discipline to remind ourselves of the value of repentance and focus our minds on the sacrifice Jesus made for

us. For us the great celebration follows the journey of reflection through Lent into the great and glorious resurrection of Jesus.

What does it all mean? The simple answer is it's good news. G.B. Hardy, a Canadian scientist, set forth on a quest to seek the truth to discover if there is hope in any of the religions. With so many different beliefs, how can we know which one is true? To help him consider he devised two questions which he would use as a baseline to seek the truth.

- 1. Has anyone ever cheated death?
- 2. Did this person make a way for me to follow?

These are two great questions to consider when searching for truth amongst the confusion in the world today. So armed with these questions he set off on his search for truth.

G.B. Hardy's research revealed at this very hour the cremated body of Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha) lies in a grave at the foot of the Himalavan Mountains.

Muhammad, the founder of Islam, is buried in Medina, Saudi Arabia.

Circuit Diary Dates

Date and Time	Event
Wed 2nd Mar 19:30	Circuit Meeting At Copplestone Church
Sat 5th Mar	District Safeguarding Day
Wed 9th Mar Wed 16th Mar Wed 23rd Mar 19:30	Membership Classes What's great about being a member of this circuit and church? Session 1 at Emmanuel Church, Session 2 at Hele Lane.
Fri 11th Mar Fri 8th Apr Fri 13th May 19:00 - 20:30	Prime Youth Club At Emmanuel Church
Thu 14th Apr	Easter Eggstravaganza With the Lighthouse Holiday Club Booking essential.
Sat 7th May	Representation Synod
Fri 24th Jun - Sun 26th Jun	Spree SW Youth event at Shobrooke Park. Contact Sherrin or Mark for more information.

Don't Forget...

Church Café

Every Thursday, 09:00 - 12:00, at Copplestone Church

Café Emmanuel

Every Tuesday, 10:00 - 11:30, at Emmanuel Church



Puzzle Page (Solutions on Page 7)



Sudoku

7			4		2	8		
	6					2	9	
1		8		7				5
		7		8	4	5		
	8	4					7	1
2					5			6
	4		8				6	
9	1		6					
					9	1	2	4

Anagrams - Books of the Bible

1. ONE MORE DUTY	
2. I SELECT CASES	
3. SOCIAL SONS	
4. SEE SIGN	
5. LAST AGAIN	
<u></u>	

Joseph Smith founder of Mormonism is buried in Nauvoo, Illinois. Charles Darwin is buried at Westminster Abbey in London. Guru Nanak founder of Sikhism lays in his grave.

Confucious occupies his tomb.

When he went to the tomb of Jesus it was empty, and it has been so since the Third Day. Hardy went on to ask his second question, did He make a way for me to conquer death? He opened his bible and read the following, 'Because I live ye shall live also (John 14:19).

Thomas Arnold, historian and Oxford Professor, says this, "I have been used for many years to study the histories of other times and to examine and weigh the evidence of those who have written about them, and I know of no one fact in the history of mankind which is proved by better and fuller evidence of



every sort, to the understanding of a fair inquirer, than the great sign which God hath given us that Christ died and rose again from the dead."

Nothing can cancel this good news of Jesus' resurrection. Communism, atheism, skeptics, heretics, cynics, humanists, disasters, diseases, wars and famines have all tried, but yet one immutable fact remains which gives hope in every situation, Christ lives and because He lives we in Christ Jesus shall live also. The Ringsash Circuit has great news to share, so let us share it and declare it boldly and loudly this Easter with the praise shout, Hallelujah, Christ is risen, **He is risen indeed, Hallelujah.**

May God bless His people and all who take part in every aspect of church life and ministry to make this journey a wondrous and inspiring journey for us all over this next quarter. God bless you.

Rev'd Ken Ambassador of Christ 2 Corinthians 5:20

Journeying with Jesus through Holy Week

There is a trend today to avoid Holy Week which means many churches in the West leap frog from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday which are two great celebrations. However our scriptures have so much more to tell of the events from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday.



Palm Sunday - Announces the most significant week in the Christian calendar as it begins the countdown of the final week of Jesus' life, His death and glorious resurrection.

Jesus makes His triumphant entry into
Jerusalem and the crowds are going crazy
shouting praises and waving palm branches.
The crowds have witnessed: Jesus healing the
sick; restoring the sight to the blind; the lame
being able to leap for joy; and multitudes being
fed with a couple of fish and loaves. The
Messiah has finally arrived fulfilling the long
awaited prophecy from Zechariah who said,

"Rejoice greatly, daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See your

king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey". (Zechariah 9:9)

Monday - Jesus spent the night outside Jerusalem and returned the following day heading for the temple. On the way He sees a fig tree and curses it because it had failed to bear fruit, symbolically demonstrating God's judgment on the spiritually dead and the religious leaders. Upon arriving at the temple Jesus discovers the courts are filled with corrupt money changers. He overturns their tables and clears the temple, saying, "The Scriptures declare, 'My Temple will be a house of prayer,' but you have turned it into a den of thieves". (Luke 19:46)



Easter Activity

All the items in this scavenger hunt are linked to the Easter story. How many can you find? People waved palm leaves as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. Find a large leaf. Jesus took some bread and said. This is to remind you of my body broken for you.' Find something to eat. Jesus took some wine and said. 'This is to remind you of my blood shed for you. Find something to drink. Jesus went into the garden to pray to God. Find something from the garden or another outside space. Pilate washed his hands and gave Jesus to be crucified. Find something that cleans you. Jesus was put on a wooden cross. Find something wooden.

Jesus died and his body was placed in a tomb with a

stone rolled over the entrance.

Find something that smells nice.

Jesus is alive! He is risen!

Find a stone.

THE FASTER SCAVENGER HUNT

Women came to put spices on Jesus' body.

Find something that makes you happy.

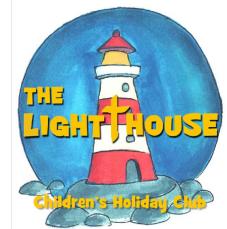
Good News from the Youth Team

2022 is looking like it will be a far more "normal" year as we are able to get back to all of our usual activities. When we re-started Prime Youth Club (school years 3-6) the children came back in unprecedented numbers! We regularly have between 35 and 41 children each month from across the circuit and the local area which is great!

Edge youth club (secondary age) has been less well attended but at our Christmas special we actually had 11 young people and this past week we had 12 including one young person who lives in the village and has really integrated in with the group. We pray that we will grow as a group and enjoy getting to know one another.

This week, (4th Feb) sees the launch of the Christian Union at Chulmleigh Community College with myself and Lydia Mason, the Connect Worker from Crediton. We ask for your prayers as we encourage those young people who attend church or want to know more to come along and discover who Jesus is. We pray that this will also help to show the young people that there are others who have a faith within their school community.

As we look to the rest of the year we are planning for the Lighthouse Easter Eggstravaganza, Bernards Acre (trip with Circuit Youth). Lighthouse Holiday Club in May and of course Spree! At the last count we already have 20 booked in for Spree many of whom do not attend church but come along to Prime. If you would like to know anymore then please contact me. As ever we value your prayers in all we do for the children and young people in this area, I also ask your prayers to bring along



new volunteers so that we can continue this work.

Sherrin Neenan

Tuesday - Again, on Tuesday, Jesus returns to Jerusalem with His disciples. After Jesus' actions the day before, the religious leaders are angry and are conspiring to rid Jerusalem of Jesus once and for all. They tried to trap Him with impossible to answer questions to discredit Him, but Jesus was far too clever and just highlighted the hypocrisy of the leaders. The leaders are inflamed with anger they now conspire to kill Him.

As the day was drawing to a close Jesus is found sitting on the Mt of Olives overlooking Jerusalem and it is here that Jesus spoke of the destruction that is coming upon Jerusalem and the events which lead up to the end of human history and His Second Coming.

Wednesday - Wednesday is the dark day of the religious leaders conspiring and plotting, after Judas had agreed to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver.

Maundy Thursday Jesus sends His disciples
on ahead of Him to a
place where they will
celebrate the Passover
festival together. That
night as the preparations
were being made, Jesus
teaches the disciples how
they are to love one
another and sets the
example by washing their
feet. Jesus is about to



fulfil the complete meaning of the Passover as he becomes the Lamb of God, by offering His life as the sacrifice. It is by His blood that the people will be saved. Jesus turns the sacred meal into a Holy Sacrament which reminds us of all that He has done for us. This is why we celebrate together Holy Communion. By giving His body to be broken and His blood to be shed in sacrifice, freeing us from sin and death. (Luke 22:19-20)

After they had sung a hymn they left the room and entered the garden of Gethsemane. Luke records as Jesus prays His sweat became like drops of blood falling to the ground (Luke 22:44). Now the time had come, Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss, the disciples abandon Jesus as He is arrested and taken to the Sanhedrin and given a mock trial.



Good Friday - Peter has been ducking and diving all night, it was only when the cock crowed he remembered Jesus words to him saying, before the cock crows you will have disowned me three times. The hardest day in the Christian calendar now unfolds. Before 9am Jesus has been falsely accused, mocked, flogged and beaten. Sentenced to death by crucifixion. the most feared form of death imaginable. Carrying His own cross and wearing a crown of thorns Jesus carries this timber cross to Calvary. The soldiers continued to mock as they drove the nails through Jesus' flesh.

Jesus speaks seven final statements from the cross and by 3pm Jesus

had breathed His last and died. That evening Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea took Jesus body from the cross and laid Him in the tomb.

Sombre Saturday - The tomb where Jesus body lay was secured with a huge stone and sealed with a Roman seal which could not be broken by law. A centurion was placed outside to guard the tomb. The world thought it had rid itself of the Son of God, Satan thought he was victorious and had played the religious leaders like puppets on a string with a plot to kill Jesus. How the devil must have danced!

Resurrection Sunday - It was early on the Sunday when several women went to the tomb and discovered the stone had been moved and the tomb was empty. On this day Jesus made at least 3 appearances. Mary Magdalene was the first to see Him. Cleopas and his companion walked with Jesus on the road to Emmaus. Peter and the disciples met Him in the upper room. Over the next 40 days Jesus appears to many others, in fact hundreds testified to Jesus resurrection having met Him for themselves, including the greatest doubter of them all Thomas, who cried out, 'My Lord and my God.'

The great praise shouted from every church will ring throughout the world on this Easter morning - Hallelujah, Christ is risen, **He is risen indeed Hallelujah**.

and young people to think critically and be able to defend their faith in an increasingly sceptical world. 100 – the harvest is 100x that which was sown and we want to mark and celebrate all God's blessings to the circuit.

We thank God for His blessings on our circuit over the last 200 years and look forward to seeing what He has in store for us in the next 200!

Andy Cooper

Good News from Witheridge

Witheridge Church packed and sent 70 boxes for Samaritans Purse, along with a £5 donation for each box towards shipping costs. These will have been distributed to children in need around the world, in time for Christmas.



Our first Christmas Tree Festival was a great success with over 20 trees on display. Some trees were decorated by members of the church and others by community groups in Witheridge including Mud and Moor Pottery, Knights of Witheridge, Art Group, Book Group, Fire Station, Ladies Group and Rest a While.

Sherrin brought trees from the school and the toddlers group.

We also had a memory tree where people

could write the names of lost loved ones on wooden stars.

We've been running a Community Lunch, on the first Wednesday of the month, since September and have between 20-25 people join us.

Our monthly coffee mornings/bacon baps continue to be very successful.





Ringsash Circuit Service: Celebrating Over 200 years in Mid Devon

A circuit service was held at Emmanuel on the evening of 30th January 2022 to celebrate 200 years in the life of the Ringsash circuit! Ringsash started as one of the earlier Bible Christian circuits which were established in 1819 and by 1824 Ringsash had 15 places of worship, expanding to 31 over the next 10 years. A brief overview of the history of the circuit can be found on the Ringsash Circuit website if you're interested in finding out more, kindly put together by Roger Thorne.

Chris Down led the service with contributions from the other circuit stewards and with a message from Ken and a worship band consisting of musicians and vocalists from across the circuit led us singing the favourite songs from each of the churches in the service.

When considering why our circuit has lasted so long, one of the key factors was the sound preaching from the Bible of our local preachers

who devote so much time and effort in supporting not just our circuit but surrounding churches as well. In recognition of this we were pleased to award long-service awards to Ken Grant (69th Year), Terry Nott (50 years) Maurice Hockridge, Colin Rice, Chris Hutchings (54 years each), David Grant, Roy Sambles and Ruth Towers (30 years each).









Ken then outlined a vision for the future of the circuit, looking forward to another 200 years faithful service in God's name. He launched the 30:60:100 vision based on the parable of the sower in Matthew 13. 30 – we are looking to raise up 30 new local preachers in the Ringsash Circuit, 60 – we want to see 60 discipleship families, teaching children

Good News from Hele Lane

The Hele Lane Junior Church were delighted to be able to hold a live nativity event. We set up a walking nativity around the village of Black Dog. Groups of people were led around to the various scenes to hear the good news of Jesus' birth. The children worked really hard throughout November



December learning their lines. We were really pleased that the weather was good and all the children were well and able to take part. Lots of people came out and supported them and enjoyed



saying hi to the donkeys at the end as well as enjoying some festive treats and refreshments in the carpark. It all worked really well in a covid safe manner and we are very grateful to all those who made this possible!

Kirsty Bonning



Puzzle Solutions:

1. DEUTERONOMY
2. COLOSSIANS
4. GENESIS
5. ECCLESIASTES

Þ	7	L	6	G	ω	9	2	8
8	G	3	Z	Þ	9	2	L	6
6	9	2	L	7	8	G	Þ	ω
9	8	Þ	G	6	Z	L	3	2
L	Z	6	9	ε	2	*	8	G
7	ω	Gı	*	8	L	۷	6	9
G	Þ	9	ε	Z	6	8	2	L
Z	6	2	6	L	G	ε	9	Þ
3	L	8	7	9	Þ	6	9	Z

14 7

The Circuit Vision (30x 60x 100x)



One of Jesus' most famous parables was about the sower of seed, it is this passage of scripture that has inspired our circuit vision. This is what the scripture says, '... But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown." (Matthew 13:23)

As followers of Jesus in the Ringsash circuit we want to be fruitful for God's glory. We long for God to work out His purposes through us. The verse guoted above is taken from the parable of the sower. As we know most of the seed was lost because it landed in places where it could not grow and therefore produces no fruit. However there is seed which lands in good places and this seed produces a greater harvest than that which was lost, some 30X 60X and 100X increase.

Understanding the times we are in......

To be fruitful in our sowing we need to prepare our people to understand the times in which we find ourselves living through. There are so many different and competing world views today in which our children have to navigate their way through. Think about the 'isms' of today, each with their own set of values and beliefs and competing for attention, at times even competing with others. Each world view will shape our thinking and mould our values, ethics. beliefs and morals accordingly. The question that is on my heart is how are we preparing our children to think critically through competing world views? Consider these below......

Skepticism -I'd believe in God is there was evidence

Post Modernism - There is no truth

Moral relativism - You can't judge me

Emotionalism - Follow your heart

Pluralism - Many gods and all roads lead to God

Naturalism - There is no supernatural, the world creates itself Multiculturalism - Cultural, ethnic and religious diversity New

Ageism - Pick and mix spirituality, influenced by Eastern mysticism Progressivism - Focus on social justice and environmentalism

Atheism - A rejection of God

Humanism - Shaping their lives in the here and now; Genderism - I can choose my own gender identity

X 30 Preachers

We in Ringsash want to raise up a new generation of gospel preachers who stand on the Word of God. Our aim is to raise 30 preachers in the next chapter of our circuits ministry. John Wesley once said, "Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of heaven on Earth."



For the last 5 weeks up to about 27 CHRISTIANITY people have settled down in the privacy, warmth and safety of our own arm chairs and sofas considering what Christianity is

all about. We ranged in age from the old and maybe decrepit to the young and up and coming along with the middle years super stars, and thought about some of the big questions in life.

The topics we looked at covered such interesting themes such as how we know we can trust the Bible? The identity of Jesus, why did Jesus come, what did Jesus come to do, and what did Jesus accomplish? We're all looking forward to our last session when the church's greatest secret will be disclosed.

This is a course which is so interesting not only for those who are exploring what the Christian faith is all about, but also for those who have attended a church for many years. The reality of what it means to be a Christian is discussed as Revd Ken helps us to meet Jesus and his disciples in the pages of the Bible, and who they really are rather than fictional characters.

Of course the whole idea of Christianity has been the centre of mocking, disbelief and derision for over 2,000 years including by Professor Greenleaf who was an atheist and who often made fun of his Christian students at Harvard Law School. He spoke openly and often in the classroom about how the resurrection of Jesus Christ was a made up fairy tale, a hoax that could only be believed by ignorant, unenlightened fools. After much prodding, Greenleaf accepted the challenge and set out to disprove Jesus' resurrection.

However, Greenleaf was stunned by the powerful evidence that Jesus had indeed risen from the tomb. He couldn't explain away the dramatic change in Jesus' disciples, and their subsequent willingness to suffer and die for their belief that Jesus had risen.

In a shocking reversal, Greenleaf accepted Jesus' resurrection as the best explanation for all the evidence.

Jesus once asked his followers this question:

"Who do you say I am?"

I wonder how you will answer at the end of the course and of course dependent upon your reply what do you think you ought to do about it? If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask Rev'd Ken as he'd be delighted to chat with you in confidence.

Stuart Mackay

Good News from Copplestone

At Copplestone we are so encouraged by the continued reach of our live-streamed services. Not just on a Sunday morning but throughout the week and beyond. We trust that it is a blessing to those both from our own fellowship but also across the circuit. Particularly those are aren't able to attend anywhere in person at this time (in fact almost half of our view come from outside the UK!). We hope and pray that God uses this 'shared' act of worship as a vessel to plant seed that He is able to grow and bring to fruition for His glory!

Shaun Stanbury



'Gridzone' Christmas Play, entitled 'Straw and Order', was a joint effort from the children and young people in Kidzone and the Grid or 'Gridzone' as we refer to them when they are together. On Sunday 12th December, the children gave both morning and evening performances of Straw and Order which tells the story of the very first Christmas through the eyes of a Judge presiding over a property dispute between the cows and the donkeys. It turns out the property in question was the stable where Jesus was born! All the children and young people who took part were fantastic.

Hannah Petherick

X 60 Apologists

Apologetics derives from the Greek which simply means speaking defense of the faith. Our aim at Ringsash is to encourage 60 young people to engage in a course of apologetics which will empower them to consider and navigate their way through the growing plethora of world views, beliefs, philosophies and cultural norms in order to find the truth. The next generation need our help as they are becoming increasingly confused, lost and discouraged.

X100 celebrate the harvest

Harvest time is a special time. It's a time when the reaping has been done and the crops are in. There is hard work in preparing soils and in the sowing and reaping, but God is the one alone who gives the growth and fruits and we will celebrate all He is doing. We will commit to praying and celebrating the harvest of 100X.

Our Circuit vision of Ringsash is to be a circuit which stands on God's Word and is fruitful 30X 60X 100X.

Good News from Emmanuel



We are thankful that despite the uncertainty of the possible restrictions over the Christmas period, we were able to celebrate God's GOOD NEWS with everyone who joined us at our Christmas events.

Victoria Warren

Circuit Website RELAUNCH at Easter

Please let us know what you would like to see on there.

Contact either Ken or Megan.

Preaching Plan March 2022 - May 2022

		Ma	rch		April				Мау				
	6 (Lent 1)	13 (Lent 2)	20 (Lent 3)	27 (Lent 4) (Mothering Sunday)	3 (Lent 5)	10 (Palm Sunday)	17 (Easter Day)	24	1	8	15	22	29 (Ascension Sunday)
Readings	Deut 26:1-11 Ps 91 Luke 4:1-13	Gen 15:1-18 Ps 27 Luke 13:31-end	Isa 55:1-9 Ps 63 Luke 13:1-9	Josh 5:9-12 Ps 32 Luke 15:1-end	Isa 43:16-21 Ps 126 John 12:1-8	Isa 50:4-9 Ps 31 Luke 22:14-end	Acts 10:34-43 Ps 118 Luke 24:1-12	Acts 5:27-32 Ps 150 John 20:19-end	Acts 9:1-6 Ps 30 John 21:1-19	Acts 9:36-end Ps 23 John 10:22-30	Acts 11:1-18 Ps 148 John 13:31-35	Acts 16:9-15 Ps 67 John 14:23-29	Acts 16:16-34 Ps 97 John 17:20- end
Copplestone 10:45	K Gowland HC	T Nott	S Lakey	C Down	K Gowland HC	M Yendell	R Sambles	I Pinhey	K Gowland HC	Gilead	R Partridge	Kidzone	S Mackay
18:15	I Pinhey	M Hockridge	K Gowland	H Castle	M Burgess	S Mackay	K Gowland HC	M Burd	B Warren	S Mackay HC	K Gowland	K Gowland	D Bulley
Hele Lane 11:00	D Cole	K Gowland HC	D Worden	C Smallacombe	D Bulley	K Gowland HC	S Neenan Café Church	J Cole	B Searle	C Hutchings	C Pouncey	J Symons	K Gowland HC
18:30	K Gowland	-	-	-	K Gowland	-	-	-	K Gowland	-	-	-	-
Morchard Bishop 11:00	Big Breakfast	H Herbert	K Gowland HC	C Hutchings	L Webber CC	P Yendell	K Gowland HC	C Pullen	J Cole	C Spraklen	K Gowland HC	M Burgess	C Rice
18:00	-	K Gowland	-	Zoom	-	K Gowland	-	Zoom	-	K Gowland	-	Zoom	-
Witheridge 10:30	R Sambles	C Hutchings	R Towers	K Gowland HC	S Mackay	C Gowland	H Castle	K Gowland HC	M Burd	T Nott	I Pinhey	K Gowland HC	TBC

Key:

CC Café Church

CS Circuit Service

FS Family Service

HC Holy Communion

Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults

The Methodist Church requires that all Local Preachers, Worship Leaders and Ministers are DBS checked and safeguarding trained through the Foundation Module.

All visiting preachers are politely reminded that when you come to preach in Ringsash you are required to adhere to the Circuit's safeguarding policy, a copy of which can be provided on request or can be downloaded from: http://ringsashcircuit.org.uk/safeguarding/

Any Preacher who would appreciate a conversation about these requirements, please contact the Ringsash Superintendent.